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INSPIRING INNOVATION
ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (4511)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

General Instructions

This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 010 68271

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : SAURABH SHARMA

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

ENGLISH

तारीख
Date

26/07/2025

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

केंद्र
Centre JODHPUR

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

| | <p style="text-align: center;">महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश</p> <p>उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Important Instructions</p> <p>Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.</p> |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | <p>(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें।</p> <p>(ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।</p> | <p>(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates.</p> <p>(b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet</p> |
| 2 | <p>अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।</p> | <p>Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.</p> |
| 3 | <p>परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।</p> | <p>Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.</p> |
| 4 | <p>उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।</p> | <p>Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.</p> |
| 5 | <p>उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।</p> | <p>Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.</p> |
| 6 | <p>प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।</p> | <p>Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.</p> |
| 7 | <p>प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।</p> | <p>Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.</p> |
| 8 | <p>यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।</p> | <p>If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use | कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use |
| परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर Signature of Examiner(s) | |

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

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



सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (4511)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

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

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

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

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

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

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

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

There are TWENTY questions printed both in HINDI and in ENGLISH.

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1.

अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय के अल्पसंख्यक दर्जे पर उच्चतम न्यायालय का हालिया निर्णय भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 30 की व्याख्या को कैसे प्रभावित करता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How does the Supreme Court's recent decision on Aligarh Muslim University's minority status affect the interpretation of Article 30 of the Indian Constitution? (Answer in 150 words) 10

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

Supreme Court decision in AMU university case 2024 reverses Azeez Basha verdict of an earlier bench.

Key aspects of judgement

1) Establishment under a statute cannot deprive rights of minority institutions under Article 30.

2) To determine minority status, factors such as intent, historic background etc. need to be considered.

Its impact on interpretation of Article 30

Article 30 enables minorities, both religious & linguistic to establish & administer education institutions of their choice.

This verdict affects its interpretation:-

1) Liberal interpretation - Statutory

States cannot limit their rights -

2) Safeguarding Minority Rights - true

intent behind setting up of education

institutions to be the parameter
to accord minority status -

3) Constitutional morality

This verdict would empower minorities

to with autonomy to administer

these institutions - including non minority
members permissible.

This expands ^{on} TMA Pai & PA Inamdas

verdicts to empower minorities

2.

उच्चतम न्यायालय ने अपने हालिया निर्णय में राज्य विधान-मंडल के विधेयकों पर राज्यपाल की स्वीकृति के लिए एक समय-सीमा निर्धारित की है। इस निर्णय के भारत में सहकारी संघवाद और विधायी जवाबदेही के लिए क्या निहितार्थ हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Supreme Court, in a recent verdict, prescribed a time period for the Governor's assent to state legislative bills. What are the implications of this judgment for cooperative federalism and legislative accountability in India? (Answer in 150 words)

10

In Tamil Nadu Governor Case (2021), a

2 judge bench has made an innovative

interpretation of Article 200, setting

binding time limitations on Governor to

assent bills

1 month if
bill re-passed
by state assembly

3 months
if he decides to
withhold & send bill
to assembly acting against
Cabinet

Implications :-

(A) Cooperative federalism

i) will strengthen State autonomy
& check encroachment by unelected
governors

2) Reduce frictions due to exercise
of pocket veto by governors

3) Impose checks & balances on abuse
of power - promote Rule of law &
boost federal ethos

③ For Legislative Accountability

1) will strengthen accountability
to electorate

2) Timely enactment of legislations
- will uphold will of people

However, as per Vice president, this
verdict raises questions of "Judicial overreach"
& President has made a reference under
Article 143 in this respect.

3.

सहकारी क्षेत्रक में केंद्र और राज्यों के बीच के गतिरोध को कम करने के उद्देश्य से किए गए सहकारी संस्थाओं से संबंधित हालिया परिवर्तनों और पहलों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the recent changes and initiatives related to cooperatives that aim to smoothen the tussle between the Centre and States in the cooperative sector. (Answer in 150 words)

10

on 25 July 2025, "New cooperative policy" was announced by the Govt on recommendations of "Suresh Prabhu panel".

Changes & initiatives in cooperatives to smoothen Centre State Tussle

- 1) Established Ministry of Cooperation as the nodal ministry in 2021.
- 2) Strengthened Multi State Cooperatives Act 2002
- 3) New cooperative policy 2025 envisage Centre State collaboration on formation, management & control of cooperatives

4) Centre has devolved funds
to States - for strengthening
Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)

5) Coordination between Centre &
State through joint forums
on cooperatives - consultation, collaboration
& convergence (3C approach)

6) decentralisation of authority
under to States - Centre shall
regulate only multi-state cooperatives

Further Supreme Court verdict in
'Jayendra Nath Shah 2021' upheld State's
autonomy & struck down 97th Amendment
to bolster cooperative federalism

4.

हाल के वर्षों में, नागरिक समाज द्वारा सोशल मीडिया और डिजिटल लामबंदी का उपयोग दबाव की राजनीति के एक सशक्त माध्यम के रूप में उभरा है। नीति-निर्माण और लोकतांत्रिक जवाबदेही पर इसके प्रभाव का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In recent years, use of social media and digital mobilisation by civil society has emerged as a powerful form of pressure politics. Examine its impact on policymaking and democratic accountability. (Answer in 150 words)

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

10

Civil society has been harnessing new age technologies to catalyse pressure politics

↳ Digital mobilisation - Centre for Science & Environment's Critique of Gout's Climate policy

↳ Social media → to expand its reach
→ connect with youth

(Eg) Naz foundation - #Pride month for LGBTQ rights

Impact on policy making

1) Grassroot inputs for policy making

(Eg) ASER survey's findings on social media - input for education policies by "Pratham"
Guest

2) Citizen engagement in policy planning.

(Eg) SEWA using social media inputs from rural women to collaborate with Govt.

3) Public mobilisation - exerts pressure on policymakers to shape inclusive policies.

Impact on Democratic Accountability

1) Public oversight facilitated by NGO's (Eg) online campaigns against mining in Jharkhand.

2) Enforcing social audits (Eg) Safai Karmchari Sangathan's audit of NAMASTE scheme - exposed irregularities.

3) Scrutinising actions of Govt (Eg) NGO's exposed plight of Manipal women amid ethnic war 2023.

In a digital world, technology has democratised activism & led to greater accountability.

5.

भारत में विकास संबंधी चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए कॉर्पोरेट सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व किस प्रकार एक व्यवसाय-प्रेरित समाधान के रूप में उभर रहा है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

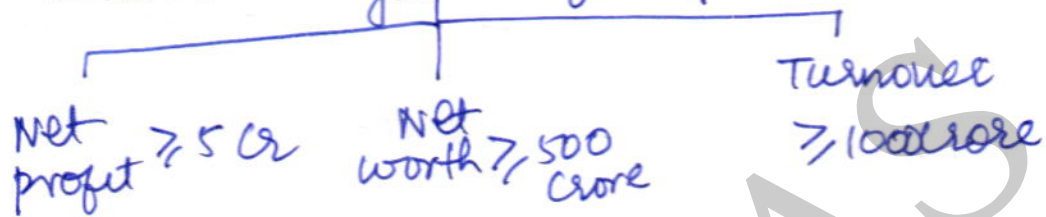
How is Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) emerging as a business-led solution for addressing development challenges in India? (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

Section 135 of Companies Act 2013 mandates

Certain Categories of Companies



to contribute 2% of Net profits towards social welfare

CSR - business led development solution

1) Mobilise funds to support welfare

⊙ Tata Trust → hospitals for CSR initiative: Cancer patient

2) Expand development reach:

⊙ ITC, funding expansion of schools in rural areas in remote regions

3.) Promoting Climate Resilience

(Eg) "Infosys" investing in expanding solar grids to facilitate energy transition.

4.) Collaborating with Govt to implement welfare policies

(Eg) Wipro partnering with Govt to implement Swachh Bharat mission - building toilets.

5.) Supporting & collaborating with civil society for last mile service delivery

(Eg) Reliance ^{Tid} partnering with SEWA to foster digital inclusion among rural women.

Through transparent funding and inclusive delivery, corporates are emerging as stewards of welfare.

6.

चर्चा कीजिए कि भारत में जन परामर्श और जन सुनवाई जैसे तंत्र गवर्नेंस के परिणामों को कैसे प्रभावित करते हैं। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss how mechanisms like public consultations and Jan Sunwais in India impact governance outcomes. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

As per Verappa Moily Committee,
people participation lies at the
heart of GOOD GOVERNANCE

Impact of Public Consultations &
Jan Sunwais on governance outcomes

1) Foster Citizen engagement

⊙ People's plan campaign in Kerala

2) Empowerment of marginalised

⊙ ~~Policy~~ Yojna Baras Abhiyan in Jharkhand

3) Strengthen Social Contract (John Locke)
between State & Citizens

4) Foster Public Trust through
Inclusive Governance.

5) Behavioural change through
Jan Bhagidari

⊕ Swachh Bharat mission - open
defecation free

6) Strengthen democratic accountability
of bureaucracy.

⊕ Social audits in Meghalaya,
Citizen Charter of DoPT

Thus public consultation makes
Governance Inclusive, ethical and
robust.

7.

भारत में मादक द्रव्यों के दुरुपयोग की समस्या से निपटने में राष्ट्रीय मादक द्रव्य मांग न्यूनीकरण कार्य योजना और नशा मुक्त भारत अभियान कितने प्रभावी रहे हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
How effective have the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) and Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan been in addressing substance abuse in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

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इस हार्फिण में
नहीं लिखना
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NAPDDR & Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan
have been launched to implement
Constitutional directive under
Article 47.

Merits of these policies:-

- 1) Sensitisation of youth led to reduction in drug demand.
- 2) Facilitated youth empowerment through counselling & facilitation.
- 3) Effective law enforcement to enforce accountability has improved.

outcomes?

Gaps

- 1) Inadequate public investment
- 2) Gaps in implementation
 - ↳ bureaucratic Red Tape
 - ↳ Ineffective fund utilisation
- 3) Inadequate destigmatisation drives
- 4) Manpower constraints

These limitations must be addressed to make India Nasha Mukta.

8.

भारत की बुनियादी शिक्षा प्रणाली में रटकर सीखने की प्रवृत्ति और रचनात्मकता की उपेक्षा, इसे आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस द्वारा संचालित हो रहे बाज़ारों के लिए पर्याप्त रूप से तैयार नहीं करती हैं। क्या आप इस मत से सहमत हैं? अपने तर्क से उत्तर की पुष्टि कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Rote learning and neglect of creativity in foundational education setup in India make it less ready for marketplaces that are now driven by Artificial Intelligence. Do you agree with this view? Substantiate your argument. (Answer in 150 words)

10

Rote learning & neglect of creativity
has led to gaps in learning outcomes.

eg) As per ASER 2024, 60% of class 5
students cannot do foundational
arithmetic.

This makes them unfit for industry
requirement in the age of AI due to

① $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{skill mismatch} \\ \text{lack foundational capabilities} \end{array} \right.$

eg) only 4% of workers have
received vocational education

② Inability to grasp technological

nuances due to lack of technical expertise.

③ rote learning hinders cognitive development

Steps taken by Govt

- ↳ NIPUN Bharat → foundational numeracy literacy
- ↳ Atal Innovation mission
- ↳ Samagra Shiksha
- ↳ PM Internship
- ↳ Kaushal Vikas Yojna

to make today's youth industry ready.

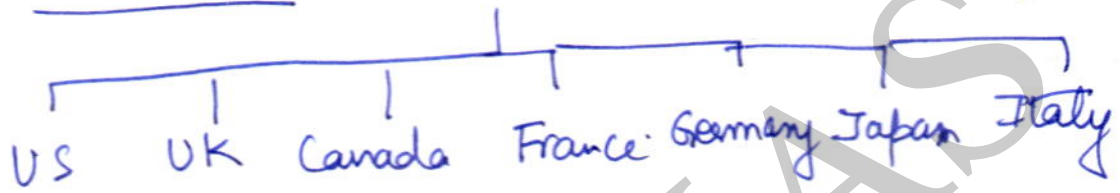
9.

G7 के पश्चिमी रणनीतिक एकता के प्रतीक से आंतरिक विरोधाभासों से भरे मंच के रूप में रूपांतरण का विश्लेषण कीजिए। भारत द्वारा अपने रणनीतिक हितों की पूर्ति हेतु इस बदलते परिदृश्य को किस प्रकार उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Analyze the transformation of the G7 from a symbol of Western strategic unity to a forum marked by internal contradictions. How should India navigate this changing dynamic to advance its strategic interests? (Answer in 150 words)

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G7 is the group of 7 most advanced economies (Western world) comprising



It accounts for 30% world GDP

Recent G7 summit in Canada reflected its transformation - from harmony to discord.

1) Fragmentation of transatlantic partnership due to Trump's Make America Great again policy.

2) Differing views on Russia Ukraine Conflict - Trump v/s European countries

3) Ideological differences - Far Right leaders like Trump & Meloni

have differences with European partners

4) Trump's Tariff wars have further eroded unity

Consequence - No joint Communiqué at 2025 Summit.

India's Strategy:

- 1) Amplify Voice of Global South
in G7 (Eg) Issues of Climate finance, Terrorism
- 2) Strengthen Bilateral partnerships within G7 (Eg) Thrust in Indo Canadian ties
- 3) Push for reforming multilateral institutions like UNSC, WTO - garner support.
- 4) Strategic Hedging - adopt Multi vector diplomacy.

In this context, India's strategic autonomy would help shape the global order for the benefit of humanity.

10.

विकासशील देशों के विकास में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। इसके दृष्टिकोण से जुड़ी प्रमुख आलोचनाएं क्या हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the role of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the development of developing countries. What are the key criticisms associated with its approach? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिंग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Recently IMF was criticised for extending bailout package of \$100 billion to Pakistan in the wake of Pahalgam terror attack (May 2025)

IMF is a Bretton Woods institution that seeks to promote financial stability & aid countries in balance of payment crisis

Role in development

- 1) Extends Emergency assistance to stabilise economies of member nations
- 2) Bailout packages - In case of forex shortages
- 3) Pushes developing countries to

carry out financial & monetary-
policy reforms (Eg) Austerity measures

Criticisms with its approach:

- 1) Conditionality - impinges on
sovereignty of nations.
- 2) Lack of due diligence in extending
credit (Eg) Pakistan's state sponsorship
of terror.
- 3) Imposition of stringent reform
measures - could hurt domestic
economies.
(Eg) Protests in Nigeria against IMF
mandated Tax ~~and~~ hikes.
- 4) Ineffective monitoring of fund utilisation.

As per NK Singh & Larry Summers, IMF
needs to be reformed to promote
inclusive global development

11.

103वें संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम, 2019 ने भारत में सकारात्मक कार्रवाई के सिद्धांत को एक नया आयाम दिया है। सामाजिक न्याय के व्यापक लक्ष्य के लिए इसके निहितार्थों का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019 has introduced a new dimension to the principle of affirmative action in India. Critically examine its implications for the broader goal of social justice. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्जिए ने नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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103rd Amendment was introduced on the recommendations of SR Sinho Committee.

New Dimension to affirmative Action

- 1) Introduces reservation for Economically weaker sections (EWS) - jobs, universities
- 2) Adds Article 15(6) & 16(6) to expand reservation benefits from ~~other~~ existing groups i.e. SC, ST, SEBC's
- 3) Departure from existing approach - i.e. social discrimination & historic aspect of caste system guided the affirmative action - this expands it to Economic Domain -

Implications for goal of social justice

Positive

- 1) Upliftment of economically deprived section among forward castes.
- 2) Uphold Preamble's vision of Social & Economic justice
- 3) 107- Reservation enables social mobility of economically vulnerable
- 4) Equitable representation in Govt jobs, administration and admission in educational institutions-
- 5) aligns with Article 38(2) - of minimising inequalities

Concerns:-

1) Exclusionary - Excludes economically

weaker segments of SC, ST, OBC

2) Violates spirit of Indra Sawhney (1992)

verdict - no reservation based on sole economic criteria

3) Violates Article 14 principle of equality by excluding ^{socially} marginalised groups

4) Inadequate coverage - present criteria of ₹ 8 lakh annual income excludes many deserving individuals

while 103rd Amendment was upheld by apex court in "Janhit Abhiyan" (2002) case,

it needs to be made inclusive and

in sync with present day economic realities

12.

जिला योजना समिति की परिकल्पना जमीनी स्तर पर नियोजन को सशक्त बनाने के एक प्रमुख साधन के रूप में की गई थी। यह इस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में कितनी सफल रही है? जिला योजना समितियों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए तथा उन्हें अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के उपाय सुझाइए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The District Planning Committee (DPC) was envisioned as a key instrument to strengthen grassroots-level planning. How far has it succeeded in achieving this goal? Discuss the challenges faced by DPCs and suggest measures to make them more effective. (Answer in 250 words) 15

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Part IXA introduced by 74th Amendment

envisages District Planning Committee

Function → consolidate development plans for district.

It has succeeded in:—

1) Institutionalising district-level planning

2) Fostering integration of rural & urban local bodies

P.T.O

Challenges faced by DPC

- 1) Irregular meetings
- 2) Budgetary constraints
- 3) lack of skilled manpower
- 4) Bureaucratic dominance
- 5) Centralised planning & inability
of states to devolve power
to DPC

Measures to strengthen

- 1) Follow principle of subsidiarity
- 2) Improve financial capacity

- 3) Promote Autonomous functioning.
- 4) Reduce Bureaucratic dominance
- 5) Address Manpower shortage.

Through these reforms DPC must be strengthened to promote inclusive Organisation :

13.

संविधान के अनुच्छेद 293 के तहत राज्यों की उधार लेने की शक्तियों पर लगाए गए प्रतिबंध, यद्यपि संवैधानिक रूप से वैध हैं, लेकिन ये राज्यों की राजकोषीय स्वायत्तता को बाधित कर सकते हैं और सहकारी संघवाद को क्षति पहुंचा सकते हैं। हालिया घटनाक्रमों के आलोक में विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The restrictions imposed under Article 293 of the Constitution on State borrowing powers, though constitutionally valid, may hinder fiscal autonomy of States and disrupt cooperative federalism. Discuss in the light of recent developments. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Recently in 2024, Kerala Govt challenged Union Govt under Article 131 for imposition of borrowing limits under Article 293:

Article 293 - requires States to obtain prior consent of Centre to borrow, if there exists an loan outstanding to the latter.

Centre may impose such conditions to grant the consent as it deems fit.

Restrictions on borrowing power

As per 15th finance commission recommendations
- ceiling limit on state borrowing
= 3.57% of GDP

This hinders fiscal autonomy of States: -

- 1) Ties states to the centre to seek permissions everytime they borrow
- 2) Erodes their sovereignty within the federal framework
- 3) may hurt policy implementation and administrative decision making
- 4) One size fits all formula - disregards unique aspects of state's economic conditions.

It Disrupts cooperative Federalism

- 1) widens Trust deficit between centre & states (eg) Southern States & Union
- 2) Confrontational Federalism - litigations

in the Supreme Court (Eg) Kerala
V/L
Central Govt

3) Hurts Fiscal federalism through

Centralisation of decision making

4) Erodes principle of SUBSIDIARITY

- cardinal to cooperative federalism

Way forward As per Punchhi & Sarkaria Commissions

1) Consultative & collaborative approach

2) Autonomy to be devolved to states with respect to borrowing powers

Also 16th Finance Commission could review this issue to expand borrowing powers of states

14.

लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम के तहत चुनाव लड़ने के अधिकार और चुनावी नैतिकता बनाए रखने की आवश्यकता के बीच के तनाव का परीक्षण कीजिए। क्या दोषसिद्ध अपराधियों पर आजीवन प्रतिबंध लगाया जाना चाहिए? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Examine the tension between the right to contest elections and the need to uphold electoral ethics under the Representation of the People Act. Should there be a lifetime ban on convicted criminals? (Answer in 250 words)

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Representation of people Act 1951 (RPA)

provides for the framework of conducting elections.

Tension between - Rights to contest and uphold electoral ethics

1) High bar for disqualification under

Section 8 of RPA → Upon conviction ~~of~~ ^{under}

certain laws

This allows individuals accused of heinous crimes to contest polls.

⑨ Amritpal Singh, a Terror accused won 18th Lok Sabha polls 2024.

2) "No Lifetime ban" on convicted individuals - sections 8(1), 8(2) & 8(3)

disqualify for period of conviction + 6 years

- allows for criminals to
contest elections -

3) Raising bar for disqualification could undermine Right to Contest - especially

during polarised politics, when false accusations may be levelled.

Lifetime Ban on Convicts

Sy Qureshi, former CEC has proposed this solution.

Merits:->

1) Helps decriminalise politics

2) Foster Free and fair elections

- key to upholding representative democracy

3) Deterrent effect - check on crimes being committed by politicians

4) Promote honest & able youth to participate in politics

Concerns

1) Lack of Political consensus

2) Not a panacea for other issues such as Electoral financing, non transparency in donations, Non application of RTI on parties.

As per 170th Law Commission report &

NN Vohra committee - Holistic electoral

reforms must be carried out to purify electoral machinery.

15.

2015 में शुरू की गई बेटी बचाओ बेटी पढ़ाओ योजना घटते बाल लिंगानुपात को सुधारने और बालिकाओं को सशक्त बनाने में किस हद तक सफल रही है? जमीनी स्तर पर इसकी प्रभावशीलता बढ़ाने के लिए उपाय सुझाइए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent has the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme, launched in 2015, succeeded in addressing the declining child sex ratio and empowering the girl child? Suggest measures to enhance its impact at the grassroots level. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao ^(BBBP) launched in 2015 seeks to implement the Constitution's vision of :-

- L social & economic justice (Preamble)
- L Affirmative Action for women Article 15(3)
- L substantive equality
- L welfare of marginalised (Article 46) & weaker sections

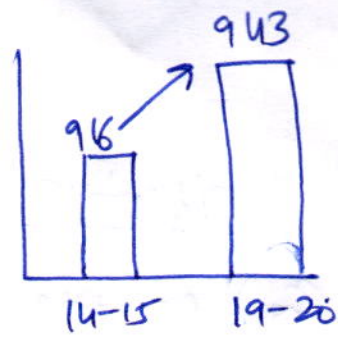
BBBP involved interventions to

- Reduce drop out rates
- Nutrition
- check infanticide
- community awareness

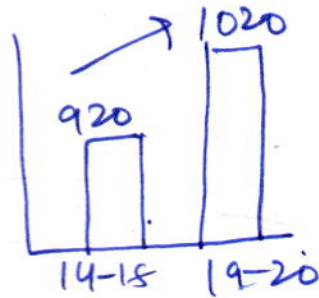
Extent of its success

(A) Addressing declining sex Ratio
if as per NFHS-5, child sex

Ratio has risen from



2) Also improved overall
Sex Ratio



(B) Empowering Girl child

- 1) Reduction in drop out rates (81% as per UDISE) from 14' to
- 2) Improvement in Gross enrollment ratio of girls (>50% in secondary, 90% in primary)
- 3) Reduced foeticide & infanticide cases
- 4) Improved Nutritional indicators

Gaps in BBBP

- 1) lower Budgetary Allocation (10% declining in 2025)
- 2) Inadequate community sensitisation
(eg) high sex selective abortion in Haryana

3) Ineffective fund utilisation

(eg) As per CAG > 50 Crore unspent balances with states -

4) Inadequate destigmatisation drives to address patriarchal social values

Measures for effective grassroots implementation

1) Empower AASHA and Anganwadi workers to help sensitive communities

2) Involve NGO's & Self Help groups to expand last mile service delivery

3) Gender sensitisation drives in Panchayats, Samitis & village schools

4) Engage with village elders, community leaders to address systemic aspects of Admin efficiency - decentralise, cut red tape

Through these reforms UNSDG 5 and goal of Nari Shakti can be accomplished

16.

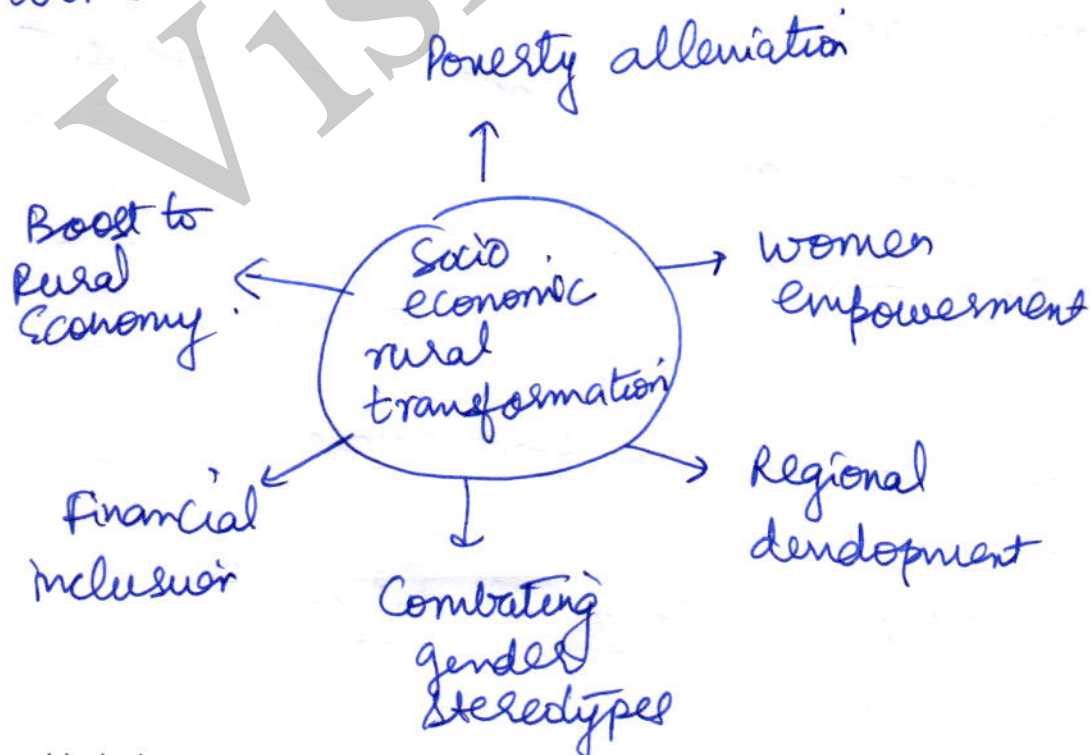
स्वयं-सहायता समूह ग्रामीण भारत में सामाजिक-आर्थिक कायाकल्प के चालक के रूप में उभर रहे हैं। उनकी पहुंच और प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने में सरकार की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are emerging as vehicles of socio-economic transformation in rural India. Examine the role of government in scaling their reach and effectiveness. (Answer in 250 words)

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Self Help groups ^(SHG) are grassroot institutions comprising 10-12 members who come together to promote their shared interests.

As per Eco-Survey 23-24, there are 12 lakh employed SHG's with 10 crore women members.



Role of Govt in scaling their reach & effectiveness - Examination

- 1) DDU - National Rural Livelihood mission (NRLM)
to empower women led SHG, financial linkages, marketing support.
- 2) SHG Bank Linkage programme - financial empowerment through formal credit.
- 3) Lakshmi Didi scheme - for income augmentation of women SHG's.
- 4) Namo Drone Didi - to train rural women as drone pilots, boost agri productivity & income augmentation - scaling in newer domains.
- 5) State Govt support (eg) Kudumbashree in Kerala.

Gaps / Limitations in Govt's role:

- 1) Limited Budgetary Allocation to Support SHG's

2) Low Collaboration with grassroot Institutions such as NGOs to enhance their effectiveness

3) Inadequate skilling & Capacity building

⊙ women members lack financial literacy, marketing skills

4) Inadequate digital inclusion

- deprives SHG's of modern tech
- nology to scale & market their products

Way forward as per NABARD recommend-ation

- └ Convergence with Panchayats & NGOs
- └ Digital inclusion
- └ Expand Domains - millets, AI, green tech
- └ Enhance public spending.

17.

आर्थिक संवृद्धि के बावजूद, भारत में बहुआयामी निर्धनता बनी हुई है। इसके अंतर्निहित कारणों का विश्लेषण कीजिए और उन्हें दूर करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite economic growth, multidimensional poverty continues to persist in India. Analyse the underlying causes and discuss the measures taken by the government to address them. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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As per IMF ²⁴⁻²⁵ Update
India is the fastest growing and will become 4th largest economy by end of 2025

Yet multidimensional poverty persists

↳ as per UNDP, 234 million multidimensional poor people in India - highest in the world.

Underlying Causes

- 1) Jobless growth - displacement by new technologies, high unemployment (7% as per CMIE)
- 2) Low social security coverage - only 64% of people covered by social security schemes

3) Inequitable growth - rise in

income inequality - Top 1% → 22% of Income
Bottom 50% → 13% of Income

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इस हाशिए में
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4) Poor policy planning - Absence of
recent deprivation data due to unavailability
of census (Eg) Non inclusion of poor in
PDS due to data deficit

5) Gaps in Targeting - corruption,
Red Tapism, exclusionary errors
(Eg) Denial of MNRGA wages for Aadhaar
mismatches

6) Low Public spending on human capital
- only 1.3% on health, 3% on Education
of GDP

7) Inadequate climate resilience - extreme
weather events exacerbate poverty

Measures adopted by Govt

1) Economic empowerment - through

financial inclusion (Eg) PM Jan Dhan.

2) women empowerment (Eg) PM Ujjwala
Yojna, Swachh Bharat mission

3) Saturation of Policy reach

(Eg) PM Janman - for tribal welfare.

4) Comprehensive social security

(Eg) PMJAY, PM Jeevan Jyoti Beema,

5) Rural Transformation - through
self help groups (NRLM mission),
PM Gram Sadak, MNREGA

6) Affordable Housing (PM Awas),
Energy (PM Ujala), Drinking water
(Jal Shakti mission),
Digital Inclusion

This has uplifted 250 million out of poverty
in last 10 years as per NITI Aayog will
go a long way in meeting UNSDG1 target
by 2030 -

18.

भारत खाद्य अधिशेष और पोषण की कमी संबंधी विरोधाभास का सामना कर रहा है। इस विरोधाभास के पीछे निहित संरचनात्मक कारणों का विश्लेषण कीजिए और सुधार हेतु रणनीतियों का सुझाव दीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India faces a paradox of food surplus and nutritional deficit. Analyse the structural reasons behind this paradox and suggest reform strategies. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हफ्ते में नही लिखना चाहिए
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As per Agri Stats 2025, India produces 350 million tonnes of foodgrains.

Yet, it suffers from Nutrition deficit :-

↳ Low Rankings in Global Hunger Index

↳ As per NFHS-5 data

- Hidden Hunger
- 35% of children stunted
 - 32% children Underweight
 - 19% children wasted
 - 67% children anemic

Structural Reasons behind this paradox

- 1) Overemphasis on Low Nutrition crops
- paddy, wheat (Post Green Revolution)

- 2) Skewed Cropping pattern - low production of pulses, millets which are Nutritious -
- 3) Agricultural Policy bias - high MSP, assured procurement only for rice, wheat
- 4) Leakages in distribution - ghost beneficiaries, exclusionary errors (38% diversion)
- 5) Bureaucratic structures - Lack of accountability, corruption prevents benefits last mile reach
- 6) Data Gaps - As per IIT Delhi study, non availability of ^{updated} census data leads to exclusion of intended beneficiaries

Reform Strategies

- 1) Crop Diversification - promote cultivation

of nutritious crops like pulses & millets' (Eg) Shree Anna designation of millets

2) Promote Biofortification of cereal crops (Eg) Fortified rice.

3) Expand Mid day meal and PD&S basket - include fruits, vegetables, proteins -

(Eg) Rajasthan govt - free milk with mid day meal.

4) Effective targeting - Use technology to check leakages, ensure last mile delivery.

A holistic approach can help make Kuposhan Mukta Bharat & achieve ON SAG 2 'Zero hunger'.

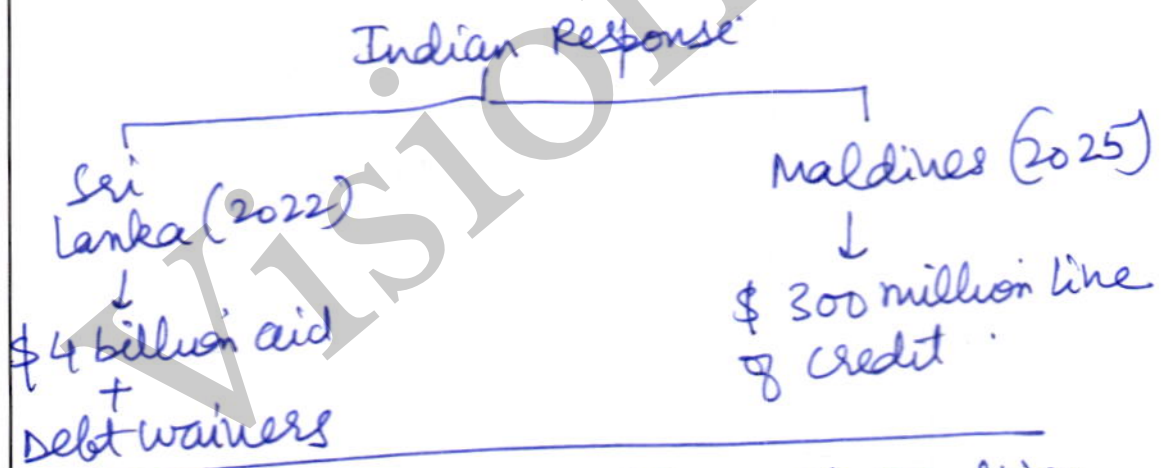
19.

श्रीलंका और मालदीव में आर्थिक संकटों के दौरान भारत द्वारा समय पर की गई कार्रवाई उसकी "नेबरहुड फर्स्ट" की नीति की सक्रियता को दर्शाती है। परीक्षण कीजिए कि भारतीय सहायता ने इन देशों के साथ द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को कैसे प्रभावित किया है। हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में सतत आर्थिक सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आगे क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India's timely response during the economic crises in Sri Lanka and the Maldives reflects its "Neighbourhood First" policy in action. Examine how Indian aid has impacted bilateral ties with these nations. What steps can further be taken to promote sustainable economic cooperation in the Indian Ocean region? (Answer in 250 words) 15

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

On a recent visit ^{of Indian PM} to Maldives, the Maldivian govt acknowledged India's valuable role in pulling it out of economic crisis (July 2025)



Impact of Indian aid on bilateralities with Sri Lanka & Maldives

1) Fostered geopolitical camaraderie & Trust.

(Eg) Maldivian Prez → from "India out" to laying Red Carpet (2025)

2) Fostered solidarity as part

of Global South - South South
collaboration

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्गिण में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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write on
this margin

3) Diplomatic maneuvering - Aid has

helped institutionalise relationship
despite political upheavals

4) Forged strong people to people ties

- through development projects

(Eg) Trincomalee project - Sri Lanka

Addu Atoll - Maldives

5) Countered Chinese Debt Trap diplomacy

As per Shrinankar menon, further
steps to promote sustainable cooperation
in Indian ocean region :-

1) Collaborate in plurilateral formats

(Eg) Indian ocean rim Association

2) Revive Regional groupings such as SAARC - South Asian economic integration

3) Joint development initiatives - through Joint ventures & private sector collaborations -

4) Foster Business to Business connect - to facilitate smooth investment flows

5) Trade in Bilateral currencies - to reduce exchange rate volatilities

Govt's new MAHASAGAR Doctrine underpins sustainable economic cooperation as part of its Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam ethos.

20.

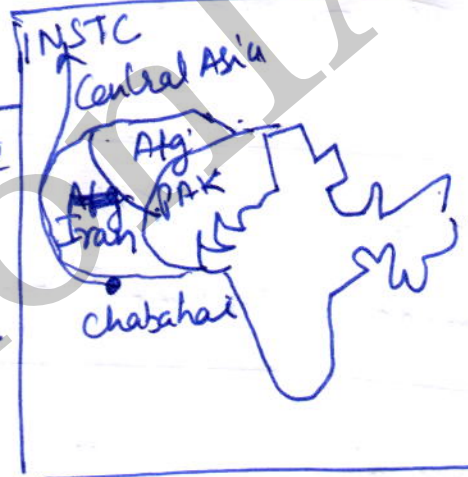
महाद्विपीय संपर्क (कनेक्टिविटी) और मध्य एशिया तक पहुंच के संदर्भ में भारत के लिए अफगानिस्तान के भू-रणनीतिक महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। 2021 के बाद बदले राजनीतिक परिदृश्य ने भारत की कनेक्टिविटी और ऊर्जा गलियारे की महत्वाकांक्षाओं को किस प्रकार प्रभावित किया है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the geostrategic significance of Afghanistan for India in the context of continental connectivity and access to Central Asia. How has the altered political landscape post-2021 affected India's connectivity and energy corridor ambitions? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस शीट में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Recently Dr. S. Jaishankar held telephonic conversation with his Taliban counterpart in Afghanistan - reflecting strategic shift in India's foreign policy.

Geostrategic Significance of Afghanistan



1) Enables India

to bypass Pakistan to deliver

humanitarian aid & bilateral trade -

2) Chabahar port - gives access to

Afghanistan & Central Asia, to

enhance trade & connectivity.

3) Afganistan
~~Iran~~ as the lynchpin of International
North South Transport Corridor,
through Chabahar linkage

4) Locational Advantages - Afganistan
lies between Iran & Pakistan enabling
India to strengthen alternative
routes to reach central Asia.

Political Landscape post 2021 Taliban
takeover - Impact on connectivity & energy
corridors

1) Political instability has disrupted
existing projects

2) Initial strategic restraint in
dealing with Taliban - slowed
down India's projects in Afganistan.

3) Strategic ambivalence on

TAPI project - Turkmenistan Afghanistan,
Pakistan India pipeline -

However Indo Afghan ties are
being normalised & there is
renewed hope in

↳ reaching a pragmatic

diplomatic relationship

↳ fast track implementation
of existing projects.

As Dr S Jaishankar said-

"Our policy towards Afghanistan
will be guided by our commitment
to Afghan people & pursue our national
interest"

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

VisionIAS

