

NEXT IAS

GS MAINS ADVANCED COURSE 2024

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : GSMAC2406

Test No. : 06

Name of Candidate: Vinay D Mobile No. [REDACTED]

Roll No. : PTTP 220124 Start Time 10:00 AM End Time [REDACTED]

Date of Examination: 22/08/2024 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

<u>Student Concerns / Query</u>	<u>Evaluator's Feedback / Response</u>
1	1
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2	2
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3	3
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<u>MARKING SCHEME *</u>			
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.

<u>IMPORTANT QR CODES</u>	
 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

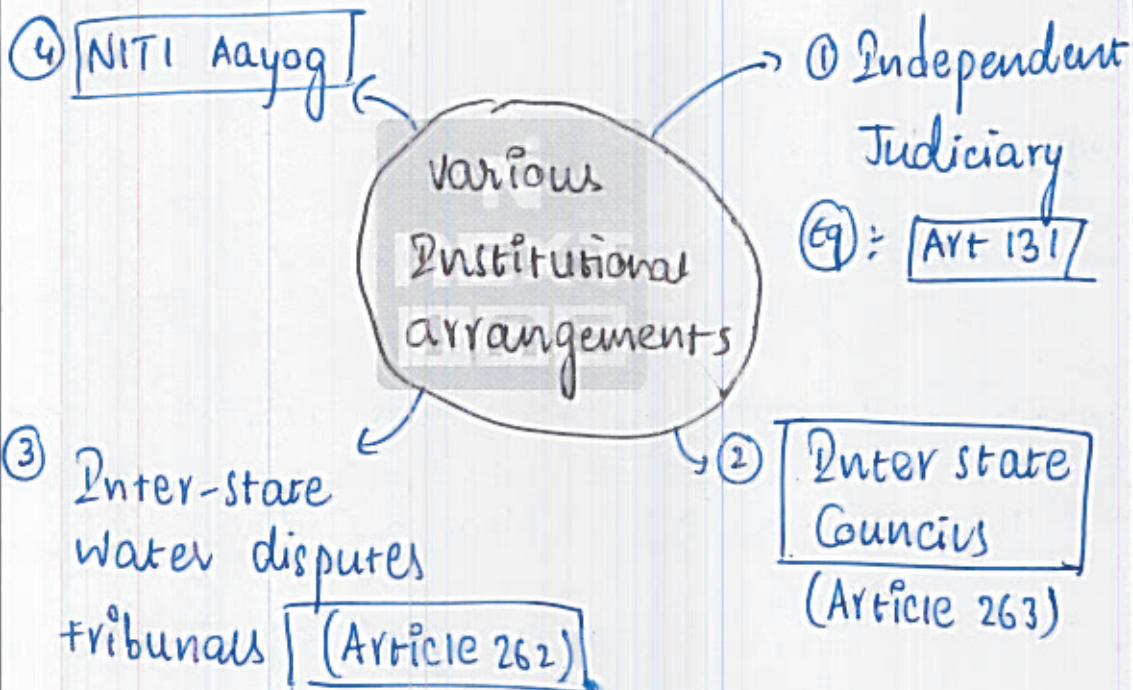


IMPROVEMENT SUGGESTIONS

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)

Indian federalism is sui-generis (Granville Austin) aimed at balancing national unity and plurality



Zonal Councils evolution

- ① Advisory bodies Constituted under States reorganisation Act, 1956
- ② Role in policy making → Consultation with states by union on Concurrent

list (eg) : GST law discussed in Councils

③ Grievance redressal → Alluviating fears
of small and poor states

④ Upholding voice of federal units → giving
a chance to share opinions

(eg) : Chattisgarh protested against NIA Act

⑤ mechanism to ensure Cooperative
federalism

⑥ Centre playing role of mediator
between states (eg) : southern zone Council
to resolve dispute between Karnataka
and Maharashtra

Way forward → ① Independent secretariat
to zonal Councils.

↳ ② provision of minimum sittings
(NCRWC) recommended.

Hence Zonal Councils

evolved to ensure TEAM India moving with unity.

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 the separation of state and the religion. Supreme Court in S.R. Bommai Case held secularism as basic structure of Constitution

Secularism - encapsulated broader concept of commitment to equality.

① No strict separation as secularism of India evolved with societal circumstances.

② presence of social evils - like women oppression in religion.

④: Denial of entry into temples.

③ secularism is porous boundaries between state and religion

(Eg): Sabarimala Case → women entry (Article 14)

④ Evolution of essential religious doctrine

↳ Shirur Matt Case (Eg): Tandava is not essential practise

⑤ Secularism comes when social morality is upheld by const religion

(Eg): Dalit untouchability → Can't protect under religion guise.

- Concerns →
- ① Excessive State Interference goes against Article 25, 26
 - ② Lack of Judicial expertise to determine essential practises.
 - ③ Chance of Communal disharmony with laws like uniform Civil code

Hence, as held by supreme Court in Ram Jawaya Case, Secularism upheld the Constitutional morality by upholding Human dignity

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 deals
with disqualification of elected
representatives if convicted for
more than 2 years imprisonment

Current Classification under section 8

① Based on duration of sentence

② looking at body of offence rather
than spirit side

eg: promoting unity b/w groups
is lesser offence

③ lack of clarity over Appeal
mechanism → goes against principle
of Natural Justice

④ Random classification with lack of
Unified framework.

Remedies available to disqualified person

① Appeal mechanism in higher Courts.

↳ High courts and supreme Courts.

② usage of Article 136 → special leave
petition of supreme Court.

③ Article 142 → principle of Complete
Justice

④ writ petitions in high court and
supreme Court.

Way forward

③ Internal party democracy

① fast track Courts to
fasten appeals

↳ ① looking at gravity of offence
over duration

Supreme Court in Ashwini Upadhyay

Case called for criminal Antecedents

of candidates which can purify the politics

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 was
statutorily recognised under LoO Act
(Salary and allowances) Act.

Significance of leader of opposition :

① keep check on executive

eg: Question hour to demand explanation

② Acts as alternate prime minister
in case of loss of confidence of house

③ mobilise the opposition to ensure
responsible conduct by majority government

eg: Reserve opposition to form laws

④ Demand for consultation and
inter-party consensus in international
treaties

⑤ voice criticism over ill conceived bills (eg): Against violations of privacy of citizens

Role of opposition in checks and balances

① promote institutional integrity → look part of selection Committee (eg): UPSC Act

② Bring private bills to voice alternate ways

③ protect the separation of powers → highlighting Article 121, 211 not to interfere in Judiciary

④ part of Committees → deliberate and debate on concerns

→ ① Independent functioning of speakers and chairman
way forward

↳ ② Best practise → chance for opposition to set agenda of house for certain days

Opposition plays a crucial role of Interest articulation of people and hence should be supported.

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 called a Soul
of Constitution by N.A. Palkivala, an
eminent Constitution Assembly member.
It is preface to the Constitution.

Bedrock of Constitutional framework.

① Sovereignty → ① protecting Territorial
Integrity of nation

② Absence of external influence
Over the law making

③ Citizen Interest → Raison d'état
of state.

② Socialism :-

① Idea of democratic socialism

② ensuring Welfare of people

(69) : Article 39(b), 39(c) of DPSPs

③ promoting social and economic democracy

[Secularism] :- ① ensuring the independence of state from religion (eg): [Article 27] of No taxes.

② protecting the [religious minorities]
(eg): SC in [TMA pai case] upheld this.

[Democracy] → ① symbolising the people resolve.

② ensuring [civil liberties] (eg): [Article 14] of right to equality

③ [freedom of speech and expression] under [Article 19]

Hence preamble reflects the vision of our Constitutional forefathers.
In this light we have to strive for [Justice] in the society.

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)

The Supreme Court in Tanhit
Abhiyan Case upheld the validity of
103rd CAA providing 10% reservations
to EWS.

Implications on Social Justice

- ① Traditional interpretation only focussed
on religion, caste of community
- ② SC, ST reservation in public
employment (Article 16)
- ③ Affirmative Action Concentrated
on historical oppression
- ④ But economic oppression of
poverty ensures broadening social
Justice
- ⑤ 103rd CAA → caste based to

Class based reservations

- ⑤ social mobility to most disadvantaged among the unreserved category
- ⑥ education to poor in higher institutions
- ⑥ ease the Communal tensions between upper castes and OBCs
- ⑦ promoting social harmony
- ⑧ chance to end the role of caste in Indian psyche

Challenges

- ① Goes against the fundamental principle of Injustice historically
- ↳ ② Huge burden on state - Compromising on efficiency (Against Indra Sawhney Judgement)
- ↳ ③ Breach the 50% quota rule
- ↳ ④ Strengthen Caste based politics

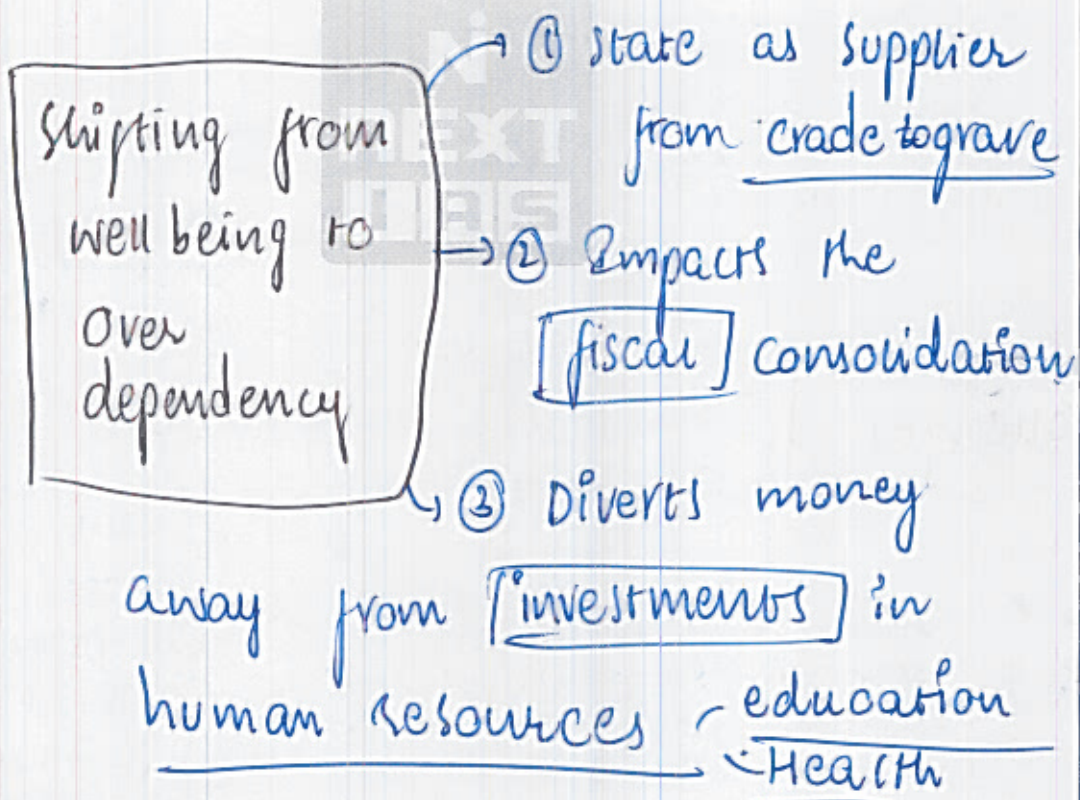
A right step in ensuring Justice is take but needs to be complimented with curbing misuse and reaching right beneficiaries

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)

The Freebie Culture is a rising phenomena in Indian politics with SC in Subramanian Swamy case directing ECJ to avoid freebie politics



Welfare schemes & freebie culture

① vote bank politics → free loan waiver as seen in Telangana

- ② Wastage of Scarce resources →
water wastage due to free electricity
to farmers
- ③ lack of focus on connectivity and
virtuous Investments.

(eg): Ap Navaratnam took 35% state revenues

- ④ Attitude of complacency in
citizens to have productive work

However
Schemes
also
empowering
citizens.

→ ① free bicycles to girl child
ensuring School attendance

→ ② MGNREGA, PDS Continuing
to provide Nutrition and
Jobs

→ ③ Social mobility through

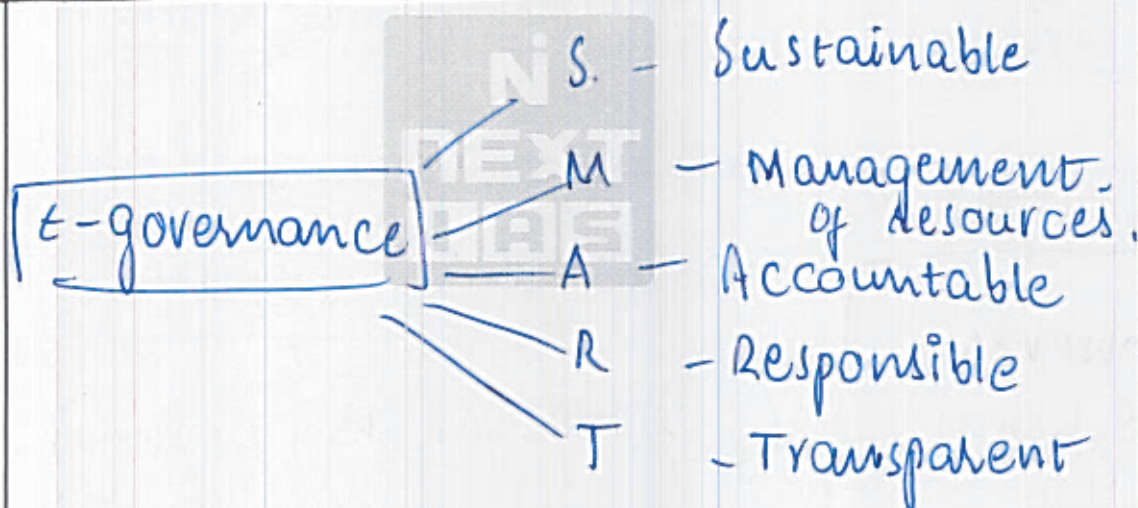
Stand up India, PMGOISHA etc.

The revdi culture should
be curbed as held by former CJI
and virtuous welfare under light
of DPSP 41, 46 etc.. is need of the hour

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 use of ICT technology in the management of resources and bringing in welfare to the people efficiently.



E-governance → bringing accessibility

① Addressing the citizens concern at last mile

① : DBT to deliver cash transfer

② Bringing in the transparency

- (eg): C-RTI, e-first by police
- ③ empowering farmers through knowledge
- (eg): Kisan TV, M-Kisan App
- ④ voice to people in policy making
- (eg): e-gov app for citizen rights & opinions

Inclusivity:

- ① pwd friendly websites
- (eg): e-shata ensuring hearing classes to blind students.
- ② feedback mechanism
- (eg): Rating of government services in Tamil Nadu.
- ③ Women empowerment & security
- (eg): DISHA App by Andhra Pradesh.
- ④ projects implementation for inclusivity
- (eg): PRAGATI portal on roads in NE
- Hence e-governance is efficient, equitable and effective governance [p.m. Modi]

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)

International order is
shifting towards Indo-Pacific
with multipolarity and emergence
of new groupings

Advent of new regional agreements

① Age of mini lateral → due to
misperformance of multilateralism.

(eg): NDB against IMF

② Strategic Autonomy of global south
leading to Issue based alignments

(eg): India part of both QUAD and SCO

③ India's growing affiliation with
West due to geopolitical compulsions

- ④ lost relevance of old groupings like NAM
- ⑤ New agreements → caters to present day challenges
- ⑥ AUKUS Military alliance against Chinese expansion

① NAM still acts as voice of global south with large membership

However old world order still relevant

- ↳ ② G77 fighting for multilateral reforms in UNSC, IMF, World Bank
- ↳ ③ fight for Global Justice and respect for human rights in Africa.
- ↳ ④ climate equity represented by BASIC countries and G77

Hence, there is both continuity and change in International politics.
India's deft foreign policy ensured its navigation through choppy waters of as seen in Ukraine Conflict.

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)

As held by Alfred T Mahan,
The future of world order will be
determined by the shores of Indian
Ocean and pacific ocean leading to
change in India's foreign policy.

Importance of
Island states for
India



① Continue India's

Preeminence in the region as
Net security provider

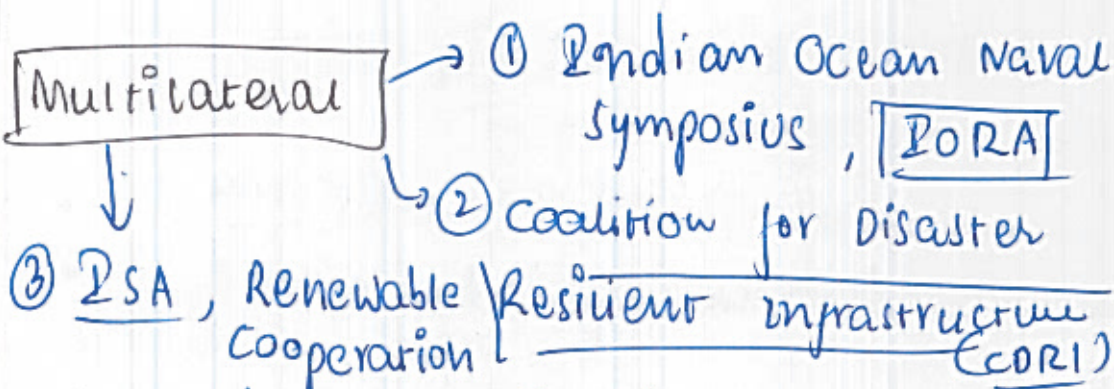
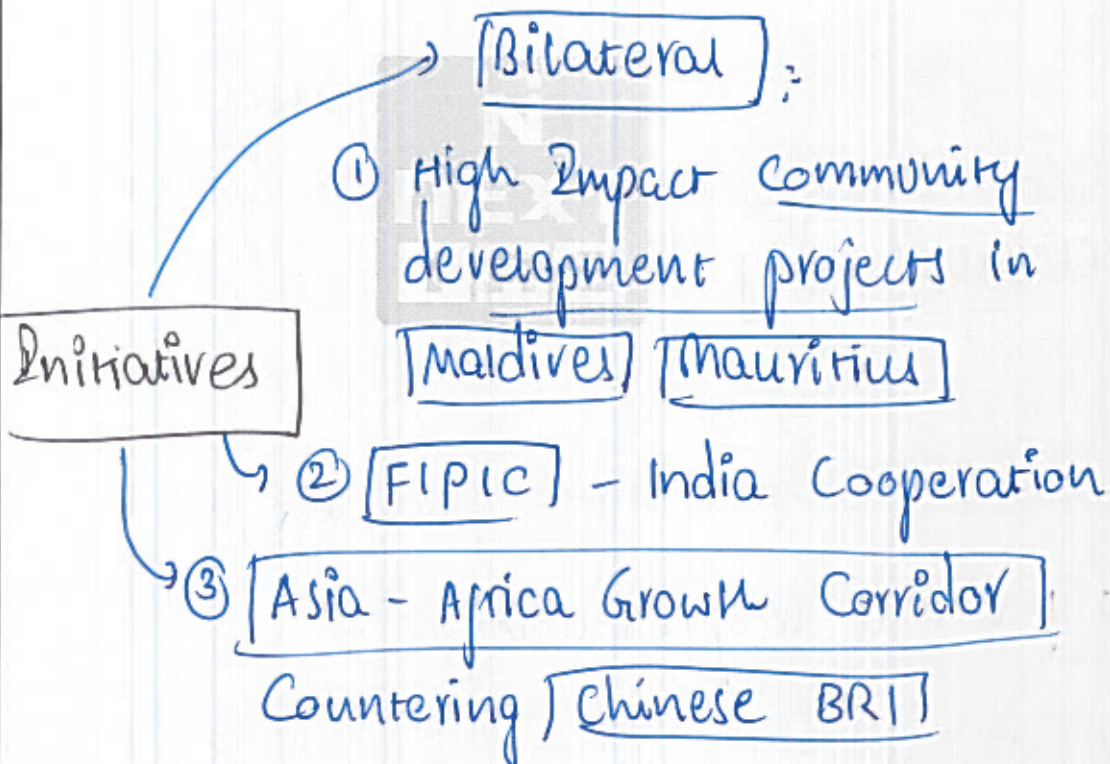
② Uphold Neighbourhood first policy
with Maldives and Sri Lanka

③ Enhance Diaspora connect with

Nations like Fiji,

④ Counter the Chinese dominance in India's Strategic backyard (eg): Hambantota port acquisition by China

⑤ protect the Rule of law and Voice of Small Island nations.

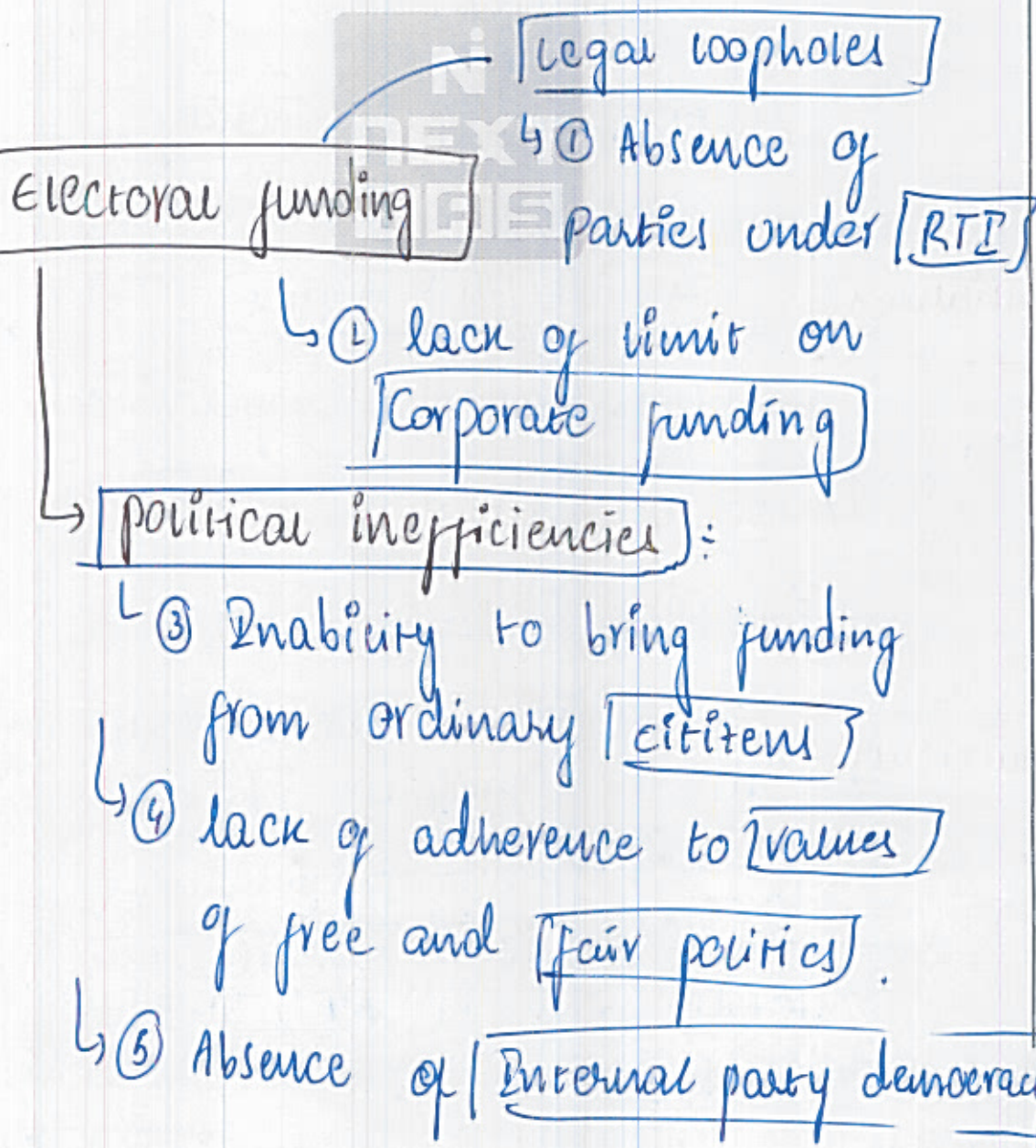


India's role in South-South cooperation defines its aspirations to become Leading power

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)

The recent 18th Lok Sabha election saw spending of 1.35 lakh crores of elections highlighting the menace of money politics.



- Challenges to electoral funding
- ① lack of Transparency in funding
 - ② Right to Information of Voters violated
 - ③ Nexus of Crony Capitalism
 - ④ limit of 20000 for disclosure Absurd
 - ⑤ Influence of money power in Seat allocations
 - ⑥ policy corruption to cater to the needs of funders
 - ⑦ citizen Interest Compromised to Corporate interests.
 - ⑧ Electoral bonds Scheme
 - ↳ struck down in AAR case by Supreme Court
 - ↳ ⑨ lack of level playing field for small parties

lessons from global best practises :

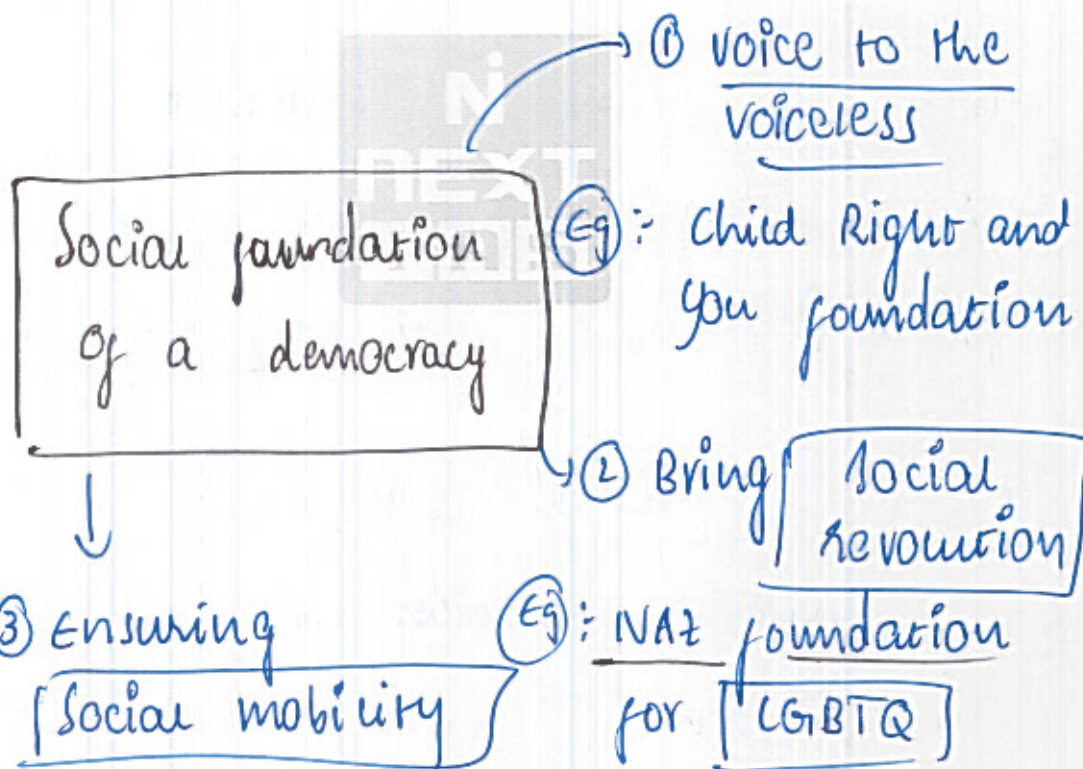
- ① State funding of elections → highlighted by Indrajit gupta Committee
- ② permanent ban of people convicted of money laundering and organised crimes
- ③ Extra tooth to EC → deregistered political parties.
- ④ Bring Audits to political parties by involving CAG office.
- ⑤ RTI → should be there for political parties funding
- ⑥ Crowd funding from people
↳ highlighted by Dinesh goswami Committee
Elections are the life and blood of a democracy and should be cleared from money & muscle politics

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 called Invisible empires that play a crucial role of Interest articulation of citizens.



Pressure groups - social security for workers.

1. Involvement in Awareness generation about rights and laws

(eg): Equal Wages Act of government.

② mobilisation of voice of workers

(eg): AITUC demanding social security

③ ensuring women empowerment

(eg): educating about POSH Act 2013
by Saheli

④ watch over law enforcement

(eg): Availability of creches as
promised under maternity benefits
Act

⑤ Democratisation of work place

(eg): Nataria foundation for LGBTQ
recruitment

⑥ Rights of PWD → PWD friendly
Infrastructure in industries

⑦ Help in policy feedback:

(eg): MKSS ensuring RTI implementation

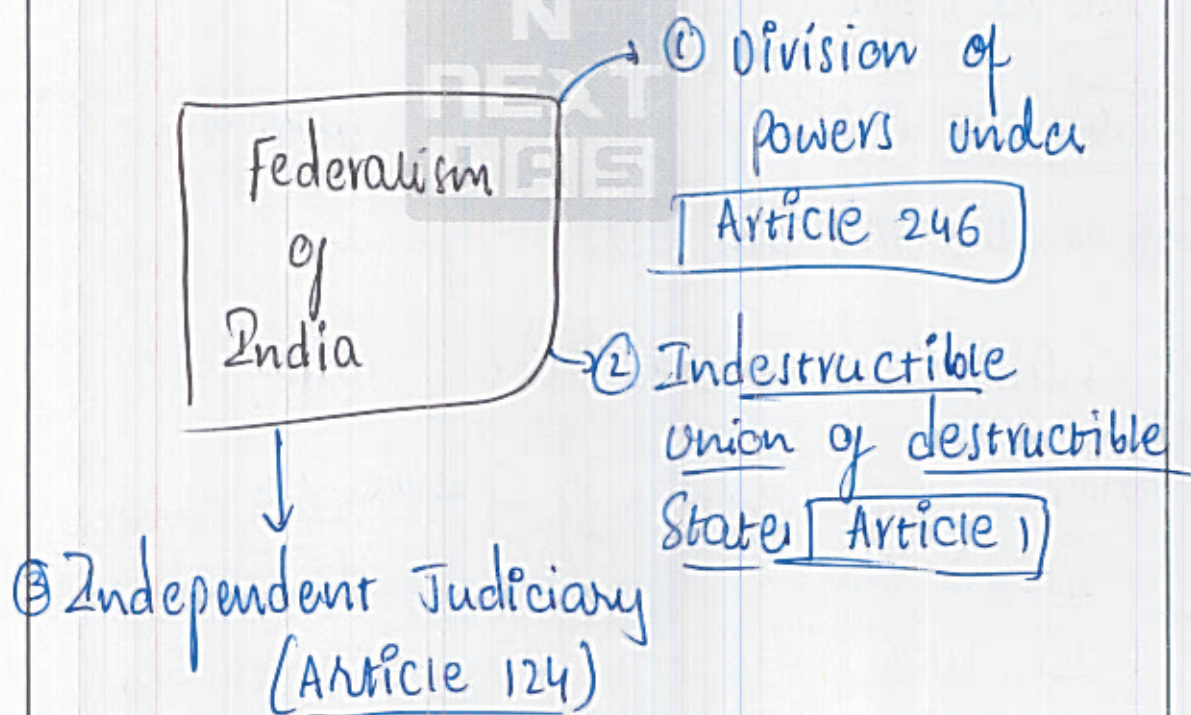
Addressing key gaps in policies :-

- ① Feedback loop → To course correct for welfare of people
- ② monitoring the gaps and demand for making policy broadbased
- ③ Giving Ground realities to the bureaucracy
- ④ Social Auditing of Schemes like
(eg) : MGNREGA, PM Awas yojana
- ⑤ Ensuring Accountability and
avoiding Redtapism. (eg) : citizen charter
demand
- ⑥ Tools like Electioneering → voicing
Concern of Groups.
Hence pressure groups bring
in political education in a democracy
and work for Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas.

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 विवादों 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)

Indian federalism is fluid with federal supremacy in executive space while parliamentary supremacy in legislative space



Principle of federal supremacy

① Article [255-263] deals with, executive division powers.

- ② principle of mutual delegation of powers to ensure coordination b/w centre and state
- ③ Role of states as implementers of laws of centre (eg); GST law
- ④ Supreme Court → Article 131 to deal with disputes between centre and states
- ⑤ Article 263 → To resolve the conflicts through Interstate Council
- ⑥ Governor (Article 153) → as lynchpin of cooperative federalism

Case laws :-

- ① Hargobind Pant case → Governor as Constitutional head and not agent of centre
- ② Nabam Rebia Case → Governor should act according to Council of Ministers (Art 164)
- ③ S.R Bommai case → federalism as basic structure of constitution

Resolution of Conflicts :-

- ① Constitutional :- a) Usage of Inter State Council (Punchhi Commission)
- b) Article 262 → River boards and Inter State Water Disputes Tribunal
- c) Article 356 → use very sparingly (Sarkaria Commission)

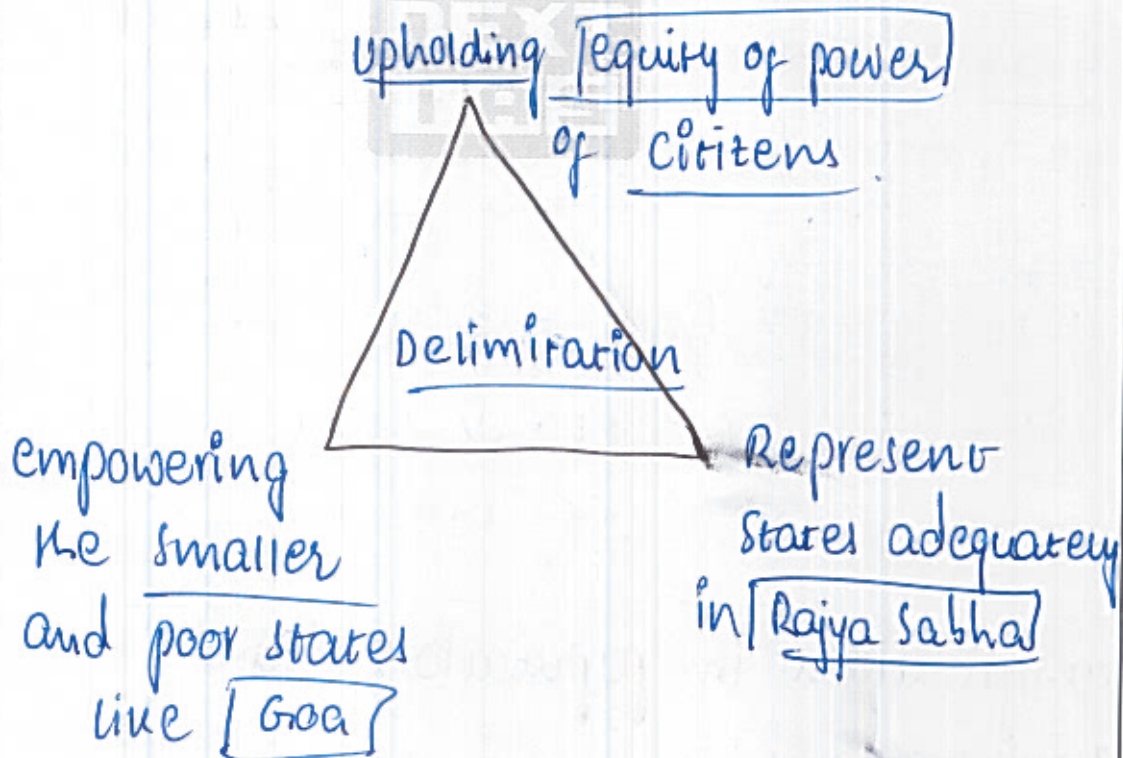
- ② Legislative :- a) Zonal Councils under SRA, 1956.
- b) GST Council under Article 279-A
- 3) Financial :- a) Article 280
↓
Finance Commission
- b) Constitution of State Finance Commissions Under Article 243I

Hence Cooperative federalism
as held by NITI Aayog is way
forward to ensure Unity in diversity

14. निम्नलिखित 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)

Article 82 of Indian Constitution provides for delimitation Commission after every census to ensure equal vote value across the nation.



Challenges posed by misrepresentation

① Demographic misrepresentation

- with < 5% youth in parliament
- ② curbing the voice of vulnerables
like [Dalits] as reservations fixed
with population census - [1971]
 - ③ Tensions in [centre - state
relations] → concern of southern
states
 - ④ Highlights the policy of sanctioning
[good governance states] who went
on for [population control]
 - ⑤ [Inadequacies in representation]
↳ [UP]: 1 mp = 3 lakh voter.
[AP]: 1 mp = 1.56 lakh voter.

Ramifications in population based
delimitation.

- ① over representation of [North states]
- ② under representation of Kerala,

Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh etc..

- ③ policy tinge towards northern states leading to tensions of neglect
- ④ More polarised financial distribution with Industries in southern states.
- ⑤ lack of adequate representation for North East as only 6% of population
- ⑥ Increase Cases of secessionism
↳ (eg): Greater Nagaland
- ⑦ opens up pandora's box for Inter-state disputes

Way forward

- ① Need High level panel to deliberate rational seat allocation
- ② Census - 2021 long pending

Hence, Any future delimitation should consider Socio, economic and demographic profiles of state to ensure

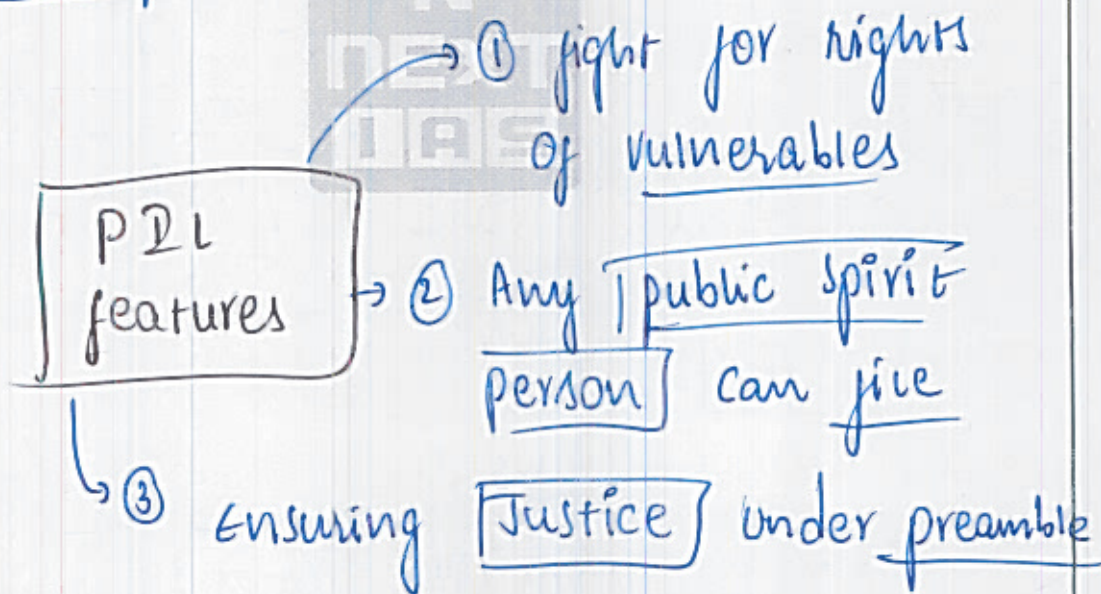
Regional

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)

Public Interest Litigation (PIL)
is a Judicial Innovation which
brought in human rights revolution
in India and democratisation of
Public spaces.



PIL ensuring day to day rights.

- ① Democracy at grass roots through Social mobility
 (eg): Olga tenuis Judgement ensuring

Right to shelter.

- ② protection of child rights. → M.C Mehta
Case of 1996 against child labour
- ③ Unearthed huge crimes against
vulnerables (eg): Muzaffarpur shelter case
- ④ Bulwark for human dignity
(eg): Hadiya case ensuring Right to
choice in marriage (Article 21)
- ⑤ Role in 'protection of environment'
(eg): M.C Mehta case → banning tanneries
around river Ganga
- ⑥ Principle of precaution → Vellore
Citizen welfare society case
- ⑦ Leena Joseph case → Rights of
Person with Disability
- ⑧ Nat foundation case → LGBTQ as

3rd gender and transgender rights

Role of Trial courts :

- ① Burden of ~5cr on Judiciary $\rightarrow$ Violating
right to speedy trial under Article 21
 $\hookrightarrow$ more burden of trial courts ($\sim 4cr$)
- ② Ensuring speedy Justice with
strong Judgement $\rightarrow$ Absence of
Litigation
- ③ Bringing in Gender perspective
to Justice delivery

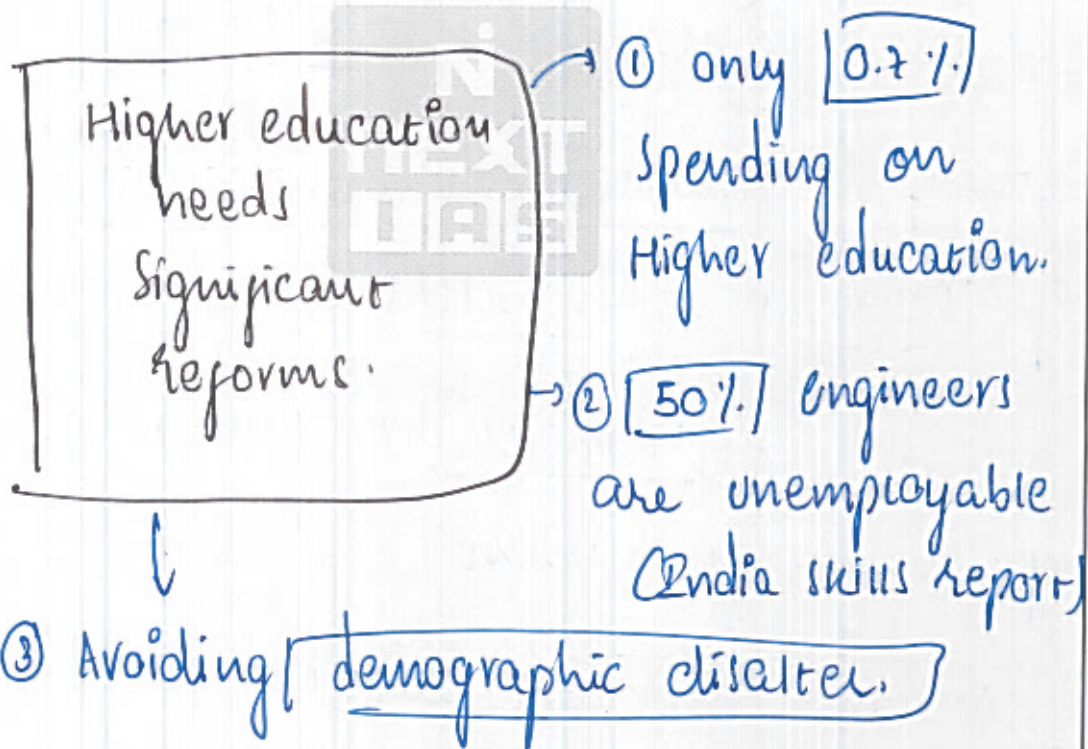
Way forward

- $\rightarrow$ ① National Judicial Infrastructure Grid
for trial courts
- $\hookrightarrow$ ② women reservation in Judge appointments.
- $\hookrightarrow$ ③ National Litigation policy, 2010
to reduce litigation

The excellence of government is deter-
mined by excellence of Judiciary as held
by Lord Bryce and hence above is need of hour.

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)

The status of higher education system is reflected by absence of Indian institutes in Top 100 universities of world (as university rankings)



National education policy 2020 - features

- ① Multi disciplinary education
↳ To evoke well rounded personality

- ② Credit based system → respecting choices of students.
- ③ Absence of learning in silos → social revolution by volunteerism
- ④ Allowing Global universities to set up colleges in India
(eg): Deakin University in GIFT city
- ⑤ Ensuring Autonomous functioning of deemed universities
- ⑥ Reducing affiliations to universities by regulatory burden
- ⑦ Standard setting aligning with Global standards

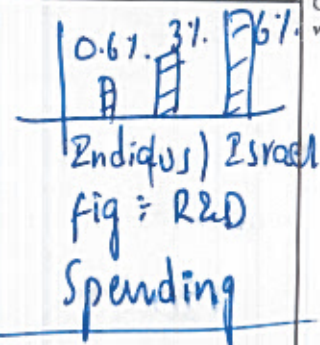
Lessons from International practices

- ① More emphasis on Research and development

② Women empowerment

↳ (eg) : women in STEM - 45%

But STEM jobs ÷ < 10%



③ Massive online learnings → Democratised the learning outcomes (eg) : SWAYAM

④ Increasing spending on education
↳ T.S.R Subramanian Committee

Recommended 6% from present 4% GDP

⑤ Collaboration between Industry - Academia (eg) : Apprenticeships

⑥ Global partnership between top Institutions (eg) Sister Colleges Concept

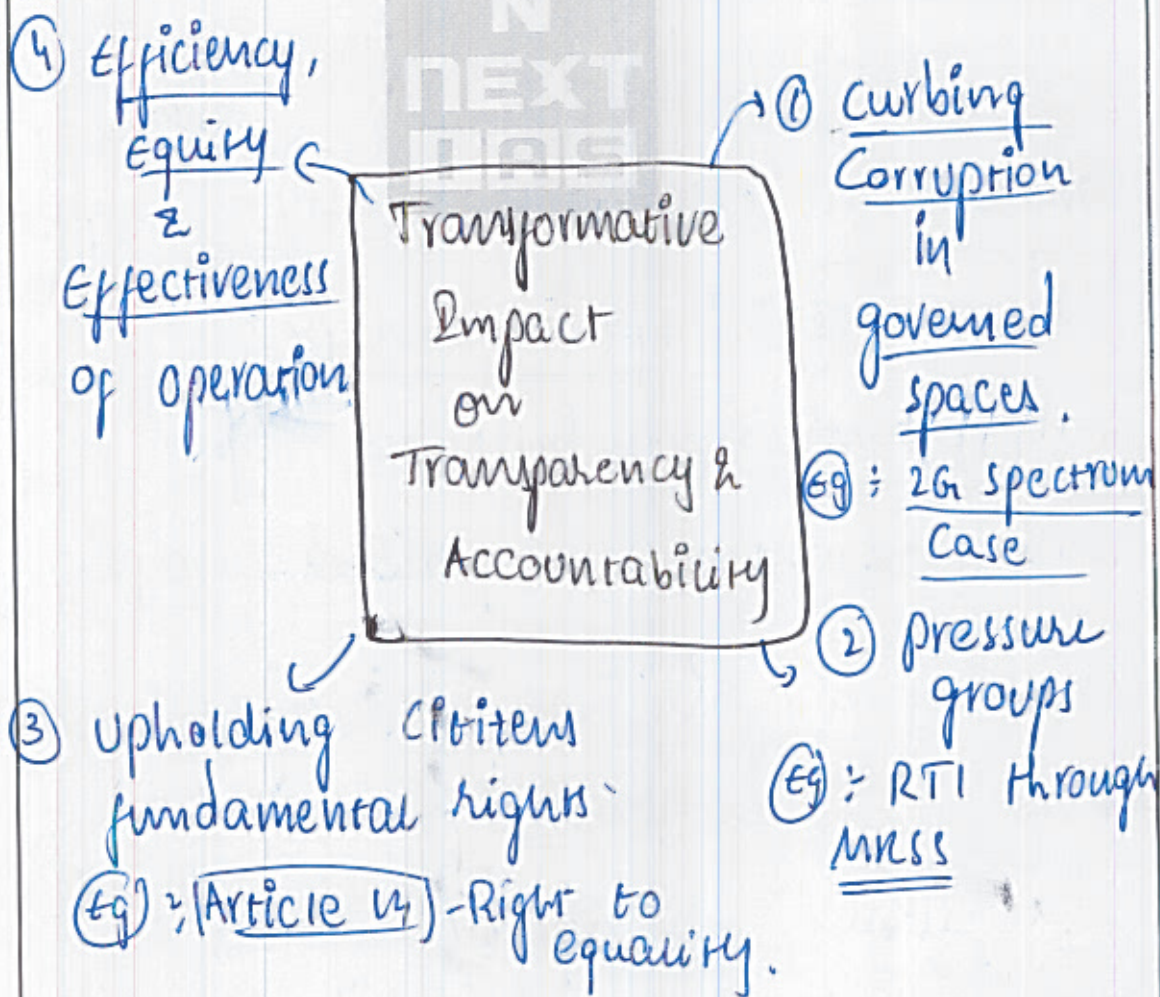
⑦ Developing a framework testing Competence over knowledge

Hence Educational reforms ensure Amrit kaal through Amrit Peedis Contributing for National growth

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)

'Right to Information Act'
is hailed for upholding Article 21
by bringing in civil right of Right to know about Government proceedings.



Multifaceted challenges & systemic limitations

① Legislative :- a) Recent RTI amendment Act, 2019 increasing government discretion

b) lack of tooth to interfere suomotu in violations.

c) Dependence of centre and states for funds and secretariat assistance

② Institutional :- a) lack of Infrastructure in state Information Commissions -

b) 44000 cases pending in Central Information Commission,

c) slow appointment procedures

(eg) :- > 50% vacancy in CIC

③ Systemic :- a) High usage of Section 8 of RTI quoting national security

b) lack of citizen awareness about

RTI ACT.

③ Misuse of RTI → from for
harassing the offician.

④ lack of Record keeping.

Measures for effective
Implementation

① Section 4 : proactive disclosures
in citizens Interests.

② Independent appointment Committees

Consisting of retired Judges

③ expenditure to be charged on CFE

④ Restrict usage of section 8 of RTI
Act to rare cases

⑤ citizen Awareness through CSOs

RTI helps in bringing
democracy to door steps as envisaged

by B.R. Ambedkar

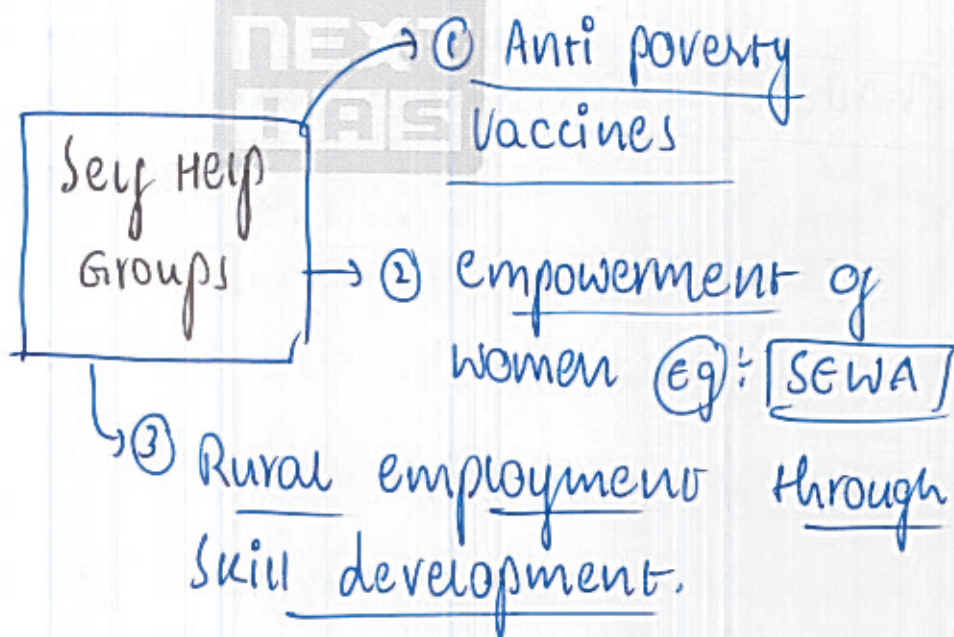
18. ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की तुलना में शहरी क्षेत्रों में स्वयं सहायता समूहों (एसएचजी) को मिलने वाली अनुूठी चुनौतियों और अवसरों पर चर्चा कीजिए, और शहरी गरीबी से निपटने के लिए सूक्ष्म ऋण को किस प्रकार अनुकूलित किया जा सकता है।

(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)

Self Help Groups are voluntary groups of people with same socio-economic background aiming to ensure promotion of common interests through peer-control.



Unique opportunities to SHGs in urban areas :-

① wide scale infrastructure :- (eg): free buses to women for mobility

- ② Awareness about customer choices
(eg) : sustainable farming for e-commerce
- ③ Internet density of 93% rather than 52% in rural areas
- ④ Fight for rights and implementation of laws (eg) : Jagori empowering slum women in Delhi
- ⑤ Challenges of urban slums
 - ↳ Cosmopolitan membership → lack of agreement.
- ⑥ Widening inequalities → with power asymmetry between rich and poor
- ⑦ Inhospitable living conditions
 - ↳ 17% of people living in slums
- ⑧ Lack of basic amenities
 - ↳ high land costs, lack of affordable housing

Microfinance to tackle urban poverty

- ① useful to meet immediate emergencies
(eg): out of pocket expenditure in hospitals (47%)
- ② Helps in skill development → through DAY-NULM (eg): e-mason project
- ③ Education and health services to the children → Social mobility
- ④ Self employment → capital for buying e-Rickshaws etc..
- ⑤ Give push to aspirations of poor.

Way forward

→ ① SV scheme for urban vendors (SVAMIDHI)

↳ ② skill empowerment → USTAAD,
PM Kaushal Vikas

Hence SHGs are rightly
called as National Help groups
by PM Modi → Helps meet SDG1, SDG2

19.

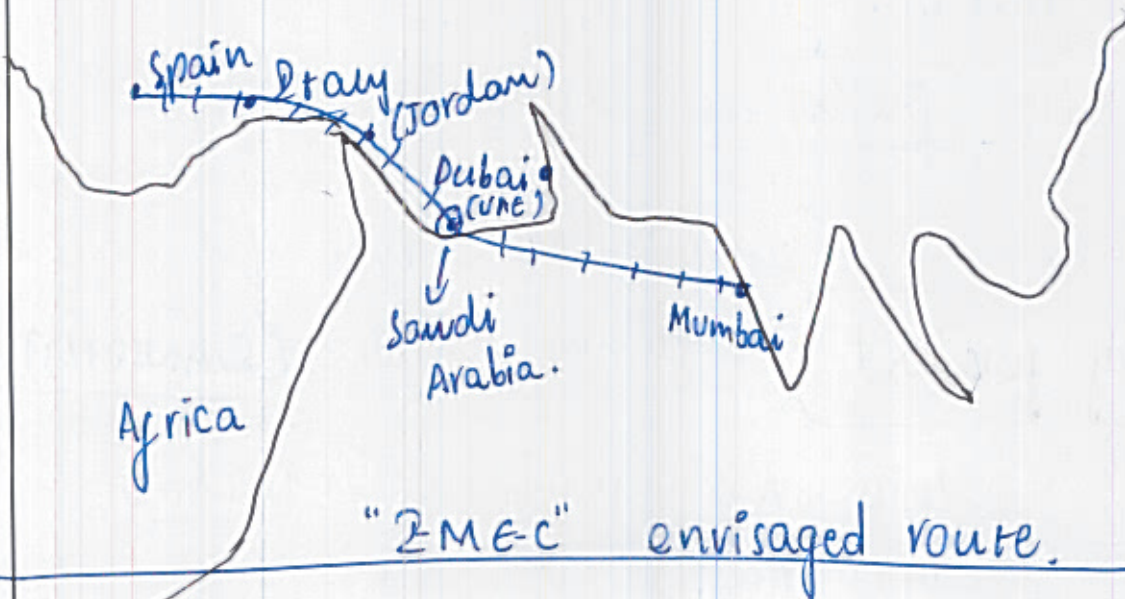
विश्व, विशेषकर पश्चिम के साथ भारत के संपर्क (कनेक्टिविटी) के लिए हाल ही में परिकल्पित भारत-मध्य पूर्व-यूरोप गलियारे के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालें। क्या आपको लगता है कि हाल के दिनों में भारत की विदेश नीति में परिवहन और ऊर्जा पहल को प्राथमिकता दी गई है? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

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)

The IMEC initiative was announced on the sidelines of India's G20 presidency summit, with significant impact on geo-connectivity

Significance of IMEC for India's Connectivity



① Enhances Connect Central Asia
Policy of India

- ② Gives opportunity for wider access to European markets
- ③ significant boost for Trade with Conclusion of India-UK FTA and BTIA with EU
- ④ Access to Middle east → India's Diaspora (8 mn) interests and
- ⑤ attracting sovereign wealth funds from UAE and Saudi Arabia.
- ⑥ counter Maritime silk route and BRI of China
- ⑦ Acts as Complimentary to Blue dot network and RPEF
- ⑧ Enhances India's role as Net Security provider in the region
- ⑨ more importance to Italy and other preeminent powers like Greece.

Transport and energy Initiatives

① Globalisation era → markers
determining the relations in foreign policy

(eg) : India-US trade of > \$150 bn

② Energy insecurity of India

↳ Imports \$150 bn worth oil (~80%)
of domestic demand

③ Connectivity - enhances India's

Neighbour hood 1st policy

Agartala
Akhaura
Rail link

⑤ preeminence in
Indian ocean

(eg) :

↳ Dugm port, Chabahar port

④ friendly relations with Russia

↳ INSTC, chennai- vladivostok route.

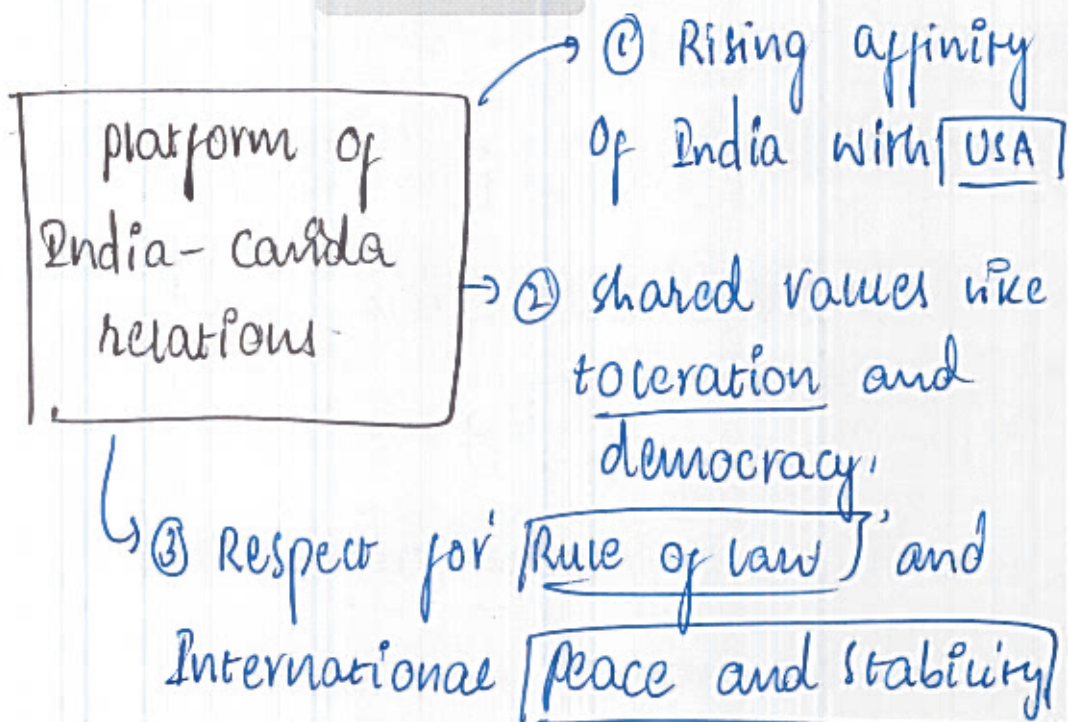
Hence, India's aim of Vishwaguru
is being met through fore focus on
Connectivity and energy as seen in

Strategic Autonomy of Importing Oil from Russia

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)

India-Canada relationship have shows Continuity and change with time but has the common principles of promoting democratic engagement between the two responsible powers.



Recent contentious issues :-

① Domestic political Compulsions

in Canada

- ② support to 'Khalistan extremists' as seen in Pannu Controversy
- ③ providing asylum to rogue elements of Indian interests.
- ④ Attacks on Indian students

Significant pillars of relationship

- ① Diaspora - especially from North-western states of Punjab
- ② Strong relationship with West
↳ India-US cooperation leading to Common affinity
- ③ Civil nuclear Cooperation b/w India-Canada
- ④ Role in Canada support to India membership in UNSC

- ⑤ Demanding India's membership in NSG
- ⑥ Canada's interest in securing sea lines of communication in Indo-Pacific
- ⑦ Eq: partnership against china through RpCF

⑧ potential area of cooperation

- ↓
- ① Collaboration for peace in UN bodies
Eq: Strengthen UNGA
- ② ensuring Cooperation in Arctic
- ③ Enhance trade relationship
↳ presently less than 10 bn
- ④ Resolving bilateral disputes through dialogue and Confidence building measures.

Hence bilateral Cooperation between democracies is essential to fight Autocratic represented by china

NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS

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महत्वपूर्ण निर्देश	
अभ्यर्थियों को निम्नलिखित निर्देशों को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ना चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर दण्डित किया जा सकता है।	
क्या न करें- 1. इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें। 2. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें। 3. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका से कोई भी पृष्ठ न फाड़ें, यदि आपको कोई पृष्ठ गायब लगे, तो पर्यवेक्षक/निरीक्षक को सूचित करना न भूलें। 4. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका को अपनी टेबल पर न छोड़ें, परीक्षा समाप्त होने के पश्चात इसे निरीक्षक को सौंप देना चाहिए।	क्या करें- 1. कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए निर्देशों को ध्यान पूर्वक पढ़ें और उनका सख्ती से पालन करें। 2. QCA पुस्तिका के कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर अपना पंजीकरण नंबर और अन्य विवरण लिखें। 3. स्पष्ट और पठनीय तरीके से लिखें। खराब/अपठनीय लिखावट में न लिखें। 4. रफ नोट्स या गणना के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंतिम दो खाली पृष्ठों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। रफ नोट्स को बाद में क्रॉस कर देना चाहिए। 5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना पेन चलाएं या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है। 6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी QCA पुस्तिका व्यक्तिगत रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।

ऑनलाइन सुविधा का लाभ उठाने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के लिए विशेष अनुरोध
1. QCA पुस्तिका को ठीक से स्कैन करें। हम चाहेंगे कि आप स्कैनिंग के लिए कैमस्कैनर ऐप (CAM SCANNER) का प्रयोग करें। (यह कोई प्रमोशन नहीं है)। 2. कृपया QCA पुस्तिका को पर्याप्त रोशनी में स्कैन करें। कम रोशनी में स्कैन की गई पुस्तिकाएं, उनके मूल्यांकन की गुणवत्ता को बाधित कर सकती हैं। 3. स्कैन के दौरान छाया वाले किसी भी पृष्ठ/पीडीएफ को फिर से स्कैन किया जाना चाहिए। कृपया सुनिश्चित करें कि आपके द्वारा अपलोड की गई पीडीएफ यथा संभव स्पष्ट हो । 4. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को अपना विवरण पहले पृष्ठ पर देना चाहिए और मैक्रो टिप्पणियों के लिए अगला पृष्ठ खाली छोड़ दें। यह समझना चाहिए कि उत्तर स्कैन की गई पीडीएफ में पृष्ठ नंबर 3 से शुरू होना चाहिए। 5. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को प्रश्नपत्र के अनुसार उत्तर के अनुक्रम का पालन करना चाहिए। 6. कृपया स्कैन किए गए संस्करण में उत्तर के अनुक्रम और कुल पृष्ठों की संख्या की जाँच करें। सुनिश्चित करें कि यह उसी के भौतिक संस्करण के अनुरूप है।

