



VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1071)

Name of Candidate	Amritpal Kaur		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	411586
Center	Online	Date	08.09.2018

INDEX TABLE

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

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 **ENGLISH & HINDI** इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी 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।

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

M-1/4, Plot No-A-12/13, 1st Floor, Ansal Building, Dr. Vidya Sagar Homeopathic Clinic, 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.

1. It has been argued that over the years there has been a steady decline in the efficacy of Parliament as an institution of accountability. Analyse and also suggest appropriate measures to address the relevant concerns.

(150 words) 10

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि वर्षों से एक जवाबदेह संस्था के रूप में संसद की प्रभावकारिता में निरंतर गिरावट आई है। विश्लेषण कीजिए और साथ ही, प्रासंगिक चिंताओं का समाधान करने हेतु उचित उपाय भी सुझाइए।

The Parliamentary form of government entails holding the executive accountable by the Members of Parliament.

This institution of accountability has seen a steady decline as seen in :

- 1) Hardly 60 days of conduct of Business per year by Parliament (US has 130 days, UK 140)
- 2) Anti defection law suppresses genuine dissent of legislators.
- 3) Schemes such as MPLADS has violated the doctrine of separation of powers.
- 4) The politicisation of the office of

the speaker reduces impartiality
(recently, the speaker refused to
admit no confidence motion as
there was no order in the house)

5) Delegated legislation, guillotine
closure and passing of key
bills (eg. Aadhaar) through
Money bill route further lowers
accountability.

Some measures are:

- 1) abolish schemes such as MPLADS
(Law commission recommendation)
- 2) limit use of anti defection to no
confidence motions
- 3) cut daily allowance if business for
the day not transacted.

These measures can help the
Parliament function as the true
representative of the people.

2. Panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) are simultaneously a remarkable success and a staggering failure, depending on the goalposts against which they are evaluated. Discuss. (150 words) 10

पंचायती राज संस्थाएं (PRIs) एक उल्लेखनीय सफलता होने के साथ-साथ स्तब्धकारी विफलता भी हैं, यह केवल इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि इनका मूल्यांकन किन लक्ष्यों के आधार पर किया जा रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The Panchayati Raj institutions ^(PRIs) got Constitutional status through the 73rd Amendment Act as a vehicle of democratic decentralization and subsidiarity.

Depending on the goalposts, the PRIs can be evaluated :

- 1) Ensuring representation of women through 33% quota with states such as Bihar providing 50%.
- 2) Inclusive governance structure through reservation for SCs and STs.
- 3) Formation of Gram Sabhas for participatory framework

These factors show that PRIs have

been successful.

However, the following factors reveal otherwise:

- 1) Empowering ~~lower~~ the third tier of governance through taxation powers, functionaries and funds has not happened except in few states such as Kerala, Andhra Pradesh.
- 2) State Finance Commissions to devolve revenue share to PRIs are not even operational in some states.
- 3) Regular meetings of Gram Sabha and coordination with bureaucracy for participatory governance is still a pipe dream.

It is only if these problems are overcome proactively by states that the 69% population living in rural areas can participate

3. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) is more than just the keeper of our national accounts; it is also a conscience-keeper and a watchdog. Examine the statement in light of making the auditing process more effective. (150 words) 10

भारत का नियंत्रक एवं महालेखा परीक्षक (CAG) केवल हमारे राष्ट्रीय खातों के रक्षक से कहीं अधिक है; यह अंतःकरण का संरक्षक और वाँचडॉग (प्रहरी) भी है। लेखापरीक्षा प्रक्रिया को और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के आलोक में इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए।

The Comptroller and Auditor General was called the most important office under the Constitution by Dr Ambedkar.

The CAG is the keeper of national accounts as :

- 1) He/she prescribes the method of maintenance of records -
- 2) Audits the expenditure of various governmental bodies
- 3) Verifies that the appropriated funds from Consolidated fund of India are spent as allowed for.

The CAG is also a conscience keeper and a watchdog because :

- 1) Audit process reveals any misappropriation of public funds

- 2) He/she ensures public resources are not wasted or used for private interests (eg. the 2G scam)
 - 3) He/she assists the Public Accounts Committee which is the watchdog of financial activities of the executive.
 - 4) The audits of Armed forces or the National Rural Health Missions by CAG revealed the underpreparedness and lack of institutional capacity respectively.
- So, it becomes necessary to make the audit process more effective by:
- 1) More human and financial resources
 - 2) Mandating penal action for exposed malfeasance
 - 3) Deploying technology such as Big Data to reveal hidden misappropriation

4. The concern for transparency in political funding is at odds with the Electoral Bond Scheme notified by the government. Critically discuss.

(150 words) 10

राजनीतिक वित्तपोषण में पारदर्शिता की चिंता सरकार द्वारा अधिसूचित चुनावी बॉण्ड योजना से असंगत है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Political funding encapsulates a lot of concerns such as level playing field, infusion of black money, buying of political favours by private bodies, influence of foreign parties and criminalization of politics.

It is for these reasons that transparency is paramount in political funding. The government introduced the Electoral Bond scheme under which:

- 1) Willing donors can buy electoral bonds;
- 2) of any amount of money;
- 3) from designated banks without having to disclose their identity

- in the bond ;
- 4) which parties can deposit into their accounts .

This scheme of things militates against the cause of transparency because :

- 1) Now nobody will know the identity of the donor
- ~~2) The election commission cannot~~
- 2) Political favours can be bought without public scrutiny
- 3) Any amount of money can be donated

Although the bonds were meant to reduce the influence of unaccounted money by necessitating KYC for buying bonds, the problem of lack of transparency in links with organisations of political parties still remains .

5. Lobbying in India exists in a perennially grey legal and policy arena. In this context, discuss the need to formally recognize and regulate lobbying in India. (150 words) 10

भारत में लॉबिंग हमेशा से ही विधिक और नीतिगत क्षेत्र में अपरिभाषित रूप से विद्यमान रही है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में लॉबिंग को औपचारिक रूप से मान्यता प्रदान करने और विनियमित करने की आवश्यकता की चर्चा कीजिए।

Lobbying is the process of rooting for particular interests and policy measures by entities, individuals or organizations eg. in the US, oil industry lobbies for friendly policies by funding candidates' campaigns. It is legal there, illegal in India.

Being illegal, lobbying in India is in a grey legal and policy arena because;

- 1) Corporations can still donate to political parties but do not openly spell out what they expect in return.
- 2) Policies might reflect interests

of certain donors, but are dressed up as being for public good.

In this context, recognition of lobbying has been proposed to:

- 1) Encourage transparency in policy formulation
- 2) Openness, genuine discussion and opinions can be obtained once it is known what the political party will pursue as per lobbyists' interests.

But, in case of India, this can have deleterious impact because:

- 1) public infrastructure is still inadequate.
- 2) a large population of poor people cannot buy governments' interest.

So, it can be legalised once an acceptable level of development of whole population is achieved.

6. More than a decade after it was passed, the implementation of the RTI Act leaves much to be desired. Comment. Also discuss the issues associated with the recent proposals to amend the RTI Act. **(150 words) 10**

पारित होने के एक दशक से भी अधिक समय बाद, RTI अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन में काफी कुछ वांछित है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। RTI अधिनियम में संशोधन के हालिया प्रस्तावों से जुड़े मुद्दों की भी चर्चा कीजिए।

The RTI Act, 2005 ushered the era of information for securing accountability of government and access to entitlements and rights.

The Act mandates provision of information within 30 days and penalizes inaction. However, certain areas are found wanting, such as:

- 1) Vacant post of public information officer
- 2) Inadequate infrastructure eg. printers, scanners.
- 3) Poor data maintenance practices
- 4) Non- forthcoming voluntary disclosures by many organisations
- 5) Misuse of lack of peoples' awareness to refuse information eg. asking reason

For instance, the RTI Assessment and Advocacy Group's survey showed that 60% of the information sought should have been pro-actively disclosed.

The recent amendment of the Rule 12 to deny information if the seeker is dead puts the life of activists in danger. Campaign for People's Right to information shows that 69 RTI Activists have been killed in recent history.

In a country with 22% people living in poverty RTI is ~~a~~ an empowering tool to obtain what is legally promised. Thus such amendments should be avoided.

7. Critically discuss the evolving policy on reservation in promotions in India with special focus on its ability to meet the objectives of social justice.

(150 words) 10

सामाजिक न्याय के उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने की इसकी क्षमता पर विशेष बल देते हुए भारत में प्रोन्नति में आरक्षण पर विकसित हो रही नीति की समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

The reservation policy is a tool of affirmative action in the form of access to education and job opportunities for ensuring social justice to the historically disadvantaged. It aids inclusion.

The evolving policy has maintained the reservations for SCs and STs as well as OBCs through Articles 16(4), 16(4A), 16(4B), 335 and 15(4). Due to lack of clarity on the Nagaraj judgement promotions have been stuck. Also, the government does not have adequate data to prove the lack of proportional representation.

in services.

Within this context, the achievement of social justice is still not a reality because :

- 1) SCs and STs represent minuscule percentage in the top echelons of bureaucracy.
- 2) The poorer sections are unable to access the benefits of reservations.
- 3) ~~There~~ Inter caste marriages are few and far in between which shows entrenched discrimination despite promotions and higher economic status.

It will take more than action by state to dislodge discrimination. Value based education and ethical conditioning is a long but surer way.

8. India produces enough food for its people, but not all people get enough food to eat. Discussing this paradox, highlight some of the major interventions taken in the past few years in this regard. (150 words) 10

भारत अपने लोगों के लिए पर्याप्त खाद्यान्न उत्पादित करता है, फिर भी सभी लोगों को खाने के लिए पर्याप्त भोजन नहीं मिलता है। इस विरोधाभास की चर्चा करते हुए, इस संबंध में विगत कुछ वर्षों में उठाए गए कुछ प्रमुख कदमों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

India produced 277 million metric tonnes of food grains in 2017-18, a record. However, 14.5% the population is still undernourished as and 37% under-5 children stunted as per Global Hunger Index.

This paradox is an outcome of many factors such as:

- 1) No documentation to access PDS shops especially among STs.
- 2) Over emphasis on cereals and less on micronutrients
- 3) Lack of sanitation ~~thus~~ hinders nutrient absorption
- 4) Mother's low weight causes undernourished babies

Interventions taken in the
past few years are :

- 1) Fortification of cereals such
as Vitamin A rich rice ~~in~~
- 2) Making milk, eggs available
through ICDS.
- 3) National food security Act, 2013
provides subsidised food grains
to the 67% population
- 4) National nutrition strategy
for convergence of interventions
- 5) Matritva Vandana Yojana
for institutional deliveries and
healthier babies.
- 6) Mother's absolute affection to
encourage breastfeeding.

It is only true that India can
put its demographic dividend
to productive use.

9. India sees Indian Ocean as not just a water body, but a global stage for continued economic, social, and cultural dialogue. Elaborate. (150 words) 10
भारत, हिंद महासागर को मात्र एक जल निकाय के रूप में ही नहीं, बल्कि निरंतर आर्थिक, सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक संवाद के एक वैश्विक मंच के रूप में भी देखता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Indian Ocean connects the major searanes of the Atlantic and the Pacific and hosts more than 50% of global sea trade every year.

It is not just a water body for India as it serves a number of interests?

1) Economic

- Blue Economy : fisheries, shipping, seafaring, tourism
- 70% of trade by value for India is sea based.
- Opportunity to undertake coastal shipping and transport to North East states

2) Social

- Coastal communities are linked by the commonality of ocean
- Fisher folk economic and social prosperity depends on it

Cultural

- Historical linkages with maritime countries
eg. India's MAUSAM initiative to connect maritime littoral states, apply for transnational UNESCO heritage sites.

Thus, Indian Ocean symbolizes India's economic potential, social relevance and cultural connectivity with its diverse population as well as the world.

10. In the context of India taking greater responsibility in management of the global commons, there has been a shift in India's climate change negotiation stance. In this context, analyze the evolution of India's climate policy.

(150 words) 10

भारत द्वारा ग्लोबल कॉमंस के प्रबंधन में बृहत्तर दायित्व ग्रहण करने के परिप्रेक्ष्य में, भारत के जलवायु परिवर्तन संबंधित वार्ता दृष्टिकोण में परिवर्तन आया है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत की जलवायु नीति के विकास का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India has taken a lead in representing the urgency of concerning global commons while sustainably utilizing for development needs of the developing countries.

India's climate policy has evolved in the following manner

- 1) Participation is global for a and representing its needs eg. the Rio Summit 1992.
- 2) Pro-actively joining treaty treaties such as Convention on biological diversity.
- 3) Pressing for developed countries to give their due share in Kyoto

Protocol and utilizing the
clean development mechanisms.

- 4) Taking up voluntary ambitious
climate change action such as
the INDCs of 175 GW
renewables by 2022 for 40%
renewable installed capacity by
2030, 2.5 to 3 billion tonne
carbon dioxide sink.
- 5) Setting up own mechanisms
such as International solar
alliance to collaborate with
willing partners.
- 6) Initiating research and domestic
National Action Plan on climate
change.

Therefore it is visible in the above
sequence that India moved from
secondary to primary player.

11. Highlighting the constitutional role of the Finance Commission (FC), discuss the issues which are being debated w.r.t. terms of reference (ToR) of the 15th Finance Commission. **(250 words) 15**

वित्त आयोग (FC) की संवैधानिक भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उन मुद्दों की चर्चा कीजिए जिनपर 15वें वित्त आयोग के विचारार्थ विषयों (ToR) के संदर्भ में बहस की जा रही है।

The Finance Commission^(FC) is said to balance the wheel of fiscal federalism. It is set up under the Article 280 of Indian Constitution.

It consists of four members and a chairman who have experience in public administration and financial management, economics and accounts.

The finance commission:
1) Lays down principles governing the devolution of funds to states from the central pool and

distribution among the states .

- 2) Grants in aid of revenue to be given to states
- 3) steps to augment the consolidated funds of states to supplement the resources of local bodies
- 4) any other matter as referred to by the President.

The 15th Finance Commission's terms of reference have been at the centre of debate because:

- 1) It has been asked to recommend principles of devolution in light of GST. This worries the states which want GST

to be handled federally
rather than unilaterally
by the centre through the
FC.

It is indispensable for co-operative
federalism that such issues
are amicably resolved through
mechanisms such as the
Inter state council so that
collective interest is served.

12. The spirit of the constitution of India represents a synthesis of Indian values, democratic and socialist movements in west and our independence movement. Elucidate. (250 words) 15

भारतीय संविधान की भावना भारतीय मूल्यों, पश्चिम के लोकतांत्रिक व समाजवादी आंदोलनों एवं हमारे स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन के संश्लेषण को निरूपित करती है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

The constitution represents the will of the people as a whole and thus synthesizes the various strands that exist in India's history, society and aspirations.

This synthesis can be discussed as under :

1) Indian values

1) The secularism is of India's Sarna Shasme Sambhava where state treats religions equally
Article 14, 15, 16, 25 to 28

2) The diversity of India is sought to be preserved by protection of minority

interests through educational,
linguistic rights.

Article 29, 30, 350A, 350B.

3) Part IX and IX A represent
the village and local body
governance of ancient India

2) Democratic and socialist
movements of west

- 1) Part IV A of fundamental
duties derived from
Soviet socialism
- 2) Parliamentary democracy
from Britain Part V
- 3) Part IV of Directive Principles
represents the British Fabian
socialism
- 4) Ideals of liberty, equality,
fraternity of French revolution

3) Independence Movement

1) Accommodation of
the preservation of Indian
ethos such as special
rights for disadvantaged
sections - SC and STs

Articles 338, 338 A, 341, 342

2) Respect of sovereignty of
other nations and peace
and justice in the world.
Article 51.

The Indian Constitution thus
serves as a guiding light for
the people to remember their
roots and pursue the ideals
set out thus.

13. What is the importance of an independent judiciary in a democracy? Highlight the safeguards in our political-constitutional setup to ensure the independence of judiciary. (250 words) 15

लोकतंत्र में स्वतंत्र न्यायपालिका का क्या महत्व है? न्यायपालिका की स्वतंत्रता सुनिश्चित करने हेतु हमारी राजनीतिक-संवैधानिक व्यवस्था में निहित रक्षोपायों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

The judiciary serves the purpose of checks and balances on the legislature and executive and upholds the rights of the citizens in line with the Constitution.

In a democracy, the importance of an independent judiciary is as below:

- 1) Promotion of collective good by preventing subversion of democratic institutions
- 2) Protect fundamental rights through writs (Art-32)
- 3) ~~and~~ Punish wrongdoings without

fear or favour eg. cancellation
of 26 licenses.

The following safeguards ensure
judicial independence :

- 1) Salaries, allowances and pensions of Supreme Court judges are charged on Consolidated fund of India and those of High Court judges on funds of states
- 2) Removal from office can be only through ~~proper~~ procedure given in constitution Art - 124.
- 3) Appointment is with consultation of the Supreme Court.

4) The apex court appoints
its own staff and
handles the conditions
of service.

These provisions ensure independence
of the judiciary, a part of
the basic structure of
constitution.

14. Even though Indian federalism has matured quite a bit, with states having far greater control of their economic and political management, serious structural problems still remain. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

यद्यपि भारतीय संघवाद काफ़ी हद तक परिपक्वता प्राप्त कर चुका है जहाँ राज्यों को अपने आर्थिक और राजनीतिक प्रबंधन पर पर्याप्त नियंत्रण है, तथापि गंभीर संरचनात्मक समस्याएं अब भी विद्यमान हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Indian federalism is a basic structure
of the constitution with states
having.

Indian federalism is derived from
the dual levels of government,
each deriving its existence from
the constitution.

Indian federalism has
matured quite a bit :

- 1) co-operative federalism with
states having much greater
say in how to execute
development programmes
eg: state irrigation plans under
PM Kirsiki Sanchayi Yojana

- 2) Competitive federalism among states to use competitive edge for attracting capital eg. Investor summits
- 3) Choosing delegation of powers to lower tiers as per need under 73rd and 74th amendment Acts.
- 4) Greater devolution of 42% from central pool by 14th Finance Commission.

Despite these instances, certain structural problems remain, such as:

- 1) Inequality in development status due to historical problems or low resource base eg. Bihar is much backward than Maharashtra in human development or ease of doing business.

2) Provisions such as Article 356 and powers of governor ~~have~~ can be used to skew political structure in states eg. the Karnataka elections, ~~Uttaranchal~~ Uttarakhand

3) Lack of co-ordination between state and centre is still there as seen in fiasco over 15th Finance Commission, Dam safety bill or international policy issues such as Teesta river water sharing.

A number of mechanisms such as Zonal Councils, Inter state councils, GST Council can be used to resolve issues. Schemes such as Aspirational district programme seek to reduce the developmental disparities. Federalism, thus, is a continuing journey, rather than a destination.

15. The recent amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 strike a balance between enforcement overzealousness and the need for stringent action against corrupt public servants. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भ्रष्टाचार निवारण अधिनियम, 1988 में हालिया संशोधन प्रवर्तन के प्रति अतिउत्साह और भ्रष्ट लोक सेवकों के विरुद्ध कठोर कार्यवाही की आवश्यकता के बीच एक संतुलन कायम करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988
is the primary legal weapon to
tackle and penalize corruption in
the public sector.

The recent amendments seek
to curb enforcement overzealous
ness by mandating.

1071

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything this
margin
(इस मार्ल में
कुछ ना लिखें)

16. Identifying the various issues plaguing the voluntary sector in India, discuss the need for a national accreditation agency to overcome them. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत में स्वैच्छिक क्षेत्र को अवरुद्ध करने वाले विभिन्न मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए एवं इन पर काबू पाने हेतु एक राष्ट्रीय प्रमाणन एजेंसी की आवश्यकता की चर्चा कीजिए।

The National policy on voluntary organisations recognizes the role that the voluntary sector can play in ensuring equitable development and inclusive growth.

The sector suffers from various issues which not only taint the reputation of the entire sector because of some NGOs but also raise questions about their desirability. These issues are:

- 1) Unaccounted contribution from foreign contributors that can subvert national interest eg. Home Ministry recently

Cancelled FCRA licenses of some NGOs.

- 2) Funneling of black money
- 3) Malpractices' prevalence eg. the Muzaffarpur rape cases.
- 4) Support to left wing extremist as per recent ED reports
- 5) Opposition of national projects at the behest of foreign interests eg. in 2012 Kudankulam protests were blamed on foreign NGOs by government
- 6) Insufficient accounting practices
- 7) Lack of data on outcomes of programmes eg. evening schools run by NGOs have no data on learning outcomes
- 8) Promotion of private interests or publicity

These issues can be addressed through
an accreditation agency to :

- 1) Rate the NGOs based on
performance
- 2) Review their activities and
recommend closure or funding
continuity accordingly.
- 3) Prepare standards for record
keeping and auditing.
- 4) Monitor the flow of funds from
donors to prevent money
laundering or antinational
activity.
- 5) Reward and encourage good
performance.
- 6) Remove government's interference
or influence for the sector to flourish
effective regulation can balance
the interests of the poor with the
donors.

17. Given the importance of a teacher in affecting the learning outcomes of children, discuss the problems in the present system of teacher training in India. How can these be addressed? (250 words) 15

बच्चों के अधिगम परिणाम को प्रभावित करने में शिक्षकों के महत्व को देखते हुए, भारत में शिक्षक प्रशिक्षण की वर्तमान प्रणाली में विद्यमान समस्याओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। इनसे कैसे निपटा जा सकता है?

The teacher is the channel of education for children. The importance of a teacher in affecting learning outcomes is visible from:

- 1) Children spend major portion of day at school.
- 2) There is a difference between conceptual understanding and rote learning.
- 3) Children are impressionable and follow the teacher's example.
- 4) Balancing of academics and extra curriculars is in teacher's hands for holistic development.

The problems ailing teacher

training in India are:

- 1) Dilapidated infrastructure of DIETs in the districts
- 2) Sub standard B.Ed. colleges have popped up in the country
- 3) Lack of focus on training in new methods of teaching and use of digital aids.
- 4) Over emphasis on academic knowledge rather than hands on capability development
- 5) Specialisation is not purposefully encouraged for subject excellence
- 6) Instructors' and teachers' posts are vacant in training institutes.

These problems can be addressed by :

- 1) Upgradation of infrastructure and accreditation of DIETs.
- 2) Providing resources for learning such as ~~Parshikshak~~ portal Diksha Portal.
- 3) Online monitoring of the performance of training schools eg. Parshikshak Portal.
- 4) Giving opportunities to get specialisation
- 5) Recently, proposal for integrated B Ed courses has been made. It will ensure holistic teaching expertise.

Since, 50% of school going students do not meet the benchmarks of their learning levels (ASER Report), it is essential that the component of teaching is strengthened.

18. The implementation of a scheme with such scale and benefit as Ayushman Bharat is likely to face many obstacles. Critically discuss. (250 words) 15

आयुष्मान भारत जैसी अति व्यापक और लाभकारी योजना के कार्यान्वयन में कई बाधाओं का सामना करना पड़ सकता है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Ayushman Bharat aims to make healthcare accessible to all in a country where out of pocket expenditure on health hovers at around 70%.

It has two components:

Health and Wellness
centres (HWCs)

National health
protection
scheme
(NHPS)

- NHPS aims to provide 5 lakh insurance cover to 10 crore poor households for secondary and tertiary treatment.

- HWCs will bring primary healthcare and wellness at the nearest

health centre.

These initiatives face the following obstacles:

NHPS

- 1) reliable data for beneficiary identification
- 2) hospitals doing unnecessary procedures for insurance money
- 3) hospitals taking in patients without having sufficient facilities
- 4) misuse in collusion with false beneficiary and hospital by such people.
- 5) Ghost patients
- 6) Converting OPD patients to IPD.

HWCs

- 1) The current status of district hospitals is poor - infrastructurally and manpower wise.

- 2) Lack of wellness professionals
- 3) Availability of medicines is low
- 4) Diagnosis and Testing facilities are absent in many centres
- 5) It would be tough to attract private players in low population and remote areas.

The following steps can relieve the obstacles :

- 1) Information technology coupled with Aardhar and random inspections to curb malpractices
- 2) Incentivising private players through tax incentives.
- 3) Enhancing availability of healthcare personnel by expediting hiring.

These steps can help Ayushman Bharat to serve the needs of the people.

19. Given the fact that India cannot match China's financial clout, it is seen to be diversifying the ways in which it can enhance cooperation and promote its diplomatic profile in Africa. Discuss. (250 words) 15

इस तथ्य को देखते हुए कि भारत, चीन के वित्तीय प्रभुत्व की बराबरी नहीं कर सकता, यह देखा जा रहा है कि भारत ऐसे विविध तरीके अपना रहा है जिसके तहत यह अफ्रीका में सहयोग में वृद्धि और अपनी कूटनीतिक सक्रियता को बढ़ावा दे सके। चर्चा कीजिए।

India's economy is $\frac{1}{5}$ th the size of China's. This restrains its ability to match China's financial clout.

In these circumstances, India has sought to diversify its ways to enhance cooperation and promote diplomatic profile through :

- 1) ITEC programme to train African youth for goodwill enhancement.
- 2) Asia Africa Growth Corridor with Japanese cooperation to provide sustainable and

financially viable infrastructure

3) Encouraging Indian businesses to invest in African countries eg. Airtel in Nigeria, ONGC Videsh

4) Information technology expertise is shared through software companies such as TCS

5) Pan African e-network project to provide tele-education and tele health facilities.

6) Capacity building of the countries eg. Parliamentary Building to Burkina Faso, Sugar factory in Ghana.

7) Regular meetings and the India Africa Summit.

- 8) Coordination on International forums on issues such as climate change, trade (WTO)
 - 9) Collaboration for sustainable energy through International solar alliance.
 - 10) Lines of credit amounting to USD 10 billion
- Besides these steps, India needs

to:

- 1) ensure safety of African residents in India
- 2) pro-actively deliver the aid, loans and infrastructural projects.

Africa has 60% of the world's arable area and immense growth potential. India's food security and resource needs as well as international leadership potential can be bolstered by Africa relationship.

20. Discuss how American sanctions on its adversaries affect India. Taking the example of CAATSA, analyse how India can shield its strategic interests in face of such sanctions.

(250 words) 15

चर्चा कीजिए कि अमेरिका द्वारा अपने विरोधियों पर लगाए जाने वाले प्रतिबंध भारत को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करते हैं। CAATSA का उदाहरण लेते हुए, विश्लेषण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार भारत ऐसे प्रतिबंधों की स्थिति में अपने रणनीतिक हितों की रक्षा कर सकता है।

American sanctions on its
adversaries have raised concerns
about effects on India, these
can be discussed under following
heads :

1) Iran

India's Energy security ~~can~~ may
not suffer much due to alternate
suppliers but Iran accepted
payment in rupees. Besides,
the strategically oriented
Chabahar project for access to
central Asian economies may
suffer due to any negative
fallouts of cutting off oil supply

-from Iran. China's continued support may tilt Iran towards China at the cost of Indian interests.

2) Russia

- a) India's 60% armory is Russian,
- b) India has invested in Russian oil fields
- c) Special strategic partnership

All these necessitate India's dealing with Russia which would become tough due to sanctions.

Countering America's Adversaries through Sanctions (CAATSA) is the enabling legislation for the sanctions discussed above. It squeezes the banking and payment channels of the sanctioned countries, and lays down

India can protect its strategic interests by :

- 1) Engaging in barter wherever possible.
- 2) ~~Using~~ Enabling strengthening of alternative financial channels in the long term.
eg. BRICS's ~~Bank~~ ~~can~~
New Development Bank can be strengthened.
- 3) Encouraging peaceful and transparent resolution through United Nations.
- 4) Developing indigenous defence capabilities to reduce dependence.

A comprehensive approach from all aspects can minimize negative impact and prevent future problems.