



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.	
1	10		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.
2	10		
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			Signature of the Student:
			Invigilator's Signature:
TOTAL:	250		NOTE: EVALUATION PERIOD FOR THE MAINS TEST SERIES COPY IS 10 DAYS.

Nihar Ranjan Deka

Signature of the Student:

Invigilator's Signature:

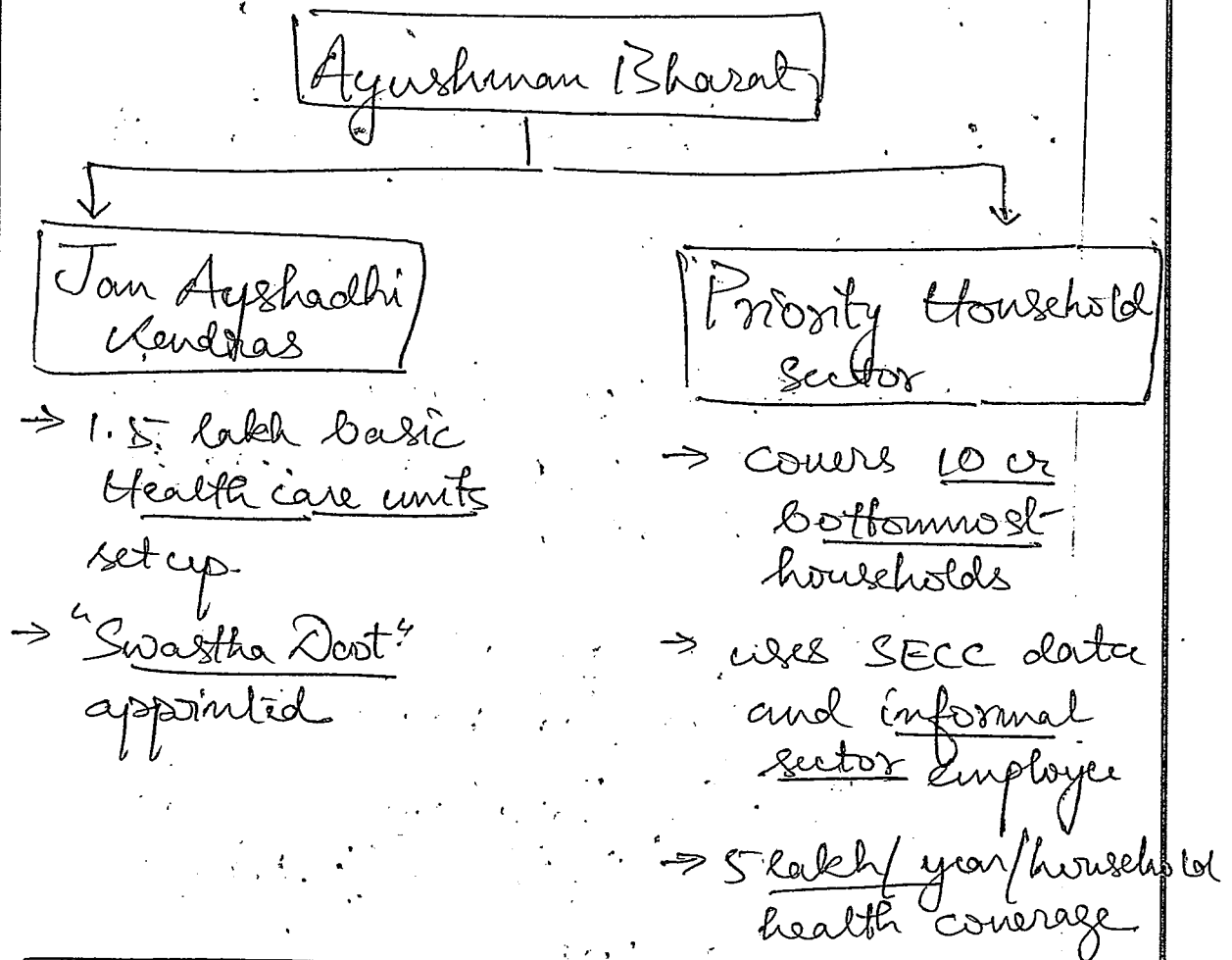
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DETAIL FEEDBACK**ALL THE BEST**

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

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

The Ayushman Bharat yojana was launched to ~~create~~ access to quality healthcare in line with SDG-3.



Ayushman Bharat has expanded access as

① Strengthened the Primary Healthcare sector.

- (ii). Taken care of the out of pocket expenditure component (~ 47% as per NFHS-5)
- (iii). Keep more disposable income with people and ensure dignified life (Article 21)

However, Inclusivity and quality remain concerns, as -

→ (i). ~~Anti~~ Absentism is a major issue in primary health sector

Concerns →

(ii) Local quacks pose as qualified person

eg - Sureshata doct are to have B-Pharma / D-pharma degree

→ (iii) Digital clinic keep beneficiaries outside household

eg - only 47% rural India has internet (NSO's AIS)

Hence, we need to focus on data driven implementation for "Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas"

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.

প্রশ্ন ২: স্বাধীনতার 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)

"Elections are the festival of democracy that upholds the legitimacy of government by the people, of the people, for the people."

Electoral politics in India since independence

[1952]: The first general election was conducted in independent India

[1952-1967]: Congress party ruled in entire India at centre and states

[1967]: The "one nation-one election" cycle broke

[1970-1970]: Legitimacy of government was at stake

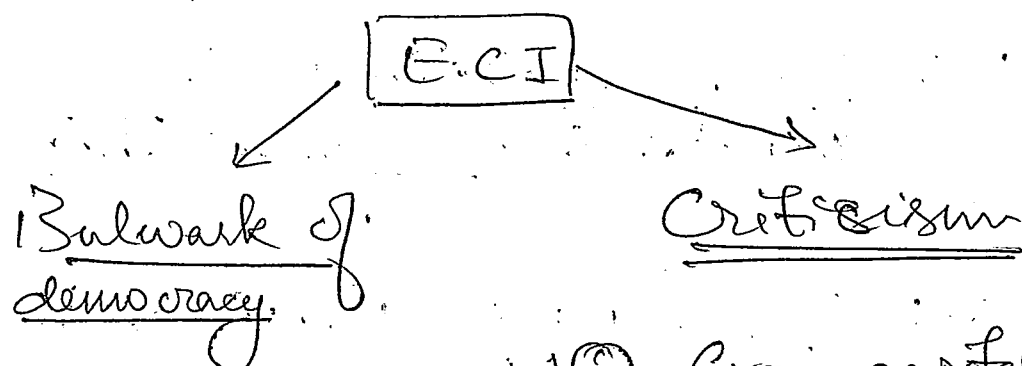
→ V.P. Singh accused Rajiv Gandhi in Bofors Scandal

[1990s]: T.N. Shesham as C.E.C brought forth

2020s: Ramnath Kohind panel made to suggest viability of one nation, one election.

Election Commission of India (Article 324)

plays a vital role in conducting election & strengthening democratic processes



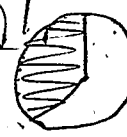
① Prepares electoral roll $\Rightarrow$ universal adult franchise.

② Recognises political parties (- sec 29A of RPA 2015)

③ Ensures fair election $\Rightarrow$ MCC, e-vigil etc

① Crony capitalism on rise $\Rightarrow$ ₹1.2 lakh crore in 2024 polls

② Criminalisation of politics

19%  43% MPs in 17th Lok Sabha have criminal record (ADR)

The role of ECI is crucial for democracy but can be further strengthened (170th law commission report)

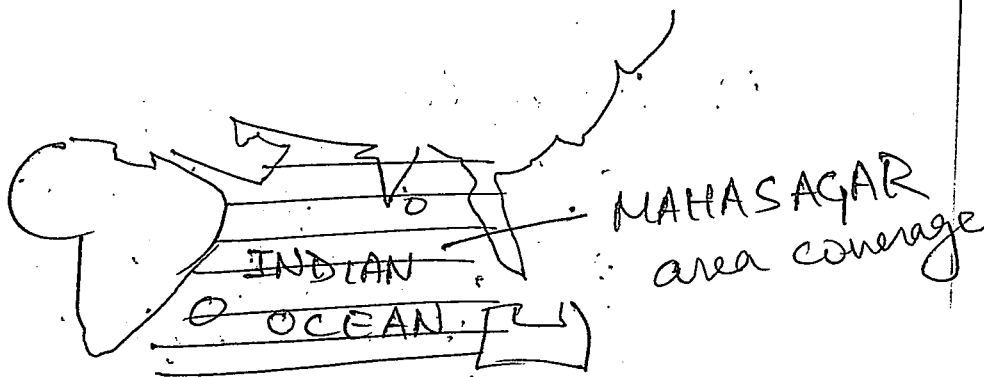
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Structure/ Presentation
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Value Addition
Penalty (If any)
Total

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: ভারতৰ 'MAHASAGAR' পদক্ষেপে ভাৰত মহাসাগৰ অঞ্চলৰ দেশসমূহৰ সৈতে সামুদ্রিক সহযোগিতা গভীৰ কৰাৰ চেষ্টা কৰিছে। ভাৰত মহাসাগৰীয় অঞ্চলত ভাৰতক এক সম্ভুলিত আৰু কৌশলগত দৃষ্টিভঙ্গী অনুসৰণ কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম কৰাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ইয়াৰ গুৰুত্ব পৰীক্ষা কৰক।

(Answer in 150 words).

Recently, P.M. Modi has upgraded India's Security & Growth for All (SAGAR) Initiative into MAHASAGAR for the Indian Ocean Littoral Countries.



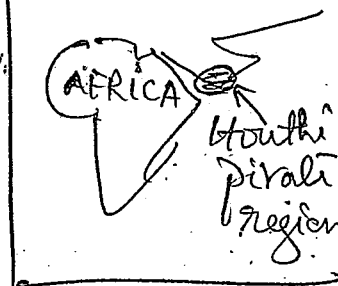
Fig! Location of I.O.R.

MAHASAGAR to deepen maritime cooperation with countries of IOR

① India has expanded role of the initiative from security to strategic convergence.

② - AIS system for white shipping

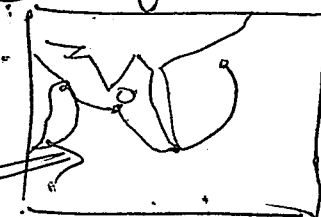
- (ii) It has facilitated to keep the I.O.R free from any disruptions.
 eg - Gouthi Pirates



Hence MAHASAGAR is of significance.

- (i) - Keep the region free of China's growing influence

eg - String of Pearls



Significance of MAHASAGAR to pursue a balanced & strategic approach

- (ii) Realise India's goal of making Indian Ocean "Backyard of Indian Navy"

- (iii) Supplement other goals of India in I.O.R.
 eg - Net security provider / Blue water Navy

The MAHASAGAR helps India in achieving goal of regional power.

Feedback
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Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

Value Addition

Penalty (If any)

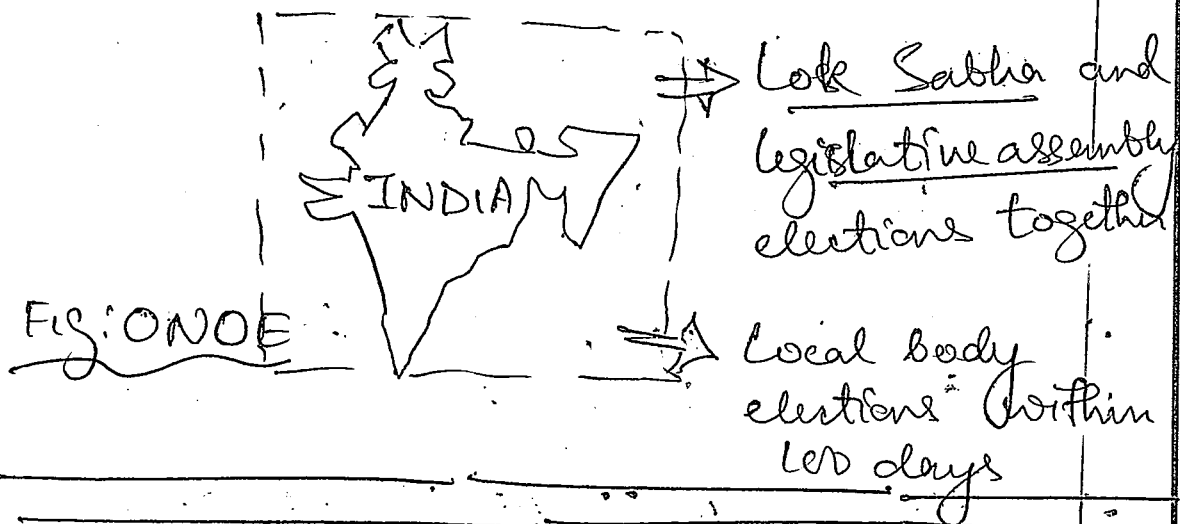
Total

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 ভারতৰ 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।

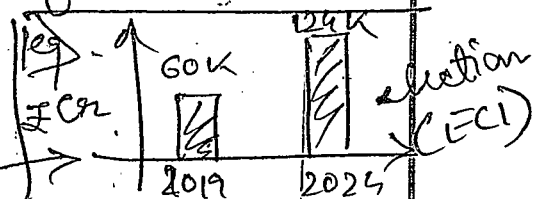
(Answer in 150 words)

The notion of One Nation, One Election (ONOE) has gain momentum since the constitution of Law Math Kovind Panel.



ONOE : justified as return to early constitutional practice

- ① India followed ONOE till 1967.
- ② In line with the "federation with a unitary bias" nature of the constitution.
- ③ Same on election expense which can be done for capacity Building



India's Constitution provisions on elections and parliamentary democracy have evolved since independence as

①. On Elections:

→ article 324 empowers Election Commission to conduct free and fair election.

→ Article 239 AA provides legislative Assembly to Delhi

→ article 330A, 330AA, 239 AA gives 33% reservation to women

→ 73rd and 74th amendment provide PRI and ULBs

②. On parliamentary democracy:

→ article 82 provides for delimitation

→ article 327 provides for representability of peoples act for fair election

Hence, India has undertaken changes to our time to uphold democratic practices

 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)

The 106th Constitutional Amendment provides for 33% reservation for women in Lok Sabha, legislative assemblies of states and delhi.

Key provisions of 106th C.A.A

①. Insertion of new articles to provide women reservation of 33%.

→ 330 A for Lok Sabha, 332 A for assembly, 239 AA for delhi.

②. The reservation to be applicable post the next delimitation (frozen till 2026).

③. Ensures to reverse the skewed representation of women in parliament.

→  only 11% in Lok Sabha are women.

It will have implications in women's political representation in India —

Positive

①. Provide feminine view in law making

②. Ensure women led development

③. Break the "glass ceiling" for women being limited to PRI

Negative

①. May cause pathogenization of feminism

②. Some may view it as a natural limitation to fair competition

The 106th C.A.A. is in line with SDG-5 (Gender equality)

Feedback
(For office use only)

Structure/
Presentation

Question
Interpretation

Content

Value Addition

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 is when the state governments engage into being uncooperative and hostile to union directives.

Combative federalism in centre-State relations in recent years -

① Politicization of education

→ West Bengal rejecting PM Shri implementation

② Arm-twisting of states by union

→ funds under NEP 2020 stopped for Tamil Nadu in 11th 3-language controversy

③ Deteriorating harmony

→ Karnataka Finance Minister threatening cessation

Role of Governor in Cooperative federalism

- ① Act as agent of centre to Liaison between centre & state
- ② Hold assent to state Bills violative of union directive (Article 253)
- ③ ~~Impose~~ Recommend President's Rule (Article 356) if gross mismanagement occurs.

The office of governor can act as the correctly link between the centre and state for cooperative governance

 Feedback
 (For office use only)

 Structure/
 Presentation

 Question
 Interpretation

Content

Value Addition

Penalty (If any)

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

Article 93 provides for the Speaker office and he/she is to act as the presiding officer of the House.

Speaker as the guardian of the House

- ① He maintains the decorum of the house.
→ yielding of the House
- ② Take action against unconstitutional behavior.
→ suspension of MLAs
- ③ Impeachment privilege motion on the request of MLAs if article 194 (privilege is misused)
- ④ Disqualification (Article 191) for defiance

However there are issues in functioning of state legislatures

↓
Walkouts
 by members
 to demonstrate
 protest

↓
Use of unparliamentary language

↓
Create disturbance
in proceedings of House

→ (i) Allow privilege motion

Role of Speaker to address these

→ (a) Suspension of members

→ Wabam Rabra Case

→ (ii) Hold House to maintain floor and allow representatives

House speaker plays a pivotal role

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)

"I may not agree to what you say
But I will defend till death
Your right to say it"

— Voltaire

This highlights the importance
of freedom of speech and expression (FOS E).

FOS E is foundation of all democratic
organisation as -

① Allows people to say their
thoughts and expression
① article 19(1)(a)

② Allows artistic freedom to people

③ Prevent despotism by rulers
③ Nepokids movement in Nepal

→ (i) Creates an autocratic
government which
suppresses rights
of people

Without
 F.O.S.E. &
 free political
 discussion
 no public
 education
 possible

→ (ii) Makes democracy
 a mockery
 → Intention to
suppress movement

→ (iii) Limits participation

However, excessive freedom of
 speech also gives rise to anti-social
elements (e.g. - Hate speech)

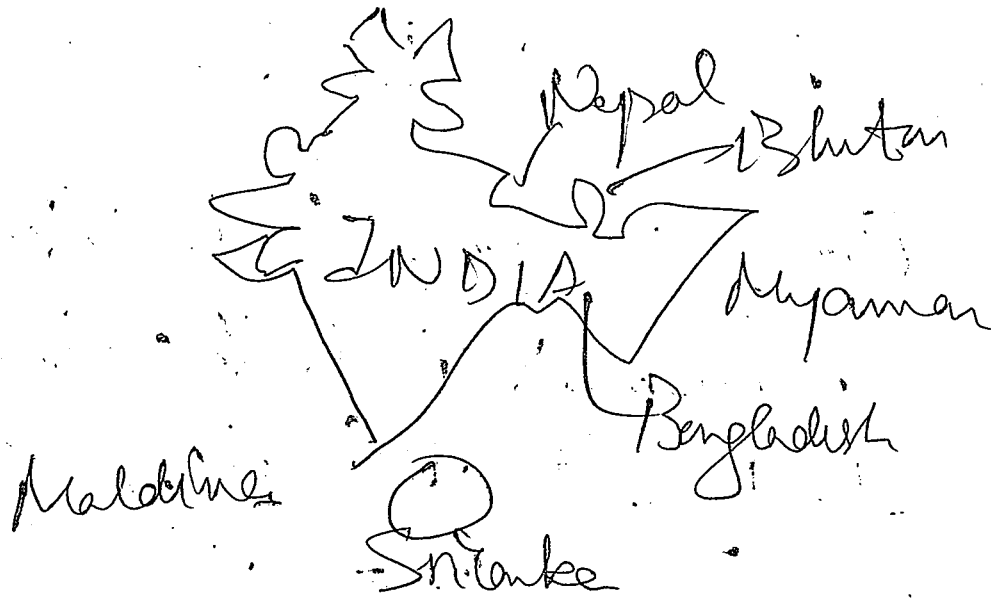
Hence, F.O.S.E. is necessary but
 should be under reasonable
restriction [Article 19(2)]

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 adopted neighbourhood
first policy to make friendly
ties with all neighbours



Sub regional connectivity

in light of India - Bhutan;

→ Gelephu - Ko Krayhan rail
link.

- ① Gelephu - Mongaon 88th
city agreement
- ② Drinking water facility for
BTR via the Nonoi
River, in Bhutan
- ③ Open Borders to facilitate
movement in both countries
- ④ BBIN network (vehicle movement)
Hence India ~~is~~ focus
on Bhutan's connectivity for
enhanced ~~and~~ relations.

Feedback
(For office use only)Structure/
PresentationQuestion
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.

প্রশ্ন ১০: ভারতৰ 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)

India adopted the provision of
Office of Vice president (Article 63)
from USA's constitution.

However, there are some
differences:-

① India's Vice president

Constitutional role & significance

→ Presides over the Upper House
and maintains its flow.

→ Acts as President on his demise
for 6 months (until election)

→ 2nd highest office in country.

② Americas vice president

- Chosen by the President during ~~congress~~ caucus and primaries
- Acts as a team with the President
- ~~It~~ Occupies President's office for entire remaining term in case of President's demise
- enjoys executive powers

Hence, the office of vice president in USA ~~is~~ can be said to have more powers than Indian Vice president

Feedback
(For office use only)Structure/
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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?

প্রশ্ন ১১: অনুপ বরনাল বনাম ভারত চৰকাৰ (২০২৩) গোচৰটোৱে সংসদীয় আইনৰ অনুপস্থিতিত নিৰ্বাচন আয়ুক্ত নিযুক্তিৰ বাবে এক অন্তৰীকালীন 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/ Union of India 2023 case provided for a temporary provision to appoint Chief election Commissioner until a law is made.

As per A.B case (2023).

Selection Committee
→ P.M.
→ C.J.I
→ leader of opposition

Choose C.E.C and E.Cs
(interim mechanism)

This judgement aimed to ensure impartiality in election commissioner appointment and uphold fair elections in absence of parliamentary law.

However, with the C.E.C and other E.C act 2023, the judgement has been overridden. This shows the

limits of judicial innovation in filling constitutional silences: as -

- ① The legislature can make laws to overcome judgements of court.
- ② Article 50 provides for judiciary's separation from executive (i.e. ministers) who enjoy majority.
- ③ Article 212 and 122 provides for non-interference in legislative process by judiciary.
- ④ Hence, after a law being made the constitutional silence (in this case appointment of E.Cs and C.E.Cs) have been filled.

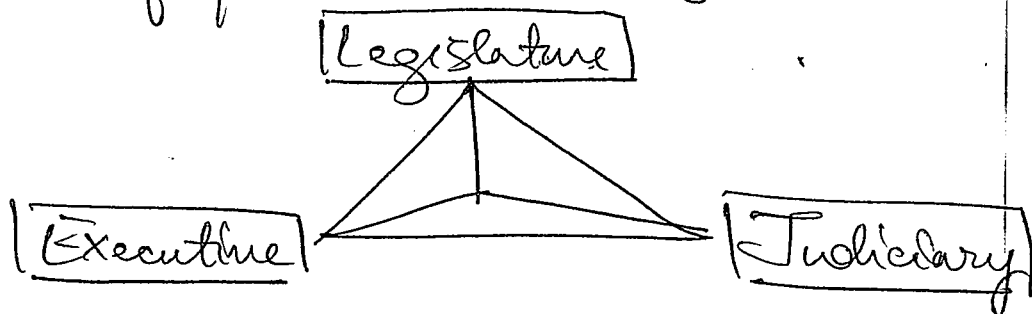
However, judiciary holds significant powers to fill constitutional gaps as -

(i) Article 142 allows for complete justice when ~~the~~ law does not give remedy.

(ii) The Hussainara Khatoon case gave rise to P.I.L concept. Introduced in S.P. Gupta case.

(iii) Doctrine of 'Basic Structure' (Keshavanand Bharati case) allows to strike down a law as unconstitutional. eg - NJAC.

This AIR case (2023) shows the balance of power between ~~legisla~~ legisla.



as follows -

(i) Judiciary intervened in a matter of blind spot to uphold democracy.

(ii) Legislature made a law to overcome this judgment.
 By The CEC and other EC (Conditions of Service) act

(iii) The executive appoints the CEC.
 (In this case president) to keep check on proper legislature through elections.

Have the separation and balance of power can be seen in this judgment.

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.

প্রশ্ন 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)

Former Indian prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru dreamt of an Asian century in 21st century along with china.

This was given a material form through the Panchsheel agreement.



Fig! Location

For India and China cooperation is not an option, it is imperative as-

① Geographic

→ India share 2nd longest land boundary with China.

→ Both have close proximity to each other.

②. Political:

→ They can together emerge as formidable challenge to western hegemony.

eg - BRICS v/s NATO.

③. Economic:

→ Huge Trade between both nations

eg - \$ 136 Billion (FY 2023-24).

④. Strategic:

→ To counter western counter strike

eg - SCO (Tianjin Summit) amidst USA 80% tariff.

The emerging geopolitics present uncertainties and shifting global order, this calls for India-China cooperation.

①. Arguments in favour:

→ Both nations have huge population (≈ 35-40% global) and can create

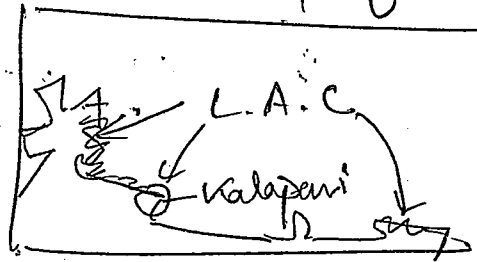
tremendous demand.

→ Supplementary industries can develop
in each other's region
eg - China + 1 strategy.

→ Contn U.S and western pressure
eg - NATO chief warning against
Russian oil trade of India.

→ Protect territorial sovereignty of
India

eg - LAC, Kalapani
dispute etc



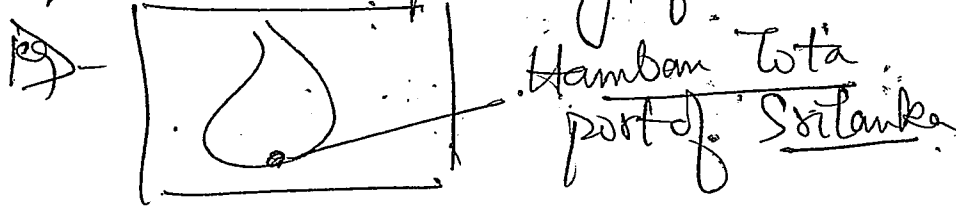
→ Grow Trade and strengthen trade
in India?

However, there are also arguments
against cooperation.

→ Past track record

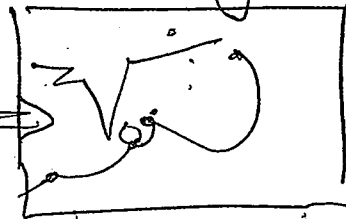
eg 1962 war, Galwan valley
Conflict (2020)

→ cheque book diplomacy of China



→ Strategic courage of India by Chinese armed forces

eg - Story of Pearls



→ Territorial Sovereignty

eg - Acunachal claim by China

→ (c) Maintain diplomatic diligence

Way forward

→ (i) Engage into multilateral talks

→ (ii) follow Vishwabandhan approach

India should aim for strategic autonomy while meeting her national interests

Feedback
(For office use only)

Structure/
Presentation

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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.

প্ৰশ্ন ১৩: আমাৰ 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)

Recently, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao has completed 10 years in lean of which Government of India has launched yearlong celebration in Budget 2025-26.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

(a wedge policy scheme)
aims for.

Beti Bachao

→ Tackle issue of female foeticide
→ 10 million in last 20 years

→ Balance the skewed sex ratio

→ 940/1000 as per census 2011

Beti Padhao

→ Increase school participation

→ 50% dropout

→ ensure labours for participation

→ 25% as per PLIS

① Equal opportunity

→ Aims to ensure equity and gender justice not just equality.

Beti Bachao
Beti Padhao
is a step
towards:

→ Bring women led development as was also an agenda in G20 presidentships.

→ Allow women to participate fully in all domains.

→ Dignity of daughters

→ Ensure of dignified livelihood

↳ Education ⇒ capacity building

→ Takes ~~develop~~ inclusive development into forefront.

→ Prevents Male-streaming of
the society.

However, the scheme has had
both achievements and challenges.

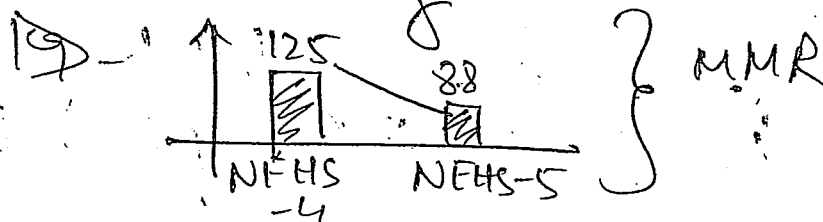
Achievements of the scheme:

→ At Birth:

↳ Sex ratio is improving

eg - 1012 for Assam (NFHS-5)

↳ Bodily autonomy and maternal
risk lowering



At Youth and life:

↳ Education level rising

eg - 245% in higher education are
girls.

↳ Labour force is increasing

eg - 13% (2013-14) to 28% (2024-25)

Challenges of the Scheme!

At Birth:

- ↳ Women health is still neglected
 eg. 66% girls are anemic (NFHS-5)
- ↳ MMR is high and disproportionate
 eg. - BIMARU states have very high MMR.

At Life:

- ↳ Crime against women prevalent
 eg. - RG medical college.
- ↳ Labour force is still low
 eg. - only 25.5% as per PLFS.

- Way forward
- ①. Ensure ground level initiation
 eg. Suganya gram scheme
 - ②. Promote education and security

"I judge the progress of a nation by the progress of its women"
 — B. R. Ambedkar

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 সম্প্রসাৰণে এক উদীয়মান বহুমুখী বিশ্বক প্ৰতিফলিত কৰে। ভাৰতৰ বৈদেশিক নীতিৰ ওপৰত ইয়াৰ প্ৰভাৱসমূহ সমালোচনামূলকভাৱে মূল্যায়ন কৰক। (Answer in 250 words)

In the recently conduct BRICS summit the membership of the grouping has been significantly expanded.



Fig: Some new BRICS members

Expansion of BRICS reflects an emerging multipolar world as —

- ① Hegemony of west is breaking
 ↳ Saudi Arabia (an US ally)
 joined BRICS.

- (i). Power dynamics is shifting.
- (ii). BRICS has 40% global population and 25% of global G.D.P.
- (iii). Grouping like NATO are becoming less attractive due to their preponderance over USA's domination.
- (iv). R-I-C grouping / axis / bonding is strengthening within BRICS.
- (v). BRICS members like Brazil has exited B.R.I of China showing divergence.

Hence, it shows that the world is shifting towards multipolarity with no country wanting a power bloc or hegemon as was the case in 1991-2001.

This expansion has significant implications on India's foreign policy

Positive Implications:

- In line with India multipolar world order objective
- Project's India as a Vishwabandhu
- Can help to foster global peace and harmony (in line with article 51).
- allow India to diversify its trade partners
- Manifest the aim of dollarisation and internationalisation of Rupee
19 - RBI aims for ₹ = hard currency in 10 years.

Negative Implications:

→ Diplomatic tightrope for India may arise since we have good ties with U.S.A as well.

→ USA might see India as back tracking as our growing emergence with Russia and China.

→ Too many trade partners may lead to "Spaghetti Bowl phenomenon" (Economic Survey 2015-16)

→ (i) Maintain strategic autonomy

Way forward

→ (ii) Keep an engaging into diplomatic talks.

→ (iii) Multi-vector diplomacy should be employed.

Growing BRICS can be seen in line with "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"

 Feedback
(For office use only)

 Structure/
Presentation

 Question
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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 সন্দৰ্ভত ১৪৩ নং অনুচ্ছেদৰ অধীনত আদালতৰ পৰামৰ্শমূলক অধিকাৰক্ষেত্ৰৰ পৰিসৰ আৰু গুৰুত্ব সমালোচনামূলকভাৱে পৰীক্ষা কৰক।

(Answer in 250 words)

Article 143 of the constitution allows the President to seek advisory opinion from the Supreme Court.

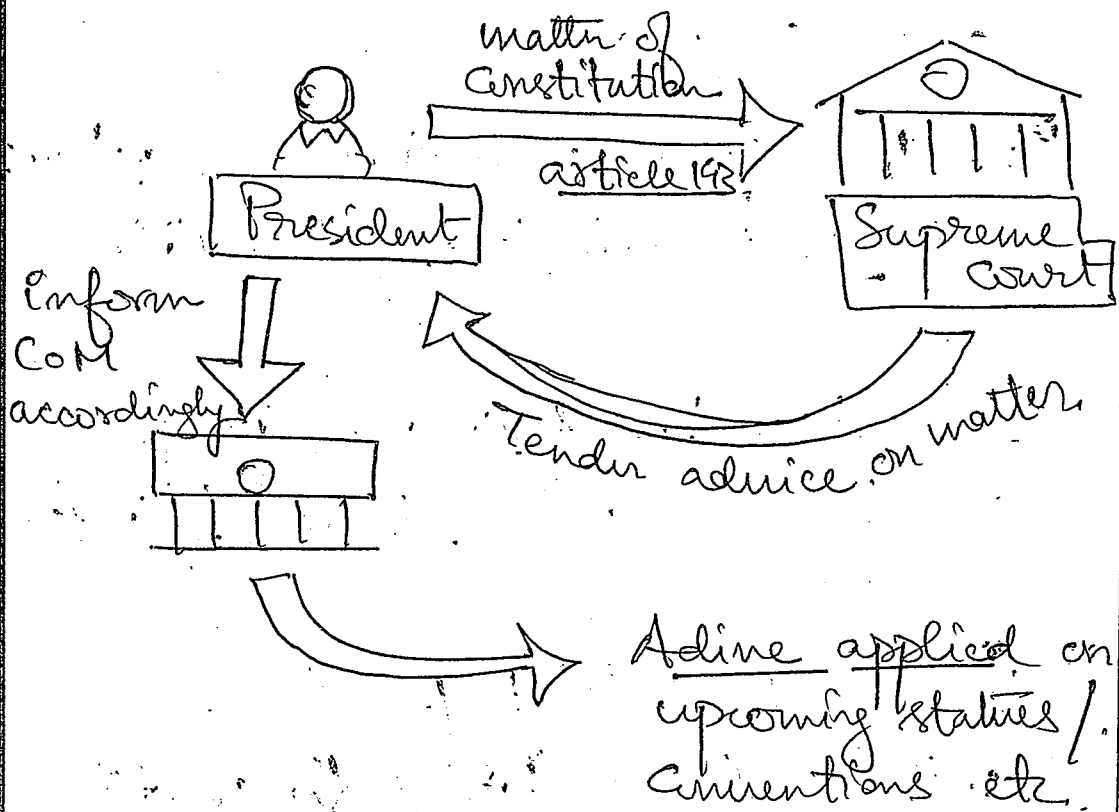


Fig. Mechanism of
article 143.

Supreme courts consultative role can strengthen cooperative federalism.

①. Arguments, In favour:

→ Prevent deadlocks between union and state governments

→ President consultation of article 200 having timelimit on state bills

→ Strengthen the federalism prospect and prevent any combative federalism

→ Ensure statutory provisions within the ambit of the constitution

→ Supreme court being bound to advice in constitutional and pre independence matter ensures harmonious construct.

Arguments against:

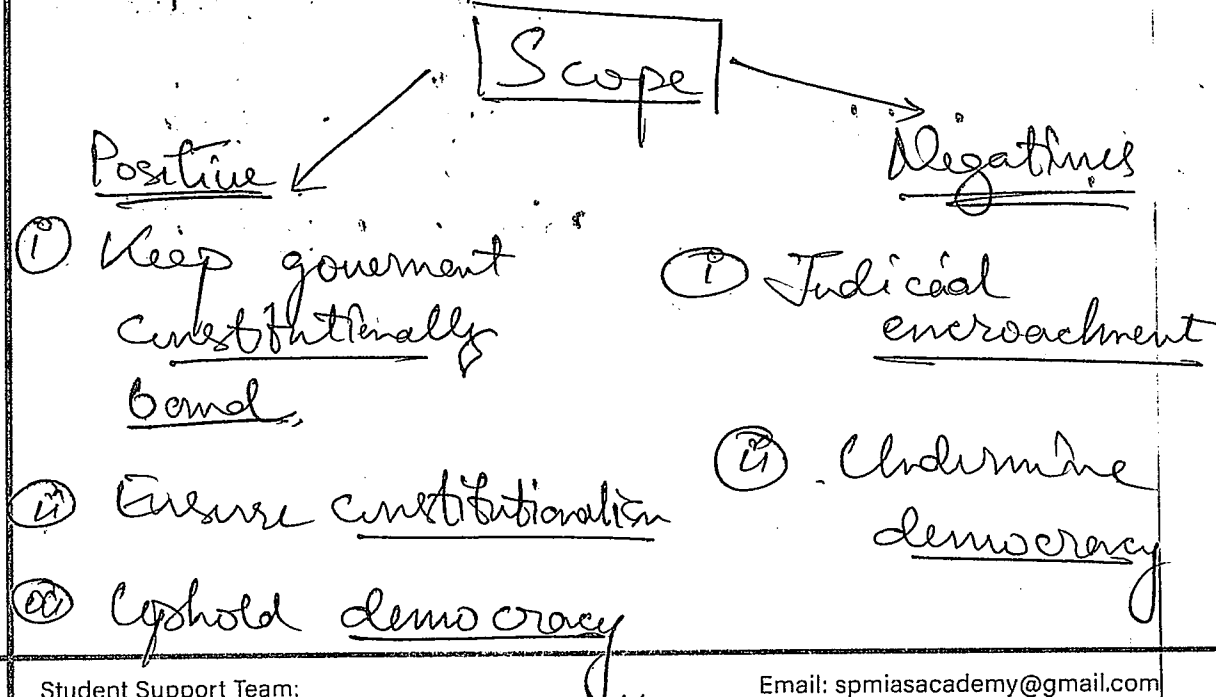
→ Supreme court may try to encroach into executive and legislative domain

→ Judicial encroachment

→ Supreme court is not bound to give advice on every matter (Article 143(2))

→ Government is not bound to follow as advice is not binding.

Hence, court's advisory jurisdiction has both scope and significance.



Significance

Positive

- ① Ensure harmony
- ② Keep government in check
- ③ Act as a guiding light

Negative

- ① ~~Non-advisory~~ Binding nature limits significance
- ② Not every matter is sought for advice $\Rightarrow$ scarce use

Hence, we need to find a balance between scope and significance to have best outcomes of advisory jurisdiction

Feedback
(For office use only)Structure/
PresentationQuestion
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।

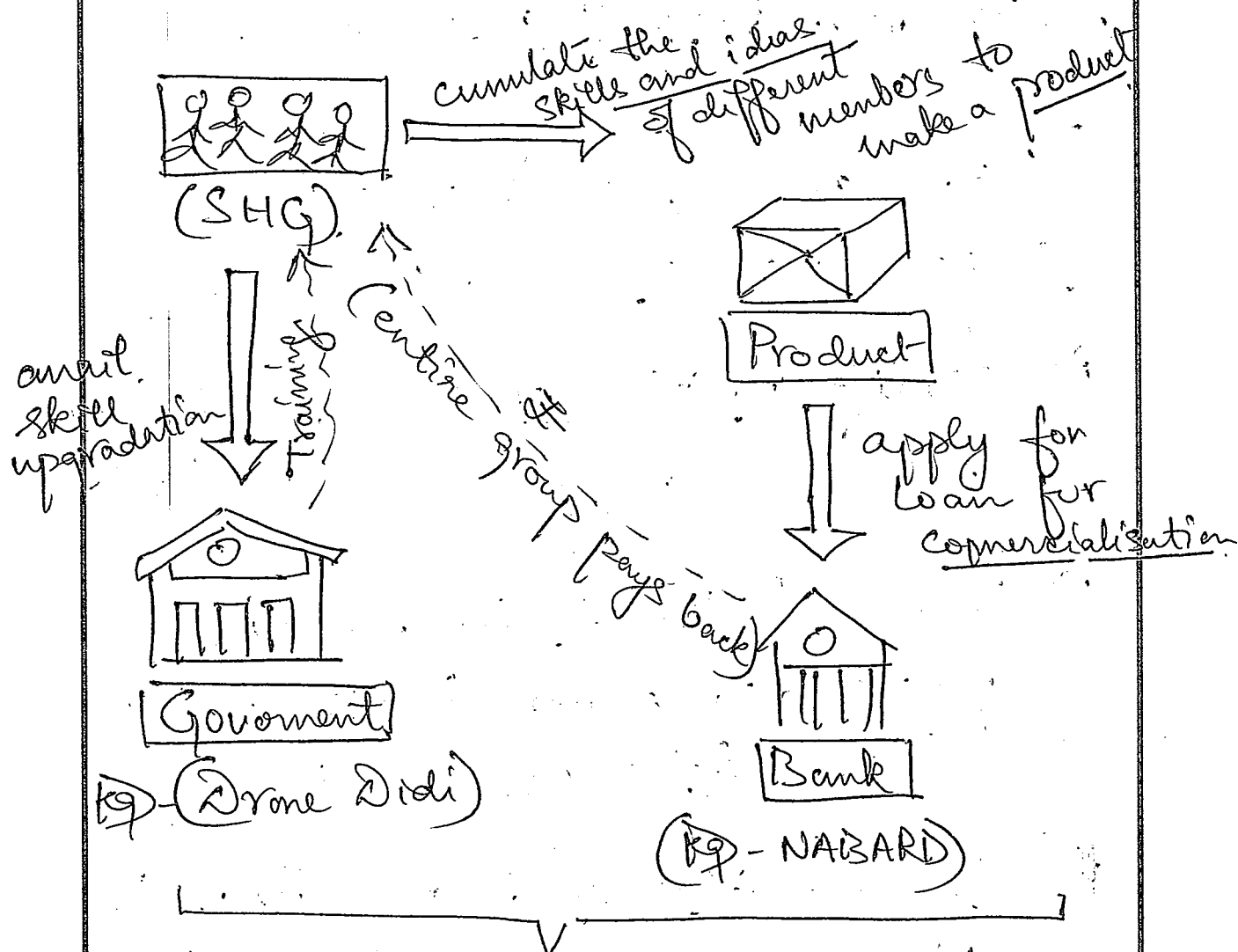
(Answer in 250 words)

World Bank defines self Help Groups (SHG) as an agglomeration of people having similar socio-economic background which work to uplift each other.

S.H.G as instruments of social empowerment.

- ①. Uplift position of women especially in rural areas
- ②. Increase the social standing of people and enable to rise in social hierarchy.
- ③. Promotes teamwork and blurs the line of casti-creed differentiation

S.H.G as catalyst for grass root
innovation and local entrepreneurship



SHG gets grass root innovation
 and local entrepreneurship

Grassroot innovation -

- Cumulate ideas and work collectively
- Commercialise a economically viable product to gain

Local entrepreneurship

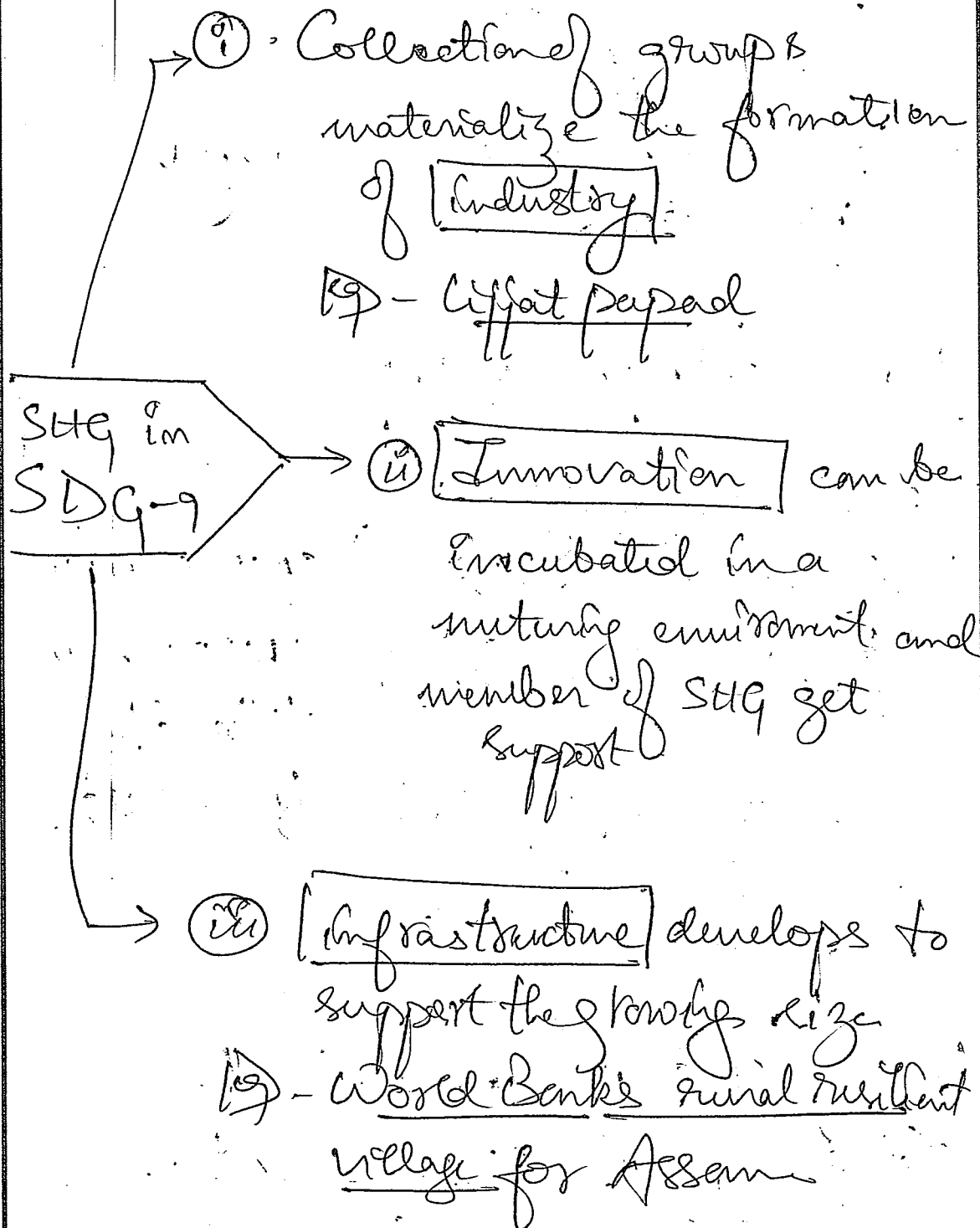
- Cases training and funds availability
- eg - Vandham Samuh

CASE STUDY

TRIFED sells tribal honey from SHGs

- Collective responsibility promotes fiscal discipline

Role of SHG in advancing the objectives of Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG-9)



Hence SHG can realise the SDG-9 as well as enforcement

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.

প্ৰশ্ন ১৭: "জীৱন উন্নত কৰা 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 can be defined as the use of information and communication technology for development.

Digital ~~Tool~~ Technology is most powerful tool for improving lives.

①. Increase connectivity of people.
⇒ Communication technology :

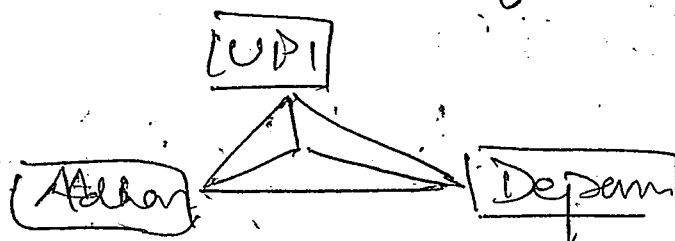
②. Ensures quality education to all.
⇒ Swayam portal; MOOC courses

③. Provide quality healthcare services to the needy.
⇒ Digital ABHA Id cards for health records.

for Solving development challenges.

(i) Ensure inclusive development.

eg - Digital Stack of India

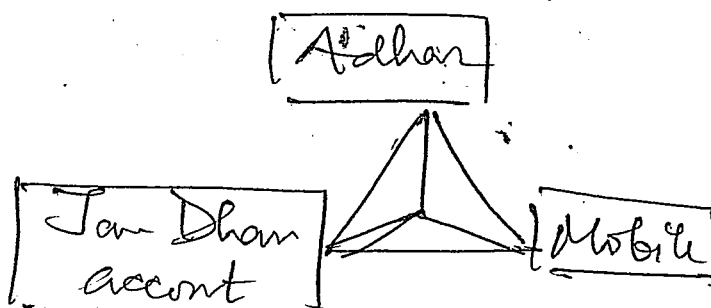


(ii) En-gendered development.

eg - D.B.T to marginalised section by schemes like Orunodoi 3.0

(iii) Prevent the problem of ghost Beneficiaries

eg - Jam-Tam



CASE study:

1985: Rajiv Gandhi said only 15 paise of every ₹ 1 reaches Beneficiaries

Importance of digital governance in achieving inclusive welfare outcome

- ① Increased Transparency in
governance
↳ grievance redressal
- ② Ease of service availability
↳ Sewa Saba portal (Assam)
- ③ Ensure that fund reaches the
targeted beneficiary.
↳ "No Bodo Babu" culture
- ④ Proper record keeping to
prevent duplication and
fabrication
↳ Photo for analog pension
in Kirtagata portal

However, there are some challenges as

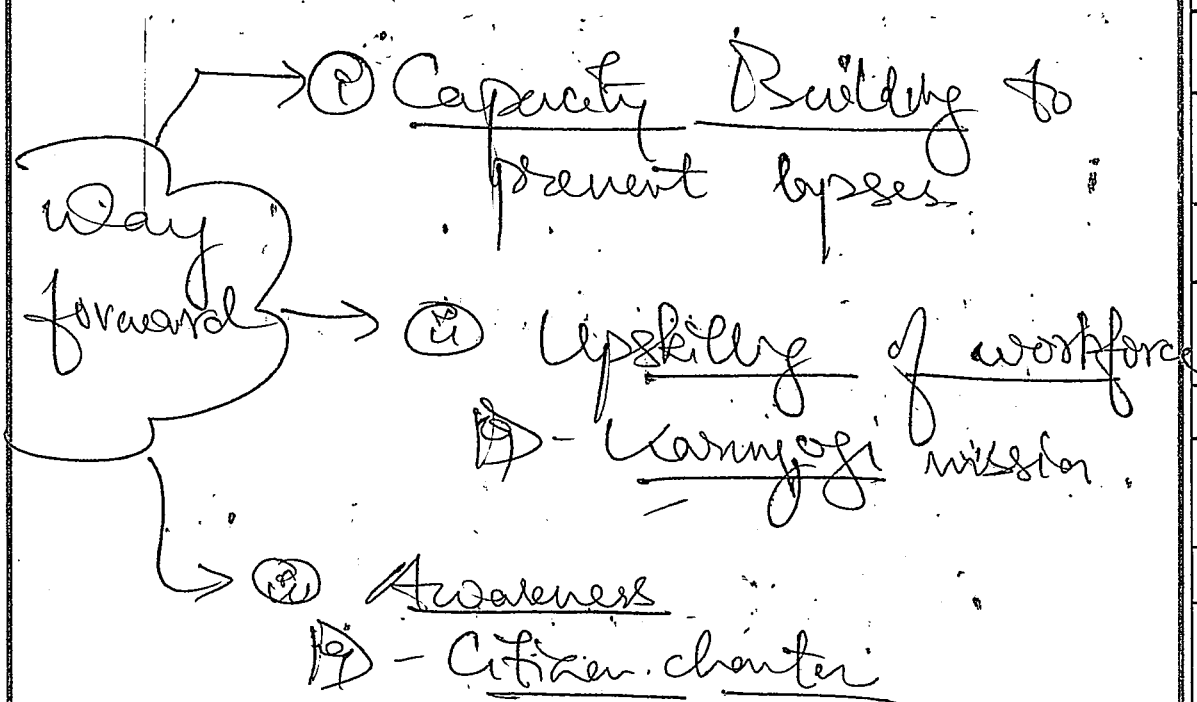
Digital divide

→ 47% rural household no internet.

Amulian Modular Survey

Poor Implementation

→ Thakhand worker class of hunger due to adhar mismatch



"Digital governance brings government closer to common people"

Feedback
(For office use only)

Structure/
Presentation

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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 ওপৰত গুৰুত্ব আৰোপ কৰিছে, ঘৰুৱা সম্পদৰ একত্ৰীকৰণ বৈশ্বিক দক্ষিণৰ দেশসমূহৰ বাবে সমানেই গুৰুত্বপূৰ্ণ। ভাৰতৰ বিশেষ প্ৰসংগৰ সৈতে ইয়াৰ মূল্যায়ন কৰক।

(Answer in 250 words)

Recently at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, Developed countries have promised the new collective quantified goal (\$300 Billion from 2035) to developing nations.

However, mobilisation of domestic resources is equally critical for countries of global south (Willy Brandt concept).



→ Global South

Mobilization of International climate finance is important as-

① Developed nations are primarily responsible for the global climate shift.

→ Industrial revolutions in USA, France, UK etc in 1770s.

② They are more capable to fight climate change.

→ more per capita income.

③ They extracted resources from the former colonies to develop.

→ UK from India.

④ The developing countries like India have suffered from Premature deindustrialization.

However domestic resource mobilisation is equally important as —

① Provides surety of resource availability

→ \$100 Billion was promised at Copenhagen Summit never given

domestic
resources

② Promotes green economy in the country

→ Carbon credit

③ Projects India as a responsible nation

→ as per IFC, India is only 90 nation, in line to Paris target

④ Developing countries / Global South are more vulnerable and require immediate mobilisation

19. Status of climate in Asia 2024
 report by WMO shows the
Himalayan instability

① PANCHAMRIT strategy
 19. Net zero by 2070

Steps by
India

② Clean energy
 19. 1-3R nuclear
reactor opening

③ Nudge Policy for
planet friendly behaviour
 19. Aamrit Bika Aandolan

19. 'Prakriti Rakshat' Lakshite
 — Vedas
 (Nature protects when protected)

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 উদ্যোগনক উৎসাহিত কৰাৰ বাবে মহিলাৰ সামৰ্থ্যৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত বিনিয়োগ কৰাটো অনিবাৰ্য। ভাৰতৰ উপযুক্ত উদাহৰণৰ সৈতে আলোচনা কৰক।

(Answer in 250 words)

As per UN report women are $\frac{1}{2}$ rd population do $\frac{2}{3}$ rd work, receive $\frac{1}{10}$ th salary and own $\frac{1}{100}$ th property.

This staggering data calls for immediate investment in women capacities which is sine-qua non to build resilient infrastructure and others.

Investment in Women capacities

① To build resilient infrastructure.

→ Strengthen the grassroot level health and education infrastructure

→ AASHA workers

→ To make India's upcoming generation resilient and future ready

→ ICDS programme

↓
Mukhya Senika

↓
 Aasha worker

↙ ↘
 Household survey
 and care of
 child and mother

② To promote inclusive development

→ Promoting education of girls

→ Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
Initiative

→ Increase labours force participation

→ Reservation of women in jobs
 to counter skewed ratio of
 labours (25% - PLFS)

③. For sustainable industrialization

→ To make women led industries

19 - Stand up India scheme for
marginalised.

→ Proper training and skilling

19 - out of 1800 people getting
trained in Bangalore for the
Morgan union plant, majority
are women.

④. To foster innovation.

→ Increasing higher education
participation

19 - Mukhya Mantri Nigut Mantra
achon.

→ Scientific capacity building

19 - Bikoshu Tibon Achon

Hence, we need to focus
on women empowerment and
Capacity Building

"Development which is not
EN-GENDERED,
is endangered"

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.

প্রশ্ন ২০: 'নাগরিকক শক্তিশালী কৰক, দুৰ্নীতি প্রকাশ কৰক' হৈছে ২০২৫ চনত ভাৰতৰ লোকপালৰ দ্বাৰা গ্ৰহণ কৰা মূলমন্ত্ৰ। প্রতিষ্ঠানটোৱে এই দৃষ্টিভঙ্গী কিমান পৰিমাণে বাস্তৱায়িত কৰিবলৈ সক্ষম হৈছে পৰীক্ষা কৰক। এই সন্দৰ্ভত শেহতীয়া উদাহৰণ উল্লেখ কৰি প্রশাসনত দায়বদ্ধতা আৰু স্বচ্ছতা নিশ্চিত কৰাৰ বিস্তৃত প্ৰত্যাহ্বানসমূহৰ বিষয়ে আলোচনা কৰক।
(Answer in 250 words)

The institution of Lokpal was made in the backdrop of India against corruption movement (2011) to uphold accountability of government.

Recently, Lokpal has adopted the motto of 'Empower Citizen, Expose corruption' reiterating its core purpose.

Significance of Lokpal to realise its vision of exposing corruption

① Successes of Lokpal:

→ Even the Prime Minister is within the ambit of Lokpal.

- it has control over investigative bodies like CBI, CVC. When they investigate case referred by Lokpal.
- Institution of Lokayukta to deal with state level accountability.
- Keeps officers of government in check as it has right over even the group A, B, C, D officers.
- works in co-son with other bodies CVC to maintain right right.

② Challenges in realising vision!

- Vacancy in office of Lokpal
- - 2013-2017 office was vacant due to no leader of opposition.

→ many states still function
without a Lokayukta

→ Jharkhand, Bihar etc.

→ The Prime minister has large
exceptions to be liable to
local

→ Overbroad terms like security
national interest etc.

Hence, it faces broader challenges
of ensuring accountability and
Transparency in governance -

①. Limited jurisdiction

→ Supreme court has kept
high court judges out of
purview

②. Low conviction and procedural
progress

→ only 3% cases have been taken up for investigation

(iii) Creates the fear of 3 Cs (Court, CVC, CBI) in Bureaucracy and it became "cold feet"

(iv) Perpetuates status coism among govt. officers

→ "Pushing the file", sitting in file culture"

Even though the institution of Lokpal was brought with the intent of accountable government, it calls for reforms in form of broader dimension to ensure relevance.

 Feedback
 (For office use only)

 Structure/
 Presentation

 Question
 Interpretation

Content

Value Addition

Penalty (If any)

Total