



# VISION IAS

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10 SEP 2019  
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## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1247)

Name of Candidate	UTKARSH KUMAR		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	660223
Center	ORN	Date	10.09.2019

### INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
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14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).  
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI** इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**  
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.  
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
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.  
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.  
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.  
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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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. Mention the structure and functions of NITI Aayog. Also, comment on its contemporary relevance. (150 words) 10

नीति (NITI) आयोग की संरचना और प्रकार्यों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, इसकी समकालीन प्रासंगिकता पर भी टिप्पणी कीजिए।

NITI Aayog was constituted by an executive resolution on August 2014, replacing the Planning Commission (PC).

### Structure

- ① Prime Minister as de facto chairperson
- ② Appointed chairperson
- ③ Governing council of CMs of states and UTs and LGs of UTs.
- ④ Team India wing
- ⑤ Research and Consultancy wing

### Functions of NITI Aayog

- ① Premier policy think tank for central govt (eg: white paper on AI, draft policies)
- ② Enabled for govt by connecting it to domain experts from market.
- ③ Compile best practices from all states and UTs (cooperative federalism) and create knowledge repository.

- ④ Come out with indices promoting healthy competition among states (competitive federalism)
- ⑤ Organise series of lectures - Transforming India for involved stakeholders
- ⑥ Nodal agency for SDG implementation
- ⑦ 3 year action, 7 year vision, 11 year strategy documents.  
Contemporary relevance
- ① Enable decision making from ground-up approach (rather than top-down in PC)
- ② 3-4 times fewer employees than PC (minimum govt, maximum governance)
- ③ Sharing of best practices and healthy competition | ensured we don't work in silos.

2. Critically discuss the practice of setting up Fast Track Courts to reduce pendency of cases in the judiciary. (150 words) 10

न्यायालयों में लंबित वादों को कम करने के लिए फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट को स्थापित करने की कार्यप्रणाली की आलोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

Fast Track Courts are specially designated courts for speedy disposal of a certain type of cases. They were recently recommended by Supreme Court for mob lynching cases.

Helpful:

- ① Adequate focus to the offense / type of ~~off~~ cases.
- ② Judges in such courts see similar offenses and thus dispose them faster (specialisation through repeated exposure).

Not helpful:

- ① Short term aid for some offenses.

- ② Need reforms in judiciary - mitigate vacancies, dispose & cross pending cases etc.
- ③ Constituted too often - legislator cases, child sexual crimes, mob lynching etc. This dilutes focus too much.
- ④ ~~Doesn't seem to have~~  
Not constituted by states timely.  
SC has repeatedly demanded legislator cases to be disposed by such courts.
- ⑤ Thus the option is exploited too often without corresponding result in these offences. It leads to administrative overhead and diverts attention from other cases.

3. Highlight the challenges faced by lower judiciary in India and suggest measures for enhancing their productivity. (150 words) 10

भारत में निचली अदालतों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए और उनकी उत्पादकता को बढ़ाने हेतु उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Lower judiciary in India is criticised for pendency of cases (> 2 crore cases) and corruption.

### Challenges:

- ① High number of vacancies <sup>in judge</sup> (~5000/22000)
- ② Frequent adjournments
- ③ Poor infrastructure (court room, waiting room, residences etc)
- ④ Poor scheduling of cases
- ⑤ Prevalent culture of bribery and corruption

### Measures to enhance productivity:

- ① Judges can be recruited by an All India Judicial Service for timely

and meritorious appointment (ARC 2)

- ② MBA degree holder court managers to identify flaws and ensure scheduling is effective.
- ③ Investment in infrastructure.
- ④ High Courts need to mentor/handhold subordinate judiciary for developing culture of excellence.
- ⑤ Steps towards witness protection and scientific investigation (police reforms) would ensure frequent adjournments are less.
- ⑥ Strategy to manage pending cases and dispose them off as soon as possible.

Justice delayed is justice denied.

And subordinate judiciary is first point of hearing for common man.

Urgent reforms are need of the hour.

4. Assess the need to formalise the process of post-legislative scrutiny to improve the effectiveness of laws. (150 words) 10

कानूनों की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार के लिए विधि-निर्माण पश्चात् संवीक्षा की प्रक्रिया को औपचारिक बनाने की आवश्यकता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

~~The laws are made~~

Laws are criticised for being too many, vague, ineffective.

① There are over 44 laws for tobacco, numerous income tax laws. This leads to confusion, misuse etc.

② ~~Def~~ Laws like sedition, defamation, etc have poorly defined terms. This gives scope for misuse by govt

③ At times, laws are made as knee jerk reaction to crisis. They are later misused / ineffective.

In light of above reasons, there is a need to assess the need and the effectiveness of laws made

by legis lecture - A post-legis lecture  
scrutiny could perform PLIA  
(policy and legislation impact and  
assessment) and enable the same.

5. Discuss the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in improving the effectiveness of e-governance in India. (150 words) 10

भारत में ई-गवर्नेंस की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार लाने में कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) की क्षमता की विवेचना कीजिए।

AI enables quick and effective decision making, based on huge amount of data. It is hailed as 4th industrial revolution, but also has tremendous potential in e-governance (NITI, Sayog's paper on AI):

- ① Agriculture: timely dissemination of data on crops to cultivate, fertiliser amount (based on Soil Health Card data)
- ② Health care: use of health data (eg: National Health Stack) to identify regions faltering in nutrition, diseases etc.
- ③ Timely escalation of grievances ~~redressal~~ if not redressed by official. Performance scores of officials could be determined by AI to eliminate bias.

- ④ Scheduling of cases in judiciary, organise government litigation
- ⑤ Organise data collected by agencies, NBOs etc for insights and trends.

There is huge potential for using AI in e-governance. However we require timely and organised data collection and digital infrastructure to implement the same.

6. Despite various reforms in the public grievance redressal mechanisms, their effectiveness remain limited. Discuss. (150 words) 10

लोक शिकायत निवारण प्रणाली में विभिन्न सुधारों के बावजूद, उनकी प्रभावशीलता सीमित बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India has introduced several public grievance redressal mechanisms to bring transparency and accountability into governance.

- ① RTI, 2005 to enable suo moto information sharing and public access to governance information and decisions.

But queries are not answered timely or completely, many agencies have not appointed PIOs, crucial agencies outside purview (political parties etc)

- ② Lokpal, 2013: for receiving public complaints against officials.

But a Lokpal was appointed over 5 years later. He lacks suo moto powers, investigative powers, has intransparent

~~new~~ rules for corruption against PM.

③ Citizen charters were introduced for greater empowerment and accountability to citizens.

But they have become pieces of declaration of noble ideas (2nd ARC) and lack enforcement.

④ Whistleblower resolution passed but not yet operationalised. Prominent whistleblowers like SK Dubey, 40+ persons in Vyafam case killed as their identity leaked out.

There is a need to effectively operationalise the mechanisms and bring timely reforms to implement them in letter and spirit.

7. Explaining the factors that contribute to trafficking of women and children in India, highlight the steps taken in recent times to combat it. (150 words)  
10

भारत में महिलाओं और बच्चों की तस्करी में योगदान देने वाले कारकों की व्याख्या करते हुए, इससे निपटने के लिए हाल के दिनों में उठाए गए कदमों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Trafficking refers to forceful transport and selling of humans. This is usually done for begging, sexual occupations etc.

Factors contributing:

- ① Rampant poverty forces family to "sell" some family members.
- ② Illegal sexual occupations - brothels, dance bars etc - ~~buy~~ trafficked women for lucrative prices.
- ③ Organised begging network - more sympathy for women and children means they were more.
- ④ Low implementation of laws, unscientific investigations & fail to deter it.
- ⑤ Women and children are most vulnerable - unable to defend themselves - and hence likely to be trafficked.

Article 23 of Constitution bans human trafficking. Recent steps:

- ① Swadhar homes for abandoned women.
- ② Child shelters, setup for caring for abandoned, orphaned children.
- ③ Trafficking of persons bill pending in Parliament.
- ④ Installation of CCTVs, surveillance of airports etc for illegal/forced transport.
- ⑤ Initiatives like Khoya Poya portal for lost children.
- ⑥ UN Convention against Trafficking signed. Trafficking is a grave humanitarian offense and adequate steps must be taken to curb it.

8. With Vector-Borne Diseases (VBDs) reaching epidemic proportions in India, highlight the factors that have led to their emergence. Also, suggest some measures for their effective control and management. (150 words) 10

भारत में रोगाणुवाहक-जनित रोग (VBDs) महामारी की तरह उभरकर सामने आये हैं, अतः उन कारकों को रेखांकित कीजिए जिनके कारण इनका उद्भव हुआ है। साथ ही, इनके प्रभावी नियंत्रण और प्रबंधन हेतु उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

Vector borne diseases have grown to worrying proportion in India.

Factors for emergence:

- ① Habitat destruction increases stress and viral load in vectors  
eg: Nipah, Kysanau forest disease,



- ② Lack of sanitation and hygiene provides breeding space for vectors.  
eg: mosquito and house flies
- ③ Increasing migration (domestic and international) raises the stakes. eg. ebola virus originated in middle east and quickly spread over most parts.

### Measures for effective control:

- ① Proactiveness on part of doctors to send unusual case samples to research laboratories. Nipah was thus identified within 2 cases.
- ② Farm and pet animals should be vaccinated timely, sick animals be separated and culled, if needed.
- ③ Surveillance measures for every disease based on ICT, to check spread.  
environment impact infrastructure
- ④ Proper assessment of projects, minimise deforestation.

9. After years of neglect, rapidly evolving regional strategic realities are now forcing India and Indonesia to coordinate their policies ever more closely. Discuss. (150 words) 10

वर्षों की उपेक्षा के बाद, तेजी से विकसित हो रही क्षेत्रीय रणनीतिक वास्तविकताएं अब भारत और इंडोनेशिया को और अधिक घनिष्ठता से अपनी नीतियों को समन्वित करने के लिए बाध्य कर रही हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

India and Indonesia established relations in aftermath of decolonisation (1950s). But they have remained lukewarm.

With rapid growth of China in neighbourhood, artificial islands created in South China Sea and islands being illegally occupied, China threatens free and open passage of goods in the region.

The above has brought India and Indonesia on the same side:

- ① India has military presence in Sabang port.
- ② They participate in war games.  
eg: Milan format.
- ③ Indonesia sees India as a balance to Chinese dominance in RCEP.

④ Both envisage a free and open Indo-Pacific region, governed by rules.

With a similar mindset, relations between the two have grown. This has reflected in ASEAN vision statement acknowledging Indo-Pacific concept.

10. Despite several attempts at resetting the ties, various barriers continue to be a cause of concern in the India-Nepal bilateral relations. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

संबंधों को पुनः स्थापित करने के कई प्रयासों के बावजूद, भारत-नेपाल द्विपक्षीय संबंधों में विभिन्न अवरोध निरंतर चिंता का कारण बने हुए हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

India-Nepal are age-old allies, beginning with Friendship Treaty in 1954. The relations today have been stressed.

There have been various attempts to reset them, through <sup>frequent</sup> visits of Indian PM Modi and their Prime Minister, and constituting alternate coordination groupings - BRIN, BIMSTEC etc.

Yet barriers continue:

- ① Nepal perceives India as big brotherly - eg. water management
- ② Increasing Chinese investments in region. eg. railway across Tibet to Nepal.
- ③ Nepalese opposition parties raise anti-Indian voice.

- ④ Indian structural reforms - demonetisation and GST hurt Nepal. They have refused to recognize high denomination currency notes.
- ⑤ The new Constitution of Nepal and discrimination of Madhesi women created tensions.
- ⑥ China card is played by Nepal to ~~for~~ ask for more favours. eg. port access.
- ⑦ Nepal declined to participate in India-led BIMSTEC exercise - Milen, yet participated in Sagarmatha with China.

Thus the relations have varied bilaterally but these can be brought down by adequate dialogue mechanisms.

11. Delineate the differences between pressure groups and interest groups. Citing examples, elaborate on the ways in which pressure groups influence government decisions and policy making in India. (250 words) 15

दबाव समूहों और हित समूहों के मध्य अंतर का वर्णन कीजिए। उदाहरणों को उद्धृत करते हुए, उन तरीकों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए जिनके माध्यम से दबाव समूह भारत में सरकारी निर्णयों और नीति-निर्माण को प्रभावित करते हैं।

Pressure groups are political groups formed to pressurise government into acting on their grievances, without actively working towards acquiring power.  
eg: sugarcane farmers.

Interest groups on the other hand are socio-economical groups that may be interested in a particular policy or law. eg: transgenders are an interest group for the Transgender Persons bill.

Ways of pressure groups:-

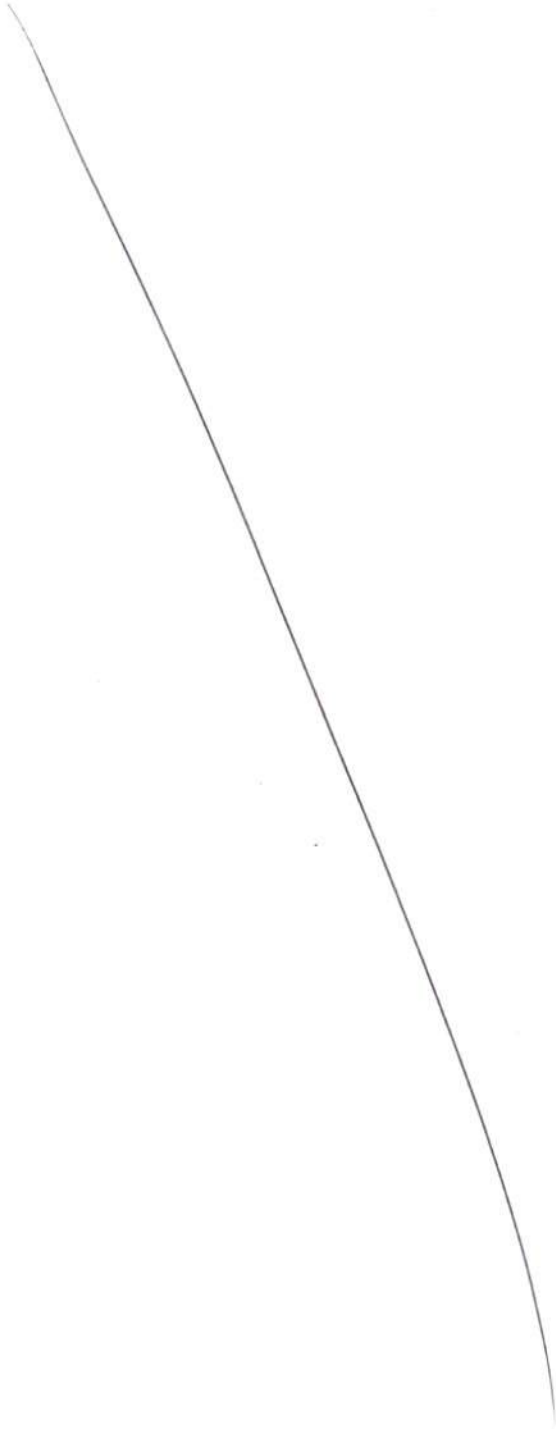
- ① They support candidature of persons that suit their ideologies. eg: PM Modi enjoyed support of corporates for his business reforms - Make in India etc.

② They pressurise officials/ministers in power through lobbying. eg. automobile makers managed to turn govt stance from anti-hybrid vehicles to pro-hybrid vehicles through intense lobbying.

③ They build popular opinion in their favour through debates, speeches, editorials etc.

④ They organise protests etc to communicate their dissatisfaction and draw attention. eg. farmer rallies in Mumbai.

Thus, by use of above mechanisms, pressure groups voice their concerns and achieve their goals.



12. Highlighting the issues faced by the institutions of local self governance in India, suggest measures that can be taken to improve their effectiveness in the delivery of public goods and services at the grassroots level.

(250 words) 15

भारत में स्थानीय स्व-शासन की संस्थाओं द्वारा समाना की जा रही समस्याओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, जमीनी स्तर पर सार्वजनिक वस्तुओं और सेवाओं के वितरण की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार लाने हेतु किए जा सकने वाले उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Institutions of local self governance were setup under 73rd and 74th constitution amendment acts, to deepen democracy to grass roots.

Issues faced:

- ① Lack of devolution of funds, functions and functionaries by state govt.
- ② Unwilling/unable to exercise taxation powers, more so in ~~the~~ rural areas
- ③ Low/no taxation results in low citizen interest and participation (2nd ARC).
- ④ Dependent on grants-in-aid for 90-95% of need (curse of ~~grants~~ aid)

- ⑤ State Finance Commission not constituted timely, bureaucratized, recommendations ignored.
- ⑥ Elections delayed (Tamil Nadu has elections due for 2 years)
- ⑦ Lack of adequate infrastructure and connectivity (in more than 20% panchayats)
- ⑧ Officials temporarily posted from state, not committed to empowering them.
- ⑨ Panchayats dependent on bureaucrats for getting work done
- ⑩ Low levels of literacy and professionalism in rural areas.
- ⑪ Failure to attract eminent experts, alternate bodies (like SPV for smart city).

### Measures to improve effectiveness:

- ① Funding concerns: adequate devolution through timely constitution of SFC, flexible grants, raise money through bonds

- (eg: Indore), exercise ~~exercise~~ <sup>to nation</sup> powers.
- ② Investment in infrastructure (eg: Digi Dron, Bharat net).
  - ③ Streamline procedures, attract eminent personalities, focus on spatial planning.
  - ④ SPVs (Special Purpose Vehicles) should be avoided in schemes unless absolutely needed.
  - ⑤ Timely elections, needed
  - ⑥ Effective trainings, nominate experts/MP, to foster professionalism and excellence.

These measures will truly bring government to the masses i.e. deepen democracy and realise Gandhi's dream of self governed villages.

13. The recent amendment to the Right to Information Act, 2005 will weaken the act and undermine the authority of Information Commissioners. Discuss. (250 words) 15

सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2005 में हालिया संशोधन इस अधिनियम को कमजोर बनाएगा और सूचना आयुक्तों के प्राधिकार को क्षीण करेगा। चर्चा कीजिए।

RTI act was passed to bring transparency and accountability in governance. It has been crucial in empowering citizens and exposing scams (like 2G scam).

Recent amendment:

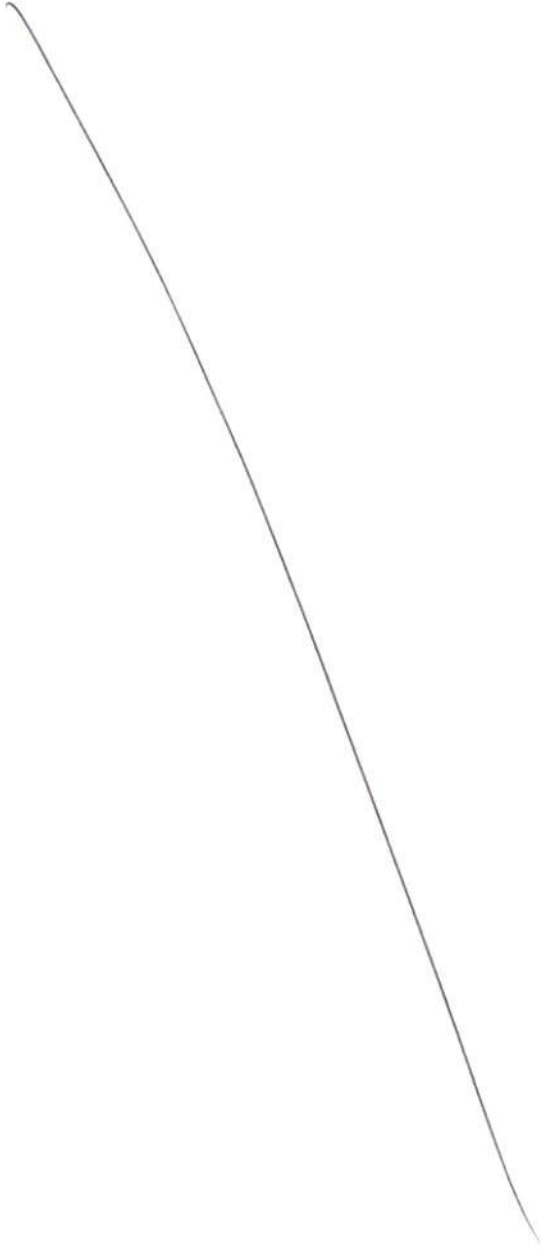
- ① Terms of service to be decided by President, instead of being at par with SC judges.

Impact:

- ① The amendment will lead to political interference in the office.
- ② Lower ~~salary~~ salaries will fail to attract quality talent to the office.

Additionally, BN Srikrishna's proposal to ~~ig~~ avoid disclosure when public officials' interests are sufficiently at stake. This will further violate the sanctity of office.

Overall, the amendment is regressive and should not be of ratone used.



14. Highlight the process of delimitation in India. Also, throw light on the debates surrounding the delimitation exercise in India. (250 words) 15

भारत में परिसीमन की प्रक्रिया को रेखांकित कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में परिसीमन की प्रक्रिया को लेकर होने वाले वाद-विवादों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

Delimitation is the process of ~~marking~~ dividing a territory into constituencies for purpose of elections, on the basis of census. Thus India is divided into 543 constituencies for Lok Sabha elections.

In India, this process is carried out by a Delimitation Commission (DC) constituted by Parliament every 5 years. (Constitutional body). DC considers census data to divide territory into constituencies of equal population. Its decisions cannot be questioned in any court of law.

Debates surrounding delimitation:

- ① The current allocation of seats to states and UTs in Lok Sabha is

based on 1971 census. The states that have controlled their population effectively (southern, western India) want status quo, while states in north and east want fresh delimitation.

A fresh delimitation will increase seats for states like UP, Bihar by 30% compared to current. It will reflect ground realities, but unfair to states that effected population management.

② The delimitation of a territory for Panchayat elections has been nixed in controversy - accused of being politically motivated. Unfortunately this cannot be questioned in judiciary.

Thus there is a need to visit the question of census data. ~~But~~ There is a need to adopt latest census data keeping in mind

That northern states have huge population burden and ignoring it will only widen the gap. Perhaps a provision small penalty can be considered based on population growth (similar to Finance Commission recommendations).

Similarly, there is need to ensure impartiality and neutrality in Panchayat delimitations.

15. Self Help Groups (SHGs) are vehicles of rural development, which help in the upliftment of marginalized groups. Elucidate. Further, mention the constraints faced by SHGs and how they can be addressed. (250 words) 15

स्वयं सहायता समूह (SHGs) ग्रामीण विकास के वाहक हैं तथा ये हाशिए पर मौजूद समूहों के उत्थान में सहायता करते हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। साथ ही, SHGs द्वारा सामना की जा रही बाधाओं का उल्लेख कीजिए। इन बाधाओं को कैसे दूर किया जा सकता है।

SHGs are group of 5-7 people from similar socio-economic background for common economic upliftment.

Vehicles of rural development:

- ① Can start small business by pooling together household savings.
- ② Banks willing to lend at lower rates to them, as opposed to an individual.
- ③ Easier to learn new skills in group.
- ④ Lower risk per person in case of failure.
- ⑤ Stronger voice in dealing with clients, other businesses and leaders.
- ⑥ Can undertake social reforms like toilet construction, awareness campaign etc.

In particular, SHGs ~~have~~ are crucial for empowerment of women, SCs, STs etc. These communities have weaker voice as individual and benefit tremendously in SHG. eg:- papad ~~is~~ SHGs in Haryana.

### Constraints faced by SHGs:

- ① Trust deficit among villagers.
- ② Banks unwilling to lend to them (lack of many success stories)
- ③ Difficult to compete with large firms (economies of scale).
- ④ Poor technology, under skilled.
- ⑤ Lack of adequate branding and marketing.
- ⑥ Women lack cash in hand, this increases difficulty.

## How to address constraints:

- ① Adequate formal credit and financial inclusion (eg: micro finance banks, Mudda etc)
- ② Skill development and vocational training (PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana etc)
- ③ Helps in branding through geographical indicators etc
- ④ Promote SHG culture - PM Yuva Sahakar Cooperative Yojana
- ⑤ Technology upgradation initiatives (like SFURTI for MSMEs).

~~There are~~

SHGs have huge potential, as seen in Kerala (Kudumbashree) and Haryana. Sustained efforts are required.

16. With construction of toilets being only one part of the solution for a clean India, it is time that the Swachh Bharat Mission puts more emphasis on the other facets as well. Discuss. (250 words) 15

शौचालयों का निर्माण स्वच्छ भारत के समाधान का केवल एक भाग है, अतः अब समय आ गया है कि स्वच्छ भारत मिशन अन्य पहलुओं पर भी अधिक बल दे। चर्चा कीजिए।

Swachh Bharat Mission was launched in 2015 to make India Open Defecation Free (ODF) and sanitation and cleanliness.

Under the scheme, 9 crore toilets have been built across India - community and private. As a result, > 27 states and all UTs have been declared ODF.

At the same time, need to address other dimensions:

① Toilets constructed but usage remains low. People prefer going in open, due to habit of years, lack of water in toilets etc.

Therefore need for continued maintenance of toilets together with behavioural

change (through felicitations, incentives etc) through nudge economics needed.

② As ODF target is achieved, we need to become ODF+ (no urine in public) and ODF++ (proper sewage management). CPCB admits that most cities lack adequate sewage connectivity and disposal.

There are required on priority else sewage will swamp farms, towns and wet lands.

③ The outbreaks of dengue etc are indicators of poor sanitation and cleanliness. Delhi govt has been running an effective campaign on this.

The initial momentum of Swachhta hi Seva needs to be revived. This would ensure dignity to sweepers, clean

surroundings and prevent outbreaks.

- ④ Reports of manual scavenging continue (1 death per week). Interim dry latrines have not been eradicated.

Need to provide safety gear, technology like robots ~~to~~ and adequate implementation of law.

- ⑤ Piped drinking water to all (Swajal mission)

We should understand that toilets are but one component. They should be used, simultaneously need to ~~the~~ work on other dimensions.

17. Highlight the salient features of Mission Indradhanush. What are the challenges that the mission is facing in its implementation? Suggest measures to address these challenges for progressing towards full immunization coverage. (250 words) 15

मिशन इन्द्रधनुष की प्रमुख विशेषताओं पर प्रकाश डालिए। इसके कार्यान्वयन में मिशन को किन चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है? संपूर्ण टीकाकरण प्राप्ति की दिशा में प्रगति करने हेतु इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Immunisation coverage in India stagnated at 64% in 2014, rising by 1% each year. So, Mission Indradhanush was launched. ~~for universal coverage for~~

Salient features:-

- ① Universal immunisation coverage by 2020
- ② 7 diseases covered - Diphtheria, Tuberculosis, Polio, Measles, Rubella, etc.

Given the rapid progress, it was renamed to Mission Intensified Indradhanush - more diseases added and target pre-poned to December 2018.

## Challenges in implementation!

- ① Anti-vaxners' rise in mentality that vaccines are useless, cause autism etc.
- ② Perceived by minority community as attempt to forcefully ~~sterilise~~ sterilise them.
- ③ Some vaccines are expensive and require cold storage throughout.
- ④ Vaccines like MR vaccine have reactionary effects (vomiting, ~~at~~ fever etc). There is resistance among parents.
- ⑤ Lack of awareness among parents in rural areas about importance of vaccines.
- ⑥ Incidents of CVQPV and VAPV have increased distrust among masses.

Measures to address① Awareness :

- Engage celebrities (like Amitabh Bachchan for polio), eminent doctors and universities.
- Highlight that vaccination is a universal exercise (ignoring caste, religion etc)
- Leverage ASHA, Anganwadi workers

② Capacity building

- Cold chain for safety, prevent virulence
- Grata reach among villages

③ Surveillance of vaccination status  
using ICT, understand and spread alerts about side-effects.

Vaccination is the cheapest way of preventive healthcare. No holds must be barred to achieve universal immunisation.

18. Assess the importance of skilling in light of changing economic and demographic structure in India. In this regard, how far has the Skill India Mission succeeded in its mandate. (250 words) 15

भारत में बदलती आर्थिक और जनसांख्यिकीय संरचना के आलोक में कौशल सृजन के महत्व का मूल्यांकन कीजिए। इस संबंध में, स्किल इंडिया मिशन अपने अधिदेश में कितना सफल रहा है।

95% of Indian workforce lacks formal skilling. Future of Jobs report (WEF) estimates >50% will require reskilling to meet changing needs.

In above content, skilling ~~is~~ becomes quite important. Further agrarian growth is unreliable (varying from 2% year-on-year to negative), prompting communities to move out into manufacturing.

With huge demographic dividend (set to continue till 2050 - UNFPA), we need to skill them to ensure they avail better economic opportunities as well as power India to a \$5 trillion economy by 2022.

Finally, skilling would turn job seekers into job creators through MSMEs, SHGs

etc.

The above reasons clearly show importance of skilling in India. Hence Skill India mission was introduced to impart formal skill to all, and recognize prior skills (as per NSQF).

### Shortcomings:

- ① Work-structure in India does not correspond to skilling.
- ② Funds are too ~~or~~ less given the huge population target.
- ③ Too many Sectoral Skill Councils (~~one for~~ separate ones for apparel, handicraft etc) dilute focus (Sharde Prasad panel)
- ④ Disconnect between skilling and industry requirement
- ⑤ ITIs (Industrial Training Institutes) are lacking personnel and quality, have regional disparity etc

⑥ Shortage of formal jobs discourages workers.

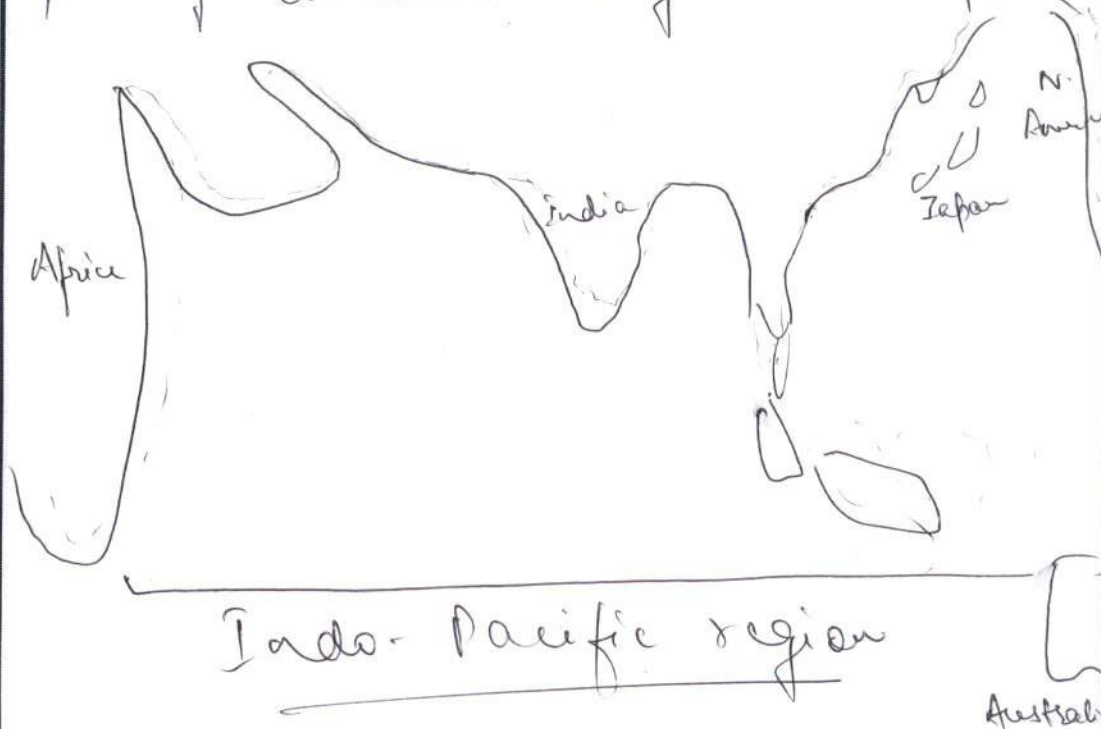
⑦

Despite these shortcomings, Skill India has skilled millions and enabled them to achieve <sup>their</sup> full potential. Sustained efforts along with steps to address the challenges are needed.

19. What according to you are the reasons that motivated India to create a dedicated Indo-Pacific division in the MEA recently? Also, highlight the challenges for India in the Indo-Pacific region. (250 words) 15

आपके अनुसार वे कौन-से कारण हैं जिन्होंने हाल ही में भारत को MEA के तहत एक समर्पित भारत-प्रशांत प्रभाग सृजित करने के लिए प्रेरित किया? साथ ही, भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में भारत के समक्ष चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

The Indo-Pacific region has become part of discourse and grown in importance.



Reasons:

- ① 50% of global oil trade and 15% global trade passes through the region.
- ② US has raised the importance - ARPA act, renamed Pacific command to Indopacom.

- ③ Chinese growth ~~has~~ and predatory economic through BRI.
  - ④ Presence of global powers - US (Diego Garcia), China (Djibouti, Hambantota), France (Reunion Islands) etc.
  - ⑤ Increased cooperation between nations on rim of Indo-Pacific. eg: IORA, IONS, RIMES etc.
  - ⑥ ~~Free and rules based order in the region threatened by China creating artificial states~~
- Thus the region has grown in importance and India is at the helm of it. Any progress or disruption will affect India directly. So it makes sense to create a dedicated block in MEA.

### Challenges for India:

- ① Chinese infrastructure approach could strangle India (string of pearls). It's cheap

and flexible funding has excluded India in its neighbourhood.

- ② Piracy and terrorism are manifest in the region.
- ③ Indian initiatives like Africa Growth Corridor, Kaladan multimodal highway in Bangladesh have seen slow implementation.
- ④ India's maritime security architecture lacking in minor ports, etc.
- ⑤ India's strategic initiatives like Agalega island, Assumption island have faced local opposition and stalled.
- ⑥ India's ports require urgent overhaul to engage higher amount of goods - in particular the minor ports.

India has great connect with most countries in Indo-Pacific based on democratic values and South-South cooperation. There need to be used to overcome challenges -

20. For SCO to become a successful regional grouping, it has to overcome bilateral differences between its members and their respective geopolitical calculations. Comment. Also, discuss the role that SCO can play in enhancing India's interest in the Eurasian region. (250 words) 15

SCO को एक सफल क्षेत्रीय समूह बनने हेतु, अपने सदस्यों के मध्य के द्विपक्षीय मतभेदों और उनके संबंधित भू-राजनीतिक अपेक्षाओं से उबरना होगा। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, यूरेशियाई क्षेत्र में भारत के हितों को बढ़ाने में SCO द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका की भी विवेचना कीजिए।

SCO is regional grouping of China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, for cooperation in security, economic, cultural domain.

Need to overcome bilateral differences:

- ① India-Pak relations are hostile due to terrorism sponsored by Pakistan and its anger at India reorganising Kashmir.
- ② Indo-China relations lack trust due to Chinese predatory economics in ISK and string of pearls.
- ③ China-Russia relations have eased ~~but~~ after West imposing sanctions on latter, trade war with China. But they are far from cordial.
- ④ Central Asian countries lack political stability and their relations among themselves are

distrustful.

- (5) Both Russia and China are wary of Pakistan's closeness to US (eg: Kashmir issue).

Thus the different geopolitical interests of countries and bilateral differences are holding back SCO.

Importance for India in Eurasian region:

- ① Central Asia can act as link to Europe and Russia by extending Tashkent-Zarandj-Delaram linkage. SCO facilitates India's interaction with central Asia.
- ② India eyes markets of central Asia, along with rich reserves - uranium, gas, metals etc. These will be accessible by way of sea.
- ③ SCO can enable regional peace and stability (in light of instability in Afghanistan).

④ SCO ~~can~~ enables India to interact with major countries in region - China and Russia.

⑤ SCO further India's anti-terrorism stance through permanent RATS.

Therefore SCO goes well with India's interests in the region, in particular connectivity to Eurasian region.