



**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. : 0834009

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Aditya Srivastava

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी  
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख  
Date

26/8/23

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

केंद्र  
Centre IISE, Lucknow

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर  
Invigilator's Signature

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

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use	कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use
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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 स्थिति में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Pressure groups are a group of organized people formed while exercising rights under Article 19(1)(b).

They have played a major role in enhancing public participation

- 1) Interest articulation : via bringing demands of people to govt.  
(Eg) Narmada Bachao Andolan.
- 2) Political socialization telling people about the political processes.  
(Eg) Aarey group using petitions.
- 3) Generate more interest among the people via education.
- 4) Improve responsiveness by holding govt. accountable.  
(Eg) Greenpeace reports.
- 5) Help to improve the arena of

democratization is acting as people's right emancipator.

However, there are certain challenges

- 1) Adoption of undemocratic means like strikes, lockouts.
- 2) Political tools in hands of certain vested interests.
- 3) Selfish propagandas many times without heed to environmental needs. Eg) Alleged against Wildlife Factor group.
- 4) Challenge the government despite not being responsible to people → against Constitutional morality.

Way Ahead

- 1) Need to carefully carve their space in modern polity → limit to public interest test.

This would uphold participative good governance.

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

Recently the Supreme Court recognized sex work as a profession and brought it under Article 19(1)(g).

This is the first step but only merely as

### Positives

- 1) Uphold right of sex workers towards freedom of profession.
- 2) Uphold prevention & protection from harassment (by police)
- 3) Provide necessary safeguards → reduce AIDS epidemic → right to health

### Challenges

- 1) Lack of amelioration of social stigma → this is a social issue.
- 2) Lack of addressing of meaning of 'morality' as a reasonable restriction in Art 19
- 3) Lack of necessary safeguards around right to education & health to their kids

4) First step  
in bringing  
reforms towards  
hygiene &  
formalization

4) Not given  
adequate protection  
from police arbitrary  
force  $\Rightarrow$  prostitution  
was always legal  
yet loophole remain

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

All this calls for following  
extra steps —

- 1) Sensitivity training to the  
police.
- 2) Awareness among the sex  
workers about rights  $\Rightarrow$  use  
NGOs as carriers.
- 3) Education and health facility  
 $\rightarrow$  establish special units.
- 4) Work for social removal of  
stigma.  $\Rightarrow$  help in integrating  
back to society.

Need is to tackle the larger  
social angle and human trafficking  
to help solve the issues around  
sex work.

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

The Article 41 of Constitution exhorts to provide free legal aid and Article 39A was the basis for Legal Services Authorities.

Role played by District Legal Services Authority

- 1) Providing free legal aid
  - ⊙ have separate cadre of lawyers for the poor.
  - ⊙ Accessible justice due to near zero cost of justice.
  - ⊙ provide necessary support to poor in filing & administrative work.
- 2) Disseminating legal awareness
  - ⊙ Organize weekly or monthly Camps for awareness.

Eg Nyaya camps in Lucknow.

- 1) Provide pamphlets door to door
- 2) Have even started radio based awareness drives at some places.

However, there are lacunae

- 1) Lack of adequate funding → depend on NGOs supports.
- 2) Lack of top quality lawyers → justice not equal.
- 3) Lack of adequate infrastructure → mostly don't even have offices with printer, scanner, etc.
- 4) Tedious nature of our legal system → 5 crore pendency (NJDG data) → unaccessible justice.

Way forward

- 1) Compulsory intern for the law college graduates
- 2) Provide top quality lawyers via negotiating with Bar Councils

This would help to uphold true Justice as in Preamble

4.

“कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के संकेंद्रण 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

The collegium system evolved through the Three judges case and the recent tussle between CJI and Law Minister brought it to fore.

It has become victim of its own success.

- 1) Got independence of judiciary but raised questions about
  - ⊙ legitimacy - extra constitutional
  - ⊙ transparency - as seen with Justice Tahilramani transfer.
  - ⊙ Favouritism - due to the Uncle Judge syndrome.
- 2) Violates the principle of checks and balances - as in Bhim Singh case
- 3) Goes against the constitutional morality of limited powers.

5) No other country has judges appointing judges.

However this is not entirely true.

- 1) Brought to ensure independence of judiciary → has ensured so far.
- 2) Upheld the power of appointment of judges without executive biases.  
↳ separation of power Art 50.
- 3) Was brought to curb executive whims in appointing their favourites.  
↳ has upheld that principle  
(Ex: during emergency)  
saw favouritism.)

### Way Ahead

- 1) Uphold the distribution of power with transparency - publish the criteria for appointment.
- 2) Executive needs to collaborate with judiciary - work together for spirit of Constitution.

This would uphold the spirit of independence with accountability of judiciary

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 खण्ड में नही लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin


Civil Services determine the growth and development ~~paradigm~~ paradigm of nation - book "Why Nation Fail" by James Robinson.

In this light, just focussing on recruitment & standardized training not enough

- 1) Lack of adherence to modern challenges. (eg) cybersecurity
- 2) Fifth generation warfare as held by NSA Doral → need deft management of perceptions.
- 3) Corruption rampant despite reforms. (eg) Pooja Singhal case, Shankhard.
- 4) Politicization due to inverted structure at top [NK Saxena Committee]

3) Lack of sensitivity leads to ivory tower syndrome.

In this light, need to adopt a life cycle approach of reforms.

- 1) Impartial recruitment with focus on holistic personality — increase essay, ethics focus.
- 2) Training for sensitivity along with knowledge booster —  Model of Singapore.
- 3) Round the career progression mapping — @ 13 & 20 years of service (II ARC)
- 4) Nodal cell in Home Ministry to tackle the nexus issues (Vohra Committee)
- 5) Making them Karmayogi via on ground & ears to ground approach

This would help to uphold Kautilya's Yogakshema for better service delivery & robust civil servants.

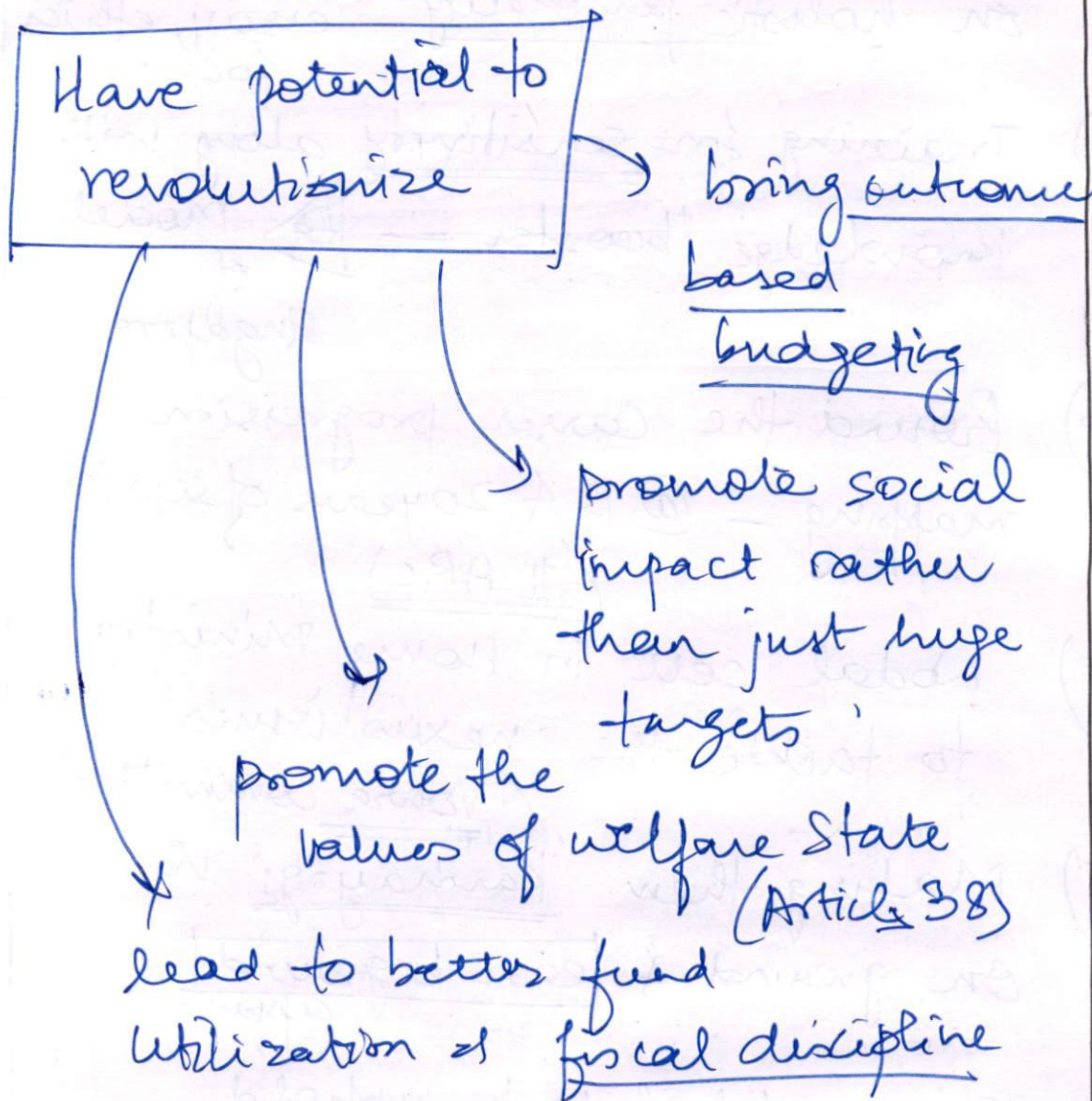
6.

सामाजिक प्रभाव बाँड्स 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 हार्शिय में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Social Impact bonds provide returns based on the outcomes of the scheme in which invested.



However there are challenges —

Challenges

- low rate of return & low investment
- lack of clear definition of outcomes
- lack of investor confidence due to lack of participation
- top down approach without participation by people

Way ahead

- have a value based approach
- ↓
- define the outcomes and quantity
- promote the discounting & trading of these bonds.

This would help to achieve social welfare via fiscal discipline.

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

India has a very high ratio of 50:50 among graduates but in the labour force this drops to 1:2 for women: men (PLFS data)

### Major reasons for low PLFP

- 1) Domestication of women theory  
= Chandra Mohanty.
- 2) Toothless Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act → #MeToo movements
- 3) Social control over mobility.  
Ⓢ return home before dark.
- 4) Reproductive career break.
- 5) Others → glass ceiling  
→ glass cliff  
→ wage gap @ 30% Global Wage report (ILO)

Case: Feminization U hypothesis by

Eco Survey - less in labour force due to more in secondary education

## Way ahead to address this

1) Promote female centric fields

(eg) Take cues from success of US fashion industry.

### Need to address

- 1) 27% increase in GDP by female parity - IMF Chief
- 2) uphold Article 39(d) of equality at work.

2) Promote procurement by government from vulnerable sections - South Africa model

3) Skilling of women - promote value of equity in PMKVY 3.0

4) Women centric development  
↳ promote SHG.

This would help with gender equality (SDG-5) and women led development.

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 शिफ्ट में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

Candidates must not write on this margin

The Civil Registration System is essential to uphold the value of citizen centric administration.

Essential for socio economic planning

- 1) Data driven governance for more accurate & targetted policy
- 2) Prevent exclusion errors → uphold the value of democracy
- 3) Participative planning via little twitching → good governance
- 4) Transparency and accountability in the planning process.
- 5) Responsive and AGILE approach → feedback based planning.

However there are certain challenges that come with this step

- 1) Exclusion of people who are not registered → eg) MNREGA type loss of jobs by digitization.
- 2) Lack of sorted and cohorted data ⇒ not effective.
- 3) Not participative as certain sections become invisible to administration.  
eg) Jharkhand girl died as not given food - no documents.
- 4) Promote red tapism due to high issues and methods to get registered.

### Way ahead

- 1) Take it slow - have a piecemeal approach.
- 2) Involve civil society for getting people registered.

This would help make such systemic reforms an enabler and not a disable for people centric governance

9.

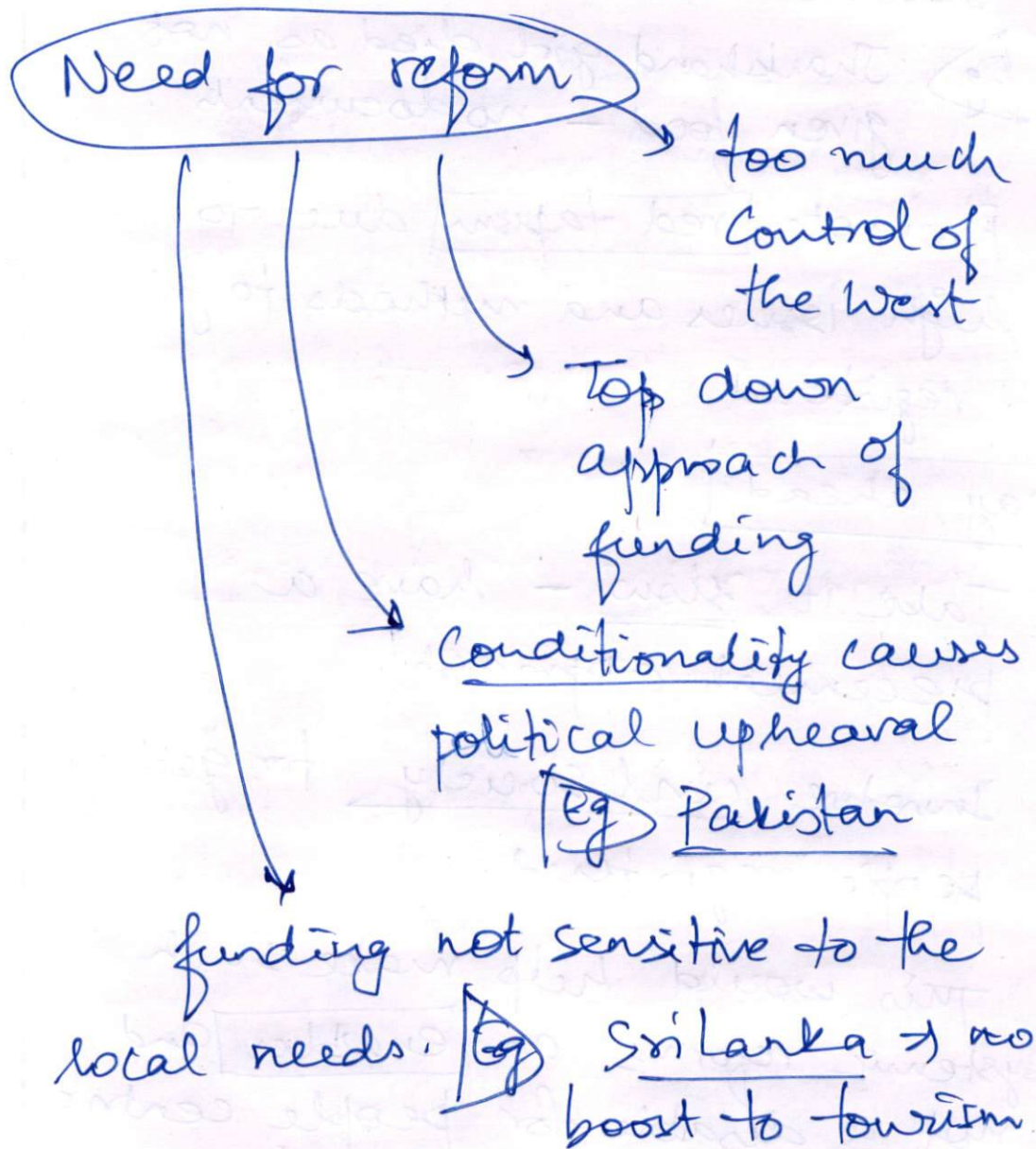
यदि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (IMF) को वर्तमान आर्थिक वास्तविकताओं के साथ समायोजित होना है तो इसमें सुधार के प्रमुख क्षेत्र कौन-से होंगे? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

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 ग्रिड में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

IMF has often been under the scanner for its conditionality and lack of sensitivity to the local needs.



# Way ahead for reforms

promote  
autonomy

↓  
funding quota  
rationalization

promote participative  
conditionality & stake

in framing the condition

promote the value of democracy  
as it is being threatened by

Global South → BRIC has  
New Development  
Bank &  
Contingency reserve

Promote the better usage  
of grants → build capacity  
of the loan taker.

This would help to ensure the  
IMF stays relevant in today's era  
of new world order and is  
representative of the same.

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

The recent visit of PM to UAE and the adoption of UPE by the same threw light at evolving economic centrality of India - West Asia relations.

Earlier confines of geopolitics

- oil based dealings - only a taker
- lack of symmetry in relation - poorer country
- tussle with Israel → need for dehyphenation

However, now the relations are centred on geoeconomics.

- 1) De-dollarization: using Indian rupee to buy oil from UAE
- 2) Collaboration on green energy as with Saudi Arabia
- 3) Flow of Khaleeji capital to India.  
 (Eg) Emaar mall in Sonagar.
- 4) shifting priority due to changing

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

nature of West Asian country priority,

↳ Saudi Vision 2030 - solar focus.

- 5) Food corridors; built for Bahrain and UAE - Indian farmer benefit.
- 6) Defence collaboration: west Asian company Carbene making guns for India

---

Yet, the geopolitics are far from over as -

---

- 1) Welfare of diaspora still central theme - 8 million diaspora there
- 2) I2U2 organization formed for geostrategic cooperation.
- 3) India still has 65% oil imports from OPEC members.
- 4) Value of Abraham Accords allow for comprehensive policy.

In this light, India needs to engage deeply to uphold the common interests for integrated development of both regions.

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

The recent 1330 crore fine on Google brought into limelight the importance of Competition Commission of India.

Role of Competition Commission becomes very important for

→ furthering healthy competition

- 1) Upholding level playing field.
- 2) Providing right policy environment to support small enterprises.
- 3) Providing the environment to prevent monopolistic tendency.  
 (Eg) fine on Amazon for own product selling.
- 4) Helps to uphold the value of "customer is king" - (Eg)

fined Maggi for unethical use of MSG

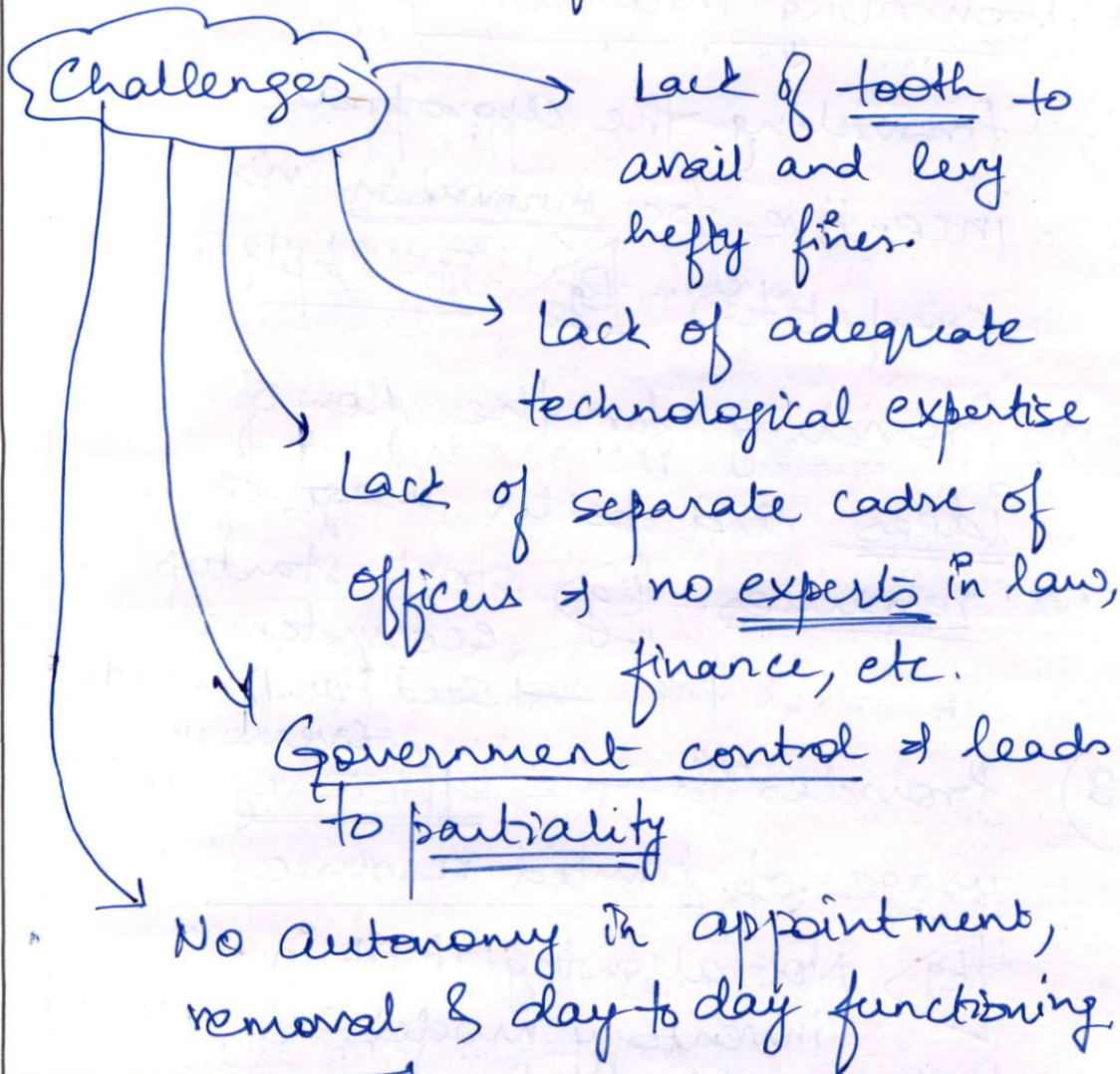
## → Promoting innovation

- 1) Providing the appropriate incentive for innovation via competition. Eg Jio laptops.
- 2) Providing for the flow of ideas and better usage of resources. Eg strict startup ecosystem.  
— Seed Fund rounds overseen.
- 3) Provides for the efficiency in usage of limited resources.  
Eg Not allowing FDI in inventory model e-commerce

## → Augmenting effectiveness

- 1) Promotes the usage of economies of scale. Eg right policy created for ONDC.
- 2) Fines levied for taking away the resources of public usage. Eg Telecom fines on Vodafone.  
↓  
using only for itself

However, it is faced by numerous



### Way ahead

- 1) Give a status of Autonomy via separate legislation — for ease of doing business.
- 2) Regulate the appointment of Commissioners via Committee [said by Birla Comm]
- 3) Provide for all services — not only IAS as the heads of these.

12.

"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 हार्जिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Paid news has been an emerging area of alleged corrupt practice though not yet covered in Section 123 of RPA (Representation of Peoples Act)

Need to make paid news an election offence

- disturbs the level playing field needed under Article 324
- prevents violation of the Constitutional Morality.
- helps to uphold the true spirit of Section 123 → since use of money power is actually corrupt.
- prevent use of money & muscle power in elections
- Uphold the judgement of Supreme Court in Abhiram Singh Case

However, there are challenges in making it a corrupt practice -

2020 Bihar elections saw 35 cases of paid news unearthed by the media.

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

1) Lack of clarity in RPA → not consistent.

① Bribing is penal under Section 8(1) but not under Section 8(3)

2) Paid news can suffer from similar backlash as seen for false affidavit → Political party dharna.

3) Lack of clarity of what constitutes paid news and what is just election-eering.

4) Lack of clear definitive definition of cons of paid news.  
② No knowledge about when some paid news is malicious.

5) Judgement of the intent of paid news is not easy and making all news as paid news violates rights under Section 126 → to popularize

This calls for critical view at  
the menace of paid news via —

- 1) Committee or Law Commission to  
give clear definition of paid news  
with all intent & amount limit
- 2) Awareness among people about  
ills of paid news → mature  
electorate (Lokniti CSDS Survey)
- 3) Power to Election Commission  
to reject nomination for paid  
news [expand Resurgence India  
Case judgement]
- 4) More power of review → separate  
courts to quickly decide on  
paid news cases.

This would help to ensure  
swasth rajneeti, surakshit Bharat  
along with mature voting pattern.

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

The recent Hijab case of Karnataka brought into light the importance of "doctrine of essentiality"

## Doctrine of Essentiality

- 1) Evolved from the Shirur Mutt case where the Supreme Court balanced Article 25 (religious freedom) with larger public interest.
- 2) Holds that unless a religious practice is essential for the religion, it can be regulated by the State.  
(eg) Kesh & Kirpan essential for Sikh.
- 3) The essentiality of a practice determined based on the various religious scriptures and impartial hearing.

However, it has become a point

of Contention due to the following reasons —

- 1) Courts are not an 'eclectic body' and leads to Judiciopapism  
— Nikhil Soni case
- 2) Court imposition of what religion means → stifles individual autonomy  
— held by minority judge Indu Malhotra in Sabrimala case.
- 3) Goes against individual freedom as to an atheist nothing can be religious
- 4) Leads to unintended consequences.
  - Hijab case restricted education of girls.
  - Ismail Farooqui case lead to Namaz in open in Gurgaon.

Yet, they are necessary to —

- 1) uphold rights of people.
  - Triple Talaq banned — Shayara Bano Case

2) Uphold dignity of women & gender justice  
Eg) Sabarimala temple entry.

3) Uphold constitutional morality  
as Article 25 itself says reasonable restrictions based on other fundamental rights

### Way ahead

1) Need to balance the necessity of reform with lack of sufficiency.

- ⊙ Debate and public participation
- ⊙ Parliamentary reforms by law.
- ⊙ Building consensus.

2) Principle of judicial restraint unless absolutely necessary.

3) Sensitive matter → need to go slow as by Law Commission

This would ensure religiosity with constitutionality and debate on UCC (Article 44) is in right direction for reform

14.

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)

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

15

The Economic advisory Council called for limiting the size of the government due to huge pressure on the finances and more.

Case in support of limiting the government

- 1) Reduce spending on salary and pensions → more for welfare under Article 38.
- 2) Promote the fiscal discipline via less devolution  
↳ at all levels government shrink.
- 3) Promote capital expenditure
  - ⊙ Growth in private investment
  - ⊙ Generate more jobs
  - ⊙ Economic growth to \$5 trillion.

4) Promote more faster decision making  $\Rightarrow$  reduce red tapism.

5) Promote the ease of doing business due to less hindrances in government

---

However, reducing the government size is not the panacea as —

---

1) Promotes centralization of power  $\Rightarrow$  against principle of subsidiarity

$\Rightarrow$  Stifles expertise in governance as same officer manages multiple fields.

3) Loopholes in policy possible as less brains ponder over it.

$\Rightarrow$  seen with fodder policy of Bihar

4) Stifles innovation due to lack of conflicting ideas.

5) Below a critical number can lead to loss of accountability hierarchy

## Way ahead

- 1) Adopt flatter structure and have only few posts and levels.  
Eg) CAG office abolished Section Officer.
- 2) Determine via calculation the critical limit for each department.
- 3) Diversify the areas of expertise - hire generalists for flatter government.
- 4) Lateral entry more to uphold the value of time based experts.  
↳ only limited duration ⇒ no pension.
- 5) Uphold principle of subsidiarity  
⇒ build local capacity.

This would help to uphold the minimum government, maximum governance for Article 38 of welfare objective.

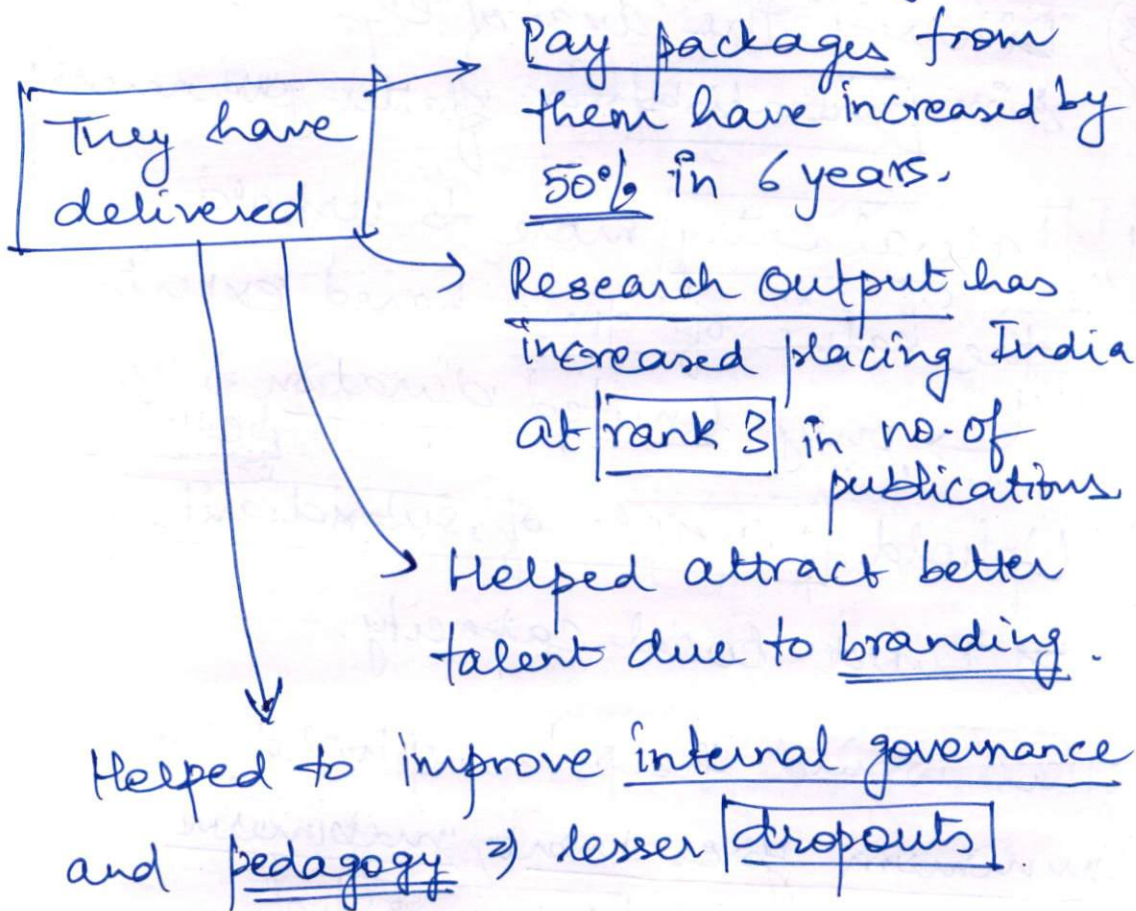
15.

इंस्टीट्यूट्स 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

The Institute of Eminence Scheme was envisioned to provide autonomy to higher educational institutes to develop better educational ecosystem.



However, they have remained largely inadequate as game changer

1) Lack of adequate funding ⇒ only

57% of the demanded funds provided.

- 2) Lack of quality of research - very low h-index ( $< 20$ ) of professors.
- 3) Bad infrastructure  $\rightarrow$  lack of modern labs like for 6G in communication.
- 4) Outdated curriculum - still teaching engineering drawing at these colleges
- 5) Questions on criteria of identification as IIT Kanpur left-out
- 6) Lack of cross sectoral representation as no reservation in many
- 7) Autonomy misused  $\rightarrow$  no definite standards of the graduates  $\rightarrow$  not employable.

---

All this calls for quick steps to address the various disparities

---

- 1) Industry Academia linkage - follow USA model.
- 2) Korean Model whereby these

Corporates can have CSR funding used for stipend based skilled students.

- 3) Earn while you learn scheme for bridging the accessibility & affordability [ By Tourism Sector ]
- 4) Certain minimum level of regulation ⇒ ensure minimal fees.
- 5) HEFA based funding to balance the remaining fees.
- 6) Provision of collaborated infrastructure ⇒ uphold best usage of all resources. [ ~~Eg~~ collaborated use of 5G labs ].

This would help to ensure these Institutes of Eminence become centres of excellence to produce the human capital India needs for SDG-4 and Amritkaal.

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

Digital Public Infrastructure of India (Aadhaar, JanDhan, etc) has been recognized by IMF as a wonder.

It allows for —

innovative & convenient public services

1) Better usage of mobiles as with UPI for easy payment.

↳ German minister paying for vegetables via UPI

2) Improve targetted service delivery

↳ Aadhaar based payments in MGNREGA.

3) Innovative to tackle the growing money laundering issue

↳ Central Bank Digital Currency for traceability.

## Overcome inclusion or accessibility barrier

- 1) Take the banking to homes.  
Eg) Yono SBI app.
- 2) Take the ease of accessibility due to lack of barriers.  
Eg) CBDC has no intermediary.
- 3) No inclusion or exclusion errors due to duplicity.  
Eg) Seen with Aadhaar to ration Card linkage.

## Increase transparency & accountability

- 1) Data visible to all who have permission  $\Rightarrow$  uphold upward accountability.
- 2) Net banking has brought the transparency in transaction  $\Rightarrow$  no more bank hidden charges.
- 3) JAM Trinity has helped prevent leakages — due to direct benefit transfer.

However, there are numerous challenges galore —

- 1) Lack of digital connectivity → only 42% have internet (NSSO data)
- 2) Lack of digital literacy → only 10% in rural areas (NSSO data)
- 3) Inequality in access due to limited availability of infrastructure.  
↳ no kiosk at Common Service Centre.
- 4) Lack of people centric governance → mostly in English → not in vernacular websites
- 5) Lack of effective protection of data → violate privacy

### Way ahead

- 1) Business process reengineering (BPR)
- 2) PPP basis of implementation  
↳ learn from "think digital" of UP

This would ensure digital governance & use of 4th industrial revolution for sabka saath, sabka vikas

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 दृष्टि में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

The Bandhua Mukti Morcha Case called for health as a right to all and brought the legislative domain of healthcare to fore.

However, just legislation isn't enough due to various shortfalls.

1) Inadequate personnel/beds.

Personnel	1 doctor per 1445 people	1/1000 (WHO)
Beds	0.7 beds per 1000 people	3.4/1000 (WHO)
	Actual	Recommended

2) Lack of enough capacity of generic medicine → only 47% demand met.

3) Overburdened primary worker — works 15km radius against 5km  
By Bista Committee  
Bajaj

4) Lack of adequate funding — only 2% in Budget 2023 of GDP

5) High out of pocket expenditure  $\rightarrow$   
 $\frac{1}{6}$ th of poverty due to this (WHO)

All this calls for plugging the —

$\rightarrow$  Social gaps

- 1) Reduce stigma in healthcare especially mental healthcare.  
 $\hookrightarrow$  Live Love Laugh Campaign.
- 2) Reduce social discriminations to healthcare access  $\rightarrow$  build social infrastructure
- 3) Provide for mobile vans as by SCARF initiative for accessible & affordable health.

$\rightarrow$  Financial gaps

- 1) Channelize CSR funds for PPP based healthcare.
- 2) Adopt Best practice:-
  - ⊙ Mohalla clinics of Delhi
  - ⊙ Barefoot doctor of China
  - for cheap healthcare at primary level.
- 3) Insurance coverage to missing

middle - by NITI Aayog

→ Infrastructure gaps

- 1) separate budget for social capital expenditure at least 10% of total
- 2) Use of telemedicine for mobile clinics - use echo clinic concept.
- 3) Increase number of beds by leasing private beds by tax incentives.

This would help to uphold the SDG-3 of health for all & additionally need -

- 1) Legislation → to create bounded accountability of government  
bring in necessary systemic overhaul → uphold health as a right (Article 21)

This would uphold healthy India becomes the demographic dividend for our Panch-pran

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 वॉशिंग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

The transgender form around 49 lakh of our population as per Census 2011

There has been legislative nudge in protecting the transgender as

1) Transgender Protection Act 2021

① Gave certain rights to the transgender related to access, jobs, etc.

② Gave an identity to the "third gender"

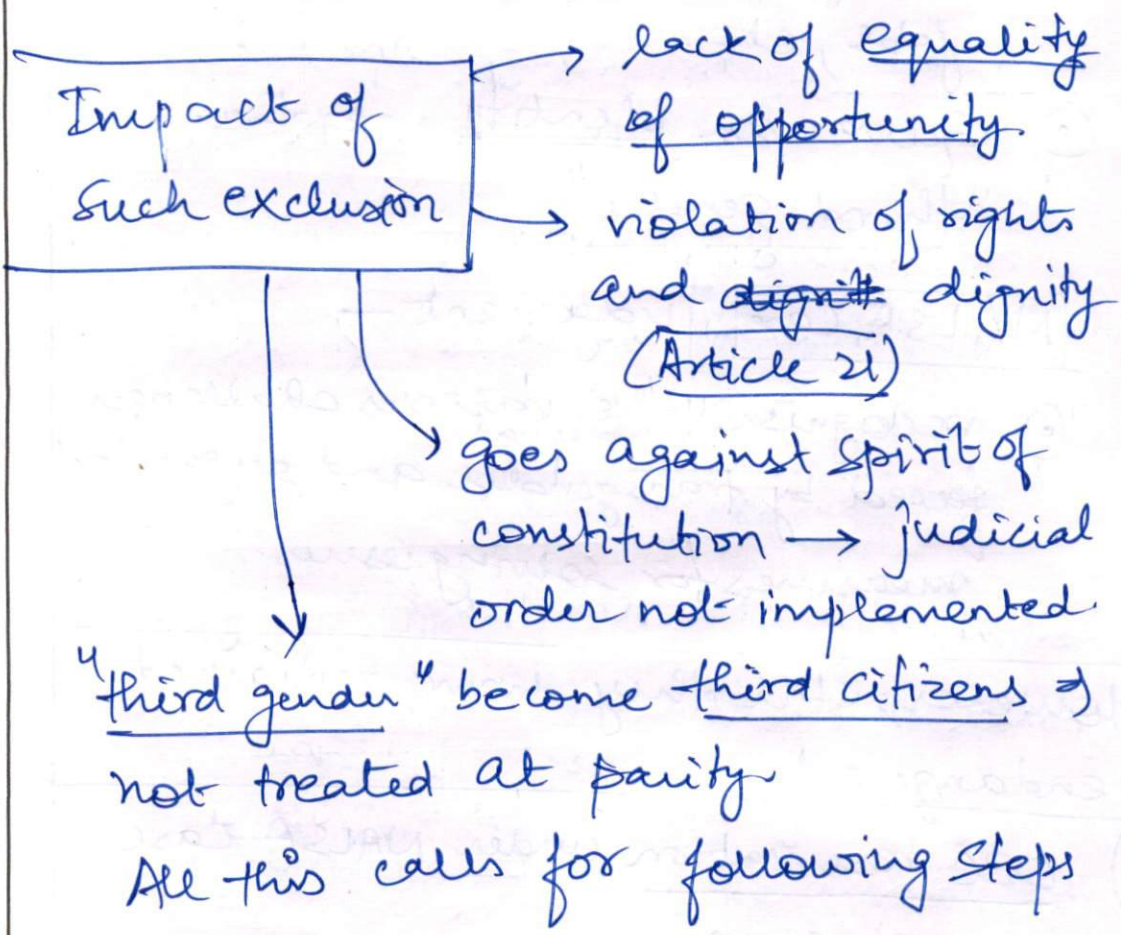
2) NALSA case judgement -

① recognised the various challenges faced by transgender and suggested measures for solving issues.

However, still they have remained endangered

1) OBC reservation under NALSA case not given.

- 2) Lack of right of self determination as identity certificate by DM.
- 3) No change in IPC and other laws to expand "woman" to include crimes against transgender.
- 4) Social stigma - faced by 89% of the transgender (NHRC data)
- 5) Unemployed and live on alms.
- 6) Only 30% registered with Election Commission  $\Rightarrow$  lack of voice.



to ameliorate the sufferings —

- 1) Amend the IPC by inserting a clause expanding definition of women to include transgender.
- 2) Swadhar Greh model of Gujarat  
→ skilling of transgenders.
- 3) Providing them credit and support for entrepreneurship — done by Kans Karnataka Women Development Council
- 4) Treat them at parity with OBC in appointments and promotions  
↳ new yardsticks of justice.
- 5) Treat discrimination against them as untouchability  
↳ Living Tree doctrine

This would uphold the dignity and human rights of the transgenders as a part of our society for welfare & Samodaya

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

Recently Shanghai Cooperation Organization admitted Iran and became more robust in its approach. India has presidency this year (2023)

India wants to fulfil following expectations from SCO ↓

SCO has —

- 1) 40% of population
- 2) 25% of GDP
- 3) 2 permanent UNSC members.

- 1) Better connectivity to Central Asia & Europe — International North South Corridor.
- 2) Mineral security from Central Asia —  $\rightarrow$  Kazakhstan has Uranium
- 3) Energy security — TAPI pipeline for gas based economy.
- 4) Better trade by leveraging the

## Ashgabat agreement

- 5) Prevent terrorism via the RATS
- 6) Uphold strategic autonomy  
QUAD ←                      ↓ SCO.

However there are factors not allowing India to fulfil that role

### 1) Chinese challenge

⊙ Blocking terrorist architecture.

↳ Eq No action against Masood Azhar

⊙ Huge inroads into Central Asia

→ less space for India

↓  
BRI  
project

### 2) Pakistani challenge

⊙ Not allowing land access →  
failing TAPI by Ashgabat

⊙ Promoting terrorism ⊕ bringing  
Kashmir (bilateral) issue.

3) Russia-China axis → not  
good for India

4) Perpetual attacks on Indian

Sovereignty ⇒ CPEC accepted by members

5) Lack of true autonomy as become caught in Chinese/Pakistani agenda.

Yet, it is very significant to —

- 1) Have a voice in an organization dominated by adversaries.
- 2) Bring the issues of India to the high table for support.

### Way Ahead

- 1) Engage with all partners — have diplomatic talks.
- 2) Central Asia focus.
  - ⊙ Have separate mission mode talks — have & build goodwill
  - ⊙ Build capacity ⇒ open IITs in Central Asia.
- 3) Engage with like minded Iran and Russia for European connectivity  
↳ prevent delays. as with Chabahar Zohedan

This would help to ensure India gets the best of both world via strategic autonomy

20.

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

India and USA strengthened their partnership with the recent State visit of PM Modi — first time in one decade.

This saw the conclusion of an initiative of Critical & Emerging Technology — promises transformation

- 1) Provides for better engagement between industries via INDUS X
- 2) Technology transfer will help to build local capacity
- 3) Help Make in India and lead to more jobs.
- 4) Help to popularize our digital infrastructure and expand it.
- 5) Open the path to become a digital vishvaaguru.

6) Bring in better usage of artificial intelligence & blockchain in agriculture, health, education, etc.

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

However it is not a bed of roses as there are challenges.

- 1) ~~USA~~ USA has been a non-trustworthy partner - denied GPS during Kargil war
- 2) Lack of interoperability of defence systems - 49% imports from Russia.
- 3) Conditionalities of USA have been against Indian interests.
- 4) Threat of losing strategic autonomy
- 5) Challenges around technology transfer and indigenization.  
→ US has been critical of our IPR regime

Yet, we need US support due to its -

- 1) Sheer volume of research spending

& cutting edge technology.

2) Evolving nature of cyber attacks

↳ Red Echo on Mumbai power grid.

### Way ahead

1) Have a clear cut policy and negotiate for India centric sharing

2) Build own capacity & train workforce in research.

3) Increase own GERD (Gross expenditure) from 0.7% of GDP to 3% on R&D as in China

4) Be careful to diversify → have similar deals with France or EU as well.

5) Leverage Indo Pacificentricity & ask for favourable terms in deal — GE414 engine in right direction

US collaboration can help to shape our technology landscape by leaps & bounds & work towards

atmanirbhar Bharat

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

1) Working volume of cylinder  
The lead screw or nut and washer

Impressor

2) Have a clear cut piston and  
reciprocate for their condition  
3) Build over capacity of main  
workforce in research

4) Increase over G.P.D. (gross)  
from 0.7% of P.P. to 3%  
as in China

5) Be careful to identify  
minor deal with time  
ED as well

6) Increase into participation  
but in favorable form in  
area - G.P.D. Engine in right  
direction

7) US collaboration can help to  
check our technology landscape  
keep a track of work  
collaboration threat

AL