

GENERAL STUDIES (Test Code : 421)

Overall Macro comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

All The Best

All questions are compulsory and carry equal marks. Answer the questions in NOT MORE than 200 words each. Content of the answer is more important than its length.

1. Though Indian Constitution provides the essential features of a federation, it differs from the typical federal systems of the world in certain fundamental respects. Elaborate. 10

यद्यपि भारतीय संविधान में संघवाद की आवश्यक विशेषताएं उपलब्ध हैं तथापि यह विश्व के विशेषित संघवाद प्रणालियों से कुछ मूलभूत सन्दर्भों में भिन्न है। व्याख्या कीजिये।

Ans. Indian Constitution provided for essential features of federation like :-

- (a). Distribution of legislative and executive power between Centre and State.
- (b). Bicameral legislature at Centre.
- (c). Distribution of financial powers.
- (d). States have their own constitutional existence and ~~to~~ not ~~respon~~ depend upon centre for existence.
- (e). Independent judiciary.

But it differs from typical federal system existed in countries like USA, Australia, etc.

(a) Emergency provisions in Constitution made country's political system unitary.

while no such provision in USA.

(b). Representation of states in Upper house on the basis of population unlike USA where it is on the ~~basis~~ of equal for all states, 2 seats.

(c). ~~less~~ Parliament can make law over state subject under Article 249, in case of emergency under 352 & 356, etc. No such power in USA.

~~(d).~~



2. If the Lok Sabha is an indication of the mood of the nation at a particular point of time, the Rajya Sabha is a summation of the concerns of the various regions of the country over a period of time. Comment on the relevance of Rajya Sabha in the current milieu. 10

यदि लोकसभा एक समय विशेष में राष्ट्र के मानस को इंगित करती है, तो राज्यसभा देश के विविध प्रदेशों से सम्बन्धित दीर्घ अवधि वाली चिंताओं के योग को इंगित करती है। वर्तमान परिदृश्य में राज्य-सभा की प्रासंगिकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिये।

Ans.

Lok Sabha i.e. lower house has representatives from across the nation and a term of 5 years subject to dissolution, with members directly elected.

While Rajya Sabha, a representative of State concerns, has ~~selected~~ indirectly elected members.

In the present context where ruling party enjoys majority in Lok Sabha but not in Rajya Sabha, it can play an important role as a legislative chamber.

Relevance in current context

(a) As a revising chamber :-

It can revise or delay a legislation.

Ex. Dowry Prohibition Bill : Amendments suggested by Rajya Sabha included in final legislation in a joint sitting.

(b) As a deliberative chamber :-

It can deliberate upon an issue of public importance and can hold government accountable.

(c) As a continuity chamber :-

It provides continuity to legislations as does not dissolve thus bill not passed in Lok Sabha and pending there will not lapse.

(d) Function in Government formation by a member becoming part of Council of Ministers.

(e) It can involve expert members as 12 members are nominated by President.

Thus legislations like GST, NCTC, etc. which changes the federal balance, require Rajya Sabha to play an active role.

Thus in present context, it can play a proactive role by holding Government accountable and maintaining federal balance.

3. While judiciary has been seen as a harbinger of promoting transparency and accountability in governmental functions, it needs to promote the same regarding its own functioning. Comment w.r.t the need for judicial reforms in India. 10

जहाँ न्यायपालिका को सरकारी कार्य प्रणाली में पारदर्शिता और उत्तरदायित्व को बढ़ावा देने का अग्रदूत माना जाता है, वहीं स्वयं इसको भी अपनी कार्य प्रणाली में भी इन सबको बढ़ावा देने की आवश्यकता है। भारत में न्यायिक सुधारों के सन्दर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिये।

Ans.

Judiciary can hold executive and legislative accountable towards citizens and protect fundamental rights of citizens, being final interpreter of the Constitution.

Paradigm shift in judiciary functioning from ~~only~~ interpreter to 'crusador', transparency and accountability is required in its own functioning.

Judicial Reforms :-

- (a) Recent cases of sexual harassment, corruption, etc in judiciary made it necessary to hold judiciary accountable.

Presently judiciary is accountable to parliament, as it can impeach judges of higher judiciary. But

considering strict impeachment process, it is hard to hold them accountable.

Thus it is required to make a code of conduct for judiciary to be followed along with penal mechanism.

Judicial Accountability Bill (lapsed) provided for individual complaints against judiciary. It provided for permanent mechanism viz National judiciary oversight committee for investigation.

b). Transparency in Appointment procedure to reduce favoritism and nepotism and bring candidates on the basis of merit and not seniority.

Recent Judicial appointment Bill (99th Constitutional Amendment) provided for national judicial appointment commission with equal power to both Judiciary and Executive for appointment.

(c). Judicial Reforms by reducing judicial backlog by increased use of technology and procedural simplification can be a step in right direction
Ex: e-courts

→ Thus all these judicial reforms can bring democratization of judiciary, a saviour of democracy.

4. The stability of a democratic regime is directly contingent upon transparency of its electoral process. Elaborate the critical electoral reforms, which will decriminalize the electoral process and make it more transparent and equitable.

10

लोकतान्त्रिक शासन की स्थिरता प्रत्यक्षतः इसकी चुनाव प्रक्रिया की पारदर्शिता पर निर्भर है। महत्वपूर्ण चुनावी सुधारों की व्याख्या कीजिये जो चुनाव प्रक्रिया को अपराधरहित करें तथा इसको और अधिक पारदर्शी एवं न्यायसंगत बनायें।

Ans. Election Commission of India constituted under Article 326 of Constitution, for superintendence, conduct and control of elections.

Electoral reforms resulted due to initiative of ECI along with SC judgements are:-

(a) Under Section 8(4) of Representation of Peoples Act, 1951, a convicted legislator have to immediately leave his post. Before he can appeal within in three months and could continue, which was considered as infringement of Article 14. It will decriminalize politics.

(b) Every trial involving legislators must be completed within an year.

(c) All candidates have to disclose their income, sources, foreign bank accounts, property, etc and also of their spouse.

(d) Every political party has to file its sources of fund ₹20000. It can reduce use of Black money in elections.

(e) Political parties are public functionaries under RTI and thus must disclose their information to CIC.

(f) NOTA i.e. None of the Above option provided candidates to ~~no~~ vote no one and thus will make candidates ~~an~~ morally accountable.

(g) VVPAT (Voter verifiable paper audit trail) can make elector to check ~~the~~ his vote, thus will bring transparency in elections.

All the above electoral reforms can bring transparency in election process and can bring about decriminalisation.

5. The Prime Minister of India has acquired such eminence and power that observers now prefer to call the political system as Prime Ministerial Government rather than parliamentary or cabinet government. Critically analyze with reference to the present government. 10

भारतीय प्रधानमंत्री ने इतनी महत्वपूर्ण शक्तियाँ अर्जित कर ली हैं कि पर्यवेक्षक अब इस राजनीतिक प्रणाली को संसदीय अथवा कैबिनेट सरकार कि अपेक्षा प्रधानमंत्रीय सरकार कहने लगे हैं। वर्तमान सरकार के सन्दर्भ में आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिये।

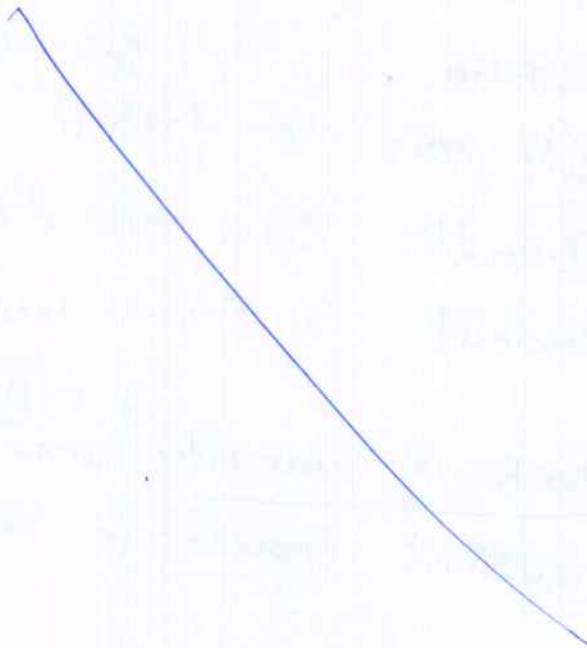
Ans. Indian Government ^{can be} ~~is~~ rightly called Prime Ministerial form of Government especially in present context where ~~the~~ Government enjoys majority in Lok Sabha.

- With majority of Government in Lok Sabha, a Bill requiring simple majority can be passed without any hurdle thus converting parliamentary government to Prime-minister Government.

But lack of majority ^{in Rajya Sabha} can act as a bar against legislative accesses.

- Recent initiative of Government to reduce GOM and EGOM is a right

right step as many of them are
overlapping with the resulting policy
paralysis. Some observers are
apprehensive of this as a step to
 curb power of Parliament and
make PM/O most powerful.



6. "Indian democracy is now ready to shift from a crude First Past the Post system to a system of Proportional Representation." Do you agree? Substantiate. 10

भारतीय लोकतंत्र अब अपरिष्कृत फर्स्ट पास्ट द पोस्ट सिस्टम (सर्वाधिक मत पाने वाले की जीत) से आनुपातिक प्रतिनिधित्व प्रणाली में बदलने हेतु तैयार है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? पुष्टि कीजिये।

Ans:

First Past the Post system is a system of representation which make a candidate with the large number of votes in a single member constituency to win. It does not require a minimum number of votes and a candidate having even 25% votes but highest among all can win.

Positives

→ It is a simple system and can easily be understood by elector

thus adopted by India with large illiterate population at independence.

Negatives → - Votes got wasted
- candidates lacking majority can become representative

Proportional Representation System

under this, people vote to candidates in a priority and thus no vote got wasted.

Though with increased literacy level as well as lack of representation to all groups, people are asking for switching from FPTP to PR system. But PR has many negatives which can be proved disastrous for a diverse country like India

(a). It will increase caste based politics and will aggravate differences.

(b). In an era of coalition politics, multiple political parties with different ideologies can result in policy paralysis.

Though it can bring about more representation, but considering along with negatives, it is better to reform PPTP system through electoral reforms like decriminalisation of politics; reduce money and muscle power use, etc.

Reforms like certain minimum number of votes to win, etc can be considered through legislative deliberations.

7. Although meant to function as watchdogs, human rights institutions in India are treated as subordinate departments with scant regard for their autonomy or statutory character. Analyze. 10

यद्यपि इनका कार्य निगरानी का होता है तथापि मानवाधिकार संस्थाओं को भारत में उनके स्वायत्त एवं वैधानिक चरित्र की अनदेखी करते हुए अधीनस्थ विभागों के रूप में मना जाता है। विश्लेषण कीजिये।

Ans:

Human rights institutions at national and state level viz National human rights commission and state human rights commission were created by National Human Rights Commission Act, 1993.

Under the statute and as per Paris Principles, they enjoyed autonomy and independence in terms of appointment, removal, finances and condition of service.

They were created to monitor human rights violations and adjudicate them in certain cases or refer them to authorities.

But they are treated as subordinate

departments manifested through:-

- (a) location of SHRC in state capital, or in department or ministry building. It is against the principle of independence and can not be accessed by public at large.
- (b) Many SHRC's post are vacant prejudicing with their efficient working.
- (c) Financial dependence further derogate their position and against Paris Principles.
- (d) HRC can either suo motu investigate or through complaint investigate, but ~~too~~ it should be only one year old which further violate their autonomy.
- (e) Investigation ~~and~~ results and penalties fixed by them are not considered.

Q. Overlapping mandate with other regulatory body further subordinate them.

Thus to make them independent watchdogs of human rights, they must be provided with autonomy and independence.

8. "Using poverty line numbers for welfare schemes doesn't serve the purpose of social justice in India." In the light of this statement, highlight the shortfalls of linking welfare schemes with poverty line. Also mention how the newly defined poverty line of Rangarajan Committee differs from that of Tendulkar Committee.

10

"कल्याणकारी योजनाओं के लिए गरीबी रेखा का प्रयोग करना भारत में सामाजिक न्याय के उद्देश्य को पूरा नहीं करता है।" इस कथन के आलोक में गरीबी रेखा के साथ कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की संबद्धता सम्बन्धी कमियों को प्रकाशित कीजिये। यह भी उल्लेख कीजिये कि रंगराजन समिति की नयी गरीबी रेखा की परिभाषा तेन्दुलकर समिति की परिभाषा से किस प्रकार से भिन्न है?

Ans. Social justice means providing everyone with equal opportunities as well as access to basic amenities. As social justice is a broad concept with socio-economic and political opportunities, poverty line number dependent upon per capita income and expenditure can not serve its purpose.

Shortfalls of linking poverty line with welfare scheme

- Poverty is a multidimensional concept as shown in Multidimensional poverty index, with people lacking access to food, water, sanitation, electricity, etc. Thus on the basis of income poverty, people lacking above will be left behind.
- It depends on the approach: 'one size fits all' and thus not suitable in diverse socio-economic milieu.
- welfare schemes pertain to housing must use house-poor as criteria, sanitation must use sanitation poor as criteria and so on.

Recent Socio economic and caste census pertains to this concept and would be a better indicator for targeting welfare schemes.

Rangarajan committee report differs

from Tendulkar committee :-

- (a) It took into account consumption expenditure, rather than
- (b) It considers basic services like education and health to be provided by Government and then calculated the index.
- (c) It ~~considers~~ separated rural and urban poverty lines in contrast to Tendulkar report.

9. "HDI 2014 has introduced a gender development index (GDI) for the first time. India ranks low at 127th place in GDI." Discuss the various causes for gender development disparity in India. Also mention the steps taken by the government in reducing this disparity. 10

"मानव विकास सूचकांक -2014 ने प्रथम बार लिंग विकास सूचकांक की शुरुआत की है। लिंग विकास सूचकांक में भारत नीचे 127वें स्थान पर है।" भारत में लिंग विकास में असमानता के विविध कारणों की चर्चा कीजिये। सरकार द्वारा इस असमानता कम करने हेतु उठाये गए कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिये।

Ans HDI 2014 ranked India as 127th in GDI which took into account education, health and workforce participation.

Reasons for Gender development disparity

(a) Social Reasons : Socialisation of subjugation of women and consider them to be reproductive machines with unequal access to education, health and skill development.

(b) Economic Reasons : lack of access to property rights and economic independence through employment opportunities, self employment, credit, loan, etc.

(c). Political Reasons: lack of political representation in Parliament and state legislatures. Though 50% reservation in Panchayats increased women's participation in Gram Panchayats, but they are mere proxy electors.

(d). Legal awareness about rights is lacking.

(e). Violence against women
Steps Taken By Government :-

(a). Social Empowerment

→ Increased access to education through schemes like NPEGL, Residential schools, Kasturba Gandhi Vidyalaya.

→ Improved health indicators through institutional deliveries, NRHM etc.

→ Programmes like Swadhar, etc for Skill training.

(b). Economic Empowerment

→ Bharatiya Mahila Bank exclusively for women to access financial products

- Reservation for women in MGNREGA.
- SHG-Bank linkage programme.

(c) Political Empowerment :-

- Political literacy provided to them
- increased participation in implementation of schemes.

(d) Legal empowerment through schemes like National Mission for Empowerment of women

(e) curb violence through legal measures and preventive steps

10. The recent IB report, which clubs NGOs into one bundle and treats them as seditious, threatens civil society as a space of freedom, dissent and creativity. Discuss.

हाल की आईबी रिपोर्ट जोकि गैर-सरकारी संगठनों को एक देशद्रोही समूह के रूप में देखती है, स्वतंत्रता, असहमत होने और रचनात्मकता का मौका प्रदान करने वाले नागरिक समाज के लिए खतरा है। चर्चा कीजिये।

Ans. - Recent IB Report held that NGOs led movement resulted in 5-6% loss of GDP and they were financed by international organisation and foreign government to stall India's growth.

It quoted example of Kudankulam nuclear plant issue to be manipulated.

This report universalize its conclusion that all NGOs are affected by foreign organisation through contributions under FCRA.

- Thus it threatens civil society and its right to dissent, freedom of expression, etc.
- + Civil Society as one of the pillar of democracy resulted in passing of important legislations like RTI, availability of welfare services in remote areas along with government, etc.
- + This universal criticism degrade its role as a pillar of democracy who can hold government accountable along with providing citizens voice.

→ His finding might be correct regarding some NGOs but it does not needed that they should be banned, ~~and~~ what is required is their regulation through transparent funding, capacity building through training, ~~etc~~ professional support etc.

11. A healthy working relationship between Ministers and civil servants is critical for good governance in a democracy, yet civil service must remain free from political considerations. Comment. 10

लोकतन्त्र में सुशासन हेतु मंत्रियों एवं नौकरशाहों के मध्य स्वस्थ कार्यकारी सम्बन्ध बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं, फिर भी नौकरशाही को राजनीतिक प्रभाव से अवश्य ही मुक्त होना चाहिए। टिप्पणी कीजिये।

Ans.

Political executive i.e. Ministers are responsible for policy formulation while public executive i.e. civil servants are responsible for policy implementation.

But at the same time civil service civil service must remain free from political consideration

Need for healthy relationship

→ Minister provide framework and civil servant fill up the details as per local considerations. Hence healthy consultation necessary.

→ Civil servants are more linked with policy formulation now a days thus with a healthy dialogue they can provide minister ground realities.

→ ~~The~~ Civil servant act as a link between public at large and ministers. and can provide minister grievances of people.

Why required to be free

- Political neutrality necessary as permanent executive has to implement policies irrespective of political affiliations.
- Minister-Bureaucrat-Businessman nexus resulted in collusive corruption at the cost of society, thus it is all the more necessary ~~for~~ to be free from political considerations.
- Political interference resulted in partiality in availability of services to people as Minister can differentiate its vote bank.

Thus effective and efficient governance require healthy relation between political and permanent executive. without unethicality.

12. The centrality of planning for efficient allocation of scarce resource is imperative for any developing nation. In the light of the above statement critically analyze the need and functions of a suitable alternative to the Planning Commission. 10

अधिशेष संसाधनों के दक्षतापूर्ण आवंटन हेतु योजनाओं का केन्द्रीकरण किसी भी विकासशील राष्ट्र के लिए अनिवार्य है। उपर्युक्त कथन के संदर्भ में योजना आयोग के उपयुक्त विकल्प की आवश्यकता और उसके कार्यों का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिये।

Ans. Recently Government announced disbanding of planning commission. ~~and create~~ without suggesting any alternative.

- Planning Commission acted as a body for assessment of human, material and natural resources, plan for their optimum utilization and monitoring of implementation with suggestion for Government to improve.

Considering the above objective need for planning commission :-

(a). Interaction between State Government and Ministries.

(b). It replicates innovation at local level to national level

Ex. Jyoti Gramin Yojana of Gujarat rep for feeder separation replicated at national level through National feeder separation programme.

(c). It gives expertise in decision making.

But considering PC to be a parking ground for bureaucrats, expertise is neglected.

(d). It disburses plan resources to state Government, but if PC will be removed, then this function can be done by Finance Commission with removal of

evolutional plan - non plan distinction -

But considering the above other functions it is required to create an alternative to PC to further :-

- bottom-up planning
- increased involvement of State Government in planning process strengthening federalism.
- Transparency in appointment of members.
- Replication of success stories through effective replication.
- Expert body acting as think-tank as well for policy suggestions.
- Acting as a link between Centre and State Government.

13. "The chariot of inclusive growth would run on two wheels-one of economic reforms to jack up the GDP growth, the other would be the reform of grassroots governance". What reforms are needed to improve grassroots governance institutions & to what extent can they become critical instruments for furthering the ideals of social, political & economic justice.

10

समावेशी विकास का रथ दो चक्रों पर दौड़ता है - प्रथम सकल घरेलू उत्पाद की संवृद्धि हेतु आर्थिक सुधार, द्वितीय जमीनी स्तर के शासन में सुधार। जमीनी-स्तर पर शासन की संस्थाओं की बेहतरी हेतु किन सुधारों की आवश्यकता है और सामाजिक, राजनीतिक और आर्थिक न्याय के आदर्शों को बढ़ावा देने हेतु किस हद तक ये महत्वपूर्ण उपकरण सिद्ध हो सकते हैं?

Ans. Inclusive growth depends upon economic development along with its distribution to grass root level.

Implementation of welfare schemes is mainly the responsibility of grassroot institutions viz Panchayats and urban municipal bodies, created through 73rd and 74th Amendment.

Thus reforms in these institutions are necessary.

(a). Devolution of funds, functions and functionaries as envisaged in constitution.

(b). Capacity building through training

to these institutions.

(c). More devolution of finances as well as increased sources of finances like municipal bonds in urban bodies.

(d). They should be independent of political interference and influence of dominant caste.

(e) In case of urban bodies, proper delineation of powers between different bodies is required.

(f). Accountability through mechanisms like social audit.

g. If all these reforms are conducted, then they can become efficient and effective in their functioning. But at the same time they must be provided with adequate power to implement their decisions.

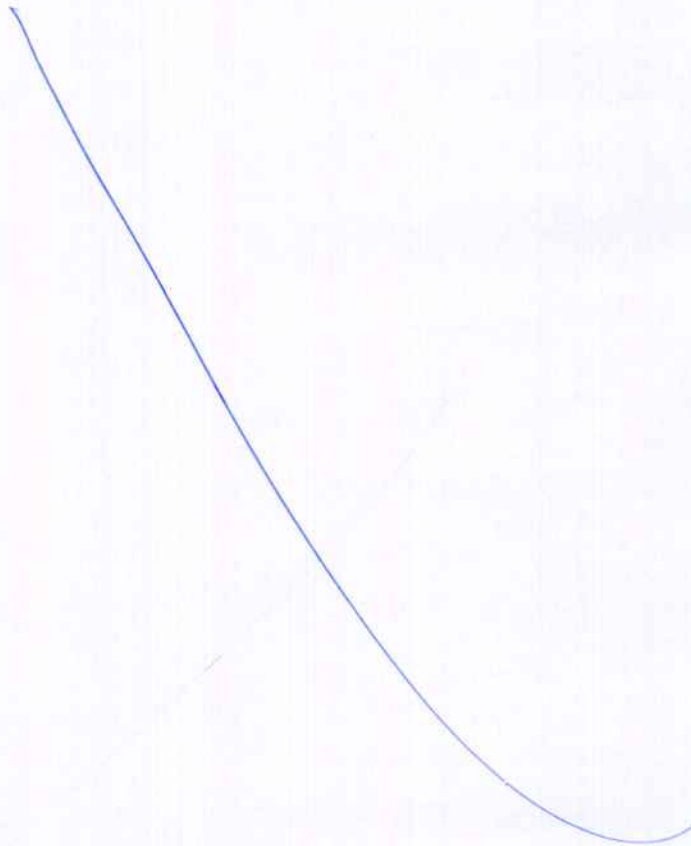
In case of PESA and FRA, these bodies are neglected. Thus reforms

in these bodies along with political will and vigilant citizenry can make them effective.

14. As the demand for welfare state grew, the size of the state expanded dramatically. But now there is a demand for 'less government, more governance'. Critically examine. 10

जैसे-जैसे लोक-कल्याणकारी राज्य की मांग बढ़ती गयी वैसे-वैसे राज्यों की सीमा में नाटकीय प्रसार हुआ। लेकिन अब मांग "न्यूनतम सरकार और अधिकतम अभिशासन" की है। आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिये।

Aus:



15. What institutional and procedural reforms are needed for regulating the introduction of high risk technologies like Nuclear energy and GMO in a democratic framework? 10

लोकतान्त्रिक संरचना में उच्च खतरे वाली तकनीकियों जैसे परमाणु ऊर्जा और GMO आदि के नियमन के पुरःस्थापन हेतु किन संस्थागत और प्रक्रियागत सुधारों की आवश्यकता है?

Ans. Democracy required participative and multi-stakeholder approach in decision making. Thus introduction of high risk technologies like nuclear energy and GMO required some institutional and procedural reforms in functioning of Government.

Reforms needed :- Institutional

(a). An institutional mechanism with subject experts for ~~research~~ ^{finding} the consequences, benefits and impacts along with safety requirements ~~of~~ for the technology to be adopted.

(b). Institution must be created through a statute.

(c) It should be provided with financial and appointment independence. It must be held accountable to Parliament along with transparency in working.

§ Procedural Reforms :-

(a) All the stakeholders viz Government, citizens, NGOs, etc must be involved in decision making.

(b) Procedure for dissemination of information about the safety requirements, concerned risk and benefits, etc.

(c) Regular meetings with stakeholders to placate their apprehensions.

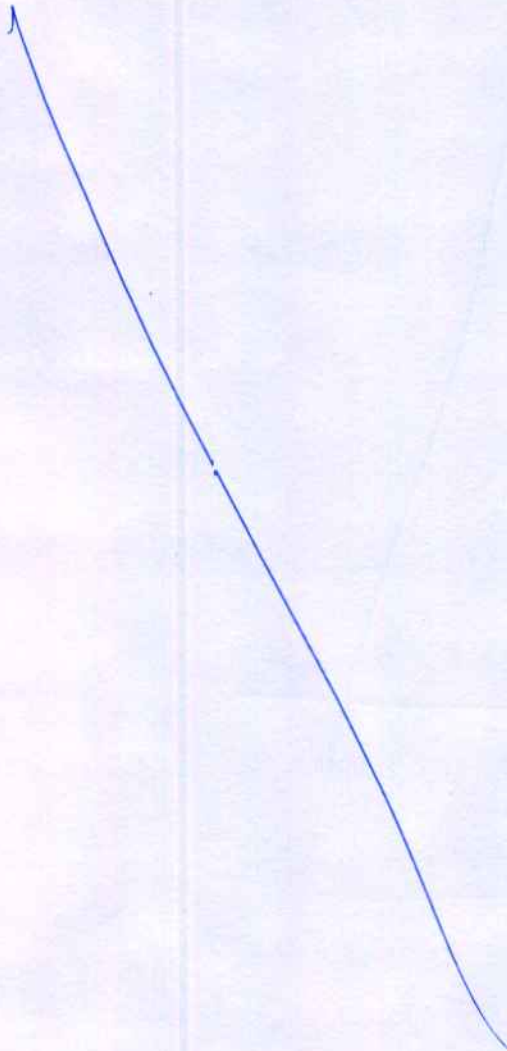
(d) Safety requirements must be up-to-date with mechanism for action in case of accident.

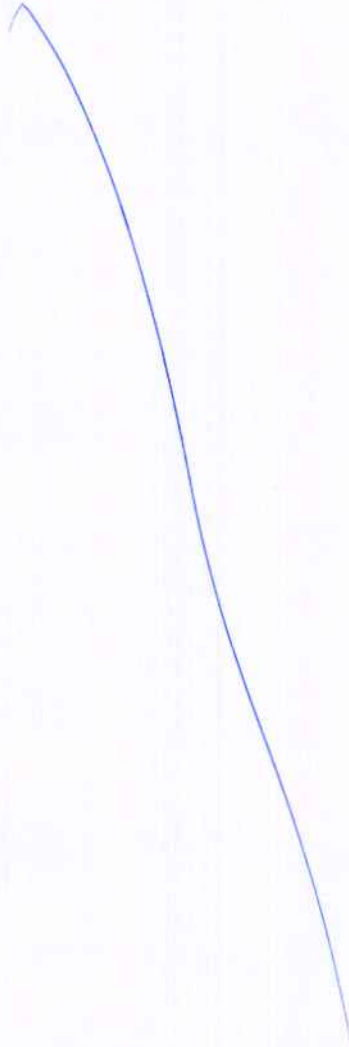
All these steps have been implemented in Germany, once a nuclear power ^{electricity} generator of 75% total electricity.

16. Strong universal social protection not only improves individual resilience – it can also bolster the resilience of the economy as a whole. Comment with special reference to the schemes for the vulnerable sections of the society.

10

मजबूत सार्वभौमिक सामाजिक सुरक्षा न केवल व्यक्तिगत संकट सहनशीलता में सुधार लाती है, बल्कि यह सम्पूर्ण रूप में अर्थव्यवस्था के आधार में भी संकट सहनशीलता लाती है। समाज के कमजोर वर्गों के लिये बनायी गयी योजनाओं के विशेष संदर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिये।





17. "e-Governance has not been the savior that it was expected to be." Discuss the challenges faced in the conceptualization and implementation of the e-Governance initiatives in India. 10

"ई-प्रशासन उद्धारक नहीं बन पाया है जैसा कि उम्मीद की गयी थी" | भारत में ई-प्रशासन पहल की अवधारणा और कार्यान्वयन में पेश आ रही चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिये।

Ans E-Governance, i.e. availability of government services to citizens, businesses, etc. ~~How~~ electronically. National e-Governance plan was conceptualized for the same but faced a lot of challenges.

Challenges in Conceptualization :-

(a) e-governance require business process restructuring to become successful. Thus, in absence of procedural changes, it suffered.

(b) It required exchange of information between departments but they are ~~hesitant~~ as it will reduce their discretion.

(c) It required collection of data and its protection from unethical and illegal use, thus poses a challenge.

in absence of privacy policy.

Challenges in Implementation:-

- lack of availability of infrastructure in several areas.
- Lack of awareness among citizens about how to avail benefits electronically.
- lack of capacity building of Government functionaries for effective implementation of the same.
- Most of the welfare schemes which require income transfer electronically needed bank accounts. But lack of financial inclusion again poses a problem. Recent Jan Dhan Yojana can correct it by widening financial inclusion.
- lack of availability of Internet connectivity

- Lack of back-end services in department like maintenance of hardware, etc.
- Shortage of power supply further inhibit its progress.

18. How can Myanmar become the central pillar for India's Enhanced Look East Policy? Outline the strategic and economic reasons for the country's increased bearing on Indian interests.

10

म्यांमार किस प्रकार से भारत की वर्द्धित पूर्व की ओर देखो नीति के लिए केंद्रीय स्तंभ बन सकता है? भारतीय हितों पर म्यांमार के बढ़ते हुए प्रभाव के सामरिक और आर्थिक कारणों को रेखांकित कीजिये।

Ans - Myanmar acts as a link between India and South East Asian, ASEAN, nations.

- With increased China's influence in South Asia, US pivot to Asia, shifting of economic centre to Asia, Japan's rise as an economic power, etc, India's engagement with ASEAN and other East Asia required Myanmar to act as a pivot.

- India's paradigm shift from 'look' East to 'Act' East made it inevitable to

make Myanmar central pillar in our policy.

Myanmar's increased role due to:-

- (a). Importance of development of North East region. It can be done ~~on~~ through a regional development approach with engagement of Myanmar.
- (b). Myanmar had been a source for migrants, terrorist outfits, etc due to unstable political situation and ethnic clashes in past. With a move towards constitutional reforms, it can provide stability to region.
- (c). It can act as transit and trans-shipment zone to link North East with rest of India and with extended Asia.
Ex. Kaladan Multi Modal Project linking Kaladan River (Manipur) with ~~to~~ Calcutta through Sittoung port.
- (d). Strategic interests increased due to increased aggressiveness of China in South Asia, hence

increased cooperation with Myanmar's is
India's response.

(e). Strategic importance due to sensitive
location in Indian Ocean Region,
responsible for India's energy security
is required free sea lanes of
communication

(f). Economic interests due to availability
of oil and gas resources in Arakan
peninsula. India can harness this
to reduce energy deficit.

(g). Increased engagement economically
of India and China through
BCIM (Bangladesh China India Myanmar)
economic corridor

(h). China's 'Maritime Silk Route' initiative
which engage Myanmar through
investment and port diplomacy, also
required India to act proactively.

19. "With the advent of democracy in Bhutan, the buffers of British Raj are no longer a viable option." Examine the need for India to recast its neighborhood policy in wake of increasing Chinese influence. 10

"भूटान में लोकतंत्र के आगमन के साथ, ब्रिटिश राज के अंतःस्थ राज्य (buffer states) अब एक व्यवहार्य विकल्प नहीं रह गए हैं।" चीन के बढ़ते प्रभाव के आलोक में, भारत की अपने पड़ोसियों के सन्दर्भ में नीति के पुनर्निर्माण का परीक्षण कीजिये।

Ans.

In pre independence era, British has created Nepal, ~~Bangladesh~~ Bhutan, Myanmar, Afghanistan as buffers against aggression of other imperialist powers.

But in recent era, these 'buffers' are transforming to democracy, thus political transformation towards more independence and stability.

ex. - Democracy established in Bhutan.

- Constitutional reforms going on in Nepal.

- Transition towards democracy in Myanmar.

- Increased autonomy to North East province in Sri Lanka.

- Thus India need to recast its neighborhood policy in present context considering in

mind increased china's influence in the region.

- India's neighborhood policy was based primarily on Gujarat doctrine, recognising non-reciprocation as principle for proactive engagement with small neighbors.

- But India's neighbor are apprehensive about India's image as big brother, political interference in internal matters

Ex: India's interference through gas pricing in Bhutan; lean towards one party in Bangladesh, etc.

- With not so much transport and transit development across borders along with security apprehensions, India's place is taken by China through increased investment in infrastructure, highways, ports, etc.

Increased China's connectivity with the region - Nepal, Bhutan etc through

Road and Railway connectivity diplomacy

require India to not only articulate investments but also implement them.

Ex: Road and Rail connectivity projects with Nepal, Bhutan etc.

- Recognise the potential of neighbor in making South Asia developed and core of Asian century through increased economic cooperation like FTAs, infrastructure development like housing project & port in Sri Lanka etc is needed.

20. India has not leveraged the potential of its diaspora as some of the other countries such as China. Critically analyze. Suggest some steps that should be taken for better utilization of the Indian Diaspora. 10

भारत ने अन्य देशों जैसे चीन आदि की अपेक्षा अपने प्रवासियों कि संभाव्यताओं का लाभ नहीं उठाया है। आलोचनात्मक विमर्श कीजिये। विदेशों में बसे भारतीयों के बेहतर उपयोग हेतु उठाये जाने वाले कुछ कदमों को सुझाए।

Ans. India's diaspora population is around 2 million spread across all the major nations. India's diaspora comprised of both skilled and semi skilled labor in USA, UK, Gulf countries, Mauritius, East Asian nations, etc.

~~Part~~ India's diaspora has been a major source of remittances, investment, economic growth and development, etc.

- but India does not harness its full potential
- (a) lack of institutional mechanism to provide India's diaspora with knowledge of avenues of investment in India.
 - (b) lack of engagement of diaspora while formulating policies and social programmes for them.
 - (c) Projects like Akash Ganga [for water harvesting] etc are because of initiatives of Diaspora. But these initiatives are not in proportion to their number due to lack of engagement of Government.
 - (d) lack of engagement with Gulf countries for social security benefits of diaspora there, thus their exploitation and reduced participation.
 - (e) Proactive electoral reforms like their right to vote through postal ballot, etc has been given but not implemented properly, making them anguished.

Steps required for better utilisation

Institutional Reforms :-

- (a) Effective institutions for their engagement in policy formulation, philanthropic activities etc.

Procedural Reforms

→ Reduce red tapism, bottlenecks to increase their investment.

Cultural and national connectedness through programmes like know your India etc. Engage youth diaspora to make them aware about their culture.

Social security benefits in the form of pensions, etc for semi skilled diaspora.

21. Resolution of the Indo-Bangladesh maritime dispute has been slated as a win-win for both countries. Highlight the politico-economic impact of this decision for Indo-Bangladesh relations. 10

भारत-बांग्लादेश सामुद्रिक विवाद सम्बन्धी संकल्प से दोनों देशों को लाभ होने की उम्मीद है। भारत-बांग्लादेश संबंधों पर इस निर्णय के द्वारा पड़ने वाले राजनीतिक-आर्थिक प्रभाव पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Ans. Indo Bangladesh Maritime dispute over demarcation of maritime boundary and mainly over acquisition ownership of Moore Island, has been resolved.

Permanent Court of Justice demarcated maritime boundary and gave Moore Island to Bangladesh. Acceptance of the order by both depicts the increased and mature diplomatic relationship between both.

This decision will improve political relations between both the countries as well as prospects for further economic relations.

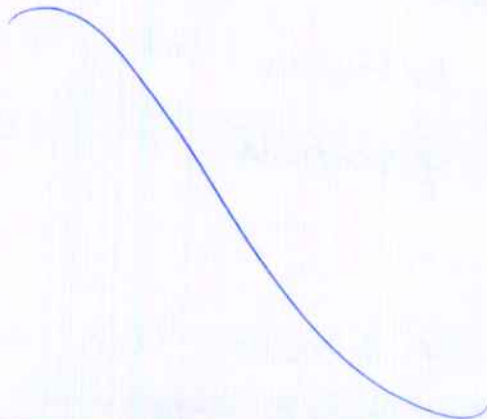
Acceptance of decision can make them engage with each other over

transit issue of India to connect North East and India through Bangladesh.

It can further their engagement in Indian ocean region through maritime co-operation on piracy, terrorism, free sea lanes of communication.

It will further Bangladesh's trust in India and can act as a response to China's aggressive engagement with the region.

Increased India-Bangladesh engagement even BCIM, border infrastructure pay testimony to this decision.



22. For India's energy security concerns, a positive Hydro Diplomacy with neighbours is the need of the hour. Discuss.10

भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा की चिंताओं के संदर्भ में, पड़ोसियों के साथ एक सकारात्मक हाइड्रो कूटनीति समय की मांग है। चर्चा कीजिये।

Ans - Recently India has signed ~~an~~ an agreement with Nepal for transfer of hydro power to each other. India already has signed such an agreement with Bhutan.

- India and its neighbor has a number of interlinked rivers, which provides prospect for increased cooperation with Bangladesh (Ganga)

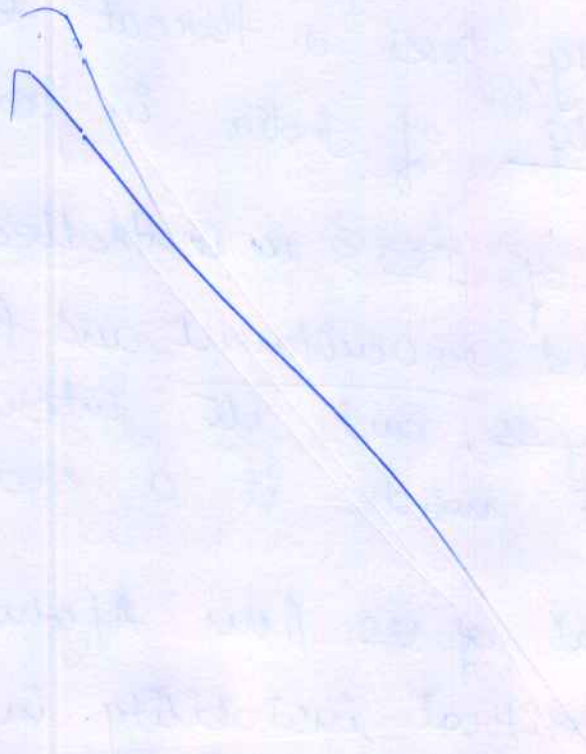
Pakistan (Indus), Nepal (Kosi, Rangit), Bhutan (Sur Kosi) etc.

- Thus hydro diplomacy at one hand will provide India, an energy deficient country, a source of energy security and on the other hand security.

- Considering volatile situation in Middle East, climate change and apprehensions over non-renewable sources of energy, focus on clean energy sources, etc, India's engagement with hydro-power excess countries like Bhutan and Nepal can provide energy security.

- It will increase India's investment in the region for hydro-power development, along with strategic interdependence and thus as a response to China's interference in region.

- Thus it will bring a win-win situation for countries of the region.
- But hydro-diplomacy must not only be articulated but implemented as well.
- At the same time it is also require that India should resolve its inter trans boundary ^{rivers} disputes with countries like Bangladesh to actually realise the potential.



23. 'ISIS is a threat to world peace'. Analyze how the rise of ISIS poses a threat not only to the Arab world but the world peace at large, including India. Do you think that the conventional military strategies are ill-equipped to deal with the challenges posed by Islamic terrorism? 10

'ISIS विश्व शांति के लिए खतरा है'। विश्लेषण कीजिये कि किस प्रकार ISIS का उदय न केवल अरब जगत के लिए अपितु भारत सहित सम्पूर्ण दुनिया की शांति के लिए एक खतरा है। क्या आपको लगता है कि इस्लामी आतंकवाद की चुनौतियों से निबटने के लिए पारंपरिक सैन्य रणनीतियां अक्षम हैं?

- Ans.
- Islamic state of Iraq and Syria, an offshoot of Al-Qaeda poses a threat to entire world at large, including India.
 - Its region of influence in Middle East, a zone for world's energy security, poses a threat to energy security of India in particular.
 - Extent of ISIS ~~a~~ controlled area, advanced recruitment and financial strategies, and its international extent made it a real threat.
 - Acquittal of US from Afghanistan and political instability in Pakistan, pose a threat of its extension to India.

→ Recent instances of India's youth joining ISIS manifests the threat it involves, considering economic disparity in India coloured with religious differences.

Conventional military strategy solely can not be an answer to challenges posed by religious fundamentalism. It requires co-ordination of air and army together along with some ~~soci~~ sensitisation and socio-economic changes along with political empowerment.

Recent USA led coalition fighting with ISIS co-ordinating all their power can respond temporarily. But it should be complemented by cutting off financial supplies, foreign-imposed democracy adventures, equitable development of all social groups, etc.

24. The New Development Bank depicts a conscious effort to end the economic hegemony by the developed world. Comment. Also examine the benefits that can accrue to India because of this initiative. 10

नया विकास बैंक विकसित देशों के आर्थिक प्रभुत्व के समाप्ति के सचेत प्रयास को चित्रित करता है। इसके कारण भारत को होने वाले लाभों का भी परीक्षण कीजिये।

- Ans. - Present ^{global} economic order is governed by Bretton Woods institution i.e. International Monetary fund and world Bank, dominated by Europe and USA in terms of presidentialship and functioning as well.
- Recent announcement by BRICS for creation of New development Bank

on lines of world Bank to provide for investment in infrastructure in developing countries as well as their other investment needs. It also provided for contingency reserve fund for control currency volatility.

→ It is considered as a conscious effort to end economic hegemony of developed world by depicting the changed economic equations with economic centre shifting towards Asia.

→ Though it ~~was~~ ^{is} considered as a challenge to west, but considering its limitation, it has announced that it will complement IMF- WB initiatives and not compete with them.

→ It will also challenge present international institution and will emphasise on their democratisation considering current multipolar world order.

Benefits for India :-

- Economically it can provide investment for infrastructure hungry India.
- Strategically it will improve relations between India - China because of increased economic interdependence.

Considering geopolitical reconfiguration in Asia with changing power equation, it can provide a glue to security architecture of Asia.

25. While some countries, particularly from the West, see G-20's role as preserving the existing order, other emerging economies, like India, want G-20 to transform the present order to accommodate them. Critically analyze.

10

जहाँ एक ओर कुछ देश विशेषकर पश्चिम के देश, G-20 की भूमिका को वर्तमान व्यवस्था के संरक्षक के रूप में देखते हैं, वहीं दूसरी ओर अन्य उभरती अर्थव्यवस्थाएँ जैसे भारत, चाहती हैं की उनको उचित स्थान दिलाने हेतु G-20 वर्तमान व्यवस्था में परिवर्तन करे। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिये।

Ans
G-20 i.e. Group of 20 developing and developed countries was created in ~~200~~ aftermath of ~~Asia~~ East Asian crisis. It marked the interdependence of financial and monetary policies of developed and developing countries on each other and try to coordinate them for overall economic development.

- With the changing global economic order and interdependence of countries economically, developing countries wanted G-20 to accommodate their need to coordinate policies so that developing countries do not bear samification of ~~unstable~~ monetary policy of developed country.

- Recent decision of USA government of quantitative easing increased FDI in developing countries and recent quantitative tapering resulted in flying off of capital, thus destabilizing the economy of developing country.

Considering these ramifications, developing countries want G-20 to play proactive role to stop and regulate such instabilities; and thus accommodating their concerns.

But G-20 is viewed by west countries not only as an instrument to preserve status quo, but a mechanism to regulate global financial crisis like that of East Asian Crisis.

