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17 AUG 2024

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RECEIVING

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2364)

Name of Candidate	PRASHANT SINGH		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	613218
Center	LUCKNOW	Date	17/8/24

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained		
1	10		1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।	
2	10		2. There are TWENTY questions printed in HINDI & ENGLISH . इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं हिन्दी और अंग्रेज़ी में छपे हैं।	
3	10		3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।	
4	10		4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।	
5	10		5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।	
6	10		6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।	
7	10		7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।	
8	10			
9	10			
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18	15			
19	15			
20	15			
Total Marks Obtained:			Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?	
Remarks:			Recommended	
			Strongly Recommended	

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.

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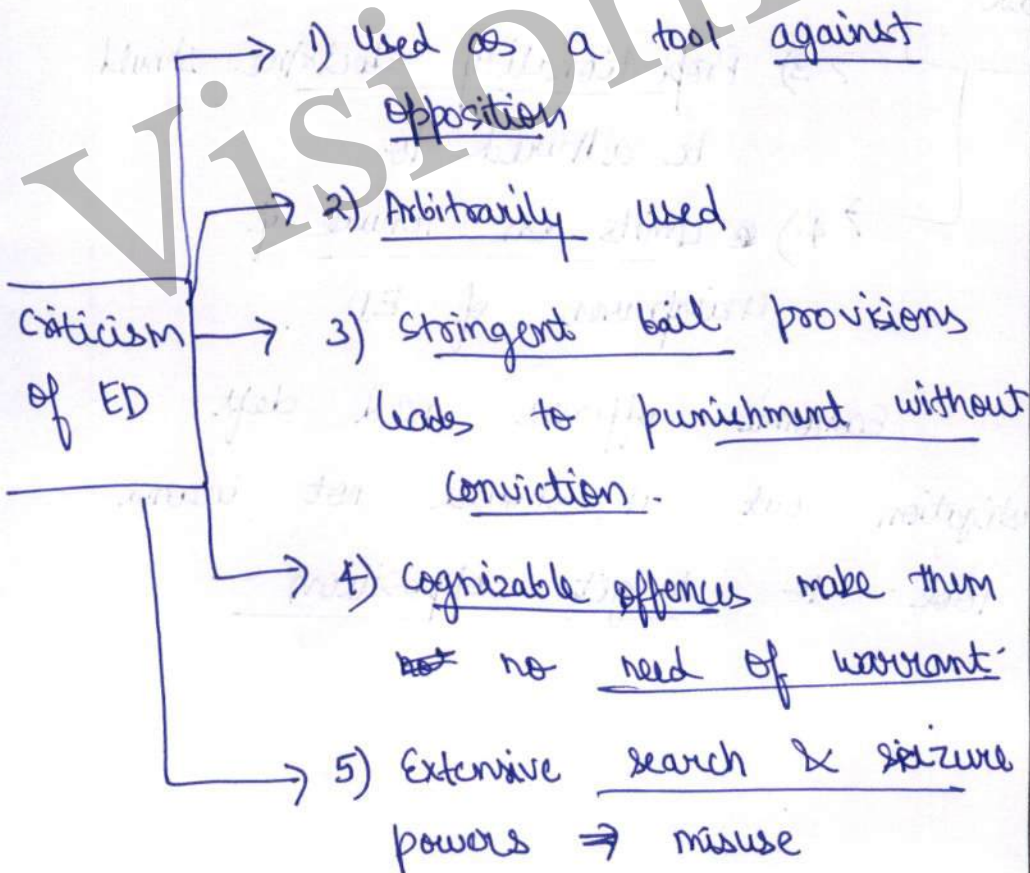
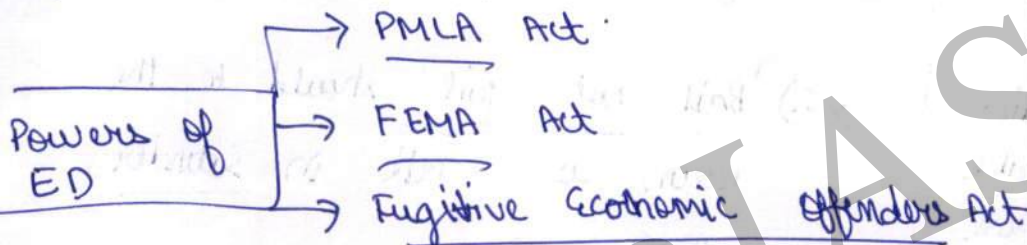
All the Best

Q1.

धन शोधन और विदेशी मुद्रा कानूनों के उल्लंघन के अपराधों की जांच करने के अपने अधिदेश को पूरा करने में प्रवर्तन निदेशालय (ED) द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली आलोचनाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the criticisms faced by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in fulfilling its mandate of investigating offences of money laundering and violations of foreign exchange laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Enforcement Directorate is an investigative agency created to look into matters of money laundering in India.



- 6) Ground of arrest not communicated to accused
- 7) Chargesheet admissible in courts
- 8) Extension of tenure by central govt.

- Remedies to make ED more effective
- 1) Prakash Bansal case
SC held communicating ground of arrest must
 - 2) 'Bail not jail' should be the norm as held in Satinder Artil case
 - 3) Proportionality doctrine should be adhered to
 - 4) Limits on tenure of chairperson of ED

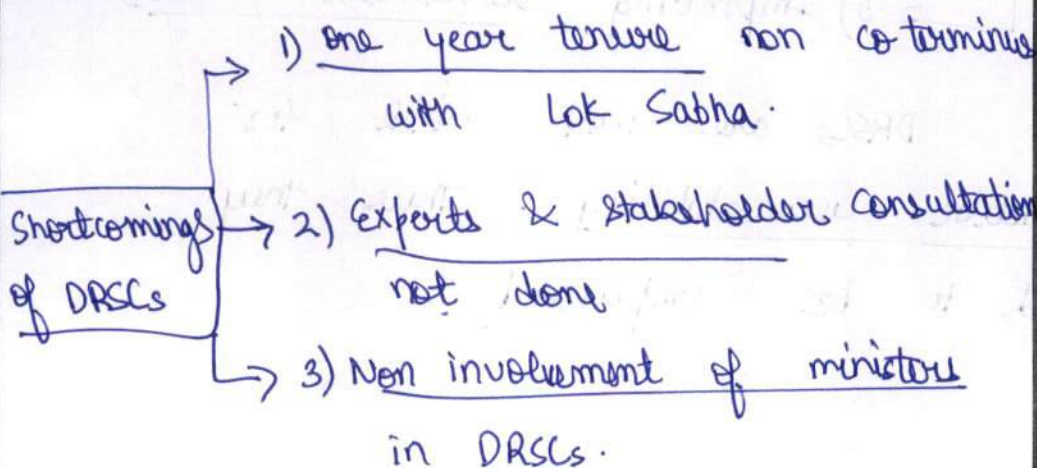
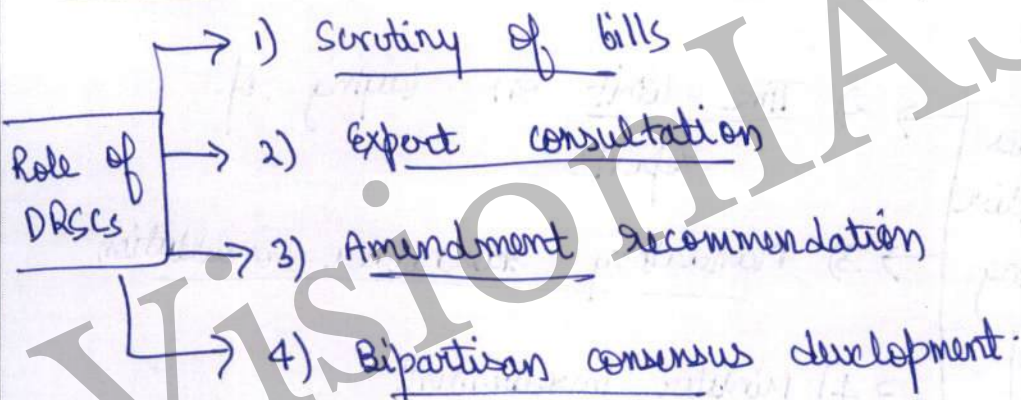
Economic offences need deft investigation but it should not become a tool to target opposition.

Q2.

विभागों से संबद्ध स्थायी समितियां (DRSCs), जिन्हें 'मिनी पार्लियामेंट' भी कहा जाता है, अपने कार्यों को करने में प्रभावी क्यों नहीं रही हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Why are the Departmentally Related Standing Committees (DRSCs), also known as 'Mini Parliament', not effective in carrying out their functions? (Answer in 150 words) 10

There are 24 Departmentally related Standing Committees with 31 members each. They are also known as mini parliament as "Parliament in committee is parliament at work".



- 4) lack of expertise of MPs in technical matters
- 5) No time limit on laying report before Parliament.
- 6) Official secrets act & National security act are limitations.

- Remedies for effective working
- 1) Coterminous with Lok Sabha
 - 2) Time limit on laying of reports
 - 3) Mandatory stakeholder consultation
 - 4) Minister involvement.
 - 5) Improving secretariat services.

DRSCs are most vital for executive accountability. Thus they need to be empowered.

Q3.

भारत, अमेरिका और ब्रिटेन में शक्ति, पृथक्करण के संदर्भ में क्या समानताएं और भिन्नताएं हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the similarities and differences with regard to the separation of powers in India, USA, and UK? (Answer in 150 words) 10

The idea of separation of powers was given by Montesquieu (Spirit of Laws). But it has different models.

→ 1) Judiciary kept separate from Executive & Legislature.

Similarities
b/w USA, UK
& India

→ 2) Constitutionally guaranteed separation

→ 3) Judicial review provided

→ 1) UK is Parliamentary sovereignty, USA is Judicial supremacy while India is a Synthesis

Differences
in USA, UK
& India

→ 2) UK and India are Parliamentary thus overlap b/w executive & legislature. (L) (E)

USA is absolute separation

(L) (E) (J)

→ 3) India & USA are federal, thus
separation of powers at both levels.
while UK is unitary

→ 4) Indian judiciary is integrated
while USA is federal judiciary.

→ 5) Indian ministers have no legal
responsibility while ministers in
UK countersign.

→ 6) PM can be member of both
houses in India while he must
be of lower house in UK.

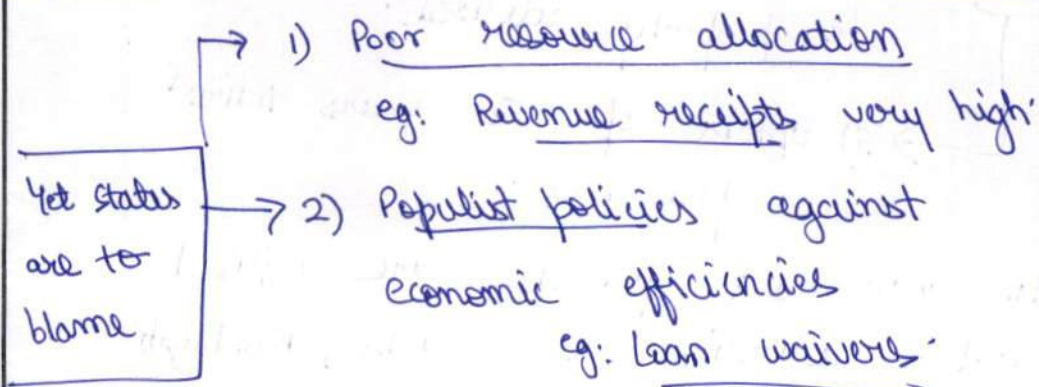
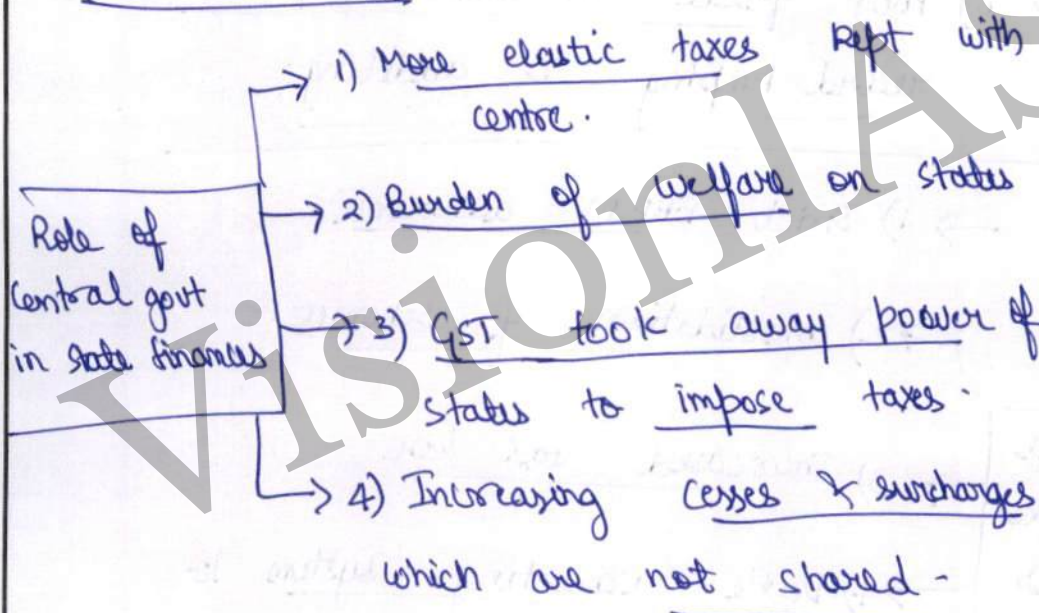
India, USA & UK are three of
the most vibrant democracies in the
world. They differ in setup but
have great many substantive similarities.

Q4.

यद्यपि केंद्र सरकार द्वारा अपनाए गए उपायों ने राज्य की वित्तीय स्थिति को प्रभावित किया है, तथापि राज्य सरकारें स्वयं ही अपने समक्ष आने वाली वित्तीय चुनौतियों के लिए मुख्य रूप से उत्तरदायी हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Though measures adopted by the Central government have impacted state finances, the state governments themselves are mainly responsible for the financial challenges they face. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The debt to GDP ratio of India stood at 84% in 2024 with states debt to GDP ratio at nearly 32% (FRBM mandates 20% for states)



- 3) non utilisation of 50 year interest free loan.
- 4) Poor tax base, poor collection corruption, etc reduces finances.
- 5) Finance commission devolution (41%) - yet states not able to reduce debt to GDP ratio.
- 6) Poor fiscal management practices record keeping & auditing.

- Remedies for state finances
- 1) strict FRBM adherence.
 - 2) consolidation of schemes.
 - 3) increased tax base.
 - 4) Double accounting system to be properly utilised.
 - 5) uptake of 50 years interest free loan.

State government finances are critical for welfare activities as health, Panchayats etc are in state list.

Q5.

हाल ही में भारत के उच्चतम न्यायालय ने निर्णय दिया है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रतिकूल प्रभावों के विरुद्ध अधिकार जीवन और समानता के अधिकार से संबद्ध है। पर्यावरण संबंधी मुद्दों के संवैधानीकरण में न्यायपालिका द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

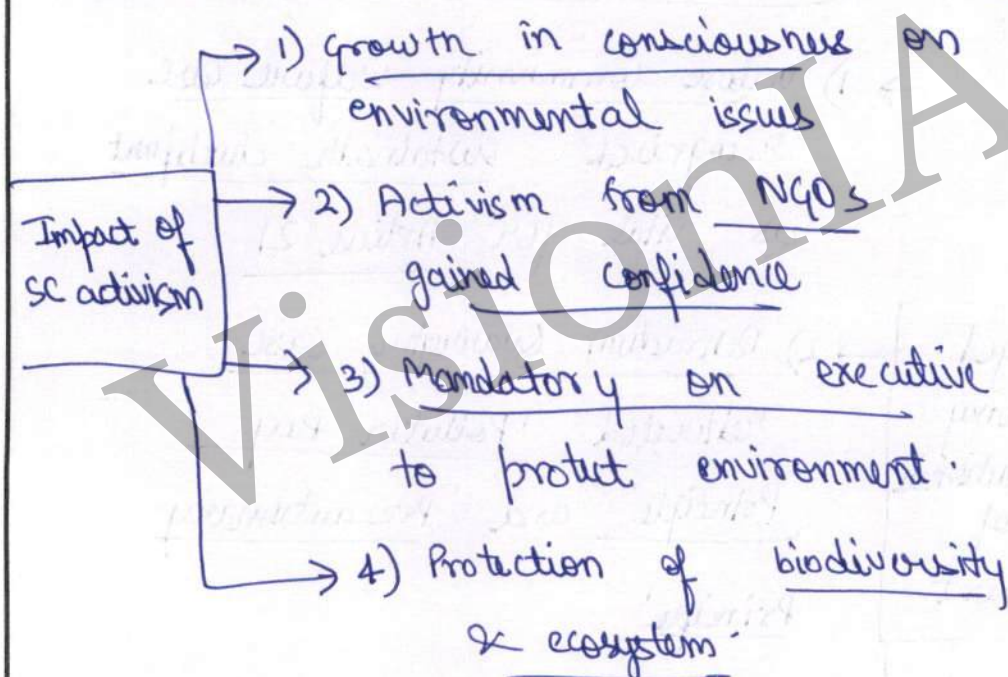
The Supreme Court of India recently recognised that the right against the adverse impacts of climate change is intertwined with the right to life and equality. Discuss the role played by the judiciary in constitutionalization of environmental issues. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Supreme Court in M. Ranjitsinh case recognised right against adverse impacts of climate change solving undergrounding of wires in Great Indian Bustard regions.

- Role played by judiciary in constitutionalization of environment
- 1) Vellore Community Welfare Case recognised sustainable development as vital for Article 21
 - 2) Bhatnagar Quarrying Case reiterated 'Polluter Pay Principle' and 'Precautionary Principle'
 - 3) Mc Mehta Cases have led to protection of Taj Mahal, etc.
 - 4) TN Godavarman Case has advised to stick to dictionary meaning of forest & not

that in land revenue department
records under forest conservation
Act 1980

→ 5) Supreme Court used article 142
in Union Carbide case to give
compensation to Bhopal gas
tragedy victims.



Supreme Court has played the role
of environmental activist in India thus
ensuring conservation becomes a 'basic
structure' in Constitution.

Q6.

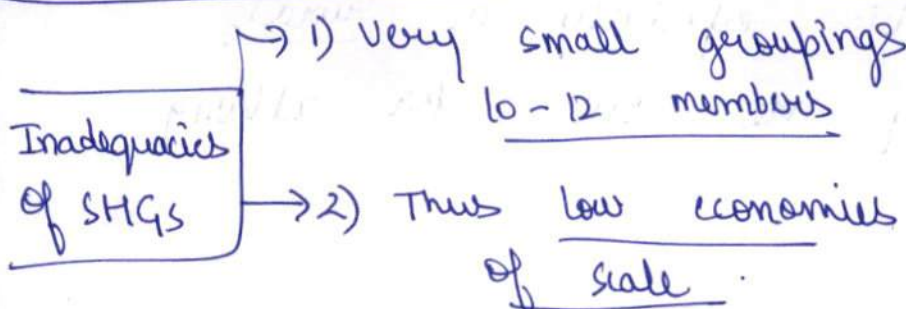
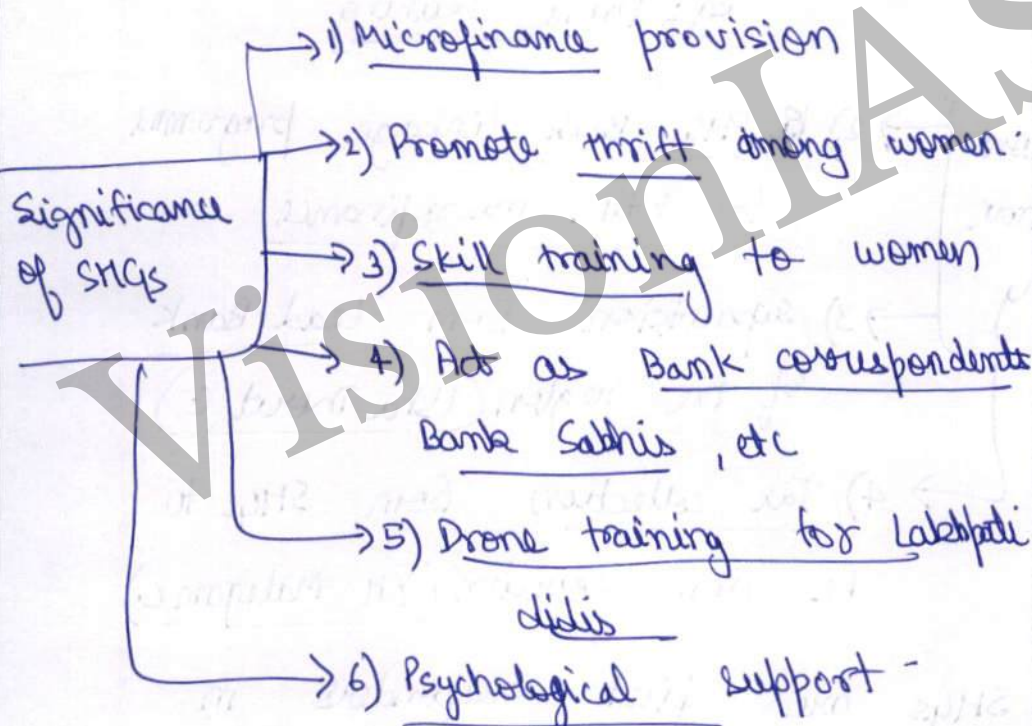
स्वयं सहायता समूहों (SHG) के संघ भारत में SHGs को बनाए रखने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण संस्थागत नवाचार के रूप में उभरे हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। इनके कामकाज को कौन-सी कमियां बाधित करती हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

SHG federations have emerged as an important institutional innovation to sustain SHGs in India. Discuss. What inadequacies hamper their functioning? (Answer in 150 words)

10

Self Help Groups are groups of 10-12 members from same socio economic background.

There are 1.2 crore SHGs in India with 12 crore member & 88% are women SHGs



→ 3) Patriarchal, divided on caste
lines, etc

→ 4) poor financial literacy, cash
management, etc

→ 5) Localised presence

- Suggestions to improve working
- 1) Skill training
eg: Drone training
 - 2) SHG - Bank linkage programme
for better microfinance
 - 3) supervision from Lead Bank
of the region (Usha Thorat, C.)
 - 4) Tax collection from SHGs to
be non coercive (YH Malegam, C.)

SHGs are first responders in
women crisis especially in rural
areas. They are vital for achieving
SDG 5.

Q7.

बार-बार स्थानांतरण भारत में उच्चतर सिविल सेवा की एक गंभीर समस्या है। सिविल सेवकों के बार-बार स्थानांतरण से जुड़े दोषों पर चर्चा कीजिए और इस समस्या के समाधान के लिए सुधारों का सुझाव दीजिए।
(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Frequent transfers are a pervasive problem among the higher civil service in India. Discuss the drawbacks associated with frequent transfers of civil servants and suggest reforms to overcome this issue. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Civil servants like Ashok Khemka has been transferred several times for his uprightness & honesty.

- Drawbacks associated with frequent transfers
- 1) Waste of expertise gained in a region.
 - 2) Politicised transfers affects whole bureaucracy.
 - 3) Dampens morale of honest officers.
 - 4) Logistical issues, eg: transfer means entire house shift for officers.
 - 5) No codified procedure for it but on the prerogative of government.

- Measures to reduce ill effects of transfer
- 1) Codified procedure for transfers
 - 2) Autonomous Civil services Board for transfer to reduce politicisation.
 - 3) Mandatory years of service at a place eg: 3 years.
 - 4) Communication of reason for transfer in writing.
 - 5) Judicial inquiry into frequent transfer cases.

Civil services forms the steel frame of Indian democracy. Frequent transfer must be steel frame & thus must be avoided.

Q8.

प्रमुख खाद्य उत्पादक होने और व्यापक पोषण कार्यक्रमों के कार्यान्वयन के बावजूद, भारत कुपोषण के संकट से क्यों जूझ रहा है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite being a major food producer and implementing extensive nutrition programmes, why does India continue to struggle with the malnutrition crisis? (Answer in 150 words) 10

India produced 323 million tons of foodgrains in 2023-24, yet ranked at 111 in Global Hunger Index.

Nutrition programmes

- Mid Day Meals
- ICDS
- PDS
- Antyodaya Anna Yojana

Yet malnutrition crisis

- Stunting = 36%
- Wasting = 19%
- Underweight = 32%

(NFHS5)

Factors for Malnutrition in India

- 1) Accessibility remains a challenge due to centralised procurement.
- 2) Affordability
eg: inflation in tomato, onion, etc.
- 3) hidden hunger due to micro nutrient deficiency

→ 4) Focus on rice-wheat & not on millet, etc

→ 5) Sustainability
reducing yields due to climate change.

- Measures to deal with it
- 1) Inclusion of millet, milk, egg etc in mid day meals.
 - 2) Deepening of food processing industry. eg: Tomato puree.
 - 3) Climate resilient agriculture
eg: PUSA 1979 & 1985.
 - 4) Community fridges
 - 5) Operation Subimani in Khozi Koda.

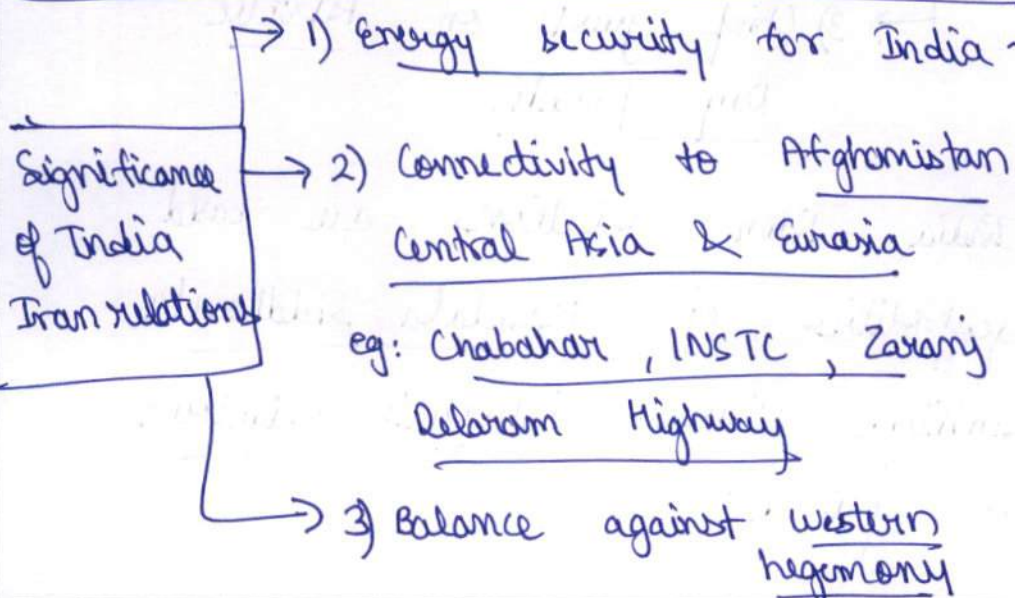
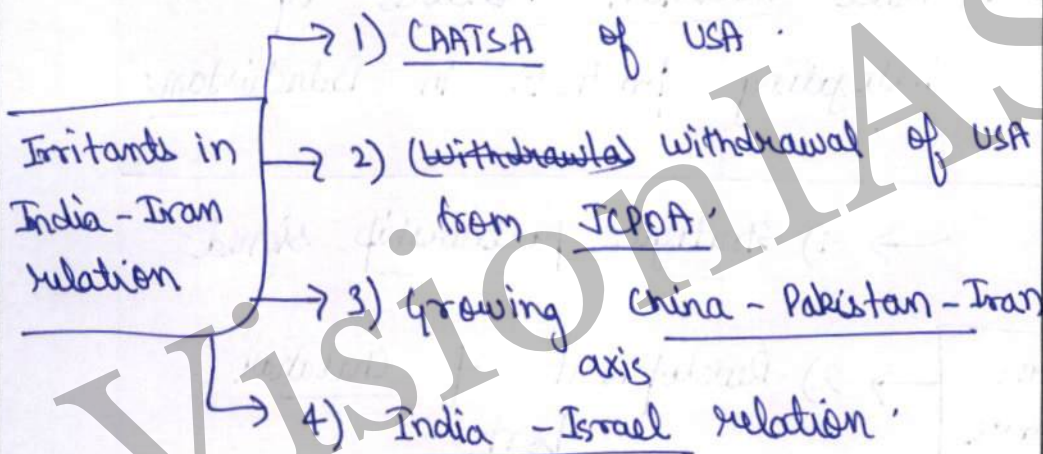
To achieve SDG 2, India needs to move from Green revolution to Evergreen revolution.

Q9.

"ईरान के साथ भारत के घनिष्ठ संबंध जारी रहेंगे, भले ही इससे पश्चिम को असुविधा हो।" उपर्युक्त कथन के आलोक में, स्पष्ट कीजिए कि ईरान के साथ संबंध जारी रखना भारत के लिए क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"India's close engagements with Iran would continue even if it may cause discomfort with the West." In the light of the above statement, explain why maintaining a relationship with Iran is significant for India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India Iran relations come under huge strain due to US policies & Chinese aggression.



- 4) Avoid China - Pakistan - Iran axis
- 5) Iran can reduce impact of
sactions.
- 6) Balancing act in West Asia
requires Iran's assistance
- 7) To check nuclear proliferation -
- 8) Make Pakistan insecure by
instigating protests in Baluchistan

- Measures to improve relations
- 1) Strategic partnership signed -
 - 2) Development of Chabahar port
 - 3) Chief guest on Republic Day parade

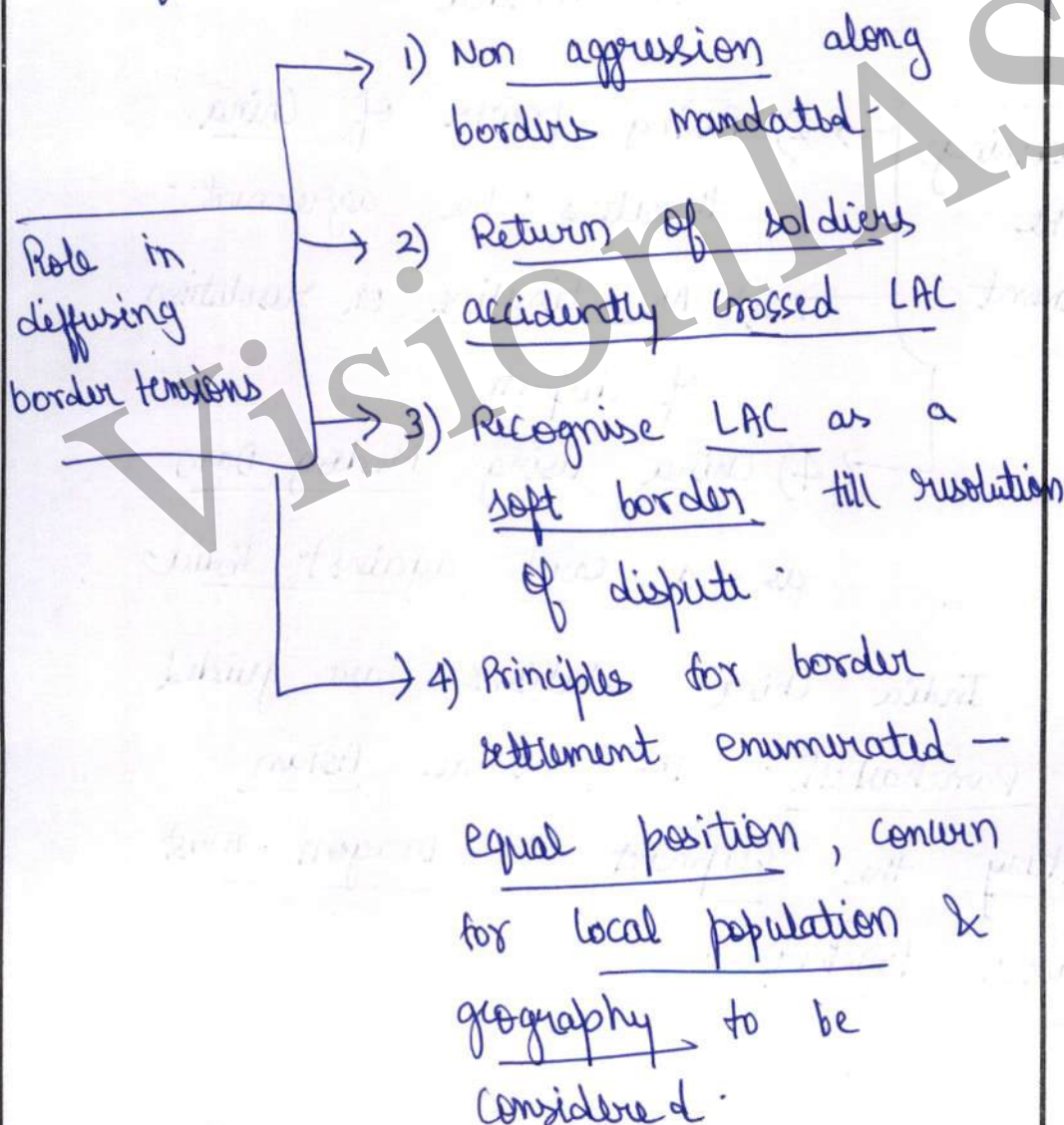
India - Iran relations are based on geopolitics of Mandala Siddhanta of Kautilya where neighbour's neighbour is a friend.

Q10.

भारत और चीन के बीच सीमा तनाव को प्रभावी तरीके से कम करने में भारत-चीन सीमा शांति और स्थिरता समझौते (BPTA) की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the role of the India-China Border Peace and Tranquility Agreement (BPTA) in effectively diffusing border tensions between India and China. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India - China Border Peace & Tranquility agreement was signed by Atal Bihari Vajpayee to settle border disputes peacefully.



→ 5) No war after 1962 ~~but~~ between
India & China.

→ 6) Sharing of Hydrological data
act as a confidence building
measure.

- Shortcomings
of the
agreement
- 1) Galwan clashes couldn't
be avoided.
 - 2) Rising power of China
threatens the agreement.
 - 3) No timeline on resolution
of disputes.
 - 4) China using Medog Dam
as a card against India

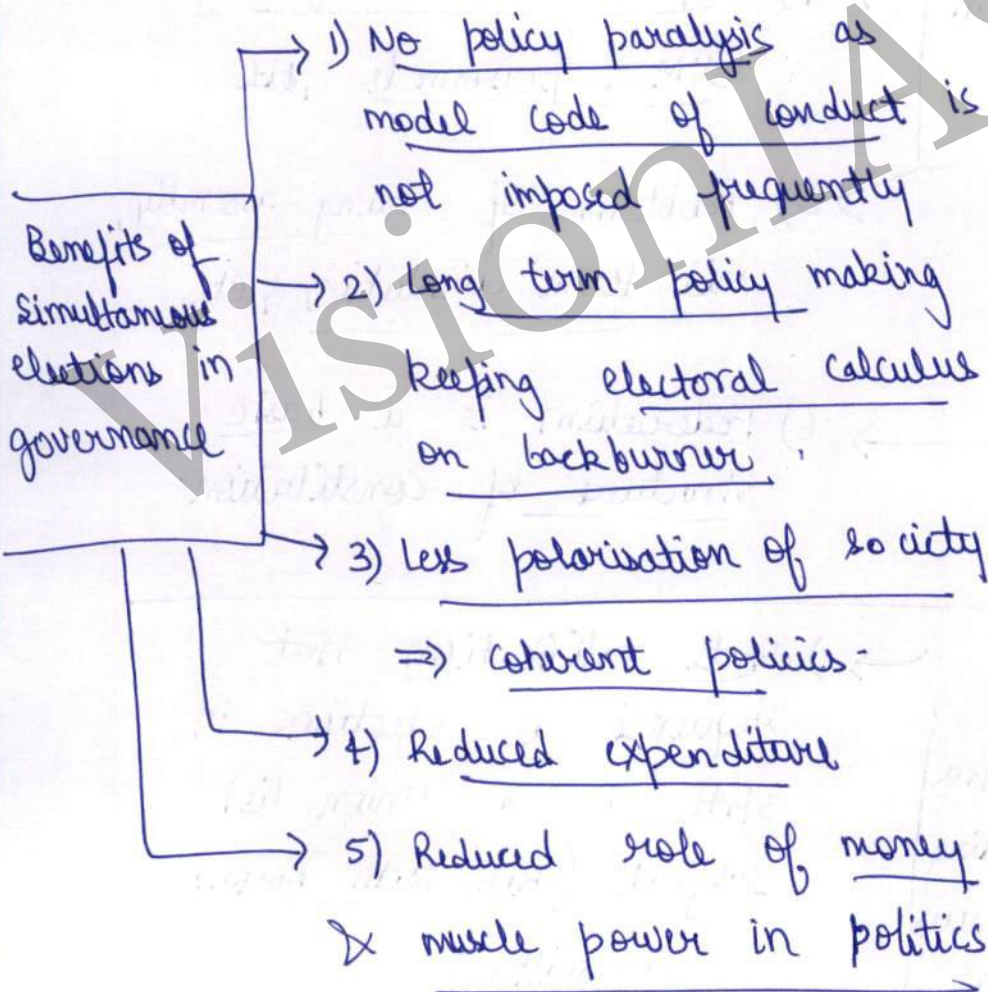
India China relations are guided
by Panchasheel. To ensure Asian
century the Elephant & Dragon must
dance together.

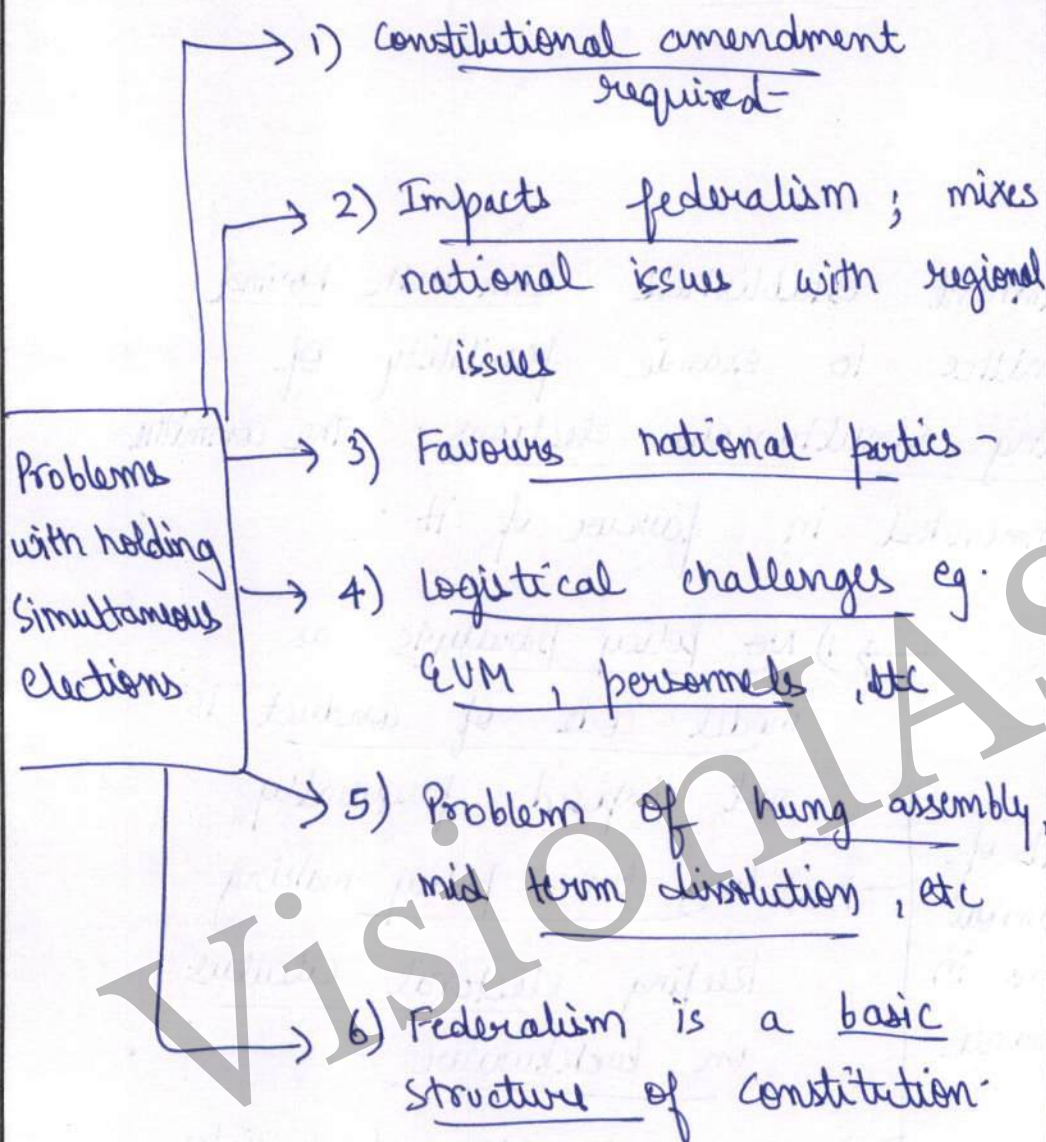
Q11.

आपकी राय में, लोक सभा और राज्य विधान सभाओं के लिए एक साथ निर्वाचन कराने से भारत में समग्र शासन को किस हद तक बढ़ावा मिल सकता है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent, in your opinion, can holding simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies augment overall governance in India?
(Answer in 250 words) 15

Government established Ram Nath Kovind committee to examine feasibility of holding simultaneous elections. The committee recommended in favour of it.





Suggestions for holding simultaneous election

- 1) State ratification not required as elections in state is a Union list subject (Ram Nath Koiri Committee)

→ 2) Election Commission to prepare a plan of EVMS required, etc beforehand.

→ 3) Constructive vote of no confidence

→ 4) Elections every 2.5 years

→ 5) Preparation of common electoral rolls

India had had simultaneous elections till 1967. However, the concern of federalism is genuine. All party consultation should lead the way ahead.

Q12.

भारतीय संविधान एक जीवंत दस्तावेज है जो समाज की बदलती आवश्यकताओं और आकांक्षाओं को प्रतिबिंबित करने के लिए समय के साथ विकसित हुआ है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Indian Constitution is a living document that has evolved with time to reflect the changing needs and aspirations of the society. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Indian constitution is a living document evident from 100 plus amendments till date. Further, it has been amended by simple majority outside of article 368 & creative interpretation of judiciary as well.

Reflection of Society in Indian constitution amendments

→ 1) Special provisions added for SEBC in Article 15 after Mandal Commission revelation

→ 2) Freedom of speech & expression expanded to include right to information silence, etc after consciousness of civil rights grew. eg: Mazdoor Kisan Sangathan agitation.

- 3) Article 21 reinterpreted to mean
'due process of law' & 'widest
liberty'
- 4) Environmental concerns constitutionalized
post Stockholm Conference call
for sustainable development.
- 5) Right to education added as a
fundamental right.
- 6) Freedom of religion adjusted to
provide space for reforms
eg: ban on triple talaq.
- 7) President made bound by aid
& advice of COM after
understanding of Parliamentary
form of govt grew.
- 8) Concurrence is ~~not~~ required
for appointment of judges
to ensure independence of

Judiciary

- 1) Timelines fixed on various silent provisions eg: Speaker must decide in 6 months on Anti defection cases (Keishum Meghchandran Case)
- 10) Article 200 reinterpreted to strengthen federalism.

- Static provisions
- 1) Basic structure doctrine
 - 2) Set of fundamental rights
 - Preventive detention not removed
 - Article 356 yet present

Indian constitution has been the cornerstone of the nation because of its ability to reform as & when required.

Q13.

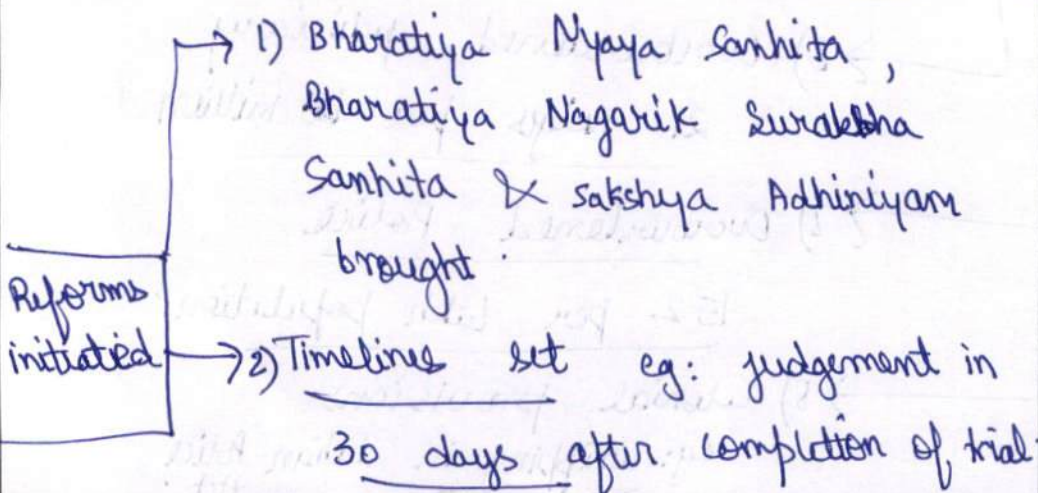
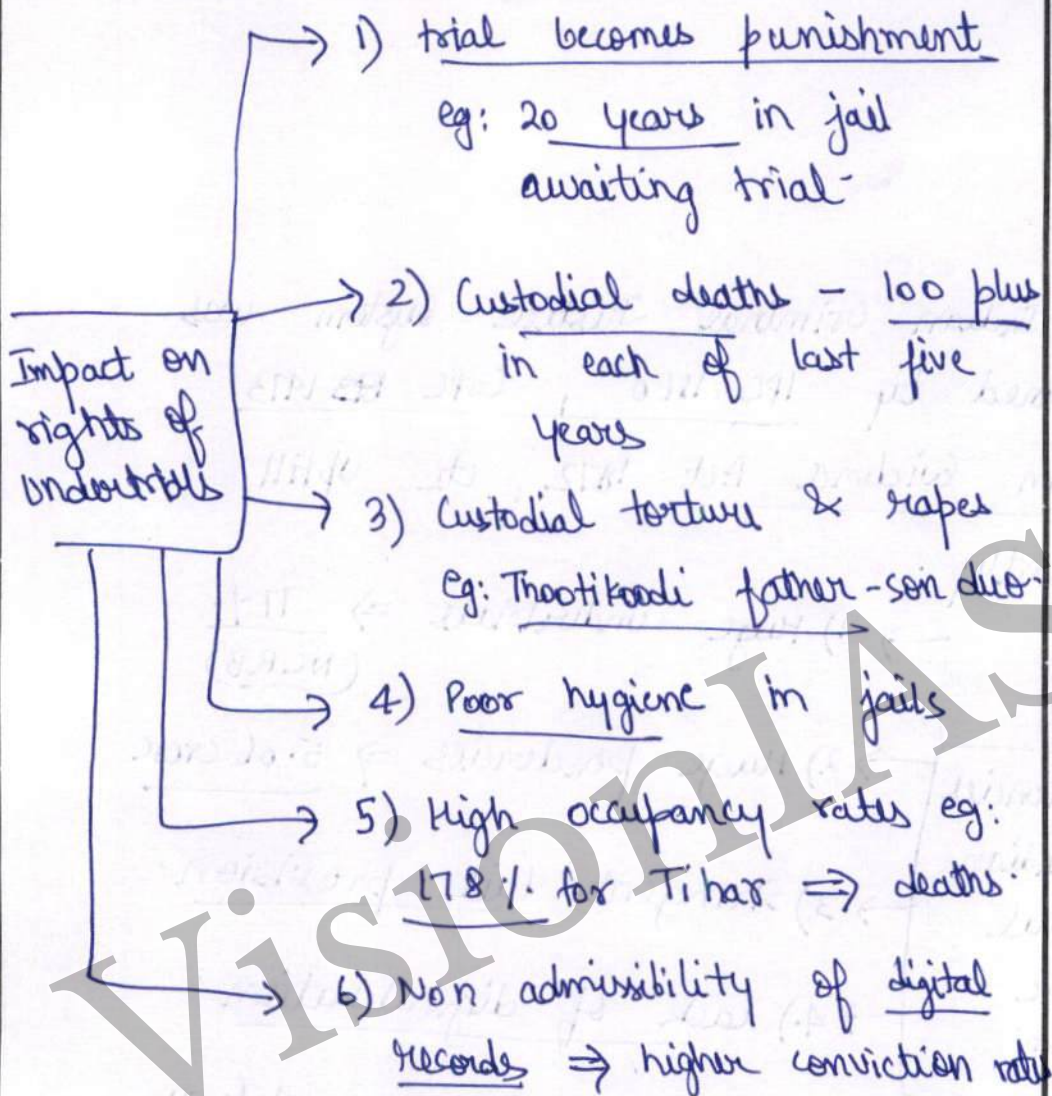
भारत की आपराधिक न्याय प्रणाली में विद्यमान कमियां विचाराधीन कैदियों के मानवाधिकारों को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करती हैं? इन कमियों को दूर करने के लिए कौन-से सुधार आवश्यक हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How do the deficiencies in the Indian criminal justice system impact the human rights of undertrial prisoners? What reforms are necessary to address these deficiencies? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Indian Criminal Justice System was governed by IPC 1860, CrPc 1973, Indian Evidence Act 1872, etc uptill

Recently

- Deficiencies in Indian Criminal Justice System
- 1) Huge undertrials ⇒ 77% (NCRB)
 - 2) Huge pendencies ⇒ 5.06 crore
 - 3) Stringent bail provision.
 - 4) Lack of digitalisation.
 - 5) Zero FIR not mandatory
 - 6) Overburdened judiciary
21 judges per million
 - 7) Overburdened Police
152 per lakh population
 - 8) Colonial provisions
eg: whipping in Indian Police Act.



- 3) Digital records made admissible
eg: emails, etc
- 4) Mandatory video recording of
witness statement in rape cases.
- 5) ~~Barr~~ Bail not jail reiterated
eg: Sabinder Artil case.
- 6) Community service as punishment
⇒ reduce occupancy.
- 7) CCTV in police custody
Paramvir Singh Saini case

- Reforms needed
- Open jails (Mulla Com)
 - Plac Bargaining (Mulla Com)
 - Alternate Dispute Resolution (Sri Krishna Comm)
 - Separation of convicts from
undertrials (Model Prison Act
2023)

Justice delayed is justice denied.

Indian criminal justice systems needs to
be fast tracked to protect undertrial
rights.

Q14.

राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) भारत में मानवाधिकारों के प्रहरी के रूप में अपनी भूमिका का प्रभावी तरीके से निर्वहन क्यों नहीं कर पाया है? इसे ग्लोबल अलायंस ऑफ नेशनल ह्यूमन राइट्स इंस्टिट्यूशंस (GANHRI) से मान्यता प्राप्त करने से रोकने के लिए कौन-से कारण उत्तरदायी हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Why has the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) not been able to effectively carry out its role as the watchdog of human rights in India? What are the reasons that have prevented it from getting accreditation from the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI)? (Answer in 250 words)

The GANHRI withheld accreditation of NHRCI for second consecutive year.

This shows poor performance of NHRC vis-a-vis other countries Human rights bodies.

- Shortcomings in NHRC functioning
- 1) 'Toothless Tiger' (HL Dattu) with no punitive powers.
 - 2) Only advisory role with govt. discretion to accept / reject it.
 - 3) One year time limit on cases' occurrence, it can inquire.
 - 4) Limitations on Armed

forces conduct eg: AFSPA

→ 5) Official ~~Secret~~ secrets Act, National Security Act, etc are limitations.

→ 6) Lack of collaboration with NGOs

→ 7) Poor criminal justice system ⇒ huge undertrials

Reasons for
non accreditation
of NHRC

→ 1) Ineffectiveness in protecting human rights especially of undertrials

→ 2) Poor representativeness

eg: only 95/393 members have been women.

→ 3) Lack of enforcement powers.

Suggestions to empower NHRC

i) Regular visits to jails in collaboration with media, NGOs, etc.

- ii) Power to impose punishment
- iii) Do away with one year restriction
on investigation.
- iv) Human rights violation by armed forces
not to be immune from inquiry.
- v) Learning from Global Human Rights
bodies -

Human rights are essential for
survival as a human being - NHRC
needs to be empowered to protect
rights of undertrials.

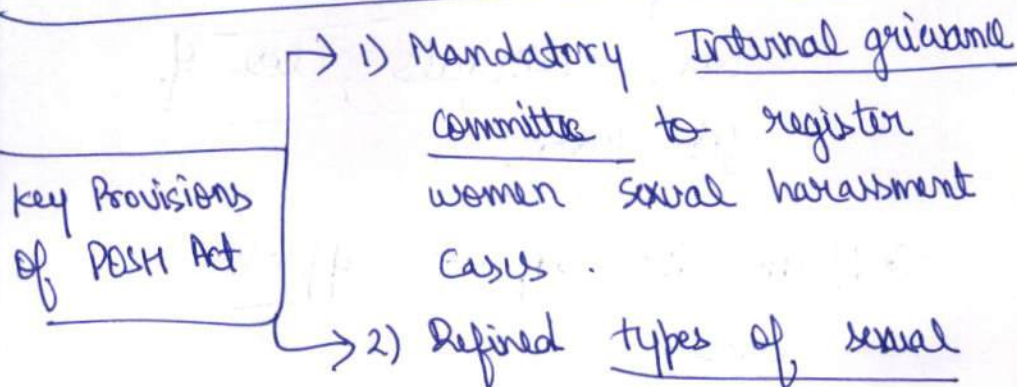
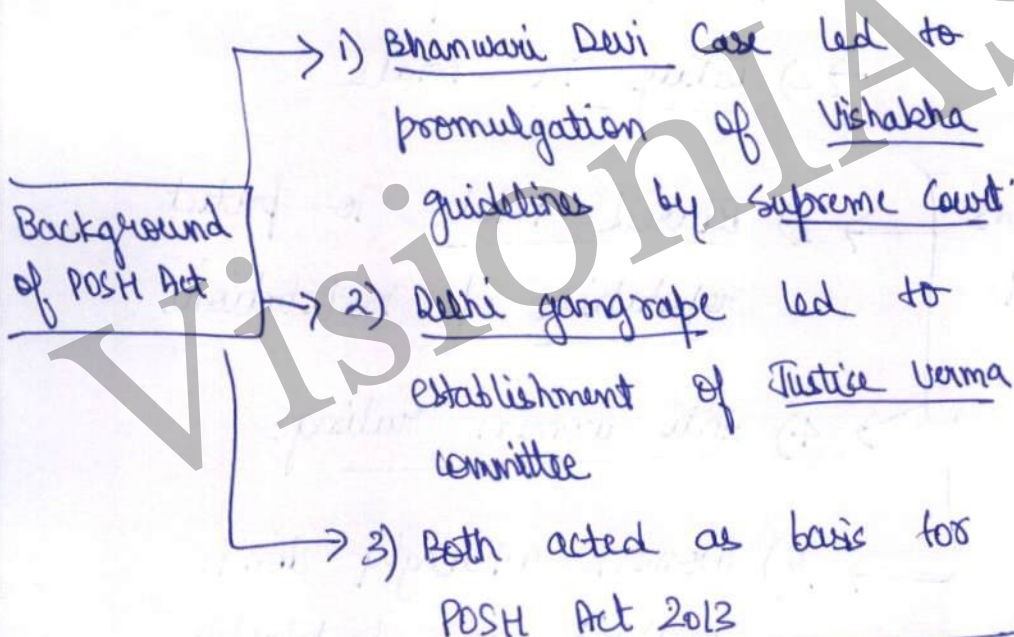
Q15.

महिलाओं का कार्यस्थल पर लैंगिक उत्पीड़न (निवारण, प्रतिषेध और प्रतिलोप) अधिनियम, 2013 की पृष्ठभूमि और प्रमुख प्रावधानों पर चर्चा कीजिए। अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन में सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। इसकी प्रभावशीलता को बेहतर बनाने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा सकते हैं? इस संबंध में उच्चतम न्यायालय के निर्णयों का संदर्भ प्रस्तुत कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the background and key provisions of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. List the implementation challenges that the Act faces. What measures can improve its effectiveness? Refer to Supreme Court judgments in this regard. (Answer in 250 words)

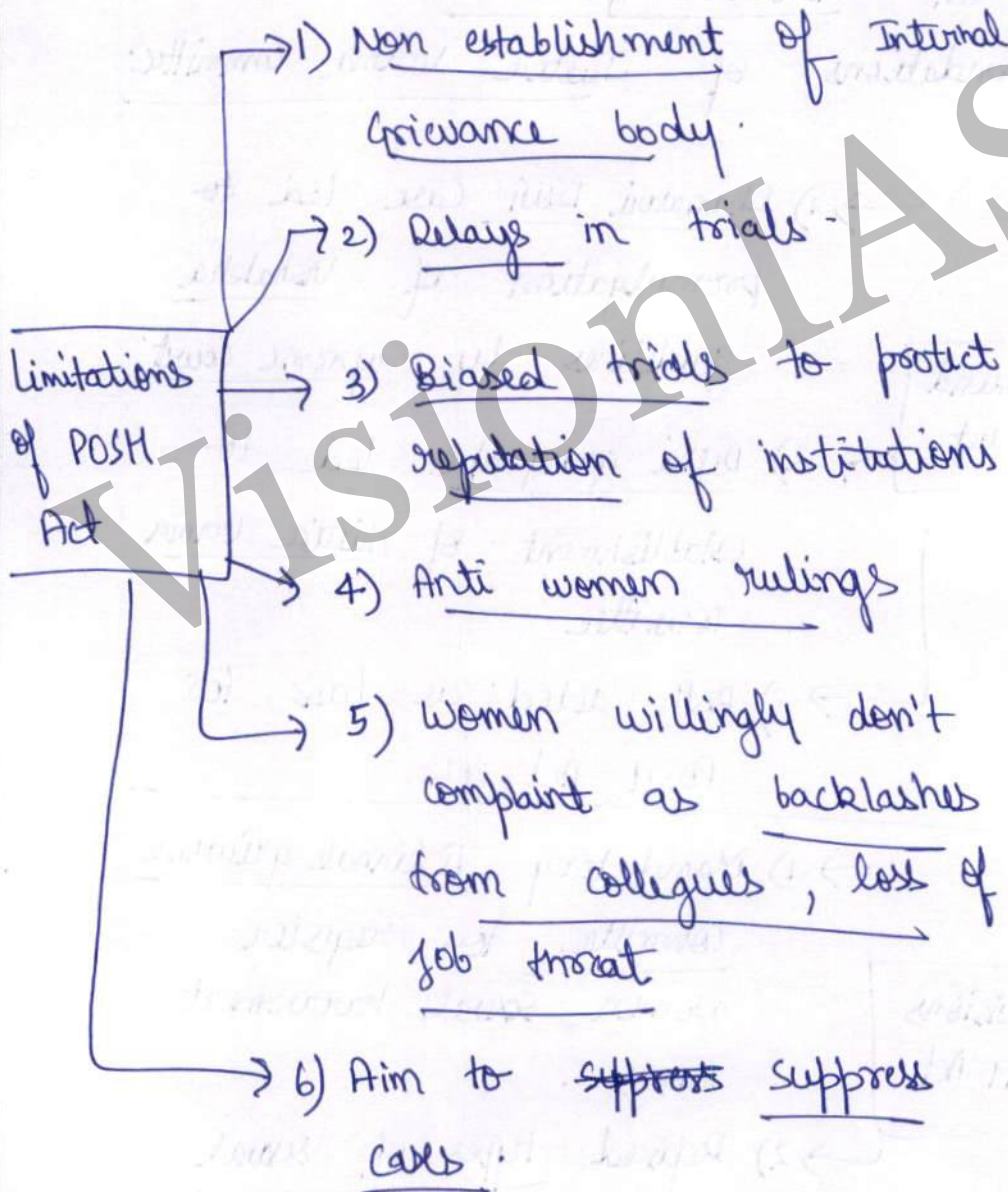
15

The POSH Act was enacted in 2013 based on Vishakha guidelines and a recommendations of Justice Verma Committee



harassment .

- 3) Penalties for non establishment of grievance committee .
- 4) Procedure of complaint filing & trial .



Measures to
improve
effectiveness

- 1) Mandatory establishment of Internal Complaint Committee
- 2) Regional Employment Tribunal instead of Internal Committee (Ribeiro Committee)
- 3) Time limits on trial completion.
- 4) Burden of ~~po~~ proof on accused.
- 5) Privacy of victim to be maintained.

In light of recent Kolkata doctor rape & murder case, there is a need to strengthen POSH Act to deter perpetrators.

Q16.

राज्य विधान सभाओं के अध्यक्षों से संबद्ध पूर्वाग्रह और पक्षपात के मुद्दों को देखते हुए, क्या आपको लगता है कि दलबदल विरोधी कानून के तहत उन्हें दी गई शक्तियां वापस ले ली जानी चाहिए? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

With issues of prejudice and partisanship associated with Speakers of State Legislative Assemblies, should the powers under the anti-defection law be taken away from their hands? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Speakers are the highest officers in State assemblies tasked with conducting assembly proceeding cordially. However, partisan role has brought spotlight on the office -

- Partisan role of Speakers
- 1) Disqualification of members on grounds of Anti defection - used arbitrarily eg: Nabam Rebia Case
 - 2) Expulsion of members on grounds of breach of privilege
 - 3) Expunging speeches arbitrarily
 - 4) Final authority on money bill
 - 5) No time limit on decision

of anti defection cases -

- 6) less time allotted to opposition.
- 7) Appointment ~~of~~ of members in various committees - biased

- Need to
take away
ADL powers
from Speaker
- 1) Speaker ~~is~~ has affinity with ruling party.
 - 2) All other cases of disqualification are decided by President in consultation with ECI.
 - 3) Arbitrary use precedents.
 - 4) To have real accountability & dissent.
 - 5) No time limit leaves scope for manoeuvrability.

- Reforms for
Speaker office
- 1) ADL powers to be exercised by President in consultation with ECI.
 - Time limits on decision as

held by Supreme Court in Keisham
Meghchambaram Case

- 3) Once a speaker, always a speaker.
 - 4) speaker can be made member of Upper house post retirement as in Britain.
 - 5) Mandatory time allotted for opposition.
 - 6) Decision on money bill to be done by Parliament & not speaker.
- Speaker needs to be a man of impeccable impartiality. Partisanship in this office can make executive accountability a mirage.

Q17.

हाल ही में, यू.जी.सी. ने भारत में विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों द्वारा परिसरों की स्थापना और संचालन के लिए विनियम जारी किए हैं। भारत में विदेशी उच्चतर शिक्षा संस्थानों (FHEIs) के प्रवेश को अनुमति देने के कारणों की विवेचना कीजिए। उनके सुचारू प्रवेश को सुनिश्चित करने में प्रमुख बाधाएं क्या हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Recently, the UGC released regulations for establishment and operation of campuses by foreign universities in India. Discuss the reasons for allowing the entry of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) in India. What are the major obstacles in ensuring their smooth entry? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Government allowed Foreign Higher Education Institutions to establish campuses in India. In regard to this UGC released guidelines -

- UGC guidelines
- 1) Must be in top 500 rankings.
 - 2) Must be global expert in particular field
 - 3) Must take permission from UGC
 - 4) Cannot run online courses as of now.
 - 5) Foreign fundings to be disclosed periodically.

- Reasons for allowing FHEIs
- 1) Expertise in some fields eg: technology & MIT
 - 2) Better quality education

for Indians at home -

- 3) Reduced expenses on accommodation
in foreign countries -
- 4) Collaboration with local HEIs
- 5) Improved research climate in
the country.
- 6) Increase Gross enrollment ratio
from current 27%.

- Obstacles in
ensuring
smooth
entry
- 1) Anti India curriculum
of some universities -
 - 2) Funding accountability
 - 3) Elitist nature - may
create knowledge divide
 - 4) Reluctance of good foreign
universities to expand
in India.

→ 5) Excessive govt regulation may dampen autonomy & creativity.

→ 6) High fees may deter poors from admission.

- Suggestions to ensure smooth entry
- 1) Light touch regulation of FHEIs
 - 2) Regular inspection of curriculum by UGC
 - 3) Mandatory to ensure quality at par with original campuses.
 - 4) Regular auditing of donations.
 - 5) Reserve a set of seats for EWS.

Higher Education in India suffers from funding (0.65% of GDP on GERD) & quality. FHEIs can bring both.

Q18.

महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम (MGNREGA) अपने मूल उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में किस हद तक सफल रहा है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent has the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) achieved its core objectives? (Answer in 250 words) 15

The MGNREGA Act was enacted to give a right based approach to employment on demand in India aimed at curbing poverty.

- Provisions of MGNREGA
- 1) Mandatory 100 days employment on demand.
 - 2) Unskilled work in rural areas
 - 3) Compensation if not provided in 15 days.
 - 4) within 5 km radius
 - 5) 1/3 beneficiaries to be women.
 - 6) Mandatory social auditing
 - 7) Geotagging - Bhuvan app

Assessment of MGNREGA Act

Achievements

- i) Acted as a social security scheme

Drawbacks

- i) Poor quality of assets created

during pandemic:

- ii) Provided employment to ~~the~~ reverse migrants
- iii) Huge demand eg: 86000 crore buyout (FY24)
- iv) Pioneer scheme for gotagging, social auditing
- v) Women empowerment
- vi) Hailed by World Bank as a great scheme.
- vii) MIS feeding & Muster rolls reduced leakages.
- viii) Aadhar based payment made mandatory

eg: Restruction & reconstruction of assets

- ii) Indicator of prevalent job scarcity in market.
- iii) Budgetary allocation has been reducing
- iv) wages very low
- v) wages indexed to CPI - AL
- vi) Non uniforming in wages across States.

- Suggestions to improve MGNREGA
- 1) Mandatory social auditing by Gram Sabha
 - 2) Involvement of NQOs in auditing
 - 3) Increased budgetary allocation
 - 4) Indexing wages to CPI - RL
 - 5) Fixing floor rates by Centre

MGNREGA has been the life line of rural India especially Covid times. The scheme needs to be reformed for better functioning.

Q19.

"बदलती हुई भू-राजनीतिक परिस्थितियां बंगाल की खाड़ी की सामरिक अवस्थिति को हिंद-प्रशांत की व्यापक अवधारणा के लिए महत्वपूर्ण बनाती हैं।" उपर्युक्त कथन के आलोक में, क्षेत्रीय सहयोग और स्थिरता को बढ़ावा देने में बिम्सटेक (BIMSTEC) की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

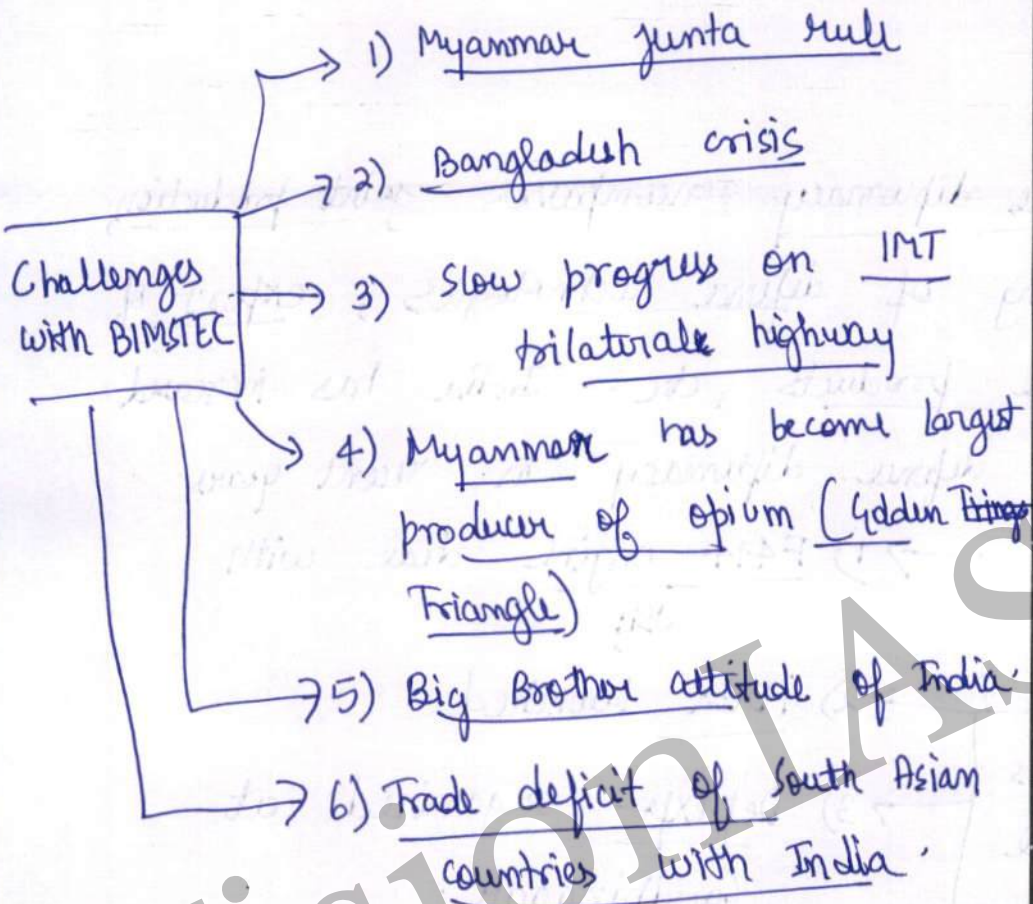
"Changing geopolitical realities make the strategic location of the Bay of Bengal crucial to the wider concept of the Indo-Pacific." In the light of the above statement, discuss the role of the BIMSTEC in enhancing regional cooperation and promoting stability. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The idea of Indo Pacific was given by Shinzo Abe in his speech "Confluence of Seas" to Indian Parliament. Indo Pacific has emerged as the theatre of global politics since then.

- Strategic location of Bay of Bengal
- 1) At the centre of Indo Pacific
 - 2) Major trade routes pass through it eg: Malacca route
 - 3) Has countries of both South Asia & South East Asia bordering it.
 - 4) Andaman & Nicobar Island provides active vigilance.
 - 5) Crucial for securing sea lines of communication.

Role of
BIMSTEC
in regional
cooperation
& stability

- 1) Brings South Asia & South East Asia together.
- 2) Multisectoral approach not limited to security & trade.
- 3) Actualises Act East Policy of India.
- 4) Connectivity projects eg: Kaladan MMT, IMT trilateral highway.
- 5) Blue economy vision 2025 ~~could~~ could be promoted.
- 6) Check Chinese hegemony in the region eg: String of Pearls.
- 7) India to act as net security provider through SAGAR.



Recently BIMSTEC Charter came into
force with Nepal as last country
to sign it. This can pave way
for further cooperation.

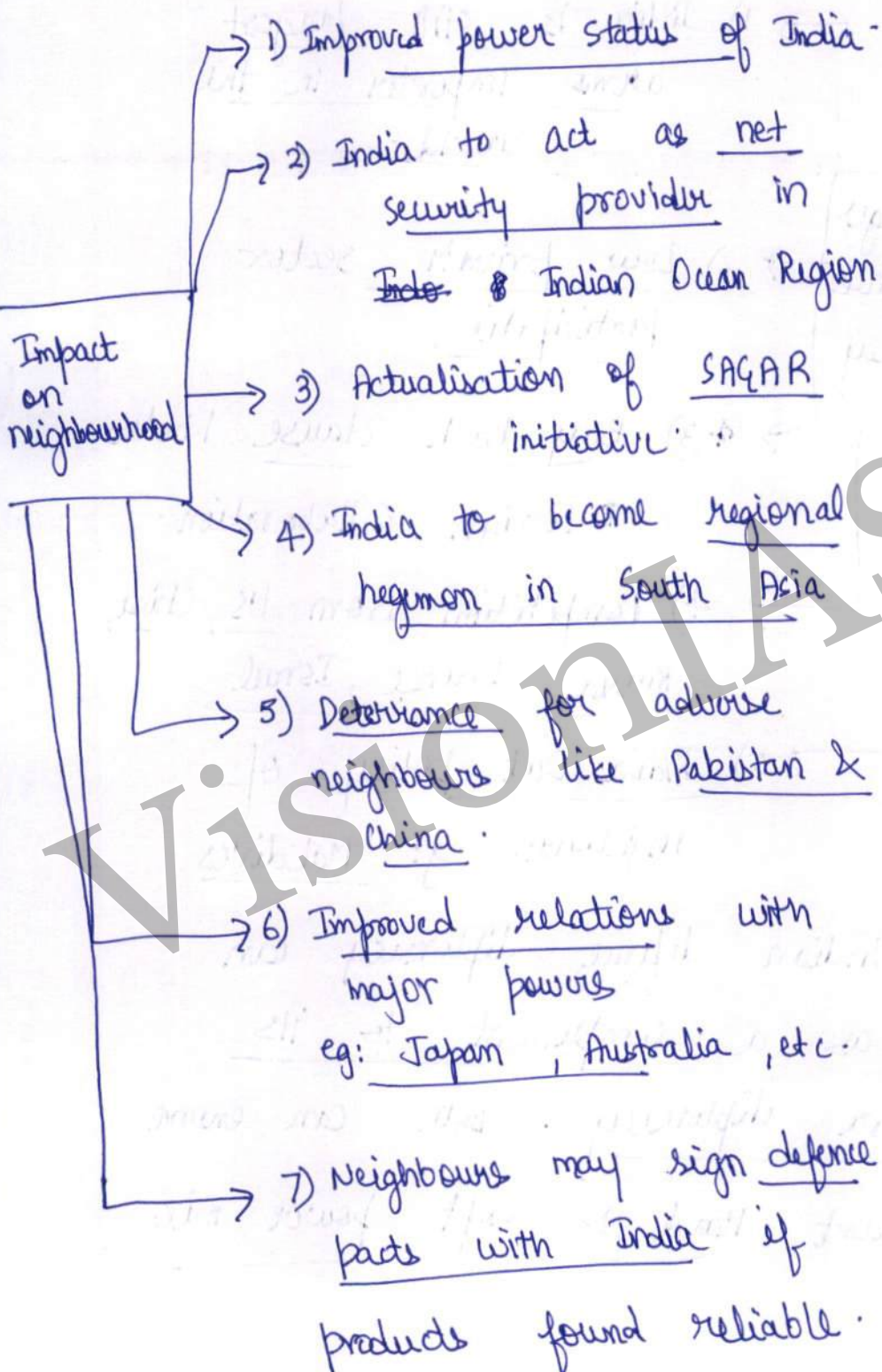
Q20.

विवेचना कीजिए कि भारत की विस्तारित रक्षा कूटनीति किस प्रकार पड़ोस में इसके प्रभाव को सुदृढ़ करती है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss how India's expanding defence diplomacy strengthens its influence in the neighbourhood. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Defence diplomacy encompasses joint production, sharing of defence technologies, export of defence products, etc. India has increased its defence diplomacy in recent years.

- India's Defence Diplomacy
- 1) F414 engine deal with USA
 - 2) IDEX launched
 - 3) Defexpo organized at Gandhinagar
 - 4) Sale of Brahmos to Philippines
 - 5) Defence corridors in UP & Tamil Nadu
 - 6) Dhirendra Singh Committee recommended Buy IDDM ; defence indigenization, etc



- Challenges in Defence diplomacy
- 1) India is still largest arms importer in the world.
 - 2) Low private sector participation
 - 3) Buy back clause hinders Foreign Collaboration
 - 4) Competition from US, China, Russia, France, Israel
 - 5) India Out policy of neighbours eg: Maldives

Indian defence diplomacy can act as a compliment to its Diaspora diplomacy. Both can ensure sufficient Hard & soft power mix.