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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. : 000513 57

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Anand Arora

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

26/7/25

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

केंद्र
Centre

Chandigarh

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

[Signature]

	महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश	Important Instructions
	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।	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.
1	(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। (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।	(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates. (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
2	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।	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.
3	परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।	Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.
4	उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।	Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5	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।	Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6	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।	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.
7	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।	Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.
8	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।	If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.

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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 कक्ष में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Article 30 of Indian constitution reflects
idea of multiculturalism and differentiated
citizenship through Cultural & Educational
Rights

→ accords rightful autonomy to minorities
for educational institutes

Supreme court's verdict - vindication of constitutional
morality

① Declares AMU - minority institutions; criteria
not on the basis of origin, but management
ownership

② Right of minorities to advance
community's interests

③ Close coordination with NMHEI

④ Spirit of democracy as majority rule
with minority rights

However, concerns have been raised too

① Reservation denial through minority
(Art 16) status recognition

② Doesn't accord importance to origin
via national legislation

③ Prohibits state's emancipatory and
regulatory control over higher education

④ Higher edu courses disallowed

However, AMU's minority status concerns
are unfounded

① Autonomy is sacrosanct

② Balanced with regulatory intervention
in pedagogical methods
Subsidiarism

Thus SC's verdict stands testimony
to ideal of Art 30

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

owing to repeated misuse concerns of Art 200 (Presidential reference by Governor) as violation of constitutional spirit, SC prescribed a time limit for Governor's assent (eg) TN Gov Ravi case

Implications for cooperative federalism

- ① Prevents hegemonic centralization (something Sarkaria commission highlighted)
- ② Reverges Team India spirit with Governor's constitutional role (not activist role) (eg)
- ③ Honours faith in social contract → democratically elected government can't be force stalled

negative

Judicial activism bordering judicial overreach

Implications for legislative accountability

- ① Democratic mandate's undemocratic stalling declared unconstitutional.
- ② Faith in State legislature for furthering legislative process
- ③ Prevents pocket veto of Governor's (Pajamanner committee's concerns)

Way Forward

- Balance between judicial overreach and constitutional separation of powers
- constitutional governors appointment fairness next step
(Punchhi commission - recommendation)

Thus it provides remedy to longstanding ill, but needs caution to prevent judicial overreach.

3.

सहकारी क्षेत्र 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

cooperative sector finds constitutional mention in Part IX-B, Art 19 of Indian constitution

Issue : State list, but Union's obligatory interest in promotion

② reflected in 97th constitutional amendment
— only applicable on multi-state cooperatives
(test struck down by SC)

Recent changes and initiatives

① Ministry of Cooperation under Hon['] Home minister's additional charge

② Sahakar-se-samridhi initiative

③ PACS - largest grain storage plan
with cooperatives help

④ Legacy cooperatives (eg Amul) — efforts to emulate success in horticulture

⑤ Model policy documents for state govt's
reference and perusal

⑥ Funding dilemma resolution by Centre

⑨ Mudra
loans

⑨ FPO model

⑦ Platform of Niti Aayog subpanel to
discuss cooperatives

⑧ Inter-state council's leveraging

⑨ North-East Inter-state council had
cooperative discussion

Challenges exist) → Rigid + status quo groups
→ State vs Centre issue-framing by
opposition

Thus need gradual all-of-government
approach to make cooperatives achieve
success in International year of Cooperatives
2025

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)

10

Recently, #aarey protests campaign saved destruction of forests in Mumbai over developmental initiatives

Pressure politics = politics of space + politics of voice
 (eg) community online (eg) amplified via digital media
 #Fridays for future (Greta Thunberg)

Impact on policy making

① participative governance (eg) online campaigns serve input functions to policy

② responsive governance (eg) feedback helps change policy - farm laws

③ Decentralization of agenda politics

eg civil service reforms debate by civil society after Pune case uproar

④ Educative role - highlights differentiated impact to wider public eg Tourism influe spill over effects in Sharamshda

Democratic accountability

① Leisures check
against dite policy
making

② Continuous
check against
executive

eg campaign over Epstein
files - Trump

Concerns → digital divide (class-bias) in voices
→ Not all voices are right (fake news)

Thus, digital media's emancipatory role
needs to be leveraged for policymaking while
mitigating risk

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

Corporate social Responsibility is an Indian innovation to use private means to achieving public ends (Act 38).

2% of profit of last 3 years

Role of CSR

① CSR's differentiated programmes (e.g.) Mahindra's women education

② Pro-environment efforts rewarded (e.g.) Reliance Vantara

③ Funding of local NGOs under CSR-dev. partners

Developmental challenge

Social inequity

Env degradation

Last-mile delivery challenge

① Tribal education CSR

(eg) POTA abin' by
OP Chaudhary

Lack of ~~fund~~
tribal inclusive
growth

② CSR's role in
renewable energy

(eg) Odanthapuri panchayat
CSR by Vedanta

Just transition
challenge

③ Incorporation of ESG

(eg) CSR funding for
ESG R&D

Not being
triple-bottom
line
compliant
planet
people
profit

Need further efforts

to realize crandhian trusteeship
principle and plug diversionary funds
challenge in CSR.

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

Jan Sunwai was championed by MKSS, pioneers of social audit in Rajasthan, India

Impact on governance

- ① consultative and participatory governance (a) GNPP PPC's campaign incorporates spirit of public consultation
- ② Good governance that caters to people as well as planet (a) Sharamshala declaration premised on public consultations by Himalayan communities
- ③ Grandhian Talisman centre governance - jan sunwai enlists their grievance
- ④ Compassionate bureaucracy - enables democratic attitude (not bureaucratic)

attitude in functionaries

⑤ leverages planning principle based on
subsidiarity principle

⑥ Removes class-bias in admin-functionaries

eg covid-lockdowns, Jan Sunwai by
Jaipur collectors.

Thus

they need deliberation (not mere
participation)

+

thick engagement (not thin)

for furthering people-centric governance

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

Substance abuse is the silent pandemic of our times. From US's feratye issue to movies like #Uta Punjab highlight the menace.

effectiveness

① Supply-side measures dealing with compliance approach by 'govt',

② Demand-side approach on citizen awareness paid dividends

④ border villages declared drug-free near Fazilka.

③ Collaborative governance - enlisting NGOs for furthering trust among substance abuse

④ Rehabilitative / corrective homes - model homes in Delhi serve exemplar

- ⑤ Use of media, and celebrity
endorsements (eg) Amitabh Bachchan
as moral authority
- ⑥ enlisting support from parents, pm
and kith (eg) #dontdo campaign in
Ladakh
- ⑦ Zero tolerance approach against (eg)
cocaine

Challenges
exist

- violation of NDPS act by
high profile people
- Social acceptance of (eg) ganja
- Mass media portrayal of drugs
(eg) Kabir Singh movie
- collusive corruption scandals
- Capacity building, sensitization etc

Thus substance abuse needs social
eyes, family's ears and government stick
to stop.

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

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

3 C skills are defining element of
21st century - creativity, criticality
and collaboration

- Yuval Noah Harari

India's educational setup] issues

- ① Rote learning
- ② Hierarchical-authority
- ③ lack of spirit of inquiry (Art & A)

Moreover,

AI ^{can} ~~do~~ instructions, orders, simple solve

↓
But can NOT → prompt-asking (creativity)
→ tackling bias (criticality)

thus largely Yes AI ready.
India's edu isn't

उम्मीदवारों को
इस क्राशिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
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Need

- ① Flexible learning
- ② focus on liberal arts
- ③ Critical engagement spirit
- ④ Destroying "back to basics concept"
 Cur = Kurala
 study

to make educated India ready
for AI

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)

10

G7 forum is a grouping of 7 advanced economies of the world

Italy	US	France	UK	Germany	Canada	Japan
+EU						

(-Russia, after Crimea invasion 2014)

Symbol of Western strategic unity (Western bloc against erstwhile USSR; common challenge (MFC), now internal contradictions)

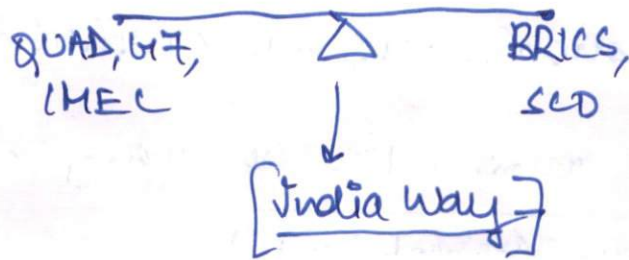
- Trump's trade war with EU, Japan etc.
- Transactional diplomacy ("pay up or leave")
- Different approaches to Russia/China challenge (EU's competition framework, US' strategic challenge)

India's navigatory path

- ① Pro-active diplomatic engagement
- ② G7 meeting in Canada, PM Modi went

② Diplomatic breakthrough on frictional issues (eg) CBAM

③ Strategic balancing



④ Opening diplomatic channels between Russia and west (eg) to mitigate isolationism post SWIFT sanctions

⑤ Economic/trade foundations - connectivity projects

⑥ Common global framework on AI
(eg) Global AI Summit

⑦ Free and open Indo-Pacific focus

⑧ Global governance = Inclusive + representative
challenges) → Neo-colonialism/green colonialism
(eg) EODR, CBAM
→ Clearances by India - China -
buckpassing by west

Thus, G7 engagement by India can
be a peace-maker role in geopolitically fragmented
world order

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 खण्ड में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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IMF is one of the two brettonwood institutions that has served chief economic global governance platform since 1945.

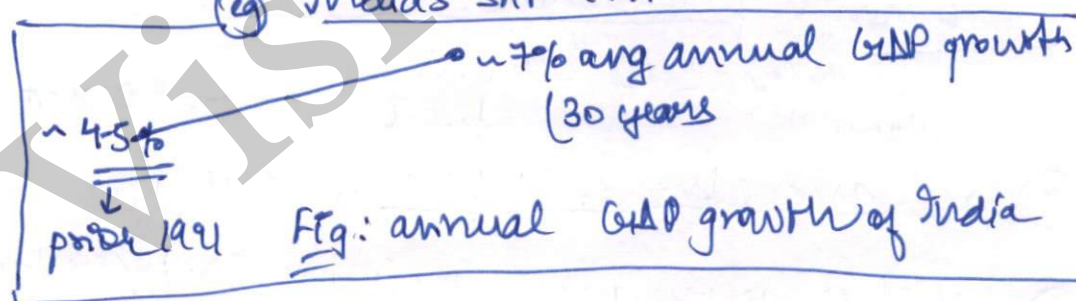
Role of IMF in development

① BOP crisis management

eg Sri Lanka's bailout package

② Structured Programme (SAP) for opening up economy

eg India's SAP 1991



③ Technical expertise + policy advocacy

Support eg Pak's austerity measures after 23rd bailout

④ Forex balances

eg Gambia default - IMF help in forex

Key criticisms

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

- ① "Development with strings attached"
- ② Neocolonialism critique — free trade benefits global hegemon (US)
- ③ power freeze (eg) US veto
- ④ Unrepresentative institutions with democratic deficit (Joseph Stiglitz)
(eg) India $\frac{1}{6}$ th population, #4 largest GDP but only 2.6% voting share
- ⑤ Undemocratic closed-door meeting culture
- ⑥ Issues of transparency and accountability
(eg) Failure in shock-therapy (Russia)
- ⑦ Contagion risk for world economy with uniform approach (eg) GFC, 2008

Way forward) → Inclusive, representative IMF
→ Limited interventionist policies
→ Accountability,

India's Kampala principles shows the right
"development on your priorities"

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

Affirmative action refers to differential policies by state to ameliorate historical injustices of marginalized groups in society. This is in line with Rawls's difference principle

earlier affirmative action	New dimension
Discrimination on <u>caste alone</u> (for SEBC classification, Art 16(4), Art 46)	<u>Class discrimination</u> added via <u>EWS</u> reservation, 2019.
<u>Implications for broader social justice</u>	

Positive

① expands conception of equality
(equality of opportunity)

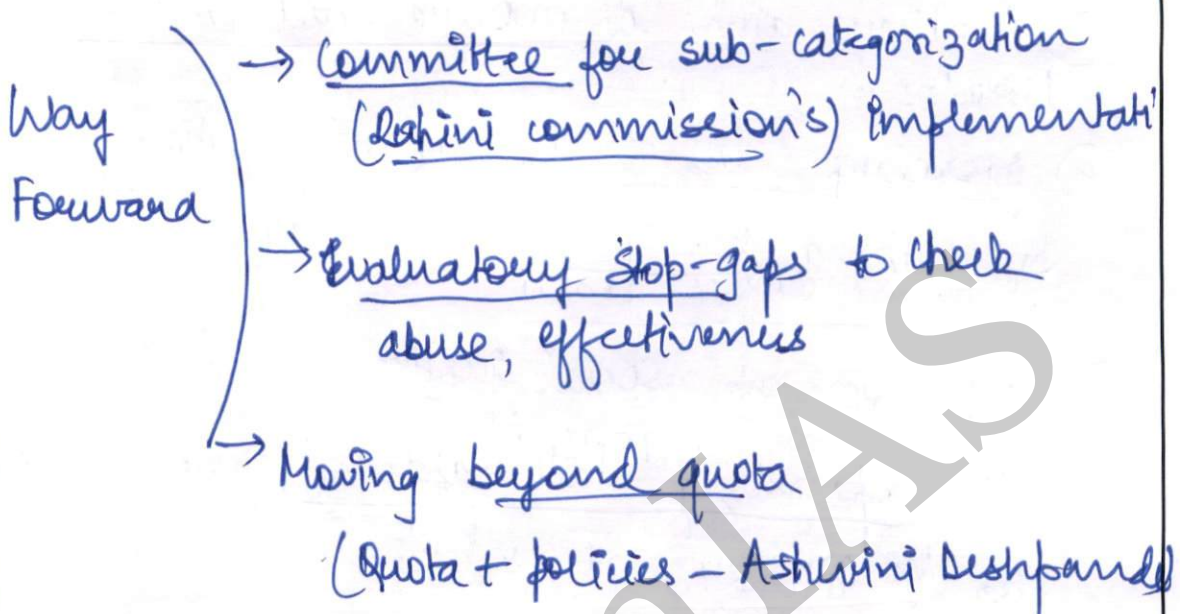
- ② Realization that discrimination is intersectional (eg Brahmin poor vs dalit elite)
- ③ furthers aim of welfare state (Art 38)
- ④ Dissolves the critique of reservation by making generals beneficiary ("merit")
- ⑤ Expansion of social justice in line with expanding state capacity (eg new-welfarism also in MGRK)
- ⑥ Constitutional morality adherence owing to "socially and educationally backward."
- ⑦ Mainstreaming affirmative action, instead of using it to polarize

Challenges

- ① Dilutes the contextual social justice requirement on Indian soil (eg caste)
- ② Violation of Ambedkar's vision (he never advocated reservation on class)

③ Differential state approach prone to misuse

eg) fake income certificates



This principle enshrined in Art 35 must be pursued with directives under Art 46.

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

District Planning Committee (Art 243 ZA)
is an institutional architecture of 74th
constitutional amendment.

APC's role

- Bottom-up planning
- Integration of metropolitan and rural plans
- Participatory planning

Achievements

① enables tech expertise infusion with local plans

case-study: Ashoka University's partnership for fellow internship at Jaipur APC

② Preparation of plans (@ GPPAP) — some of which are uploaded in e-gramswas

③ Deepening of democracy (James Manor highlights this as core achievement of APC)

④ Role of district leadership

From elite/desk-planning → collaborative planning

⑤ Further institutional architecture's functioning (eg Gram Sabha 243A, Gram Panchayat 243B)

however, GREATER challenges exist

① Desk-based business process re-engineering
Instead of substantive planning

② Inadequate awareness; participation

③ Bogus meetings, fictitious records reflect
collusive corruption

Manishankar Aiyer → "decentralization of
committee corruption"

④ Urban-bias, crowds out rural focus

⑥ capacity building & training issue

⑨ Flagged by CAG

⑦ lack of separate secretariat, independent functioning

⑧ Funding dilemma - inadequate power sharing (Art 243 H) by states

⑨ Inadequate devolution of powers - 29

subjects under Part IX, 18 under Part IX-A

NRCW → DRC acting as 'decorative boxes'

Measures to make them effective

① Accountability check via social audit

② Cluster based training approach

case-study: APC training by mission Samridhi
Noida

③ Digitization of records

④ conclusive meeting + discussions = Minutes of Meeting

⑤ Preventing MPs to partake in it
(limits democratic functioning)

Thus APC needs structural overhaul
to realize harmony in rural-urban
planning & ideal of Gram Swaraj

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

Art 293 is anchored in fiscal federalism relationship limiting state's authority to borrow externally without Union's permission

Raison d'être) → Prevent fiscal profligation
→ Safeguard national autonomy
→ Art 4 spirit, reflects in borrowing via Union

Recent case : Kerala's request to borrow internally during floods; world bank loan issue, to which Union declined citing Art 293.

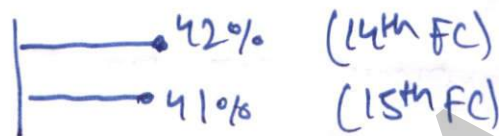
Hinders fiscal autonomy and disrupts fiscal cooperative federalism

① Strained finances of state, especially after covid-shock

② Limited fiscal autonomy in post GST regime

③ Ineffective actualization of GST compensation fund - accentuating fiscal concerns

④ Finance Commission's vertical devolution concerns



⑨ New demands for 50% for 16th FC

⑤ Horizontal devolution concerns

⑨ Tamil Nadu gets 24 paise } for 1 ₹
Bihar gets 7 Rupees } contribution

⑥ Accentuated by delimitation concerns
(Art 82)

⑦ Combative federalism over Union's
ever-increasing cesses - and surcharges

⑧ Union's statutory grants often inadequate
(Art 275)

concerns over
(a) Polification of special category states
(eg) to alliane partners

(b) Climate change impact accentuating
State's fiscal demands

(eg) heavy rainfall in Telangana -
crops loss

(i) Geoeconomic leverage argument -

states reflect how international lending
institutions weren't there when const. was
drafted

concerns) → poor fiscal health consequent
(eg) debt-trap
→ electoral populism (eg) freebies
→ Revenue expenditure > capex

Moving forward, positive deliberations,
limited sandboxing approach, especially
in climate change cases (eg) green bonds
can be experimented against Art 293
cautions.

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)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस वॉशिंग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Criminalization of Indian politics

have become the new-normal. From Vohra committee's insights to increased 46% MPs in 18th Lok Sabha with criminal background.

Tension between

Right to contest elections

- ① Democratic mandate
- ② Trivial cases — political advantage for opponents
- ③ Special safeguards given to legislators Sec-8(4) (later discarded in Lily Thomas case)
- ④ Innocent until guilty principle (⑨ 76% undertrials)

Electoral Ethics

- ① Politics with ethics (bandhian principle)
- ② Sec 8 disqualification
- ③ Sec 8(2) — crimes with sentence > 2 years
- ④ Politics reflect social consciousness
criminalization reflects lowering social ethics.

Lifetime ban on convicted criminals

Yes, but only in few subset of rare cases.

Else, lifetime ban

- ① Negates liberal idea of reform
- ② Gives fullproof faith in judgment
(can be wrong at times: SC is self-correcting institution, Art 129)
- ③ Can promote mudslinging by opponents to dismember opposition
- ④ Violation of social choice — doesn't distinguish between malfeasance and benevolent commission

Way Forward, instead of lifetime ban

① POCL case — NOTA

eg can make NOTA win an obligation for re-election

② Declaration of criminal background

self ↓ families ↓
eg ADP case 2002 eg Lok Sabha case

③ Strengthening EC's compliance of Sec 23

RPA violations

NCRWC : give EC power to deregister party
on account of corrupt practices

④ Speedy and effective justice - fast track courts

⑤ Voter education (eg by SVEEP, civil society participation)

Mulan Vaishnav = Voters vote criminals not despite
criminality, but because of it.

⑥ National comprehensive law on criminalization of politics

Gradual but resolute approach will
help us rid politics of dirty hands
dilemma, and make it an endeavour
of collective action & empowerment (Arendt)

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 scheme launched in 2015 aimed to ameliorate falling sex ratio (932, census 2011) using behavioural nudge theory

Success in dealing child sex ratio, empowering girl child

① Framed discussion around gender empowerment - biggest win

② Tangible success in (eg) Haryana (960 sex ratio in few districts)

③ Collaborative effort involving society (eg) selfie-with daughter campaign

④ Promoted out-of-box solutions

(eg) Piplantae model 111 trees planted (Raj village)

on birth of girl child — inspiration from
Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao.

⑤ Whole-of-government focus — convergent
across women & child ministries, sports,
women rights cell, NWC etc.

⑥ saturation approach in complementary
to Sambhal, Samarthya schemes of govt.

Challenges persist

- Patriarchal attitudes impede long-lasting change
- Inadequate fund devolution
- Limited focus on gender sensitization

Measures to enhance

① Alignment with recommendations of
Jaya Prakash and Pann Rajput committees

② Collaborative governance with women
SHGs like Kudumbashree

③ women-development to women-led development (eg) Beijing platform for action partnership

④ compliance check on gender-sensitization of officials

⑤ gender-budgeting provisions under BBBP

Thus, BBBP can lead to a society where not "half of us are left behind"
— Malala

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)

15

Self-help groups are voluntary groups of relatively homogeneous social groups organized on the principle of "all for one & one for all". (88% women = women-help group)

Vehicle of socio-economic transformation in rural India

① Participatory development model

④ Hathi women, Pangri women etc in economic empowerment

② Delivery partnership for last-mile-access

④ Patrakar dialic during covid

③ Augmenting govt programmes targeting women empowerment

④ Kudumbashree

④ Provide self-employment

④ Ela Bhatt's SEWA

- ⑤ Micro-finance enabler of credit
→ 96% repayment rate of SHGs (RBI)
- ⑥ Credit access, financial inclusion through
govt programme collaboration
(eg) NABARD-Bank linkage programme
- ⑦ Ameliorate food insecurity in rural
areas (eg) Bihar's didi ki rasoi
- ⑧ Targeted campaigns against social
evils like dowry, domestic violence
→ collective power.

Role of government in scaling their
reach & effectiveness

- ① Saturation approach + convergence
perspective (Niti Aayog)
 - ④ Involvement of SHGs in ICDS
programme
- ② Further accountability checks to
achieve good governance
 - ④ Arun ADS - social audit by SHGs

- ③ operationalization, professionalization and capacity building (eg) SHG partnership with centre of excellence, NRDP Hyderabad
- ④ contribute to govt's mission millets (eg) Hyderabad's millet sisters network
- ⑤ Integrating in employment generation programmes (eg) SHG-NRLM linkage
- ⑥ empowerment in digital age (eg) Aarogya didi

Thus vision of turning SHGs to NHGs (national health groups) can be achieved with innovative schemes like (eg) Lakshmi didi (eg) Solar maa

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

Poverty is a multi-dimensional evil
impinging human capabilities & functions
- Amartya Sen

Economic growth

- 7% annual GDP growth for last 30 years
- #4 largest GDP
- International trade leverage
(eg) recent India-UK FTA, UAE CEPA.

But, poverty persists = largest extreme poor people (despite pulling 40 cr out of poverty, NMPI; reducing extreme poverty to ~5% at \$2.15 limit WB)

Reasons for persistence

- ① Social causes = malnutrition
(eg) 30% stunted children
- ② Historical factors - colonial rule's impact

- ③ Information poverty (eg) class-bias in digital age
- ④ Gendered impact — patriarchy prevents more female labour force (42% now) — time poverty, sticky floor, glass ceiling issues
- ⑤ Quality of life concerns — economically rich but qualitatively poor
(eg) overflowing garbage — highlighted by French expat recently.
- ⑥ No culture of savings (Abhijeet Banerjee in 'poor economics')

Measures by govt

- ① Employment generation (eg) MEF, MGNREGA
- ② Food security (eg) NFSA, PMGKY, PDS
- ③ Factor reforms (eg) labour codes
- ④ Liberalization of sectors for FDI
- ⑤ Manufacturing push (eg) Make-in-India, PLI

⑥ Collaboration with NGOs - developmental partnership (eg) Akshay Patra - mid-day meal

⑦ Affordable fuels (eg) diversification of fuel source amidst Ukraine conflict

⑧ Subsidy regime for agriculture
(eg) MSP

Way forward

- China's Pearl Delta Model - manufacturing push based on flying geese model (eg) TN, Bihar can be two ends
- Graziantep's cluster-model - QADP, promotion of cultural synergy & geo continuity
- Network governance - NGOs, SHGs, civil society - all of society effort

Thus poverty is a multi-headed hydra (Esther Duflo), needs sustained effort.

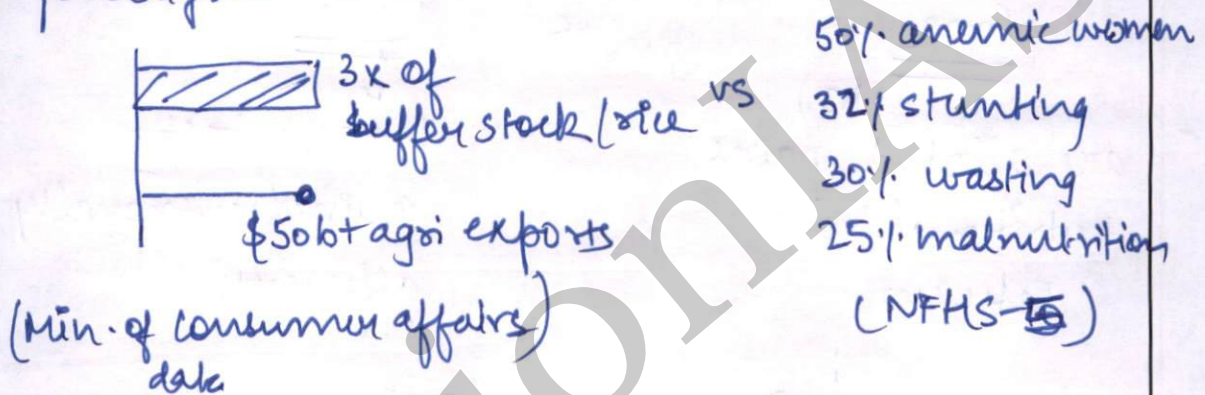
भारत खाद्य अधिशेष और पोषण की कमी संबंधी विरोधाभास का सामना कर रहा है। इस विरोधाभास के पीछे निहित संरचनात्मक कारणों का विश्लेषण कीजिए और सुधार हेतु रणनीतियों का सुझाव दीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

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 क्राशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Recently Economic Survey highlighted the growing divergence between food security & nutritional insecurity. Thus need to re-view food management paradigm



Reasons behind the paradox

① Nutritionally blind mono-cereal policy push (e) wheat-paddy systems

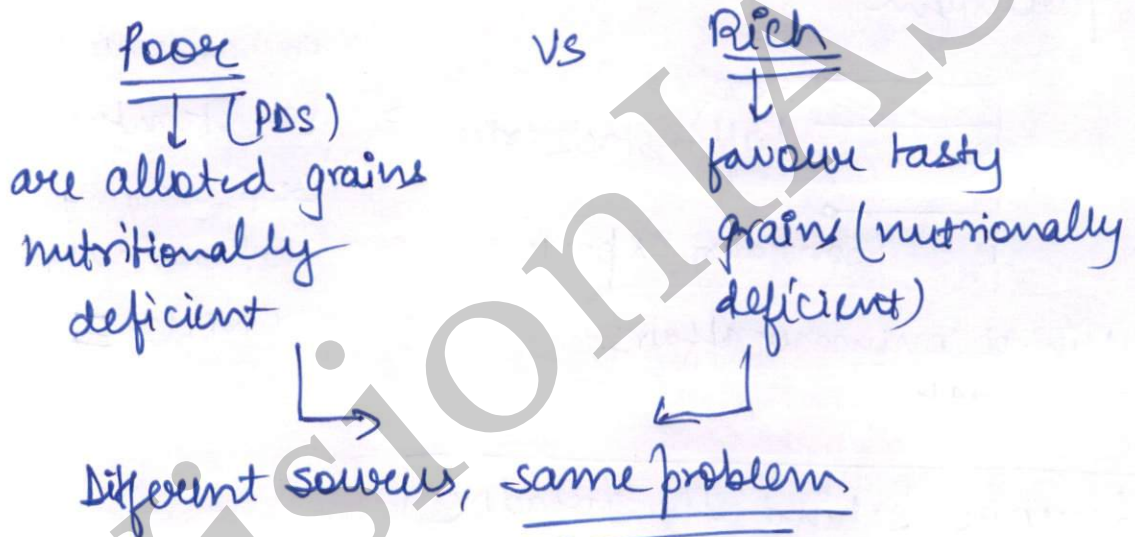
② Inadequate awareness on protein requirements

[Lancet study] = protein deficient diets in Indian average vegetarian meal (vs global avg)

③ Producer-bias in policy making
(over consumer-bias)

④ Export potential opportunities (eg) paddy
focus

⑤ Reversion of nutritious land and raws,
millet (superfood)



Reforms Required

① Repurposing Fair Price shops as
Nutritional Hubs (Ashok Bhatti)

② Limiting mono-cereal cropping, by
promoting agri diversification
(eg) Horticulture

③ celebration of farmer innovation, beyond
risk-free MSP (eg) superfood Bajra
bumper crop in Rajasthan

④ Tech expertise (eg) Krishi Vigyan Kendras
role in growing millet profitably

⑤ Bio-fortification (eg) Vitamin A with rice

⑥ Mid-day meal schemes for furthering
nutritional security (eg) eggs in ICDS

⑦ Consumer awareness

case-study: Anushka Sharma, brand celebrity
sharing "amaranth roti, kinnow juice"

⑧ labelling over High sugar-high fat products
(Eco survey)

Thus nutritionally secure is a long
challenge, which needs janbhayidari to
achieve samriddha Bharat

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

India's bright-spot not only enlightens ~~the~~ GDP growth (~7% growth while world slows down), it reflects in India's practice

of,

$$\left[\text{Neighbourhood First} \right] = \left[\text{Diplomatic Priority} + \text{Rooted in Vaidhai Kutumba} \right]$$

(eg) Sri Lanka \$4b Line of Credit, 2022

Role of Indian aid in bilateral ties with Maldives & Sri Lanka

① Rescued political stability (eg) Sri Lanka default

② Enable India's soft-power ambassadors
 (eg) India's ITEC programme

"China might build the hospitals, but it's India trained doctors & nurses that enable hospital's functioning"

③ Positive unilateralism approach reciprocated
by domestic leadership

eg Maldives
Muizzu's - utrum

eg Sri Lanka
closer collaboration
post Rajapaksa

④ Augmented private collaboration - B2B channels

eg Adani Green project in Sri Lanka

⑤ People-to-people goodwill through
major development project funding

eg Maldives Metro by India

⑥ Capacity building + Tech-sharing = Sustainable
partnership

Issues persist

- Sole diplomacy construed negatively
by bureaucrats sometimes
- competition from China
- Volatility of India ties & aid's sustainability

Steps further

① Cooperation on global commons

eg INS Sahyadri's hydrological
survey in Maldives EEZ

- ② Partnership on problems without passports (eg) Houthi Rebel crisis.
- ③ Blue economy push
(eg) livelihood generation in trilateral commons
- ④ conservation of biodiversity (eg) Marine Protected area cooperation near Gulf of Mannar
- ⑤ Reef tourism collaboration (eg) corals abundant in 3; 2\$306 market/year
- ⑥ HADR cooperation (eg) learning lessons from Tsunami
- ⑦ Funding partnership with west; India as guarantor
[Kremer's model]

Thus sea-power theory of Alfred Mahan needs to be realized via MAHASABAK doctrine.

20.

महाद्वीपीय 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

Afghanistan is known as geopolitical chess-board, prompting great interest by powers of the day

Great Games
(UK-Russia)

USSR's
invasion 1979

US invasion;
war against
Taliban

Afg Graveyard of empires - centrality of Afg

Geo-strategic significance

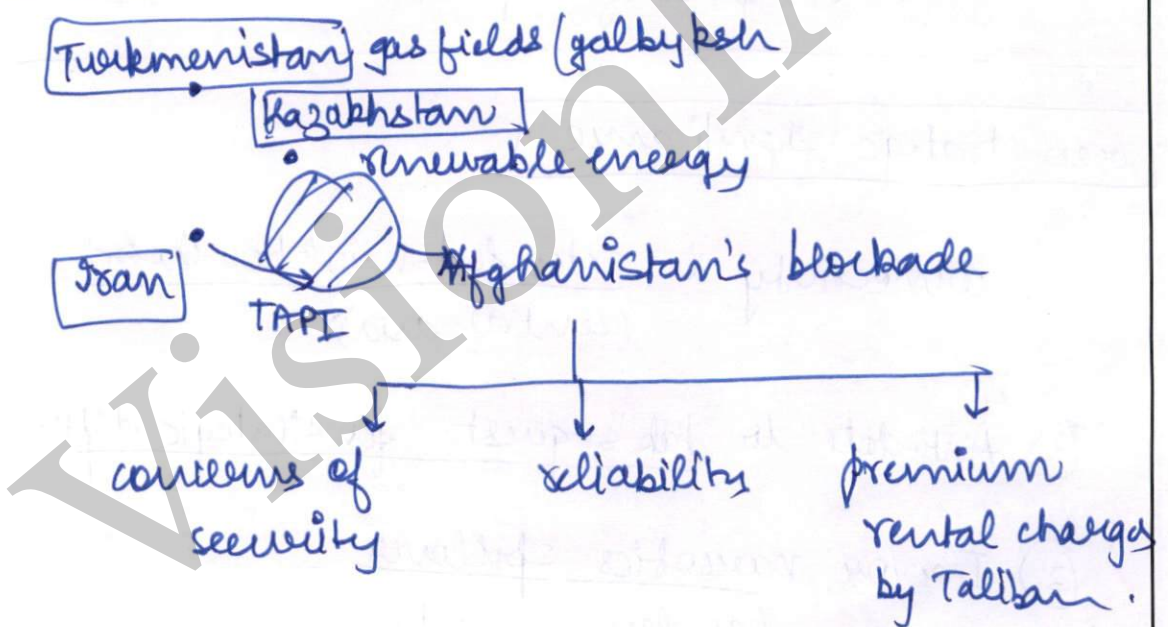
- ① connectivity to extended-neighbourhood
(central asia)
- ② Anti-date to Pak's quest for strategic depth
- ③ Terror, narcotics spillover
(golden crescent)
- ④ Provides gateway to continental west asia via Iran ⑤ Ashgabat agreement,
- ⑤ Russia's underbelly + China's concerns (Xinjiang) + CAR's energy resources
= centrality to Afg

2021- Taliban resurgence

Altered landscape for India's connectivity

- ① Roadblock for meaningful dialogue on cross-country GT road
- ② Cargo handling, trade checkpoints hamper India's outreach to Kazakhstan

Altered landscape for energy



Way forward

- ① Back-channel diplomacy
(eg Vikram Mishra's meeting with Taliban AM)
- ② Engagement over criticism policy
(C Raja Mohan's argument)

- ③ converting Pak's strategy of strategic depth to strategic ditch ④ double-pincer strategy

④ engagement with regional powers

④ India-central Asia Summit - NSA meet over Afg security concerns

④ Afghan Quad - engagement on Afgh

⑤ Trade and diplomacy go hand in hand
④ food insecurity in Afg - sending grains via Chabahar

⑥ Alignment with existing paradigms
④ INSTC

Thus Afg needs to be handled delicately via nimble diplomacy to not only put pressure on Pak (④ Op Sindoor) but, leveraging cultural capital in Afghani people (④ Habibi school, Salma dam, Garland road).

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