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(To be filled by candidate)

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Test - 6

Code : TC708

RCA Batch 2023

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

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SUBJECT/PAPER
GENERAL STUDIES

Invigilator's Sign. : [Signature]

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Evaluator's response

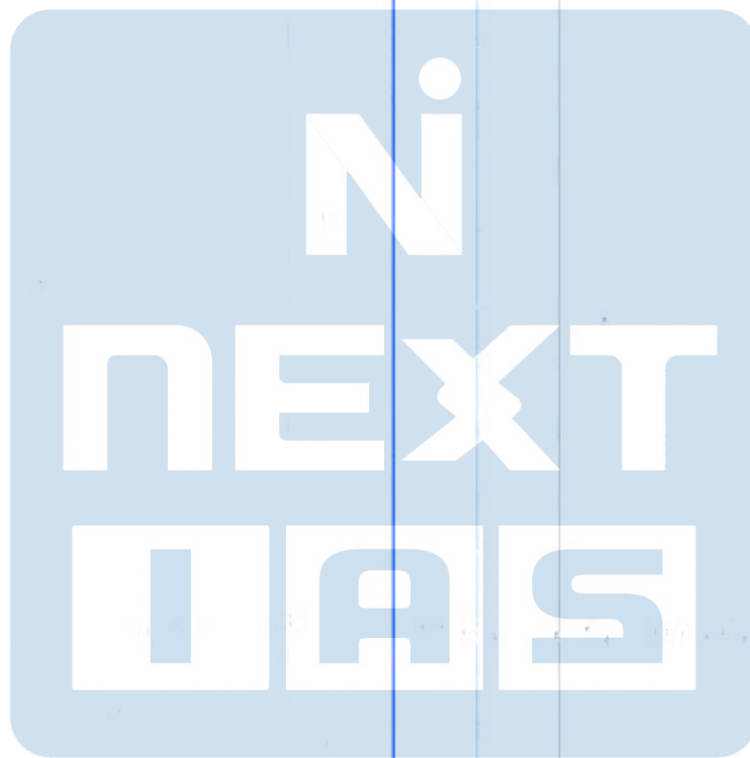
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Evaluator Code :

Q.No	PgNo.	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			
21	51			

Signature

MACRO COMMENTS



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1. "अंतरराज्यीय सीमा विवाद, यदि शीघ्र और निष्पक्षता: नहीं सुलझाए गए, तो स्थानीय विवादों में परिवर्तित हो सकते हैं जो विकास में बाधक बनते हैं और टकराव या संघर्ष उत्पन्न करते हैं"। अंतरराज्यीय विवादों को हल करने के लिए संवैधानिक और विधिक ढाँचे पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, स्पष्ट कीजिए कि स्वतंत्र भारत अंतरराज्यीय सीमा विवादों को सुलझाने में क्यों विफल रहा है।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Interstate border disputes, if not promptly and impartially settled, can transform into persistent issues that impede development and generate friction". Highlighting the constitutional and legal framework to resolve interstate disputes, explain why Independent India has failed to resolve inter-state border disputes.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

In a country with huge diversity, disputes are quite natural such as interstate border disputes. However, they have to be resolved amicably.

Constitutional and legal framework to resolve interstate border disputes

- ①. Inter-state Council (Art. 263)
 - ↳ platform for communication on issues of conflict.
- ②. Power with Parliament to change boundary of states to resolve conflict (Art. 3).
- ③. Zonal Councils → statutory bodies where states can discuss their issues.
- ④. Several laws like Reorganisation of

States Act, 1956 : Ex- Formation of Andhra Pradesh

- ②. Recommendations of several committees
 ↳ Sarkaria, Punchhi

Reasons behind failure to resolve inter-state border disputes

- ①. lack of political will.
 Ex- Karnataka - Tamil Nadu.
- ②. Politicisation of issue. Ex- vote-bank.
- ③. Varied Physiography → Mountains
 ↓ Hills
 ↓ Rivers
 Difficulty in demarcation. Plateaus
- ④. Delayed judicial proceedings.
- ⑤. lack of implementation of Constitutional provisions (Inter-state Council hasn't met for 10 years)

Border disputes should be resolved in an amicable manner with involvement of all the stakeholders.

2. ऊर्ध्वाधर (केंद्र-राज्य) और क्षैतिज (अंतर-राज्य) अंतर-सरकारी सहयोग और समन्वय को बढ़ावा देने में अंतर-राज्य परिषद की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
Examine the role of the Inter-state Council in promoting vertical (Centre-State) and horizontal (Inter-State) Intergovernmental cooperation and coordination. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Inter-state Council (Art. 263) is constituted by the President in order to provide a platform for different units of federation to discuss subjects of common interest.

Role of Inter-state Council

Promotes vertical intergovernmental cooperation

- ①. Platform for states and centre to constitute policies.
- ②. Can be used to settle various disputes
↳ For role of Governor.
- ③. Can work on recommendations made by Commissions
↳ Sarkaria
↳ Punchhi
- ④. Can settle disputes related to Tribunals (Art. 323 A).
- ⑤. Platform for common exchange of

policies and programmes.

Promotes Horizontal Intergovernmental Cooperation

- ①. Can help to resolve disputes in an amicable manner.
 - ↳ Inter-state border
 - ↳ Inter-state river water.
- ②. Can become ground for Competitive federalism.
 - ↳ e.g. CMMI of MTI Aayog.
- ③. Can exchange best practices.
 - ↳ e.g. Kerala with Bihar.
- ④. exchange of culture and assuaging concerns relating to regionalism.
 - ↳ e.g. Northern & Southern states.
- ⑤. Can cooperate in several areas.
 - ↳ e.g. Naxalite infested states.

Inter-state Council has to be constituted regularly so as to strengthen the spirit of federalism envisaged by SR Bommai Judgement.

Discuss the key function of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). What steps should be taken to revamp the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) in order to enhance its effectiveness as a true guardian of public funds?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Public Accounts Committee is a financial Parliamentary Committee acting as the guardian of public money. ~~which~~

Key functions of PAC

- ①. audits accounts of govt.
 - ↳ CACR reports
 - finance
 - Appropriation
 - PSU's.
- ②. examines economy in govt. policies and programmes.
- ③. makes sure that money is spent on the legally entitled service.
- ④. recommends various economic measures to govt.
- ⑤. sees if authorising body is competent to use funds.

Steps needed to ramp PAC to make it more effective

- ①. Increasing tenure of PAC
↳ Presently, short - 1 year
- ②. Regular elections needed.
- ③. Powers to examine policies related to day-to-day administration.
- ④. Participation of members of opposition to be ensured.
- ⑤. Recommendations — action taken report should be submitted by Parliament.
- ⑥. Representation of experts to be made mandatory.

PAC is mandated to ensure good return on public money. It is imperative to strengthen it in letter & spirit.

4. राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक विकास के चालक के रूप में नगरीकरण की अहम भूमिका को स्वीकार करते हुए, पंद्रहवें वित्त आयोग ने शहरी स्थानीय निकायों (ULBs) के लिए प्रमुख सुधारों का सुझाव दिया है। भारत में यूएलबी को बढ़ावा देने और पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए पंद्रहवें वित्त आयोग द्वारा दी गई सिफारिशों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Recognizing the pivotal role of urbanization as a driver of national economic growth, the Fifteenth Finance Commission has suggested major reforms for Urban Local Bodies. Evaluate the recommendations put forward by the Fifteenth Finance Commission in promoting and revitalizing ULBs in India.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Urban local bodies are constitutionally formed under the 74th constitutional Amendment Act (Schedule XII) in order to enhance democracy at the grassroots level.

Recommendations made by 15th Finance Commission

- ①. Steps taken for proper auditing of accounts.
- ②. Maintenance of accounts
 ↗ Finance
 ↘ expenditure
- ③. owers to generate their own revenue.
 e.g. Municipal Bonds, Taxation powers, etc.
- ④. Untied funds to be devolved by state and central Govts.
- ⑤. Performance based funding to enhance

competition and development.

⑥. localisation of SDCs in order to achieve them in time bound manner.

⑦. Regular constitution of State Finance Commis-
sions as per Constitutional provisions.

Benefits of implementing them

①. Financing issues would be solved.

↳ improvement of public utilities like waste management.

②. Customised approach to development

↳ @ more focus on water scarcity in drought prone areas.

③. accountability of ULBs to the locals.

④. help in effective implementation of aspirational blocks programme.

⑤. Building of sustainable cities and communities (SDC-5)

ULBs are the catalyst to enhance the capacity of cities to act as economic powerhouse.

5. मौलिक अधिकारों की तुलना में संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों के तहत प्रदान की गई वाक् और अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के दायरे में प्रमुख अंतरों पर प्रकाश डालिए। संसदीय विशेषाधिकार और मौलिक अधिकारों के बीच संतुलन बनाए रखना क्यों आवश्यक है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Highlight the key differences in the scope of Freedom of speech and expression as provided under Parliamentary privileges vis a vis Fundamental rights. Why is it necessary to maintain a balance between parliamentary privilege and fundamental rights?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Freedom of speech & expression has been provided by the Constitution under art. 19(1)(a) of Part-III (Fundamental Rights) and separately to MPs/MLAs under Parliamentary Privileges (art. 105).

Differences in scope under Parliamentary Privileges vis-a-vis Fundamental Rights

- ①. Freedom of speech under art. 19(1)(a) restricted by art. 19(2) on various grounds
- friendly relations with foreign state
 - unity & integrity of India.

while under Parliamentary Privileges, they are not restricted.

- ②. MPs/MLAs can't be called for trial within 40 days of summoning & 40 days

after the session for anything said/
voted.

- ②. In parliament, freedom of speech can be restricted of outsiders. Eg. Karnataka assembly speaker ordered arrest of 2 journalists.

Necessary to maintain a balance b/w
Parliamentary Privileges and Fundamental Rights

- ①. In order to prevent chilling effect on freedom of speech.
- ②. To curb hate speeches inside Parliament.
- ③. To prevent misuse of privileges. Eg. Karnataka assembly speaker
- ④. To prevent defamation and contempt.
- ⑤. To preserve freedom of press.

striking a balance is necessary as has been observed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in Keshav Singh Case where it said Privileges though are supreme but can't violate Fundamental rights.

6. नागरिक समाज संगठन "सार्वजनिक कल्याण के लिए सामूहिक निजी कार्रवाई" को बढ़ावा देने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं। स्थानीय संसाधन जुटाने (एलआरएम) और निगमित सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व (सीएसआर) के माध्यम से कॉर्पोरेट (निगमों द्वारा) वित्तपोषण प्राप्त करने में उन्हें किन चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ता है? साथ ही सार्थक उपाय भी सुझाएँ। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
- Civil society organizations, play a pivotal role in fostering "collective private action for the public good". What challenges do they face in local resource mobilization (LRM) and corporate funding through corporate social responsibility (CSR)? Also, suggest measures. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Civil Society Organisations are the non-profit, non-state, non-violence based part of public domain formed to achieve a common public good. e.g. media, NGOs, pressure groups, etc.

Foster Collective private action for Public Good

- ① Give voice to the marginalised.
↳ e.g. Dalits, women.
- ② empowerment of women.
↳ e.g. SHGs like Kudumbashree.
- ③ act as link b/w state and people.
↳ e.g. Political parties giving representation.
- ④ protests against aggressive measures.
↳ e.g. Naz foundation for LGBTQ.

⑤ Challenges faced in Resource Mobilisation

- ① funds not reaching genuine NGOs.

- ②. Skewed contribution through CSR.
↳ education, health sector.
- ③. Huge informal sector
↳ non-accountability
- ④. laws like FCRA
↳ innocent CSOs being punished.
- ⑤. shell companies and flow of black money.
- ⑥. Small scale NGOs, etc. not able to access funds.

Measures needed

- ①. strict implementation of CSR.
 - ②. involvement of banking sector mandatory for funding. @ FCRA.
 - ③. strict action against anti-national NGOs. @ Green Peace.
 - ④. National Accreditation Council
↳ for rating (2nd ARC)
 - ⑤. Decentralisation of FCRA (2nd ARC)
- Implementation of Ajay Kelkar Committee Recommendations can give a huge boost to CSOs.

7. गरीबी उन्मूलन की दिशा में पहला कदम कार्यक्रम के डिज़ाइन, कार्यान्वयन और निगरानी के लिए आवश्यक विश्वसनीय गरीबी मूल्यांकन करना है। इस संदर्भ में नीति आयोग के राष्ट्रीय बहुआयामी गरीबी सूचकांक की पद्धति और महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The first step to eradicating poverty is reliable poverty assessment for program design, implementation, and monitoring. In this context discuss the methodology and significance of NITI Aayog's National Multidimensional Poverty Index.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

NITI Aayog's National Multidimensional Poverty Index assesses poverty from multiple dimensions like access to calories, education, health and so on.

Methodology of NITI Aayog's MPI

- ① Based on 12 parameters.
eg. education, housing, sanitation, etc.
- ② focuses upon urban poverty and rural poverty.
- ③ Measures the issue of malnutrition
↳ Responsible for 30% of poverty in India.
- ④ sees poverty from perspective of consumption.
- ⑤ Measures Absolute and Relative poverty.

Significance of this approach

- ① Poverty seen from perspective of non-income factors
↳ comprehensive approach.
- ② helps in convergence of govt. schemes.
↳ e.g. health + agriculture.
- ③ gives rise to POSHAN + Approach.
↳ i.e. POSHAN + WASH.
- ④ Focuses on skill development and capability approach.
- ⑤ enhances the per-capita income needed for assessment of poverty line.

Various measures are needed to collect real-time data on poverty in order to ensure bottom-up growth and egalitarian society as envisaged by DPSGs.

8. भारत के संदर्भ में, संवैधानिक प्रावधानों, कानूनी पूर्व-उदाहरणों और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रतिबद्धताओं की उपस्थिति के बावजूद, जो स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार के लिए एक मजबूत आधार स्थापित करते हैं, इस अधिकार की स्पष्ट कानूनी मान्यता का अभाव क्यों रहा है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

In the context of India, despite the presence of constitutional provisions, legal precedents, and international commitments that establish a robust foundation for a right to health, why has there been a lack of explicit legal recognition of this right?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Right to health focuses upon rights based approach rather than paternalistic stance to provide for health care of one and all.

Various provisions for healthcare

- ①. Right to dignified life (Art. 21)
↳ includes good health
- ②. Commitment to various agreements under WHO.
- ③. Various Govt programmes
↳ Ayushman Bharat
↳ National Health Policy.

Reasons behind lack of explicit recognition of this right.

- ①. Lack of resources to provide for this right
↳ might cause fiscal deficit.
- ②. Lack of data & surveillance measures.

- ③. Huge burden on public exchequer
- ④. might lead to flood of litigations.
- ⑤. Developing countries having other problems also → housing, sanitation, etc.
 ↳ will lead to skewed allocation of resources.

Measures needed

- ①. Focus on preventive healthcare.
 - ↳ opening of primary health centres in tier-II & tier-III cities.
- ②. Insurance of India's missing middle.
- ③. Convergence of existing schemes.
 - ↳ @ POSHAN + WASH + PMAY.
- ④. Involvement of private sector.

Rajasthan's Right to healthcare act involving participation of private sector should become a guiding light for India.

9. विद्यमान राष्ट्रों की सामूहिक शक्ति असंख्य मुद्दों पर सार्थक सहयोग की अनुमति देती है, हालाँकि, द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को प्रभुत्व पथ को प्रभावित करने की मंच की क्षमता सीमित है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
The collective strength of BRICS nations allows for meaningful cooperation on myriad issues, however, the platform's ability to influence the trajectory of bilateral relationships remains limited. Do you agree?
(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

BRICS was formed as an inter-governmental grouping for south-south cooperation on various emerging issues.

Collective strength of BRICS

- ①. Discusses various issues affecting Global South.
↳ development in Africa.
- ②. Provides for financing.
↳ for WDB
- ③. Talks on emerging issues.
↳ e-commerce, pharmaceuticals.
- ④. Can help for dialogue exchange.
↳ Russia - Ukraine war and impact of inflation.
- ⑤. Can be expanded to include countries like Bangladesh, Iran.

Bilateral exchanges remains limited

- ①. India - China meeting on the sidelines for the first time since 2019.
- ②. No talks about resolving border disputes.
- ③. No separate talks on trade & investment.
- ④. India - Russia interaction remains limited.
- ⑤. Interaction & concerns not being discussed.

Way Forward →

- ①. Strengthening of Bilateral talks.
↳ e.g. India - China
- ②. Expansion of BRICS.
- ③. Can include African Union for enhanced representation.

BRICS platform has to be made effective as this is a platform to give voice to Global South.

10. सिंधु जल संधि में संशोधन की हालिया माँगों के आलोक में, भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच जल-बंटवारा व्यवस्था पर पड़ने वाले इसके संभावित प्रभावों की चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

In light of the recent demands to amend the Indus Waters Treaty, discuss the possible implications it could have on the water-sharing mechanism between India and Pakistan.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Indus waters treaty is treaty related to sharing of waters b/w India and Pakistan. of the waters of Indus where eastern waters are given to India and western to Pakistan.

Recent demands to amend it

- ①. Pakistan demanding to amend it.
- ②. Pakistan protesting against India's dams.
↳ e.g. Kishanganga project.
- ③. Since, India holds the upper riparian waters.

Implications it could have

- ①. India might lose its due share of river water.
- ②. various projects getting stalled is worrisome. e.g. Kishanganga

- ③. might lead to water weaponisation by Pakistan.
- ④. China's role $\Rightarrow$ water hegemony in east and west.
- ⑤. might affect the water needs of states
 $\hookrightarrow$ ex drinking & irrigation needs of Punjab & Gujarat.
- ⑥. might lead to flooding if upper riparian given to Pakistan.
 $\hookrightarrow$ tool of terrorism.

Way forward $\rightarrow$

- ①. Multi-stakeholder approach is needed.
- ②. Bilateral dialogue rather than international meddling.
- ③. Preventing water weaponisation

Indus - waters treaty has to be strengthened so as to prevent Pakistan from resisting India to use its due share of water.

11. संसदीय संप्रभुता और न्यायिक सर्वोच्चता के सिद्धांत ने भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के संवैधानिक ढाँचे को आकार देने में अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण प्रभाव डाला है। प्रासंगिक न्यायिक निर्णयों का हवाला देते हुए इन देशों में संविधान को प्रभावित करने में न्यायपालिका की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। क्या भारत में न्यायिक समीक्षा का दायरा व्यापक है?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The doctrine of Parliamentary sovereignty and judicial supremacy has exerted considerable influence in shaping the constitutional frameworks of India and the USA. Citing relevant case laws discuss the role of the judiciary in influencing the constitutions in these countries. Is the scope of judicial review wider in India?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Parliamentary Sovereignty refers to the sovereignty of Parliament where its decisions cannot be questioned by judiciary.

☞ It is present in Britain.

Judicial supremacy refers to the powers of the judiciary to examine the laws made by Parliament in terms of its Constitutional morality. ☞ → US, India.

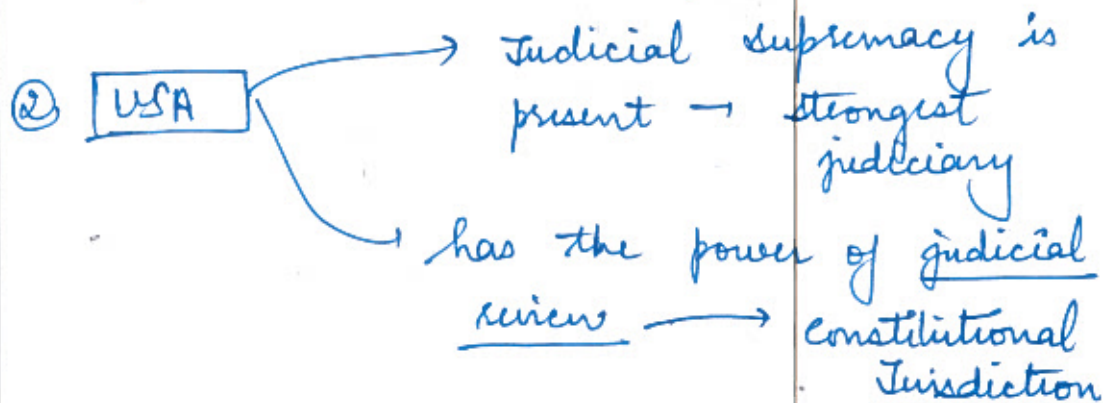
Influence in shaping the frameworks of India and USA

① India → presence of Constitutional supremacy

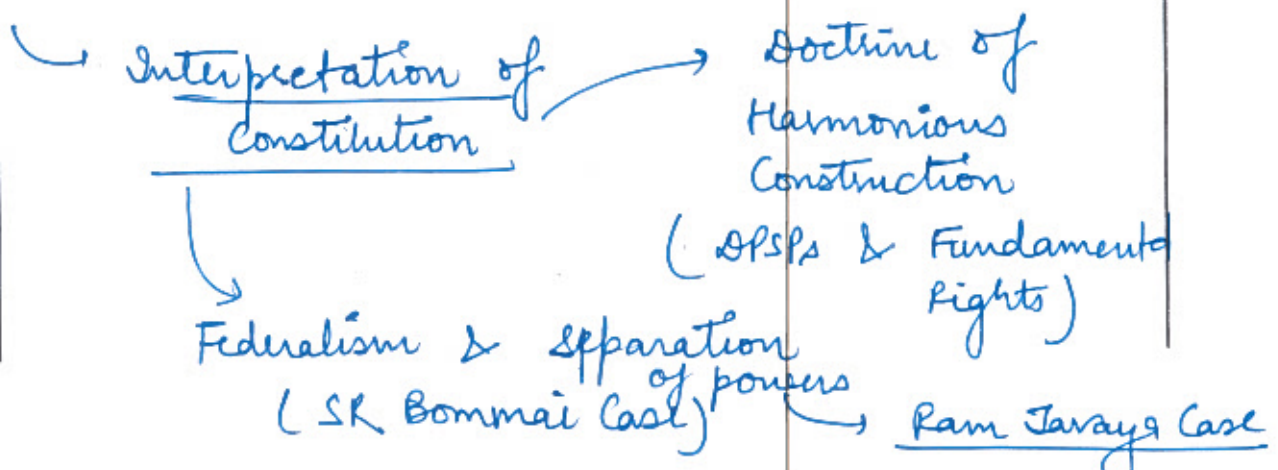
Parliament's laws cannot abridge the constitutional provisions

Ultimate sovereignty with the

people as stated in preamble.



Role of Judiciary in influencing the Constitution in these countries



- ② USA → Doctrine of Judicial Review
→ Can examine any law of
any Centre.

Scope of Judicial Review under in India

- ①. Can examine Constitutional questions
- ②. Can examine question of law or fact.
- ③. Can check the rules made by the
executive.
- ④. Can order govt to make laws.
Ex: Vishakha guidelines.
- ⑤. Judicial activism through PIL
↳ Shrikrishna case.

Judicial Supremacy is present
in India to an extent based
upon the limitations of the
Constitution.

12.

'निष्पक्ष प्रतिनिधित्व सुनिश्चित करने और एक मत, एक मूल्य के सिद्धांत को बनाए रखने के लिए सीटों का परिसीमन आवश्यक है।' निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में अप्रतिनिधित्व से उत्पन्न हुई चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए संघीय तनाव पैदा करने में जनसंख्या-आधारित परिसीमन के प्रभावों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 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 analyze the ramifications of population-based delimitation in creating federal tension. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Delimitation of seats is done by the Delimitation Commission as per Delimitation (of constituencies) Act, 2002. It is done with the help of Election Commission.

Benefits Challenges posed by misrepresentation in constituencies

- ①. Minorities not represented.
↳ e.g. minority concentration districts
- ②. ineffective allocation of resources.
- ③. no focus on development of the poor.
- ④. Creates federal tensions
↳ e.g. demands by Kashmir against bifurcation.
- ⑤. not given due representation in national politics.

Ramifications of Population based delimitation in creating federal tensions

- ①. Smaller states not given representation as compared to that of bigger ones.
egs: Sikkim - 1 seat
UP - more than 30.
- ②. Population control measures not being incentivised. eg: demand for enhanced seats in Parliament by states like Kerala.
- ③. Small states being marginalised and their concerns not given due attention.
- ④. Several tribal communities not being represented. eg: in states like Manipur.
- ⑤. Sparsely populated places being left out $\Rightarrow$ demands for regionalism.

Measures needed are

- ①. Other parameters to be included
↳ vulnerability / socio-economic indicators
- ②. Incentivisation of population control
- ③. Minimum no. of seats for smaller states.
- ④. Involvement of states in delimitation
↓
making it a federal exercise.
- ⑤. Dialogue with resenting states.
eg Ladakh, Kashmir.
Multi-stakeholder approach is needed in order to alluviate the concerns of the states & induce spirit of cooperative federalism.

13. देश में स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव कराने की निर्वाचन आयोग की संवैधानिक जिम्मेदारी के निर्वहन में उसके हाथों को मजबूत करने में भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
Discuss the role of the Supreme Court of India in strengthening the hands of the Election Commission in the discharge of its constitutional responsibility of conducting free and fair elections in the country.
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Election Commission of India (Art. 324) is a constitutional body to ensure free and fair elections in India. It is mandated with elections at centre, in states, of President.

Challenges faced by Election Commission

- ①. Challenges of digital age.
↳ social media $\Rightarrow$ no restrictions on campaigning.
- ②. Flow of black money during elections.
- ③. Filing of false affidavits by candidates.
↳ Jay Lalitha.
- ④. Issue of freebies & Rewari Culture
- ⑤. Criminalisation of politics
↳ 43% MPs having criminal background.

Role of Supreme Court in strengthening election Commission of India

①. WADR vs UOI Case, 2002

↳ Supreme Court asked candidates to declare their assets & liabilities.

②. Right to reject / Right to negative vote i.e. NOTA (PUL vs UOI case, 2013)

③. Mohinder Gill Case

↳ Supreme Court said that election commission has plenary powers to ensure free & fair elections.

④. Lok Prabari Case, 2018 → Declaration of assets & liabilities of not only candidates but also of their dependent family members.

⑤. Supreme Court exhorted to fast-track cases of convicts / chargesheeted bandi -dars (PIF vs UOI case)

⑥ Nullified section 8(4) of RPA, 1951
↳ immediate disqualification (Lily Thomas case).

⑦. Supreme Court asking Court to make
Collegium type body
↳ for appointment of election
Commission

Strengthening of election Commission
is of immense importance to ensure
strong bedrock of democracy & prevent
democratic backsliding.

14. 'संसद की घटती भूमिका शक्तियों के पृथक्करण को मूल सिद्धांत को कमजोर करती है, क्योंकि यह कार्यकारी शाखा पर नियंत्रण रखने और सत्ता का संतुलित प्रयोग सुनिश्चित करने की विधायिका की क्षमता को कम कर देता है।' विवेचना कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

'The declining role of Parliament undermines the fundamental principle of separation of powers, as it diminishes the legislature's ability to serve as a check on the executive branch and ensure a balanced exercise of power.' Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Montesquieu gave the concept of separation of power in which every branch of state has its own jurisdiction & can't interfere in others area.

Separation of power in India

- ①. Not watertight. But does exist (Kam Jayaya case).
- ②. Doctrine of checks & balances.
↳ For Judicial Review.
- ③. Judicious overlapping of functions.
↳ delegated legislation by executive

Decline of Parliament in serving as a check on executive

- ①. Irregular constitution of Parliamentary Committees

- ③ Institutional Decline → post of Deputy speaker & LoP not being filled.
- ④ Diminished strength of opposition.
- ④. Bills referred to committees have come down → 27% in 16th Lok Sabha
→ 10% in 17th Lok Sabha.
- ⑤. Politicisation of office of speaker
↳ Ex delay in anti-defection cases
↳ drunachal tracksh
- ⑥. Disruptions by Parliamentarians
↳ Ex 12 Rajya Sabha Mts suspended.

effect on Balanced exercise of
power

- ① majoritarianism
↳ bills not being discussed.
→ 25 bills in 21 minutes
- ②. Use of ordinance route;
↳ Ex extending the tenure of

CB & ED director.

③. Use of money bill route to bypass Rajya Sabha. Ex: Farm Bill.

④. Gubernatorial Role → Ordering of floor test before anti-defection proceedings
Ex: Uttarakhand Pradesh.

⑤. Suspension of opposition members.
Ex: Rahul Gandhi Case.

Doctrine of Balance of Power
has to be ensured to save
Parliament as temple of democracy
where space for constructive criticism
is needed.

15. भारत में लिंग-संवेदनशील कानूनों पर विमर्श को आकार देने में राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग द्वारा निभाई गई महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका पर चर्चा करें। राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग को संवैधानिक संस्था बनाने से उसका प्राधिकार किस हद तक सुदृढ़ होगा? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Discuss the crucial role played by the National Commission of Women in shaping the discourse on gender-sensitive laws in India. To what extent the elevation of the National Commission for Women to a constitutional body would reinforce its authority? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

National Commission of Women is a statutory body made to protect the rights of women and prevent patriarchal forces from unleashing its animal spirits.

Role of National Commission of Women is shaping the discourse on gender-sensitive laws.

- ①. Research on various forms of gender discrimination.
- ②. Enquiry and investigation into gender-related offences.
- ③. Recommendations to parliament for raising the status of women.
- ④. Role in speedy justice.
↳ e.g. against Muzaffarpur shelter

home case.

- ⑤. Guidelines from best practices in the world. E.g. Tipu system in Rwanda.

Elevation of NCW as Constitutional Body

Benefits →

- ①. Independence & Autonomy in functioning & finances.
- ②. Action taken report from Parliament.
- ③. Powers of a civil court → evidence seeking witnesses
any report from govt.
- ④. Enhanced representation of women from SC/ST community.
- ⑤. Depoliticisation of appointment process.
- ⑥. Regular constitution at periodic intervals.

Measures needed

- ①. Recommendations to be made binding.
- ②. weeding out non-performers.
- ③. Use of technology & visits to states
esp strife torn. e.g. Manipur.
- ④. strict ^{action} against the perpetrators.
e.g. recent incident where head of
women commission raped minor.
- ⑤. Powers of suo-motu action against
culprits.
- ⑥. Powers to get an FR registered.

National Commission for women
has to be made a strong body
in order to prevent incidents which
shake the conscience of nation from
happening.

16. 'शिकायतों का संतोषजनक और समयबद्ध निवारण 'न्यूनतम सरकार, अधिकतम शासन' की आधारशिला है।' इस संदर्भ में मौजूदा शिकायत निवारण तंत्र से जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए और इस प्रक्रिया को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए उपाय सुझाएँ।
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
- 'Satisfactory and timely redressal of grievances is the cornerstone of 'minimum government, maximum governance.' In this context discuss the challenges associated with current grievance redress mechanisms and suggest measures to strengthen the process.
(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Minimum Government Maximum Govern-
-ance is an aspect of good Governan-
-ce aimed at limited Govt. Interfere-
-ce by providing maximum service
delivery.

Challenges with Grievance Redressal Mechanisms

- ①. lack of making them public
↳ non-awareness among the public.
- ②. Tedious procedure of grievance redressal.
↳ RTI applications not being responded to.
- ③. huge red-tapism.
↳ creates deterrence effect.
- ④. malaise of corruption.
↳ only rich can get their

grievances addressed.

- ⑤. Ineffectiveness of Citizen Charter
 ↳ not easy to understand
 ↳ not made by all departments.

- ⑥. Babu Culture & Maai-Baap Culture
 ↳ leading to paternalistic attitude.

- ⑦. Resistance against use of technology.

Measures needed

- ①. servotam model of governance.
 ↳ Citizen Charter
 ↳ Capacity building of officials.
- ②. expanding use of e-governance.
 Ex: eem Portal, UMANG.
- ③. Taking regular feedback from public
 ↳ Ex: Meghalaya's social audit Act.
- ④. Capacity building of civil servants

as per modern day needs
↳ mission Karmayogi.

⑤. 2nd ARC → Implementation of Citizens
Charter
↳ Increased use of Technology

⑥. strengthening local governance
framework.

⑦. weeding out non-performers & lateral

Good Governance is the key
to timely and effective grievance
redressal, has to be ensured
for last-mile delivery of services.

17. 'भ्रष्टाचार शासन के ताने-बाने को जर्जर कर देता है, जिससे लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं में जनता का विश्वास कम हो जाता है।' भ्रष्टाचार विरोधी शासन या व्यवस्था की प्रभावशीलता को बढ़ाने के लिए सूचना का अधिकार (आरटीआई) अधिनियम, व्हिसलब्लोअर संरक्षण अधिनियम (डब्ल्यूबीपीए), और लोकपाल और लोकायुक्त अधिनियम, 2013 के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करने के सामर्थ्य का परीक्षण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
- 'Corruption corrodes the fabric of governance, eroding the public's faith in democratic institutions.' Examine the potential for harmonizing the Right to Information (RTI) Act, the Whistleblower Protection Act (WBPA), and the Lokpal & Lokayukta Act, 2013, to enhance the effectiveness of the anticorruption regime. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Corruption refers to the abuse of Trusted position for private gains. It is the worst form of violence against the poor - Mahatma Gandhi.

Impacts of Corruption

- ①. Decline of public trust in government
- ②. Breeds social unrest.
- ③. Corruption free movement.
- ④. Widens the inequalities already present.
- ⑤. Leads to red-tapism and increases cost of doing business.
- ⑥. Degrades the quality of living.

Potential for harmonising the RTI, WBPA and Lokpal Act, 2013

- ①. Enhancement of transparency
↳ use of RTI tool.
- ②. Quick action against corrupt officials.
- ③. Protection to whistleblowers
↳ prevents spread of corruption
↳ protects honest officers.
- ④. Prevents duplicacy and achieves efficiency in checking corruption.
- ⑤. Help in interoperability.
↳ of CIC + Lokpal + CVC.
- ⑥. Does away with silo-mentality
↳ comprehensive action against corruption

Steps needed at present

- ①. Passing of whistleblower Protection law
↳ has been pending for years.
- ②. Powers of Lokpal for suo-motu action
against corrupt.
- ③. Undue protection to public officials
under Art-311 → has to be kept under
check.
- ④. Independence of CIC to be ensured.
↳ autonomy in functioning.
- ⑤. Anonymity given to whistleblower
↳ for effective protection.

Implementation of 2nd ARC
Recommendations needed to weed out
corruption from India.

18. गरीबी का प्रभावी ढंग से मुकाबला करने के लिए हाशिए पर रहने वाले समुदायों के बीच कौशल विकास, उद्यमिता और आय सृजन के लिए एसएचजी का लाभ एक मंच के रूप में उठाने में शामिल संभावित चुनौतियों और लाभों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Analyze the potential challenges and benefits involved in leveraging SHGs as platforms for skill development, entrepreneurship, and income generation among marginalized communities to effectively counter poverty.

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

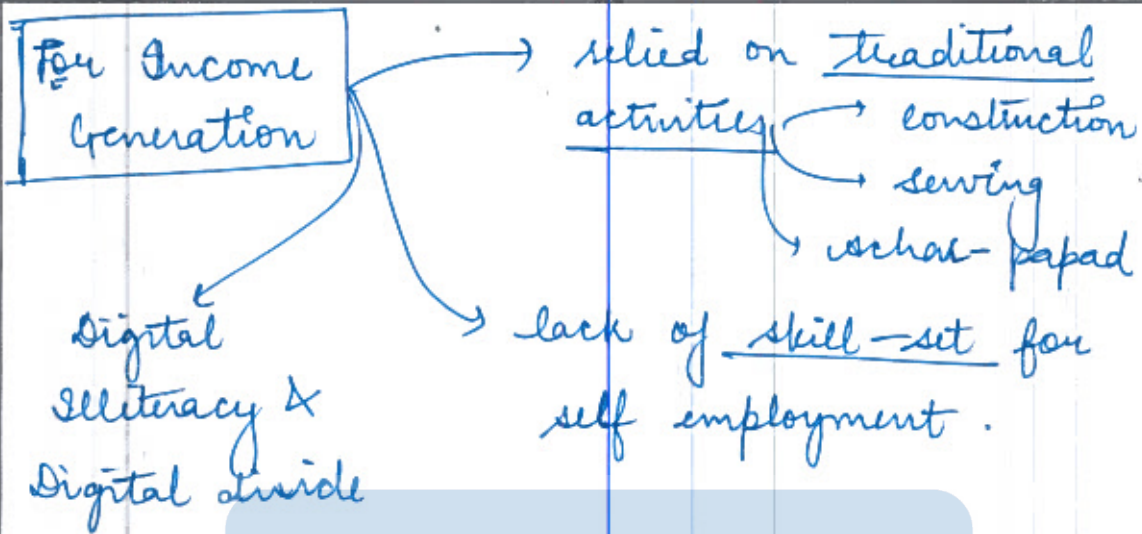
Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

SHGs refers to the voluntary association made on the principle of "one for all & all for one" in order to achieve a common goal & promote self-reliance.

Potential Challenges in leveraging SHGs

For skill development → untrained members of SHGs.
 → SHGs mostly concentrated in southern states. (70% of total)
 Lack of modern skills of members

For entrepreneurship → Poor SHG - bank linkage
 ↓
 lack of institutional credit.
 → lack of handholding support needed for starting a business.
 Poor management of funds & lack of business skills.



Benefits in leveraging SHCs



For Entrepreneurship

- can collaborate with smaller groups.
- can provide funding for scaling up innovative ideas.

→ entrepreneurship in building community assets. @ for Kani - mistis in Tharband

For income generation

diversification of rural incomes.

@ for AMUL, Nandini Model.

Can give support to women in terms of employment like sewing, handicrafts.

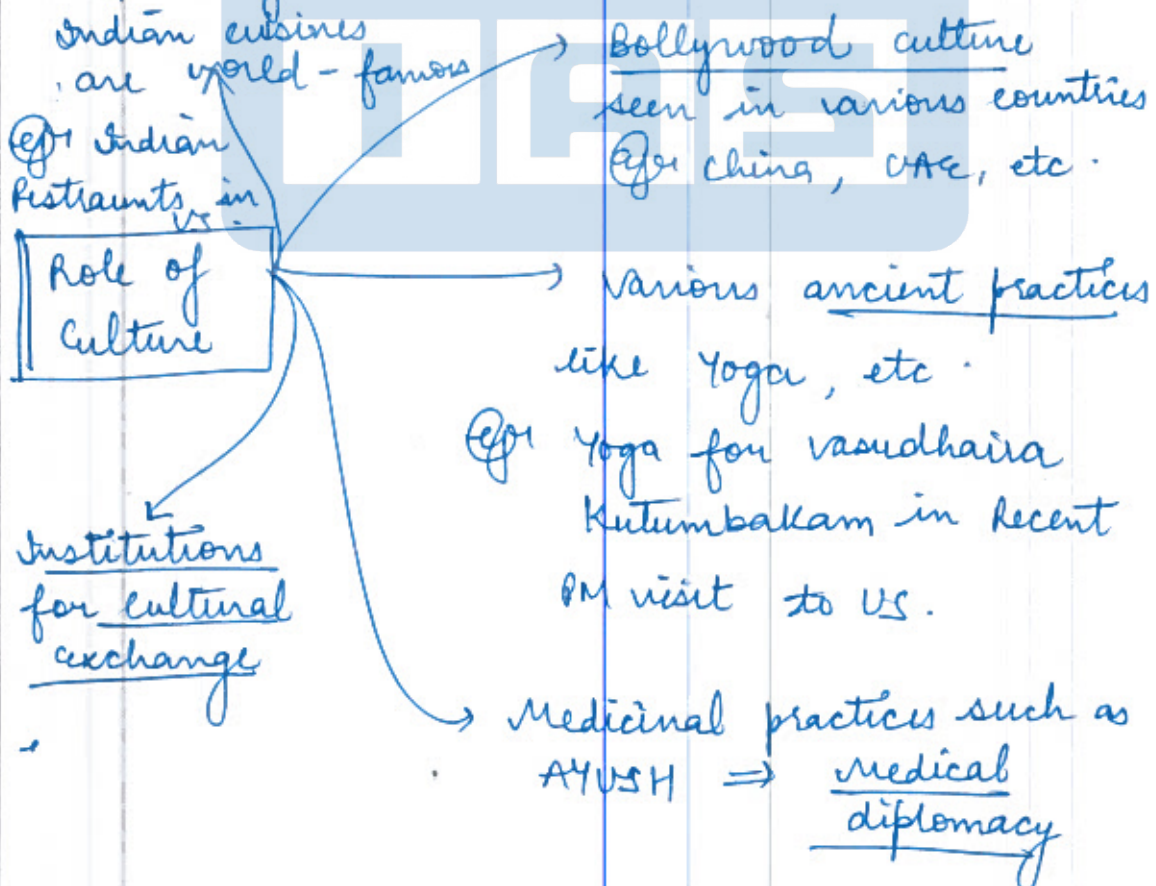
Can help in marketing of products - @ for Meesho

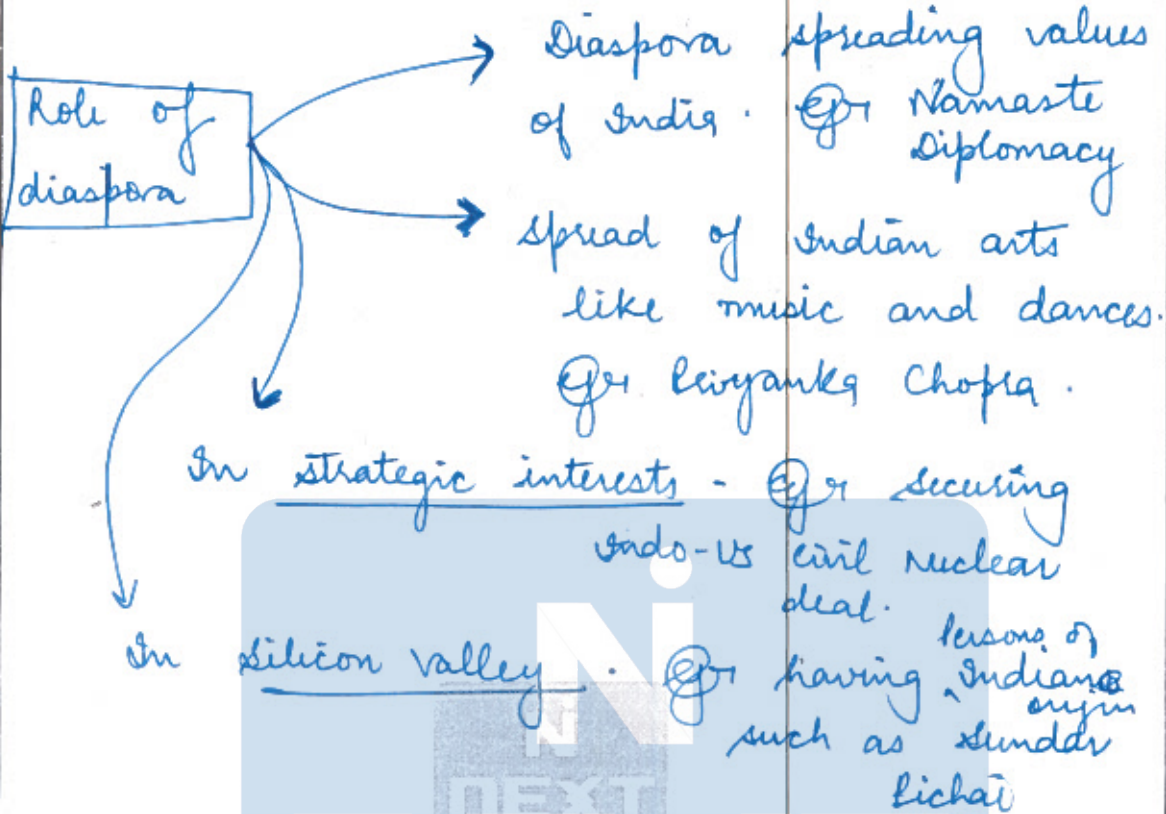
Linking of Bank & SHGs is crucial to turn them into Nation-help groups as has been envisaged by our PM Modi.

19. 'भारत अपनी समृद्ध संस्कृति के लिए विद्यमान मानचित्र पर अद्वितीय स्थान रखता है।' इस संदर्भ में भारत की सॉफ्ट पावर कूटनीति के साधन के रूप में संस्कृति, प्रवासी और लोकतंत्र की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। भारत किस हद तक खुद को स्मार्ट पावर के रूप में स्थापित करने में सक्षम हो पाया है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
- 'India is uniquely positioned on the world map for its rich culture.' In this context discuss the role of culture, diaspora, and democracy as instruments of India's soft power diplomacy. To what extent India has been able to position itself as a 'smart power'? (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Indian diplomacy leverages the huge cultural diversity and aspects of democracy along with presence of 32 mn Indian diaspora as tools for soft-power diplomacy.

Role in instruments as India's soft power diplomacy





India as a smart power

①. Knowledge Diplomacy → export of generic medicines.

↙ export of IT services
studies in tech such as AI, Robotics, etc.

②. Appreciation of Public Digital Infrastructure
of India on G-20 forum. Ex: UPI

③. Space Diplomacy → launching of satellites
of foreign nations

→ SAARC satellite.

④. India's ambition to become global leader
↳ in semiconductor technology

Yet, India needs to do much
more on domestic as well as global
front to become smart power in
true sense.

20. भारत और ऑस्ट्रेलिया के बीच साझा मूल्यों और जीवंत लोगों से लोगों के बीच संबंधों का साहचर्य दोनों देशों के बीच दीर्घकालिक व्यापार संबंधों और रणनीतिक सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए उपजाऊ जमीन तैयार करता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The synergy of shared values and vibrant people-to-people connections between India and Australia creates a fertile ground for fostering long-lasting trade relations and strategic collaboration between the two nations. Analyse.

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

India and Australia share historical ties based on democracy and sharing of constitutional values.

Role of Factors leading to long-lasting trade relations

- ①. Economic Complementarities
 - ↳ Ex: Import of Uranium from Olympic Dam mine.
- ②. Prosperous FTA with safeguards in place. Ex: ECTA.
- ③. export of various products to Australia. Ex: Textile, Pharma, etc.
- ④. Huge Indian diaspora
 - ↳ services exchange
 - ↳ Remittances
 - ↳ Cultural exchange.

- ⑤ establishment of Australian University
campuses in India. (eg) university of
Wollongong.

Factors causing Strategic Collaboration

- ① Aspirations for rules-based order
in Indian ocean & the world.
(eg) QUAD.
- ② To ensure peace & prosperity.
(eg) Joint exercises like Malabar.
- ③ Agreement on logistics exchange.
↳ to build naval capabilities.
- ④ Defence sector cooperation.
- ⑤ Cooperation in emerging technologies
↳ semiconductor, EVs, etc.

However, further measures
are needed →

- 1) ①. Convergence of aims in QVAS
 - ↳ Australia against China
 - ↳ India doesn't directly say that.
- ②. Growth in trade and investment
- ③. Participation in groupings such as
 - ↳ Blue dot network
 - ↳ China + 1 strategy
 - ↳ Supply chain Resilience Initiative.
- ④. Establishment of people-2-people ties
- ⑤. Dialogue to allay concerns related to several issues.

for Khalistani Movt.

India - Australia ties need
momentum in order to establish
a global world order based on
rules and respect for UN
Charter

Space for Rough Work

Candidates must not
write on this margin

