



# VISIONIAS

INSPIRING INNOVATION

## ABHYAAS MAINS

### सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2423)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे  
Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250  
Maximum Marks: 250

#### सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

#### General Instructions

This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 1126858

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : ABHINAV ASHOK

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी  
Medium: Hindi/English

ENGLISH

तारीख  
Date

26.08.23

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

केंद्र  
Centre

NOIDA

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर  
Invigilator's Signature

26/08/23

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

|                                                          |                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु<br>For Official Use              | कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु<br>For Official Use |
| <p>परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर<br/>Signature of Examiner(s)</p> |                                             |

प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए)/ Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))

| प्रश्न सं.<br>Q. No.              | अंक<br>Marks |  | प्रश्न सं.<br>Q. No.       | अंक<br>Marks |  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--|----------------------------|--------------|--|
| 1                                 |              |  | 11                         |              |  |
| 2                                 |              |  | 12                         |              |  |
| 3                                 |              |  | 13                         |              |  |
| 4                                 |              |  | 14                         |              |  |
| 5                                 |              |  | 15                         |              |  |
| 6                                 |              |  | 16                         |              |  |
| 7                                 |              |  | 17                         |              |  |
| 8                                 |              |  | 18                         |              |  |
| 9                                 |              |  | 19                         |              |  |
| 10                                |              |  | 20                         |              |  |
| उप-योग (A)<br>Subtotal (A)        |              |  | उप-योग (B)<br>Subtotal (B) |              |  |
| सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B) |              |  |                            |              |  |



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निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे

Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250

Maximum Marks: 250

**प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश**

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

कुल बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो हिंदी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

**QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS**

*Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.*

There are **TWENTY** questions printed both in **HINDI** and in **ENGLISH**.

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

## EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

**All the Best**

1.

उपयुक्त उदाहरणों की सहायता से, चर्चा कीजिए कि पर्यावरणीय दबाव समूह भारत में पर्यावरण नीतियों के संबंध में सार्वजनिक भागीदारी और अनुक्रियाशीलता को कैसे बढ़ाते हैं। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
With suitable examples, discuss how environmental pressure groups enhance public participation and responsiveness with regard to environmental policies in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को  
इस हाशिए में  
नहीं लिखना  
चाहिए  
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Pressure groups refers to a group of people who come together to influence the government policies in their favour by means of electornering, propaganda & lobbying. Such pressure groups in environmental sector are called Environmental Pressure groups.

Environmental pressure groups influencing public participation & responsiveness

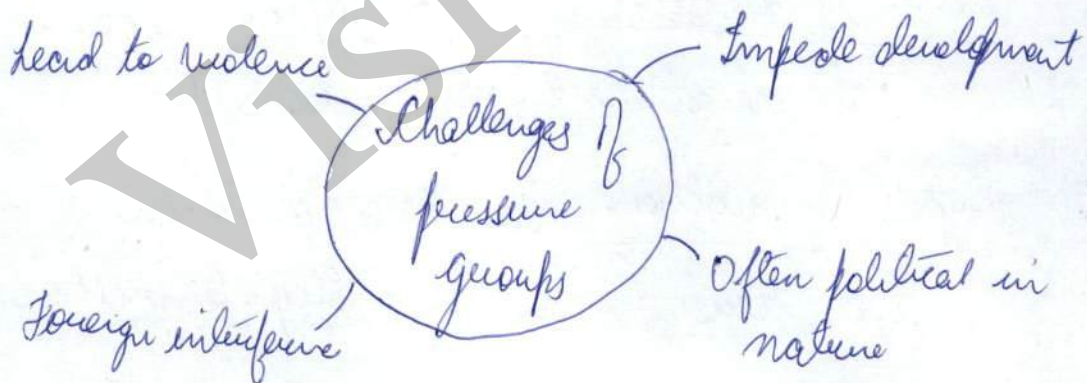
1) Spreading Awareness - Groups like 'Narmada Bachao Andolan' mobilise public opinion about the ill effects of development.

2) Focus on protection - They pressure the government to protect areas that are critical for wildlife e.g. movement against cutting of deodar forest in Mumbai.

3) Electioneering - Asking the public to install and power the individual who would conserve the environment.

4) Lead to greater consciousness - Persons like Sunderlal Bahuguna started 'Chipko Andolan' to protect felling of trees.

5) Conservation of animals - The protection of tigers, elephants and other endangered species has been also aided by several groups like Wildlife Trust of India.



Pressure groups specially related to environment deepen the democracy and have evoked governmental help to change inertia into action for wildlife protection.

2.

हाल ही में, उच्चतम न्यायालय द्वारा सेक्स वर्क को एक 'पेशे' के रूप में स्वीकार किया जाना, भारत में सेक्स वर्कर्स के लिए बुनियादी अधिकार और समानता सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में पहला कदम है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recent acknowledgment of sex work as a 'profession' by the Supreme Court is merely the first step in ensuring basic rights and equality for sex workers in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words)

10

Supreme Court acknowledged sex work as a work which would lead to extension of many benefits to them and most of all human dignity.

Benefits of Supreme Court judgement-

- 1) Extension of services - To be included in various government schemes like PDS etc.
- 2) Better healthcare - So far ignored sections but most vulnerable to STDs.
- 3) Rights of mothers - To have children and raise them according to will.
- 4) Right to Education - For the children and the states responsibility to ensure this under Article 21A.
- 5) Prevention of harassment - From people, police for a better quality of life.

Merely the first step and more needs to be done -

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

- 1) Rehabilitation - Aid them to escape from the vicious cycle of flesh trade where most people are forced, trafficked.
  - 2) Better housing - Facilities such as PM Awas Yojna need to be extended to prevent them from ghettoisation.
  - 3) Ending the menace by reification - The menace of forced prostitution should end by individual licensing and tight government control for human dignity.
  - 4) Maturation of services - With the assistance of cradhar, gov. services need to be provided to ensure social justice.
- Sex work is a work which is legal and those in it need to be protected well and developed to ensure liberty, equality, social justice and uphold human rights.

3.

भारत में निःशुल्क कानूनी सहायता प्रदान करने और कानूनी जागरूकता फैलाने में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों (DLSAs) द्वारा निभाई जाने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
Discuss the role played by District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in providing free legal aid and disseminating legal awareness in India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को  
इस कश्चि में  
नहीं लिखना  
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The Legal Services Act created a hierarchy of alternate dispute resolution mechanisms which is fast, economical hence ensures true justice and one such organisation at the lowest level in hierarchy is District Legal Services Authority.

Role played by DLSA in free legal aid and disseminating legal awareness -

- 1) Takes justice to doorstep - These services are provided locally at the nearest District Court or other such determined places.
- 2) Informal proceedings - The proceedings focus on natural justice hence the expenditure on lawyers is eliminated.
- 3) Legal awareness - As people come to know about the legal levels and their rights in the proceedings.

4) Unclog the higher judiciary - By re-routing these to these fast track courts.

5) Citizen centric approach - The proceedings focus on conciliation & amicable settlements.

Techniques for legal services by DLSA

1) Lok Adalat - At the district level with the district judge as the patron in chief.

2) Mobile Benchayat courts - These move from one place to another and settle all civil matters and deliver justice.

Challenges

- Settlements not reached
- Low sitting days
- Low awareness

The DLSA has proven to be very effective in increasing case closings as it is only 62% in judiciary while there have as high as 90%

4.

"कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के संकेन्द्रण के कारण, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली अपनी ही सफलता का शिकार हो गई है, जिससे इसकी वैधता पर सवाल उठने लगे हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"The collegium system has become a victim of its own success, with the concentration of power in the hands of a few, leading to questions about its legitimacy." Comment. (Answer in 150 words)

10

The collegium system evolved due to the ambiguity over the 'consultation' in the constitution for judges appointment and evolved through 3 judges cases.

Collegium - CJI + 4 senior most judges of SC

Concentration of power with collegium -

- 1) Concurrence - The word 'consultation' has made it compulsory for President to appoint the recommended judges after background clearance.
- 2) Opacity - The collegium is an opaque body not open to RTI.
- 3) Conflict of Interest - Judges appoint judges this could lead to nepotism, malpractices, favourism.

- 4) No explanation for nomination - for various appointments for SC & HC judges.
- 5) Delay in appointment - While the judiciary blames the executive, the judiciary itself takes long in recommending names.

### Way Forward

- 1) Article 50 mandates separation of judiciary from executive therefore there is a need to form a body similar to National Judicial Appointment Committee.
- 2) Reforms must be brought into the collegium system immediately to restore faith in the transparent appointments by judiciary.

Collegium system started to give effect to Article 50 but has sullied its utility and causes frequent clashes between executive & judiciary hence needs to be reformed and potentially replaced by legislature

5.

“सिविल सेवा सुधारों को वर्तमान दौर की चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए भर्ती और मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण से आगे बढ़ाया जाना अनिवार्य है।” विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"Civil services reforms must go beyond recruitment and standardised training to cope with the present day challenges." Analyse. (Answer in 150 words) 10

10

Kind services are the steel frame of the nation and has contributed immensely in nation building with VP Menon, TN Desham.

Reforms beyond recruitment & standardised testing required to address present challenges.

17) Rationalising - The size of bureaucracy has proliferated as pointed out PM and hence needs to be rationalised.

27) Domain expertise. The civil servants are generalists while specific services require certain ~~exp~~ exp ~~exper~~ expertise.

e.g. foreign service needs expertise.

3) Incentives & Promotions on Performance - There is a need to eliminate the time band promotion & weed out inefficient bureaucrats.

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इस ह्यशिए में  
नहीं लिखना  
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4) Removal of constitutional protection - Article 311 & 312 provide a lot of protection to civil servants leading to inertia and red tapism.

5) 360 degree review - The transition from Annual Confidential Report to 360 degree review of all the civil servants to the lowest level.

6) Mid career training - To cope with new challenges like organised crime, cyber crime.

7) Technological entrepreneurs - So that e-governance can be implemented more rapidly & efficiently.

The Indian bureaucracy has suffered certain challenges but has been able to respond to the challenges well in the last 75 years but reforms are long due to instill a greater 'Karmyogi' motion among them.

6.

सामाजिक प्रभाव बॉण्ड्स जैसे परिणाम-आधारित वित्त मॉडल में वास्तविक रूप से परिवर्तन लाने और बड़े पैमाने पर सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रभाव उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता विद्यमान है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Outcome-based finance models such as social impact bonds have the potential to truly catalyse change and deliver socio-economic impact at scale. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

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Outcome based finance models have gained prominence off lately in the form of social stock exchange, zero coupon bonds which can aid the better utilization & outcome for social needs.

Social impact bonds & Outcome based finance models' potential -

- 1) Transparency - Unlike the NGOs, these organisations show the specific impact of money donated.
- 2) Traceability - The funds can be traced easily and their investment can also be monitored.
- 3) Boost social investments - Has the potential to develop this market and mobilise funds towards social causes.

- 4) Better outcomes - Due to the overall public scrutiny, the funds would be appropriated suitably.

### Challenges to outcome based finance models-

- 1) Lack of awareness - People do not know about the recently launched exchange on BSE.
- 2) Regulations - Burdening the work of SEBI as more such exchanges come up.
- 3) Chances of corruption - Using these exchanges to further anti national activities under the garb of development.
- 4) Limited outcomes - The money spent or donated would be used only for specific purposes hence lacks dynamism.

Social stock exchanges, behold the future to sustainable and better investment to give back to the society which would be apt because of 'Trusteeship model'.

7.

प्रत्येक वर्ष ग्रेजुएट होने वाली और कार्यक्षेत्र में प्रवेश करने वाली महिलाओं की संख्या के मध्य का व्यापक अंतराल एक गंभीर समस्या है जिसे हल किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The wide gap between the number of females graduating every year and those entering the workspace is an issue of paramount importance that needs to be addressed. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words)

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According to a recent survey, there are about 49% women in higher education but unfortunately this has not been translating into employment.

Reasons for this gap in graduates & working women-

- 1) Tokemism - Many families consider education only as a tag to be flaunted for the daughter's marriage.
- 2) Marriage - Many women get married and are forced to not work by the in-laws and many times voluntarily.
- 3) Child rearing - A long gap due to pregnancy and often will the raise the child themselves.

4) Thyfair policies of companies - Companies avoid hiring married but childless women to avoid giving maternity benefits.

5) Sexual harassment - Women face the patriarchal mindset of people and the problems faced.

Steps taken to address the issue -

- 1) Vishaka guidelines by Supreme Court
- 2) Passage of Prohibition of Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act 2013.
- 3) Extension of maternity benefits to 26 weeks.
- 4) Push for greater recruitment of women by companies to show ESG credentials.  
eg) Adobe goes for women specific recruitments.

Article 39 and the DPSPs mandate equality of the sexes which has been progressively realised but further actions need to be taken specially behavioural domain to ensure justice to women.

8.

भारत में सामाजिक-आर्थिक नियोजन के लिए एक अद्यतित और कार्यात्मक नागरिक पंजीकरण प्रणाली (CRS) अनिवार्य है। देश में CRS प्रणाली में सुधार हेतु केंद्र सरकार के हालिया कदम के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

An up to date and functional Civil Registration System (CRS) is essential to the socio-economic planning in India. Discuss in the light of the recent move of the Central government in revamping the CRS system in the country. (Answer in 150 words)

10

Civil Registration System is a portal for the documentation of births and deaths in the country.

Importance of up to date CRS in socio-economic planning -

- 1) Delineates the trend - shows the important areas of intervention such as high birth rate.
- 2) Reasons for mortality - It helps in knowing the reason for mortality which would have been very helpful in COVID 19.
- 3) Targeting ~~off~~ efficiently - Where the government can take steps to improve the indicators.
- 4) Planning - This would help in understanding the future trends,

forecasting hence government can strengthen child care institutions in those areas, better youth oriented opportunities etc.

- eg7 Counselling of people would be particularly helpful in micro counselling of people faced on discriminatory practices against girl child etc.  
eg7 Haryana has a low sex ratio

### Recent amendments

- Aim to maintain a central list of births and deaths other than the states.
- While the states are responsible for only that particular state, the centre would be able to understand the trend better.

In the short ~~long~~ term, the urban population would grow and the country would keep its demographic divided hence CRS proves to be an efficient tool for planning.

9.

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

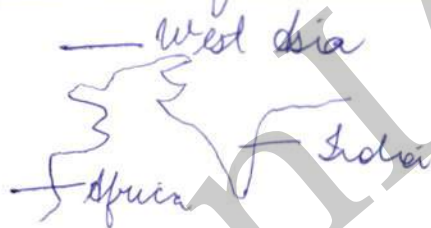
What are the key areas of reform if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has to align with the current economic realities? (Answer in 150 words)

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West Asia has grown from area of conflict to area of cooperation. It is a rich area in terms of culture, diversity and economy

India's relationship with the West Asia from geopolitics to geoeconomics -



1) Area of energy - According to the trends this area is imperative for energy security and India has been one of the biggest buyers in the past.

2) Diaspora - A large diaspora of about 30% of its total population lives here and remits about \$111 million

3) ECTA with VAE - aims to increase the bilateral trade to \$50 billion

4) Development projects - With nearby countries from this area i.e., Afghanistan to promote connectivity by Tareeq-e-Delaram highway.

5) Mobility of people - Easy access has led to a lot of tourism, trade specially of gold from this area.

Challenges to

10.

हाल के वर्षों में, पश्चिम एशिया के साथ भारत के संबंध भू-राजनीति के दायरे से आगे निकलकर भू-अर्थशास्त्र के आयाम तक पहुंच गए हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In recent years, India's relationship with West Asia has evolved from the confines of geopolitics to expanse of geoeconomics. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

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11.

हितधारकों को नवाचार और प्रभावशीलता में वृद्धि हेतु प्रेरित करने के लिए स्वस्थ प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ावा देने में भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The role of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is significant in furthering healthy competitiveness aimed at inspiring stakeholders to innovate and augment effectiveness. Comment. (Answer in 250 words)

15

The Competition Commission of India replaced the Monopoly and Restrictive Trade Practices Act that allowed for a better competition in the country.

Role of Competition Commission of India -

- 1) Checking unfair practices - so that companies do not indulge in anti-competitive practices.  
eg) fine on Google
- 2) Promoting competition - Leads to a better ecosystem for innovation and further creation of IPR.
- 3) Settling Disputes - Among parties related to unfair dominant usage of position of a strong player.  
eg) Vodafone against Giese.

- 47 Ensure level playing field - to ensure a favourable ground for all the companies to grow.

### Challenges of Competition Commission of India -

- 17 No power to proceed suo motu - It proceeds only on the basis of complaints of a party.
- 27 Difficulty in trans boundary settlements - As many companies do not have physical branches in the country.
- 37 Disputes have been long drawn - The disputes have been going on for a very long time.

The Competition Commission of India has ensured greater level playing field and fair competition of all, however it could gain inspiration from Australia's competition commissioner which has a broader mandate.

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"पेड न्यूज का खतरा अक्सर चुनावों के दौरान अपना भयावह रूप दिखाता है।" भारत में पेड न्यूज को एक चुनावी अपराध बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"The menace of paid news often rears its ugly head during elections." Discuss the need for making paid news an electoral offence in India. (Answer in 250 words)

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Paid news is the phenomenon of a news company giving news in lieu of money which has grown rapidly in the contemporary time.

Need for making paid news an electoral offence -

- 1) Cladestone nature - Where the viewer does not even know if the news is paid or not.
- 2) Influence over audience - The audience unknowingly gets swayed by the news.
- 3) Malpractice - It actually is a malpractice which has been going on due to regulatory & legislative gaps.
- 4) Unethical - The inherent idea of paying money to show something to praise someone in a democracy is unethical & unacceptable.

5) Outside the purview of MCC - The MCC has not been dynamic and has not been able to cover the contemporary trends.

6) Undermines democracy - As people do not practice free will but instead act under influence.

7) Not a level playing field - As some parties may have more money to shell out on such propaganda.

Way Forward -

1) Lower paid news under MCC

2) Prohibit and privatise the broadcaster and the payer of the article.

3) Promote ethical practices in elections by more observers even during campaigns to monitor these action

Paid news is unethical, undemocratic and should be illegal due to the potential it has in influencing the voters. This was seen in Cambridge Analytica case where the voters were influenced by micro targeting in USA. Hence India needs to uphold its large democracy by being proactive against such menace.

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13.

भारत में धार्मिक प्रथाओं के संदर्भ में, न्यायालयों द्वारा उद्धृत 'अनिवार्यता के सिद्धांत' पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the 'Doctrine of Essentiality' referred to by the courts in the context of religious practices in India. (Answer in 250 words)

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Doctrine of Essentiality refers to the acts which are essential for a religion and without which the religion would lose its essence.

Doctrine of Essentiality -

- This was in news recently for the Hijab case in Karnataka high court where hijab was claimed to be an essential practice for Islam.
- Supreme court in the past came up with this doctrine.
- This doctrine applies to Sikh because of which they are allowed to carry 'Kirpans' with them.
- In the Sabumala case, the Supreme court dismissed its applicability due to ~~beamp~~ conflict with

constitutional morality and thus not allowing women inside the temple was banned.

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### Benefits Of Doctrine Of Essentiality -

- 1) Protects minorities - The minority practices are protected and can continue them.
- 2) Uphold secularism - Wherein court intervenes to abolish malpractices and uphold essential ones or to reform them under principle of neutrality.
- 3) Prevents conflicts - Where such decisions allow the minorities or religious people to not succumb to heckler's veto.

### Drawbacks Of Doctrine Of Essentiality -

- 1) Subjectivity - An act is essential what a judge thinks is essential.

27 Religion is a private matter - Between a person and a God, the courts should not interfere.

37 Judges are not religious experts hence should not foray into religious issues.

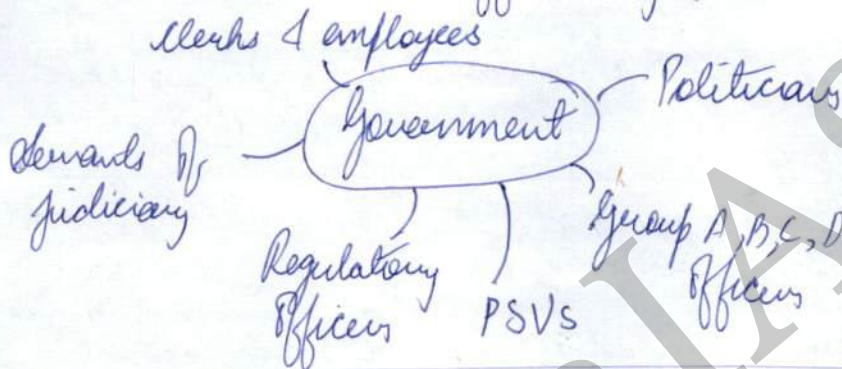
Doctrine of Essentiality is an important doctrine that ensures peace in the society by respecting the practices and faith of all the communities that are essential to them.

प्रधान मंत्री की आर्थिक सलाहकार परिषद (EAC-PM) की हाल ही में जारी रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत में सरकार के आकार को सीमित करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

As per the recently released report of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), there is an urgent need to limit the size of the government in India. Do you agree? (Answer in 250 words)

15

The government size has increased immensely in the last 15 years and has not been able to work efficiently.



Need to limit the size of government -

1) Inefficiency - A large size leads to inefficiency in allocation of resources which could be used for development.

2) Red tapism - Greater number of hierarchies leads to more delays in decision making.

3) Corruption - Larger the size, the more difficult it is to monitor and hence corruption breeds in dark spaces.

4) Lack of transparency - Due to multiple levels of government, the network effect makes it hard to gather data.

5) Tracing accountability - It gets even more tough due to multiple department with overlapping functions.

There is no need to limit the size of Government -

1) Large size - India is a large country with a vast diversity hence there is a need for this large ~~size~~ government.

2) Representative - A larger government is more representative and hence leads to better satisfaction of wants of people.

3) Large variation in work - Different hierarchies, departments work in different areas hence cannot be united.

## Way forward

- 1) Under government's long Minimum Government, Maximum governance, it is advisable to cut down on the size.
- 2) The inefficiency and duplication of work needs to be stopped.
- 3) Need for training, re-skilling of employees to be more productive.
- 4) Government has no business to be in business as said by the Finance Minister, privatisation should be embraced.

There is indeed a need to reduce the large size of the government to make it more efficient, productive, transparent and responsive.

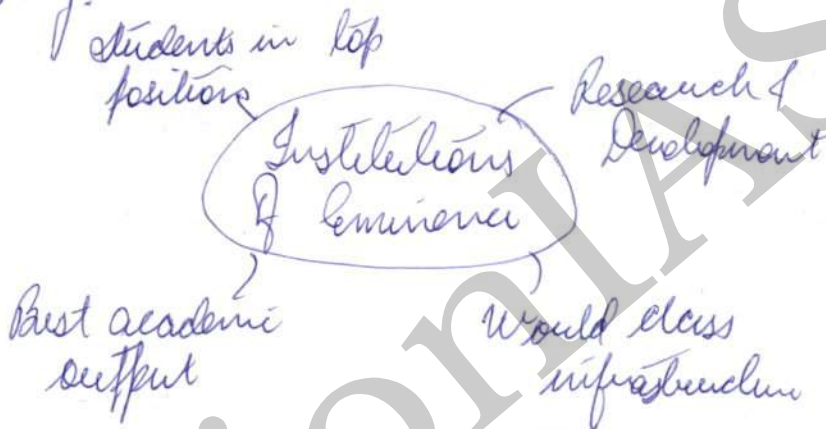
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इंस्टीट्यूट्स ऑफ एमिनेंस (IoE) योजना की कल्पना भारत में उच्चतर शिक्षा के 'विश्व स्तरीय' केंद्र विकसित करने के लिए की गई थी, लेकिन छह साल बाद भी, यह अभी तक गेम चेंजर नहीं बन पाई है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Institutions of Eminence (IoE) scheme was conceived to develop 'world-class' centres of higher education in India but six years later, it is yet to become the game changer it was intended to be. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Institutions of Eminence was a scheme to change India into a global hub for education and to promote knowledge economy.



Failure of Institutions of Eminence scheme -

- 1) Limited awareness - Most people are not even aware about such a top tier institutions.
- 2) Lack of desired funding - Launch in funding less impeded their growth.
- 3) Low research output - Only about 0.67% of the budgetary estimate

which is very less.

4) Researches <sup>papers</sup> per million - India produces only 200 per million while China produces 1200 and Israel produces 8000/million.

5) Limited uptake & eligibility - A large no. of institutions in India but they are not qualified enough to get the tag.

Way forward to make the IOT scheme a success -

1) Increase budgetary outlay - Large countries like USA spend almost 2% of their GDP.

2) Increase highly ~~highlighted~~ cited research - Which help in global breakthroughs and increase the prominence of institution.

3) Make universities more able - Specially the private universities which lack the required expertise and infrastructure.

4) NRF - With the newly established National Research Foundation, this problem of administration & funding would be solved by government and private players collaboration.

5) Autonomy - Provide greater autonomy to universities to grow and curb the regular regulatory interference.

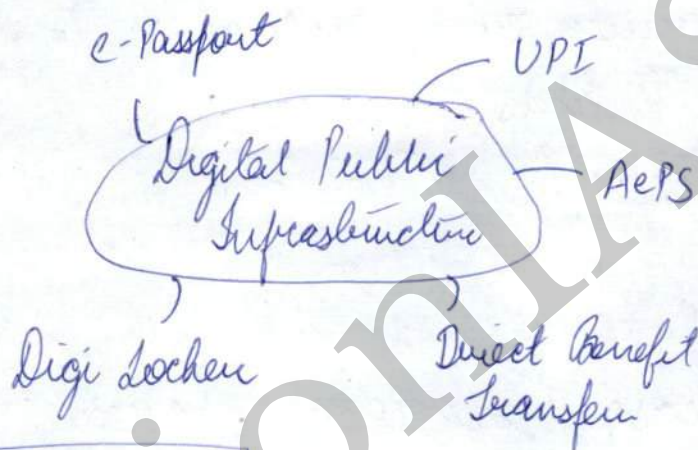
The Institution of Eminence scheme is a process which is ongoing and hence the reforms in this schemes must be implemented for better results.

डिजिटल पब्लिक इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर (DPI) नवोन्मेषी और सुविधाजनक सार्वजनिक सेवाओं की अनुमति देता है, समावेशन या पहुंच संबंधी बाधाओं को दूर करने में मदद करता है तथा रियल-टाइम डेटा की मदद से पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही बढ़ाता है। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) allows for innovative and convenient public services, help overcome inclusion or accessibility barriers, and increase transparency and accountability with real-time data. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Digital Public Infrastructure refers to the infrastructure in the digital domain which include payment systems, lockers etc.



Benefits of DPI -

- 1) Innovative public services - services like UPI allow easy transfer of funds in a fraction of seconds. Many other payment systems like PhonePe etc. are built on it.
- 2) Convenient Public Service - The existence of Digi Locker and other cloud based storage which allows

easy accessibility of documents.

3) Overcome inclusion barrier - Payment app UPI 123, e-RUPI vouchers would help even the people with feature phone to use them.

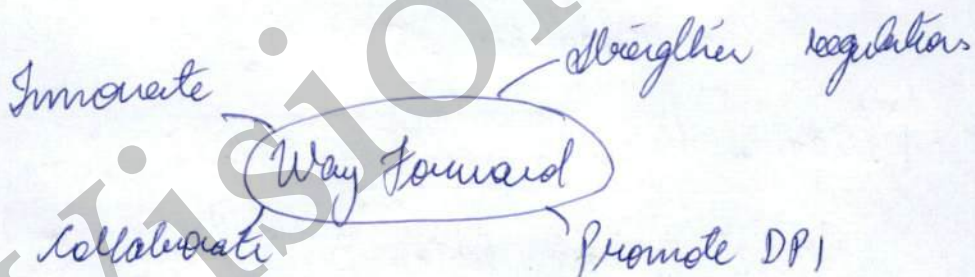
4) Overcome accessibility barrier - These services are available to all at all times.  
eg> Vegetable vendors in Delhi using PayTM QR code.

5) Increase transparency - Easier tracking of funds as the funds would be transferred digitally hence curbing black money.

6) Increase accountability - Since the information & infrastructure would be non-exclusive and non-discriminatory it would increase accountability.

## Challenges to DPI -

- 1) System attacks and hacking.
- 2) Easier access to personal information for hackers at one place
- 3) Lack of public awareness and the digital hygiene practices
- 4) Insecure hardware architecture presently prone to easy attacks.
- 5) May widen the digital divide between haves and have not



Indian DPI is being accepted in Nepal, UAE and Singapore's Pay Now is integrally with it which shows India's advancement in DPI.

17.

कानून के अलावा, भारत में 'सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार' की पूर्ण प्राप्ति हेतु सामाजिक, वित्तीय और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमियों को दूर करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
 Besides legislation, the full realisation of the 'right to health for all' in India demands plugging of social, financial, and infrastructural gaps. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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Right to health entails the right of every person to affordable, good quality, timely, accessible healthcare which is being muddled across the world.

Requirements for Right to Health

1) Plugging social gaps - It needs to include all and specially the vulnerable section such as transgender, sex workers, SC/STs etc.

2) Plugging financial gaps - Need to spend more upto 3% from the current mere 1.67% on public health care.

3) Infrastructural gap - Need to equip the primary health care centres with state of art functions and increase their presence.

Human resources - Train and recruit more healthcare workers to deliver service optimally.

### Challenges -

- 1) Low no. of health care workers currently and poor doctor per million ratio
- 2) Inclusion & exclusion gaps would need to be fixed and all must be registered.
- 3) Manage a digital infrastructure to support the overall system of right to health.
- 4) Increase spending on public health to up to 3%
- 5) The most vulnerable sections must easily gain benefits for which sensitization would be necessary

Right to health is an important aspect for a welfare economy and therefore the government must address the challenges and emulate the model like in UK, USA and the Scandinavian countries to reap its demographic dividend in the next 30 years.

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18.

विधायी समर्थन के बावजूद 'थर्ड जेंडर' को अभी तक भारतीय समाज में मान्यता नहीं मिली है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The 'third gender' has not yet been engendered in the Indian society despite legislative nudge. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words)

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The third gender generally refers to the transgender who have been vulnerable and excluded from the development process for long.

Provisions for third gender -

1) Prohibition of Discrimination of Transgender Act 2019

a) allows getting a certificate of identity from DM.

b) allows self identity.

c) prohibits discrimination

d) provides for National Commission for Transgender Persons.

2) ECI recognition - The Election

Commission recognised this gender in 2009 but according to it, out of 4-8 lakh only 30,000 are registered with ECI.

3) NALSA Case - The SC asked to provide reservation to transgenders.

### Challenges -

- 1) Social ostracization & insensitivity
- 2) Non enactment of NALSA judgement.
- 3) National Commission for Transgenders has not been set up.
- 4) Vulnerable to prostitution, sex work.
- 5) Poor health in transgenders.
- 6) Problems with self determination clause in the act.
- 7) Prohibition of beggary but they beg out of lack of alternatives.

### Way forward -

- 1) Implement the Transgender Act in full letter & spirit.
- 2) Elicit behavioural change in people
- 3) Set up National Commission for them

47 Iron out the challenges of self determination.

57 Fast track route for gererance redressal

Transgender need to be addressed using the  
logykanu principle and included in the  
development story.

उम्मीदवारों को  
इस हाशिए में  
नहीं लिखना  
चाहिए  
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write on  
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19.

अन्य कारकों के अलावा, चीन और पाकिस्तान के साथ तनावपूर्ण संबंधों ने भारत के लिए शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (SCO) से अपनी अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करना कठिन बना दिया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
Among other factors, strained ties with China and Pakistan make it difficult for India to fulfill its expectations from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हशिप में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
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Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is a grouping of 8 countries that focuses on economic, cooperation and peace in the partner countries



Factors making it difficult in SCO for India -

1) China - a) Delit diplomacy & hegemony and aggression

b) Non listing of terrorists despite saying cooperates against terrorism.

2) Pakistan - a) Mobilizes the countries against India

b) Leads to non consensus of terrorism definition

37 12 diplomacy - Incursion by China and  
Insurgency by Pakistan on the border.

a) Other factors

a) small size of grouping

b) Inability to define terrorists

c) China's BRI in most of the  
Central Asian nations.

d) Greater track of all countries with  
China making decoupling difficult.

Way forward for India -

1) 2 speed diplomacy as suggested by C Rajamohan

i) faster integration with like minded  
countries like BIMSTEC, ASEAN

ii) slow diplomacy with emerging  
countries like China & Pakistan

2) Greater connectivity with Central  
Asian Nations.

3) Increase the trade & diplomatic  
engagement.

SCO holds immense importance for India as it is a resource rich area with cooperative nations where China has been applying its Mission Creep which needs to be curbed by deeper engagement and overcoming the challenges faced by China & Pakistan

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और भारत के बीच महत्वपूर्ण एवं उभरती प्रौद्योगिकी (iCET) पर हाल ही में संपन्न पहल, प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में इनकी साझेदारी में लंबे समय से प्रतीक्षित परिवर्तन का वादा करती है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recently concluded initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) between the United States and India promises a long overdue transformation of their partnership in the field of technology. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

iCET was recently concluded between India & USA which could lead to catapulting of India on a path of rapid development.

Features of iCET -

- 1) Collaboration between industries which would benefit the IPK regime restriction.
- 2) Lead to China +1 - As India could become a better alternative to China.
- 3) Boost to chip manufacturing - As it would lead to better fab plants in India with higher technology manufacturing potential.
- 4) Cybersecurity - Enhanced security for the digital forum for both the countries.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
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- 5) Emerging Technology - like blockchain would be jointly explored for better outcomes.

### Challenges to iCGT -

- 1) IPR restrictions - which could hinder collaboration.
- 2) USA's will to sway India - To support it in an alliance system in return for the collaboration.
- 3) Funding issues - Lack of funding capacity in India which could slow down the momentum.
- 4) Inadequate ecosystem for chips - Because it requires elements like palladium, neon, fresh water and India does not have abundance of these.

The India-US iCET shows the deepening of the relations between the two after the 4 foundational defence agreements which shows India's centrality in its foreign policy.

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