



VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION
ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2423)

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. : 1010697

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Devansh Sarswat

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

Gng.

तारीख
Date

26-08-23

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

केंद्र
Centre

Karel Bagh

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

Signature

	महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश 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।	Important Instructions 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.
1	(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। (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।	(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates. (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
2	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।	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.
3	परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।	Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.
4	उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।	Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5	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।	Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6	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।	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.
7	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।	Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.
8	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।	If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.

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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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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.

उपयुक्त उदाहरणों की सहायता से, चर्चा कीजिए कि पर्यावरणीय दबाव समूह भारत में पर्यावरण नीतियों के संबंध में सार्वजनिक भागीदारी और अनुक्रियाशीलता को कैसे बढ़ाते हैं। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

With suitable examples, discuss how environmental pressure groups enhance public participation and responsiveness with regard to environmental policies in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

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

Environmental Pressure Groups are voluntary organisations which collectively nudge governments to introduce policies which are centred around environment protection and sustainable developments.

Indian Environmental Pressure Groups

- ↳ are slightly informal and lesser organised compared to western pressure groups
- ↳ advocate for livelihood of those living in proximity of environment

Enhance Public Participation and Responsiveness

1. takes the locals along in opposing anti-environmental policies

- e.g. protests against sterile copper plants
2. shows community cohesion and solidarity towards environment protection
e.g. Bichnoi community
3. gives a voice to tribals and fight for their rights, rehabilitation etc.
e.g. Narmada Bachao Andolan

However, there are issues:

1. hindering developmental work
e.g. Kundankulam nuclear plant
2. usage of foreign funds for propaganda
e.g. Greenpeace

However, Pressure groups play a huge role in furthering the ideal of Broad ecologism as opposed to Narrow ecologism.

2.

हाल ही में, उच्चतम न्यायालय द्वारा सेक्स वर्क को एक 'पेशे' के रूप में स्वीकार किया जाना, भारत में सेक्स वर्कर्स के लिए बुनियादी अधिकार और समानता सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में पहला कदम है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recent acknowledgment of sex work as a 'profession' by the Supreme Court is merely the first step in ensuring basic rights and equality for sex workers in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words)

10

The Supreme Court in one of its recent judgments distinguished between voluntary sex workers as against those trafficked, hence recognising their right to livelihood.

Survey by Gram Nyayojan Kendra:

- ↳ nearly 3 to 4 ^{mn} lakh sex workers (officially accounted till now)
- ↳ earns anywhere between ₹2,000 - 24,000/month on an average
- ↳ lack of access to social security schemes like NFSA, insurance etc.

Supreme Court's Directions

1. Right to dignity and livelihood for sex workers
2. Grant access to social security schemes
3. asked Police to be more sensitive in handling cases relating

to them.

However, it is only a first step in ensuring basic rights and equality as the onus is now on:

A. Government

- ↳ effective service delivery like rations, Health cards etc.
- ↳ empowering institutions who protect their interests
- ↳ sensitising police forces

B. Citizens

- ↳ attitude change by accepting them as equal members of society
- ↳ increasing self-awareness and sensibilities

C. Civil society

- ↳ taking up their cause for effective delivery of their basic rights
- ↳ supplement the role of governments by aiding in delivery of services

Further legislative and institutional changes must be adopted to rightfully bestow dignity and livelihood right to sex workers.

3.

भारत में निःशुल्क कानूनी सहायता प्रदान करने और कानूनी जागरूकता फैलाने में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों (DLSAs) द्वारा निभाई जाने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Discuss the role played by District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in providing free legal aid and disseminating legal awareness in India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

District legal services authorities are the footsoldiers of legal aid under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

↓
Mechanism

National LSA (NALSA)

↓
State LSA

↓
DLSAs

Role in free legal aid

1. maintaining a panel of lawyers to represent indigent clients
2. organizing lok adalats regularly for timely and effective resolution of petty matters.
3. organise legal awareness camps in collaboration with civil society
4. taking justice to people's homes by mobile courts
5. visiting jails to ensure legal

representation to those who are in prison.

Issues

NLU Delhi Survey: 75% of clients choose ^{free} legal aid as last option

↳ quality of lawyers in such panels is not upto the mark

↳ underutilisation of funds

↳ low legal literacy among citizens

Way forward

- compulsory free legal aid to secure privileges for advocates like chambers, senior status etc.

- online Justice delivery (Just + S App)

- Appointing people as 'Law Mitras' to visit people's homes and give advice.

These measures can go a long way in implementation of Article 38 and Article 39 of Part IV of the Constitution.

4.

"कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के सकेन्द्रण के कारण, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली अपनी ही सफलता का शिकार हो गई है, जिससे इसकी वैधता पर सवाल उठने लगे हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"The collegium system has become a victim of its own success, with the concentration of power in the hands of a few, leading to questions about its legitimacy." Comment. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्शिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
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write on
this margin

The second judges case in 1992 set forth a regime of collegium wherein the CJI along with 4 other senior-most judges of Supreme Court would give a binding advice to President regarding appointing a judge.

Rationale

- ↳ independence of Judiciary (L chandra kumar case)
 - ↳ separation of Powers
 - ↳ no interference of executive
 - ↳ hindering political appointments
- However, it has become a victim of its own success:

1. Lack of transparency in functioning
 - ↳ No grounds of appointing / rejecting a Judge are in open
2. Further Judiciary as a closed group with nepotism based appointments

3. Reasonable apprehensions of bias arise due to such opacity
4. many meritorious appointments are left behind
e.g. Justice Muralidhar
5. Frequent standoff with Judicial executive over appointments
6. hindrance to judicial work

Measures to Reform

Emulating best practices across the world;

- Process of Application of Judges and a Memorandum of Procedure (MOP)
- wider representation in appointing authority: Bar, Civil Society, Parliament
- time bound appointments (L. Mahandi coalfields case)

"Sunlight is the best disinfectant"
- CJ I → accordingly must be applied in appointment process.

5.

"सिविल सेवा सुधारों को वर्तमान दौर की चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए भर्ती और मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण से आगे बढ़ाया जाना अनिवार्य है।" विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"Civil services reforms must go beyond recruitment and standardised training to cope with the present day challenges." Analyse. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

Civil services are the steel frame of the country owing to their special role in governance of the country (Sardar Patel)

Need for Reforms

1. Increasing complexity in governance
2. Overburdened bureaucracy
3. marred by technical and legal hindrances in functioning
4. The generalisation syndrome in the era of specialisation

Going beyond Recruitment and Standardised training

1. Personalized learning - that too at different phases in career
↳ Promotions based on completion of a training regime
(Kata committee)

2. 360 degree Feedback mechanisms as well as peer review
3. Domain specialisation based appointments
4. making 'Techocrats' rather than bureaucrats

However, supplementing these reforms, some tweaks in recruitment and training (standard) would also be required:

1. increasing 'diversity' in the civil services pool
2. updating training curriculums based on the changing needs of society
3. effective utilisation of IGO T platform under mission Karmayogi.

Good Governance is our birthright and for that civil service reforms are inevitable.

6.

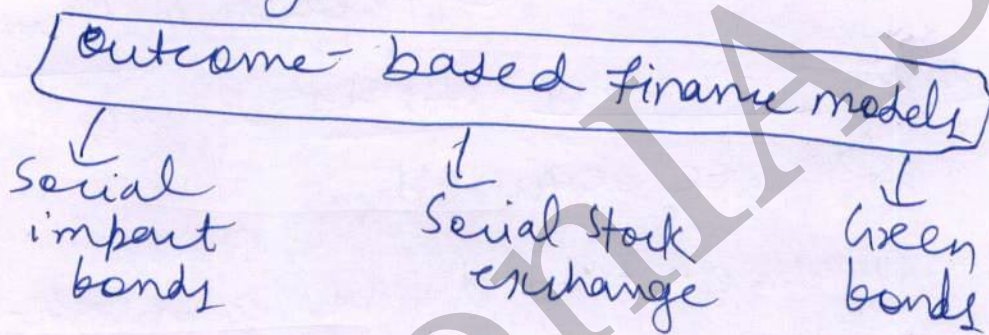
सामाजिक प्रभाव बॉण्ड्स जैसे परिणाम-आधारित वित्त मॉडल में वास्तविक रूप से परिवर्तन लाने और बड़े पैमाने पर सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रभाव उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता विद्यमान है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Outcome-based finance models such as social impact bonds have the potential to truly catalyse change and deliver socio-economic impact at scale. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

Social impact bonds are innovative financial models which distribute proceeds based on the social impact of the associated venture activity.



Potential to catalyse change and deliver socio-economic impact at scale

1. Ensures transparency and accountability to of the debtor
2. leads to actual impact creation
3. gives adequate and suitable

platform for philanthropy
which is impact creating.

4. can be an effective means of
employing CSR funds.

5. eases access to Finance
for social activity which
do not have that much
economic backing.

Concerns

1. can be a channel to source
black money
2. concerns of foreign financing

Adequate legal arrangements
must be ensured so as to realise
the true -impact of outcome-
based finance models.

7.

प्रत्येक वर्ष ग्रेजुएट होने वाली और कार्यक्षेत्र में प्रवेश करने वाली महिलाओं की संख्या के मध्य का व्यापक अंतराल एक गंभीर समस्या है जिसे हल किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The wide gap between the number of females graduating every year and those entering the workspace is an issue of paramount importance that needs to be addressed. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

Female labour force participation in India is a meagre 32% as per PLFS.

Divergence between females graduating and entering workforce

Reasons

~ lack of quality jobs

(underrepresentation is

in white collar jobs and

over in pink collar jobs)

~ wage disparity

82% of all wages are pocketed by male labour as per a survey

~ lack of security

↳ ILC committees have not been constituted in many organisations.

~ biological clock ticking with
professional clock
↓ (IAS Smita Sabbharnal)
motherhood penalty

~ Double burden
↳ care work
80% of men think raising children
is responsibility of women only
~ 17% of urban families not in favour
of female working

Way forward

1. Investing in care work
↳ recognition
2. Favourable maternity policies
e.g. Tomato : support employees
during maternity
↳ such practices can be rewarded
with tax concessions

Parity of gender in workplace can
increase GDP by 1.2% (Mckinsey)
Hence must be prioritised. Mckinsey

8.

भारत में सामाजिक-आर्थिक नियोजन के लिए एक अद्यतित और कार्यात्मक नागरिक पंजीकरण प्रणाली (CRS) अनिवार्य है। देश में CRS प्रणाली में सुधार हेतु केंद्र सरकार के हालिया कदम के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

An up to date and functional Civil Registration System (CRS) is essential to the socio-economic planning in India. Discuss in the light of the recent move of the Central government in revamping the CRS system in the country. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

Civil Registration system is the account of all demographic data like birth and death, poverty, residence etc.

Recently, Central Government has sought to revamp the CRS system:

- ↳ making it digital all information and registration digitally
- ↳ linking with Aadhaar to bring uniformity
- ↳ potential application of blockchain in securing these digital records

Significance:

1. Provides ~~ad~~ proper information of beneficiaries to government
2. ensures effective implementation of schemes
3. brings accountability
e.g. in preventing femal infanticide using birth records

Way Forward

1. expanding coverage through e-MITRAS
2. revamping municipal authorities' infrastructure cognisant with digital needs.

Such a system can be an effective enabler of good governance.

9.

यदि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (IMF) को वर्तमान आर्थिक वास्तविकताओं के साथ समायोजित होना है तो इसमें सुधार के प्रमुख क्षेत्र कौन-से होंगे? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the key areas of reform if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has to align with the current economic realities? (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

IMF has been marred with allegations of opacity, imposing unnecessary restrictions on countries who take debt etc. hence calling for reforms.

Issues

1. The dogmatic ideology of Washington consensus
2. Discriminatory and arbitrary conditions of debt
3. Lack of accountability as to utilisation of funds
4. Ineffective representation to developing countries in Board of Directors of IMF.
5. Shortage in financing based on ~~the~~ ESG model of governance

Reforms

1. Financing based on priorities and ground realities of buyer countries
2. impetus to Environmental and other sustainable financing models.
3. giving 'a greater say' to developing countries in decision making

Implementation of ideals of New International Economic Order (NIEO) can be relevant to reform Bretton Woods institutions.

10.

हाल के वर्षों में, पश्चिम एशिया के साथ भारत के संबंध भू-राजनीति के दायरे से आगे निकलकर भू-अर्थशास्त्र के आयाम तक पहुंच गए हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In recent years, India's relationship with West Asia has evolved from the confines of geopolitics to expanse of geoeconomics. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

Since the time when central asian states led a path of business led or capitalist growth model, India's foreign policy has evolved from geopolitics to geo economics.

Geopolitics

1. The trilemma of Iran-Saudi-Israel
↳ three fronts critical to peace and security in the region
2. matters of Regional security, labour, Human Rights, defence etc. were the prime moving force.

↳ Transformation to geo economics

As Professor C Raja Mohan refers the capitalist drive in West Asia to be 'Khaleeji Capitalism'

e.g. Saudi Grand vision, 2030
'opens up whole new arena for
India'.

- setting up trade contacts
e.g. defense supplies
- skilled human resource
migrants policy: e-Thawteeq in
Saudi Arabia
- creation of infrastructure
- cultural soft power like Yoga
- participation in green-energy
and transition from oil and
fossil fuels
(e.g. Saudi Green wall initiative)

It is visible through partnerships
like I2U2, BRICS expansion
to include three of the largest oil
producers that time is ripe to
capitalise upon geo-economic
potential of the capitalist cult.

11.

हितधारकों को नवाचार और प्रभावशीलता में वृद्धि हेतु प्रेरित करने के लिए स्वस्थ प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ावा देने में भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The role of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is significant in furthering healthy competitiveness aimed at inspiring stakeholders to innovate and augment effectiveness.
Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Competition Commission of India (CCI) is the competition regulatory body in India entrusted to oversee and ensure fair market by preventing monopolies and promoting healthy competition among market players.

Role of CCI

- A. Regulator
 - ↳ overseeing effective business operations with spirit of free trade
 - ↳ appraising combinations and mergers of different entities
- B. Adjudicatory
 - ↳ deciding complaints of Anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominance
 - ↳ imposing penalties under Competition Act, 2002
- C. Advocacy
 - ↳ promotion of rights of consumers and consumer awareness
- D. Suggesting / Recommendations to Government

Furthermore, through the aforesaid functions, it further healthy competition and ensures innovation and effectiveness in the market by way of following:

1. Preventing abuse of dominance
e.g. ₹ 500 cr fine on Google for violation of Sec. 4 of the Act.
2. Prevents Anti-competitive agreements
e.g. penalising Oyo Rooms for exclusive dealing agreements
(Trebo Hotels case)
3. Reduces barriers of trade for new entrants
4. Promotes rights of consumers by cracking down upon practices like predatory pricing, collusive bidding etc.
5. Promotes innovation and effectiveness
↳ e.g. by prohibiting Google Play to tie itself with softwares

Challenges associated in Role of CCI

1. Shortage of staff and manpower
2. Rising dominance of bigtech

and e-commerce

- L technological competence is lacking
- 3. Directorate of Prosecution are overburdened
- 4. lack of effective infrastructure for investigation
- 5. Suggestions are not binding upon the government

measures

1. Creating a special cyber division under CCI
2. bestowing adequate autonomy via operational & infrastructural support
3. implementing ex-ante approach of regulation rather than ex-post facto
4. issuing standard operating procedures for combinations etc.
5. clearly delineating practices like predatory pricing as illegal.

This way CCI can function optimally and can emulate the effectiveness of regulators in EU, USA etc

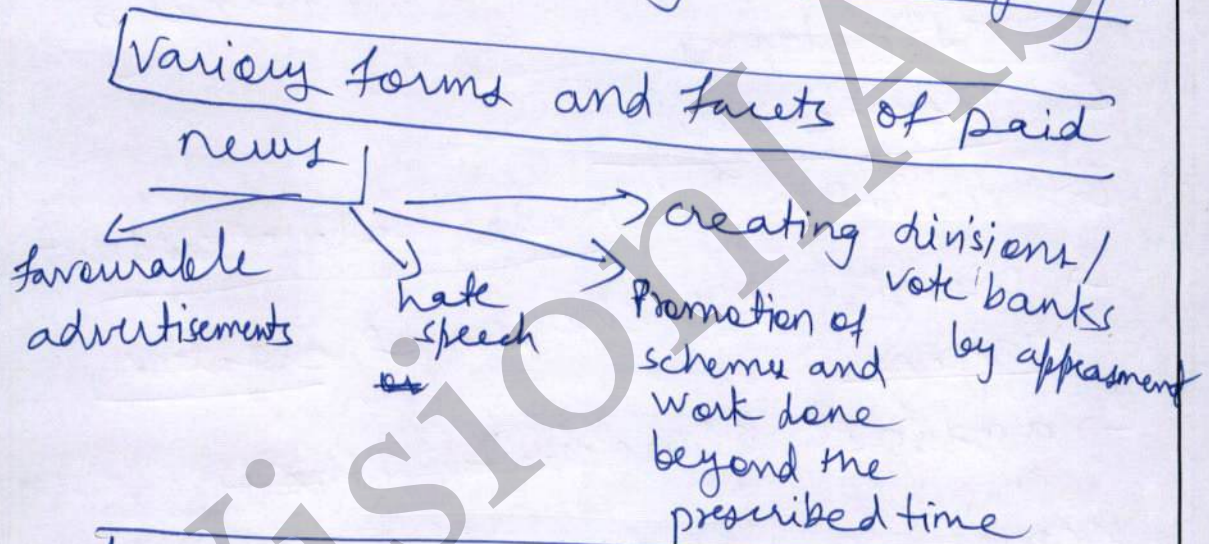
"पेड न्यूज का खतरा अक्सर चुनावों के दौरान अपना भयावह रूप दिखाता है।" भारत में पेड न्यूज को एक चुनावी अपराध बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"The menace of paid news often rears its ugly head during elections." Discuss the need for making paid news an electoral offence in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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

Free and fair elections are sine qua non for a functioning democracy. However, paid news are a blot on it as by paying to broadcast news leads to favouring a particular party/individual and hence violating election dignity.



Need for making it an electoral offence

The need to make it an offence is surmised around its impact on different stakeholders in an election and democracy in general:

A.) Voters

- ↳ induces unfavourable bias towards certain people
- ↳ hinders right to choose / voting preferences

B.) Political Parties and Candidates

- ↳ doesn't leave a level playing field
- ↳ sometimes ends up favouring the party in power
- ↳ violation of electoral financing restrictions

C. Democracy

- ↳ violation of model code of conduct
- ↳ creates apprehension of election rigging
- ↳ against democratic ethos

Hence, such an adverse impact warrants for making it an electoral offence.

However, there are certain challenges:

1. No standard criteria/definition to define paid news
2. opposition by media as hindering

Article 19(1)(a) : Free press

3. proliferation of social media and associated issues in regulating it.
4. issues in enforcing such an offense

Measures going forward

1. Creating a social media division in Election commission to enforce such a restriction
2. imposing self-regulation code on media entities
3. Giving teeth to Model Code of Conduct
4. Power to EC to deregister political parties

If criminalisation of paid news is accompanied with these structural reforms then only would the spirit of free and fair elections be upheld.

13.

भारत में धार्मिक प्रथाओं के संदर्भ में, न्यायालयों द्वारा उद्धृत 'अनिवार्यता के सिद्धांत' पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the 'Doctrine of Essentiality' referred to by the courts in the context of religious practices in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्शिए में
नहीं लिखना
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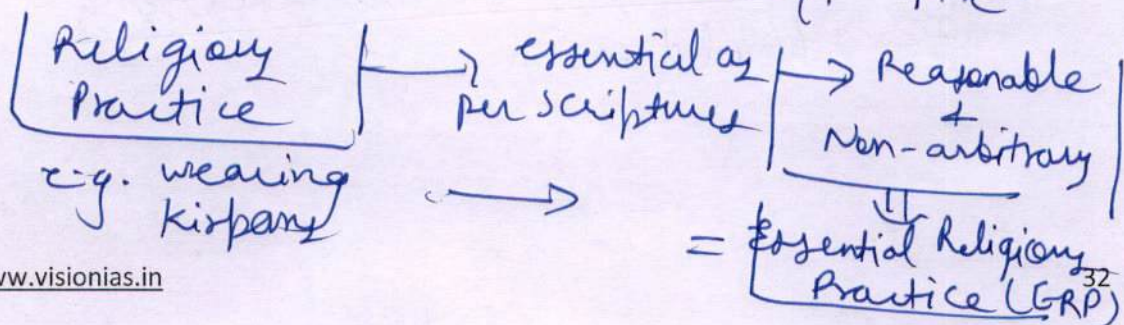
Article 25 of the Constitution enshrines Right to Freedom of Religion for the people hence protecting religious practices, conduct, customs etc.

However, not all such practices are protected:

Conditions in Art. 25

- Public order
- Health
- Morality
- other fundamental rights

Furthermore in Shirur Mutt case (1957), Supreme Court propounded Doctrine of Essentiality according to which only those practices would be protected which are fundamental to a particular religion and without which the tenets of that religion can't be followed effectively. i.e.



Implementation of ERP Doctrine

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इस हार्डिए में
नहीं लिखना
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1. Test of Equality ~~and~~
e.g. Sabrimala case : restriction on entry of menstruating women was held to be not being an ERP

2. Test of Arbitrariness

↳ Shayara Bano case : Triple talaq was held to be illegal.

3. Test of Public order

practice of Anand margis to use skulls was held to be violative of Article 25.

4. Reasonableness

↳ Bijoe Emmanuel case
Non-singing of national anthem by Jehovah's witnesses was held to be part of an ERP.

5. Against other fundamental rights

↳ Saifuddin saheb's case
Excommunication was held to be violative of Article 25 in Dawoodi Bohra community.

However, in recent times concerns have

been raised against ERP doctrine as it has issues:

1. Reduced court to the role of clergy.
2. Lack of expertise of religions with the court
3. Subjugation of minorities in a particular religion by practices of majority
4. non-uniform application: no clear and defined standards

Way Forward

1. Codification of personal laws
(UCC is in consultation process)
2. Legislatively prohibiting common arbitrary practices like Nikah Halala, polygamy etc.

Lastly, Supreme Court must restrict itself to the criteria given in Article 25 itself so that spirit of separation of powers under Article 50 remains unblemished.

प्रधान मंत्री की आर्थिक सलाहकार परिषद (EAC-PM) की हाल ही में जारी रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत में सरकार के आकार को सीमित करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

As per the recently released report of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), there is an urgent need to limit the size of the government in India. Do you agree? (Answer in 250 words)

The recent report by EAC-PM has furthered the call for "Maximum Governance, Minimum Government" hence calling for downsizing of government and ensuring a functional separation and cohesion.

Need for downsizing Government

1. Multiple ministries regulating similar subject matters leads to duplication of work and inefficiency
e.g. Transport — Road
— Air
2. Leads to ineffective coordination and accordingly administrative bottlenecks in smooth governance
e.g. coal issue last year became complex due to involvement of multiple ministries

3. leads to creation of impractical divisions

e.g. going forward ports and road connectivity has to be integrated.

4. causes time overruns, regulatory delays and increase in costs to public exchequer.

5. Hinders ease of doing business (to D B)

However, there are certain issues associated around the idea of downsizing government:

1. Increasing complexity in governance
→ 4th Industrial Revolution
→ Proliferation of social media
it requires specialisation.

2. In Parliamentary form of government, representation has to be given to wider section of people and accordingly ministries are to be expanded.

3. It can cause overload and induce cost and time cutting behavior.

Way Forward

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्शिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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1. Creation of specialist divisions under larger ministry
e.g. Transport
Aviation division road Ports and shipping
2. Setting up of technocratic missions to deal with emerging fields like AI.
3. effective utilisation of office of cabinet secretary
4. Furthermore, effective liaisoning between different ministries must be ensured to improve coordination and timely response.

Hence, the vision of minimum Government, max. Governance can be implemented in spirit based on effective rationalisation and integration of ministries.

15.

इंस्टीट्यूशंस ऑफ एमिनेंस (IoE) योजना की कल्पना भारत में उच्चतर शिक्षा के 'विश्व स्तरीय' केंद्र विकसित करने के लिए की गई थी, लेकिन छह साल बाद भी, यह अभी तक गेम चेंजर नहीं बन पाई है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Institutions of Eminence (IoE) scheme was conceived to develop 'world-class' centres of higher education in India but six years later, it is yet to become the game changer it was intended to be. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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

Ministry of Education introduced Institutions of Eminence (IoE) tag for top performing universities so as to bestow autonomy and flexibility in order to make Indian universities stand on par with top global universities.

Facets of IoE Scheme

- complete autonomy in functioning
- authority to decide curriculum as well as admission mechanism
- complete control over internal processes
- eligibility for higher funding so as to boost world-class infrastructure

However, despite its noble objectives the scheme has not reaped

substantial dividends in six years:

↳ limited universities in QS World University Ranking (top 500)

↳ lack of transparency and sound governance

e.g. only around 400 out of 1100 odd universities have accreditation

↳ instances of misgovernance and mismanagement

↳ continuous flight of Indian students to study abroad

↳ inadequate research infrastructure (major cause of low rankings in QS)

Associated issues

1. multiple regulatory bodies
2. Issues of corruption in accreditation
3. ~~teachers~~ professors cramped up with administrative work

Measures

~~The new~~

1. Accreditation process to be unified and common
2. Promoting best practices
↳ PARAMARSH scheme
consultation with top universities
3. Promoting tie-ups between different universities for sharing of know-how, curriculum etc.
4. metrics of research beyond publication

↳ based on societal impact

Creation of Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) is a step in the right direction and can induce dividends and further the objective of IOE status.

16.

डिजिटल पब्लिक इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर (DPI) नवोन्मेषी और सुविधाजनक सार्वजनिक सेवाओं की अनुमति देता है, समावेशन या पहुंच संबंधी बाधाओं को दूर करने में मदद करता है तथा रियल-टाइम डेटा की मदद से पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही बढ़ाता है। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) allows for innovative and convenient public services, help overcome inclusion or accessibility barriers, and increase transparency and accountability with real-time data. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को
इस कक्ष में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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Digital Public Infrastructure encompasses all the public provisioning of various services leveraging technology to deliver the same.

Divergent Verticals / constituents of DPI

Health	Agriculture	Commerce	Land	Payments
• National Health Registry	• Agri stack	• Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)	• DILRMP	• <u>UPI</u>

Allow for Innovative and convenient public services

↳ ease of making payments using UPI

↳ Health at home

e.g. Tele-manas for counselling

↳ Education

Swayam portal - interactive courses for children

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हाशिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
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- Transparency and Accountability

- www.visionias.in

However, there are certain challenges:

1. Digital literacy

only one-third of population can effectively use digital infrastructure

2. Data Protection

↳ vulnerability of frauds through cyber medium

3. Storage of large amounts of data is another concern

4. awareness regarding usage of digital public infrastructure

Way forward

1. measures to improve data connectivity and digital literacy

2. effective collaboration between Public and Private sector

c.g. Kudambashree's collaboration with Amazon for marketing of products

3. empowering local institutions, Ngos and civil society so that

Digital Revolution begets the ideals of Amrit Kaal for the last person standing in the queue.

17.

कानून के अलावा, भारत में 'सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार' की पूर्ण प्राप्ति हेतु सामाजिक, वित्तीय और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमियों को दूर करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 Besides legislation, the full realisation of the 'right to health for all' in India demands plugging of social, financial, and infrastructural gaps. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को
 इस हार्जिए में
 नहीं लिखना
 चाहिए
 Candidates
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In recent times various states like Rajasthan have gone ahead and tried to introduce Right to health legislations giving this fundamental right a statutory backing.

Factors of Right to Health

- As a guarantee
- Accessibility
- Affordability
- Quality of Health care

Role of legislation

1. Brings statutory guarantee backing the right
2. ensures accountability of health institutions
3. furthers best practices and checks irregular service delivery.
4. acts as a deterrent against

wrongdoers.

However, full realisation of Right to Health demand more:

A. Plugging Social Gaps

- ↳ existing inequalities in society
- ↳ marginalisation of tribals and most deprived
- ↳ education so that importance of health is understood

e.g. Role of women in Panchayati Raj — Rashmi Bibi's towering work in girls nutrition in her village

B. Financial Gaps

- ↳ underutilisation of funds
- ↳ CAH Report : ₹6000 Cr set aside / utilised for ghost patients (e.g. converting OPD to IPD)
- ↳ in some states devolution of Funds has not been made

c) Plugging infrastructural Gaps

- ↳ 60% of PHCs have only 1 doctor
- ↳ 30% have none

PM - ABHIM scheme has been implemented for creation of infrastructure in Public Health care institutions.

Best Practices : Arogyakeralam project in Kerala as pioneer of community based palliative health care

Way Forward

- ↳ using Digital Health care as a means to plug gaps
e.g. Tele manas App, home delivery of medicines
- ↳ timely audits of different projects so as to ensure transparency
- ↳ usage of AYUSH sector to fill HR gap

This can go a long way in raising an army of healthy personnel contributing to nation building.

18.

विधायी समर्थन के बावजूद 'थर्ड जेंडर' को अभी तक भारतीय समाज में मान्यता नहीं मिली है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The 'third gender' has not yet been engendered in the Indian society despite legislative nudge. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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

The 'third gender' movement though having secured various rights and recognition owing to legislative and judicial intervention, yet their engendering has not attained fruition.

Rights of Transgenders

- NALSA case : Right to self-determination
- Legislative Nudge

Transgender Protection Act

1. Creation of an official 'third gender'
2. Right to adopt one's choice based gender

However, Govt's approval is needed

3. Prohibition of discriminatory practices in diverse spheres of public life.
4. Access to various social security schemes

However, despite this legislative nudge, proper recognition is still lacking:

1. Not all public documentation have introduced third gender category
2. still they face challenge in getting housing and other social-security benefits.
3. apathy of law enforcement agencies
4. exploitation in the form of begging and sex work
5. even educational institutions are yet to be safe spaces for third gender.

Measures to make them engendered

1. open conversations on gender and sexual identity in schools and ~~at~~ colleges
(NEP, 2020)
2. incentivising such institutions

which show best practices in
bringing equal share for all genders
e.g. khudol initiative in manipur
↳ football team of transgenders

3. penalising acts of discrimination,
violence etc. against transgenders
4. establishing linkages with all
social security schemes for
their upliftment.
5. attitudinal transformation at
school level for gender sensitivity
and awareness.

Even the barest minority must
have their voices heard in the
echelons of power to make
a democracy → 'Dharmocracy'
(JP Narayan)

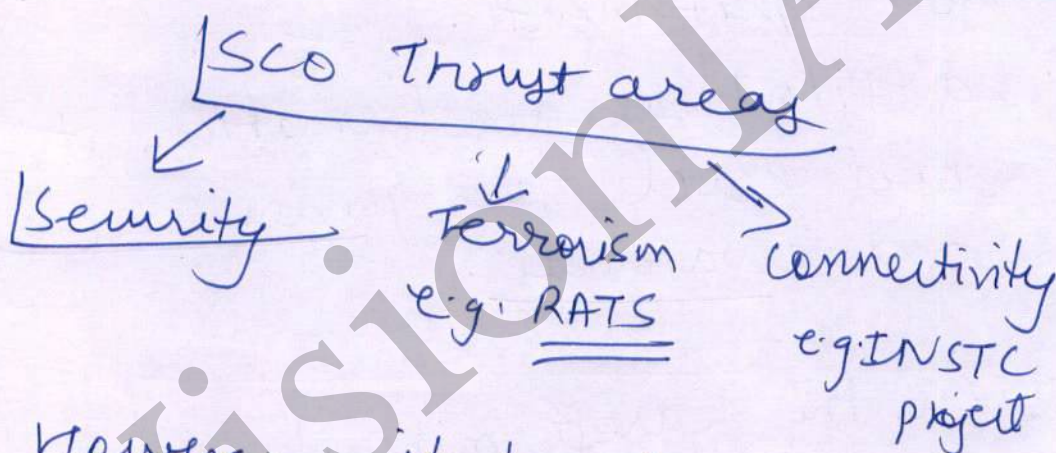
19.

अन्य कारकों के अलावा, चीन और पाकिस्तान के साथ तनावपूर्ण संबंधों ने भारत के लिए शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (SCO) से अपनी अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करना कठिन बना दिया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 Among other factors, strained ties with China and Pakistan make it difficult for India to fulfill its expectations from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a regional grouping of countries like India, China, Pakistan and central Asian countries striving to work towards common issues like regional security, connectivity etc.



However, it has been witnessed that SCO has not been able to attain proper functionality owing to various issues:

A. Strained ties with China and Pakistan

↳ due to this consensus on various issues is not reached

↳ it hinders effective participation
and discussion from all members

↳ narrow geo-political interests
outpower regional interests.

B.↳ no consensus on definition of
terrorism as India pushes for
a regime calling out state-sponsored
terrorism.

↳ issues around expansionist policies
of china via BAI

↳ China-Pakistan acting in collusion
against India

Measures

1. Narrow private interests must
be sidelined for fruitful discussion
2. arriving at consensus on
issues like definition of
terrorism

3. Confidence building measures at diplomatic level

4. cooperation in matters like terrorist financing, extradition so as to build trust.

Looking forward, navigating through internal contradictions and setting out a common agenda must be the priority for SCO members in order to realise its objectives.

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और भारत के बीच महत्वपूर्ण एवं उभरती प्रौद्योगिकी (iCET) पर हाल ही में संपन्न पहल, प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में इनकी साझेदारी में लंबे समय से प्रतीक्षित परिवर्तन का वादा करती है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recently concluded initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) between the United States and India promises a long overdue transformation of their partnership in the field of technology. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

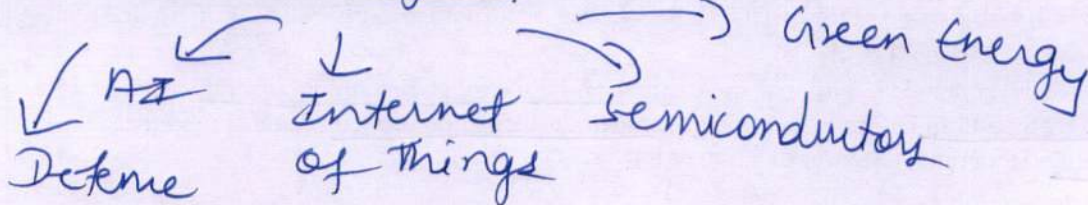
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The iCET partnership between USA and India heralds an era of new technological cooperation here giving feathers to vision of realising the fruits of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Salient features of iCET

1. Technology transfer in matters of these emerging technology
2. capacity building, know-how human resource development in the relevant sector
3. supporting technologies having significant social value.
4. building supply chain resilience
5. boost to self-sufficiency

Technologies



Long overdue transformation of Partnership

Earlier there was more of a competition between the two countries in the field of technologies

→ brain drain

→ sanctions in nuclear arena

However, post Indo-nuclear Agreement in 2008, a new era in technological cooperation has begun.

Challenges

1. Concerns around data protection (India's challenge to Osaka bank)
2. Divergence of priority like

US pursuing Critical minerals
energy partnership

Way forward

1. Developing convergence on data protection and labour, environmental standards.
2. leveraging of partnerships like TPEP for sustainable finance and industrialisation.
3. Effective transfer of technology.

As PM called AI America-India besides Artificial intelligence, the icET is a catalyst for a bustling AI led future.

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