



VISION IAS

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE - 2368)

Name of Candidate	SRIJATI	Registration Number	
Medium Eng./Hindi	eng	Date	10/09/24
Center			

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- 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)।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH**.
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.**
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- 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 लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- 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।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended

Strongly Recommended

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 & Sind Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi- 110009

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.

VisionIAS

All the Best

Q1.

न्यायालयों द्वारा की जा रही व्याख्या के कारण भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 21 का महत्व प्राण और दैहिक स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार के दायरे का विस्तार हुआ है। न्यायालय के प्राथमिक पूर्ववर्ती निर्णयों की महावना में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The evolving interpretation by the courts have led to the expansion of the scope of the Right to Life and Personal Liberty under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. Discuss with the help of relevant case laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Right to life and property
under Article 21 has ~~has~~ under
gone significant evolution
through Judicial interpretation

Evolution

1) Narrow interpretation in
Ak Hopsan case

- procedure established by law does not provide for protection against legislative excesses.

2) Menaka Gandhi case

- 'Procedure established by law to be interpreted as 'due process of law'

- the validity of the fairness, just of the procedure to be evaluated

- Right to life → Right to life with dignity
- 3) Right to dignified death
 - Aruna Shambaugh case
 - provided for passive euthanasia
- 4) Right to healthy environment
 - Mc Mehta case
- 5) Right to protection against climate change
 - MK Ranjith Singh case
- 6) Right to Privacy
 - Puttaswamy judgement
- 7) Primacy over fundamental right over customs
 - Sabrimata case
- 8) Right to protection at work place
 - Vishnukha Yadav case / Bhavri devi case

Through various judgements
right ~~to~~ against noise pollution

Q2.

लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा 8A भारत में चुनावी प्रक्रिया की अखंडता को किस प्रकार सुरक्षित रखती है। विवेचन कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Analyse how Section 8A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 preserves the integrity of the electoral process in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The section 8A of RPA, 1951 provides for grounds of disqualification ~~are~~ for corrupt practices, which have been enlisted in section 123.

Preserves the integrity of electoral process

1) section 123 includes practices of hate speech, electoral mal practice, violence against woman, bribery etc.

2) complaint under section 8A is submitted to president or governor to decide if the act should be punish quantum of punishment

- 3) punishment cannot exceed disqualification beyond 6 years.
- 4) The president must take recommendation of EC.
- 5) Appeal provision → to President
- 6) Section 11 bars election commission to reduce or remove the disqualification under 8A.

way forward

- 1) Better clarity on the corrupt practices mentioned in section 123.
- 2) overlap in 8A and 8 w.r.t to the offences.
- 3) Discretion of president or governor → subject to judicial review.

Thus, 8A provides for deterrence against electoral corrupt practices

Q3.

भारतीय संविधान की नौवीं अनुसूची को प्रारंभ में किन उद्देश्यों के साथ प्रस्तुत किया गया था? क्या उच्चतम न्यायालय नौवीं अनुसूची में शामिल किए गए किसी कानून की समीक्षा कर सकता है? न्यायालय के पूर्ववर्ती निर्णयों की सहायता से चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए।)

With what objectives was the Ninth Schedule of the Indian Constitution initially introduced? Can the Supreme Court review a legislation that has been placed in the Ninth Schedule? Discuss with the help of case laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Ninth schedule was introduced
in the first constitutional
amendment Act.

Objective of introduction

- 1) Implementation of land reforms.
- 2) Limiting the Judicial review against Right to property (then in ~~21~~ Article 31 & 19(1)(f)).
- 3) preventing Judicial review against the violation of any fundamental right.
- 4) Implementation of DPSP article 38 (welfare state)

Supreme court power to review

1) Keshvananda Bharati case
1973.

- provided for the doctrine of Basic structure
- allowed for amendment of Fundamental rights
- Judicial review part of Basic structure

2) IR Coelho case

- allowed for judicial review of acts included in 9th schedule post 24th April 1973
- Judicial review part of Basic structure.

Thus, supreme court can review the legislations included in 9th schedule and ~~prevent~~ the.

Q4.

ऑनलाइन विवाद समाधान (ODR) द्वारा प्रदान की जाने वाली विवादों के उचित, त्वरित और प्रभावी समाधान तक पहुंच कई चुनौतियों से घिरी हुई है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Online Dispute Resolution's (ODR) promise of access to just, speedy and effective resolution of disputes is beset with several challenges. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

online dispute resolution intro
duced as part of e-court project
has immense potential.

promise of access to just,
speedy resolutions

- 1) Increases access to justice
- reduces time & travel
cost
- 2) Fast prevents the requirement
of physical presence.
- 3) Better record keeping and
case status update.
- 4) Helps in faster & resolutions.

challenges

- 1) Lack of infrastructure
- lower courts lack

internet connectivity, ~~to~~ digital
device

- 2) Lack of training to the
court professionals
- 3) Digital divide
- only 30% rural people have
access to the internet
- 4) Digital illiteracy
- 5) Hinders proper adjudica-
tion
- judges not able to pick
the emotional cues.

way forward

- 1) ~~See~~ Infrastructure boost for
Judiciary
- 2) Increased awareness &
outreach (eg) Pro-Bono
scheme
- 3) Limiting adjournments.
- 4) Training the judges and
court management

The adoption of SUVAS, FASTER
and other technological

Q5.

केंद्रीय सूचना आयोग के कार्यालय द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली समस्याओं के कारण सूचना का अधिकार (RTI) अधिनियम निरर्थक हो गया है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए।)

The Right to Information (RTI) Act has fallen into redundancy owing to the issues faced by the Office of the Central Information Commission. Analyse. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Right to Information Act,
further strengthened the
Fundamental Right under
Article 19(1)(a). - Freedom of
expression.

However, there are challenges
faced by office of Chief Central
Information Commission [CIC]

- 1) High pendency of cases
- breach of time limits
of response
- 2) vacancies → impacting
ability to work efficiently
- 3) Amendments of 2019 further
eroded the office
- tenure to be decided by
the central government

- salaries, allowances decided by the central government
- 4) Inefficient action against the public information officers
- 5) allegations of biasness
high rejection rate for PMO & home ministry

Way forward

- 1) Independence of the office must be restored.
- 2) Ensuring full capacity and funds for the office
- 3) Infrastructure boost → use of database and guidelines for storage of information
- 4) Better training & of PIOs.
- 5) using active involvement of PIOs.
- 6) Making SCU - of RTI mandatory

Thus, uncompromised CIC can ensure RTI implementation

Q6.

सूचना एवं संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (ICT) ने भारत में जमीनी स्तर पर शासन परिदृश्य को किस प्रकार परिवर्तित कर दिया है? इसकी पूर्ण क्षमता का लाभ उठाने में आने वाली प्रमुख बाधाएं क्या हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How has Information and Communication Technology (ICT) transformed the governance landscape at the grassroots level in India? What are the key obstacles in leveraging its full potential? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Leveraging ICT to enable shift to e-governance has the potential to maximize good governance and minimize government

Transformation of grass root governance

- 1) Administrative efficiency
 - computerisation of grampanchayats
 - use of data base for record keeping
 - efficient policy making & monitoring
- 2) efficient information dissemination
 - Planned public meetings etc.

3) village Resource centres
in collaboration with (IRO)
- Provides for better resource
management

4) contribution to global goals

case study:- ~~Patti~~ village
Menangadi - first carbon
neutral village
- carbon emission inventory
- tracking and rewarding
green incentives.

key obstacles

1) Limited internet reach

- Bharatnet project - target
unfulfilled

2) Digital Illiteracy

only 30% of rural population
has access to mobile phones
& internet

3) Lack of infrastructure

- 25% PPIs - no panchayat
buildings.

Government initiatives like
e-Gram swarajya, PMADISHA

Q7.

सिविल सेवाओं का राजनीतिकरण भारत में शासन के 'स्टील फ्रेम' को किस प्रकार नष्ट कर देता है? इस प्रभाव का प्रतिकार करने के लिए कौन-से उपाय अपनाए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How does the politicization of the civil services corrode the 'steel frame' of governance in India? What measures can be implemented to counteract this effect? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Non partisanship has been identified as one of the core principles of public life.

However, politicization of civil service hampers the same and leads to corrosion of civil service! —

1) Impartial recruitments

eg Rajasthan public service commissioner → adjudicated for corruption.

2) Transfers and Posting

— compromised ~~letter~~ officers provided awarding postings.

3) Biased promotions → reduced moral of efficient officers

4) collusion in scams

eg 2a scam

Qvohra commission — nexus

of politician-administration-
criminals.

5) Post retirement involvement
in politics or
government postings.

Measures to counteract

1) Fixed tenure of posting - 3yrs
[HOTA committee]

2) Following Best Practices in
recruitment - [UPSC]

3) Civil Service Board - to
provide for Promotions &
posting
[Subramanyam Swamy case]

4) Legalising the code of
conduct

5) Ethical training to civil
servants - Mission
Karmayogi

6) Provisions for actions against
indiscipline in civil servants
[2nd APE]

Q8.

लैंगिकता वृद्धावस्था का एक महत्वपूर्ण आयाम है। भारत में सामाजिक अलगाव और वंचना का सामना करने वाली बुजुर्ग महिलाओं की समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Gender is an important dimension of ageing. What measures can be taken to solve the problems of elderly women facing social alienation and deprivation in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Women's suffering start from womb and ends at her tomb' — ~~but~~ highlights the perpetual deprivation a woman has to face.

Gender! dimension of aging

1) Lack of nutritional & food security

→ accelerates senescence

→ 57% women in reproductive age are anaemic.

2) Lack of Feminisation of Poverty

→ lack of proper resources

to → greater impact of

poverty → greater deprivation

- 3) lack of education
 - prevents access to opportunities of meaningful employment → dependency on other family members.

Measures for elderly women

- 1) social security to elderly
 (eg) Kriddha pension in Bihar
- 2) Silver economy
 engagement in meaningful economic activities
- 3) Asset allocation to elderly women
 (eg) PM Awas Yojana - the pucca house registered in name of eldest woman.
- 4) Involvement of NGOs
 (eg) helpage India
- 5) legal provisions mandating elderly care.

Thus, through multipronged

alienation & deprivation of elderly women can be tackled

Q9.

भारत और अफ्रीकी देशों के बीच राजनीतिक एवं आर्थिक जुड़ाव को बढ़ावा देने में भारतीय प्रवासी क्या भूमिका निभा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What role can the Indian diaspora play in fostering political and economic engagement between India and African countries? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Indian diaspora has significant presence in African countries like Mauritius, South Africa, Tanzania, etc.

Role of diaspora in fostering political & economic engagements

1) liberal visa policies

→ increased people to connect.

2) expansion of industrial base in Africa.

→ the cashew processing business b/w between Kerala and Gambia.

3) expansion of technology

→ e-network project in Africa

4) Increased FDI in African countries.



5) Student exchange programs
 ↳ Good presence of African nationals in Bangalore

6) Expansion of overseas universities

↳ IIT campus for Zanzibar, Tanzania.

Challenges

1) Political instability in Africa
 hinders mobility

2) Low consumption demand
 ↳ less scope for business expansion.

3) competition with china.

Way forward

1) exchange of FDI to foster governance

2) Mobility and migration agreement

3) Defense bilateral deal thus,

Q10.

अपने प्रारंभ के एक दशक से भी अधिक समय बाद, बेल्ट एंड रोड इनिशिएटिव के लाभ, विशेष रूप से विकासशील देशों के लिए, भ्रामक साबित हुए हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

More than a decade after its inception, the benefits of the Belt and Road Initiative have proven to be illusory, especially for developing countries. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is an ambitious Chinese project to revive the old silk route and provide for connectivity between Asia, Africa & Europe.

Benefits ! Illusory

1) Debt trap diplomacy

- creation of unsustainable projects

- high ~~de~~ interest rates

2) loss of sovereignty

- high debts are leveraged to gain strategic access

eg) 99 year lease of Hambantota port by Sri Lanka to China

3) Difficulty in debt restructuring

- arm twisting & offer

of even costlier loans.

4) No local Benefit

- Chinese companies and Chinese workers gain employment

eg) Awadar port → Babochis
tani in Hungary

5) Exploitation of natural resources.

- little respect for sustainability.

Way forward

1) changes in multilateral development banks

- greater lending capacity and flexibility for developing countries

2) creating real alternatives

eg) PFI - Partnership for
Global Infrastructure & dev
to investment

3) Better engagements with government & people of developing nations.

"You can fool some people some time but not all people all time".

Q11.

भारत में पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRIs) के समक्ष आने वाली वित्तीय बाधाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। उनके राजस्व संसाधनों में वृद्धि करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the financial constraints faced by the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in India. What measures can be taken to augment their revenue resources? (Answer in 250 words)

15

73rd constitutional amendment
act provided for the third tier
of government in the form of
Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)

However, the desired results are
far from being realized.

Financial constraints of PRIs

1) Inadequate devolution of funds
from the state governments

2) Tied nature of funds

- often designated for scheme
implementation.

3) Impact of GST

- further reduced the revenue
landscape

- octroi, enter advertisement tax etc. were subsumed
- without adequate compensation.

- 4) Irregularities in formation of State Finance Commissions (243 I) → recommendations are neglected
- 5) Risk Reluctance on part of PRs to exercise their own taxation ~~limits~~ powers.

Measures to augment revenue resources

- 1) The powers of taxation must be clearly defined and mapped (2nd Arc)
- 2) Principle of subsidiarity - ~~from~~ more discretion of PRs to exercise the use of allocated funds.

3) Encouraging the PRI's to exercise their taxation rights

Case study :- Madmakki Gram Panchayat - Karnataka

- ~~But~~ Prudence of Budgeting
- Gramsaha involvement in deciding the expenditures
- civic amenities like clean water, solar power etc

4) Better accounting practices

eg) PRIA soft ~~ware~~ proposed by CAG.

5) Training and educating the leaders

6) social auditing of the taxes public funds

7) Innovative tools like panchayat bonds

Thus, only when the 3P's - Fund Function and Functionaries are efficiently made available to PRI's

Q12.

भारत में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव सुनिश्चित करने में भारत निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। मुख्य निर्वाचन आयुक्त और अन्य निर्वाचन आयुक्त अधिनियम, 2023 ECI की स्वतंत्रता को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करेगा? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the role of the Election Commission of India (ECI) in ensuring free and fair elections in India. How will the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023 impact the independence of the ECI? (Answer in 250 words)

15

Article 324 of the constitution
provides for the office of
Election Commission (EC)

Role of ECI in ensuring free
and fair elections

- 1) Independence of the EC
 - removal like judges by special majority etc.
 - allows independent exercise of powers.
- 2) Control over the administrative authority
 - EC reshuffles the public officials before election to prevent any unfair advantage

3) Moral code of conduct.

- allows ~~for~~ free independent
watchdogs to exercise
vigilance

- ensures prevents misuse of
government machinery

4) Independent observers are
appointed

5) Innovations → EVM
→ NOTA
→ VVPAT

6) Public participation through
apps - eVigil

- reporting of misdeeds

→ EPIC reform - voter card

Provisions of Chief Election
Commissioner and other commis-
sioners Act

1) Appointment by selection
committee

- PM, Leader of opposition of
Lok Sabha & Union cabinet
minister

→ Search committee: Law minister
& Secretaries

- 3) Reappointment denied
- 4) qualification to be appointed
 - ~~no~~ rank no less than secretary
 - experience in handling election.

Impact of Act

- 1) dominance of executive → impact the independence of commission.
- 2) Selection committee can side line the suggestion of search committee
- 3) No clarity about other government appointment ~~by~~ after service
- 4) other election commissioners → removal on suggestion of C.E.C.

Way forward

- 1) Balancing the selection committee → inclusion of Judges as suggested in Anoop Baranwal case.
- 2) search committee → include civil societies
- 3) NO government posting after retirement

Q13.

अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति (अत्याचार निवारण) अधिनियम, 1989 ने भारत में वंचित समुदायों पर होने वाले अत्याचारों को रोकने और उन्हें भेदभाव के विरुद्ध संरक्षण प्रदान करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 has played a significant role in preventing atrocities and providing protection against discrimination of marginalized communities in India. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words)

15

The scheduled castes and scheduled tribes Act has been played crucial role in upliftment of marginalized communities

Positive Impact

- 1) Harsh bail conditions
- create deterrence
- 2) Stringent punishment
- life time imprisonment and heavy fine
- 3) Burden of proof on ~~per~~ accused
- 4) provision of victim protection
- 5) free legal service for the marginalized.

6) witness protection provision.

However, there are challenges

1) crimes committed in group

- provides better protection to accused ~~in~~ during trial & punishment

(e) unnao gang rape.

2) local power dynamics

→ police deny to register FIR.

3) sense of fear among the marginalised → don't report.

(e) recent video of man urinating on tribal man.

4) Judicial pendency → justice delayed & denied.

5)

Way Forward

- 1) Special provisions for crime committed in groups - harsher punishment
- 2) Means to report police inaction
- 3) Sensitisation of police
- 4) Better awareness
- 5) special provisions for protection of low caste women.

sc. in Patan Samal wali case highlighted the intersecti onality of gender & caste - high vulnerability

- 6) Including NCOs & civil societies for better reporting & awareness.

Thus, only through better implementation of Act in letter & spirit the historical injustice be undone.

Q14.

राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (NCW) के कार्यों पर चर्चा कीजिए। महिलाओं की समस्याओं में निपटने में विदित न्यायालय की शक्तियां प्राप्त होने से आयोग को क्या लाभ होता है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the functions of the National Commission for Women (NCW). How does the Commission benefit from having the powers of a civil court in dealing with women's issues? (Answer in 250 words)

15

National commission for women is a ~~statutory~~ has been accorded the duty to ensure better gender parity and security of women.

Functions of NCW

- 1) Look into the matters involving violation of rights for women and violence, discrimination ~~are~~ against women.
- 2) can take suo motu cogni-
~~sa~~ sance of cases.
- 3) can intervene in the sub-judicial matters.
- 4) power of civil court duty
investigation

- 6) ~~for~~ Research into matters of female rights and women empowerment.
- 7) Policy recommendations.
- 8) Recommendations for efficient implementation of provisions.

• Benefit from having civil court powers

1) can ensure availability of required documents for investigation.

2) provides sufficient use of police machinery

3) can summon officials and people.

4) Search and seizure can be ordered.

However, there are certain challenges

1) Advisory nature → recommen-
dations non-binding

2) Huge pendency of cases

3) vacancies

4) delayed response

↳ got active in Manipur
case only after video of
naked women paraded
went viral.

5) Use of police lack of dedicated
secretariat → limits
functioning

Way forward

1) Some recommendations should
be made binding

2) Sufficient funds & function-
aries provision

3) Active cooperation.

4) De politicalisation

5) Increased engagement in
women empowerment

↳ New mission for
educating women leaders for
PRIs in Delhi.

Thus, ~~empowered~~ empowered new
can ensure better gender justice.

Q15.

भारत में बाल यौन शोषण के मुद्दे का समाधान करने में POCSO अधिनियम, 2012 की प्रभावशीलता का समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Critically analyse the effectiveness of the POCSO Act, 2012 in addressing the issue of child sexual abuse in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

POCSO Act marked an important step in ensuring the safety of our country's future.

Effectiveness : Positive

- 1) Catered to the special requirement to deal with child sexual abuse
- 2) strict punishment for offender → created deterrence
- 3) gender neutral law :
equi equity in justice
- 4) guidelines for investigation
- effective in reducing mental trauma of child during investigation
- 5) fast track courts → speedy trial and timely justice

Don't forget
anything that
might
be asked
in the exam

Challenges

- 1) Increased Judicial pendency
- 2) Privacy of victim compromised in certain cases.
 (e.g.) Uniao gang rape.
- 3) Fast track courts → not implemented in many states (e.g.) W. Bengal
- 4) Age limits :- SC have raised concerns and asked to ~~rec~~ reduce the age limit to 16.
 → consensual acts of intercourse ~~→ punishment~~ to all also included as offence.
- 5) Judicial interpretations :-
 - (e.g.) Justice Rohini → denied rape on context of no skin to skin contact

- 6) ~~The~~ Lack of awareness among people
— in most cases perpetrator are
relatives → unreported

Way forward

- 1) Expanding the implementation of fast track courts & using Nirbhaya fund.
- 2) Sensitisation of police & judges
- 3) Amendments in Act as suggested by courts.
- 4) Remove ambiguous phrases like penetration, skin to skin contact.
- 5) Increased awareness among people.
- 6) ~~also~~ educating children about good touch & bad touch. 7) provision for cyber abuse

Thus, with multi-pronged approach

Q16.

भारत में स्मार्ट सिटी मिशन के कार्यान्वयन का समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Critically evaluate the implementation of the Smart Cities Mission in India.
(Answer in 250 words)

15

Smart cities mission aims to enhance the standard of living in urban areas through efficient use of resources & sustainable growth.

Important Achievements

- 1) ~70% Projects completed
(Ministry of Urban Affairs)
- 2) enhanced efficiency of administration
 - ↳ control and command centres & CCTV networks
 - efficient traffic management, crime control
- 3) Infrastructure development
 - ↳ expansion of drainage networks.
- 4) quality urban life

- Development of Green spaces, city parks etc.
- 5) Expansion of blue-green infrastructure
 - eg) rain harvesting ~~at~~ structures created

However, there are challenges

- 1) extended deadline of the Project
o - extended to 2026.
- 2) unspent Budgetary allocation
- 3) poor maintenance of developed infrastructure
 - eg) dysfunctional CCTVs.
- 4) Inclusivity ignored
CAI reported highlighted the Pwd inaccessibility of infrastructure
- 5) Sister city concept not fully leveraged

- 6) poor coverage in tier 2
tier 3 cities
- 7) neglect of core issues like
codification of urban
development planning
- updating the city master plan.

Way Forward

- 1) Inter departmental conver-
gence.
 - eg) Namami Gange & smart city
 - 2) public awareness
 - 3) Police sensitization → data
security and limited
surveillance (Article 21)
 - 4) dedicated fund for main-
tenance of created infrastructure
 - 5) leveraging GIS data for
efficient planning
- Thus, smart cities mission
can help achieve sustainable,
innovative, infrastructure

Q17.

भारत में चरम निर्धनता में काफी कमी आई है, लेकिन स्वस्थ भोजन तक पहुंच अभी भी एक विलासिता का विषय बनी हुई है। स्वस्थ भोजन तक अपर्याप्त पहुंच के कारणों पर चर्चा कीजिए और उनका समाधान करने के उपाय सुझाइए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

While extreme poverty has declined considerably in India, access to healthy food still remains a luxury. Discuss the reasons for poor access to healthy food and suggest measures to overcome the same. (Answer in 250 words) 15

As per the report by World Bank, extreme poverty in India has declined below 2% in 2023-24.

However India's ranking of 111/152 in Global Hunger Index highlights the lack of access to healthy food.

Reasons for poor access to healthy food

- 1) Poverty! still considerable
- NITI Aayog multi-dimensional poverty - 11.11.1. (2023)
- 2) Limited PDS system focus on cereals
- rice, wheat and coarse grains.

- 3) High Food Inflation →
healthy food like fruits,
dairy, meat → unaffordable
- 4) Social Hierarchies
- neglect of nutritional needs
of women
- 57% women anaemic
- too high ~~to~~ malnutrition among
SC/ST.
- 5) Inefficient service delivery
eg ICDS, mid day meal.

Measures to overcome

- 1) Diversification of agriculture
- ~~no~~ Duopoly of wheat, rice
→ horticulture, pulses
eg horticulture complex deve-
lopment - Budget 2024-25
- 2) MSP should be provided &
procurement of oil, pulses.
- 3) Food Fortification
eg Golden Rice - Vitamin A

4) PDS must include pulses
oil and other ~~the~~ healthy
items.

5) creating awareness among
people

[case study] :- Mission Sampurna

- in odisha
- Mother buddies
- mother of healthy child dubbed
with mother of malnourished
child
- knowledge sharing & diet chart
- reduced malnutrition

6) Enhancing the agricultural
infrastructure → reduce
food loss - current 40% (FAO)

↳ Gramin Bhandaran Yojana

7) Leveraging food processing
↳ Food parks.

8) controlling food inflation
with right mix of fiscal &
monetary policy

Thus, enough healthy food

Q18.

भारत में स्वास्थ्य संबंधी परिणामों को बेहतर बनाने में सार्वजनिक रूप से वित्तपोषित स्वास्थ्य बीमा की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Examine the role of publicly funded health insurance in improving health outcomes in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

The public governments responsibility to improve public health have been outlined in the Article 47 of constitution

Role of publicly funded health insurance

- 1) High out of pocket health expenditure - 47% as is a major cause of poverty (Economic survey)
- 2) Every year 500 crore people fall below poverty line due to medical expenses.
- 3) ~~It~~ need to increase the health expenditure - currently only 1.3% of GDP.
- 4) can help improve the human capital and

Productivity of ~~total~~ work force

- 5) Aging population will
enlarge in coming future
→ increased expenditure on
health

Government initiatives

- 1) PM Aayushman Bharat Yojana
has PM Jan Arogya Abhiyaan
component
• Provides for upto 5 lakh
insurance for ₹ per person
per annum.

- 2) Private hospitals have also
been enrolled.

- 3) coverage for post sickness
care and medicines covered

- 4) 100% FDI in insurance sector
[challenges]

- 5) each report highlighted the
issues!—

- ↳ united enrollment of base

Fraudsters ~ 65% of targeted number.

- 2) Frauds - fake receipts and
- 3) Inclusion exclusion error
- over 1000 accounts with same aadhar number.

way forward

- 1) Increasing the coverage
→ aim for saturation
- 2) Awareness among people
- 3) Boosting health infrastructure
- primary health care centres
- doctor to population ratio
[Sri Reddy committee]
- 4) Involvement of private insurance companies.
- 5) Simplification of schemes offered.

Thus, though universal coverage under publicly funded health insurance [SP41, SP42] can

Q19.

भारत की 'पड़ोस प्रथम (Neighbourhood First)' नीति पड़ोसी देशों के साथ संबंधों को बेहतर करने में किस हद तक सफल रही है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent has India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy been successful in enhancing its relations with the neighbouring countries? (Answer in 250 words) 15

India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy is guided by the principle of non-reciprocal goodwill and vashudheva kutumbakam.

Success in enhancing relations

1) established India as region
at security provider

↳ operation cactus - averted
coup in maldives in 1988.

2) trusted partner

↳ helped Sri Lanka ~~in~~
with over 400 billion USD
line of credit during econo
mics crisis.

3) Increased collaboration for
main time domain awareness

↳ IFC, INCOIS.

4) Partner for growth inclusive and sustainable growth

↳ Dantak mission → Bto built infra in Bhutan
- India agreed for Calapa city development

5) Cultural and historical ties

↳ operation SAAR doctrine

6) HADR operations

↳ helped Kathmandu - 2015 earthquake

Tsunami 2004 - Sri Lanka

However, there are certain challenges

1) Anti India sentiments -

Big Brother attitude

↳ India - out campaign in Maldives, Bangladesh

2) Instability in the region and India being used as

domestic electoral tool

(eg) Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka
anti India political factions.

3) limited economic prowess

- delayed project completions

(eg) Kaladan Multimodal Project

4) Increasing Chinese footprint

(eg) Hambantota, Colombo Port

Himalayan Quad.

5) Pakistan problem

- limits the effectiveness of SAARC & regional cooperation

Way forward

1) Neighbourhood First policy can't be episodic

(eg) increased allocation to Maldives despite bilateral tensions

2) engagement with all the political stakeholders

3) Increasing people to people connect

Q20.

पश्चिम एशिया में बढ़ते संघर्षों के भारत पर गढ़ने वाले दुल्हेखनीय प्रभावों का रैवॉकिंग करत दूर इराने लेनीय और वैश्विक स्थिरता पर गढ़ने वाले प्रभावों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में कीजिए।)

Examine the effects of escalating conflicts in West Asia on regional and global stability, highlighting the significant repercussions for India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

The outbreak of Israel - Hamas war has once again embroiled the fragile west Asia into conflicts and political turmoils.

Escalating conflict

- Houthies attack on shipping lanes in red sea
- exchange of fires with Hezbollah of Lebanon
- Iran directly attacking
- Syria aerial attacks.

Impact on regional & global stability

- 1) Breakdown of Abraham Accord
- 2) Further delays the normalisation of Israel Arab reconciliation.

- 3) Humanitarian losses.
- 4) Disrupted shipping lanes → increased cost of insurance → inflation in certain items.
- 5) Further erosion of stature of UNSC. → inability to pass any meaningful resolution.
- 6) expansion of the conflict — almost all regional players now involved.
- 7) Protests throughout world in support of Palestine
 - ↳ USA campus protests

Repercussions for India

- 1) Maritime security
 - Houthi's attacking oil merchantised ships
 - increased piracy activity
 - India expanded its fleet under operation Sankalp

- 2) Impact on energy security
- 85% of crude oil import from red sea.
- 3) Inflation in oil prices → increased ~~the~~ current account deficit
- 4) Problematic Diplomatic Tight rope
- has supported two state solution
- criticised October 7 attack → act of terrorism.
- 5) China's increasing footprints
- Saudi-Iran rapprochement
- 6) Reports of use of Indian weapons by Israel → questions on neutrality.

Way forward

- 1) Implement immediate & lasting cease fire
- 2) Release of hostages
- 3) Revised two state solution implementation
- 4) Mainstreaming Iran.