



**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. : 0088099

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Suran Sharma

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी  
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख  
Date

26/08/2023

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

केंद्र  
Centre MBS, Sammu

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर  
Invigilator's Signature

<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>
<p>1 (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>
<p>2 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>
<p>3 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>
<p>4 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>
<p>5 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>
<p>6 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>
<p>7 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>
<p>8 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>

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परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर  
Signature of Examiner(s)

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)		
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

Pressure Groups (PGs) refer to the group of individuals organised together to pressurise State for favourable policies by staying outside of formal politics (like political parties).

Environmental PGs operate in environment related spheres.

Environmental PGs enhancing Public Particip-ation and Responsiveness →

Kerala's  
① Save Silent Valley Movement  
1-1 → PGs agitated against hydroelectric projects

② Chipko Movement  
2-1 → PGs led by Sunderlal Bahuguna promoted public participation

### ③ Narmada Bachao Andolan

3.1 PGs led by Medha Patkar etc encouraged govt. to stop construct Sardar Sarovar dam etc.

3.2 It increased Government's responsiveness as considerable projects were rejected after exposes by PGs.

### ④ Dehing Patkai Movement

4.1 PGs by famous personalities like Jaydev Payeng ('Forest Man') prompted public participation for protecting Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary.

However, critics also point out how environmental PGs engage in subjugating developmental projects (e.g. Kudankulam) in name of environment.

There should a positive deliberation between environmental, PGs & Govt. & other CSOs to ensure balance between environment protection & development.

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 नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

10

'Sex Work' refers to a mode of earning income by indulging in activities involving sexual activities. ~~It~~ prostitution.

SC recently acknowledged it as a 'profession' which can help in ensuring basic rights & equality in the following way →

### (I) Basic Rights

- ① Ensures dignity of work  
i.e. sex workers can't be chastised for indulging in "morally corrupt work"

② Gives right to livelihood.

2.1 sex workers can earn dignified income.

③ Reduces scope of harassment by police.

3.1 ↳ improved working conditions  
(Article 42)

## ② Equality

① Treated on 'par' with other jobs

② Equal place in society

However, certain issues → lack of awareness  
→ hardened social stigma  
→ leads to human trafficking  
→ misused by 'pimps'  
→ no social security  
→ ambiguous employer-employee relationship.

Thus, recent acknowledgement by SC needs to be followed by statutory protections, social security, awareness campaigns and skilling to avoid Sea workers' to be exploited

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

Article 39(A) encourages State to make provisions for ensuring free legal aid. This was inserted by 42<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act:

DLSAs are established under the overarching framework of NALSA Act.

Role of DLSAs in free legal aid & legal awareness

① Overcomes barriers of justice accessibility

1-1 victims people often refrain from seeking justice due to large costs involved in litigation.

## ② Promotes inclusion

2.1 provides justice to multiple sections of society

2.2  $\Rightarrow$  women, transgenders etc.

## ③ helps in attaining ideals of Constitution

3.1  $\Rightarrow$  Article 39(CA)

3.2 justice (Preamble)

④ Awareness  $\rightarrow$  dissemination of legal information  
Campaigns

4.1  $\Rightarrow$  Nukkad Natak

## Drawbacks

① lack of quality legal aid  
 $\hookrightarrow$  lower quality of empanelled lawyers because of favoritism etc.

② irregular functioning

③ lack of funds

④ Not reaching the last mile citizen (lack of awareness of services)

⑤ diversion of funds

Judiciary & executive These can be corrected with infusing vigour by both so that legal aid is accessible to all.

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)

10

## Collegium system in judiciary

Consists of Chief Justice of India and 4 senior most judges of SC. It is responsible for appointments & transfers of judges.

According to SC in Fourth Judges Case, Collegium is required to ensure independence of judiciary which is a basic feature of Constitution.

Collegium's Success

In, Fourth Judges Case, SC struck down 99th Const. Amendment Act

which tasked National Judicial Appointments Commission which also had members of Executive

This resulted in 'Judicial Primacy'

उम्मीदवारों को इस कक्ष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
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However, it also led to concentration in hands of a few →

- ① Uncle Judges Syndrome (Law Commission of India)  
1-1 → favoritism & nepotism
- ② Shrouded in mystery.  
2-1 → opaque functioning
- ③ Supremacy of Judiciary over Constitutional Supremacy
- ④ Meetings in closed gathering leading to lack of trust.
- ⑤ Leads to conflict between Judiciary & Executive.

However, a balance is required as encouraged by Article 50 which asks for separation of judiciary & executive.

It should be ensured that MoP is finalised to reduce pendency

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& involvement of Executive is in such a manner<sup>13</sup> so as to ensure Judicial Exclusivity not 'Primacy'

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)

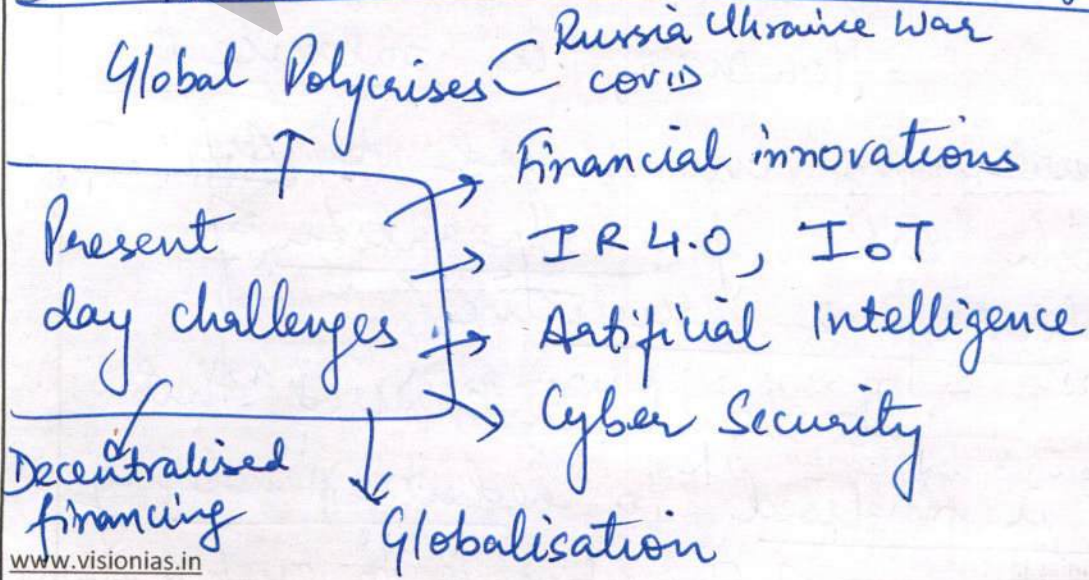
"Civil services reforms must go beyond recruitment and standardised training to cope with the present day challenges." Analyse. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

2<sup>nd</sup> ARC suggested reforms to tackle problems of Civil Services such as overcentralisation, focus on rules instead of roles etc. These included reforms at recruitment (Public Administration at graduate level) and standardised training levels (eg induction joint course etc)

However, present day challenges require us to go beyond these →



# Reforms required

## ① Mid Career Stage

1.1 Role of Civil Servants evolve from policy implementation to policy making.

1.2 Sensitization at mid career is required to emerging issues such as Gig Economy, Cyber Bullying etc.

## ② Domain Expertise

2.1 Mission Karmyogi FRAC approach is right step.

## ③ Integrated Ecosystem of Civil Services

3.1 I670T platform can be utilised for far reaching issues  
↳ Climate Change

④ Lateral Entry need to be encouraged

Civil Services reforms thus need to be multi pronged and domain specified. With changing times,

Civil services must also change and be enablers of positive social change

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

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

Social Impact Bonds are financial instruments used to raise funds for projects that help in achieving socio-economic goals.

Ex → Green Bonds → <sup>Pune Urban</sup> Mumbai Local Body for (Outcome) Water Sanitation

Potential to Catalyse Change & Deliver Socio Economic Impact at scale →

① Raise funds for long gestation period projects

Ex → highway project linking tribal hamlets with health centres .

② Raise funds for projects with low economic returns

2.1 Tip for project aimed at improving nutritional outcomes of a rural community

③ Social infrastructure requirements

3.1 Tip Improving socio-economic indicators → Aspirational district Programme of Niti Aayog.

④ For Risky but Essential Projects

4.1 Tip school/college construction in left wing Extremism affected districts

Limitations → lack of support  
→ lack of subscribers

Lack of Platforms → poor financial literacy  
→ financial frauds

Exchanges Thus, government with the help of SEBI & RBI needs to ensure to deepen the social impact bond market

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)

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

10

Scenario of female education & workforce suffers from a 'leaky pipeline syndrome' where no. of females graduating are more than no. entering the workforce/workspace.

Wide Gap

Reasons for such a gap are:

① Larger patriarchal mindset

1.1 women are 'not allowed' to join workspace.

1.2 authority of males is considered to be challenged

② Lack of well suited jobs

2.1 Because of societal setup,

usually pink collar jobs are available.

2-2 Women don't prefer 'masculine' jobs for the same reasons

③ Larger problem of skill-job gap

3.1 skills learned don't match with job requirements

④ Familial responsibilities

4.1 sep marriage, taking care of family members.

⑤ Workspace discrimination

5.1 sep Sexual harassment at workplace

Remedial Measures

↓ ③ Provisions

for 'women-selective' measures

sep 'Period' leave.

① Addressing patriarchal mindset  
↳ awareness campaigns

② Bridging skill gap

In view of above, schemes like KIRAN, Scholarship schemes for higher education are steps

in the right direction

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)

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

(CRS)

Civil Registration System refers to the documenting system which records and registers events like births & deaths.

Recently, Central govt. has decided to revamp the CRS.

Necessity for up to date & functional CRS →

① Knowledge is power

1.1 Having data about demographics is necessary in harnessing power of people.

1.2 Rep schemes & tailor made policies based on CRS data

## ② Avoiding 'Statistical Vacuum'

2.1 Jean Dreze argues against suppression of data

2.2 Uptodate CRS ensures data availability

## ③ Inputs for last mile governance.

3.1 CRS data is essential to provide good governance.

3.2 Try improving socio economic indicators for tribals through 'Aspirational Block Programme.'

## ④ Analysis of deaths & causes thereof

4.1 helps in determining effectivity of health initiatives

4.2 Try PM Matri Suraksha Yojna.

Socio-economic planning is thus based upon data which is best provided by an upto date CRS.

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)

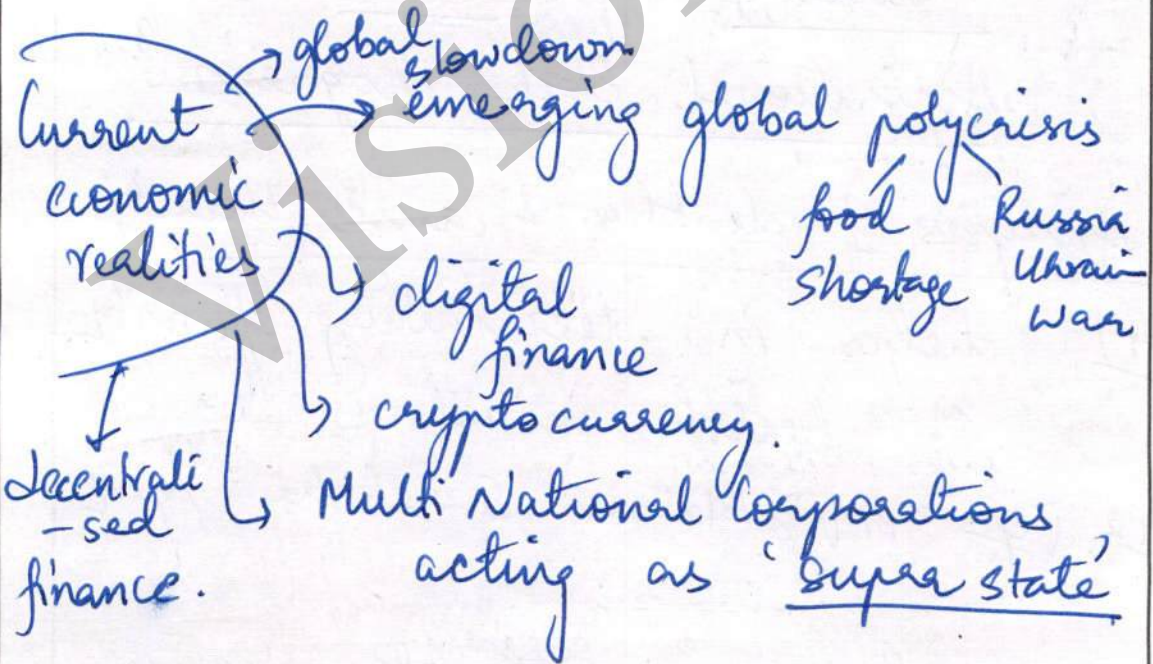
What are the key areas of reform if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has to align with the current economic realities? (Answer in 150 words)

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

Ans

International Monetary Fund (IMF) is one of the two Bretton Woods institutions (other being World Bank)

which aims at  
→ helping countries come out of economic crisis (1991, India)  
→ monetary stability  
→ coordination among central banks.



To face these current economic realities, following key areas

of reform need to be addressed

① Increased global participation in Governance.

1.1  $\rightarrow$  African countries

② Addressing economic concerns emerging out of new issues  $\rightarrow$  Gig Economy

③ Sustainable Financing

3.1  $\rightarrow$  as response to debt trap diplomacy by China.

④ Addressing global financing issues of global problems like Climate Change  
4.1  $\rightarrow$  coordination with Paris Agreement & UNFCC Secretariat bodies

⑤ Relaxing harsh conditions of lending to countries

⑥ Addressing 'Currency Volatility' & issues of crypto currency.

India has always been vocal in reforming multilateral organisations  
Reforming IMF can go a long way in realising a just financial world scenario

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 expansion of geo-economics. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस कॉपी में नदी लिखना चाहिए। Candidates must not write on this margin

India's relationship with West Asia is founded upon strong cultural, economic and social linkages since time immemorial.

① In recent years, a transition is observed from geopolitical interests to focus on geo-economic realities in the following way →

① Earlier issues → Palestine - Israel issue  
→ Iran - Iraq issue

Today → Diversification of economy of

② India's energy security

2:1 → Crude oil imported from Saudi Arabia

③ West Asia's openness to

dialogue

3.1  $\rightarrow$  I<sub>2</sub>U<sub>2</sub>; Agaba Process

④ India's aim to become global player

4.1  $\rightarrow$  trade ties with UAE  
[India - UAE CEPA]

① Reasons for the same are  $\rightarrow$

① Changing axes of power

1.1  $\rightarrow$  withdrawal of US

② Assertion by China

2.1 it is grabbing market in West Asia

③ Emergence of new axes

$\rightarrow$  Pakistan - Turkey - China axis

④ Reduced role of US due to protectionist leaving space for India. -omism

These opportunities can be harnessed by deeper engagement with West Asia, strengthening de-hyphenation of issues while maintaining strategic autonomy

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

(CCI)

Competition Commission of India  
is a statutory body established  
by Competition Commission  
of India Act, 2002.

It is tasked with ensuring  
that competition is maintained  
in the market and no  
entity takes advantage of  
the market with unfair  
means.

→ checking Predatory Pricing

Role of CCI in furthering healthy competitiveness leading to innovation & effectiveness is as follows:

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

① In wake of competitiveness and disability to use unfair means forces entities to innovate.

1.1 Top product: mobile phone

Company 1: 4GB RAM at Rs 5000

Company 2: 8GB RAM at Rs 5000

In this case C1 has to innovate & optimally use RAM to compete with C2. as using any unfair measure to promote its product can be punished by CCI.

② CCI saves & protects small players

Tej Amazon selling own products on marketplace harms independent & small producers

③ follows principles of natural justice in deciding cases.

④ Promotes research & training by Companies to be effective.

⑤ Addresses information asymmetry

Drawbacks → Needs more  
① powers for suo motu cognisance.

↓ ④ Lack of awareness amongst small Companies  
↓ ③ Lack of staff  
② Cost limit of products needs to be enhanced so that CCI can try cases

However → also stifles creativity as companies are discouraged to price higher

Thus, encouraging competition is like balancing a tight rope. Drawbacks of CCI can be addressed by giving more powers & staff etc.

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

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

Paid news refers to promotion of news item by paying to the publisher of the newspaper/news channel etc. It may or may not be true.

### Paid News & Elections - A menace

Paid news is often used by political parties to promote themselves amongst the citizens.

Ex)  $\text{O}$  paying for publishing fake news of distribution of bicycles.

Ex)  $\text{O}$  paying for an Opinion piece praising the political party

Need for making it an offence →

- Punishments for electoral

offences are dealt with in Representation of People's Act 1951 which don't include paid news

Paid News harms in the following ways →

- ① Against principles of 'Right to Information'
- ② disadvantage for parties with less money.  
↳ independent candidates
- ③ Spreads 'Misinformation'
- ④ Can disturb harmony  
↳ paid news for blaming murder on member of opposition party / religion
- ⑤ Snatches people's right to make "informed decision"

Paid News should be an electoral offence →

- ① Recommended by various Commissions like Dinesh Goswami Commission, 2<sup>nd</sup> ARC

- ② Will act as a deterrence.
- ③ Punishments will be delineated so as to avoid ambivalence.
- ④ Provides equal level playing field for all candidates.
- ⑤ In line with democratic principles.
- ⑥ It should include punishment for - candidates & media house as well.
- ⑦ Will lead to further reforms in electoral politics.

Apart from making paid news an electoral offence, other offences like Bribing etc should also be included.

Further, Election Commission of India's powers need to be strengthened for a fledgling electoral process. Giving powers to deregister political parties for paid news can be a step in right direction.

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

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

Doctrine of Essentiality refers to the doctrine which tries to delineate the essential elements of religions to declare other elements ultra vires to Constitution as well void

eg) Judging 'triple talaq' practice as non essential to Islam & thus illegal.

Need for Doctrine of Essentiality

① Advocacy of certain practices as part of "freedom of religion" (Article 25)

Tej Wearing hijab.

② Propagating exploitative practices

Tej . triple talag (Shayara Bano Case)  
prohibiting women from  
entering Sabrimala temple

③ Separating core from non-core  
elements

Tej violence is not mandated  
by any religion.

④ Maintaining balance between  
religious freedom & human  
dignity

Tej 'Untouchability'

---

It is, however, criticised on the  
following grounds →

---

① Lack of consistency in pronouncements

Tej Wearing hijab was  
considered essential by court  
earlier

② deemed interference of judiciary in religion etc. in religion which is a personal matter

③ Violates Article 25 which provides "right to freedom of religion" as a fundamental right.

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Way Forward - Bridging the Gap

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People's trust in judiciary needs to be reposed so that application of 'doctrine of essentiality' ~~does not~~ is not deemed to be an interference in personal matter. Also, it should be ensured that an objective decision is taken as religion is a sensitive issue.

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 हार्गिफ में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

15

Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, <sup>[EAC-PM]</sup> is a non statutory body tasked with providing advice related to crucial socio political & economic issues to Prime Minister for policy making.

Recently, EAC-PM has called for reducing the size of government in India which means reducing:

- ① Govt. processes  
↳ clearances
- ② Procedures  
↳ red tapistry practices
- ③ executive bodies  
↳ Council of Ministers
- ④ encourage public participation  
↳ CSOs

Need

Ⓡ Yes, required

① It is in line with

# 'Maximum Governance, Minimum Government'

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

1.1 more focus should be on provision of welfare & benefits to public through 'good governance'

② Multiplicity of schemes & regulatory bodies

2.1 need for rationalisation

③ Overlapping of Ministries.

3.1  $\Rightarrow$  Ministry of Tribal Affairs & Ministry of Rural Development vis-a-vis PESA Act implications

④ Multiple legislations

$\Rightarrow$  Coal Bearing Act misused for land grabbing of tribals making PESA Act redundant.

⑤ Promotion of Ease of doing Business

5.1 reduced clearances & time  $\rightarrow$  reduced costs

$\Rightarrow$  logistics sector

(II) However critics say, it is not required →

① & Government's presence is required to achieve socioeconomic development.

1-1 Tej - 14% malnutrition  
- 30% poverty

② Government support is required in strategic sectors  
Tej Defence sector Industries

③ Role in social infrastructure  
Tej health centres.

Therefore, limiting the size of government can not & should not happen in sites. New Public

Governance & not New Public

Management is required for achieving the goals of "Sammridh Bharat"

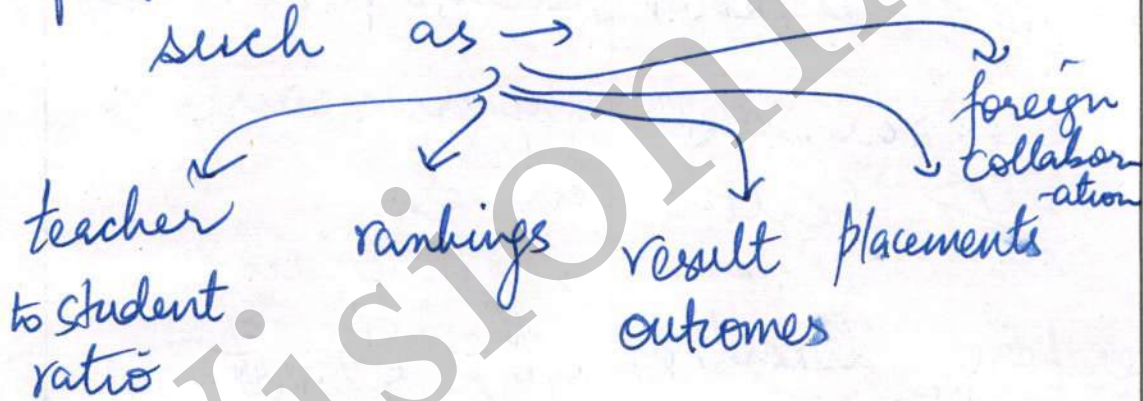
15.

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)

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

Institutions of Eminence (IOE) scheme was aimed at tagging of institutions as IOE if they fulfilled a certain criteria



Top Tio University / Institution

## Analysis of IOE scheme

Intentions: world class centres  
subsidy support  
multiplier effects

↳ improved outcomes  
↳ improved Gross Enrolment Ratio etc (GER)

However, 6 years later →

- ① No university in top 100 of QS World Rankings 2024.
- ② 27.5% GER in higher education.
- ③ Only 44% of higher Education institutions are NAAC accredited.
- ④ Lack of R&D expenditure by government (<2%)

Steps like NEP 2020 which aims at increasing GER to 50% by 2035; revision of nomenclature of educational

institutions as graduate colleges, research institutions etc are steps in right direction.

More measures are required such as:

- ① Addressing 'Leaky Pipeline' syndrome of female education
- ② Student exchange programmes need to be strengthened
- ③ Matching skill demand.  
By increased academia-industry linkage.

More focus is therefore required to utilise IOE scheme for achieving the goals & objectives of socioeconomic development of India.

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) 15

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

Digital Public Infrastructure refers to the set of systems, procedures and services that are used to provide digital services to public & businesses.

INDIA STACK  
Top Adhar Enabled Payment System

DPI has 3 Components

- People/identity (Adhar)
- Payment (Banking <sup>UPI</sup>)
- Services (JAM trinity)

(India only country to achieve all 3)

Innovative & Convenient Public Services

① Bharat Bill Payment Services

↳ ease of paying utility bills

② Enables quick & efficient access.

ref JK services.gov.in based on  
mygov.in.

③ Transaction Services.

ref Unified Payment Interface

④ Access to insurance.

Overcome Inclusion & Accessibility Barriers

① Reduces physical accessibility  
barriers

ref no need of demand draft  
etc → direct via UPI payment

② Promotes inclusive growth.

ref UPI 123 pay for feature  
phones

③ Interactive etc

③ Promotes MSMEs

ref using credit data for  
"data based lending"

## Increases Transparency & Accountability

① Digital data is easy to view, access & analyse.

Ex Credit score.

② increases public accountability

Ex Service Guarantee Act & timelines can be accessed.

③ Plugs leakages

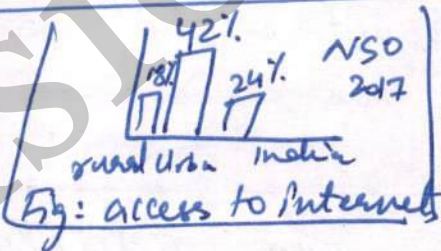
Ex DBT in PDS.

However, some drawbacks

① Rural Urban divide

② Lack of data of privacy

Not legally mandated



of digital access

③ data localisation issues  
Ex transaction data misuse

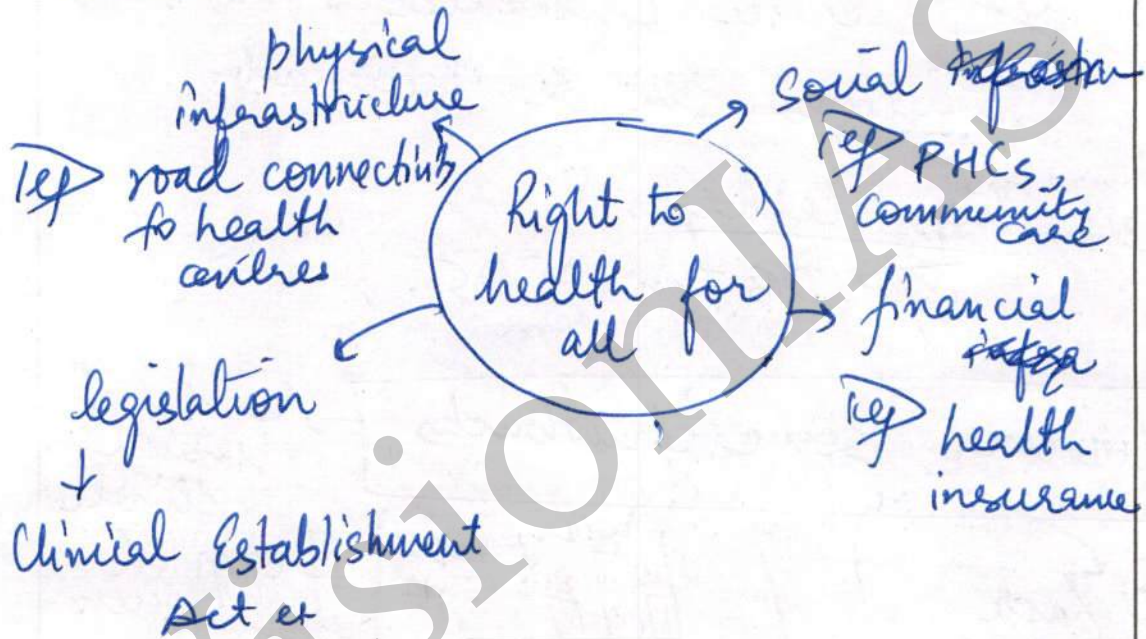
These drawbacks can be reduced with combining offline awareness campaigns; inculcating digital literacy for providing 'digital comfort' etc

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

National Health Policy, 2017 envisages the objective of achieving "Health For All"



Following are the additional requirements apart from legislation →

① legislation : mandating right to health

① Plugging social gaps

required against exploitative policies

1.1 Fem Female Genital Mutilation  
in Maharashtra tribes.

② Overhauling social mindset

2.1 Fem towards Vaccines

↳ COVID-19, HPV etc.

③ Addressing social inequalities

3.1 Fem obstruction in health  
care because of caste  
discrimination.

② Plugging financial gaps

① Income inequalities

1.1 Oxfam India - Top 1% hold 90%  
wealth

1.2 Universal Basic Income for  
health related services can  
be deliberated upon.

② Regional imbalance.

1.1 Top sided financial support  
to different states

### ③ Social security schemes

3.1 Providing Universal insurance

3.2 Atal Beema Yojna = good step

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

### ④ Plugging Infrastructural Gaps

① Regional divide - Urban Rural

1.1 70% of MBBS graduates are in urban areas

1.2 But PHCs in urban areas are  $\frac{1}{7}$  of Rural PHCs.

1.3 Rs 2/person : allocation amount for National Urban Health Mission in 2019 Budget.

② Strengthening infrastructure

1.1 PPP model where sustainability & financial viability is low.

Thus, 'right to health for all' needs a proactive multipronged institutionalised approach in social, legislative & financial and infrastructure sphere.

Health & Wellness Centres as part of Ayushman Bharat are steps in right direction

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

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

Rights of Transgenders Act was passed in 2014. It delineated the rights of transgenders.

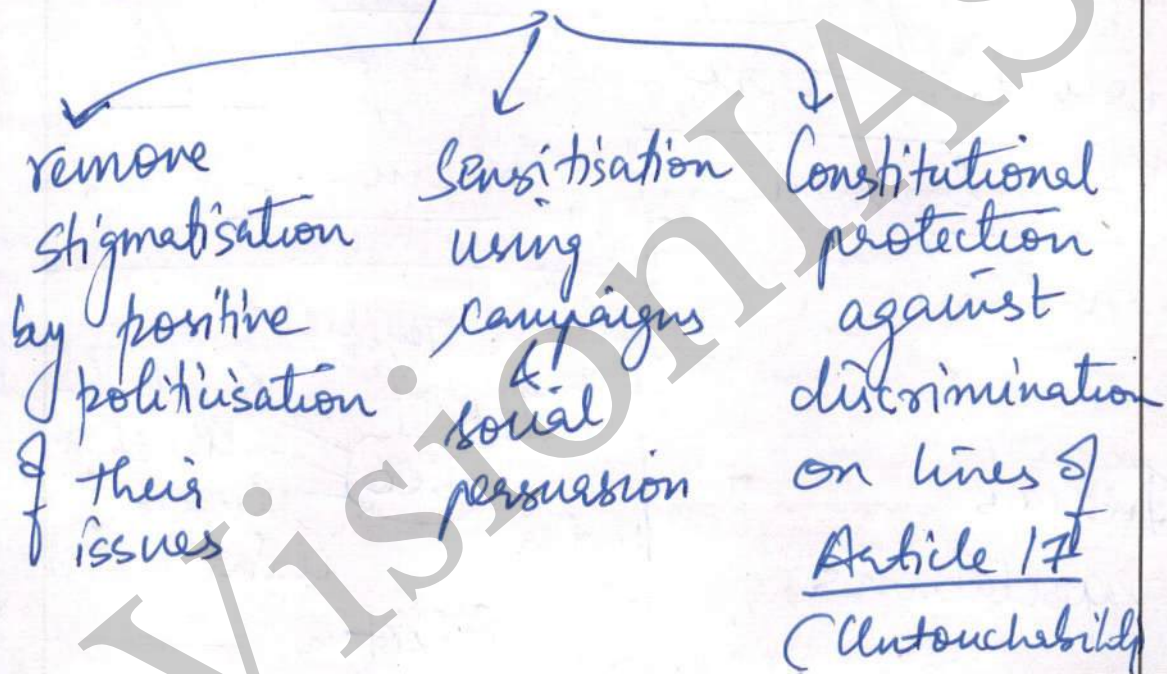
Also, the SC has in its pronouncements placed transgenders at parity with other citizens ensuring that they have equal access to rights enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

However, third gender hasn't been engendered in the following way →

- ① Large scale discrimination in job and labour markets.
- ② Social stigma associated with them.
- ③ 'Third gender' suffer from psychological distress due to such isolation.
- ④ No other option than to live within close groups leading to 'ghettoisation'
- ⑤ Outspoken ridicule against them leads them to hide their identity causing identity crisis

⑥ Due to lack of livelihood opportunities, ~~the~~ they are pushed into flesh trade as victims of human trafficking.

Thus, following measures are required



Steps like 'all-transgender operated restaurants', reservation in jobs etc are steps in right direction for engendering the 'third gender'

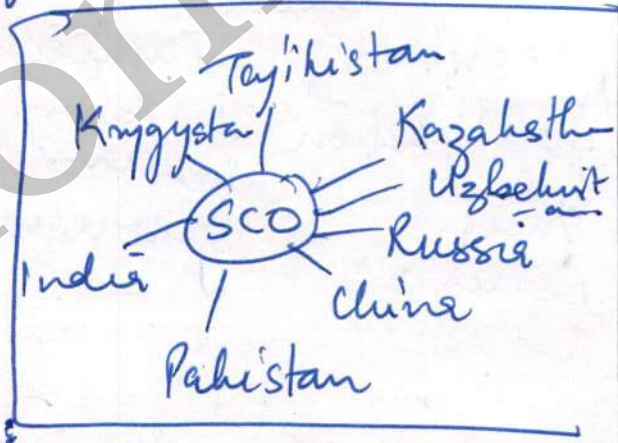
19.

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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Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is an intergovernmental organisation aimed at ensuring regional security, counter terrorism & overall development of member nations

India's expectations from SCO include:



① Regional Cooperation

1-1 on issues like Afghanistan, terrorism, insurgency

② Energy Security

2-1 from Central Asian Countries

### ③ Dialogue with countries like China

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However, it is difficult to realise because of issues like →

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#### ① Strained ties with China & Pakistan

1-1 Presence of Pakistan China axis discourages India's interests

1-2 Lack of engagement due to long pending issues like Kashmir (Pakistan) & Border issues with China.

1-3 Hinders India's objective of attaining 'double peace' in Afghanistan (inside & outside Afghanistan)

1-4 Diplomacy fails when blood

② Other factors include inherent factions present among central Asian countries, lack of permanent staff, irregular meetings, lack of tangible outcomes etc.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
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However, India's ties with Pak & China ~~are~~ are a major factor which can be resolved by:

① de-hyphenation of issues

ref → dialogue on issues where all converge.

② Minimising approach.

↳ minimising conflict, maximising convergences

③ Cross Cultural Contact

↳ Student exchange programmes etc.

④ Engaging on common issues

ref → Water Sharing: Indus (Pak) Brahmaputra (China)

SCO thus plays an important role in regional development. India should ensure maximising the benefits

20.

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)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
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15

Critical & Emerging Technology (iCET) is one of many technology development initiatives ~~btw~~ between USA & India.

Transformation in partnership in field of technology through iCET

① Increases engagement

1.1 leads to deepened interdependence

from USA complemented by skilled engineers from India for maintenance.

② Has multiplier effect in other spheres

2.1  $\triangleright$  Quantum technology can be used to tackle China's <sup>success</sup> ~~ingress~~ in Quantum Computers

2.2 Quantum technology has role to play in fields of health, encryption etc

③ Effect on Geo Politics

Nuclear Submarines can help deter China's assertiveness in Indo Pacific.

उम्मीदवारों को इस भाग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
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#### ④ Block Financial Partnership

4.1 Overhauling information ecosystem with emerging tech like Blockchain  
ref Smart Contracts

#### ⑤ Nuclear Partnership

↳ achieving energy security

Limitations

① Lack of Technology absorption in India

② Skillsets of Indians don't match with requirement

Thus, these limitations can be overcome with industry-academia linkages thereby improving India-US relation

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