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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1418)

Name of Candidate	Praveen Kumar		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	
Center		Date	

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI** इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

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.

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एक अंश में कुछ भी न लिखें

1. Discuss the need to strengthen the National Commission for Scheduled Castes to tackle the problems faced by the Scheduled Castes in India.

(150 words) 10

भारत में अनुसूचित जातियों द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं से निपटने के लिए राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग को सशक्त बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

→ Article 338 of the Constitution of India provides for National Commission for Scheduled Castes to safeguard and promote the fundamental rights of the Scheduled Castes in India.

Despite many provisions and laws, SCs continue to face untouchability and being exploited.

- Increase in rates of crimes against SCs (around 26%) as per NCRB report 2019.
- Eg. recent case of UNA flogging, Hathras case
- Continual presence in the manual scavenging occupation.
- Lack of economic & social opportunities despite affirmative action.

Hence, there is a need to strengthen National Commission for SCs. (NCSC)

Present problems in NCSCs (Article 338)

- (i) No power of binding decision, as only recommendatory power.
- (ii) Lack of Capacity, as no independent investigation department.
- (iii) Lack of regional offices to cater for all India population.

Way forward

- (i) Give NCSCs binding power to prosecute officials denying fundamental rights of SCs.
- (ii) Capacity building → regional offices
→ Independent investigation department

Article 14, 15, 16, 17 provides for equality and justice and it can't be realized fully unless we empower National Commission for SCs.

2. Does the Representation of People's Act ensure an effective mechanism against criminalization of politics in India? Discuss. (150 words) 10
क्या लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम भारत में राजनीति के अपराधीकरण के विरुद्ध एक प्रभावी तंत्र सुनिश्चित करता है? चर्चा कीजिए।

→ Criminalisation of politics in India is the most serious challenge the Indian polity is facing. Because of increasing participation of criminals in election process and their election as representative. Currently, 44% of our representatives have criminal charges against them. (ADR report).

- Representation of People's Act, 1951 provides for the following mechanism to bar criminals :-
- (i) Various offences like election offences, Untouchability crime, etc. are the criteria for prohibition of candidates.
 - (ii) However, only if charges are proved in a court of law.
 - (iii) Crimes like promoting enmity in

The name of caste, religion, language etc. or soliciting votes in these names are the criteria for barring candidates by Election Commission of India.

(iv) However, the ECI lacks adequate power to prosecute criminals.

Though RRA, 1951 provides criteria for barring candidates, but it doesn't bestow enough power to the ECI to bar candidates.

Way forward

- (a) More power to the ECI to prohibit candidates.
- (b) Prohibit participation of candidates if charges are filed by police.
- (c) Further, Fast Track Courts can be provided for fast trials. It's necessary to prevent participation of criminals to ensure free, fair and inclusive election.

3. Discuss the challenges that are being faced by Gram Nyayalayas in their effective functioning. (150 words) 10

ग्राम न्यायालयों द्वारा प्रभावी रूप में कार्य करने में सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए।

→ Under Article 39A, that directs the state to provide equal justice and free legal aid to the poor, the government passed Gram Nyayalaya Act, 2008.

Objectives

- (i) Equal access to justice to the marginalised communities to their doorsteps.
- (ii) Speedy and cheap resolution of cases.
- (iii) Promote and safeguard fundamental rights of vulnerable sections.

However, many challenges are being faced by Gram Nyayalayas

- (i) Many states haven't established Gram Nyayalayas in many Panchayats
- (ii) Lack of infrastructure like office, stamp, nattaies etc.

- (iii) lack of appointment of judiciary
- (iv) Inadequate awareness with the public
- (v) often, appeals are being used to delay adjudication.
- (vi) free justice often being perceived by people that it's not effective.
- (vii) Inadequate funding by the state government.

Hence, there is a need for strengthening of Gram Nyayalaya - way forward

- (i) Increase investment for infrastructure of Gram Nyayalaya.
- (ii) Mandatory to establish Gram Nyayalaya in every Panchayat.
- (iii) Spread awareness among people.

Strengthening Gram Nyayalaya would ensure justice to all as envisaged by the Preamble.

4. Explain the rationale behind setting up 'Alternative Mechanisms' in ensuring effective decision making in the governance of the country.

(150 words) 10

देश के शासन में प्रभावी निर्णयन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए 'वैकल्पिक तंत्र' स्थापित करने का औचित्य स्पष्ट कीजिए।

→ Alternative Mechanism is an evolution in our central governance where a group of ministers are required to perform certain functions. Article 77 was used to set up Alternative Mechanism.

Rationale behind setting up 'Alternative Mechanism.

- (i) Fragmentation of function
 - Currently, numerous department & ministries have led to inadequate integration of policy
 - Thus, Alternative Mechanism would ensure synergistic & holistic approach to policy.

- (i) Steady decision making
 (ii) Project clearances would be seamless.
 Eg. as Coal ministry & Environment Ministry can ensure speed clearance of forest related clearances.
- iv, Holistic and Complete planning of policies.
 Eg. all transport related ministries can collaborate to draft legislate policy.
- (v) Reduce Cabinet workload
- Thus, Alternative Mechanism is an innovative means to ensure good governance

5. The relationship between bureaucracy and democracy is both paradoxical and complementary. Comment. (150 words) 10
 नौकरशाही और लोकतंत्र के बीच संबंध विरोधाभासी और अनुपूरक दोनों हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

→ In the Indian Constitutional democracy, there are permanent executives established under Article (309-312) of the Constitution.

While, there are political executive like MPs & MLAs elected by the people to govern & legislate laws.

It's often said that the relationship between the two is both paradoxical & complementary.

Why paradoxical?

- (i) Bureaucracy is unelected, however there are the dominant voice in policy making.

(i) They are less accountable, while representatives have to face election every 5 years.

(ii) short term gains by politicians often lead to populism and politicisation of bureaucracy.

However, both are complementary also.

(a) Bureaucrats are experienced, so they advise in policy making to the representatives who are less ^{experienced} ~~peak~~ in emerging policy challenges.

(b) Political neutrality & Constitutional morality ensure good governance.

It is necessary to ensure non-partisan bureaucracy to ~~the~~ develop India as per the values of Equality, freedom & justice.

6. By transforming the way governments work and reinventing people's participation in the democratic process, e-governance empowers the citizen in multiple ways. Discuss in the context of India. (150 words) 10

सरकारों के काम करने के तरीके में परिवर्तन और लोकतांत्रिक प्रक्रिया में लोगों की भागीदारी का पुनर्निर्माण करके, ई-शासन अनेक प्रकार से नागरिकों को सशक्त बनाता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

→ E-governance is the use of emerging technologies like internet, Artificial Intelligence etc. to provide good governance.

E.g. Digital India, PRAVAAS.

How it empowers citizens?

(i) Speedy delivery of public services to remote areas.
E.g. telemedicine, tele-education.

(ii) People's participation in policy formulation, implementation & monitoring.

E.g. Mygov.in, e-Social Audit

(iii) Easy access of information.

thus ensuring transparency & accountability.

Eg. Rajasthan's Jan Jeechha Portal.

(iv) Re-engineering of government processes.

Eg. e-Biz → ease of doing business through single window clearances

(v) Easy monitoring of projects through Artificial Intelligence.

e.g. e-VIN → monitoring of vaccine stock.

However, various challenges like attribution change, digital infrastructure, digital literacy etc. need to be tackled to truly realise its potential.

7. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019 dilutes the spirit of Supreme Court's NALSA judgement towards self-determination of gender. Discuss. (150 words) 10

उभयलिंगी व्यक्ति (अधिकारों का संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 2019 लिंग के आत्मनिर्धारण के प्रति उच्चतम न्यायालय के नालसा (NALSA) निर्णय की भावना को कमजोर करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

→ In the NALSA vs. UoI (2014), the SC gave a landmark judgement to uphold the fundamental rights of equality, freedom, right to life (Article 21) of the Transgender persons.

In this regard, the Centre legislated 'Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019'. How it dilutes the SC's judgement?

- (i) Screening of transgender by the district administration to recognise officially.
- Against the self-determination of gender rights recognised under SC's 2014 judgement.

(ii) No affirmative action like reservation provided by the Act. - while the Act is clearly directed for reservation of transgenders.

However, various provisions establish a mechanism for realisation of rights of transgenders.

- (a) National Council for transgenders
- (b) Prohibition of discrimination in any public service.
- (c) Third gender to be included in every aspect of governance.
- (d) Right to health and surgery

further, laws related to rape, marriage, personal laws need to be amended in respect of transgenders to ensure social, political & economic justice of transgenders.

8. The worthwhile goal of Universal Health Coverage can be achieved by declaring the right to health as a fundamental right. Comment.

(150 words) 10

स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार को एक मूल अधिकार घोषित करके सार्वभौमिक स्वास्थ्य कवरेज के सार्वक लक्ष्य को प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

→ Article 47 of the Constitution directs the state to ensure public health for all.

However, it's a directive principle that is not justifiable, only moral obligation.

How the declaration of the Right to health can ensure Universal health coverage?

(i) Rights based approach

- Now the citizens can demand health service as their right.

(ii) Government will be accountable - thus ensure good health access.

(iii), Currently enormous skewness in health infrastructure between rural & urban areas can be ~~reduced~~ reduced.

(iv), Civil society will participate by demanding the fulfillment of rights to health.

(v), Health system will become inclusive.

(vi), Government investment will increase, which is currently stagnated at 1.3%.

Hence, it is worthwhile to declare right to health as a fundamental right.

PM Jan Arogya Yojana, NRHM, NUHM etc. are steps in the right direction.

9. Indian Diaspora in the Gulf countries is an asset beset with multiple challenges. Comment. (150 words) 10
खाड़ी देशों में भारतीय डायस्पोरा अनेक चुनौतियों से घिरी एक परिमपत्ति है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

As per International Organization for Migration report, India sends the highest number of people across the world. India also receives highest remittances from diaspora (\$78 bn).

However, Indian Diaspora in the Gulf countries is an asset beset with multiple challenges:-

- (i) Lack of protection of labour rights
- (ii) Low wages and no social protection measures.
- (iii) Poor living conditions and they live in slums.
- (iv) Instability in the Gulf because of sectarian

Conflict in Iraq, Yemen, etc.

(v) In COVID-19, they were left with no protection and faced challenges like no jobs.

(vi) Declining its economy further makes them vulnerable.

(vii) Inadequate skill possessed by workers.

(viii) NO proper data collection by Indian government, to provide them with social protection.

(ix) No political rights & voice.

Hence, the need of the hour is to ensure social, political and economic protection to Indian diaspora.

(i) India can use its leverage of good relations with Gulf countries.

(ii) skill India can be extended to Indian diaspora.

10. Briefly outline the genesis and functioning of World Food Programme (WFP). Also highlight its contribution to India's effort in addressing the issue of hunger and malnutrition. **(150 words) 10**

विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम (WFP) की उत्पत्ति और कार्यप्रणाली की संक्षिप्त रूपरेखा प्रस्तुत कीजिए। साथ ही, भूख और कुपोषण की समस्या को दूर करने के भारत के प्रयासों में इसके योगदान पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

In the wake of -World War II and ensuing decolonisation, there was a need of establishing an organisation which can ensure that hunger and food deprivation never become a weapon of war.

In this context, World Food Programme was established.

- In 1961, by Food & Agriculture Organisation with UN CA.
- It is an agency of the UN to combat hunger, poverty and ensuring agriculture sustainability.
- It has provided food to 100 million people in 80 countries.

- Further, it has delivered food in conflict ridden nations like Syria, Yemen, Sudan, Palestine etc.

- It is fulfilling the SDG goal 2 of universal access to later nutritional food.

Its Contribution in

India.

- (i) Policy inputs in the Targeted Public Distribution System.
- (ii) Funding to India's effort of delivering food and preventing malnutrition.
- (iii) Innovative reforms like automatic grain dispensing machine was suggested by WFP.

11. Action against civil society groups is seen as shrinking space for dissent by some while others point out to the imperatives of merit based action against certain groups. Examine with examples. (250 words) 15

कुछ लोगों द्वारा नागरिक समाज समूहों के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई को असहमति के लिए कम होती स्वीकार्यता के रूप में देखा जाता है, जबकि अन्य लोग कतिपय समूहों के विरुद्ध गुणावगुण आधारित कार्रवाई की अनिवार्यता की ओर इंगित करते हैं। उदाहरण सहित परीक्षण कीजिए।

→ As per Rajkrishna Rajani's "The Third Pillar", Civil Society groups (CSOs) are an important pillar of society to ensure development of all.

CSOs are various non-state organisations like NGOs, political activists, development groups, trade unions etc. that promote democracy and culture development.

Actions against CSOs by government is seen as shrinking space for dissent.

- Why?
(i) denial of fundamental rights under Article 21.

- (ii) If states take intrusive actions, then democratic voice for justice will shrink.
- (iii) - Right to freedom and life will be wrongfully denied.
- (iv) States will become unaccountable for their actions.
- (v) ~~the~~ Party in power will promote their own agenda, with disregard to Constitutional morality.
- (vi) For example, during COVID-19, it was because of the effort of CSOs that migrant workers exodus was headed by government and the SC.

However, merit-based

action is required.

- (a) Article 19(2) provides limitation to freedom of speech & expression

- in the name of Sovereignty, unity, integrity of India.
- (b) further, IB's report, 2014 had told how various NGOs getting foreign funding is stalling project development and pursuing anti-national activities.
- (c) Vested interests try to endanger security of India.
E.g. LWEs got foreign funding through NGOs.
- (d) Many NGOs are avoiding transparency.

Hence, Need of the hour is to balance freedom with security & Unity of India.

12. Discuss the implications associated with the Prime Minister's Office acting as the most powerful office due to its formidable influence in policymaking in India. (250 words) 15

भारत में नीति-निर्माण में अपने अत्यधिक प्रभाव के कारण प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय के सर्वाधिक शक्तिशाली कार्यालय के रूप में कार्य करने में संबद्ध निहितार्थों की विवेचना कीजिए।

→ In the Swedish system of governance, it is said that Prime Minister's office is the most powerful office.

Why?

- (i) As, the PM is the head of the government, so officers close to him/her possess enormous influence.
- (ii) Many decisions of project clearances are finally approved by PMO.
- (iii) In recent times, our PM has become very enthusiast to ensure development and prevent corruption.

Positive implication of PMO as the most powerful body.

- (i) Ensure speedy clearance of proposals.
- (ii) Prevent departmental conflict and parochialism between ministries.
- (iii) Prevent Corruption by individual ministries.
- (iv) Ensure collective responsibility of the government under Article 32.
- (v) Synergistic approach by various department and government.
- (vi) PM's vision is manifested in nation's development.

However, increasing centralisation of power by

- PMO has also negative implication
- (i) Inadequate monitoring of activity due to centralisation.
 - (ii) Lack of delegation of function lead to delay in decision making.
 - (iii) Increasing dependency of ministries to the PMO leads to poor functioning of individual ministries.
 - (iv) Also, accountability of individual ministries reduces.
 - (v) If PMO doesn't monitor, then project doesn't get implemented in such system.

Hence, the idea is to follow 'Golden Mean' of PMO's influence and delegation of function to ensure 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance'.

13. While judiciary's efforts to infuse accountability in the functioning of government institutions and engender human rights jurisprudence demonstrate the importance of judicial governance, it also leads to concerns around judicial overreach. Discuss. (250 words) 15

जहाँ सरकारी संस्थानों के कार्यकरण में जवाबदेही का संचार करने और मानवाधिकार न्यायशास्त्र उत्पन्न करने का न्यायपालिका का प्रयास न्यायिक शासन का महत्व प्रदर्शित करता है, वहीं यह न्यायिक अतिक्रमण के चतुर्दिक विताओं को भी जन्म देता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

→ In India's Constitutional democracy, Article 13 to 35 provides fundamental rights like equality, freedom, justice, liberty, against exploitation etc. to every Indian Citizens.

In this regard, Article 32 provides for the enforcement of fundamental rights by the Supreme Court. How the judiciary infuse accountability in the government functioning?

- (i) The SC is the guarantor of fundamental rights under Article 32.
- (ii) Article 226 also empowers HC to ensure justice.

(iii) Doctrine of judicial review can be used the SC and HC to prevent enactment of laws, ultra vires to the Constitution.

Eg, Ashtak Act was, in part, overruled to ensure Right to Privacy.

(iv) PIL mechanism was provided by the SC to ensure access of justice to poor & marginalised sections.

(v) The SC has given many doctrines like doctrine of harmonious construction, doctrine of colourable legislation to bring accountability & uphold fundamental rights.

(vi) Often, the SC justifies judicial activism in the name of legislative vacuum, populism etc.

However, sometimes critics allege judicial overreach.

(i) Unbalancing of delicate balance of power if the judiciary invades legislative & executive domain.

(ii) Lack of knowledge with the judiciary unaccountable & unelected institutions.

(iii) Many judgements have led to enormous economic consequences like 2G spectrum cancellation, liquor ban in highway etc.

Way forward

(i) Follow Golden mean between judicial activism & judicial restraint.

(ii) Invalidate legislative space only when fundamental rights are not being upheld.

14. The power to punish for contempt of court is necessary for the administration of justice. Critically analyse. (250 words) 15

न्यायालय की अवमानना के लिए दंडित करने की शक्ति न्याय के प्रशासन के लिए आवश्यक है। समानोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

→ Article 129 provides for the power to punish for Contempt of Court to the SC.

Two types of Contempt are provided -

(i) Civil Contempt → When someone wilfully disobeys the ruling of court;

(ii) Criminal Contempt → When someone scandalises the administration of justice by oral or written words, that reduces respect of judiciary and obstructs administration of justice.

Recently, many cases of Contempt came in the

news like Prashant Bhushan Case
Why it is necessary?

(i) Article 19(2) limits freedom of speech & expression in the name of Contempt of Court.

(ii) Judiciary's sole existence is based on respect & trust, hence, it's necessary to ensure respect of this institution.

(iii) If someone scandalised court, then people's trust will be broken, leading to distrust in judiciary.

(iv) In the age of digital era, constructive criticism has receded and mindless criticism has endangered judiciary.

Though, it is necessary to punish, however,

there should be some caveats.

- (i) Truthful reports must be allowed.
- (ii) Constructive criticism leads to corrective action by judiciary.
Eg. SC's prompt action in migration case after criticism.
- (iii) Restraint must be applied otherwise dissent will be crushed.
- (iv) Dissent actually ensures strengthening of institutions.

Way forward

- (i) Judicial accountability is the need of the hour to dispel citizens' doubt about ~~its~~ functioning.
- (ii) Judicial should command respect not demand, by giving speedy justice and upholding fundamental rights provided under the Constitution.

15. What are the legal concerns associated with custodial violence? Discuss the challenges in curbing such incidents. Also, suggest some ways to address this issue. (250 words) 15

अभिरक्षा में हिंसा से संबद्ध विधिक चिंताएं क्या हैं? ऐसी घटनाओं पर अंकुश लगाने में सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, इस समस्या का समाधान करने हेतु कुछ उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

→ Custodial violence is the use of force by the police in the detention to extract evidence from the accused.

Recent cases of custodial deaths have brought this menace into news. Eg. Father-Son duo killing by Tamil Nadu Police, Hyderabad encounter etc.

* Legal Concerns associated with custodial violence

- (i) Violation of Right to life under Article 21.
- (ii) Violation of IPC and CrPc by the police institution itself.

- (iii) Violation of fundamental rights by the very institution meant to protect it.
- (iv) Article 20 prevents self-incrimination
- (v) Extraction of evidence in police custody is not valid as said by the SC in D.K. Basu Judgment.
- (vi) Criminalisation of police

Challenges in curbing such incidents.

- (i) Poor work culture of police institution.
- (ii) Lack of professional training with the police personnel.
- (iii) Vohra Committee and Venkatchandran Commission had said

- (iv) Criminalisation of politics and Criminalisation of police
- (iv) Poor working condition of police and poor infrastructure of investment-
- (v) Lack of legal awareness with the victim.

Way forward

- (i) Anti-torture legislation & signing, ratifying of UN Convention against torture.
- (ii) Capacity building and ethical competence of police personnel.
- (iii) SC's judgement of Prakash Singh Case (2006) need to be implemented by state
 - State Police Commission
 - Complaint Authority.

16. Civil society interventions, ranging from confrontation to engagement with the government, have played an important role in ushering transparency and accountability in governance in India. Discuss with examples. (250 words) 15

सरकार के साथ टकराव से लेकर जुड़ाव तक सिविल सोसाइटी के हस्तक्षेपों ने भारत में शासन में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही का सुवर्ण काल में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

→ Civil Society is an important pillar of governance to ensure justice, equality and uphold of fundamental rights.

How Civil Society have played an important role in ushering transparency & accountability?

(a) Civil Society efforts have led to passage of the RTI Act in 2005.

(b) Constant follling of RTI has led to uncovering of many corruption case in India.
E.g. Coal allocation scam.

(c) Civil Society continuous question with the administration ensures timely implementation of project.

(d) Civil Society also does social audit that ensures transparency & accountability.
e.g. in National food security Act, and MGNREGA, Civil Society does social audit.

(e) Civil Society engages with the government through -

(i) Policy inputs using research
e.g. Centre for Science & Environment

(ii) Association for democratic reforms have tried to ensure electoral sanctity through publishing of candidates criminal background.

(ii) Policy implementation by various NGOs and Volunteers

groups:
E.g. ISKON temple provided food to more than 6 lakh people daily during lockdown.

(f) further, civil society protests against government laws, rules etc to ensure fundamental rights.

(g) Civil society advocates legislation for justice of marginalised sections like Transgender people's Act.

(h) Civil society also files case in judiciary to bring transparency. E.g. Adhaar Act, 2016. in part was not implement, as it was contrary to Right to Privacy.

Thus, civil society is an important pillar of transparent & accountable governance.

17. When it comes to hunger, India faces the paradox of plenty. Discuss. Also suggest ways in which this concern can be addressed. (250 words) 15

जब भूखमरी की बात आती है, भारत को प्रचुरता के विरोधाभास का सामना करना पड़ता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उन उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए, जिनके माध्यम से इस चिंता का समाधान किया जा सकता है।

→ Article 47, and SDG goal 2 envisage universal access to safe and nutritious food.

However, India despite being a net food surplus country, suffers from the paradox of plenty.

- (i) Increasing agricultural wastage (around 25%) due to poor value addition infrastructure.
- (ii) Corruption in public distribution institution.
- (iii) Higher malnutrition due to poor nutrients in food.
E.g. oil per NFHS-4

report, around 37% of the child are stunted, while more than 50% of the women suffers from anaemia.

- (iv) Further, India's ^{double} burden of ~~the~~ malnutrition
- As ~~obese~~ children are increasing due to poor habit of eating junk food.
 - low awareness.

(v) Poor also suffers from hunger because of lack of purchasing capacity.

(vi) In India, there are overflowing godowns of cereals, while children die in hunger in Jharkhand.

Ways to address this concern

- (i) Decentralised procurement and distribution of grain.
- (ii) Diversify the basket of PDS like pulses, oils etc.
- (iii) Sustainable agriculture, along with increase of public investment in infrastructure.
- (iv) Food fortification as recommended by FSSAI.
- (v) FSSAI's Eat Safe India campaign can reduce obese problem.
- (vi) Basic income transfer can be a step in the right direction.

Government also needs to diversify and modernise agriculture along with integrated approach to malnutrition like sanitation, water etc. can be a way forward.

18. What is the role of wage employment in alleviating poverty? How is the MGNREGA different from the earlier Wage Employment Programmes in India? (250 words) 15

निर्धनता उन्मूलन में मजदूरी रोजगार की क्या भूमिका है? मनरेगा (MGNREGA) भारत में पहले के मजदूरी रोजगार कार्यक्रमों से कैसे भिन्न है?

→ Role of wage employment in alleviating poverty.

- (i) Right to choice due to increasing disposable income.
- (ii) Article 39 envisages Right to adequate livelihood as an important means of socio-economic justice.
- (iii) Increasing income leads to increase in consumption, and saving, thus leading to economic growth.

In 2005-2010, MGNREGA played an important role

in increasing employment and decreasing poverty.

(iv) Wage amount increases in private sectors due to increase in bargaining power.

(v) Problem of inadequate delivery of services doesn't happen in wage employment.

(vi) Disposable income → increase in educational spending

How is the MGNREGA different from the earlier programmes?

- (i) Rights-based approach to work (Article 21)
- (ii) Important role of Gram Sabha in planning & implementation ensure transparency & accountability
- (iii) Mandatory provision to give work to women.
More than 5% of workers are women, thus inclusive.

(iv) Financial Inclusion → as Direct Benefit transfer is used for wage distribution.

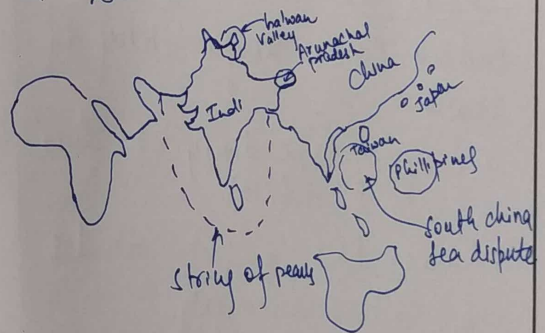
(v) MGNREGA is being converged with other programmes like Housing, water, sanitation agriculture etc. to create rural assets and integrated poverty alleviation.

Thus, wage employment along the lines of rights-based is an important means to alleviate poverty and fulfill SDG goal 1 (no poverty).

19. China's aggressiveness in recent times presents not only challenges to India but also opportunities to strengthen itself internationally and domestically. Discuss. (250 words) 15

हाल के दिनों में चीनी आक्रामकता न केवल भारत के लिए चुनौतियाँ खड़ी करती है बल्कि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय और घरेलू स्तर पर अपने आपको मशक बनाने का अवसर भी प्रदान करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

→ China's aggressiveness in the backdrop of economic and military expansion has led to conflict in several areas.



In the areas like
 (i) Himalayan dispute with India,
 (ii) South China sea dispute with Vietnam, Philippines, Taiwan, Malaysia etc.
 China is following its

policy of aggression.

Challenges it poses to India

- (i) Lack of economic and military capacity to fight two front war with China & Pakistan.
- (ii) India's encirclement in the Indian Ocean through String of Pearls
- (iii) Economic dependency on China (51bn \$ deficit).
- (iv) China's BRI project intrudes in India's sovereignty.

However, it also provides opportunities for strengthening itself.

Domestically

- (i) Economic self-reliance through

Atma-Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan

- (ii) Military indigenisation
- (iii) Consolidation of border through construction of infrastructure.
- (iv) Atma-Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan unique opportunity to ensure India's socio-economic development as other EU, Japan, Australia etc. want to build supply chain resilience.

Internationally

- (i) Build relationship through Quad with Japan, Australia & USA.
- (ii) Diplomatic wig with France, Germany etc. due to their increasing fear of China.
- (iii) Other countries like Vietnam and ASEAN countries can be useful partners in countering China.

Further India needs to focus on "Neighbourhood first" and Act Fast policy to strengthen our capacity to ensure peace.

20. Trade and connectivity hold the key for India to better engage its neighbours. Examine the opportunities and challenges in South Asia in this context. (250 words) 15

ब्यापार और कनेक्टिविटी, भारत के लिए अपने पड़ोसियों से बेहतर तरीके से जुड़ने का सामर्थ्य रखती है। इस संदर्भ में दक्षिण एशिया में अवसरों और चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

→ As per the UN report, South Asia is the least integrated region in the world.

While, only 5% of the trade happens between South Asian countries, East Asia & EU account for 35% & 60% of their internal trade.

Trade & Connectivity

hold the key for India to engage with Neighbours.

Opportunities

- (i) from 5%, the trade can be increase to at least 35%.
- (ii) Energy, agriculture, IT sectors.

holds promise, as India's experience can be useful for South Asian countries.

(iii) India's 'Neighbourhood policy' can get boost with trade & connectivity.

(iv) Further, regional security threats like terrorism and Chinese influence can be reduced in India's neighbours.

However, there are many challenges associated.

- (i) Poor infrastructure and connectivity
- (ii) Division of regional geopolitics due to religious lines.
- (iii) Lack of economic power with India to engage with South Asia.
- (iv) China's increasing influence with

- Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka etc.
- (v) Pakistan's state sponsored terrorism.
- (vi) India's big brotherly attitude doesn't bode well with neighbour.

Way Forward

- (i) Neighbourhood policy along the lines of Gujral doctrine.
- (ii) Increase investment in infrastructure connectivity.
E.g., BBIN motor vehicles agreement.
- (iii) SAARC needs to be revitalised and Pakistan's issue need to be decoupled with SAARC.
- South Asian connectivity is the need of the hour to ensure economic and political security of India and the world.