



VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION
ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (4511)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

General Instructions

This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 118042

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Vipul Chaudhary

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

26th July 25

**सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)
GENERAL STUDIES (Paper II)**

केंद्र
Centre

ORN, Delhi

[Signature]
निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

	<p style="text-align: center;">महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश</p> <p>उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Important Instructions</p> <p>Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.</p>
1	<p>(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें।</p> <p>(ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।</p>	<p>(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates.</p> <p>(b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet</p>
2	<p>अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।</p>	<p>Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.</p>
3	<p>परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।</p>	<p>Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.</p>
4	<p>उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p>Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.</p>
5	<p>उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p>Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.</p>
6	<p>प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।</p>	<p>Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.</p>
7	<p>प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।</p>	<p>Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.</p>
8	<p>यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p>If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.</p>

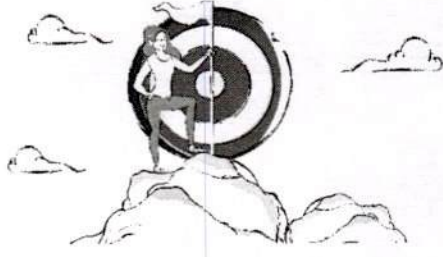
कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु
For Official Use

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु
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परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Signature of Examiner(s)

प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए)/ Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))

प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks		प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks	
1			11		
2			12		
3			13		
4			14		
5			15		
6			16		
7			17		
8			18		
9			19		
10			20		
उप-योग (A) Subtotal (A)			उप-योग (B) Subtotal (B)		
सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B)					



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निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: **250**
Maximum Marks: **250**

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

कुल बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो हिंदी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

There are TWENTY questions printed both in HINDI and in ENGLISH.

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

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 a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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.

अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय के अल्पसंख्यक दर्जे पर उच्चतम न्यायालय का हालिया निर्णय भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 30 की व्याख्या को कैसे प्रभावित करता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
How does the Supreme Court's recent decision on Aligarh Muslim University's minority status affect the interpretation of Article 30 of the Indian Constitution? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Petition regarding minority status
re Central Institution led landmark
Judgment of SC on Aligarh Muslim University
Status.

Features of judgment

① Dismissed central govt's argument :- if created by central regulation → no minority status can be given

② Defined criteria to declare minority

Institution
o
Finding source

created by
what
authority and
what purpose

objective and
functional
speciality

③ set up 2 member special bench to
decide minority status for Aligarh
University

4) Revamping minority institutional administration → addressing judicial gap in TMA post judgement

→ gave autonomy and functional flexibility to Minority Institutions.

Affected Article 30 Interpretation

Article 30 :- Establishment and Administration of Minority Institutions.

- ① Gave autonomous power to administer MIs
- ② Legal clarity in composition and funding structure
- ③ empowered MIs to frame rules and regulate
- ④ limited real intervention in autonomy functioning of MIs.

SC judgement proven 'bulwark of autonomy and flexibility of minority institutions', truly serving constitutional secularism in spirit and letter.

2.

उच्चतम न्यायालय ने अपने हालिया निर्णय में राज्य विधान-मंडल के विधेयकों पर राज्यपाल की स्वीकृति के लिए एक समय-सीमा निर्धारित की है। इस निर्णय के भारत में सहकारी संघवाद और विधायी जवाबदेही के लिए क्या निहितार्थ हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Supreme Court, in a recent verdict, prescribed a time period for the Governor's assent to state legislative bills. What are the implications of this judgment for cooperative federalism and legislative accountability in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस शीट में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Recently Honble SC in Tamil Nadu
Governor judgement 2025 called for
constitutional punctuality by Governor to
give assent (Article 200-201) within
prescribed time frame (3 months)

IMPLICATION OF JUDGEMENT

Positive

① fastening constitutional spirit of cooperative federalism

(ex) SC in Nabam Rabla case → primacy of representative govt over Governor's discretionary power.

② Adhering constitutional morality → Following timeline will smoothen the process

(ex) undue delay over NEFT Bill in Tamil Nadu

- ③ Reducing chance of legislature dysfunctionality - concern raised by Kerala/Punjab govt.
- ④ Imbibed value of constitutional punctuality
- ⑤ Reforming role of Governor from Agent of union to Synchroin of Federalism.

Negative

- ① Against spirit of checks and balance envisaged by constituent assembly.
- ② earlier accepted finality of Governor to decide discretionary power
- ③ might go against cooperative Federalism
(ex) Tamilnadu's NEET Bill
- ④ legislative accountability deficit → veto power become virtually dysfunctional

However, time framework was one of the core pending reforms, will help in fastening cooperative Federalism and constitutional smoothness at State level.

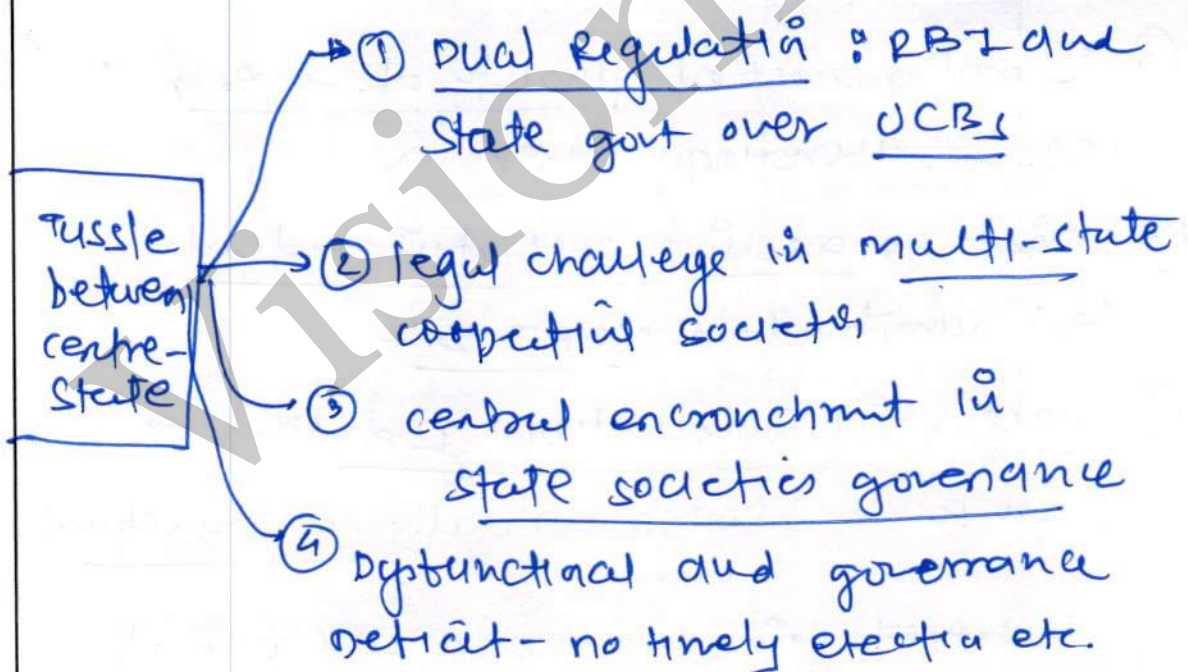
3.

सहकारी क्षेत्र में केंद्र और राज्यों के बीच के गतिरोध को कम करने के उद्देश्य से किए गए सहकारी संस्थाओं से संबंधित हालिया परिवर्तनों और पहलों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the recent changes and initiatives related to cooperatives that aim to smoothen the tussle between the Centre and States in the cooperative sector. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब से नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

cooperative sector present unique model of middlepath between capitalism and socialism, said by Minister of cooperative affair but part of state list, there has been continuous tussle between state and centre over cooperative's governance.



RECENT CHANGES AND INITIATIVES

① Creation of Ministry of cooperation - as nodal ministry to smoothen inter state

and intrastate cooperation.

① TSC judgement → rejected procedural
legality of 91st Amendment Act 2011

② Multi-state cooperative Bill 2024.

- ↳ Nodal electoral body
- ↳ Regular free-fair election conducted
- ↳ promoting multi-state cooperative
Societies across the India
- ↳ Nodal Regulatory Authority

③ 1,00,000 PACS vision (presently 65000 PACS)
promoting local cooperative spirit.

④ White Revolution 2.0 → promoting
palm cooperatives in untapped and
unreached areas.

- Future steps
1. pan India level nodal
regulatory body
 2. National cooperative policy
 3. sharing Best practices (ex)
Amole/wandua

PM Modi, ^{said} Cooperation is major

strategic weapon for self reliance in
Anand Kaal (2047). 11

4.

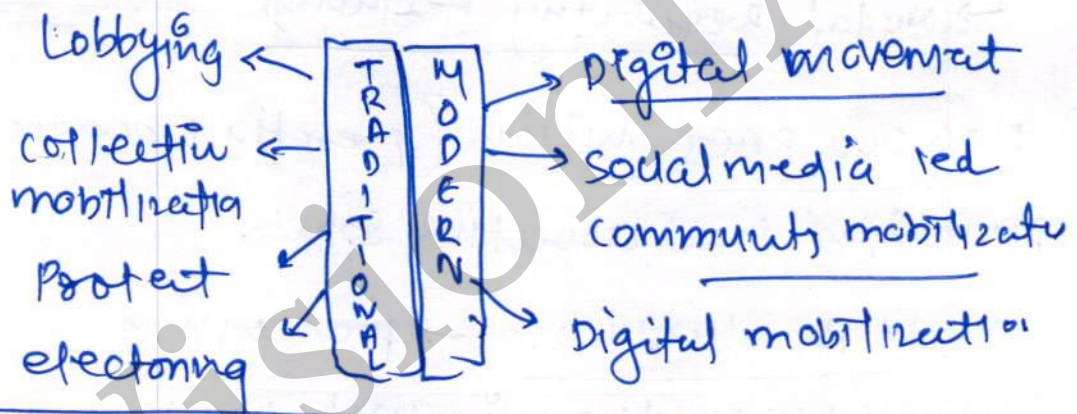
हाल के वर्षों में, नागरिक समाज द्वारा सोशल मीडिया और डिजिटल लामबंदी का उपयोग दबाव की राजनीति के एक सशक्त माध्यम के रूप में उभरा है। नीति-निर्माण और लोकतांत्रिक जवाबदेही पर इसके प्रभाव का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In recent years, use of social media and digital mobilisation by civil society has emerged as a powerful form of pressure politics. Examine its impact on policymaking and democratic accountability. (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस कक्ष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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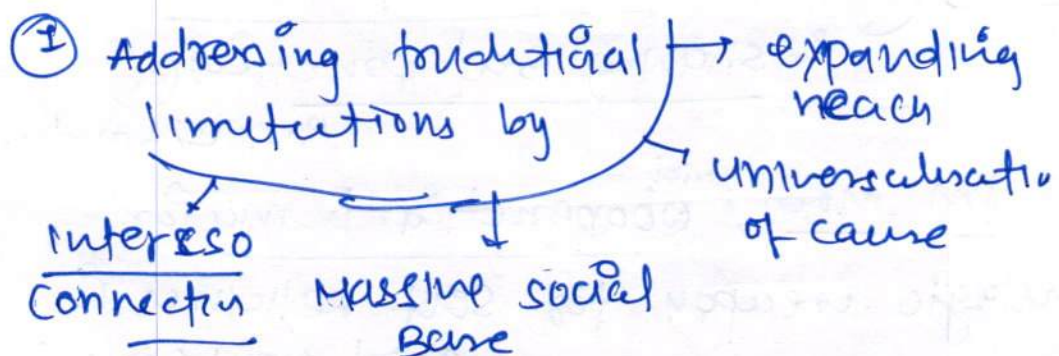
10

Recently digitization of civil society has led democratisation of public sphere and emerged as powerful tool of pressure politics.



shift in civil society tactics

Impact on policy making and democratic accountability



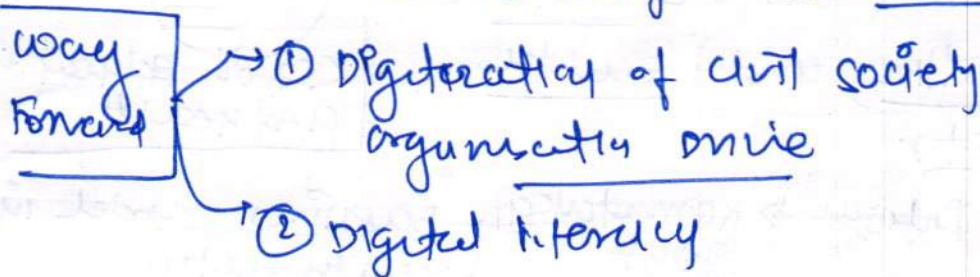
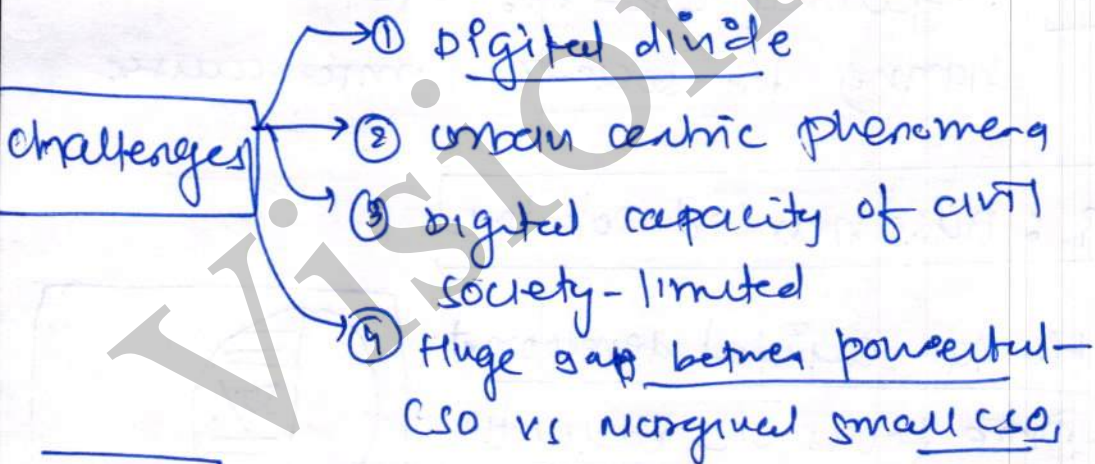
② Digital bridge between citizen and policy makers (ex) Me Too movement

③ Democratization of public sphere
(ex) Direct activism at social media

④ Broaden Reach and social base →
huge participation of people → influence
Govt's policy (ex) Recent changes in
labour laws.

⑤ new tools of democratic accountability

⑥ Universalisation of political activism



Hybrid model by civil society will help
them to emerge as '5th pillar of democracy'
as said by Rajiv Gandhi in his book
"Civil Society" 13

5.

भारत में विकास संबंधी चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए कॉर्पोरेट सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व किस प्रकार एक व्यवसाय-प्रेरित समाधान के रूप में उभर रहा है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How is Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) emerging as a business-led solution for addressing development challenges in India? (Answer in 150 words)

10

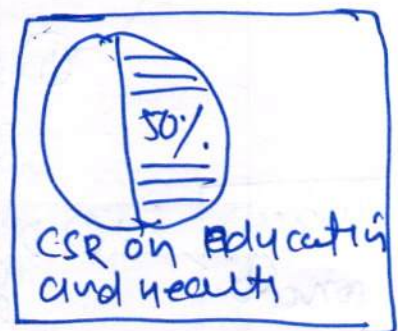
उम्मीदवारों को इस ह्रासिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Recently India's philanthropic Report 2025 noted CSR has emerged transformative tool not just for corporate governance but as business led solution in India's developmental trajectory.

CSR Section 135 - Company Act 2013 - legalised CSR - 2% of profit sharing for socio-economic causes.

CSR : Business led solution

① Human capital development
- more focus on education - skilling and health sector

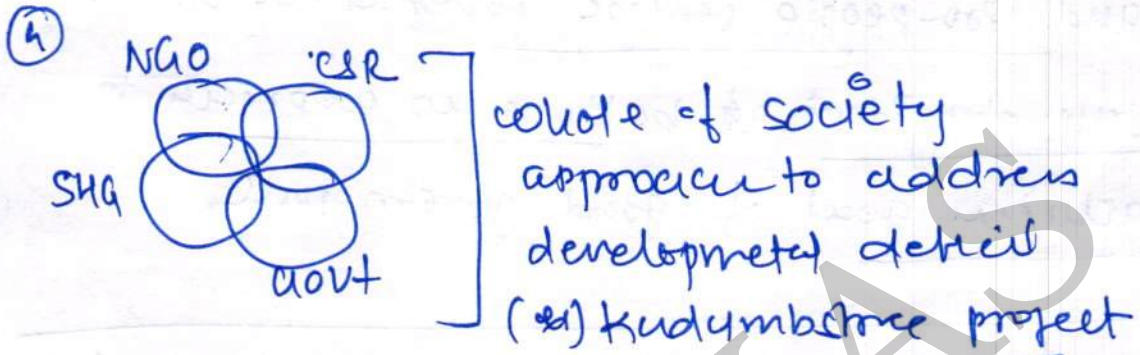


(ex) Infosys → Karnataka govt → business model in health sector.

② Addressing developmental gap in socio-economic sector (ex) Tata's cancer care treatment.

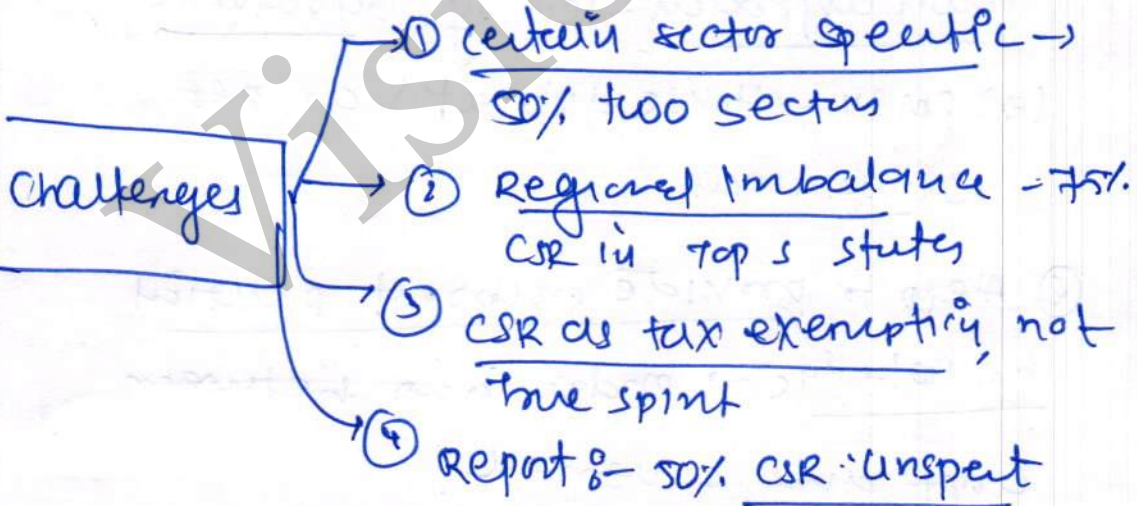
③ structural changes & Massive capacity building of stakeholders (Amaritya Sen-capability approach)

* ITC - e-choopai Initiative - Farmer's venture



⑤ Regional balanced growth

(ex) TISCO project → ITIs and Industrial growth in Jharkhand



Despite having limitations, CSR has emerged as transformational tool of business led economic development in

India.

6.

चर्चा कीजिए कि भारत में जन परामर्श और जन सुनवाई जैसे तंत्र गवर्नेंस के परिणामों को कैसे प्रभावित करते हैं। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss how mechanisms like public consultations and Jan Sunwais in India impact governance outcomes. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

PM Modi said, citizen first approach and pro-people centric governance demand Jan bhagidari as bottom up approach to achieve goal of good governance.

Role of mechanisms - public consultation and Jan sunwai :-

① Addressing governance deficit → top-down approach - led by bureaucracy.

(ex) PMAY → House distribution as per Jan sunwai

② Help to provide grassroots practical knowledge → bridge gap between Govt and governed.

(ex) MyGov.com → provide online input

③ Data-driven policy making → consulting city people → help to earn public trust and proper implementation of scheme

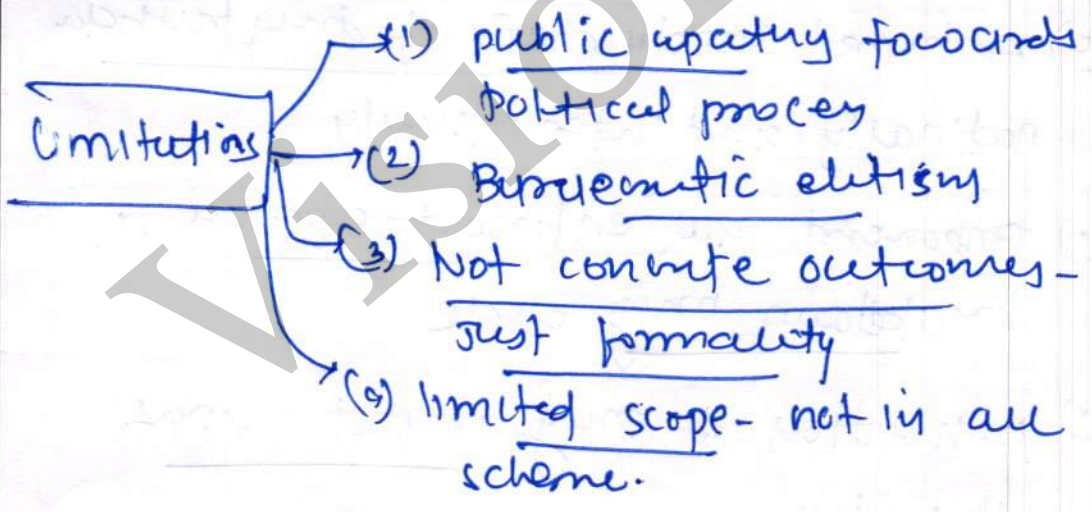
(Ex) SBM 2.0 - Jan bhagidari

4) Jan sunwai and public consultation → convert representative democracy into direct and participative democracy

(Ex) Role of Gram Sabha in EIA

④ True empowerment of people

↳ EIA → provide public consultation mechanism



Jan sunwai and public consultation are integral part of governance reform mechanism and proper service delivery mechanism to achieve Sevottam goal

7.

भारत में मादक द्रव्यों के दुरुपयोग की समस्या से निपटने में राष्ट्रीय मादक द्रव्य मांग न्यूनीकरण कार्य योजना और नशा मुक्त भारत अभियान कितने प्रभावी रहे हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How effective have the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) and Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan been in addressing substance abuse in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

India has been one of the worst subscribers of drug trafficking and MOHA raised concern over potential me of drug abuse in India.

Role of national action plan for drug demand reduction

- (i) Addressed supply chain of drug traffickers nationally and internationally
- (ii) Empowered law enforcement agencies to breakdown drug cycle
- (iii) prohibition of drug import-export in India

Role of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan

- (i) Raising public awareness among youth - discouraged

② changing legislative dynamics →
drug abuse as mental problem →
Reformative approach

③ Helped course of national approach
role of NGOs and private sector
partnerships

STTI
Challenges

→ Disconnects between
academic research and
clinical practice

→ Low mental health
poor focus on drug rehabilitation

Rishi declaration 2025 call for
course of national approach
and comprehensive action plan to make
India drug free country

8.

भारत की बुनियादी शिक्षा प्रणाली में रटकर सीखने की प्रवृत्ति और रचनात्मकता की उपेक्षा, इसे आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस द्वारा संचालित हो रहे बाजारों के लिए पर्याप्त रूप से तैयार नहीं करती हैं। क्या आप इस मत से सहमत हैं? अपने तर्क से उत्तर की पुष्टि कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Rote learning and neglect of creativity in foundational education setup in India make it less ready for marketplaces that are now driven by Artificial Intelligence. Do you agree with this view? Substantiate your argument. (Answer in 150 words)

10

National Education Policy 2020

highlighted prevalence of rote learning culture and negligence of creativity in entire Indian education system, acting as biggest hurdle to leverage demographic dividend.

How rote learning and neglecting creativity → less ready for marketplace

① Youth employability → 45% of total → highlight gap between market and supply side

② India's poor ranking in innovation and research culture compared to USA/China owed to rote learning

- ③ Economic survey 22 highlighted 80%
of Indian engineers are not matching
market demand.
- ④ neglecting vocational training at school
level
- ⑤ Industrial Revolution 4.0 and AI driven
period demand for continuous skilling →
But only 5% population skilled in India
- ⑥ Less great scientists/mathematicians or
academicians → produced in India land →
Hardly few noble laureates.

Future strategy

- ① Innovation driven culture
(ex) ATL / Atal Innovation Mission
- ② critical thinking and creativity
- ③ introduce experimental learning
- ④ Massive skilling, reskilling and
upskilling camp. initiatives

9.

G7 के पश्चिमी रणनीतिक एकता के प्रतीक से आंतरिक विरोधाभासों से भरे मंच के रूप में रूपांतरण का विश्लेषण कीजिए। भारत द्वारा अपने रणनीतिक हितों की पूर्ति हेतु इस बदलते परिदृश्य को किस प्रकार उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Analyze the transformation of the G7 from a symbol of Western strategic unity to a forum marked by internal contradictions. How should India navigate this changing dynamic to advance its strategic interests? (Answer in 150 words)

10

It's clearly evident that
centre of gravity in international politics
is shifting towards Indo-Pacific, significant
"decline of west and rise of the rest"

G-7 group of 7 like minded country and
shared democratic values, advanced
economies and shared global order
collectively known as Western strategic unity

Recent challenges to G-7

(I) Trump entry → Transactional politics,
tariff war, reciprocal tariff, trade and
technology war among G-7

(ex) Threat of 25% or above tariff on
closest allies.

4) West. Russia → Trump proposed entry of Russia as 4-8 vs European power rejected.

5) w.r.t. China :- Increasing economic interdependence with China (ex) Canada-USA clash

6) Rising U.S. nationalism over collective interests

7) NATO dispute - rising share above 2% of GDP (Trump demand)

8) Trump's promise - integrate Canada and Greenland in Greater USA.

How should India navigate

① practicing strategic autonomy → Part of 4-7 extended member as well as BRICS

② multi-vector diplomacy

③ India-western bloc - rising strategic partnership

④ Issues based alliance - (ex) SCO, Quad

Amidst geopolitical churning, it provide unique opportunity India to emerge as "leading power" and "voice of global south"

10.

विकासशील देशों के विकास में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। इसके दृष्टिकोण से जुड़ी प्रमुख आलोचनाएं क्या हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the role of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the development of developing countries. What are the key criticisms associated with its approach? (Answer in 150 words) 10

IMF acts as multilateral development Bank, key pillar of Bretton Woods system, to ensure balance of payment stability and stable monetary at global level.

Role of IMF in development of developing countries

(1) Helped in saving from economic crisis → India's UPA story owe to IMF agndg

(2) sustainable debt management strategy
(ex) 90% of \$93 trillion debt - hold by developing countries

(3) Help in policy making and economic planning assistance to economic crisis
(ex) \$4 billion package to Indonesia

- ④ Balance of payment stability
↳ post covid-19 pandemic → IMF eased
lending process

Criticism of IMF

- ① NK Singh critic articles of IMF -
misgovernance and anti-developing
countries stance
- ② Under-representation of developing countries
and over-representation of advanced country
(9.7% country 50% of voting)
- ③ Conditionality → put threat to economic
sovereignty
- ④ IMF package to Pakistan damage
operating sin doos → against terror act.
- ⑤ Mis-governance of IMF

Although IMF acted as institutional
body to govern balance of payment situation
and monetary stability, but scholar like
Joseph Stiglitz demand governance
reforms in IMF.

11.

103वें संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम, 2019 ने भारत में सकारात्मक कार्रवाई के सिद्धांत को एक नया आयाम दिया है। सामाजिक न्याय के व्यापक लक्ष्य के लिए इसके निहितार्थों का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019 has introduced a new dimension to the principle of affirmative action in India. Critically examine its implications for the broader goal of social justice. (Answer in 250 words)

15

103rd CAA 2019 introduced EWS (Economically weaker section) new category and new dimension in spirit of positive affirmative action, shift from caste based to economic criteria based reservation.

Added new dimension

(i) Economic disadvantage - as primary factor of reservation

(ii) Address - Horizontal-vertical Reservation gap → provided equal opportunity to all

(iii) shift from caste based reservation to new model of economic justice

Positive Implications

① [SC] in Janhit Abhigyan case - noted :-

(1.1) substantive and procedural justice
by EWs

(1.2) Addressing historical economic
disadvantage of certain sectors

② Address Reverse discrimination Challenge -
Maratha, Jati, Patidar and others in
recent time

③ [SC] also called for changing nature of
basis for reservation

④ scholars argued constitutional reservation made
caste-permanent feature of Indian society.
- this will make caste flexible feature.

⑤ providing economic justice to upper
caste-poor people

⑥ Equality of opportunities and positive
treatment in govt sector and educational
institutions

⑦ served purpose of substantive equality

Negative Implications

- ① Lack of constitutional backing by constituent assembly
- ② Making reservation more complex
- neglecting OBC/SCT/ST section.
- ③ Economic disadvantage - can be better addressed by targeted approach
(ex) Economy - never criteria for reservation
- ④ virtually 95% of Indian population - under EWS criteria
- ⑤ political populist tool → satisfying upper caste demand (castes)
- ⑥ open Pandora box → manufactured demands reservation.

Any reservation policy must be politically practical, financially viable and socially acceptable. [SC] in Junhit
Abhiyan case 2023 noted positive impacts of 103rd CAA.

जिला योजना समिति की परिकल्पना जमीनी स्तर पर नियोजन को सशक्त बनाने के एक प्रमुख साधन के रूप में की गई थी। यह इस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में कितनी सफल रही है? जिला योजना समितियों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए तथा उन्हें अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के उपाय सुझाइए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The District Planning Committee (DPC) was envisioned as a key instrument to strengthen grassroots-level planning. How far has it succeeded in achieving this goal? Discuss the challenges faced by DPCs and suggest measures to make them more effective. (Answer in 250 words) 15

73rd and 74th CAA envisaged

Principle of subsidiarity and decentralisation
of development through District Planning
Committee as nodal agency for grassroots
level planning.


Successful functioning of DPC

- ① Regular constitution of DPC and
co-working with metropolitan
Planning Committee
- ② providing developmental guidelines
to local bodies.
- ③ DPC act as guiding light for planned
activity by local govt
 (ex) Kerala - DPC act as planning
 compass at government level.

④ SDS study 2019 highlighted 'DPC has developed 'developmental psyche' at ground level → pro-active participation of people in development.

⑤ Monitoring Ground level Developmental Plans

⑥ Successful implementation of govt scheme

(ex)  Land modernization at rural areas. (CMRD) | PM SVAMITVA successful implementation.

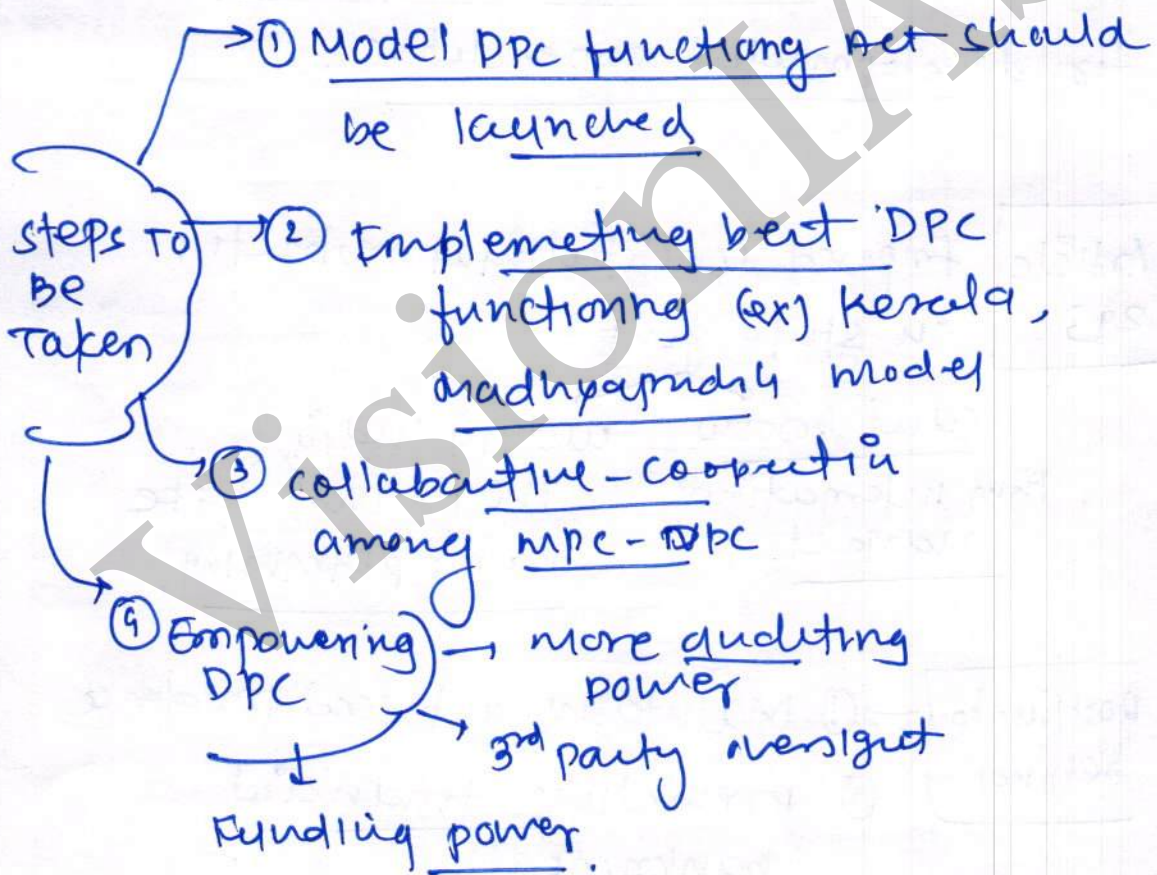
CHALLENGES

① Constitution of DPC
↳ delayed constitution
↳ Hardly all states/OT formed DPC at a time.

② undue delay in election of DPC

③ states are not forming rules and regulations for DPC functioning

- (4) Recommendatory role
- (5) Lack of binding mechanism
- (6) 1st judge Ahluwalia noted poor collaboration between DPC and MPC.
- (7) Parastatal bodies - existence of multiple bodies for district planning → poor coordination.



In order to successfully function of DPC, DPC must be politically and economically empowered auty fund, functions, functioning and functional

13.

संविधान के अनुच्छेद 293 के तहत राज्यों की उधार लेने की शक्तियों पर लगाए गए प्रतिबंध, यद्यपि संवैधानिक रूप से वैध हैं, लेकिन ये राज्यों की राजकोषीय स्वायत्तता को बाधित कर सकते हैं और सहकारी संघवाद को क्षति पहुंचा सकते हैं। हालिया घटनाक्रमों के आलोक में विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The restrictions imposed under Article 293 of the Constitution on State borrowing powers, though constitutionally valid, may hinder fiscal autonomy of States and disrupt cooperative federalism. Discuss in the light of recent developments. (Answer in 250 words)

15

NITI Aayog's Fiscal Health Index

noted, although states are managing fiscal deficit within limit (3%) but states have limited borrowing options for developmental expenditure.

Article
293

Imposed constitutional restriction
on state govt

can't borrow
from international
market

within India,
they must take
union's permission.

Rationale
behind

→ ① maintaining fiscal prudence

② preventing financial
bankruptcy

③ centralised financial mechanism →
better fiscal management

Negative Impacts of Article 293

- ① Punchhi Commission → noted this has limited state's borrowing capacity.
- ② GST led fiscal erosion in state's financial autonomy → limited tax revenue power
- ③ FRBM Act 2003 → imposed fiscal discipline without giving adequate resources to meet such demand.
- ④ disproportionate use of cess and surcharge
- ⑤ Rationalisation of centrally sponsored scheme → increased burden on state
- ⑥ Freebies culture → led subnational financial bankruptcy (ex) Punjab (RB1)
- ⑦ Dijay Kelkar observation

vertical (only 41%)

3 level imbalance

Horizontal Developmental
(Regionally imbalance)
(Top 5 state - 75% FDI)
- ⑧ fiscal constrain of state → compromised capital expenditure to reduce physical deficit target

⑨ Disrupting spirit of state fiscal federalism
(ex) USA provided total fiscal autonomy
to states.

⑩ Responsibility without powers

what should be done

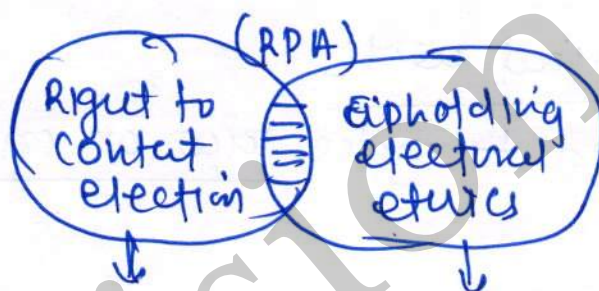
- ① Addressing constitutional limitations
of article 293 → performance based
flexibility (Nk Singh committee)
- ② Independent fiscal council to
manage fiscal consolidation.
- ③ fiscal federalism - full realisation
by addressing vertical - horizontal -
developmental imbalances (Ujay Kelkar)
- ④ Global best case study :- USA's Fiscal
Federalism.

time has come to reform article
293 to fully realise potential of
fiscal federalism.

लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम के तहत चुनाव लड़ने के अधिकार और चुनावी नैतिकता बनाए रखने की आवश्यकता के बीच के तनाव का परीक्षण कीजिए। क्या दोषसिद्ध अपराधियों पर आजीवन प्रतिबंध लगाया जाना चाहिए? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Examine the tension between the right to contest elections and the need to uphold electoral ethics under the Representation of the People Act. Should there be a lifetime ban on convicted criminals? (Answer in 250 words)

Representation of people Act 1950 and 1951 provides institutional framework for electoral democracy - combined procedural and substantive feature of electoral integrity



- RPA → provided this right to every person in India

- upholding fair election principle

- Globally, allowed to enjoy right to contest (Constitutional right)

- Maintaining electoral integrity by free and fair election

- Addressing criminalization of politics

- procedural democracy

- Free and fair election part of Basic structure (Indira Gandhi Case)

This led to tensions

- ① criminalization of politics :- ADR 2014
report noted :- 42% MPs - criminal backgrounds and 25% associated in heinous crimes
- ② Law breakers are becoming law makers
 - CSRS study - high tendency of winning if criminal background
- ③ Lack of political will
↳ SC directed to make law on criminalization of politics
- ④ Different opinions - Right to contest one side part of political democracy vs criminal activities against electoral laws
- ⑤ Legitimacy crisis in RPA and in EC
↳ only 64% voting in 18th Lok Sabha
- ⑥ Constitutional crisis → criminalization of politics against constitutional morality.

Should there be lifetime ban?

Yes :-

- (1) Dinesh Goswami committee noted criminals deprived right to contest election
- (2) setting deterrence effect
- (3) Address criminalisation of political problems
- (4) Fastening electoral integrity

But,

- (a) Disproportionate justice → lifetime ban deprived right to participate in election process
- (b) LC rejected this framework - against rule of law spirit

Balanced approach

- (1) Lifetime ban for convicted in heinous crimes (2nd ARC)
- (2) Extending timeline 6 years to 10 years at present.

Free and fair electoral process is bedrock for successful democracy.

15.

2015 में शुरू की गई बेटी बचाओ बेटी पढ़ाओ योजना घटते बाल लिंगानुपात को सुधारने और बालिकाओं को सशक्त बनाने में किस हद तक सफल रही है? जमीनी स्तर पर इसकी प्रभावशीलता बढ़ाने के लिए उपाय सुझाइए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent has the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme, launched in 2015, succeeded in addressing the declining child sex ratio and empowering the girl child? Suggest measures to enhance its impact at the grassroots level. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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Beti Bachao, Beti padhao (BBBP)

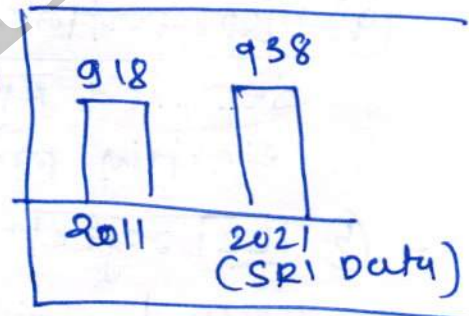
scheme is mass behavioural change programme, which aims to address patriarchal mindset, gender socialization and empowering girls child.

Success of BBBP

(i) Improved child sex ratio

- Several states and districts - dramatic

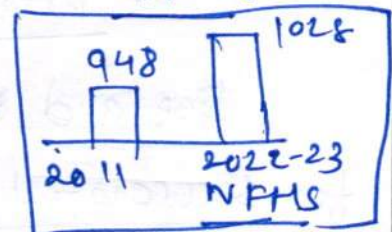
improvement in sex ratio.



(ii) Helped in changing patriarchal mindset → accepted girls as assets - not liability

(ex) PMDAY - 55% ownership on women name

(iii) overall sex ratio improved



④ Accelerated girl child education and Health services

- GER: girls outperformed to boys in primary to Higher education system

⑤ Raising awareness about nutritional security along with PM Poshan Abhiyan.

→ Helped in reducing Anemia among women from 60% → 54% (2019-20).

Limitations

(1) Still, child sex ratio (938) not at global average

(2) Haryana, Gujarat → below 850 sex ratio

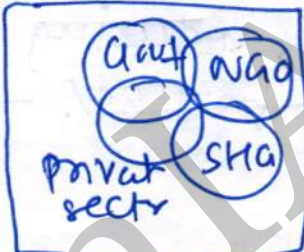
(3) Lower sex ratio in urbanization
(ex) Surat - 870

② Enrollment of girls → not ensure empowerment
(ex) 45% in STEM only, 41% in FLFP rate
50% globally

③ Global Gender Gap report - 131 Rank

④ Nutritional deficiency → 55% anemia
→ 37% stunting
→ 60% wasting among children

Measures to be taken

- ① NITI Aayog : recommended 'Girl child new being leader' to be developed
- ② whole of Government approach → interlinking Samagra Shiksha, postman Abhiyan.
- ③ whole of society approach
(ex) Kudumbashree project

- ④ structural funding program → not just on advertisement (90%) → but also no structural changes on ground.
- ⑤ integrating BBWP into Gender Budgeting
(8.86% in FY 25-26)

Pam Rajput committed recommended new national policy on women in which govt should focus on launching BBWP 2.0 version with timeline and targeted approach

16.

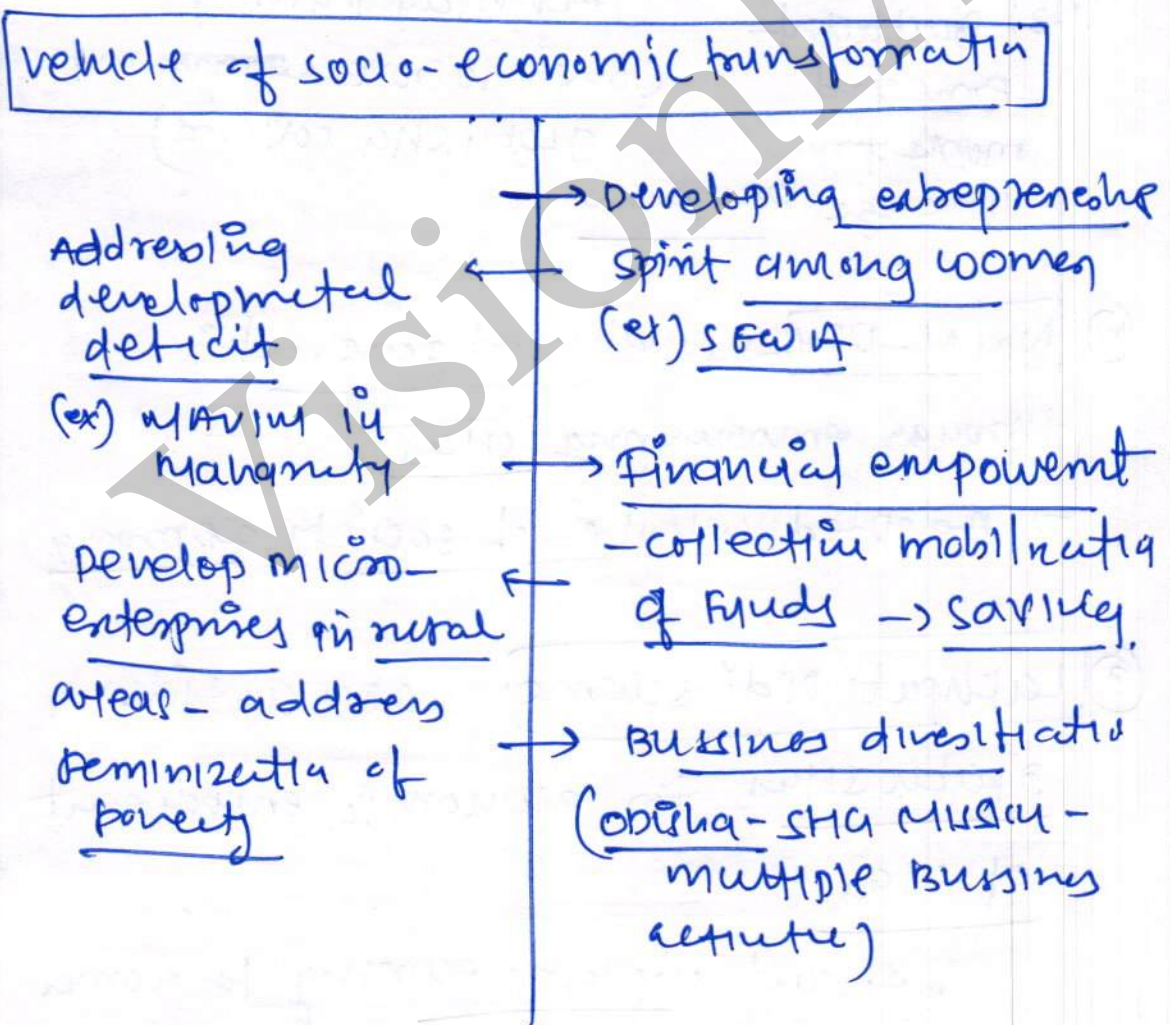
स्वयं-सहायता समूह ग्रामीण भारत में सामाजिक-आर्थिक कायाकल्प के चालक के रूप में उभर रहे हैं। उनकी पहुंच और प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने में सरकार की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are emerging as vehicles of socio-economic transformation in rural India. Examine the role of government in scaling their reach and effectiveness. (Answer in 250 words)

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15

SHGs are the collective group of women sharing similar socio-economic background, known as 'self governed and peer controlled group'.

(* over 10 core women active in SHGs.)



Role of government

① NABARD led programme

→ SHG Bank Linkage Programme

1.2) e-SAKHI

Digital training program for SHG women

(1-3) Backward Forward market linkage Programme

• providing collateral free, security guarantee schemes

• collective mobilization of fund

• Funding mechanism

• technical training

(cover to cover women and group SHG covers)

② NRLM-PPY → livelihood generation

through empowering (SHGs)

↳ adopted course of society approach

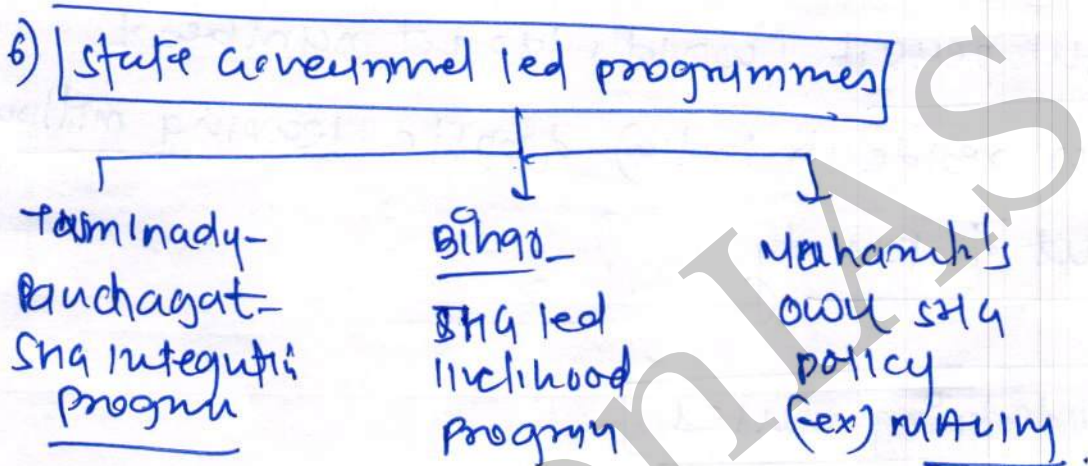
③ Lakshpati Vidi scheme → associating

3 lakh SHGs for economic empowerment of SHGs

• At least one lakh earning for women



5) Group Bid Initiative - interlinking PRIs and SHAs



- next reforms
- (1) Urban-centric SHA
 - (2) Technical training and Capacity building
 - (3) National-International expansion
 - (4) Whole-of-the nation approach
 - (5) OSHA through committee recommended
accept

PM Modi called SHAs as National Help group, recognising transformative role.

17.

आर्थिक संवृद्धि के बावजूद, भारत में बहुआयामी निर्धनता बनी हुई है। इसके अंतर्निहित कारणों का विश्लेषण कीजिए और उन्हें दूर करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

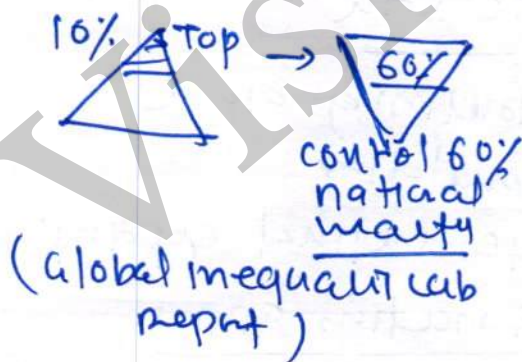
Despite economic growth, multidimensional poverty continues to persist in India. Analyse the underlying causes and discuss the measures taken by the government to address them. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Recently World Bank new estimation highlighted - 18% multidimensional poverty still persist (world's largest number of poor reside in India) despite leaving millions out of poverty.

Underlying causes

① persistent inequality - poverty complex



• Billionaire Raj in India

• Gender gap
Report - 131 Rank
(2025)

• Income gap

② Jobless economic growth (\$ 4 trillion) →

Service sector → not labour intensive

sector → High unemployment rate 4.5%

③ Intergenerational cycle of poverty →
make poverty permanent part →
low social mobility

④ Poor Human Capital development

→ 130 rank HDI (2014)

→ reducing poverty

→ Out of pocket expenditure → 98%

→ only 5% population - skilled

⑤ Lack of structural transformation of
economy → disguised unemployment
in agriculture (70% rural population
dependency)

Measures Taken by govt

Human
Capital
Formation

→ INEP 2020

→ Samagra Shiksha Schemes

→ PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana, Ayushman Bharat

→ PMKVY 4.0, National Skill Mission

Employment
Generation

→ PM Employment Generation Scheme

→ MANREHA - backbone of rural
economy

→ Labour Intensive export promotion

→ pm employment intensive package.

Social
sectors

→ PMAY - 80 crore free food
distribution

→ PMAY → 3 crore homes

→ SBM → 100% ODF

→ PMUY → 10 crore Household - LPA

Economic
Empowerment

→ Financial Inclusion - 53 crore
account in PMJDY

→ Startup India scheme →
startup culture

Assessment

• NITI Aayog - MPI

Household consumption survey
2019-20)

Despite a multi-pronged approach, there
are still implementation gap need to
be fulfilled through :-

- ① Financial empowerment
- ② Improving social mobility
- ③ Job led growth
- ④ Addressing economic inequality

To achieve SDG 1 - Zero Poverty

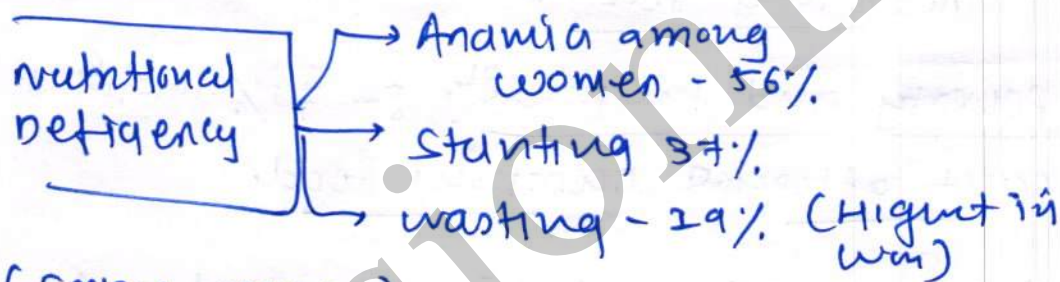
18.

भारत खाद्य अधिशेष और पोषण की कमी संबंधी विरोधाभास का सामना कर रहा है। इस विरोधाभास के पीछे निहित संरचनात्मक कारणों का विश्लेषण कीजिए और सुधार हेतु रणनीतियों का सुझाव दीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India faces a paradox of food surplus and nutritional deficit. Analyse the structural reasons behind this paradox and suggest reform strategies. (Answer in 250 words) 15

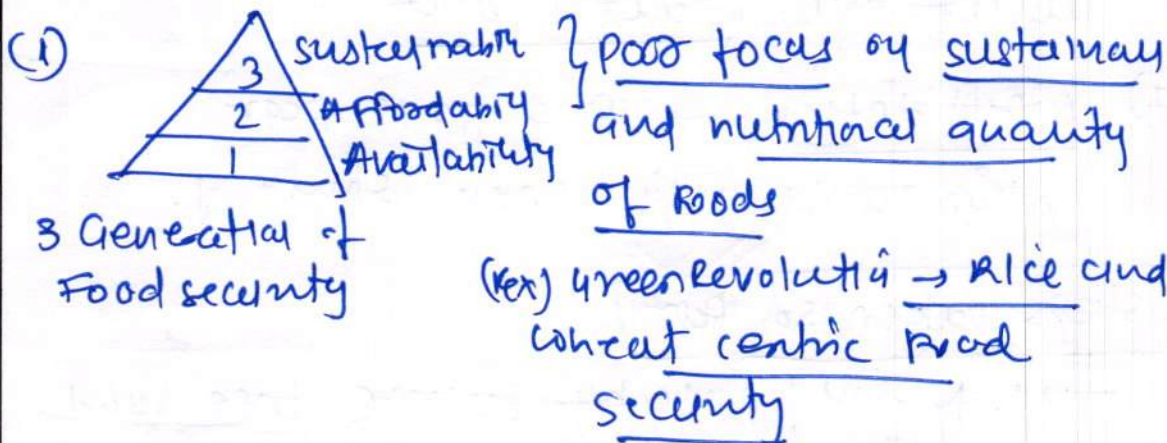
उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India is unique case study
highlighting paradoxical situation in
Food surplus country (350MMT in 2023)
but nutritional deficit (poor ranking in
GHFI-127) in 2022)



(Source NFHS 05)

Structural Reasons



- 1) Malthusian theory :- India raise burden of 1.4 billion people → difficult to meet demand
- 2) Faulty implementation of NFHM 2013
 - (3.1) Butter stock - half of production Capacity (₹150 mn)
 - (3.2) PDS-led corruption, Inclusion - exclusion focus
 - (3.3) Food centric food security → neglected nutritional security
- 3) Poverty and inequality :- 75% Indians can't afford nutritious food
- 4) lifestyle → 50% population - processed and unhealthy food (ES 24)
- 5) Information asymmetry - not aware about the healthy diet
- 6) WASH deficit → WHO give poor Indian ranking in WASH strategy.

Steps taken so far

- 1. NFSM, PMKSY - so cere free food distribution

- 2. posHAN Abhiyan
- 3. mid day meal scheme
- 4. Pradhan Mantri Udaan Yojana
- 5. Eat Right India, Fit India campaign

Future comprehensive strategy

① Launching posHAN Abhiyan 2.0 - co-hort of Society approach

- Best case study
- Odisha - Millet Mission
 - Nomadic - Healthy Diet Programme

② Mass Behavioral change programme → like SBM → Fit India and Eat Right India make Jan Andolan

③ Rationalising NEEM and PMUKY → as suggested by MTI Agg.

④ Nutritious diet → from school curricula

⑤ Targeted approach → Gujarat's poshan Mission

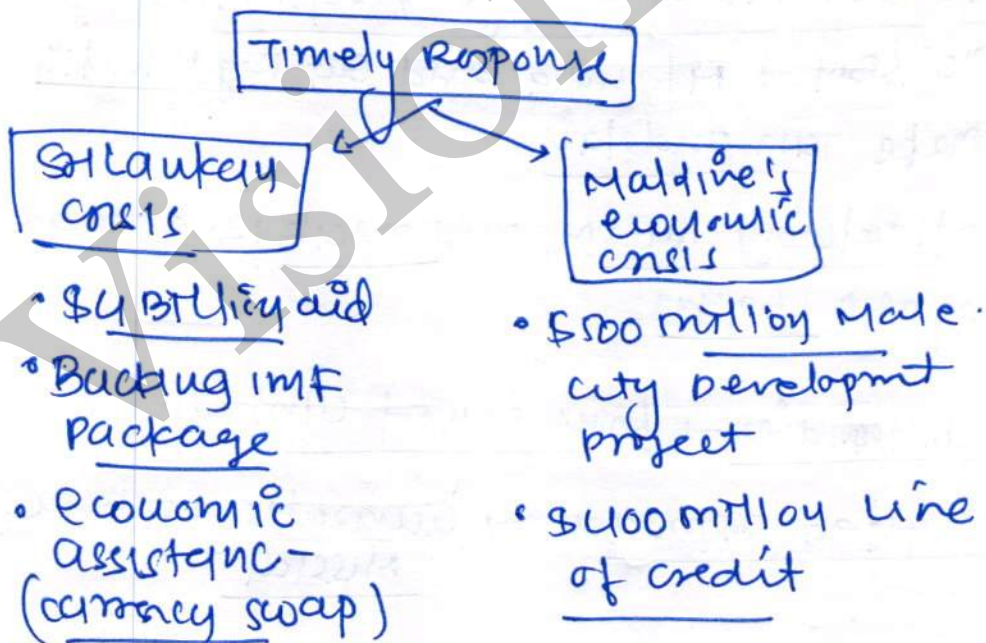
India need to shift focus from food secure to nutritious secure country to achieve goal of SDG 2 zero Hunger.

19. श्रीलंका और मालदीव में आर्थिक संकटों के दौरान भारत द्वारा समय पर की गई कार्रवाई उसकी "नेबरहुड फर्स्ट" की नीति की सक्रियता को दर्शाती है। परीक्षण कीजिए कि भारतीय सहायता ने इन देशों के साथ द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को कैसे प्रभावित किया है। हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में सतत आर्थिक सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आगे क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India's timely response during the economic crises in Sri Lanka and the Maldives reflects its "Neighbourhood First" policy in action. Examine how Indian aid has impacted bilateral ties with these nations. What steps can further be taken to promote sustainable economic cooperation in the Indian Ocean region? (Answer in 250 words)

15

Neighbourhood First policy - based on Aujasw doctrine, emphasis upon proactive strategic cooperation and non-reciprocal relationship in India's near sphere of influence (neighbourhood)



reflected India's neighbourhood proactive policy.

(d) countering encroachment of India by China through necklace of diamond policy → colombo security conclave

(e) showcased India's commitment as first responder to humanitarian disasters.

Further steps :- sustainable economic cooperati. in IOR (Indian Ocean Region)

① Shift from SEAAR to MAHASAGAR pothne - economy as major pillar

② BIMSTEC led economic connectivity & Add maldives in BIMSTEC member

③ India should launch "economic development projects" along with like minded countries - JAPAN - ASEAN.

④ Indo-pacific Economic Summit → expand horizon to achieve economic interdependence.

Indo-pacific vision Initiative, quad and BRIS are true manifestation of India's natural leadership in IOR

महाद्वीपीय संपर्क (कनेक्टिविटी) और मध्य एशिया तक पहुंच के संदर्भ में भारत के लिए अफगानिस्तान के भू-राजनीतिक महत्त्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। 2021 के बाद बदले राजनीतिक परिदृश्य ने भारत की कनेक्टिविटी और ऊर्जा गलियारे की महत्वाकांक्षाओं को किस प्रकार प्रभावित किया है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the geostrategic significance of Afghanistan for India in the context of continental connectivity and access to Central Asia. How has the altered political landscape post-2021 affected India's connectivity and energy corridor ambitions? (Answer in 250 words) 15

India-Afghanistan share common civilizational and historical connection and it was further elevated as comprehensive strategic partnership in 2011

GEO-STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE



① India's soft belly since the ancient times all attacks on border from Afghanistan land

Agri. India-Afghanistan map

② Rajiv Sirsi called Afghanistan as part of "Arc of Instability" → drug trafficking, terrorism, conventional and unconventional threats

③ "second front": Kautilya's strategic wisdom - neighbour's friend - natural friend of India → help to launch

Second front in fight against Pakistan.

① Prag Kanna in his book "Connectography" called Afghanistan as fulcrum between India and Central Asia

- Act as living bridge

② Address continental limitation of India wrt Central Asia.

• India - Iran (Chabahar port) → Afghanistan → Central Asia

③ Oil connectivity - TAPI pipeline

Post 2021 - Talibanization of Afghanistan affected India's strategic ambitions. =

① INSTC corridor - connecting India and Central Asia and India - Iran - Afghanistan - Central Asia → both projects put on hold.

② Pakistan - Afghanistan become single entity → obstructed India's access to Central Asia

- ③ Taliban created security dilemma in
the region → accelerated terror activity,
organised crime → challenge - India - central
Asia connects
- ④ Hastening India - central Asia energy
corridor through TAPE → become
distinct dream.
- ⑤ India's developmental partnership (above
\$2 Billion) at risk in Afghanistan

Future strategy

- ① Reviving old ties → Quad Group -
India - Afghanistan - Iran and central Asia.
proposed by C. Raja Mohan
- ② Building INSTC as alternative path
- ③ Developmental partnership in
Afghanistan to earn good ally

Due to Talibanisation and India - Pakistan
tense relationship, India - central Asia remain
far then actual distance India need
new connect central Asia policy 2.0

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

VisionIAS

