



FIRST MOCK APSC MAINS 2024

GS Paper II

Duration: 3 Hrs

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(Please fill your details correctly)

Medium:

English



Assamese



INDEX NUMBER			INSTRUCTIONS
Q.NO.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained.	Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting the questions: - There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH and ASSAMESE. - All questions are compulsory. - The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. - The answers must not exceed the prescribed word limit indicated against each question. - Answers must be written in the medium authorised 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 authorised one. - Checking to be done with main aim of evaluating a candidate's ability of express ideas in lucid manner. - Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off - Use a blue or black ballpoint pen only.
1	10		
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TOTAL:	250		

Signature of the Student:

Invigilator's Signature:

NOTE: EVALUATION PERIOD FOR THE MAINS TEST SERIES COPY IS 12 DAYS.

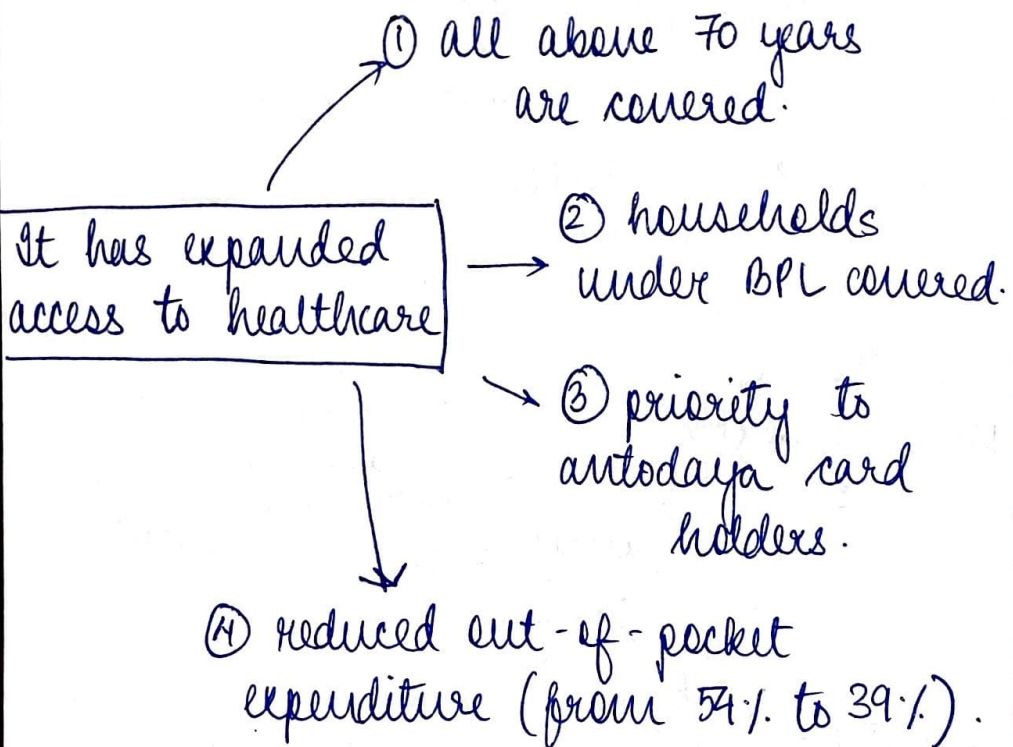
DETAIL FEEDBACK

ALL THE BEST

Q1. Ayushman Bharat has expanded access to healthcare, but inclusivity and quality remain concerns. Discuss.

প্রশ্ন ১: আয়ুষ্মান ভারতে স্বাস্থ্যসেবার প্রবেশাধিকার সম্প্রসারিত করিছে, কিন্তু অন্তর্ভুক্তি আর মানদণ্ড এতিয়াও চিন্তার বিষয় হৈয়ে আছে। আলোচনা করক।
(Answer in 150 words)

Union government's flagship health scheme, Ayushman Bharat is a step towards achieving universal healthcare to all.



Challenges

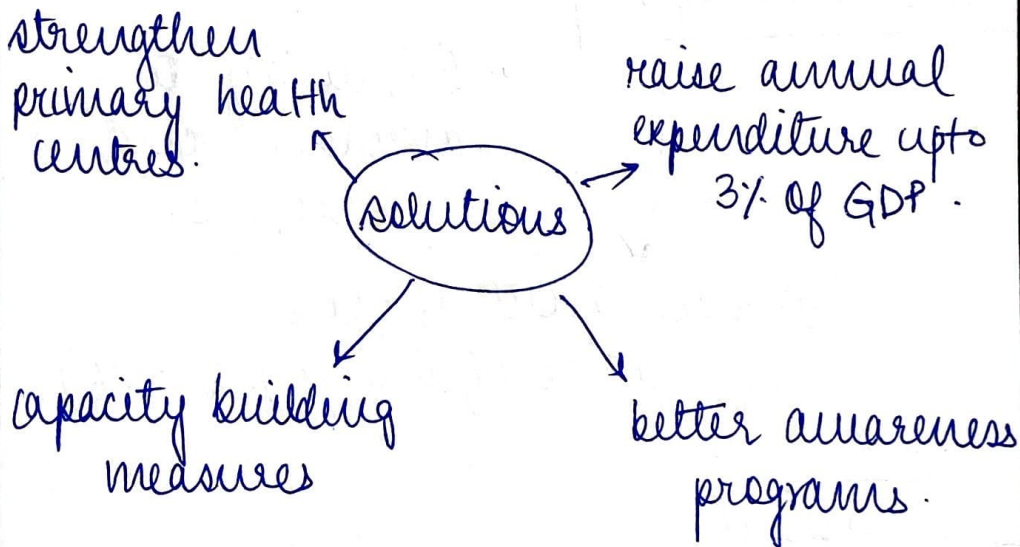
Inclusivity concerns

- ① rural-urban divide in access due to low awareness.
- ② concerns of digital divide.

- ③ vulnerable people just above poverty line not covered.

Quality concerns

- ① less focus on preventive care.
- ② poor conditions in primary healthcare systems.
- ③ high doctor-to-patient ratio in rural India (1:11000).



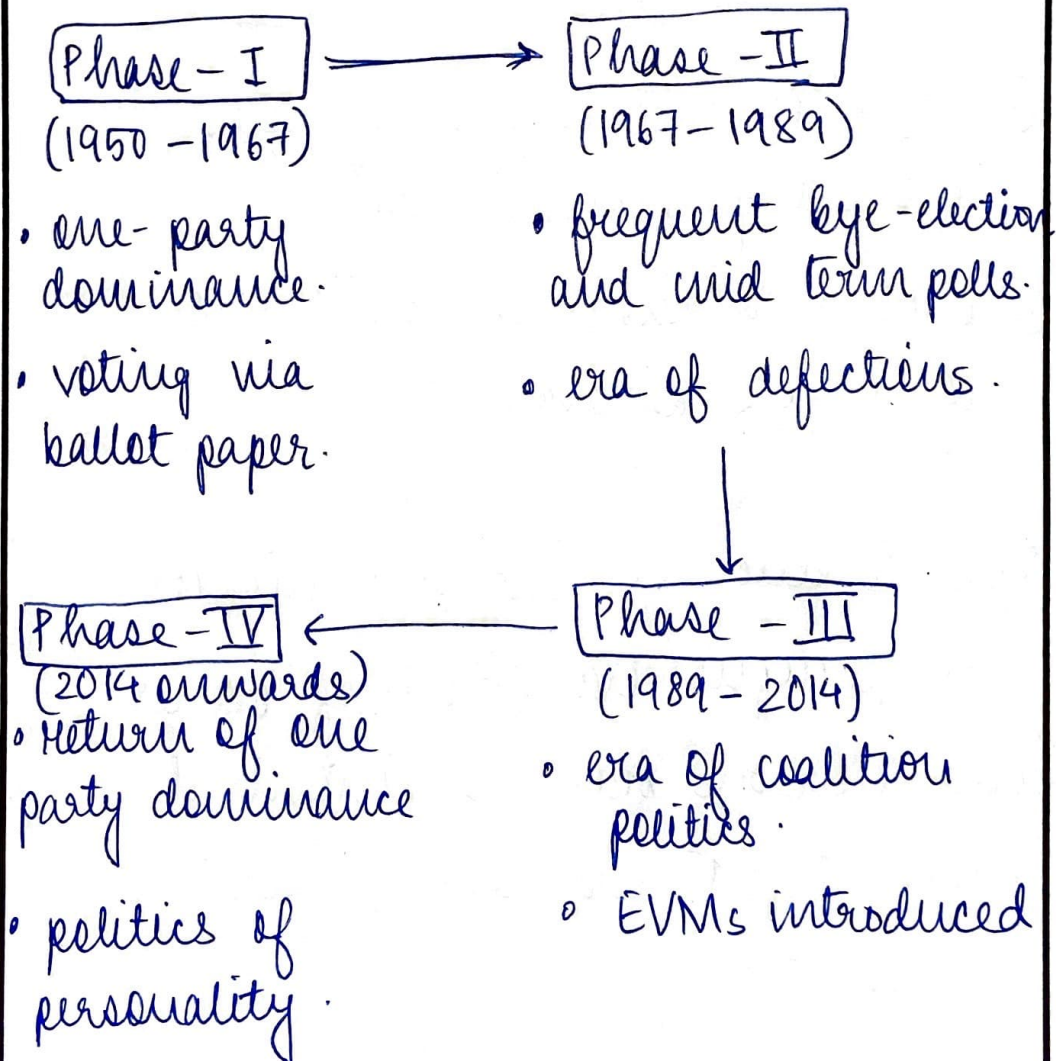
The success of Ayushman Bharat has to be sustained and percolated to grassroots to achieve SDG-3.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q2. Trace the evolution of electoral politics in India since Independence. In this context, critically examine the role of the Election Commission of India in strengthening democratic processes.

প্ৰশ্ন ২: স্বাধীনতাৰ পিছৰে পৰা ভাৰতত নিৰ্বাচনী ৰাজনীতিৰ বিৱৰ্তনৰ বিষয়ে লিখক। এই সন্দৰ্ভত, গণতান্ত্ৰিক প্ৰক্ৰিয়া শক্তিশালী কৰাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ভাৰতৰ নিৰ্বাচন আয়োগৰ ভূমিকা সমালোচনামূলকভাৱে মূল্যায়ন কৰক।
(Answer in 150 words)

The setting up of independent Election Commission in 1950 as a Constitutional body can be seen as the start of electoral politics in India.



Critical examination of Election Commission's role :

- ① by far, free and fair elections conducted.
- ② allegations of vote theft in assembly elections of 2023.
- ③ concerns over intensive revision of electoral rolls.
- ④ compromised autonomy after the Anoop Baranwal case.
- ⑤ political misuse. eg. resignation of Ashok Lavasa.

The conduct of the Commission and peaceful transition of power post elections have maintained public trust and earned itself credibility

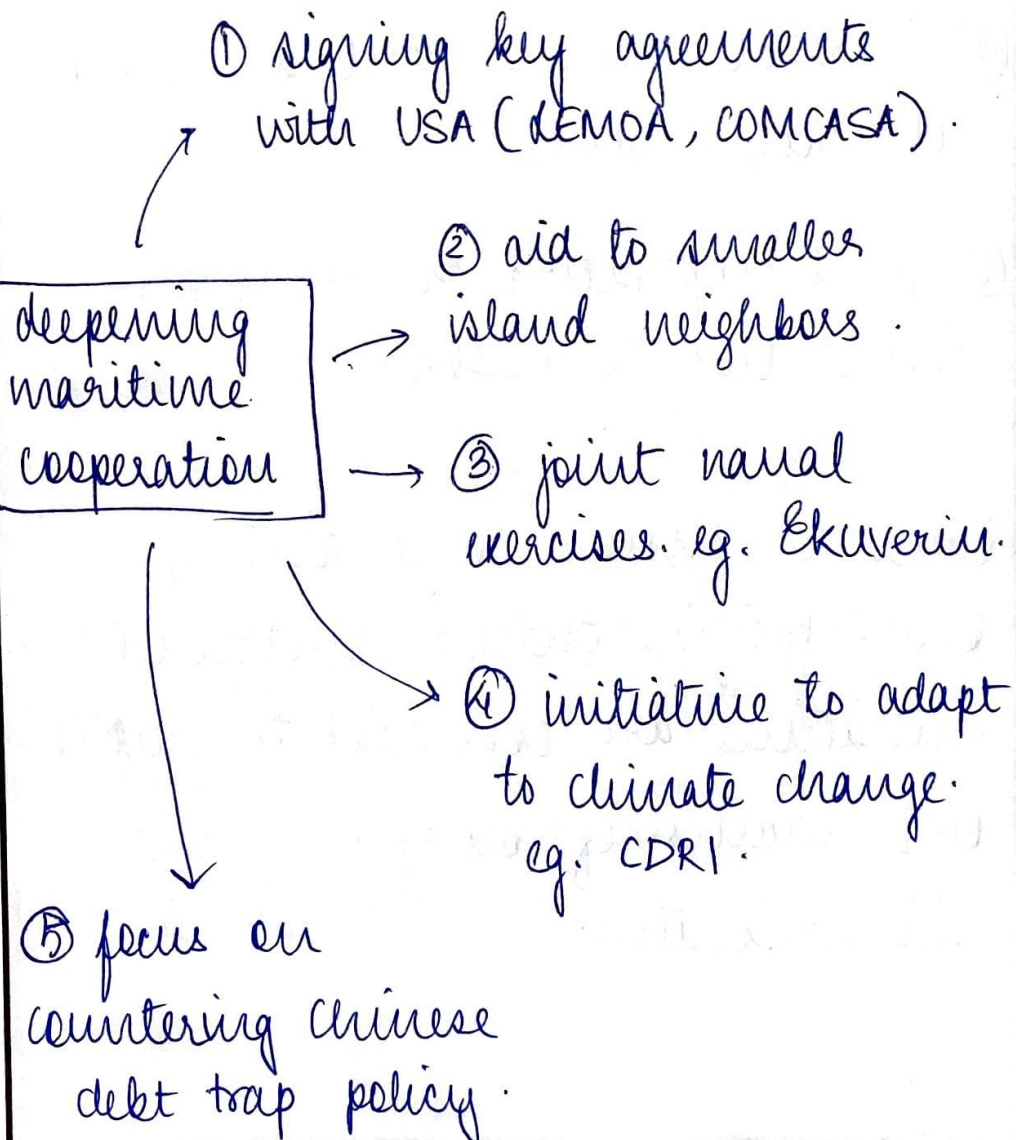
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Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q3. India's MAHASAGAR initiative seeks to deepen maritime cooperation with countries of the Indian Ocean Region. Examine its significance in enabling India to pursue a balanced and strategic approach in the IOR.

প্রশ্ন ৩: ভারতের 'MAHASAGAR' পদক্ষেপে ভারত মহাসাগর অঞ্চলৰ দেশসমূহৰ সৈতে সামুদ্রিক সহযোগিতা গভীৰ কৰাৰ চেষ্টা কৰিছে। ভারত মহাসাগৰীয় অঞ্চলত ভারতক এক সম্ভুলিত আৰু কৌশলগত দৃষ্টিভঙ্গী অনুসৰণ কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম কৰাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ইয়াৰ গুৰুত্ব পৰীক্ষা কৰক।

(Answer in 150 words)

India's MAHASAGAR initiative is a step to secure India's strategic autonomy in the Indian ocean.



Significance

- ① securing vibrant ties in India's extended neighborhood.
- ② counter rising Chinese influence.
- ③ ensuring free and open trade routes.
- ④ increase India's clout as leader of Global South.
- ⑤ joint cooperation on common issues like terrorism.

Thus, to ensure safe and open Indo-Pacific, India's sustained initiatives are essential to fulfill our dreams of being a Vishwakandhu.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q4. The idea of 'One Nation, One Election' is often justified as a return to India's early constitutional practice. In this context, discuss how the Indian Constitution's provisions on elections and parliamentary democracy have evolved since independence.

প্রশ্ন ৪: 'এক রাষ্ট্র, এক নির্বাচন' ব ধারণাক প্রায়ে ভাৰতৰ প্ৰাৰম্ভিক সাংবিধানিক প্ৰথাৰ প্ৰত্যাহৰ্তন হিচাপে ন্যায়সঙ্গত বুলি গণ্য কৰা হয়। এই সন্দৰ্ভত ভাৰতীয় সংবিধানৰ নিৰ্বাচন আৰু সংসদীয় গণতন্ত্ৰৰ ব্যৱস্থা স্বাধীনতাৰ পিছৰে পৰা কেনেদৰে বিকশিত হৈছে সেই বিষয়ে আলোচনা কৰক।

(Answer in 150 words)

The idea of simultaneous elections have been inherent in Indian politics, as proponents argue its existence in the first three general elections, 1952, 1957 and 1962.

Evolution of India's Constitution provisions on:

I. Elections

- ① lowered voting age from 21 to 18 vide 61st amendment.
- ② tackling defections by 52nd amendment.
- ③ Parliamentary laws like Representation of People's Act, 1950 and 1951.
- ④ transformation of election commission from one-member to three-member body.

II. Parliamentary democracy

- ① limit on the size of the council of ministers (91st amendment).
- ② excessive use of article 356; allegedly for political vendetta.
- ③ recent constitution of JPC to consider the removal of elected ministers post their arrest.

The evolution of Indian polity has been by and large smooth. It has proved its maturity and flexibility in adapting to tough crisis.

Feedback
(For office use only)

Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

Value Addition

Penalty (If any)

Total

Q5. What are the key provisions of the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act? Discuss its implications for women's political representation in India.

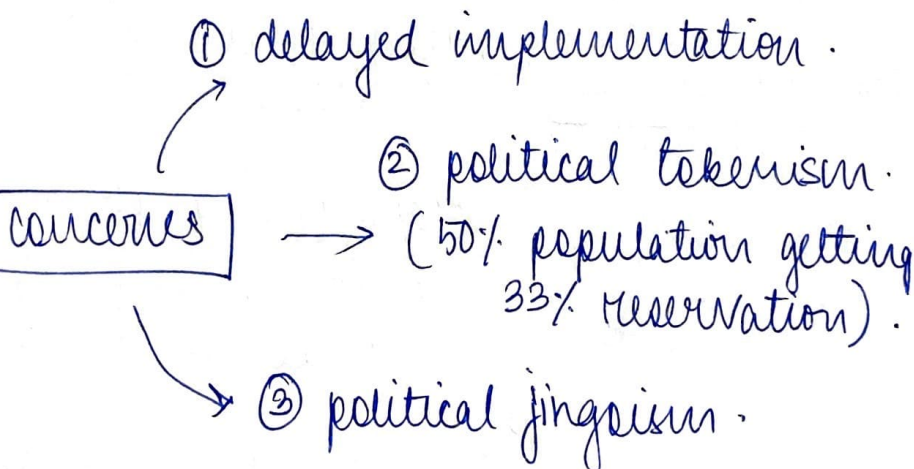
প্রশ্ন ৫: ১০৬তম সংবিধান সংশোধনী আইনৰ মূল ব্যৱস্থাসমূহ কি কি? ভাৰতত মহিলাৰ ৰাজনৈতিক প্ৰতিনিধিত্বৰ ওপৰত ইয়াৰ প্ৰভাৱসমূহ আলোচনা কৰক। (Answer in 150 words)

106th Constitutional Amendment of 2023 provides for $\frac{1}{3}$ rd reservation to women in Lok Sabha, state assemblies and UT assemblies of Delhi and J&K.

- key provisions
- ① reservation of 33% for women.
 - ② to be implemented after census of 2026.
 - ③ initially for a period of 15 years; can be extended.
 - ④ internal reservation for SC/ST women.
 - ⑤ delimitation of seats after rotation.

Implications on political representation for women:

- ① guaranteed political participation of women.
- ② enhanced role in policy making.
- ③ may increase the number of women ministers.
- ④ core issues likely to get better reflected.



It is thus critical to focus on timely implementation and ensure better representation to promote women-led development.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q6. Combative federalism has increasingly characterised Centre-State relations in recent years. In this context, examine the constitutional role of the Governor in upholding cooperative federalism in India.

প্রশ্ন ৬: শেহতীয়া বছৰবোৰত সংঘাতমূলক যুক্তৰাষ্ট্ৰবাদৰ বাবে কেন্দ্ৰ-ৰাজ্যৰ সম্পৰ্কৰ বৈশিষ্ট্য ক্ৰমান্বয়ে বৃদ্ধি পাইছে। এই সন্দৰ্ভত, ভাৰতত সহযোগিতামূলক যুক্তৰাষ্ট্ৰবাদ বজাই ৰখাত ৰাজ্যপালৰ সাংবিধানিক ভূমিকা পৰীক্ষা কৰক।
(Answer in 150 words)

Combative federalism refers to the conflicts and clashes in centre-state relations.

① Governor of Tamil Nadu not taking action of bills passed by Assembly.

② Governor of Punjab not convening session as directed by council of ministers.

③ alleged reduce time to West Bengal CM in NITI Sanyog meeting.

④ delays in payments of GST compensation cess.

⑤ issue over appointments of VCs of Universities.

recent cases

Constitutional role of Governor in upholding cooperative federalism:

- ① highlighting work of government in annual address.
- ② timely action on bills passed under articles 200 and 201.
- ③ fair decision making while acting as Chancellor of Universities.
- ④ due consultation with CM in matters of pardon, summoning the house etc.

The office of Governor is a crucial link between centre-states and must be appointed while upholding spirit of federalism and due consultation, as suggested by Punchi Commission.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q7. The Speaker of a State Legislative Assembly is expected to act as the guardian of the House. In this context, examine the issues affecting the functioning of state legislatures and evaluate the role of the Speaker in addressing them.

প্রশ্ন ৭: ৰাজ্যিক বিধান সভাৰ অধ্যক্ষই সদনৰ অভিভাৱক হিচাপে কাম কৰিব বুলি আশা কৰা হয়। এই সন্দৰ্ভত ৰাজ্যিক বিধানমণ্ডলৰ কাম-কাজত প্ৰভাৱ পেলোৱা বিষয়সমূহ পৰীক্ষা কৰক আৰু সেইবোৰ সম্বোধন কৰাত অধ্যক্ষৰ ভূমিকাৰ মূল্যায়ন কৰক।
(Answer in 150 words)

The position of Speaker in State Legislative Assembly (SLA) is vital for smooth conduct of business in the house.

- guardian of the House
- ① maintains decorum.
 - ② presides of sessions.
 - ③ presides meetings of SAC to decide agenda.
 - ④ can suspend members for unruly behaviour.

Issues affecting functioning of SLA

- ① less number of days of businesses annually.
- ② frequent disruptions and adjournments.

- ③ tokenistic sessions - eg. 3 day or 4 day monsoon session in Jharkhand
- ④ low focus on debate and question hour.

Role of Speaker

- ① Speaker ensures that all members get adequate time in debate.
- ② Impartiality while deciding defections is to be ensured.
- ③ negotiations with floor leaders to minimise conflict.
- ④ focus on parliamentary tools like zero hour, question hour etc.

State Assemblies are the pinnacle in policy evaluation at state level and role of Speaker is crucial to ensure executive accountability.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (if any)
Total

Q8. "Freedom of speech and expression is the foundation of all democratic organisations, for without free political discussion, no public education is possible." Discuss.

প্রশ্ন ৮: "বাক আৰু অভিব্যক্তিৰ স্বাধীনতা হৈছে সকলো গণতান্ত্ৰিক সংগঠনৰ ভেটি, কাৰণ মুক্ত ৰাজনৈতিক আলোচনা অবিহনে কোনো ৰাজহুৱা শিক্ষা সম্ভৱ নহয়।" আলোচনা কৰক।

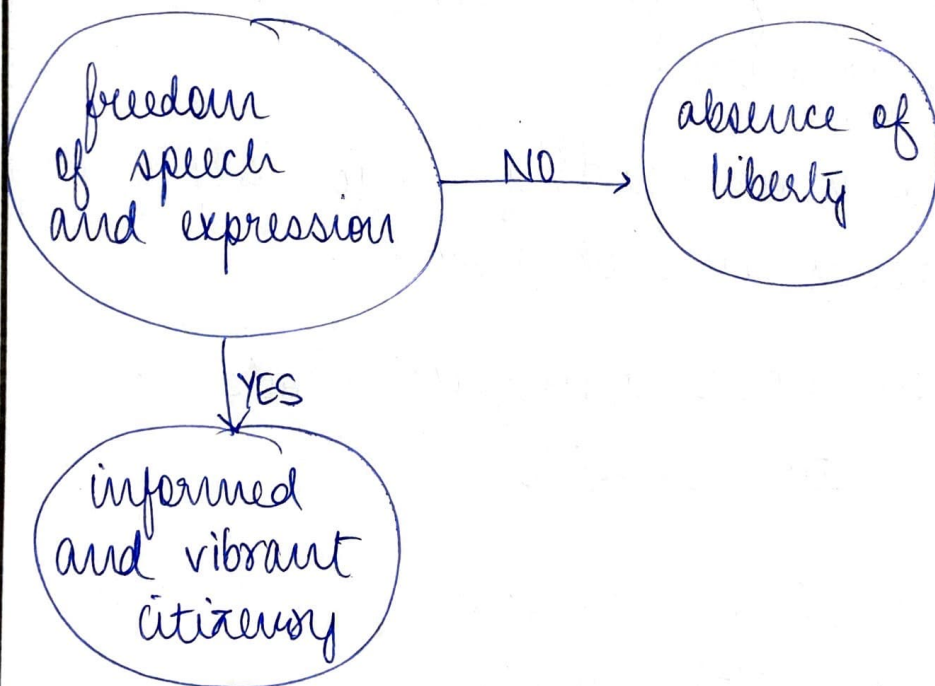
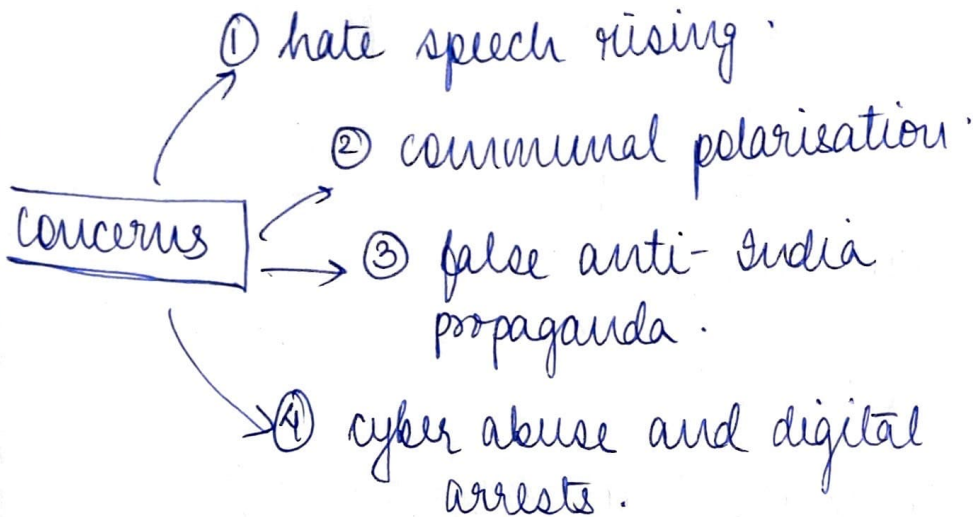
(Answer in 150 words)

Freedom of speech and expression is guaranteed as a Fundamental Right under article 19 in India's constitution.

Importance

- ① to create informed citizenry. eg. publishing reports about state's performance.
- ② to have healthy public debate. eg. express views of dissent.
- ③ to enshrine democratic ideals. eg. recognition to LGBTQ rights.
- ④ It makes the public more aware about political decisions.
- ⑤ used as a tool to reflect views of all, even minority.

⑥ ensure citizen's personal liberty. eg. Shreya Singhal case.



Hence, the importance of freedom of speech and expression lies in its intrinsic value of human dignity.

Feedback
(For office use only)

Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

Value Addition

Penalty (If any)

Total

Q9. India's neighbourhood policy increasingly emphasises sub-regional connectivity. Discuss in light of recent India-Bhutan engagements.

প্রশ্ন ৯: ভাৰতৰ চুবুৰীয়া নীতিয়ে উপ-আঞ্চলিক সংযোগৰ ওপৰত ক্ৰমান্বয়ে গুৰুত্ব আৰোপ কৰিছে। শেহতীয়া ভাৰত-ভূটান সম্পৰ্কৰ প্ৰতি লক্ষ্য ৰাখি আলোচনা কৰক। (Answer in 150 words)

India's neighborhood policy is aligned to serve our neighbors, respect their existence and peaceful co-existence.

① rail link with Bangladesh via Durgam - Dkhaura.

② India - Myanmar - Thailand highway.

③ Kaladan multi modal project.

④ Chabahar port for Central Asian outreach

⑤ free and open borders with Nepal.

emphasis on sub-regional connectivity

Recent India- Bhutan engagements

- ① India- Bhutan have been all-weather friends .
- ② Kobrajhar- Gelephu train and road link is a boost to sub-regional connectivity .
- ③ India further collaborates on hydropower projects along Manas river-
- ④ Electricity sold to Bhutan at cheaper rates .
- ⑤ BBIN initiative to improve regional outreach .

Bhutan, as a buffer between India and China, is crucial for Northeast India's development and peaceful bilateral ties between the countries.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q10. Provide a comparative analysis of the office of the Vice President of India and that of the United States, highlighting their constitutional roles and significance.

প্ৰশ্ন ১০: ভাৰতৰ উপ-ৰাষ্ট্ৰপতি আৰু আমেৰিকা যুক্তৰাষ্ট্ৰৰ কাৰ্যালয়ৰ তুলনামূলক বিশ্লেষণ প্ৰদান কৰক, যাৰ জৰিয়তে তেওঁলোকৰ সাংবিধানিক ভূমিকা আৰু গুৰুত্বৰ ওপৰত আলোকপাত কৰিব পাৰি।
(Answer in 150 words)

Both India and USA have democracies.
The office of Vice Presidents in both countries differ in their roles.

India

① acts as president only for the interim period.

② more of a ceremonial figure.

③ no specific constitutional role

④ presides over Rajya Sabha as Chairman.

USA

① acts as President for the remainder of the term.

② active role in policy and agenda setting.

③ presides over US Senate.

④ greater powers in US Senate than Indian Vice-President

⑤ no role in joint sitting of houses.

⑤ active role along with Speaker in joint sitting.

⑥ limited role in fiscal powers.

⑥ as chair of Senate, can reject or approve money bills

The office of Vice President in USA is envisaged to serve more due to prevalent Presidential system.

In India, however, the office of Vice President acts as an emergency light in times of constitutional crisis to avoid interregnum.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q11. The Anoop Baranwal v. Union of India (2023) Case created an interim mechanism for appointing Election Commissioners in the absence of a parliamentary law. In this context, critically examine the limits of judicial innovation in filling constitutional silences. How does this case reflect on the balance of power between the legislature, executive, and judiciary in India?

প্ৰশ্ন ১১: অনুপ বৰণৱাল বনাম ভাৰত চৰকাৰ (২০২৩) গোচৰটোৱে সংসদীয় আইনৰ অনুপস্থিতিত নিৰ্বাচন আয়ুক্ত নিযুক্তিৰ বাবে এক অন্তৰ্ৱৰ্তীকালীন ব্যৱস্থা সৃষ্টি কৰিছিল। এই সন্দৰ্ভত সাংবিধানিক নীৰৱতা পূৰণৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ন্যায়িক উদ্ভাৱনৰ সীমাবোৰ সমালোচনামূলকভাৱে পৰীক্ষা কৰক। এই গোচৰটোৱে ভাৰতৰ বিধানমণ্ডল, কাৰ্যবাহী আৰু ন্যায়পালিকাৰ মাজত ক্ষমতাৰ ভাৰসাম্য কেনেদৰে প্ৰতিফলিত কৰে? (Answer in 250 words)

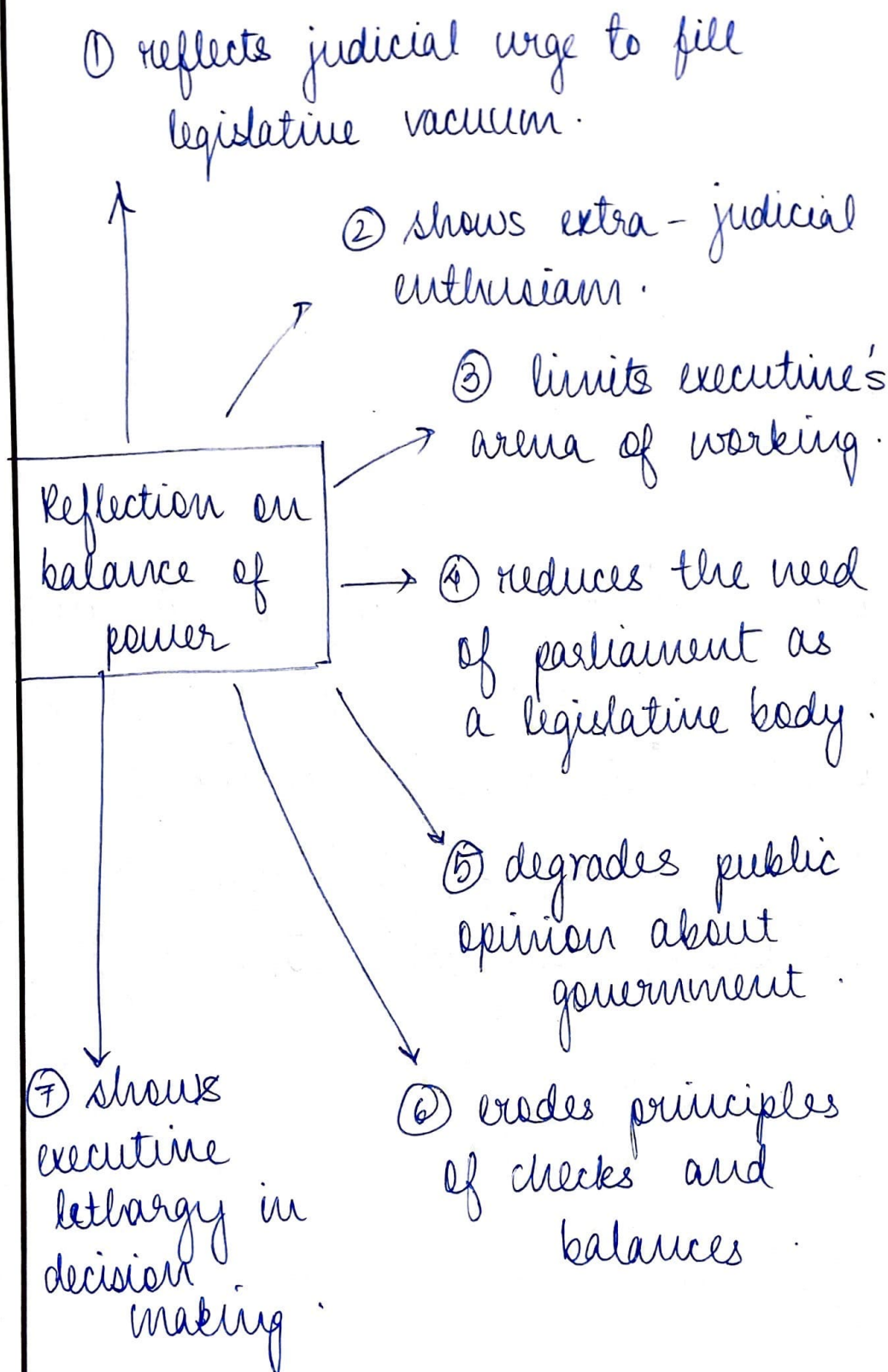
The Anoop Baranwal v/s Union of India (2023) case related to the appointment of Chief Election Commission (CEC) and other ECs.

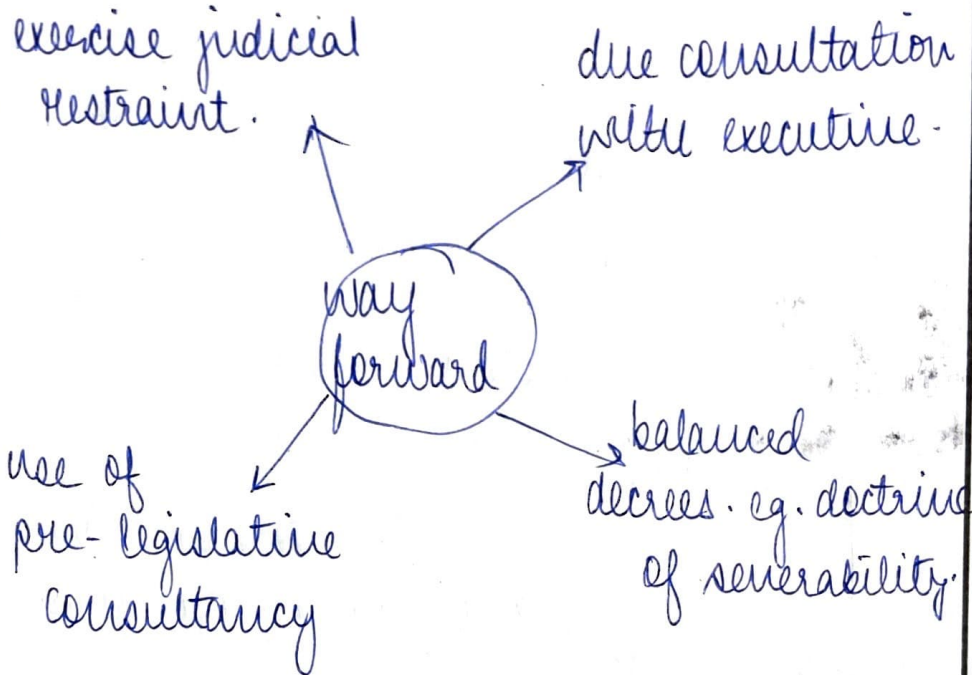
In this case, the court ruled that until, a law is enacted by Parliament, a panel comprising of Prime Minister, leader of Opposition Lok Sabha and Chief Justice of India shall decide the appointment of CEC.

This interim mechanism was empowered by the Election Commission (Appointment) Act, 2023.

Critical examination of limits of judicial innovations:

- ① judicial innovation often leads to judicial overreach. eg. ban on liquor in highways.
- ② disrupts doctrine of separation of powers.
- ③ establishes authority of appointed judges over elected representatives.
- ④ undermines parliamentary democracy. eg. intervention in the Tamil Nadu Governor's case.
- ⑤ limited public accountability and oversight on judiciary.





Such steps are necessary to maintain balance in Indian polity and ensure public trust. It is imperative to uphold separation of powers as envisioned under article 51.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (if any)
Total

Q12. 'For India and China, cooperation is not an option, it is an imperative.' Critically examine this statement in light of evolving geopolitical uncertainties and the shifting global order.

প্ৰশ্ন ১২: "" "ভাৰত আৰু চীনৰ বাবে সহযোগিতা কোনো বিকল্প নহয়, ই এক আৱশ্যক।" বিকশিত হোৱা ভূ-ৰাজনৈতিক অনিশ্চয়তা আৰু পৰিৱৰ্তিত বিশ্ব ব্যৱস্থাৰ প্ৰতি লক্ষ্য ৰাখি এই বিবৃতিটো সমালোচনামূলকভাৱে পৰীক্ষা কৰক।

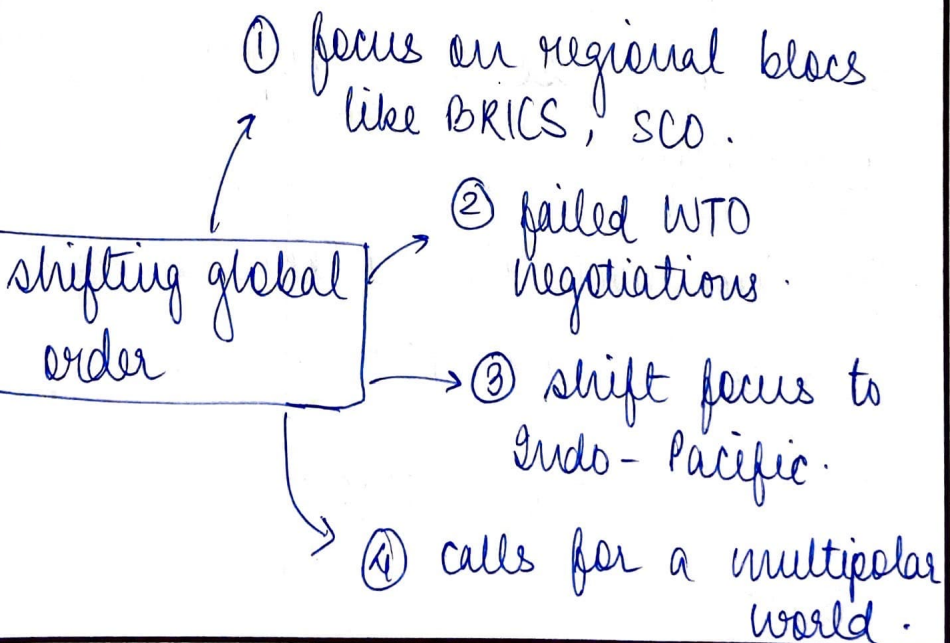
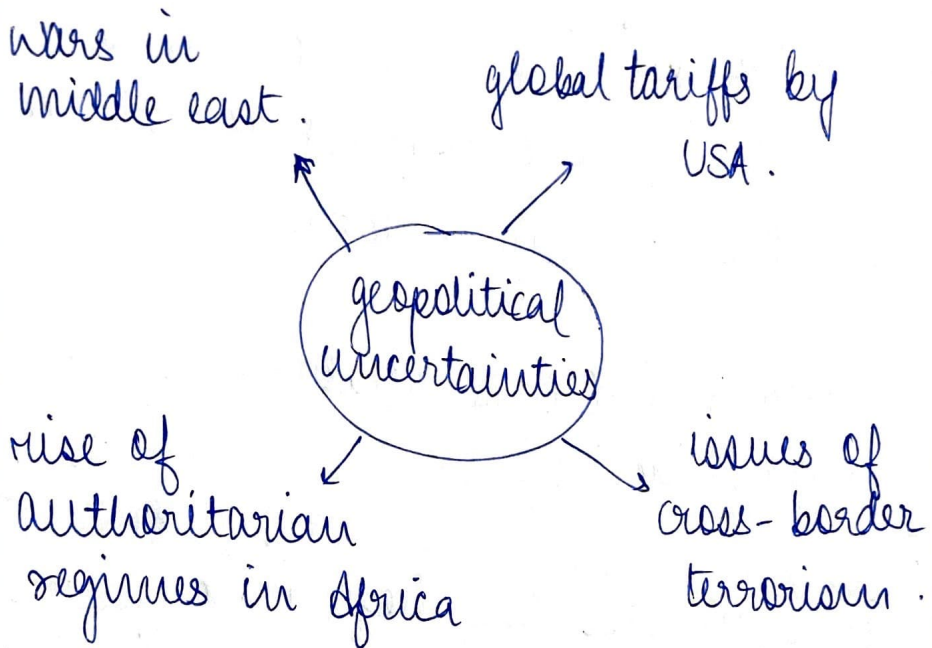
(Answer in 250 words)

Recently held SCO summit in Tianjin China and the vibrant relations shown by the heads of India and China has changed the discourse on India-China relations.

India and China relations are an imperative:

- ① to counter the hegemonic powers of West.
- ② to solve issues of border conflict mutually.
- ③ since both are nuclear states, war is not an option.
- ④ both control >50% of world trade.

⑤ immense cultural potential in bilateral ties. eg. promotion of Buddhism.



In such times, India - China cooperation can →

- ① benefit both mutually due to common stance in WTO.
- ② enhance bilateral trade.
- ③ secure supply chains.
- ④ focus on disaster resilient infrastructure.
- ⑤ collaborate on clean energy, digital technology, semiconductor, AI etc.

① long standing border disputes in Aksai-China.

critical examination

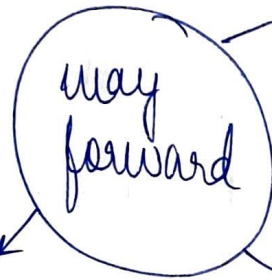
→ ② support to Pakistan by China.

→ ③ encircling India around IOR.

↘ ④ resisting India's entry in NSG.

stop support
to cross-border
terrorism.

peaceful
negotiation
of border
issues.



promotion
to tourism

Reconsider the
CPEC project
with Pakistan

It is necessary to remain
steadfast and ensure people-to-
people ties to engage tactfully
with China while securing India's
strategic autonomy.

Feedback
(For office use only)

Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

Value Addition

Penalty (if any)

Total

Q13. Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao is a step towards ensuring equal opportunities and dignity for our daughters.' In this context, evaluate the achievements and challenges of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme.

প্রশ্ন ১৩: আমাদের ছোৱালীবোৰৰ বাবে সমান সুযোগ আৰু মৰ্যাদা নিশ্চিত কৰাৰ দিশত "বেটি বচাও, বেটি পঢ়াও" এক পদক্ষেপ। এই সন্দৰ্ভত, বেটি বচাও, বেটি পঢ়াও আঁচনিৰ সাফল্য আৰু প্ৰত্যাহ্বানসমূহৰ মূল্যায়ন কৰক।
(Answer in 250 words)

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao is not a mere governance scheme but a means for socio-economic change, especially for rural India.

The scheme has

→ ensuring equal opportunities:

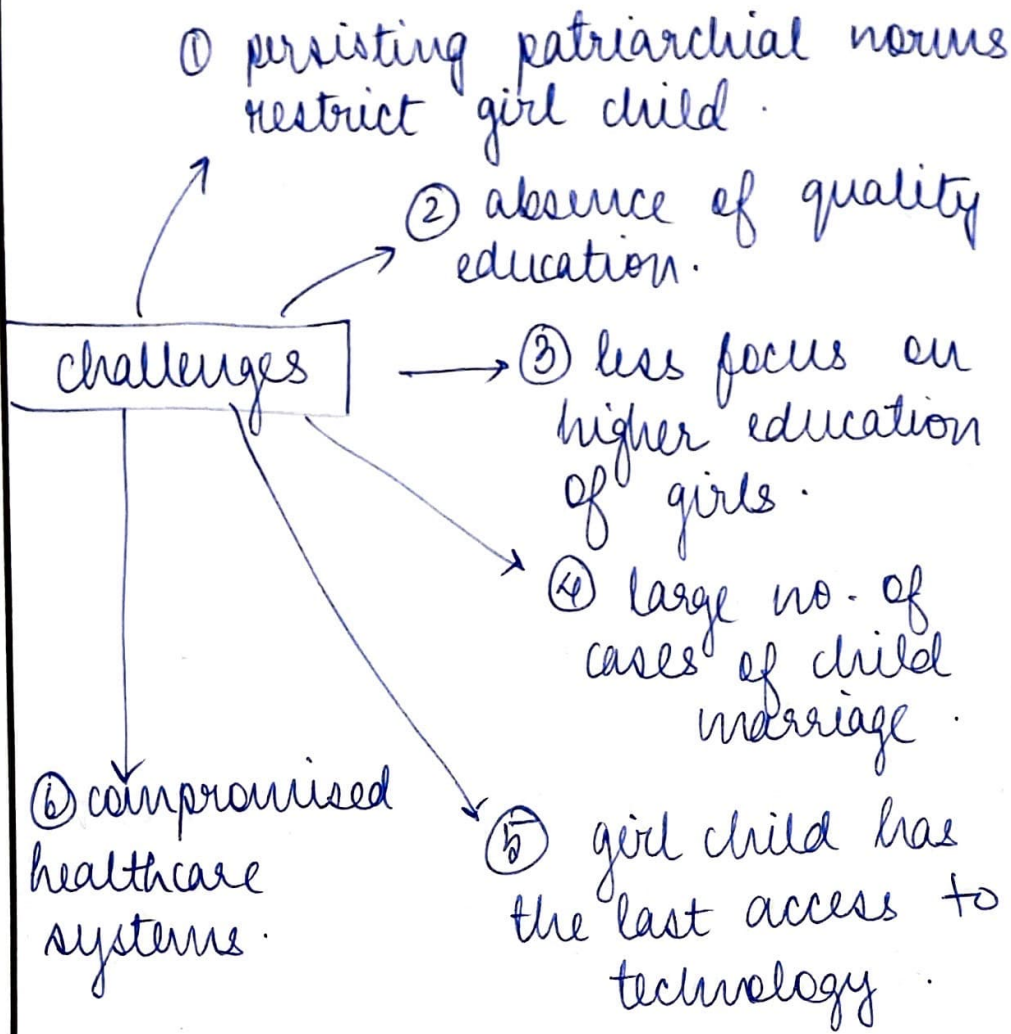
- ① in education.
- ② in health.
- ③ in access to food.
- ④ reducing hunger.

→ ensured dignity

- ① ensured right to be born.
- ② ensured access to school to develop fully.
- ③ equal avenues to grow holistically.

Achievements of the scheme

- ① reduced incidents of foeticide and infanticides. eg. improved sex ratio to 953 per 1000.
- ② improved girl child enrolment. eg. 90% currently in India.
- ③ improved awareness about social change by panchayats.
- ④ led to community engagement and women empowerment.
- ⑤ reduced gender inequality. eg. improved women access to food under PM-Poshan.
- ⑥ instilled a sense of pride and lowered the incidents of sex-selective abortion.



Solutions

- ① focus on community engage via local NGOs.
- ② enhanced budgetary support.
- ③ emphasis on learning outcomes.

④ more convergence of existing schemes to gendered policy making.

As India becomes Viksit Bharat, our focus must be on women-led development to ensure universal good and achieve targets under SDG 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q14. The expansion of BRICS reflects an emerging multipolar world. Critically assess its implications for India's foreign policy.

প্রশ্ন ১৪: ব্রিক্সৰ সম্প্ৰসাৰণে এক উদীয়মান বহুমুখী বিশ্বক প্ৰতিফলিত কৰে। ভাৰতৰ বৈদেশিক নীতিৰ ওপৰত ইয়াৰ প্ৰভাৱসমূহ সমালোচনামূলকভাৱে মূল্যায়ন কৰক। (Answer in 250 words)

Recently, BRICS emerged into 'BRICS+' after the induction of 6 new members. It is an attempt to reflect global contemporary realities.

old members

→ Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa.

BRICS+

→ new members

Iran, Indonesia, Egypt, Ethiopia, UAE and Saudi Arabia.

New emerging multipolar world

- ① challenging hegemonic powers of West.
- ② alternative to Bretton Woods Institutions like IMF.

- ③ Reflects $\frac{2}{3}$ rd of world population.
- ④ grouping of major Global South countries.
- ⑤ focus on digital missions, clean energy, bilateral trade and supply chains.

① strengthens India as voice of global south.

② sustained engagement with emerging economies

Implications on India's foreign policy

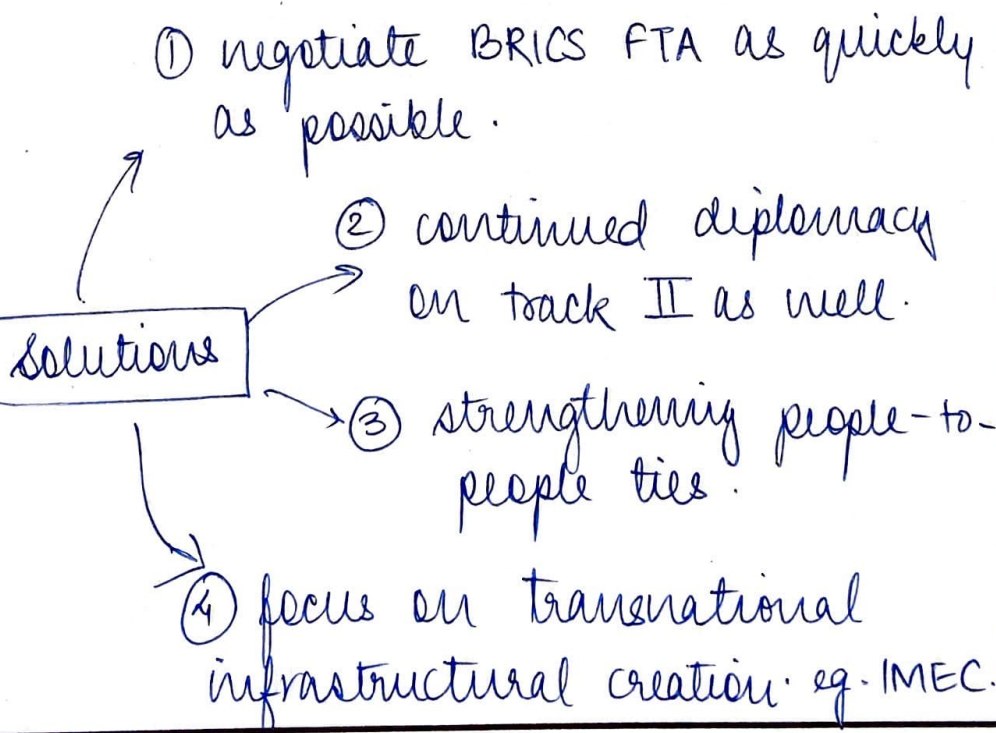
③ most of India's diaspora in these countries can be strengthened.

④ strengthened calls for multipolar world.

⑤ sustained pressure for UN reforms.

Critical assessment

- ① may endanger India's relations with Europe.
- ② tensions with USA amid extra tariffs on BRICS countries.
- ③ ongoing conflicts with China.
- ④ sign of silent support to Russian aggression in Ukraine.
- ⑤ reflects non-commitment to UNO.



As the global order shifts, rising BRICS is an eventuality. India's foreign policy has to evolve dynamically to secure India's interests holistically.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q15. 'The Supreme Court's consultative role can strengthen cooperative federalism.' Do you agree? In this context, critically examine the scope and significance of the Court's advisory jurisdiction under Article 143.

প্রশ্ন ১৫: উচ্চতম ন্যায়ালয়ৰ পৰামৰ্শমূলক ভূমিকাই সহযোগিতামূলক যুক্তৰাষ্ট্ৰবাদক শক্তিশালী কৰিব পাৰে। এই কথাৰ সৈতে আপুনি সন্মত নে? এই সম্পৰ্কে ১৪৩ নং অনুচ্ছেদৰ অধীনত আদালতৰ পৰামৰ্শমূলক অধিকাৰক্ষেত্ৰৰ পৰিসৰ আৰু গুৰুত্ব সমালোচনামূলকভাৱে পৰীক্ষা কৰক।

(Answer in 250 words)

Under article 143, the President can seek the Supreme Court's (SC) opinion on matters of law or issues arising out of pre-Constitution treaty.

While it may refuse to tender opinion in the first case, it must reply in the second case. In both cases, the advise is non-binding on the President.

Such consultation can strengthen cooperative federalism, in my opinion:

① legal opinion on substantial question of law. eg. interstate water disputes.

- ② throws light where constitution is silent. eg. use of pocket veto and timelines thereof.
- ③ enrich the public debate by disseminating information.
- ④ positions the SC as the final interpreter of the constitution, thereby reducing overlapping jurisdictions.

Post the Tamil Nadu Governor's case (2025), the President has sought SC's opinion under article 143 if the courts have powers to fix timeline on functioning of President and Governors. The judgement is currently reserved.

scope of
Article
143

① any matter of law
forwarded by President.

② any matter of
pre-Constitution era.

significance

① seeking legal opinion.

② clarifying the
legal outcomes.

③ guided policy
tweaks.

④ informed citizenry.

⑤ upholds doctrine of checks
and balances.

Critical examination

① in matter of law, SC may refuse
to issue opinion.

- ② non-binding nature leaves the matter to executive's discretion.
- ③ may create public division and chaos.
- ④ complicated legal proceedings and extra burden on SC.

The usage of article 143 is crucial to ensure vibrancy in executive-judicial relations. Its use, however, must be non-partisan, balanced and cooperative.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (if any)
Total

Q16. Self-Help Groups are not only instruments of social empowerment, but also catalysts for grassroots innovation and local entrepreneurship. In this context, discuss the role of SHGs in advancing the objectives of SDG 9 in India.

প্রশ্ন ১৬: আত্মসহায়ক গোটবোৰ কেৱল সামাজিক সবলীকৰণৰ আহিলাই নহয়, তৃণমূল পৰ্যায়ৰ উদ্ভাৱন আৰু স্থানীয় উদ্যোগশীলতাৰ বাবেও অনুঘটক। এই সন্দৰ্ভত, ভাৰতত বহন ক্ষম উন্নয়ন লক্ষ্য ৯-ৰ উদ্দেশ্যসমূহ আগুৱাই নিয়াৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত আত্মসহায়ক গোটৰ ভূমিকাৰ বিষয়ে আলোচনা কৰক।

(Answer in 250 words)

Self Help Groups (SHGs) refers to small voluntary union of people, usually women, who pool in their resources and invest for a common venture.

SHGs as instruments of social empowerment:

- ① creates employment. eg. SEWA employs more than 10,000 women.
- ② women-led development. eg. 77.5% SHG in India are women-centric.
- ③ based in rural areas. eg. important tool for rural development.
- ④ boost to non-farm sector. eg. SHGs in dairy, basket-making etc.

→ for grassroots innovation

① creating new ventures. eg.
SHGs in app-based transport.

② women as drone didis.

③ enhanced access to
formal credit.

SHGs as catalysts

→ for local entrepreneurship

① promote non-farm and
allied sectors. eg. fisheries.

② adoption of modern technology.
eg. machines in textiles
making.

③ new avenues in food
processing industries like jam
making, papad etc.

Role of SHGs in advancing SDG-9

SDG-9 relates to advancement in industry and innovation.

- ① SHGs develop healthy credit culture leading to entrepreneurial activities.
- ② setting up of MSMEs in rural areas.
- ③ boost to domestic economy
- ④ promote locals into industrial units. eg. dijjat Papad.
- ⑤ make personnel more skilled and informed.
- ⑥ boost to indigenous textiles. eg. mask making in Majuli.

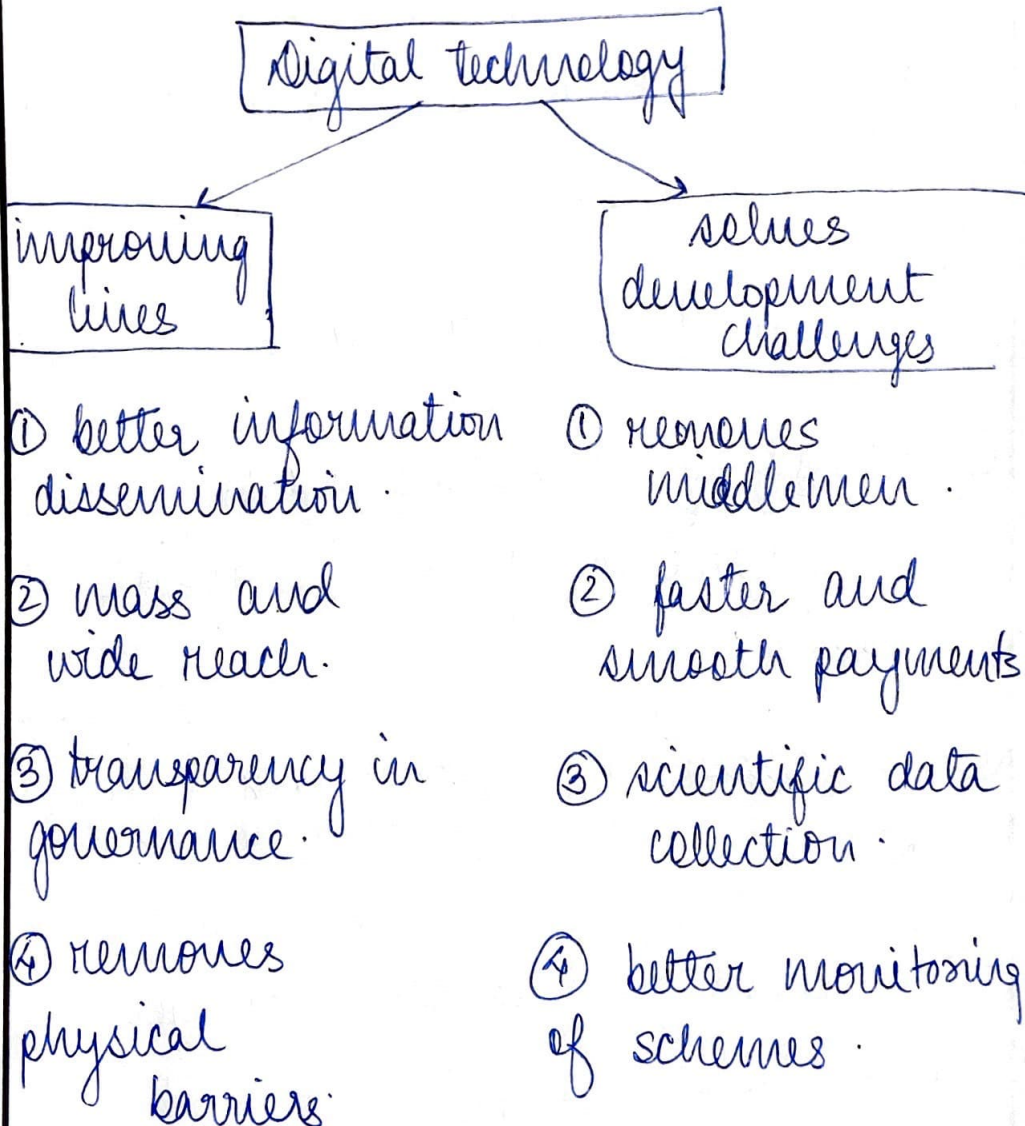
Due to its immense role in advancing goals of inclusive development, promotion of SHGs are crucial for employment and industrial growth.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q17. "Digital technology is the most powerful tool we have for improving lives and solving development challenges." In this context, discuss the importance of digital governance in achieving inclusive welfare outcomes in India.

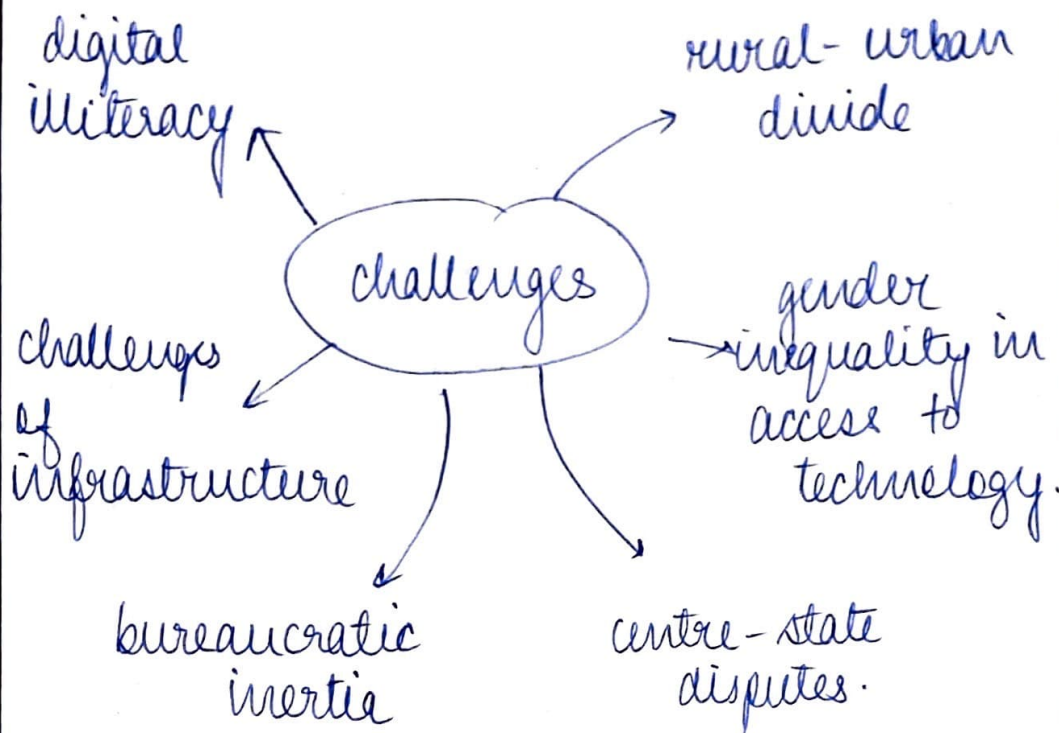
প্রশ্ন ১৭: "জীবন উন্নত করা আৰু উন্নয়নৰ প্ৰত্যাহ্বানসমূহ সমাধান কৰাৰ বাবে ডিজিটেল প্ৰযুক্তি হৈছে আমাৰ হাতত থকা আটাইতকৈ শক্তিশালী সঁজুলি।" এই সন্দৰ্ভত, ভাৰতত অন্তৰ্ভুক্তিমূলক কল্যাণমূলক ফলাফল প্ৰাপ্ত কৰাত ডিজিটেল প্ৰশাসনৰ গুৰুত্বৰ বিষয়ে আলোচনা কৰক। (Answer in 250 words)

Digital technology refers to use of means of internet and e-banking for governance purposes.



Importance of digital governance

- ① improved access to government services. eg. Sema setu in Assam.
- ② faster payments via DBT under schemes like MGNREGA.
- ③ better correspondence management of land records.
- ④ empirical data collection.
- ⑤ spreading awareness about government schemes via social media.
- ⑥ enhanced transparency. eg. online RTI.
- ⑦ removed middlemen via GeM portal and e-NAM.



Solutions

- ① include panchayats in digital governance.
- ② promoting digital literacy.
- ③ safe and secured data storage.
- ④ gendered policy making.
- ⑤ improving infrastructure.

Improving digital technology is the purview of both centre and state to ensure effective and efficient public service delivery.

Feedback
(For office use only)

Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

Value Addition

Penalty (If any)

Total

Q18. While global discourse has emphasised international climate finance, the mobilisation of domestic resources is equally critical for countries of the Global South. Examine this with special reference to India.

প্রশ্ন ১৮: যদিও বৈশ্বিক কথোপকথনে আন্তঃরাষ্ট্রীয় জলবায়ু বিস্তার ওপরত গুরুত্ব আরোপ কৰিছে, ঘৰুৱা সম্পদৰ একত্ৰীকৰণ বৈশ্বিক দক্ষিণৰ দেশসমূহৰ বাবে সমানেই গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ। ভাৰতৰ বিশেষ প্ৰসংগৰ সৈতে ইয়াৰ মূল্যায়ন কৰক।
(Answer in 250 words)

The recent Assessment Report - 6 of IPCC has highlighted shortfalls in climate finance mobilisations leading to slow progress towards combating climate change.

emphasis
on climate
finance

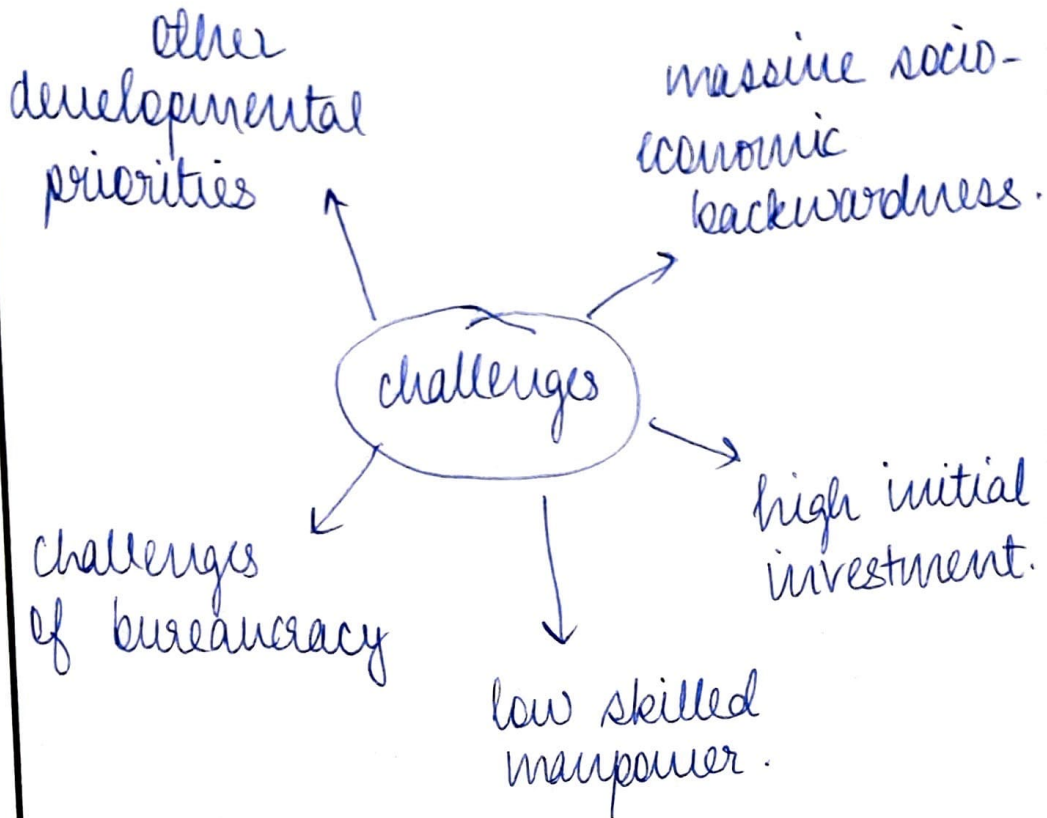
① annually 100 million \$ from global north under Copenhagen summit.

② establishment of Green Climate Fund.

③ new quantifiable collective goals in Paris in 2024.

Importance of mobilisation of domestic resources, especially in India:

- ① to reduce dependency on 'coal' based power.
- ② to transition to renewable energy sources by 2030.
- ③ to achieve carbon neutrality by 2070.
- ④ to create disaster resilient infrastructure.
- ⑤ focusing on creating forests as carbon sinks.
- ⑥ to enable a vibrant carbon market, as envisioned under Paris deal.
- ⑦ to engage community participation and disaster preparedness.



Solutions

- ① follow green budgeting norms.
- ② invest in R&D
- ③ enhanced capacity building.
- ④ focus on adaptation.
- ⑤ promotion of self efforts like LIFE mission.

Tackling climate change requires continuous and sustained partnerships to ensure global cooperation and fulfill SDGs 16 and 17.

Feedback
(For office use only)

Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

Value Addition

Penalty (If any)

Total

Q19. Investment in women's capacities is a sine qua non to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation. Discuss with suitable examples from India.

প্রশ্ন ১৯: স্থিতিস্থাপক আন্তঃগাঁথনি নির্মাণ, অন্তর্ভুক্তিমূলক আৰু বহনক্ষম ঔদ্যোগিকৰণৰ প্ৰচাৰ, আৰু উদ্ভাৱনক উৎসাহিত কৰাৰ বাবে মহিলাৰ সামৰ্থ্যৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত বিনিয়োগ কৰাটো অনিবাৰ্য। ভাৰতৰ উপযুক্ত উদাহৰণৰ সৈতে আলোচনা কৰক।
(Answer in 250 words)

India has now started focusing on women-led development to achieve its targets under SDG-4 and 5.

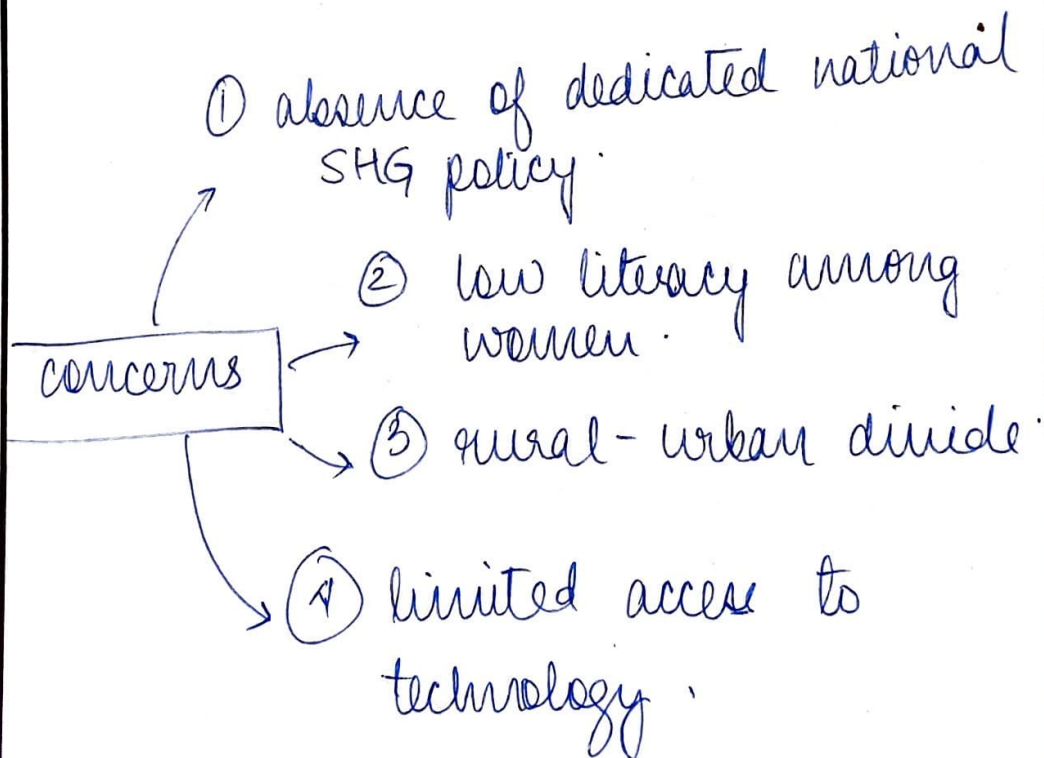
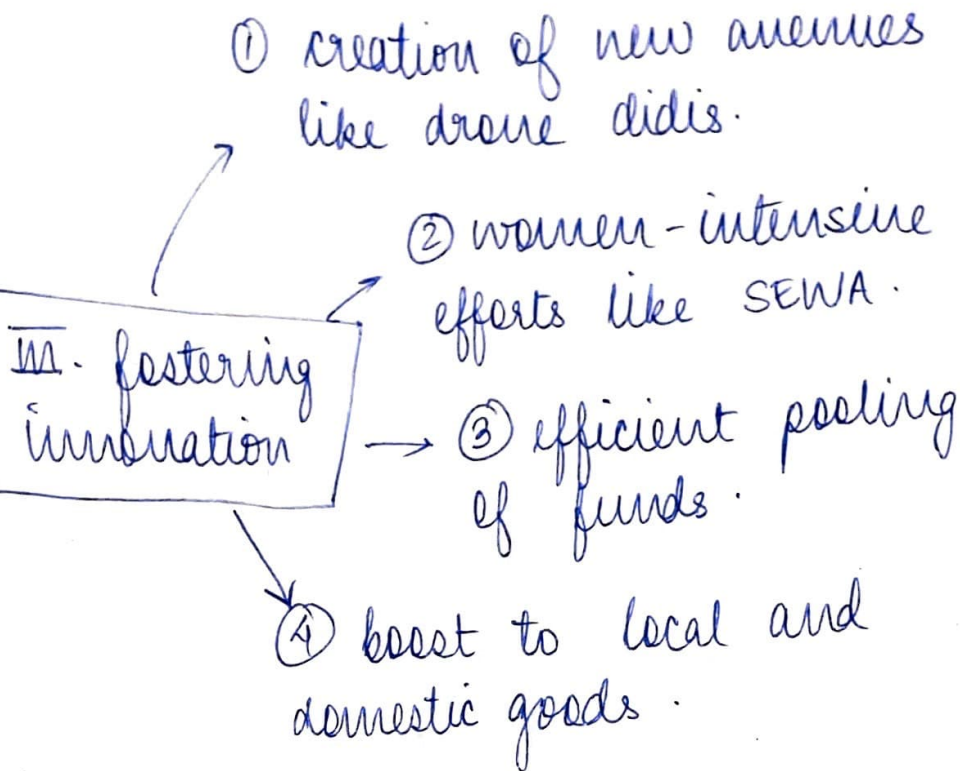
Investment in women's capacities essential to:

I. build resilient infrastructure.

- ① to enable women have a better say. eg. women deciding which appliances are better.
- ② ensure disaster mitigation. eg. women suffer most during floods.
- ③ better community outreach. eg. awareness and informed "know-how" helps to generate shared knowledge.

II. inclusive and sustainable industrialisation

- ① focus on non-farm sectors. eg. food processing.
- ② Creates employment and empowerment eg. women based SHGs.
- ③ enhanced access to formal credit via NABARD's refinancing.
- ④ gendered state support. eg. schemes like stand up India support women entrepreneurs.
- ⑤ better health and education outcomes for young girls.



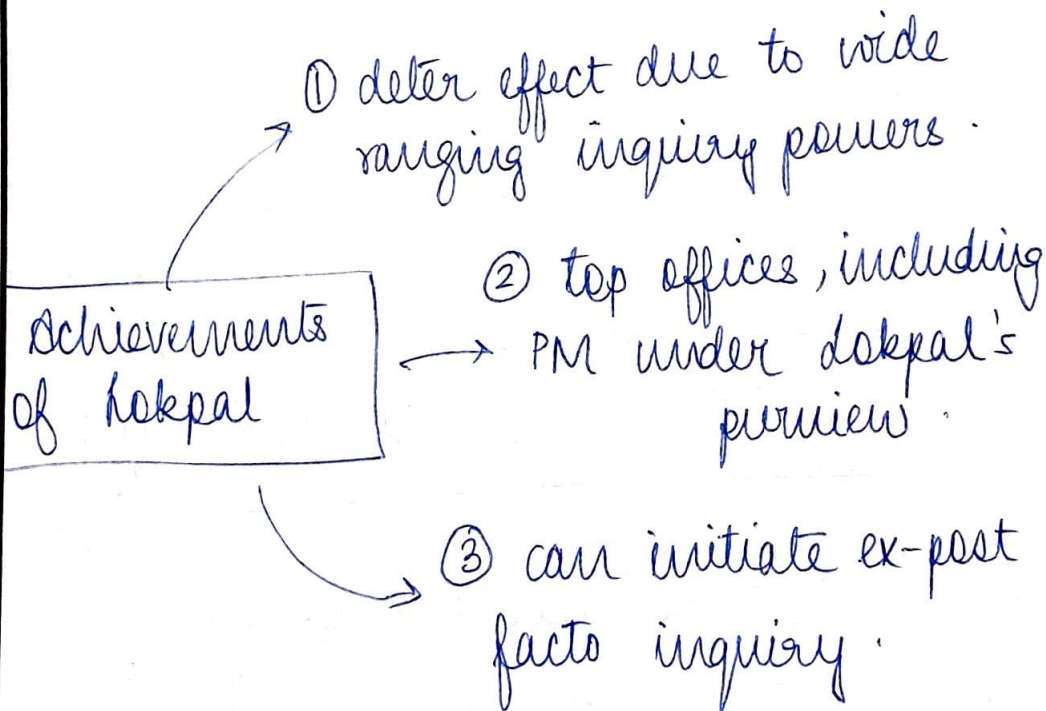
Thus, dedicated efforts and sustained investments are necessary to build a skilled and robust women workforce and improve their labor force participation rate.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

Q20. 'Empower Citizens, Expose Corruption' is the motto adopted by the Lokpal of India in 2025. Examine to what extent the institution has been able to realise this vision. In this context, discuss the broader challenges of ensuring accountability and transparency in governance, citing recent examples.

প্ৰশ্ন ২০: নাগৰিকক শক্তিশালী কৰক, দুৰ্নীতি প্ৰকাশ কৰক হৈছে ২০২৫ চনত ভাৰতৰ লোকপালৰ দ্বাৰা গ্ৰহণ কৰা মূলমন্ত্ৰ। প্ৰতিষ্ঠানটোৱে এই দৃষ্টিভঙ্গী কিমান পৰিমাণে বাস্তৱায়িত কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম হৈছে পৰীক্ষা কৰক। এই সন্দৰ্ভত শেহতীয়া উদাহৰণ উল্লেখ কৰি প্ৰশাসনত দায়বদ্ধতা আৰু স্বচ্ছতা নিশ্চিত কৰাৰ বিস্তৃত প্ৰত্যাশনসমূহৰ বিষয়ে আলোচনা কৰক।
(Answer in 250 words)

Lokpal, India's ombudsman, has completed 10 years of its enactment. Its motto of 2025 reflects its commitment to create informed citizenry and ensure public interest.



However, Lokpal's role has had little impact.

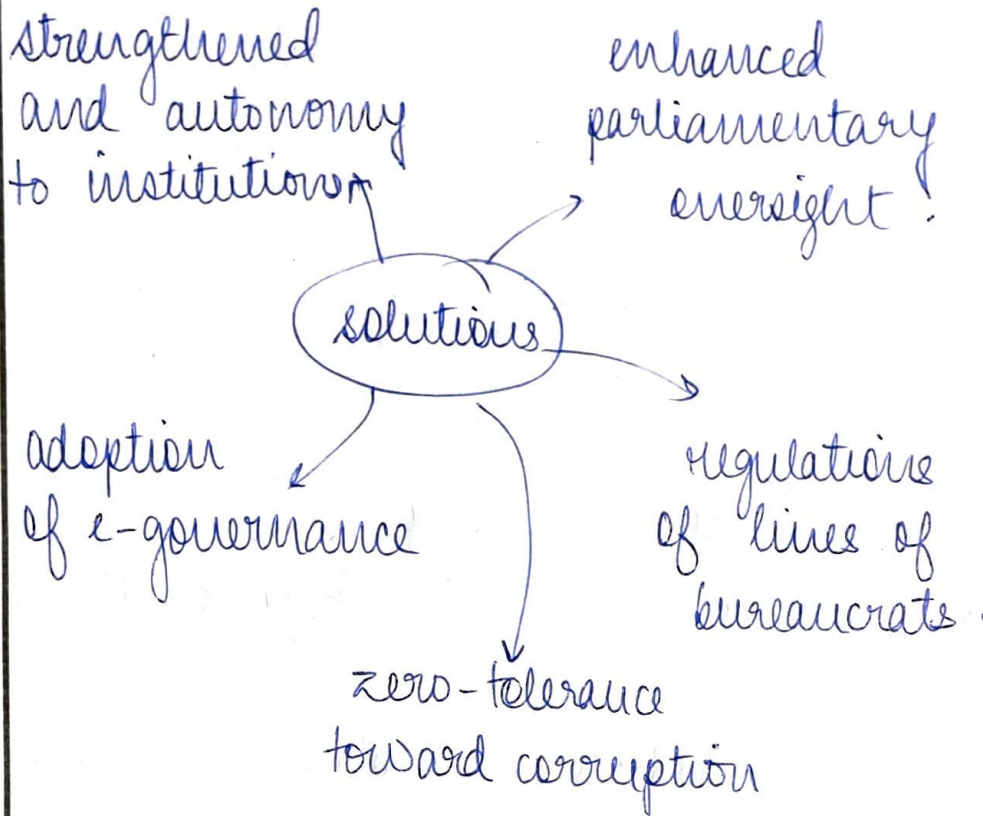
- ① delayed appointment. eg. despite act of 2015, first lokpal appointed in 2019.
- ② no constitutional status.
- ③ vacant positions.
- ④ no powers to initiate suo-motu investigations.
- ⑤ no separate cadre.

Broader challenges of ensuring accountability and transparency:

- ① frequent political nexus. eg. West Bengal teacher's recruitment scam.
- ② use of unaccounted money. eg.

loads of cash from Justice
Yashwant Verma's residence.

- ③ misuse of power by bureaucrats.
eg. ACS Nupur Bora.
- ④ forged documentation of
certification. eg. IAS(P) Pooja Khedkar.
- ⑤ slow adoption of tools of
e-governance. eg. >85% of government
offices have no citizen charters.
- ⑥ slow and delayed grievance
redressal.
- ⑦ communal polarisation and vote
bank politics. eg. hate speech
during elections.



Thus, the menace of corruption can be solved using holistic approach and greater collaboration among citizens and state is essential to ensure vibrant governance.

Feedback (For office use only)
Structure/ Presentation
Question Interpretation
Content
Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total