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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2086)

Name of Candidate	MEDHA ANAND		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	105670
Center	DELHI	Date	16-08-23

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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17	15	
18	15	
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20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**.
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. Do you agree with the view that there is a need to enact a new law for ensuring judicial accountability in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Judicial accountability refers to making Judiciary responsible legally for its decisions and ensuring its mandate of Art 142 - "complete justice"

Need for Judicial Accountability

(1) Harbinger of transparency
In Swapnil Tripathi case, SC held that sunlight is the best disinfectant.
⇒ Need accountability law

(2) Justice delayed is Justice Denied - There is a need to reduce

time of court giving out judgements.
(remains on an avg 8-10 years)

(3) Lack of adherence to Memorandum of Procedure - leads to defiance of Principle of Natural Justice. Ex - CJI

Fact File

- Judge = 22 / mn pop-ulation (UN mandates 50)
- 5 crore pending cases (DAKSH report)
- 87% pendency in subordinate courts, 12% in HC
- 95% vacancy in subordinate courts, 30% HC

referring his own sexual assault case by himself

(4) Appointment Procedure opaque -

Collegium system's basis of appointment unclear. Ex- Justice Karnan's appointment

(5) Non-adherence to rules - Ex-cases

being adjourned more than thrice, smaller benches appointed, lack of effective docketing etc.

(6) Unbridled Power is prone to misuse. Ex- Uncle Judge syndrome

Issues with
accountability
bill

→ may see the fate similar to NJAC
→ judges accountability difficult to gauge due to separation of power

↳ Resistance from Judiciary.

Thus, Judicial Accountability Bill is the need of the hour to deliver complete Justice under Art 142 and uphold constitutional morality.

2. Constitutionally reconciling Fundamental Rights with the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) has been a tough task since the inception of the Indian Constitution. Discuss with the help of relevant case laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The tussle between Fundamental Rights (Part III, Ar 13-35) and DPSP (Part IV, Ar 36-51) dates back to India's Independence and is still under debate.

Tough to reconcile FR's and DPSP because

- Judiciary giving varied judgements
- difficult to establish one's superiority over the other
- finally culmination of "doctrine of harmonious construction".

DPSP and FR: Journey So far

(1) Sajjan Singh case : SC held that Parliament can amend fundamental rights, thereby establishing parity in Rights and DPSP.

(2) Goldaknath case : SC held that Parliament doesn't have power to abridge FR's ⇒



(3) Govt brought an amendment to amend FR's.

Also, laws enforced to promote Ar 39 (b) and (c) could overlook - the fundamental rights.

Later, another amendment placed all DPSP's above FR's ⇒ Declared unconstitutional by SC

(4) Minerva Mills Case - Both FR and DPSP lie at equivalent pedestal and must be used to serve the purpose of welfare state better.

⇒ Harmonious construction Doctrine

Thus, the long standing debate ended with an amicable relations between the two to uphold principles of constitutional morality.

3. Discuss the functions performed by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and its role in shaping policy-making in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Prime Ministers office (PMO) is an executive decision making office which helps ensure good governance in the nation

Functions performed by PMO

- (1) Policy Regulator - It keeps a watch on the completion of policy targets. Ex - PRAGATI portal
- (2) Source of change - It incorporates public grievances and brings about effective changes in ment policies.
- (3) Voice of the marginalised - by upholding principles enshrined under Ar 14, 15, 16, 21 etc.
- (4) Accentuates the rate of completion of projects by effectively nudging the policies.

Role of PMO in shaping policy-making in India

(1) Incorporates demands of the citizen \Rightarrow participative democracy

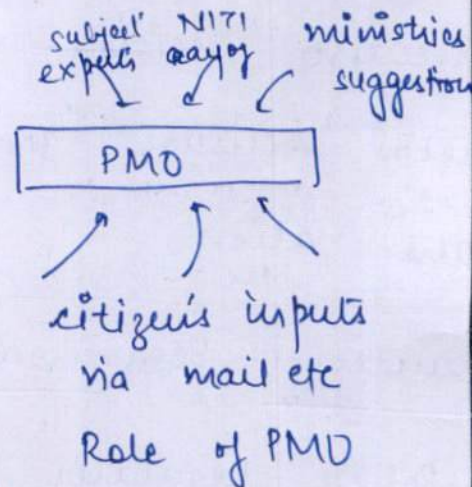
(2) Redressal of grievances - due to improper funds, technology is catered to.

(3) Puts policy in focus - by adequate deliberation and discussion.

(4) Upholds safeguards to prevent tyranny of executive.

(5) Ensures distributive justice -

Thus, PMO in close collaboration with other ministries and think tanks ensures that policies are made "for the people and by the people".



4. Re-examination and reconsideration of the provisions of Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) requires striking a balance between concerns of civil liberties and human rights, and maintaining and protecting the sovereignty and integrity of India. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Recent SA Dhargere case, SC has put a ban on new FIR's under Section 124A of IPC, denoting the need for its re-examination

Section 124A of IPC → sedition - "any words spoken or written to destabilise nation"
↳ cognizable, non-bailable and non-compoundable

Re-examination required because

- ↳ ① Police personnels lack training to impose it. Ex - Whole Kudankulam village was slapped with sedition
- ↳ ② serious provisions - non-bailable and loss of reputation
- ↳ ③ Cases of misuse - Vinod Dua case, Disha Ravi Toolkit case, Kaichaiya Ke Case
- ↳ ④ colonial legacy - has been impugned from Britain etc.

Balance between Civil Liberties and Sovereignty

Civil Liberties

- ① Reduce chances of misuse.
Ex- Balwant Singh case, SC held "imminent danger" to integrity as the yardstick.

- ② Use 2nd ARC recommendations-
✓ Rename sedition
✓ Put adequate safeguards against its misuse

- ③ Incorporate these provisions in another less serious law

Sovereignty

- ① To drive away fissionary tendencies
Ex- Khalistan, greater nagalim etc.

- ② misuse of law is no reason to negate it.

- ③ Ensure unity and integrity of nation.

Thus, as SC said in Kedarnath Singh Case, Section 124A should be rarely used and ensure that justice and fundamental rights prevail

5. "Citizen participation is key to the success of e-governance initiatives in rural India." Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

E-governance is a two way process and active citizen participation is the only way to ensure success of such efforts in rural India.

Need for Citizen Participation

(1) Virtuous cycle

- to ensure better public participation

(2) Bridge the digital divide

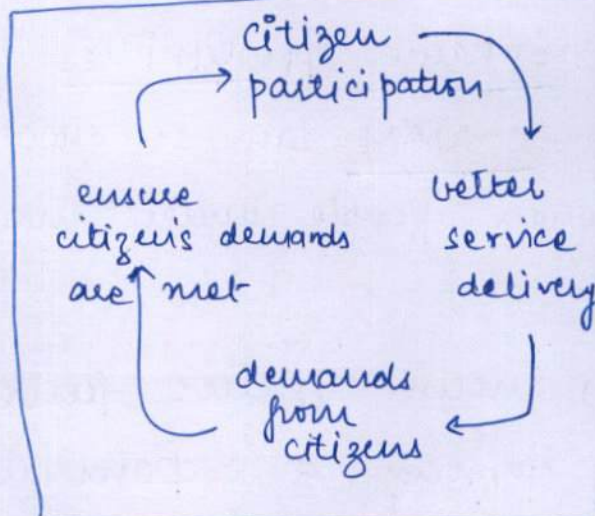
RURAL	35%
URBAN	70%

Internet users in Urban and Rural

⇒ will demand better services. Ex - BharatNet

(3) Raise Participation of Rural folks

Ex - New schemes can be fool proofed by citizens to ensure they are adequately used.



(4) Ensure social audit

Ex- online auditing of MGNREGA by rural India.

(5) Generate new sources of income

Ex- Omithurai rural panchayat earned 15 lakh p.a by online tendering of wind energy.

(6) Enhance opportunities

Ex - e-NAM can be successful only when people understand its utility better.

(7) Ensure effective fund utilization
by forging a bottom up approach

(8) Aid in building smart villages
and aspirational blocks.

Citizen participation in rural India

in e-governance can bridge the

Bharat-India divide and lead

the nation into Amrit Kaal

6. How far do you think the Aspirational District Programme has been able to achieve its objectives since its inception? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Aspirational District Programme aims to uplift the socio-economic parameters of backward districts and enhance their contribution in India's development.

Achievements of ADP

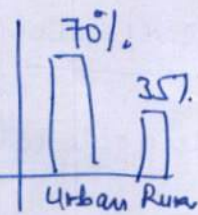
- (1) Infrastructural gains - With Gati Shakti scheme, railways as well as roadways have seen a steady growth.
- (2) Use of Digital technology - Data driven governance has brought bounties for the poor as well.
Ex - enhanced industries in underdeveloped areas.
- (3) Governance Deficit bridged - With social audits, dashboards and visible changes, better governance objectives

have been met.

(5) Targeted Development - by engaging less developed pockets into growth story.

Lacunae

(1) Persistence of Digital Divide (Internet use)



Area	Internet Use (%)
Urban	70%
Rural	35%

(2) Underdeveloped pockets still seen
Ex - Slums, unsanitary conditions still seen in aspirational districts

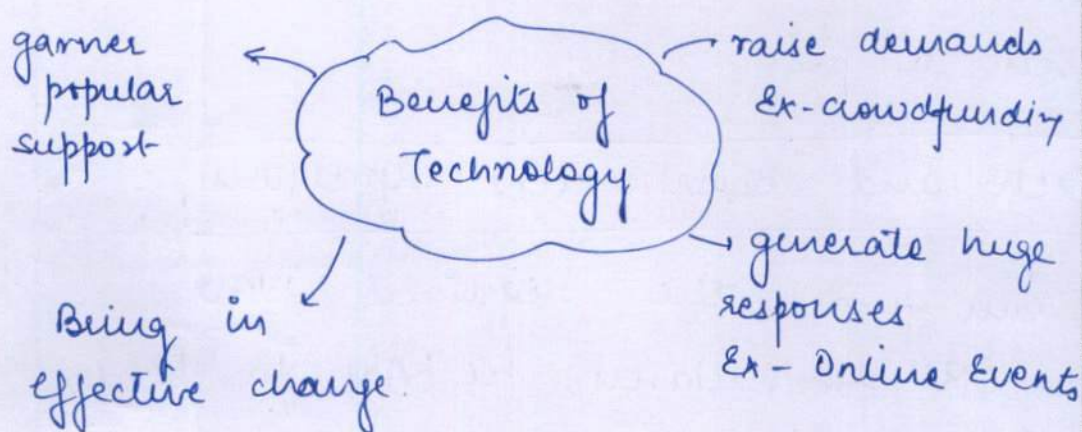
(3) Siloed Reforms - other schemes like smart city, smart village remain aloof.

(4) NITI Aayog Reports still highlight non-facilitation of schemes to some areas.

Thus, ADP has seen mixed response and it has to enhance in 3S - Speed, Scale and System to improve

7. Technology has a crucial role to play in advancing the NGO sector and improving outcomes for beneficiaries. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Technology driven NGOs can bring in a silent revolution in India's growth story with 300mn mobile phone users.



Role of Technology in advancing NGO sector :-

(1) Fund provider - Online altruists like same good etc can well raise performing standards of NGOs.

(2) Mobilize functionaries :

Ex- Youth collecting for disbursement of sanitary Napkins by NGO Alkam in Lucknow.

(3) Act as lobby group - by voicing popular opinion of NGO's.

Ex - Concerns against FCRA

(4) Diverse Platform to help demand-supply meet. Ex - food from marriages collected by Kalpaniksha NGO and given to poor

Tech and beneficiaries symbiosis

(1) Can find the required NGO

Ex - CRY for children, HelpAge for elderly

(2) Ripple Effect generated - by highlighting successful stories.

(3) Crowdfunding opportunities for poor

Ex - recent crowdfunding for a poor

girl's heart transplant.

Issues → Digital Divide

→ Prone to misuse

↳ cyber bullying, sextortion and other crimes

Thus, technology has enhanced

the arena of civil society operations

and vijaykumar's committee on cyberscy
can help tread a safe way

8. Discuss the implications associated with the entry of foreign educational institutions for technical and higher education in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Foreign Educational Institutions can bring in the much required fund and expertise in India's educational agenda, but the path can well be risky.

Positive implications of Entry of FEI's in Technical education and Higher Ed

- (1) Increase R&D infra (Presently 0.9% of GDP spent on it)
- (2) Bring in latest technology
- collaborate with KIRAN, CURIE scheme
- (3) Can handhold talented people who lack resources
- (4) Can lead to higher Gross enrollment ratios in higher education due to enhanced opportunities
- (5) Collaborate with Atal Labs to enhance India's patent ecosystem

Threats of this interference

- 1) May lead to brain drain, as foreign nations would want to employ them
- 2) Can be a source of illicit money, channelised for nefarious activities
- 3) India's patent ecosystem isn't apt to ensure safety of our Traditional Knowledge
- 4) Lack of effective arbitration systems may lead to foreign institutes not preferring it.
- 5) Loss of traditional knowledge and education systems (Eklavya schools etc)

The partition mayhem due to colonial powers have had scars on India and it is important to have adequate safeguards before allowing FIE's.

9. The flourishing relationship between India and countries of Latin America has become a critical element of India's foreign policy. Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India's policy of vasudev kutumbaka has now spread to as far and wide as Latin America

Flourishing relation between India and Latin America

- (1) Trade Potential enhanced due to schemes like Dekho Apna Desh.
- (2) Use of Diaspora to engage with this area (32 mm Diaspora)
- (3) Connectivity help by Technological exchange
- (4) Cultural ties due to buddhist philosophies
- (5) Effect of Bollywood prevalent there.

Critical Element of foreign policy

↳ act as gateway to america
↳ ensures India's rise as a
jagat guru

↳ manifest PM's Paanch Pray
where we raise our capabilities
to engage with other nations

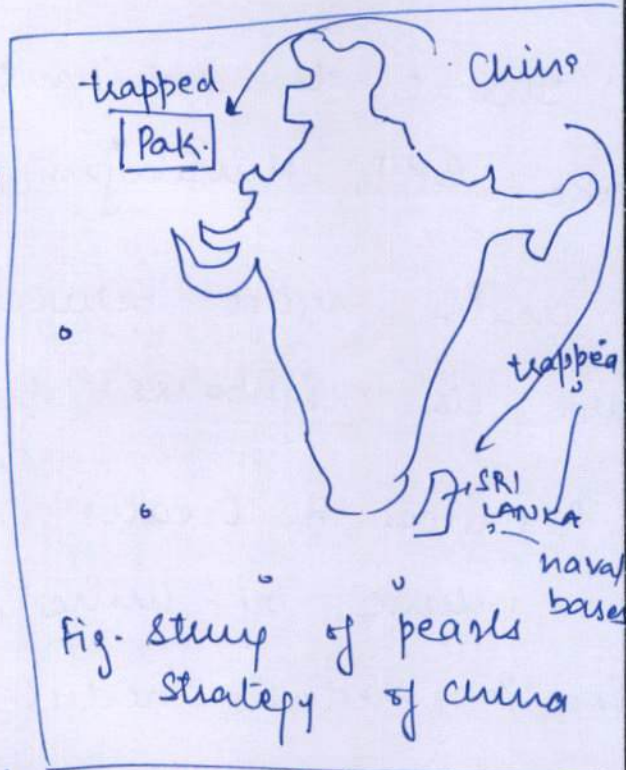
Thus, latin america is the
new breeding ground for Indian
foreign relations to take shape

10. What is debt-trap diplomacy? How does China's debt-trap diplomacy impact India's interests in its neighbourhood? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Debt trap diplomacy is a neo-colonial policy of imposing huge debts on a nation and then extracting geo-political benefits from it.

Debt trap diplomacy

① Sri Lanka - unable to pay loan it has leased Hambantota port to China for 99 years.



(2) Similar happened to Mauritius archipelago.

Impact of China's debt-trap

① Fuels salami slicing - China forces its neighbours to give away its territories.

- (2) leads to surrounding of China's bases around India.
- (3) India's soft power becomes redundant as everyone tries to gain credit from China.
- (4) Threat to sovereignty by plans like BRI, Himalayan quad etc.
- (5) creates wedge between India and its neighbours.
- (6) Resources of oceans are prone to misuse by China.
Ex- Polymetallic nodules.

Thus, China's Debt trap policy is a major deterrent to India's plan of becoming a Vishwa guru and thus its evil plans must be widely publicised.

11. Despite being an amalgamation of various constitutions from across the world, the Indian Constitution imbibes social justice, pluralism, and equality through its various provisions. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

B.R. Ambedkar calls Indian constitution "a bag of borrowing", owing to the influence of other nations it has, while ensuring distributive justice.

Indian Constitution - amalgamation

① South African

Procedure of Election of President.

② Canadian

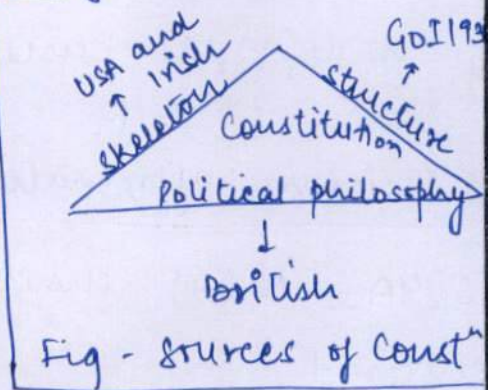
- federation with a strong centre, appointment of Governor by Centre and Advisory jurisdiction of SC

③ USA

- Independence of Judiciary, Fundamental Rights, Judicial system

④ British

- Parliamentary privileges, Rule of Law, Bicameralism



(5) Weimar Constitution

- suspension of Fundamental Rights during emergency

Indian Constitution - Source of Social Justice, Pluralism and Equality

(1) Fundamental Rights - Golden trinity of Ar 14, 19, 21 ensure complete justice -

(2) Positive affirmations under Ar 16(3), 16(4A), 16(4) ensure social justice is ensured.

(3) Ensuring special needs of the area are met - fifth and sixth schedule ensure land of tribals is conserved

(4) Gandhian philosophy promoted through Ar 243 - village Panchayat and Gram Sabha.

(5) Diversity maintained

Ex - Ar 29, 30 ensure upholding one's culture and education

(6) Religious rights upheld

=> Ar 25, 26, 27 freedom to conscience and religion.

(7) Human Rights upheld under Ar 23 and 24 - by not allowing begar and children's rights being upheld.

(8) Preservation of lingual diversity
- schedule 8 of the constitution

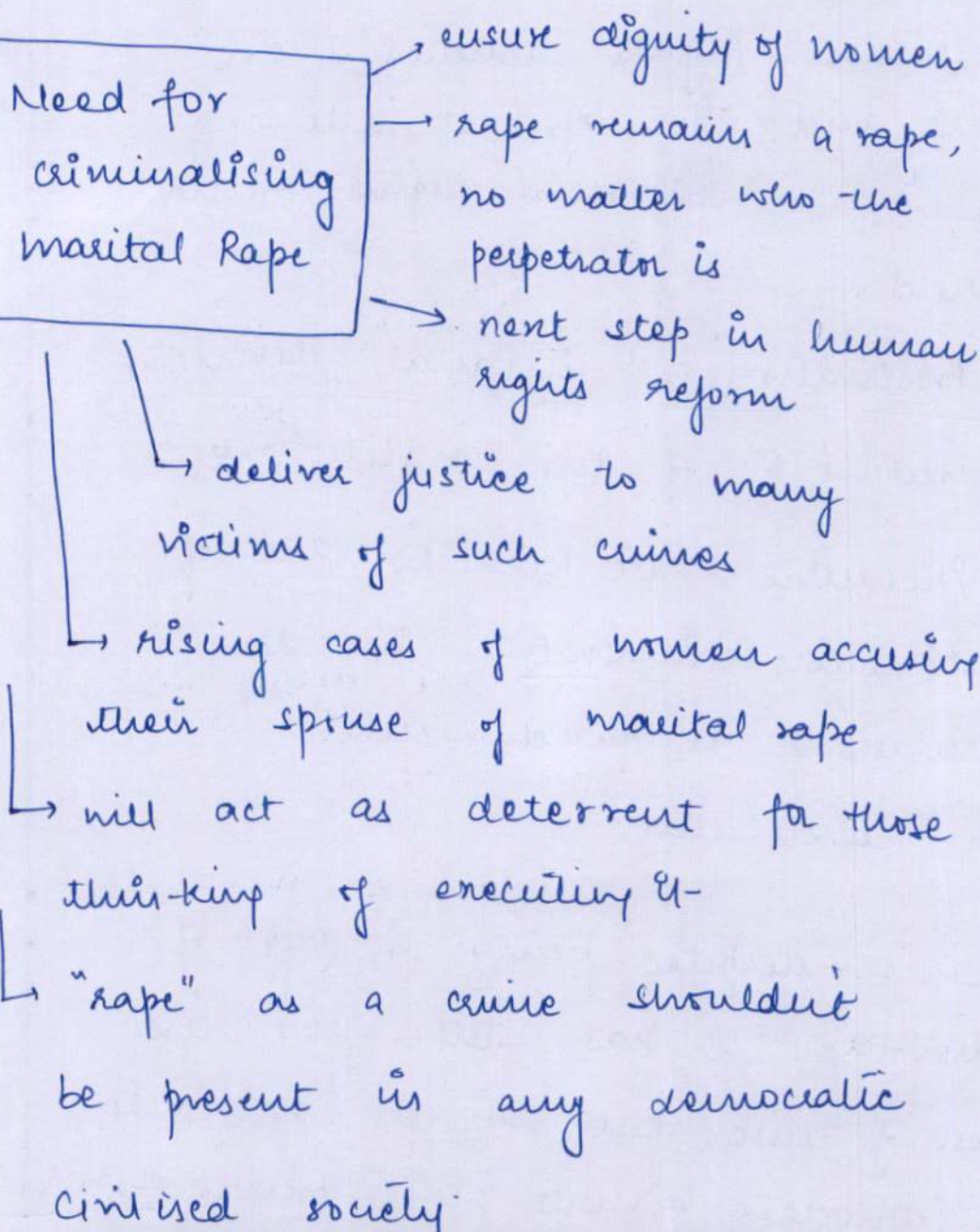
(9) Preamble - the identity card of Constitution (Palkivalo) upholds secularism as fundamental to our constitution.

Thus, despite being a bag of borrowing, it has still stood the test of time due to its power to accommodate diversity and prevent despotism.

12. Recent developments have brought to light the issue of criminalizing marital rape in India. Analyse the implications of ensuring legal protection for victims of marital rape in the country. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Marital rape refers to forcing onto one's spouse without her consent.

It is still not recognised illegal in India.



Implications of ensuring legal protection for victims

- (1) Will deliver justice to women in private sphere.
- (2) Reduce sexual exploitation of women
- (3) Ensure "dignity of body" and "choice" to women

But,

- (1) It would be difficult to prove a marital rape case - due to lack of evidence.
- (2) May be used as a weapon by powerful women for economic gains
Ex - misuse of Dowry Act.
- (3) Real victims, those in rural areas etc may remain unaware and might not even report cases.

(4) May increase judicial pendencies

(5) Prop up of legal challenges -

^ Did the man miscontrove the consent?

^ Did the woman withdrew the consent between the act?

Way forward

↳ Developed nations are seeing the past relations of married couple → if they have strained relations → No marital rape (misuse), also case is taken up → this can be done

It is now time to legalise marital rape as highlighted by Justice Verma committee while putting adequate safeguards to prevent misuse.

13. "The Indian model of federalism has been criticized for being too centralized, but it also provides adequate space and autonomy to the states." Analyse. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Indian model of federalism, inspired from Canadian model has more centralizing tendencies to ensure unity of our nation.

Indian - federalism - too centralized

- ① Single citizenship (Ar 5, Part III)
- ② Emergency provisions (Ar 352)
- ③ Case of President's rule (Ar 356) imposed unilaterally from Centre onto the states.
- ④ Heavier hand of Centre in case of Concurrent and Residuary subjects (seventh schedule, Ar 248)
- ⑤ Finance Commission formation by President (Ar 280)
- ⑥ Role of Centre in state subjects (Ar 249, 250, 252 etc)

- ⑦ Method of election of governor - based on President's hand and seal
- ⑧ Centre's role in devolving executive functions to state without consent.
- ⑨ Indestructible Union with destructible States (Ar 2,3)
- But, there is adequate space and autonomy for state

① Written constitution - ensures division of power adequately.

② Independent Judiciary - upholds rights of states vis-a-vis centre

③ Bodies like GST Council, Inter-state Council (Ar 263), Zonal Council - ensure state participation

④ Paradiplomacy
Ex - West Bengal negotiating Teesta deal.

⑤ Seventh schedule ensures effective distribution of subjects for states to devolve power.

⑥ Cooperative Federalism - seen through NITI Aayog's report, demand for performance related grants etc

⑦ Council of states - represent the demands of state effectively.

⑧ Local self Governance bodies have further given autonomy to states and led to their enhanced participation.

⑨ Rise of local parties - manifest state's position.

Thus, Indian Federalism is a classic example of what Morris Jones calls a "bargaining federalism" - moving between centre and state.

14. The recent judgment of the Supreme Court on appointments to the Election Commission of India (ECI) has fundamentally changed the appointment process and can have potentially far-reaching implications. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

The big bang reform in election Commission of India's appointment will significantly enhance public trust on ECI.

Recent judgement has led to a collegium appointing ECI members comprising of PM, leader of opposition and Cabinet Minister (govt mandated

Reasons of calling it as a big bang reform :-

- (1) Justice will not only be done, but will be seen to be done
- (2) Reduce political interference in appointment of ECI
- (3) ECI's mandate of superintendence of elections (Ar 324) will be easily

completed.

- (4) Election procedure should be devoid of political interference
- (5) Was earlier a major criticism of ECI governance ecosystem
- (6) Repose public faith on election procedure → reduce claims of EVM tampering.

Far-reaching implications

- (1) Will act as catalyst to take other reforms
- (2) Ensure independence of ECI
- (3) ECI can better impose Model Code of Conduct
- (4) Can now be given powers to de-register political parties

But, some issues still remain

- (1) Criminalization of Politics (48% Lok Sabha MP's have criminal cases against them)
- (2) Events of EVM tampering slogans, require introduction of VVPATS
- (3) Qualification of ECI should be mandated
- (4) Administrative expenses must be charged on Consolidated Fund of India.
- (5) should be given power to de-register Political Parties.

Thus, this reform is a tip of the iceberg and more needs to be done to uphold transparency in election system

15. Integration with the global trends and opening up of the economy has resulted in diversified challenges for the civil services, which require holistic reforms for efficient service delivery. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Technology and globalisation have brought new opportunities and threats for India, requiring major changes for India's Civil Services culture.

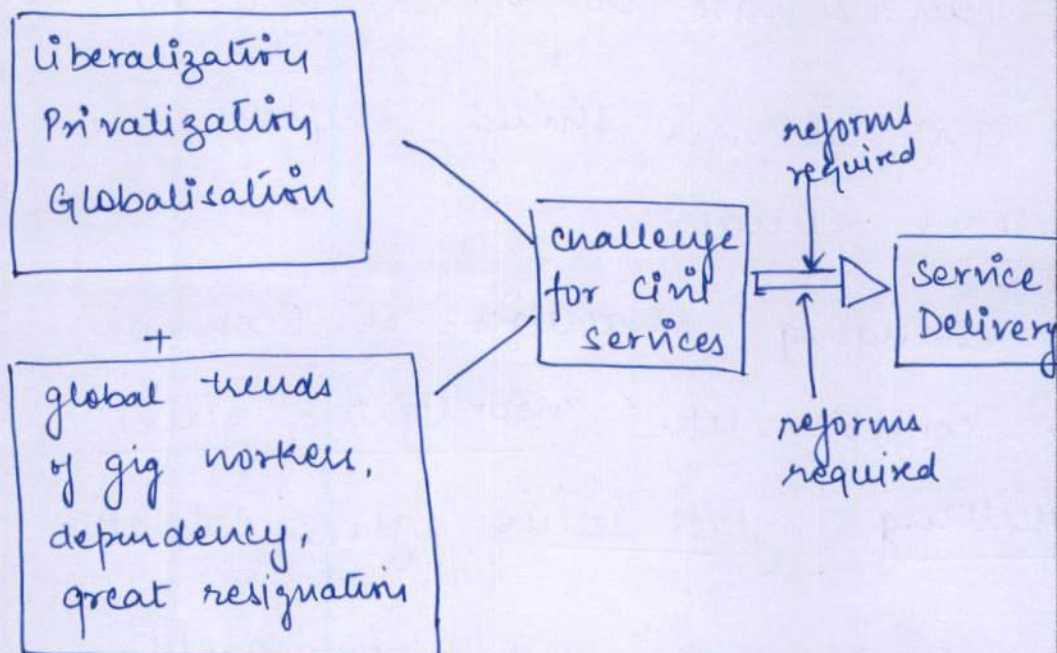


Fig - explaining emerging challenges

challenges from global trends' integration

- ① Ripple Effect - be it economy (depression) or social movement (Me Too), all penetrate within Indian borders

⇒ require civil services to be flexible and agile to change

② New threats require sector specific knowledge.

Ex - Cyber security and new threats of Ransomware, DDoS attack, phishing

⇒ Civil services should employ lateral entrants.

③ changing structures of economy
Ex - concepts like moonlighting, quiet quitting, glass ceiling, glass escalator

⇒ civil servants should be adept to new trends and ensure Policy initiatives precede the upcoming challenges.

④ Global uncertainty has effect on domestic policies.

Ex - Inflation due to Russia-Ukraine war

Civil services should be accustomed to ensure the nation can bear these changes.

holistic reforms for effective service delivery

(1) New services - like need for lift, open public spaces, smart villages

(2) ensure safety - from cyberfrauds and insecurity.

(3) Cater to changing demography

→ need for geriatric care (15% elderly by 2050)

(4) Urbanization challenges to be effectively managed

(17% urban population lives in slums, 35% don't get safe water)

Thus, Hota Committee and Susudranath Committee recommendations to introduce lateral entry and foreign training can turn our 'rusted steel frame' to 'tested steel frame'.

16. What role can open data play in promoting transparency and accountability in e-governance in India? What are the challenges in ensuring the quality and reliability of open data in the country? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Data is the new oil and its effective exploration can ensure that governance objectives get transformed into good governance

Role of Open data in promoting transparency and accountability

(1) Ensure quality check - By cross-verification of funds spent.

Ex - Recent CAG report suggests that 7 crore rupees from Ayushman Bharat was spent on "dead" beneficiaries.

(2) Data analytics - can be used to target governance at places required the most.

Ex - focus on slums in urban areas under In situ Slum development project of PM Awas Yojana

(3) Build Trust on Govt

Ex- releasing GM research will ensure that people trust GM crops whole-heartedly

(4) Efficient service delivery

Ex- muster rolls of MGNREGA can be cross verified during social audits to reduce "ghost beneficiaries".

(5) Governance outcomes enhanced

Ex-govt will pre-emptively work for development of poor.

Challenges of ensuring quality and reliability of open data

(1) Authenticity - hackers might change data and lead to unexpected outcomes.

(2) Ransomware threats

Ex- Recent NPS of america targeted

(3) Threat to critical infrastructure
like Nuclear Energy, Medical records
Ex-recent hacking of Kudankulam Server

(4) Privacy challenged (Puttaswamy case)
leak of private personal information
like sexual orientation etc.

(5) Threat from external actors
like J.e.M, ISIS etc

Way forward

↳ K. Gopal Krishna committee recommend
of data localisation must be upheld
↳ critical type must be
safeguarded at all cost

Thus, data being the new oil,
requires protection across border
to ensure it isn't misutilized
on whims and fancies of miscreants

17. To reduce the prevalence of 'zero food' children in India, maternal nutrition needs to be made a priority. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

'Zero food' children are an aspect of hidden hunger where chances of malnutrition in children occur due to intergenerational causes.

'Zero food' children

- evident from hunger deaths in Kala hand, Odisha

- stunted children and anaemic girls.

Fact file :-

37.5% stunted kids

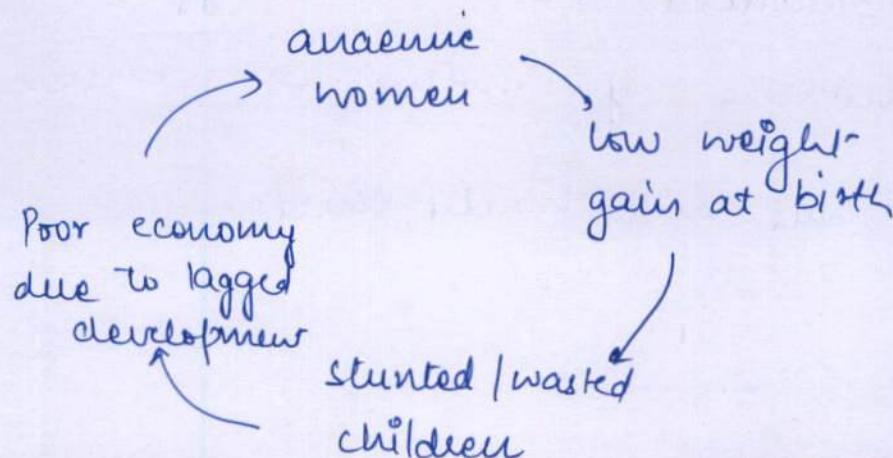
36% wasted kids

55% anaemic women

60% male obesity

45% female obesity

Relation of 'zero food' children and maternal nutrition] VICIOUS CYCLE



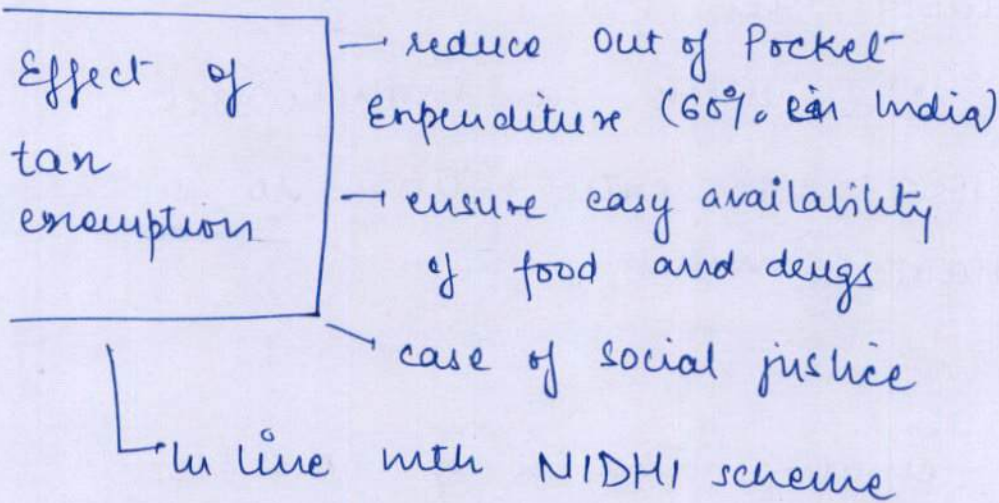
strategies for above

- ① POSHAN abhiyan - to enhance nutritional level
- ② Use of ASHA and ANM workers - prescribe Iron and Folic Acid tablets
- ③ Mid-day Meals to comprise of balanced diet.
- ④ Effective check on mother's diet
Ex- NFSA gives extra ration to pregnant women.

Thus, ensuring health of mothers can give rise to inter-generational dividend by managing nutritional problem at the beginning.

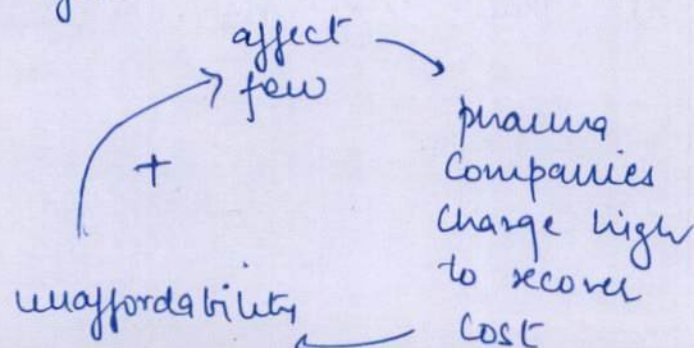
18. Recently, the Central government exempted all foods and drugs for rare diseases imported by people for personal use from customs duty. What are the concerns related to rare diseases as a public health issue in India? How can these be resolved? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Rare diseases are those diseases, whose occurrence is so miniscule, that often drug companies either don't spend on their research, or make their medicines too costly to recover cost.



CONCERNS RELATED TO RARE DISEASES

① vicious cycle



② Lack of screening

Ex - pre birth Down's syndrome screening is still a non-starter in India

③ Socio-cultural practices - marriage within the family increases the chances \Rightarrow \uparrow regressive genes

\Rightarrow Many people are unaware about it

④ Lack of dedicated hospitals for treatment

⑤ Costly treatment and food supplements

⑥ challenge of care for the person by the family.

⑦ often these people are destituted as families are unable to afford their expenses {22% poor in India as per Tendulkar committee.}

⑧ lack of govt support for them.

Resolution

(A) From users side

(1) Enhance awareness

(2) Effective channel to understand these diseases

(B) Infrastructure

(1) Primary healthcare should atleast understand them

(2) Medical facilities atleast in towns.

(C) Govt

(1) Ensure schemes like NIDHI take off

(2) Publicise presence of such schemes

Thus, effective solution of rare diseases will ensure that all SDGs are met as it will result in holistic development of all

19. For realistic and effective collaborations to take place in the Indo-Pacific region, there is a need to acknowledge and recognize the underlining intention of the various countries with stakes in the region. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Indo Pacific is seeing the "New great game" with rising of Powers like India, China, Australia etc.

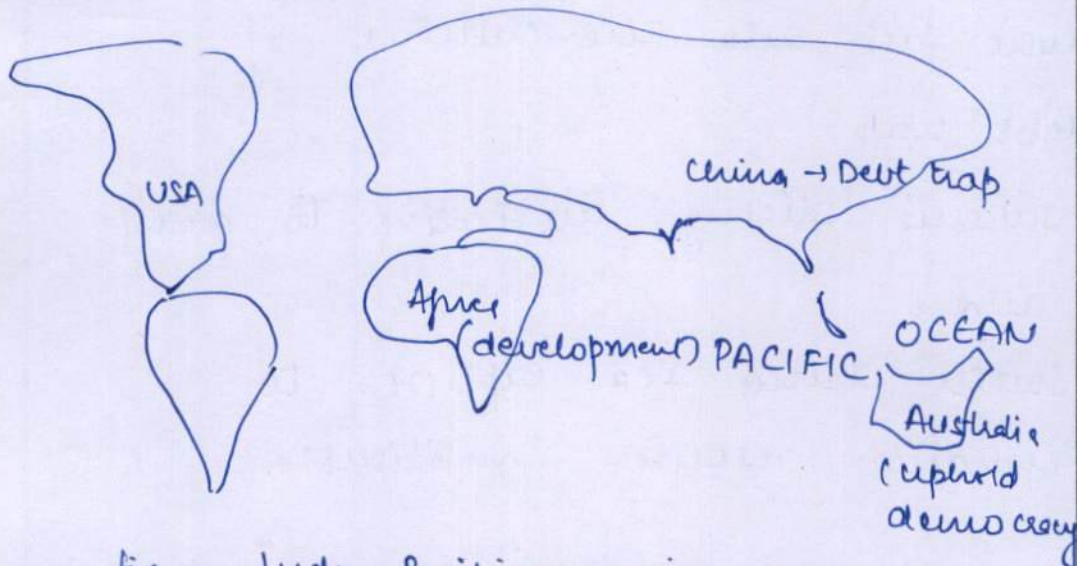
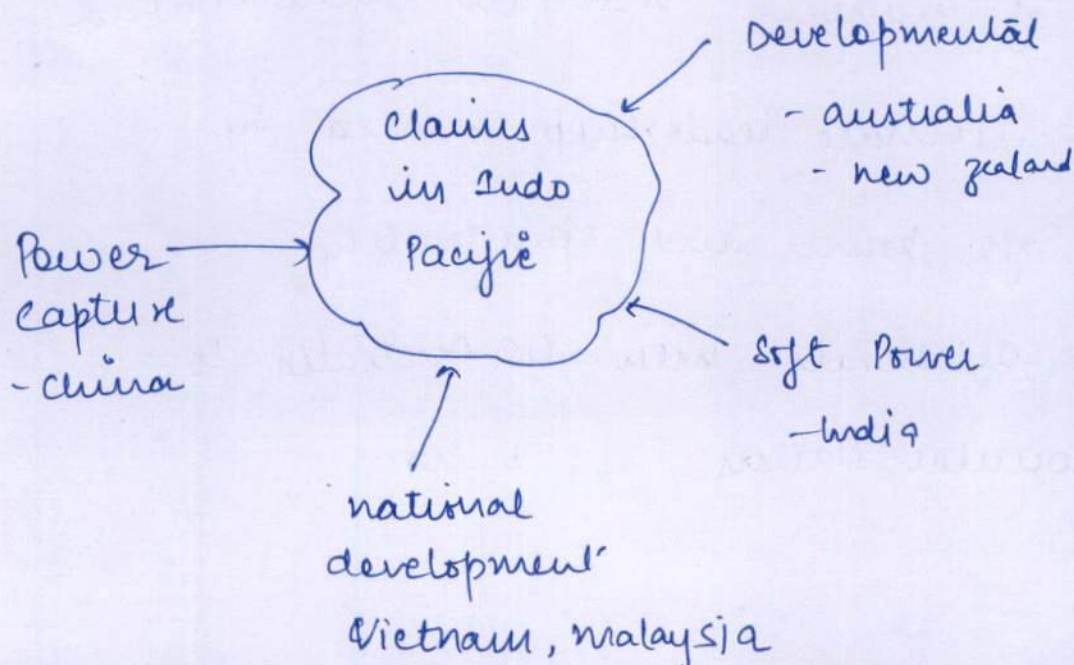


fig - Indo Pacific region at a glance



Need for understanding intentions
of various nations

(1) The China deal

- important to ensure other nations don't fall into the clutches of debt trap
- saharu slicing initiative to grasp land
- south China sea capture to enhance resource mobilisation

(2) Indian aim

- of ensuring Vasudaiḥ Kutumbakam
- alternate leadership guided by soft power and spirituality
- collaborate with US, Australia to counter claims of China.

will result in effective collaborations

(1) Trade trap - India not accepting RCEP membership ensured its own interest.

(2) Connectivity Partnership - Bhutan not becoming part of BRI, signifies it understands China's motive

(3) China - Russia - Pak axis aim to monopolise capital and resources
⇒ Nations like Sri Lanka and Nepal should remain wary

(4) Trade - ASEAN countries trade with India can be enhanced (from present 5%.)

Thus, realistic collaboration in Indo-Pacific requires nations to know the background for such collaboration

20. There is a need to address the underlying challenges, both internal and external, in the North-Eastern region of India before it can serve as a pivotal connecting space between India and its neighbours. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

North east region is connected through a chicken neck corridor and its stability is required to ensure stability of India

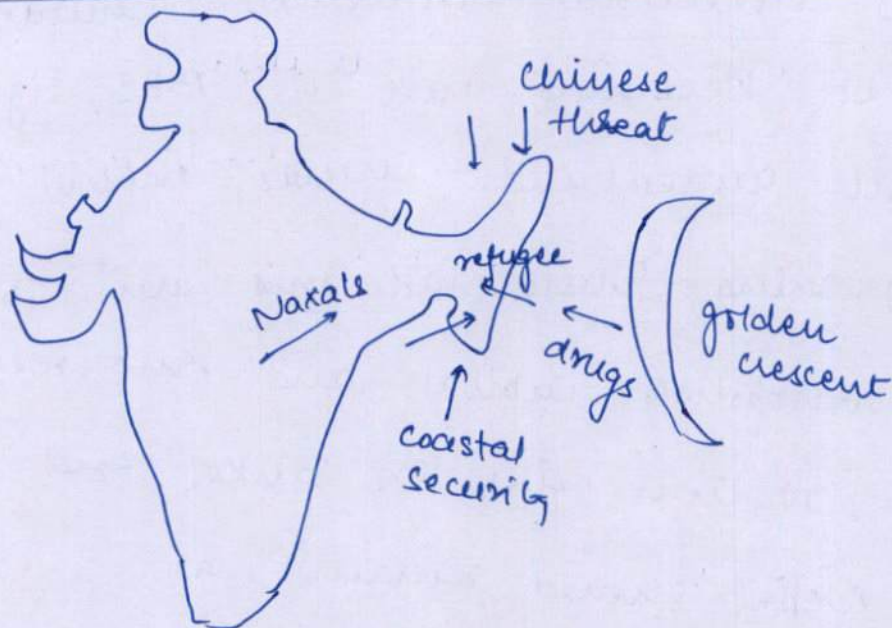


Fig - Internal & External threats to North east

Need to address internal and external challenges as

① Impediment to growth

Ex- violence reduces developmental gains

(2) Build Human resource

Ex - Drug taking youth is a threat

(3) Effective development

Ex - rise of immigrant refugees will put strain on resources → lead to conflict.

(4) Ensure Targeted Development

Ex - under DONER scheme, infra both hard and soft will be build in North East

It can serve as a pivotal connecting space

(1) Protects India from China's aggression

(2) help maintain close ties with Bangladesh

(3) Gateway to ASEAN and trade relations there

(4) Near the strategic Indo Pacific

(5) Huge potential of natural resources

Way forward

- Engage Inter State Council Ar 263
- NE Zonal Council can be engaged for development
- Tailor made solutions for development, no one size fits all approach
- boundary demarcation to reduce conflict

Thus, NE region needs HIRA

(highway, Inka, Railway and Aviation) to fully develop its potential.