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Roll No. : 5809750 / MT23RCAPA085

Registration Number : ..... Date of Examination : 10th Aug 23

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐ Bhopal ☐ Online ☑

Test - 2 **Code : TC704**

RCA Batch 2023

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.....

SUBJECT/PAPER
GENERAL STUDIES

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Evaluator's response

(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			
8	15			
9	17			
10	19			
11	21			
12	24			
13	27			
14	30			
15	33			
16	36			
17	39			
18	42			
19	45			
20	48			
Grand Total				

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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.

The RPA 1951 was formulated to prevent ensure free and fair elections and prevent any corrupt practices that can hamper this democratic exercise.

Disqualification provisions under Section 8 of RPA imply 6 years barring from ~~to~~ participating in election in case of conviction of over 2 years.

Ambiguity exists whether this disqualification entails completion of conviction process with appeals.

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Lily Thomas case calls for ensuring section 8 is effectively implemented.

Ambiguity in this provision is creating criminalisation of politics. (ADR: 44% + MPs with criminal cases in 17th LS).

Need is to ensure free and fair elections and level playing field for all.

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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.

Constitutionalism refers to limits on the government acting to the provisions of the constitution.

Soul of democracy

→ check on arbitrary power of the government.

Eg - Striking down of 42nd Amendment Act as it was disbalanced FR and DPSP

→ protects rights of citizens

Eg: under Article 32 constitutional remedies sought in higher courts.

→ Ensures parliamentary democracy as legislature constituted through popular mandate checks the executive.

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Challenges faced

(i) Executive overreach
Eg. ordinance to pass bills.

(ii) Judicial overreach
Eg - formulation of policy on alcohol sale on highways.

(iii) Committed Bureaucracy

(iv) Diminishing role of Parliament.
Eg – very less sittings, disruptions.

Way forward → NCRWC report: increase sittings of parliament (calendar).

Thus need is to ensure constitutional values are protected to successfully maintain democratic culture in India.

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Q.3 'चुनावी बॉण्ड एक दोधारी तलवार है, जो दानकर्ताओं को अनामिता प्रदान करता है जबकि राजनीतिक वित्तपोषण में पारदर्शिता के बारे में चिंताएँ बढ़ाता है।' चुनावी बॉण्ड ने किस सीमा तक चुनावी वित्तपोषण में अपारदर्शिता को वैध बना दिया है? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Electoral bonds are a double-edged sword, providing anonymity to donors while raising concerns about transparency in political funding." To what extent have electoral bonds further legitimized opacity in electoral funding? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks.

Electoral bonds are promissory notes which allow donation to political parties through state bank of India's select branches.

Benefits of electoral bonds
- → Donor harassment ↓ after election results.
- → transparency as KYC necessary to donate.
- → Tax benefit to donor
- → Reduce role of black money in elections as funding through formal banking channels.

However, various criticism have been raised.

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a) Source of donation is unknown to public. (ADR: 69% fund channel through bonds)

b) Tax exemption on donation through electoral bonds (thus, no financial transparency through declaration)

c) Role of black money continues in election.

d) ADR: over 90% funding received by ruling parties.

e) allows re-routing of money from tax havens.

Way forward → Indrajit Gupta: Disclosure of sources and amount of donation

→ State funding of elections.

Reform is necessary to ensure free and fair elections (art 326) and a representative democracy.

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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.

Uniform civil Code is mentioned in Article 44 of Part IV – DPSP. It aims to create secular, codified personnel laws in areas of inheritance, marriage, divorce, maintenance.

UCC is considered essential for gender equality as various patriarchal religious practices suppress women's rights. (Article 14)

For instance – Right of alimony for divorced muslim women, Bigamy in hindus.

However, UCC will lead to other benefits like national integration, unity among different communities, rationalisation of bulky personnel laws, ease burden on family

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courts and modernise religious practices.

Challenges faced by UCC

- Resistance by Minorities and political parties.
  Eg- Kerala Assembly resolution against UCC.
- Tribal concerns
  Upendra Baxi highlights low knowledge of varied tribal practices. UCC can create further alienation.
- lack of consensus over best practices.
- fears of majoritarianism.

Way Forward

- Raju Bhatia suggests wide consultation before introducing UCC
- slow changes to personnel laws instead of grand UCC like reform.

UCC will aid in meeting SDG#5 gender equality and creating a fairer, more inclusive society.

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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 governor is appointed by the President (Art 153) and acts as a lynchpin between the Centre and state. S/He is a key link to cooperative federalism.

[Contribution]

i) final approval to the State laws — giving effect to their jurisdictional autonomy.

ii) Ensures law and order in the State by recommending under article 355 and 356 for President rule.

iii) Links between centre and state in administrative and executive capacity.

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iv) Furthers asymmetric federalism in certain states through 5th and 6th Schedule.

Challenges
- Partial role towards centre Eg in floor test in Goa.
- Misuse of executive authority Eg - Chancellor appointment issue in Bengal.
- Recommends president rule without effort towards alternate government formation

Wayforward
- Sarkaria Commission: Consensual decision on Governor appointment with CM of State.
- Impeachment by legislative council in state.

Governor's office should be preserved of its sanctity and should be used to ensure cooperative governance

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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.

Social accountability law will create a public check on the government activities. A similar Social Audit law has been formulated in Meghalaya.

SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY LAW and GOOD GOVERNANCE.

a) Counter corruption.

b) Ensure transparency in functioning of administration.

c) Enhance accountability of public servants.

d) Legal and judicial obligation for effective service delivery.

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BOOST CITIZEN PARTICIPATION.

(i) Information availability.

(ii) Increase role in policy implementation.

(iii) Increase role of local governments and pressure groups.

Challenges → affect pace of work due to fear of conviction.

Way forward → implement with steps like 360° assessment (2nd ARC) of officers.

Thus, such a law with usher in substantive democracy creating enlightened citizenry.

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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.

Global Hunger Index ranks India at 107 in their 2022 report. This is reflective of our poor performance in child nutrition.

GHI parameters → Under 5 mortality
GHI parameters → child wasting
GHI parameters → Stunting

Need to tackle Child undernutrition (NFHS data)

a) wasting : 19%
b) Stunting : 32%
c) undernutrition : 35%

Reasons

↳ limited availability of food
Eg Aadhar created issues in PDS delivery.

↳ Accessibility
Eg. food inflation in milk, tomatoes.

↳ Utilisation of nutrients due to
Eg - Hidden hunger issues.

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Convergence of schemes

- Nutrition Sensitive
  - Millet (PM Shree Anna)
  - WASH (Swachh Bharat Abhiyan)
- Nutrition Specific
  - Mid Day Meals.
  - POSHAN Abhiyan.

⇓

to increase uptake and further nutrition outcomes.

Impact
- Increase productivity → healthy workforce
- Reduce disease incidence (Eg India highest TB burden)
- Reduce poverty due to human resource development.

Thus, need of the hour is to create 'nutrition security' to meet SDG # 2 no hunger and create Amrit Kaal in India.

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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.

MGNREGA came into force with 2005 act to create 'right to work' framework. This schemes provide 100 days of assured unskilled work to unemployed people in a year.

MNREGA ⟺ RURAL POVERTY ALLEVIATION.

i) assured income in a year.

ii) crisis management
Eg 150 days under MGNREGA during drought, covid.

iii) counter feminisation of poverty
Eg over 55% workers employed are women

iv) Asset creation through MNAREGA work.
Eg linked to PMAY (housing) scheme, local water tanks

Candidates must not write on this margin

FISCAL APATHY

- Budget 2023-24: reduction in MNREGA funds affects its functioning.
- corruption and leakages dilute its effectiveness.
- delay in fund release - causing underutilisation.

Wayforward → DBT based linkages of all schemes.

→ Gram Sabha monitoring through Social Audit enhanced. (Meghalaya Model)

Thus, need of the hour is to boost MNREGA to meet SDG #1 no poverty and create conditions for inclusive growth.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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.

The world is witnessing increasing polarisation in the form of popular nativism, protectionism, rising conflicts and deglobalisation.

GEOPOLITICAL CHURN.

i) Russia-Ukraine war: Reflects return of cold war era with bloc politics

ii) Protectionism: rising tariffs, friendshoring, and closing off border to migrants (Mode 4).

iii) Popular nativism: in Europe seen through anti refugee sentiment and rise of right wing government Eg in Italy, Spain.

iv) Failure of multilateralism: halted UNSC reform, paralysed WTO dispute

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Redressal system.

INDIA'S RISE OPPORTUNITY.

i) Global leader: pushing for multilateralism. Eg. Collaboration with France and forming 'Alliance for Multilateralism'.

ii) Voice of global south: Raising issues like environmental CBDR principle, strategic autonomy between great power rivalry, using G20 presidency.

iii) global peacemaker: calling for end of russia-ukraine war

iv) Reform of institutions: like WTO, UNSC can be sought.

Way forward → Neighbourhood first policy
→ use G20 presidency to build consensus.

Thus, India should fill the leadership role building on its moral standing and Panchsheel principles.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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.

Germany and India share democratic values, people to people connect and support a multilateral and Reformed world order.

Significance

- Member of EU: Can be use to finalise ~~FTA~~ BTIA
- Open to migration: Jusrtue opportunities for India.
- collaboration in clean energy
  Eg - Germany is a solar leader
- Tourism potential for our German and EU tourists to India.
- Business: Germany can give access to EU market Eg in Service Sector.

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However their relationship faces challenges like:

a) Connectivity issues: low flight linkages.

b) low diaspora in Germany affects Indian interests in germans foreign policy.

c) Influence of china: infrastructural projects eg BRI.

need of the hour is to boost ties with Germany through economic ties and soft power diplomacy to find an entry to EU market.

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Q.11 दल–बदल विरोधी कानून ने भारत में राजनीतिक दलों और वैयक्तिक 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.

Anti defection law came into force through 52nd amendment act 1985 and led to addition of 10th Schedule to deal with the issue of legislators shifting political parties.

IMPACT ON POLITICAL PARTIES AND INDIVIDUAL LEGISLATORS.

i) Increased party loyalty as leaving the party will lead to disqualification from legislature.

ii) Furthered political convergence on issues as one has to vote based on party whip's instructions.

iii) Increased political stability and reduced topping of governments.

iv) Respect for popular mandate as candidate remains true to cause and ideology it campaigned for.

Candidates must not write on this margin

However, in recent times, created certain challenges.

a) Engineered resignations leaving the law ineffective. Eg in Maharashtra 2023.

b) Merger of parties allowed with 2/3rd majority.

c) Partial role of Speaker. Eg. Manipur speaker took up defection proceedings after 2 years.

d) Gubernatorial misuse of office: Eg Arunachal Pradesh floor test introduced before defection proceedings.

e) No loop liability of political parties and focus on individual MPs

f) Limits freedom of speech and expression of MPs/MLAs

g) Variance in nominated and independent MPs ~~elections~~ defection.

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IMPACT ON DEMOCRACY

- Debate and discussion quality ↓ due to party whip.
- Inability to reflect public interests
- High command culture in party affecting internal democracy.
- Political Instability
- Disrespect of popular mandate

WAY FORWARD

- Dinesh Goswami Committee: Independent body like ECI to adjudicate.
- SC: time frame for anti defection proceedings.

Anti defection issues need to be solved to ensure free and fair electoral processes in a representative democracy.

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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.

Basic Structure doctrine came into force with Kesavananda Bharati case 1973. It ensured that certain core principles are beyond the amendability power under Article 368.

Benefits of Basic structure doctrine

→ Prevents arbitrariness
Eg. Minerva Mills case struck down 42nd CAA citing 'Judicial Review' as Basic Structure

→ Rule of law over Rule of Men
Eg. Independence of Judiciary preserved (NJAC 2015 Act).

→ Maintains Balance of Separation of Powers ensuring check on Parliament.
Eg – Bommai case - Federalism as a Basic Structure.

However this doctrine has come under criticism →

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i) Creating 'government of judges' as unelected, unaccountable authorities taking decisions.

ii) No textual or constitutional basis.

iii) V.P. Bhaucar said that it breaches Parliamentary Sovereignty

iv) Its vagueness and ambiguity creates questions over its use.

v) Rigidity of doctrine means it can come in contrast ~~to~~ with societal evolution and needs.

However, the Basic Structure has not-made judiciary more powerful as—

i) Judicial Restraint is exercised in its use.
Eg- Debates over J&K (Art 371) in Supreme court.

ii) Heavily researched decision making.

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(iii) Can also be made by Supreme Court or implemented by High Courts and not lower judiciary.

(iv) undertaken by Constitutional benches — ensuring varied opinion and debate before decision making.

Thus, this doctrine has ensured spirit of the constitution makers is preserved.

Justice Rekha Sharma — remarked that it is the Dharma of Judiciary to preserve the essence of constitution and prevent tyranny. Basic structure doctrine does just that.

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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

(1) 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.

(2) (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks.

Fundamental rights are given in the Constitution under Part III - articles 12 to 36. They furthers political democracy principles.

They are called fundamental because they are not given by state but by the constitution — fundamental law of the land.

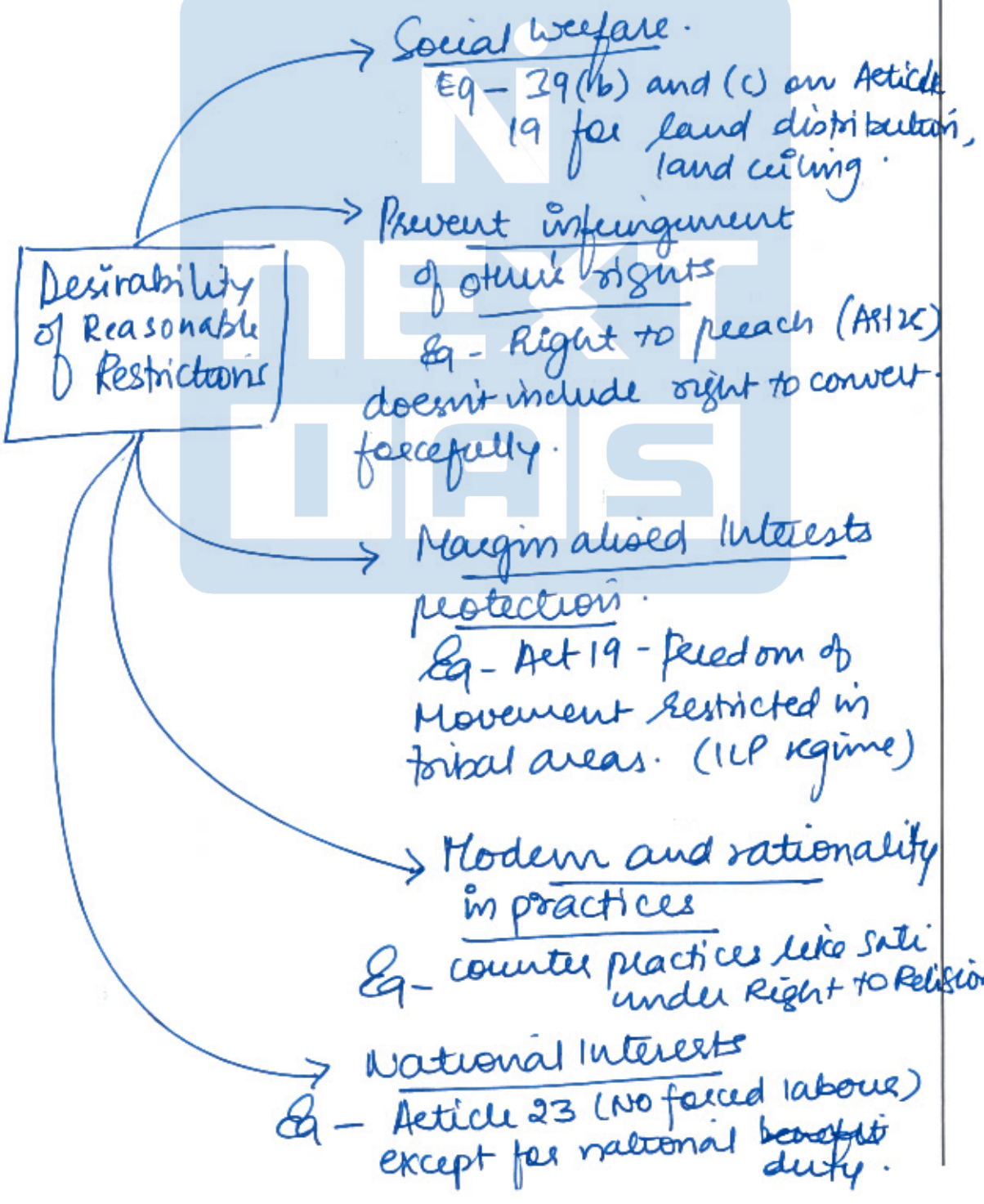
They protect against arbitrary action of the state. Eg. Putta Swamy case gave 3 test of privacy to government (Article 21).

However, fundamental rights are not absolute and sequise can

Candidates must not write on this margin

be curbed by the state under certain reasonable restrictions.

These restrictions exist to ensure a balancing of individual rights with societal interests.



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ISSUES
- limits on freedoms
- vagueness. eg sedition, defamation.
- can be misused. eg. Book bans (Art 19(2))
- affect democratic rights.

Need of the hour is to balance these reasonable restrictions and ensure their usage in just manner to meet social ends.

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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.

(1)

S. R. Bommai case (1994) was a monumental case as it declared 'federalism' as basic structure of the constitution and laid down guidelines of situations under which President Rules can be imposed.

Significance →
- Judicial Recognition of states as autonomous entities and not appendages of centre.
- check on the unitary power of the central government
- check on arbitrary use of power eg to remove governments of opposition parties.

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Impact

- Ensured 'federalism' was not violated in principle and practice.
- clear laying down of guidelines when president rule is not justified.
  Eg - without affirming possibility of formation of alternate Government
- 'Secularism' declared as basic feature of constitution.
- Reduced arbitrary removal of governments as they could be challenged in courts.
- operationalisation of the articles 356 and 365 of constitution.

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Challenges

↳ 1) Continued misuse in modern day
Eg. Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand (2019).

↳ 2) delay in democratic process.
Eg - Jammu Kashmir elections paralysed.

Way forward → Sarkaria Commission: Written justification of President rule before Parliament

Thus, need is to ensure federal principles are practiced in letter and spirit to ensure smooth and cooperative functioning leading to 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'.

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Q.15 प्रभावी विकेंद्रीकरण की कुँजी 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.

Decentralisation is the process of power transfer to lower levels of the government for effective governance.

The 73rd and 74th constitutional Amendment Acts allow for panchayati raj and ~~muni~~ municipal governments formation as the 3rd tier of government.

However, the 13th Finance Commission highlighted that the local self government (LSG) face the issue of fund, function and functionaries.

IMPEDIMENTS

FUNDS

→ The State Finance Commission have been ineffective in devolution in funds

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from state to LSG.

↳ Low capacity of local governments of tax collection

Eg – only 6% funds come from own tax collection in India (Brazil 30%). – Economic Survey 2018.

FUNCTIONS

↳ The states have not devolved enough political functions under 11th and 12th schedules.

↳ Limited resources affect proper working of the administration.

↳ encroachment by SPVs of various functions. Eg Smart cities scheme.

↳ Non formation of district planning boards or poor functioning affects their use.

FUNCTIONARIES

↳ Low awareness of government machinery and schemes.

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↳ academic and digital literacy (about 25% in rural areas) affects

↳ 'Sarpanch-pati' phenomenon limits role of females in power.

Way Forward

↳ Training programs for functionaries.

↳ Independent authority like for oversight on functioning of LSG

↳ 15th FC suggested greater central allocation to LSG.

↳ Niti Aayog: technology to boost fund collection capacity.

Thus, reform of LSG functioning is essential for effective decentralisation and participative democracy.

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Q.16 सामूहिक विशेषज्ञता और नेटवर्क (संजाल) का लाभ उठाने के लिए बहु–हितधारक साझेदारी महत्त्वपूर्ण 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.

Multistakeholder partnerships bring in people of varied backgrounds and expertise to contribute to common cause and reach a collective, beneficial decision.

For instance, Niti Aayog's involvement of experts and local leaders.

ACHIEVEMENT OF SDGs	EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP and LOCALISED IMPLEMENTATION
i) Zero poverty.	→ power of SHGs for women empowerment and social needs. Eg - 'Bank Sakhis' as banking correspondants aiding in financial inclusion.
ii) No hunger	→ Millet Sister network using women, organic farming of millets to

Candidates must not write on this margin

	increase nutrition in the community.
iii) Health for all.	→ primary health care centres (Ayushman Bharat) for preventive healthcare.
iv) Quality Education	→ CSR based collaboration for digital devices boosting online education in remote areas.
v) Gender equality.	→ NGOs like Kudumbashree to bring together women of various backgrounds.
vi) Clean ~~energy~~ water and Sanitation	→ Mass campaign Eg Jal Andolan for preserving ground water and rejuvinate traditional system.
vii) Clean Energy.	→ Use of small Hydro powerprojects. → micro/small nuclear plants for local needs.

Candidates must not write on this margin

viii) Climate change countering.	→ Kuttanad model of rice cultivation in saline water. → Mixed Bazar Collective water preservation.
ix) Sustainable urbanisation.	→ boost local governance structures.

Thus, the power of decentralisation and collective can be tapped to create a "New India".

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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 came into force after the Supreme court mandated Vishaka Guidelines that addressed criminalised sexual harassment at workplace.

Success of POSH

i) creation of institutional mechanisms in every organisation.
Eg the internal complaints committee in companies with 10+ employees.

ii) Female presence in these mechanisms
Eg – ICC to be headed by women.

iii) Obligation of awareness for employees
Eg – through POSH seminars, training.

iv) time bound disposal of cases -

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Limitations

- Only 25% of top 500 companies have created ICC.
- non-functional ICC and continuing culture of victim blaming & shaming (Brinda Karat)
- delays in judicial mechanisms discouraging victims
- patriarchal culture discourages women from speaking out
- low conviction rate. (<30% for crimes against women: NCRB)
- Low No coverage of the unorganised sector (NSSO: >90% of workforce employed).

Factors affecting outcaeh in unorganised sector

- Low awareness of rights
- Low bargaining power as they are easily replaceable.
- Non coverage by the law.

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↳ Improper registration of units affects its monitoring.

Strategy

→ Justice Verma Committee : called for comprehensive coverage through laws.

→ Increase awareness through social campaigns.

→ District level complaints committee open for all

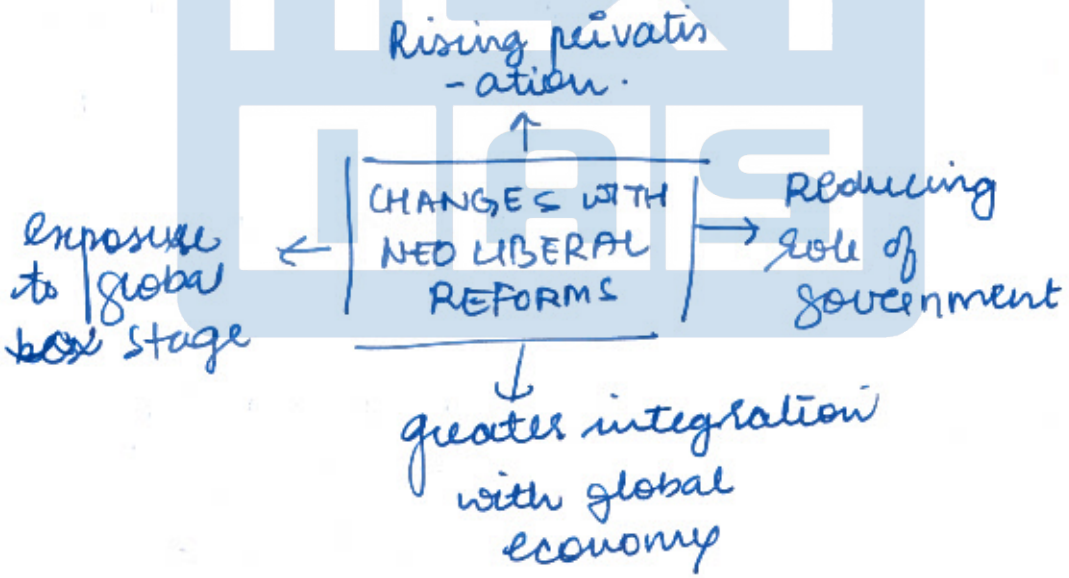
Thus, these steps are essential to ensure gender equality #5 SDG and create an inclusive workforce.

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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.

After the 1991 reforms that ushered in the LPG era, civil service has shifted from being a 'manager' and 'regulator' to 'arbiter' of reforms. It now has to aid in development of private and individual capacities.



For this requirement is of a dynamic, professional, specialised, efficient and effective civil service.

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CHALLENGES FACED	REFORMS SUGGESTED
i) Generalist attitude affects ~~a~~ ability to deal with complexities of global supply chain, IAS. etc.	• Yugandhar Committee: 3 mid term training. • Mission Karmayogi for training of government servants
ii) Laxity and bureaucratic attitude leading to inefficient work culture.	• Niti Aayog: Lateral Entry. • Hong Kong model: Continuation in service based on assessment.
iii) Limited professionalism and discipline in work force.	2nd ARC: National Institute of Public Administration for training guiding young bureaucrats.
iv) Opacity in work culture	• voluntary disclosure under RTI (Section 4).

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	• Niti Aayog: Department targets publicised.
v) Corruption affecting global image.	• 360° assessment (2nd ARC). • e-governance
vi) Hierarchical culture stifling innovation.	• Paperless governance • Inter-ministerial coordination (Niti Aayog)

Thus, our civil service needs a shift from a Rusted to a Trusted Steel frame to meet modern day challenges.

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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.

India - china relationship is complicated owing to ~~its~~ their proximity and geopol power ambitions. However, their relationship is not zero sum game and both divergence and cooperation areas can be found.

Difficulties in Relationship

a) Territorial expansionism by china leading to border clashes in Doklam, Galwan.

b) Encirclement of India through String of Pearls policy in the Indian ocean Region.

c) Rising role in Asia : creating relations with Indian neighbours through debt trap diplomacy.
Eg – Srilanka (Hambantota),

Candidates must not write on this margin

Bangladesh, Pakistan (CPEC).

d) Countering India at global forums. Eg. blocked UN sanction against 26/11 terrorist Sajid Mir, BRI consensus at SCO.

e) Economic dependence on China due to rare earth metals, API for pharmaceuticals. etc. and trade deficit (>84 bn USD)

However India has countered Chinese hegemony with steps like —

i) defence partnerships like France (Scorpene), USA (Tejas Engine F414)

ii) groupings like Quad, Malabar exercise.

iii) developing domestic capabilities Eg Make in India, India Semiconductor Mission.

iv) Military buildup at border. Eg — 50,000 troops and infrastructure development Eg DS-DBO link.

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Yet there exist areas of convergence.

(i) Trade based reliance as both countries have over $100 bn trade partnership.

(ii) Multipolar world ambitions as they both seek to become leaders.

(iii) Counter to Washington Consensus through BRICS, New Development Bank, AIIB.

(iv) Global Peace and Stability & - end to Russia Ukraine war

(v) Environmental — CBDR principles.

Thus need is to contain China (Jaishankar) and yet converge in active diplomacy to create multi alignments (V. Gokhale) while maintaing strategic autonomy.

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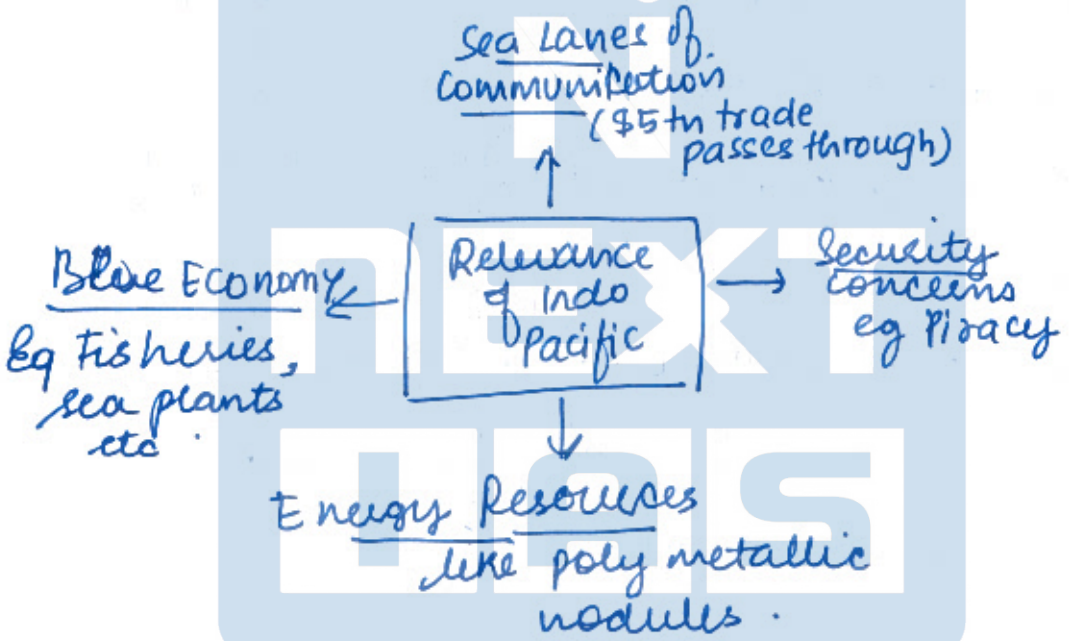
Q.20 हालिया दिनों में हिंद–प्रशांत क्षेत्र अलग–अलग हितों और प्राथमिकताओं वाले क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरा है। चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आपको लगता है कि वैश्विक सुरक्षा पहल (GSI) इस क्षेत्र में क्वाड (QUAD) का स्थान ले लेगी

(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.

The theatre of global politics has shifted to Indo Pacific. This is due to the rise of China's hegemonic ambitions and containment policies by other great powers.



Zone of Diverging Interests

(1) Chinese rise as seen in South China Sea and Taiwan Strait has led to push back by ASEAN, Taiwan, USA

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(ii) India's encirclement by String of Pearls policy is an attempt to limits its sphere of influence. This had led to military exercises like Malabar, Quad grouping.

(iii) Chinese effort to control sea lanes of communication (SLOCs) through Strategic port building → Hambantota (S. Lanka), ~~Rakhine~~ Chittagong (Bangladesh) etc.

This is countered by Indian Sea necklace of diamonds Strategy → Duqm port (Oman), Agalega (Seychelles), Nicobar development project.

(iv) Rise of powers like USA, France, Japan, UK, china through military exercises, military installments has led to a new great game in Indo Pacific.

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China has proposed the Great Security Initiative to develop coordination with Asian and Indo Pacific nations in security management. It proposes its aim is to create a 'Security Community' in region.

It is unlikely to supercede Quad due to
→ Earlier Starting of quad.
→ " common interests
→ Smaller grouping better coordination
→ B. Chellaney: Concept of democracies in Indo-Pacific.

Thus, Indo Pacific has become a zone of contention and India need to emerge as a 'net security provider' to ensure peace and Stability in region.

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Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS