



MAINS MOCK TEST, 2022

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GS II PAPER

Date: 19th 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 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**

Overall Remarks:

1. you have good understanding of question and have also written good relevant points. overall you have given due weightage to subparts of the question except in q14.

2. you have structured the answer well in terms of intro, body and conclusion. you can use diagrams/figures/flowchart for few questions. Ex:q3,q10

3. There is also clarity in your answers. But you can also add names of international organisation/treaty etc. to enrich your answer. ex:q15

Your answers are mostly to the point and there is scope for few improvement which would come with continuous practice. Keep writing. All the best.



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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 return of the Taliban to Afghanistan has resulted in India's older approach towards Afghanistan requiring changes to incorporate the status quo

Earlier Indian policy

- Afghan owned, Afghan controlled peace process
- No negotiation with the Taliban
- Involvement of all stakeholders involved in Afghanistan

good relevant intro

Requirement of change

i) Rising international engagements : While India has isolated Taliban, other countries are engaging with them. This will affect India's foreign policy.

Give examples. like china

ii) Declining influence of Pakistan : Pakistan's economic, security and diplomatic challenges has led to a declining influence over



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the Taliban, which has left a void that India can fill.

iii) National Security : India needs to engage with the Taliban to ensure Afghan soil is not used for launching terror-related activities against India.

iv) Infrastructure : India's investments in Afghan infrastructure include the Salma dam, Afghan Parliament, Zaranj - Delaram project etc.

v) Connectivity : Afghanistan is the gateway to the Central Asian area, where India needs to focus to increase trade relations, hence engaging with the Taliban becomes important.

vi) Reconnecting with people : Engagement with the Taliban will help India reconnect with the Afghan people.

Due to the rising status of Taliban, it is necessary for India to deal with them. It is necessary for both sides to take into account the others' concerns and improve diplomatic and economic relations. **good conclusion**



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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)

A Pressure Group is a group of people who are organized actively for promoting and defending their common interest. It acts as a liaison between government and its members.

good intro

Role in India

- i) Influencing opinion : Pressure groups are responsible for spreading awareness among people and affecting their opinion. E.g. role of Kisan Sabhas in bringing peasant issues during the freedom struggle.
- ii) Political decision making : Pressure Groups affect the political decision-making process by liaising with the government and creating public opinion.
- iii) Legal role : Pressure groups often protest against



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perceived injustices, by lodging PILs in the courts to act as a voice of the oppressed.

✓ iv) Accountability : Pressure groups often brings accountability by both the government and its members by constant scrutiny e.g. role of the bar Council of India.

✓ v) Fights for rights : Pressure groups often organize campaigns, marches and processions to fight for the rights of the oppressed and bring changes in laws. E.g. Pride week organized by pressure groups.

✓ vi) Common interest : Pressure groups are groups of people with similar interests; hence, they can liaison for their own benefits with the government.

Pressure groups like FICCI, SFI, Indian Medical Association etc. all have contributed greatly to Indian democracy and politics.

good answer with relevant examples.



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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)

The United States, United Kingdom and India all have Upper Houses in the form of the Senate, the House of Lords and Rajya Sabha respectively.

Differences

can make 3 columns and explain

us

uk

ind

i) Power : The Senate is responsible for multiple aspects of US democracy e.g. impeachment of the president. The House of Lords is the weakest of the three, and the Rajya Sabha in India has special powers, like establishment of new All India Services (Art 312)

ii) Separation of Power

a) US: Complete separation of power, with no member of the Senate involved in the government.

b) UK: Partial separation of powers. Ministers can be chosen from the Upper House, but the Prime Minister must be from Lower House.



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e) c) India: Ministers and the Prime Minister can be chosen from both Houses.

iii) Representation

a) US: ~~Equal~~ representation of the states (2 seats to each state)

~~b) UK: Members are not permanent and must stand for re-election~~

b) UK: Membership is generally permanent, with no need to stand for re-election.

c) India: Unequal representation of the states. Members have a tenure of 6 years, with $\frac{1}{3}$ rd members retiring every second year.

iv) Role

a) US: ~~Represents~~ the states, passes legislation and the budget

b) UK: Can only recommend changes to House of Commons

c) India: Has equal powers with Lok Sabha barring the passage of Budget and No-confidence motion.

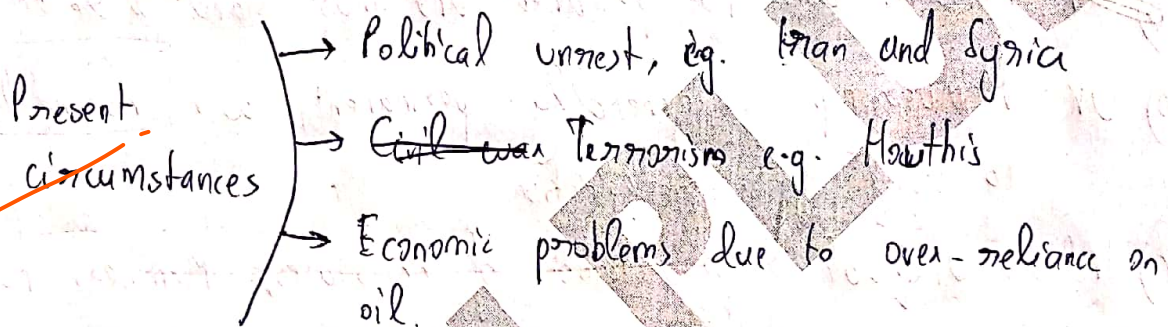
Although all three countries have an Upper House, the role of all three varies greatly, as does their power and responsibilities. **good conclusion**



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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 has several strategic and economic benefits for India. However, the current issues in the region raises concerns for India



Concerns for India

i) India-Israel relations would be hampered due to the Arab-Israel hostility, which in turn would affect India's West Asia policy.

ii) Extremism: ~~Central~~ West Asia finds itself exposed and vulnerable to influences like Al Qaeda, Islamic State, Taliban etc.



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iii) Drugs and Arms trafficking : Drugs make way into India by getting linked with Golden Crescent and Golden Triangle.

iv) Physical connectivity : India suffers from a lack of direct connectivity with West Asian countries, which affects both trade and security initiatives.

v) China factor : The growing closeness of China with West Asian countries also challenges India's relations with them.

ex: recent peace deal brokered by china

vi) India - Iran relations : India's close relations with Iran also affects her relations with other West Asian countries due to the Shia - Sunni divide.

as well as with usa+can mention chabahar port development

India must carefully balance the needs of all stakeholders to ensure the West Asian diplomacy can be effectively effective in the near future.

good conclusion



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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).

Alternative mechanisms stand for decision-making processes which are different and independent from the existing processes in the country. Some examples include social audit, tribunals, NGOs and SHGs.

Rationale

i) Fast faster and more efficient alternative mechanisms

ensure rapid dispute resolution and more effective decision making.

ii) Ensures Accountability, Responsibility and Transparency in

the decision-making process eg the Information Commission.

iii) Reduces the burden on judiciary by mechanisms like

the Lok Adalats, tribunals etc which have the power to resolve cases by understanding or rapid mechanisms.

iv) Accessibility of Alternative mechanisms - is greater





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than other governance mechanisms, which makes it people-friendly and citizen centric.

i) Peoples participation in alternative mechanisms is greater than traditional ones, which enables a greater feeling of democratic processes.

ii) Alternative mechanisms are generally more flexible in their ~~procedures~~ ~~mechanisms~~, which allows for innovative mechanisms for resolutions to problems.

vii) Responsive and resilient alternate dispute resolution processes help in resolving citizens' grievances at the earliest, which brings them ~~closer~~ to more trust in the government.

Alternative mechanisms ~~in~~ ^{ensure} ~~ensuring~~ effective decision making, are responsive and people-centric. For this reason, it is necessary to ensure such processes are available alongside the traditional systems



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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 and governance both define the efficiency of administration in a society. The quality of politics affects the level of governance and makes it more efficient, rapid and people-centric

good intro

Politics and governance

- i) Active governance : Governance tends to be more active if the politics in a society is more active and efficient.
- ii) Rule of law : If the politics in a society uphold the rule of law, the governance structure would also do the same as the politicians ~~for~~ themselves often are involved in governance.
- iii) Equitable and inclusive : Politics which is inclusive of all voices in a society would also result in



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governance which would ^{serve} ~~bring~~ all members of society

i) Accountable and transparent : Greater transparency in the political setup of the country would result in greater transparency in governance.

v) Consensus oriented : Politics often creates consensus about the policies in a society, which is then implemented by good governance.

vi) Decentralization : Political decentralisation also leads to decentralisation of governance structures, which also moves towards effective governance.

briefly mention about other determinants also which affect governance

Politics and governance goes hand in hand with each other. Hence to improve the quality of governance, it is necessary to improve the quality of politics in society.

good conclusion



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

Globalization is the process by which national and regional economies, societies and cultures have become integrated through global network of trade, communication and transport.

Role in enriching culture

i) Homogenization : It is a process by which foreign cultures are being adapted into Indian society.

a) Emergence of new forms of families like ^{nuclear} ~~joint~~ families, single parent households etc.

b) Changes in lifestyle e.g. rise of a culture of consumption.

c) Rise of corporate culture, emergence of e-commerce

d) Leading life in virtual space e.g. rise of metaverse.

point a,b has degraded indian culture and not enriched. these should be written separately as with how globalisation has also degraded indian culture as question is asking "assess"



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ii) Hybridisation: It is a process by which foreign and local cultures are uniquely mixed to form new traditions.

a) Practice of gift-giving during Diwali is a Western culture

b) People resorting to both allopathic and homeopathic medicines.

c) Different languages being taught in schools.

iii) Revival of local culture: Globalisation has also brought

local culture to the world forum:

a) International Yoga Day being adopted throughout the world.

b) Emergence of concept of GI, handloom tags to promote traditional Indian crafts.

Globalization has enriched Indian culture by the process of homogenization, hybridization and also has led to the acceptance of Indian culture throughout the world.



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

A uniform civil code stands for having uniformity in civil laws throughout the country for all communities. It has been laid down under Article 44 of the Indian constitution. **good intro**

Gender justice from UCC

i) Inheritance: It would ensure equal inheritance rights for women of all communities and bring in an equality among all in the legal terms.

ii) Child marriage: Child marriages can be prevented in a better manner by ensuring uniformity in the age of marriage across the country.

iii) Divorce proceedings: Laws for marriage and divorce can become uniform, which would enable women to



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rapidly move the law in case of divorce proceedings

iv) Efficiency in justice delivery: With uniform laws and rules, it would be ensure rapid justice delivery through the courts

v) Polygamy: Polygamy can be prevented by ensuring uniformity in the civil laws across the country.

vi) Education and healthcare: Uniformity in civil laws would enable all girl children to access adequate education and healthcare, which in turn would ensure gender justice.

Way forward

- Involvement of all stakeholders to design a UCC
- Accomodation of cultural diversity in the framing of a uniform civil code
- Inclusion of legal luminaries in the framing of the UCC.

The uniform civil code would lead to women empowerment, ensuring gender justice. Hence, it is necessary to ensure that a UCC is brought in with involvement of all stakeholders.

good conclusion. can also suggest points from law commission's reports



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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 allows all ~~NFSA~~ National Food Security Act beneficiaries to claim either full or part foodgrains through existing ration cards **across all states and UT**

Role in dealing with migration

- i) Enabling right to food : A beneficiary moving to a different state would be eligible to get foodgrains there, thus helping stop reverse-migration.
- ii) Migration pattern : Centralised ERP shop data may be used to formulate policies on intra and inter-state migration **can show small map showing migration pattern in india**
- iii) Nutritional security : The scheme would provide nutritional security to the migrants as well as their families.



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i) Reduce discrimination : Migrant workers facing issues of discrimination based on caste, class and regional identities would be able to avail POS facility.

ii) Women : The scheme will particularly benefit migrant women, as women are taken to be the head of the household in this case.

iii) Choice of dealer : The ONRC scheme allows the migrants the opportunity to opt for a dealer of their choice, which would reduce corruption.

Present states → 12 states had been integrated into the system.

→ Annavidyan portal has been launched to keep track of grains distributed.

The one nation one ration card is the first step towards ensuring mass welfare. Hence, steps need to be taken to ensure its success.

good



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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)

Prisons in India have remained overcrowded causing issues of custodial violence, undertrials, unsanitary living conditions etc. NCRB data reports 4.8 lakh inmates against a capacity of 4.1 lakh in Indian prisons.

Challenges
Reforms needed in

i) Prison system

a) Resolution of the issue of undertrials, as nearly 69% of prisoners are undertrials

b) Rising issues of custodial violence.

ex: can mention recent case of tamilnadu

c) Lack of adequate mechanisms to care for women prisoners.

d) Rising issues of staff crouch

e) Unhygienic and unsanitary living conditions for the prisoners.



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ii) Bail laws

a) Lack of awareness among prisoners about the applicability of bail

b) High rates of bonds, which most prisoners are unable to pay.

c) Delayed judicial proceedings, resulting in delayed granting of bail.

d) Delayed investigation by the authorities, pushing back bail proceedings.

Reforms needed

i) Prison system

a) Separation of undertrials from convicted prisoners, and people committing lesser crimes from the more heinous ones.

b) Increasing capacity of prisons by improvement of infrastructure.



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c) ~~Ensuring~~ skill building activities among the prisoners
eg. Jail Radio being run in prisons in Kerala.

d) ~~Ensuring~~ proper treatment of women prisoners and availability of women guards

ii) Bail system

a) ~~Ensuring~~ proper legal representation for the undertrials for rapid bail.

b) ~~Deciding~~ bond rates based on financial strength of the prisoner

use of tech.,

c) ~~Spreading~~ of awareness with regards to availability of bail, mechanisms involved etc.

malimath committee recommendation implementation

d) ~~Ensuring~~ bail hearings are resolved earlier

The overcrowding of prisons causes a detrimental social impact, especially among the undertrials. Steps to reform the prison system and bail system are the need of the hour.

mention about human right violation as india has ratified UNHRC



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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 Indo-China war of 1962 and Indo-Pakistan wars of 1965 and 1971 affected the foreign policy and national security doctrine of India.

Failure of foreign policy

i) Indo-China war

- Inability to resolve the border question in Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh
- Inability to check and detect Chinese incursions at the border
- Inability to build international consensus against China
- Lack of any allies for India, who would supply ammunition and foodgrains
- Failure of the Non-Aligned strategy and the Panchsheel doctrine which were the core principles of India's foreign policy.



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ii) Indo-Pakistan wars

- a) Non-resolution of the Kashmir issue between the two countries.
- b) Lack of preparation in 1965 for any foreign aggression by Pakistan.
- c) Lack of external help in 1965, whereas Pakistan received support from the United States.
- d) Failure of the Non-Aligned policy, as other countries of NAM did not support India.

Successes of foreign policy

The wars of 1962-71 were not a reason just of failure of foreign policy as:

- i) In 1971, India received support from the USSR and her allies. The USSR also vetoed a UN resolution ^{to} condemn Indian actions.



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ii) India was suffering from internal problems (political instability, famines and droughts) which ~~was~~ invited foreign aggression.

iii) Defeat of India in 1962 also motivated the aggression by Pakistan in 1965

iv) In 1971, India managed to build international consensus against Pakistani actions in Bangladesh.

v) Internal troubles in Pakistan forced the aggression to divert attention

Although the war of 1962 can be cited as a failure of India's foreign policy, the wars of 1965^{and 1971} were a result of various reasons. In 1971, the rapid victory of India was a result of the success of Indian foreign policy.

good conclusion.



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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)

Self Help Groups are defined as self-governed, peer-controlled, informal group of people with similar socio-economic background and having a desire to collectively perform a common purpose.

can divide body into:

Role of SHG federations

a] SHG-bringing stability

b] SHG-bringing financial sustainability

i) Easy to identify: SHG federations, due to their size, are easier to identify for the government to provide benefits.

ii) Similar socio-economic profile of the people involved in SHGs and SHG federations creates greater bargaining power of the people.

iii) Accessibility of SHG federations is greater, especially in remote areas. They are also easier to develop in remote locations.



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iv) Effects on women: SHG federations have multiple benefits for women -

MENTION NAMES: LIKE
KUDUMBASHRI SHG KERALA

a) Covers unbanked rural women, especially women of marginalized sections.

b) Brings economic self-independence and awareness of financial schemes

c) Raises status of women in society

d) Helps women take part in decision-making.

v) Self-employment: SHG federations are employment generators, thus creating a positive trickle-down effect on society.

vi) Economics of aggregation: SHG federations are more resilient and stable due to the aggregation of several SHGs and coordination of all in working.

vii) Circular economy: Products of one SHG can be used as raw materials for another, and so on, creating a model of circular economy.

also explain how shg are helping in other fields like disaster management, resolving poverty and hunger etc.



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Government schemes

- National Rural Livelihood Mission
- SHGs are under PSL
- State-specific schemes like Prayashashini scheme of Uttar Pradesh

**SHG-NABARD
COLLABORATION**

Way forward

- i) Skill training programmes in management of accounts and production activities
- ii) Awareness programmes and gender sensitization
- iii) Diversification of activities
- iv) Insurance coverage for businesses formed by SHGs
- v) Simplification of loan disbursement

SHG federations suffer from issues of lack of training and capacity building, political interference, loan and NPA issues etc. These need to be tackled at the earliest to ensure maximization of profit and boosting the income of the poor.



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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 modern Indian bureaucracy is responsible for management of resources, of land, water and for human resource management. Due to the dynamic nature of Indian society, the bureaucracy is facing several challenges.

Challenges

need to explain wrt changing indian society.
see in next page few points

- i) Organisational structure : The strict organizational structure of bureaucracy causes issues in times of crisis as a flexible approach is required to tackle it.
- ii) Cumbersome procedure : In spite of digitization, the procedures involved in administration are still extremely long and cumbersome.
- iii) Centralisation of power : Centralisation of power in the bureaucracy causes issues in the changing Indian society where decentralisation and devolution are required.

RED TAPISM



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- iv) Technological backwardness : The bureaucracy has been unable to adequately adopt modern technologies into their functioning.
- v) Eliotist outlook : The elitist outlook of bureaucrats prevents them from being approachable, which becomes an issue in the society.
- vi) Rigidity of rules : Lack of flexibility with regards to rules and regulations causes issues in times of crisis and for adequate responsiveness.
- vii) Skill development and specialization : The generalist structure of Indian bureaucracy causes issues as in the changing nature of society, specialization is needed.

CHALLENGES wrt changing migration pattern, consumerist culture, urbanisation, communalistic tendencies, rising regionalism, rising population, demographic changes ie. rising life expectancy etc. also needs to be mentioned.

Measures needed

According to the 2nd Administrative Reforms Committee, the following reforms can be taken :

- i) Bringing accountability by a system of periodic



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reviews, at 14 years, and 20 years.

ii) Performance based promotion by making appraisal system more consultative and transparent.

iii) Identification of certain domains where specialization is needed, and appointment of specialists in these domains.

iv) Streamlining rules and procedures to ensure rules can be simplified and discretionary powers of public servants are eliminated while leaving scope for innovative thinking.

v) Adoption of technology on the lines of minimum government, maximum governance.

6. mission karmayogi,

7. security of tenure

The bureaucracy needs to be dynamic in order to match up to the changing nature of Indian society, for which certain reforms need to be taken at the earliest.



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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)

Disasters in India are tackled at three levels at the local, state and national levels. The Municipal government is responsible for tackling disasters at the ~~Municipal~~ ^{local} level.

can mention about NDMA framework in intro

Problems at the Municipal level

- i) Lack of proper action plan : Most municipal governments lack a proper action plan for tackling disasters, which results in delayed response.
- ii) Lack Staff and personnel : Municipal governments do not have independent staff or personnel for disaster management, which prevents effective action.
- iii) Financial crunch : Lack of funds with municipal governments prevent the building of resilient infrastructure of or disaster shelters.



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i) Lack of community participation : Municipal governments have been unable to integrate the community into disaster management mechanisms.

ii) Reactive instead of proactive : Municipalities across the country ~~are~~ generally take a post-disaster response instead of pre-disaster preparedness.

iii) Lack of coordination : Municipalities fail to coordinate with institutions like ISRO, Geological Survey of India and NEMA for proper disaster management.

Steps taken

- Focus on building resilient houses through PM-Awas Yojana
- State level schemes e.g. Municipalities in Kerala launched Masala bonds for disaster-related infrastructure
- gradual change towards proactive approach

ndmp, 2016
sendai framework adoption

Disaster Management and Mitigation Funds under the 15th finance Commission.



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Way forward

- i) Financial devolution and ability to raise funds through municipal bonds
- ii) Formation of specific disaster-related action plans which would be local in nature.
- iii) Spreading awareness among the public e.g. meaning of different colour codes for a cyclone.
- iv) Training of local population and formation of local volunteer corps for disaster response.
- v) Focus on sustainable growth, with adequate afforestation through Miyawaki techniques.

Disaster management involves pre-disaster planning, during disaster response and post disaster response. It is necessary for municipal governments to incorporate all 3 steps in their disaster response action plan.



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

India and Japan share historical relations, which go back to the time of the freedom movement. This relation has grown to become multi-faceted in recent years.

Strategic Cooperation

good intro

- i) Formation of ~~G4~~ G4 for the UN reforms, and formation of ~~Quad~~ Quad (US, Japan, India, Australia)
- ii) Conduction of Malabar exercises
- iii) Establishment of Asia-Africa Growth Corridor \$ 10 billion
- iv) Congruence of India's 'Act East Policy' and Japan's 'Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy'.

Defence Cooperation

- i) Establishment of Annual Defence Ministerial dialogue, NSA dialogue, 2+2 dialogue and Service-to-Service staff talks.



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- ii) Bilateral exercises like Malabar exercises.
- iii) Energy cooperation through the Civil Nuclear Agreement.

Economic relations

- i) India - Japan trade accounts for nearly \$15 billion.
- ii) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement was signed in 2011, whereby the bilateral trade increased manifold.
- iii) Japan is cooperating in third country projects with India e.g. Chabahar Port, Trincomalee Port (Sri Lanka) etc.

Infrastructure

development of North east,
recent port development in Bangladesh

- i) India got soft loan of 80% for Bullet Train project.
- ii) JICA funded the Delhi Metro and Mumbai subway.
- iii) In the realm of Science and technology, India and Japan are coordinating on AI, Big Data and Bio Information, while ISRO and JAXA are cooperating in the space sector.



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Challenges

- ~~The India-Japan trade is only 5% of that of India-Japan-China trade.~~
- Differences on data sharing policies and RCEP
- Failure of Asia-Africa Growth Corridor
- Formation of Quad is being looked at with concern by China
- No exchange of military hardware.

Steps needed

- i) Tapping the Indian pharma industry to ensure cooperation
- ii) Building of a special strategic partnership
- iii) Sports cooperation through football and cricket.
- iv) Focus on more number of sister city agreements. **varanasi kyoto**

There could be a quantum leap in India-Japan relations if business ecosystem in India improves. More needs to be done in this regard.



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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 is responsible for setting the law regarding the abortions in India.

Features of the bill Act

- Abortion not allowed after 20 weeks of pregnancy
- Allowed when carrying the baby might result in life-threatening consequences
- Medical practitioners to give their opinions on feasibility of carrying the baby to term

Issues with the Act

- The time of 20 weeks is arbitrary. Most anomalies are discovered in the ultrasound of 18-22 weeks
- Women have to go through the cumbersome process of the law to get permission for abortion.
- Legal prohibition may get bypassed by the women going



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to illegal and unhealthy alternatives

iv) Mostly women with foetal abnormalities ~~or~~ approach the courts, while others would like to keep their identities private

v) WHO has noted that keeping a cap on the number on term of abortion has no effect on the number of abortions.

Other issues

i) Lack of dedicated medical facilities for abortion

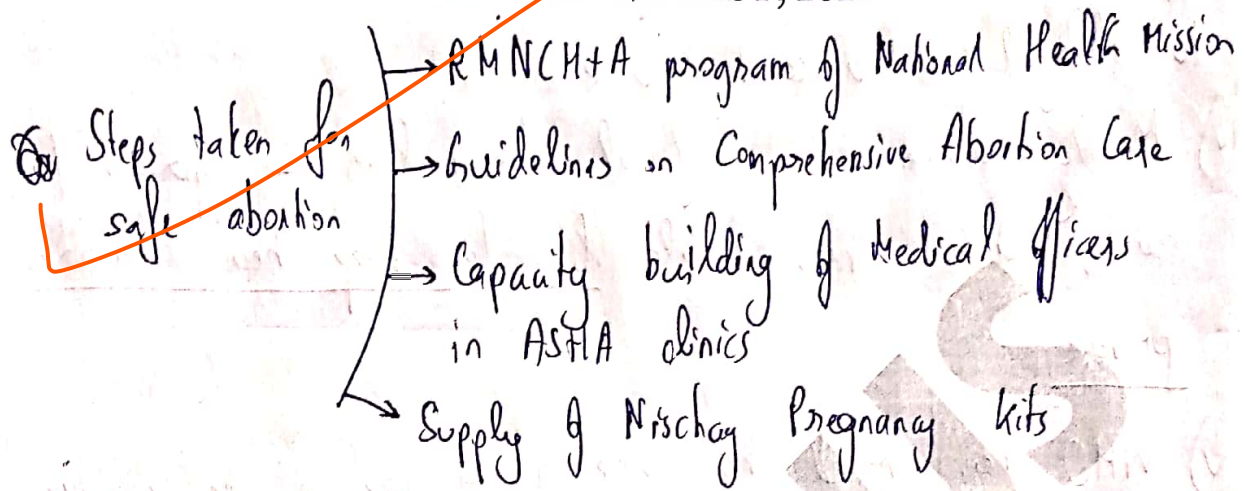
ii) Lack of awareness with regards to needs and means of abortion.

iii) Social taboo of the practice ~~among~~ ⁱⁿ India

iv) Lack of accessibility to medical practitioners, especially in the PHCs.



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Way forward

- i) Spread awareness with regards to women's rights to bodily integrity, right to life and equality.
- ii) Upgrade health infrastructure with dedicated abortion clinics. **need to increase health expenditure to 2.5% of gdp (NHP 2017)**
- iii) Change the existing laws and the need to go to courts for permission.

Access to legal and safe abortion is an integral dimension of sexual equality and must be seen as a crucial element in a just society. **part of gender empowerment**



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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 started in 2001 as BRIC. Its aim is to promote peace, security, development and cooperation in the world. Its importance can be seen from the fact that it accounts for 43% of world population.

Significance of BRICS

- i) It acts as the voice of developing countries as the 5 nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) have been vocal for protection of rights from WTO to climate change.
- ii) Safe space to modulate rivalry: During the Doklam standoff of 2017 and Ladakh standoff, India and China engaged through BRICS.
- iii) Transcontinental reach of BRICS with the presence of Brazil and South Africa.
- iv) Boosts demands for institutional reforms like UNSC reforms being made by developing countries.



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- v) Contribution in creating an inclusive international financial mechanism through the New Development Bank.
- vi) Voice against terrorism : All five countries have remained staunch anti-terrorist voices. e.g. in the 14th Summit, a Denial of Safe Haven to Terrorism and Corruption was signed.
- vii) Trade : The 5 nations account for nearly 5% of world GDP and play an important role in the WTO.

Challenges faced

- i) Disparities among the members : Mix of democratic and authoritarian regimes.
- ii) Approach towards institutional reforms : BRICS is interested in selective reform of the UNSC.
- iii) Chinese regional and global ambitions may impact group's functioning in future.



MAINS MOCK TEST, 2022

ii) Lack of capital as more investment and capital is needed in the NDB.

v) Low intra-country trade among BRICS nations is low which affects the effectiveness of the group.

Initiatives

- Contingent Reserve Arrangement
- Medical cooperation by the Ufa declaration
- BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Framework in 2015 facilitated a common response to Covid.
- Expanding trade over the past five years.

mention these points in significance part. as the question is asking to justify.

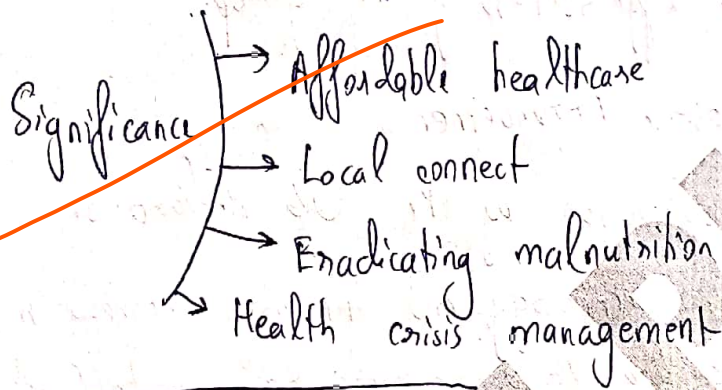
The BRICS nations need to stand collectively as the voice of the developing world to ensure a brighter and more effective future. **good conclusion**



MAINS MOCK TEST, 2022

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

The Anganwadi centres, operated under the Integrated Child Development Services scheme are the first point of contact in the village for nutrition, health and early learning.



Issues with Anganwadis

- i) Lack of skill set : Anganwadi staff may be lacking in technical skills. Knowledge of critical health behaviours such as complementary feeding was poor.
- ii) Lack of resources : Anganwadi personnel frequently lack the resources on training necessary to deliver ECCE.
- iii) Service conditions : Frontline workers lack further



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career prospects and adequate service conditions

i) Lack of infrastructure : According to NITI Aayog, only 51% of Anganwadis had enough seating for children and employees

ii) Lack of awareness : The society generally lacks awareness about anganwadi services and the role of the ASHA workers present there.

iii) Lack of skilling among both the ASHA workers, and the children hamper the effectiveness of Anganwadis.

Solutions

i) Upgrading Anganwadi infrastructure : Capacity building of Anganwadis are the need of the hour e.g. Saksham Anganwadi scheme aims to upgrade 2-5 lakh such centres.

ii) Capacity building and training : To supplement the POSHAN Abhiyaan, it is necessary to do capacity building and



MAINS MOCK TEST, 2022

training the Anganwadi workers.

- iii) ~~Convergence with Need to improve sanitation and drinking water facilities along with power supply~~
- iv) ~~Increasing the number of workers at the AWCs.~~
- v) ~~Improve the use of technology at the Anganwadis, with introduction of smart apps for tracking the distribution of take home rations.~~
- vi) ~~The government must honour and provide adequate job security to the Anganwadi workers.~~

recent govt. initiative to increase salary of anganwadi workers is welcome move.

AWCs play an important role in improving basic child learning and health needs for the poor people. Thus, the good health of AWCs is the need of the hour.

mention about SDG-3



MAINS MOCK TEST, 2022

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

The concept of SMART policing stands for a police force which is Sensitive, Mobile, Alert, Reliable and Techno-savvy. It is a modern policing policy which seeks to change policing standards and make them more efficient.

Problems in current system

good intro

i) Huge vacancies : There are only 140 policemen per lakh people, comparatively lesser as than other modern democracies.

archaic laws

ii) Overburdened force : At the lower levels, the constabulary is forced to work for 14-16 hours, which affects their output

iii) Political interference affects the work and of the police by being responsible for transfers and promotions

iv) Infrastructure deficit hampers the effectiveness of the police



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in the long run

i) Lack of technology adoption by the police creates threats of cyber-attacks, bioweapons and others which they would be unable to tackle.

vi) Colonial Legacy of the police, being based on the Police Act of 1861

Reforms needed

reforms needed in

ipc,

crpc,

evidence act.

i) Strict and Sensitive

a) Reforming the hierarchy by modification of the Police Act of 1861

b) Reformation of the Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code by modern versions of the laws.

ii) Modern and Mobile

a) Capacity Constant Capacity building and training of the police forces

b) Maintaining fitness levels of the forces.



MAINS MOCK TEST, 2022

iii) Able and Accountable

- a) Easier filing mechanisms for reports and
- b) Mechanisms to maintain track of the progress of investigation on a report.

iv) Reliable and Responsive

- a) Reducing number of vacancies and ensuring rapid response to all free numbers.
- b) Greater ~~community~~ human relations training of officers.

v) Tech-savvy and trained

- a) Digitization of the police stations and report filing
- b) Promoting Community policing

The police forces have the responsibility to uphold and enforce laws, investigate crimes and ensure security for people. Hence, it is necessary for them to be dynamic, and evolving to the needs of society.

good conclusion