

# APSC Mains 2023 TS - 16 (GS Paper 2)

Duration – 3 Hrs

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|-----------|--------------|---------------|---------|
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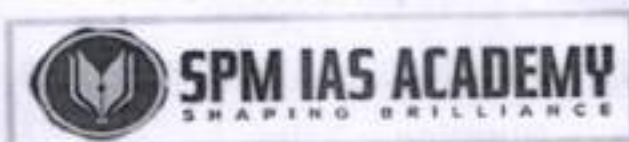
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Medium:

English ☒

Assamese ☐

| INDEX NUMBER |               |                 | INSTRUCTIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Q.NO.        | Maximum Marks | Marks Obtained. | <p>Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting the questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.</li> <li>• All questions are compulsory.</li> <li>• The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</li> <li>• The answers must not exceed 150 words for 10 marks and 250 words for 20 marks.</li> <li>• Content is more important than the number of words.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off</li> </ul> |
| 1            | 10            |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2            | 10            |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| 7            | 10            |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 8            | 10            |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| 18           | 15            |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 19           | 15            |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 20           | 15            |                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| TOTAL:       | 250           |                 | <p>Remarks:</p> <p>Signature of the Student: </p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |



### Brief report of Performance Evaluation of student in the paper

|                                                       | Poor | Average | Good | Very good | Excellent |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|---------|------|-----------|-----------|
| Understanding the context and demand of the questions |      |         |      |           |           |
| Relevancy of the content                              |      |         |      |           |           |
| Structure and flow of the answer                      |      |         |      |           |           |
| (a) Introduction                                      |      |         |      |           |           |
| (b) Body                                              |      |         |      |           |           |
| (c) Conclusion                                        |      |         |      |           |           |
| Subject knowledge                                     |      |         |      |           |           |
| Language of the answer                                |      |         |      |           |           |
| Presentation                                          |      |         |      |           |           |
| (a) Underline to the keywords                         |      |         |      |           |           |
| (b) Use of flowcharts or diagrams                     |      |         |      |           |           |
| (c) Paragraph limits and overall                      |      |         |      |           |           |
| Understanding of directives                           |      |         |      |           |           |
| Factual correctness                                   |      |         |      |           |           |
| Overall performance                                   |      |         |      |           |           |

**Detail Feedback**



Q1. Do you agree with the assertion that the higher judiciary in India needs to be more transparent and accountable? Share your views. (10 marks/150 words)

Judiciary in India is known for its independence and singularity from the other organs of the constitution i.e., executive and legislative. This is known as separation of Powers.

But lately due to certain reasons, the judiciary has been questioned of its transparency and accountability.

Requir. Reasons for this are

- ↳ More than 6.6 Crore pending cases in all aspects of judiciary
- ↳ over dilution of separation of powers in certain situations y: Ba

Need for transparency and accountability

- ↳ To make public aware - It is imperative for judicial decisions to be in line with the public mentality of justice.

↳ ensure separation of power - sometimes due to judicial overreach the separation of power is diluted.

↳ make judiciary accountable - through digitisation, the proceedings of court should be made public to ensure trust of public.

Non requirement of transparency

↳ maintain sanctity of the judiciary  
 ↳ maintain the independence from other two organs

↳ in case of dispute, ensure overruling in some situations to protect national interest.

Way forward

Thus we see that with a proper proper approach judiciary if made accountable and transparent will bring about better governance and ensure trust in citizens.



**Q2. Comment on the utility and effectiveness of soft power for furthering national interest. Can soft power replace hard power in international politics? (10 marks/150 words)**

National Interest refers to those phases of a nation with respect to any other country which help in protection of its rights, culture and other significant aspects.

Soft power is the essential element for maintaining national interest like enrolling in sports, space technology, scientific research etc.

Utility of soft power in nation interest

↳ bring competitiveness among nations whereby healthy growth and development of the country

↳ help in gaining success without involving in war or any violence like Russia

Effectiveness of soft power

↳ soft power will help in promotion of culture, traditions in a positive manner.

↳ this will bring about healthy competition instead of overpowering



each other through weapons or wars.

eg: discoveries of science  
excelling in Olympics etc.

Soft power in international politics

- Some problems of the world cannot be won through wars only i.e., hard power.  
Problems of inter water disputes, linking of rivers etc require people to people aspect to solve disputes amicably.  
eg: Indus Water Treaty on bilateral negotiations

- In international politics, war can be avoided through bilateral talks or negotiations without interference of weapons or war eg: Russia Ukraine war.

Thus we see that with a multi-pronged approach the problems of modern world can be solved through soft power better than hard power. and also avoid loss of human lives and infrastructure.

Q3. Governing emerging technologies and governing through technologies are both critical in the present era. Elucidate. (10 marks/150 words)

The 21st century is the age of emerging technology like vis-a-vis Artificial intelligence, Chat GPT, Bard etc.

Governance through technology has its own pros and cons.

Governing emerging technology

↳ The emerging technology if not governed in a proper manner can lead to various massive problems.

✓  
Health

Technology like genome sequencing can help cure diseases but if asked to cure cancer through AI, it might end up killing all humans.  
eg: Thanos like

↓  
Science

New innovations can now ~~also~~ cure the babies of faulty mitochondria through MT-Tech but a wrong use of it can also lead to designer babies like in China.



## ↓ Nuclear weapons

Even though science can make weapons to protect a nation from enemies but if used in a wrong way, it also leads to destruction of a country eg: Hiroshima

## Governing through technology

↳ With proper use of technology, effective governance can be brought about.  
This can be seen as: Pros

→ Sewa sakti portal →

→ MGNREGS NAMP - National monitoring programme to measure land area

→ Mission Bhumiportal - In Assam, registration of caste certificates through online portals.

Cons → may lead to fraudulent accounts  
→ may lead to tracking

↓  
↳ false transactions  
money laundering.

Thus with a multi pronged approach and with sense of goodwill, these technology should be used in a careful manner.

Q4. Bureaucracy is not an obstacle to democracy but an inevitable complement to it. Do you agree? Substantiate your views. (10 marks/150 words)

Bureaucracy refers to the officials of our country who are in charge of mediation between the citizens and the government.

Bureaucracy as an obstacle

↳ Sometimes bureaucrats involved in corrupt affair and think about self vested interests

Bureaucracy not an obstacle but an inevitable complement of democracy

Democracy and bureaucracy go hand in hand.

→ Without bureaucracy the proper implementation of schemes of democratic India can never be ensured

→ The civil/public officers have a connection with general public to ensure equal protection of rights.



→ Without bureaucrats, the certain  
~~refuse~~ of society who are not able  
 to approach higher authorities regarding  
 their issues ~~is~~ ~~can~~ can never be  
 solved

→ bureaucrats ensure equal distribution  
 of legal aid to poor under Art 36  
 and ensure justice and equality to  
 all (Art 14-18).

But this may sometimes act as an  
 obstacle when officials are engaged  
 in corruption

Way forward

With a proper approach, the problem  
 of bureaucracy can be solved  
 through Prevention of Corruption  
Act and ensure bureaucracy  
 complements democracy.

Q5. Identify key interventions being implemented by government to improve the quality and availability of household water. (10 marks/150 words)

Household water has been a problem for India since time immemorial. According to a report of UN, more than 23 million people ~~are~~ have no access to drinking water.

The government through its schemes and policies have tried to change the scenario since quite long.

### Problems of household water

- ↳ no supply of water to remote areas of India
- ↳ no process of replenishment of ground water
- ↳ illegal extraction of groundwater leading to loss of water for the needy.
- ↳ climate change leading to drought like situations in various places
- ↳ mediators corruption leading to non fulfillment of policies of government.



Even then, government of India is trying through various means to bring about changes in these scenarios.

Key interventions by government

- PM KSY - PM Kishu Sanchi Yojna ensure less wastage of water through new irrigation method

- Hat Ghar paani for water supply in every remote households

- Central Ground Water Depletion Authority (CGWA) to control the depletion of ground water

- micro irrigation schemes like sprinkler or drip irrigation will save water for households

Thus with the removal of corruption and other factors, if properly implemented government schemes can help provide the required necessary water solutions.

Q6. What are quasi judicial bodies? Discuss their significance for governance.  
(10 marks/150 words)

Quasi judicial bodies are the semi-judicial bodies which ensure justice to certain sections which are not taken up by official judicial bodies.

For good governance, importance of quasi judicial bodies cannot be ignored.

Significance  
of quasi  
judicial  
for  
governance

→ ensure connection with the underprivileged with the law

→ Lokadalats or Rajadalats help bring about justice for the ~~sec~~ sections of society

→ Lokpal/Lokayukta for checking working of officials and administrators.



significance

→ reduce burden of higher  
judicial bodies  
as they have  
a lot of pending  
cases already

Thus we see that the quasi  
judicial bodies play an important  
role in bringing about positive  
governance and ensure free functioning  
of democracy.

Q7. While fundamental rights have strengthened our democracy, fundamental duties are essential to strengthen our society. In this context examine the importance of fundamental duties for Indian society. (10 marks/150 words)

Fundamental rights <sup>(FR)</sup> are the part of the Constitution of India which form the heart and soul of the Constitution enshrined in Part ~~IV~~ III.

How FR strengthened our democracy

↳ they help provide a framework for functioning of the administration

↳ although ~~non~~ enforceable, they mention the ideals necessary for a good governance e.g: Right to dignified life Article 21, Rt to equality (Article 14)

↳ Fundamental Rights ~~setup the act~~ against the violation of it and help bring about stable government.

Importance: With FRs, Fundamental Duties also play an important role in the governance of our Constitution enshrined in part IV-A of our Constitution.



Fundamental Duties ensure the normal or acceptable behaviour of a citizen

Importance of Fundamental Duties

although non enforceable, Fundamental Duties play a sig significant role in bringing about sound administration

help protect sovereignty of the nation as enshrined in our Fundamental duties

maintain unity and integrity of the nation against all odds which promotes the spirit of Nationalism

Thus, we see that every aspect of the constitution be it fundamental duty or fundamental right, play an important and significant role in bringing good governance.

**Q8. What have been major changes in framework for Centre-state fiscal relations in recent years? Analyze their impact on the dynamics of Centre-state relationship. (10 marks/150 words)**

Centre State fiscal relations have an important impact on the whole economy because it is the money matters which can solidify any change in the economy.

Centre state fiscal relations have changed in the recent years like:

→ PM GATI Shakti now subsumes Project UDAM, Project Bharat Mala, Sagor Mala etc.

→ Look East policy looks for the development of North East along with rest of India.

→ PM Krishi Sichi Yojna now subsumes ~~the~~ micro irrigation under both centre and states



→ PM Awas Yojna: housing for centre and states

→ reduces burden of handling multiple projects under the same umbrella scheme but sector wise segregated

Impact of dynamics of centre state relations

→ fund allocation is easier as all funds are covered by centre

→ this reduces the corruption of state level intermediaries at district level

Thus this dynamic if continued in a positive way can help bring about economic development of all states combined.

Q9. Concerns regarding Parliamentary performance most often relate to the drastic reduction in the level and extent of deliberation, representation and scrutiny. In this context, highlight the recent instances which have led decline in effective functioning of the parliament. (10 marks/150 words)

Parliamentary performances are the framework for implementing schemes and discussing for good will of the citizens.

But in recent times, parliamentary committee performances have not been at par.

Problems in parliamentary committee performances

↳ low standard of intellectual, tech savvy members - this has led to decline in decisions of technology matters as they do not have the required knowledge in the required aspect.



↳ less women representation - Low  
Sabha has 14.4% women which is  
 extremely low. This hampers women  
 development as only a woman can  
 understand the concerns of a woman  
 and bring changes likewise eg: period  
poverty in India

↳ Question hour and zero hour issues  
 - Questions put up are not addressed  
 properly. This leads to wasting  
 of time of the Parliament.

↳ Lack of knowledge - lack of  
 knowledge and carelessness led to  
 problems in bills like add  
Aardhaar as money bill. etc

Thus with overcoming these  
 drawbacks the parliamentary  
 issues can be solved and more  
 smooth functioning can be brought  
 about.



Q10. Despite excellent economic growth in the last two decades, India continues to suffer from 'alarming' hunger, and acute malnutrition amongst children. In the light of this statement, examine. (10 marks/150 words)

India's hunger paradox is well known seen and understood from the account of people of 23 Crore who are poor while on the other hand has a ~~GDP~~ rank of the sixth largest economy.

This paradox can be seen as  
Economic growth in last 2 decades

↳ India has seen a significant growth in GDP resulting in fastest growing GDP in the world since covid pandemic.

↳ The ~~rest~~ V-curve recovery of India is well known which shows its economic development.

↳ Imports and exports have made a huge foreign reserves for Indian economy.

↳ The loss incurred from pandemic has been very well recovered in the last two years in terms of economy in sector like IT, technology, large markets etc.



~~Alarming~~ Although the sectors of IT and big scale industries are flourishing, the small scale, MSMEs, and specially agriculture have not coped up well since pandemic

### Hunger and malnutrition

- India has seen a ~~drop~~ <sup>rise</sup> in hunger index rankings recently by UNDP
- Malnutrition persists due to poverty and non development of agriculture sector since the pandemic.
- Disguised hunger is an issue among the marginalised because of lack of essential nutrients in food

### Way forward

With proper attention to agricultural sector and implementation of schemes like PM Kisan, Kisan bhi Padhai Bhi, Midday meal schemes etc, the problem of malnutrition can be met with. This will bring equal development and remove the paradox of hunger

Q11. What is Learning Poverty? How does learning poverty threaten India's efforts to build human capital and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? Suggest measures to address learning poverty. (15 marks/250 words)

Poverty can be seen as obstacle in ensuring complete success and development in any country. Learning poverty refers to the phenomenon of ~~p~~ evolving poverty where people are not able to realise their potential and know about schemes imparted for them.

Threatening effect of learning poverty

↳ SDG goal 1: Zero hunger and  
SDG goal 2: no poverty can  
 be difficult to achieve if  
 learning poverty persists

↳ if people are not able to understand  
 a scheme then they can never  
 work in that direction to make  
 the best use of it.



↳ this may lead to human capital deterioration and contribute negatively to economy.

↳ this will lead to women down gradation as they will never be able to come forward in any phase of society

↳ children and students will not be able to avail required benefits and will lead to malnutrition or disguised hunger

Measures to address

↳ proper guidance by officials appointed at village levels to communicate about schemes to the general public

↳ implementation of rules in local languages to get maximum benefit out of the schemes

↳ ensure more participation of women to bring about inclusive growth.

↳ bottom up approach to address grass root level problems and thereby bring positive changes from bottom to top

↳ 3F → Fund  
           → Function  
           → Functionaries

to bring about proper functioning by the officials with required fund.



Thus, with a multipronged approach the problem of learning poverty can be solved and help in inclusive growth and attain SDG goals as soon as possible. ~~as~~ due to growing demographic dividend of India.

Q12. The second decade of 21st century marks a collective failure of UN and its agencies. Examine this statement citing suitable examples. (15 marks/250 words)

The post 1991 cold war dynamics led to formation of two major blocs



US bloc and ~~not~~ USSR bloc. The US bloc made the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) and the USSR bloc made the Warsaw Pact as the Warsaw Pact saw its downfall while NATO still persists.

Under this various UN agencies were formed like the UNGA (UN General Assembly), UNSC (UN Security Council), ICJ (International Court of Justice), etc.

But due to the west overpowering attitude, these agencies have seen a failure in recent time due to dynamic change in politics.



The problems can be seen as various agencies having different loopholes or lacunae.

Problems  
with  
the agencies

→ UNGA (General Assembly) is more of west supporting nations agency hence does not lead to growth of south-south cooperation.

→ UNSC (Security Council) favours the west hence is still denying the seat of India in the UNSC even though Russia backing India.

↓  
ICJ  
(International Court of Justice) is not fair in its judgements and is more west favouring. Eg: the panel of judges have a majority of judges from west countries which leads to biasness in decisions.

↳ do not want involvement of south.  
- eg: blocking the formation of

Thus we see that there are many problems with the agencies of the UN who are mostly west favouring

This can be rectified if

→ A proper framework is enabled for more inclusion of the other countries of the world.

→ A general voting system with equal importance to all should be ensured  
 eg: one country equivalent to one vote.

This will ensure justice to all

→ allocation from members of all countries to ensure a free and just debate.

Thus, with a proper framework, the drawbacks of the UN agencies can be changed and made more fair and non west influencing.





**Q13. Do you agree with the view that time has come to revisit the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution? Discuss with suitable arguments.**  
 (15 marks/250 words)

The seventh schedule of the Indian Constitution deals with subjects of the Union list, State list, Concurrent list  
 (151) (62) (98)  
 (subjects) (subjects) (subjects)

But in recent times, there have been instances in differences of opinion regarding these subjects in each part.

Why revisit the schedule?

↳ not fair division - some problems or matters of the state list are enlisted in the concurrent list which makes it difficult to make rules regarding it. The concurrent list subjects are under the scrutiny of the central government. eg: Marriage, Divorce which are actually matters to be solved within state are taken by the centre.

↳ time management issue - taking up cases from state list and concurrent list to the union may lead to.



unfair judgement as there are already many problems <sup>to be solved</sup> ~~faced~~ by the centre. and ~~not~~ taking up more cases will only overburden it.

↳ lack of independence and dignity - the state boundary and delinearction and extension or compression is done by the centre which leads to loss of independence of states' dignity.

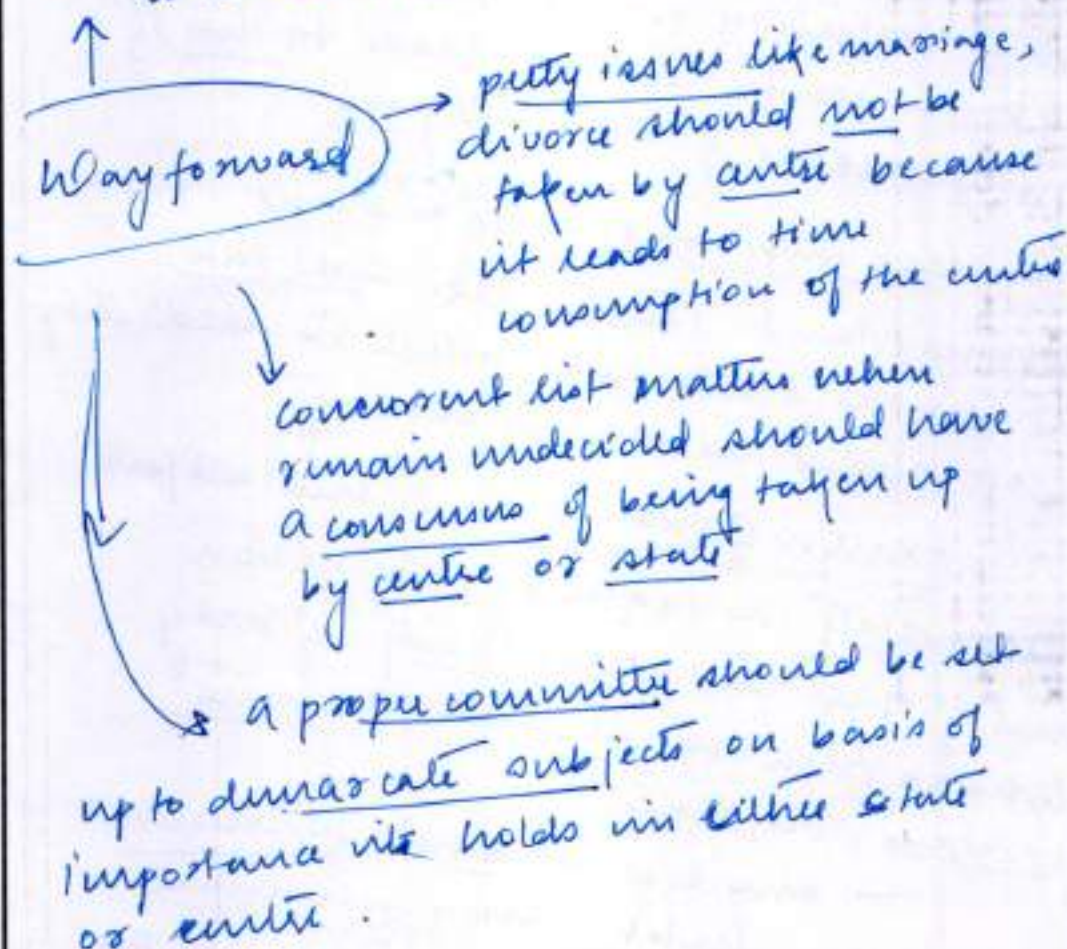
↳ not important issues - Some unimportant issues like salt tax is in the state list which is absolutely not needed in today's society.

↳ transfer of subjects - certain subjects from state is taken by the union and as there is ambiguity of any decision then the decision of centre prevails over state.

- any subject under concurrent list comes under Union government and not under state government. ~~For~~ eg: Marriage, Divorce etc.

Thus we see that there are various issues regarding the enlistment of subjects in the schedule of the Constitution

ensure a framework  
for correct allocation of subjects according  
to centre or state's capacity





Thus with proper framework  
and 3F → Fund, Function, Functionaries,  
the proper demarcation of subjects  
should be made to avoid any clash  
between the states - states or centre states  
eg: National Highway declaration by  
state of state highway for mainten  
nance

**Q14. When the criminal elements enter the legislature, then securing any form of justice, be it social, economic or political, becomes a hollow promise. What makes criminal elements successful in politics? What reforms, in your opinion, are needed to decriminalize electoral politics? (15 marks/250 words)**

Legislature is a pious section of Constitution which is entrusted with the task of bringing out law making for the good of the citizens.

Criminal elements, if enter the legislation then no kind of justice can be ensured be it political, economic or social.

Criminal elements hampering political, economic and social justice

↳ ~~Examination~~ Elements of corruption if found in legislation, then the political justice can never be ensured. The corrupt politicians will make laws in favour of self vested interests.

↳ Casteism is another kind of criminal element which will hamper social justice. Thus rights of the deserving



will be made on basis of caste or religion which will hamper fundamental rights of Article 14 (equality to all).

Why criminal elements successful in politics?

↳ perpetual corruption - Even though corruption is a crime, but the fear attitude of perpetual corruption or its a done thing is what hampers the most. It acts as a gose in increasing corruption in politics.

↳ criminal participants - Participants opting for parties if are from a criminal background, even though given bail will never have a just and sound mind to bring about development.

↳ communalism - Extreme sense of alignment towards religion leads to formation of ~~co~~ <sup>caste</sup> parties which favours only a particular section of

society. This leads to exploitation of poor or the un marginalised belonging to backward castes. and violation of Article 14-18.

↳ elite participants - if only the ~~poor~~ people from rich political & background take part in politics then it will lead to nepotism and they will forever support their own people. The ~~non~~ elite will always be made to bow down before them.

Reforms needed  
to  
decentralise

↙  
participation of people  
from all classes

- if it is ensured by the ECI that the parties' leaders are ~~not~~ chosen on a basis whereby people from lower caste can also join, then free election can be ensured.



↓  
Removal of caste barrier  
 - ensuring equality among all should be the goal of government because democracy and politics go hand in hand.

↳ Criminals should not be allowed to take part  
 This will ensure sound minded people to bring about good governance  
 ↳ Strict implementation of Prevention of Corruption Act and Whistleblower Protection Act - This will help reduce corruption also expose those involved in one.

Thus with proper implementation of these, it is possible to bring about fair politics which does justice to all ~~sectors~~ sections of society in social, political and economical spheres.

Q15. ASEAN is not only important for development of North-East but also it remains India's gateway to East Asia and beyond. Comment (15 marks/250 words)

~~ASEAN~~ → ~~All South East Ass~~

ASEAN is a platform for development of economic and political cooperation of all south east Asian countries.



ASEAN for North East

↳ The North East will be positively impacted due to the ASEAN

↳ Act East Policy 2014 from Look East Policy has been a major change in framework of north east.



↳ help check insurgency from neighbours like Myanmar, Bangladesh etc.

↳ ~~Kaladan multimodal proj.~~  
 ↳ check growth of north East and its inclusion in the global economy  
 eg: JICA water supply project etc.

### Indo Gateway to East Asia

↳ It helps in expanding its influence to the eastern Asian countries like for more import and export trade

↳ Kaladan multimodal project with Myanmar

rail way      road way      flight way

which will reduce the distance from Sittwe port to Mizoram by 1000 km or 3-4 days.

↳ enjoy low hanging fruits of Indian Ocean Region like poly-metallic nodules extraction of which 10% will solve India's problem of energy for next 150 years

↳ rise as global currency  
 ↳ reduce west influence

↳ promote south-south cooperation.

↳ protect Indian diaspora

Thus ASEAN is not only important for North East but also for the rest of India. If the problem of China is solved then the south-south cooperation will bring about revolutionary change





Q16. Although the New Education Policy brings with itself a commendable vision, its success will depend on its ability to effectively integrate with the government's other policy initiatives. Discuss. (15 marks/250 words)

The NEP (National Education Policy) brought about by the government in 2020 in India is a milestone step in the field of education of India.

### Vision of the National Education Policy

↳ ensure practical knowledge over bookish knowledge to students of the schools and high schools.

↳ provide education to lower privileged sections of the society to ensure education to all under Article 30

↳ ensure skill based development of brain to be able to face the outside world and develop a sense of basic intelligence rather than mugging up lessons for exams.

But with every revolutionary aspect full of good ~~deed~~ deeds



also has certain cons attached to it. The success of any policy or scheme is ensured with proper participation and coordination of all stakeholders involved.

NEP 2020 can be successful if

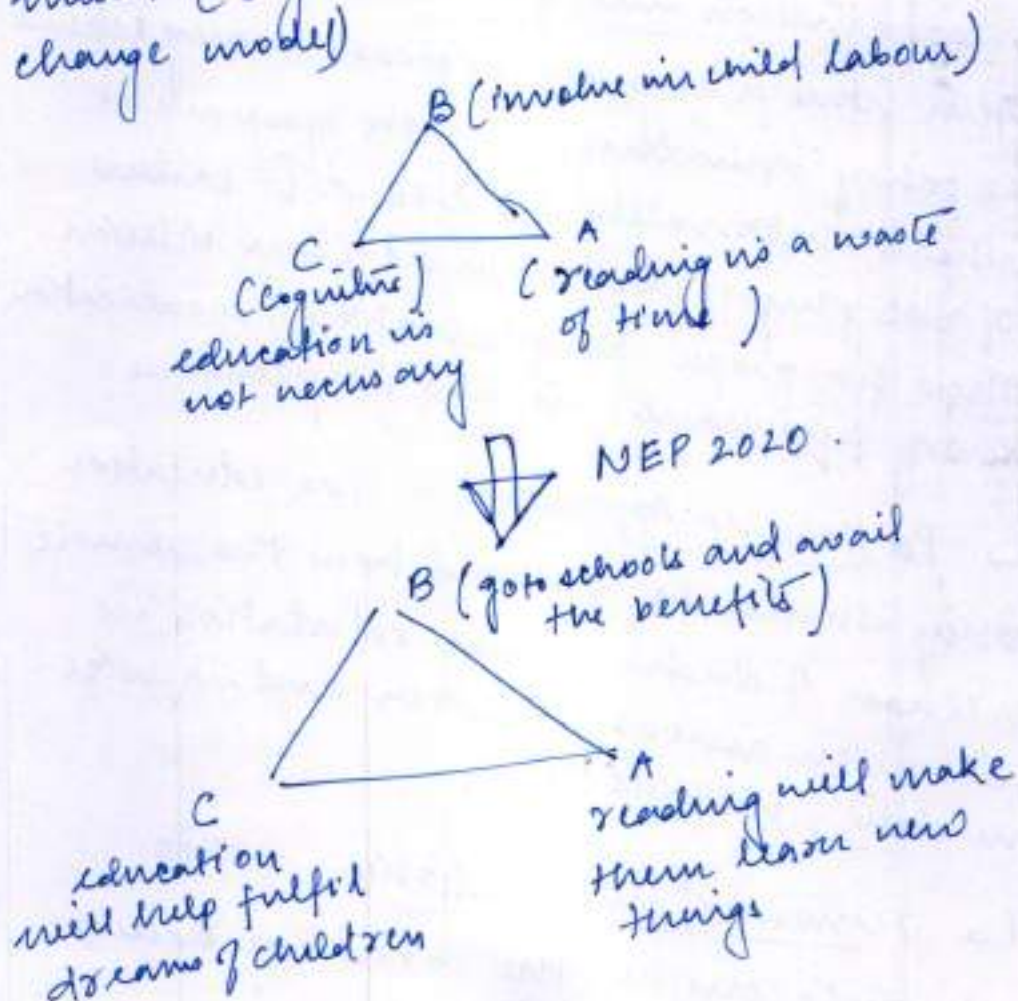
↳ coordination among citizens - The citizens often have a negative approach to any scheme or policy introduced by the government which ultimately leads to the failure of the purpose. Eg: National Clean Mission. Thus for proper implementation, coordination among applicants is also imperative.

↳ Bottom Up Approach - The education policy should be ensured from the remote villages of India where education is still alien among children and likewise in states, districts etc.

↳ removal of intermediaries - this will help ensure no corruption occurs.

at any level of the scheme and the fund allocated reaches the required institute for education of children.

↳ attitudinal change - the government's approach towards education can be a milestone if it takes up the CAB model (Cognitive, Affective, Behavioural) change model)





Thus with a proper approach and  
integration of other schemes:



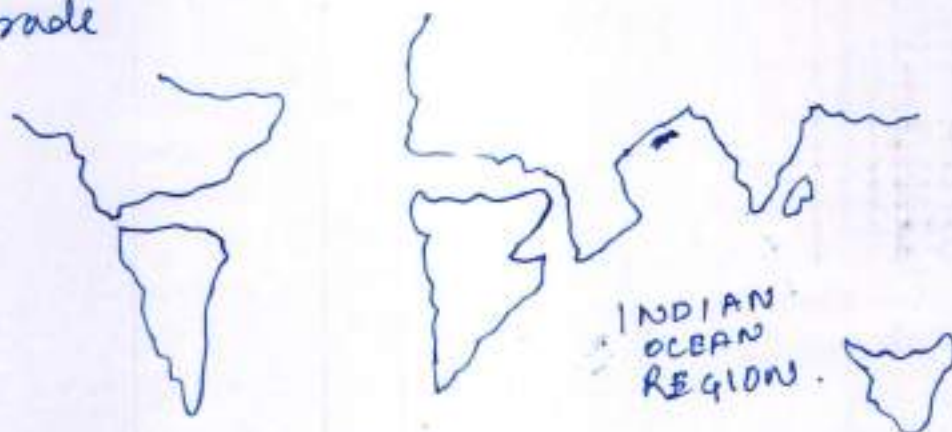
This milestone can bring about a  
revolutionary change as children  
are the citizens of tomorrow.

Q17. The Indian Ocean region is a key geostrategic theatre for India. Do you agree? What measures has India taken to safeguard its interests in the region? Examine. (15 marks/250 words)

Indian Ocean Region is often a key geostrategic theatre for India as India is highly dependent on the Indian Ocean for various reasons. It is often referred to as hanging fruit.

Importance of Indian Ocean Region for India:

↳ geo strategic location — the location of India and the Indian Ocean gives access to all parts of the world for exchange of trade



↳ oil and natural gas resources — the depths of



Indian Ocean have a lot of minerals and oil deposits of which which have great significance for India eg: Poly metallic modules which have di, cr etc which if extracted then even 10% can solve India's energy problem for 100 years.

↳ backyard of Indian navy - Indian navy personnel are always on duty in the Indian Ocean to check any terrorism or piracy activities towards India.

Recent threats for the Indian Ocean Region

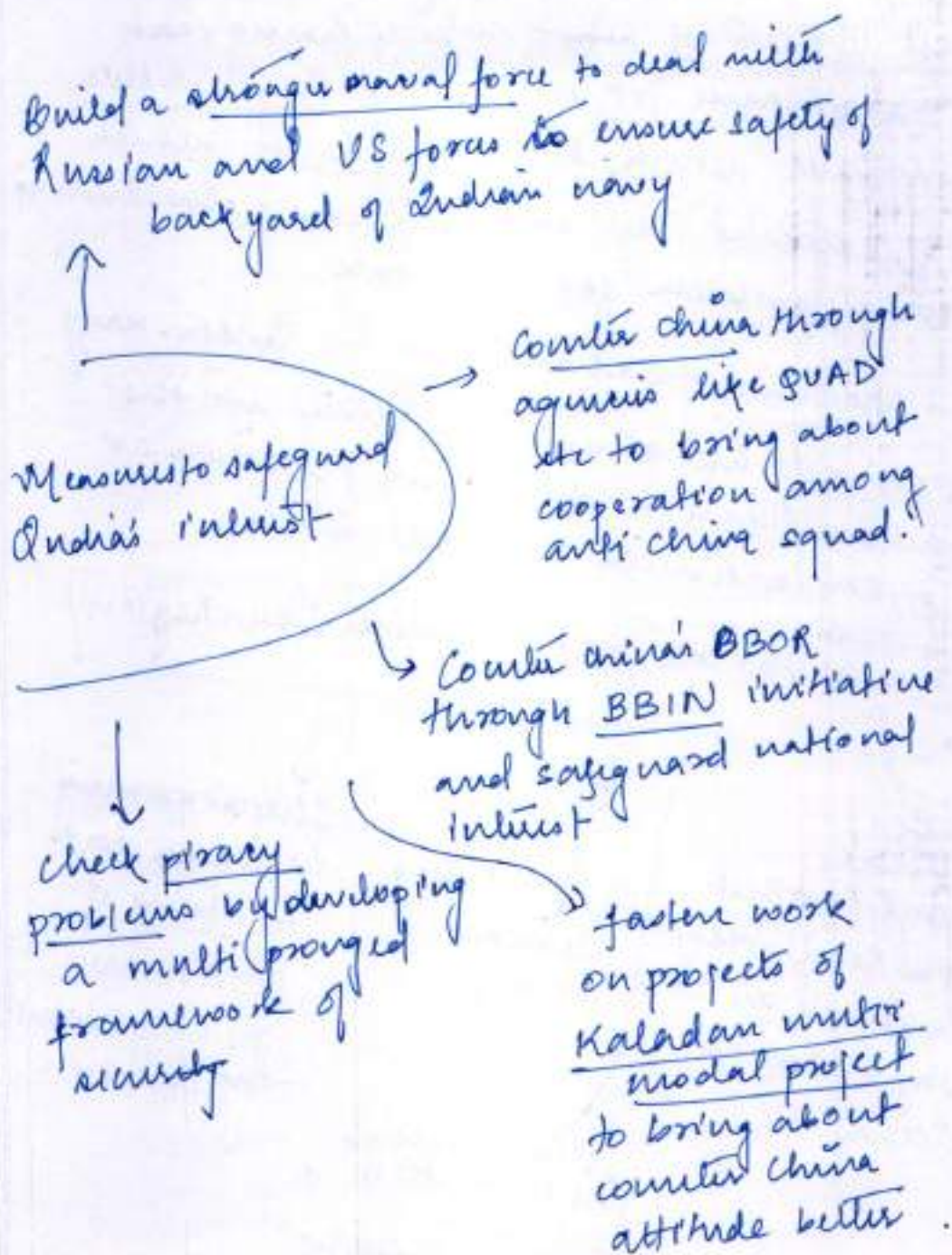
China's OBOR (One Belt One Road) policy has made its way to Indian Ocean

Russian fleet obstructing Indian navy

China's growing influence due to string of ports in the neighbouring countries.

USA involved in extraction processes of ocean depths

Piracy issues around Somalia and Malacca Strait.





Thus with a proper framework  
and 3 F approach

Funel      Function      Functionaries  
 ↓            ↓            ↓

the problem of protecting national  
interest can be solved ~~and~~ as the  
Indian Ocean Region is a region of  
low hanging fruits for India.

**Q18. State the reasons behind the poor performance of cooperatives in India. Also, discuss the reforms undertaken by the government to overcome the shortcomings. (15 marks/250 words)**

Cooperatives are the part of the government which help in the fast implementation of policies and schemes at grass root level with the local people in villages. The idea of cooperatives is taken from ~~gov~~ Gandhian principle of Swaraaj. Article 40 of Directive principle of state policy which asks for establishment of welfare states.

But the poor performance of cooperatives is hampering the development of India.

Reasons for poor performance

↳ Lack of coordination - there seems to be no coordination among the centre and state government and also between state and district.

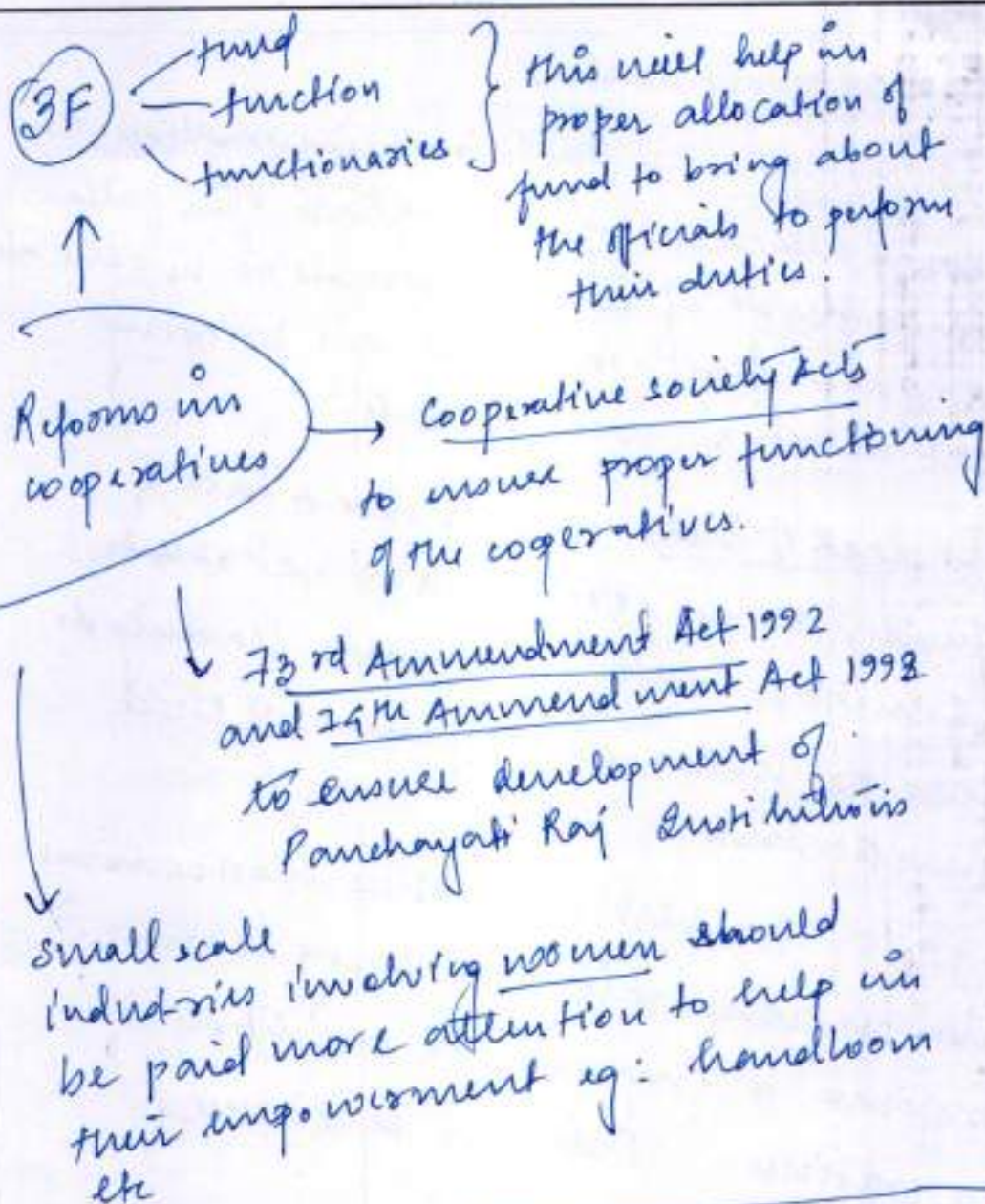


level of government.

↳ corruption - due to growing corruption, the fund allocated for cooperatives often falls into hands of corrupt officials or bureaucrats who are least interested in bringing out about a welfare state.

↳ lack of funds - often due to lack of funds, the cooperatives are not able to function upto the mark leading to non or under development of these institutions.

To bear with these shortcomings it is imperative to bring about reforms to improve the conditions of cooperatives. This can be ensured through various ways:



Success story  
 Assam has recently launched e-marketplace for handloom sellers whereby buyers sell directly to government owned enterprises - eg silk, gamusa etc.



Reforms in cooperatives

→ ~~lack of~~ removal of intermediaries

- this will ensure corruption is reduced at grass root level

↓  
digitisation

digital platform for buyers and sellers of cooperative markets to ensure transparency and removal of intermediaries.

Thus, with the above processes, it is possible to bring about change in cooperatives and fulfill Gandhi's idea of 'Swaraj'

Q19. Critically assess whether according statutory backing to the Model Code of Conduct will contribute towards free and fair elections in India. (15 marks/250 words)

Elections are the heart and soul of democracy. In India elections are like festivals which happen every year or every five years.

A model code of conduct is implemented from the start of date of elections and this has to be followed by all officials and also party members.

Free and fair election under Article 324 is a right of democracy in India.

### Model Code of Conduct

↳ follow rules as per ECI (Election Commission of India)

↳ not indulge in unfair means during the election

↳ not use social media platforms to talk about achievements or radicalise youth



↳ stop campaigning ~~after~~ before 48 hours of declaration of results.

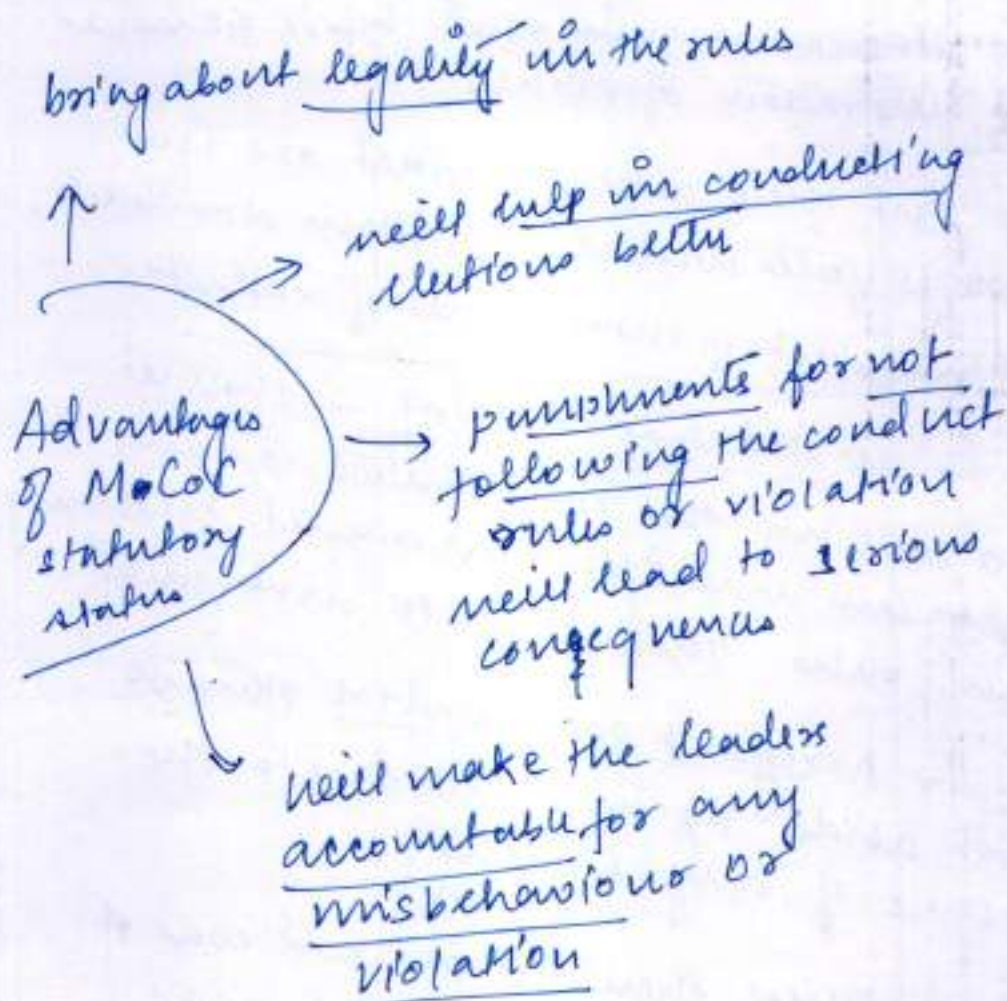
But these codes of conduct are not always followed due to certain drawback.

Drawback of model code of conduct

↳ no statutory backing - There is no law in the constitution or any ~~the~~ law made by the government mentioning these rules. This leads to ambiguity.

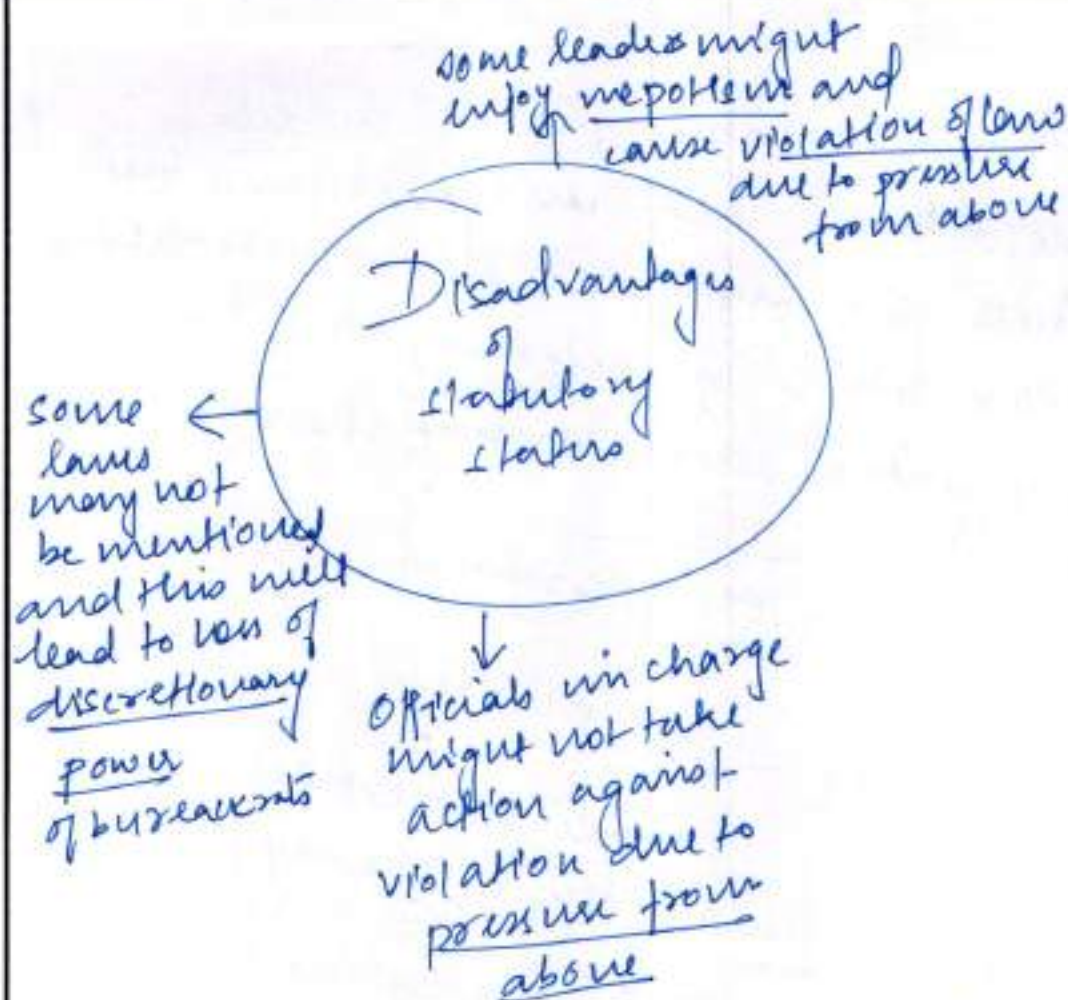
↳ arrogant party leaders often do not abide by any rules due to the absence of any legality.

Thus there are pros and cons of giving a statutory status to MCC (Model Code of Conduct). These can be seen as.



Along with these, there are  
also certain disadvantages.





Thus with a careful approach and limiting the disadvantages, the statutory status might bring about positive change in free and fair elections.

Q20. Public-Private Partnership model, if harnessed properly, has the potential to bridge the gaps in India's healthcare system. Discuss. (15 marks/250 words)

Previously, only public models used to be used in governance but with the emergence of privatisation through LPG reforms, this has brought a revolutionary change





change healthcare  
and reform the loopholes  
↑ as presented by NFHS-5

Potential  
of PPP  
model  
in healthcare

→ An individual suffering from  
disguised poverty can  
be addressed by  
the private entities  
by ensuring proper  
nutrients in food

→ Midday meal scheme  
can be handed over  
to private public  
funded private  
enterprises.

↓  
digitisation  
of certain sectors  
by private enterprises may lead to  
developmental changes in healthcare  
eg: quick disease curing of poor patients  
who have wait for days to meet a  
doctor in government hospital.

Thus with proper approach, the Indian healthcare system can be revolutionised if ~~not~~ the problems of ~~the~~ extreme digitisation like AI, etc are kept in control.





### Questions

- Q1.** Do you agree with the assertion that the higher judiciary in India needs to be more transparent and accountable? Share your views. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q2.** Comment on the utility and effectiveness of soft power for furthering national interest. Can soft power replace hard power in international politics? (10 marks/150 words)
- Q3.** Governing emerging technologies and governing through technologies are both critical in the present era. Elucidate. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q4.** Bureaucracy is not an obstacle to democracy but an inevitable complement to it. Do you agree? Substantiate your views. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q5.** Identify key interventions being implemented by government to improve the quality and availability of household water. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q6.** What are quasi judicial bodies? Discuss their significance for governance. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q7.** While fundamental rights have strengthened our democracy, fundamental duties are essential to strengthen our society. In this context examine the importance of fundamental duties for Indian society. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q8.** What have been major changes in framework for Centre-state fiscal relations in recent years? Analyze their impact on the dynamics of Centre-state relationship. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q9.** Concerns regarding Parliamentary performance most often relate to the drastic reduction in the level and extent of deliberation, representation and scrutiny. In this context, highlight the recent instances which have led decline in effective functioning of the parliament. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q10.** Despite excellent economic growth in the last two decades, India continues to suffer from 'alarming' hunger, and acute malnutrition amongst children. In the light of this statement, examine. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q11.** What is Learning Poverty? How does learning poverty threaten India's efforts to build human capital and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? Suggest measures to address learning poverty. (15 marks/250 words)
- Q12.** The second decade of 21st century marks a collective failure of UN and its agencies. Examine this statement citing suitable examples. (15 marks/250 words)
- Q13.** Do you agree with the view that time has come to revisit the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution? Discuss with suitable arguments. (15 marks/250 words)
- Q14.** When the criminal elements enter the legislature, then securing any form of justice, be it social, economic or political, becomes a hollow promise. What makes criminal elements successful in politics? What reforms, in your opinion, are needed to decriminalize electoral politics? (15 marks/250 words)
- Q15.** ASEAN is not only important for development of North-East but also it remains India's gateway to East Asia and beyond. Comment. (15 marks/250 words)
- Q16.** Although the New Education Policy brings with itself a commendable vision, its success will depend on its ability to effectively integrate with the government's other policy initiatives. Discuss. (15 marks/250 words)



**Q17. The Indian Ocean region is a key geostrategic theatre for India. Do you agree? What measures has India taken to safeguard its interests in the region? Examine. (15 marks/250 words)**

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