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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1523)

Name of Candidate	AISHWARYA SINGH		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	39839
Center		Date	14/12/20

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
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18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

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।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
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।

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

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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

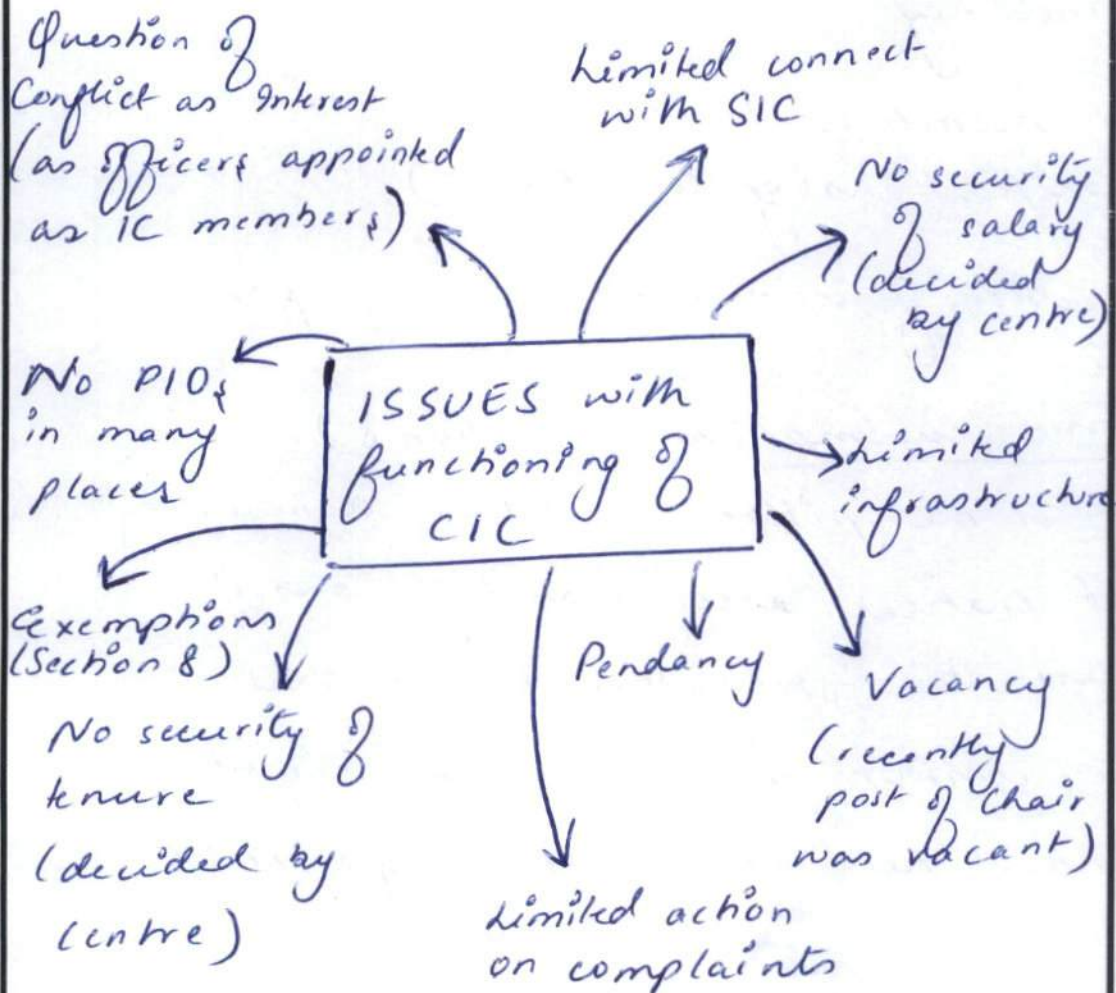
1. Enumerate the issues associated with functioning of the Central Information Commission. How can these issues be addressed?

(150 words) 10

केंद्रीय सूचना आयोग की कार्य प्रणाली से संबद्ध मुद्दों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। इन मुद्दों का कैसे समाधान किया जा सकता है?

Recently, SC pointed out to the 2000+ cases pendency in CIC.

CIC — Statutory body
— RTI Act
— for transparency, powers of civil court



The issues can be addressed by—

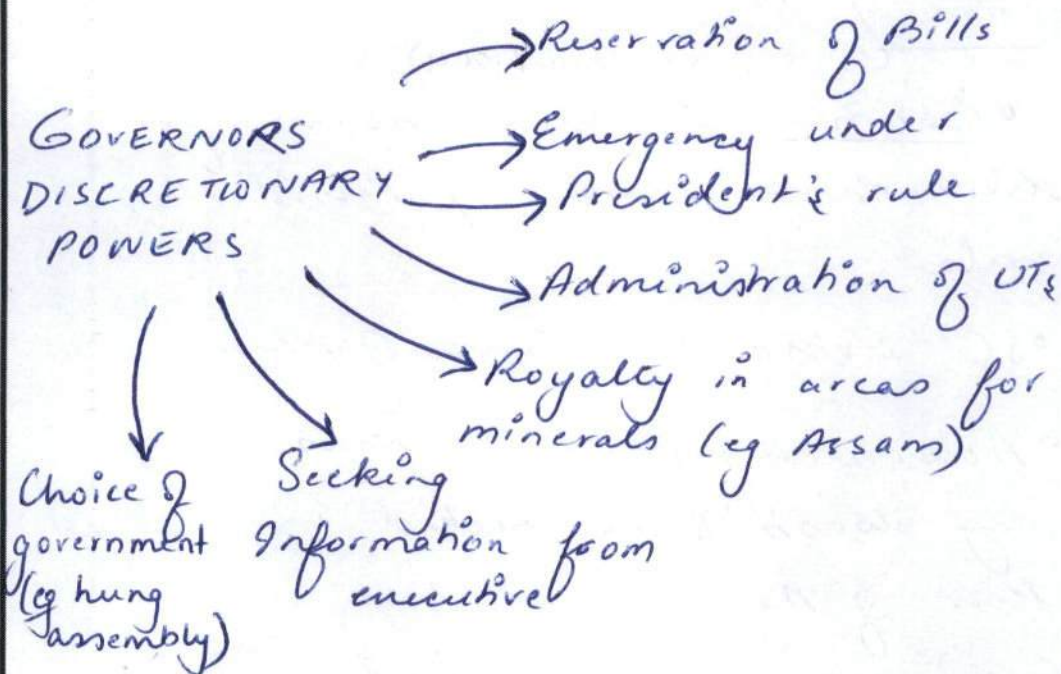
- Quick appointment (within 2 months of vacancy)
- Link salary to that of Supreme Court Judges
- Link tenure to CEC and Election Commission
- Greater power to punish for violation.
- Increase members to dispose of pendency.
- All members to have minimal qualifications (eg law degree).
- Creation of constitutional body for CEC
- Limit exemptions (eg Section 8)

CJC is the pillar of Indian democracy as it enables accountability and it must be strengthened so that the common man has the right to know how he is being governed.

2. In India, Governor's discretionary powers are wider than those of the President. Elaborate. (150 words) 10

भारत में, राज्यपाल की विवेकाधीन शक्तियाँ राष्ट्रपति की तुलना में अधिक व्यापक हैं। सविस्तर वर्णन कीजिए।

The constitution of India mentions for the provision of discretionary powers of Governor as a lynchpin of Indian federal structure (Sarkaria Commission).



The governor's discretionary powers are wider than those of President as —

- Constitution states if governor acts on discretion, no authority can

state that the governor ought not to have acted on discretion

- President doesn't have as wide discretionary powers
- President more accountable to executive (act on aid and advise) of com.

However, there are limits on the discretion of both as -

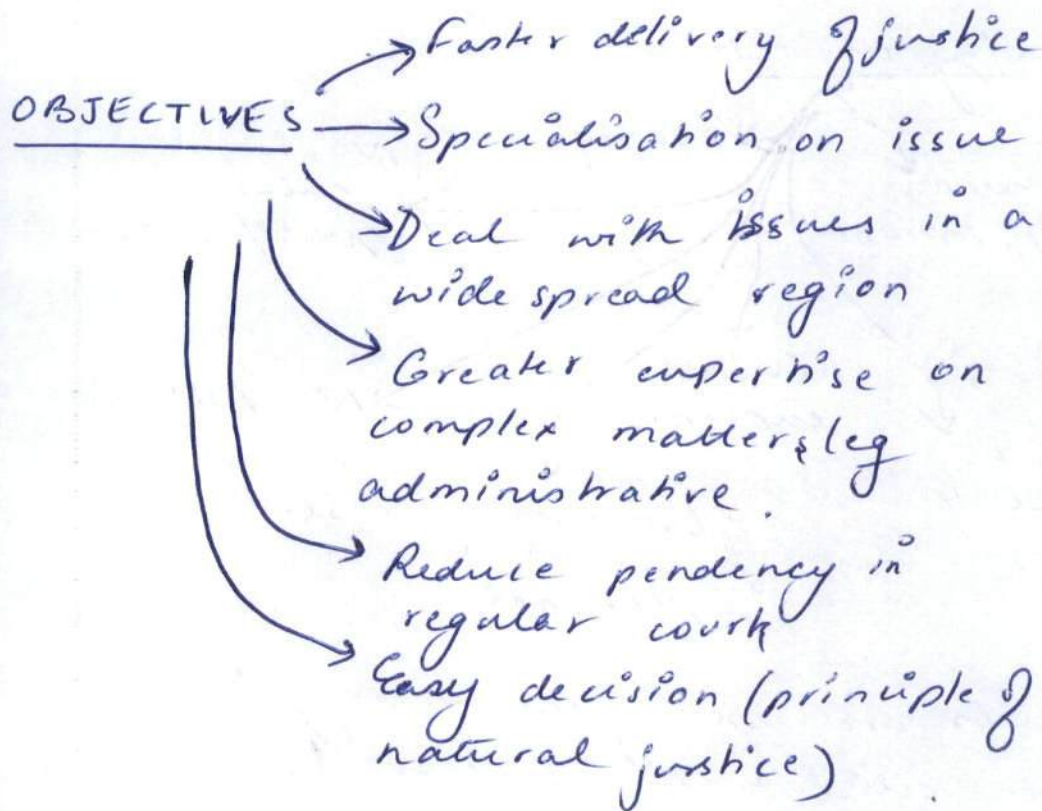
- Bormai judgement (1994) laid down norms for discretion in case of President's rule
- SC looks into misuse of power
- Accountability on actions as any doubt to be checked on floor of the house.
- Ordinance powers limited
- Constitution clearly lays down discretionary powers.

The scope of discretionary powers, though wider for governor, is indeed limited for both, pointing to popular sovereignty.

3. Highlight the objectives that were sought to be achieved through tribunals. How successful have they been in meeting them? (150 words) 10

उन उद्देश्यों को रेखांकित कीजिए जिन्हें अधिकरणों के माध्यम से प्राप्त करने का प्रयास किया गया था। वे उन्हें पूर्ण करने में कितने सफल रहे हैं?

Tribunals are provided for in article 323 A and B. The government recently formulated rules regarding appointment, removal etc.

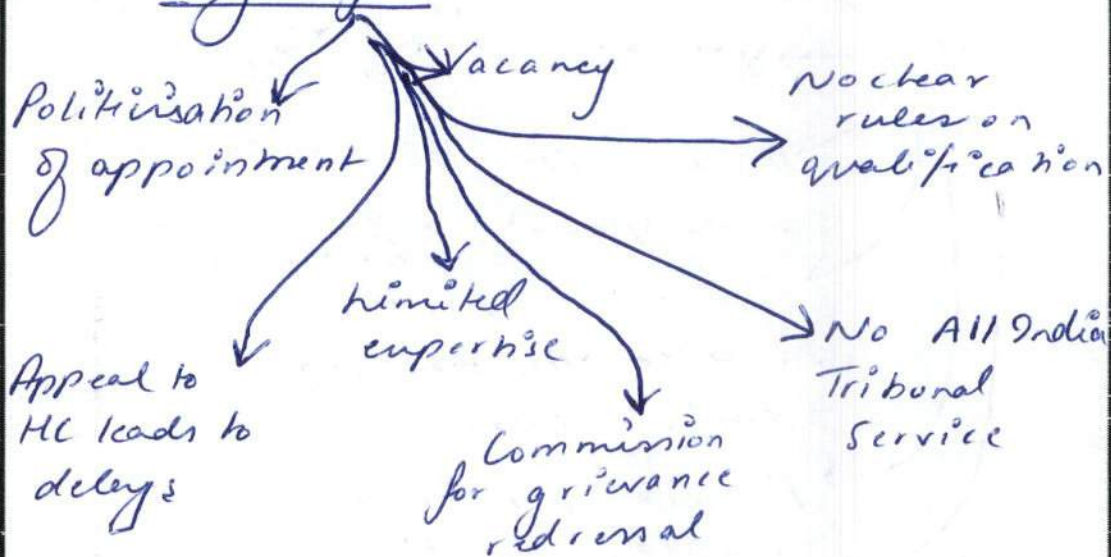


They have been successful as —

- Reduced pendency (eg NGT has disposed most cases in 10 years)
- Expert judgements (eg CAT)

- Easier grievance redressal for ordinary man
- Greater scope for justice due to simple mechanism of functioning
- Easy access (as located across) eg NGT as 8 benches.

However, there are challenges to achieving objectives as —



Tribunals are an ingenious way to provide relief to the aggrieved.

Efforts must be taken to strengthen them so justice is available to all.

4. Instead of the government regulating Over-the-top (OTT) platforms, there have been calls for a self-regulating mechanism for such platforms, as in the case of print media. Discuss. (150 words) 10

सरकार द्वारा ओवर-द-टॉप (ओ.टी.टी.) प्लेटफॉर्म को विनियमित करने के स्थान पर, ऐसे प्लेटफॉर्म के लिए एक स्व-विनियमन तंत्र हेतु आह्वान किया गया है, जैसे कि प्रिंट मीडिया के मामले में किया गया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The recent issue of OTTs showing uncensored content has led to debates about the need for regulation.

There has been call for self regulation of OTTs as —

- Prevent government interference
- Ensure creative freedom
- Enable article 19
- Boost industry and economic growth due to limited interference of government.

However, there have also been calls for government regulation as—

- Self regulation has no set definition / standards.

- Unfair for other sectors (eg movies are censored)
- Wide reach makes population vulnerable to content.
- They can spread hate, mis-information etc.
- Threaten national security.

The need of the hour is thus —

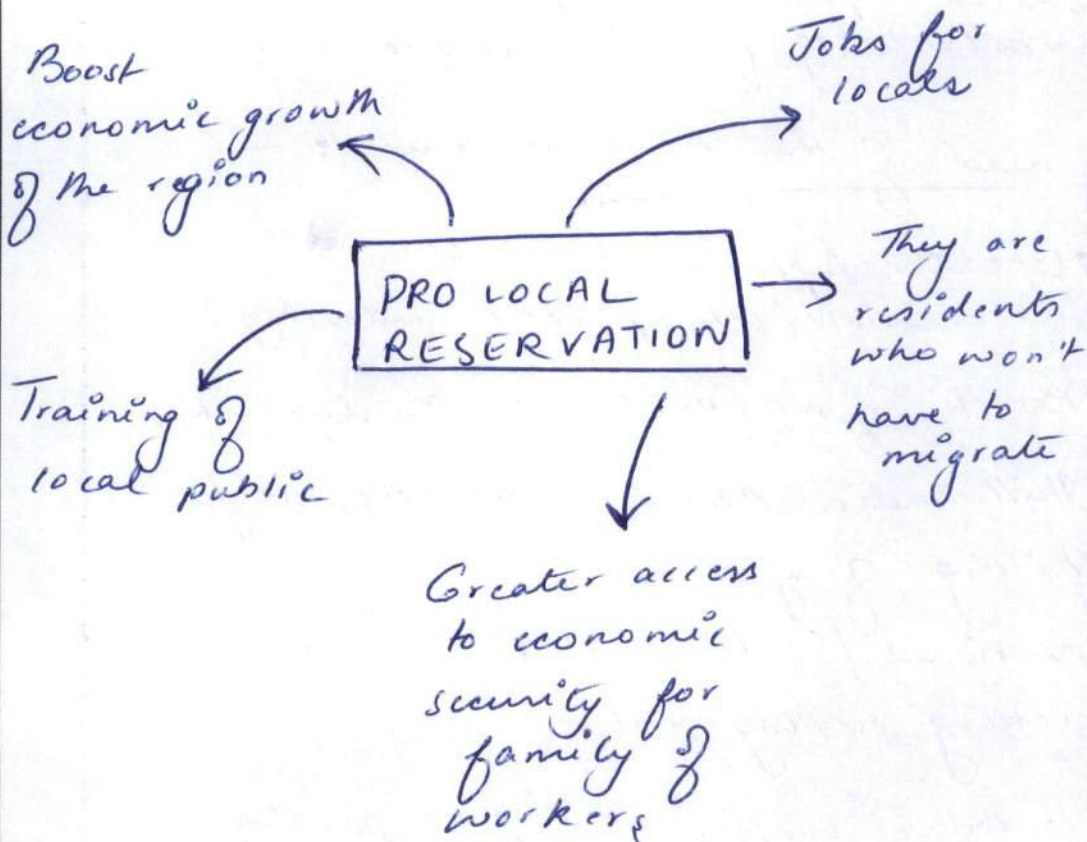
- Set an OTT service Commission for oversight (with public & private members)
- Cooperate with other countries (as data is global)
- Set up a body for grievance redressal
- Set up basic norms/rules to be followed by platforms (eg presenting armed forces a certain way)

OTT platforms have gradually become all-encompassing, and it is thus imperative to develop a mechanism best suited for regulation.

5. Bring out the arguments surrounding the issue of some states reserving jobs for locals in the private sector. (150 words) 10

कुछ राज्यों द्वारा निजी क्षेत्रक में नौकरियों को स्थानीय लोगों के लिए आरक्षित किए जाने से संबंधित मुद्दे के चतुर्दिक तर्कों को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Andhra Pradesh recently reserved 75% of jobs for locals leading to fervent debate over the issue.



However, the move has seen various challenges as —

- SC held that 'sons of soil doctrine is unconstitutional
- Only Parliament can set residence as requirement (Article 16)
- Hamper Case of Doing Business
↳ costly labour
- Expensive to train locals
- Skills required may not be readily available (eg for IT industry in Bangalore)

The need of the hour is thus to -

- Greater infrastructure for more job creation (set up local industry)
- Boost of NRLM, NULM, Mudra etc.
- Skill India Mission, SANKAL etc for skilling of youth.
- National / State level portal of those seeking employment.
- Greater cooperation for pooling of labour in regions

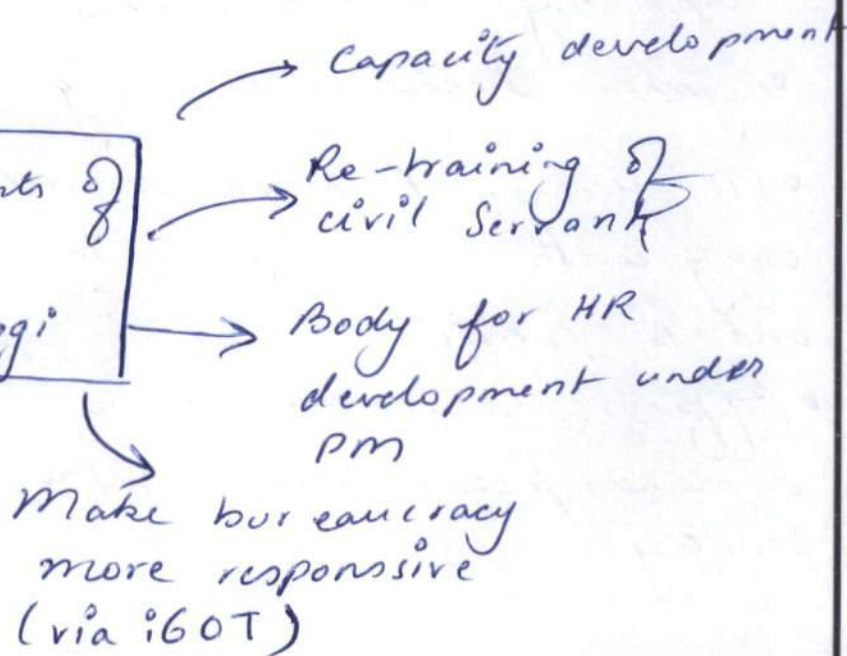
Economic prosperity will come when there is opportunity to be skilled. India must strive to build the manpower so reservation for locals is no longer needed.

6. Identifying the key elements of Mission Karmayogi, briefly explain how it can lead to holistic development of the human resources and state's capacity. (150 words) 10

मिशन कर्मयोगी के प्रमुख तत्वों की पहचान करते हुए, संक्षेप में स्पष्ट कीजिए कि इससे मानव संसाधन और राज्य की क्षमता का समग्र विकास कैसे हो सकता है।

The government recently launched Mission Karmayogi, funded by Centre and World Bank, to boost capacity of Civil Servants.

Key Elements of Mission Karmayogi



It can lead to holistic development of human resources as -

- Targetted approach
- International exposure
- Expert training

- Sensitisation of bureaucracy
- More adept at handling emerging problems.

It can also bolster state's capacity as —

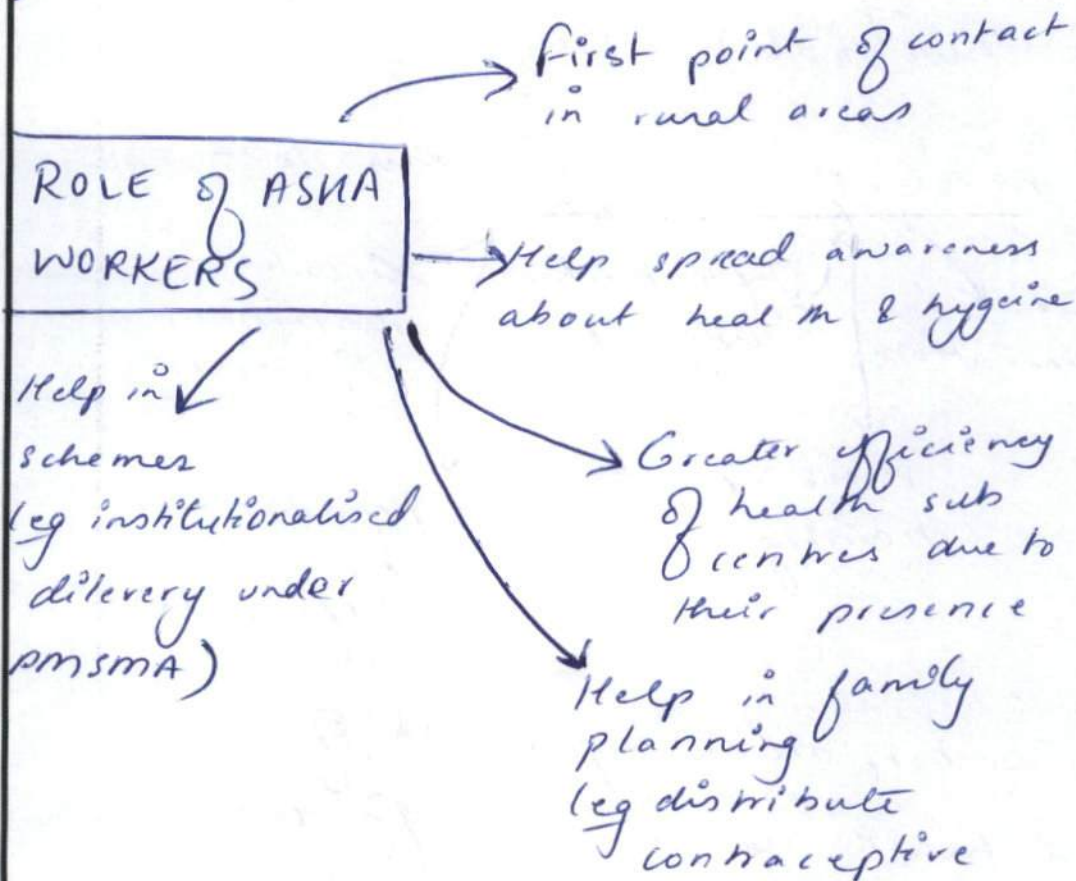
- Greater appointment of accountability mechanisms
- Updating skilling module
- Regular checks on training
- PM Human Resource Council to engage with new officers to reach out to public
- Officers more attuned to demands/requirements of the country.

PM Karmayogi is revolutionary in its ideal of transforming the way India is governed and transforming the outlook of those who govern it.

7. Highlighting the role played by ASHA workers in public health system of India, discuss the challenges faced by them. (150 words) 10

भारत की सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली में आशा कार्यकर्ताओं द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका को रेखांकित करते हुए, उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए।

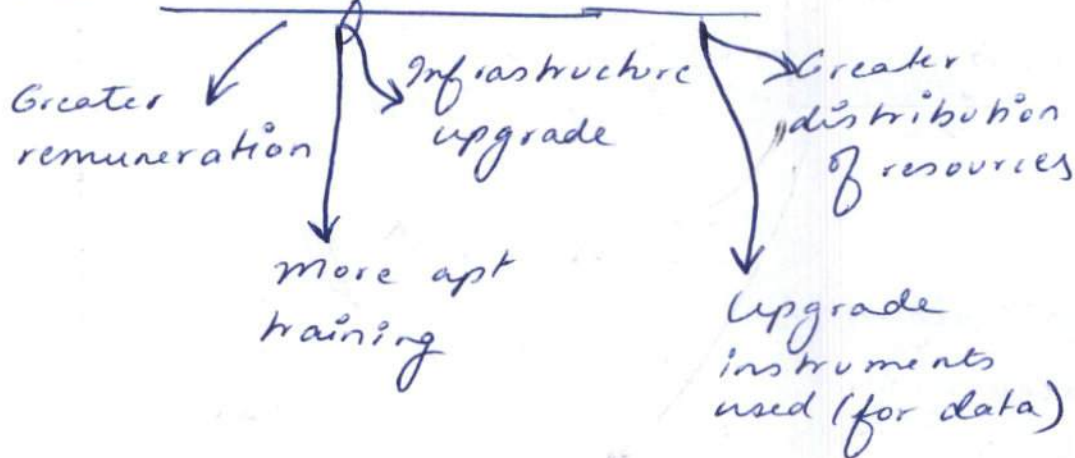
The recent protests by ASHA workers over poor infrastructure to implement NRHM's mandate point to their grievances.



However, they face various challenges as —

- limited remuneration
- low infrastructure upgrade
(eg they have 3G sims but not the phone to use it for health purpose)
- low awareness among people of schemes.
- They are not trained often (outdated)
- limited resources to implement schemes (eg not enough contraceptive to distribute to all)

The need of the hour is thus to -



ASHA workers are a key pillar of rural health system. All efforts are needed so India can grow into a healthy nation, where each has access to basic health facility.

8. While internationalisation of higher education has many potential benefits for India, certain challenges will need to be addressed in this regard. Discuss. (150 words) 10

यद्यपि उच्चतर शिक्षा के अंतर्राष्ट्रीयकरण के भारत के लिए कई संभावित लाभ हैं, तथापि इस संबंध में कुछ चुनौतियों का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता होगी। चर्चा कीजिए।

The recent ranking of UGC in QS ranking, and launch of NIRF point to thrust of government at internationalising higher education.

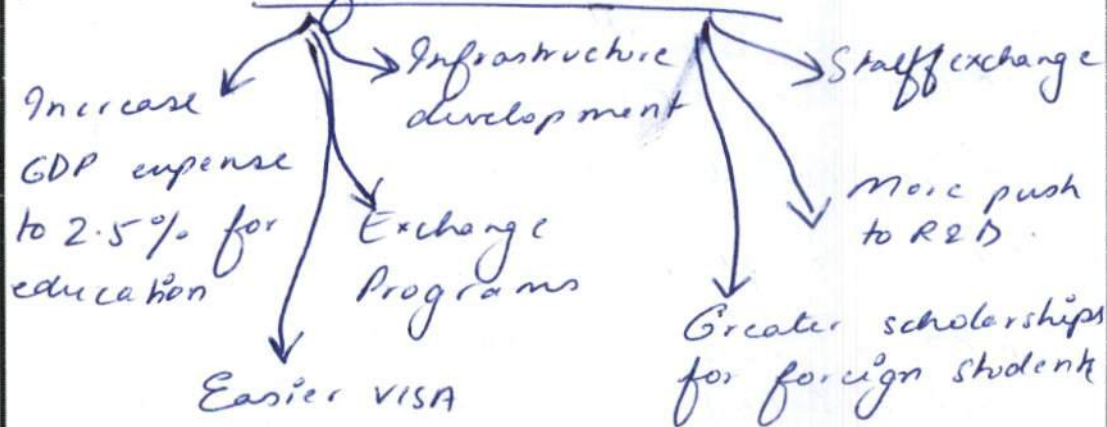
Potential benefits of internationalisation of higher education are —

- Greater expert professors (eg in case of physics, etc)
- Greater exposure
- Improved infrastructure (as thrust is to quality)
- More resource allocation for education (by government and family)
- India to get greater earnings from foreign exchange.

There are certain challenges to internationalisation of higher education as —

- May lead to Brain Drain for India
- Outflow more than inflow
- We might not be able to upgrade to meet international quality.
- Limited infrastructure
- Concentration of premier institutes to some parts of the country (eg Delhi, Bangalore)
- Limited expenditure (only 1.3% of GDP for education)

The need of the hour is thus to —



Education is the pillar on which rests the future of the country. Internationalisation opens new horizons, which must be utilised for our benefit.

9. India needs to adopt a more pragmatic stance in the context of the ongoing intra-Afghan talks. Discuss, in the light of India's engagement with Afghanistan. (150 words) 10

भारत को वर्तमान में जारी अंतरा-अफगान वार्ताओं के संदर्भ में अधिक व्यावहारिक रुख अपनाने की आवश्यकता है। अफगानिस्तान के साथ भारत के जुड़ाव के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

India's recent aid of 180 mn\$ to Afghanistan points to enhanced cooperation between the 2 countries.

India's engagement with Afghanistan is as follows —

- No talks with Taliban (1991-96)
- Cooperation with democratic government (eg Salma dam, Parliament, Indi-Af. air Corridor)
- All processes must be Afghan led, owned and controlled.
- Recently participated in Doha talks, where Taliban was negotiating.

There have been calls for adoption of a more pragmatic stand as —

- India's direct engagement with Taliban will give it power to negotiate
- It risks India's isolation
- More leeway to Pakistan
- Strategic depth to foreign powers
- Against Indian interest for security in the region.

The need of the hour is thus to -

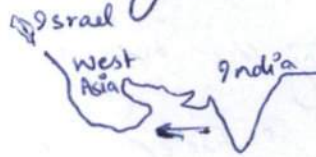
- Engage with other democracies on the issue
- Negotiate (backchannel) with Taliban
- Greater economic stake in Afghanistan to earn trust (Community Impact Projects)
- Cooperate with trilaterals (eg Chabahar) to boost development of Afghanistan
- Isolate Pakistan (eg via FATF) to reduce its clout in region.

India-Afghan ties are entering a new phase, and India must negotiate to forge stronger ties so that greater strategic depth is acquired in the complex region.

10. In the geo-strategic context of West Asia, the recent efforts to normalise relations between Israel and UAE may open new possibilities for India. Analyse. (150 words) 10

पश्चिम एशिया के भू-रणनीतिक संदर्भ में, इजरायल और यू.ए.ई. के मध्य संबंधों को सामान्य बनाने के लिए हाल ही में किए गए प्रयासों से भारत हेतु नई संभावनाएं उत्पन्न हो सकती हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The signing of Abraham Accords to formalise ties of Israel with UAE and Bahrain have led to new geopolitical calculations.



Recent efforts to normalise relations between Israel & UAE are in the geo-strategic context of West Asia are as -

- UAE to establish formal diplomatic ties with Israel.
- Israel to give up plans for annexation of West Bank for now.
- Israel to cooperate on various issues.
- Palestine doesn't feature in accords.

This move opens new possibilities for India as -

- Boost scope for cooperation with all parties.

- India will not be forced to choose either Israel or Arab World.
- Greater scope for de-hyphenation of Palestine issue.
- Scope for reduced sectarian violence/terrorism will adverse consequence for India.

The need of the hour for India is to -

- Deepen ties with all parties
- Urge Saudi to normalise ties with Israel
- Urge Palestine to cooperate with India in a de-hyphenated manner.
- Boost economic engagements with the region.
- Deepen diplomatic effort to broaden this accord to all of Gulf

The West Asian quagmire finally appears to be presenting a solution and albeit slow, India must take cautious efforts to deepen this peace initiative.

11. It is not only the content of election manifestos but also the past performance with respect to promises made in election manifestos that need to be regulated. Discuss. (250 words) 15

केवल चुनावी घोषणा-पत्रों की विषयवस्तु को ही नहीं, बल्कि चुनावी घोषणा-पत्रों में किए गए वादों से संबंधित विगत निष्पादन को भी विनियमित किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The recent Lok Sabha elections brought to the fore the role election manifestos play along with past record in determining voter behaviour.

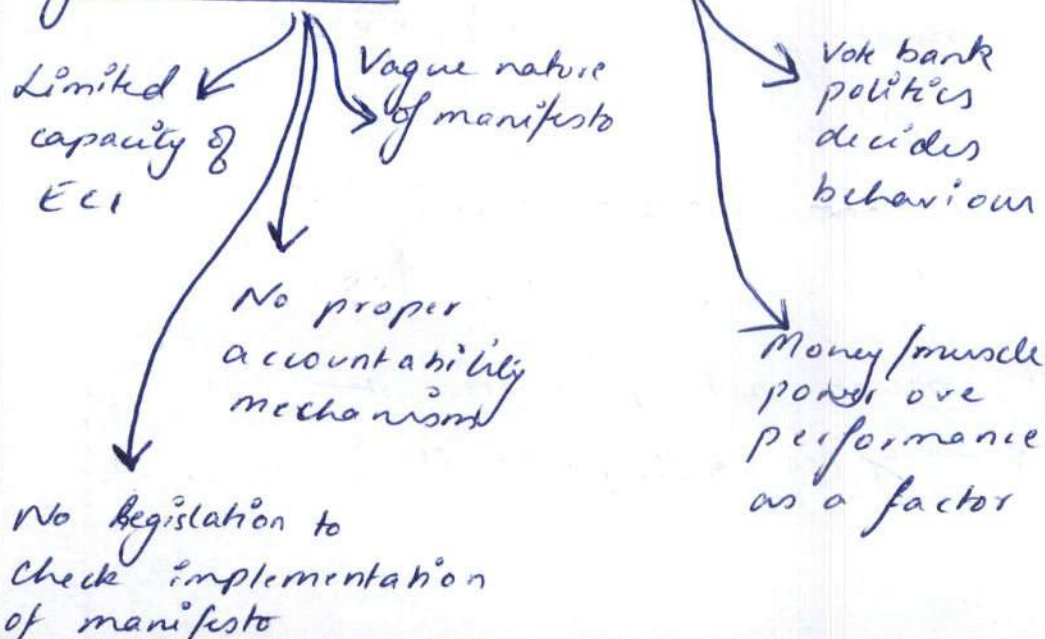
There is need to regulate election manifestos as —

- It should not create enmity between groups (communal, linguistic)
- It must follow constitutional principles
- There must be realistic goals
- It must not provoke the inequality (eg caste, sex etc)

There is also a need to regulate past performance with respect to promises made as —

- Enables accountability
- Sets standards for future
- Empowers people to choose effectively.
- Helps people in ensuring their demands are met.
- Ensures development

However, there are challenges in regulation as —



The need of the hour is thus to -

- Legislation to ensure implementation of manifesto
- ECI to take out ratings of parties based on past performance
- Curbs on manifestos by banning mention of religion to be strictly implemented.
- Any vagueness of manifesto be eliminated.
- Voter awareness (eg SVEEP) to be more intensive.
- Greater check on vote bank politics / money & muscle power by disqualification.

Elections are the hallmark of Indian democracy and political parties must be made accountable to ensure free, fair and truly democratic elections are conducted.

12. In order to achieve a reduction in the pendency of cases and a return to the Supreme Court's original role as a final appellate court, setting up of a National Court of Appeal is the need of the hour. Discuss. (250 words) 15
- लंबित वादों की संख्या में कमी लाने और उच्चतम न्यायालय को अंतिम अपील न्यायालय के रूप में उसकी मूल भूमिका में पुनः स्थापित करने के लिए, एक राष्ट्रीय अपील न्यायालय स्थापित करना समय की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

It is said that justice delayed is justice denied, and Indian judicial system is inundated with judicial pendency according to National Judicial Data Grid.

Pendency of Cases in India — 52,000 cases pending in Supreme Court

— 2 crore + pendency in total.

Setting up of a National Court of Appeal can help reduce pendency as —

- Rid the Supreme Court from dealing with appeal
- Reduce burden under

Special leave to appeal

- Help it deal with more urgent cases first
- Help riddance of backlog via special fous.

National Court of Appeal can help restore original role of SC as final appellate court as -

- Can help realise principle of Res judicata
- Reduce the burden accross India as cases will be divided from each bench.
- Only urgent cases to be heard (eg article 131)
- Deepen federal structure as more widespread area for appeal.

However, there are challenges to a National Court of Appeal as —

- Constitutional amendment will be needed
- Judicial inertia
- Question of manning the court
- Hierarchy questions
- Logistical hassles (eg how many benches)

The need of the hour is thus —

- Start debate on matter (seek expert opinion)
- Digitise all judicial records
- Open court via digital hearing
- Set up court of appeal for districts
- Push to ADR to reduce pendency.

Pendency is a bane to rule of law, and all efforts to end the injustice of delay must be taken after due deliberation with the interest of all stakeholders in mind.

13. The Constitution of India reflects an amalgamation of spirit of Indian freedom struggle and various administrative provisions of different acts of British rule in India. Explain. (250 words) 15

भारत का संविधान भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संघर्ष की भावना और भारत में ब्रिटिश शासन के विभिन्न अधिनियमों के अनेक प्रशासनिक प्रावधानों के मिश्रण को दर्शाता है। व्याख्या कीजिए।

The Constitution of India was not written in vacuum, and the period of 1946-49 saw intense debates over the legacy of British and the idea of India.

The constitution reflects the spirit of Indian freedom struggle as —

- The ideal of sovereignty in the hands of people (Republic)
- The ideal of justice and equality as deserving of each individual
- The rights of liberty and freedom as seen in Fundamental rights
- The spirit of sacrifice and duty to one's nation (Fundamental Duties)

◦ The quest for empowerment of the weakest sections (eg reservation).

The spirit of Indian freedom struggle has been amalgamated with administrative provisions of British acts as —

- The government of India Act 1935 called for autonomy. India respects federalism.
- The adoption of accountability (as in dyarchy - 1919 Act) was accommodated by India.
- Unified Judiciary (1935 Act) led to pan India access to justice.
- Instruments of instruction (1935) helped shape the DPSPs.
- The empowerment to discuss budget etc (Indian Council Act) was embodied for greater power to legislative transparency.

• There was an amalgamation of federal structure as seen in 1935 Act. It coincided with the ideal of provincial powers and linguistic states.

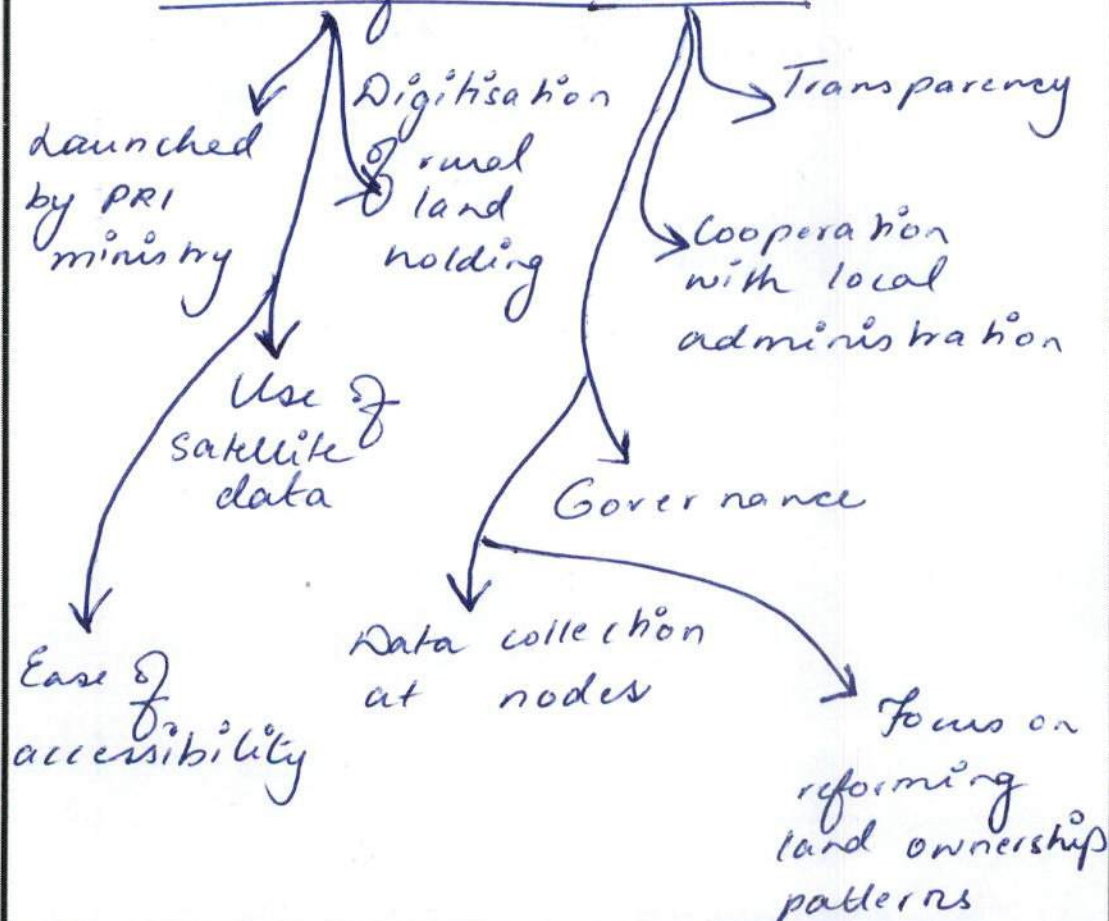
The Indian constitution thus reflects a healthy mixture of both British administrative legacy and the ideals of Indian freedom struggle, adapted to suit the demands of a free India.

14. Mention the key components of the SVAMITVA scheme. Also, highlight its intended benefits and discuss the potential issues in its implementation. (250 words) 15

स्वामित्व (SVAMITVA) योजना के प्रमुख अवयवों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके अपेक्षित लाभों को रेखांकित कीजिए तथा इसके कार्यान्वयन में संभावित मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The government of India recently launched the SVAMITVA scheme to digitise land records and reform rural India.

COMPONENTS OF SVAMITVA SCHEME



Intended benefits of Svamitva scheme are -

- Regularise land holdings
- Easier collation of data
- Use of technology for land holding assessment
- Reduced crime in assessment/evaluation
- Ease of access in judgements like inheritance.
- Satellite data is reliable
- Ease and improve rural governance

However, there are potential issues in implementation as -

- Different standards of measurement (eg gaj, Ha, acre etc)
- Limited capacity of local administration to use technology
- Limited infrastructure to digitise

across India

- Lack of political will (as often, the powerful sections benefit from funds)
- Lack of incentive for locals (as they may fear consequences of digitisation)
- Limited awareness of scheme.

The need of the hour is thus to —

- Enable awareness generation of scheme
- Help infrastructure upgrade
- Set up SVAMITVA under CSR schemes
- Boost under Mission mode
- Remove all doubts via local campaigns and fight mis information.

SVAMITVA has the potential to revolutionise the way rural land holding data is processed and stored. Its potential must be utilised before it's too late.

15. Sharing of information among all stakeholders in government functioning is a leading practice towards good governance. Discuss with examples.

(250 words) 15

सरकारी कार्यप्रणाली में सभी हितधारकों के मध्य सूचना को साझा करना सुशासन के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण परिपाटी है। उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

The launch of PRAGATI and RTI for greater information dissemination is seen as an effort towards good governance.

The sharing of information among all stakeholders leads to good governance as -

- It boosts transparency (eg people are aware of decision making and the rules applied)
- It reduces corruption (eg in case of large infrastructure projects)
- It leads to accountability

(eg in case of draft rules of EIA, people came out with their concerns over changes)

- It deepens democracy

(eg in case of MNREGA, people can demand work if they know what work is available)

- Lead to increase participation of the weakest / poorest

However, there are challenges to the sharing of information as —

- Use of exemptions (eg Section 8 of CIC) to deny information
- Delays in setting up mechanism
- Limited awareness about how to access the information
- Question of national security (eg travels of PM)
- Fears over misuse of information (eg for cyber crime)

The need of the hour is thus to -

- Create a National Data Sharing Portal (as pushed recently by NITI Aayog)
- National Data Sharing Policy for all ministries
- Awareness among people of the need to analyse information.
- Empower CIC further (eg show cause to PIOs for violation on epistillary complaints)

Information, and its access in the hands of people is a key to good governance (ARC-II). There is thus no time for ~~reasons~~ delay this access.

16. India has an oversized and bloated government which acts as a drag on economic efficiency and growth. Critically evaluate. (250 words) 15

भारत में आवश्यकता से अधिक आकार और अतिशय दायित्वों को वहन करने वाली सरकार है, जो आर्थिक दक्षता एवं वृद्धि के संबंध में एक अवरोध के रूप में कार्य करती है। समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

With recent efforts at disinvestment (eg ^{Air} India) by the government, there are questions about the Indian government being oversized.

India has an oversized and bloated government as —

- It regulates all major sectors of the economy (eg ^{dirty floating for} exchange rate)
- Regulations for banks, inflation number, NBFCs etc.
- Some sectors reserved for state (eg nuclear, weapons etc.)
- Lack of political will to privatise
- Control over key sectors (eg railways)

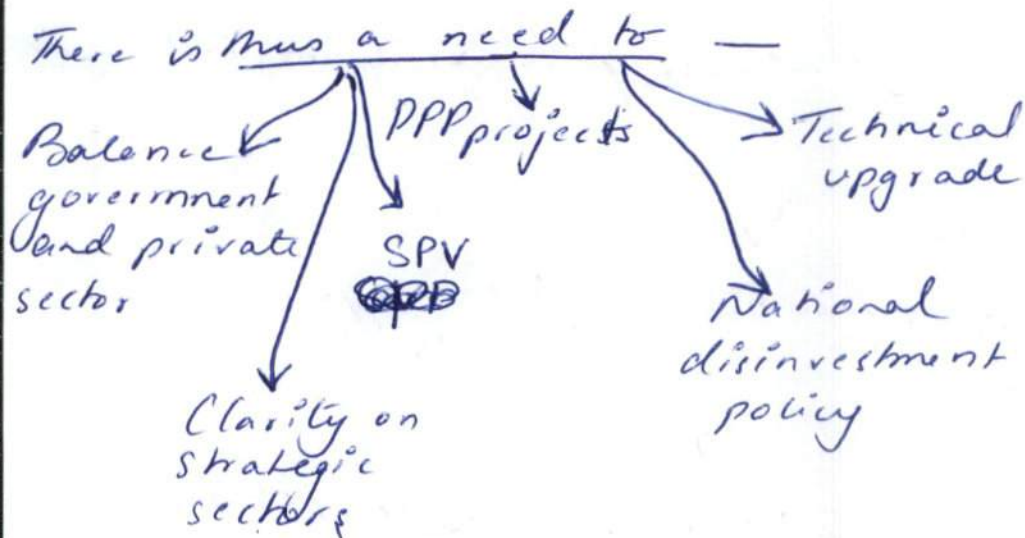
This acts as a drag on economic efficiency and growth as —

- limited private sector expertise
- Slow government decision making
- Too many clearances needed (eg environmental regulations)
- Slow progress (eg land acquisition)
- limited incentives / financial capital availability.
- Government in predominant position limiting revolutionary technology upgrade

However, the role of government in the economy is important as —

- It works on the principle of equity (as opposed to profit)
- It enables regulation when systems crumble (eg LLPS, LVB, Yes Bank)

- It helps balanced regional development (greater decentralised planning)
- Help various sectors to grow (eg MSMEs)
- More reliable due to zero risk in market when government funding involved.
- Check frauds etc (eg PNB)



The government, together with the private sector can help India emerge as prosperous, and cooperation would be key in this regard.

17. Though the National Digital Health Mission is a step in the right direction for both patients and the healthcare system, concerns around data privacy need to be addressed. Examine. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल स्वास्थ्य मिशन रोगियों और स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रणाली, दोनों के लिए उचित दिशा में उठाया गया एक कदम है, तथापि डेटा गोपनीयता से जुड़ी चिंताओं का समाधान किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

The recent pandemic of COVID-19 has pushed to the fore the need to implement NDHM and the National Health Policy urgently.

NDHM → Digital records of patients
 → Digitisation of hospital records
 → Aadhar linked
 → Pan India mobility
 → Voluntary

It is a step in the right direction for the patient as —

- It will lead to better record keeping for history tracking
- Ease of access to data over hospitals across country

- Ease of operability
- Limit corruption/misuse
(eg Doctors can't force patients to get unnecessary checks)

It is the right step for the healthcare system as —

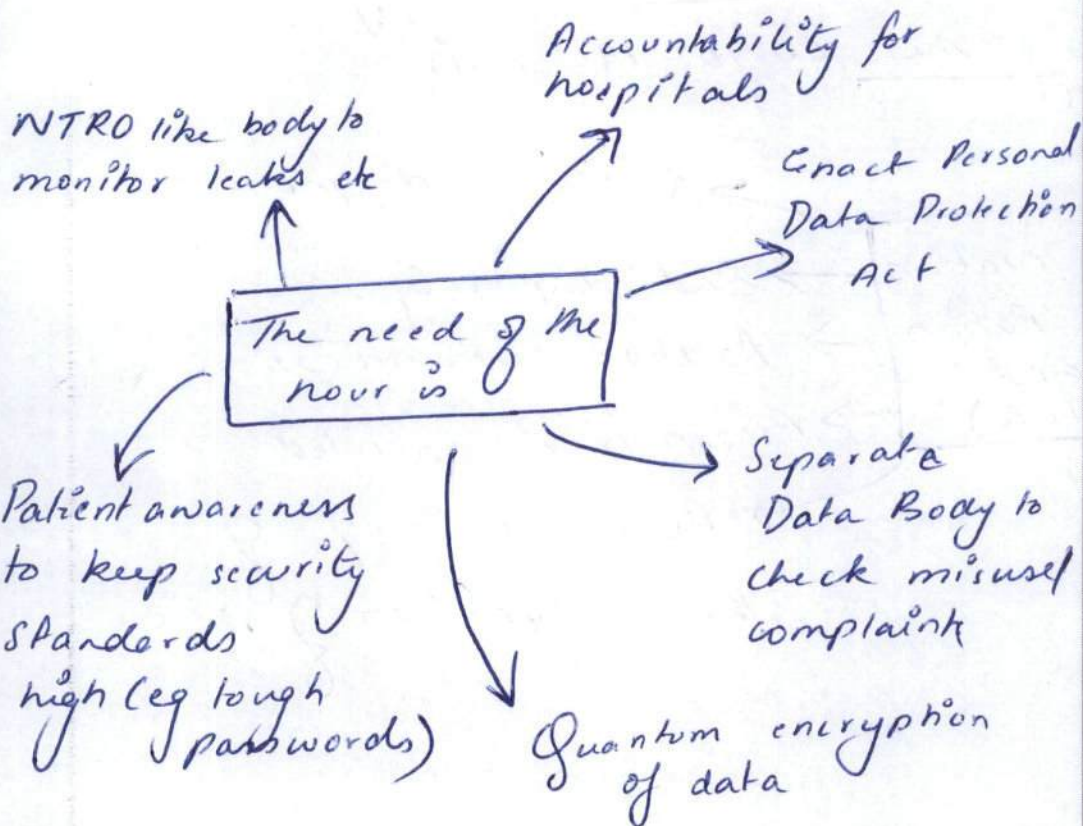
- Greater access to records will unify system
- Ease for doctors to get history of patients
- Better treatment options due to national mobility (eg one can go for consultation across country)
- Can enable less loss of data, missing records, errors etc.
- Access to rare cases

However, there are concerns

over data privacy as —

- ↳ Can lead to cyber crimes
- ↳ leak of data
- ↳ Misuse of data

- ↳ Surveillance by state
- ↳ Medical profiling
- ↳ Violation of consent norm

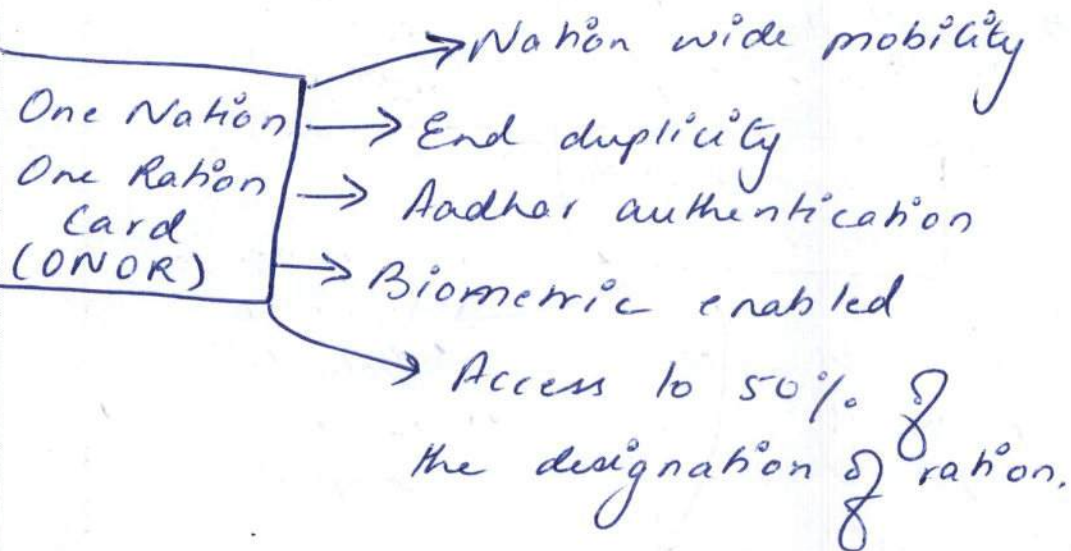


The NDHM has immense potential to transform the health sector for the better. Concerns of privacy must be met effectively so its potential can be unveiled.

18. One Nation One Ration card has the potential to significantly transform the lives of migrant workers in India. Analyse. (250 words) 15

वन नेशन वन राशन कार्ड में भारत में प्रवासी श्रमिकों के जीवन को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से रूपांतरित करने की क्षमता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The importance of IMPDS and one nation - One Ration Card came forward during the COVID-19 crisis.



ONOR has the potential to transform the lives of migrant workers in India as —

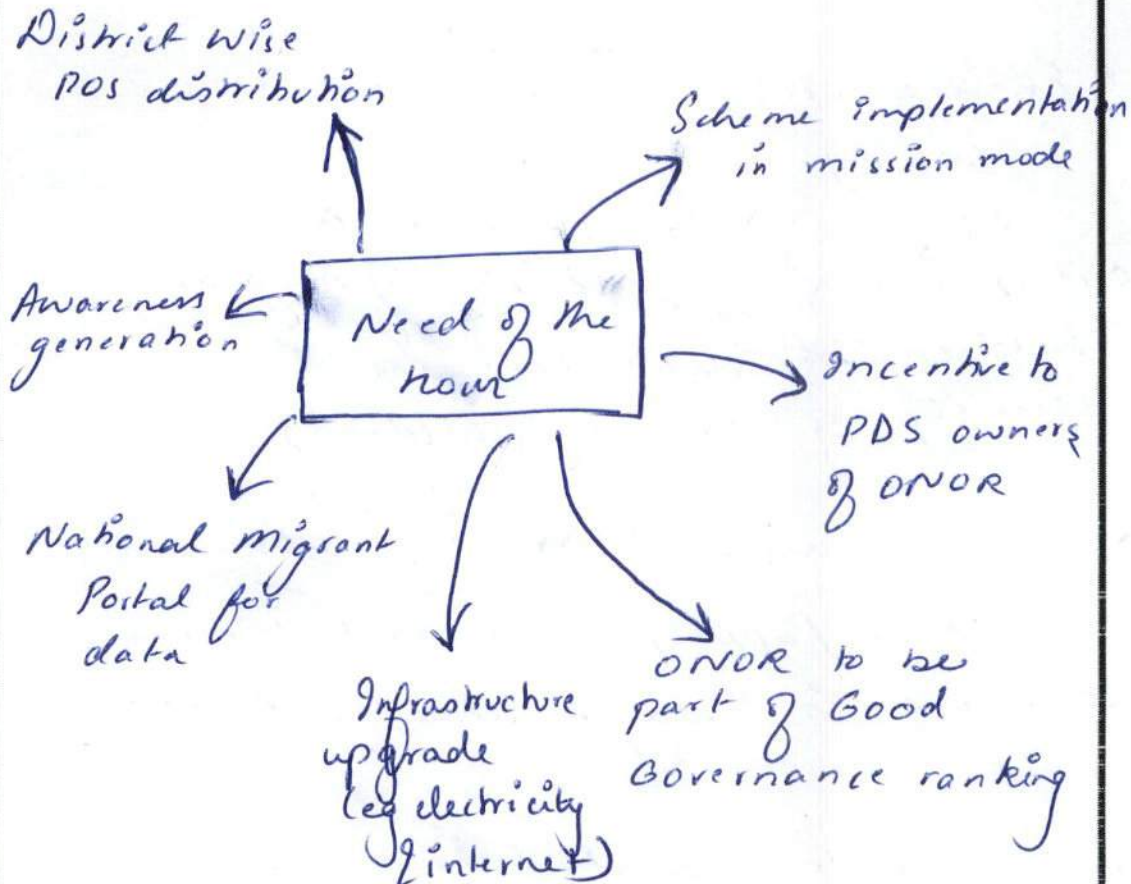
- They will have assured access to ration irrespective of location
- Limited misuse due to biometric

- Only 50% limit ensures it's not misused (some is left for family back home).
- Ensure access in crisis (as seen in COVID)
- Help in attaining nutrition of migrant children (who don't have social security - of labourer's children)
- It will ensure that one's ration is not stolen / appropriated back home when one is away - adhaar authentication

However, there are challenges as -

- Limited POS machines for adhaar authentication
- Lack of data base to set ground work
- Limited infrastructure (eg internet for authentication)
- Black market for ration

- Scope for misuse due to limited awareness of migrant.



ONOR has the potential to revolutionize the lives of migrants who live in misery due to limited recognition of rights. Based on a rights/empowerment approach, it can lead to a healthy and prosperous India.

19. The World Trade Organization is buffeted by multiple challenges which have eroded the credibility of the organization. Analyse. (250 words) 15
विश्व व्यापार संगठन कई चुनौतियों से ग्रस्त है, जिसने संगठन की विश्वसनीयता को समाप्त कर दिया है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The recent signing of MPIA by many countries due to non-functioning WTO appellate body points to the challenges of WTO in today's world.

The WTO is buffeted by multiple challenges as —

- Non appointment of members by US (defunct appeal mechanism)

- Non function of WTO dispute settlement body to challenge rules.

- Non pro-poor approach as often, the richer countries have the expertise to win cases

- Green room diplomacy weakens position of one country, one vote.
- Consensus mechanism prevents timely decision making.
- Limited achievements in truly creating borderless trade (as Sanitary (S and PS) barriers, technical barriers continue)

There is an erosion of its credibility as —

- Push for multilaterals / bilateral trade
- Push for alternative trade pacts outside WTO (eg RCEP)
- Thrust to more suspicion over WTO as pro-rich
- Greater protectionism by countries
- Limited effectiveness (eg in reality West far outnumbers amber box 5% subsidy than the developing world)

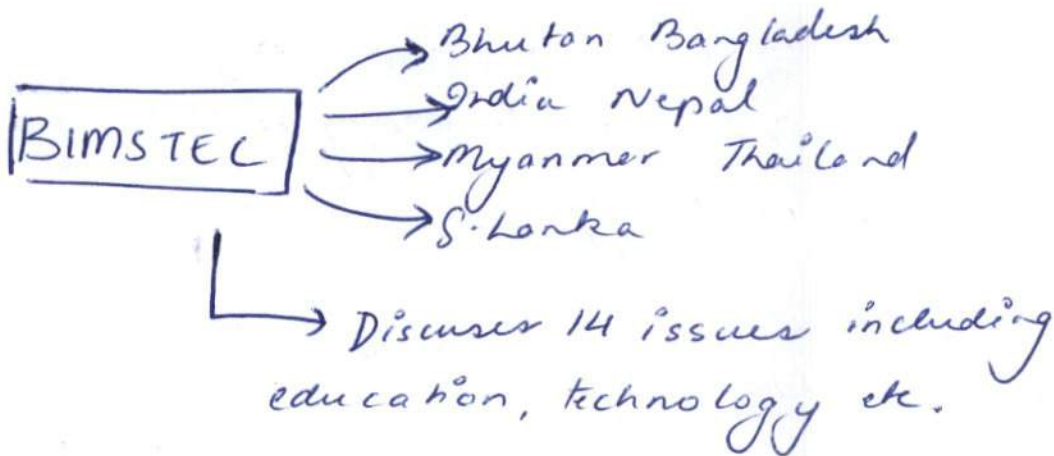
The need of the hour is thus —

- Greater transparency in functioning
- Push to text based negotiations
- More transparent appointments
- More diverse funding for WTO
- An alternative DSB if present falls vacant.
- Greater assurance to developing world by WTO of neutrality.

WTO is a key body to ensure the trade at global scale is not for the rich or struck with barriers. It must be empowered at all costs to ensure the system of global trade is democratic and for the welfare of all.

20. BIMSTEC is indispensable for India's efforts in promoting regional cooperation and integration in the neighbourhood. Discuss. (250 words) 15
बिम्स्टेक (BIMSTEC) पड़ोस में क्षेत्रीय सहयोग और एकीकरण को बढ़ावा देने की दिशा में किए जाने वाले भारत के प्रयासों हेतु अपरिहार्य है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, BIMSTEC charter has taken final shape, pointing to its importance for regional cooperation.



BIMSTEC is indispensable for promoting regional cooperation as —

• It's focus is on development and cooperation of non-coercive issue (eg infrastructure instead of border dispute)

• Helps in providing platform

for enhanced effort to shared prosperity (eg IMT Trilateral Highway)

- Discuss common problems (eg terrorism)
- Cooperate on local / regional issues
eg BIMSTEC disaster management exercise.

It is imperative of integration of neighbourhood as —

- Provides alternative to SAARC
- Includes all major economies of region
- Permanent platform for shared concerns (eg Kaladan Multimodal project for energy)
- Connect India's north East so India can Act East
- Shared prosperity.

However, there are challenges as —

- Disruptive role of China
- Fear over Indian hegemony (as seen in Nepal)

- Lack of political will
(eg only 4 summits since 1997)
- Limited resolutions accepted
- Bilateral issues (eg Nepal didn't participate in exercise)
- Delays in projects

The need of the hour is thus to -

- Deepen ties via trust building
- India must adopt non-reciprocity
- Thrust to timely completion of projects
- A BIMSTEC fund to boost cooperation.
- Quick adoption of charter

BIMSTEC has vast potential to provide a platform for greater cooperation in the region and India must use it for the ^{shared} prosperity of South-South East Asia.