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Start time - 2 pm

End time - 5:26 pm

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2090)

Name of Candidate	Animesh Verma		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	1278123
Center	ONLINE	Date	3/9/23

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- 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)।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH**.
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.**
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- 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।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- 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।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended

Strongly Recommended

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp. Punjab & Sind Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi- 110009

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. पृथक्करणियता का सिद्धांत क्या है? प्रासंगिक न्यायिक निर्णयों की सहायता से विवेचना कीजिए।
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10
- What is the Doctrine of Severability? Discuss with the help of relevant judicial decisions. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Doctrine of Severability (DoS) refers to the judicial doctrine that is used to determine whether a given subject falls within the legislative competence of the Union or the State. Also used in separation of powers

Doctrine of severability:

1. Says that the powers of the legislature of the centre & state are different and largely non-overlapping.
2. Promotes separation of powers b/w the 3 organs - legislature, executive & judiciary.
3. Helps the court to determine the

Constitutional validity of a law or executive act.

Judicial decisions:

1. Zindira Gandhi vs Raj Narain case, 1975: Supreme Court (SC) held that separation of powers in India is limited and in a broad sense only.
2. Kesavananda Bharati case, 1973: SC held that introduced the basic feature doctrine which includes separation of powers.

Way forward:

1. ^{Centre} To limit legislation on Concurrent List. (Jajkari Commission).
2. Periodic review by the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

These can help promote cooperative federalism & welfare of all (Article 38).

2. भारत में संवैधानिक शासन को संरक्षित करने के लिए राज्यपाल के पद को रूपांतरित करने की आवश्यकता है। राज्यपाल के पद से जुड़े हालिया विवादों के आलोक में विवेचना कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10

The office of Governor needs to be transformed to preserve constitutional governance in India. Discuss in the light of recent controversies surrounding the Governors' office. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Constitution created the office of Governor who is the head of the state (nominal) and supervises the functioning of the state.

Recent controversies:

1. Subhash Desai vs Governor of Maharashtra case, 2023: i) SC held that the governor was wrong to call for a floor test. ii) SC said that the governor cannot use his office to settle intra-party or inter-party disputes.
↳ led to downfall of MVA govt.
2. State of Telangana vs Governor (July 2023)

SC said that the Governor should return the bill as soon as possible & not sit over them.

3. Punjab Governor - state tussle dispute over the special Assembly session held in June '23 - illegal as per the Governor.

4. TN Governor vs state govt: i) TN Governor recently walked out of Assembly (1st address) ii) dispute over the speech.

5. WB Governor vs state: ^{recent} Median violence in WB; Governor held the govt. as responsible.

Way forward:

1. Governor - outside the state.
ii) Consult CM while appointing Governor.
 2. Remove him as Chancellor (Punchhi Commission)
- These can promote constitutional governance & effective democracy

3. "वाक् एवं अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता की आड़ में लोक व्यवस्था में व्यवधान उत्पन्न करने या हिंसा भड़काने की अनुमति नहीं दी जा सकती।" हेट स्पीच के संदर्भ में उच्चतम न्यायालय के हालिया निर्णय की सहायता से विवेचना कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10

"Disturbing public order or inciting violence cannot be allowed under the garb of the freedom of speech and expression." Discuss with help of the recent Supreme Court judgment on hate speech. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Recently, the Supreme Court (SC) held that any speech which disturbs public order or incites violence is not protected under Article 19(1)(a)

Freedom of speech and expression:

1. Under Article 19 of the constitution.
2. Allows free speech, propagation of views in written, verbal, electronic form, etc.
3. But it is not absolute.
4. Exceptions / Restrictions: i) public order ii) incitement to violence iii) sovereignty & integrity of India, etc.

Recent SC judgement:

1. Shabeen Abdullah vs UoI (Case 2022)

- i) SC directed the police of UP, Uttarakhand, Delhi to suo-motu register FIR against hate speech makers, irrespective of the community.
- ii) hate speech cannot be used to disturb the social fabric & law and order.
2. Recently, in 2023, SC extended the above judgement to all the states & UTs. Hence police must immediately suo-motu register FIR.

Way forward:

1. Set up an online portal to register complaints.
2. Promote religious priests to spread harmony & brotherhood.

These measures can curb hate speech and secure secular fabric of India as enshrined in the Great Preamble.

4. भारत में लोकतंत्र के प्रभावी काम-काज के लिए विपक्ष के नेता (LoP) की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10
Discuss the role of the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) for the effective functioning of democracy in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Leader of the Opposition (LoP) is the leader of the largest opposition party in the state legislature. The LoP's rank is equivalent to that of a cabinet minister.

Ref: Role of LoP: effective democracy:

1. Provides ready alternative CM/PM: in case of losing majority by the original government.
2. Promotes representation, voic to the minorities & other sections of people.
3. Critically scrutinize the govt. functioning & enforce misdeeds.

4. Promote effective democracy by upholding accountability of the govt.

5. Independent appointments: eg:
Anoop Baranwal vs UoT Case, 2023:

LoB is also a member of the appointing committee for CEC, ECs.

6. Creates ground level awareness
& people to people connect:
eg: Bharat Jodo Yatra.

7. Promotes effectiveness of Parliament,
as & prevents despotism of the executive.

Hence, the LoB must be respected and heard and his/her legitimate grievances must be rectified by the govt.

5. लोक सेवकों द्वारा कुशल सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण सुनिश्चित करने और भारत में परिवर्तन लाने के लिए उभरती हुई प्रौद्योगिकियों का उपयोग किन विभिन्न तरीकों से किया जा सकता है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10
- What are the various ways in which emerging technologies can be utilised by civil servants in ensuring efficient public service delivery and affecting change in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Emerging technologies (ET) refers to the latest, cutting edge technologies like AI, 6G, etc. which have transformative potential in each sector including public service delivery.

Emerging technologies: public service delivery (PSD)

1. Promote universal benefit: remove exclusion errors; eg: COWIN app, Aadhaar seeding.
2. Targeted delivery: of goods using AI mapping - to predict the most vulnerable people.
3. Cut curb corruption in (PSD) eg: FCI '23 scam; by creating a

a map of bribery risks.

4. Curb leakages: eg. using GPS, satellites to track trucks carrying food grains.

5. Online monitoring of storerooms - to check stock limits; reduce overflows, etc.

Affecting change in India:

1. Promote social justice: by giving priority to weaker sections - SC, ST/OBCs, etc.

2. Increase transparency & accountability of the administration; online disclosure

3. Prudent fund utilization: eg:

PFMJ (Public Finance Management System)

Hence, training of civil servants in latest technologies is needed to harness IT in efficient public service delivery.

6. आपके अनुसार, प्रधान मंत्री कौशल विकास योजना भारत में कौशल विकास और रोजगार को बढ़ावा देने में किस सीमा तक सफल रही है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10

To what extent, in your opinion, has the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana been successful in promoting skill development and employment in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

The PM-KVY (Kaushal Vikas Yojana) has provided opportunities for skill development for the unemployed people.

PMKVY - successful in skill development & employment:

1. Setting up skilling centres: Kaushal Vikas Kendras in every district.
2. Industrial coordination: eg: aligning with industrial needs through Skilling Councils.
3. Increased certification in low & mid-level skills
4. Promoted employment for the unemployed in manufacturing, service sector, etc.

5. Led to increased formalization of the workforce.

Ar/PMKVY - not successful:

1. Skilling in mostly low-level skills. Ignoring AI, etc.
2. Most employment in the informal sector.
3. Lack of awareness about PM-KVY.
4. Multiplicity of Industrial Skill Councils - duplication of effort.
5. Low funding of PM-KVY.

Hence, more skilling in latest tech like AI, IoT, etc. is needed

Further, funding must be increased for PM-KVY.

7. भारत की भूमि प्रबंधन प्रणाली में पर्याप्त लाभ उत्पन्न करने में भू-आधार परियोजना की क्षमता का परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10

Examine the potential of the Bhū-Aadhaar project in bringing significant benefits to India's land management system. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Bhū-Aadhaar project is the analogous to the Aadhaar project for human identity. Bhū-Aadhaar uniquely identifies every parcel of land.

Potential of Bhū-Aadhaar - benefit land management:

1. Promote reduced court pendencies related to land disputes: eg. average of > 10 years to solve land disputes by courts.
2. Promote unique identification of land parcels.
3. Increase efficiency & effectiveness of land management through online land records.
4. Promote access to credit: for the

- landed poor.
5. Give land ownership rights to the poor.
 6. Social justice helps in identifying breaches of Land Ceilings Act, 1970
 - ↳ distribute excess lands to the landless.
 2. Ease sale & mortgage of lands.
 - ↳ promote real-estate sector.
 - ↳ economic growth.

Challenges:

1. Low skilling of workforce to use Bhm - Aadhaar.
2. Low digital literacy: people don't know how to see online records.
3. Threat of cyber security.

Also, more awareness is needed about the benefits of Bhm Aadhaar. It must be aligned with ULPIN (Unique Land Parcel Identification)

8. भारत में बाल श्रम की उपस्थिति के विभिन्न निर्धारकों पर चर्चा कीजिए। देश में बाल श्रम की समस्या से निपटने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए)

Discuss the different determinants of the occurrence of child labour in India. What measures can be taken to tackle the issue of child labour in the country? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Child labour means the use of children below 14 years age for employment in factories, shops, etc.

Determinants of occurrence of child labour

1. Poverty: poor parents see children as economic support via child labour.
2. Old age tradition/custom: people, especially in rural areas see child labour as normal custom.
3. Weak enforcement of laws like Child Labour (Amendment) Act, 2016
4. Low literacy & poor education outcomes: promotes child labour.
5. Reduced employment opportunities & high UR (~ 2%) - PLFS.

Measures needed:

1. Use of Online portal like PENCIL for registering complaints.
2. Promote local level awareness about Article 24, Child Labour Act, 1986 etc.
3. Appoint Child Labour Prohibition Officers to inspect shops etc.
4. Coordination with NCPER, NIOS, etc. for monitoring.
5. Increase punishments for violating child labour laws.
6. Increase funding for monitoring, enforcement agencies.

These measures can promote Article 24 and secure a healthy future of the children.

9. हाल के घटनाक्रमों से ज्ञात होता है कि कुछ बाधाओं के बावजूद, भारत-भूटान संबंधों में अभी भी निरंतरता बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10

Despite certain hiccups, recent developments suggest that continuity still looms large in the Indo-Bhutan relationship. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India - Bhutan have enjoyed
friendly relationship since
more than 50 years.

Certain hiccups:

1. India - Bhutan - China - border
dispute: eg: ~~As~~ Doklam Standoff in
2017.
2. Illegal migrants issue: eg: many
tribals shifted to Bhutan.
3. LWE problem: extremists usually
seek shelter in Bhutan's fore forests.
4. Connectivity agreements: eg: pending
Bhutan approval for BBIN - MVA
(Motor Vehicles Agreement).

Recent developments: Continuity:

1. Strong economic partnership: India is
one of the largest trade partners of

Bhutan.

2. Multilateral forums cooperation: eg: BBIN-MVA, BIMP etc.
3. Hydropower projects: funded by India in Bhutan.
4. Environmental cooperation: shared best practices to preserve Himalayas.
5. Defence relations: eg. training of Bhutanese personnel in India.
5. Cultural exchanges: Buddhist tourism, student exchanges, etc.

Way forward:

1. Resolve border disputes with China.
2. Increase border surveillance to curb illegal infiltration.
3. Increase investments

As these measures can strengthen India - Bhutan friendly relations (Article 51)

10. महत्वपूर्ण सूचना अवसंरचना एक वैश्विक सुविधा (ग्लोबल गुड) बन गई है जिसकी सुरक्षा के लिए वैश्विक मानदंडों की आवश्यकता है। महत्वपूर्ण सूचना अवसंरचना की सुरक्षा के लिए G20 क्या भूमिका निभा सकता है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10

Critical Information Infrastructure has become a global good that requires global norms for its safeguard. What role can the G20 play to safeguard Critical Information Infrastructure? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) refers to the compute resources that are a critical to the security, defence, supply of essential services, etc. eg. power sector;

CII: global good:

1. Rise of cyberattacks: eg: ALLMS (Nov-22) - which are trans-border in nature
2. Internet, digital goods - increased penetration & use in almost all sectors.
3. Data colonization: eg. most data centres in US
4. Power (energy): eg. transboundary power supply blue India, Bangladesh,

Role of G20:

1. Promote global norms to safeguard CII.
2. Address emerging threats to CII like cyberattacks, privacy issues, etc.
3. Increase international cooperation: like sharing best practices, etc.
4. Promote use interests of the Global South like LDCs who are the most vulnerable.
5. Promote funding of CII strengthening projects by developed countries.

These measures can secure CII. Further to CERT-IN guidelines must be followed to protect CII.

11. विधायिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच टकराव की परिणति केशवानंद भारती वाद में 'आधारभूत संरचना' के सिद्धांत रूप में हुई। विवेचना कीजिए। संविधान में संशोधन करने की संसद की शक्ति को सीमित करने में इस वाद का क्या महत्व है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

The tussle between the legislature and judiciary culminated in the 'basic structure' doctrine in the Kesavananda Bharati case. Discuss. What is the significance of the case in limiting the power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Supreme Court introduced the doctrine of 'basic structure' in the landmark Kesavananda Bharati Case, 1973 to preserve basic features of the Constitution.

Tussle b/w judiciary & ~~executive~~ ^{legislature} -
basic structure:

1. It ~~prompted~~ the tussle over division of powers - ~~list I, II & III~~ in the ~~7th~~ schedule ~~b/w~~ the Centre & the states
↳ b/w the legislature & judiciary.
2. SC held that separation of powers is only limited in Indira (Indira Gandhi vs A Raj Narain

(cont).

3. Article 50: promotes separation of the judiciary & the executive
4. Amending Constitution to override judicial orders. eg: during National Emergency 1971-1975
5. Eroding judicial review power by increasing acts & regulations in the 9th schedule - not subject to judicial review.
6. Disputes over appointments of SC & HC judges.

Kesavananda Bharati case - significant

1. SC held that basic features of the Constitution like secularism, judicial review etc cannot be amended by the Constitution.

2. Held that Preamble is a part of the Constitution & but hence amendable.
3. SC declared that the amending & legislative powers of the Parliament are different.
4. It cannot use its limited amending power (Article 368) to grant itself an unlimited power.
5. Promotes fundamental rights: SC held that laws which violate Article 14, Article 21, etc. would be un-constitutional.

The landmark judgement has successfully preserved the basic structure & promoted independence & separation of the legislature & judiciary.

12. नगर निगमों की सीमित राजस्व सृजन क्षमता के कारण राज्यों के करों और अनुदानों पर उनकी निर्भरता बढ़ गई है। इस प्रवृत्ति से जुड़े हुए मुद्दे क्या हैं? भारत में नगर निगमों की वित्तीय स्थिति में सुधार के लिए किन उपायों की आवश्यकता है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

The limited revenue generation capacity of municipal corporations has increased their dependence on taxes and grants from the states. What are the issues associated with this trend? What measures are required to improve the finances of the municipal corporations in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Report on State Finances, 2022 by RBI highlights the poor financial health of the municipal corporation (MCs)

Limited revenue generation capacity

1. Low devolution of powers / functions including taxing powers by the state.
2. Introduction of GST - remained silent on the share of MCs
3. Low skilling; corruption in MC.

Issues associated:

1. Poor public service delivery by the MCs. eg. overflowing garbage from landfills.

2. Poor infrastructure: eg. broken, un-motorable roads.
3. Lack of ^{Against} democratic decentralization: as low financial powers.
4. Increasing debt burden of M.C.s.
↳ affects future generations.
5. Problem of health: eg. only 1 or 2 doctors in community health centres.
6. Low & slow progress towards SDGs (Sustainable development goals).
7. Against 12th schedule: which sets proper functions & funds for the M.C.s.

Measures required:

1. Credit rating of M.C.s (N.K. Singh Committee).
2. Municipal bonds: eg. recently Nifty Municipal Bond Index was

launched.

3. 15th FC recommendations: Online accounts of the M.C.s.
4. Follow State Finance Commission recommendations regarding devolution, grants, etc.
5. Increase performance based grants to M.C.s.
6. Pooling of resources (PDF scheme):
where many small M.C.s collectively raise resources.
7. 12th schedule: Implement optional provisions & increase taxing powers.
8. Non-tax revenue: eg. power to collect penalties for civil law violation.
(2nd ARC)

These measures can promote democratic decentralization & good financial health of M.C.s.

13. "संविधान का उद्देश्य सुधार लाने के लिए समाज को रूपांतरित करना है और यह उद्देश्य रूपांतरणकारी संविधानवाद का मूल स्तंभ है।" हालिया न्यायिक निर्णयों की सहायता से विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

"The purpose of having a Constitution is to transform the society for the better and this objective is the fundamental pillar of transformative constitutionalism." Discuss with the help of recent case laws. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Transformative Constitutionalism

refers to upholding basic features of the Constitution while at the same time amending old laws/ provision to enable a transformative progressive society. eg: Section 377 was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court (SC).

Constitution - better society; recent case laws:

1. Aruna Shanbaug Case 2011: i) SC legalized passive euthanasia
2. National Legal Services Authority Case, 2014: i) SC recognized LGBTQIA+ as the 3rd gender ii) held that

- fundamental rights (FRs) are equally applicable to them.
3. Khusb Khusboo vs Kanniamal case, 2012: i) SC legalized live-in relationships.
 4. Navtej Singh Johar case, 2018: i) SC decriminalized homosexuality ii) Article 14 is equally applicable to them.
 5. Jayara Bano case, 2017: i) SC declared triple talaq as unconstitutional.
 6. Tehsun Bhanawalla case, 2018: i) SC called for a separate law on mob lynching; punishable offence.
 7. Common Cause vs UOI, 2018 & 2023:
 - i) allowed terminally ill patients to conclude a 'living will' for passive euthanasia.
 - ii) Recently, simplified simplified

procedure for living wills.

8. Nirihal Soni vs UOT case, 2015: (i) upheld constitutional validity of Santhosa, Sallekhanq.
9. Animal Welfare Board of India vs UOT case, 2023: SC allowed jallikattu, upheld validity of amended TN law.

Challenges:

1. Just laws & orders are not enough. Still large proportion of orthodox people - who resist change.
2. Low literacy rate (~75% (Census 2011))
3. Age old culture

The SC's decision like in - Indian Young Lawyers's Association case, 2018 - SC declared Severimata temple custom as invalid - must be respected by all & we must remember that "change is the only constant" - Heraclitus.

14. भारत जैसे समाज में व्यक्तिगत स्वतंत्रता और लोकतांत्रिक शासन को बढ़ावा देने में 'विधि के शासन की संस्कृति' कैसे योगदान दे सकती है? ऐसी संस्कृति को बढ़ावा देने में क्या चुनौतियां विद्यमान हैं? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

How can a 'rule of law culture' contribute towards promoting individual liberty and democratic governance in a society like India? What are the challenges in fostering such a culture? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The 'rule of law' (ROL) was introduced by famous British jurist A.V. Dicey to promote supremacy of the law.

Rule of law:

- no arbitrary punishment
- equality before the law
- primacy of the rights of individual.

ROL culture: individual liberty:

1. The ROL prohibits arbitrary punishment. No one can be punished except for a breach of law.
2. Promotes fundamental rights

like freedom of speech, assembly
right to life & personal
liberty, etc.

↳ Holds that constitution is the
result of rights of individual.

3. Prohibits discrimination: RoL

includes equality before the law.
Hence all people - rich, poor, minority,
etc. are equal in the eyes of law.

RoL: democratic governance:

1. Promote result-oriented governance
rather than obsession to rules,
procedures, etc. → to expand opportunities
of the people.

2. Right-based approach: eg. right
to information → RTI Act, 2005

3. Participatory democracy: where
people are considered as equal
stakeholders in governance

4. Social audit: eg: MGNREGA by people
civil society, etc.

Challenges:

1. Low awareness about RoL: eg: many
people think that judges make laws.
2. Low accountability mechanisms: eg:
increasing use of delegated legislation
by the executive (Kerala State Electricity
Board (Case, 2022))
3. Low literacy & skills of the people
to properly social audit.
4. Lack of political will: eg: recent
amendment proposed to weaken RTI
Act, 2005.
5. Weak Parliamentary Committees
6. Lack of enforceability: eg: low
conviction rate in criminal cases (<7%).
Hence, more awareness via Lok
Adalats must be organized to
promote RoL culture & enhance India's
image as the mother of all democracies.

15. नागरिक समाज संगठन (CSOs) न केवल धर्मार्थ कार्यों में लगे हुए हैं, बल्कि न्यायसंगत, शांतिपूर्ण, मानवीय और संधारणीय भविष्य के निर्माण के लिए राजनीतिक प्रक्रियाओं में भी शामिल हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are not just engaged in charitable work but also involved in political processes for building a just, peaceful, humane, and sustainable future. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are

the non-governmental organizations which promote public interest and augment government's service delivery capability. eg: NAO Pratham.

CSOs - Charitable work:

1. CRY foundation: i) collect charities, donations, etc. ii) promote children's health, safety, etc.
2. NAO Pratham: i) children's education ii) AJER report
3. Urban poor welfare: eg: SPARC (Society for Promotion of Area Resource Centres): in Mumbai
4. Environment protection: eg: WWF-India

5. SEWA: women workers empowerment
6. Service delivery: like distribution of food by community kitchens.

CSDs - political process for just, human & sustainable future:

1. Political reforms: eg. ADR (Association for Democratic Reforms) filed petition in SC against Electoral Bonds.
2. RTI (information): eg. awareness generation by SNS (Satark Naganik Sangathan) & about RTI Act, 2005.
3. Net neutrality, free speech:
eg. IFF (Internet Freedom Foundation) → promotes no unnecessary suspension of internet.
4. Women Empowerment: eg. recent NFIW (National Federation of Indian Women) sent a fact-checking team to Manipur.

5. Sustainable future: eg: CSE
(Centre for Science & Environment
reports on EV policy, green
hydrogen, etc.)
6. Public policy Think tank: eg: CEEW
(Council of Energy, Environment &
Water) provides valuable inputs
about clean energy, etc.
7. Women's reservation in legislatures:
supported by NAOs like Bharatiya
Rashtra Sangathan, etc.

Way forward

1. Increase funding for CSOs.
2. Use of latest ICT like AI,
big data, etc by CSOs.
3. Awareness generation.

Further, National Policy on Voluntary
Sector, 2007 must be implemented
to promote CSOs & help in
attainment of SDGs before 2030.

16. हालांकि स्वयं सहायता समूहों (SHGs) ने ग्रामीण विकास और महिला सशक्तिकरण में योगदान दिया है, लेकिन उनका असमान भौगोलिक प्रभाव और ऋण चूक (लोन डिफॉल्ट) की बढ़ती घटनाएं ऐसी गंभीर चुनौतियां हैं, जिनके समाधान की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

Self-help groups (SHGs) have contributed towards rural development and women empowerment, but their uneven geographical impact and rising loan defaults are serious challenges that need to be addressed. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Self-help groups (SHGs) refer to a small group of like-minded people that promotes savings & enhance their common interests.
eg: K Kudumbashree in Kerala;

SHGs - rural development:

1. SHGs have increased opportunities in the non-farm sector like manufacturing of handicrafts etc.
2. Promoted access to loans at cheaper interest rates.
(SHG - Bank linkage programme)
3. Helped build rural infrastructure - by aligning with MGNREGS, PMAY-Rural etc.

SHGs - Women Empowerment:

1. More than 90% women led SHGs under PAY - NRLM (Rural Livelihood Mission) → cross of households have been mobilized.
2. Financial independence of women.
3. More respect & better social status due to earning power of women.
4. Promoted women SHGs to contribute to community welfare programmes.
eg: Hiware Bazar in MH

Challenges:a) Uneven geographical impact:

1. Rural-urban divide: eg. most SHGs in rural areas that too in agricultural sector.
2. East-west, north-south divide:
eg. most SHGs in South & western India; tribal areas in east are neglected.

a) Rising loan defaults

1. High interest rates of borrowing
10-30% interest rates by MFIs,
NBFCs, etc.
2. Low availability of institutional credit

Way forward:

- a) 1. Promote awareness in East, NE
India, including in tribal areas
2. Promote SHGs in urban areas
through dedicated laws,
3. Encourage municipalities to set up
SHGs.

- b) 1. Proper implementation of SHG-Bank
Linkage Programme.
2. Online loans: use of ICT apps.
3. Aadhaar enrolment of the
remaining SHGs

Further NABARD must be
nudged to increase loans for
availability for SHGs. Use RBI's
PSL framework.

17. क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि भारत की स्कूली शिक्षा प्रणाली में गहरी जड़ें जमा चुकी समस्याओं को केवल डिजिटल रूपांतरण से हल नहीं किया जा सकता है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

Do you agree with the view that the deep-rooted problems in India's school education system cannot be solved by digital transformation alone? (Answer in 250 words) 15

India's school education system suffers from many deep-rooted problems as highlighted by the latest ASER, 2022 Report (Annuals Status of School Education Report) by Pratham Nho.

Deep-rooted problems- school education

1. Low learning outcomes: eg. many students couldn't read age appropriate texts (ASER report).
2. Recreating computational skills: 74% students couldn't solve math problems (ASER report).
3. Focus on rote learning instead of analytical skills.
4. Low problem-solving, real-life examples used in schools.

5. Poor quality of teachers: low:
recruit corruption in teacher recruitment
in West Bengal.
6. Lack of infrastructure: eg: 1/3rd
schools do not have separate toilet
for girls.
7. Rural-urban divide: rural schools
perform much worse than their
urban counterparts.

Deep-rooted problems can be solved by
digital transformation alone:

1. Universal access to education: as
online education is cheaper.
2. Address shortage of teachers:
through larger reach of online
education.
3. High penetration of digital
devices: even in rural areas,
bridge rural-urban divide
4. Online monitoring, Online accounts

of schools → proper management of school.

Cannot be solved by digital transformation.

1. Issues of online education: i) lack of motivation ii) digital divide iii) often misuse of mobiles for games, social media, etc. (recent NIPER study)
2. Need of physical infrastructure: like separate girls' toilets, smart classrooms, etc.
3. Attitudinal / approach issues: need to focus on understanding concepts, real-life problems.
4. Poor internet connectivity in rural areas.

There is a need to implement NEP, 2020 & National Curriculum Frameworks, 2022 for school education to promote low quality education (SDG-4).

18. भारत में कमजोर वर्गों के लिए कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की प्रभावशीलता और पारदर्शिता पर प्रत्यक्ष लाभ अंतरण (DBT) के प्रभाव का परीक्षण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

Examine the impact of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) on the effectiveness and transparency of welfare schemes for the vulnerable sections in India.
(Answer in 250 words) 15

The Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) was introduced to directly give money to the needy people via bank account transfers. eg. TAM trinity

Impact of DBT on:

a) effectiveness of welfare schemes for vulnerable sections:

1. Promoted better targetting of needy people. eg. AAY households under TPDS schemes (public distribution system)
2. High use of ICT like Aadhaar card seeding has reduced leakage & ghost beneficiaries
3. Increased efficiency & reduced

- losses. As cash is directly transferred to bank accounts.
4. Reduced poverty: eg: 41 crore people moved out of poverty in the last 15 years (Global MPI Index, 2023)
 5. Higher women empowerment & institutional deliveries: eg: PM-MVX (Matru Vandana Yojana)
 6. Pension for the Old age: PM-VVX (Vayashri Yojana) - direct pensions;
- B) Transparency of welfare schemes:
1. PBR has increased transparency: through direct cash transfers to bank accounts.
 2. Curbed leakage & corruption. eg: use of JAM (Jan Dhan, Aadhaar & Mobile)
 3. Increased awareness among locals: about welfare schemes like Stand UP India scheme, etc.

Challenges:

1. Still many people do not have Aadhaar cards, 2. Inclusion errors in DBT.
3. Not so-effective due to low financial transfers: eg. STs & SCs are the most poor - MPI, 2021
4. Digital illiteracy: many don't have a bank ~~account~~ account, don't know how to use ICT, etc.
5. Threat of cyberattacks & privacy risks.

Way forward:

1. Increase DBT amount for the vulnerable sections.
2. Implement DPDP (digital personal data protection) Bill, 2023)
3. Promote awareness about govt. schemes.

These steps can increase effectiveness of DBT & promote Article 46.

19. चीन-रूस के बीच गहरे होते रणनीतिक संबंधों को कुछ लोगों ने 'विश्व में सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण अघोषित गठबंधन' के रूप में वर्णित किया है। यह गठबंधन भारत के राष्ट्रीय हित को कैसे प्रभावित कर सकता है? भारत को अपने हितों की रक्षा के लिए क्या रणनीति अपनानी चाहिए? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

The deepening China-Russia strategic relationship has been described by some as the 'most consequential undeclared alliance in the world.' How can this alliance impact India's national interest? What strategies should India adopt to protect her interests? (Answer in 250 words) 15

After the Russia-Ukraine conflict started in February, 2022, the China-Russia relationship has grown ~~most~~ stronger & is currently at unprecedented levels of trust & cooperation.

Deepening China-Russia relationship: most consequential alliance:

1. Anti-west alliance: ability to counter sanctions & propaganda of the west.
2. Rising economy: China - 2nd largest economy
3. Defence relations: share defence technologies, etc.
4. Like-minded & immense trust b/w the two.

Alliance - impact India's national interest:

1. Territorial integrity: i) LAC disengagement is not yet complete ii) Russia might support China in case of a China-India war
2. Anti-terrorist resolutions: eg: recently China vetoed against terrorists involved in 26/11 attack; Russia might also support China.
3. Defense trade: Affect India's supply of S-400, Russia might sell advanced weapons ~~to~~ to China.
4. G20 Common Statement: might not be reached in September, 2023 due to Russia-China combine-against denouncing of the Ukraine conflict.
5. Support China's BRI & CPEC: eg: CPEC passes through POK - India disputed region.
6. Cybersecurity: Russia & China have advanced cyber hackers.

Strategies needed:

1. Maintain balance b/w East & West:
India must harness groupings like QUAD to neutralize China-Russia;
2. Promote voice of global south including India's interests in G20, UN, etc.
3. Increase R&D on latest emerging technologies; for cybersecurity.
4. Use of satellites eg: WAT-7B, 7A for monitoring border areas.
5. Bilateral MOUs with Russia to secure India's oil supplies.
6. Enc Diversify defence procurement.
eg: recent F414 jet technology deal with US

These measures can promote India's national interests & increase achieve international peace & security, respect for sovereignty etc. (Article 51).

20. भारत ने अपनी वैश्विक स्थिति और विदेशों में छवि को बेहतर बनाने के लिए सॉफ्ट पावर को अपनी विदेश नीति के एक महत्वपूर्ण स्तंभ के रूप में स्थापित कर लिया है। सरकार द्वारा की गई विभिन्न पहलों के साथ-साथ इस कथन की विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15

India has placed soft power as an important pillar of its foreign policy to enhance its global standing and image abroad. Discuss the statement along with the initiatives taken by the government. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Soft power refers to using culture and attraction (non-coercive means) to influence decisions of nations - (Ministry of External Affairs) (MEA)

Soft power - pillar of India's foreign policy

1. MEA has used soft power to promote friendly relations with neighbours like US, Bangladesh etc.
2. Soft power to increase bilateral trade & promote economic interests eg: Trincomalee oil project etc.
3. Promote peace & security & as soft power is non-coercive.
4. Help in resolution of disputes eg: pressure from Indian diaspora.

Softpower - enhance global standing
& image; initiatives:

1. Culture: promote India's culture abroad. eg: Scheme for Cultural Relations, ICCR (Council)
2. Democracy: India is the mother of all democracies - PM of India.
3. Indian customs, traditions: Pravasi Bharatiya Divas & Know India Programme → Engage diaspora.
4. Yoga, traditional medicines: eg: 1) 21st June declared as International Day of Yoga & recently Global Centre for Traditional Medicines set up in Jamnagar.
5. Cinema: foreign success of Indian movies like 'Dangal', 'RRR', etc.
6. Sports: sports exchanges & holding of international events: eg: ICC CWC 123 - in India (Cricket).

7. Holding of global meetings: eg.
recent SCO Summit, upcoming G20 Summit, 2023 by India.

Challenges:

1. Low funds allocation for soft power. (MEA)
2. Duplication of efforts by several ministries.
3. Lack of skilled, motivated workforce in MEA.
4. Domestic issues: like recent Manipur issue has dented India's image.

Way forward:

1. Clear mandate for ICER
2. Increase fund allocation.
3. Inter-ministerial coordination.

Also, India must use smart power (judicious blend of soft & hard power) to protect & promote India's interests.