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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 871)

Name of Candidate	Prudhvi Tej Immadi		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENG	Registration Number	34271
Center	ORN	Date	

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

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. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. Criticism about the judiciary should be welcomed, so long as criticisms do not hamper the "administration of justice". In this context discuss whether the power of contempt of court given to the higher judiciary limits the freedom granted by Article 19(1)(a) and whether these two can be reconciled.

जब तक आलोचनाएं "न्याय के प्रशासन" में बाधा न डालें, न्यायपालिका के संबंध में आलोचनाओं का स्वागत किया जाना चाहिए। इस संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या उच्चतर न्यायपालिका को दी गई न्यायालय की अवमानना की शक्ति अनुच्छेद 19 (1) (a) द्वारा प्रदत्त स्वतंत्रता को सीमित करती है और क्या इन दोनों में सामंजस्य हो सकता है?

'Contempt of Court' power given to the higher judiciary under the powers of 'Court of Record' of Article 141 limits the right to freedom of speech against hampering delivery of justice.

In this regard Parliament has enacted a law 'Contempt of Court Act' to enumerate what actions fall under Contempt of Court.

Provisions of the Act

- 1) Division into Criminal contempt and Civil contempt
- 2) Criminal Contempt :
 - obstruction to court proceedings
 - obstruction to execution of order of Court etc.

Issues with Contempt of Court

- 1) Arbitrary exercise of Power by the courts
eg: punishing for frivolous issues
- 2) Whether contempt proceedings be initiated
against a judge himself
eg: Justice Karnan case
- 3) Limitations akin to rights to freedom of
speech under Article 19(1)(a). Reasonable
restrictions under Article 19(2) vest discretionary

powers in the state. These are often misused, and in this context by judiciary

(4) Opaqueness in appointments, decisions etc and fear in citizenry to question these decisions.

This leading to Supremacy of Judiciary

Contempt of court powers mustn't limit freedom of speech to unreasonable extents in a modern liberal democracy. These two should be reconciled by:

- 1) Clear demarcation / specification of contempt of court provisions.
- 2) Bringing transparency in Judiciary.
- 3) Clearing ambiguities in the powers of judiciary

The presumption must always be biased towards Freedom of Speech than Contempt of Court

2. Special rights are not privileges but they are granted to make it possible for minorities to preserve their identity, culture and traditions. Elaborate in the context of India with examples.

विशिष्ट अधिकार विशेषाधिकार नहीं हैं, बल्कि अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए अपनी पहचान, संस्कृति और परंपराओं के संरक्षण को संभव बनाने के लिए इन्हें प्रदान किया गया है। उदाहरण सहित भारत के संदर्भ में सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Minorities in Indian context are not defined by the constitution but by legislation.

Two kinds of minorities are identified.

(1) Religious minorities - Parsis, Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, Christians & Muslims

(2) Linguistic minorities - defined locally

Special Rights enjoyed by minorities

1) Article 29 & 30 - Rights to maintain religious educational institutions and exemption for Right to property i.e. their property is still protected by fundamental right.

(2) Right to Education Act - Exemptions

- from taking 25% from economically backward sections

(3) Directives to the state

- for making arrangements for education in their own mother tongue etc.

(4) Travel concessions to Hajj etc
Are they Privileges?

(1) Secularism in Indian context is not complete separation of state from religion but principled distance with interventions to protect whenever necessary. Hence, the rights to religious minorities shouldn't be seen from Western secular view

(2) Constitutional ethos of safeguarding interests and rights of everyone irrespective of caste, creed, religion etc

mandate the state to protect the minorities' culture from Majoritarianism.

(3) India's unique culture & social diversity, our colonial history and centuries of oppression makes it a moral responsibility of majority to safeguard minority interests.

Hence, special rights to minorities shouldn't be seen as privileges or 'appeasement' politics but an effort to preserve the unique identity, culture and traditions of India.

3. A clear delineation of functions of local governments vis-à-vis State Governments will only strengthen the principle of subsidiarity. In this context, discuss the challenges and the reforms required for effective democratic decentralization in India.

राज्य सरकारों के साथ-साथ स्थानीय सरकारों के कार्यों के स्पष्ट आरेखण (निरूपण) से केवल अनुषंगिकता का सिद्धांत पुष्ट होगा। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में प्रभावी लोकतांत्रिक विकेंद्रीकरण के लिए आवश्यक सुधारों और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

73rd and 74th constitutional amendment acts
have brought true democratic decentralization
to village & local levels as envisaged by
DPSP and Gandhiji's ideals.

However, there are some issues
in functioning of these local bodies.

- 1) States seeing the panchayats as their agents
- 2) Ineffective financial powers
 - no/less powers of taxation
 - less devolution in State Financial Commissions
- 3) Ineffective administrative powers
 - No local recruitment by local bodies
 - Gridlock between officials & elected

Clear Delineation of Powers

Article 243 - 243 (O) → powers of panchayats
243 (P) - 243 (ZG) → powers of ULBs.

There is already a clear delineation of powers constitutionally but this is ineffective in practice.

Challenges: (1) States unwilling to devolve power

(2) Weak capacity of panchayats.

(3) Parochial views in panchayat bodies

eg: Knap panchayats

Panchayats and gram sabhas are increasingly given power by various schemes etc by

(1) Gram sabha role in MGNREGA

(2) Direct devolution from centre to local bodies.

But this is not adequate.

Reforms required

- 1) Effective financial decentralization
- especially in urban local bodies
- 2) Direct elections to various posts eg: Mayors
- 3) Effective administrative decentralization
- powers to recruit
- 4) Professional State Finance Commissions
- currently by bureaucrats under state control
- leading to ineffective devolution.
- 5) Capacity building of local bodies.

All these reforms when taken in congruence will lead to effective decentralisation as envisaged by 73rd amendment and strengthen principle of subsidiarity.

4. Despite being a welcome step, Inter-State Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017 fails to resolve the issue of overlapping of jurisdiction between the legislature and judiciary. Analyse.

स्वागत योग्य कदम होने के बावजूद, अंतरराज्यीय जल विवाद (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2017 विधायिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच क्षेत्राधिकार के परस्पर अतिव्यापन का मुद्दा सुलझाने में विफल रहा है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Article 262 of Constitution provides for jurisdiction of interstate river water disputes to an interstate river water tribunal.

Issues with existing system

- 1) Long time period taken for judgement
eg: 27 years in Kaveri tribunal award
- 2) No mechanism to enforce
eg: dependence on river water boards
- 3) Appeals to Supreme Court
- 4) Time lag between award & notification by the government.

To overcome all these issues,

Parliament has introduced a bill

Inter State Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill

Provisions under the bill are

- 1) Permanent tribunal with temporary benches.
- 2) Technical body for advisory jurisdiction.
- 3) Provisions to collect data
- 4) Time limit for judgement - 4.5 years at max
(except in exceptions)
- 5) Tribunal award implies notification.

Failure to Resolve Overlapping jurisdiction

In the current system, Supreme Court takes appeals about the award of tribunal. This issue hasn't been resolved. ❖

Appointment to tribunal and benches are to be done and this leads to overlap of jurisdiction between the two.

Tribunals are by themselves
against separation of powers doctrine as
judicial functions are carried by executive
and legislature.

Way forward

Constitution has provided for
legislature to make provisions for interstate
water tribunal by Parliament and hence it
shouldn't be seen as overlapping jurisdiction
between legislature & Parliament.

Both the arms of the state should
work in collaboration to resolve the disputes as
quickly as possible.

5. Critically discuss the major reforms introduced in the area of electoral funding in Union Budget 2017. Do you think that state funding of elections is a viable idea to check misuse of money power in politics?

2017 के केंद्रीय बजट में चुनावी वित्तपोषण को लेकर प्रस्तुत किए गए प्रमुख सुधारों पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आप मानते हैं कि राजनीति में धनबल का दुरुपयोग रोकने के लिए चुनावों का राज्य द्वारा वित्त पोषण एक व्यावहारिक विचार है?

Election funding has been a major reason and a root cause for corruption & nepotism in Indian politics and society. In this regard reforms are sought by Union Budget, 2017.

Electoral reforms

1) Maximum limit reduced from 20,000 to 2,000 from anonymous sources.

Funding from unknown sources (APR report)

BJP - 65%

Congress - 73%

BSP - 100%

2) Income tax limit exemption

only upon timely filing of taxes.

3) Limit of corporate funding removed on their profits etc.

4) Unique Electoral Bonds to be issued by RBI to fund political parties.

However, these all are nominal measures and only symbolic. Under the garb of improving transparency, these reforms made it opaque via instruments like Electoral bonds.

State Funding of Elections

This is practiced in many advanced countries like Germany and is being proposed in India too.

Pros: (1) Reduces money power of political parties.

(2) Brings parity among parties in spending

(3) Curbs corporate funding etc and hence

decreases lobbying

Cons: (1) Modalities for new parties etc are not clear

(2) This might only add to burden of state's
exchequer.

(3) Black money will be pumped into system
irrespective.

Way forward :

State funding of elections might bring parity among parties and funds to honest parties but in absence of curbing of black money, this will be a failure.

Instead reforms like bringing parties
under RTI and public disclosure of their
tax statements etc should be sought. These would
bring down misuse of money power in politics.

6. The provision of 33% reservation of seats for women in urban local body elections in Nagaland has been in news for various reasons in recent times. Discuss the underlying issues in light of the constitutional provisions at stake and the social realities of the state.

हाल ही में नागालैंड में शहरी स्थानीय निकाय के चुनावों में महिलाओं के लिए 33% सीटों के आरक्षण का प्रावधान विभिन्न कारणों से सुर्खियों में रहा है। इस सन्दर्भ में राज्य की सामाजिक वास्तविकताओं तथा दाँव पर लगे संवैधानिक प्रावधानों के आलोक में अंतर्निहित मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Under 73rd & 74th amendment of constitution,

33% of seats in urban local bodies are to be reserved for women. However, these norms are not followed in Nagaland and led to a deadlock and no election was held in past decade.

Constitutional provisions

- (1) Article 243(A) - 243(Z) provide for reservation for women.
- (2) Article 371(A) - protects/safeguards and exempts Nagaland from Parliamentary laws when against their customary laws.

Social Realities

(1) Naga Council - not ready to accept women

in urban local bodies

- Patriarchal attitudes
- Political vested interests.

(2) However, the same representation is in implementation at village panchayat level and

Naga Council has no problem with that.

(3) Social conditions of women in Nagaland

- more participation in labour than rest of India.
- higher social status than usual.
- egalitarian nature of tribal societies.

Supreme Court has ordered for
conduct of elections with women representation

in local bodies. This is in line with constitutional ethos and ethos of gender justice. Political vested interests like Naga Council should n't be encouraged ~~or~~ but should be sensitively handled keeping in mind the insurgent history of the state.

7. Enumerate the guidelines for police reforms as laid down by the Supreme Court in Prakash Singh case in 2006. In this regard, critically discuss the issues in their implementation by the States.

2006 में प्रकाश सिंह मामले में पुलिस सुधारों पर सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा यथा निर्धारित दिशा-निर्देशों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। इस संबंध में, राज्यों द्वारा उनके कार्यान्वयन में निहित मुद्दों पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Criminal justice system in our country has been malfunctioning at multiple levels like Police, judiciary, prisons etc. In this regard, Supreme Court has laid down some guidelines.

Prakash Singh case - Police reforms

(1) State Security Commissioner - for overall monitoring of security situation of the state.

Appointment should be done by the centre.

(2) Police Establishment Boards (PEB) - for deciding

on appointments, transfers of personnel.

- should be immune from state politics.

(3) Security of Tenure - minimum tenure should

be secured unless under extreme situations

which are to be approved by body like PEB.

(3a) Separation of law & order and Investigation

(4) Filling up of Vacancies - Shortage of personnel

leading to moral demotivation etc.

(5) Fixed Working hours - of 8 hours a day

for police with regular holidays.

However, the implementation of these recommendations

are very poor because of lack of political

will by states. ~~(6) Bringing police into Concurrent~~

Issues in Implementation

(1) Not all states enacting/amending a state

Police Act. Only 17 states as of 2010.

(2) Lack of political will by the states.

(3) No security of tenure (or) standard working hours

eg: Average working hours of police \approx 14-16 hours

(4) Vacancies lying vacant - There is a shortage

of around 30% personnel. This ratio going as high 48% in Bihar etc.

(5) States not willing to lose political control.

To adequately address the issues of criminal justice system, state police system have to be reformed urgently as police is often the first point of contact for public

8. While the Competition Commission of India and sector-specific regulators are required to complement each other, overlapping jurisdiction has resulted in regulatory parallelism amongst them. Comment.

जहां भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग और क्षेत्र-विशिष्ट नियामकों को एक-दूसरे का पूरक बनने की आवश्यकता है, वहीं परस्पर अतिव्यापी अधिकार क्षेत्र का परिणाम उनके बीच नियामकीय समानांतरता के रूप में सामने आया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Regulatory bodies in India have become necessary and have proliferated in India after liberalization and privatization reforms of 1991.

eg: TRAI, SEBI, CCI etc.

Importance - Complementary Nature of CCI

(1) Due to technical nature of legislations required in a modern society, regulatory body expertise is required.

(2) Each sector specific regulator while tries to improve performance and economic gains of the sector might lead to undermining

principles of 'free market' and 'no barriers to entry'.

eg: SEBI/RBI encourage virtual currency etc.

(3) To overcome this issue and maintaining healthy competition, Competition Commission of India under Competition Act, 2002 acts to curb

- monopolistic tendencies of companies
- predatory pricing policies
- Unhealthy market policies.

(4) This has led to overlapping jurisdiction CCI as seen in Jio 4G case. Whereas ~~TRAI~~ wasn't acting because of definitions like 'major player' etc TRAI had to act to control the predatory pricing policy.

Way Forward

(1) Changes in competition Act for definitions like

- 'major player' -

- highest market share etc

(2) Institutional mechanism to cooperate & collaborate
between CCI & other regulators.

(3) Improving technical expertise of CCI in major areas.

Hence, in a world of privatization etc,

regulatory authorities have to complement each

other to uphold the values of free market.

9. There is both spatial and economic inequality with regards to access to healthcare services in India. Elaborate. How does the New Health Policy attempts to address these issues?

भारत में स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुँच के संबंध में स्थानिक और आर्थिक दोनों असमानताएं विद्यमान हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। नई स्वास्थ्य नीति कैसे इन समस्याओं का समाधान करने का प्रयास करती है?

Health care services face numerous issues in India because of limited state capacity.

Spatial Inequality

(1) Urban - Rural Divide

- All tertiary health services only in urban areas
- Primary & secondary in rural areas under dilapidated conditions.

(2) State wise - Inequality

- Rich states like Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Delhi etc

subsidise & reimburse private health care services

- Health services in Bihar, UP etc lack in

(1) social health practices like immunization, sanitation

(2) personal health practices.

Economic Inequality

- (1) High Out of Pocket Expenditure.
- (2) Private sector catering to majority of inpatient and outpatient care.

New Health Policy - Reforms

- (1) Increase in Public expenditure to 2.5% of GDP.
- (2) Attention to wellness centres than tertiary health care -
(67% funding to PHC)
target of 2 beds/1000 people
- (3) Universal coverage in drugs, diagnosis & treatment for minor ailments.
- (4) Insurance coverage to poor.
- (5) Social health practices like
 - Universal Immunization
 - Eradication of TB new cases, kala azar etc.

With these initiatives, state capacity in health care is targeted to increase which ultimately leads to reduction in economic and spatial inequalities in health care sector. Especially, reforms like insurance coverage, Universal coverage and social health are major levers of access to healthcare.

10. Census 2011 observed that there has been a significant increase in urban homeless households in the period between 2001 and 2011. What are homeless households? Highlighting the challenges faced by them, discuss the causes for increase in such households. Suggest various measures to rehabilitate these households.

2011 की जनगणना के अनुसार वर्ष 2001 से 2011 की अवधि में शहरी बेघर परिवारों की संख्या में सार्थक वृद्धि हुई है। बेघर परिवार से क्या तात्पर्य है? उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, ऐसे परिवारों की संख्या में होने वाली वृद्धि के कारणों की चर्चा कीजिए। इन परिवारों के पुनर्वास हेतु विभिन्न उपाय सुझाएँ।

Homeless households are those families of urban (or) rural areas who do not have basic access to shelter and resort to living on sidewalks, under flyovers, railway station etc.

Challenges by homeless households

- (1) Vulnerability to
 - diseases (health)
 - weather
 - crime
 - security
- (2) Basic necessities & right to dignified life are not fulfilled.
- (3) Lack of access to toilets, education facilities etc & other welfare measures.
- (4) Lack of privacy and dignity of life.

Reasons for increase

(1) Increased rural-urban migration.

Census 2011 recorded higher growth in urban population than rural population for first time.

(2) Lack of low income housing facilities.

(3) Market distortions in real estate sector

- many homeless people

- many houses vacant because of high rents.

(4) Poor income sources of these households -

- usually resort to begging etc

Measures to rehabilitate

(1) Night shelters, ~~poor~~ low income housing facilities etc.

eg: Housing for All.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

National Urban Livelihood mission - provides shelters

(2) Reduced distortions in real estate sector
eg: Real Estate Regulatory Authority Bill is
a step in right direction.

(3) Collaboration with civil society.

(4) Skilling & employment guarantee schemes to
urban population.

It is an indictment to and a
matter of shame that fellow citizens have to live
under such conditions. Governments (central, state
& local), civil societies all must come together
to rehabilitate them effectively.

11. Recent judgment of the Supreme Court, amending the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 has invoked varied responses. Highlighting the amendment, critically examine its likely impact on application of the law.

घरेलू हिंसा से महिलाओं का संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2005 में संशोधन हेतु सुप्रीम कोर्ट के हालिया निर्णय से विभिन्न प्रकार की प्रतिक्रियाएँ सामने आई हैं। उक्त संशोधन पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इस कानून के अनुप्रयोग पर इसके संभावित प्रभावों का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

Protection of Women from Domestic Violence, 2005
(DV Act)

has sought to ~~to~~ protect women from domestic violence faced from husband and his family for various reasons like dowry harassment etc.

Recent judgement

- Women can now approach police even against other women under DV Act.

- This was done to protect from violence from in-laws etc.

Impact on Application of Law

Benefits : (1) Application of law in true spirit

as women not only face violence from husband but from in-laws etc too.

(2) Might lead to better protection of women.

(3) Increase in self confidence and self respect to women.

Reservations Against amendment

(1) Can lead to frivolous complaints and spurious litigation.

(2) Might burden already overburdened judiciary.

(3) Might lead to complaints against wife herself by the in-laws.

The amendment by the Supreme Court though in the right spirit, it is advisable for Parliament to examine the pros and cons of such a change by empirical evidence. Awareness must also be built among women that frivolous complaints might only lead to weak implementation of the law.

12. Examine the steps taken by the government over the years to ensure a secure and exploitation-free childhood for its citizens. Further analyse how the recent ratification of the two key ILO conventions will help India's fight against child labour.

विगत वर्षों के दौरान अपने नागरिकों के लिए सुरक्षित एवं शोषण मुक्त बचपन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का परीक्षण कीजिए। पुनश्च, विश्लेषण कीजिए कि हाल ही में अनुसमर्थित किए गए दो प्रमुख ILO अभिसमयों से बाल श्रम के विरुद्ध भारत की लड़ाई में कैसे सहायता मिलेगी।

Securing an exploitation free childhood
is an obligation for the government under
United Nations Conventions of Rights of Child
(UNCRC)

Steps by Government

(1) Constitutional :

- a) Article 21A - Right to education
- b) Article 24 - prohibition of employment of children in hazardous activities.
- c) Fundamental duty of parents to secure education to the child.

(2) Legislative :

a) Child labour amendment, - prohibition of employment
2016

of children under 14 years in all activities
except family enterprises.

b) Right to education Act - for education of
- 6-14 years children.

(3) Schemes :

a) Mid day meal scheme

b) Integrated Child Development scheme

c) Activities like summer camps etc by various
state governments.

ILO conventions - Ratification

Ratification of ILO conventions of child labour
will now bring India's child labour problem

under international scrutiny.

As a nation with highest number of child labour in the world, India needs to step up implementation of these acts and ILO conventions on a mission-mode so that our children enjoy a secure and exploitation free childhood.

13. According to the World Bank, while digital technologies have spread rapidly in much of the world, resulting digital dividends have lagged behind. Analyse in the context of India.

विश्व बैंक के अनुसार, जहां डिजिटल प्रौद्योगिकियों का पूरे विश्व में द्रुत गति से प्रसार हुआ है, वहीं परिणामी डिजिटल लाभांश पीछे रह गया है। भारत के संदर्भ में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Development of Information & Communication technologies (ICT) has led to rapid spread of digital technologies all over the world, even India

Spread of Digital technologies - India

- (1) Second highest mobile users in world.
- around 75 crore connections
- (2) Spread of smart phone technologies
- 3rd biggest market after USA, China
- (3) e-Governance initiatives by government
eg: Digital India, National e-Governance Plan,
Digital Dashboards, e-auctions etc.

Reason Lagging behind of Digital Dividend

(1) Digital Divide between

- rich and poor
- urban and rural
- young & elderly
- healthy & disabled

(2) Ill implementation of e-governance initiatives

- lack of maintenance
- local language issues
- user friendliness of initiatives.

(3) Vulnerability of financial capitalism

- Instant transfer of funds leading to economic shocks
- hot money like FPI affecting poor the most.

(4) Financial Inclusion problems.

- many out of banking sector

Government steps

- (1) BharatNet - to provide broadband internet to 2-5 lakh villages.
- (2) Jan Dhan Yojana - to promote financial inclusion.
- (3) JAM Trinity & Aadhaar enabled Payment Services (AePS)
 - to reduce leakages
 - to reduce inclusion, exclusion errors

For development to be really inclusive, access must be made universal and hence to reap digital dividends commensurate with digital proliferation.

14. "Our country suffers from an excess of old and unnecessary laws which obstruct people and businesses". In light of the observation elucidate how outdated and impractical laws bring inefficiency in governance. How far is the repealing and consolidation of statutes a solution to the problem at hand?

"हमारा देश पुराने और अनावश्यक कानूनों की बहुलता से ग्रस्त है जो जनता और व्यापारों के लिए बाधक हैं"। इस टिप्पणी के आलोक में स्पष्ट कीजिए कि किस प्रकार अप्रचलित और अव्यवहारिक कानून शासन में अक्षमता लाते हैं। ऐसे कानूनों का निरसन और समेकन कहां तक इस विद्यमान समस्या का समाधान है?

India's unique colonial history and constitutional development has led to excess of old and unnecessary laws that obstruct people and business.

Inefficiencies in governance start from providing security and liberty to citizens. Criminal Procedure Code and Indian Penal Code have many regressive provisions like Section 377, Section 124(a) (anti-gay law) (sedition)

~~are~~ which make governance ~~to~~ exclusive and intransparent.

Industrial Disputes Act of 1950s,
Trade Disputes Act of 1929, Companies Act
are all outdated and give excessive powers
to labour unions who obstruct reforming
any labour laws hence causing contractualization
and informalization of labour market.

Excessive powers to tax authorities,
discretionary powers to administrators, lack
of code of conduct and ethics lead to
corruption and inefficiencies in the
delivery of social welfare measures.

Protection of civil servants which is undue and uncalled for has lead to lapses in policy making and eventually inefficiencies.

It is absolutely necessary to repeal, consolidate and enact new laws to replace old statutes. However, this shouldn't lead to overlapping jurisdictions and overlapping legislations that will cause new problems.

15. Due to increasing consumption and changing consumption patterns, water scarcity is an emerging threat in India and thus it becomes imperative to treat water as a commodity and privatize it. Critically evaluate.

बढ़ते उपभोग और उपभोग के पैटर्न में परिवर्तन के कारण, जलाभाव भारत में एक उभरता हुआ खतरा है और इस प्रकार यह अनिवार्य हो जाता है कि जल के साथ एक वस्तु के रूप में व्यवहार किया जाए और इसका निजीकरण किया जाए। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

India's average per capita availability of water $\approx 1400 \text{ m}^3/\text{year}$ per person. This makes India a water deficit country.

~~Due~~ Increased consumption and changing life styles have further increased the problem.

Changing life style patterns - water scarcity

(1) Increase in household income implies increase in demand for water

(2) Consumption of water intense foods like meat, processed food etc.

(3) Water scarcity is already witnessed in many dryland areas in summers like Karnataka plateau etc.

Water as a commodity - Privatization

- ⊗ Pros :
- (1) market led demand & supply
 - (2) might lead to reduction in consumption
 - (3) Inefficiencies in water supply can be corrected.

- Cons :
- (1) Increased burden on poor
 - (2) Inflationary tendencies in summer
 - (3) Might lead to overexploitation by private companies.
 - (4) Water is a basic necessity - privatizing it is escaping from state's duties.

The water scarcity problem in India is caused by inefficiencies of legislation, treating ground water as private good and lack of watershed management.

Treating ground water as private good has already is an evidence for poor governance.

Hence, water shouldn't be privatized but rather efforts should be on aquifer regeneration, rainwater harvesting, recycling & reusing of water, restructuring of water boards etc.

16. Given the mandate of the Organisation and its composition, too much should not be read into India becoming a full time member of SCO. Critically comment.

SCO के अधिदेश और इसकी संरचना को देखते हुए, भारत के SCO के पूर्णकालिक सदस्य बनने का बहुत ज्यादा अर्थ नहीं निकालना चाहिए। आलोचनात्मक टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India and Pakistan were recently inducted into Shanghai Cooperative Organisation (SCO) and became permanent members.

Composition :

- ① Two hostile countries - China & Pakistan
- ② Other countries with underdeveloped diplomatic relations like Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan etc.

Hurdles in realizing objectives

- ① India & Central Asian relations are not very developed and even trade ~~potential~~ activity being tiny compared to China's trade.

(2) Geographical disconnect and Pakistan's

hurdlles - India & Central Asia are

not geographically connected.

- Even the TAPI pipeline is currently
obstructed by Pakistan.

→ Slow construction of Chabahar port - leading

to meant as gateway to central Asia

through Iran.

Benefits of joining SCO

(i) India Central Asia trade potential hasn't

been realized because of lack of leader to

leader meetings. This will be enhanced

v.a SCO.

(2) Central Asia offers huge potential for

- Energy security - Uranium from Kazakhstan
- Resource rich - mineral rich countries
- Market for services - burgeoning middle class.

All of these can be better realized through membership in SCO.

Though enhancing military & security capabilities & securing strategic interests can't be expected via SCO because of its composition & mandate, trade & investment potential can be captured.

17. India needs to utilize its technological capacity based diplomacy to strengthen relationships with the neighbours. Discuss. Also examine the significance of South Asia satellite to enhance regional cooperation.

अपने पड़ोसियों के साथ संबंधों को मजबूत बनाने के लिए भारत को अपनी प्रौद्योगिकी क्षमता आधारित कूटनीति का उपयोग करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही क्षेत्रीय सहयोग बढ़ाने में दक्षिण एशिया उपग्रह (साउथ एशिया सैटेलाइट) के महत्व का भी परीक्षण कीजिए।

Indian diplomatic relations with its neighbours have been on a downturn in recent years due to various crisis like Nepal Madhesi issue, Bangladesh Teesta issue, Jamil issue of Sri Lanka etc.

In this background, it is important that India enhances and utilizes its technological capacity based diplomacy.

India's strengths - Technological capacity

(1) Pioneer in various sectors like

- Space technology
- low cost Pharma
- Computer industry
- Automobile manufacturing

(2) These technologies can be harnessed to improve relationships with neighbours.

(3) Capacity building initiatives

- in various sectors

- in countries like Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar etc

(4) Climate monitoring & communication technologies

- via expertise in space tech

- disaster management aid

Significance of South Asia Satellite

- India has launched South Asia satellite

free of cost ^{for} by providing services in areas

of disaster management, communication etc.

- Using unique Space diplomacy, has lead to appreciation from leaders of all neighbouring countries
- * Proving that SAARC can work without Pakistan's cooperation. by bypassing Pakistan because of its non-cooperation.

India should build on the good will built by the South Asian satellite to further enhance its regional relationships in other areas too.

18. Though both India and Bangladesh have been able to resolve various pending bilateral issues, solution to the Teesta Water dispute remains illusive. Discuss.

यद्यपि भारत और बांग्लादेश विभिन्न लंबित द्विपक्षीय मुद्दों का समाधान करने में सफल रहे हैं, फिर भी तीस्ता जल विवाद का समाधान भ्रामक बना हुआ है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India and Bangladesh share the longest
(~4500km).

border among other countries of India.

This makes Bangladesh proximate to various

Indian state like Bengal, North East etc.

India-Bangladesh - Issues

(1) Border issues of enclaves and other islands

- Resolved through land Boundary agreement.

(2) Immigration - illegal immigrants

- Under resolve through border security

enhancement and cooperation of both

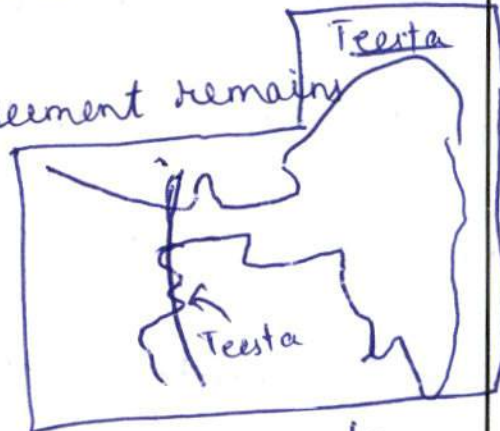
governments.

(3) River Water sharing Agreement

- Ganga river water sharing has been recently revised and Brahmaputra too.

- But Teesta sharing agreement remains contentious.

Teesta Water Dispute



(1) Importance of Teesta water to communities on both sides of border.

(2) Bengal government's lack of support.

(3) Centre government do not want to jeopardize state's relationship by unilaterally

resolving the issue.

(4) Importance of resolution for electoral benefits in Bangladesh.

Centre and Bengal government
& Bangladesh government should bilaterally
resolve the issue peacefully, equitably,
like the other contentious issues that
have been resolved. This would lead to
enhanced cooperation between India & Bangladesh.

19. Discuss the important provisions and significance of the recent proposal by India for Trade Facilitation in Services (TFS) Agreement under WTO.

विश्व व्यापार संगठन (WTO) के अंतर्गत ट्रेड फैसिलिटेशन इन सर्विसेज (TFS) (सेवा में व्यापार सुविधा) समझौते के लिए भारत के हालिया प्रस्ताव के महत्वपूर्ण प्रावधानों और महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

India has recently proposed ~~for~~ Trade facilitation in Services (TFS) Agreement as a continuation to TFA agreement (Goods)

Concluded in Bali ministerial conference.

Provisions :

- (1) Enhanced market facilitation in Mode 1, Mode 2 and Mode 4 services
- (2) Enhanced people to people movements.
- (3) Bilateral continuation of social security measures across the countries of workers.

Significance

- (1) Will lead to better market realization by service sector of India
- (2) Improved immigration from countries
- (3) Will curb restrictive visa regimes like H1B.
- (4) Enhanced foreign exports and dollar revenues to government.
- (5) Parity between merchandise trade facilitation & services facilitation.

However, advanced economies contest these agreements & provisions that this leads to new market generation. But India emphasizes that it only leads

to better market realization but not
new market generation.

TFS ~~is~~ agreement will be a
milestone achievement for India to its role
in multilateral agreements and leading to
economic growth of the country.

20. BIMSTEC has the potential to become a distinctive link between South and Southeast Asia. Elaborate. Also discuss the factors hindering the potential of BIMSTEC over the years. Highlight the key initiatives in recent times and further measures required to make the grouping more effective.

BIMSTEC (बिम्स्टेक) में दक्षिण और दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया के बीच एक विशिष्ट कड़ी बनने की क्षमता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान BIMSTEC के सामर्थ्य (क्षमता) में बाधक बनने वाले कारकों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। इस समूह को अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के लिए हाल के दिनों में की गई प्रमुख पहलों एवं और आवश्यक उपायों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

BIMSTEC = Bay of Bengal Initiative for
Maritime Security, Trade and Economic
Cooperation

→ It has the potential
to act as link between
South & South East Asia
because of countries like

BIMSTEC countries

- 1) India
- 2) Sri Lanka
- 3) Myanmar
- 4) Thailand
- 5) Nepal
- 6) Bhutan
- 7) Bangladesh

Myanmar & Thailand in both ASEAN &

BIMSTEC

→ It is a pivot to India's Act East Policy
with enhancement in cooperation via

1) Connectivity - (1) multimodal Kaladan Agreement

(2) BBIN agreement

(Bhutan-Bangladesh, India, Nepal)

(3) IMT - trilateral highway

(India-Myanmar-Thailand)

2) Maritime security in Bay of Bengal region

3) Trade & developmental potential of North

East India & Myanmar.

4) India-Thailand Free Trade Agreement

initiative.

However these initiatives haven't reached
their full potential because of various factors

Factors hindering growth of BIMSTEC

- 1) Delay in agreements like India Thailand FTA
- 2) Delay in commencement of connectivity projects.
- 3) Crisis like Rohingya crisis leading to souring of relationship between Myanmar & Thailand

Further measures needed

- ① Enhancing & expediting connectivity projects
- ② Annual maritime joint operations & cooperation agreements.
- ③ Improving Trade potential via:
 - Capacity building
- ④ Reducing China's influence in the region.

In the light of soucing of SAARC
because of Indo Pak conflict, full potential of BIMSTEC
needs utilization