

NEXT IAS

GS MAINS ADVANCED COURSE 2024

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE: GSMAC2406**Test No.: 06**Name of Candidate: Utkarsh Yadav Mobile No. Roll No.: GSMACT24A1377 Start Time 2:40 End Time 2:42Date of Examination: 19th August - 2024 Medium: English ☒ Hindi ☐

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
TOTAL MARKS - 100		

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	
TOTAL MARKS - 150		

GRAND TOTAL -/ 250

EVAL CODE: EVAL DATE:

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Immediately on receipt of the QCA booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.
2. Candidates must mention all relevant details like Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
3. Candidate is expected to attempt all 20 questions within the given timeline.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized at the time of admission.
5. Candidates must write answers for the specific question under the respective question itself. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.
6. Please write neatly. Avoid illegible writing.
7. Do not write/mark irrelevant matters in the QCAB.

सामान्य निर्देश

1. QCA पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर कृपया तुरंत जांच लें कि इस QCA पुस्तिका में कोई पृष्ठ या सामग्री आदि गलत छपी हुई या फटी हुई या गायब तो नहीं है। यदि ऐसा है, तो इसे एक नई QCA पुस्तिका से बदल लें।
2. अभ्यर्थियों को सभी प्रासंगिक विवरण जैसे नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल नंबर आदि का आवंटित स्थान पर उल्लेख करना होगा।
3. अभ्यर्थियों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह आवंटित समय-सीमा के भीतर ही सभी 20 प्रश्नों के उत्तर-लेखन का प्रयास करें।
4. प्रत्येक उत्तर, प्रवेश के समय चुनी गयी भाषा के माध्यम में ही लिखे जाने चाहिए।
5. अभ्यर्थियों को विशिष्ट प्रश्न के उत्तर संबंधित प्रश्न के नीचे ही लिखने होंगे। आवंटित स्थान के बाहर लिखे गए किसी भी उत्तर को क्रेडिट नहीं दिया जाएगा।
6. कृपया साफ-सुथरा लिखें। अपठनीय लेखन से बचें।
7. QCAB में अप्रासंगिक तथ्यों को न लिखें / न ही चिह्नित करें।

REMARKS:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Student Concerns / Query	Examiner's Feedback / Response
1	1
2	2
3	3

Marks Per Ques	Below Average	Average	Above Average
10 Marks	Below 3.00	3.00 - 3.75	4.00 and above
15 Marks	Below 4.50	4.50 - 5.75	6.00 and above

* Subject to change without prior notice.

IMPORTANT QR CODES	
 Topper's Copy	 Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB
 Copy Scanner App	 Next IAS Test Centre Location

MACRO COMMENTS

The Purpose of evaluation@nextias.com is to provide constructive suggestions on 'How to improve Answer Writing and thereby score better marks.'

STRENGTHS OF THE CANDIDATE

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT



IMPROVEMENT SUGGESTIONS

1.

परामर्श और आपसी सहमति के आधार पर बहुलवाद द्वारा उत्पन्न समस्याओं को हल करने के लिए संस्थागत व्यवस्था संघीय शासन की एक प्रमुख विशेषता है। क्षेत्रीय परिषदें केवल सलाहकार निकायों से कार्रवाई के लिए सक्रिय मंचों के रूप में कैसे विकसित हुईं? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

Federal governance is characterised by institutionalized arrangements for solving problems generated by pluralism based on consultation and mutual consent. How have Zonal Councils evolved from merely advisory bodies to proactive platforms for action? (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

The Constitution of India envisages India to be federation with powers being divided between the Center and State under 7th Schedule.

Conflicts may arise in a federation for which institutions are created.

Examples are

- ① original Jurisdiction of Supreme Court (Art-13) in federal matters
- ② Zonal Councils
- ③ Article 263 : Inter-State Council
- ④ Viti Aayog Governing Council

Evolution of Zonal Councils from advisory bodies to proactive platforms of action

① Zonal Councils are created under Zonal Councils Act and consists of a group of states in a zone.

② They are chaired by the Home Minister.

- ③ They provide a platform to states to come together and discuss common issues.
- ④ Also give opportunity of Center-State co-operation.
- ⑤ Central Government can understand regional issues plaguing states in implementation of development programs.
- ⑥ Resolving border disputes: Tq Zonal council played pro-active role in recent disputes resolution mechanism in both eastern states.
- ⑦ Economic integration: Zonal councils were pro-active to collaborate and implement Nationwide GST.

- Issues
- ① Lack of regular meetings
 - ② Lack of permanent secretariat and staff
 - ③ Mostly advisory bodies

The issues need to be overcome by giving more formal shape to zonal councils and increasing meeting frequency.

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2.

भारतीय संविधान के तहत धर्मनिरपेक्षता समानता के प्रति संवैधानिक प्रतिवद्धता की व्यापक अवधारणा में समाहित है। चर्चा करें।
(150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

Secularism under the Indian constitution is encapsulated in the broader concept of constitutional commitment to equality. Discuss.
(Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Secularism is an ideology that calls for separation of state from religion.

Idea of secularism in the Indian constitution

- ① In India, Article 25 to 28 lay the foundation of secular state.
- ② Article 15 and 16 states that there can be no discrimination on grounds of religion.
- ③ Therefore, state has no official religion in India i.e. state is separate from religion.
- ④ However, in India we follow idea of principled distance
- ⑤ Article 26 allows religious denominations to manage their own affairs.
- ⑥ Article 27 prohibits state from charging any tax to promote any particular religion.

How Indian Secularism is encapsulated in the broader concept of equality

- ① Indian Secularism is based on the idea of inter-religious as well as intra-religious equality.
- ② For inter-religious equality, Article 15 and 16, clearly specify non-discrimination on grounds of religion.
- ③ To ensure intra-religious equality, Article 25 and 26 allow for state guided reform of religion.

- Ban on untouchability to ensure equality with Hinduism
- Supreme Court banning triple-talag to ensure gender equality
- SC allowed Sabzimata temple entry to women to ensure gender equality

Thus, Indian Secularism aims at equal treatment of all religion i.e. 'sarva-dharma-sambhava'.

3.

जन प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा 8 को सजा की अवधि से हटाकर अपराध की गंभीरता पर केंद्रित करने की आवश्यकता है। टिप्पणी करें कि धारा 8 के तहत वर्तमान वर्गीकरण किस प्रकार अपराधों के मनमाने वर्गीकरण की ओर ले जाता है। साथ ही, इस धारा के तहत अयोग्य घोषित व्यक्ति के लिए उपलब्ध उपायों का भी उल्लेख करें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

'There is a need to shift the focus of Section 8 of the Representation of People Act, 1951 from the duration of the sentence to the gravity of the offence.' Comment on how the current classification under Section 8 leads to arbitrary categorisation of offences. Also, mention the remedies available to a person disqualified under this section. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Section 8 of the Representation of People Act provides for corrupt practices under which a person is liable for disqualification for electoral offense.

Current Classification

- ① Currently, even if the offense may be of grave nature, if the sentence is not more than 2 years, the person will not be disqualified.
- ② And ~~if~~ even for less grave offense, if sentence is more than 2 years, person stands disqualified.

Remedies available to person

- ① The person can challenge the disqualification by means of an election petition in the High Court.
- ② The Election Commission also has the power to recommend to President against disqualification.

4.

भारतीय संसदीय प्रणाली में विपक्ष के नेता का क्या महत्व है? लोकतंत्र में नियंत्रण और संतुलन बनाए रखने में विपक्ष की भूमिका किस प्रकार योगदान देती है? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

What is the significance of the Leader of Opposition in the Indian parliamentary system? How does the role of the opposition contribute to the checks and balances in a democracy?

(Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

The Leader of Opposition (LoP) is a statutory post given to the leader of the largest opposition party in parliament securing at least 1/10th of votes.

Role of Leader of Opposition

- ① LoP represents the collective voice of the opposition.
- ② Providing a constructive critique to government policies on floor of house.
- ③ Presenting alternatives to government policies.
- ④ LoP is often seen as alternative Prime Minister in case government loses majority.
- ⑤ LoP meets common citizens and raises their issues in parliament.

Role of opposition in contributing to check and balancing

- ① Engaging in constructive debates on legislations $\Rightarrow$ this helps that laws are broad based and includes concerns of all sections.
- ② Acts as a safety valve in democracy as opposition's voice promotes dissent.
- ③ Brings forward the voice of poor and marginalised sections.
- ④ Key role in committees: parliamentary committees are based on proportional representation, where opposition plays a key role.
- ⑤ Chairman of Public Accounts Committee is conventionally from opposition.

- Issues $\rightarrow$
- ① widespread disruptions
 - ② Crippling of budget
 - ③ frequent disqualification

Thus role of Lop and opposition needs strengthening by allocating them proper time of discussion.

5.

"प्रस्तावना के मूल आदर्श - संप्रभुता, समाजवाद, धर्मनिरपेक्षता और लोकतंत्र - भारत के संवैधानिक ढांचे की आधारशिला हैं।" स्पष्ट कीजिये। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

"The core ideals of the Preamble - sovereignty, socialism, secularism, and democracy - form the bedrock of India's constitutional framework." Elucidate. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

The Preamble of Indian Constitution is like a short summary or introduction to the constitution.

It acts as key to minds of makers of Constitution.

Core ideals of Preamble → forming
Bedrock of India's Constitutional framework

① Sovereignty

↳ ① It means India's is free from any external control and can take its own decisions.

↳ ② The Preamble states "We the People" meaning People are ultimate sovereign.

↳ ③ India can cede any territory or acquire existing territory (Article 1 to 4)

↳ Inclusion of Sikkim (1975)

② Socialism

↳ ① In India, we follow democratic socialism.

↳ ② Article 39(b) and 39(c) calls upon state to prevent concentration of wealth.

③ Article 15(4), 16(4) provide for special provisions for SC, ST, women.

③ Secularism

↳ ① Indian secularism is based on equal treatment of all religion.

↳ ② Article 25: freedom to practise religion of one's choice

↳ ③ Article 28: freedom from religious instruction.

↳ ④ Art 27: non-payment of tax to promote any religion.

④ Democracy

③ India declared as a 'Republic'.

① Article 14: Equality before law and equal protection of law.

② Article 325, 326: universal adult franchise

6. 103वें संवैधानिक संशोधन के निहितार्थों का आकलन करें, जिसने भारत में सामाजिक न्याय के सिद्धांत पर आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर वर्गों (ईडब्ल्यूएस) के लिए दस प्रतिशत आरक्षण की शुरुआत की है। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें) 10 अंक
Assess the implications of the 103rd Constitutional Amendment, which introduced a ten per cent reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), on the principle of social justice in India. (10 marks, 150 words)

The 103rd Constitutional Amendment amended Article 15(6) and 16(6) and provided for 10% reservation to Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in government jobs and educational institutions.

Implications for social justice

Positive Implications

- ① will help in ensuring social justice for poorer sections of society not falling under SC, ST, OBC.
- ② Aid in poverty alleviation by ensuring better educational and employment opportunities.
- ③ will promote inter-generational social mobility.
- ④ In line with Directive Principles of State Policy that calls on

welfare state to ensure social justice.

- Concerns raised by amendment
- ① Breaching of the 80% limit of reservation set in Indra Sawhney judgement.
 - ② The cutoff for QWS reservation has been set high to 8 lakhs.
 - ③ Non-inclusion of E, ST, OBC candidates in the 10% reservation of QWS.
 - ④ Difficulty in ascertaining the real beneficiaries due to fraudulent income certificates.
 - ⑤ Exclusion and inclusion errors may defeat the very purpose.

Thus, while it's a positive step towards social justice, loopholes in the issue of income certificates need to be timely plugged.

7. भारत में कल्याणकारी योजनाओं का ध्यान "कल्याण" से "अति-निर्भरता" की ओर स्थानांतरित हो रहा है। इसके आलाोक में, क्या आप इस बात से सहमत हैं कि कल्याणकारी योजनाओं ने भारत में "मुफ्त की संस्कृति" को जन्म दिया है, जिसमें गरीबी और भूख उन्मूलन से ध्यान भटक गया है? (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

The focus of welfare schemes in India is shifting from "well-being" towards "over-dependency". In light of this, do you agree that welfare schemes have inculcated a "freebies culture" in India leading to a divergence of focus from poverty and hunger alleviation? (10 marks, 150 words)

Part IV of the Constitution declares India to be a welfare state. To fulfil this aim numerous welfare schemes have been launched by Indian state.

However, there is a growing concern that welfare schemes are ~~are~~ making citizens dependent instead of real empowerment.

Welfare schemes inculcating a freebie culture is visible on many fronts:

- ① No time limit of welfare scheme benefits $\Rightarrow$ often benefits are for perpetuity.
- ② Targetting of welfare schemes remain poor.
- ③ welfare schemes often used for vote bank politics

instead of ensuring real benefits.

④ Inefficiencies in delivery : $\rightarrow$
[Shanta Kumar] committee reported
[40%] leakages in [PPS]

⑤ Food rations are given to [80cr]
individuals but poverty levels
are at [10.2%] [Niti Aayog, 2024 MPI]

However, welfare schemes on the other hand are needed to prevent people from falling in extreme poverty.

- Reforms that can be done
- ① Direct Benefit Transfer to reduce leakages.
 - ② focus scheme towards empowerment like skill development, training, etc.
 - ③ Schemes like [DAY-NRLM] which promote self employment via SHGs can be promoted.
 - ④ Providing welfare - benefits for a time limit.

Thus, our approach needs to change from creating dependency to empowerment.

8.

ई-शासन केवल दक्षता के संबंध में नहीं है; यह प्रत्येक नागरिक के लिए शासन व्यवस्था को सुलभ और समावेशी बनाने के संबंध में है। व्याख्या करें।

E-governance is not just about efficiency; it's about making governance accessible and inclusive for every citizen. Explain.

(150 words, 10 marks)

(10 marks, 150 words)

E-governance refers to the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in delivery of government services.

While e-governance saves cost and time, and improves efficiency, its benefits go much beyond that.

E-governance : making governance accessible and inclusive

- ① e-governance help government services reach the remotest areas.
↳ ensures inclusivity

Q > SWAYAM portal for online education.

- ② It helps in saving cost for physical infrastructure.

Q > telemedicine via e-Sanjeevani

- ③ It allows for reducing corruption and bureaucratic red-tape → thus more accessibility.

19x Faceless assessment by Income Tax department

④ Timely Grievance redressal mechanism

19x Sansarpark portal, ePrograms, etc (Rajasthan)
to register grievance

⑤ Remove intermediaries and reach beneficiaries directly

19x Direct Benefit Transfer, JAM Trinity.

① digital infrastructure lacking in rural areas

② Lack of digital literacy to access e-services

Challenges in
e-governance

③ rising cyber security

④ Limited awareness on e-services.

frauds 19x AITMs
cyber attacks

Thus, a dedicated focus towards digital literacy along with cyber security measures is needed to make Digital India and e-governance more effective.

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Candidates
write on this

9. QUAD, AUKUS, I2U2 आदि जैसे नए क्षेत्रीय और बहुपक्षीय समझौतों के आगमन के साथ, गुट निरपेक्ष आन्दोलन (NAM), दावोस और G77 जैसे संगठनों द्वारा प्रतिनिधित्व की जाने वाली पुरानी वैश्विक व्यवस्था अपनी प्रासंगिकता खो रही है। चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)
- With the advent of new regional and multilateral agreements like QUAD, AUKUS, I2U2 etc the old world order represented by organizations like NAM, Davos, and G77 is losing its relevance. Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

There is increasing churn going on in Indo-Pacific with the rise of China and shift of focus of global powers in the region to contain China.

The old world order →

- ① It was represented by bipolarity till 1991 and then unipolarity after fall of Soviet union.
- ② organisations like NAM (Non-Alignment Movement) aimed to balance between bi-polar world and retain one's autonomy.
- ③ Organisations like G-77, group of developing country called for UN Reforms.

The New World Order →

- ① It is characterised by rise of China. ↳ massive China's investment by BRI and debt trap diplomacy.
- ② China's bullying and hegemonic attitude in South China sea led to AUKUS ⇒ USA to provide nuclear powered sub-marines to Australia.
- ③ QUAD: formed by India, USA, Japan, Australia as an organisation of multi sectoral cooperation to contain China in Indo-Pacific.
- ④ India formed I 202 (~~to~~ referred by experts as Western Quad) to gain influence in West Asia.

However, despite all new organisations, the core principle of India's foreign policy i.e. 'strategic autonomy' remains unchanged.

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Candidates
write on this

10.

दक्षिण प्रशांत से अफ्रीकी तट तक के द्वीपीय राज्य और क्षेत्र भारत के बदलते रणनीतिक भूगोल में नए केंद्र बन गए हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारत के लिए इन द्वीपीय राज्यों के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालें और इन राज्यों के साथ संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए भारत द्वारा की गई पहलों पर भी प्रकाश डालें। (150 शब्द, 10 अंक)

The island states and territories from the South Pacific to the African coast have become new nodes in India's changing strategic geography. In this context, highlight the importance of these island states for India and also throw light upon the initiatives taken by India to strengthen ties with these states. (10 marks, 150 words)

Importance of these island states

↳ ① UN Reforms: They vote as a bloc in UN. Their support is must for India's bid for UN reform and permanent seat in UNSC

↳ ② Maritime co-operation for peace to secure sea lanes of communication

↳ ③ Improved Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief, tsunami warning, etc.

↳ ④ Contain China's influence over these islands.

① FIPIC forum for regular dialogue with these islands.

② Voice of Global South Summit to raise their concerns

Initiatives
taken

③ Development assistance for infrastructure.

④ Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) ~~to~~ aimed at island nations.

⑤ India raises their concerns of Climate Change at UNFCCC regularly.

11.

भारत में चुनावी वित्तीयन विधिक खामियों और राजनीतिक अक्षमताओं की दोहरी मार से भरा हुआ है। इस संदर्भ में, चुनावी वित्तीयन की चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें। इस संबंध में भारत वैश्विक सर्वोत्तम प्रथाओं से क्या सीख ले सकता है? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Electoral funding in India is fraught with the double whammy of legal loopholes and political inefficiencies. In this context, discuss the challenges to electoral funding. What lessons can India draw from global best practices in this regard?

(Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Electoral funding is key to fighting
and winning elections. However,
electoral funding from unauthorised
sources without proper regulation
has the potential to disturb the
level playing field, promote money
and muscle power and criminalisation
of politics.

Challenges in electoral funding

① Legal loopholes :

↳ (a) Political parties not covered
under RTI, hence escape
scrutiny regarding their
donors.

↳ (b) Pre-2014 electoral bond
scheme promoted secrecy
in donations and removed
cap on donations by corporates

(C) At present donations below 2000
can be made in cash and
donor names need not be disclosed.

② Political inefficiencies

↳ (a) Increasing money and muscle
powers in politics

↳ (b) Criminalisation of politics :
often criminals resort to
illegal sources to fund election

③ overburdened judicial system (4.7
or pending case) to look into cases
of unauthorised finances.

④ Questions on independence of Central
agencies ⇒ limits their potential
to investigate electoral funding issues

⑤ Limited power and capacity of
Election Commission to keep watchful
eye on electoral funding.

Lessons from other countries and
way forward

- ① Countries like UK, USA, New Zealand, Australia, etc have evolved numerous ways to ensure transparency.
- ② In United States of America, corporate are free to donate to any party but it has to be transparently declared.
- ③ Currently, candidates have limits on electoral spending. Similar limits can be placed on political parties!
- ④ Creating electoral trusts from which ECI can distribute money to political parties based on past performance.
- ⑤ Making all electoral donations compulsarily digital.

Apart from ^{above} reforms in, the [Dinesh Goswami] committee and [2nd ARC] has also recommended for [State funding of elections].

12.

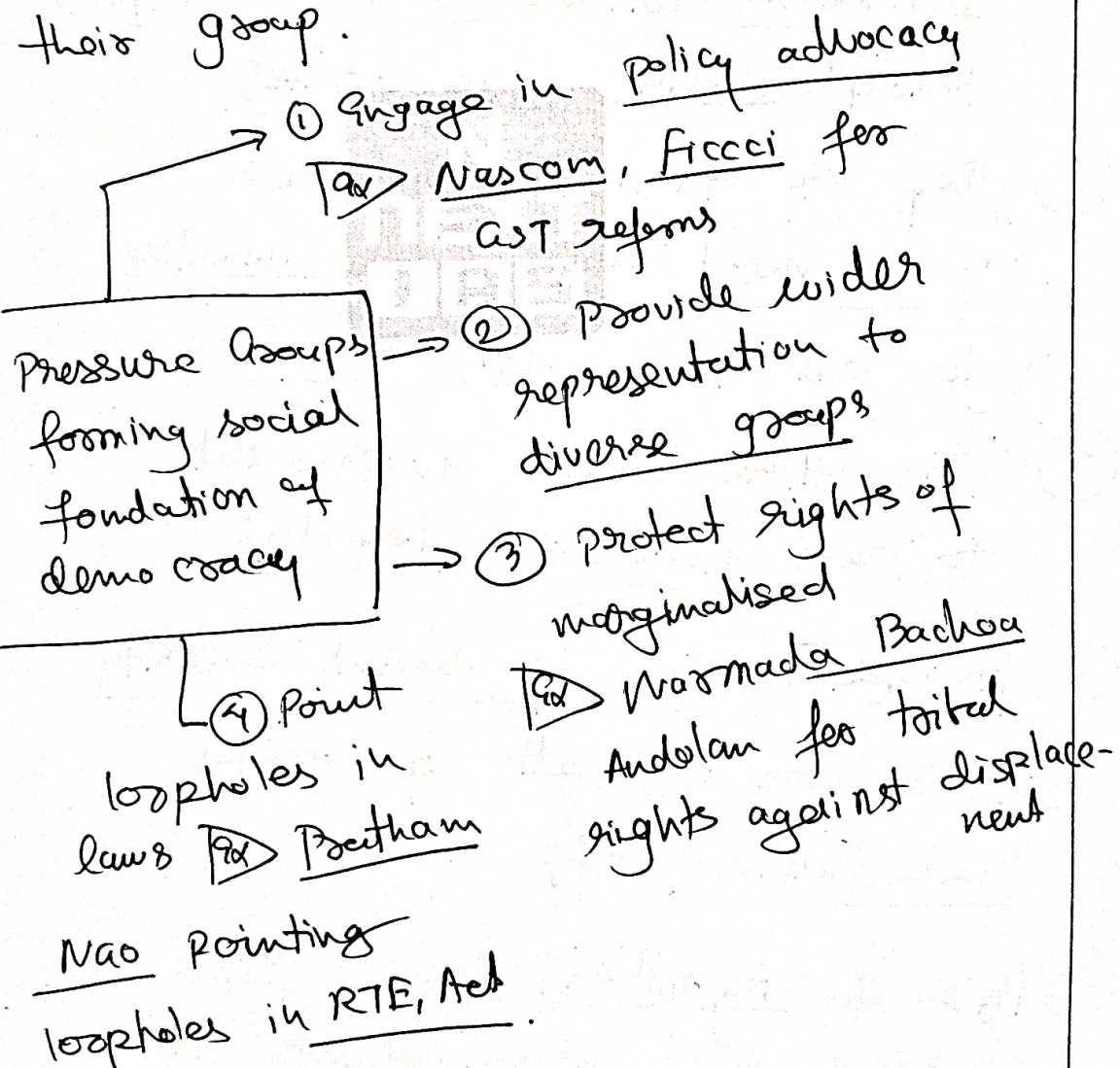
दबाव समूह लोकतंत्र की सामाजिक नींव का निर्माण करते हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में श्रमिकों के लिए सामाजिक सुरक्षा उपायों को बढ़ावा देने में दबाव समूहों के प्रमुख योगदान पर चर्चा करें और बताएं कि वे मौजूदा नीतियों में उपलब्ध खामियों को किस प्रकार दूर करते हैं।

(250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Pressure groups form the social foundation of a democracy. In this context, discuss pressure groups' key contributions in promoting social security measures for workers in India, and how they address the gaps in existing policies.

(Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Pressure Groups refers to a group of people who voluntarily come together to get favourable policy outcome for members of their group.



NEXT IAS

Candidates
write on this sidePressure Group's contribution in promoting social security measures

- ① Pressure groups have been involved in formation of worker's union.
- ② They regularly highlight the plight of workers without social security through media, news articles.
- ③ They try to meet concerned government officials and ministers to put their grievances.
- ④ This often leads government to pass favourable legislations.
- ⑤ Example: Code of Social Security, 2020 was a result of various trade unions efforts.
- ⑥ Ex: In Rajasthan, Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) efforts to

Rajasthan Aig workers, Social Security
Act, 2023.

⑦ Recently, Karnataka too has introduced
Aig worker social security act.

→ ① Existing labor codes provided
social security to permanent
employees.

Addressing
Gaps in
existing
policies

→ ② However, in recent times,
there has been rise
of contract based labor
· Aig workers.

→ ③ By highlighting issues of
Aig workers, unorganised sector
workers, pressure groups bridge
gap in existing policies.

Thus, pressure groups have
played a key role in worker's
social security movement.

13.

संविधान में भारतीय संघीय राजनीति के कार्यकारी क्षेत्र में "संघीय सर्वोच्चता के सिद्धांत" की परिकल्पना की गई है। प्रासंगिक संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और वाद एवं विधियों का हवाला देते हुए चर्चा कीजिये। शक्तियों के वितरण से संबंधित विवादास्पद मुद्दों का समाधान किस प्रकार किया जाता है? (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

The Constitution envisages the "principle of federal supremacy" in the executive space of Indian federal polity. Discuss while referring to the relevant Constitutional provisions and case laws. How are contentious issues regarding the distribution of powers resolved? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Principle of Federal Supremacy is

as follows :

① In case of any conflict between state law and central law on ~~union list~~ state list and union list.

② Conflict between state and central law on concurrent list

In both above cases, central law shall prevail over state law.

Resolution of Contentious issues

⇒ Principle of Harmonious Construction

• Here the Court tries to see if it can harmoniously

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interpret both Central and state
law.

- It will try to give that interpretation that allows both Central and state law to be upheld instead of one taking precedence over other.

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14.

निष्पक्ष प्रतिनिधित्व सुनिश्चित करने और एक वोट, एक मूल्य के सिद्धांतों को बनाए रखने के लिए सीटों का परिसीमन आवश्यक है। निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में गलत प्रतिनिधित्व से उत्पन्न चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए संघीय तनाव उत्पन्न करने में जनसंख्या-आधारित परिसीमन के प्रभावों का विश्लेषण कीजिये।

(250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Delimitation of seats is essential to ensure fair representation and uphold the principles of one vote, one value. Highlighting the challenges posed by misrepresentation in constituencies analyse the ramifications of population-based delimitation in creating federal tension. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

The Constitution of India under Article 80 provided for Delimitation Commission to be established after every Census to uphold the principles of fair representation & along with one vote one value.

However, due to divergence in population growth between northern and southern states, the delimitation exercise was frozen till 2026.

Challenges posed by mis-representation in constituencies

① It violates the established democratic principle of one vote value one value.

② Impacts financial devolution: Finance Commission under Article 280 uses population as a key criteria to devolve funds.

↳ misrepresentation stretches devolution.

- ③ Creates federal tensions due to struggle for power via more number of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha seats.
- ④ May impact the social harmony in nation.
- ⑤ Large population followed by underdevelopment in some regions may give fuel to regionalism and separatist tendencies.

Ranifications of population based delimitation in creating federal tensions

- ① Due to high fertility in North states compared to South, North Indian states are likely to gain more seats in population based delimitation.
- ② This may further tilt the political balance of power in favour of North Indian states.

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Candidates must not
write on this margin

③ This may alienate southern states and create federal tensions, inter-state conflict and regionalism tendencies.

④ Since, financial devolution is also linked to population, it may also impact fiscal federalism.

Therefore, delimitation on grounds of population is a challenging task. All stakeholders need to be involved in a constructive discussion to address the impending issues.

15.

उच्च न्यायालयों का ध्यान "संवैधानिक मामलों" से हटाकर रोजमर्रा के मामलों पर केंद्रित करने के लिए जनहित याचिका प्रणाली को किस सीमा तक जिम्मेदार ठहराया जा सकता है? उच्च न्यायालयों पर समग्र बोझ को कम करने में ट्रायल कोर्ट क्या भूमिका निभा सकते हैं?

(250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

To what extent can the PIL system be held responsible for shifting the focus of the higher Courts from "constitutional matters" to day-to-day matters? What role can the trial Courts play in reducing the overall burden on higher Courts?

(Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

PIL (Public Interest Litigation) is a system in which any public spirited individual can approach the court for enforcement of fundamental rights even without locus standi.

While PIL is proposed with good intentions, it has often been used and termed as 'Publicity Interest Litigation'.

Extent to which PIL is responsible for shifting focus

- ① often frivolous PILs are filed to gain publicity and limelight.
- ② Such PILs diverts court's attention from key constitutional matters.
- ③ Too many PILs often increase burden on executive as well to respond to court notices.

→ ① Delay in appointments and large vacancies. 194 400+ posts out of 1100 vacant in high courts.

However, there are other reasons as well

→ ② Limited infrastructure of court to hear disputes and cases online ⇒ leads to delays.

→ ③ Delay on part of investigative agencies, executive to timely report matters.

→ ④ Lower courts often hesitant to grant bail ⇒ leads to cases piling in higher courts.

→ ① Protection of Citizen's fundamental Rights
194 Nutej Johar: decriminalised homosexuality

Positive Role
of PILs

→ ② Electoral Reforms: Striked down of electoral bond scheme due to lack of transparency.

↳ ③ Expansion of fundamental rights: $\Rightarrow$ Right to Privacy
(Ks Puttaswamy case)

Role of trial courts in reducing burden

- ① Timely disposal of cases will reduce appeals.
- ② 'Bail' not 'jail' be rule if followed will reduce citizen's knocking door of higher courts.
- ③ Trial courts by giving well-reasoned judgements can reduce scope for appeal.

Challenges $\rightarrow$ ① Poor infrastructure in trial courts
 $\rightarrow$ ② Delay in appointments
 $\rightarrow$ ③ Laxity in investigation.

Therefore, a comprehensive reform of trial courts via steps like All India Judicial Services (AIJS) can be considered.

16.

भारत की उच्च शिक्षा प्रणाली को वैश्विक मानकों के अनुरूप बनाने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण सुधारों की आवश्यकता है। नई शिक्षा नीति (एनईपी) 2020 का लक्ष्य इन चुनौतियों का समाधान करना किस प्रकार है, और भारत अपनी उच्च शिक्षा प्रणाली को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय प्रथाओं से क्या सबक सीख सकता है? चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

India's higher education system needs significant reforms to align with global standards. How does the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 aim to address these challenges, and what lessons can India learn from international practices to enhance its higher education system? Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

The strength of higher education system is key to propel India towards a 30 trillion economy by 2047 and achieve Viksit Bharat status.

- ① Financing: India spends 3% of GDP on education, Global average: 6%
- ② R&D focus: currently only 0.7% of GDP is spent.

Areas of
Reform in
higher education

- ③ Lack of multi-disciplinary education
- ④ Industry-academic linkage is missing
- ⑤ Industry-relevant skills not taught: 48% of India's graduate youth unemployable (India Skills Report)
- ⑥ Limited focus on vocational training: 9% only 2% formally skilled, 22% in USA.

New Education Policy attempt to address Challenges

- ① Target of finance to 6% of GDP
- ② Integration of vocational education in higher education
- ③ NEP has allowed flexibility in higher education by providing for multiple entry and multiple exit.
- ④ Creation of an Academic Bank of Credit for lifelong learning
- ⑤ Calls for internationalisation of education.
 - ↳ Indian universities going abroad
 - ↳ foreign universities to India bringing best practices.
- ⑥ Involvement of private sector to increase R&D Tax Amusandhan National Research foundation.
- ⑦ Higher education institutions to be made multi-disciplinary.

Lessons from international practices to enhance education

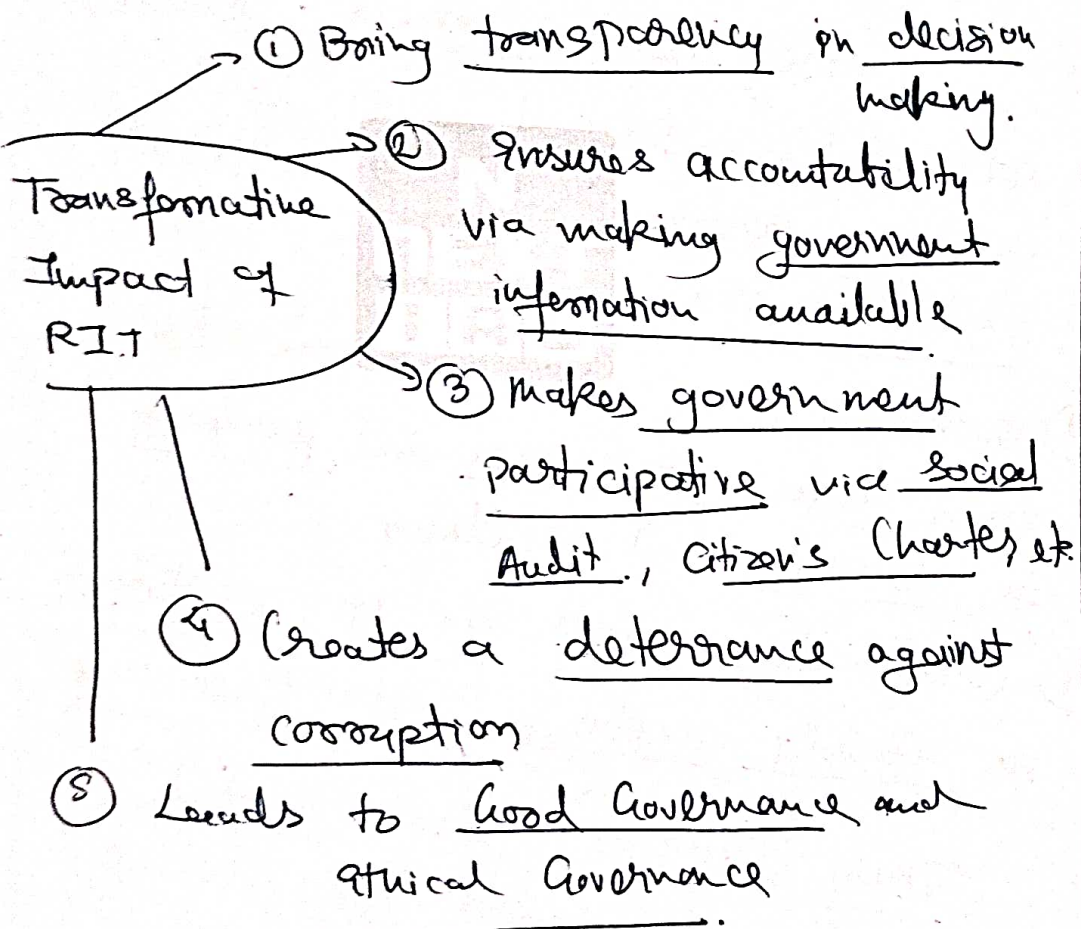
- ① Giving more autonomy: In countries like USA, UK, educational institutes enjoy high degree of autonomy in deciding courses, admissions, etc.
- ② Promoting diaspora connect: Connecting with Indian diaspora will lead to more research collaborations and R&D financing.
- ③ International collaborations can also bring latest techniques and pedagogy in learning and teaching.
- ④ Collaborating with foreign institutions in faculty exchange and training.

Thus, learning from global practices and proper NEP implementation can make Indian higher education globally competitive.

17. सूचना का अधिकार (आरटीआई) अधिनियम को भारतीय शासन में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही की तलाश में परिवर्तनकारी प्रभाव के लिए सराहा जाता है। हालाँकि, बहुआयामी चुनौतियाँ और प्रणालीगत सीमाएँ इसके प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में बाधा डालती हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही इसके प्रभावी क्रियान्वयन के लिए उपाय भी सुझाइये। (250 शब्द, 15 अंक)
- The Right to Information (RTI) Act is hailed for its transformative impact on the quest for transparency and accountability in Indian governance. However, multifaceted challenges and systemic limitations impede its effective implementation. Discuss. Also, suggest measures for its effective implementation. (15 marks, 250 words)

Right to Information Act is the
master key to good governance

- [2nd ARC]



Challenges and systemic limitations impeding implementation

- ① Denial of information citing official

secrets Act

- ② Over-burdening of Central and State Information Commission. $\Rightarrow$ 30k+ appeals pending
- ③ [RTI 2019 amendment]: reduces independence of CIC by giving power to Central Government to alter service conditions..
- ④ Limited & voluntary public disclosure.
- ⑤ Issue of Safety of RTI activists:
 $\Rightarrow$ More than 500 RTI activists killed since 2005.
- ⑥ Limited capacity of PIOs to timely answer RTI queries
- ⑦ filing of frivolous RTI petitions to serve one's private interest and not public interest
- ⑧ Limited awareness: $\Rightarrow$ only 2% of citizens have ever filed an RTI query.

- Measures to effectively implement
- ① Enhancing the autonomy and independence of Information Commissions by providing Constitutional status.
 - ② Enhancing capacity of Public Information officers.
 - ③ Providing more staff support to Information Commissions.
 - ④ As much as possible, Voluntary disclosures under Section 8 of RTI.
 - ⑤ 2nd ARC : Repeal of Official secrets Act and add provisions to National Security Act.
 - ⑥ Creating citizen awareness.
 - ⑦ Strengthening whistle blower protection for safety of RTI activists.

Thus, RTI is a potent tool to tackle corruption and mis-appropriation provided it is strengthened by above reforms.

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

(250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Discuss the unique challenges and opportunities Self Help Groups (SHGs) encounter in urban areas compared to rural ones, and how can microfinance be adapted to tackle urban poverty.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Self Help Groups refers to a small group which voluntarily come together to pool their small savings and start some micro enterprise and act as micro finance for their members.

SHGs in urban areas

① Lack of familiarity of members:
SHGs in rural areas enjoy high familiarity and social bonds between members.

Unique challenges

↳ But urban areas have anonymity in lifestyle, hence weak social bonds in members.

② Housing challenges: urban areas have outgrowth of slums. Hence SHG members often live in unhygienic conditions.

③ Security Challenges: working women in urban areas face higher challenges of sexual harassment at workplace than rural areas.

④ High cost of living in urban areas reduces the limited earnings.

Unique opportunities in urban areas

- ① Quick access to finance as banks are often nearby.
 - ② More job opportunities compared to rural ~~to~~ areas.
 - ③ Increased avenues of skilling and upskilling to start micro enterprise.
- Ex: Lijjat Papad started by 7 women in Gujarat today employs 45000 women with turnovers of 1600 cr
- ④ Increased market size $\Rightarrow$ more avenues to sell products.

⑤ More opportunities for health care and education for women and children

⑥ Better road connectivity $\rightarrow$ reduce logistic cost in product delivery.

Microfinance to tackle urban poverty

① Micro-finance can aid in generation of self-employment and starting micro-enterprise.

② Micro-credit can ~~add~~ act as a buffer to deal with crisis situation like Covid-19.

③ It can promote skill development.

④ It will reduce dependence on money lenders charging higher interest rates leading to indebtedness.

In this light, government has launched National urban livelihood Mission to use micro-finance as a tool to handle urban poverty.

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

Highlight the significance of the recently envisaged India-Middle East-Europe corridor for India's connectivity with the world, especially the West. Do you think, in recent times, transport and energy initiatives have taken precedence in India's foreign policy?

(15 marks, 250 words)

India - Middle East Europe Corridor
was recently announced on sidelines
of G-20 summit.

- Significance
of IMEC
- ① Rejuvenate the ancient Spice Route between India - Europe
 - ② Countering China's BRI
 - ③ Ensure secured supplies of oil.
 - ④ Provide bigger role for India in West Asia.
 - ⑤ Alternative to the choke point of Bab-el-Mandeb and Suez Canal.
 - ⑥ 40% faster delivery of goods $\Rightarrow$ reduce logistics cost.
 - ⑦ Boost India's export to West Asia and Europe.

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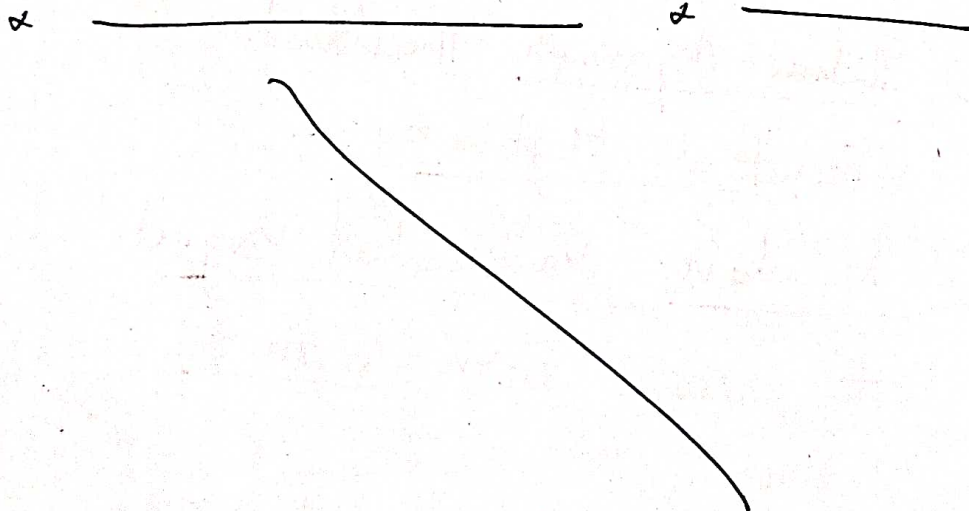
Transport and energy initiatives taking
center stage in foreign policy
is visible on many fronts:

- ① IMEC co-ordinator
- ② Chabahar port deal with Iran
- ③ Beginning of the INSTC
co-ordinator to connect with
Central Asia and Russia
- ④ Proposed Chennai - Vladivostok
Maritime Economic Corridor
- ⑤ India - Myanmar - Thailand
Trilateral Highway
- ⑥ Kaladan Multimodal Project
to connect with South East
Asia
- ⑦ BBIN to integrate
South Asia

⑧ Asia-Africa Growth Corridor
led by India and Japan.

This shows the growing role
of transport and energy corridors.

These are crucial for India's
economic rise, exports and target
of developed nation by 2047 as
well as strategic concerns to
contain China's influence via
its BR1.



20.

राजनीतिक रूप से विवादास्पद मुद्दों में हालिया वृद्धि के बावजूद, भारत-कनाडा द्विपक्षीय संबंध लोकतंत्र, बहुलवाद, अर्थिक जुड़ाव के विस्तार और लंबे समय से चले आ रहे लोगों से लोगों के संबंधों के साझा मूल्यों के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं। भारत-कनाडा संबंध के महत्वपूर्ण स्तंभों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत और कनाडा के मध्य सहयोग और सहभागिता के संभावित क्षेत्रों पर चर्चा करें।

(250 शब्द, 15 अंक)

Despite the recent rise in politically contentious issues, the India-Canada bilateral relationship has remained committed to shared values of democracy, pluralism, expanding economic engagement and long-standing people-to-people ties. Highlighting the significant pillars of the India-Canada relationship, discuss the potential areas of cooperation and collaboration between India and Canada.

(15 marks, 250 words)

India Canada relations received a major setback due to Canadian allegation of Indian involvement in Nijjar killing. India has repeatedly asked for evidence and offered to cooperate. But despite that India-Canada relations remain strong.

Significant pillars of India-Canada relations -

- ① Both are members of organisations like G-20 which promote economic co-operation.
- ② People to people ties: large Indian diaspora particularly from State of Punjab

is key pillar in h countries
strong ties.

③ Indian investment in Canada
and vice-versa of Canadian businesses
in India is a major pillar
of co-operation.

④ Co-operation also in Green
and Renewable energy. ~~For~~ Canada
part of International Solar Alliance

⑤ Co-operation for reform of
United Nation.

Potential areas of Co-operation

① Expansion of trade ties
as trade potential largely
unutilised

~~For~~ India - Canada FTA talks
ongoing.

- ③ Huge potential of FDI from Canada.
- ④ Technology transfers across sectors can be explored.
- ⑤ Indian growing defense exports can eye Canadian markets.
- ⑥ Co-operation in soft power elements like Yoga, ayurveda etc.
- ⑦ Canada can be a big market for Indian IT professionals.

Thus, there exists lot of scope to further widen Indian - Canada relations.
