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(To be filled by candidate)

Name of Candidate : ABHIMANYU SINGH.

NEXT IAS Roll No.: ..... **Date of Examination :** .....

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☑ Bhopal ☐ Online ☐

Test Code : TC 002 **Program :** FLT ☑ FLT+ ☐

MAIN TEST SERIES 2023
(FULL LENGTH TEST-2)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This Question-cum Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 56 pages. Immediately on receipt of the 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.

Candidates must read the instructions on this page and the following pages carefully before attempting the paper.

Candidates should attempt the questions strictly in accordance with the instructions specified in the question paper and in the space prescribed under each question in the booklet. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.

Question paper will be provided separately and can be taken by the candidates after conclusion of the exam.

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SUBJECT/PAPER
GENERAL STUDIES

Invigilator's Sign. : .....

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(For filling by Examiners only)

Evaluator Code :

Q.No	Pg.No.	Maximum Marks	Marks	Total
1	1			
2	3			
3	5			
4	7			
5	9			
6	11			
7	13			
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19	45			
20	48			
		Grand Total		

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Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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Q.1 जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा 8 में उल्लिखित निर्योग्यता प्रावधानों में उपस्थित अस्पष्टता का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

There is a need to resolve the ambiguity in the disqualification provisions under section 8 of the Representation of People Act 1951. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Candidates to write in this space

Section 8 of the Representation of People's Act 1951 provides for disqualification provisions for candidates contesting for Parliament and State elections.

Need for Section 8 of RPA, 1951
- → Constitutional mandate Art. 102
- → To address corrupt practices affecting politics
- → Ensure people with good character enter politics

Ambiguity Resolution : need of the hours

Ambiguities exist in Sec 8 of RPA, 1951

① Different timelines for disqualification ranging from 2 years to 6 years +.

② Ignores several new emerging social - political evils. (ex): Paid news

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(#) Measures to address ambiguities

(1) Ensure uniformity of disqualification

- [6 CI] suggests bifurcating disqualification in 2 categories → 5 years
  → 5 years +

(2) Remove subjective elements of executive judicio interpretation.

(eg) [Rahul Gandhi's] disqualification hinged on 2 years' jail term [boundary problem]

~~(3) Provide relief measures to those involved~~

(3) Strengthen provisions for newer entities such as Paid News, Digital frauds, etc

(4) Set time limits on trials. To ensure faster cleaning of politics.

Reforming RPA, 1951 is a must to ensure Electoral democracy in Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav as suggested by [2nd ARC].

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.2 संविधान मात्र एक कंकाल है जबकि संविधानवाद लोकतंत्र की आत्मा है। विवेचना कीजिए।
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Constitution is a mere skeleton whereas constitutionalism is the soul of democracy. Discuss.
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

" Constitution is a revolutionary document to serve socio economic democracy, but it is only as good as those implementing it "
- Dr. Ambedkar.

Constitution only provides the framework for governance machinery, but Constitutionalism i.e limited government term ensures Popular sovereignty.

Constitution a mere skeleton

① Provides for Republic, thus setting goals of the Indian Republic such as Liberty, Justice, Dignity & Equality

② Provides for Division of Power i.e. federal structure. (Schedule 7)

③ Creates & gives powers to different organs of the government such as Legislature, Executive & Judiciary.

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(4) Creates Rights for citizens [Art 13→32] and duties for Indians State [Part IV DPSP]

(5) Creates bodies which acts a bulwarks of democracy such as UPSC, ECI, SC, NCSC, etc

---

Constitutionalism as the soul of democracy.

(1) limited government [alone] ensures the [Social contract].

(ex): ~~Right~~ Rights under Art 19, 21 cannot be taken away under the garb of National Security such as in Sedition cases.

(2) Ensures a system of checks and balances.

(ex): Judiciary invalidating sections of 97th Amendment Bill on Cooperatives as it violates Federalism.

(3) Prevents Arbitrariness in State's conduct and ensures Rule of Law.

(4) Needed to create a healthy balance between FRs and DPSPs.

Therefore, only a limited government can pass the test of Constitutional Morality. (10)

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Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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(2) Political parties [do not] have to disclose the donee's name to [IT department]

(3) No mechanism of ensuring that the money channeled was not black money.

(4) Removal of 7.5% limit on companies profits will now allow even [shell firms] to make donations

(5) Barrisions of keeping records with Banks alone can be [misused by political parties] to intimidate there funding opponents.

Election Commision of India, has therefore, filed an affidavit in the SC suggesting major reform in the Electoral Bonds scheme to prevent criminalization of politics

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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Q.4 समान नागरिक संहिता पर बहस के केंद्र में लैंगिक समानता का प्रश्न है। इस आलोक में यूसीसी को संविधान में निहित लैंगिक समानता के साथ सामंजस्य स्थापित करने में क्या चुनौतियाँ हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The question of gender equality is central to the debate on Uniform Civil Code. In this light what are the challenges in reconciling UCC with gender equality as enshrined in the constitution?
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

"The welfare state of Indian Republic is committed to establishing gender equality."
— Dr. Ambedkar.

Uniform Civil Code [Art 44 of the DPSP] seeks to establish [uniform] civil laws for all persons of this country, irrespective of religion in matters of marriage, adoption, divorce etc. (2)

Gender Equality central to UCC.

(1) SC in [Shah Bano case (1987)] had stated that the demands of gender equality is congruent with UCC.

(2) Most Personal laws have a patriarchal bias therefore UCC seeks to make them gender parity.
(Ex): Triple Talaq, Female Genital Mutilation

(3) Women's Rights to property is a crucial condition for their empowerment, which the current laws severely curtail.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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Challenges in reconciling UCC with gender equality

(1) Conflict between Art 14 (Right to Equality) and Art. 25 (Freedom of Religion)

(ex): SC in Shayara Bano (2017) have noted this as a major hurdle. as some women may choose to follow their religious tenets as they stand.

(2) Different Religions give different degrees of freedom to women.

(ex): Hindu laws: Better inheritance

Muslim personal laws: Better maintenance

(3) finding a Golden Mean which is acceptable to all religion and Women Bodies.

(4) Divided views of women bodies on question of UCC.

(5) ~~Does~~ UCC may violate minority & linked cultural rights as granted under Articles 29, 30 and 371A → G.

Thus, a broad based deliberations & gradual enlargement of civil laws (UCC) is the way forward as suggested by [LCI]

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.5 'राज्यपाल का कार्यालय न तो आलंकारिक है और न ही अप्रासंगिक है, यह गहन सारयुक्त संवैधानिक भूमिका निभाता है' राज्यपाल, किसी राज्य के शासन में किस सीमा तक सक्रिय रूप से योगदान देता है और देश में संघवाद के सिद्धांतों को सुदृढ़ करता है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

'The Governor's office is neither decorative nor inconsequential, it assumes a constitutional role of profound essence' To what extent does the Governor, actively contribute to the governance of a state and reinforce the principles of federalism in the country? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

"The office of Governor (Art 152) is a British implant of great federal import"

— A. Iyengar.

Governor's office is established to serve as a [keystone of federalism] and more appointment and Removed by the President [does not diminish] its authority or Prestige.

Governor's Contribution to governance of State

(1) [All executive actions are taken in his name as]she's the Constitutional head (Art 153)

(2) He [summons and prorogues] the State legislature and thus enables the legislative functions of states.

(3) His assent alone ensures that all Bills become authoritative 'Acts' to ensure

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executive control over the state.

(ex): Rajasthan's Urban Employment Guarantee Act

④ Asking the Council of Ministers to reconsider their advice in certain matters.

⑤ By Exercising Constitutional discretion in selection of Chief Minister during hung Assembly

Reinforces Federalism.

① Indian 'Sui generis' federalism with a Centrist Bias Appleby is termed by the post of a Governor through which Union's executive influence is exerted.

(ex): ~~Art~~ Directions under Art 355.

② Reserving Bills for Presidential consideration (Art 201) (ex): TN Governor on NEET Bill

③ Suggesting State Emergency under Art 356.

Therefore, ~~Supreme~~ Punchhi & Sarkaria Commissions recommendations of Security of Tenure, Impeachment for Removal and Constitutional forms of 5 years would help restore the Trust deficit.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.6 हाल ही में एक राज्य में सामाजिक जवाबदेही कानून बनाने को लेकर माँग उठ रही है. इस तरह का कानून किस प्रकार सुशासन की ओर ले जा सकता है और निर्णय लेने में नागरिकों की भागीदारी को कैसे बढ़ावा दे सकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Recently demand has been rising in a state regarding the enactment of Social Accountability Law. How such a law can lead to good governance and boost citizens' participation in decision-making. Comment.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Candidates write on th...

Social Accountability is a tool of ensuring extend accountability by engaging the public to serve as the auditors and assessors of the quality of public works.

(Pn): Social Audit Law by Meghalaya

As a tool of Good Governance.

(1) Participatory approach enables that no flaws in execution remain hidden

(2) Introduces Ownership by community thus mandating government for continuous quality improvement (eg): NREGA works

(3) Reduces Information Asymmetry

(4) Gives powers to citizens to ensure Continuous accountability over Sporadic accountability by elections.

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(5) Make Government truly Accountable and Responsive.

(ex): Due to public protest government had to withdraw Farm Laws, EIA Notification 2020

Boosting participation in Decision making

(1) Citizens get a say in policy formulation.

(ex): Bangalore Citizens Forum deriding the limits of Bannerghatta National Park

(2) Gives legal backing to citizen's voice

(ex): Meghalaya had to bring higher control laws thanks to Social Accountability laws.

(3) People's engagement in policy review will increase as they engage with State officials and auditors.

(4) Improve quality and time frame as it is a Rights based approach.

Making Social Accountability a Jan Andolan can help tremendously improve the Quality of Public Laws.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.7 भारत में बाल कुपोषण से प्रभावी ढंग से निपटने के लिए 'पोषण–विशिष्ट' और 'पोषण–संवेदनशील' कार्यक्रमों को अभिसरित करने की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

There is a need for convergence of 'nutrition-specific' and 'nutrition-sensitive' interventions to effectively tackle child undernutrition in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Candidat write in

India suffers from the paradox of plenty. On one hand, we're the largest producers of foodgrains (321 mn tonnes ; FAO), but we also house the largest undernourished children (350 mn ; Global Hunger Report, 2022.)

A need for 'Nutrition 'specific' and Nutrition sensitive'

Nutrition specific measures

① Measures such as Provision of folic acid, Iron capsules can help a pregnant mother with nutrition

② Focus on Super foods such as Spirulina based foods can alleviate chronic deficiency in children.

③ Increasing coverage under ICDS to 1000 days

④ Measures such as Food fortifications, Millet based Laddoos etc can improve

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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child's health.

(5) Focusing on [nutrition kits] [teenage and adolescent → age and gender specific] [puberty associated nutritional] can help address challenges.

Nutrition - sensitive measures

(1) Focusing upon [Agriculture policies] which promote [crop diversification].

(2) Awareness raising about [Millets (Shree Anna)] to ~~secure health~~ achieve holistic health. rich in [Vitamin B, E and nutrients like Zinc,]

(3) Improving [WASH measures] to ensure that diarrhoea associated malnutrition does not affect child's well being.

(4) Providing Social safety nets such as [food] [coupons] to LIG, MIG and BPL families.

(5) [Gender sensitization measures]

Therefore, a comprehensive action plans as envisaged under [POSHAN Abhiyan] is needed to harness [the demographic dividend] of India.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

NEXT IAS

Q.8 ग्रामीण गरीबी उन्मूलन की धुरी मनरेगा, राजकोषीय उदासीनता का शिकार हो गया है।" हालिया घटनाक्रम के आलोक में कथन का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"MGNREGA, the lynchpin of rural poverty alleviation, has become the victim of fiscal apathy." Critically analyze the statement in light of recent developments. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

The recent reduction in Budget 2023-2024 for MGNREGA outlays has cast ~~aspersions~~ doubts upon the well being of India's most potent anti poverty rural wage programme.

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victim of fiscal apathy.

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① Nearly reductions in fiscal outlays.

(ex) declining since after COVID from ₹60,000 crore to below ₹35,000 crore.

② ~~Defer~~ Fregrent and Regular delays in payment. transfer from Centre the states

(ex): 4 month average lag [PRS Report]

③ Poor provisions for linking with Inflations in many states

④ Poor fiscal condition health of Centre and states

Fiscal debt ≃ 7.5% GDP

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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(5) Populist policies leave little with state coffers to support MGNREGA.

(6) Increasing instances of corruption via MGNREGA Job Cards is also leading to a vicious cycle.

According to a PRS study, this has led to a consistent decline in demand for Rural wage employment and is fueling Urban poverty.

Success of NREGA can also be seen in:

(1) Decline in Multidimensional Poverty by 450 million between 2005-06 and 2020-21 [UNDP MPI]

(2) Faster decline in Rural poverty as per Tendulkar's parameter (measured by NITI)

2011	2021
34%	20%

Therefore, to ensure revival of Rural demand and to prevent people from falling into poverty, MGNREGA needs more financial Outlays and better delivery via DBT.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.9 "भारत को इसका लाभ उठाना चाहिए, यदि प्रबंधन नहीं किया गया तो वैश्विक विभाजन हो जाएगा।" वर्तमान भू–राजनीतिक मंथन वैश्विक स्तर पर भारत के उत्थान का मार्ग कैसे प्रशस्त कर सकता है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"India must leverage, if not manage, the global divides". How can the current geopolitical churn pave the way for India's rise to the global high table?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Candidate's writing

"Indian foreign policy is about managing divergences and leveraging convergences"
— S. Jaishankar

The current geopolitical churn is marked by a new global order created due to re emergence of a Bipolar world order.

Current geopolitical churn seen as
① Two power blocs in world US v/s china
② Decline in utility of UN, WTO
③ De globalization
④ Russia Ukraine war

How can India leverage to rise the global high table

① By emerging as the voice of Global south
(ex): Most affected by climate change (IPCC Reports)
② India organized the Voice of Global south forum

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(2) Building Inclusive Institutions which do not favour either the West or the East

(ex): TSA, CDRI are just and equitable Institutions.

(3) Act as a Swing state due to its moral authority at the global stage.

(ex): India condemned violation of human Rights in Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Russia War

(4) Bridging divide as a Negotiator between the West led by NATO and Russia-China bloc.

(5) Acting as a promoter of Dialogue, Democracy

(ex): G20's leadership

(6) Promoting Reforms in Global Institutions like UN, WTO by leadership of G77, G4, etc.

Further the rise of Indo Pacific as a Geopolitical theatre and India's ~~Position~~ SAGAR and net Security Provider status can help overcome the China challenge at Global high table.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.10 "बर्लिन यूरोपीय संघ में भारत के लिए प्रवेश द्वार हो सकता है।" यूरोपीय संघ के साथ भारत के संबंधों में जर्मनी के महत्त्व के बारे में विस्तारपूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Berlin can be India's gateway to the European Union." Elaborate with respect to Germany's significance in India's relationship with the EU. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Candidate writing

The EU is witnessing a major correction after the 'Brexit' phenomena. Germany's India friendship can help bring more stability to India EU relations

Berlin as India's Gateway to EU.

(1) Geopolitical : Germany is the foremost economy of EU and thus carries a lot of political clout in European Commission.

(2) Economic partnership : Germany India trade is below $10 bn but can be boosted using an FTA with EU i.e. BTIA

(3) Favorable FDI rules of Germany allow Indian investments & enable Indian service professionals

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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to exploit Schengen Rules deepening India-EU ties.

(4) India Germany Defence Partnership can help India secure favorable defense deals with EU

(5) Climate change imperatives in light of Russia-Ukraine war and a disrupted Nord stream 2 can help India-EU bring closer by joining PESCO, OCEAN 2050 projects

Therefore, favorable India-Germany relations can help India quickly conclude a Bilateral Investment and Trade Treaty with EU establishing complementarities and utilizing a fast Brexit EU market for India's PLI and Make in India players.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.11 दल–बदल विरोधी कानून ने भारत में राजनीतिक दलों और वैधतिक विधायकों/सांसदों के बीच संबंधों को कैसे प्रभावित किया है? हाल की घटनाओं के आलोक में भारत में लोकतंत्र की प्रकार्यात्मकता पर इस कानून के अनपेक्षित परिणामों की भी चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

How has the Anti-Defection Law impacted the relationship between political parties and individual legislators in India? In light of the recent incidents also discuss the unintended consequences it has on the functioning of democracy in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

The 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985 introduced the Anti Defection Law as the 10th schedule of the Indian constitution in order to curb the rising trend of "Aaya Ram Gaya Ram" i.e Political horsetrading.

How it impacted Relation between Political parties and legislators

(1) Individual legislators elected on party ticket are deemed disqualified if they resign after winning a seat.

(2) Individual legislators who are independent cannot join any political party.

(3) The law bars nominated members from joining any political party after 6 months ~~of tenure~~ of nomination.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

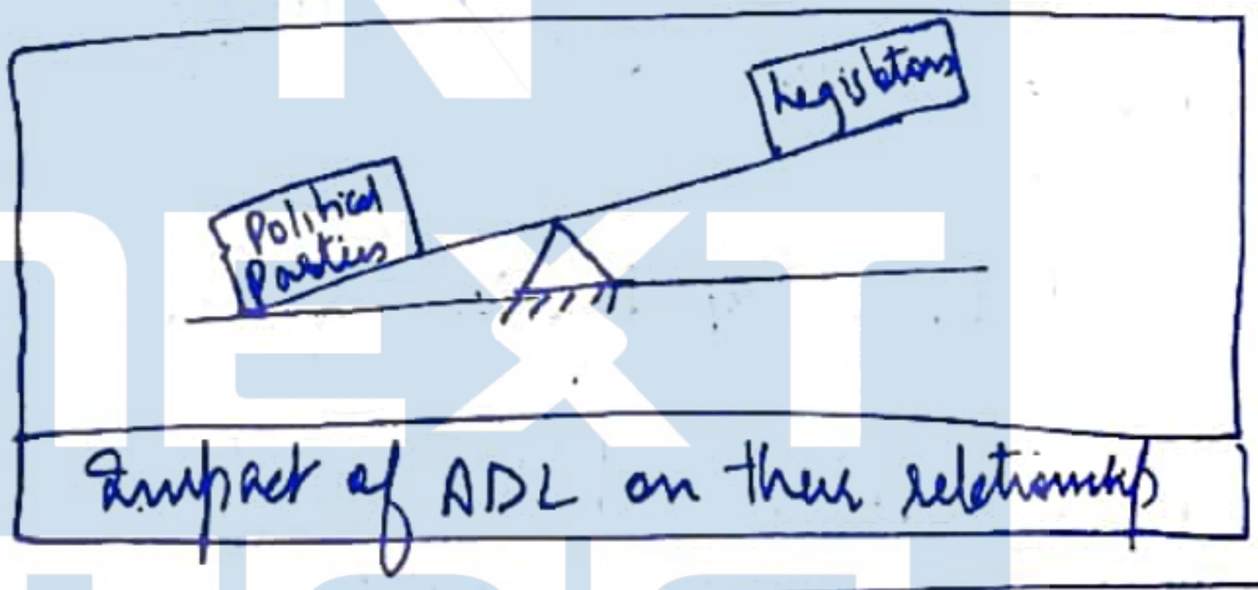
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(4) Makes obedience to whip orders critical to continued party membership. Failure may result in expulsion and loss of seat

(5) Enables the speaker to continue with or without resigning from party membership.

(6) limits defections if $\frac{2}{3}$rd of a party breaks from the parent party



Impact of ADL : Unintended consequences

(1) Violates Art 19 (1) (a) of the legislator

→ Any action/speech of MP/MLA against party can invite disqualification.

(2) Suppresses electoral voice by suppressing Vote of conscience of the MP/MLA.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

NEXT IAS

(3) Creates a tyranny of the whip as noted by the Supreme Court in Kanchetha Assembly case which makes parliamentary democracy as party democracy -

(4) Dilutes fundamental dictum of Parliamentary democracy i.e accountability of the executive as legislators from the same party can no longer question the executive -

(5) Abuse of ADL by Parties for en masse defection erodes public trust.

eg: TN Assembly defections

(6) Alleged partisan role of Speaker is affecting the sanctity of Parliament and the post

ECI suggested reforms

(1) Ban group defections

(2) Allow the President in consultation with ECI to decide on disqualification.

The ADL needs a relook in order to rekindle public faith in Parliamentary democracy

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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Q.12 आलोचकों का दावा है कि असीमित न्यायिक अधिकार मूल ढाँचा सिद्धांत की संरचनात्मक अस्पष्टता पर निर्भर है। क्या मूल ढाँचा सिद्धांत की लोचदार प्रकृति ने न्यायपालिका को कार्यपालिका से अधिक शक्तिशाली बना दिया है?
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Critics assert that limitless judicial authority rests on the structural ambiguity of the basic structure doctrine. Has the elastic nature of the basic structure doctrine made the judiciary more powerful than the executive?
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

The Basic structure doctrine was envisaged in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) which sought to preserve the core elements of Indian constitution from legislative onslaught as witnessed in the era. Structured ambiguity, however, has paved way for judicial overreach in executive matters violating Separation of Powers

Elastic
Basic structure made the judiciary more powerful

① No crystallized tenets enable judiciary to intervene as per its whims! [Upendra BAXI

eg: Judicial supremacy as a Basic structure element itself.

② Judiciary has resisted attempts at reforming the appointment (collegium) system by invalidating the 100th Constitutional

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Amendment Act, NJAC.

(3) The vague nature allows for Judicial overreach as seen in the case of (eg) ~~misconstruction~~ ban on, management of liquour sale in highway

(4) Gives immense discretion to Individual Judges to decide constitutional morality.

(5) The "will of the people" reflected in Parliamentary laws must also conform to the will of the judiciary to stand the test of constitutionality. [Pratap Bhanu Mehta

Executive is still powerful.

(1) Can overturn a judicial decision by a Parliamentary law.

(eg): GNCTD Act 2023. overturns SC judgment in GOI v/s UT of Delhi case 2021

(2) has a say in Judicial appointment: via the Memorandum of Procedure

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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(3) Executive says' continues in executive matters as (Separation of Powers) as established in (Ram Jawaya kapoor) case is itself a Basic structure.

(4) (Judicial restraint) has accompanied the Basic structure doctrine as seen in disposal of many PILs such as those directing GOI to disclose Rafale deal figures

Basic structure as a Balancer

(1) Has ensured a Balance of power between various organs.

(2) Protects Fundamental Rights (ex): (MC Mehta case) Right To Clean Environment

(3) Protect Federalism (ex): Bommai case

Thus, doctrine of Basic structure must be invoked while keeping in mind Public Interest, Constitutionalism and Respect for Legislature organ of state. (Justice Gogoi)

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.13 मौलिक अधिकार राज्य द्वारा प्रदत्त उपहार नहीं हैं बल्कि एक व्यक्ति उन पर राज्य से स्वतंत्र रूप से अधिकार रखता है। इस संदर्भ में विभिन्न मौलिक अधिकारों पर युक्तियुक्त निर्बंधन की वांछनीयता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Fundamental rights are not gifts bestowed upon by the state rather an individual possesses them independently of the state. In this context discuss the desirability of reasonable restrictions on various fundamental rights.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

Part III of Indian Constitution provides various fundamental Rights to the citizens. It also (Art 13) bars 'state' from damaging Fundamental Rights ~~with~~ completely and enjoins upon the Supreme Court (Art 32) to issue writs to ~~prevent~~ prevent any violation of FRs.

Not gifts endowed by State, but individually possessed

① ~~Fs Ba~~ FRs are based on Human Rights which are declared by the UN Declaration on Human Rights 1948

② There are also claims from Natural Rights such as life and liberty, as stated by Locke. which can't be provided by state, but natural Right to life

(a): ~~Art 21~~ existed even before Art 21 was operationalized.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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Desirability of Reasonable Restrictions

Some Rights are however granted by the state such as Right to Privacy, Right against discrimination (Art. 15, 17) and Right to Constitutional Remedies (Art 32). to uphold Social Justice & Constitutionalism.

Art 19(2)

Thus need for reasonable restrictions exist as:

1. Rights are not Absolute
   - (eg) One's Right to speech ends where (s)he beings defamation to the other :
2. Rights carry a corresponding duty
   - (eg) Right to freedom of Religion does not allow for hurting someone's Religious sentiments therefore, public order remains a reasonable restriction in Art 19(2) & IPC Sec 153.
3. To protect the interest of vulnerables
   - (eg) Movement to tribal areas is restricted by ILP to protect the

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Cultural spaces such as Sacred Groves of SC

ex: ILP in Arunachal Pradesh

(4) To ensure public health, restrictions on movement could be placed.

ex: Managing COVID-19 pandemic

(5) To protect Sovereignty, Integrity of the nation

ex: Art 22(4) allows for preventive detention to prevent acts threatening sovereignty

(6) To ensure harmony during elections reasonable restrictions exist in form of MCC and Art 19(2) restrictions on Hate speech.

Need for Safeguards

(*) To prevent abuse of laws in cases such as recurrent internet bans, abuse of sedition law

Thus, a conscientious executive, alert citizenry and active judiciary can ensure that FRs continue to flourish as agents of reform & democracy

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

NEXT IAS

Q.14 'एस.आर. बोम्मई बनाम भारत संघ मामले ने संघ द्वारा किसी राज्य के प्रशासन पर नियंत्रण ग्रहण करने के संघ के अधिकार की न्यायिक व्याख्या में एक आदर्श बदलाव का संकेत दिया।' इस संदर्भ में संघीय ढाँचे को मजबूत करने पर निर्णय के महत्त्व और प्रभाव पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'S.R. Bommai v. Union of India signified a paradigm shift in the judicial interpretation of the union's authority to assume control of a state's administration.' In this context discuss the significance and impact of the judgement on cementing the federal structure.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

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In S.R. Bommai v/s Union of India (1985) Supreme Court established Federalism and Secularism as Basic structure elements. SC also warned Union against the abuse of exceptional powers provided under Article 356.

Bommai : A paradigm shift

Bommai case established grounds for determing a Justified basis for invoking Presidentis Rule.

Justified	Unjustified
① 'Objective material' basis i.e. failure of Consti of Minister on Floor test.	① Subjective assessment of confidence enjoyed by Government by the Governor.
② Violations of Constitution by the State government	② Mere maladministration

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

(3) Flung Assembly even after Gubernatorial attempts to invite different parties

(3) Change of party in power at the Union

Significance of Bommai

(1) Made it Basic structure : Federalism
→ Thus, its violation was unconstitutional and would invite Judicial scrutiny.

(2) Judicial Review of Presidential and Governor's actions reduced instances of abuse. as seen in declining use of Article 356.

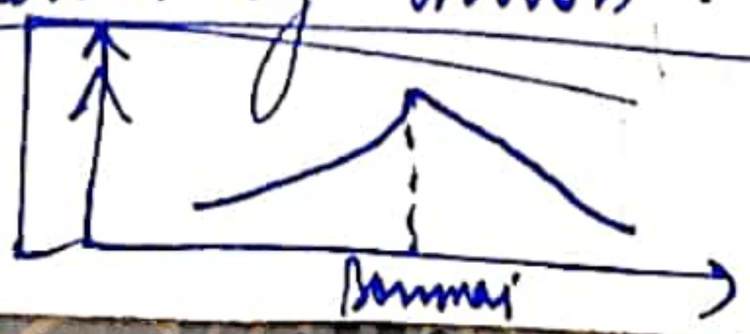
(3) Reaffirmed public faith in Indian Judiciary

(4) Reestablished the sanctity of State as independent Federal agents. [Ambedkar's view]

Impact of Bommai

Positive

(1) Decline in number of President Rule's invocations by Unions. PRS data



Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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NEXT IAS

(2) SC reaffirmed Bommai in cases such as Nabam Rebia (2016)

(3) Reestablished wrongfully dismissed governments in Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand (2017)

~~Negative~~ (4) More challenges to whimsical acts of Governor via PIL & under Art 136, 142

ex: PIL against NIA, UAPA Acts.

~~Negative~~ Limited Impact

(1) Still Governor's acts are alleged as Partisan

ex: Maharashtra Assembly Case.

(2) Union's laws are seen against federalism

ex: GNCTD Act 2023

(3) Conflict between Governor and State

ex: TN Governor ~~issue~~ using (Pocket Veto)

on state bills.

~~To establish~~ Therefore, we need strong and acting Inter State Council in order to iron out issues b/w Union & States (2nd ARC)

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.15 प्रभावी विकेंद्रीकरण की कुंजी यह है कि राजनीतिक विकेंद्रीकरण को वित्त और प्रकार्यात्मक विकेंद्रीकरण का अनुगमन करना चाहिए। भारत में स्थानीय शासन के समक्ष आने वाली बाधाओं के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The key to effective decentralization is, 'political decentralization should follow finance and functional decentralization'. Discuss in the context of impediments faced by local governance in India.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

" Political decentralization is key to success of Panchayati Raj institutions"
— L.M. Singhvi

Decentralization as envisaged by 73rd & 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts have created the framework for realization of Article 40, but to be effective it needs political decentralization.

Impediments faced by local governance.

① Paucity of funds

→ As their own sources of revenue are very narrow. Mere 4% of GSDP is raised by them as per Eco Survey 2019-20.

② Lack infrastructure & professionals

→ Most states do not have a cadre of

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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d functional
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functionaries for local governments.

(3) Lack of political devolution of functions.

→ As per Ministry of Panchayati Raj Annual Report only 6 States have entrusted more than 50% of Schedule 11 & 12 functions.

(4) Politicization of deputations etc

key to effective decentralization.

(1) Financial decentralization → Powers of taxation
→ More share in grants

(ex) Kerala allows for 30% of State Plan budget as Local government untied grants.

(ex): Municipal Bonds

(2) Functional decentralization

→ Allowing local bodies functional autonomy in matters such as local health, primary education

(3) Political decentralization

→ Entails devolution of Schedule 11, 12 subjects along with decision making powers

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

(4) Enable them to have Independent Cadre of employees for local governance

eg: Punjab PRI Act

(5) Enable consultation on Public Plans with multiple stakeholders -

eg: MoPRI's Gram Panchayat People's Plan

Thus, Principle of Subsidiarity ~~broad based measures~~ can help in revitalizing the grassroot institutions to realize the Gandhian dream of Gram Swaraj.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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Q.16 सामूहिक विशेषज्ञता और नेटवर्क (संजाल) का लाभ उठाने के लिए बहु-हितधारक साझेदारी महत्वपूर्ण है। भारत में सतत विकास लक्ष्यों (एसडीजी) की प्राप्ति में तेजी लाने के लिए प्रभावी साझेदारी और स्थानीयकृत कार्यान्वयन प्रयासों को कैसे बढ़ावा दिया जा सकता है?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Multi-stakeholder partnerships are the key to leveraging collective expertise and networks. How can effective partnership and localized implementation efforts be fostered to accelerate the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in India?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

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Multi stakeholder partnerships have become crucial in the Neo liberal era as they facilitate sharing of risks and responsibilities across, government, civil society and private sector equitably for realizing SDGs and good governance

Effective partnerships to foster SDG achievement.

SDG 1 : Zero Poverty

→ State and Civil Society can create measures to overcome poverty.

eg: Solid Stock Exchange

SDG 2&3: Hunger & Nutrition

→ State, Civil Society and Privates can contribute as follows:

State : Right based framework to access food (NFSA)

Civil Society - eg: Dhabawala Patia delivery via MDM

Private : CSR funds to run campaigns like Feeding India

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

SDG 5: Gender Equality

→ State can mandate Privates to prevent all biases against women in Recruitment pay and promotion overcoming [Glass ceiling].

SDG 7: Clean Energy

→ Needs funding, innovation & attitudinal shift
- funding → State
- innovation → Private
- attitudinal shift → CSO.

as seen in [PLI scheme] and [FAME 2.0] which works on convergence principle.

localized implementation efforts.

→ By utilizing the power of PRIs, SHGs, civil society and privates SDG can be fostered at

① Gender Equality

→ [SHG] empowering women [financially] which gives them [voice]. Similarly, using [PRIs] too give them [political power]

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

NEXT IAS

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to act as agents of change.

(ex): Uttarni Rajawat, Sarpanch of Soda Village

SDG 14,15: Life on Land & under Water

→ Can be utilized for watershed management, reviving old traditional water bodies such as Johads, etc.

(ex): Mission Amrit Sarovar aspects in PRIs and Cooperatives

SDG 11: Sustainable cities

→ CSOs and Privates can help by spreading awareness on Mission LiFE, need for 3R and creating waste collection units

(ex): Bio Gas plants operated by Barefoot college women graduates.

Thus collective contributions can help realize the goals of SDG by sharing responsibilities, via community engagement

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.17 पी.ओ.एस.एच. अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन से यौन उत्पीड़न के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने में सीमित सफलता ही क्यों मिली है, और किन कारकों ने असंगठित क्षेत्र में कार्यरत महिलाओं तक इसकी प्रभावी पहुँच में बाधा उत्पन्न की है? इस अंतर को पाटने और असंगठित क्षेत्र में महिलाओं के लिए कार्यस्थल पर उत्पीड़न के विरुद्ध व्यापक सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए रणनीतियाँ प्रस्तावित कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

How has the implementation of the POSH Act resulted in limited success in raising awareness about sexual harassment, and what factors have hindered its effective outreach to women employed in the unorganized sector? Propose strategies to bridge this gap and ensure comprehensive protection for women in the unorganized sector against workplace harassment. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

POSH Act, 2013 was aimed at addressing sexual harassment of women in workplaces. after recommendations of Verma committee

Implementation resulting in limited awareness

① No focus on public awareness campaigns under the act.

② Limited creation of Internal Complaints Committees by companies hinder awareness amongst men and women

③ Applicable mainly to organised sector, ~~in~~ i.e. in practice.

④ low conviction rate has failed to create deterrence.

⑤ Poor incentives for anonymous reporting

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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restricts its potential benefits for ensuring safety.

Factors hindering effective outreach in Unorganized

(1) Lack of Literacy levels

(2) Poor & limited Awareness about legal Rights among unorganized sector women

(3) Limited presence of Women Pressure groups

(4) Absence of Job security and Social Safety Nets keeps the victim silent.

(5) Weak monitoring mechanisms by government

(6) Informal nature and varied work environment limits the engagement of women.

(7) Lack of will among contractors and employers to provide humane work Conditions (Failure of Fundamental Duty Art 51A(j))

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Strategies to bridge this gap:

(1) Engage CSOs that act as educators and agitators for women's rights.

(2) Utilize e shram portal to create a database of female workers.

(3) Create incentives for employers to comply with provisions such as tax benefits

(4) Oversight by National Commission for women affiliated agents.

(5) Rope in NALSA/SALSA lawyers to provide effective relief

(6) Publish & promote stories of Role Models

(7) Strict penalties & speed courts for labour

Gender justice would require constant efforts on behalf of government, CSO and women themselves to address the menace of sexual harassment at work to improve Female LFPR.

Q.18 नव–उदार
प्रकार की
का परीक्षण
'Neo-libe
set the gr
delivery

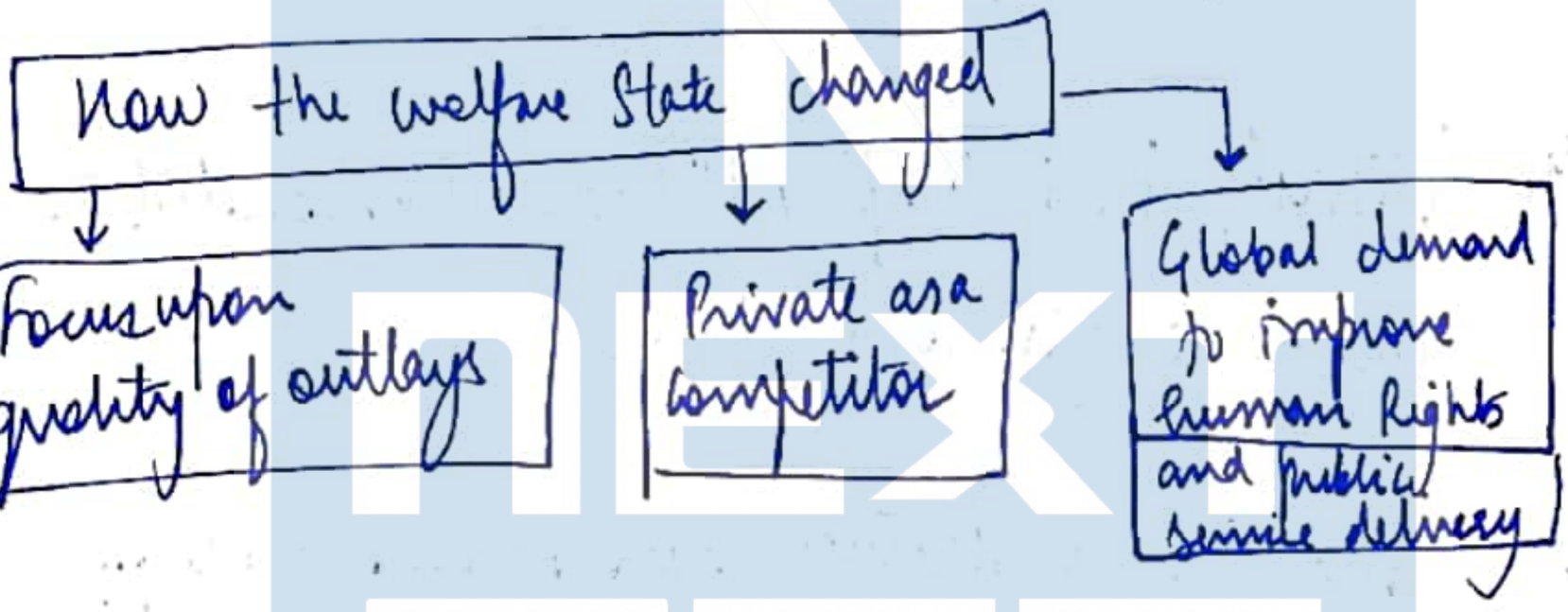
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Q.18 नव–उदारवादी सुधारों और वैश्वीकरण ने कल्याणकारी राज्य की संस्थाओं को गहराई से बदल दिया है और एक नई प्रकार की सिविल सेवाओं के लिए आधार तैयार किया है।' इस संदर्भ में सेवा वितरण के समक्ष आने वाली चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए और पर्याप्त सुधारों हेतु सुझाव दीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'Neo-liberal reforms and globalization have deeply transformed the institutions of the welfare state and set the ground for a new type of civil services.' In this context examine the challenges faced in service delivery and suggest adequate reforms. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

Candidates must not write on this margin

Neo liberals reforms have resulted in a 'roll back of state' and created the need for developmental bureaucracy in place of regulatory civil services.



challenges faced in Service delivery

(1) Complex and competing demands of public

(2) Addressing issues of time and cost overruns.

(3) ~~Focus upon~~ exclusion - inclusion errors increases in as beneficiary selection is based on sharp cut offs.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

(4) Improving quality of service delivery, due to competitive federalism

(5) Status quoist bureaucracy

(6) Excessive Rule orientation affects citizen centric governance.

(7) Corruption, Cronyism hinders public fund utilization

(8) 'Chalta hai', 'Mai Baap' Attitude has created a trust deficit among citizens.

(9) Financial constraints have become more realistic due to Washington consensus

Reforms needed.

(1) Improve Capacity of Public organizations

(eg). Use Citizen Charter and Mission Karmayogi to set goals & improve capacity.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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4.

(2) Engage Civil society to tackle issues such as awareness deficit

(ex): Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) helped bring RTI law and raised awareness

(3) Partner with privates to overcome funding constraints

(ex): NITI's India @ 2022 envisages PPP in infra to improve quality & reduce risks

(4) Business Process Reengineering

(ex) Using ICT to overcome barriers of space, time and shocks such as Covid

(ex): eSanjeevani for Telehealth

PM eVidya for continuity of education

(5) Using ICT to ~~enable~~ overcome losses & enable financial Inclusion

(ex) DBT, UPI

Ultimately, a vigilant citizenship can help improve service delivery by timely & conducting Social Audits & Casting Regular Votes.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.19 चीन भारत को अपने "एशियाई प्रतिद्वंद्वी" के रूप में देखता है जिसमें एशिया में उसके वर्चस्ववादी लक्ष्यों का मुकाबला करने की जन्मजात क्षमता है। भारत–चीन संबंधों में इन कठिनाइयों के बावजूद, अभिसरण के भी कई क्षेत्र हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

China views India as its "Asian Rival" with an innate ability to counter its hegemonistic goals in Asia. Despite these difficulties in India-China relations, there are also many areas of convergence. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

" China sees itself as the legitimate "hero" of the Asian Century & thus perceives all other actors as "villains".

- C. Rajamohan

China - India relationship is marred by trust deficit, unsettled borders and ~~trade~~ an unfavourable trade deficit for India.

China views India as "Asian Rival"

(1) India is the 3rd largest economy in Asia after China & Japan

(2) India has the largest military in World.

(3) India's growth model is 7% + and replicating Chinese growth phase of 1980-2016

(4) India has 'goodwill' in the Asian region

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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(5) Indo-Pacific the new theatre of geopolitics recognises the 'centrality of India' where India is the traditional net Security Provider.

Areas of Convergence.

---

(1) Economy and Trade has seen a continuous uptick in numbers. Trade figure crosses stands at $190 bn with an unfavourable Balance of Trade for India at $80 bn

(2) Reforming West led Institutions / Therefore they've proposed BRICS Bank, etc.

(3) Energy security concerns made them ignore American sanctions on Russian oil & also fight against an unfair Asian premium

(4) Voice of Global South in matters affecting both such as Climate change. Thus, both opposed a ban on Coal in COP27

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

Q.2

(5) P2P connections : The Mahabalipuram & human spirit has potential to foster ties based on ancient linkage of Buddhism.

(6) De dollarization to prevent any future threats to economic sovereignty.

(7) Connectivity : both are likely to gain from a more Connected South Asia as it'll increase the trade share

Thus, it seems that there are ample grounds to work together - However, efforts must be taken to reduce conflict along border by working on Border Resolution;

Peace Building measures such as more Summit level talks & Chinese restraint on dealing with Terror related matters can truly pave way for an Asian Century

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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Q.20 हालिया दिनों में हिंद–प्रशांत क्षेत्र अलग–अलग हितों और प्राथमिकताओं वाले क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरा है। चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आपको लगता है कि वैश्विक सुरक्षा पहल (GSI) इस क्षेत्र में क्वाड (QUAD) का स्थान ले लेगी

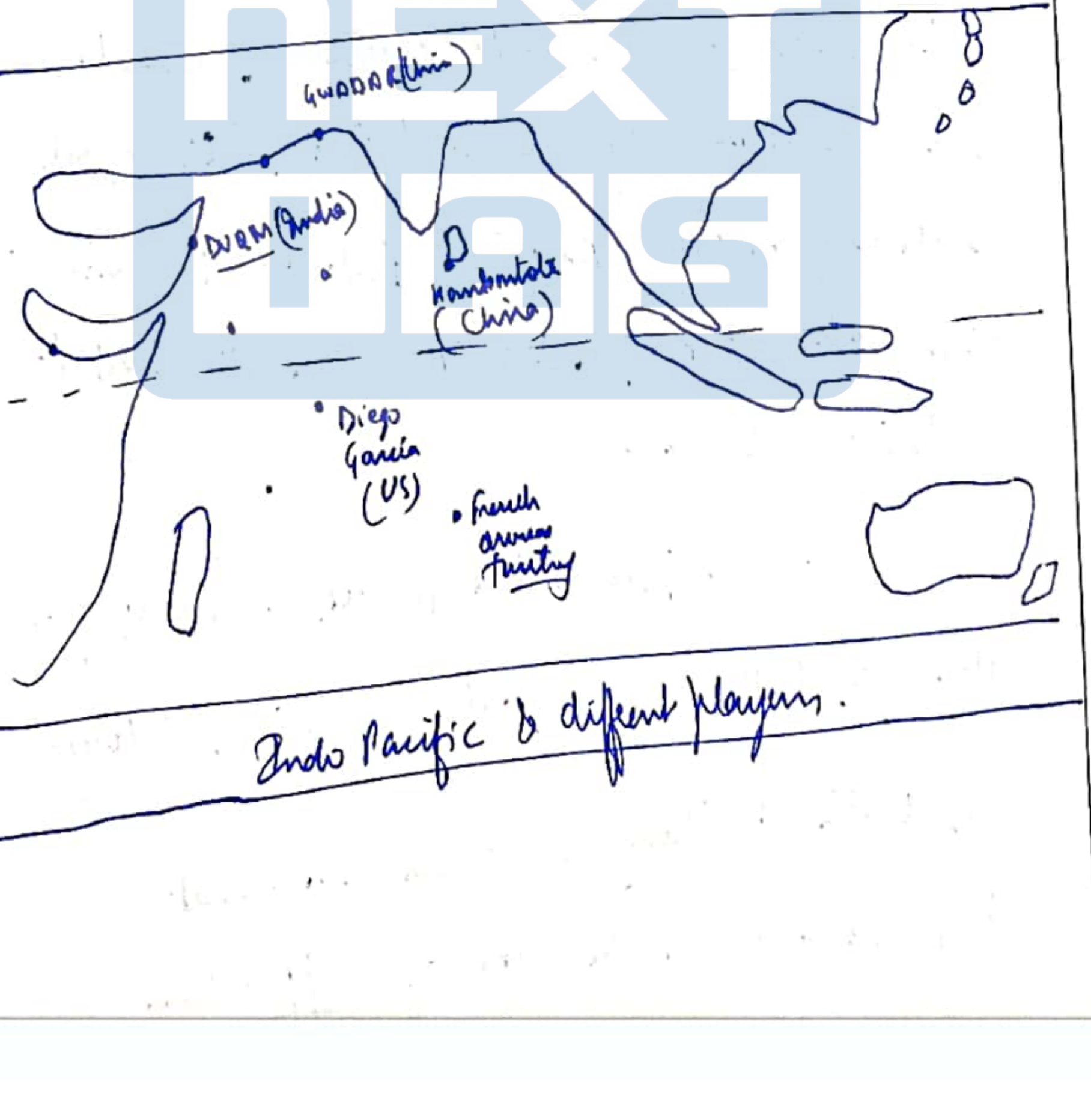
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Indo -Pacific region in recent times has emerged as a zone of diverging interests and priorities. Discuss. Do you think the Global Security Initiative will supersede QUAD in the region?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

" Indo Pacific region is the region where India influences, China eyes and the US intervenes".

It is an emerging geopolitical theatre of competition and conflict between the new world order i.e. 2 power blocs US & China



Indo Pacific & different players.

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

NEXT IAS

Zone of diverging interests and priorities

① India's interests lay in re affirming Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace & its stature as a Net Security Provider

② While China is determined to make inroads & surround India through its String of Pearls ; Also seen in recent docking YUAN WANG 5 8 6 to survey & spy

③ US seeks to use Indo Pacific to prevent the rise of a Hegemonic China . US efforts such as PIVOT TO ASIA ; Indo Pacific Grouping framework IPEF and QUAD are all aimed at containing China .

④ Other Western powers like France, Germany, UK also want to ensure safety of their territories

⑤ Australia & Japan see China as a threat to Democracy in the wake of Supply Chain

Next IAS ID: MT23FLTRA002, TC002, 17-08-2023 01:11 PM

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weaponization & offenses against Taiwan

GSI can't supersede QUAD

(*) Global security Initiative by China is seen as a counter to QUAD. However it cannot supersede QUAD as -

(1) QUAD has 3/5 largest economies

(2) Massive military strength

(3) Strong clout amongst Pacific countries

(eg): India - FIPIC 3rd meeting in Papua New Guinea; reasserted FIPIC trust in India.

(4) Strong Goodwill among other nations

(5) PGII, IPEF and other non exploitative mechanisms unlike the exploitative BRI

Therefore, QUAD must work on its economic convergence & military strength to counter any future challenge by china.