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NEXT IAS

GS MAINS ADVANCED COURSE 2024

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : GSMAC2406 | Test No. : 06

Name of Candidate: AAKASH. Mobile No. [redacted]

Roll No. : NIS 2024 67986 Start Time 4:00 PM End Time 7:00 PM

Date of Examination: GS II Medium : English ☑ Hindi ☐

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
TOTAL MARKS - 100		

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	
TOTAL MARKS - 150		

GRAND TOTAL - ...../ 250 EVAL CODE: ..... EVAL DATE: .....

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Immediately on receipt of the QCA booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.
2. Candidates must mention all relevant details like Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
3. Candidate is expected to attempt all 20 questions within the given timeline.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized at the time of admission.
5. Candidates must write answers for the specific question under the respective question itself. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.
6. Please write neatly. Avoid illegible writing.
7. Do not write/mark irrelevant matters in the QCAB.

सामान्य निर्देश

1. QCA पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर कृपया तुरंत जांच लें कि इस QCA पुस्तिका में कोई पृष्ठ या सामग्री आदि गलत छपी हुई या फटी हुई या गायब तो नहीं है। यदि ऐसा है, तो इसे एक नई QCA पुस्तिका से बदल लें।
2. अभ्यर्थियों को सभी प्रासंगिक विवरण जैसे नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल नंबर आदि का आवंटित स्थान पर उल्लेख करना होगा ।
3. अभ्यर्थियों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह आवंटित समय-सीमा के भीतर ही सभी 20 प्रश्नों के उत्तर-लेखन का प्रयास करें।
4. प्रत्येक उत्तर, प्रवेश के समय चुनी गयी भाषा के माध्यम में ही लिखे जाने चाहिए।
5. अभ्यर्थियों को विशिष्ट प्रश्न के उत्तर संबंधित प्रश्न के नीचे ही लिखने होंगे। आवंटित स्थान के बाहर लिखे गए किसी भी उत्तर को क्रेडिट नहीं दिया जाएगा।
6. कृपया साफ-सुथरा लिखें। अपठनीय लेखन से बचें।
7. QCAB में अप्रासंगिक तथ्यों को न लिखें / न ही चिह्नित करें।

REMARKS: .....

.....

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Student Concerns / Query	Evaluator's Feedback / Response
1	1 .....
2	2 .....
3	3 .....

MARKING SCHEME *

Marks Per Ques	Below Average	Average	Above Average
10 Marks	Below 3.00	3.00 - 3.75	4.00 and above
15 Marks	Below 4.50	4.50 - 5.75	6.00 and above

* Subject to change without prior notice.

IMPORTANT QR CODES

Topper's Copy

Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB

Copy Scanner App

Next IAS Test Centre Location

MACRO COMMENTS

The Purpose of evaluation@nextias.com is to provide constructive suggestions on 'How to improve Answer Writing and thereby score better marks.

STRENGTHS OF THE CANDIDATE

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT

IMPROVEMENT SUGGESTIONS

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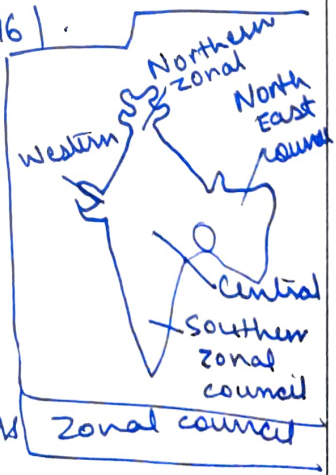
1. परामर्श और आपसी सहमति के आधार पर बहुलवाद द्वारा उत्पन्न समस्याओं को हल करने के लिए संस्थागत व्यवस्था संघीय शासन की एक प्रमुख विशेषता है। क्षेत्रीय परिषदें केवल सलाहकार निकायों से कार्रवाई के लिए सक्रिय मंचों के रूप में कैसे विकसित हुई हैं (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

Federal governance is characterised by institutionalized arrangements for solving problems generated by pluralism based on consultation and mutual consent. How have Zonal Councils evolved from merely advisory bodies to proactive platforms for action? (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Federal governance means separation of powers between centre and the states and taking decisions with consultation and consent (Cooperative Federalism)

eg NITI Aayog
Interstate council } presence of both state and centre policy making

Zonal Councils } formed by State Reorganisation Act 1956 and North East Zonal Council Act 1971.



Earlier - Merely Advisory

1. Irregular meetings
2. High Absenteeism from chief ministers
3. Recommendations not accepted

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(4) Not much importance given

Proactive Platform Now

(1) Regular meetings initiated

(2) Regular resolution of disputes and decisions by mutual consent

(3) Meeting behind closed doors so no political vendettas effective consultation

(4) Zonal problems/ regional can be raised to centre
(eg) MHA → is the head.

(5) Enhance equality in participation lacking in Parliament
(eg) Nagaland has just 1 MP in Parliament

However, more has to be done. Zonal Councils can be evolved on basis of model 'CHINTAN SHIVIRS' in Orissa

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2. भारतीय संविधान के तहत धर्मनिरपेक्षता समानता के प्रति संवैधानिक प्रतिबद्धता की व्यापक अवधारणा में समाहित है। चर्चा करें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

Secularism under the Indian constitution is encapsulated in the broader concept of constitutional commitment to equality. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Secularism is a concept of equal rights to all religion without discrimination.

India - follows Positive form of Secularism

↓

government will work for all religions but equally (no discrimination)

Encapsulated in Equality Commitment

① Essential Religious Practices (ERP)

Shirur Mutt Case

Right to Equality is more powerful than Right to Religion except in cases of ERP

② Art 15, 16 No person can be discriminated on the basis of religion in education, public employment

③ Social Justice

& ⑨ Sabarimala case

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women right to equality > Right of Religious denomination

(4) Art 28 - Equal support to all religions through public exchequer

(5) Provisions of UCC (Art 44) to enhance equality

However Right to Religion is also adequately protected

(1) ~~Essential~~ Essential Religious Practices test -

(2) Right to practice, propagate, and profess any religion (Art 25) except no proselytisation allowed (~~For~~ Stanislaus Case)

(3) Secularism as the Basic Structure of the constitution

(4) Art 26 - Right of Religious denomination to protect their practices
(e) Sikhs - holding Kirpan

Therefore, India follows a balanced middle path by balancing both Art 25-28 (Right to Religion) and Art 14-18 (Right to Equality).

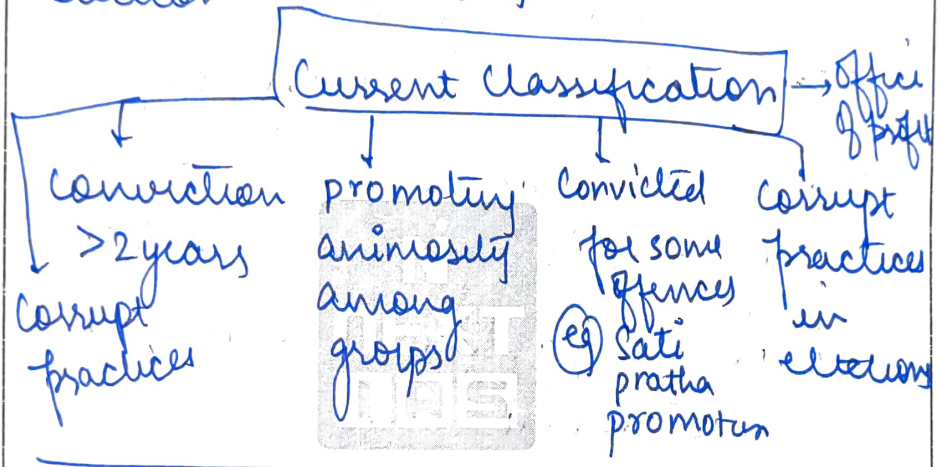
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3. जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा 8 को सजा की अवधि से हटाकर **अपराध** की गंभीरता पर केंद्रित करने की आवश्यकता है।' टिप्पणी करें कि धारा 8 के तहत वर्तमान वर्गीकरण किस प्रकार अपराधों के मनमाने वर्गीकरण की ओर ले जाता है। साथ ही, इस धारा के तहत अयोग्य घोषित व्यक्ति के लिए उपलब्ध उपायों का भी उल्लेख करें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

'There is a need to shift the focus of Section 8 of the Representation of People Act, 1951 from the duration of the sentence to the gravity of the offence.' Comment on how the current classification under Section 8 leads to arbitrary categorisation of offences. Also, mention the remedies available to a person disqualified under this section. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Section 8 of RPA 1951 Act mention the disqualification of criterias of an election candidate



Current Classification - Arbitrary categorisation of offences

(1) Time period for conviction i.e 2 years is arbitrary.

(2) Some offences not mentioned for immediate disqualification
eg Rape convicts.

(3) Similar punishment for

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different things

(eg) non furnishing of ~~doo~~ property details and promoting Sati same punishment

(4) Disqualification of 6 years after conviction term → arbitrary

Remedies for person Disqualified

(1) Appeal in Supreme Court within 3 months
Struck down in Lily Thomas Case

(2) ~~Sup~~ Courts apply stay on the conviction - (eg) Rahul Gandhi case

(3) President allows the candidature of candidate(MP) despite ~~the~~ conviction

(4) Removal of conviction of candidate by judiciary

There is need to look at the arbitrariness in the categorisation process → committee must be formed to look into it

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4. भारतीय संसदीय प्रणाली में विपक्ष के नेता का क्या महत्व है? लोकतंत्र में नियंत्रण और संतुलन बनाए रखने में विपक्ष की भूमिका किस प्रकार योगदान देती है? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

What is the significance of the Leader of Opposition in the Indian parliamentary system? How does the role of the opposition contribute to the checks and balances in a democracy? (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Leader of Opposition (LoP) is a statutory post under Rules of Business of Parliament Act - given to the leader of largest opposition party (minimum 1/10th seats required)

eg Rahul Gandhi recently appointed LoP

Significance of LoP

1. Parliamentary Debates - keep the government accountable on the floor
2. Appointment of Officers
   - eg Chief Information Commissioner - LCEC Act
3. Member of Parliamentary Standing Committee - eg Public Account committee - enhance Accountability
4. Through various motions, bills

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and voting on floor of parliament

challenges → Degrading Parliamentary debates - (eg) personal attacks instead of large issue

→ Opposing even the good laws of government

→ Spreading fake news at times

→ Disruption of Parliamentary Proceedings

Role of opposition - Checks and Balance

(1) Scrutinise all the actions of ruling government

(2) Passes motions (eg) adjournment motion, no-confidence motion ↓ censure the government

(3) Enhance people awareness about the issue.

(4) Can Make government in case ruling party losses confidence.

The Model of Britain of Shadow cabinet can be replicated in India for increase productivity of opposition in India

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5. "प्रस्तावना के मूल आदर्श - संप्रभुता, समाजवाद, धर्मनिरपेक्षता और लोकतंत्र - भारत के संवैधानिक ढांचे की आधारशिला हैं।" स्पष्ट कीजिये। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

"The core ideals of the Preamble – sovereignty, socialism, secularism, and democracy – form the bedrock of India's constitutional framework." Elucidate. (Answer in 150 words; 10 marks)

Preamble is the first chapter of the constitution and the vision of our constitution makers

Sovereignty as a Bedrock

① Independence of country to take her own decisions
   eg Non Alignment Movement

② Avoiding conflicts and subjugation to other countries
   eg President can declare and end war by declaration

Socialism

① Reducing inequalities among the public eg DPSP - Art 38, 39.

② Welfare of all the citizens inclusive growth
   eg Art 38 - welfare of people

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(6) GB Pant Agriculture University case
Socialism is bedrock of constitution

Secularism as a Bedrock

(1) Maintains Pluralism - Art 25-28
Right to Religion of all.

(2) Right to equality - no discrimination on basis of Religion → education
→ employment
(eg) ~~Art~~ Art 15, 16.

(3) Religious institutions protected - Art 27

Democracy as the Bedrock

(1) Right to vote - Universal Adult Franchise - ~~Art~~ Art 326
(everyone above 18yrs - Right to vote)

(2) Right to Equality (Art 14) - for all

(3) Equal protection of laws
Equality before law
} Rule of Law

These along with Republic, fraternity, ~~our~~ liberty, ~~and~~ equality and justice also forms the bedrock

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6. 103वें संवैधानिक संशोधन के निहितार्थों का आकलन करें, जिसने भारत में सामाजिक न्याय के सिद्धांत पर आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर वर्गों (ईडब्ल्यूएस) के लिए दस प्रतिशत आरक्षण की शुरुआत की है। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें) 10 अंक

Assess the implications of the 103rd Constitutional Amendment, which introduced a ten per cent reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), on the principle of social justice in India. (10 marks, 150 words)

Via Janhit Abhyaan Case - EWS reservation ~~was~~ (103rd CAA) was declared constitutional by the Supreme court

Criteria

- < 8 lac salary per annum
- No Agri Land
- No property > 100 sq yard in notified urb > 200 sq yard in

Positive Implication on Social Justice

(1) Upliftment of Economically poor can help them attain education and employment
↓
break vicious cycle of poverty

(2) Covered under social nets
earlier not covered because belonged to upper caste

(3) Enhance Political Participation
(eg) more representation in Civil services

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(4) Enhance Social Mobility
   (eg) High Gross Enrollment ratio in higher education
(5) Enhance women social mobility because of feminisation of poverty (Amartya Sen)

Challenges to Social Justice

(1) Criteria of Ceiling of salary arbitrary and can vary from state to state
(2) Huge chances of Misuse - as India has poor fiscal compliance
   (eg) Report - 90% of EWS Quotas are fake.
(3) Not applicable to lower caste may depress them further
(4) Can increase Brain Drain as less opportunities for General category population

There is a need of proper implementation so that benefits can reach to right population

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7. भारत में कल्याणकारी योजनाओं का ध्यान "कल्याण" से "अति-निर्भरता" की ओर स्थानांतरित हो रहा है। इसके आलोक में, क्या आप इस बात से सहमत हैं कि कल्याणकारी योजनाओं ने भारत में "मुफ्त की संस्कृति" को जन्म दिया है, जिससे गरीबी और भूख उन्मूलन से ध्यान भटक गया है? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

The focus of welfare schemes in India is shifting from "well-being" towards "over-dependency". In light of this, do you agree that welfare schemes have inculcated a "freebies culture" in India leading to a divergence of focus from poverty and hunger alleviation? (10 marks, 150 words)

India under DPSP Art 38 - focuses on welfarism of vulnerable sections therefore have started various schem

PM Garib Kalyan Yojana | PDS | PM Awas Yojana | Ayushman Bharat scheme

Welfare scheme → Freebies culture

(1) Focus on populist schemes
   (eg) Farm loan waivers

(2) Benefits not reaching to the real vulnerables
   (eg) PDS diverted towards market

(3) Overdependence on welfare schemes
   (eg) 80 Crore beneficiaries under PDS

(4) Political Agendas for immediate Political Gains
   (eg) Money directly to accounts of poor

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(5) No emphasis on skill development

(6) High dependence on subsidies and MSPs (eg) Anti Farm Law Protest

However welfare schemes have also lead to poverty and hunger alleviation

(1) Poverty schemes - In last 10 years 20 crore people pulled out poverty

(2) Agricultural subsidies (eg) PMGKY
In Covid - Only sector to show positive growth

(3) Educational Schemes
Rise in literacy rates to 78% (census 21)
Gross Enrollment rate > 102%.

(4) Enhance MSME capabilities
(eg) MUDRA loans → >100 unicorns in India

There is need of better scheme penetration and focus on capacity building of vulnerables - Subramaniam Swamy Case

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8. ई-शासन केवल दक्षता के संबंध में नहीं है; यह प्रत्येक नागरिक के लिए शासन व्यवस्था को सुलभ और समावशी बनाने के संबंध में है। व्याख्या करें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

E-governance is not just about efficiency; it's about making governance accessible and inclusive for every citizen. Explain. (10 marks, 150 words)

E-governance is the provision of governance services through digital means

eg Digilocker (access document

e-Governance → efficiency

(i) Faster Service Delivery

eg entity Digilocker - clearances

(ii) Targetted delivery

eg e-PDS - targetted beneficiaries

(iii) Data driven policy making

eg MGNREGA, PMAY drone assessment

e-Governance - Accessibility

(i) Access to far away places

eg Bharat net scheme

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(ii) Access to poor population
- Bhoomi Initiative (Karnataka) - land mapping.

(iii) Better grievance redressal and delivery modified according to needs
- Daamini app - predict lightning - (fishermen)

e-Governance - inclusion

(i) Enhance political participation
- eGOV portal.

(ii) Easy Access to Market to all
- eNAM portal.

(iii) Finance inclusion
- Jan Dhan Accounts (JAM trinity)

With Industrial Revolution 4.0 our aim should be Data for the people, by the people and of the people - Hon'ble PM

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9. QUAD, AUKUS, I2U2 आदि जैसे नए क्षेत्रीय और बहुपक्षीय समझौतों के आगमन के साथ, गुट निरपेक्ष आन्दोलन (NAM), दावोस और G77 जैसे संगठनों द्वारा प्रतिनिधित्व की जाने वाली पुरानी वैश्विक व्यवस्था अपनी प्रासंगिकता खो रही है। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

With the advent of new regional and multilateral agreements like QUAD, AUKUS, I2U2 etc the old world order represented by organizations like NAM, Davos, and G77 is losing its relevance. Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

There is recent rise in multilaterals, minilaterals and regional groupings

because

- divided interests
- different priorities
- different capabilities

Old world order - loosing significance

(1) Decrease in Non Alignment.
globalised world, everything interdependent.

(2) Assistance Required
(eg) Indo-Pacific - need collaborative actions for protection

(3) No progression in old bodies
(eg) G77 - no consensus formed
long process.

(4) Faster action in minilaterals

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(5) Better alignment of interests in minilaterals

(6) Regional interests represented well in minilaterals

(7) No Regular meetings (eg) ASEAN (eg) NAM

Still Old world order is still significant

(1) NAM is needed to avoid conflicts in potential Bipolar World → USA → China.

(2) To tackle problems of large groupings (eg) Global south → G77 required

(3) To focus on resilient global value chains.
(eg) WTO consensus, Davos.

(4) To promote inclusive development
(eg) G20 - inclusion of African Union

Old order is also well required but with adequate reforms to meet present realities (eg) UNSC reforms

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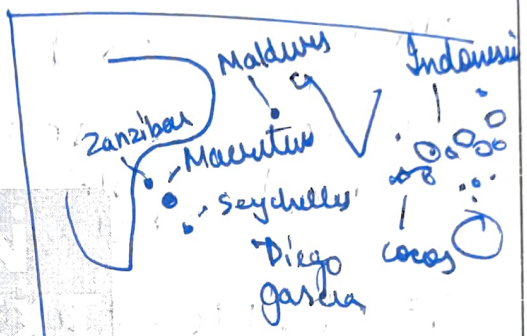
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10. दक्षिण प्रशांत से अफ्रीकी तट तक के द्वीपीय राज्य और क्षेत्र भारत के बदलते रणनीतिक भूगोल में नए केंद्र बन गए हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारत के लिए इन द्वीपीय राज्यों के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालें और इन राज्यों के साथ संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए भारत द्वारा की गई पहलों पर भी प्रकाश डालें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

The island states and territories from the South Pacific to the African coast have become new nodes in India's changing strategic geography. In this context, highlight the importance of these island states for India and also throw light upon the initiatives taken by India to strengthen ties with these states. (10 marks, 150 words)

India has been focussing on Island states in Indian and Pacific ocean

Importance of Islands



(1) Strategic

India as net Security provider Islands - Indo Pacific in the region.

(2) Huge Mineral Sources - along the maritime coast

(3) Connectivity with Africa enhances

(4) Cultural ties (e.g. Mauritius Indian Deaspora

(5) China's string of pearls counts

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Initiatives taken by India

(1) IIT campus in Zanzibar island - Tanzania

(2) Development of Mauritius
- Infrastructure
- military base

(3) Support to Mauritius in Diego Garcia conflict with England

(4) Humanitarian Aid
- eg Op Neer ~~to~~ Maldives

(5) Climate diplomacy at COPs
- Climate deals - UNFCC
- for small Island Developing States

(6) CDRI for Disaster resilience

(7) Investment in economy
- eg Mauritius

(8) Voice of Global south

These islands can be a power hub for future inclusive work

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11. भारत में चुनावी वित्तीयन विधिक खामियों और राजनीतिक अक्षमताओं की दोहरी मार से भरा हुआ है। इस संदर्भ में, चुनावी वित्तीयन की चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें। इस संबंध में भारत वैश्विक सर्वोत्तम प्रथाओं से क्या सीख ले सकता है? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Electoral funding in India is fraught with the **double** whammy of legal loopholes and political inefficiencies. In this context, discuss the challenges to electoral funding. What lessons can India draw from global best practices in this regard? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Recent struck down of electoral bonds by the Supreme Court has taken back the electoral funding system to ELECTORAL Trust System

Electoral funding double whammy

Legal loopholes
- No restriction on cap on political party funds
- No transparency & audit of party money
- Election commission - no power to deregister party

Political inefficiency
- Parties reluctant to come under RTI.
- use of muscle power and money power in elections
- CEC alleged to be biased towards ruling party.

Challenges to Electoral Funding

① Black Money - use in the elections by the corporate houses.
+
Money Laundering problems

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(2) Quid Pro Quo between political parties and corporates as seen by recent electoral bond case

(3) Right to Privacy of donor (Art 21) - to avoid political bounding. if the recipient party looses

Vs.

(4) Right to information (Art 19(1)(a)) of citizens for better decision making by voters on Right to vote (A326)

(5) Lack of Transparency - (eg) electoral bonds - not disclosed to ECI (Election Commission) or public

(6) Putting expenditure cap on parties can lead to rise in Black money.

(7) Create unlevel playing field in elections (eg) In 2024 election BJP = 6500 Cr vs INC = 1000 Cr huge difference.

Lessons India can Draw from global best Practices

(1) France - corporate houses are

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prohibited from donating money to parties

(2) Germany - Vouchers are distributed to public → vote their party
↓
on basis of this - pooled money is shared among parties

(3) USA Model - Transparency in political donations

(4) Norway Model - total state funding of elections

(5) UK Model - Party caps of maximum expenditure in the election

Way forward

(1) Former CEC - SY Qureshi - recommendation
National Electoral Fund
sharing ~~to~~ with all parties based on last election votes

(2) Indrajit Gupta Committee - Partial State funding of elections.

The Political Parties need to be ethical in their expenditures. Like MCC, some expenditure cap must be decided by parties mutually.

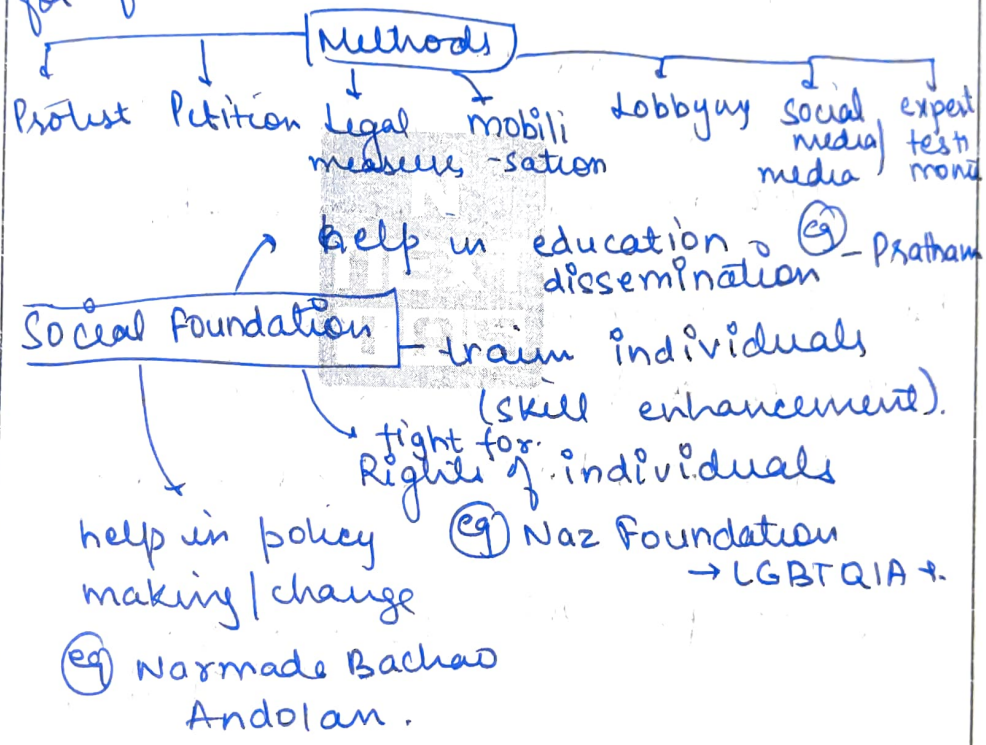
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12. दबाव समूह लोकतंत्र की सामाजिक नींव का निर्माण करते हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में श्रमिकों के लिए सामाजिक सुरक्षा उपायों को बढ़ावा देने में दबाव समूहों के प्रमुख योगदान पर चर्चा करें और बताएं कि वे मौजूदा नीतियों में उपलब्ध खामियों को किस प्रकार दूर करते हैं। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Pressure groups form the social foundation of a democracy. In this context, discuss pressure groups' key contributions in promoting social security measures for workers in India, and how they address the gaps in existing policies. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Pressure groups are informal group of people who come together for a common agenda to create pressure of government for favourable Policies



Pressure groups : Social Security Measures for workers in India

① Skill development - among workers and awareness
eg FICCI initiative

② Promote security of workers at

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work place
(eg) IMA (Indian Medical Association) protest for doctor safety.

(3) Economic upliftment
(eg) SEWA initiative - women economic empowerment

(4) Protecting Rights of workers and enhance Bargaining power
(eg) Labour unions

(5) Enhance Transparency in system
(eg) Mazdoor Kisan Sangathan → RTI

(6) Promote collectivisation → enhance efficiency and enhance voice
(eg) Farmer Producer Organisations

Pressure Groups - Address gaps in existing policies

(1) Via Legal measures
(eg) ADR vs UOI - electoral bond case - bonds struck down

(2) Via protests and mass mobilisation
(eg) Narmada Bachao Andolan
↳ Kalpavriksh

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(3) Via Social Media Campaigns
(eg) Mahila Dakshata Samiti v. Mathura Rape case.

(4) Raising the voice for minority rights
(eg) Naz Foundation for LGBTQIA+
Madhu Kishwar case - for tribal rights

(5) Keep the government accountable and transparent
(eg) ADR and PRS reports on functioning of democratic fellows

Challenges → Politicisation of issues
(eg) Labour unions
→ Foreign agenda involved at times.
NSA - NGOs/CSOs becoming new frontiers of war (because of pressure groups)
Lack of accountability, fake news, hate speeches promoted.

National Policy on Voluntary sector, Right to Speech and expression (Art 19 (1)(a) - promoted by pressure groups must be protected

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13. संविधान में भारतीय संघीय राजनीति के कार्यकारी क्षेत्र में "संघीय सर्वोच्चता के सिद्धांत" की परिकल्पना की गई है। प्रासंगिक संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और वाद एवं विधियों का हवाला देते हुए चर्चा कीजिये। शक्तियों के वितरण से संबंधित विवादास्पद मुद्दों का समाधान किस प्रकार किया जाता है? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

The Constitution envisages the "principle of federal supremacy" in the executive space of Indian federal polity. Discuss while referring to the relevant Constitutional provisions and case laws. How are contentious issues regarding the distribution of powers resolved? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

In Tika Ramji vs UOI case - supreme court interpreted constitution/Indian federalism as principle of federal supremacy

Federal Supremacy → Centre has more powers than the state when both of their actions are at conflict.

Principle of Federal Supremacy in executive space

(1) Residuary executive powers with the centre - A246 of constitution.
(eg) taxes, space, anything left in other lists

(2) Concurrent list Powers - Superiority to centre - if State and central actions are in conflict → centre prevails

Schedule VII, Art 246.

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(3) Emergency Powers - federal system converts to unitary

Art 352 National emergency

Art 356 President's Rule

(4) Finance Commission - determining proceeds of taxes to states Art 280. (Net Borrowing limit issue).

(5) States Centre can give directions to States - States must perform

eg Art 365, SR Bommai Judgement

(6) International treaties over State subjects - centre can make laws (Art 253).

(7) Governor - head of State - appointed by governor - ~~Art 154~~

Contentious issues - distribution of powe resolved

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(1) Judicial route - Art 134 - Supreme court original jurisdiction for centre - state disputes

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② Inter State Council - Art 263 to solve out any disputes between State and Centre

③ GST council - for fiscal federalism

④ Niti Aayog - for policy disputes

Challenges to division of powers
- Ambiguity in lists (sch VII)
  - eg Agriculture - State list, Agri trade - Union
- More powers to centres
  - eg Union list - more power
- Centralisation tendencies
  - eg One nation one exam.
- Partisan role of governor
  - eg in Kerala University case

Way Forward :
① Sarkaria Commission - centre must consult with states over concurrent list
② Punchhi Commission - Residuary powers to be given to States

UOI vs G-Chawla case - SC stated Doctrine of Harmonious construction between state & centre - can be followed

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14. निष्पक्ष प्रतिनिधित्व सुनिश्चित करने और एक वोट, एक मूल्य के सिद्धांतों को बनाए रखने के लिए सीटों का परिसीमन आवश्यक है। निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में गलत प्रतिनिधित्व से उत्पन्न चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए संघीय तनाव उत्पन्न करने में जनसंख्या-आधारित परिसीमन के प्रभावों का विश्लेषण कीजिये। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Delimitation of seats is essential to ensure fair representation and uphold the principles of one vote, one value. Highlighting the challenges posed by misrepresentation in constituencies analyse the ramifications of population-based delimitation in creating federal tension. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Delimitation is the process of rearranging the constituencies for election based on population to ensure one vote one value - constitution Art 62

Art 62 - government must ensure that seats to population in each state must remain as equal as possible

Art 82, 170 - Provision of Delimitation for Lok Sabha, State elections respectively

Independent body - delimitation commission is formed - process frozen upto 2026 (84th constitutional Amendment)

Challenges posed by misrepresentation in constituencies

(i) Malapportionment of seats

some states may get more seats than required

(eg) Kerala people - more vote value

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(ii) Violate one person, one vote, one value rule

(iii) Representation crisis

Rise in population → no increase/decrease in seats

↓

more population under one executive

↓

increase distance between population and representative

Governance crisis

(iv) Demand of populous states for delimitation

(v) Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam

Allocation of seats will depend on Delimitation

↓

if seats - irregular → irregular representation

Ramification of population based delimitation

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(1) Federal tension - smaller state will have to lose seats

↓

decreased power

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(2) Demotivation for demographic performance as these states have performed better to decrease population.

(3) Can increase North-South and East-West Divide.

(4) Some political Parties (state winners) can become more powerful in Lok Sabha.

(5) Smaller states may be neglected due to less representation.

Way Forward

(1) Pranav Mukherjee Recommendation increase LS seats to 1000, correspondy change in RS and do delimitation

(2) USA model - equal Rajya Sabha seats for all states can be followed.

(3) Regular delimitation can be followed so that changes can be minor.

EU Model of Progressive allocation i.e representation of bigger states in equivalent terms but slightly more than representation to smaller states can be followed

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15. उच्च न्यायालयों का ध्यान "संवैधानिक मामलों" से हटाकर रोजमर्रा के मामलों पर केंद्रित करने के लिए जनहित याचिका प्रणाली को किस सीमा तक जिम्मेदार ठहराया जा सकता है? उच्च न्यायालयों पर समग्र बोझ को कम करने में ट्रायल कोर्ट क्या भूमिका निभा सकते हैं? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

To what extent can the PIL system be held responsible for shifting the focus of the higher Courts from "constitutional matters" to day-to-day matters? What role can the trial Courts play in reducing the overall burden on higher Courts? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

PIL (Public Interest Litigation) is a judicial innovation where for public cause, judiciary (high courts) can take up cases to do justice (Art 142)

Origin - PN Bhagwati and Justice Iyer SP Gupta vs UOI case.

PIL - responsible for shifting focus of high courts

(1) Rise in judicial pendency
(eg) National Judicial Data Grid - 4.4 Cr Pending cases in judiciary.

(2) Neglect of constitutional matters to take up pro-Bono cases.

(3) Enhance administrative work of judiciary - (eg) allocation of cases - further decrease time for other cases

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However - other factors are also responsible

(1) higher courts as court of appeal most of litigations are appeals from lower courts

(2) - CJI - "culture of adjournment and long vacation problem"

(3) Inefficiencies in Criminal Justice Systems - poor quality of chargesheets ↓ delay cases

(4) Government - ~~data~~ major litigant
(eg) >50% of cases - government involved (NJDG)

(5) huge vaccancies in judiciary

Importance of PIL
- Complete justice to the population (Art 39a).
- Protect minority rights (eg LGBTQIA)
- Protect emerging issues
  (eg) climate change - MC Mehta Case.
- speedy justice and utilitarian principle (more population benefit)

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Role - trial courts can play - decreasing high court burden

1. Enhance case clearance rates which is poor in lower judiciary (eg) > 70% cases are pending (of total pendency) are in lower judiciary.
2. Reducing appeals to higher courts through quality justice delivery
3. Handling civil and criminal matters so that higher courts can focus on constitutional matters
4. Training of judges for higher courts - increase in efficiency
5. Technology Adoption - can lead to faster clearance.

All India Judicial Services as propounded by Hon'ble President can be implemented for better functioning of lower courts

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16. भारत की उच्च शिक्षा प्रणाली को वैश्विक मानकों के अनुरूप बनाने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण सुधारों की आवश्यकता है। नई शिक्षा नीति (एनईपी) 2020 का लक्ष्य इन चुनौतियों का समाधान करना किस प्रकार है, और भारत अपनी उच्च शिक्षा प्रणाली को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रथाओं से क्या सबक सीख सकता है? चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

India's higher education system needs significant reforms to align with global standards. How does the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 aim to address these challenges, and what lessons can India learn from international practices to enhance its higher education system? Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

India's higher education system (HIE) starts after 12th standard and focuses on imparting skill required for the industry / future jobs.

Need of Reforms

Need / Importance

1. Required for Economic growth via skilled labour
2. Needed for Research and development & Revenue earning.
3. Need for social sector eg doctors / lawyers
4. Boost Agriculture & better practices
5. Evolution of individual as aware person.
6. Technology Boost (INDUSTRY 4.0)

Challenges

1. India Skill Report graduate 47% of India's youth unskilled for jobs
2. R&D expenditure = 0.8% of GDP.
3. Huge doctor shortage (0.75/1000 population) WHO-req = 1/1000.
4. Less number of seats in colleges
5. Engineering colleges not meeting the standards

Brainstorm

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NEP: address challenges

1. Multiple Entry-Multiple Exit
   - Enhance women participation
     - generally dropout due to reproductive breaks
2. Single umbrella authority ie HECI (Higher Education commission of India)
   - decrease discrepancies in system
3. ~~Isis~~ Foreign Universities in India
   - can create completion with present one and decreases brain drain
4. Enhance focus on Research and innovation - with more private sector participation
5. Institute of Eminence
   - to make colleges compete at global level → as no Indian university in top 100 QS ranking

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(6) Enhance Industry Academia linkage
coding skills from early class
(7) Promotion of Bridge courses and Academic Bank of credits
↳ Enhance Participation

Lesson Learn from Global practices - HIE

(1) Entrance examinations - SAT model of USA can be adopted for diverse qualification
(2) China expenditure of R&D in HIE is near to 5% of GDP.
(3) Curriculum - more linked to industry (eg) UK Model.
(4) Early exposure to different carrers
(eg) Biotechnology awareness to school students in USA
(5) Foreign exposure in colleges.
(6) Learning by doing principle.

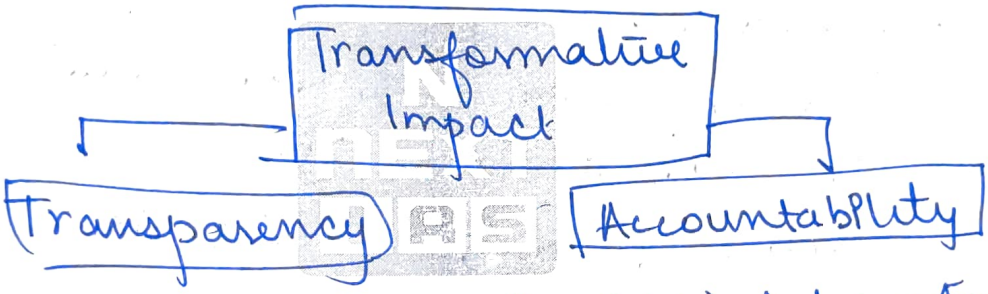
HIE can pave the way for Viksit Bharat, for this NEP 2020 must be properly implemented

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17. सूचना का अधिकार (आरटीआई) अधिनियम को भारतीय शासन में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही की तलाश में परिवर्तनकारी प्रभाव के लिए सराहा जाता है। हालाँकि, बहुआयामी चुनौतियाँ और प्रणालीगत सीमाएँ इसके प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में बाधा डालती हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही इसके प्रभावी क्रियान्वयन के लिए उपाय भी सुझाइये। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

The Right to Information (RTI) Act is hailed for its transformative impact on the quest for transparency and accountability in Indian governance. However, multifaceted challenges and systemic limitations impede its effective implementation. Discuss. Also, suggest measures for its effective implementation. (15 marks, 250 words)

RTI Act (2005) was passed after MKSS vs UOI case to fulfil Art 19(1)(a) as Right to Information → fundamental aspect of Right to ~~Ef~~ freedom of Speech and expression



① Information can be accessed from Public offices → 30 days.

② Ex: Very minimal cost for application
eg 5-10 ₹

③ Exposing corruption
Scam
eg 2G scam

① Public Information Officers, State Information Commi; CIC - set up.

② Keep the officials answerab and responsible
eg Assets of political candidates

③ Ensure Integrity of officials

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Multi faceted challenges in implementation

1. Poor Record keeping - PIOs unable to collect information
2. Language - ambiguity - that the PIO use - difficult to understand
3. PIO vacancies - eg - CWG Report 30% of PIO vacancies - vacant
4. Public Secrets Act - not disclosed to public
5. Personal Data Protection Act increased matters outside the purview of RTI.

Systemic limitations in implementation

1. Amendment to RTI Act - CIC appointment by centre, tenure/salaries control under central government
2. Delay in appeals due to reluctance and vacancies
3. RTI Activism - by pressure group administration inconvenience.
4. No Activist Protection
   eg CWG report = 86 RTI activist

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lost life in last 10 years

Measures - Effective Implementation

1. Filling of vaccancies of PIO.
2. CIC appointment by an independent body
3. Skilling of PIOs to be done
4. Digitalisation of records for better access
5. Online tracking of RTI appeals
6. Suo Moto - revelation of information in public domain by officials
7. Protection of RTI activists to be enhanced

RTI can act as the backbone to good and inclusive governance, it must be protected from ambiguities

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18. ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की तुलना में शहरी क्षेत्रों में स्वयं सहायता समूहों (एसएचजी) को मिलने वाली अनूठी चुनौतियों और अवसरों पर चर्चा कीजिए, और शहरी गरीबी से निपटने के लिए सूक्ष्म ऋण को किस प्रकार अनुकूलित किया जा सकता है।
(250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Discuss the unique challenges and opportunities Self Help Groups (SHGs) encounter in urban areas compared to rural ones, and how can microfinance be adapted to tackle urban poverty.
(15 marks, 250 words)

SHGs are groups of people which come together for common cause, pool their resources and help each other for various tasks.

Economy (eg) SEWA model

Social change (eg) Rani Mistri (Jharkhand)

Political empowerment (eg) Tiruvanantpuram declaration

Challenges - Urban SHG over Rural.

(1) Difficult to set up - because of enhanced competition in urban areas from private companies

(2) Lack of labour availability - (eg) women unemployment more in urban area than rural.

(3) More capital required - difficult to get credit access + expensive Land Acquisition

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(4) Environmental Impact on some of the economic activities - more in urban.
(eg) Urban heat islands → damage to agriculture

(5) Transportation, Air pollution, water scarcity, women security, overcrowding are some other challenges

Opportunities

(1) Women Participation - can be enhanced in urban areas
educated but unemployed (in urban)

(2) Easy access to linkages - with private and government support

(3) Better government policies
(a) One District One Product Scheme

(4) Skilling avenues more
(a) ITI forums

(5) Better digital penetration in urban areas

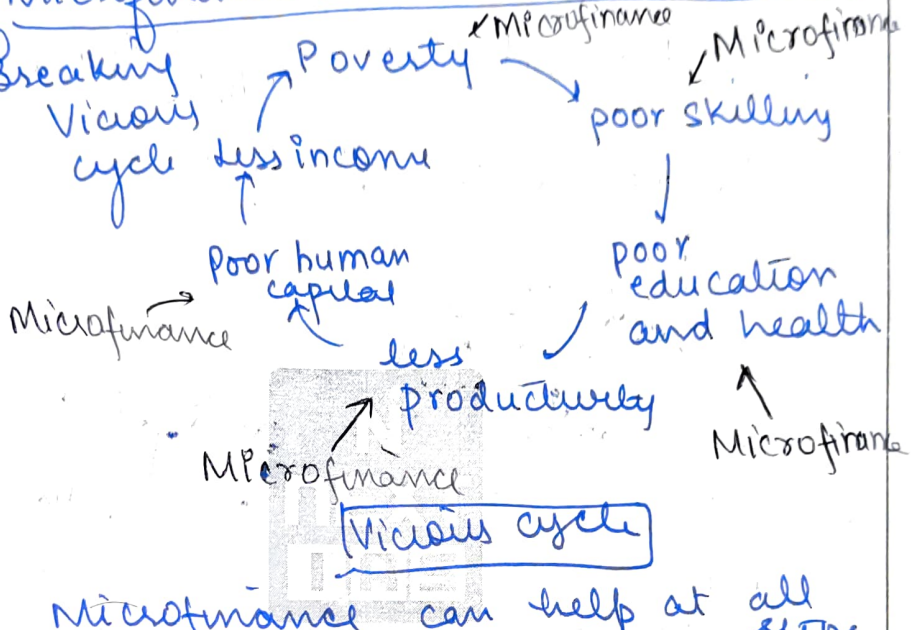
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(6) Better support from private companies → mentoring and technological support.

Microfinance: tackle urban Poverty

(1) Breaking Vicious cycle



Microfinance can help at all steps

(2) Promoting SHGs and small vendors — enhance Capital.
↓
boost economic growth.

(3) Increase credit Discipline among population.

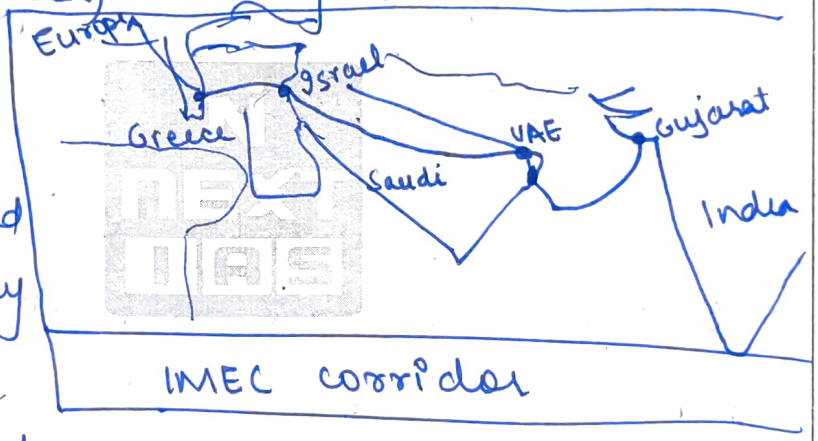
Bangladesh Model of Microfinance institutions can be replicated in India (60% penetration) for more productivity

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19. विश्व, विशेषकर पश्चिम के साथ भारत के संपर्क (कनेक्टिविटी) के लिए हाल ही में परिकल्पित भारत-मध्य पूर्व-यूरोप गलियारे के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालें। क्या आपको लगता है कि हाल के दिनों में भारत की विदेश नीति में परिवहन और ऊर्जा पहल को प्राथमिकता दी गई है? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Highlight the significance of the recently envisaged India-Middle East-Europe corridor for India's connectivity with the world, especially the West. Do you think, in recent times, transport and energy initiatives have taken precedence in India's foreign policy? (15 marks, 250 words)

Recently, India and countries like UAE, Saudi Arabia, France, Greece Initiated USA, UK. IMEC project on the sidelines of G20 (India) meeting.



It is sea and land boundary route connecting India with Middle east and then to Europe

Significance with the World

(1) Transit Diplomacy- Connecting Middle east and Europe to India

(2) Trade relations- India major importer of energy needs from

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middle east -

(3) Cultural ties - huge Indian diaspora in Middle East ~ 80 lakhs (UAE ~ 30% Indians).

(4) Strategic - to counter china's Belt and Road initiative (string of pearls)

(5) Climate Diplomacy - Hydrogen pipeline also ~~used~~ to be set up.

For West

(1) Trade Route to India will decrease time to Russia by 3-4 days (11 → 7 days)

(2) Part of PGII - initiative by EU will promote infrastructure - counter china

(3) Tackle climate change

(4) Alternate to INSTC corridor

(5) Can help in maintaining Middle East peace.

(6) Alternate to Suez Canal and Red Sea - avoid instabilities in Red sea (eg Houthi Rebels)

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India's foreign diplomacy precedence to transport and energy initiatives

Transport

1. IMEC corridor
2. INSTC corridor
3. Chennai to Vladivostok corridor.
4. I2MT trilateral pathway

energy

1. Increase Bilateral Strategic relation with Middle east
2. Nostro vostro account with Russia
3. Natural gas deal with Qatar
4. Russia far East Region investment

So yes, India is focussing on transport and energy initiatives.

but others are also at focus

Economic ties

Neighborhood priorities

cultural diplomacy

Diaspora
Soft power
Op' Kaveri
Yoga influence

So India is following a multivector approach. As MEA S. Jaishankar has said - "this is a transformational decade for Indian Diplomacy"

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20. राजनीतिक रूप से विवादास्पद मुद्दों में हालिया वृद्धि के बावजूद, भारत-कनाडा द्विपक्षीय संबंध लोकतंत्र, बहुलवाद, आर्थिक जुड़ाव के विस्तार और लंबे समय से चले आ रहे लोगों से लोगों के संबंधों के साझा मूल्यों के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं। भारत-कनाडा संबंध के महत्वपूर्ण स्तंभों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत और कनाडा के मध्य सहयोग और सहभागिता के संभावित क्षेत्रों पर चर्चा करें। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Despite the recent rise in politically contentious issues, the India-Canada bilateral relationship has remained committed to shared values of democracy, pluralism, expanding economic engagement and long-standing people-to-people ties. Highlighting the significant pillars of the India-Canada relationship, discuss the potential areas of cooperation and collaboration between India and Canada. (15 marks, 250 words)

Recent case of killing of Khalistani activist (Nijjar) has led to ~~some~~ some deterioration in ties between India and Canada

↓

Decrease in high commissions of Canada in India.

However - Ind-Canada ties have strong ties from long back.

Significant Pillars of India-Canada Partnership

(1) Diaspora Connect - good people to people ties - massive population of Punjabis in Canada.

↓

even in politics.

(2) Climate Diplomacy - Green energy deals with Canada

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(3) Historical ties - Many revolutionaries worked from Canada (Vancouver)

↓

Justin Trudeau - ~~asked for~~ repented for Komagata Maru incident

(3) Economic / Trade ties - Bilateral trade present mainly in green energy

↓

huge remittances

(4) Strategic Interest - common in Indo pacific - against China Rise.

(5) Institutional - Canada supports India for UNSC Seat -

Potential Areas of Cooperation and Collaboration

(1) Indo Pacific - against China's expansionist policies

(2) Green energy exchange

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(3) Employment to Indian youth
Economic Cooperation

(4) combat Terrorism, UN reforms for more multilateralism.

(5) Maintaining peace in Middle East and maintaining resilient supply chain

(6) Enhance Tourism - Canada - India tourism

(7) Cultural Values - Democracy promote
Yoga promotion

Challenges → WTO conflicts over Agri subsidies
→ Recent Khalistani Protest
→ Political differences within Canada.
discrimination with Indian diaspora in Canada.

India-Canada can act as good partners and follow the ideology of 'Together for everyone's growth, everyone's trust'

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Space for Rough Work