

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना गना है।
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Q.1 Reason has always existed, but not always in a reasonable form.
तर्क सदैव अस्तित्व में रहा है, परंतु हमेशा युक्तियुक्त रूप में नहीं।

Q.2 The opposite of poverty is not wealth.
गरीबी की विपरीत स्थिति केवल दौलत होना नहीं है।

Q.3 To forgive is to set a prisoner free and to discover that the prisoner was you.
क्षमा करने का अर्थ है अपने भीतर के एक कैदी को मुक्त करना और यह पता लगाना कि वो कैदी आप ही थे।

Q.4 A man who wants to lead the orchestra must turn his back on the crowd.

जो व्यक्ति ऑर्केस्ट्रा का नेतृत्व करना चाहता है उसे भीड़ से मुँह मोड़ लेना चाहिए।

"Reason has always existed, but not always in reasonable form"
"I had a reason to pursue this project, but I ended up making a grave mistake", these words by Oppenheimer - father of atomic bomb reflects that there always exist reasons, but not always in reasonable form. 'To make a decision, is to base it on reason', any decision to perform an action can be based on multiple viewpoints due to difference in positions of actor. This reason can be good or bad, force or benovolent but there always exist a reason. If it is not legitimate or well intentioned, it is often coated with false reasons or manipulated justifications.

History is full of such examples such as the institution of slavery which existed in almost every society. Various justifications like abundant land availability in America, white man supremacy etc. were provided to justify it. Even when it was the most oppressive and inhumane practice it was justified for common good.

when Adolf Hitler and Mussolini quited second world war, they were guided by imperialist and fascist ideologies. Lebensraum was a dream based on reason of German superiority, but what ensued was a meaningless disaster costing millions of lives globally.

Let us examine the relevance of the topic in sociological arena. Gender Discrimination, Sexual and physical violence against women etc. are what we observe everyday, both in news and through lived experiences. They are justified from patriarchal ideologies like biological ~~superiority~~

differences, to preserve honour of family, to keep women sexuality in check etc. Ex: Honour killing by Khap Panchayats to prevent sagotra marriages.

Caste system existed in India for centuries based on reason provided by Turushukta Hymn of Rig Veda i.e. Brahmins came from head, Kshatriya from arms, Vaishya from ~~the~~ thighs and Shudra from feet. Hence, ~~the~~ Brahmins are pure beings while even the shadow of Shudra is defiling.

Caste based violence like killing of Dalit student Indira Meghwal in Rajasthan, all were based on this common myth, all were reason driven acts, but not reasonable.

Inhuman practices like sacrifice of childrens, female foeticide, Sati and social ostracisation of widows, cultural ostracisation of tribes and manual scavenging, ranging from Rig Vedic era to modern India, all had reasons but even a layman could argue their reasonability.

In political sphere, we see rise of majoritarian and identity based politics. They are done to achieve easy electoral gains by dividing communities and pitching them against one other. For political parties it is reasonable but one could readily test its reasonableness by the litmus test of constitutional morality.

There have been multiple instances of fraud on Constitution like misuse of Emergency Provisions under Article (356). There is no denying of its proper use in multiple cases like Maharashtra political crisis 2022, but various instances like dismissing ^{elected} first Communist ~~elected~~ government in Kerala, misuse after state elections etc. shows that not all decisions are reasonable and just.

Mosca in his Concept of Political Formula correctly points out that all political decisions are often legitimised and justified as done for common good but are driven by vested interests.

In the world of economics, globally we can observe the rise of neoliberalism with the withdrawal of welfare state. Free market economy and utopian meritocratic ideals have resulted in wide socio-economic inequalities and concentration of wealth in hands of few Multi National Corporations. But whether this revered reason driven ideology is inclusive and sustainable remains a big question.

Green Revolution was based on principles of increased productivity of land and income of farmers. However, according to Agriculture Census data more than 80% farmers are still marginal and small landholders facing double whammy of increased debt and saline lands due to overuse of chemicals.

Existence of poverty, global food crisis, high socio-economic inequalities etc. emphasize that even ~~most~~ ^{many} economic decisions based on reason, often are not reasonable.

Economy is driven by development of technology, let us examine technological (scientific) dimension of the topic.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is cited to be next revolution for mankind. Automated industries, driverless cars, quick decision making etc. are objectives for it's rapid development. But joblessness of unskilled and semi-skilled labour, rise of robotic soldiers, losing agency of humans to machines raise questions about reasonableness of this blind AI rush.

Development of weapons of mass destruction are often backed by reasons of national security, global peace (IRONIC!!) etc. but their potential to destroy humanity, diversion of resources for making weapons instead of solving hunger problems etc. lay bare it's reasonability for everyone to view.

Ex:- Development and Deployment of chemical weapons like Napalm in ¹² US-Vietnam War.

Humans are creators of these machines, they give reasons and justify it for acceptance among masses. Let us dive into psychological / ethical aspect of this debate.

Philosophers for centuries have debated on Hedonism i.e. maximum good for self. For example, when a poor man steal for survival & an engaged relative kills to avenge the death of loved ones, all these are reason backed decisions. But their reasonableness fails when we pitch them against social order and moral fabric of society.

We often face ethical dilemmas both in public and private lives. What we choose can be reasonable for us, but evil and non-rational for other.

Ex:- Medical suppliers and blackmarketeers raised prices of Remdesivir injection to upto 30 times. It is a classic case of greed but a blackmarketeer could justify it as his need.

From ethical dimension, let us take a look at environmental aspect where most human actions at best remain questionable.

Rapid Industrialisation, petro based automobiles and urban centres all release Green House Gases which result in rise of global temperatures, rise in sea water level, extreme weather etc. But we have been in this pursuit for more than 350 years now often citing them essential for Human Development and economic growth. Increased droughts, flesh floods, melting glaciers and refugee problem all are direct evidence that this pursuit though based on reason, is not reasonable.

Global ~~illegal~~ trade in flora and fauna ~~are based~~ ^{exist to} serve the interests of smugglers, criminal networks etc. But Living Planet Report by World Wide Fund 2022 puts forward 68% decline in global faunal diversity creating ecological unbalance and even threatening human existence.

As nature is a global common, it is global responsibility to protect it. However, various global instances paint a sad picture of reality.

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State atrocities against minorities are on rise globally often legitimised by garbs of national interest, labelling them as terrorists etc. For example, Uyghurs in China, women and children in Taliban rule, Rohingyas in Myanmar etc. all were persecuted by state forces, but this mass exodus and ethnic cleansing clearly brings out the malign vested interests.

Neocolonization through use of soft power is on rise. While big countries justify it by bringing quotes like "Global Development" or "Common growth", their impacts in smaller countries are deeply harmful. For example, soft loans under Belt and Road Initiative has deteriorated economies of debtor nations, effectively rendering power to control their economy in the hands of a foreign power.

However, the picture is not all gloomy. Proactive citizensry, robust governance structures and progressive social forces have ensured that decisions backed by reasons remain wedded to their reasonability too.

Inclusive growth and sustainable development has long been the central agenda of Indian policy making. Initiatives like Ayushman Bharat, PM Kisan Yojana, National Food Security Act etc. has ensured that governance decisions are backed by reasonability of "Sabka Saath Sabka Vike".

Global Consensus for common developmental needs and various initiatives like * Sustainable Development Goals, mandated Nationally Determined Contributions ^{under} ~~against~~ Paris Agreement; Convention on Weapon of Mass Destruction etc. show that global growth have been moulded

along reasonable ~~to~~ set of 'common good'.

Decision taken in isolation ignoring other stakeholders, ideologies driven by vested interests and propaganda driven decision often result in action which have a sound reason but are not in reasonable form.

Discussion, deliberation, accommodation and inclusivity: these should be the guiding light for any action. Various leaders like Buddha, Nanak, Gandhi etc. have all emphasized that ends should always remain wedded to means. If means are reasonable and just, the results are bound to be good for all.

End

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खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5 International Trade is a good indicator of National Security.
अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा का एक अच्छा सूचक है।
- Q.6 It is not that we use technology, we live technology.
ऐसा नहीं है कि हम प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करते हैं, हम प्रौद्योगिकी को जीते हैं।
- Q.7 There is more to life than simply increasing its speed.
जीवन में केवल अपनी गति बढ़ाने के अलावा और भी बहुत कुछ है।
- Q.8 Nature is neither a servant nor a master, but a necessary partner.
प्रकृति न तो सेवक है और न ही स्वामी, बल्कि एक आवश्यक सहभागी है।

→ It is not that we use technology, we live technology

When the Cavemen ~~was~~ ~~have~~ had built the first wheel it must have felt the same ecstasy as that scientist team which built 'Sophia' - the first emotionally intelligent robot. From hunting and gathering society to modern man living in skyscrapers, our evolution has been deeply intertwined with evolution of technology.

Technology is not merely a tool to use and dispose away with, it is a real force which shapes our lived experiences.

Technology has created revolutionary impact on our life and made us powerful in almost all sectors of human life. In health sector, technology has produced vaccines, medicines, health equipments, modern healthcare facilities etc.

Right from popping a pill in night to complex surgeries like liver transplant, technology resulted in increasing life expectancy, reducing infant mortality and higher health standards.

Fitness wristbands, health tracking applications and government initiatives like Electronic Health Records have resulted in constant monitoring of one's health, quick and precise medical support and growth of preventive healthcare.

But on the same hand, overreliance on technology has resulted in growth of lifestyle diseases like diabetes and hypertension, increase in obesity among all sections due to sedentary lifestyle as reported by National

Family Health Survey-5. Medical communities

have tried to develop solutions for them, but limited success points to limitations of technology.

→ Another place for developing solutions is our classrooms and education sector. Digitally

enabled classrooms (Smart Classes) are testimony to lived experiences transformation by technology.

For a student sitting in far flung areas, Digi-Education has been a blessing to receive best education facility. National Education

Policy 2020 and initiatives like PM-Schools

for Rising India depict strong need of tech-enabled education in modern world.

Entire domain of research and development in universities is centred around creating technological solutions to everyday problems. For example, IIT

Kanpur recently ^{successfully} tested a prototype for Artificial Rain based on cloud seeding. This can solve the problem of drought ridden areas of western Rajasthan and Vidarbha.

However, even in education technology has created new issues like declining creativity and critical thinking among students and overuse of digital tools (plagiarism issue). There must be a strong structural reason that despite producing highest quantity of research papers, not even one university figures in top 150. QS Rankings 2022

Let us take a look at administrative sector where rise of concept of e-governance is seen as future of administration. Technological solutions like Unified Payment Interface, Digital Banking Units, Direct Benefit Transfer etc. have resulted in inclusive and effective governance.

Technology has made administration democratised and decentralised. Transparent and easy filing of tax through GST Network, grievance redressal through CAGRAMS Portal etc. have overhauled approach of modern administrative structure. Government push for tech-savvy civil servants under Mission Karunyogi clearly testifies that technology is not just for use but a part and parcel of our lives.

However, issues like digital divide, lack of digital literacy, digitally vulnerable population and cyberattacks including data theft show that integration of tech has benefitted some while left a large section vulnerable and powerless.

Even in businesses and industry, technology has transformed the way they operate. For example Tesla Gigafactory in China, Apple manufacturing

Plant in Bangalore etc. are ~~various~~ forms of technology driven businesses. Thousands of workers are employed under a single roof due to advances in technology.

Even the entire growth of service sector is premised on the technological infrastructure.

Right from a software developer working for Google to small retailers operating through ~~Amazon~~ Open Network Digital Commerce (ONDC) all owe their livelihood to growth of technology.

At the same time, growth in labour displacing technology, increasing automation etc. have resulted in job losses ~~for~~ ^{for} unskilled and semi-skilled workers. Irresponsible handling of

technology has resulted in industrial catastrophes

Bhopal Gas Tragedy. Growth of technology

have empowered life of a content creator, but

rendered a ~~single~~ ~~artist~~ Kalbelia artist jobless.

Closely Connected to businesses is the domain of Artificial Intelligence with developments of robots like Sofia who for all practical purposes act and think like humans have shown how closely connected technology and human cognition are. AI has resulted in excellent solutions like data driven marketing, generative AI tools like Chat GPT, BARD etc. which have eased our problems through digital assistance.

Right from browsing curated content on Netflix to enjoying driverless car rides, AI has made our life easier. Even the government under initiatives like Global Partnership for AI, solutions under National Quantum Computing Mission etc. is promoting AI integration for efficient decision making.

However various ethical issues like losing agency of humans to machines, along with regulatory lacunae have resulted in misuse of AI. For ex^o- Cambridge Analytica used AI to manipulate the result of US Presidential elections in 2016. While on the one hand, technology is enabling our lives on the other it is subordinating us to machines.

Even the social experiences have faced varied impacts of this change. Technology has increased connectivity among us through platforms like Facebook, Instagram etc. where we remain in constant touch with others. Solution like video calls and online meetings have effectively reduce world to a small digital town.

Technology has increased awareness about discrimination and violence globally #Me Too

Movement is a living example of technology empowering marginalised sections. Black Lives Matter campaign following racial killing of George Floyd spread globally and raised sensitivity ~~for~~ against racial discrimination worldwide.

However, technology and its overuse have resulted in weakening familial ties. A common example can be observed at dinner table where most members are engrossed in their phones. Old age people, digitally impaired people have faced increased alienation due to weakening of social ties. Radicalisation of youth by terrorist organizations like ISIS (Government of India reported 72 Indians have escaped to Syria under ISIS influence).

rise in hate speech in online spaces etc. have uncovered detrimental impact of technological abuse on human life.

Another profound impact can be observed in the arena of geopolitics and international relations. Due to rise in tech capabilities, international trade has grown manifold, globalisation became a reality and countries have increasingly shared a common platform for using technology to empower human life. For example, under Indian Presidency, G20 has a central pillar of Digital Innovation for inclusive growth.

Technical solutions have emerged for global problems like American technology being used to extract groundwater in Sub-Saharan Africa. Genetic modification ²⁸ of crops for nutritional

security (G 1a Fortified Rice being used in Africa and Bangladesh) etc. These have transformed the lived reality of globally marginalised sections.

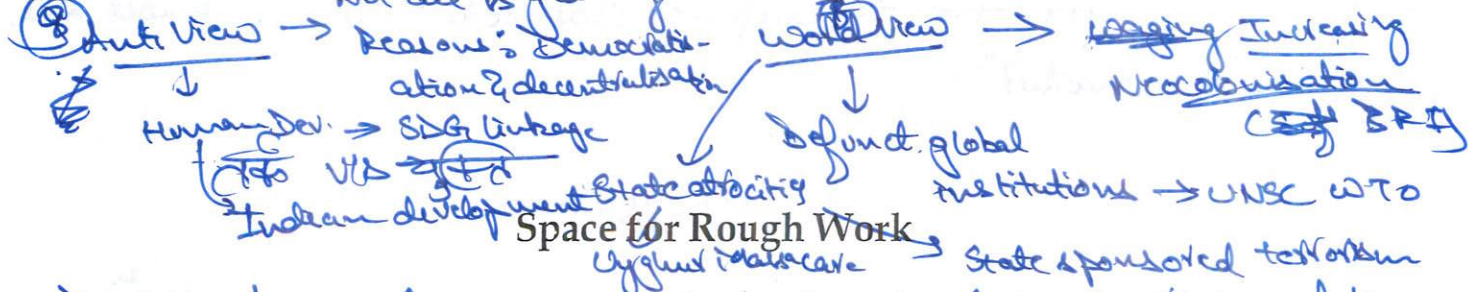
However, technology has been deployed in Cross country cyber attacks (Ex: AIIMS cyber attack had origin ⁱⁿ China), weaponisation of global conflicts (Ex: Russia-Ukraine war using heavy artillery) and biased technology deployment (Ex: American oil Companies' reckless operation in Venezuela).

This has resulted in lopsided growth pattern where technology is not a solution but a weapon.

Technology is a tool albeit a powerful tool. A balance is required between it's judicious

use and reckless abuse. Anything used with malignant intentions become a powerful destructive force and so does technology.

Before intelligent machines, we need intelligent and rational mind; Before social media we need social cohesion and before data driven decision making we need consensus based decision making to effectively harvest the benefits of technology while eliminating the weed of technology's abuse.



Reason has always existed, but not always in reasonable form.

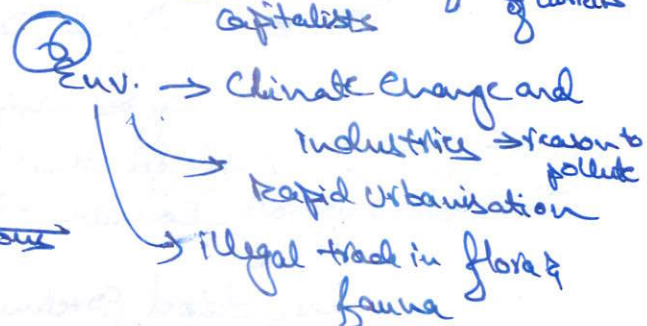
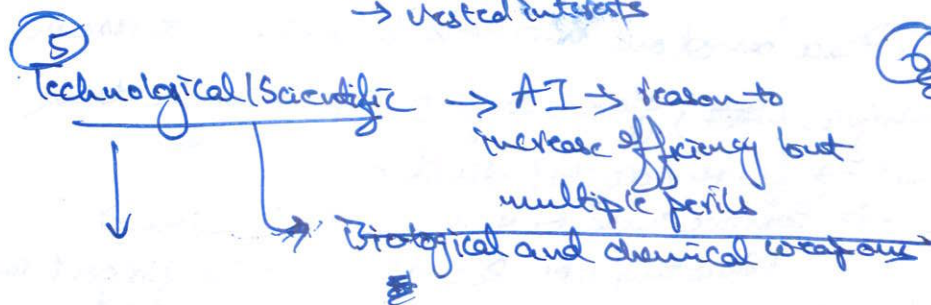
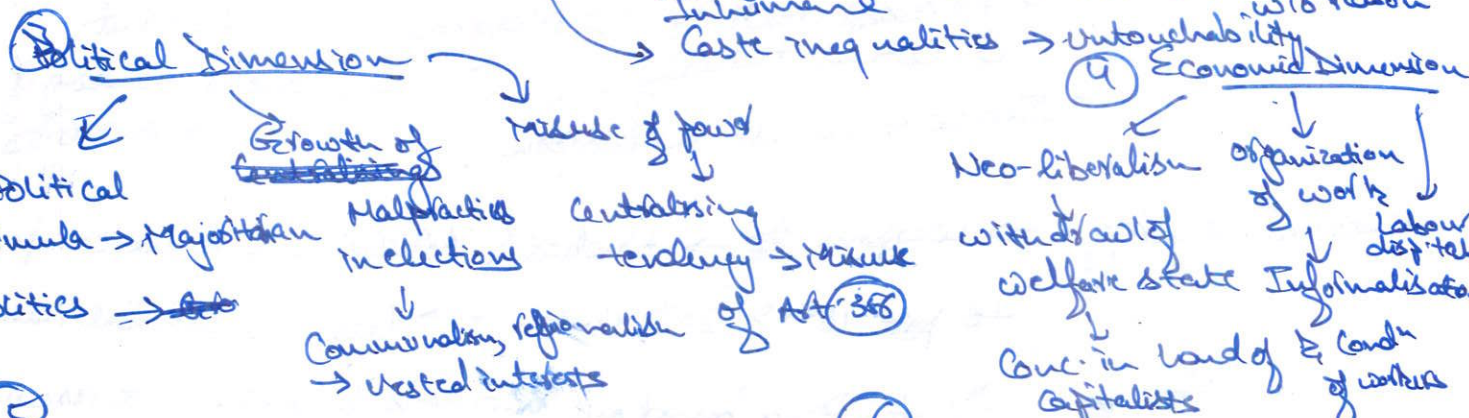
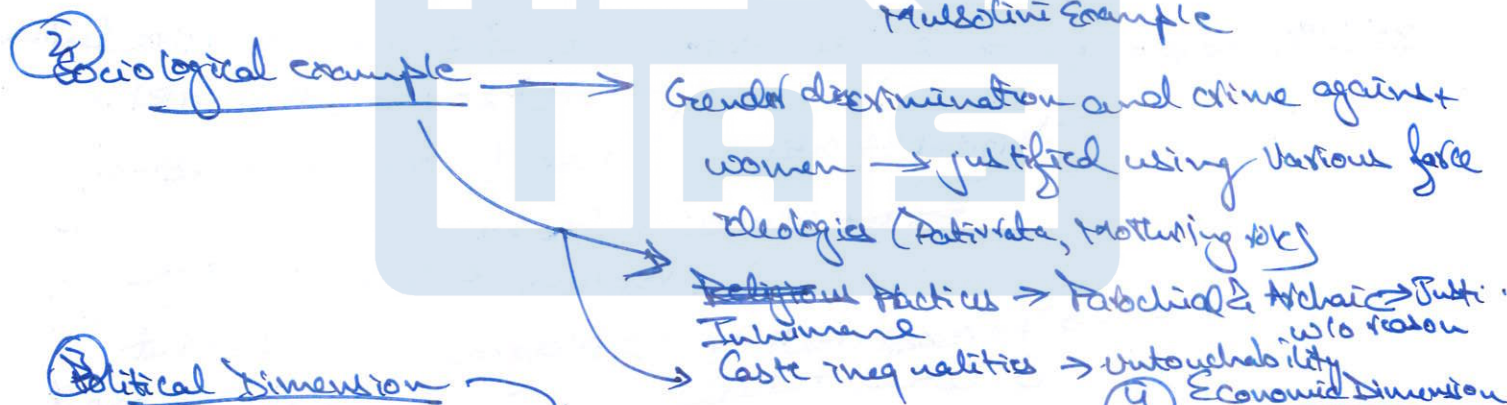
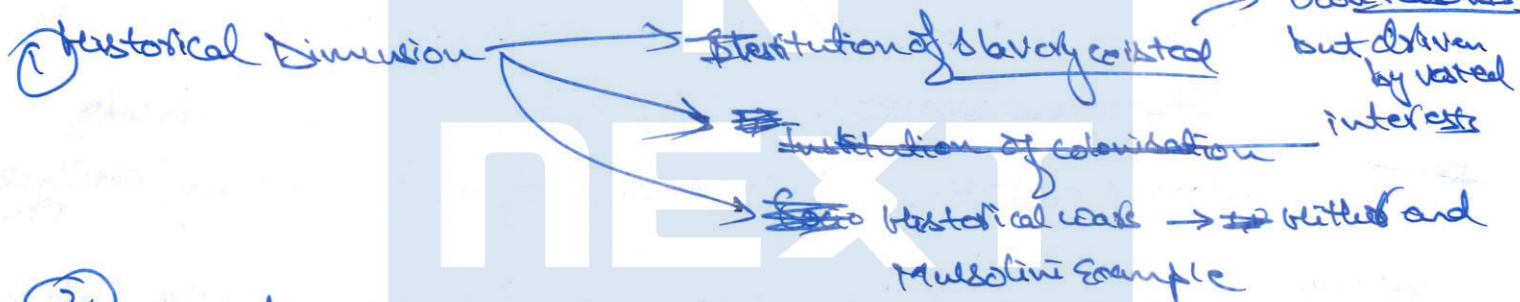
⇒ "I had a passion to ~~start~~ ^{fuel me} ~~for~~, but I did a grave mistake by making atomic bomb" → Start with Oppenheimer/atomic bomb example → He had a reason but not in reasonable form.

To make a decision is to base it on a reason --- multiple viewpoints.

multiple reason --- but there is always a reason if it's force & illegitimate

Coating of legitimacy

⑧ Ethical (Psychological Dim.) → Individual good and overall good
 but driven by vested interests



"Technology is just a tool to empower classroom, the real power still remains the teacher".

Space for Rough Work

"It is not that we use technology, we live technology"

~~Techn~~ Making the first wheel to building Sophia - a humanoid capable of understand human emotions & react - From Cave men to residential of skyscrapers, technology changed & certainly changed our life. Tech is not merely a tool it's part of our lived experiences now.

~~Te~~ ~~100%~~ Technology has revolutionised our life & ~~it~~ ^{provided powerful} tools.

~~Health~~ → Modern health eqip, vaccines, longevity etc.

~~Education sector~~ → C.A: Sedentary lifestyle diseases, increased addiction, high prevalence of avoidable diseases, obesity etc.

~~Synergy~~ Education → Digital classroom → audio visual cognitive learning
↓
Digital Education → NEP 2020 → PM SHRI
use of tech in education
~~So far~~ education has been

C.A: → Decreased creativity & critical thinking → Restricted to laptop screen
→ Increased misuse in classroom. → Plagiarism using internet
Ex: - Global ranking of our university

③ National security → weapons → Nuclear & Artillery → if we compare to 18th & 20th Cent. → less wars; Global Peace.

→ C.A: Peace based on might is temporary → rise in cyber warfare (Ex: global conflicts ↑↑ → Russia Ukraine war)
Aid
C.A: ~~the~~ ^{for} ~~the~~ ^{issue for others} → further digital divide
Administrative Domain → Positive impacts through digitization → Promoting UPI 2c-thon → Easy for govt. etc.