



MAINS TEST SERIES

GS II

Question Paper Specific Instructions

1. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**.
2. All the questions are **compulsory**.
3. The number of marks carried by each question (or part) is indicated against it.
4. Word limit in questions wherever specified should be adhered to.
5. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Answer booklet must be clearly struck off.

Qn No.	Marks Obtained	Qn No.	Marks Obtained	Qn No.	
ET/1	3½	8	7	15	7
ET/2	2	9	3½	16	6½
3	2½	10	3½	17	8
4	3	11	8	18	8
5	3	12	7½	19	8½
6	4½	13	7	20	4
7	5½	14	8½		
TOTAL					

ET: extra time: 12 min

Name

LAKSHMIPRIYA P

Subject

GS-2

Questions Attempted

Roll no

Date

EXAMINER REMARKS

GRADE PARAMETERS	BELOW AVERAGE	AVERAGE	GOOD	BETTER	OUTSTANDING
Understanding of question					
Conceptual clarity					
Structure					
Content					
Presentation & legibility					

Any other remarks:

Feedback
 See Qn 13 etc
 has a lot of writ
 which is unnecessary
 avoid writy
 unneeded
 Imp



1. To what extent cultural rights and constitutional morality goes hand in hand in the Indian context? (10 Marks)

Cultural rights refers to the rights that a section of society find integral to their cultural existence. ~~Certain rights are~~ of constitutionally protected under Article 29 (Right of any community to preserve its literature/culture) and Article 30 (Specific educational & cultural rights of minorities)

Do not write anything on the margin

Extend to which goes hand in hand with constitutional morality

① Fundamental right ensures sustainability and legal guarantee for preservation

② Right to language - mother tongue in early education

③ When practices are followed for ages with strong cultural sentiment

④ Nagaraj case Jallikattu - allowed practice



However clashes are seen in case of:

① Violative of other provisions

eg. ~~Right~~ Shayara Bano case - ban on

triple talaq cultural practice as it is violative of

women's Right to life and dignity (Article 21)

② In ~~alignment~~ violation with mind of the makers
of the constitution

eg. Sabarimala verdict in ~~opposition~~ ^{alignment} to the

Right of equality of women, against cultural
pollution concept etc.

③ Thus the courts check the legality
in consonance with other provisions to uphold
"constitutional morality over sentimental morality"

3/2

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2. What is a select committee and how does it function? Differentiate between a departmental level standing committee and a select committee. (10 Marks)

Select Committee refers to a Parliamentary Committee specially created in either house of Parliament under the Chairman / Speaker to specifically look into specific issues of interest - Bills.

Departmental level standing committee differs from the

① → Attached to particular ministry / department

② → Reports to either house of Parliament

eg) Finance → Lok Sabha

③ → Looks into prudence / economy of policy and provide expert opinion

④ → Closed door discussions allows for freedom of speech and discussion overcoming party bias

⑤ → Usually 1 year duration

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Differentiate
Select committee
function



3. What is a select committee and how does it function? Differentiate between a departmental level standing committee and a select committee. (10 Marks)

Select Committee refers to a Parliamentary Committee specially created in either house of Parliament under the Chairman / Speaker to enquire into specific areas of interest.

Departmental level standing committee differs from

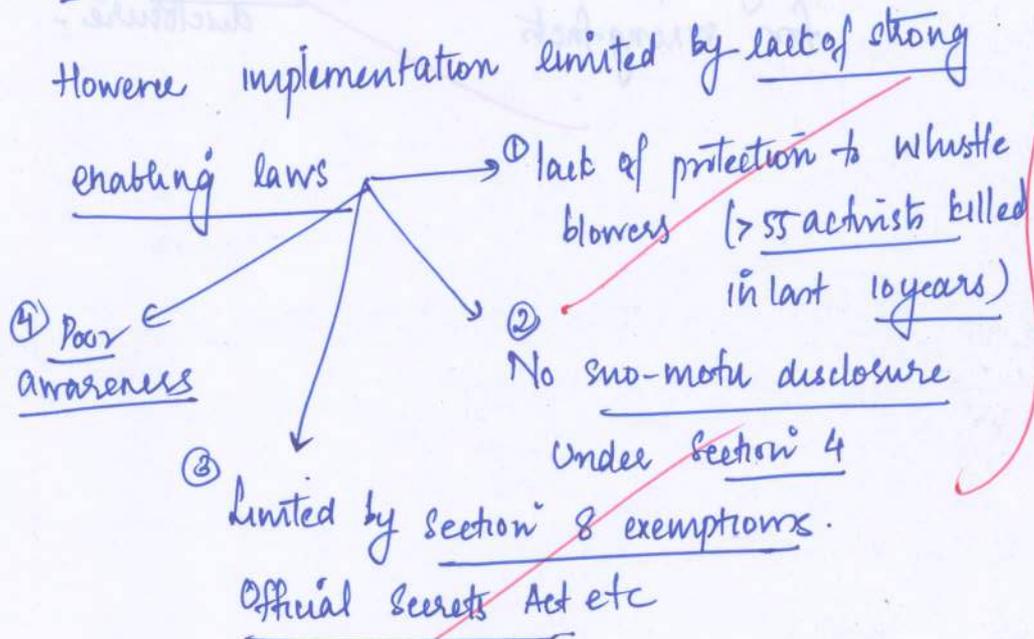
- ① Attached to particular ministry / department
- ② Reports to either house of Parliament
- ③ Finance → top table
- ④ Works with budgets / revenue of policy and provides expert opinion
- ⑤ Class hour discussions allow for freedom of speech and discussion increasing trust
- ⑥ Usually after discussion

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3. One of the main shortcomings of RTI Act is the absence of strong enabling laws to strengthen it. In this light explain the need of a robust whistle-blower protection mechanism by analysing the existing measures. (10 Marks)

The Right to Information Act 2009 -
reached to ~~which~~ bring in an era where "disclosure
is the norm and secrecy is an exception".



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RT Scavenging

In this context there is need for robust whistle blower protection mechanism

① Death of >55 activists highlight the dangers associated



Other issues with WBA

② Strong mafia presence threatening and attacking RTI disclosure

③ Lack of institutional support system

④ Ineffectiveness of DIDPI Act

Stringent punishment for wrong facts

mandatory identity disclosure

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4. Right to freedom of speech and expression is the hallmark of a vibrant democracy. Analyse how this right has evolved since India became a republic. Also comment on the role played by the state in making this right much wider in scope but with a pragmatic caution. (10 Marks)

Right to freedom of speech and expression

Article 19(1)(a) is one of the articles that has been consistently been redefined to adjust to changing realities of time through court judgements (invisible amendments to constitution)

It ~~has~~ evolved since republic

① Right to creative expression

(eg. Udta Punjab case, Sindharajam case)

② Right to silence (Bijoe Emmanuel case)

③ Right to press (Brij Bhushan case)

④ Right against telephone tapping

⑤ Right to information (Mess movement, RTI Act)

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Role played by State in widening scope

① Parliamentary Acts to bring in scope

eg RTI Act 2009

② SC proactive steps - through judicial activism and proactive interpretations

③ Leg. Attempts - to remove restrictions like Sedition - eg Recent Nyaya Samhita bill

Role played by State with pragmatic approach

① Complete adherence - to reasonable restrictions in constitution

eg contempt of court Act - Parliament

② Curbing the tendencies of hate speech

SC reiterated that it doesn't include

③ ~~Encourages~~ Encouragement of dissent

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3



5. Directly elected mayors can bring about effective changes in India's urban governance. Critically analyse. (10 Marks)

The ceremonial nature of Mayors of metropolitan cities vis-a-vis the panchayat presidents' powers highlight ineffectiveness at leadership level in urban governance.

Directly elected mayors can bring effective governance

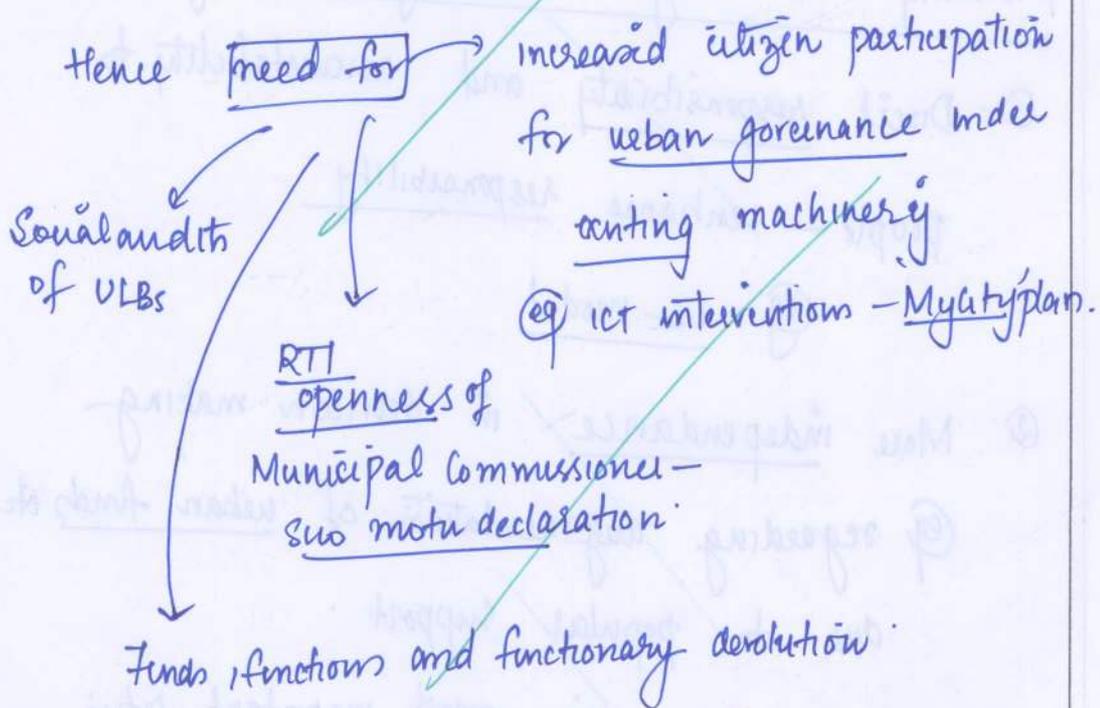
- ①. Direct responsibility and accountability to people — enhance responsibility
eg us-model
- ②. More independence in decision making
eg regarding augmentation of urban funds etc.
due to popular support.
- ③ global practise in most important cities
eg London, Paris etc.

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However direct elections can only bring limited change in Indian context. Because:-

- ① Issue lies in use devolution of funds, functions and functionaries to urban local
- ②. Ineffectiveness to source funds may still continue
- ③. Without Right to Recall limited accountability.



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6. Critically examine the challenges that India faces while engaging with Central Asian countries and the initiatives taken by India to overcome these challenges. (10 marks)

India's interaction with Central Asia is centred around the need for multipolar association and global South cooperation.

Map

Challenges faced in engagement :-

- ① Overarching Chinese presence: key partners to BRI initiative, debt diplomacy etc
- ② Instability in the region
eg recent Kazakhstan protests
- ③ Steps thwarted by Pakistan and Afghanistan - as physical barriers in connectivity
- ④ slow progress of key alignments
eg Ashgabat Agreement, TAPI pipeline

INSTC

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⑤. Bloc politics : dueto proximity to
Russia-Ukraine issue and India's
resistance to take stance.

Initiatives taken

① Fostering enhanced ties: (eg) multilateral
partnerships through SCO, Armenia - India-Iran
etc

②. Soft power diplomacy backs to resolve Russia-
Ukraine conflict (eg) Black Sea grain initiative
negotiations - Uzbekistan

③. Connectivity links (eg) Ashgabat
Ashgabat, TAPI - Turkmenistan

Central Asia is key to securing strategic
minerals for India and for maintaining significant
partner in Afghanistan issue and this shall drive
Indian partnerships.

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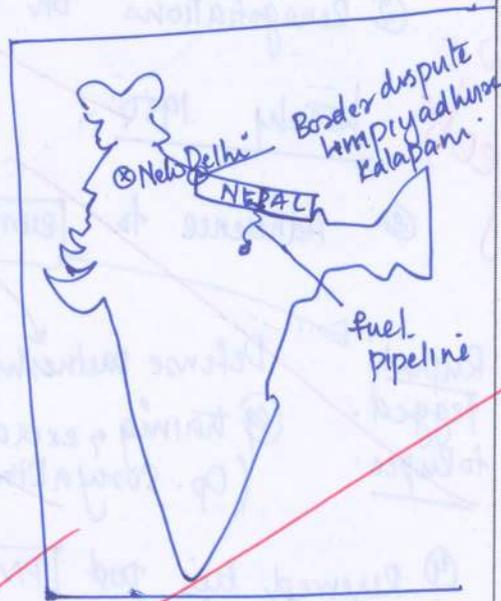


7. "Despite irritants in India - Nepal relations, the recent initiatives have shown that a pragmatic approach and mutual sensitivity can re-energise bilateral relations". Discuss. (10 marks)

Nepal - often described as the 'Yam between 2 stones - India and China'

has often played the 'Chinese Card' in Indian diplomatic ties.

Irritants in recent times



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- ① Updation of map (regarding Sagauli treaty :-
eg Lumpyadhura, Kalapani in Nepal)
- ② 'Big brother' allegation
- ③ Chinese dwarfism: BRI debt infrastructure linkages
- ④ Madhesi dispute, gokha protest for reservation

However recent steps indicate pragmatic approach and re-energising ties:



① Renewed talks of economic partnerships:
despite ~~despite~~ receivers of huge line of credit from
India

② Renegotiations on refreshing Indo-Nepal friendship
treaty 1950.

③ Adherence to economic partnership - eg Singrauli
pipeline

Rupiah
pegged
to Rupee.

Defense partnerships

Tourism circuits

eg training, exercises
(Op. Surya Kiran)

eg Ramayan: Ayodhya
Tanakpura

④ Renewed ties post PM's visit → Lumbini-Varanasi
tieups.

Partnerships
in ICT

People-people's
establishment

Buddhism as cultural
softpower tool

WTF

The line of credit system should move
forward to reciprocal investment pattern. The
Indian digital public infrastructure expansion
(eg: UPI) to Nepal shall be the next step.

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8. India's per capita food production has experienced a 50% increase in the last 15 years. However, the prevalence of undernutrition has remained stagnant. Analyse this contradiction between the significant growth in food availability and the slow improvement in nutrition and health indicators. (10 Marks)

Despite achieving food security post Green Revolution, nutritional security remains an issue highlighted by 1/3rd prevalence of malnutrition among children (stunting etc), 50% anaemia among women (MDPI - UN)

Contradiction between growth in food availability and slow improvement in nutrition and health

① Overfocus on rice/wheat duality in food security initiative @ PDS - at Rs 3 and 2 respectively
↳ neglecting more nutritional cereals - like millet (Shri Anna).

② Ineffectiveness of PDS system to ensure nutritional security @ non

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Societal angle

inclusion of protein sources - egg, milk, fish
only on carbohydrates

③ Skewed patterns of consumption - ~~leads to~~

@ MDM, Poshan scheme - all traditional

④ Poor innovation in agri tech @ golden rice

and GM innovation in Bangladesh helped
achieve better nutritional standards

⑤ Disparity in consumption - neglected girl in
nutrition parameters - son preference

Thus there is need for holistic nutrition
through Right based
approach

Equitable maternity
care to prevent
inter generational
malnutrition

@ Iron folic acid etc.

Biofortification of PDS, MDM

@ Vitamin A kernels to
rice

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9. Even though not explicitly provisioned by the Constitution, many statutory organisations are exercising their mandates based on implicit constitutional ethos. Elucidate. (10 Marks)

Statutory organisations - created by the legality of an act passed by government may exercise on behalf of the implicit constitutional ethos.

① National Commission of Protection of Child Rights

(Juvenile Justice Act)

- empowered by Article 21A: providing free and compulsory ~~for~~ education
- Securing from exploitation of child labour (Article 24)

② National Commission on Women (NCW Act)

- Equal remuneration guaranteed by Article 39. (DPSP)
- Protection from exploitation - human trafficking (Article 23)

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③ NALSA : National Legal Services Authority
and its 3 tier structure works under the
mandate to provide free legal aid
(Article 39A)

eg) NALSA in Chattisgarh jail → recently released
several undertrials on bail provisions

④ Tribunals — created under different acts
are empowered by constitutional mandate
of part 14A

eg- NAT (NAT Act 2010) — environmental justice

NCLAT (company law) eg) insolvency cases.

Thus though nonconstitutional, such
tribes work inspired constitutional morality and
hence prevail. Caution must be exercised to
resist overjudicence through checks and balance

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10. "There has to be a careful balance between the rights of the opposition and maintenance of decorum in the houses of parliament". In this light explain various provisions regarding the powers of presiding officers of both houses in maintaining the decorum. (10 Marks)

The Parliament - referred to as "temple of democracy" (J. Nehru) should have a careful balance between decorum (violated by protests, abusive language, exploitation of privileges etc) and rights of opposition (to dissent, freedom of speech and expression etc)

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Provisions regarding powers of presiding officers

① Ultimate responsibility of Speaker (LS) and Chairman (RS) to ensure decorum in Parliament

② Potential to adjournment / adjournement sine-die amidst protest

(eg) Recent opposition protest to Rahul Gandhi's disqualification



③ Special power of Speaker (LS) to decide on the Anti defection cases - which allows party switches

④ Ex-VP and RS-Chairman - Venkaiiah Naidu's release on parliamentary language and non abuse

⑤ Right to examine the reports by Parliamentary Privileges Committee regarding breach by opposition members

examples

3/2

The Parliamentary Conventions, The Rules of Procedure, Parliament (conduct of rules) etc and constitution empowers speakers and RS chairman to take action. However in interest of democracy they are expected to act apolitically (Nabam Rabi case - SC)

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11. The landscape of the criminal justice system in India, needs a comprehensive overhaul. In this context analyse the issues persisting in the criminal justice system and recommend suggestions for its redressal. (15 Marks)

Criminal justice system needs a complete overhaul amidst issues highlighted in

↳ Malimath Committee

Legal Aid
Need
Police
Court] reform.

Issues in criminal justice system

Police

1. Case on inhuman investigative procedures.

eg Santosh - death of Jayaram & Bennicks in Toothkudi

2. Lack of scientific investigative practices -

eg poor use of forensics - and hugon torture

3. Politicization of police & Neta-Lalla-Babu nexus →

criminalization of police (NN Vohra)

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Courts

4. Huge pendency of cases - 80% in lower judiciary

6. Multiple adjournments of cases despite time and number limits

"The process itself becomes the punishment"
- U.U. Lalit

6. Often becomes retributive justice than reformative eg death penalty.

Jails

7. NCRB data → huge > 80% of jails are undertrial waiting calls

8. Incapacity and overoccupancy : 1.2 times population (NCRB)

9. Lack of access to bail/furlough procedures.

Suggestions

① Police reforms : suggested by Pankaj Singh guidelines

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and Padmanabhaiah Committee :- mandate
compassionate policing, ethical conduct

eg Tanmathi police station model, Kerala

② Mandatory submission of report to NHRC on
custodial deaths ⊕ follow NHRC guidelines
for investigation

③ Integration of Forensic Teams mandatory
(Bharatiya Nyaya Samhita Bill)

④ ~~Regular~~ Resolution of pendency — through ADR
mechanisms eg NALSA Act

⑤ Keeping time limit on judicial procedures

⑥ Release of undertrials who have served > 1/2 year
of potential service (ps).

⑦ Relaxing cash requirement for bail etc

These "Justice delayed is justice
denied" — and hence expedite on reforms.

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12. The implementation of the Directive Principles of State Policy often faces challenges either as a trade off with fundamental rights or otherwise. Discuss. In the light of recent developments, explain how the application of harmonious construction doctrine resolves these trade-offs. (15 Marks)

The doctrine of Harmonious Construction (Minerva Mills case) highlight that fundamental rights and DPSP should harmoniously balance the political and socio economic democracy principles that Indian constitution envisage.

Implementation of DPSP challenging / tradeoff with fundamental Rights and how HC helps resolve: (HC - harmonious construction)

① Duty of the state to secure the redistribution of wealth (39(b) and 39(c)) had been the biggest contention v/s Right to property

(previously fundamental right Article 32).

↳ ~~Harmonious~~ eliminated post the removal of Right to Property from FR (now legal right)

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②. Securing ~~special~~ ~~benefits~~ maternity care benefits (Article 42) may violate Right to Equality (Article 14)

↳ (HC): Fundamental rights 15(3) allows special provisions to be created for women and children.

③. Securing the welfare of sc/st community (Article 46) - levelhood opportunity v/s Right to Equality (Article 14).

↳ (HC): special provisions to ensure the safeguards to sc/st under 15(4), 16(4) of equality.

④. ~~is~~ Duty to prevent the culling of cattle breeds (Article 48) may be violative of cultural rights (Art 29-30) - eg beef ban

↳ (HC) allows for balance of traditions with rights eg Talikkattu veduct (Nagaraj case)

Do not write anything on the margin

7 1/2



⑤ ~~Right to~~ Duty to protect monuments ^(Article 30) ✓

Religious rights (Article 25-28)

eg: Ram Tanra bhoomi case

(HC): allows for 'essential practices' doctrine:

Ismail Faruqi case - Mosque not essential

Thus a balance of the 2 are intended
and SC remains as ultimate interpreter of legality

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13. Apart from ensuring transparency and accountability, e-governance is vital for an inclusive and sustainable governance. Discuss. (15 Marks)

e-Governance refers to decision making in public affairs - involving all potent stakeholders utilizing the potential of ICT/technology.

e-Governance ensures transparency & accountability.

① In policy formulation stage - involvement of multiple stakeholders -

eg EIA - public hearing through ICT platforms

② In policy implementation stage - provides transparent access to information

eg RTI - e-filing of requests

③ Accountability checks - by minimizing by ensuring data based governance, reducing discretionary eg identification of beneficiaries

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④ Minimization of levels of interaction with bureaucracy @ DBT → to increase accountability and reduce leakages.

⑤ Grievance Redressal mechanisms @ CPGRAMS

⊗ e Governance is vital for inclusive and sustainable governance

Inclusive

① Rural reach → services to agricultural farmers
@ weather forecasts, pest attack coordination

② Female inclusion → Accessibility to resources.
@ eSangarani → maternal health programs.

③ Affordability to services @ MOOCs for spread of education at minimal cost

④ Availability of financial, technological services in all regions @ eBanking networks in hazar Bastar region

Do not write anything on the margin



Sustainable

① Sustainable city/urban planning through ICT tech

② Involvement of all stakeholders in planning

eg online discussion platforms.

③ Green development with inter generational parity →

Paperless growth

hope you manage time

lot of writing

However issues with e-governance

privacy issues (eg: AIIMS data breach)

inclusion/exclusion errors

eg Chhattisgarh - Aadhar PDS case.

Lack of awareness.

digital divide

(Male > female)
(Urban > Rural)

potential of attack

eg China - on Mumbai power infrastruct. return

Hence Need

comprehensive digital era reforms for inclusion

Security and privacy infrastructure

Vetted by human compassion.

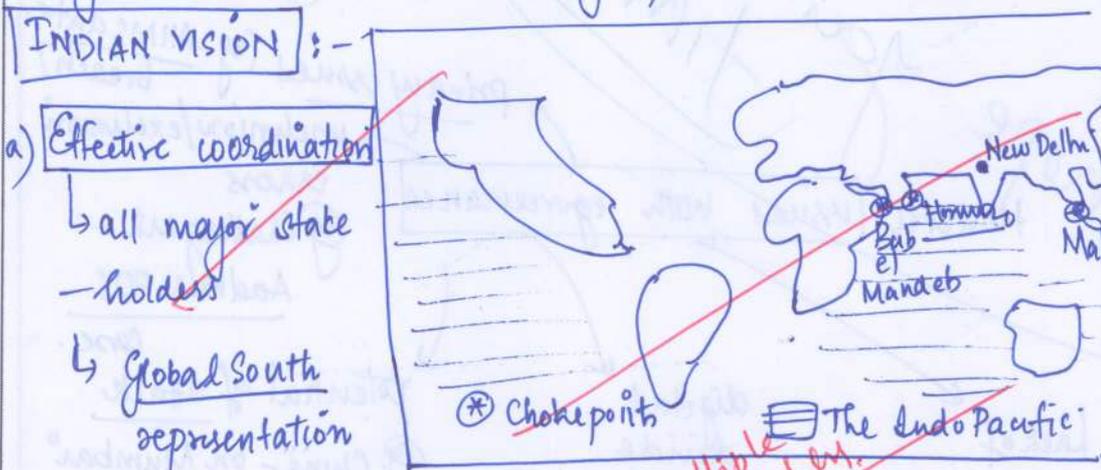
This can enable India's rise as centre for IR 4.0 → Knowledge revolution.

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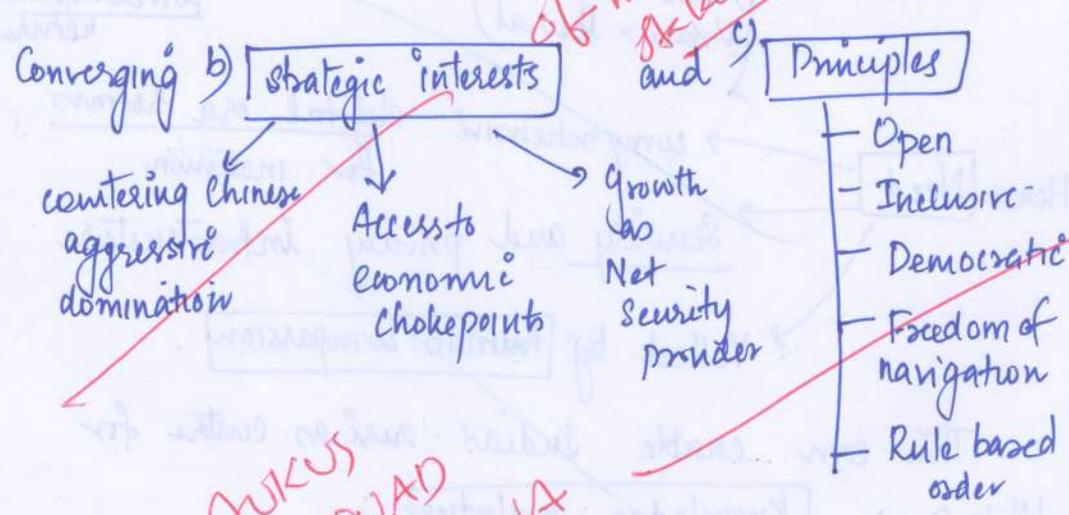


14. "Effective coordination based on converging strategic interests and principles is the best way forward in operationalizing an Indo-Pacific partnership for India." Discuss. Also examine the significance of Indo-Pacific for India and the challenges that India faces in the region (15 marks)

There is a growing shift of focus from Atlantic to Indo-Pacific in recent times. Geographically placed at the convergence India has huge potential



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AUKUS QUAD CHINA



Significance of Indo Pacific :-

- ① Economic
 - Access to global choke points
eg: Strait of Malacca, Babel Mandeb
 - Access to resources
eg: Oil from West Asia eg: St of Hormuz
 - Blue Economy
- ② Strategic
 - growing chinese interference
eg: String of pearls eg: Hambantota
 - Vision of net security provider eg: BIMSTEC
charter recognizing SAGAR Vision
 - countering piracy eg: Somalia
- ③ Environmental eg: Coral reefs - Lakshadweep.
Mangroves - Sunderbans.
- ④ National Security eg: 26/11 terror Infiltration
along Mumbai coast.
- ⑤ Science and tech, Humanitarian
eg: HADR - eg: Operation Neer - Maldives

Do not write anything on the margin



Challenges faced

- ① Chinese string of pearls narrative
eg IORF without India in the neighbourhood
- ② Proximity of neighbours to China
eg Sri Lanka, Maldives - 'India Out'
- ③ US attempts to politicize Indo Pacific tensions
eg AUKUS
- ④ Volatility in neighbourhood
- ⑤ Sri Lanka - border dispute, fishermen

There is need for

- ① Proactive approach with firm ground positioning
- ② SAGAR doctrine adherence
- ③ Partnerships - eg BIMSTEC, IORA, QUAD.
- ④ Depoliticization of issues through routes of dialogue and diplomacy
eg Kathatiru - Sri Lanka.

Good attempt

Indo Pacific narrative is key to India's growth as Net Security Provider and should be balanced with national interests.

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~~How?~~ Why? 2

15. The independence of election commission is necessary to ensure free and fair elections. Discuss the statement in the light of various criticisms faced by the commission and suggest some corrective measures. (15 Marks)

Election Commission of India is a constitutional body (Article 324) entrusted to conduct free and fair elections throughout the country.

- Office of President & VP
- Lok Sabha
- State Assemblies.

Independence of election commission is extremely important :-

Criticisms faced by commission : & how can independence

① Governmental bias : due to the lack of appointment body (until recently)

② Lack of security of tenure of Election Commissioners — can be removed in consonance with CFC.

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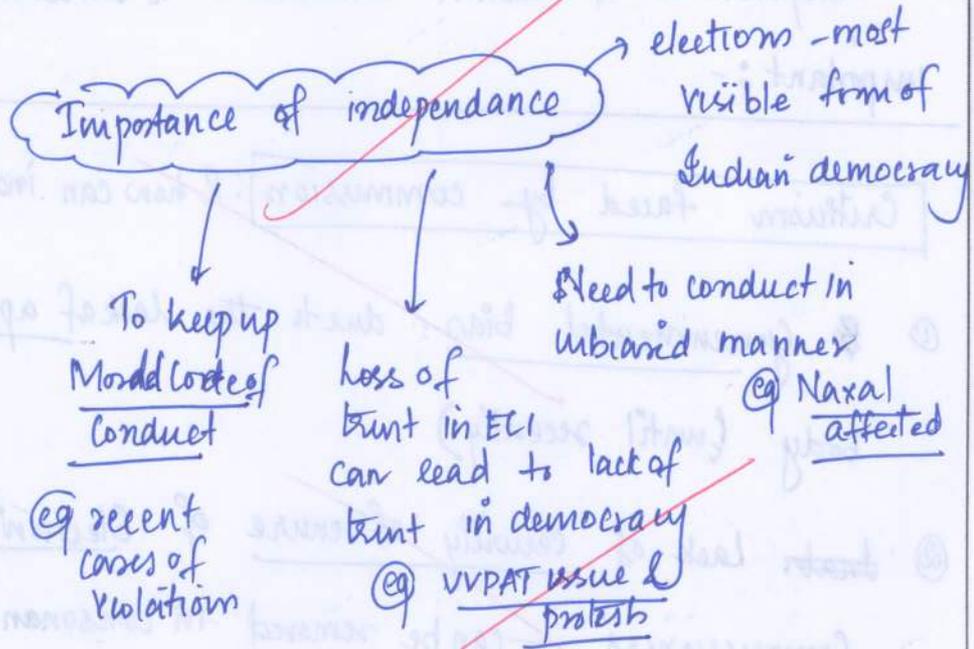
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③ ~~Lack of~~ Expenses not charged on Consolidated fund of India - dependant on Law Ministry affect independence

④ ~~Lack~~ Dependence of administrative machinery for conduct of elections ⇒ susceptible to pressures due to lack of own staff

⑤ ~~Non binding~~ Recommendations on disqualification - under packet veto of President/Governor



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Concrete measures :-

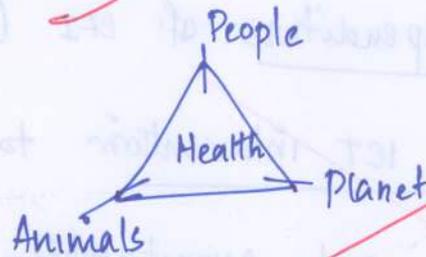
- ① Selection committee as recommended by SC
in recent verdict
↳ PM + Leader of Opposition (LS) + CJI
- ② Charged expenditure of ECI (2nd ARC recs).
- ③ ~~Ability~~ to ICT intervention to ensure
transparency and accountability
eg Civil app
- ④ Attempts to boost confidentiality
eg Establishment of booths in Bastar.
Cancellation of polls in Vellore due to supply
of cash and fabrics
ECI shall be strengthened by amending
RPA 1951 to ~~ensure~~ reduce criminalization of
politics and strong hand to enforce MCC

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16. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of adopting a 'One Health' approach. What do you understand by 'One Health' approach and analyse its significance. Also discuss the national and international efforts in this regard. (15 Marks)

The One Health approach pushed by WHO post-COVID-19 pandemic represents a growing awareness about interconnectedness of



It involves

- Adequate holistic healthcare to people
 - preventive
 - curative
 - palliative
 - mental
 - geriatric
- Interconnectedness with animal health
 - communicable disease spread eg: Nipah, COVID-19
 - spread through consumption of produce from animal
- Planet's health - life mission for saving climate consciousness - 1 by Indians

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Significance

- ①. ~~Inter~~ Increasing health burden of economies - as realized by COVID19 : potential to disrupt entire supply chains.
- ②. Recognition of globalization of health : no boundaries / security walls for protection from pandemic
- ③. Need for collective efforts @ WHO's call to action
- ④. Setting aside fund dedicated to resilience of health - including mental health (6-7.5% burden in India).
- ⑤. Pro Planet efforts - to ensure SDG goals.

Other Signi. of
are health

AMR
Traditional medicine
Involvement of rural
people

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National efforts Efforts in this regard

- National Funds -
- ① Sri Nath Reddy Committee : recommendation for 70% health budget allocation to PHCs

Add specific efforts



- Legal
- ② National Health Policy 2017 -
National Mental Healthcare Act 2017 - decriminalization of suicides
 - ③ Strengthening Institutions → ~~Veterinary Services~~
Institute, PMA etc
 - ④ Mission Life: to mobilize pro-planet people
consensus about planet affairs

International efforts

- ⑤ WHO's call to action
 - ⑥ Actions of ^{drug/}vaccine internationalism
eg Vaccine maatri - India
 - ⑦ Collaboration on multilateral platforms
eg WB fund allocation for health
infrastructure - Veterinary institutes (Africa)
 - ⑧ Climate efforts - Paris deal. COP15
Loss and damage fund (Glasgow summit)
- "It is not the time to talk. but to act" → PM's call to action to international community.

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17. "India - EU relations have transformed completely from a mere partnership to a critical partnership, that can shape the growth of 21st century." Discuss the significance of this relationship and the challenges that India face in its economic cooperation with EU. (15 marks)

India-European Union relations are key to India's vision of being a developed country - being the 2nd largest economic partner in the world

Significance of relationships

- ① Potential for huge expansion of economic ties up - 4 times current
- ② huge export market for high value export goods → 'value surplus'
(eg) Pashmina shawl demand.
- ③ Post Brexit, potential for renewed negotiations on free trade agreements, bilateral treaties etc
- ④ EU's focus on India centred Indian Ocean

Do not write anything on the margin



narrative → potential to counter chinese influence

- ⑤ Strategic tie ups → Germany (key for UNSC reforms)
- France - for IOR relations
eg: Reunion Islands

Challenges faced in EU relationship

- ① Stalled FTA process since decades
- ② Quality concerns - sanitary, phytosanitary
compliance issues of Indian products & rejection
eg milk, dairy products
- ③ Rising protectionism eg global carbon tax
being imposed on non EU nations
- ④ Geo-strategic: pressurizing India to take
stand against Russia on UNSC etc -
affecting strategic autonomy
- ⑤ Issues of probing into national issues

Do not write anything on the margin



and displaying in bad light

(eg) BBC documentaries

⑥ Chinese Dwarfism: growing Chinese tie-ups

with East Europe (eg) C17+1 initiative

1 PR
dof Security

In this context there is need for :-

① Proactive balanced approach - national v/s

international strategic interests (eg: Russia case)

② Push for FTA

③ Cultural ties establishment

④ Minilateral establishment (eg) India -

Australia - France strengthening

⑤ 'KED' 'zero effect deficit' and quality focus on exports.

Potential for closer ties is immense.

and should be used to strategic advantages West is in favour of India centric OR narrative

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18. Citizen centric governance has been a focus of successive governments for a long time, but it still has not become a reality. Critically analyse the statement and provide reasons for the same. (15 Marks)

Citizen centricity is one of the 8 pillars identified by WB on its report on good governance in Africa. In a welfare state (Article 38), based by social contract theory this becomes a norm.

It has been a focus of successive governments

73rd, 74th Constitutional amendments - for decentralization

citizen charter
(eg) DARPA

focus on Ndo, CSO movements
(eg) PIL encouragement

Introduction of RTI - opening public offices to scrutiny

Checks on corruption -
(eg) Social audit mandatory for MGNREGS etc.

But it has still not been a reality because

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seen in:-

- ① < 10% of population has used RTI in their lifetime
- ② limited success rate of CSO, NAO movements - regionally limited and urban bias
- ③ Poor citizen developmental indicators -
eg rank in corruption perception index (Transparency International)
- ④ Poor response to citizen charter - Jargon filled manager's charter
- ⑤ Uneas' ⑤ Uneas' thing of scams

Reasons for the same include:-

- ① Lack of budgetary allocation in citizen centric projects for building public awareness of the same eg < 1% of funds of RTI

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② Poor consumer confidence due to sanskritization of corruption in India (CNN Barua)

③ Poor response to CSO movements - potential pressure potential is limited to the financially stable groups only

④ Lack of public will: eg officers' attitude of neglect to citizen charter movement

⑤ PRI, ULB lacking true devolution - funds, functions, functionaries

In this context, there is need for

Awareness campaigns - dedicated fund

funds, functions, functionary devolution to Block PRIs, ULBs

Suomaha RTI disclosure (Section 4 RTI Act)

Citizen centrality is the key to JAN

ANDOLAN - a movement to bring true democracy to doorsteps of all!

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19. Wealth inequality is inherently intertwined with the caste hierarchy. Analyse this relationship. Do you believe that addressing wealth inequality alone can eradicate the issue of caste discrimination? (15 Marks)

In the recent report by Oxfam :

Survival of the RICHEST : it was highlighted

that 1% of Indians own ~5% of wealth.

This goes against DPSP Article 39 (b) and 39 (c) of securing redistribution of wealth.

It is seen that Wealth and caste are intertwined.

① Caste hierarchies are made rigid by the hairs and harenots

② with wealth - mobility is allowed

③ Access to wealth allows for development

in other indicators [e.g. education, health] ⇒

which empowers creation of casteless definitions

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don't complicate just tell how intertwined & how not

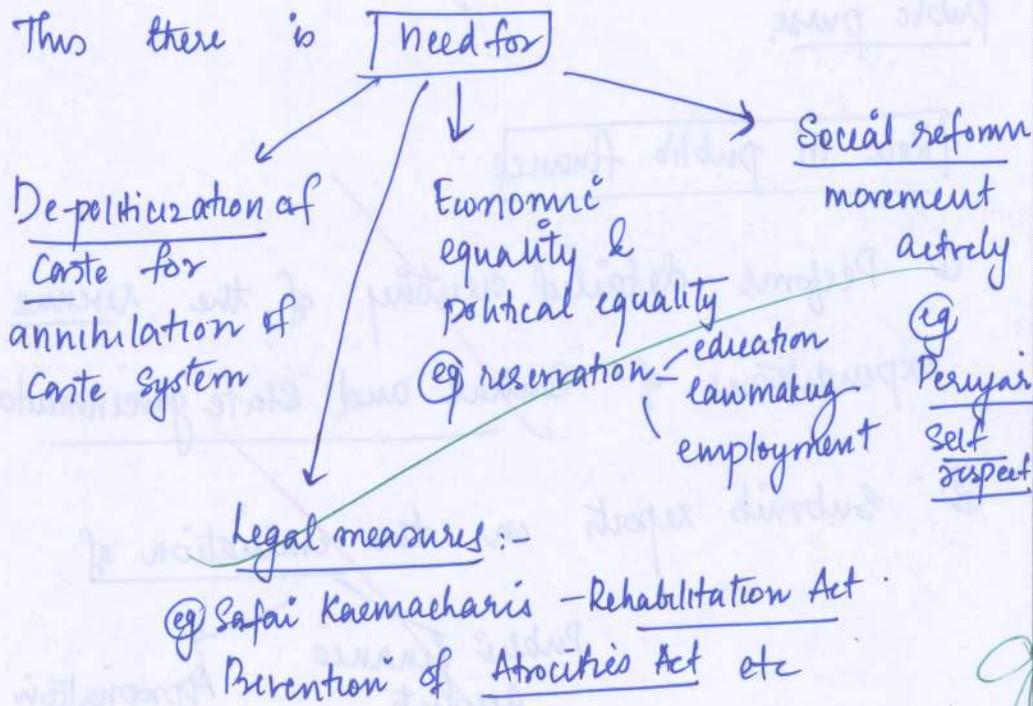
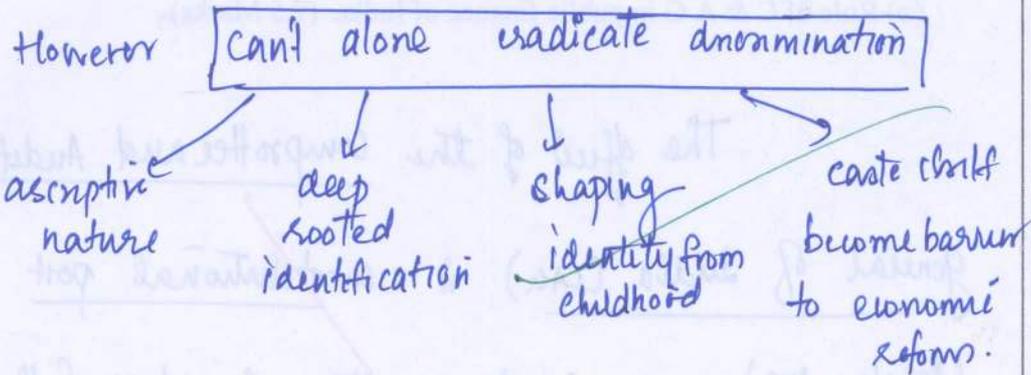


③ Urban segregation are increasingly being influenced by class - economic differences than caste.

Howe Addressing wealth inequality can eradicate caste discrimination :

- ① Can minimize the hierarchical gaps
 - eg dominant castes - usually OBCs who attained better social status post access to land rights
- ② Can redistribute resources - equity leading to equality
 - eg As seen in land reforms effectiveness of Kerala - lesser caste distinctions
- ③ Adheres Capability approach - empowered to follow rationality reduce caste biases.

Do not write anything on the margin



Do not write anything on the margin

goal set out

"One ~~you~~ cannot be satisfied by giving passive economic rights to those that are being actively discriminated" ⇒ HOLISTIC approach



20. Answer the following. (125 Words each).

(15 Marks)

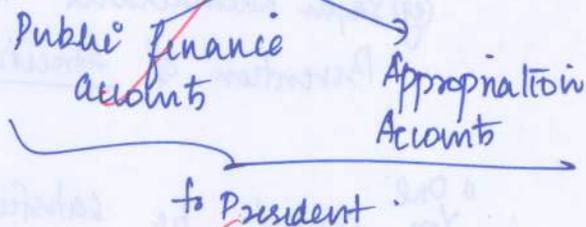
(a) Role of C & A G in public finance of India. (7.5 Marks)

The office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) is a constitutional post (Article 148) envisioned as the guardian of the public purse.

Role in public finance

① - Performs detailed scrutiny of the revenue expenditures of Central and State governmental

② - Submit reports on the evaluation of



③ - Advises the government of the account keeping practices - both Central and State

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- 4) Instrumental in the identification of key misappropriations eg. del scam, coal scam
- 5) friend, guide and philosopher of the Public Accounts Committee - which analyses the governmental accounts.
- CA is the most important office of Indian Constitution — Pr B.R. Ambedkar

(b) Latest initiatives by C & A G in auditing. (7.5 Marks)

Some initiatives include :-

- ① eTech in auditing machinery
- ② Introduction of ICT intervention in financial scrutiny
- ③ Recommendations to social audit groups at state level to look into financial

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accounts of PRIS.

④ Disclosure provision to ensure transparency

(Suo motu) in public accounts

⑤ Information disbursal through P.B.

Some initiatives include :-

① Steps in creating machinery

② Introduction of ICT intervention in

financial auditing

③ Government claims to local audit groups

of states and local govt.

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-10 questions headings