निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time allowed: Three Hours

DTVF/25 (D-A)–M– **GSM (M)-2522**

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

Name: **Rupam Asosa**

Mobile Number *(as registered on DLA)*: _____

Medium (English/Hindi): **English**

Reg. Number: **D KBG – 6 850.**

Center & Date: **Karol Bagh 16/8/25.**

UPSC Roll No. *(If allotted)*: _____

प्रश्न-पत्र के लिये विशिष्ट अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों का उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं तथा हिन्दी और अंग्रेज़ी दोनों में छपे हैं।

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न के अंक उसके सामने दिये गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहियें जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिये। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिये।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर-पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिये।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting questions:
There are TWENTY questions printed both in HINDI and ENGLISH.
All the questions are compulsory.
The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it.
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 a medium other than the authorized one.
Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

केवल मूल्यांकनकर्त्ता द्वारा भरा जाए (To be filled by Evaluator only)

Question Number	Marks	Question Number	Marks
1.		11.	
2.		12.	
3.		13.	
4.		14.	
5.		15.	
6.		16.	
7.		17.	
8.		18.	
9.		19.	
10.		20.	
Grand Total (सकल योग)			

मूल्यांकनकर्त्ता (हस्ताक्षर)
Evaluator (Signature)

पुनरीक्षणकर्त्ता (हस्ताक्षर)
Reviewer (Signature)

Feedback

1. Context Proficiency (संदर्भ दक्षता)

2. Introduction Proficiency (परिचय दक्षता)

3. Content Proficiency (विषय-वस्तु दक्षता)

4. Language/Flow (भाषा/प्रवाह)

5. Conclusion Proficiency (निष्कर्ष दक्षता)

6. Presentation Proficiency (प्रस्तुति दक्षता)

1. "संवैधानिक नैतिकता लोकतांत्रिक समाज में एक साथ नियंत्रण और प्रोत्साहन दोनों का कार्य करती है।" भारत में हालिया न्यायिक व्याख्याओं के संदर्भ में इस कथन की समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिये। (150 शब्द) 10

"Constitutional morality acts as both a restraint and an enabler in a democratic society". Critically examine this statement in the context of recent judicial interpretations in India. (150 words) 10

Constitutional morality refers to adherence to values of equality, liberty, justice, fraternity and more as enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

As a Restraint

→ Limits power of State and the risk of majoritarianism in a democracy, that may undermine rights of individual & especially minorities.

→ Navtej Singh Johar Case — SC decriminalised homosexuality, emphasing that popular morality can not override constitutional morality

→ Sabrimala Case — court put an end to discriminatory practices against women with respect to temple entry.

3

As an Enabler.

→ It empowers vulnerable sections and individuals to ensure opportunity for development, dignity and justice.

→ Joseph Shine Case — Adultery was decriminalised — (equality & ~~justice~~ & dignity)

→ Shayara Bano Case — Tripple Talaq (Talaq-e-Biddat) was declared unconstitutional (Constitutional morality over ~~religious freedom~~) ⌐discriminatory⌐

In a heterogeneous society like India, constitutional morality acts as both a safeguard & a guiding light to better our society & legislations in line with modern humanistic, developmental & equitable principles.
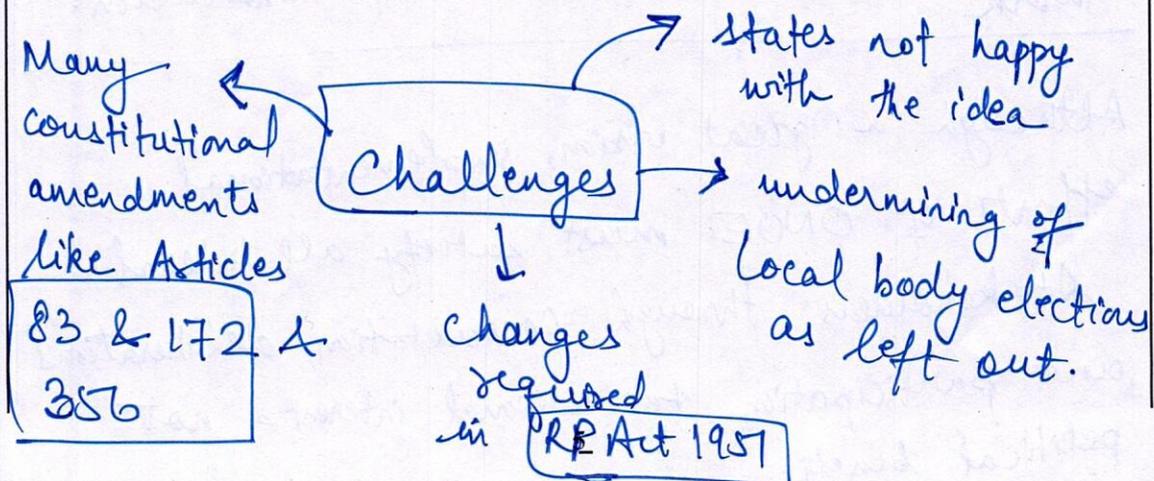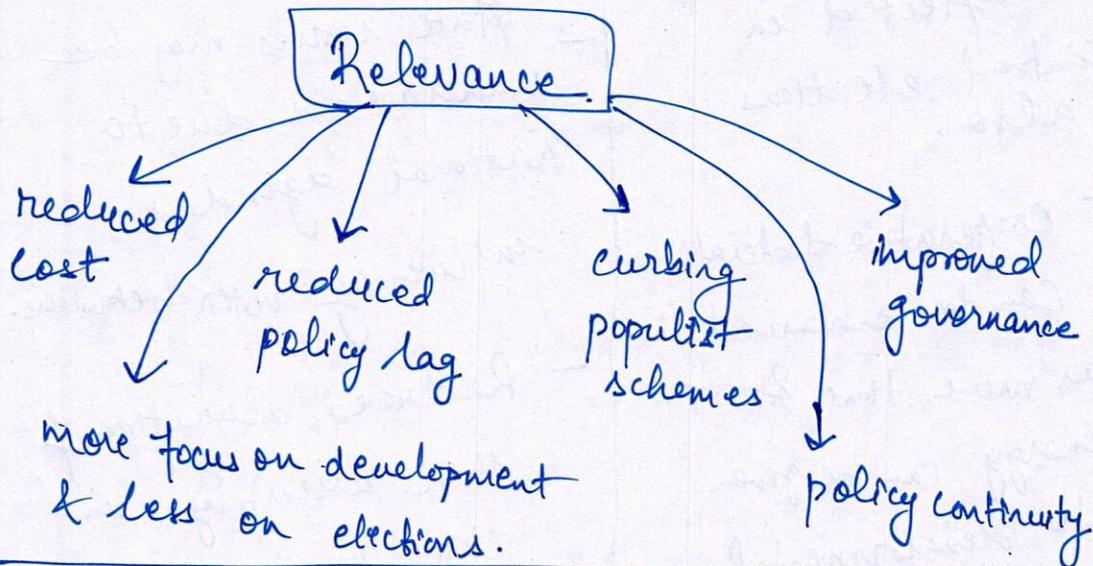
4

2. भारत में एक साथ चुनाव कराने की प्रासंगिकता और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिये। क्या यह संघवाद को सुदृढ़ करेगा या कमज़ोर करेगा ? (150 शब्द) 10

Discuss the relevance and challenges of holding simultaneous elections in India. Would it strengthen federalism or undermine it? (150 words) 10

Simultaneous elections, also called as One Nation One Election seeks to synchronise Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections to reduce financial costs, policy lags due to frequent MCC imposition & administrative disruption.
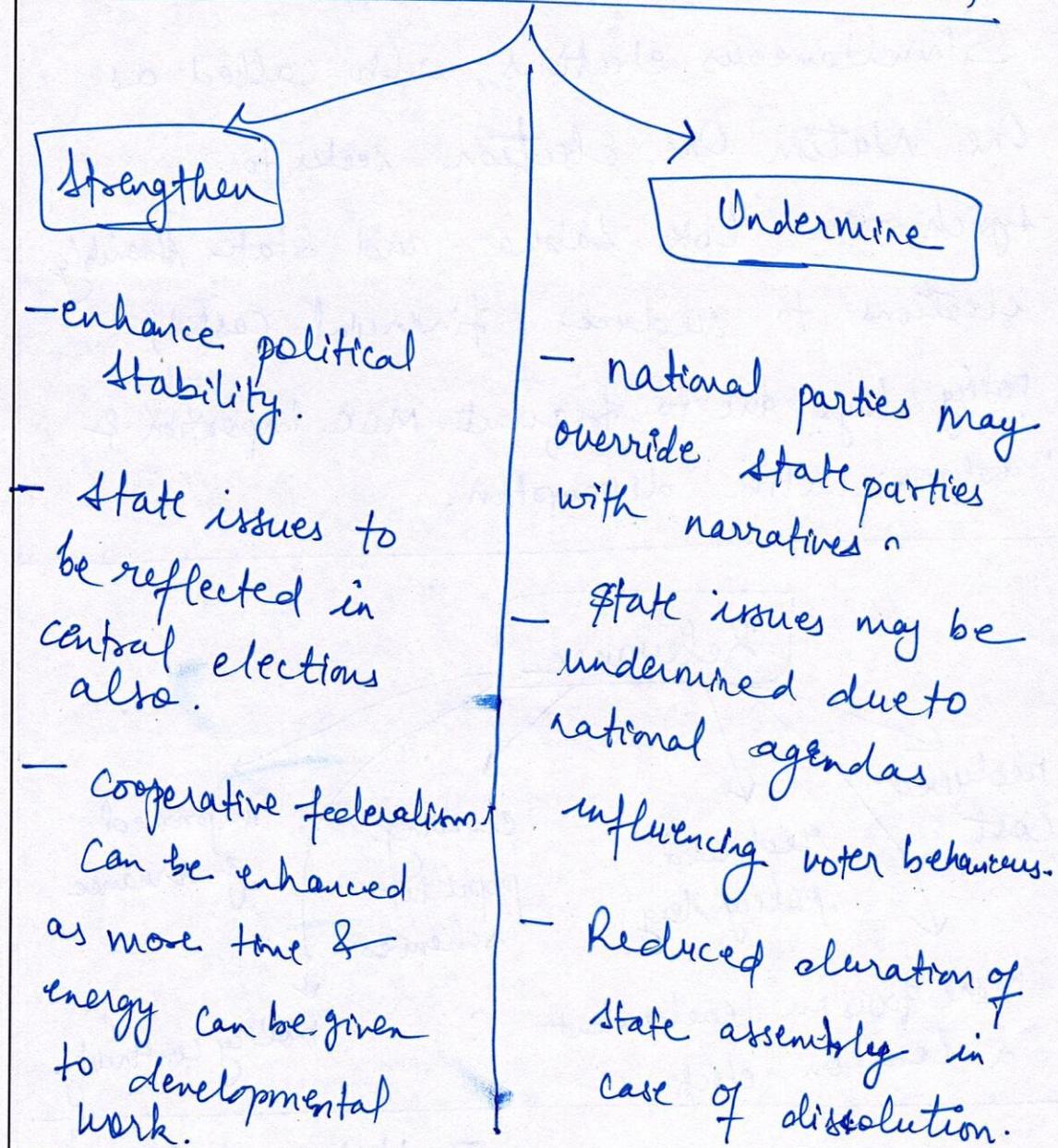
Relevance

reduced cost

reduced policy lag

curbing populist schemes

improved governance

more focus on development & less on elections.

policy continuity

Many constitutional amendments like Articles 83 & 172 & 356

Challenges

changes required in RP Act 1951

States not happy with the idea

undermining of Local body elections as left out.

Simultaneous Elections & Federalism

Strengthen

- enhance political stability.

- State issues to be reflected in central elections also.

- Cooperative federalism can be enhanced as more time & energy can be given to developmental work.

Undermine

- national parties may override state parties with narratives.

- State issues may be undermined due to national agendas influencing voter behaviours.

- Reduced duration of state assembly in case of dissolution.

Although a great vision, implementational efforts of ONOE must satisfy all federal stakeholders through consultation, deliberations and participation for national interest & not political benefit.

3. भारत में अधिकरणों की भूमिका का विस्तार हुआ है, किंतु उनकी स्वतंत्रता और प्रभावशीलता को लेकर चिंताएँ बनी हुई हैं। हलिया न्यायिक और विधायी विकासों के संदर्भ में वर्तमान अधिकरण प्रणाली का समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिये।

(150 शब्द) 10

The role of tribunals in India has expanded but concerns about their independence and effectiveness persist. Critically evaluate the current tribunal system in light of recent judicial and legislative developments. (150 words) 10

Tribunals are quasi-judicial institutions added as the provisions of u/A 323A and 323B by the 42nd constitutional amendment act, 1976 for fields like taxation, administration, environment and more.

Role of tribunals have expanded with LPG reforms & neo-liberal policies, specified nature of the cases it undertakes (eg: Green Tribunal for Environmental cases) and easing judiciary load.

The Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021 vested greater concerns to tribunals.

Tribunals are not bound by procedures of BNS & BNSS, making them uniquely inclined to PoNJ.

2

Challenges to Independence & Efficiency

→ Abolition & merger of various tribunals has led to reduced specificity and case overload.

→ Chandra Kumar Case — SC mentioned appeal to High Court available, reducing the purpose of tribunals as it cannot function as a binding verdict.

→ Unfulfilled vacancies, infrastructure lags, technical nature of cases & unsuitable appointees further reduced efficiency.

Therefore, there is a need to check & oversee effectiveness of tribunals, using modern technology like e-Tribunals and AI.
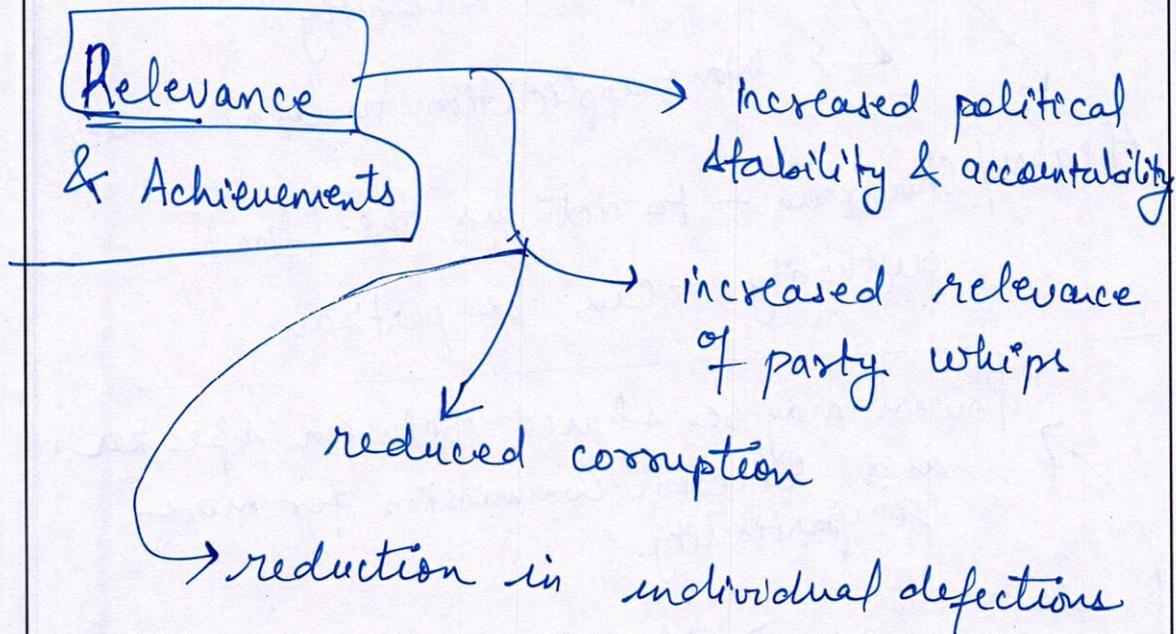
8

4. दलबदल की बढ़ती घटनाओं और राजनीतिक अस्थिरता को देखते हुए, क्या आपको लगता है कि संविधान की दसवीं अनुसूची पर पुनर्विचार आवश्यक है? दलबदल विरोधी कानून को सशक्त बनाने हेतु सुधारों का सुझाव दीजिये। (150 शब्द) 10

In light of increasing defections and political instability, do you think the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution needs a relook? Suggest reforms for strengthening anti-defection law. (150 words) 10

10th Schedule, inserted by 52nd Constitutional amendment seeks to curb political defections and horse trading (corrupt practices) in legislators (Parliament & State Assemblies)
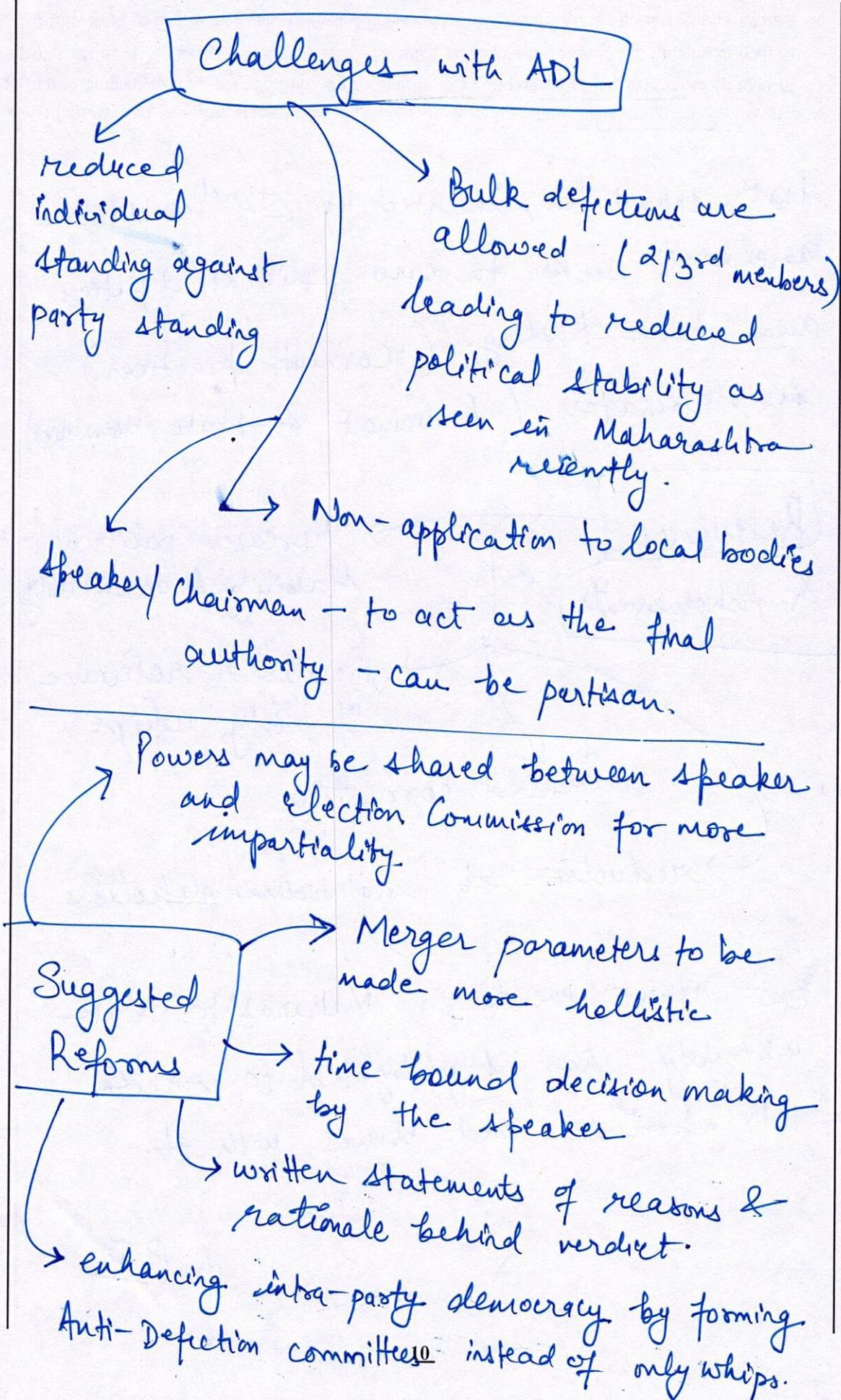
Relevance & Achievements

→ Increased political stability & accountability

→ increased relevance of party whips

reduced corruption

→ reduction in individual defections

But recent events in Maharashtra state assembly has highlighted to relook 10th schedule and issues with it.

P TO

Challenges with ADL

reduced individual standing against party standing

Bulk defections are allowed (2/3rd members) leading to reduced political stability as seen in Maharashtra recently.

→ Non-application to local bodies

Speaker/Chairman — to act as the final authority — can be partisan.

Powers may be shared between speaker and election Commission for more impartiality.

Suggested Reforms

→ Merger parameters to be made more hellistic

→ time bound decision making by the speaker

→ written statements of reasons & rationale behind verdict.

→ enhancing intra-party democracy by forming Anti-Defection committee₁₀ instead of only whips.

5. "सुशासन की सफलता नागरिक-केंद्रित प्रशासन में निहित है।" इस संदर्भ में सेवोत्तम मॉडल के महत्त्व की समीक्षा कीजिये। (150 शब्द) 10
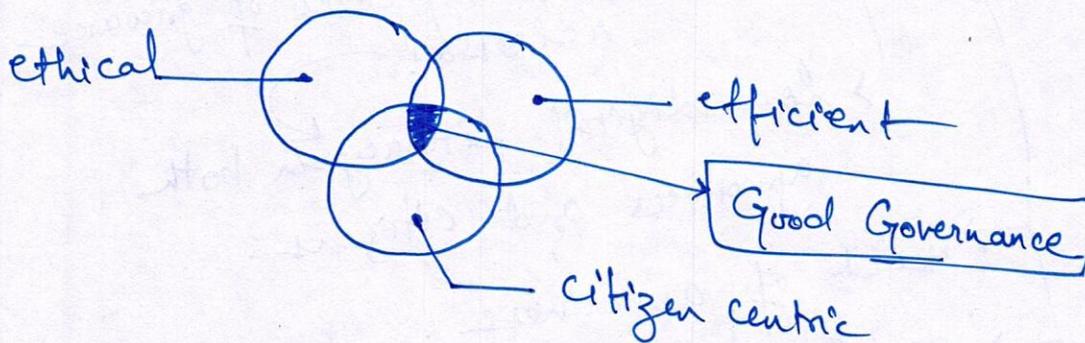
"The success of good governance lies in citizen-centric administration." Examine the significance of the Sevottam model in this context. (150 words) 10
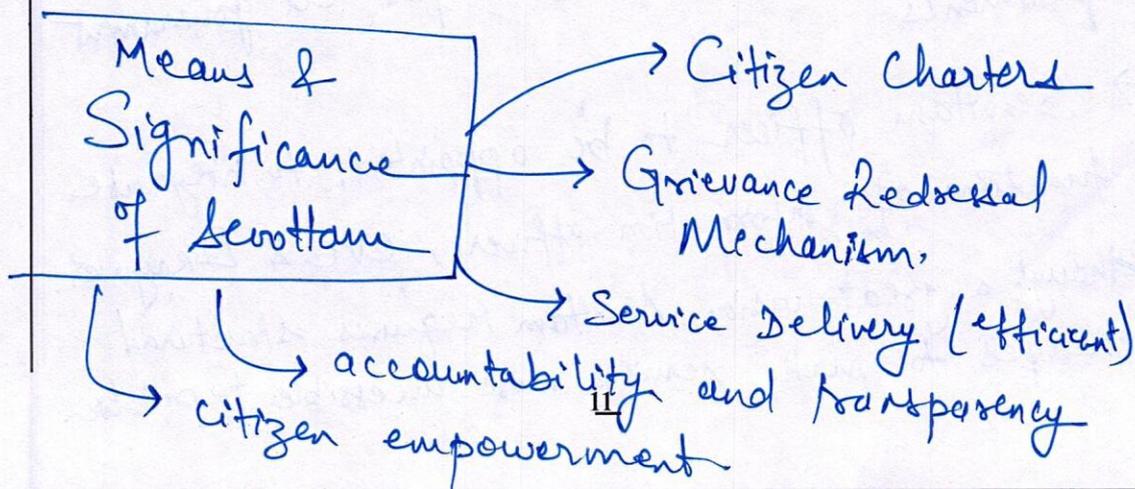
Good governance in a democracy requires administration to be ethical, efficient, responsive and considerate to needs and grievances of citizens.

ethical ———
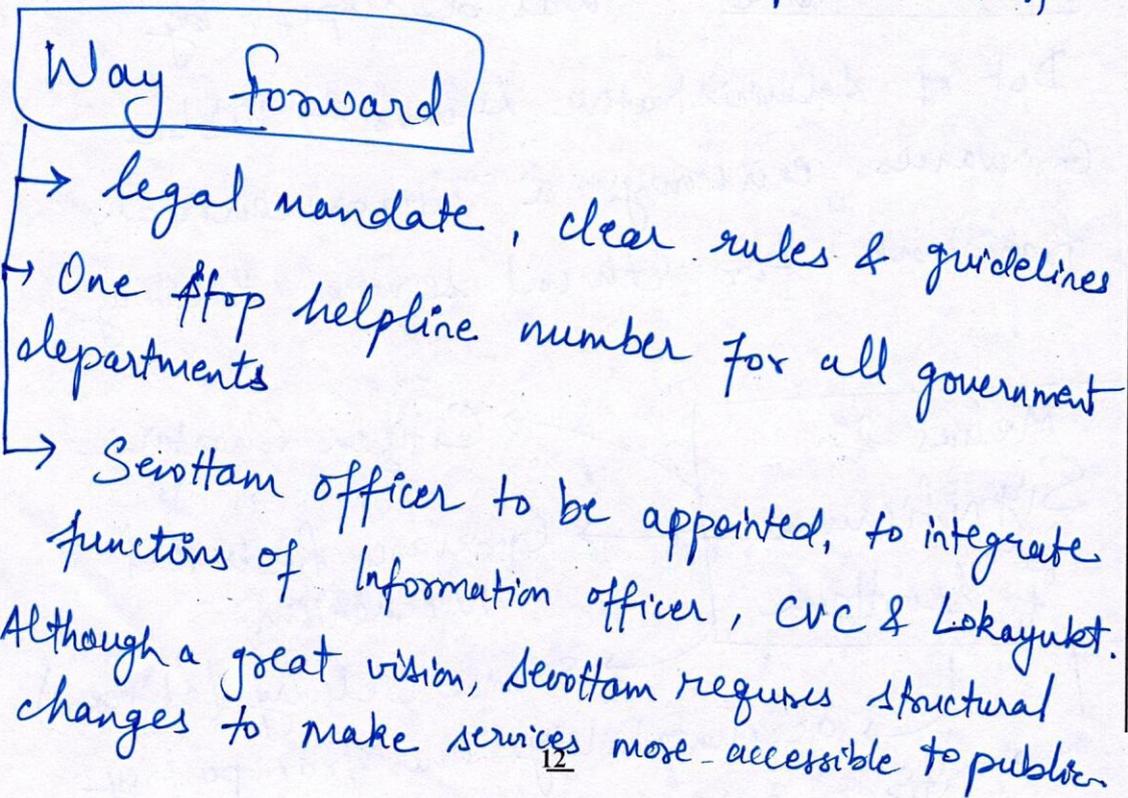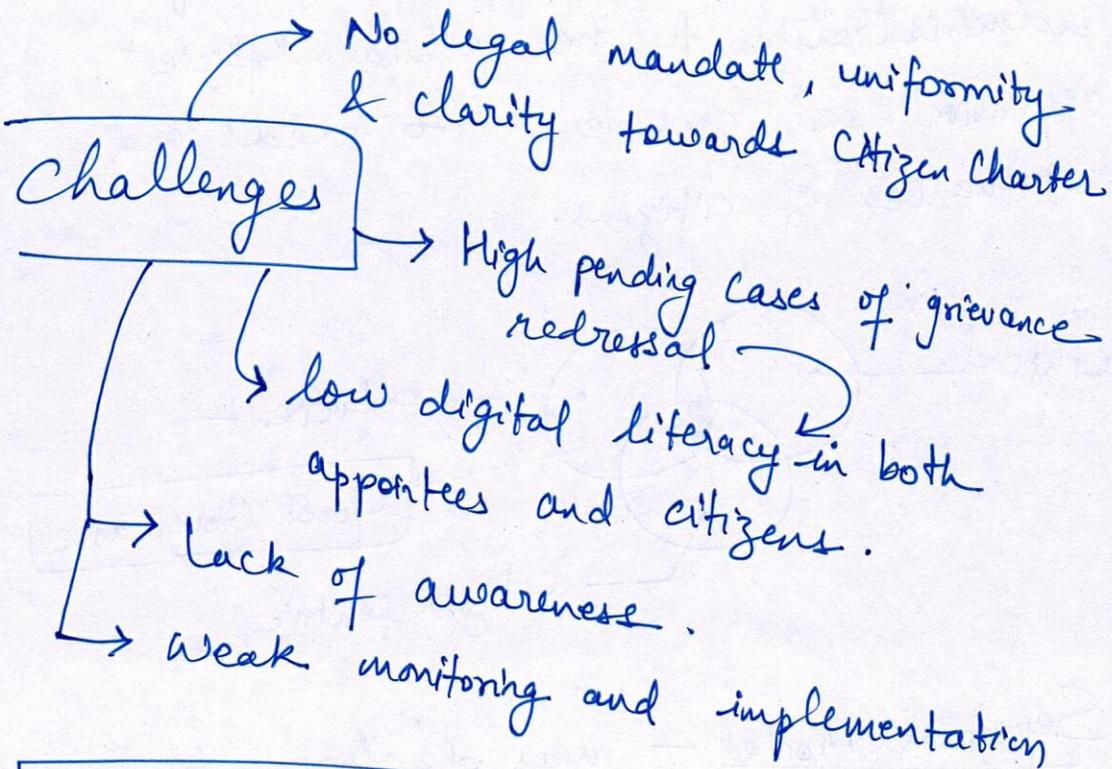
efficient

Good Governance

citizen centric

Sevottam Model — was developed by Dpt of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances envisioning a citizen centric framework for ethical service delivery.

Means & Significance of Sevottam

→ Citizen Charters

→ Grievance Redressal Mechanism,

→ Service Delivery (efficient)

→ accountability and transparency

→ citizen empowerment

11

Sevottam requires internal shift in working model, attitude towards service and working culture towards citizens.

Challenges

→ No legal mandate, uniformity & clarity towards Citizen Charter

→ High pending cases of grievance redressal

→ low digital literacy in both appointees and citizens.

→ Lack of awareness.

→ Weak monitoring and implementation

Way forward

→ legal mandate, clear rules & guidelines

→ One stop helpline number for all government departments

→ Sevottam officer to be appointed, to integrate functions of Information officer, CVC & Lokayukt.

Although a great vision, Sevottam requires structural changes to make services more accessible to public.

6. स्वयं सहायता समूह (SHG) भारत में सहभागी शासन में किस प्रकार योगदान करते हैं? (150 शब्द) 10

How do Self-Help Groups (SHGs) contribute to participatory governance in India?

(150 words) 10

SHGs are informal, small and voluntary associations, often led by women and farmers who come together and pool resources, business, credit and risk to share profit and hence ensuring development of all.

SHGs act as a bridge between government vision & policy implementations and on ground development of marginal groups.

Contribution to Participatory Governance

⤷ empowering communities through collectively engage with local institutions like Panchayat, Micro finance institutions & schemes like MGNREGA, Drone Didi scheme, Lakhpati Didi scheme etc.

↳ SHG ensure last mile identification and benefit access to marginal people.

↳ It gives a unified identity and voice to it's members — helps in attaining benefits, credits & recognition.

↳ Act as tools of social accountability in schemes like PDS, procurement at MSP etc.

Challenges → digital divide [rural-urban / male-female]
→ financial constraints
→ politicisation.
↳ elites within SHGs to corner benefits.

Way forward → More cooperation with Panchayats for service delivery
→ legal / constitutional recognition.
→ integration of SHG as an extended arm of Cooperatives (97th amendment act)
↳ CIBIL scores for SHGs to ensure credibility of credit & to ensure NPA within limit.

Thus, SHGs are an important tool for people driven participation

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7. "भारतीय शासन में टेक्नोक्रेसी (प्रौद्योगिकी-संचालित शासन) के उदय से नीति-निर्माण का अराजनीतिकरण होने का खतरा है।" लोकतांत्रिक शासन में इसकी भूमिका की समालोचनात्मक समीक्षा कीजिये। (150 शब्द) 10

"The rise of technocracy in Indian governance risks depoliticizing policymaking". Critically examine its role in democratic governance. (150 words) 10

Technocracy refers to the increased role of technological experts (technocrats) in governance.

Technocracy as witnessed in GST, Aadhar linkage, KYC, Digital land Records, India-Atack, UPI and more has placed India's Digital Public Infrastructure on to the pedestal of one of the world's best.

However, it has increased concerns of

Depoliticizing of Policymaking

→ Promotes technical efficiency over democratic deliberations.

→ Digital and technical literacy and expertise lags far behind the speed of

'adoption of tech. in governance.

→ Adoption of tech by educated, elites, big businesses.

Lagging behind by traditional businesses, rural areas,

Creating a disbalance & increased digital and rich poor divide.

→ Privacy Concerns — over data collection & usage.

Significance → increased accountability
→ in line with 21st century changing world technology
→ efficiency & transparency
→ reduced corruption.
→ enhanced grievance redressal.

Way forward → technology + democratic accountability
→ Inclusive & participatory technocracy — private sector, SHGs, cooperatives,
→ digital literacy right from school.
→ Proper Implementation of DPDP Act & IT Rules

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8. PARAKH मूल्यांकन असमानताओं का समाधान करने के साथ समग्र शिक्षा को किस प्रकार बढ़ावा देता है ? इसके कार्यान्वयन से संबंधित चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिये। (150 शब्द) 10

How does PARAKH address assessment disparities and promote holistic education? Discuss the challenges associated with its implementation. (150 words) 10

PARAKH is a significant initiative by government of India, in line with the New Education policy 2020 to enhance education by shifting away from rote learning.

Parakh Addressing Assessment Disparities.

→ online access to standardised assessment
→ Various state boards to reform their assessment strategies in line with Parakh.
  ↳ by capacity building of teachers.

Parakh Promoting Hollistic Education

→ Availability in mother tongue, english & hindi.
→ Practical applications & vocational training to supplement in classroom study.

↳ Application based study — not hindered in times like COVID or in situation of unavailability of access to formal arenas.

Challenges in Implementation

→ → 3 language formula debate.
→ Infrastructure gaps,
→ Digital illiteracy.

Students   parents   teachers.

→ Education is a concurrent list subject

State boards vs CBSE vs International board leading to confrontational federalism

Way forward.

→ Cooperative federalism — Stakeholder deliberation
↳ Capacity building — of teachers & students
  ↳ computer, robotics & AI labs.

Parakh therefore has the potential to transform education in India but its [18] implementation is the key.

9. लघुपक्षवाद क्या है ? हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में चीन के आक्रामक रवैये का मुकाबला करने में क्वाड और स्क्वाड जैसे लघुपक्षीय समूहों की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिये। (150 शब्द) 10

What is Minilateralism? Examine the role of minilateral groupings such as the Quad and the Squad in countering China's assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific region. (150 words) 10

Minilateralism refers to economic, cultural, or/and strategic cooperation between a small number of states. with converging ideologies and benefits.

The Indo-Pacific region (East Coast of Africa to west coast of USA) has in the last few decades become the concern of all world major powers due to supply routes (trade & oil), & increasing assertiveness of China. QUAD & SQUAD are significant minilateral institutions for the same
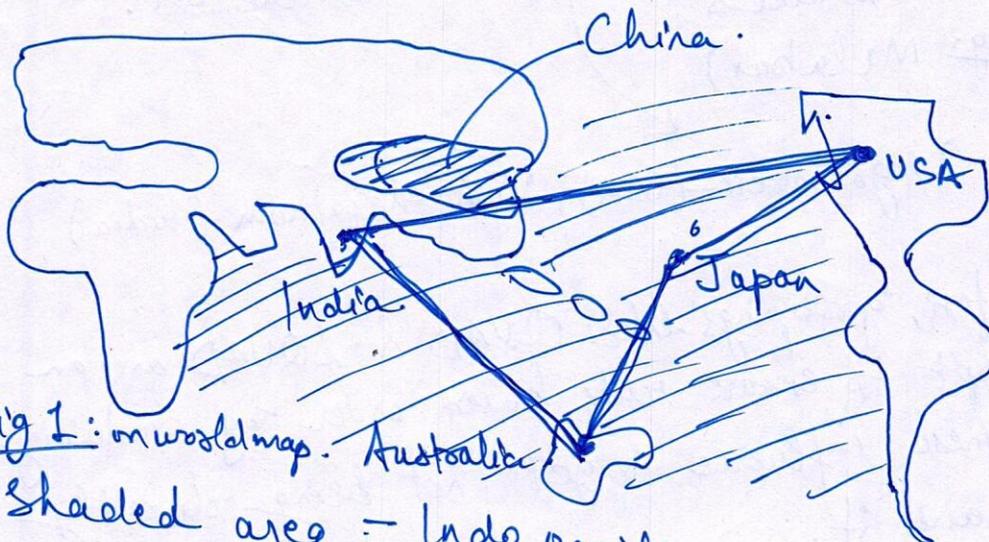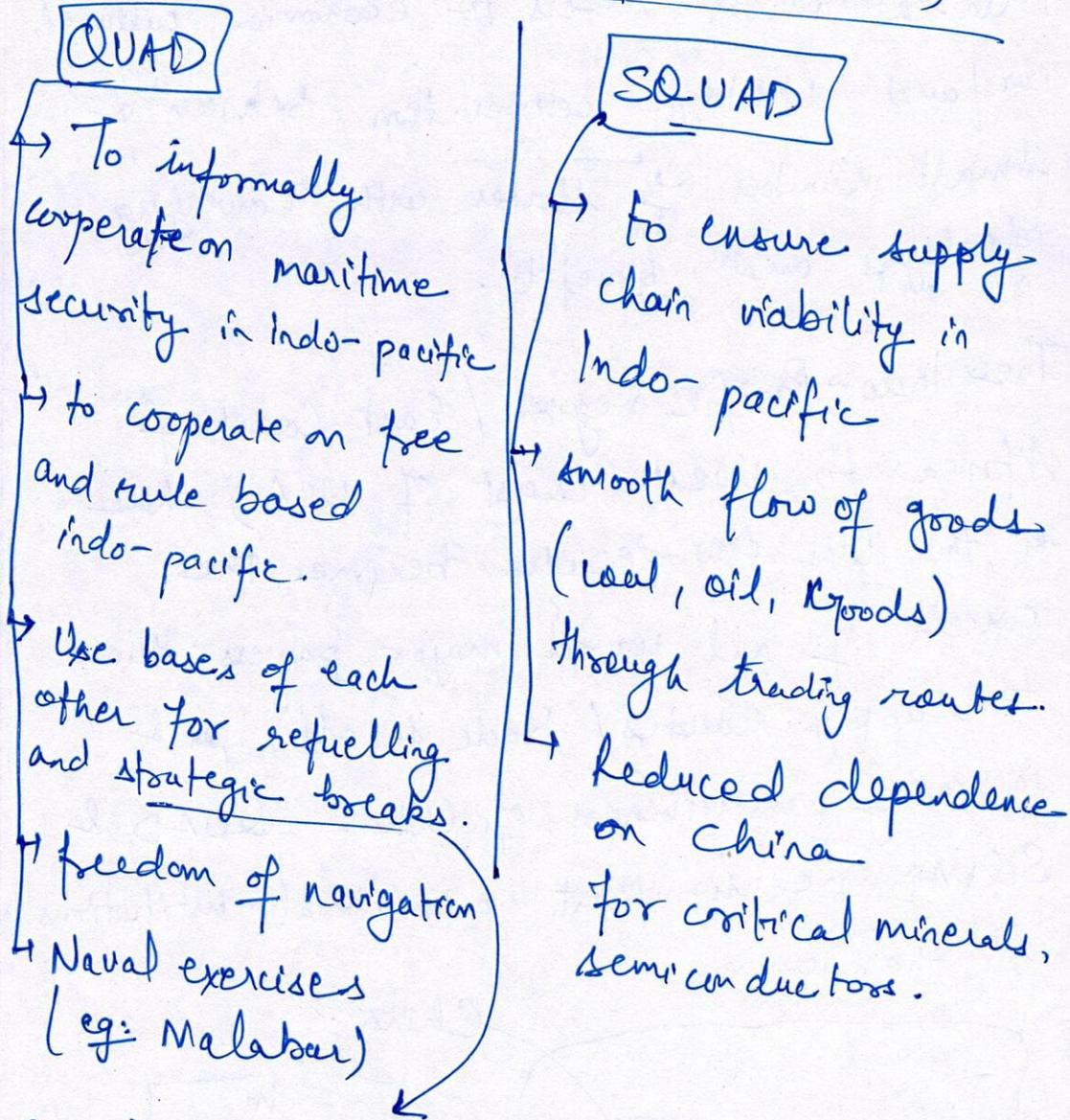

Fig 1 : on world map. Australia
Shaded area — Indo pacific
Connected lines — QUAD countries.

Role of QUAD (India - Japan - Australia) — USA

and SQUAD (India - Japan - Australia)

QUAD	SQUAD
→ To informally cooperate on maritime security in Indo-pacific	→ to ensure supply chain viability in Indo-pacific
→ to cooperate on free and rule based indo-pacific.	→ smooth flow of goods (coal, oil, Kgoods) through trading routes.
→ Use bases of each other for refuelling and strategic breaks.	→ Reduced dependence on China for critical minerals, semiconductors.
→ freedom of navigation	
→ Naval exercises (eg: Malabar)	

eg: Diego Garcia (USA), Vishakhapatnam (India)

Therefore, groupings like QUAD & SQUAD are an attempt to ensure rule based order by containing chinese influence & yet not being directly against it.

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10. भारत की विदेश नीति में तेज़ी से "पोस्ट-वेस्टर्न" वैश्विक व्यवस्था का अनुसरण किया जा रहा है। इस प्रवृत्ति की समालोचनात्मक समीक्षा कीजिये तथा भारत की बहुपक्षीय सहभागिता पर इसके रणनीतिक परिणामों की व्याख्या कीजिये। (150 शब्द) 10

India's foreign policy is increasingly navigating a "post-Western" global order. Critically examine this trend and its strategic consequences for India's multilateral engagement. (150 words) 10

India's foreign policy is increasingly navigating a post-Western, multilateral world order with many centres of global influence and not just one (unilateralism - USA) or two (bilateralism - USA & Russia) (of cold war).
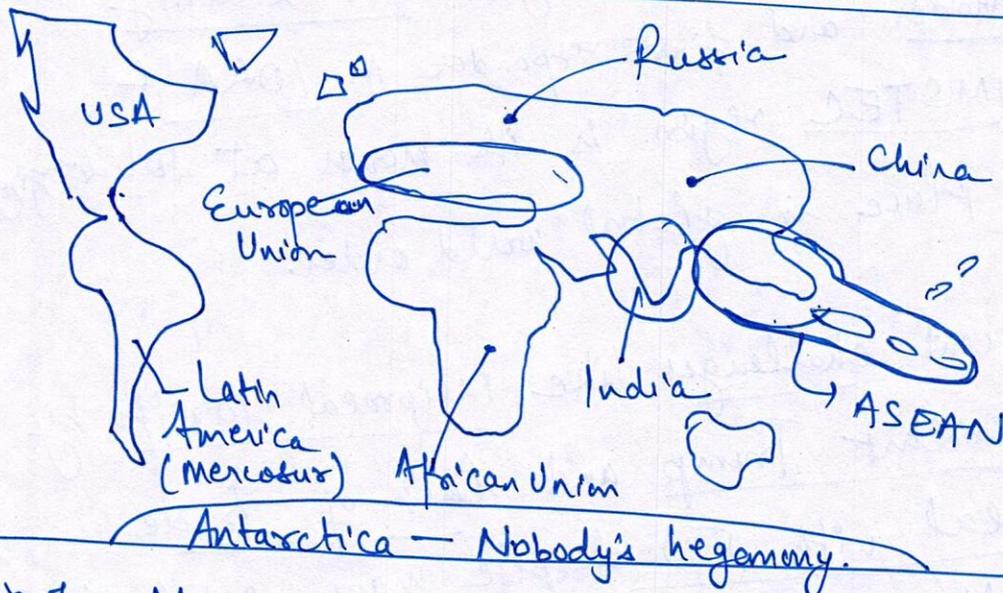

Antarctica — Nobody's hegemony.

Fig 1: Many centres of multilateral world.
(on world map) order

~~white~~ India's is balancing a ties with centres of world trade and military powers ♥ like USA, Russia, EU, G20, & groupings QUAD

On the other hand, it is leveraging it's position as a significant leader of global south by enhancing ties with BRICS, IBSA, G77, ASEAN and more.

India's push for UNSC permanent membership, voicing of concerns of global south in WTO, UNGA as well as being a net security provider and first responder in IORA & BIMSTEC region. is it's moves at solidifying a place in global world order.

Recent challenges like Reciprocal Tariffs by President Trump and lack of trade deal with EU despite many rounds of talks display some impediments.

India's long stance of neutrality [NAM] has helped us come so far, but India must manoeuver it's moves in a way that assures India's rise while also not risking ideological conflicts with other significant players.
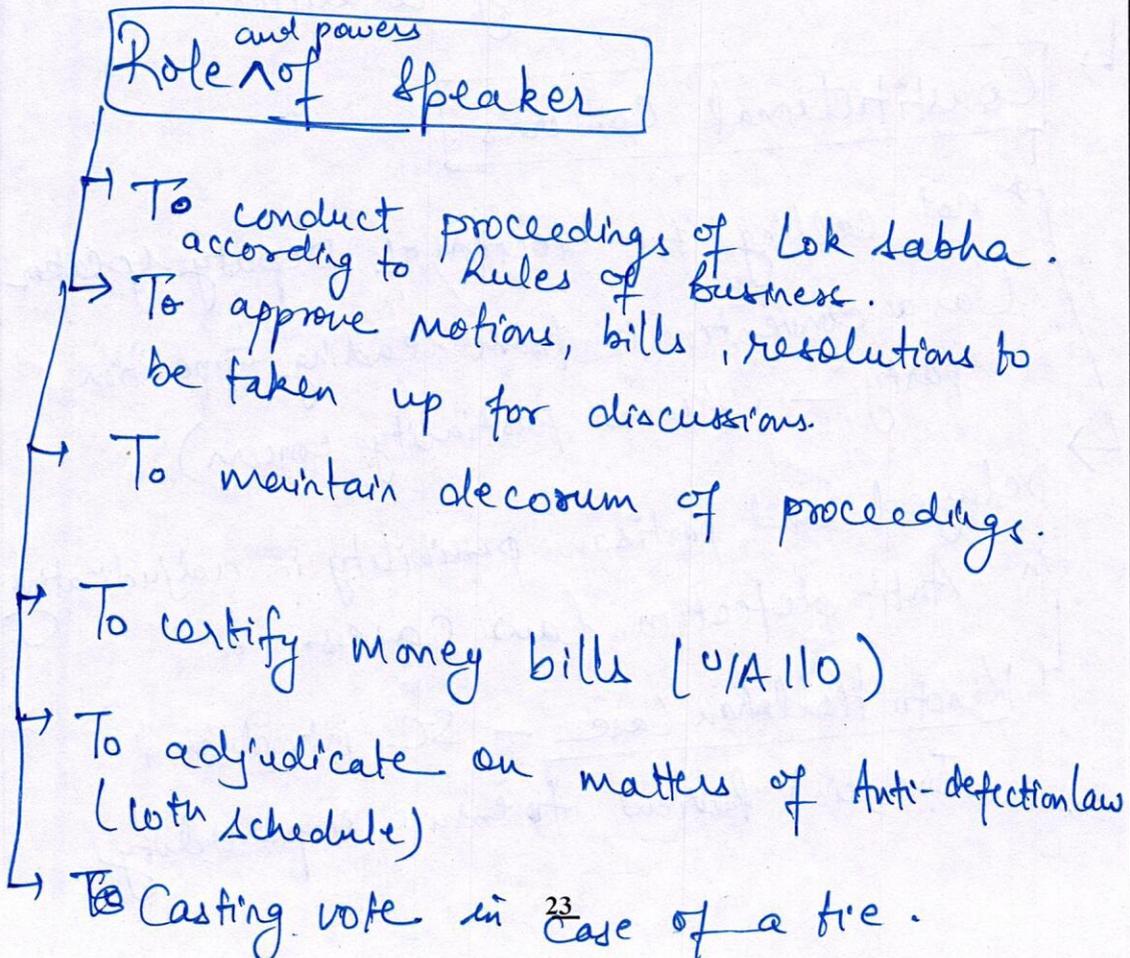
22

11. "लोकसभा अध्यक्ष/स्पीकर संसदीय कार्यवाहियों की सत्यनिष्ठा बनाए रखने में महत्त्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं, लेकिन बढ़ते राजनीतिकरण ने इस पद की निष्पक्षता पर प्रश्न खड़े कर दिये हैं।" भारतीय संसदीय प्रणाली में लोकसभा अध्यक्ष की भूमिका, अधिकारों और चुनौतियों की समालोचनात्मक समीक्षा कीजिये।　(250 शब्द) 15

"The Speaker plays a vital role in upholding the integrity of parliamentary proceedings, but increasing politicization has raised questions about the impartiality of the office." Critically examine the role, powers and challenges faced by the Speaker in the Indian parliamentary system.　(250 words) 15

The Speaker of Lok Sabha (Article 93) acts as the Presiding Officer of the house and is the most important constitutional Post (along with Chairman of Rajya Sabha) to ensure smooth, impartial and constitutional functioning of legislature arm of the state.

Role and powers of Speaker

↳ To conduct proceedings of Lok Sabha according to Rules of business.

↳ To approve motions, bills, resolutions to be taken up for discussions.

↳ To maintain decorum of proceedings.

↳ To certify money bills (U/A 110)

↳ To adjudicate on matters of Anti-defection law (10th schedule)

↳ To Casting vote in case of a tie.

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Concerns & Challenges faced by Speaker

→ **Concerns of Opposition**

    → reduced impartiality — showing partisan behaviour.

    ↙ politicisation of post of speaker.

    → increased adjournment against raising matters in parliament.

    → reduced speaking time to opposition. & more to ruling co-alition.

Constitutional concerns.

    → not calling for election of Deputy speaker (as a convention is from leading opposition party — hence partiality concern)

    → Delayed and partisan possibility in adjudicating in Anti-defection law cases.

    ↳ Kihoto Hollohan Case — SC introduced Judicial Review to ensure impartiality

↳ Using of Money Bills (u/A110) controversially

↳ concern regarding passing of Aadhar Act via money bill route.

↳ a possible move to bypass legislative scrutiny.

Way forward. → Mandatory resigning from political party for speaker can be ~~discuss~~ considered like in UK. to be strictly non-partisan.

→ Timely election of Deputy speaker

→ Time limits for cases of Anti-defection.

→ "Opposition Day" - like features like in UK where speakers dedicates a day for raising concerns of opposition.

↳ Including Election Commission along with speaker to decide on ADL cases.

Therefore challenges of politicisation should be addressed through structural reforms and by enhancing democratic accountability to ensure smooth functioning of democracy.

12. 42वें संशोधन के माध्यम से प्रस्तावना में "समाजवादी" और "पंथनिरपेक्ष" शब्दों को शामिल करने से संवैधानिक नैतिकता और वैचारिक पहचान पर स्थायी बहस छिड़ गई। इन परिवर्तनों के ऐतिहासिक संदर्भ और समकालीन प्रासंगिकता का परीक्षण कीजिये।

(250 शब्द) 15

The insertion of "Socialist" and "Secular" into the Preamble through the 42nd Amendment sparked enduring debates on constitutional morality and ideological identity. Examine the historical context and contemporary relevance of these additions.

(250 words) 15

The insertion of the words 'socialist' & 'secular' in Preamble through 42nd 42nd amendment act during the emergency reflected a debate over ideological identify as Objective Resolution that which is the inspirational source of constitution does did not explicitly mention the words.

Historical Context

↳ Debates in Constituent Assembly over the words socialist & secular led to it's non-inclusion due to difference of western meanings & Indian meaning

Socialism	West	India
	Complete nationalisation of resources	democratic socialism, mixed economy, welfarism

Secularism	West	India
	complete distance from religion. (-ve socialism)	equal closeness with all religions. State will support all religions. (+ve socialism)

→ Implicit secularism — under freedom of religion (Art. 25, 26, 27, 28) & non-discrimination [A14] [A15]

┌─────────────────────────────────────┐
│ Debate on Constitutional Morality on │
│ Inclusion of the words.   │
└─────────────────────────────────────┘

┌──────────┐
│ Socialism │ → LPG reforms led to
└──────────┘   neo-liberal shift
              ↳ mandate towards nationalisation
                of resources & welfarism,
                disincentivizing entrepreneurship.

↳ ┌────────────┐
  │ Secularism. │ → explicit mention of the
  └────────────┘   word may lead to

PTO →

ideological concerns of majoritarianism
v/s Minoritarianism.

due to excess benefits to minority
or absolute distancing from religion
leading to existential concerns by of minority.

Contemporary Relevance

Socialism
~~Secularism~~ → India's mixed model economy
and neo-liberal reforms has indeed
helped India to further it's welfare
motives due to increased money through
taxes.

eg:- All time high allocation to
welfare schemes like MGNREGA,
PM Kaushal Vikas.

→ Secularism → SC in SR Bommai Case
declared secularism as basic features of
the constitution.

Explicit mention of the word therefore will not mean
an ideological shift but stronger commitment to
these values, if based on constitutional
morality

13. भारत में केंद्रीय अन्वेषण ब्यूरो (CBI) के वैधानिक आधार, अधिकार क्षेत्र और कार्यों की चर्चा कीजिये। इसकी स्वायत्तता तथा प्रभावशीलता से संबंधित चुनौतियों का समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिये। (250 शब्द) 15

Discuss the statutory basis, jurisdiction, and functions of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in India. Critically analyze the challenges to its autonomy and effectiveness. (250 words) 15

CBI was established as India's premier anti-corruption and investigating agency on the recommendations of <u>Santhanam Committee</u> as a wing of Delhi Police under <u>Delhi police Special Establishment Act</u>

Jurisdiction & functions

→ To investigate cases of corruption. [Prevention of Corruption Act]

→ To act as investigation authority for cases referred by central & ~~police~~ state governments.

→ To act as Indian representative to Inter-pol

↳ To develop into a world class, efficient and ~~can~~ organisation using best practices.

Challenges to It's Autonomy

→ CBI often is used as the last resort and hence has to deal with malpractices of police and other agencies with regards to evidence collection and more.

[eg:] Mishandling of crime scene & evidences by inexperienced police in Arushi Talvar Murder Case

→ Often termed as a 'Caged parrot' it is [accused of being] subjected to the will of political authorities in both taking actions & inactions against powerful people

→ Opposition has accused ruling government to use CBI to it's advantage by targetting opposition leaders.

→ Concerns of autonomous functioning also highlight as ruling government may have access to all data as CBI falls under ~~Dept of~~ Ministry of Personnel

→ <u>Sec 6 of DSPE Act</u> → requiring consent of State governments, unless directed by a court order.

Way forward.

→ Statutory mandates to CBI explicitly (eg: CBI Act)

→ Better coordination with State police to work in cohession and not coercion.

→ Giving more autonomy + accountability to CBI.

Therefore, credibility of CBI must be ensured by reforming it's clauses in line with contemporary concerns.

14. भारत में केंद्र और राज्यों के बीच राजकोषीय असंतुलन (Fiscal Imbalance) के कारणों तथा परिणामों पर चर्चा कीजिये। वस्तु एवं सेवा कर (GST) के लागू होने से राज्यों की वित्तीय स्वायत्तता किस प्रकार प्रभावित हुई है? (250 शब्द) 15

Discuss the causes and consequences of fiscal imbalance between the Centre and the states in India. How has the introduction of GST impacted the financial autonomy of states? (250 words) 15

Introduction of GST through 101st Constitutional Amendment Act was a significant reform in India's fiscal structure, aiming to better state's position and ease for citizens.

However, concerns of fiscal imbalance still persists between centre & states.

Causes of Imbalance

→ High tax revenue for centre rather than states.

eg: Agri land is non taxable in state list

→ Performance based grants — empowering more to already well performing states & not to ones in need (eg: Bihar)

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→ Cess & Surcharges — to not be shared with states.

→ Cap on borrowing of states to 3% of GSDP but no such cap for centre.

Cons

→ Centrally Sponsered Schemes — add load to state expenditure (40%) on schemes launched by centre (and not states)

Consequences

→ demand for more borrowing

↙ Fiscal imbalances between states

→ Conflictual federalism

between states

between centre & states

↳ Use of loopholes such as Off-budget-borrowing by states.
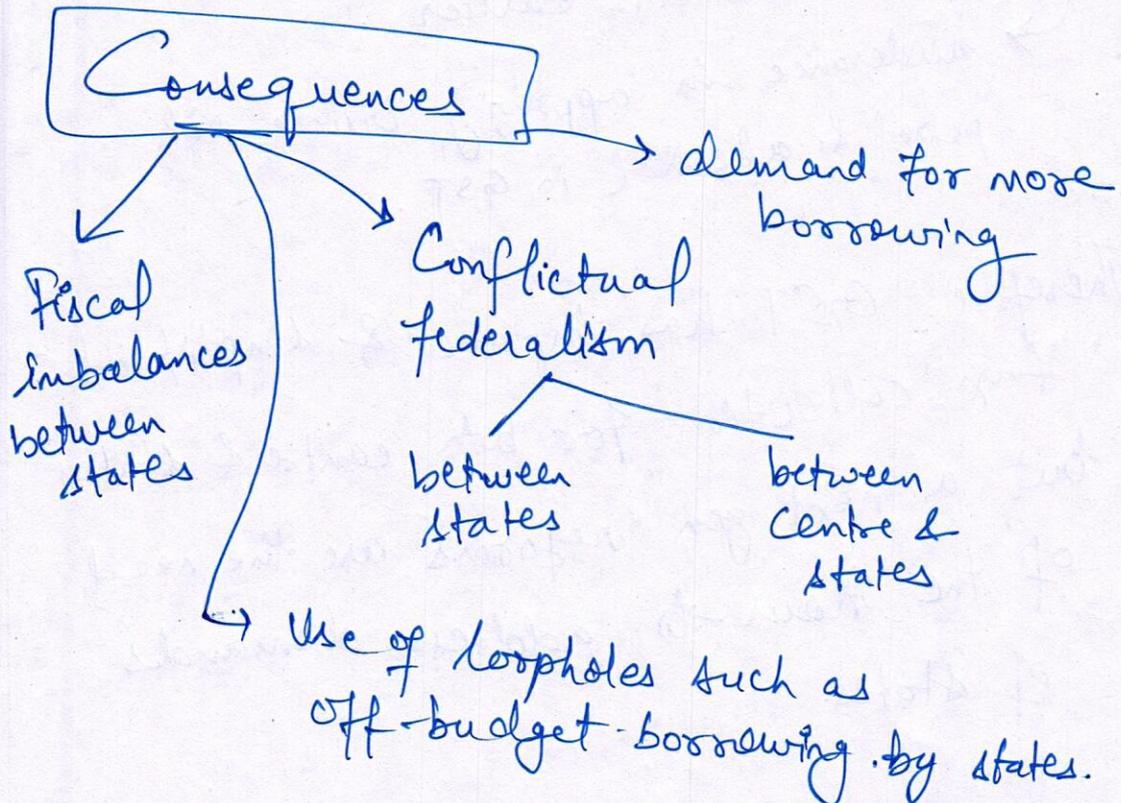
GST's impact on financial autonomy

- GST has integrated India's indirect tax into a uniform tax (One nation one tax)

→ Increased collection of revenue.

→ Safeguard by GST compensation in initial years by central govt

But → reduced autonomy to tax. like VAT earlier.

→ hinderance in approving crude oil, petrol & alcohol in GST.

Therefore, GST has improved & simplified tax collection for both centre & states but a next gen reforms are the need of the hour to address demands of states.

15. "'सरकार' से 'शासन' की ओर परिवर्तन ने अभिकर्त्ताओं का जटिल नेटवर्क तो बनाया है, लेकिन जरूरी नहीं कि जवाबदेही भी सुनिश्चित हुई हो।" इस कथन का भारत के संदर्भ में समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिये। (250 शब्द) 15

"The shift from 'government' to 'governance' has created a complex network of actors, but not necessarily accountability." Critically evaluate this statement in the Indian context.

(250 words) 15

PM Modi's call for "Maximum Governance & Minimum Government" has highlighted government's push towards rolling back of state from various arenas like economy activities (privatisation), Liberalisation (FDI automatic route) and digital governance (single window) to be more efficient. ~~to too~~

It has created a complex network of actors like :

→ Various Regulators - like SEBI, TRAI, RBI, PFRDA, IRDA.

→ Various Online Portals - like RTI, MYGOV.in. for ease of governance

and citizen participation.

- Non-state civil actors (private & NGOs).
  - Passport Seva Kendra operated by TCS
  - GSTIN operated by Infosys.

However there have been concerns about accountability

→ RTI is overpowered through rejection of information stating Official Secret Acts.

→ Lack of awareness { by employees in service

  by citizens.

→ Many portals often reducing accountability due to lack of centralisation

↳ lack of public participation in governance.

↳ (eg.) development of rural political elites reduces public participation in local policies via Gram Sabha.

Way forward

↳ Digital literacy — to ensure participation

↳ improved coordination b/w private sector & govt

↳ Single body or ministry of regulation under which various regulators can function (open to debate)

therefore, governance will be people centric and accountable only if there is people participation & accountability.

16. अनेक न्यायिक निर्णयों के बावजूद, भारत में पुलिस सुधार अब भी अप्राप्य हैं। प्रणालीगत बाधाओं का परीक्षण कीजिये और एक व्यावहारिक खाका प्रस्तुत कीजिये। (250 शब्द) 15

Despite multiple judicial pronouncements, police reforms remain elusive in India. Examine the systemic obstacles and suggest a viable roadmap. (250 words) 15

structure

Police in India had faced severe criticisms and urgent requirements of reforms in line with the 21st century policing structure.

Multiple judicial pronouncements have called for police reforms ~~eg. Prakash Singh Commit.~~

leading to Prakash Singh Guidelines & Model Police Act, 2006.

Challenges to Police Reforms.

↳ Police is a State subject, having varied approaches & models across states

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→ Extra & non-policing work pressure
    ↳ safety to VIPs, Higher officers etc.

→ Political & Bureaucratic lack of will.

→ Conflictual Federalism.
    ↳ conflict over police by Delhi govt & central govt.

↗ Colonial era laws of police (Police Act, 1856)
    ↳ Started to change by changing supplementary laws like
    IPC into ~~CrP~~ ~~CPC~~ BNS
    CrPC into BNSS.

Suggestions

→ Implementation of Model Police Laws

→ Cooperative Federalism — ~~multi state~~
   ↳ multi stakeholders deliberations.

→ Reform demand must be led by police itself.

→ Greater coordination of police with CBI.
   ↳ Seperate wings for Security of VVIP & higher officers (eg: Reserve Police)

Thus, Police Reforms are now the need of the hour, to ensure citizen centric & friendly policing, in line with the norms of 21st century.

17. "सकारात्मक कार्रवाई ने प्रतिनिधित्व तो सुनिश्चित किया है, लेकिन परिवर्तन नहीं।" आरक्षण नीतियों और सामाजिक-आर्थिक आँकड़ों के संदर्भ में इस कथन की समालोचनात्मक समीक्षा कीजिये। (250 शब्द) 15

"Affirmative action has achieved representation but not transformation". Critically analyze this statement in light of reservation policies and socio-economic data. (250 words) 15
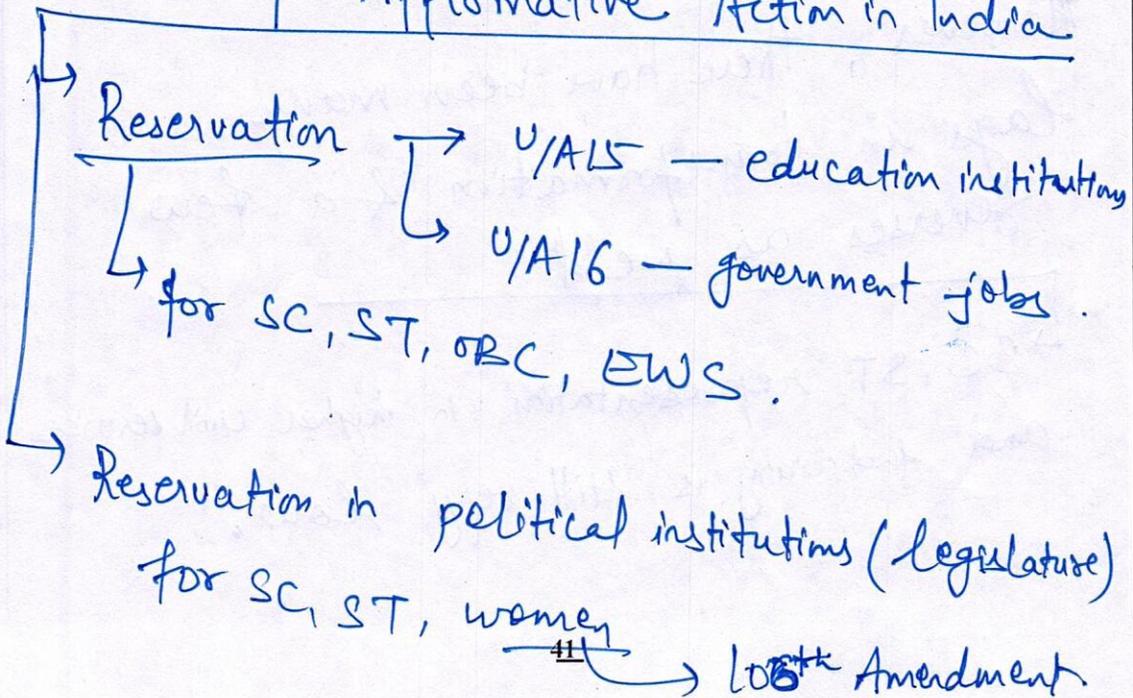
Affirmative Action is a worldwide accepted process for developing a preferential treatment for historically marginalised.

In India Affirmative Action was chosen by the constituent with an aim to empower and emancipate downtrodden people due to various socio-economic disabilities (caste, gender, poverty).

Means of Affirmative Action in India

- Reservation → U/A15 — education institutions
  → U/A16 — government jobs.
  for SC, ST, OBC, EWS.

- Reservation in political institutions (legislature) for SC, ST, women
  → 106th Amendment

↳ Reservation at local bodies.

  ↳ SC, ST — in proportion of population
  ↳ women — 1/3rd across all posts
  ↳ OBC — upto state governments.

Therefore, it has resulted in representation of communities in political sphere and education institutions

It has also led to castisation of politics due to caste based political parties.

However, there have been many lags in transformation & a few reverses as well

  ↳ SC, ST represesntation in higher civil service and judiciary is still very low.

→ Race for backwardness → Desanskritsation

⌐→ demands for reservation like
│   Maratha agitation.

└→ Social structure of caste hasn't
     been broken completely, especially
     in rural areas.

Therefore, true benefits of affirmative
action will be seen only when society's
fault lines see a reduction
and we eventually move towards
a time bound reduction in reservation.
But it is a long journey ahead involving
capacity building & not just representation.

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18. "समावेशी विकास और प्रभावी सामाजिक न्याय सुनिश्चित करने के लिये क्षमता निर्माण अनिवार्य है।" भारत में शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य और कौशल विकास के परिणामों में सुधार लाने में क्षमता निर्माण पहलों की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिये।

(250 शब्द) 15

"Capacity building is essential for ensuring inclusive growth and effective social justice delivery." Examine the role of capacity-building initiatives in improving outcomes in education, health, and skill development in India. (250 words) 15

Capacity building in today's world, is the necessary condition for social emancipation, inclusive growth & development

(As per ~~social~~ Amartya sen)

Role of Capacity Building in Inclusive Growth & Social justice delivery

→ digital technology in governance
  ↳ digital literacy
→ skill-development → skilled labour.
→ educative factor → reduced burden
                        on future social
                              welfare
→ e-Governance, transparency, accountability

Improving outcomes in Health

→ Modern technology & robotics-based operations & diagnoses.

→ ASHA worker - Capacity development to benefit institutional deliveries and Primary Health Centres.

→ PM Matru Vandana Yojana, PM Janani Suraksha Yojana. to empower early mothers in their health & financial support

Education

→ To empower learning through online node — e-Pathshala,

→ learning in Mother tongue.

→ AI Labs, Incubation Centres, Atal Tinkering Labs
   ↳ to develop future ready youth. Capable of working with modern tech.

Skill Development

→ PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana — to improve semi-skilled labour association with needs of private sector

→ To empower artisans to formalise their work & export through PM Vishwakarma scheme

→ Mission Karmayogi — for skill development of government servants.

Capacity Building therefore provides hollistic empowerment to individuals & not just mere short term benefits like cash transfers.

19. ब्रिक्स (BRICS) का विस्तार वैश्विक राजनीति में बदलते शक्ति संतुलन को दर्शाता है। भारत के लिये इसके रणनीतिक, आर्थिक और कूटनीतिक निहितार्थों की चर्चा कीजिये। (250 शब्द) 15

The expansion of BRICS reflects changing power dynamics in global politics. Discuss the strategic, economic, and diplomatic implications for India. (250 words) 15

BRICS has become a significant institution representing concerns of global south and multilateralism.
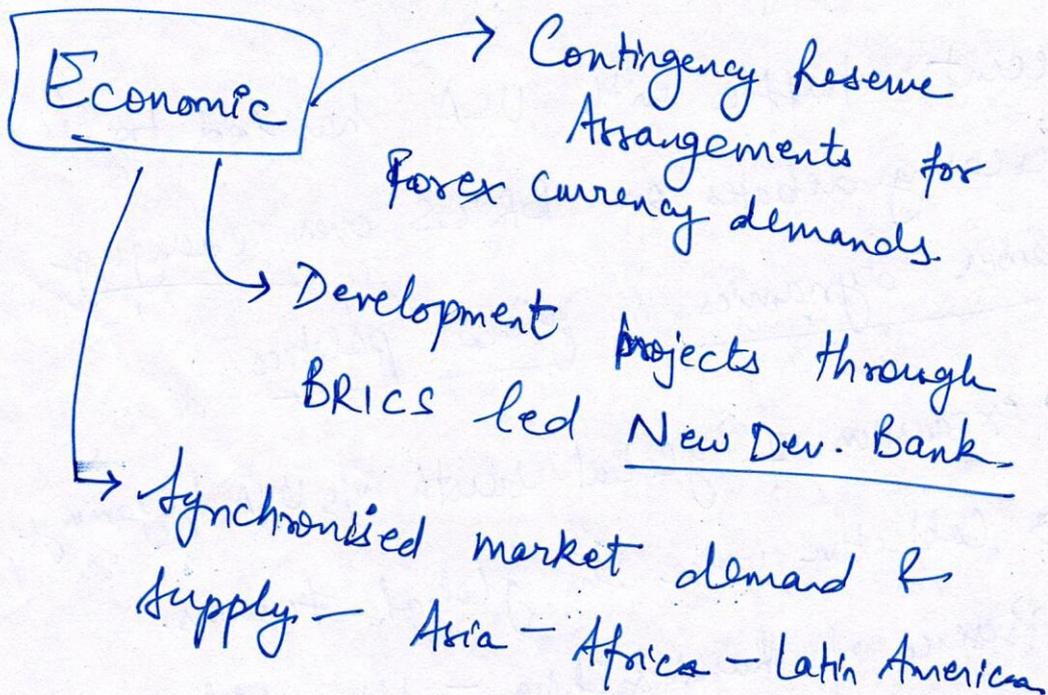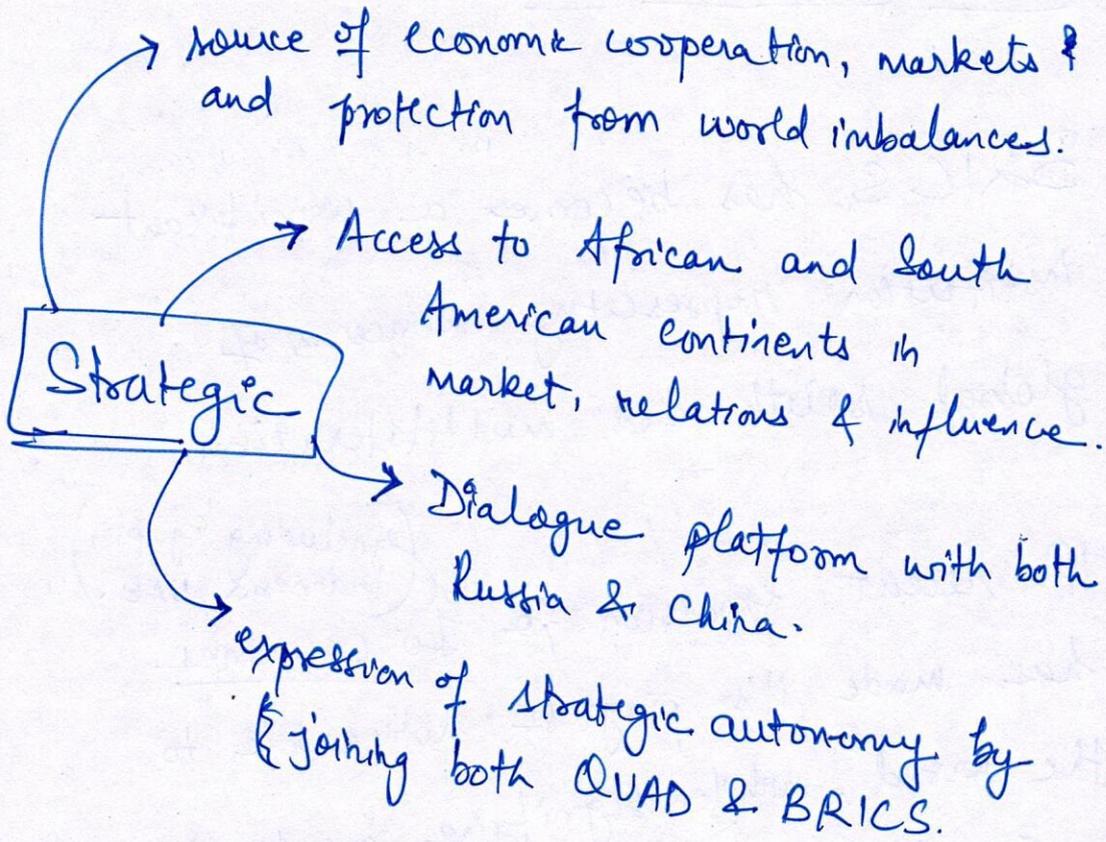
It's recent expansion to _10 countries_ (including Egypt, Indonesia, UAE,) has made it's progress noticeable to the world, while signifying greater cooperation in global south.

Recent tuffle with USA has led to increasing debates on BRICS over changing power dynamics in global politics.

→ expansion of global south v/s USA hegemony
→ Collective voice in global forums.
→ Presence of Russia & China — Stings USA.
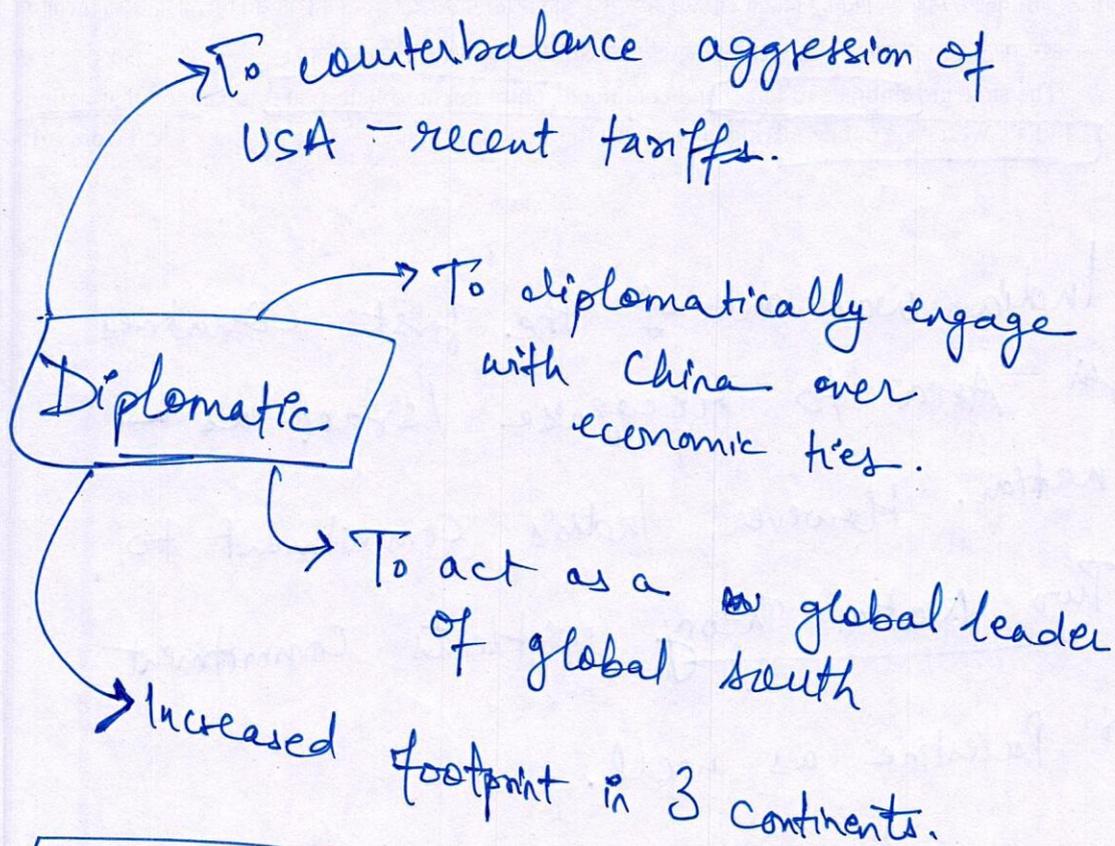
Implications for India

→ source of economic cooperation, markets and protection from world imbalances.

Strategic

→ Access to African and South American continents in market, relations & influence.

→ Dialogue platform with both Russia & China.

→ expression of strategic autonomy by joining both QUAD & BRICS.

Economic

→ Contingency Reserve Arrangements for Forex currency demands.

→ Development projects through BRICS led New Dev. Bank

→ Synchronised market demand & supply — Asia — Africa — Latin America

→ To counterbalance aggression of USA – recent tariffs.

→ To diplomatically engage with China over economic ties.

Diplomatic

→ To act as a global leader of global south

→ Increased footprint in 3 continents.

Way forward

↳ BRICS can discuss & deliberate upon local currency trade, expansion to more countries, integration talks with groups like Mercosur & ASEAN.

BRICS therefore is a reflection of changing power dynamics, but India must tread with caution to balance national interest & relations with USA & EU.

20. "इज़रायल के साथ रणनीतिक निकटता और फिलिस्तीन के प्रति निरंतर प्रतिबद्धता, भारत की पश्चिम एशिया नीति को परिभाषित करने वाला एक विरोधाभास है।" इस द्वैध कूटनीति का समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिये। (250 शब्द) 15

"The strategic embrace of Israel and continued commitment to Palestine is a paradox that defines India's West Asia policy." Critically analyze this dual diplomacy. (250 words) 15

India was one of the first countries in Asia to recognise Israel as a nation. However, India's commitment to Two Nation Theory reflects commitment to Palestine as well.

Strategic Embrace of Israel.

→ PM Modi became the 1st PM to visit Israel

→ Cooperation over technology, arms, agriculture & irrigation innovation

→ abstaining from voting against Israel at UNSC

→ & condemning Oct 12, 2024 Hamas terrorist attack.

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Commitment to Palestine

→ PM Modi became the 1st PM to visit Palestine

→ Humanitarian assisstance to Palestine.

→ Call for stopping the war.
   & continuing with dialogue

→ Support to Two State solution with palesthian sovereignty.

Dual Diplomacy.

↳ India's renewed policy of Dehyphenation of Israel & Palestine relations

↳ Seperate ties & equal closeness with both not bothering other.

⌐ PM Modi was escorted by Israeli military on his visit to Palestine, showcasing success of dehyphenation

Therefore, India has been playing the balancing act. It may use it's position as a largely neutral global rising power & a balanced approach to call for and try to mediate and stop war & return to peace & development.

Space for Rough Work
(रफ कार्य के लिये स्थान)

Space for Rough Work

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