



MAINS TEST SERIES 2024

FULL TEST 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
1	4	11	7 1/2
2	5 1/2	12	7 1/2
3	4	13	8
4	5 1/2	14	6 1/2
5	4	15	8
6	4 1/2	16	6
7	1 1/2	17	7
8	4 1/2	18	6
9	5	19	8
10	4	20	8
TOTAL			

Name

VINEETH. LOHIDAKSHAN

Roll no

Subject

GS-2

Date

2/9/24

Questions Attempted

20



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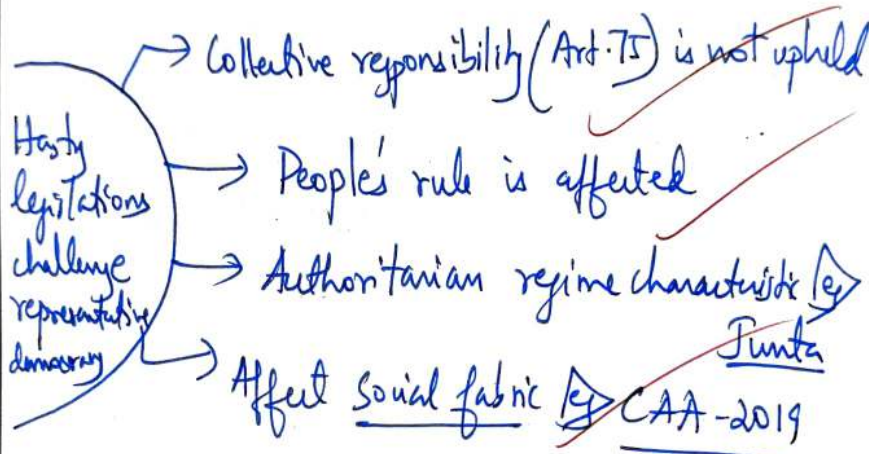
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1. Hasty legislations not only challenge the essence of representative democracy but leads to judicial challenges and civic protests. In this light discuss the approaches that needs to be adopted to ensure the quality of legislations.

(10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Hasty legislations are against the spirit of democracy which calls in for debates and deliberations as key feature. eg → Protest against Farm laws



Hasty legislations lead to judicial challenges & civic protests as :-

1) Judiciary is the "final interpreter" and guarantor of constitution & fundamental rights



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(Don't write anything in this area)

2) Article 13 - Judicial review and Basic Structure doctrine provide power to Judiciary to uncheck

3) Can lead to popular unrests as democratic values are challenged eg CAA - fraternity & equality

4) Stakeholder consultation is a key component of participative democracy

Approaches to ensure quality of legislation

① Mandatory committee referral - Australian Model

② Social consensus through open forums

③ Stakeholder consultation - pressure groups (trade unions)

④ Dedicated time for each bill

Participative Democracy is a key ideal of Indian Constitution as per Munshi

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Creation of new committees
Engage ~~new~~ Li. Committees

Constitutional Committee,
Legislation Committee,
Finance Commission,
DP, BSC

→ This could be given more importance

→ eg: SA model 14 days



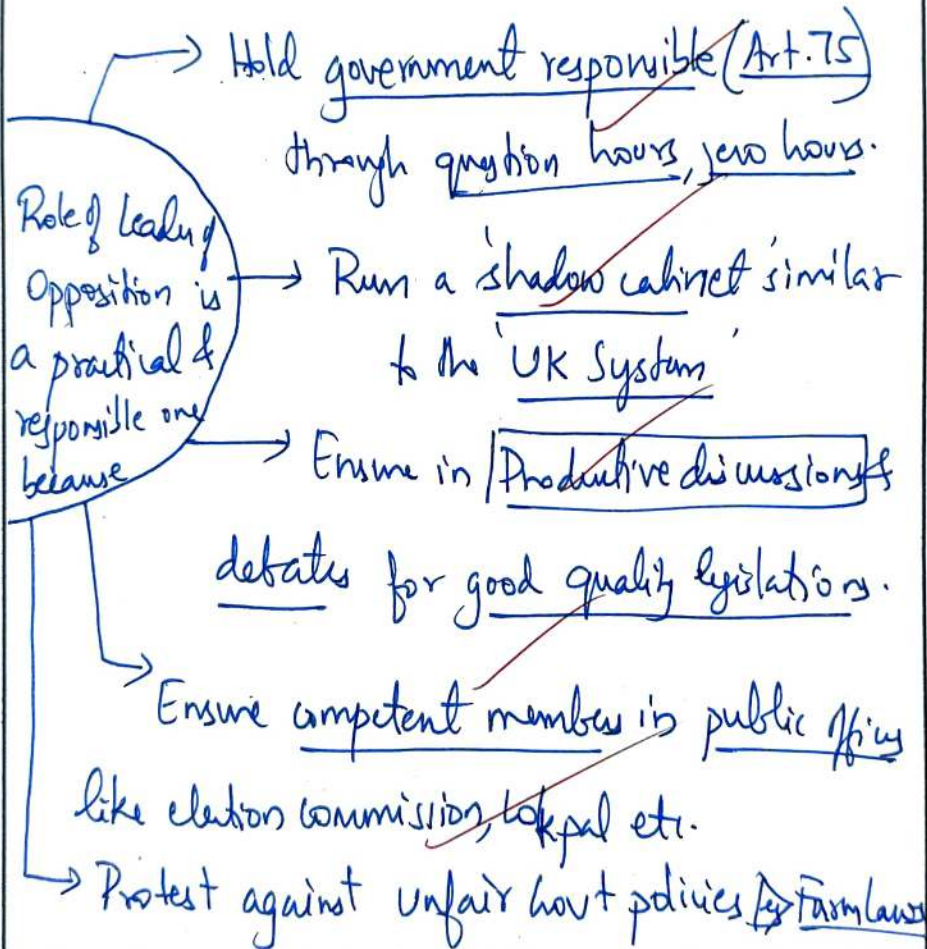
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2. The role of the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament is not confined to some privileges on ceremonial occasions but is a practical and responsible one.
Comment (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Leader of Opposition is a key player of Indian democracy as he/she ensures the proper adherence of democratic ideals by ruling government.





(Don't write anything in this area)

However role of leader of opposition have been undermined in the recent years as :-

- 1) No proper recognition in 16th and 17th Lok Sabha
- 2) Dummy role in committees - Majority members from ruling party
- 3) No designated time for opposition party
- 4) Lack of referral to committees
- 5) Selective targeting of opposition members & suspension

Way Forward → Make appointment committees part neutral
→ Constitutional recognition
→ UK Model - Dedicated Opposition Time

Leader of Opposition is thus the face mark of checks and balance of majority party in the government.



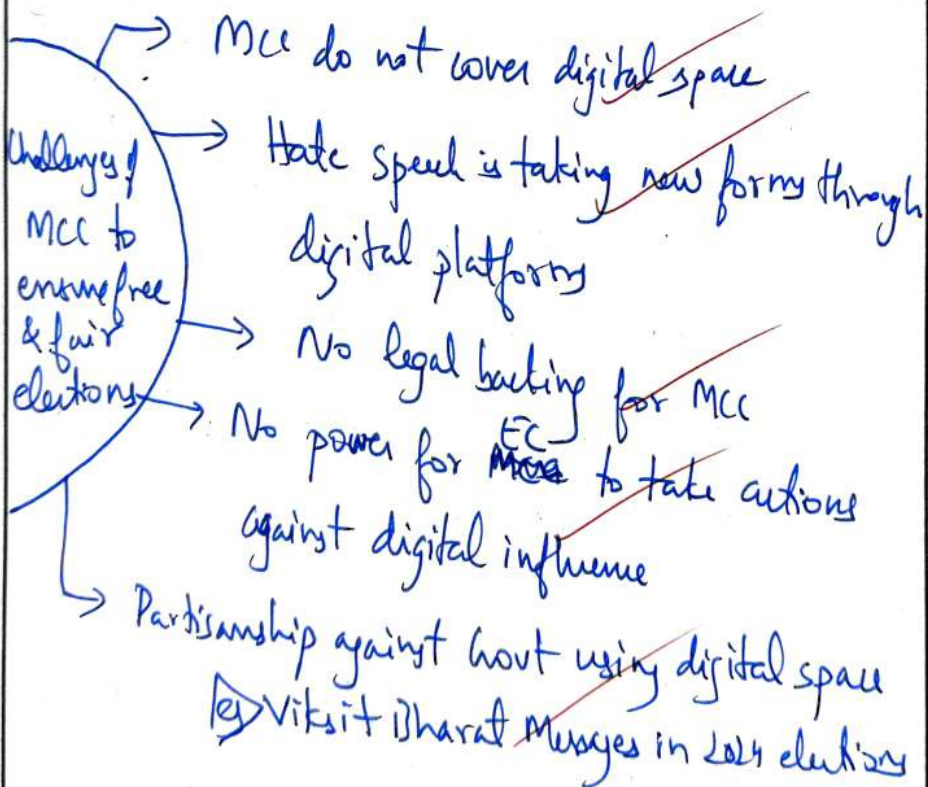
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3. Given the evolution of political campaigns and the increasing influence of digital media, is the existing Model Code of Conduct (MCC) sufficient to ensure free and fair elections in India? Propose how it could be updated to address new challenges in modern electioneering. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Political campaigns and influence of digital media have affected elections with Forbes terming 2024 Parliamentary Elections as 100% Digital elections.





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However Mcc have also served function for free and fair elections

(Don't write anything in this area)

1) C-Vigil app to register Mcc violations

2) Check on misuse of Govt properties

3) Check on fudgies affecting election outcome eg Rythu Bandhu Scheme.

4) Fair criticism stage without hate speech

Suggestions

1) legal backing to Mcc

2) Mcc - Digital Ethics code

3) Power to deregister Parties to Election Commission

4) Strict vigil on Govt resources - 1 month before elections.

rather than self regulation

Free and Fair elections are hallmark of democracy for which Election Commission and Mcc must be



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4. Examine the constitutional perspectives on environmental conservation and climate justice in India. Discuss how these concepts have evolved over time through constitutional amendments and landmark case laws. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Environmental ethics is a key component of Indian constitution as mentioned in various provisions.

Constitutional perspectives on environmental conservation and climate justice

1) Schedule 5 and 6 - Article 244 - Tribal dominated area

2) DPSP - Art. 48^A - Protection of natural environment

42nd Amendment
↓

3) Fundamental Duty - Art. 51 A (g) - Protection of environment and wildlife

4) Fundamental Right - Art. 21 - Right to life with dignity - includes environmental ethics



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(Don't
write
anything
in this
area)

Land mark case laws:

- 1) MC Mehta Case 1987 - Right to Pollution free environment recognised
- 2) Dehradun Quarrying Case - Polluter Pays Principle
and Right to Healthy Environment part of Art-21
- 3) Green Crackers Case - SC reiterated Environment conservation
- 4) MC Mehta Case, 1996 - treated water as a living entity
- 5) Ranjitsinh Case, 2024 - Expanded Art-14 & 21
and included Right against adverse effects of climate change as Fundamental right.
Judiciary and Constitution have acted as pioneers of environmental rights and quality of human life time and gain.

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5. The Right to Information (RTI) and the right to privacy both hold significant value in a democratic society. Neither should be compromised for the other; instead, a balanced approach is essential. Discuss this in the context of the challenges in implementing the RTI Act, 2005 (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Right to Information (RTI) 2005 was the result of citizen centric activism to know things happening in public offices while 'Right to Privacy' was noted as part of Article 21 in KS Puttaswamy verdict, 2017.

Challenges in implementing RTI Act, 2005

- 1) Lack of Awareness by public and officials
- 2) Clashing with Official secrets Act, 1923 and Right to Privacy of individuals
- 3) Bureaucratic apathy
- 4) Lack of quantifiable data to provide



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(Don't write anything in this area)

1st party is largely generated
5) Vacancy in personnel - 40% seats are vacant in State Information Commissioner's office.

6) RTI Activism turning to RTI Adventurism
Balanced approach is needed with Right to Privacy because:-

1) Individual liberty is protected Rape case

2) Right of citizen to know is also upheld

3) Prevent misuse of RTI by RTI Activists

4) Prevent culture of fear among officials
limiting courage of conviction

5) Foster Transparency and accountable public service delivery.

Right to Privacy and RTI are two sides of the same coin which should be carefully balanced for good governance.



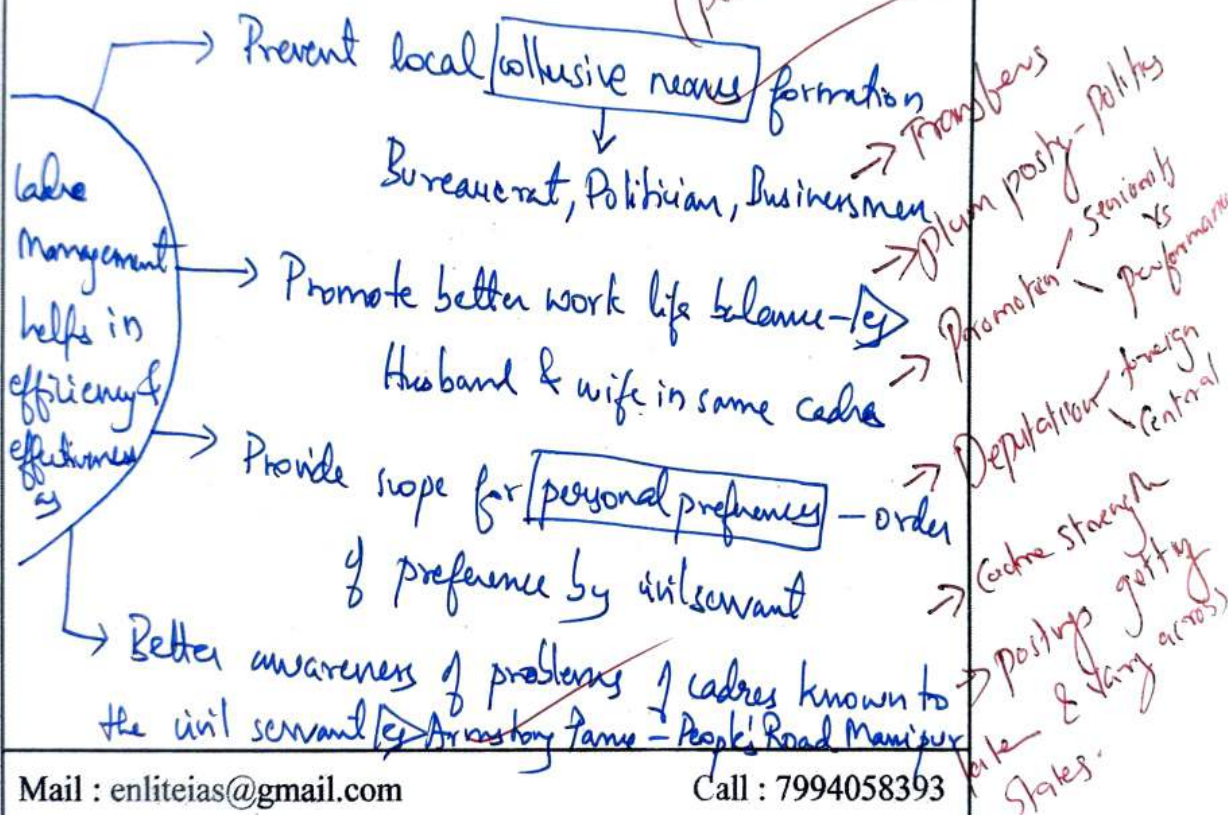
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6. A systematic approach to cadre management in civil services across states is as crucial as the introduction of lateral entry into the civil services. Discuss the importance of both in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of public administration. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Civil services is undergoing rapid changes with the Govt stressing on modernisation of civil services with soft skilling and techno-integration. Added is the cadre management and introduction of lateral entry into services.





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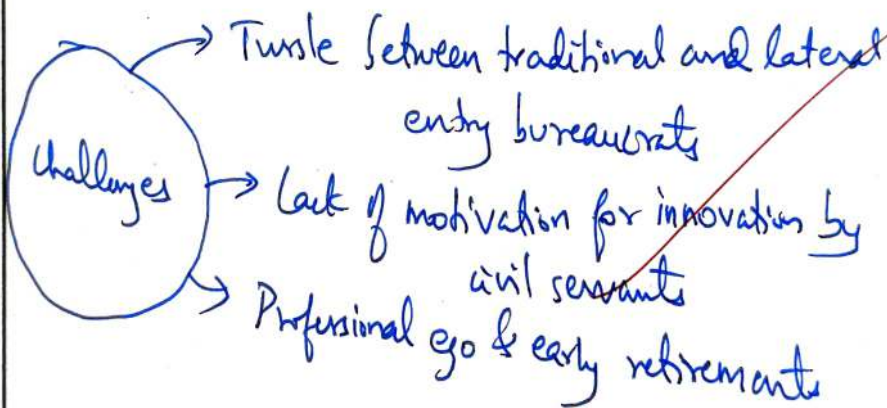
Lateral entry enhances efficiency and effectiveness as

1) Technical expertise for specialised subjects eg Nandan
Milekani on digital technology

2) Better motivation for civil servants to 'upskill'
and 'reskill'

3) Foster efficient team of generalists & specialists

4) Prevent authoritarian rule by existing civil servants



Union Govt has brought in Mission Karmayogi

and 360 Performance Analysis to create 'future ready'
civil servants for Viksit Bharat.

(Don't write anything in this area)



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7. The inception of Jan Vishwas act aligns with the overarching goal of simplifying legal processes, reducing compliance burden and fostering a more business friendly environment. Analyse. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Jan Vishwas Act has been the testament of government towards easing off regulatory hurdles and promoting Ease of Doing Business as in Budget 23.

Provisions of Jan Vishwas Act which aligns with ease of doing business:-

1) Common single window clearance - eases off multiple Department visits.

2) Technology integration - G2G, G2B services -

UMAN U App - All services at single point

decentralizing
minor
offences
with penalties
& admin
action



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(Don't write anything in this area)

3) Tracking of application process has been simplified by integrating with PM-PRAGATI.

4) Appellate tribunal - for any queries and disputes.

5) Provision for Ombudsman Scheme for grievance redressal.

6) Inter-department collaboration and reduced paperworks - Digital India Mission

Challenges

- Bureaucratic apathy
- Lack of Public Awareness
- No stringent timeline for process
- legal hurdles are not addressed

Jam Vishwas Act exemplifies India's Vision to be a Global Business Enclave & achieve \$30 billion economy by



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8. How does the expansion of BRICS with new member countries improve its potential as a global group in the changing world order? What challenges does it need to overcome to work effectively and gain influence? (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

BRICS was recently expanded into BRICS+

with the addition of new members like Egypt, Iran, UAE and Ethiopia, enhancing the global footprint.

BRICS expansion improve potential as global group as:

- 1) Conglomeration of similar emerging economies
- 2) Counter the rising Western Propaganda
- 3) Common forum for regional challenges - terrorism, trade agreements
- 4) Act on Global Commons - Climate change, crypto currency, supply chain resilience

Energy security
dedollarisation

global South



5) Voice for reforms in Global forum - UNSC

However there are challenges like

1) Internal conflicts - India-China

2) Act of suspicion - Iran - UAE

3) Prone to Western Sanctions due to Russia & Iran

4) Asymmetrical Economics - China is homogenous

5) Aligning a Trade block

Way Forward

- Common Shared Consensus
- Enhance working of New Development Bank
- Proper use of Contingent Reserve Fund for members
- Yearly annual conferences

BRICS+ can act as the 'compass' of India's diplomatic balancing based on strategic interests

(Don't write anything in this area)



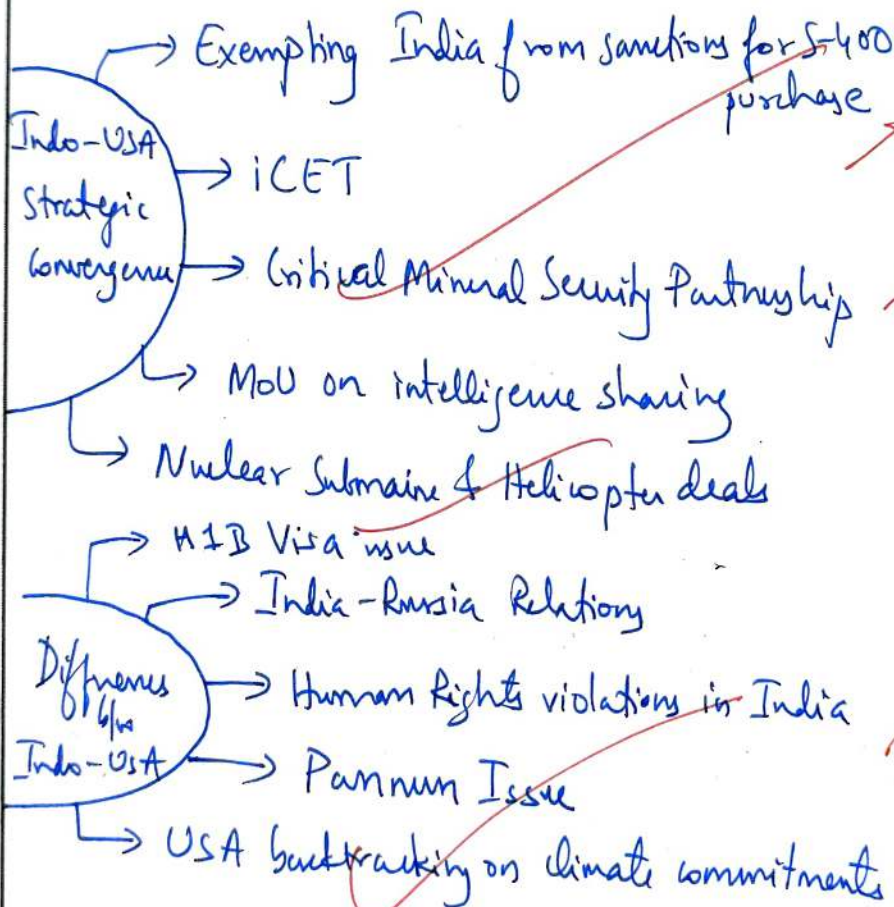
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9. The Indo-US relationship has witnessed a strategic convergence in recent years. However, differences persist on multiple issues. Discuss the current state of India-US relations and suggest measures to further strengthen this partnership. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Indo-US relationship has witnessed strategic convergence with PM Modi terming India USA relationship to be one of a kind that none can match.



Concessions etc.
BECA
Nuclear deal
~~Qatar~~
Mumbai

Anti-subsidy



(Don't write anything in this area)

Current state of India - USA relations

- 1) Strong on multiple fronts with largest trade partner
- 2) Military - Malabar exercise and army bilateral exercise
- 3) Common strategy on open & free Indo Pacific
- 4) Climate change - Green Fund
- 5) Transit Diplomacy - IMEC is G-20
- 6) QUAD - 2+2 Mechanism

Suggestions

- Utilise "Diaspora as a bridge"
- Contain Assertive China Policy effectively
- Iron out differences through diplomatic channels
- Joint working group on emerging technologies

India USA provides example for a matured bilateral relationship based on mutual respect and growth.



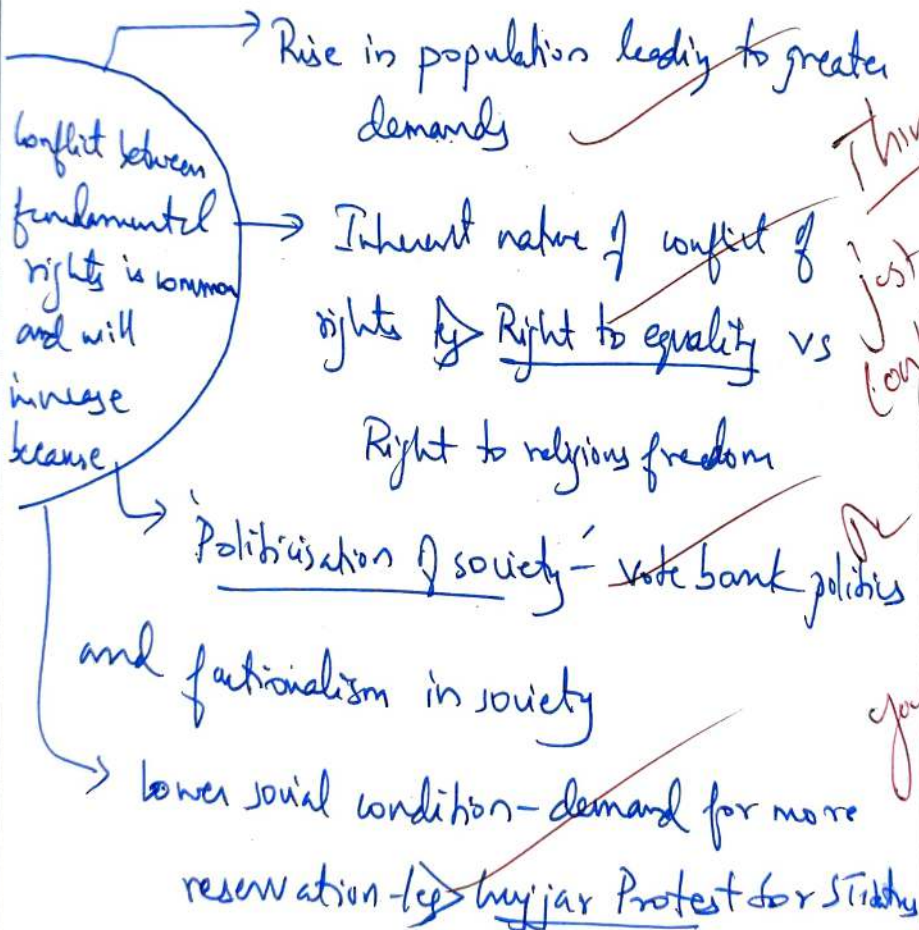
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10. The conflict between fundamental rights is a frequent occurrence and is likely to increase in the coming times. Discuss this trend and analyse how effectively the constitutional courts are fulfilling their role as the 'balancing wheel' in managing these rights. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Conflict between fundamental rights have various contributing factors such as social, political and economic dimensions complicating the issue.



Think simply
just give an
conflict rights
word friend
may have led
you to concentrate
more there.

