



VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION

ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-II)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-II) (2423)

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. : 1138117

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Arvind Daryre

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

26th August, 2023

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

केंद्र
Centre

Delhi.

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

| <p style="text-align: center;">महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश</p> <p>उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Important Instructions</p> <p>Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.</p> |
|---|--|
| <p>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।</p> <p>(ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।</p> | <p>(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates.</p> <p>(b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet</p> |
| <p>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।</p> | <p>Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.</p> |
| <p>3 परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।</p> | <p>Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.</p> |
| <p>4 उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।</p> | <p>Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.</p> |
| <p>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।</p> | <p>Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.</p> |
| <p>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।</p> | <p>Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.</p> |
| <p>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।</p> | <p>Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.</p> |
| <p>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।</p> | <p>If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.</p> |

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

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

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



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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

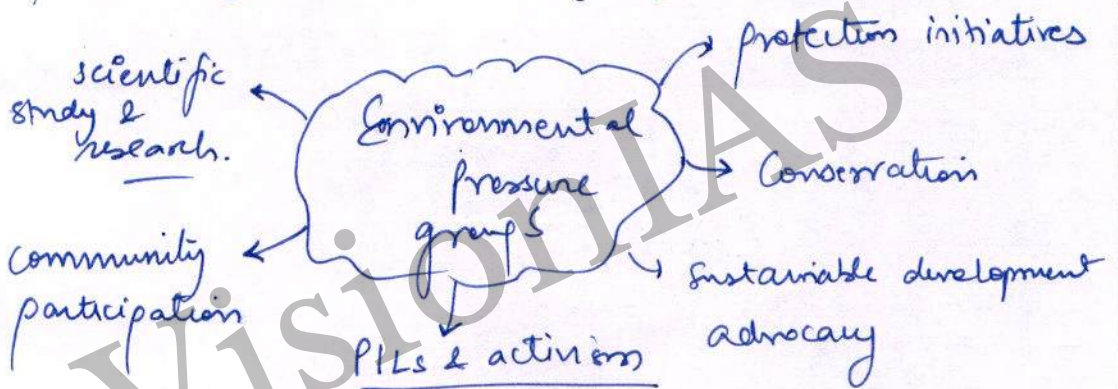
1.

उपयुक्त उदाहरणों की सहायता से, चर्चा कीजिए कि पर्यावरणीय दबाव समूह भारत में पर्यावरण नीतियों के संबंध में सार्वजनिक भागीदारी और अनुक्रियाशीलता को कैसे बढ़ाते हैं। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

With suitable examples, discuss how environmental pressure groups enhance public participation and responsiveness with regard to environmental policies in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

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

Pressure groups are an important part of civil society that shape public policy via varied actions of lobbying, protesting & mobilizing people etc.



Enhance public participation & responsiveness

(1) Mobilize people for conservation of natural resources eg Narmada Bachao Andolan

(2) Community participation is ensured by people solidarity eg Chipko

movement with help of Sunderlal Bahuguna

(3) Active PILs (Public Interest litigation)

filing for judicial intervention

eg MC Mehta Case for protection of environment

eg Vellore Citizens forum - development of
"polluter pays principle"

(4) further extend the scope of fundamental
rights by eg Maneka Gandhi for
clean living conditions etc.

(5) Support public policy on environment &
research based initiatives eg Bombay
Natural History Society (BNHS) advocated

for culture conservation by conducting
first culture census in India

eg other NBOs for conservation of Gangetic
Dolphin, Great Indian Bustard, Tiger etc

Hence, a clean environment along with
community participation is essential
for realizing SDGs & DPSPs as well

2.

हाल ही में, उच्चतम न्यायालय द्वारा सेक्स वर्क को एक 'पेशे' के रूप में स्वीकार किया जाना, भारत में सेक्स वर्कर्स के लिए बुनियादी अधिकार और समानता सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में पहला कदम है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recent acknowledgment of sex work as a 'profession' by the Supreme Court is merely the first step in ensuring basic rights and equality for sex workers in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words)

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

10

Recently, unsolicited sex work of the women on their own accord was given recognition by the Supreme Court. However, coercive sexual work was regarded as a criminal offense.

first step of ensuring rights

- Sex workers have poor conditions of living
 - oppression from their managers
 - debilitated living conditions, unsanitary and light areas.
- high prevalence of diseases like HW, Syphilis, HPV etc.
- not covered under many schemes as beneficiary
- no security of livelihood, no social security

→ societal stigma.

SC recognition will ensure

- draw public & govt. attention to plight of sex workers
- help focus policy & scheme initiatives for upliftment & development.
- help create awareness on sexual contraceptive devices - reduce disease spread.
- Society will shed the orthodox baggage & accept them as "victims" not as "immoral" people.

Steps that could further benefit

- Active involvement of civil society eg SAHELI, ANVESHI, Stree Sangathan etc
- Vocational & other skill training under Kaushal Vikas Yojana could be considered
- Sensitize police & law enforcement towards their plight - focus on people policing (Mulla Committee)

Hence, Art 21 entails right to life & to live with dignity & sex workers should be accorded with the same.

3.

भारत में निःशुल्क कानूनी सहायता प्रदान करने और कानूनी जागरूकता फैलाने में जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों (DLSAs) द्वारा निभाई जाने वाली भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Discuss the role played by District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in providing free legal aid and disseminating legal awareness in India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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DLSA, SLSA, NALSA etc all are established under the provisions of Legal Services Act 1989.

Its established in pursuant of Article 39A to provide free & affordable legal aid to those who cannot afford it.

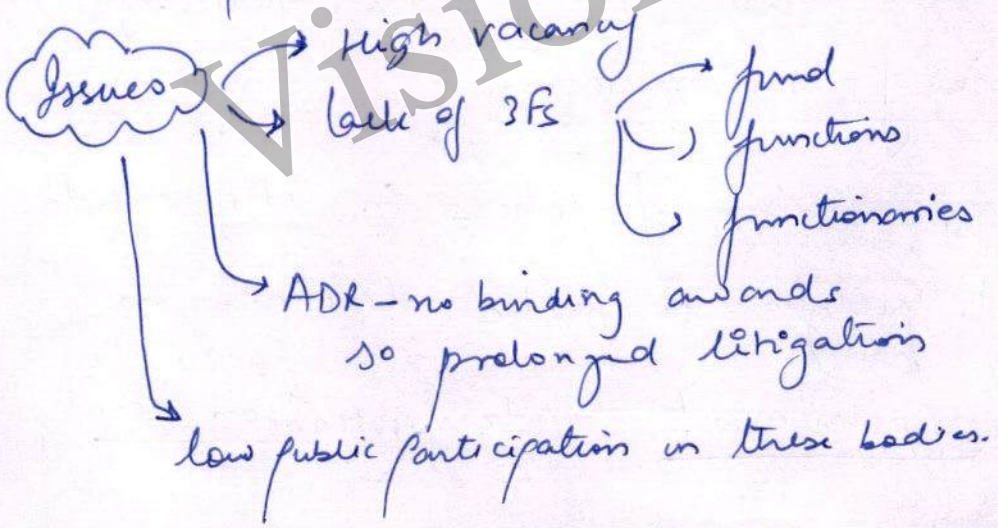
Role played by DLSA

- Work at district level to provide legal aid facilities to eligible person like eg victims of disaster, women, SC/ST, industrial labour etc.
- raise awareness about the provisions of alternate dispute resolution mechanisms under Lok Adalats etc.

→ settle disputes in short intervals on basis of principle of natural justice & avoiding complex CrPc & evidence act provisions by promoting ADR

→ Take care of paper work, stamp fees, legal fees, documentation etc for eligible beneficiaries to ensure hassle free legal aid.

→ Coordinate with HCLSC, SLSA etc to organize days & sessions for alternate dispute resolution



Hence, ensuring justice is prime mandate of these bodies & must coordinate with the Higher bodies like State legal services Authority to provide legal services.

4.

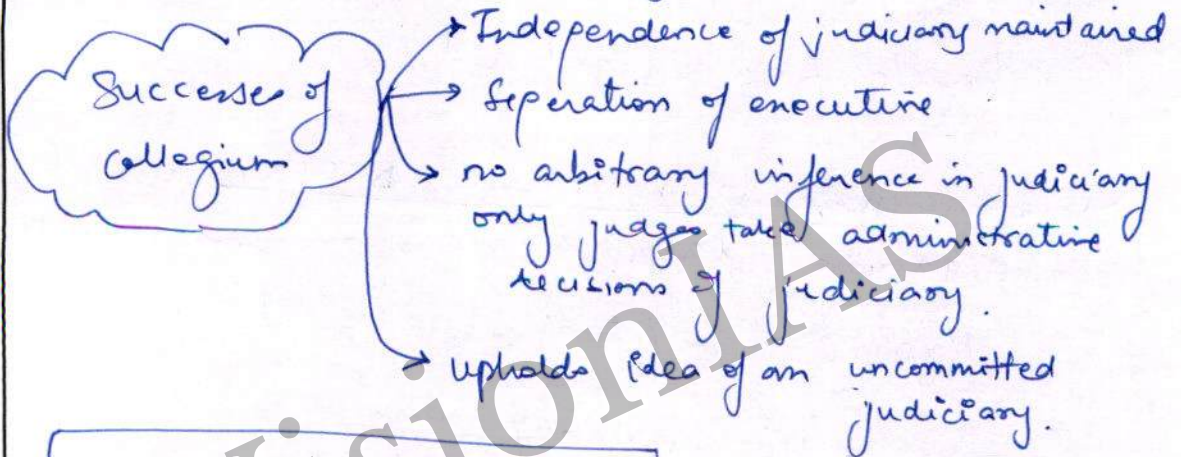
"कुछ लोगों के हाथों में शक्ति के संकेन्द्रण के कारण, कॉलेजियम प्रणाली अपनी ही सफलता का शिकार हो गई है, जिससे इसकी वैधता पर सवाल उठने लगे हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"The collegium system has become a victim of its own success, with the concentration of power in the hands of a few, leading to questions about its legitimacy." Comment. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

Collegium system was established in the 3rd judges case, it consists of the CJI & 4 senior most judges of the SC.



Victims of its own success

→ Concentration of powers in the hands of judges to make decisions on appointments, administration courts, transfers.

→ Appointments are reported to have been made on nepotistic, favouritism.

→ Judicial insularity has led to emboldened & uncivil behaviour eg sexual harassment charges against a CJI, Justice Kamran behaviour of passing conviction on collegium.

→ "Touch me not" attitude of judiciary, denies any reformative action on its functioning eg 99th Constitutional Amendment Act, NTAC was declared unconstitutional

→ Leads to phenomenon like Judicial overreach, high handed attitude of judges, populist judgements etc.

Way forward

→ "Search-cum-select" committee as suggested by Law Minister

→ Involvement of executive at some stage in validating judges eg In USA senate approves of appointment.

→ Constitutional morality has to be the norm followed by both executive & judiciary

5.

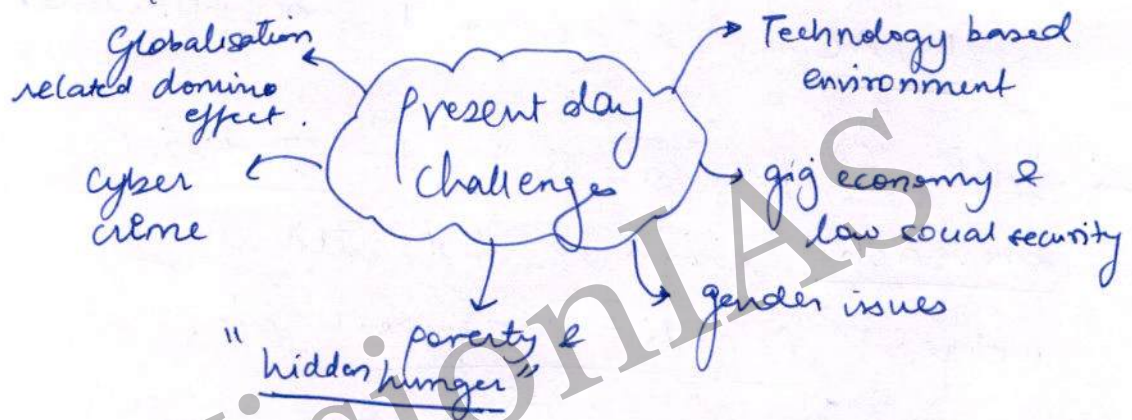
"सिविल सेवा सुधारों को वर्तमान दौर की चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए भर्ती और मानकीकृत प्रशिक्षण से आगे बढ़ाया जाना अनिवार्य है।" विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"Civil services reforms must go beyond recruitment and standardised training to cope with the present day challenges." Analyse. (Answer in 150 words)

10

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

Civil services was termed as the "steel frame" of public administration as per Jardar Vallabhai Patel.



Civil services must go beyond

→ specialisation of civil servants in domain specific areas of administration

is important (Hota Committee recommendations)

→ Also 360° appraisal, regular learning of new technology to deal with e-governance challenges

→ Civil servants must go beyond traditional approaches to social security

↳ take an innovative approach eg

"Collector Bro" in Kozhikode

"fund your city" - Smita Sakamwal IAS.

People skills needed to persuade people

→ Lateral entry of domain specific policy making is desirable to counter new areas like - cyber crime, data protection etc (Barwan Committee also recommended)

→ Need "knowledge management system" & public committed civil service (2nd ARC)

→ EQ & IQ both must be adequately developed to deal with present day gender issues, transgender rights, online bullying etc.

Hence, civil service must go beyond its traditional role & can make use of Mission Karmayogi, DUESHA portal for upskilling.

6.

सामाजिक प्रभाव बॉण्ड्स जैसे परिणाम-आधारित वित्त मॉडल में वास्तविक रूप से परिवर्तन लाने और बड़े पैमाने पर सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रभाव उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता विद्यमान है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Outcome-based finance models such as social impact bonds have the potential to truly catalyse change and deliver socio-economic impact at scale. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्डिअर में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidate
must not
write on
this margin

Outcome based finance models also called social impact bonds or "pay for success" bonds were recently created by CEBI for the creation of a Social Stock Exchange (SSE).

Potential to catalyze change

→ easy & efficient way to generate capital for social welfare expenditure

→ Regulated stock exchange will ensure transparency, accountability & legitimacy of expenditure

→ mandatory social audits ensure

investors confidence maintained in the market's capacity.

→ Avenue for investment of CSR funds for companies to promote social welfare.

delivers socio-economic impact

→ funds provided to civil society & FPO's (for profit organizations) could be used in education, health sectors & improve standard of living of poor

→ Compliment state measures to address issues of upliftment of disadvantaged sections of society. eg Manual Scavengers, beggars etc.

→ Ensure target based achievement of goals as investors would only invest more if tangible results are seen.

∴ Incentivize effective action.

Hence, these are viable & desirable instruments that can be used for upliftment of society & achievement various SDGs like

7.

प्रत्येक वर्ष ग्रेजुएट होने वाली और कार्यक्षेत्र में प्रवेश करने वाली महिलाओं की संख्या के मध्य का व्यापक अंतराल एक गंभीर समस्या है जिसे हल किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The wide gap between the number of females graduating every year and those entering the workspace is an issue of paramount importance that needs to be addressed. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words)

10

The urban female labour force participation rate as per NSSO (PLFS survey) is around 22%. India's workforce has around 52 crore active workers with overall LFR of 42%.

Gap in labour force participation of women

- Post graduating many women decide to go for higher education. Hence not seen in workforce
- Many women restricted by family structure, marriage, pregnancy (19 yrs avg)
- Patriarchy & women confined to spaces of homes

→ Migration of men leads to "unutilization of women & old", "feminization of agriculture" - not recorded by surveys.

→ poor health conditions post natal disincentivizes jobs for women - 50% suffer from anemia

→ legislations like Maternity Benefit Act give 84 ~~weeks~~ ^{days} of leave for maternity

↳ employers prefer not to hire women as have to give pay without work.

Other reasons - Survey deficit / flaws

→ women household work not counted as labour as per surveys

→ domestic activities like livestock rearing etc clubbed with house work - thus not recorded.

Way forward

→ provisions for greater employment opportunities for women eg PM Kisan Vikas & ASKEM Portal

→ financial provisions for women eg Mahila Samman Patra (Budget 23)

→ Awareness & shedding gender bias of women as weaker "sex"

8.

भारत में सामाजिक-आर्थिक नियोजन के लिए एक अद्यतित और कार्यात्मक नागरिक पंजीकरण प्रणाली (CRS) अनिवार्य है। देश में CRS प्रणाली में सुधार हेतु केंद्र सरकार के हालिया कदम के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

An up to date and functional Civil Registration System (CRS) is essential to the socio-economic planning in India. Discuss in the light of the recent move of the Central government in revamping the CRS system in the country. (Answer in 150 words)

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

10

Civil Registration System is a mandatory exercise to record births & deaths only at the place of occurrence & within a period of 20 days. This is legal responsibility of every citizen.

It's under the purview of Registrar General of India

Essential for socio-economic planning

→ Adequate data based information on beneficiaries for govt.

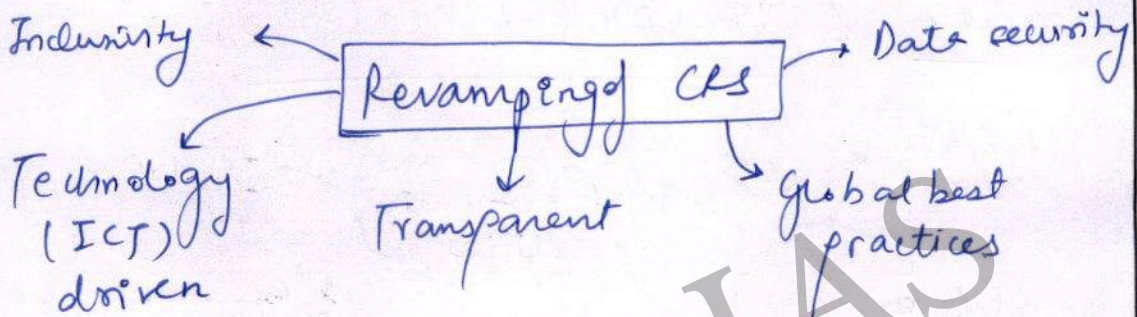
↳ efficient & precise resource allocation

→ eliminate issues of "ghost beneficiaries"

↳ make inheritance, title deeds & other process much more clearer & transparent
 Sometimes fraud committed by registering property in name of dead person

→ Tailor made area based public interventions
can be made to ensure "reaching the
last mile" (Saptarshi Budget pillar)

→ ensure financial, digital & inclusive
growth by addressing all sections of
society. eg Allocation of Aadhar number,
ration cards etc.



Steps to further transform

→ provision to put digital infrastructure
on blockchain - immutable & decentralized
no tampering possible

→ Incentivize registration under CBS eg
requirement of certificate for application
to get schemes etc.

→ Raise awareness & involve civil society,
NGOs to help in data collection &
surveying activities.

9.

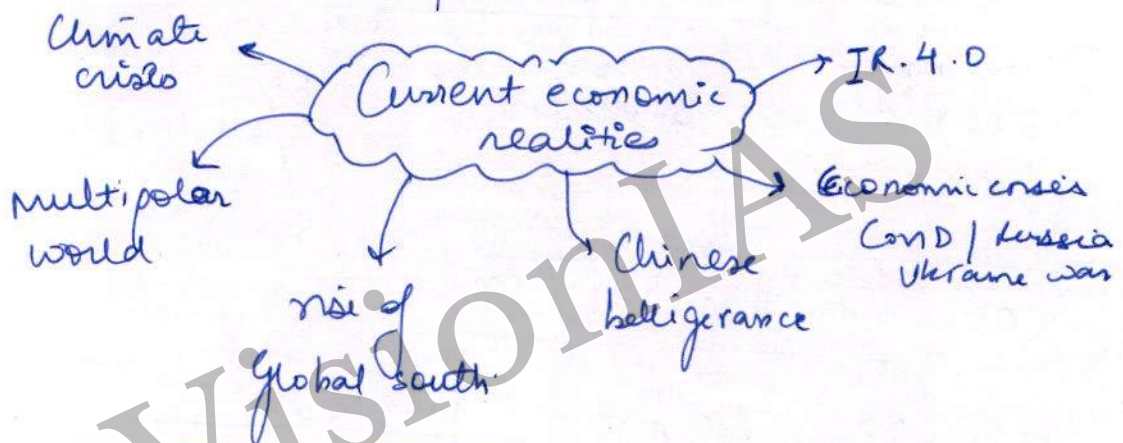
यदि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष (IMF) को वर्तमान आर्थिक वास्तविकताओं के साथ समायोजित होना है तो इसमें सुधार के प्रमुख क्षेत्र कौन-से होंगे? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the key areas of reform if the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has to align with the current economic realities? (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस ब्लॉक में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Recently PM Modi called for transformation & reformation of multilateral institutions in the spirit of reflecting the global order & its present realities



Key areas of reform

(1) IMF must shed dominance of West & must stop conditionalities to favour free trade concessions to loanees etc

↳ change of reality from Washington Consensus → Coomall Consensus → New Washington Consensus

⊙ Inequality in allocation of Quota

system - be fixed
→ ambiguous parameters eg size of economy, strength of currency

(2) Presidentship to additionally been under V&A.
Organizational structure needs to be
tweaked → rotation basis as multipolar
world.

(3) Global South needs more & better representation

(4) SDR baskets must include the Ruppee
as well. Indian economy is 5th largest
(more than \$3.5 trillion) & 3rd largest in
terms of PPP (purchasing price parity).

(5) Organizational provisions for dispute
resolutions & grievance redressal need
to be put in place -

(6) Climate financing to LDCs (Least developed
countries), VICs (Vulnerable Island countries)
must be provided "no strings attached"

Hence, with changing world order
IMF has called india a "swing state"
that can swing balance in favour
whenever it lends. Thus, IMF must
reflect the voice of Global South & India
as its strong member.

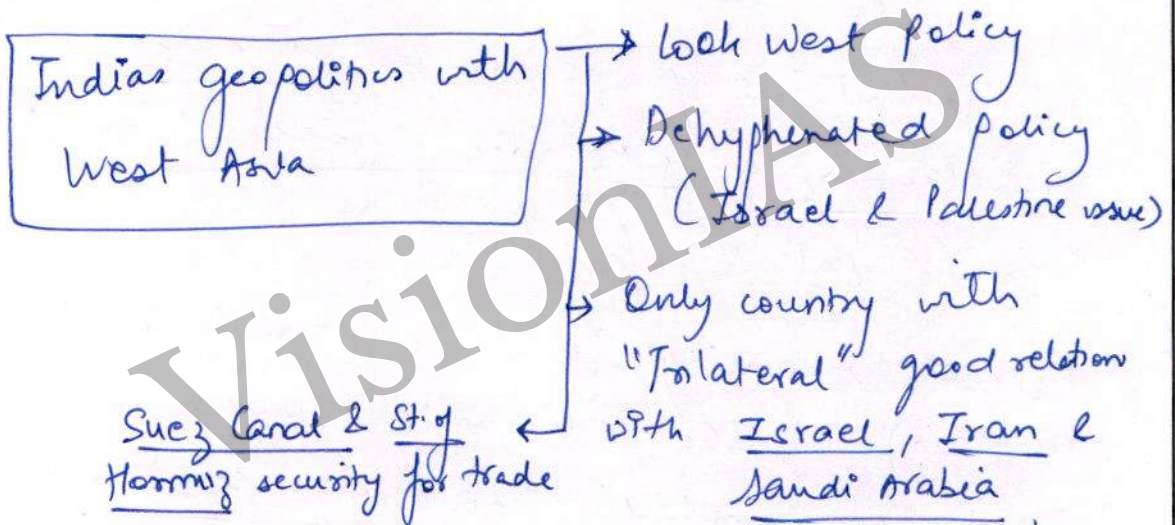
10.

हाल के वर्षों में, पश्चिम एशिया के साथ भारत के संबंध भू-राजनीति के दायरे से आगे निकलकर भू-अर्थशास्त्र के आयाम तक पहुंच गए हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

In recent years, India's relationship with West Asia has evolved from the confines of geopolitics to expanse of geoeconomics. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस इतिहास में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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India & West Asia have been traditionally very strong partners in terms of trade & travel. including India's majority energy needs.



Expanse to geoeconomics

→ 80% of energy need fulfilled from Qatar, Saudi, Iran, Oman etc
we import 85% of crude oil

→ FTAs signed with UAE

high export of gold, jewellery &

→ Export & trade routes of Chabahar port in Iran, INSTC through West Asia

pearls from India to UAE

- Acceptance of India's payment standards of VPI, BHIM.
- High degree of immigration - huge remittances from gulf region
India highest remittances in the world
(\$111 Billion)
- Energy security partnerships eg Egypt for solar energy
- Sale of defense equipment eg Drones & UAVs from Israel.

Issues

labour systems eg Kafala
Nilagrat system
oppressive.

High Current
Account deficit
of \$ 66 Billion

domestic religious issues affect trade
relations eg Nupur sharma case.

Way forward

- follow idea of S. Jaishankar - "leverage convergences & manage divergences"
- soft power & diaspora relations to improve perception.

11.

हितधारकों को नवाचार और प्रभावशीलता में वृद्धि हेतु प्रेरित करने के लिए स्वस्थ प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को बढ़ावा देने में भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग (CCI) की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The role of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is significant in furthering healthy competitiveness aimed at inspiring stakeholders to innovate and augment effectiveness.
Comment. (Answer in 250 words)

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

15

Competition Commission India is the main watchdog for competitive market in India assuring non-monopolization & free access to small businesses to markets.

CCI - formed under Competition Act 2002 after removing MRTA Act

Furthering healthy competition

→ Reduces possibility of monopolization of market of recent Google case disallowed using Google payment mechanism.

→ upholds right of consumers to choose & purchase.

→ "Reduce Information asymmetry" between markets & consumers

↳ prevents hostile takeovers & unfair mergers & acquisitions.

→ serves as an body to take up grievances & complaints between companies to settle disputes
eg ~~#~~ Telecom companies Idea & Jio

→ provides highest standards of corporate governance.

Promotes innovation by allowing free competition without undue influence

↳ Tries to maintain platform neutrality

Steps more that can be implemented

↳ spirit of innovation like the OWDC (open network for digital commerce)

↳ Use of consumer centric company policies to ensure best price discovery.

Issues with CCI

Concurrent cases in HC & SC prevent orders of CCI being passed eg same grievance in multiple courts at same time

Cool off period for retreating members needs to be increased.
(ensure impartiality)

orders not binding

Way forward

- Consider giving CCI constitutional status
- make orders final & binding.
- special courts solely for competition related issues currently appeal from CCI → NCLAT (high number of vacancies)

Hence, an open competitive market will benefit consumers as will lead to most efficient product & best price. In this regard CCI is important.

2.

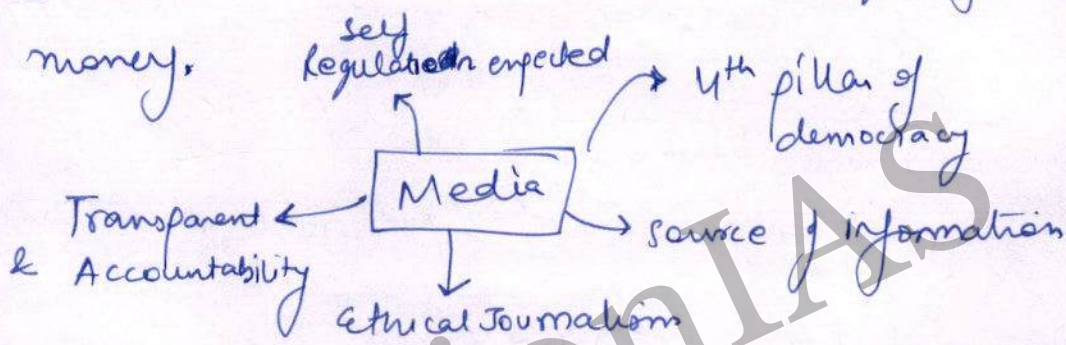
"पेड न्यूज का खतरा अक्सर चुनावों के दौरान अपना भयावह रूप दिखाता है।" भारत में पेड न्यूज को एक चुनावी अपराध बनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

"The menace of paid news often rears its ugly head during elections." Discuss the need for making paid news an electoral offence in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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

Paid news is the "false narratives" that are spread by the media to deceive the public during times of elections or otherwise in exchange for money.



Need to make paid news offence

- Abolition of democratic process causes misinformation to spread in society
- possible use to cause public disharmony, using deep fakes to generate perverse actions against group, sect, religion etc

Against Section 8(1) & Section 123 of
RPA 1951

(3) Accelerates problem of communalism & regionalism

Violent crimes like mob lynching etc have been due to deep fakes & paid news by phony media channels

(4) Can violate mandate of a political party & cause information asymmetry between party & the public

→ used to eliminate political competition

(5) Tool for propaganda & lead to loss of deliberative democracy when information provided itself is untrue.

Ways to counter paid news

↳ Media Ethics Code & focus on self regulation.

↳ Dinsh Gowami Committee recommendation on state funding of election
↳ reduce chances of paid news

→ Omest Sinha committee on bringing digital as well as print media under electoral laws & ECI to collaborate with media to track electoral process

→ Emphasis on role of civil society to actively persuade people to follow authentic sources & inculcate ability of fact checking & source analysis of information provided

→ Upgrading enforcement agencies ability to track paid news & punish media channels under relevant IPC clauses for violation of free speech

Hence, Thomas Jefferson said "Information is the currency of democracy" & paid news violates the spirit of authentic & participative democratic polity.

13. भारत में धार्मिक प्रथाओं के संदर्भ में, न्यायालयों द्वारा उद्धृत 'अनिवार्यता के सिद्धांत' पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
Discuss the 'Doctrine of Essentiality' referred to by the courts in the context of religious practices in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Doctrine of Essentiality includes the overarching power of the courts to decide what are "essential tenets of a religion & what are not"

According to SC - only essential tenets are protected under fundamental rights eg Article 29, 30 etc

Doctrine of Essentiality

↳ In spirit of Article 29 that places reasonable restriction on public health, morality

Also gives court right to interfere in secular functions of the religion. eg financial political etc

↳ Recently, court held that essentially entailed only those practices that were held absolutely essential by the people of that religion.

eg Kirpans yielded by Sikhs are recognized as an essential religious practice.

→ Sabarnimala Case, the court used the doctrine to call the discrimination of women from entry as arbitrary
→ Section 3B of the act was called ultra vires

→ Hijab Issue recently, also was decided as not an essential practice & hence not protected by fundamental rights.

Issues with doctrine

→ Court decides what is essential & what is not.

Seen as an invasion of courts unto the religious beliefs of the people.

→ Hinduism considered a syncretic religion - many books & traditions difficult to proclaim what is essential & what is not.

→ Seen as a judicial overreach that court dictates legislature to make provisions based of such judgements

Way forward

→ dissenting opinion of Justice Indira Banerjee that courts of law must give religious freedom to decide their practices

→ Constitutional morality & judicial intervention must be well balanced.

4. प्रधान मंत्री की आर्थिक सलाहकार परिषद (EAC-PM) की हाल ही में जारी रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत में सरकार के आकार को सीमित करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

As per the recently released report of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), there is an urgent need to limit the size of the government in India. Do you agree? (Answer in 250 words)

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

15

The 31st constitutional amendment

limited the size of government to 15% of the House of people. Yet, the size of the government is felt to be too huge.

Need to limit

→ Multiplicity of roles & redundancy
eg avenues to fit in opposition or dissenting members to control disaffection.

→ heavy public expenditure to provide men, material & assets for work.

→ Inefficiencies in communication across departments arise
lead to red tapism & "regulatory cholesterol"

→ difficulty in holding accountability & passing responsibility around.

↳ division of targets & focus areas across ministries - prevent a holistic & cohesive policy framework

No need to limit

- ↳ Need manpower & policy focus on new & upcoming areas of governance of New Ministry of Cooperatives.
- ↳ Population of country is huge need high amount of executive members to fulfill duty.
- ↳ Presence of cabinet as most powerful body - then others not so important in political process.
- ↳ Heavy expenditure can be managed by other aspects like increasing Tax to GDP ratio (17%) & global avg (34%).

Way forward

- focus on effectiveness & outcome rather than economics of administration
- encourage citizen opinions & participative democracy for public policy feedback eg MyGov. in etc
- Use more of mechanisms like GoM (Group of Ministers) & Empowered group of ministers (EGoM) to facilitate quick & efficient decision making
- decentralization of democracy in spirit of 74th & 75th constitutional amendments along with giving powers → reduce burden of govt at Centre & State.

Hence, administration must have adequate funds, functions & functionaries but must not be bulky & chaotic.

15. इंस्टीट्यूशंस ऑफ एमिनेंस (IoE) योजना की कल्पना भारत में उच्चतर शिक्षा के 'विश्व स्तरीय' केंद्र विकसित करने के लिए की गई थी, लेकिन छह साल बाद भी, यह अभी तक गेम चेंजर नहीं बन पाई है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
- The Institutions of Eminence (IoE) scheme was conceived to develop 'world-class' centres of higher education in India but six years later, it is yet to become the game changer it was intended to be. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

Institutions of Eminence scheme
facilitated to provide world class
state of the art facilities for
education, research & learning.

Reasons for not performing

- public expenditure on education is too low around 3% of GDP
Kothari Commission recommended 6%
 - Infrastructure & capability is lacking to provide - research equipment, etc.
 - Indian education system is more oriented toward "middle class aspirations" (Amartya Sen)
1. job oriented & exam centric

→ Public spending on research around 0.6% whereas USA spends around 6% of GDP on research.

→ difficulty in finding faculty & teaching staff - lack of incentives with the initiative.

What can be done

- Improve public expenditure on education
- foreign collaboration eg UGC recent guidelines for Foreign Higher education institutes & MoU with Australian University
- promote research & development with active collaboration with Civil Society of Centre for Science & Research.

people oriented measures

- Inculcate spirit of inquisitiveness in students in spirit of NEP (2020) - "Panakaasha"
- Improve foundational level education so that higher education is not an impediment to students
- Innovative & ~~pro~~ proactive methods
eg Academic Bank of credit
Digital University
& National Research Foundation
recently founded to improve student learning quality.

Hence, IoE are sine qua non for India to transform into the "skill capital of the world"

डिजिटल पब्लिक इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर (DPI) नवोन्मेषी और सुविधाजनक सार्वजनिक सेवाओं की अनुमति देता है, समावेशन या पहुंच संबंधी बाधाओं को दूर करने में मदद करता है तथा रियल-टाइम डेटा की मदद से पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही बढ़ाता है। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) allows for innovative and convenient public services, help overcome inclusion or accessibility barriers, and increase transparency and accountability with real-time data. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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15

Digital Public Infrastructure refers to the provision of public goods using the medium of ICT e.g. eAadhar, e-PoS systems, VPI etc.

They used to provide public goods that are → non-encludable
non-rivalrous

Innovative & Convenient

- Aadhar made beneficiary & scheme target identification easier.
- e-Passport, Digi Yatra has made travel easy & convenient.
- VPI & BHIM have made financial transactions easy & accessible.
- FASTags & e-Challan easy & convenient

Overcome inclusion & accessibility

- help remove underinclusion errors in voters list by e-registration of form 6 to ERO
- Accessibility to payments via offline mechanism eg 123 pay system
- Inclusion of unorganized sector for labour benefits eg e-Shram Yogi portal

Transparency & Accountability

- filing of RTI can be done online & tracked real time
- Apps like Virtual Justice Clock display real time pendency of cases.

- provisions for GST on e-portal for filling Income tax returns by In force
- e-Sarathi portal for getting drivers licence, & registration of vehicles.
- e-Logs & VLPIN to monitor progress & take up complaints under National Logistics policy
- SCORES portal - SEBT for grievance redressal etc.

Hence digital public infrastructure has some threats :-

- (1) Data & privacy issues. - ^(e) leakage of data
- (2) Tracking of individual data
- (3) Digital inclusion is low only 10%.
- (4) Infrastructure is not prevalent

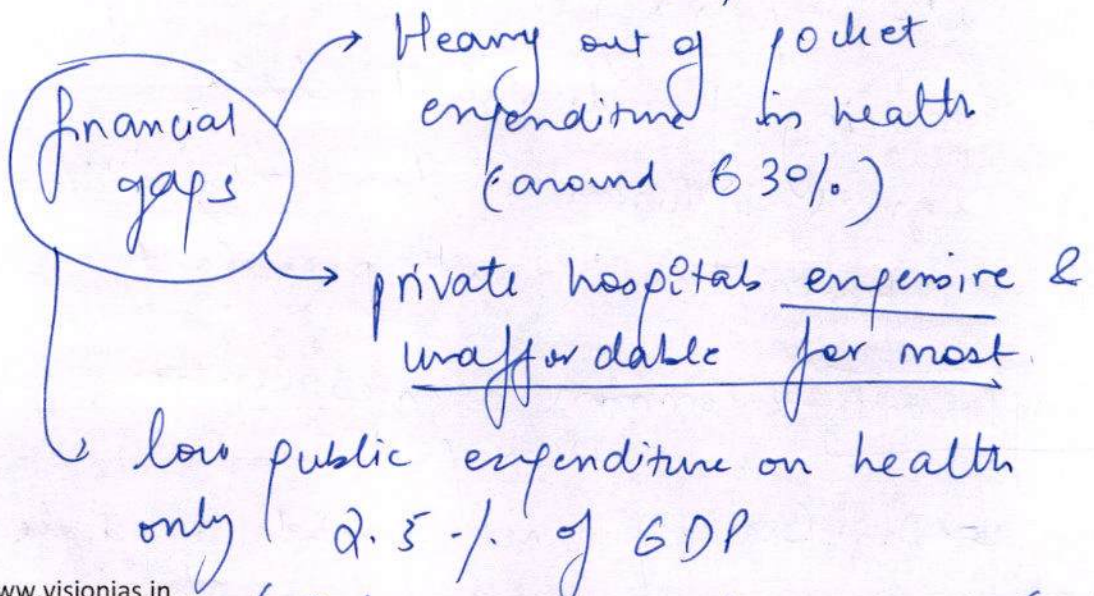
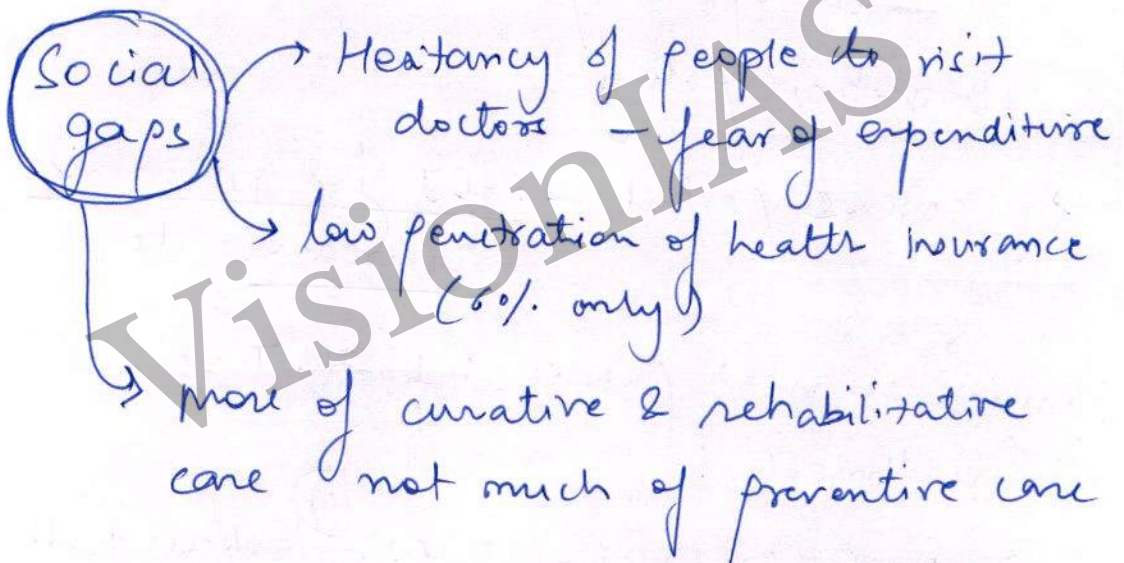
Way forward → Common Services Centres revamped
↳ Digi Banking Units - made accessible etc.

17.

कानून के अलावा, भारत में 'सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार' की पूर्ण प्राप्ति हेतु सामाजिक, वित्तीय और बुनियादी ढांचे की कमियों को दूर करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 Besides legislation, the full realisation of the 'right to health for all' in India demands plugging of social, financial, and infrastructural gaps. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Supreme Court in Banodha Mukti Mosche Case held that right to Health is an important aspect of right to life.



Infrastructural gaps

- 81% doctors in private
- 53% hospitals are private
- 80% PHCs less than 1 doctor.
- most hospitals in urban areas
- shortage of supplies, beds, drugs etc
- poor ability to provide tertiary & secondary care.

Way to go

- (1) Sreenath Committee recommendations
 - Improve tax to GDP to fund health expenditure
 - Public expenditure to be increased in health.
- (2) follow Brazilian model - made right to health explicit
fundamental right.

→ provisions for health insurance under schemes like PM AYUSH (5 lakh per family per year)

→ focus on preventive care to reduce future burden eg Vaccinations under Mission Indradhanush,

address Hidden Hunger - nutrients etc.

→ Improve infrastructure of Primary Health Care Centres & ensure doctor availability.

Way forward

→ make health priority to ensure active & productive workforce

↳ e-pharma & medical tourism to generate additional revenue

विधायी समर्थन के बावजूद 'थर्ड जेंडर' को अभी तक भारतीय समाज में मान्यता नहीं मिली है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The 'third gender' has not yet been engendered in the Indian society despite legislative nudge. Analyse. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस ह्रासिप में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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The third gender or "transgender"

have been accorded rights to determine their own gender by supreme Court in NALSA Case

Transgender as per law → any person that does not conform to the gender identity assigned to them at birth.

Legislative nudge

- National Council for Transgenders established
- provisions for inclusion as beneficiary in social schemes
- right to employment & be hired

↳ right to vote have been extended to the third gender.

Reason for not being recognized

- Societal stigma as people consider them to be carriers of diseases like AIDS etc
- Resistance to "non-traditional" families in Indian society.
- fear of social ostracization on interacting with transgender people.

Way forward

→ Role of celebrities to embrace the reform & help change perception of masses.

→ Active participation of civil society to uplift & aid the efforts for transgender empowerment

→ Schemes like SMILE scheme, vocational training, employment opportunities.

These things will help incorporation of 3rd gender in society.

19.

अन्य कारकों के अलावा, चीन और पाकिस्तान के साथ तनावपूर्ण संबंधों ने भारत के लिए शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (SCO) से अपनी अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करना कठिन बना दिया है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)
 Among other factors, strained ties with China and Pakistan make it difficult for India to fulfill its expectations from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Shanghai Cooperation organization

is looked at as an alternative to NATO in global politics.

Members

- Russia
- India
- Uzbekistan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Tajikistan
- Kazakhstan
- Iran
- China
- Pakistan

good relations with India

} against India

Make difficult fulfill expectations

(1) India's role in RATS against Counter terrorism contradicted by

Pakistan's policy of "terror export" & "1000 cuts"

↳ slow down progress in countering terrorism

(2) Interbank Consortium at SCO sees

dominance of Chinese players

↳ affect India's ability to raise capital.

(3) Access to Central Asia & growing China - Russia nexus

↳ cause of worry for India.

(4) China's Beijing Accord and

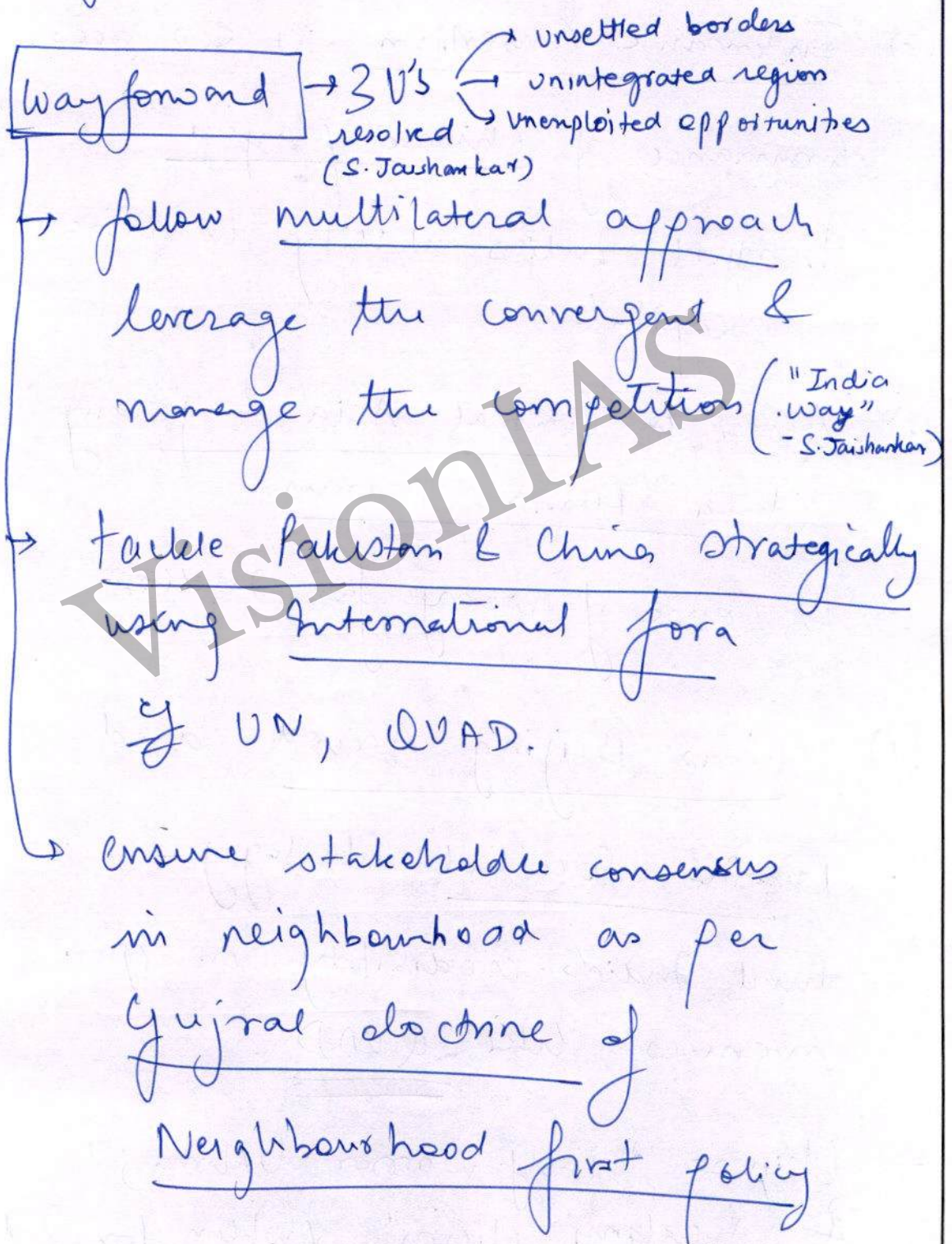
Russia's Socialist ideology -

hurt India's credibility in open avenues like QVAD

→ Chinese "way warrior diplomacy"

& "salami slicing" problem for India

(5) Energy trade & pipeline
of TAPI are stalled because
of Pakistan's aggressive attitude



संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और भारत के बीच महत्वपूर्ण एवं उभरती प्रौद्योगिकी (iCET) पर हाल ही में संपन्न पहल, प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में इनकी साझेदारी में लंबे समय से प्रतीक्षित परिवर्तन का वादा करती है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The recently concluded initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) between the United States and India promises a long overdue transformation of their partnership in the field of technology. Examine. (Answer in 250 words)

15

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

iCET encompasses upcoming technology like semiconductor, Blockchain, AI & all other technologies under Industrial Revolution 4.0

Partnership in field

- (1) Necessary to counter Chinese dominance of lithium products eg 80% lithium ion batteries from China.
- (2) Supply Chain resilience & strategic autonomy important in terms of rare earth & semiconductor chips

(3) Chances for technology transfer
& greater amount of FDI in
India as a hub of manufacturing
{ Currently India 2nd largest smartphone
manufacturing country?

highest FDI this year - \$88 Billion

(4) Help move towards green tech
by aiding R&D & manufacture
of e-vehicles

(40% cost of e-vehicles are due to
electronic components)

(5) Critical technologies will demand
employment opportunities &
skilled workforce.

Challenges → only 5% workforce formally skilled

→ Infrastructure bottlenecks

→ IPR challenges - uniform policy needed

Way forward

→ enable skilling of population to utilize technology eg QUEST for quantum computing

→ Indichain for blockchain (MITI Aayog)

→ ~~Indichain~~ ISM (Indian semiconductor mission)

→ Semicon - PM said 3 lakh jobs be generated

→ work on establishing indigenous manufacturing capabilities eg PLI for design & fabrication production

AL

VisionIAS