



**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. : 1236108

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Aniket Shandilya

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी  
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख  
Date

26/08/2023

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

केंद्र  
Centre

Delhi

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर  
Invigilator's Signature

*Aniket Shandilya*  
26/8/23

	<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 मंदा लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p>Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.</p>
5	<p>उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p>Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.</p>
6	<p>प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।</p>	<p>Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.</p>
7	<p>प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।</p>	<p>Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.</p>
8	<p>यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p>If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.</p>

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

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

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



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Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250  
Maximum Marks: **250**

**प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश**

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

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

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

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

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

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

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा की 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।  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Pressure groups are the interest groups that aim at collective representation of a certain cause via mechanisms of protest, lobbying, strikes, social persuasions etc

### Role of environmental pressure groups.

1. Dams → env. pressure groups reveal the damage caused to river ecology, displacement of population due to dam construction  
↳ eg Narmada Bachao Andolan by Medha Patkar.

2. Mountains & deforestation → Chipko movement in Uttarakhand & Arunachal Pradesh

movement in Karnataka reflect the sacred spirit people associate with forests & create awareness against deforestation.

③ Nuclear power plants → the issue of nuclear waste, radiation & proliferation towards nuclear weapons is a cardinal issue for environment pressure groups. eg. Kundakulam power plant in Tamil Nadu.

④ Tribal rights → In Niyamgiri forests, Vedanta mining rights were challenged over forest diversion, inhabitant tribal displacement & encroachment of FRA, 2006.

Therefore, the tapestry of environment pressure groups is crucial towards ensuring community participation, social audit & voice of dissent.

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)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नही लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Sex work is considered as a primordial taboo subject and regarded as 'first service profession' by a lot of experts.

Recently, when SC acknowledged sex work as a 'profession', it ensured significant ramifications.

Law enforcement agencies will operate as per procedures while dealing with them & not arbitrary & harassment. Law & prejudices & stereotypes will be reduced.

→ they can claim legal status for the same

→ health services will be more readily accessed by sex workers.

↳ HIV/AIDS & other diseases, are a significant health burden on sex workers & difficulty accessing health services goes against their right to life (Art 21) & states responsibility of ensuring good health (Art 47).

↳ children of sex workers can receive education & not be stigmatized.

Challenges → voluntary sex work despite having significant resources will tend to be looked down upon by those sections who do not want to indulge in these practices.

↳ possibility of trafficking & sex tourism increasing.  
Hence, recognition of sex work as profession is crucial to ensure rights & equality for them.

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)

उम्मीदवारों को इस ह्राफिफ में नही लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

10

PPSP under Article 39 A emphasizes on the need to provide free legal aid to the vulnerable sections of the society.

Role of DLSAs :-

- ① identify weaker sections  
↳ provide them free legal aid
- ② SC/ST/women are provided by legal representatives, legal counselors and legal advice.
- ③ legal aid to prison inmates & undertrials.  
↳ 72% of all prisoners are undertrials in India.

(4) ensuring prevalence of  
mobile courts, formation of  
Gram Nyayalas in remote  
& rural regions.

(5) promote awareness about  
ADR & family courts  
and Gram Nyayalas.

(6) engage with students  
in schools & colleges to  
disseminate crucial legal  
information.

(7) work together with district  
administration for concerted  
& targeted legal advertisements  
locally.

Therefore, the role of  
DLGAs in legal awareness  
& aid is exemplary.  
They symbolize the  
bottom-up & last mile  
approach.

4.

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

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

उम्मीदवारों को इस खांश में नही लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Article 50 under DPSP ensures the separation of judiciary from executive in the constitutional set-up; in order to maintain separation of powers & the independence of the judiciary.

Emergence of collegium system :-

(1) First judge (1982) case

↳ consultation with CJI doesn't necessarily mean concurrence.

(2) second judge case

↓  
conurrence essential  
↓  
CJI & 2 senior most judge

third judge case

↓  
CJI & 4 judges  
=

## Challenges with collegium :-

- ① Unle judge syndrome → widespread nepotism in the fraternity.
- ② Lack of transparency & accountability → minutes of the meeting are not available, RTI not allowed.
- ③ prevents participation of other organs like legislature & outside experts in judge appointment.
- ④ Against separation of powers  
↳ those who are meant to serve justice, choose themselves.
- ⑤ propagate lack of diversity ↳ women under-represented. ↳ grossly judges in SC from backward sections.

Therefore, the stability of the collegium system has itself invited its anti-thesis to emerge, and contemporary situations demand a new synthesis.

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

Civil services are the iron frame of Indian governmental apparatus. Under Art 312, All India services can be formed.

Redundancy in current functions -

① red tape & assistance to change → reflect an archaic, elite lifestyle & temperament.

② remnants of colonialism → retain colonial work culture and created a distance from ordinary folks.

③ unidimensional recruitment & training → the training is quite standardised and lacks

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

the element of customization.

Way forward :-

① Mission Karmayogi

↳ from rules based to role based functioning is a step in the right direction.

② outcome based performance incentives are the need of the hour.

③ Technology integration, re-skilling, tech savvy is crucial.

④ greater synergy & human interaction with populace required.

Civil Service reforms must have to be widespread in order to ensure that Indian bureaucracy becomes more efficient, effective & responsive.

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

Finance models in the country have normally been confined to the devolution of funds from the finance commission towards the state governments and local bodies.

Local bodies face resource crunch of funds, functions & functionaries

↳ municipal bonds are an efficient mechanism of resource mobilization & credit availability for the local bodies.

Role of social impact bonds :-

(i) focus on environmental parameters → take externalities into account  
↳ been GDP concept.

② Green bonds & blue economy  
can be developed in tandem  
with social impact bonds.

③ governance issues like  
diversity & pluralism can  
be ensured by SIB.  
↳ tribal displacement, internal  
migration, agricultural  
land encroachment can be  
reduced.

④ fundamental social &  
health indicators like  
education, nutrition can  
be propelled with the  
help of SIBs.

Thus, the role of outcome  
based finance models in  
tandem with targeted schemes  
like Aspirational blocks  
programmes enables  
sustainable socio-  
economic development.

7.

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

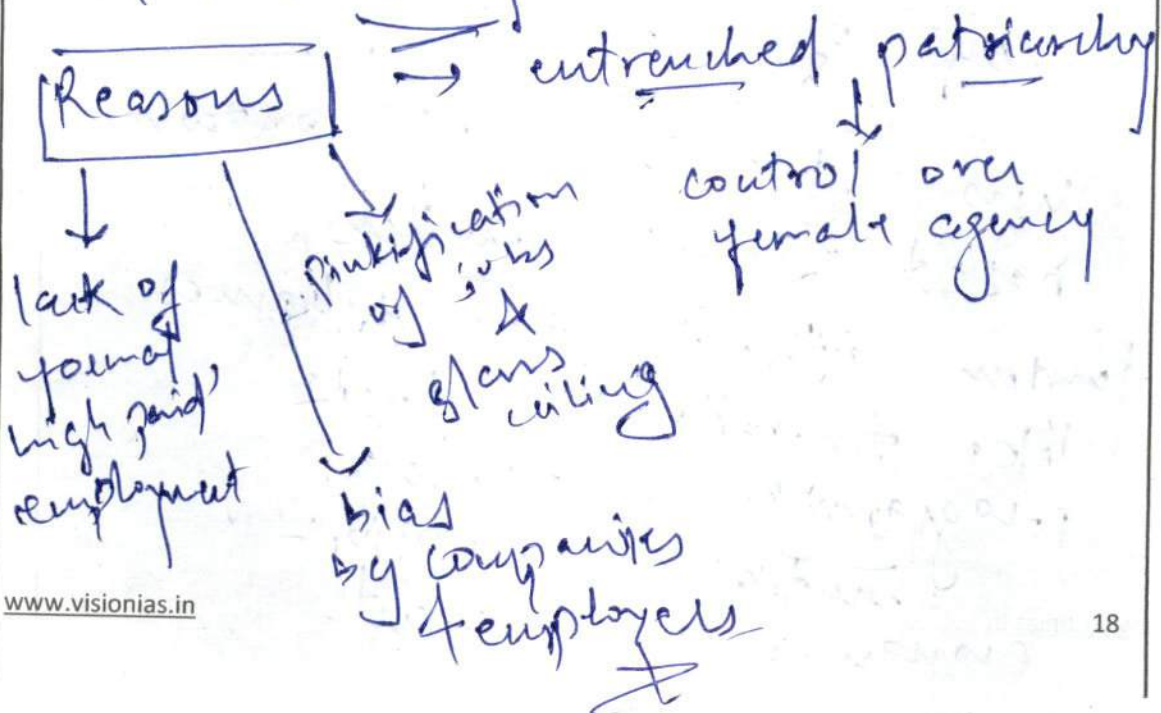
The wide gap between the number of females graduating every year and those entering the workspace is an issue of paramount importance that needs to be addressed. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

As per report → female enrollment ratio has in fact surpassed that of males at the primary stage  
↳ drop outs occur at secondary stage

1908 → higher education enrollment ~~is~~ is 27%

As per ES, 2023 female labour force participation is merely 23% in the economy.



Implications :- As per WEF,  
Indian GDP could be enhanced  
by 2% every year if FLEP  
is increased to around  
50%.

↳ prevents women empowerment  
↳ concentrates power in  
the traditional patriarchal  
structures like Khap panchayats.

↳ waste of monetary resources  
↳ must have rather focussed  
on skill education rather than  
multiple degrees if no  
contribution in labour market.

↳ creates divergence between  
socio-economic equality  
& reality.

Hence, urgent participation  
of women in formal economy  
and secondary & tertiary  
sectors is paramount.

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 pertains to the record of the credentials & varied information (personal & professional) of the population,  
↳ CRS includes birth & death records, health records, census records, [PFMS], domiciles, and a whole range of inter-connected operations like Aadhar etc.

Role of CRS :-  
① provides ready at hand data ↳ eg [SECC] useful in providing welfare schemes and reservations,

(2) data planning can lead to scheme planning, proper implementation, identification of beneficiaries  
↳ in schemes like TPDS, Poshan Abhiyaan.

↳ removal of ghost beneficiaries

Way forward :-

(1) conduct NPP & NPC exercise

(2) digital census should be conducted

(3) illegal migrants recognized

(4) duplicate & false identity proofs like Aadhar & voter cards be dismantled.

(5) national civil registration system data grid formalised

Hence, TPS is a great tool which has widespread ability to ensure efficient service-delivery.

9.

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

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

10

IMF is a multilateral finance institution emerging out of the Bretton Woods conference, 1944.

Issues with IMF :-

① SDR → a basket of currencies of different countries as per their quotas.

② quota → for any decision making, reflects the influence of any country in the organisation, India has less than 3 percent while US has close to 17%.

③ majority decision  
↳ Any crucial decision can only be taken by 85% majority, thus effectively giving the

vs a veto of own decision-making

④ neo-liberal economic policies

↳ involving convertibility macro-economic capital account thus risking fundamentals.

Reforms needed :-

① decision making must be more democratic & reforms should be urgent.

↳ developed nations with stagnant growth & population must reduce their quotas.

② majority decision should be reduced at 85% to 66%.

③ countries should not be forced to sell their assets to foreign powers.  
↳ neo-imperialism must be avoided.

Thus, IMF reform is a crucial element under WORLD order for a new world order.

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

10.

हाल के वर्षों में, पश्चिम एशिया के साथ भारत के संबंध भू-राजनीति के दायरे से आगे निकलकर भू-अर्थशास्त्र के आयाम तक पहुंच गए हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
In recent years, India's relationship with West Asia has evolved from the confines of geopolitics to expanse of geoeconomics. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

10

India & west Asia share historical ties & a shared destiny. In 21<sup>st</sup> century, both regions have realised their geographical & cultural continuity and sought closer ties with each other.

changing paradigm :-

Ⓜ Earlier Israel-Palestine issue overwhelmed.  
↳ now india has dehyphenated Israel is a close partner in defense, agriculture, space, cyber-security.

↳ Abraham Accords b/w Israel, UAE & Bahrain have opened new avenues for cooperation for India.

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

2. IFZV2 → west asian quad  
↳ promotes synergy in trade  
enhancement, integration of  
supply chains and mutual  
research.

3. FTA with UAE which  
is india's third biggest trade  
partner.

4. reconciliation b/w Iran &  
Saudi Arabia offering a window  
for india to restart energy deals  
with Iran.

5. Agreement with Egypt in  
agriculture, water, archaeology &  
antiquities.

Therefore, west Asia &  
India are coming closer,  
not from just a security,  
conflict & terrorism perspective  
but from the expanse  
of geoeconomics.

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)

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

Competition Commission of India (CCI) is a statutory body formed under the CCI Act, 2002 with the mandate of regulating and supervising the corporate practices of businesses & companies in India.

Role of CCI :-

① preventing monopolies

↳ in critical sectors especially such as telecom or energy.

↳ monopolies lead to exorbitant prices for consumer, lack of innovation in businesses etc.

② Predatory pricing & cartelization → when a couple of big market players end up colluding and determining lower prices for some time

in order to drive smaller competitors and small scale industries out of the market.

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

3. restrictive trade practices → such as hoarding, black marketing

4. mergers & acquisitions → it approves mergers, taking into account market share and after effects of the process.

5. prevents stealing of intellectual property  
↳ IPR regulations are important in creating an environment of innovation & research. it looks into the allegations of reverse engineering.

## Challenges faced by CCI :-

① Crony capitalism → nexus of corporates - politicians - bureaucrats has a significant impact on the efficiency of regulatory bodies.

② Lack of trained personnels → to deal with emerging challenges of technology, digital arena, e-commerce, foreign companies.

③ Data poverty → lack of the and data input parameters based on data protection bill localisation prevents and policy making sound data.

Thus, CCI plays a critical and challenging role in ensuring the innovativeness of any economy.

12.

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

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

15

Media is considered as the 'fourth estate' of the democracy, an informal organ that plays a seminal role in sharing information and organizing debates & discussions.

Menace of paid news :-

① Disinformation → deliberate obfuscation of the news in order to unleash a propaganda against certain parties and in favours of the other.

② electoral bonds → since they are anonymous and favour the ruling party more, hence enormous amount of funds are available for

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

elation expenses.

ADR → 60,000 rupees in 2019  
elation.

A lot of this sum can be used for propagating paid news.

3. Corporate ownership → A cursory look at the shareholders

of major media groups reveals ownership patterns by top industrialists and donation by elite groups in business and entertainment fields.

↳ eg. Aajtak, The Print etc

4. divisive debates, episodes, communal flavon, sloganeering, sensationalism is repeatedly broadcasted by media without any sense of balance or proportionality.

Need for making electoral offence:-

↳ amount under RPA, 1951 paid news is not an electoral offence.

↳ making it an offence will act as a deterrent against sensational news cycles.

↳ paid news is distinct from fake news.

↳ paid news can involve things like glorifying a party leader selectively, distracting the viewers by hiding important issue and covering political rally or other issues which have less resonance with the public.

Therefore, the menace of paid news is truly an ugly one and requires stringent legislation, oversight by ECI and public awareness for betterment of political democracy.

13.

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

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

15

Indian version of secularism is a positive secularism where the state nurtures & protects different traditions, while still holding the possibility of social reform within them. Article (25-28) promise right to religion and Art. 44 expresses need for sec in the country.

Doctrine of essentiality :-

(1) Formulated in the (Shirur) Mutt case, 1954 and it alludes to delineating and recognizing the essential religious practices of any religion, its various sects and denominations.

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

(2) It is the fundamental features of any religions traditions including its theosophy and any essential practices or rituals associated with it.

(3) Doctrine of essentiality seeks to separate the innate character of religions traditions with the outward social and secular aspects embedded within them.

In the [Shah Bano Case], SC asserted that denying maintenance to divorced wife was not an essential practice within Islam.

Similarly, in the Sabarnwala case, SC adjudicated that women of menstrual case cannot

be prohibited from entering any temple as it was not an essential practise within hinduism.

Similar interpretations in case of Triple Talag were framed.

Regarding places of worship, SC remarked that while mosque was not an essential feature of Islam, temples were essential [sacred spaces] in several hindu denominations.

[Challenges] :- However, the doctrine is subjective and is criticized over judicial involvement in matters of religion without expertise.

Essential practises maybe contextual & subjective, for instance the character of the deity at Sabarimala requires him to prohibit women of menstrual age.

Hence, doctrine of essentiality remains a controversial yet insightful judicial innovation in the field of jurisprudence.

14.

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

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

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

1. Minimum government, Maximum governance is an oft-uttered slogan in Indian political circles symbolising the importance of limiting the size of the governing organs.

In this regard, the report by EAC-PM emphasises on the same which is significant due to the following reasons :-

(1) Cuts Bureaucratic red tape → akin to notorious license Raj, government intermediaries and yidewark in basic service delivery like driving licenses ~~open~~ end up wasting precious time.

(2) Reduces corruption :-

bribery & corruption are twin evils in indian government.

Ranked 85/185 countries in the Corruption Perception Index.

(3) Accountability increased → when size of the government reduces, its

accountability in critical matters automatically increases.

(4) increased responsiveness

↳ to things like disasters and bad law & order.

(5) Incorporation of technology :-

limiting human oriented & labour intensive vacancies can open up doors for technical upgradation and more investment opportunities.

in the research & development of critical technologies.

(6) Better resource mobilization & allocation

↳ directly benefits the poorer sections of the society.

↳ more impetus on entrepreneurship and ease of doing business.

↳ startup culture encouraged by government, private sector has more efficiency & economies of scale. market forces determine the survivability better.

An example of cutting down on government institutions is the army recruitment of new Agnipath scheme that envisages a more mobile, modern, technically competent and dynamic armed force that is more efficient & effective.

Hence, while a limited government way not be a complete panacea, it indeed unleashes resources in the right direction.

15.

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

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

15

## Institutions of eminence (IOE)

are those higher education institutions that have performed remarkably well in realizing the goal of a proficient education system in the country.

↳ They are endowed with the funds, competence, resources, vision, faculty & pupil quality that has the capability of transforming the outcomes of higher education in the country.

## Vision of IOE

(1) To develop world class institutions AKD

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

- ② 10 Indian institutions must be among top 200 in QS university rankings.
- ③ focus on futuristic results in the educational pedagogy.
- ④ unleash forces of innovation, synergy, team work and a culture of research publications and patenting.
- ⑤ organize hackathons, industry oriented design & product development is encouraged.

### Lacunas with IDE :-

- ① Barely 2 Indian institutions are under top 200 in global rankings.
- ② Indian institutions lack avenues of industry interaction, real time & practical project orientation.

③ dismal skill competence & rising unemployability among graduates.

Unicef → 42% of Indian youth are unemployable

④ poor industry-academia linkage.

⑤ less avenues for internships & apprenticeships.

⑥ foreign universities unconvinced to setup centres in India

~~④~~ Way forward :-

① invest rapidly in higher education budget.

② provide incentives, research grants sum enhanced.

③ seek collaboration with foreign universities.

Hence, institutions of eminence are significant for higher learning competence but a dynamic & bottom up reformation within them is pending.

16.

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

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

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

15

Digital public infrastructure (DPI) is the key and essential hardware & software infrastructure that is needed for digital transformation and economy which catapults India into 10 trillion dollar economy by 2030.

Innovative & convenient public services

① E-aadhar for convenient changes in aadhar information, important documents and worksheets can be stored in the public ledger.

② Open API's.  
↳ such as language translations.

3. digital education improved → teacher training module

④ Inclusion or accessibility barriers

① health services → Ayushman Bharat  
health ID → Digital mission & information  
↳ increases healthcare accessibility  
tele-medicine

② DBT & JAM Trinity  
↳ for seamless availability of financial services and credit to individuals, farmers, MSMEs.

Transparency & real-time data  
Accountability

① Pragati portal  
↳ proactive governance & project implementation is evaluated.

(2) Kaabil → to inspect mining data, leaks, increases transparency.

(3) CPGRAMS → centralized clearance redressal system  
↳ increases accountability.

(4) Jal Jeevan mission → gives real time data update of verified villages & household coverage of functional tap connections.

Therefore, the importance of DPI in the growth story of India cannot be underscored.

By removing barriers against countless fields, it reveals the power of technology to change the landscape of service delivery.

17.

कानून के अलावा, भारत में 'सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार' की पूर्ण प्राप्ति हेतु सामाजिक, वित्तीय और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमियों को दूर करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
Besides legislation, the full realisation of the 'right to health for all' in India demands plugging of social, financial, and infrastructural gaps. Examine. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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

Right to health is regarded as an implicit right within Article (21) and has been expounded in SC judgements as well. Several legislations such as Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY), Poshan Abhiyaan, vaccinations, ICDS, & health infrastructure are in place for ensuring availability of health services to one & all.

social gaps :-

① health insurance

↳ vulnerable sections like SC/ST, women have low health insurance & high OOPEx causing

many of them to fall below  
poverty in the event of any  
disease.

- (2) women → 55% women  
are anaemic (WHO)  
↳ lack WASH facilities.  
↳ MMR is still a challenge  
though it has improved.

Financial gaps :-  
Health expenditure is 2.1% of  
GDP → target is 6% (as per  
ES-21).

↳ less amount of money  
available for preventive &  
rehabilitative healthcare,  
mostly focused on curative  
healthcare.

Infrastructural gap :-

- (1) lack of primary healthcare  
clinics especially in rural  
regions.

(2) lack of medical colleges in tier 2 & tier 3 cities.

(3) doctor unavailability in rural areas, WHO recommends  $1:1000$  in India  $1:1700$  [doctor-patient ratio].

Way forward :-

(1) integrate technology, ABDM, tele-medicine

(2) provide social security, pensions & affordable health insurance.

(3) construct more hospitals, & more ICU's beds and health equipments.

Right to Health for all can

not merely be a slogan.

To ensure its fruition, holistic efforts across several dimensions have to be undertaken.

18.

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

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

15

The third gender in Indian society are classified as those intersex individuals who were born with intersex biological sex or identify culturally with the community.

Legislative nudge for third gender :-

(1) SC in its [PVEL vs UOI] core declared transgenders as the third gender recognized them as vulnerable sections and promoted their protection & advancement.

(2) GOI brought the Transgender, Rights Bill to provide reservations and social security.

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

to the transgender community.

(3) Transgender have the right to self identify as ~~not~~ such, but they require a certificate of identity from the district magistrate.

(4) Transgender shall not be discriminated in matters of public employment, healthcare or education.

Challenges with the community

(1) despite self identification, they still require legal identity card from the district magistrate.

(2) (social discrimination), prejudices & stereotyping prevalent against them in the society.

(3) poor health & education indicators  
↳ widespread illiteracy among them.

(4) The political empowerment of the third gender is minimal  
↳ weak presence in legislative assemblies & judiciary.

(5) Transgender are in itself a diverse grouping & modern notions of LGBTIQAT may hold definitional problems.

The rights of transgender in the country rather than being engendered are in fact endangered. without the ensuring of equal rights, social justice under Art (15, 14, 21), all sections of society & socio-economic democracy cannot be achieved.

19.

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

15

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation was formed in 2001 with four central asian countries, Russia & China. Later in 2017, India, Pakistan & Iran was admitted in the group as well.

Importance of SCO for India

① Conduit to CAS  
↳ central asian states are important for security & energy related needs.

② Anti-terrorism & security of the region enhanced via better intelligence sharing, resource division, action against non-state actors.

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

3. Connectivity of economic projects → INTC, TAPI, Chabahar port, Arctic policy etc).

Factors affecting expectations from SCO

1. Geopolitics → Russia-Ukraine war has seized importance away from regional security issues.

2. went close relations with Central Asian states → which prevents a fruitful agenda with these countries.

3. China → with its debt trap diplomacy, BRI → involves all central asian members as well as Russia, Iran & Pakistan.

4) Pakistan's support of the non-state actors and cross-border terrorism.

5) emergence of IS Khorasan & Taliban in the region with cutting edge military equipment providing strategic depth to Pakistan & China.

6) conflict with China along LAC & economic & security woes of Pakistan are major reasons for the derailment of SCO agenda.

Way forward :-

↳ Alongwith Russia, India must hold more India-Central Asia dialogues.

↳ engage Iran and recommence trade & connectivity.

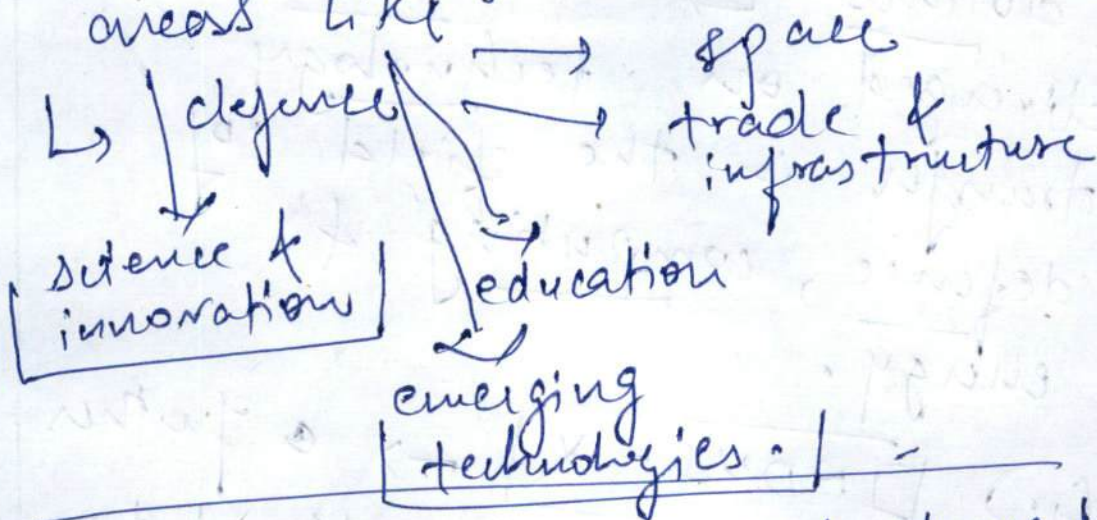
Ultimately, the functional importance of SCO for entire Central-South Asia is prominent.

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

उम्मीदवारों को इस इतिहास में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
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United states and India share a comprehensive strategic partnership and are close partner countries with collaboration in wide spectrum of areas like



Critical & emerging technologies

① include AI, IOT, ML, metaverse, robotics etc, which have the capability to integrate with one another and flourish in the [IR 4.0.]

② includes semiconductors, lithium batteries, rare earth minerals and other such key components.

③ Technology transfer

↳ Despite wide relations and a trade of 100 Billion dollars ↳ US & India diverged on technology transfer in the field of defence, computing & energy.

④ INDUS-X → a further closer defense partnership between India & US leading to tech. transfer and joint manufacturing of Jet engines, long range missiles, artillery & infantry vehicles.

(5) Reducing dependence on Russia & even at present Russia provides 45% of Indian equipment and recently tensions regarding servicing have come up (and maintenance)

India is diversifying its defence basket and hence iCET initiative between US & India comes at an opportune time

Therefore, iCET opens up a fresh paradigm in US-India partnership by eventually integrating their technological prowess in cutting edge futuristic technologies.

उम्मीदवाते को इस हदिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
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