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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1514)

Name of Candidate	Kunal Rastogi		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English.	Registration Number	
Center	Online	Date	15/12/2021

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	10		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	10		2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3	10		3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4	10		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	10		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।
6	10		6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7	10		7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।
8	10		
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20	15		
Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			

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

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi- 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Conceptual Competence
2. Systems Competence
3. Language Competence
4. International Competence
5. Intercultural Communication Competence
6. Citizenship Competence

Draw at least 5 comments / feedback / suggestions in answer section

5
4
3
2
1

All the Best

1. Highlighting the changes introduced by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) Amendment Act, 2021, analyse various issues with the amended Act. (150 words) 10

दिल्ली राष्ट्रीय राजधानी राज्यक्षेत्र शासन (GNCTD) संशोधन अधिनियम, 2021 द्वारा प्रारंभ किए गए परिवर्तनों को रेखांकित करते हुए, इस संशोधित अधिनियम से जुड़े विभिन्न मुद्दों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Act
GNCTD ~~bill~~ was introduced by union to clarify position of Lt Governor in Delhi administration after SC judgement in 2018.

Changes introduced

(1) LG represents the government of Delhi

(2) All executive actions by COM of Delhi to be taken after consultation with LA.

(3) Legislative assembly of Delhi cannot inquire into the day-to-day administration

(4) Legislative assembly cannot pass a bill to declare office of Profits and cannot change the quantum of salaries.

ISSUES

① Against doctrine of parliamentary governance as executive of Delhi not bound by ~~parli~~ legislative scrutiny

② Violates the principle of federal character of Indian constitution, as union imposing its will on elected government through LA.

③ Not in consonance with SC judgement of 2018 which tried to diminish LA discretionary powers.

④ Legislative assembly, no more a sovereign body on its subjects that has been constitutionally devolved

Way forward → wider consultation between elected delhi govt & union for setting up institutional mechanisms for grievances

→ Center clearly demarcating further role of LA.

The principle of subsidiarity as envisaged by SC in 2018 & the constitutional principle of federalism should be followed in letter & spirit

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2. Are there valid arguments for continuing with sedition law in 21st century democratic India? Discuss in light of the debate surrounding it.

(150 words) 10

क्या 21वीं सदी के लोकतांत्रिक भारत में राजद्रोह कानून को जारी रखने के लिए वैध तर्क विद्यमान हैं? इससे संबंधित वाद-विवाद के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

IPC 124-A defines sedition as an attempt to foster hatred or contempt or attempt to show dissatisfaction towards the lawfully elected government by

- (1) words
- (2) Symbols
- (3) actions



Arguments for continuing

- ① To curb the separatist movements like in Nagaland, Manipur.
- ② To prevent anti-social elements

from disturbing public order or for ex

② Delhi riots

③ Using free speech to promote Naxal movements like recently in Chandacholi can be prevented using Seditious.

④ To punish individual involved in undermining constitution, its symbols, as well as the dignity of the law fully elected govt (SC, HC also have it)

Counter arguments

- undermines article 19(1)(a)
- no democratic country uses this (UK & USA have also banned it)
- obstructs the free flow of ideas and deliberation minimum

Way forward

- following SC guidelines in Balwant Singh case (mere slogans not seditious)
- clear demarcation of features defining seditious

JS Mill said, "No country can become great by dwarfing its citizen". Hence India must allow

3. Identify the issues that have contributed to a decline in the performance of Parliamentary Standing Committees. How can these issues be addressed?

(150 words) 10

उन मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए जिन्होंने संसदीय स्थायी समितियों के प्रदर्शन में गिरावट में योगदान दिया है। इन मुद्दों का समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है?

Recently, Lokniti CSDS survey stated that only 29% of bills go to the committee stage. Moreover more than 50% members are absent.

importance of Parliamentary standing committee

- detailed scrutiny
- expert opinion
- parliamentarians can freely debate rising above party lines

↳ closed door meetings enable bureaucrats to give their true opinion

Issues → declines in performance

① Criminalization of politics (43% criminals) resulting in decreased quality of legislators.

② Very small tenure of 1 year

③ Committee meetings cannot take

place outside, parliament. Hence during COVID, meetings were reduced

④ Politicization of selection procedure, as selection is solely on the basis of chairman/speaker. Hence distribution of patronage.

⑤ Lack of financial incentives. Moreover the recommendation being non-binding are not taken seriously.

Way forward

① Following UK pattern, all bills must mandatorily be passed to parliamentary standing committee

② Ministries must consult them before taking major decisions.

③ All reports must compulsorily be discussed

④ If recommendation by committee not followed, then written reasons be specified

Committee tradition is integral feature of parliamentary democracy & executive accountability

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4. Despite being a non-constitutional body, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has wielded immense decision-making power in India. Discuss the advantages and issues associated with it. **(150 words) 10**

एक गैर-संवैधानिक निकाय होने के बावजूद, प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय (PMO) के पास भारत में निर्णय-निर्माण की व्यापक शक्ति है। इससे संबद्ध लाभों और मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Prime Minister office (PMO), provides secretarial assistance to the PM and also is the residual Legatee

Decision making power

- ① Advises the PM on all issues related to the administrative affairs of the union.
- ② Looks after important bodies like
 - (1) Dept. of space
 - (2) Dept. of atomic energy
 - (3) ~~Dept. of~~ Principle Scientific Advisor
- ③ Co-ordinates with National Security Council, Cabinet Secretariat regarding orders of PM.
- ④ Also a policy making body. For eg NITI Ayog + PMO → Pragati Platform.
- ⑤ Advises PM on important selection

For ex RBI governor, NSA, CDS

Advantages.

- ① Quick decision making
- ② Coherent policy planning
- ③ Ground breaking discussions by PM can be taken for feedback without fearing leaking of information. PM played important role in demonetisation, Balakot air strike
- ④ Clear line of communication established to reach Prime Minister. Hence during emergency situation PM can effectively communicate.

Disadvantages

- ① Excessive centralisation hurts parliamentary democracy
 - ② Undermines role of Cabinet Secretariat
 - ③ Extra-constitutional body given excessive power without proper accountability mechanism.
- Doctrines of check & balances must apply to all, for proper functioning of

5. Discuss the role of data in governance in India. Also, state the various challenges in this regard and suggest remedial measures.

(150 words) 10

भारत में शासन में डेटा की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में विद्यमान विभिन्न चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए एवं उपचारात्मक उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

"Data is the new oil" - WEF

Governance is the process of exercising political, economical & social authority to manage the affairs of state. However authority can only be effectively when there is knowledge about subject

Rule in Governance - data

① Evidence based decision making. For ex Aspirational District programme to target most marginalised → efficiency improved

② Provide better quality services to all citizens. For ex ~~project~~

③ e-governance

③ Helps in weeding out corruption by enhancing accountability. For ex grievance Redressal mechanism

CCPA laws), Pragati platform, DBT
 ④ Helps in customising social
 justice programmes. For ex SECC
 helped in identification and
 transformation using PM-Awas,
 MGNREGA

Challenges: Hacking, Cybersecurity (Sokuwind)

- ② Privacy issues, misuse by corporates
- ③ No data protection law resulting
 in ambiguities in data collection
- ④ Spying on citizens for electoral
 benefits. For ex Pegasus issue.

Way forward

- ① Personalised data Protection law
 under BN Srikrishna Committee
 - ② Enhancing digital data Protection
 infrastructure. (Improve NTRo)
 - ③ Independent high level Commission to
 act as data trustee
- Data is double edged sword &
 hence must be used Carefully

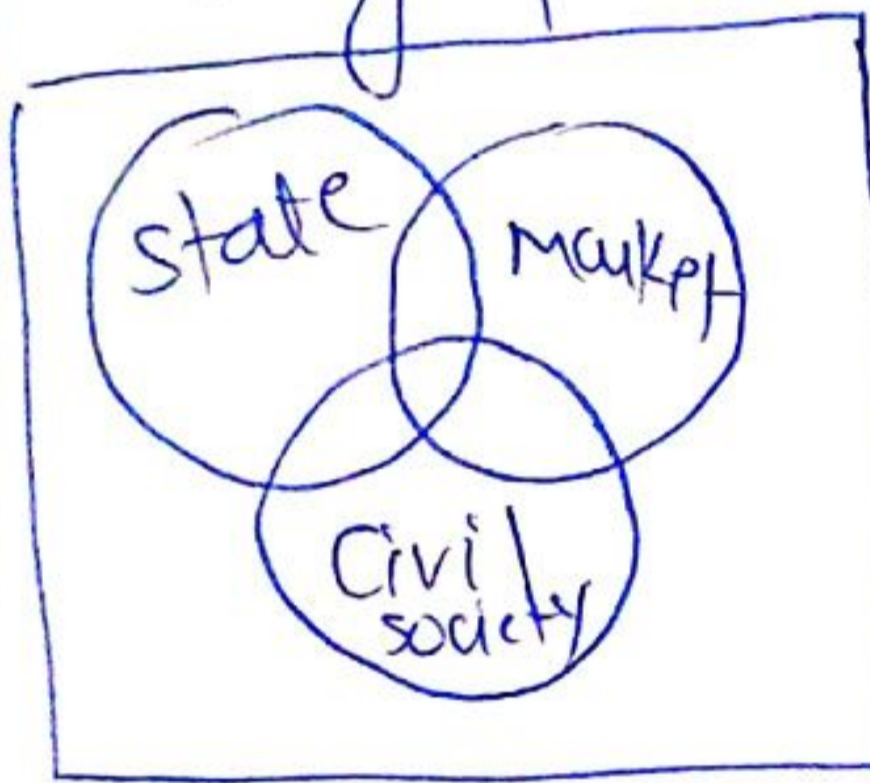
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6. With specific examples, elaborate upon the conditions that led to the emergence of a new civil society in urban India in the last few decades. Also, highlight its contribution towards effecting governance and policy changes. (150 words) 10

विशिष्ट उदाहरणों के साथ, उन परिस्थितियों का विस्तारपूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए, जिनके कारण पिछले कुछ दशकों में शहरी भारत में एक नए नागरिक समाज का उदय हुआ है। साथ ही, शासन और नीतिगत परिवर्तनों को प्रभावित करने में इसके योगदान पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Civil Society - "The Third Sector" is large arrays of independent organisation outside state & market working for the betterment of citizen.



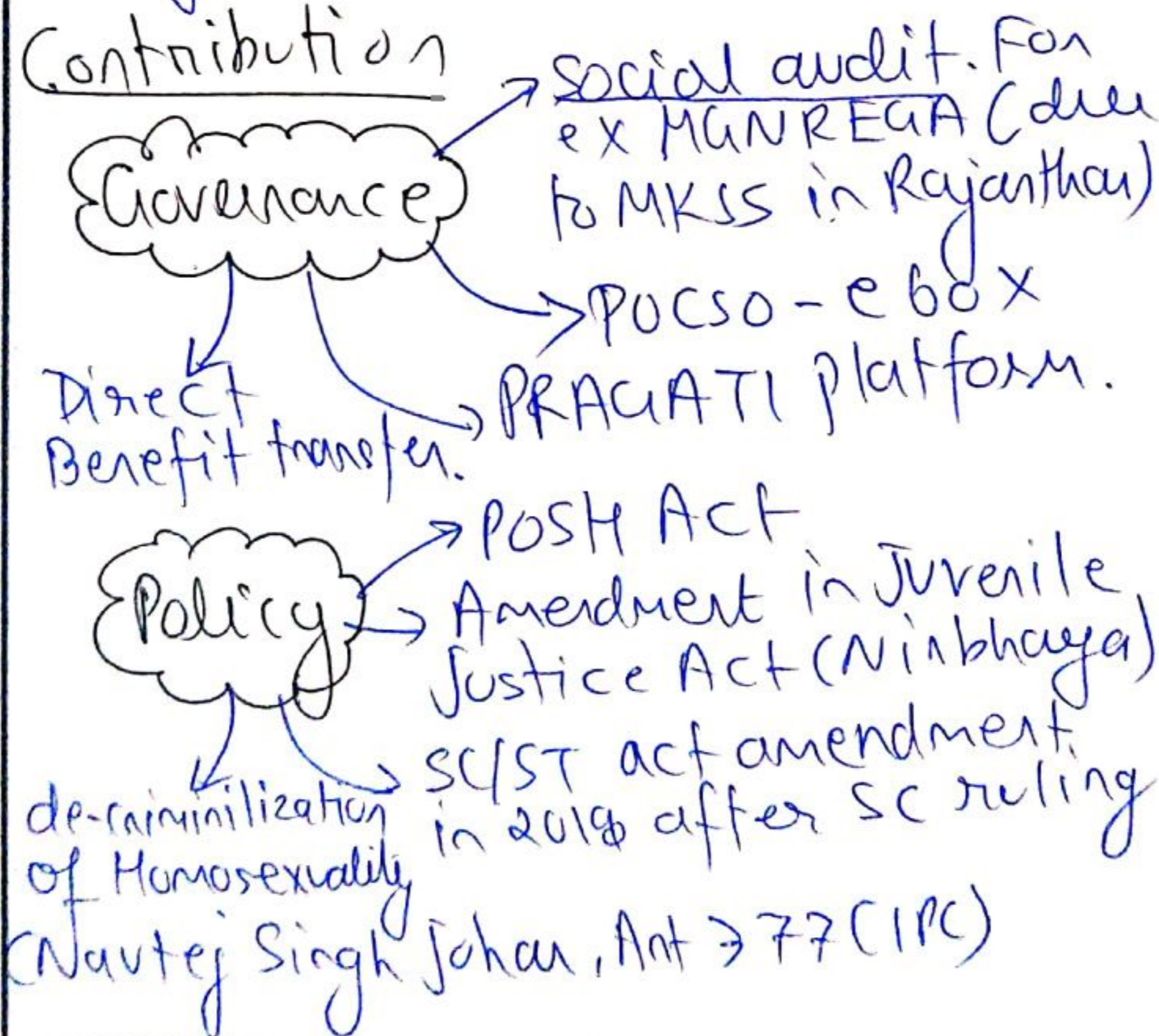
Emergence of new Civil Society

- ① Crony Capitalism leading to large scale corruptions like Commonwealth Scam. (Watch India NAO created)
- ② Criminalization of Politics leading to unfair means in election (led to New Election watch NAO)
- ③ discrimination against the marginalised sections of the society including violence. For ex Mathura Rape Case, Nirbhaya

Rohit Verma's suicide

- ④ discrimination against third gender (transgender) as well as LGTBQ. Rise of Naz foundation
- ⑤ Use of draconian laws like NSA, sedition to undermine democracy & its protectors (Star Swamy case)
- ⑥ Killing of RTI Activist (Sanjay Dubey)

Contribution



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7. The Gati Shakti mission has the potential to not only address the issue of infrastructure bottlenecks but also streamline the governance processes in the country. Elucidate. (150 words) 10

गति शक्ति मिशन में न केवल अवसंरचना संबंधी बाधाओं का समाधान करने की क्षमता है अपितु देश में शासन प्रक्रियाओं को सुव्यवस्थित करने की भी क्षमता विद्यमान है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Gati Shakti missions aim to provide & enhance multi-modal connectivity and infrastructure improvement through integrated approach.

adoption of global good practices.

cross ministerial collaboration



subsumes National Infrastructure Pipeline

umbrella programme for Infrastructure

Address: Infrastructure bottlenecks

① Provides a master plan for development of 11 industrial corridors and 2 defense corridors

② Tries to decrease logistical cost (13%) by laying foundation of 17000 km road & last mile connectivity through Sagar mala project

③ Multi-modal connectivity projects including
[Railway
Highway
Waterway] to decrease travel time

④ Synergy with national Monetisation pipeline to make infra projects economically viable & environmentally sustainable

Address: Governance

① Gati Shakti digital platform for cross ministerial co-ordination

② Nodal authority for project approval

③ Helps in financing through bond market (REITS, INVITS) costly infrastructure

④ Responsible for developing masterplan addressing not only project, but surrounding investments.

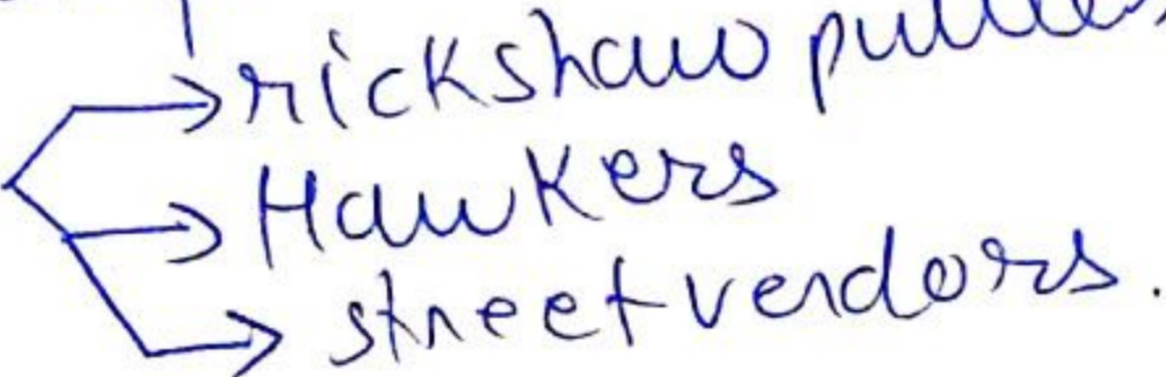
GATI Shakti will help India modernise its outdated infrastructure through synergic planning for realising \$ trillion

8. Giving an account of the issues faced by workers in the informal sector, discuss whether the recently launched e-Shram portal can help in addressing them. (150 words) 10

अनौपचारिक क्षेत्रक में श्रमिकों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली समस्याओं का विवरण देने हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या हाल ही में प्रारंभ ई-श्रम पोर्टल उनका समाधान करने में सहायता कर सकता है।

Informal Sector (22% according to CMIE reports) comprises those which are not regulated through govt laws like

- (1) Factories Act
- (2) Shops & Establishment Act

It includes 

- rickshaw pullers
- Hawkers
- street vendors.

Issues faced by them

① Cannot access EPFO schemes for pension & disability benefits as well as provident fund

② No compensation in case of disability on accident at work as not under ESIC scheme.

③ Do not have political influence as no union can be formed (not under Trades Union Act)

④ Temporary employment resulting in daily wage earning with uncertain economic security

⑤ Since mostly are migrants (BSI report) cannot access govt schemes like

① NFSA ② MGNREGS

③ National Social Assistance Prog

e-shram portal launched to register all migrant workers on Labour ministry platform.

① Help in placement of them in permanent jobs.

② Have been given Labour identification number for accessing EPFO, ESIC

③ Skill development programme through PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana

④ Grievance Redressal in case of non-payment of wages.

currently only Interstate worker Migration Act applicable. It should be strengthened in order to fulfill Article 49 of DPSP as well as Basic Human

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9. Clarifying the significance of the recent developments on the issue of global minimum tax, discuss its prospects and challenges for India.

(150 words) 10

वैश्विक न्यूनतम कर के मुद्दे के संदर्भ में हालिया घटनाक्रमों के महत्व को स्पष्ट करते हुए, भारत के लिए इसकी संभावनाओं और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, G7 prescribed for a global minimum tax of 15% on all corporates.

Significance

- ① Base Erosion and Profit shifting can be avoided
- ② Safe havens where black money is stored will now be unviable
- ③ Double taxation Agreement will now prevent Round tripping of money
- ④ Legal prosecutions can take place across national borders against defaulters.

Prospects For India

① According to world Bank, India loses approximately 1.3% of GDP to BEPS every year. This

amount will help boost Indian Economy

② India could sign beneficial FTA with countries which earlier had low taxation regime. For ex Saudi Arabia

③ Complements India stance on Corporate terrorism, whereby tax evasion techniques by corporates result in neo-colonialism

Challenges

① GMT is still 15%. which is lower than Indian 22% of corporate tax

② No international authority to act as regulator and enforcer.

③ Time taking procedure or justice system of each country is different & no time limit for money retrieval/defined

suitable International regulatory body which is democratic in nature should be constituted to act as watchdog.

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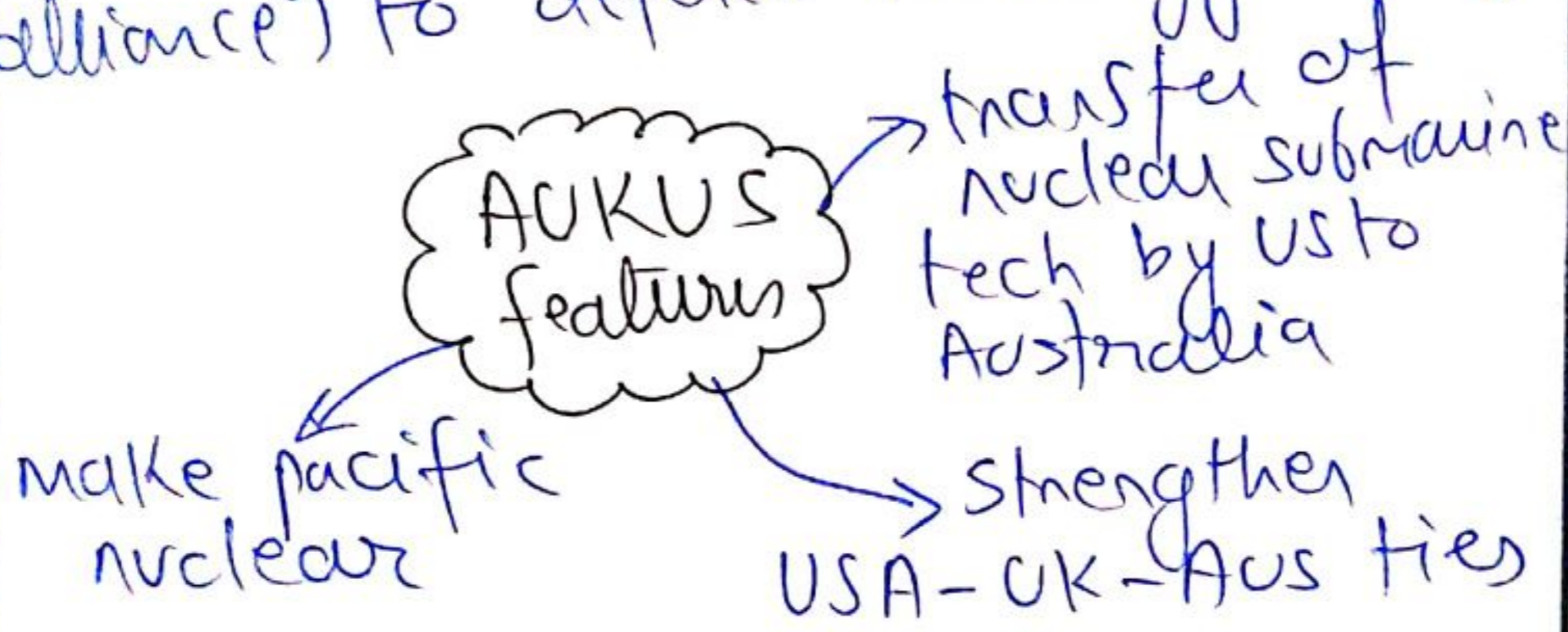
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10. Announcement of the AUKUS security pact heralds a new era of global geopolitics. Comment. Also, discuss how it may affect India's interests.

(150 words) 10

AUKUS सुरक्षा समझौते की घोषणा ने वैश्विक भू-राजनीति के एक नए युग की शुरुआत की है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि यह भारत के हितों को कैसे प्रभावित कर सकता है।

AUKUS is a trilateral security arrangement between Australia, UK & USA. It aims to spillover the intelligence sharing (Five eyes alliance) to defence technology exchange



Global geo-political aspects

- ① Deterrence against china's wolf warrior diplomacy by strengthening USA presence through offshore balancing via Australia
- ② Complements Quad's military prowess as now all its members

11. Effective devolution of finances is an important requirement for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to fulfill their objectives. Discuss while also elaborating on the reasons behind lack of financial resources for PRIs in India. (250 words) 15

पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRI) को अपने उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए वित्त का प्रभावी हस्तांतरण एक महत्वपूर्ण अनिवार्यता है। भारत में PRIs के लिए वित्तीय संसाधनों की कमी हेतु उत्तरदायी कारणों का वर्णन करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए।

73rd Constitutional amendment following the principle of subsidiarity established the third tier of Indian federal structure which have brought Silent Revolution in Indian rural landscape.

However due to lack of Effective financial devolution

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graph TD
    A[Effective financial devolution] --> B[Art 243-I]
    A --> C[Art 275 (Statutory grants)]
    A --> D[Art 280 (Finance Commission)]
  
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PRIs efficiency & effectiveness has been compromised.

Objectives of PRI

- ① Political empowerment of Rural areas.
- ② Customised approach to planning

Thorough decentralisation of power
 ③ Participative Governance
 ④ Bottoms up approach of development

Reasons for lack of financial Resources

Panchayat

→ non-taxation on devoluted subject due to populist measures for elections

→ Subjects devoluted result in very less revenue generation. For ex small markets & Fairs

→ No dedicated manpower for tax collection

State Govt

→ non-constitution of finance commission under 243-I

→ non-devolution of taxation subjects like irrigation

No political under 243-G

will for changing status & so

Central Govt → panchayats are in state list
 → other national priorities

(4) Corruption is rampant due to ineffective accountability mechanism

Impact → Compromised infrastructural facilities
 → non-completion of sanctioned projects
 → Reduced funds, reduce capacity of PRI thereby decreasing democratic potential.

Way Forward

- ① PRIA soft mechanism should be strengthened for reducing corruption in transfer of money
- ② Independent auditors to be appointed for checking books
- ③ Making devolution of funds basis for transfer of grants from center to state
- ④ 15th FC has allocated 1,56,000 cr for 201-2026 period, an increase of 60%. It should be properly utilised and distributed

12. Judicial activism is a necessary tool to guard against "legislative adventurism and executive excesses". Critically discuss in the context of the doctrine of separation of powers as provided in the Constitution of India.

(250 words) 15

"विधायी जोखिम और कार्यकारी अतिक्रमण" से रक्षा के लिए न्यायिक सक्रियता एक आवश्यक उपकरण है। भारत के संविधान में यथा प्रदत्त शक्तियों के पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत के संदर्भ में ममालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Doctrine of separation of powers, according to Montesquieu refers to distribution of powers between the constituents ensuring checks & balances for non-interference.

India → Article 50 → India Gandhi Case
→ Article 74 & 75
→ Article 121, 122

However India unlike USA does not follow strict separation of powers as elaborated by SC in Ram Jawaya case instead constitution allows inter-dependance between 3 pillars.

In light of above, judicial activism was used by Supreme Court as means to check the other two as well as uphold the principles of constitution.

Judicial activism against legislative adventurism

- ① Indra Sawhney judgement, whereby SC capped reservation to 50%, so that article 14 is not violated
- ② Aadhar case, whereby SC upheld article 21 under K.S. Puttaswamy Right to privacy by not allowing govt to allow private company access to public internet data
- ③ Lily Thomas case, ADR case, PUCL case for initiating electoral reforms to curb criminalisation of politics

Judicial activism against executive

- ① Oxygen task force to distribute oxygen to various states which had alleged biasness by Executive in distribution
- ② Judiciary instituting Graded Response Action Plan for NCR, when

executive failed to take action

③ Judiciary pronouncing auction as the sole method for allocation of state resources to private companies to remove executive discretion leading to corruption.

Judicial activism → Adventurism

① Violates the doctrine of Separation of power.

② declaring NJAC unconstitutional which undermined judicial transparency

③ Judiciary involved in judicial legislation leading to confusion and loss of public exchequer (SC banning alcohol)

④ Judiciary undermining publicly executive policy. (for ex calling ECI murderers, or suo motu violation of constitution case against Andhra Pradesh)

The three branches form a complex ecosystem, whose energy is derived from constitution. Hence

13. The electoral bond scheme is part of what appears to be a growing trend away from transparency and accountability in electoral funding. Critically analyse. (250 words) 15

चुनावी बॉण्ड योजना उस बढ़ती हुई प्रवृत्ति का भाग है जो चुनावी फंडिंग में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही से दूर जाने की प्रतीत होती है। समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Electoral bond scheme was introduced by union government via Finance Act 2018 to ~~stop~~ monitor cash flow into electoral funding

identity of donors anonymous.

~~dedicated~~ dedicated account for fund transfer.

features of electoral bonds
 Party receiving 1% vote in previous election allowed

up to 2000 Rupees Cash transfer.

Electoral bonds valid for only 15 days

Electoral bonds reducing transparency

① Election Commission of India cannot inquire from political parties, money received from electoral bonds.

① IT Act & RBI Act amended to not allow them in scrutinising political parties account receiving electoral bonds

② Complete Anonymity of donor for public. only RBI & the Govt knows the donor names as electoral bonds are bearer promissory notes.

Electoral bonds reducing Accountability

① According to Lokniti CSDS survey, 95% money from electoral bonds gone to ~~electoral~~ ruling party

② No scrutinising authority for banking reports created by Political parties.

③ RTI not applicable on political parties.

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- ④ Money flowing into elections drastically increased from corporate
- ⑤ Political parties exempted from FCRA as well as cap of 7.5% removed on corporates on political funding

Electoral bond enhancing Transparency and accountability

① Cash involved in elections have drastically reduced

② SBI has all the data of the name of political funders which could be released on orders of court

③ Donors are now not harassed by rival political parties.

④ Way forward

bring political parties under RTI

allow ECI to audit reports
setup independent Commission for reviewing the effectiveness of scheme

State funding (Indrajit Gupta) of election committee

14. The significance of the principle of subsidiarity was well reflected in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. Analyse. (250 words) 15

समनुपंगिता (सब्सिडियरिटी) के सिद्धांत का महत्व कोविड-19 महामारी के प्रबंधन में बेहतर रूप से परिलक्षित हुआ है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

COVID-19 pandemic was managed by India through a concerted effort from all its federal constituents using not only the existing laws but through democratically established conventions as well.

This was done through the principle of subsidiarity: If a particular function can be carried out at a lower level, then it should be.

① Panchayats & Municipalities

- ① organising of vaccination centers. For ex mobile vaccination by DMC
- ② using Aasha workers to spread awareness as well as providing primary health care services

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③ Charting up the panchayat level and municipal level plans. For ex BMC of Mumbai played a proactive role, panchayat in Himachal Pradesh

④ State level: state level Policy

① setting up supply chains for vaccine distribution and development of cold storage.

② Enforcing micro lockdowns

③ distributing PPE Kits

④ Regulating local markets, school reopening

⑤ distribution of food under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana, as well as helping migrant workers.

National level: overarching Policy

① Development of vaccines as well as its mass production using Bharat Biotech.

② ~~gov~~ cowin portal for vaccine registration, Arogya Setu for detection

③ Procurement and distribution of food grains

④ Arranging operation varde bharat for safe travel of NRI & back to India

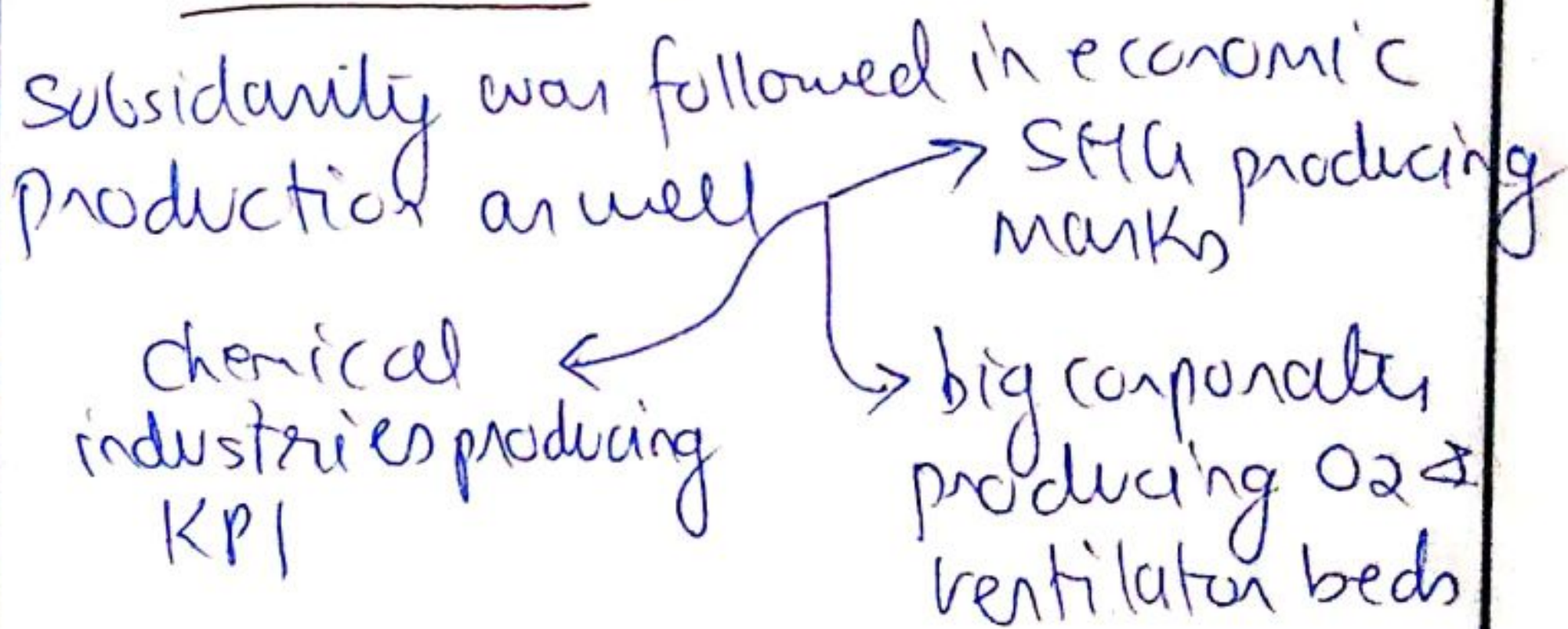
⑤ Negotiating with International stakeholders to get emergency supplies.

O₂ concentrator → China

transistors → Taiwan

PPE Kits → Australia

O₂ tanker → USA



Hence a concerted approach involving a multi-stakeholder, multi-dimensional and multi-level ~~at~~ intervention was used to tackle COVID-19 and successfully vaccinate

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15. Social media has ushered in greater transparency and accountability in governance. But accountability through social media is no alternative to institutional accountability. Analyse. (250 words) 15

सोशल मीडिया ने शासन में अधिक पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही की शुरुआत की है। लेकिन सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से जवाबदेही संस्थागत जवाबदेही का विकल्प नहीं है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Governance is defined as ~~exercising~~ exercising authority to manage the affairs of state. ~~being~~ However for robust democracy like India, good Governance should be the way including

- ① Accountability
- ② Responsibility
- ③ Transparency
- ④ Consensus
- ⑤ Rule of law
- ⑥ participatory

Social Media has helped in revolutionising good governance by giving government a platform for public opinion inclusion in policy formulation.

Social Media → Transparency

- ① Civic Engagement through the online medium has increased
- ② Two-way communication

as government uses social media for information dissemination. For ex COVID-19 Social distancing norms Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

③ Public could spread information regarding government policies to other citizens. For ex RTI activist publishing their reports

Social media → accountability

① Pressure Groups use social media to mobilise people for protesting. For ex Farm movement

② Civil Society use social media to attract global attention to Human Rights & Environment issues. For ex Vinbhaya Case, Mathura Case

③ Social media audits of govt policies helping citizens become politically aware so that they can vote in informed manner.

④ Biassed investigations

institutional
accountability

→ answerability through
laws & regulation

→ investigation by CBI,
CVC on dereliction of
duty

→ SCAG audit
of funds

→ Parliamentary Scrutiny

importance

→ authentic & fact checked
scrutiny

→ no media sensationalism

unbiased

→ Proper procedure

→ lays down framework
for future investigation

creates
deterrence
in civil
servants

→ involves penal provision
(POCA)

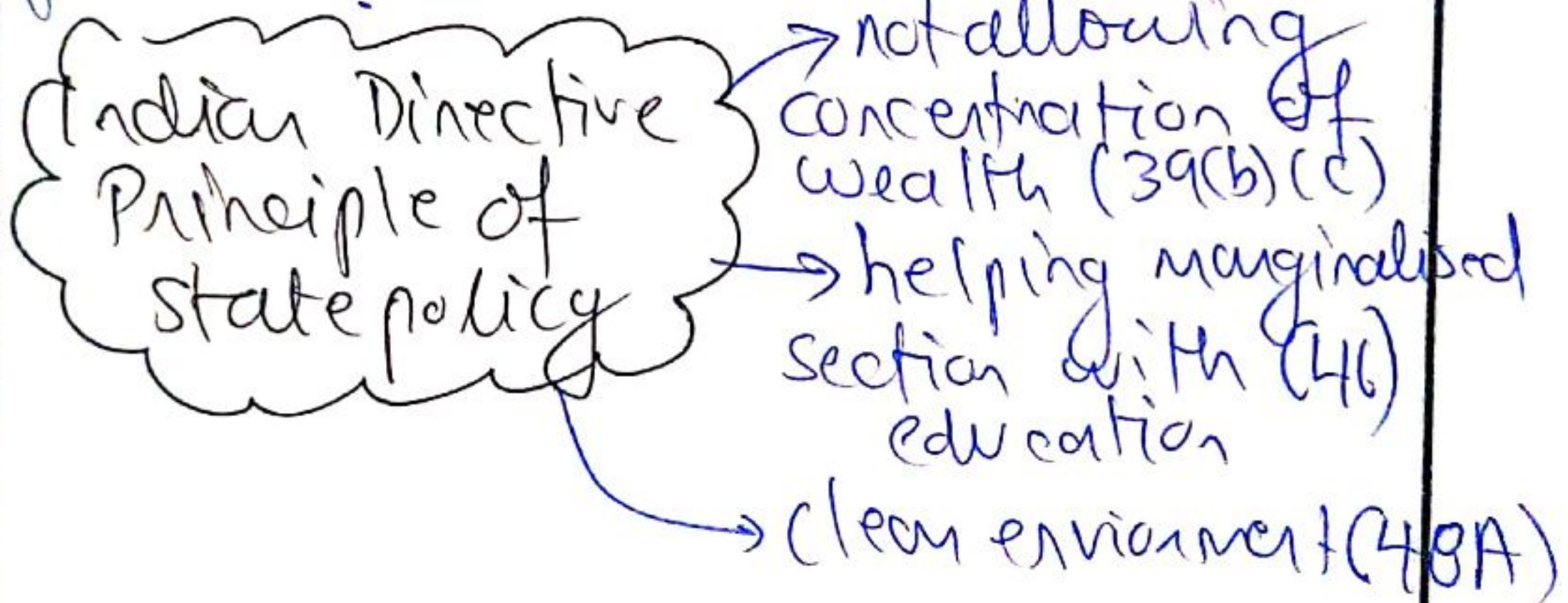
social media has often resulted
in sensationalism thereby decreasing
the credibility of Accountability
mechanism.

It is in this light
that institutional accountability
provides proper channels and proper
ways for upholding principle of
constitutional democracy.

16. Although the State has the right incentives and intentions to deliver public services efficiently, its capacity to do so is questionable. Critically discuss in the context of India. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि राज्य के पास सार्वजनिक सेवाओं के कुशलतापूर्वक वितरण हेतु उचित प्रोत्साहन और उद्देश्य विद्यमान हैं, तथापि ऐसा करने की उसकी क्षमता संदिग्ध है। भारत के संदर्भ में ममालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

The primary motive of state is to uphold the social contract by implementing public policies for the betterment of citizens in accordance of constitutional provision.



Various Steps

- ① Direct Benefit Transfer
- ② Aadhar Enabled Payment System.
- ③ Outcome - output performance Budget
- ④ Audits by CAG checking fiscal

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prudence

Even after above, Corruption Perception index marks India 86/100 due to following

Capacity of state for efficiency

① Bureaucratic procedures and structures promoting rule rather than efficiency

② Art 311 which hinders state availability to dismiss civil servants

③ Large number of judicial cases pending, due to outdated mechanism of judiciary (National Judicial data grid → 3.8 crore cases)

④ Criminalisation of politics (43% → Lokniti)

⑤ Crony Capitalism.

However the government has taken proactive steps like

- ① RTI
- ② Social audit
- ③ Citizen charter
- ④ PRAGATI platform
- ⑤ Sparrow, probity & solve
- ⑥ CPGRAMS
- ⑦ e-governance
- ⑧ Biometric attendance

Hence government has taken a proactive approach to increase the efficiency in legal structures and with time it will translate into behavioural approach.

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17. The problem of hunger in India does not lie in food production but various other underlying issues. Discuss in the wake of decline in India's ranking in the Global Hunger Index, 2021. (250 words) 15

भारत में हंगर (भूखमरी) की समस्या खाद्य उत्पादन में नहीं बल्कि अन्य कई अंतर्निहित मुद्दों के कारण है। ग्लोबल हंगर इंडेक्स, 2021 में भारत की रैंकिंग में गिरावट के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

India was ranked 101st in Global Hunger Index placing it in severe category for food shortage and hunger with a score of 31.8. (Globally 16.6)



Indian food production

- more than 300 million metric tonne of food produced
- (1) number 2 in wheat & rice
- (2) number 1 in milk, & mango
- 60 million tonne of egg production
- Second largest fish producer.

Underlying issues

① More than 40% of the food

stored in FCI is wanted (Shanta Kumar Committee) due to

- ① lack of cold storage
- ② More food procurement due to MSP regime (Capacity: 55 MMT Intake: 85 MMT)
- ③ outdated supply chain system as well as road connectivity
- ④ Due to high logistic cost of almost 3% of GDP, food prices are elevated
- ⑤ Skewed production. Almost all of wheat produced in Punjab and UP due to high remunerative prices of MSP. However other horticulture crops not grown.
- ⑥ MSP raising inflation
- ⑦ Private sector has not been allowed resulting in
 - ① Lack of Efficiency
 - ② outdated Scientific Practices
 - ③ Unavailability of ~~FCI~~ Fair Price shops in rural areas.

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Hence benefit of NFSA cannot be taken.

⑥ lack of food fortification resulting in nutritional deficiency

Steps taken by Government

- ① Poshan Abhiyan for increasing nutritional quality of food
- ② One nation one Ration Card scheme for allowing cross state portability of Ration Cards
- ③ PM AATI scheme for improving Road infrastructure & cutting cost of logistical sectors.
- ④ E-NAM project for better price discovery
- ⑤ PM-Swamintra scheme for digitisation of land record so that access to institutional credit possible
- ⑥ Soil Health Card

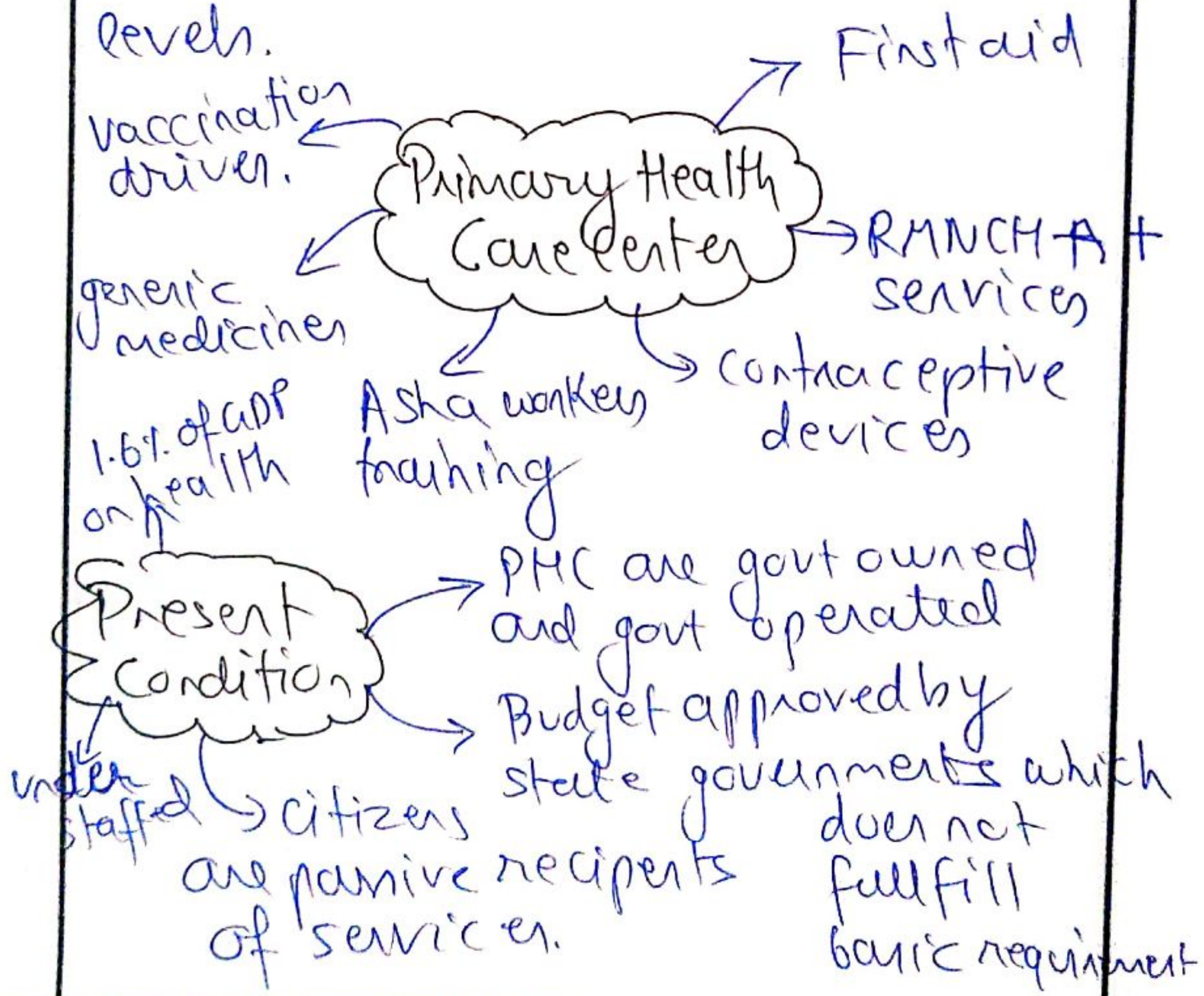
Hence govt has taken a holistic approach following Swaminathan committee recommendation.

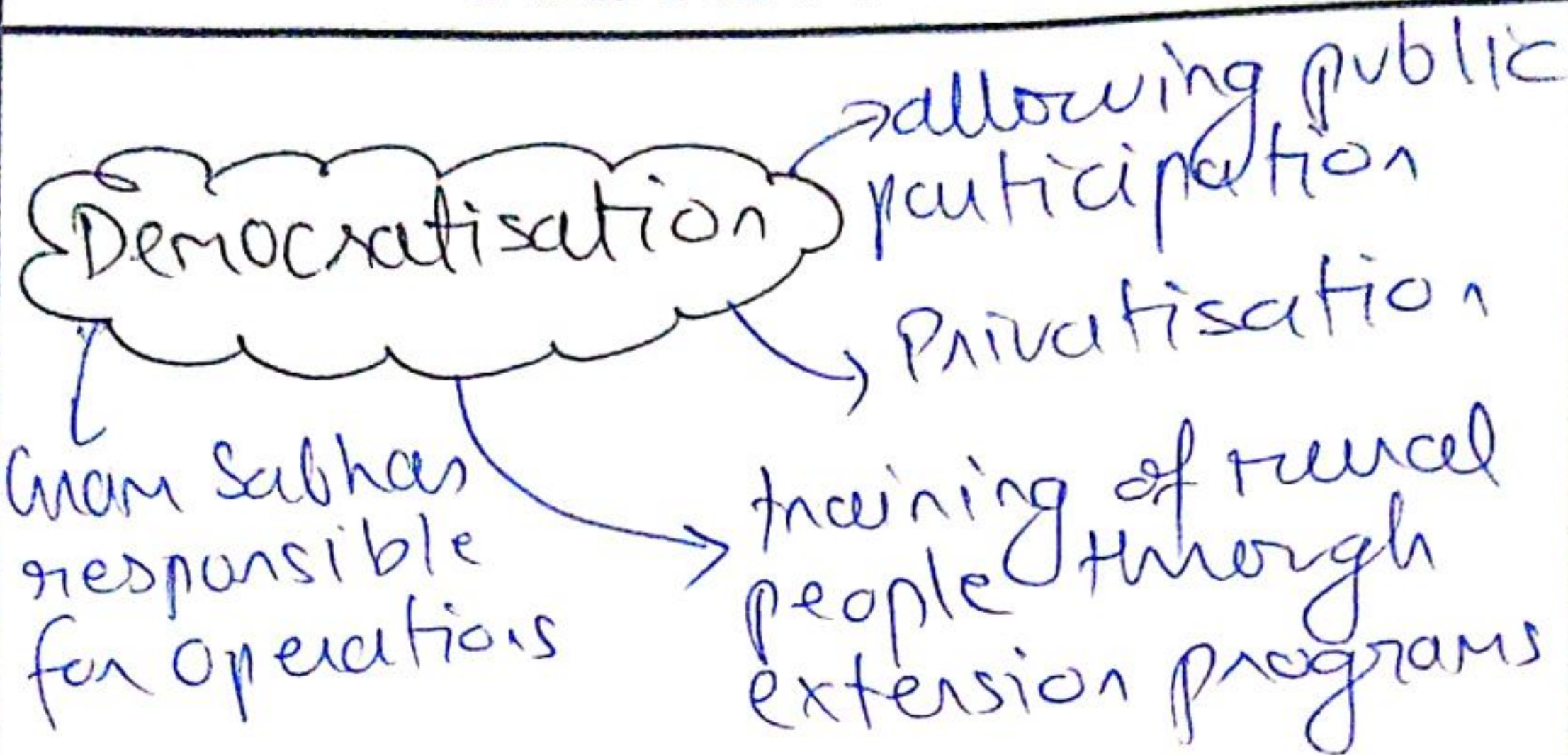
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18. Democratization of primary healthcare is indispensable for fulfilling the objectives of equitable and comprehensive care in India. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारत में समान और व्यापक देखभाल के उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल का लोकतंत्रीकरण अपरिहार्य है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Primary Health Care Center is the first point of interaction of normal citizen with the healthcare sector of India. There are more than 1,50,000 PHC established at panchayat levels.





Democratisation leading to Equitable & comprehensive care

- ① Proliferation of PHC in rural India if private parties are encouraged to set it up & government using viable gap funding funds it.
- ② Upskilling in terms of Health services in rural people will aid in faster delivery of emergency healthcare.
- ③ Education programs through DTH, social media to aid people learn the necessary skills

④ Rural India face highest shortages in terms of Health care personnel (NFMS - 5, 2020-21 \rightarrow 1/1000) as opposed to 1/1456 (India). Democratisation would aid in increasing doctor patient ratio thereby improving health care.

Steps taken: National Health Policy 2017

① PM Jan Arogya yojna empowering 1,50,000 PHC into Health & Wellness Center

② PLI scheme for generic drugs to reduce cost & increase production

③ PM - Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi program, to allow common citizens set up medicine shop

④ National health mission to increase number of medical graduates

⑤ National list of Essential Medicines to provide subsidised Health care

"Health is wealth" & hence PHC will help build Human Capital which would aid India make trust with destiny

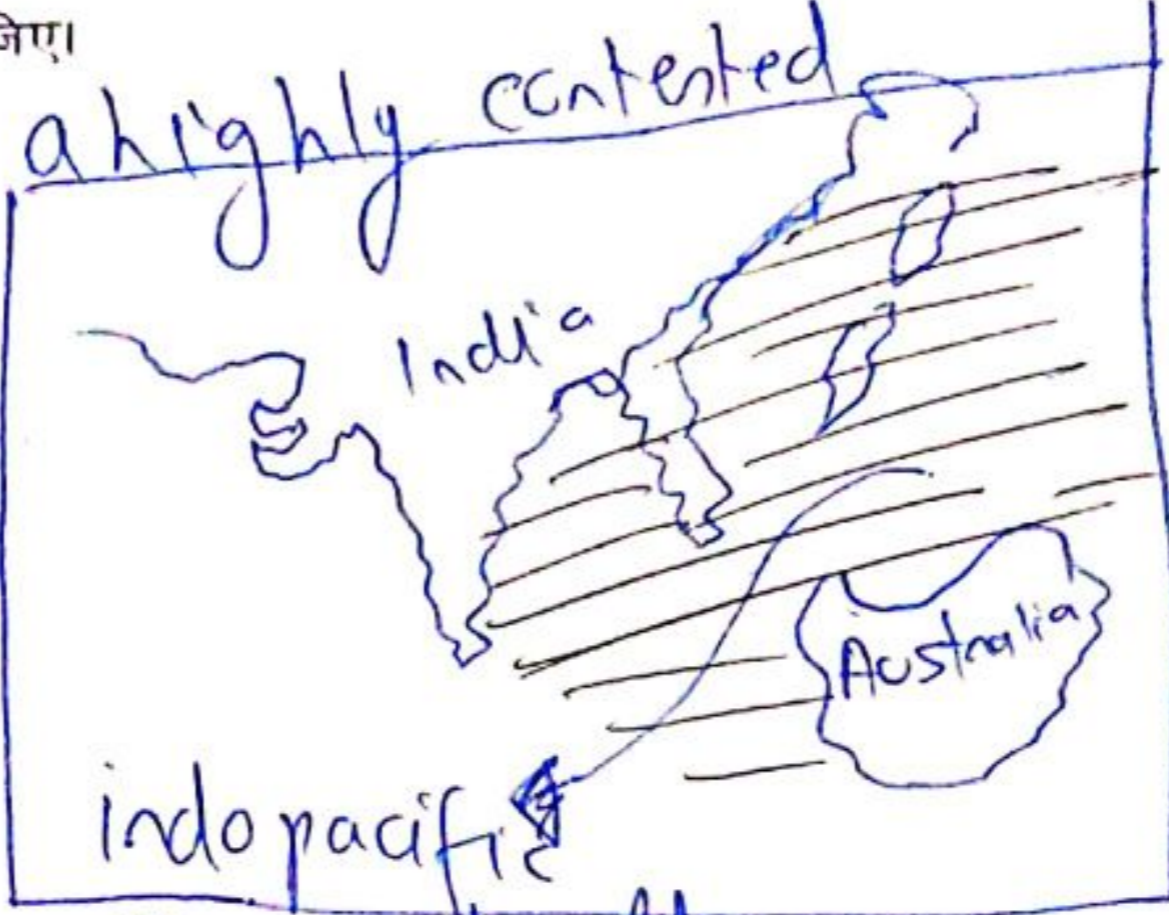
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19. In the context of the evolving discourse on the Indo-Pacific, analyse the factors driving the global shift towards the region. Also, identify India's interests and challenges in this regard. (250 words) 15

हिंद-प्रशांत (इंडो-पसिफिक) पर विकसित हो रहे संवाद के संदर्भ में, इस क्षेत्र की ओर वैश्विक झुकाव को प्रेरित करने वाले कारकों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में भारत के हितों और चुनौतियों की भी पहचान कीजिए।

Indo-Pacific is a highly contested region because



① Geo-political significance

② Large amount of trade flows through the region (67% of oil & 85% of International goods)

③ Taiwan which supplies more than 40% of world transistors

④ Australia which is huge exporter of natural resources.

⑤ ~~Rev~~ Thucydides rivalry between revisionist assertive china and status quoist USA.

Global shift

① Construction of military bases by China in sparsely Scarborough islands

- which are part of vietnam philippines
- ② USA interest in the region through
 - ① ARIA Act
 - ② Taiwan - china issue
 - ③ china claim on 9 dash line
 - ③ Formation of Quad, AUKUS show the policy shift.

Indias interest

- ① India considers Indian ocean as its backyard and wants to be the net security provider
- ② Polymetallic nodules extraction from EEZ of India
- ③ Exploiting China's malacca dilemma so that India has leverage while negotiating in galwan valley
- ④ Alternative route to North East through Kaladan multi-modal highway

Challenges

- ① String of Pearls policy, encircling India through construction of various ports by China in form of Hambantota, Exitred port, Gwadar port.
- ② Growing presence of USA navy fleet undermining India's sovereignty
- ③ China & USA may block the choke points thereby cutting India trade supply

Steps taken

- Quad formation with like minded countries
- Signing of LEMOA with USA as well as 2+2 Ministerial dialogue
- Act East policy for including ASEAN into the midst.

Hence India favouring its National and strategic interest has taken a multi-lateral approach in securing its indopacific interest.

20. India's Afghanistan policy must be based on a clear-eyed understanding of important strategic goals, in the region amidst the current regional and global strategic environment. Elaborate. (250 words) 15

भारत की अफगानिस्तान नीति वर्तमान क्षेत्रीय और वैश्विक रणनीतिक परिवेश के बीच इस क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण रणनीतिक लक्ष्यों की स्पष्ट समझ पर आधारित होनी चाहिए। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

with the removal of US forces from Afghanistan, Taliban has taken over the country causing wide spread geopolitical repercussions for neighbouring countries especially India.

Current Regional Environment of Afghanistan

- ① Afghan forces have been defeated and democratically elected govt has fled country
- ② Pakistan through Haqqani faction of Taliban is making inroads in the political decisions of Afghanistan
- ③ Russia is supporting the

Northern Alliance

① China is taking a calculated approach, because it itself is in danger of spread of Islamic fundamentalism in Uyghur Muslims.

Global Environment

- ① NATO forces have backed down
- ② UN is trying to mediate peace
- ③ EU is sending humanitarian aid
- ④ Large scale migration crisis of Refugee has begun.

Indian Strategic Goals

- ① Safeguarding 3 bn \$ worth of Indian investment in form of Salma dam, Parliament of Kabul
- ② Using Chabahar port & Afghanistan Zahedan - Zanzan Highway to access the Central Asian region for
 - ① Natural resources like rare earth metals.
 - ② gas through TAPI pipeline

- ③ Not allowing Religious fundamentalism to create security issues in J&K.
- ④ Maintaining the soft power India has developed over last 20 years.

Steps India need to take

- ① Should start back channel diplomacy with Taliban.
- ② Continue its Covid-aid to build trust
- ③ Keep on promoting through soft power values of democracy, Human Rights.
- ④ Take the issues up in security Council for a proper approach.
- ⑤ Keep ISI in check through counterintelligence operations.

As Mackinder said, one who controls Central Asia controls world. India should create a clear-eyed carefully crafted realist policy with Taliban at its center.