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## MAINS MOCK TEST, 2022

### GS II PAPER

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Time: 2 PM to 5 PM

Total Marks: 250 marks

Time duration: 3 hours

#### GS II Paper Instructions.

- Total Marks: 250 marks, Time duration: 3 hours.
- There are 20 questions printed in ENGLISH.
- All questions are compulsory.
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is printed against it.
- The medium of the answers will be English.
- Answers to questions no. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to questions no. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.
- Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.
- Any page or portion of the page left blank, must be struck off clearly.
- You are **directed to scan/ take photos of your answer booklet and send the same to [aptiplus.mains2022.openmock@gmail.com](mailto:aptiplus.mains2022.openmock@gmail.com) ONLY IN PDF FORMAT.**
- **Name the pdf format in the format (aspirant's full name)\_(paper).pdf.** For example, if your full name is Aman Kumar and the paper is on GS II then the file's name will be amankumar\_GSII.pdf.
- The **deadline** for submitting the answer sheets is **19th August 5 30 PM**



## MAINS MOCK TEST, 2022

Afghanistan

③ 12

1. Do you think India needs to change its Afghanistan policy owing to the Taliban's rising status in Afghanistan's power structure? Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 words)

The rising status of Taliban in Afghanistan demands a serious rethink of its foreign policy approach for India in West & Middle East Asia.

first write what was India's Afghan policy before Taliban, and what is the policy now

Need for change:

Taliban has closer links with the Pakistani establishment and due to this fact, Pakistan already has a greater say in this process.

- ① The border India shares with Afghanistan & Pakistan may be sensitive due to cross border & state sponsored terrorism.
- ② India needs to look for the national interest and global, regional support for security development.

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③ Afghanistan has huge investment in infrastructure, Ports, Highways, Dams etc. from India.

④ By playing an important role in negotiation on, India may counter China in Asia.

⑤ Recognising Taliban too as the stakeholder, India may benefit in trade & economy - export, by bringing regional peace & stability.

⑥ Control the issues of drug trafficking.

4

But, India must equally uphold the values of humanity, strict prevention of human, minority & women rights violation while engaging in talks.





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2. What do you understand by Pressure Groups? Elaborate on their role in strengthening the Indian democracy.  
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Pressure Groups are organisations who actively promote & ~~are~~ defend their rights, interests.

explain briefly types of pressure groups at various levels

They try to influence the government's decision-making from outside

### Role in strengthening Indian democracy:

- ① Brings the demands & needs of the people, otherwise unheard before the policy makers.
- ② Plays a vital role in two-way communication links between people & govt.
- ③ Vital role in legislative process, as active agency in lobbying.



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- (4) Influence the process of policy implementation through nudging administration.
  - (5) Use the Judicial system for securing & safeguarding their interests.
  - (6) Improves the quality of governance through consultations.
  - (7) Brings social reform and mobilise people through campaigns. Educate citizens and mobilize public opinion  
Eg: Women and Environmental groups.
  - (8) Increase social cohesion and Political stability.
- (4) value for the country they act as safety.



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3. Explain the major differences between the US, UK and Indian Constitutions in terms of the powers of the upper house. (10 Marks, 150 words)

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4. Discuss how present circumstances in the West Asian region raises various concerns for India. (10 Marks, 150 words)

The West Asian region crisis is not limited to the region and the fight between Iran, Saudi Arabia, Jews etc. groupings have drawn other players like USA, Russia etc.

### Concerns for India:

- ① Oil & gas supply: India imports > 70% of the oil, it may affect supply chain & price.
- ② Large Indian diaspora in West Asia and Persian Gulf might get affected.

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- ③ India gets huge remittances from the West Asia, which may be blocked.
- ④ India's connectivity with Iran - Port of chabahar and other West Asian countries, Europe through Suez Canal may also be affected.
- ⑤ Geo political - West Asia forms a link to Africa, Europe, Central Asia - via Iran.
- ⑥ Security threat + Regional disturbances may affect India indirectly.

Pakistan's strong political constituency across Muslim West Asia  
China using its hard cash and military prowess has already made rapid inroads in the region.

Write conclusion suggesting measures



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5. Explain the rationale behind setting up 'Alternative Mechanisms' in ensuring effective decision-making in the governance of the country. (10 Marks, 150 words)

Alternate mechanisms in Governance  
helps in fast decision making  
also it saves enough expenses  
and bring efficient decisions.

Rationale behind setting such:

- ① Decentralised and fast decision making.
- ② Empowered Committee are small and can take detailed consultations, with experts before arriving at any decision.
- ③ Ground realities and real-time data can also be accommodated.



reduce the workload of the Union Cabinet, and select Cabinet Committees.

following due diligence at each step of the Ministerial-level discussions and placing necessary safeguards to ensure that probing agencies do not interrupt the process later

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④ Dispute resolution mechanisms become smooth & fast.

⑤ Alternate mechanisms on strategic disinvestment will do away with multiple approvals and facilitate quick decision making.

⑥ Such mechanisms in the banking sector will help in creating strong & competitive culture for Public sector Banks.

write conclusion



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6. Critically analyze the significance of the MEA's e-Migrate portal in protecting Indian workers. (10 Marks, 150 words)

The e-Migrate portal is aimed at protecting the rights of Indian workers in the

gathers information on emigrants as well as foreign employers, their companies and recruiting agents.

Significance:

① It will automate the current processes making it simple, transparent, orderly, humane.

② Instant actions can be taken against the ~~ref~~ recruiting agents if they break rules.

③ This will reduce the hardships of workers, domestic abuse of Indian women.

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④ Prevent violation of women's rights and salary denial.

⑤ Prevent women from landing in financial difficulties and they can be reached easily.

⑥ The portals integration with the Passport Sewa project of MEA + Indian Missions ensures ~~it~~ all the stake-holders are on the same platform.

e-Migrate scheme violates UAE's sovereignty as it extracts information about companies in the UAE

The project made Indian labour much more difficult to hire by foreign employers



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7. The quality of politics is an important determinant of governance in society. Do you agree? (10 Marks, 150 words)

Politics is an important part of governance in society. It helps the public to be politically educated and thus raise awareness and creates demand driven governance.

Quality is vital:

- ① Politics must ensure overall growth & development in the governance system.
- ② Politics must allow for constructive criticism and have space for opposition parties to highlight the lacunae.

marks, 150



write what are the determinants of politics

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- ③ Quality politics will always uphold the constitutional values and thus ensure checks & balances in the society.
- ④ Quality politics in governance helps in filling the gaps and prevents undue concentration of power.
- ⑤ Quality of politics determines the level of corruption and how actually the grass root is empowered in representations.

Debates, discussions and deliberations  
Inner party democracy  
When lawbreakers become lawmakers, then there are high chances of constitutional values being ignored and violated

If there is/is a strong opposition party/parties, they will keep questioning the party in power.



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8. Globalisation has enriched the Indian culture in the 21st century. Assess with suitable examples. (10 Marks, 150 words)

Globalisation has placed the Indian culture at an elevated stage through wide scale spread and acceptance globally.

- ① The Indian culture received many good practices from across the world.

Eg: The modernisation of Society - changing mindset towards women, childhood marriage, female education etc.

- ② The Indian culture found its lost elements.

Eg: The demand for local, rural, tribal products in many countries re-created



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the demand for such art, crafts, Paintings and skill sets.

③ Globalisation has created fusion culture in India.

Eg: The fusion in music, dance, foods etc. with the best from across the world.

④ Indian culture got enriched through new trending ideologies globally.

Eg: The ~~Gayness~~ Gay Gayness develop-ment today originated in India originally.

⑤ The start up culture in India got a boost through globalisation.

the LGBT movement in India got cultural and social support from across the globe.

foreign languages are getting prevalent in India like French, German, Spanish etc., right from the school level

western music has found greater acceptance in India leading to the creation of a new genre called Indo-Western fusion.



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9. Implementation of UCC must be seen from gender justice. Comment. (10 Marks, 150 words)

Article 44 of the Directive Principles of the State Policy states that it is the duty of the State to secure UCC for the citizens of India.

### UCC and Gender Justice:

① The inheritance laws of muslims under personal Shariat laws, provides Women's shares to be less than men's.

Ensure equality between women of different religions

② The UCC will destroy the sanctity of the patriarchal orthodon mindset, bringing gender equality.

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principles  
(3) In present condition, too many personal laws prevent the victim from getting faster delivery of Justice.

Provide freedom to the women from the draconian personal laws

(4) The prime aim of implementing the UCC should be to uphold Constitutional morality over the personal, religious morality, which creates gender inequality.

Thus, the supremacy of fundamental rights of Article 14, 21 etc. should take precedence.

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10. What is one nation one ration card. How it could play a big role in dealing with migration? (10 Marks, 150 words)

The one nation one ration card scheme, being implemented under the NFSA, allows all beneficiaries particularly the migrants to claim their allotted share from any Fair Price Shops (FPS) in the country with biometric authentication on electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices.

Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS) portal provides the technological platform for the inter-state portability of ration cards.

### Role in migration issues:

① The scheme removes the geographical hindrance to Social Justice.

they will be able to access the food grains from across India.

choice to choose the fair price shop

② ~40% Population comes under migrant labours, they will have food security.

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- ③ The scheme will prevent leakages through de-duplication and Aadhar authentication.
- ④ The scheme will prevent social discrimination against the migrants, who often are at the mercy of employers.
- ⑤ The women migrants will be highly benefitted as the family members of migrants are also allowed to draw the remaining share of PDS back home, if any.



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11. In the context of overcrowded prisons in India, discuss the reforms needed in bail laws and the prison system in India. (15 Marks, 250 words)

According to a report of Prison statistics by NCRB, 2019, the Prisons in India are highly overcrowded > 100%. Capacity with some biggest prisons in like in Delhi it is worst.

Reforms needed in bail laws & Prison system:

① India has the highest number of under trials in Asia - India - > 70% Prisoners.

② Under trials do not have anyone to stand as guarantors or to get bail bonds.



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③ 'Bail is a matter of right' as emphasised by the SC and not giving it shows colonial legacy of Cr P.C.

separate Bail law, along the lines of the Bail Act UK

④ Indiscriminate arrests have increased in recent times.

not a reform

⑤ Despite provision of Cognisable  
Non-bailable, Non-Cognisable  
bailable offences in IPC,  
Cr P.C, there is not much  
change in ground level.

⑥ The Judicial magistrate  
has the discretion to allow  
bail against arrest.  
Thus, definite-law is  
essential.

police should take precautions  
against needless arrests and  
magistrates against mechanical  
remand orders.



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Also, few Prison reforms are essential to make the system humane:

setting up of a legal aid clinic in every prison to ensure free legal aid under Article 39A of the Constitution

① ensuring legal aids to defendants.

② Implementation of Article 20, 21, 22 and thus prevent - random arrest delays.

Comprehensive health screening for women prisoners, sensitizing and training of staff on gender issues and sexual violence

③ Under trial Prisoners can be reduced by decreasing Judicial pendency of cases. District level courts must function effectively

④ Right to bail in non-cognizable offences should not be discriminatory.

Installation of CCTV cameras in work sheds, kitchens, high-security enclosures

⑤ Rejection of bail must be supported by valid grounds.



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12. India fought three wars in a space of ten years between 1962 and 1971. Was this due to the failure of India's foreign policy? Critically analyse. (15 Marks, 250 words)

The three wars for India just after independence was a shock for the economy, government and was an outcome of many factors like border issues, Partition, Political dominance and foreign policy.

### Arguments in support:

- ① The 1962 Sino-Indian war had its root in the Panchsheel and Prime Minister Nehru's slogan of 'Hindi-chini Bhai Bhai'. When China tried to occupy Tibet, India acknowledged the Chinese rule in Tibet.

Wars also happened due to ambiguous geographical boundary disputes in Kashmir and in North-Eastern regions





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② India believed that both China & India together could be the superpower but China considered it to be the sole Asian Power.

③ India's failure to collaborate with USA, UK and seek help; through foreign alliances.

④ Failure of India to solve the border disputes with Pakistan, China, also poor military infra, Defence preparedness.

⑤ In 1971 Indo-Pak war, India failed to Condemn Pakistan's terror attacks through dominance across border.

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### Arguments against :

- ① India signed a deal with Russia just before the Indo-Pak war, 1971
- ② India wanted a friendly relation with China for economic and political power in global platform.
- ③ India's NAM as an important part of its foreign policy helped it to stay away from the Western and USSR influence when the entire world was divided between these superpowers.

The Indus water treaty is one of the most successful treaties in the world.

Conclusion missing



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13. With SHGs increasing in numbers, size and variety of operations, SHG federations were formed to bring stability and financial sustainability to the SHG movement. Explain. (15 Marks, 250 words)

SHGs play an important role in the socio-economic empowerment particularly the women and vulnerable section in the developing countries.

### Formation of SHG federations:

- ① These federations will help in better access to the marketing of goods.
- ② Better financial management with built of trust between the federation and credit institutions.
- ③ Better negotiation, in case of attracting businesses, investments etc.



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- ④ Availability of raw materials in bulk quantity due to large one time demand.
- ⑤ More stability & unity among SHG members.
- ⑥ Less chances of exploitation by strong members and more democratisation, voice of all poor members.
- ⑦ The SHG federations can also arrange for better training facilities to its members.
- ⑧ Adequate insurance coverage to the business units promoted by SHGs.

Federations can promote effectiveness in the functioning of SHGs. Federations perform various microfinance-related roles like an audit of the SHG accounts, assisting the SHGs in book-keeping, directly lending to the members of the SHG and assisting in the recovery of loans.



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Thus, the SHG federations help in reduced dependence on promotional agencies.

But, few more steps can be added:

- ① Make use of new technology advancement to spread the reach and promotion.
- ② Increase Professionalism - prevent accounting errors & financial mismanagement.
- ③ Constant monitoring & support is reqd. for new agencies.  
through NRLM, NABARD, MUDRA etc.



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14. Discuss the challenges of modern Indian bureaucracy in light of changing Indian society and suggest measures to reform this. (15 Marks, 250 words)

The Indian bureaucracy is the backbone of administration and Socio-economic development through governance and thus carry huge responsibility on its shoulders.

### Challenges faced :

- ① Bureaucracy resists change - fear to lose privileges and prospects.
- ② Red-Tapeism, Complex procedure, following rules, laws in letter strictly & not in spirit.
- ③ Corruption, ~~arbitrary~~ transfers of honest officers.

Indian bureaucracy is older than democracy. With the advent of digital governance and new technologies, bureaucracy needs to be trained to enhance efficiency. Article 311 protection has become debatable due to the dishonesty of some of the IAS officers. 2nd ARC can be mentioned here





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- (4) Structural issues - Every dept. and ministry is headed by a generalist, an IAS, instead of any Specialist Officer.
- (5) changing modern society demands dynamism, tech driven innovation disruption and digitisation i.e. Minimum government and maximum governance, which is lacking in Bureaucracy.

### Reforms:

- (1) Rationalisation and harmonisation of Services. - lateral entry, outsourcing service delivery.

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② Training reform - Code of ethics,  
 PPP Collaboration etc.

③ Periodic evaluation, training and  
 Performance monitoring. For better  
 efficiency, <sup>actionable</sup> target setting and  
 accountability is also important.

④ Robust Vigilantism, e-office,  
 Prompt service delivery and  
 grievance redressal mechanism.

5

Officers should be asked to complete a diploma in whatever sector they desire a posting in.

The period of posting has to be fixed to allow officials to understand the technical aspects.

Officers deemed unfit for further service at specified career benchmarks be compulsorily retired through a transparent, uniform system of performance review.





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15. There is a lack of preparedness on the part of Municipal Governance to handle frequent natural disasters.  
Comment. (15 Marks, 250 words)

The role of municipal governance in managing natural disasters has become crucial in recent years due to prompt action needed and more knowledge about local conditions compared to district level, state or national level agencies.

38 cities are located in zones with seismic susceptibility in the government's vulnerability atlas of India

### Lack of Preparedness:

- ① Post incident actions taken instead of Preventive actions.
- ② Municipal governance lack the funding and poor financial health prevents developing<sup>34</sup>



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adequate force and infra.

- ③ Dependent on state and union govt. for funding, action plans.
- ④ Preparedness requires the municipal governance to train the local community; but it is not available easily.
- ⑤ Resource constraints - both monetary physical & human.
- ⑥ Municipal governance is not prepared to handle natural disasters due to discrete approach and lack of collaboration between other areas.

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Therefore, it is imp.  
to give the municipal governance  
enough resources and allow them  
to form customised micro planning  
to better tackle such natural  
(6) disasters.

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16. India and Japan are a multi-dimensional relationship. Comment. (15 Marks, 250 words)

Both India & Japan share a diplomatic relation based on common geopolitical & Economic interests; especially as their goals in Asia overlaps.

In 2022, the two countries celebrated the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations

Multi-dimensional relations:

① Economic Ties:

→ India is the largest recipient of Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA).

→ Infrastructure ✓ and Metro rail Projects.

→ Special Economic Partnership Initiative (SEPI) for Dedicated Freight Corridor.





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→ Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) bilaterally, which broadened the ties like inclusion of a Social Security Agreement (SSA).

→ Political & Security Cooperation

• Indo-Japan 2+2 dialogue

• " " bilateral naval exercise.

Eg: Malabar Exercise, Dharma Guardian, SIMEX etc.

• Quad grouping and countering China

Defence exports

→ Energy : clean energy partnership. e-vehicle, Renewables, Li-ion batteries.

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The India-Japan Science Council  
Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program in  
Science

→ Technological - Indo - Japan  
digital partnership, IOT, AI etc.  
India's skill development.

→ Space : India - Japan space  
dialogue, satellite development,  
transfer of tech in India for  
Joint development.

8.

cultural exchanges, primarily as a result of Buddhism



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17. Concerning the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act 2021 discusses the issues faced by pregnant women for opting for abortion in India. (15 Marks, 250 words)

The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act 2021 allows the pregnant women to seek abortion till 24 weeks under special situ cases. It also allows certain unmarried women to adopt abortion.

More than half (53%) of abortions in India are performed in the private sector, whereas only 20% are performed in the public sector

Issues faced by pregnant women:

- ① Forced to access illegal underground health clinics for abortion - life threatening
- ② Rape survivors forced to marry against their will.
- ③ Violation of Article 21, Right to bodily integrity.



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- ④ Administrative hurdles like the women had to face multiple boards for approval of termination, thus, process got delayed.
- ⑤ Allowing unmarried women access to termination was a much needed step since sometimes there is a chance of Contra-  
-ceptive failure.
- ⑥ Victims of incest, other vulnerable women like differently abled, minors etc. can also now get an extended upper gestation period; for abortion.

The unmarried and transgender people continue to face stigma and can be turned away from health facilities



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② The social stigma faced by such victims prevented them from accessing authorised health clinics.

healthcare providers may impose their morality by insisting on 'husbands' or 'parental' consent for abortion.

Now, there is strict provisions for enforcement of Confidentiality of Women accessing abortion.

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Many women are still coerced into agreeing to a permanent or long-term contraceptive method as a prerequisite for getting abortion services.



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18. BRICS will inject more of its strength into global development and speak with a louder voice to uphold the common interest of the developing countries. Justify. (15 Marks, 250 words)

BRICS brings together five of the largest developing countries of the world representing ~40% of global population, 24% of global GDP.

More strength into global development,

① Member countries like India, China, Russia etc. play vital role in global economic development - Market, Supply chain, Natural resource base etc.

② closer cooperation in areas of culture, education, technology sharing etc.

③ Political & Security Contribution, sharing policy



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advice in domestic and regional challenges, which in turn contribute to the global peace.

④ The importance of BRICS during post - Covid economic recovery through advancing macro economic policy coordination, NDB's expansion of membership, deep economic practical cooperation ~~was~~ is vital for the world.

⑤ BRICS also play an important role in the world peace and global security challenges, against military ties at the cost of other countries.

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- ⑥ BRICS Comprehensive Convention on international terrorism and treaty to combat all terror finance networks.

u have to write about the initiatives of BRICS that show that BRICS is injecting more of its strength into global development and speaking with a louder voice to uphold the common interest

Uphold the common interest of developing nations:

- ① The global south - including many badly affected small island nations from climate change get their voice in the platform.

- ② The developing nations find their place in placing their interests in WTO platform.

- ③ BRICS nation together may bargain for reform of multilateral institutions like UNSC.

- ④ The poor nations may get technological & digital solutions<sup>45</sup> for SDG through BRICS.

IAS GYAN





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19. Identify the bottlenecks in Anganwadis in India and suggest solutions. (15 Marks, 250 words)

The Anganwadis in India play a vital role in ensuring affordable & accessible healthcare at grassroot level. As part of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)

### Bottlenecks:

① Lack of education & training:

Most anganwadi workers not well-literate & lack skills. Anganwadi workers can lack key knowledge

② Demotivating service conditions:

of frontline women, inadequate pay, no ~~career~~ prospects.

③ Lack of basic facilities:

basic medicine, drinking water, toilets etc. sanitation.



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(4) No facility like creche, good quality recreational facilities, Pre-school education etc.

(5) Lack of proper wages and incentives. repeated point

(6) No social security provisions like Dearness Allowances as given to other Govt. employees.

Administrative responsibilities take up significant time, and core services like pre-school education are deprioritised.

### Solutions:

(1) Regularly assess and plug knowledge gaps.

(2) Empowerment of Anganwadi workers  
 - provide comprehensive support & resources.

(3) Training, skilling, impart knowledge related to child nutrition, health, early<sup>47</sup> childhood education etc.



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- ④ Increase staffing levels - additional workers to each centre can help work distribution.
- ⑤ Improve infra - functional sanitation, clean drinking water, upgrade safety & well being.
- ⑥ Strengthen monitoring & evaluation to assess progress, impact of ICDS scheme.  
improve career incentives and remuneration for Anganwadi workers.
- ⑦ Sustainable funding - partnership with NAO, Pvt. sector.

write conclusion



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20. What is SMART policing? Highlight the reforms required in the current system to realize this vision. (15 Marks, 250 words)

SMART policing is the combination of both technology, sensitive and modern police force with much - common touch & empathy.

explain briefly about SMART policing in 2-3 more sentences

Reforms required:

- ① Move police accountability - prevent misuse of power to arrest.
- ② Increase Police personnel & relieve crime investigation department from law enforcing duties.
- ③ Improve & modernise police infrastructure - Innovative weapons, as envisaged by the CAG.



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- ④ Improve Police - Public relath  
through inculcating public sensitive  
policing with humane attitude.
- ⑤ Involve Community policing and  
make them equal stakeholder  
in this.
- ⑥ Collaboration with foreign  
countries for training & skillig  
to accomodate best practices  
across the globe.
- ⑦ Ensure safety and stability  
in police postings, appointments  
and transfers through a  
well laid down policy

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and Committee recommendations,  
on ~~the~~ suggested <sup>in</sup> ~~by~~ Prakash  
Singh case by SC.

6

enactment of a central act against organized crimes, a single Police Act for the country, moving 'police' and 'public order' to the Concurrent List  
Boosting infrastructure and capacity of the police forces  
To counter terrorism-related emergencies, a National Counter Terrorism Centre must be established.

Fast completion and operationalization of Criminal Tracking Network and System (CCTNS) and National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) is required

### Final Comments:

1. Your understanding of the subject and question is good
2. Conclusion is missing in most of the questions.
3. Define key words in introduction
4. Give equal weightage to different parts of question
5. Answering all questions will fetch u more marks