



GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1247)

Name of Candidate	ARANYAK SAIKIA	Registration Number	41166
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Date	21/2/19
Center	ONLINE		

INDEX TABLE

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	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुरितका में सूचनाएं करना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुरितका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुरितका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi- 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. Mention the structure and functions of NITI Aayog. Also, comment on its contemporary relevance. (150 words) 10

नीति (NITI) आयोग की संरचना और प्रकार्यों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, इसकी समकालीन प्रासंगिकता पर भी टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The NITI Aayog is the government's premier think-tank

STRUCTURE OF NITI AAYOG

PM
(Chairperson)
Deputy Chairperson

Governing Council

Consists of the CMs of states, governors,
Lt-governors of Andaman & Nicobar
+
4 Cabinet Ministers nominated
by the Prime Minister

- It also has part-time members and outside experts
- The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for administrative affairs.

Functions

- (1) To foster cooperative and competitive ~~loop~~ federalism across the states.
- (2) To act as a think tank and a knowledge and innovation hub.
- (3) To set out a Vision Document, a 7-year Action Agenda and a 3-year action plan.
- (4) To monitor the schemes and suggest measures to improve performance.

Contemporary relevance

→ The Aayog is a step towards more decentralized approach to policymaking, with greater focus on outcomes. Its key indices on health, education and water are important.

→ However, it tends to lose the Centre's line and lack of financial powers is a ~~measure~~ major impediment.

2. Critically discuss the practice of setting up Fast Track Courts to reduce pendency of cases in the judiciary. (150 words) 10

न्यायालयों में लंबितवादों को कम करने के लिए फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट को स्थापित करने की कार्यप्रणाली की आलोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

Fast - Track Courts (FTCs) are ~~spee~~ courts set up to expeditiously discharge cases of urgent ~~tempor~~ or national importance. They are set up by the state governments with the consultation of the High Court.

Benefits

- Faster disposal of cases.
- Reduce pendency and burden on the judiciary.
- Deal with issues of grave concern like ~~the~~ child rape under the POCSO Act.
- Greater media attention is given to these courts. This brings greater transparency.

However, these FTCs ~~suppor~~ suffer from many problems -

- (1) High vacancy in judges appointment
- (2) Lack of adequate infrastructure
- (3) Most state governments cannot provide adequate funding.
- (4) Frequent ~~ad~~ stays lead to delays.
- (5) These courts follow the same judicial procedures, leading to slow disposal of cases.

Hence, ~~there~~ the way forward is to provide adequate funding to the FTCs (the Centre can pitch in here), fill up the vacancies and use technology to for better filling and administration of cases.

3. Highlight the challenges faced by lower judiciary in India and suggest measures for enhancing their productivity. (150 words) 10

भारत में निचली अदालतों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए और उनकी उत्पादकता को बढ़ाने हेतु उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

The lower judiciary consists of courts from the District judge and below. They are usually under the superintendence of the ~~the~~ respective state high courts (HCs)

Challenges faced

- (1) High vacancy in judges' posts.
- (2) Lack of adequate infrastructure
- (3) High pendency of cases due to
 - (a) Frequent stays
 - (b) Low number of judges
 - (c) Poor investigation by law enforcement agencies
 - (d) Increased litigation by citizens
- (4) Limited use of technology in assignment of cases and poor

Judicial administration

Measures for enhancing productivity

- (1) Setting up an All-India Judicial Services under Article 312 with good perks and salaries, recruited by a competitive examination.
 - (2) The Economic Survey has noted that filling up the existing posts can lead to 100% disposal of pending cases.
 - (3) ~~There~~ Digitization of court records and integrating all ~~the~~ courts with the National Judicial Data Grid.
 - (4) Building better infrastructure
 - (5) ~~Full~~ Full implementation of National Litigation Policy to ~~improve~~ reduce government litigation.
- These steps should improve the lower judiciary's functioning.

4. Assess the need to formalise the process of post-legislative scrutiny to improve the effectiveness of laws. (150 words) 10

कानूनों की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार के लिए विधि-निर्माण पश्चात् संवीक्षा की प्रक्रिया को औपचारिक बनाने की आवश्यकता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Post-legislative scrutiny is needed as -

- (1) governments tend to misuse laws, like the NIA Act, Income Tax Act.
- (2) Promises are hardly kept.
- (3) In many cases, the legislation tends to have the reverse effect,
eg- Licensing laws in industry introduced corruption.

This requires setting up a register that keeps a tab

on the effect of legislations

- Involvement public-stakeholder consultations
- Social audit
- Have a standing committee of Parliament.

5. Discuss the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in improving the effectiveness of e-governance in India. (150 words) 10

भारत में ई-गवर्नेंस की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार लाने में कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) की क्षमता की विवेचना कीजिए।

AI can be used in the following areas of e-governance.

→ To identify systemic cyber-security threats in critical information infrastructure.

→ To provide targeted subsidies based on actual needs of citizens after profiling their expenditure patterns.

→ Financial transactions can be analyzed to trace black money, laundered money and shell companies.

→ Blockchain, along with AI, can be used for PMJAY insurance programme to keep track of

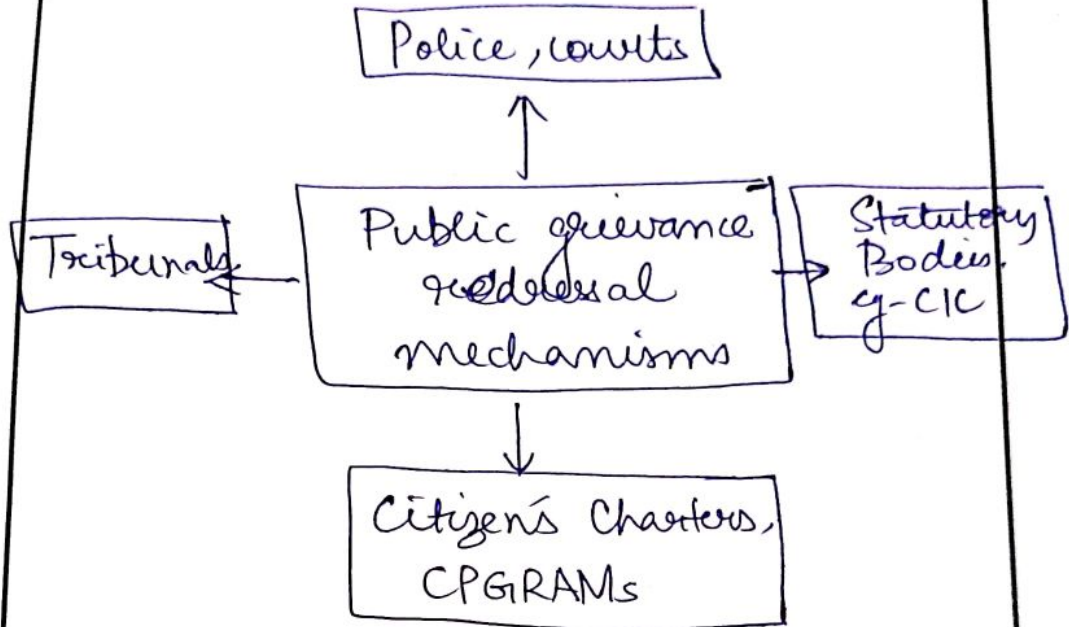
~~the~~ insurance needs and assess health of individuals.

→ AI can be used to map and respond to city-water distribution networks through Internet of Things.

→ Use AI's self-correction systems for grievance redressal.

The way forward is ~~for~~ to integrate these in NITI's AI strategy, while taking care of privacy concerns.

6. Despite various reforms in the public grievance redressal mechanisms, their effectiveness remain limited. Discuss. (150 words) 10
लोक शिकायत निवारण प्रणाली में विभिन्न सुधारों के बावजूद, उनकी प्रभावशीलता सीमित बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए।



Effectiveness remains limited due to a number of factors

- (1) Lack of proper training of officials
- (2) Lack of accountability.

A recent report revealed that officers are seldom punished for failure to provide information under RTI Act.

- (3) Lack of awareness among citizens and NGOs, civil society are not that pro-active.
- (4) Weak infrastructure and high vacancy.
eg- CIC has many vacancies, leading to pendency of cases.
- (5) Many bodies are only advisory and so-called "toothless tigers".
eg- NHRC.

The government, therefore, needs to take the following steps

- (1) Fill-up the vacancies, and give greater financial powers.
- (2) Raise awareness about the various systems available.
- (3) e-governance
- (4) Training of officials

The Sevottam Model can be followed

7. Explaining the factors that contribute to trafficking of women and children in India, highlight the steps taken in recent times to combat it. (150 words) 10

भारत में महिलाओं और बच्चों की तस्करी में योगदान देने वाले कारकों की व्याख्या करते हुए, इससे निपटने के लिए हाल के दिनों में उठाए गए कदमों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Trafficking of women and children has taken serious proportions in the country.

Factors contributing to trafficking

- (1) Poverty forces families to sell off their children for money.
- (2) Migration to other countries by vulnerable women. Sometimes they are forced into prostitution.
- (3) Lack of awareness → Many women are duped into believing they are being given jobs and then end up in such rackets.
- (4) Kidnappings and forced labour.
- (5) Low sex ratio in North-India.
— Brides are bought from tribal areas

Steps taken

(1) Constitutional steps — Articles 23, 24 ~~prevent~~ disallow forced labour and exploitation.

(2) Legislative measures —

- (a) Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act
- (b) Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act
- (c) Child Labour (Abolition) Act.

(3) Institutional measures

(a) Anti-Trafficking Cell opened in the government to monitor trafficking.

(b) Ujjwale homes opened for trafficked women.

(4) International measures

(a) Bilateral agreements signed with UAE.

(b) Discussions under Colombo Process

(c) India has ratified UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime.

The way forward is to ensure effective

Call us : 8468022022, 9019066066

Visit us : www.visionias.in

implementation of these steps.

Page 14 of 50

8. With Vector-Borne Diseases (VBDs) reaching epidemic proportions in India, highlight the factors that have led to their emergence. Also, suggest some measures for their effective control and management. (150 words) 10

भारत में रोगाणुवाहक-जनित रोग (VBDs) महामारी की तरह उभरकर सामने आये हैं, अतः उन कारकों को रेखांकित कीजिए जिनके कारण इनका उद्भव हुआ है। साथ ही, इनके प्रभावी नियंत्रण और प्रबंधन हेतु कुछ उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

Vector-Borne Diseases are those diseases that are carried by insects, birds, etc (the vector) and are infected to humans. The parasite or worm that causes the disease spends one part of its life-cycle in the vector eg - Malaria, Japanese Encephalitis, Filariasis, etc.

India ~~is~~ has seen a rise in VBD due to the following reasons -

- (1) Tropical country with high population & density.
- (2) People have close contact with many vectors, especially mosquitoes.
- (3) Rapid urbanization, but poor sanitation and cleanliness. This provides fertile breeding grounds.

(4) Poor hygiene standards and consumption of contaminated food and water.

Measures for effective control

→ Mass drug administration.
eg- ~~A~~ Quinine for ~~mosquito~~ malaria

→ Raising awareness ~~from~~ among the people.

→ Training the ASHAs and other community health workers.

→ Increasing surveillance

→ Increasing the local health infrastructure to deal with surge in patients.

→ Focussing on sanitation, hygiene and destruction of vector breeding grounds; using Gambusia fish.

→ Using mosquito nets at night.

Odisha's Da Man Initiative was lauded by WHO. Other states can follow suit.

Don't write anything this margin (इस अंतर में कुछ न लिखें)

9. After years of neglect, rapidly evolving regional strategic realities are now forcing India and Indonesia to coordinate their policies ever more closely. Discuss.

वर्षों की उपेक्षा के बाद, तेजी से विकसित हो रही क्षेत्रीय रणनीतिक वास्तविकताएं अब भारत और इंडोनेशिया को और अधिक घनिष्ठता से अपनी नीतियों को समन्वित करने के लिए बाध्य कर रही हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।
(150 words) 10

India - Indonesia share close historical relationship right from ancient ~~India~~ times (Svarnabhumi) to post-colonial times, especially during the 1955 Bandung Conference.

While the relationship initially declined, it is again back on the agenda due to evolving strategic realities -

- (1) Growing dominance of China in the Indo-Pacific.
- (2) Need to protect the Malacca Straits for oil and trade shipping.
- (3) Dealing with piracy and other maritime threats.

(4) Both India and Indonesia have a large Muslim population, yet they have lived harmoniously for years. But there is now a growing threat of radicalization.

(5) Indonesia can act as the gateway to ASEAN for India, while the former wants to tap the growing market of the latter.

(6) Both countries want to protect freedom of navigation on the oceans.

Thus, India-Indonesia cooperation has increased. This can be seen in the CORPAT military exercises, India voting for Indonesia in the UNSC and the latter agreeing to open up its service sector to India in a gradual manner.

10. Despite several attempts at resetting the ties, various barriers continue to be a cause of concern in the India-Nepal bilateral relations. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

संबंधों को पुनः स्थापित करने के कई प्रयामों के बावजूद, भारत-नेपाल द्विपक्षीय संबंधों में विभिन्न अवरोध निरंतर चिंता का कारण बने हुए हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

India - Nepal ties have reached a few obstacles in the past few years.

(1) India's support to the Madhesi agitations, crippling Nepal.

(2) Nepal's resentment at the 1950 Treaty which it views as severely restricting Nepal's foreign policy.

(3) Nepal's ~~gave~~ closer ties with China, especially in power and transport.

(4) Fallout of demonetization

(5) Failure of the SAARC Summit at ~~Kath~~ Kathmandu due to India's differences with Pakistan.

(6) ~~The~~ India's glorification of its relief operations during

the 2015 earthquake generated resentment in Nepal.

(7) Slow pace of infrastructure creation with just one Integrated Check Post (ICP) active at Raxaul-Beigunj.

The government, accordingly has taken steps to amend ~~its~~ and improve its ties with Nepal.

→ Nepal was included in the Ramayana tourist circuit.

→ Recently, the Arun III Hydroelectric power plant was opened with India's help.

→ The government is providing fertilizers to Nepal.

→ It also provides aid to prevent trafficking of Nepali girls.

These steps are expected to improve bilateral relations.

11. Delineate the differences between pressure groups and interest groups. Citing examples, elaborate on the ways in which pressure groups influence government decisions and policy making in India. (250 words) 15

दबाव समूहों और हित समूहों के मध्य अंतर का वर्णन कीजिए। उदाहरणों को उद्धृत करते हुए, उन तरीकों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए जिनके माध्यम से दबाव समूह भारत में सरकारी निर्णयों और नीति-निर्माण को प्रभावित करते हैं।

Pressure groups put pressure on the government and policy makers to change or implement certain policies. They do not contest elections or capture political power. Pressure group is a broad term and includes, within its fold, interest groups

↓
These groups represent the interests of their community, profession, culture, etc.

eg- FICCI is an interest group of the businesses

Pressure

How pressure groups influence policymaking

(1) Electoreering → The groups support a party or politician who ~~is~~ is supportive of their cause.

eg - Dalit groups will support a candidate from BSP as it is sympathetic to the Dalit cause.

(2) Lobbying → It involves trying to influence the policymakers directly by providing them incentives or persuading them through data.

eg - FICCI can lobby for greater tax incentives to businesses.

(3) Propagandizing → This involves trying to change public opinion, which ultimately forces policymakers to act.

eg - Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) campaigned for the RTI Act.

12. Highlighting the issues faced by the institutions of local self governance in India, suggest measures that can be taken to improve their effectiveness in the delivery of public goods and services at the grassroots level.

(250 words) 15

भारत में स्थानीय स्व-शासन की संस्थाओं द्वारा समाना की जा रही समस्याओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, जमीनी स्तर पर सार्वजनिक वस्तुओं और सेवाओं के वितरण की प्रभावशीलता में सुधार लाने हेतु किए जा सकने वाले उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Local self-governance in India consist of the Panchayats and Municipalities. They ~~are~~ have been introduced by the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments.

Issues faced

(1) Lack of effective devolution of powers by the states.

(2) Most of them are not able to raise adequate resources.

~~The~~ ~~is~~: Urban bodies derive only 10% of their resources from their own revenues (Economic Survey)

(3) Panchayats are hijacked by dominant village communities. Gram Sabhas have effectively no

role in formulating village plans. They also are not having any control over their village resources.

(4) Growth of parastatal bodies ~~are~~ usurping the powers of the local governments.

(5) In urban areas, the commissioner who is an IAS officer, has effective executive power. In rural areas, it is the DM.

(6) Absence of skilled and specialized personnel.

(7) ~~Deficient~~ Poor transparency and accountability with issues of corruption

Measures to improve effectiveness

(1) Making devolution of powers under the 11th, 12th Schedule mandatory.

- (2) Capacity building of panchayat members, especially women members through the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan.
- (3) ~~The~~ Setting up a Standing Committee of Legislature to deal with Local bodies.
- (4) Extending the PESA provisions to 5th, 6th schedule areas.
- (5) Mandatory social audits, the results are to be placed before the State Legislature.
- (6) Improving the finances of the ~~the~~ local bodies -
- Allowing them to borrow from the market.
 - Introduce Value Capture financing and municipal bonds
 - Monetize the Common Property Resources in villages.

The recommendations of the 2nd ARC can be followed in this

Don't write anything in margin (अन्य मार्ग में कुछ न लिखें)

13. The recent amendment to the Right to Information Act, 2005 will weaken the act and undermine the authority of Information Commissioners. Discuss. (250 words) 15

सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2005 में हालिया संशोधन इस अधिनियम को कमजोर बनाएगा और सूचना आयुक्तों के प्राधिकार को क्षीण करेगा। चर्चा कीजिए।

The RTI Act has proved to be one of the most successful transparency ~~reg~~ legislations in India.

However, the recent ~~act~~ amendments are a cause of worry -

- (1) It allows the Centre to decide the terms and tenure of the Information Commissioners (ICs). Earlier, they were accorded the status of the Election Commissioners.
- (2) The Centre can decide this for the State ICs too.

Implications

→ By ~~reduce~~ removing the

security of tenure, the ICs will lose their independence. They will not be able to rule against the government.

→ By allowing the Centre to decide the tenure of the State ICs, it will also go against federal principles.

Thus, these ~~argumen~~ amendments are likely to further weaken the Act that already faces many problems.

→ Vacancies in the ICs, leading to pendency of cases.

→ Officials not punished for failing to disclose information.

→ ~~to~~ Government records are not properly kept.

→ Information is repeatedly denied on grounds of privacy etc

→ Sw-moto disclosures under ~~Sec~~ Section 4 do not take place.

Thus, there is a need for pro-active vigilance on the part of the civil society to ensure that the Act is not weakened.

The recommendations of the 2nd ARC and Showie Committee need to be implemented, alongwith notification of the Whistleblower Protection Act to usher in Transparency in governance.

14. Highlight the process of delimitation in India. Also, throw light on the debates surrounding the delimitation exercise in India. (250 words) 15

भारत में परिसीमन की प्रक्रिया को रेखांकित कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में परिसीमन की प्रक्रिया को लेकर होने वाले वाद-विवादों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

Delimitation is the process of adjusting electoral constituencies ~~to~~ in response to changing populations.

It is done under Article 82 of the Constitution, after the enactment of a Delimitation Commission Act.

The Process in India

- (1) While the Constitution mandates a Commission ~~to~~ after every census, only 4 commissions have been set up till now.
- (2) The Commission is headed by a retired judge of the Supreme Court and also has the Election Commissioners.
- (3) Once the President notifies the orders in the official gazette, its orders cannot be challenged.

and carry the force of law.

- (A) The last Commission was held in 2002 after the 2001 Census. The next ~~to~~ ~~is~~ delimitation can be carried out only after 2026 as per the Constitutional Amendment.

Debates around the exercise

(1) Since only 4 Commissions have been held, there has been a mal-apportionment of constituencies due to rapidly changing populations.

(2) ~~It~~ India has one of the least number of MPs relative to its population. This leads to.

- (a) Strain on individual MPs
- (b) Poor representation of people's demands
- (c) Demand for smaller states

Counter view

(1) The freeze on the number of seats is required as the South Indian states would be marginalized.

(2) They had undertaken family planning exercises and will see their representation reduced in Parliament. It is as if they have been punished for population control measures.

Thus, the debate needs to be resolved after evolving a consensus among stakeholders.

~~The~~ A committee headed by the Chief Election Commission can be formed in this regard.

15. Self Help Groups (SHGs) are vehicles of rural development, which help in the upliftment of marginalized groups. Elucidate. Further, mention the constraints faced by SHGs and how they can be addressed. (250 words) 15

स्वयं सहायता समूह (SHGs) ग्रामीण विकास के वाहक हैं तथा ये हाशिए पर मौजूद समूहों के उत्थान में सहायता करते हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। साथ ही, SHGs द्वारा सामना की जा रही बाधाओं का उल्लेख कीजिए। इन बाधाओं को कैसे दूर किया जा सकता है।

SHGs are groups of women or
rural poor who

- pool their savings
- access formal credit
- start entrepreneurial activities.

Lizet Papad is an example of a
successful SHG

SHGs as vehicles of rural -
development

- (1) Empowerment of women and
marginalized groups by giving
access to funds and increasing
incomes.
- (2) Financial inclusion - They get
loans from formal sector.
- (3) Rural entrepreneurship through
the creation of new ventures.

- (4) Optimal allocation of the villages resources.
- (5) They become a platform for discussing women's issues like
— domestic violence, alcoholism, etc
- (6) Skilling of marginalized groups
- (7) Corporate-SHG linkage
— gives an assured market to the SHG
— Corporates benefit from high-quality - low cost inputs

But SHGs ^{face} many constraints

- (1) Banks are unwilling to lend fearing default.
- (2) Women do not acquire adequate skills. They do not get access to ~~get~~ good technology.
- (3) Most villagers are not aware of the resources that can be utilized.

(H) Income-generating activities are small in size. They cannot lift them out of poverty, nor can they benefit from economies of scale.

How they can be addressed

- Strengthen Micro-finance (MFI) through group lending similar to the Gramen Bank.
- Strengthen Corporate-SHG linkage using adequate tax incentives to corporates.
- NABARD needs to expand its SHG-Bank linkage programme.
- Local Panchayats need to be trained in forming SHGs, and forming awareness.

The DAY - National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) is the right step.

16. With construction of toilets being only one part of the solution for a clean India, it is time that the Swachh Bharat Mission puts more emphasis on the other facets as well. Discuss. (250 words) 15

शौचालयों का निर्माण स्वच्छ भारत के समाधान का केवल एक भाग है, अतः अब समय आ गया है कि स्वच्छ भारत मिशन अन्य पहलुओं पर भी अधिक बल दे। चर्चा कीजिए।

The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) is India's flagship programme to improve sanitation in the country.

The ~~while~~ SBM has been successful in increasing toilet coverage

— Almost 93% households have toilets now.

— 96% of those having toilets use them.

In the last 5 years, there has been excessive focus on the construction of toilets.

However, for Clean India, we also need to focus on other aspects

(i) Solid and Liquid Waste

Management, especially since most of the sewage is dumped directly into water bodies

(2) Ending the scourge of manual scavenging -

(3) Ensuring adequate water is available for the toilets.

(4) Bringing behavioural and demand-side changes in toilet use by making people understand the health benefits.

(5) Moving towards an ODF++ framework where women in the open is taken into account.

(6) ~~Int~~ Providing access to clean cooking fuels at home

(7) Clean India ~~is~~ also involves getting rid of air and water pollution.

Way Forward

→ ~~To~~ Implement the Fecal Sludge Management Policy.

→ Incentivise greater private sector participation that goes beyond the Swachh Bharat Kosh.

→ ~~Ensure~~ Continue to expand Ujjwala coverage and achieve convergence with other schemes like MGNREGA to ~~improve~~ ~~feas~~ build sanitation infrastructure.

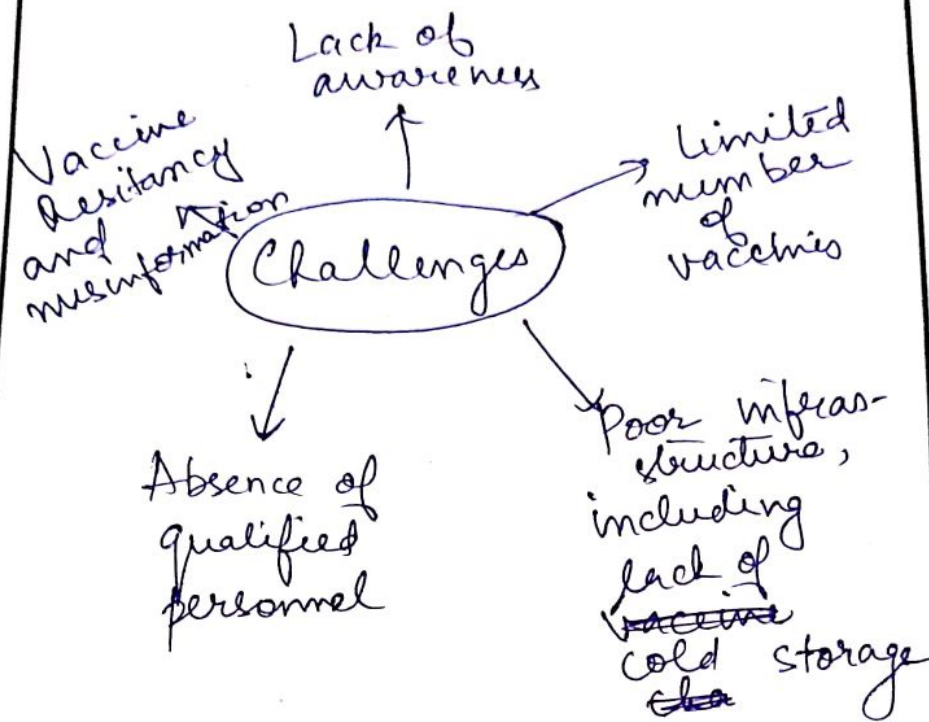
→ Moving towards a holistic approach towards cleanliness.

17. Highlight the salient features of Mission Indradhanush. What are the challenges that the mission is facing in its implementation? Suggest measures to address these challenges for progressing towards full immunization coverage. (250 words) 15

मिशन इन्द्रधनुष की प्रमुख विशेषताओं पर प्रकाश डालिए। इसके कार्यान्वयन में मिशन को किन चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है? संपूर्ण टीकाकरण प्राप्ति की दिशा में प्रगति करने हेतु इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Mission Indradhanush (MI)
aims to ~~achieve~~ provide immunization
coverage to 2-year olds and
mothers who have been
left out of the universal
immunization programme.

The vaccination coverage is
for 7 diseases, like polio,
tetanus, etc.



Measures to address these challenges

- Developing adequate infrastructure.
The e-VIN project needs to be expanded
- Take help of private sector and NGOs like Gates Foundation
- Raise awareness through

ASHA, ANMs, etc.

- ~~Don't~~ Follow WHO protocols on Adverse Effects Following Immunization. (AEFI)
- Challenge the High Court ruling that made parental consent mandatory for giving vaccination.
- Increase Research and Development (R&D) to produce cheap ~~vac~~ and effective vaccines.
- Deal with new Vaccine Derived Polio issues.

The National Health Mission (NHM) ~~needs~~ and Health-Wellness Centres need to be strengthened for ensuring vaccines as effective preventive care.

18. Assess the importance of skilling in light of changing economic and demographic structure in India. In this regard, how far has the Skill India Mission succeeded in its mandate. (250 words) 15

भारत में बदलती आर्थिक और जनसांख्यिकीय संरचना के आलोक में कौशल सृजन के महत्व का मूल्यांकन कीजिए। इस संबंध में, स्किल इंडिया मिशन अपने अधिदेश में कितना सफल रहा है।

~~Spelling~~ Lack of adequate skills is one of the prime issues facing our youth today.

Spilling importance

→ ~~The~~ A skilled workforce is employable. This can reduce the growing unemployment rate in India at currently 6%. (NSSO PLFS 2018)

→ As India needs to reap its demographic dividend, it needs a skilled workforce that can be absorbed in the newer jobs.

→ Automation and AI are threatening existing jobs. Upskilling

and re-skilling has become crucial.

→ A skilled workforce is also a source of innovation. This can give a boost to our Start-Up India programme.

Given this importance, the Skill India Mission was launched. How it has been successful in -

- (1) Setting up multiple skilling centres across India.
- (2) Convergence with sector skill councils.
- (3) Making people understand the importance of skilling.
- (4) The ~~states~~ PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana has trained many youth and given them

placements.

(5) Nai Manzil and MANAS have skilled Minority Youth.

(6) STRIVE and SANKALP have improved skilling institutions.

However, as the Sharda Prasad Committee notes, there are certain problems

(1) Most skill centres opened by private individuals do not have good teachers, ~~to~~ have poor infrastructure and curricula.

(2) The Sector Skill Councils are stuck in nepotism and corruption.

(3) Lack of mobility between the vocational and formal educational streams.

Thus, certain improvements are called for.

19. What according to you are the reasons that motivated India to create a dedicated Indo-Pacific division in the MEA recently? Also, highlight the challenges for India in the Indo-Pacific region. (250 words) 15

आपके अनुसार वे कौन-से कारण हैं जिन्होंने हाल ही में भारत को MEA के तहत एक समर्पित भारत-प्रशांत प्रभाग गृहित करने के लिए प्रेरित किया? साथ ही, भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में भारत के समक्ष चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

The Indo-Pacific has gained prominence for India in the last few years.

The region comprises the Indian Ocean and the Pacific

Reasons for its importance

→ To counter China's rise in the region through its BRI and String of Pearls

→ To protect the Sea Lanes of Communication from piracy, etc. especially the straits of Malacca and Gulf of Aden.

- To forge closer links with ASEAN and bolster Act East Policy.
- To strengthen its islands and use them increase naval presence in the region.
- ~~Use~~ Use the Quad - Japan, USA, Australia and India - to ensure freedom of navigation in the Indo Pacific
- To establish closer linkages with Gulf and East Africa, and increase investments in the region.

Accordingly, India has used various initiatives to boost cooperation like ~~the~~ IORA, Project Mausam, Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation, Asia-Africa Growth Corridor etc.

Challenges

- As US recedes, ~~the~~ it becomes difficult to counter China.
- While US views the region as a theatre of conflict, India sees it as a region for peace and connectivity.
- Many countries within the ASEAN are divided on how to engage with India and China.
- Australia has strong ties with China. Even countries like Sri Lanka are getting closer to China.
- India does not have the resources to go beyond the Indian Ocean Region.

20. For SCO to become a successful regional grouping, it has to overcome bilateral differences between its members and their respective geopolitical calculations. Comment. Also, discuss the role that SCO can play in enhancing India's interest in the Eurasian region. (250 words) 15

SCO को एक सफल क्षेत्रीय समूह बनने हेतु, अपने सदस्यों के मध्य के द्विपक्षीय मतभेदों और उनके संबंधित भू-राजनीतिक अपेक्षाओं से उबरना होगा। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, यूरेशियाई क्षेत्र में भारत के हितों को बढ़ाने में SCO द्वारा निभाई जा सकने वाली भूमिका की भी विवेचना कीजिए।

SCO is a grouping of 8 countries for security, economic and political cooperation. Noted members are China, India, Russia and Pakistan.

While the SCO has the potential to be successful, there are a number of bilateral differences

(1) India - Pakistan conflict and the latter's use of state-sponsored terrorism.

(2) India - China - Border disputes, support to Pakistan, BRI affecting India's sovereignty. Further, both ~~countries~~ countries

want to establish dominance in
the Indo-Pacific

(3) China-Russia — Russia wants
to reduce China's hegemony
in the ~~the~~ Central Asia, with the
help of India

(4) Pakistan-Russia — The two
countries have been enemies during
the cold war. Recently, their
ties have been improving.

These bilateral differences must
be overcome ~~to~~ for SCO to
become successful.

Role of SCO in enhancing India's interests in Eurasia

(1) India can use the platform
for negotiations with ~~to~~ Eurasian
countries like Kazakhstan.
for access to —

(a) Uranium, (b) Oil, (c) Markets.

(2) It can give a boost to the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC), and the Chabahar Port in Iran.

(3) The RATS structure for counter-~~anti~~ terrorism can be leveraged to deal with ISIS recruits coming and going between India and Eurasia.

(4) The Military exercises can increase defence cooperation in the region.

Thus, India needs to leverage the SCO to further its objectives in ~~the~~ Eurasia.