

VAJIRAM & RAVI

SURE SHOT TEST SERIES FLT 2024

GENERAL STUDIES

Full Length Test

Test - 2 (GS2 CT2)

Time allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

ADMIN. NO.: 1 7 3 0 0 2 0 9

NAME: KOMAL PUNIA

MOBILE NO.: [REDACTED]

EMAIL.: [REDACTED]

SUBMISSION DATE: 4 Aug 2024

**UPSC CSE 2024
AIR-06**

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

*Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:
There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH. All the questions are compulsory.
The number of marks carried by a question/ part is indicated against it. Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.*

Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks
Q1	/10	Q8	/10	Q15	/15
Q2	/10	Q9	/10	Q16	/15
Q3	/10	Q10	/10	Q17	/15
Q4	/10	Q11	/15	Q18	/15
Q5	/10	Q12	/15	Q19	/15
Q6	/10	Q13	/15	Q20	/15
Q7	/10	Q14	/15	Total	/250

Follow these steps to avail the facility of mentoring –

1. Go through the soft copy of your evaluated answer sheet and analyse all the comments and suggestions given.
2. Call 9717565805 between 11:00 am to 5:00 pm to fix your mentoring slot.
3. Please follow the mentoring appointment timings properly.

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language and Articulation						
Structure and Presentation						
Conceptual clarity and Content						
Number of Attempted questions						

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions |





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(Answer questions in NOT MORE than the word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length.)

- 1. Discuss the role of the Department Related Standing Committee (DRSC) system in improving parliamentary effectiveness. (10 marks, 150 words)

Department Related Standing Committee (DRSC) are parliamentary committees acts as checks & balance and improve parliamentary effectiveness.

Role of DRSCs in improving effectiveness

- ① Examine demand of grants of various ministries
↳ Budgetary accountability is ensured.
- ② provide expertise and effective discussions.
- ③ promote inclusiveness
↳ members from both Rajya Sabha (10) and Lok Sabha (21).
- ④ perform functions not performed by other committees.
- ⑤ Ensures accountability of executive

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as its members are not ministers.

- ⑥ Seek public opinions ensuring participatory process.

However, there are certain

Challenges — recommendations are ignored.

- ↳ ① Non-transparent appointments
- ↳ ② Ineffectiveness in functioning
- ↳ ③ Lack of inclusiveness in membership.

Way forward

- ↳ need to make recommendations binding on substantive matters
- ↳ Need of transparency in appointment.

DRSCs are cardinal in ensuring budgetary accountability & parliamentary effectiveness.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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2. Presence of multiple parastatals erodes the autonomy of Urban Local Bodies. Discuss. (ULBs)
(10 marks, 150 words)

74th Constitutional Amendment Act ushered the era of ULBs in urban governance, but over the time, multiple parastatals with overlapping functions erodes autonomy of ULBs.

Multiple parastatals in ULBs includes -
↳ municipal corporations, municipality, port trust, Notified area committees, special purpose vehicles, etc.

Erosion of autonomy of ULBs

- ① Overlapping functions - leads to duplicacy of efforts or no work done.
- ② Loss of accountability due to multiple bodies.
- ③ Impact on urban finance -
↳ not effective utilisation of funds

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↳ issues with taxation

① In India, property tax is very low (OECD).

④ Over-regulation by state government

↳ reduces autonomy & hampers functioning.

⑤ Misuse of resources.

Way forward

↳ ① Clear demarcation of functions.

↳ ② regular auditing to ensure proper functioning.

↳ ③ Independent source of funds should be explored.

Autonomy of ULBs is necessary to implement 74th CAA into spirit and improve urban services.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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3. The provisions under Article 360 remain a dead letter even during the worst economic crisis. Analyse. (10 marks, 150 words)

Article 360 refers to financial emergency which has never been imposed even during worst economic crisis in early 1990s.

Article 360 provisions

- ↳ ① empower central government to impose emergency to ensure financial propriety during crisis.
- ↳ ② Salaries & allowances of govt. employees including HC judges can be altered.
- ↳ ③ Centre can take hold of state budgets.

Article 360 need

- ↳ ① Managing financial resources of country in better way during financial crises.

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↳ ② Induce discipline in state finance

Yet, Art 360 has never been used and remain a dead letter even during worst economic crisis —

↳ ① India took help from IMF.

↳ ② Structural reforms in economy were done — liberalisation, Privatisation & Globalisation.

↳ ③ lessened state control over market.

So, implementation of above reforms bailed India out of financial crises and there was not need of financial Emergency.

It reflects mature management of financial situation without relying on extreme measures — a feature of strong democracies.

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4. 'Unique blend of flexibility and rigidity distinguish Indian constitution from that of the US constitution.' Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

Article 368 mentions the process of amendment of Indian constitution.

It reflects unique blend of flexibility and rigidity as -

↳ ① Certain provisions like - elections to parliament, state formation etc - can be done by simple majority.

↳ ② Certain important provisions like amendment of fundamental rights, DPSPs require special majority.

↳ ③ Provisions impacting federal structure require consent of states as well (eg) amendment to Constitution i.e. Art 368 itself.

Flexible features of Indian constitution includes -

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- ① legislative process with respect to Centre list.
- ② Centre's taxation process.
- ③ Motions & resolutions like No confidence, Substantive etc.

In US constitution, amending process is rigid compare to Indian constitution.

Indian constitution's flexibility is ensured that every generation has right to form their own constitution as said by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

While rigidity of fundamental principles prevent to stop its misuse by authoritarian govt.

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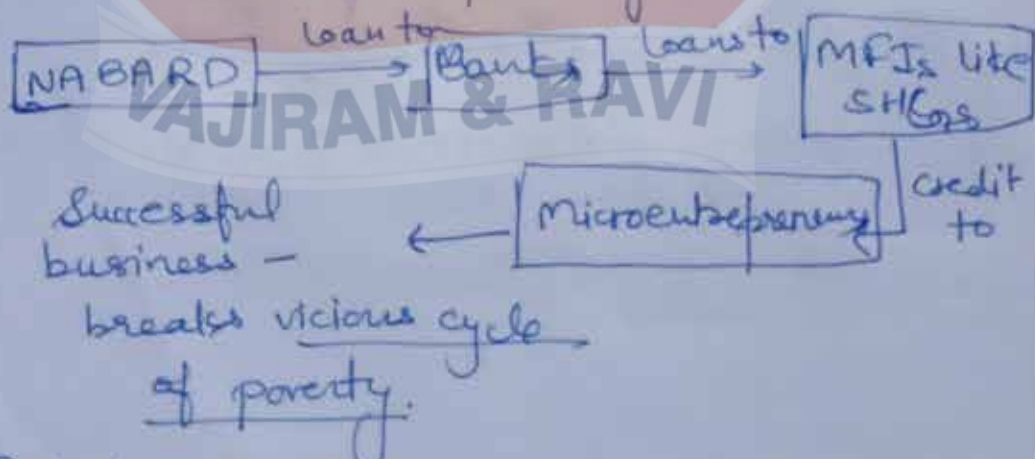
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5. Discuss the role of microfinance institutions (MFI) in rural financial empowerment in India. (10 marks, 150 words)

At Grameen Bank Initiative led by Md. Yunus in Bangladesh shows the role of MFI's in rural financial empowerment.

Role of MFIs in rural financial empowerment

- ① Credit to microentrepreneurs -
 (eg) SHGs provide loans to small businesses.
- ② Financial literacy to rural populace
 (eg) SHG women working as Business correspondants.
- ③ acts as anti-poverty vaccine -



- ④ last mile delivery - credit from banks require lengthy process.

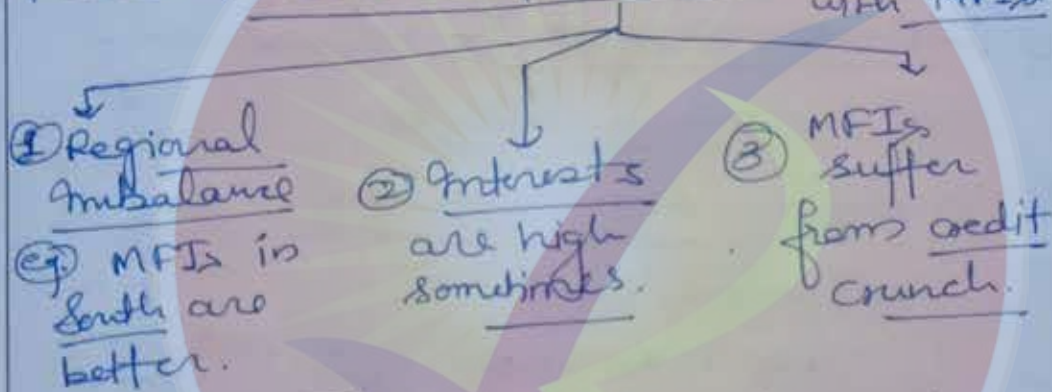
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- ⑤ Saves rural populace from unsustainable loans from local lenders.
- ⑥ provide financial security in case of exigencies like health, education etc.
- ⑦ fuels rural economy and boost local level production.
(eg) SHGs selling products.

However, there are issues associated with MFIs



Way forward — ① Govt. initiatives like - SHG-Bank Linkage program to provide credit.

② MFIs and NGO linkage to reduce duplicacy of efforts.
As recognised by govt., MFIs are best tool to reduce poverty in India.

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6. Do you agree that the Aspirational District Programme has emerged as a template for good governance? Substantiate. (10 marks, 150 words)

Aspirational District Programme (ADP) aims to transform 112 most backward districts of India into aspirational districts with high social & economic indicators.

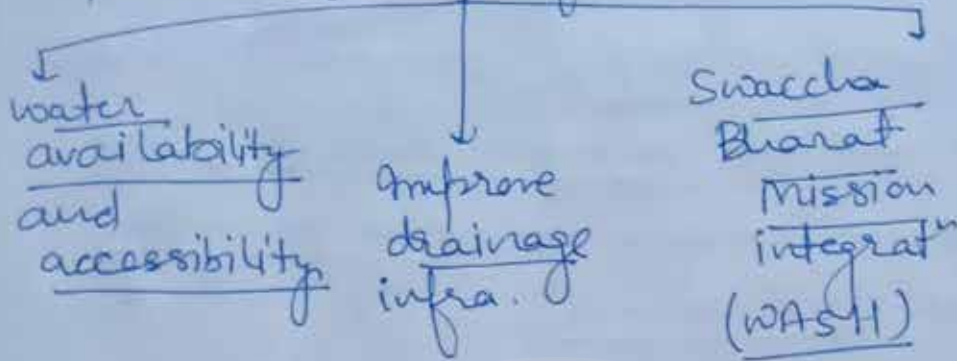
ADP as template for good governance -

- ① ADP ensures equity - by choosing most backward districts.
- ② Improving social indicators like healthcare, education
 - ↳ ① aims to decrease IMR, MMR,
 - ↳ ② provision of health infrastructure.
 - ↳ ③ quality education - increasing enrollment ratio.
- ③ Economic development -
 - ↳ ① Enhance district production
 - ↳ ② One district one product scheme integration.
 - ↳ ③ Identify areas of economic development and assist them.

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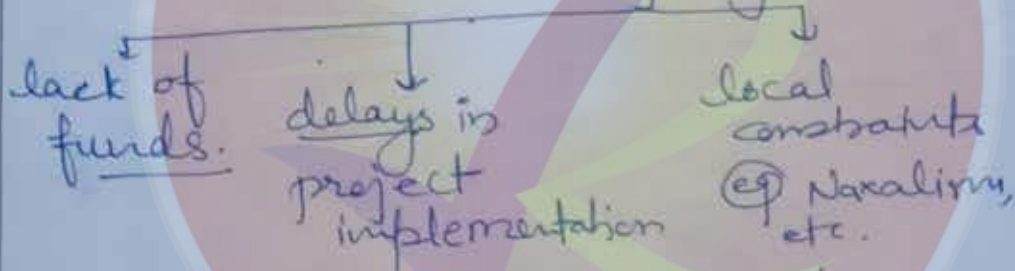
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④ provision of civic infra -

⑤ aims to enhance transparency and ensure accountability → ushering good governance.

However there are challenges like



Budget 2023-2024 announced aspirational Blocks programme for 500 blocks to usher good governance.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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7. Rising informality in employment raises the concern for social security. Discuss the statement with reference to platform workers. (10 marks, 150 words)

More than 90% of workforce in India is associate in informal sector. This raises concern for social security and fixed tenures.

Platform workers work for platforms like Uber, Zomato, Swiggy, etc are part of gig economy.

Concern for social security

- ① Informal sector ⇒ No fixed wages & no provision of social security benefits
- ② Makes employees more vulnerable to market related uncertainties.
- ③ Against right of wages (DPS P)
- ④ hinderance in demographic dividend utilisation.
- ⑤ Woman workers in platform services

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more vulnerable -

- ↳ no maternity benefits
- ↳ Unequal wages & no social security.

Way ahead

- ① Code of Social Security, 2020 -
 - ↳ need to include suitable provisions for platform workers
- ② Formalisation of workforce
 - ↳ skilling & mapping with industrial skill requirements.

Social security for platform workers is required to act as safety net given market uncertainties.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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8. Demographic transition demands renewed focus on healthcare intervention patterns. Discuss the statement in the light of geriatric health in India.

(10 marks, 150 words)

In India, elderly population constitutes about 10% of overall population [Census 2011] and expected to rise to 30% by 2050.

Renewed focus on geriatric health

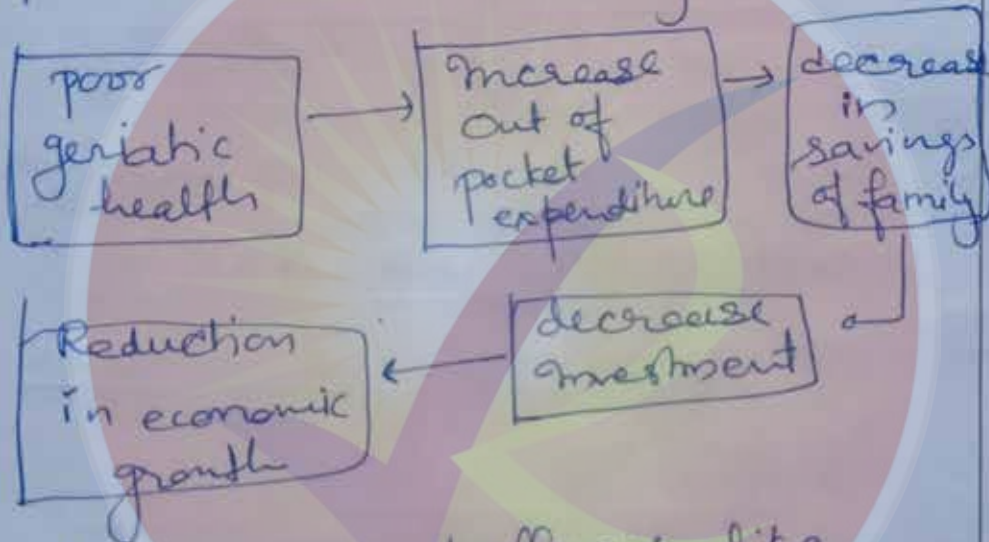
- ① Increasing burden of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)
 - ↳ >60% are NCDs [NHC-2016]
 - eg Asthma, blindness etc.
- ② Vulnerability of elderly -
 - ↳ low immune system
 - ↳ presence of co-morbidities.
- ③ Silver economy - harnessing experience and wisdom of elder people.

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- ④ to prevent them from becoming burden and converting them into assets for economy.
- ⑤ Success of demographic dividend depend on geriatric health to prevent below vicious cycle -



Need to overcome challenges like low expenditure, creation of infra, insurance affordability to convert India - a demographic superpower.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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9. 'Funding remains a major limitation for the effective functioning of multilateral organisations.' Discuss the statement with reference to the functioning of UNESCO. (10 marks, 150 words)

In recent times, multilateral institutions are facing crises of legitimacy. One major factor being ^{lack of} sources of independent finance.

Funding is a major limitation

- ① High dependency on developed countries like USA, EU etc.
- ② Lack of independent sources of funding.
- ③ Undue influence on organisation's functioning.

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In recent past, USA under Trump administration withdrew from UNESCO, highlighting vulnerability of funding.

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UNESCO aims to — ① promote education, economic, social & cultural interests

→ ② declaration of World Heritage Site (WHS) status.

Challenges to effective functioning

- ① difficulty in declaring WHS site in war torn countries —
 eg. Ukraine, Gaza — political issues
- ② High dependency on contributing countries.

There is a dire need of independent source of finance like tobin tax to enhance functioning of multilateral organisations.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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10: How will the BBIN grouping promote regional integration in South Asia? Discuss.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Bangladesh, Bhutan, India
and Nepal are part of BBIN
grouping to provide seamless
road connectivity across the region.

Role of BBIN in regional integration

- ① Connectivity diplomacy - enhancing connectivity as a diplomatic force multiplier.
- ② Economic integrations - South Asia least integrated [$< 5\%$ trade]
↳ BBIN aims to promote regional trade, reduce trade barriers
- ③ Enhancing relations in neighbourhood
↳ India's 'Neighbourhood First Policy'

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- ④ Role in effective functioning of regional organisation -
 ↳ All 4 BBIN members are also members of SAARC

Challenges

- ① Bhutan's hesitations due to potential impact on enhancing pollution.
- ② Border issues - issue of illegal migratⁿ eg. Rohingyas from Myanmar through Bangladesh
- ③ China factor - String of pearls

"India cannot become great power with unsettled borders & unintegrated region & under-exploited opportunities."

- S. Jaishankar

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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11. 'Financial resources of the centre are elastic and substantial while that of the states are inelastic and inadequate.' Examine. (15 marks, 250 words)

Article 292 deals with loans and borrowings of states - state

need to consult centre if there are any outstanding dues - making it inelastic & inadequate.

Centre's finances: elastic & substantial -

- ① Constitution allows centre govt. to borrow on security of Consolidated Fund of India (CFI).

- ② allowed to borrow both -

domestic sources

↳ T-Bills,
Sovereign Gold bonds, loans etc.

Foreign sources

↳ FDI, FII, IMF, World Bank etc

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③ Centre govt. debt to GDP ratio allowed is 40%. [FARBM Act]

④ Also collect indirect tax
 (eg) GST & IGST receipts go to centre govt.

⑤ Taxes state govt. property as well.

On the other hand, States' financial resources are inelastic and inadequate —

① Restriction imposed by Art. 292.

② Not allowed to borrow from foreign resources

③ dependent on centre for loans and grants

↳ 41% devolution by (eg) 15th Financial Commission.

④ Centrally sponsored schemes are hied in nature.

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⑤ Surcharges and cess form part of non-divisible pool.

Recently states are demanding freedom in loans & borrowings.

Way forward

- ① fiscal autonomy to states
- ② alternate revenue sources for states
- ③ FDI and investment incentive to enhance state's economy.

States need to be made more fiscally autonomous and for that restrictions of Art. 292 can be axed with adequate safeguards.

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12. "Supremacy of the constitution requires all ordinary laws to conform to the constitutional law." Discuss the statement with reference to judicial review in India. (15 marks, 250 words)

Supremacy of constitution or constitutionalism refers that all ordinary laws should conform to constitution which is fundamental law of land.

Judicial review is power of constitutional courts to examine constitutionality of ordinary law thereby ensuring supremacy of constitution.

Judicial review: ensuring constitutional supremacy

① Keshvanand Bhairati case 1973

↳ concept of basic structure & doctrine.

↳ all laws or amendments must preserve basic structure.

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- ② Minerva Mills case
 - ↳ Judicial Review is basic structure.
- ③ Shreya Singhal case -
 - ↳ struck down section 66 IPC [FOSE - Art. 19]
- ④ S.R. Bommai case
 - ↳ federalism as basic structure.
- ⑤ Maratha Reservation Case -
 - ↳ struck down reservations to a dominant community.
- ⑥ Sabrimala temple entry case
 - ↳ gender equality & justice
- ⑦ Shah Bano case -
 - ↳ struck down customary law of triple talaq.
- ⑧ S.C. struck down few provisions of multi-state cooperative societies Act.
- ⑨ S.C. declared Electoral Bond scheme as unconstitutional.

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So, S.C. through power of judicial review time & again ensured supremacy of constitution.

However such powers have also been misused -

- ① NJAC was struck down citing Judicial independence - narrow interpretation.
- ② Judicial overreach - Subhash Kashinath Majajan case
- ③ hindrance to democratic legislative process.

Supreme Court is guardian of Constitution, so power of judicial review to ensure constitutional supremacy should be utilised in good faith.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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13. 'The delimitation process creates a wedge between representative democracy and federalism.' Examine. Also suggest measures to address the concerns of federal units. (15 marks, 250 words)

Delimitation commission is constituted by Pres. time to time to perform delimitation exercise for Lok Sabha elections.

Delimitation process as a wedge between representative democracy and federalism -

① federal units are states [Art 1 - India is a union of states]

↳ they are divided into constituencies to elect parliamentary

representatives Representative
democracy.

② Love of soils sentiments - give importance to federal issues over representative democracy.

③ Conflict between federal & union issues

↳ (eg.) Inter-state river disputes

④ Union issues shadowing federal issues -

↳ (eg.) Negative consequence of simultaneous elections.

Concerns of federal units

① Issue of autonomy -

fiscal autonomy
(Art. 292)

legislative autonomy
(concurrent list)

② Regional imbalance in development

(eg.) One major reason of formation of Telangana

③ No consultation with states in delimitation process.

④ South Indian state's issue of losing representation due to decreasing population.

Measures to address concerns

- ① More devolution of power - especially fiscal power.
- ② States should also be consulted in delimitation process.
- ③ Enhancing role of Rajya - Sabha to highlight federal issues
- ④ Ensuring southern states doesn't lose their representation.

Representative democracy and federalism both are needed to realise the goal of substantive democracy.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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14. Examine the impact of recent changes to the election commissioners' appointment process on autonomy and independence of the election commission.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Election Commissioners appointment process has been changed from appointment by President to appointment on recommendation of Selection Committee [PM, Union Cabinet minister & leader of opposition].

Impact on autonomy & independence

- ① Appointment process made more democratic and transparent
- ② Dinesh Goswami committee also recommended committee based appointments.
- ③ presence of leader of opposition will usher transparency in appointment process.

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- ④ These changes are result of Supreme Court directions in recent case.
- ⑤ Election Commission's free & fair election process will become more trustworthy.

However there are issues -

- ↳ ① S.C. suggested committee included - PM, CJI & LoP.
- ↳ ② Presence of Union minister instead of CJI may lead to executive influence.
- ↳ ③ Some experts cite it as Judicial overreach as legislative process is prerogative of Parliament
- ↳ ④ presence of committee might delay the appointment process.

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Overall, this is a welcome change to enhance trust, independence and autonomy of ECs.

As Supreme Court suggested that there is a 'perceived vacuum' left in legislative process as Art. 324 mentions pres. to appoint until parliament makes a law.

Now that 'legislative inertia' is overcome to fill the 'perceived vacuum'.

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15. 'Without performance targets, the civil service degenerates into a closed priesthood with no accountability.' Discuss the statement with reference to the Mission Karmayogi.
(15 marks, 250 words)

Civil services are important for national integration as envisaged by Sardar Patel.

Importance of performance targets as mentioned in Mission Karmayogi

- ① timely service delivery -
↳ prevent inordinate delays
- ② ensure goal orientations in civil servants
- ③ effective utilisation of public resources.
- ④ timely project completions
↳ creation of social infra - health, education
↳ civil infra (eg) road, bridges etc - need to meet deadlines.
- ⑤ help in reducing corruptions and acts as check on performance.

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Without performance targets, civil service degenerates into closed priesthood -

- ① dictating policies instead of implementing them.
- ② Power asymmetry b/w citizens & civil servants leads to vulnerability of citizens.
- ③ Corruption prevails in system -
↳ Coercive & collusive.
- ④ Reducing accountability -
Monopoly + Discretion - Accountability = Corruption.
- ⑤ Services doesn't reach people
- ⑥ Exploitation of vulnerables at mercy of system

Mission Karmayogi aims to transform civil services by -

- ① Continuous & comprehensive training -
↳ iGOT (integrated government online platform)

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- ② performance evaluations and assessment
↳ regular assessment & auditing
- ③ Mid-career training to boost effectiveness.

"Time is a currency". In this light, performance targets should be achieved in timely manner to ensure public welfare in effective manner.

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16. The Forest Rights Act, 2006 was a historic effort in doing justice to the tribal community.' Evaluate the status of its implementation and suggest measures for improvement. (15 marks, 250 words)

Forest Rights Act, 2006 aims to reverse historic injustice done to tribal community residing in forests.

features of FRA, 2006

- ① defines forest dwellers as residing in forest for 75 years or 3 generations.
- ② Rights given to forest dwellers
 - ① upto 4 hectare land - inheritable but non-transferable.
 - ② Community Rights like - grazing, minor water bodies, minor minerals etc.
 - ③ Other rights - identification by Gram Sabhas, collection of Minor forest produce etc.

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Historic effort of doing justice to tribes

- ① Individual Rights as well as Community Rights were defined.
- ② Override provisions in Forest Conservation Act, 1980 - to provide justice to tribal community.
- ③ Power of Gram Sabha increased
↳ manifestation of grassroot democracy.
- ④ Rights over minor water bodies, minor minerals etc provided justice.
↳ eg Odisha's Kond tribe
won against exploitative bauxite mining by Vedanta.
- ⑤ Land rights recognised to prevent displacement & exploitation of tribes in name of development.

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Status of its implementation

- ① delays in recognition of forest rights
- ② Some places, Gram Sabhas not consulted.
- ③ difficulty in proving 75 year or 3 generation condition.

Positives - many tribes granted forest rights (eg. Madhya Pradesh provided rights to many tribes.

- Way ahead**
- ① Effective say of Gram Sabha.
 - ② Role of women tribals in Gram Sabha should be increased.
 - ③ Expedite process of rights recognition.

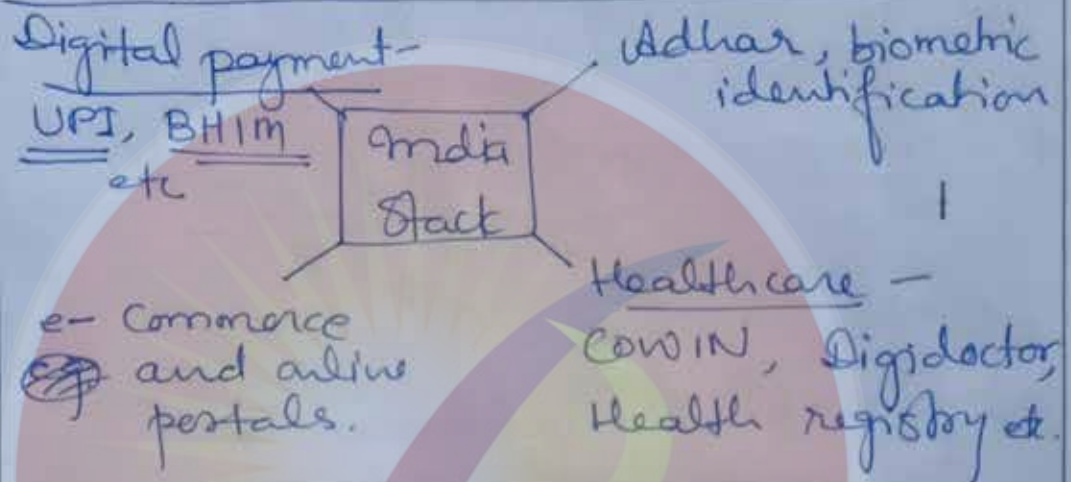
FRA, 2006 is true manifestation of grassroot democracy & inclusive development.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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17. What do you understand by India Stack? Discuss its role in good governance and improving ease of living. (15 marks, 250 words)

India Stack refers to steps taken by govt. to improve digitalisation in India.



Role in good governance

- ① Ushering transparency in government schemes -
 (eg) Direct Benefit transfer scheme using Aadhar & Bank accounts.
- ② Ensuring accountability using digital trail.

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① Reduce corruptions by making information available and accessible.

④ Last mile delivery

↳ reaching last mile & providing services to most vulnerable.

Role in case of living

① Reduce logistic cost - currently India's logistic cost is ~14% of GDP while world avg. is 7%.

↳ digitisation drive will reduce logistic cost.

② Credit to vulnerables will be made more transparent.

(eg) Bhu-dadhar will provide land titles making credit more transparent & accessible.

③ Healthcare, education will be made seamless and enhance ease of living.

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Challenges

- ① Digital illiteracy among rural vs urban, men vs women etc.
- ② lack of digital infrastructure
- ③ Privacy concerns - in a world of 'Data is the new oil'.

Way ahead

- ① Right to privacy in Puttaswamy case U/A 21.
- ② Schemes like - Digital India Programme, Optic fibre network [Bharatnet] etc.

India Stack hold potential to multiple Indias and usher good governance & case of living.

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18. 'You can change our friends but not neighbors.' In the light of the statement, examine the relevance of Gujral doctrine in India's Foreign Policy.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Gujral doctrine in India's foreign policy refers to principle of non-reciprocity in reference to relations with our neighbours.

Importance of neighbour hood

① Comprehensive Border Management requires good relations with neighbours.

② Important for internal security

↓
 a) Refugee crisis
 eg) Rohingyas from Myanmar

↓
 b) Insurgency in Kashmir supported by Pakistan

↓
 c) Trafficking of drugs, human-golden triangle proximity

③ Economic integrations -

eg) India's trade with Central Asian Republics hindered by Pakistan

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④ Regional organisations

eg) SAARC is disfunctioned due to India-Pak rivalry.

⑤ Credibility as a leader only if trusted in neighbourhood

eg) India is respected while China is suspected.

↳ string of pearls & debt trap diplomacy.

Relevance of Gujral doctrine

① India - largest country in South Asia - so to prevent 'big-brother attitude' imposing relations, non-reciprocity is required.

② Most of India's neighbours are small countries struggling economically or politically.

↳ so guidance & handholding is needed eg) line of credit

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to Sri-Lanka during economic emergency.

③ Humanitarian aid & disaster management -

(eg.) India helped Nepal during 2015 EQ & also provided help during 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami.

Steps taken by India

① SAGAR → Security & growth for all in the region, Neighbourhood first policy.

② Various operations like -
Operation Neer (Maldives),
operations for providing Peace keeping forces to Sri Lanka.

India's path to power as world leader starts from becoming a regional leader.

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19. Examine the objectives of the Indian Ocean Rim Association. What importance does it hold for India's strategic interest? (15 marks, 250 words)

Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is association of bordering countries to Indian Ocean.

Objectives of IORA

① free and open Indian Ocean region

② Enhancing cooperation between members in multiple areas

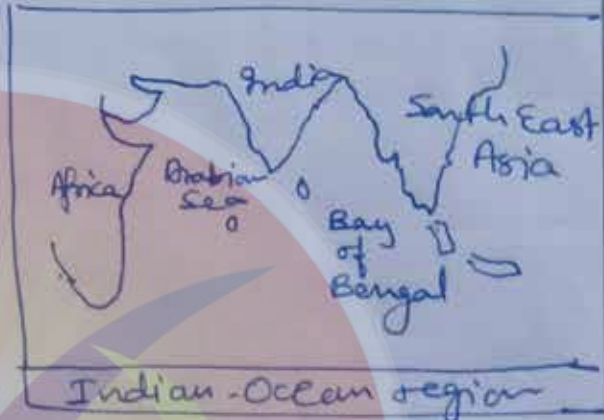
Trade & Connectivity

Strategic Interests

maritime Cooperation

eg. white shipping information

③ New and emerging threats alongside traditional threats like Somali pirates.



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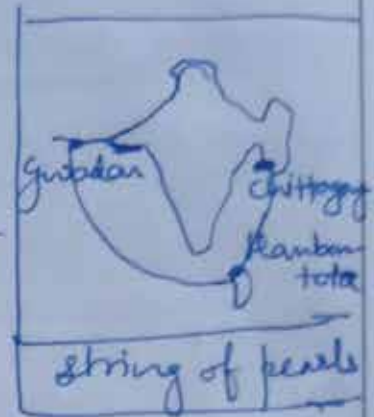
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Importance for India's strategic interests -

- ① Economic interests - India's 90% trade by volume passes through Indian Ocean.
- ② India's strategic position as stationed ship in IOR.
- ③ check points eg Malacca Strait, Sunda Strait etc should not be used against our interests.
- ④ Cooperation between members cardinal for peace & security in the region.
- ⑤ Maritime security - having maritime border of > 7500 km.
- ⑥ Resource exploration - eg deep sea mining & Polymetallic nodules.

Challenges

- ① Chinese presence -
↳ weaponisation of supply chain using Belt & Road initiative



- ② Piracy related threats
③ increasing frequency of disasters
④ Instability in middle east
↳ Red Sea Houthi attacks - impacting IOR trade.

Steps taken

- ① Initiatives like SAGAR, QUAD etc
② Naval support - India rescued operations during Houthi attacks.

Free, open & inclusive Indian ocean region is cardinal to India's strategic interests.

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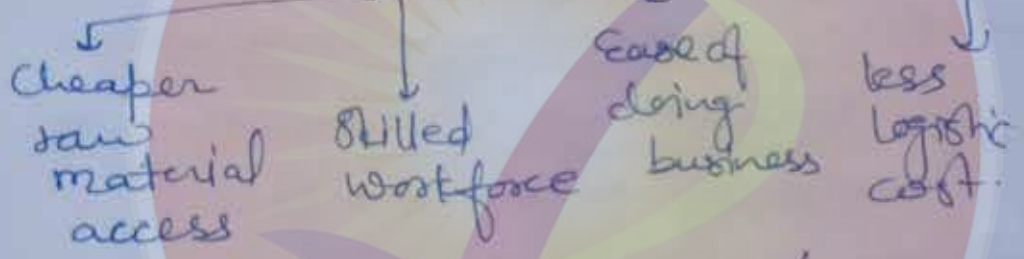
20. What are the strategic challenges to the global economy in active decoupling from China? How will it benefit India's economic growth prospects?

(15 marks, 250 words)

COVID-19 pandemic ushered focus in active decoupling from China as a part of China+1 strategy of many nations.

Strategic challenges to decoupling-

① Availability of alternatives with -



② High initial cost involved
↳ high gestation period & capital intensive.

③ Political stability along with favourable policies.

④ Issue of trade wars (eg) USA-China chip war

Need for decoupling

- ① to prevent weaponisation of supply chains
- ② to reduce trade imbalance
 - eg India - china trade 125 bn dollars

↓	↓
China	India
100 bn \$	25 bn \$

} Huge imbalance
- ③ Rising chinese influence - kindleberger trap leading to economic uncertainties.
- ④ Security threats -
 - eg India banned chinese apps citing security issues
- ⑤ Protection of data and cyber security.

Benefit to India's economic prospects

- ① India with strong macroeconomic fundamentals & stable growth as good alternative.

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- ② Boost to Make in India, Atma-nirbhar Bharat etc.
- ③ Potential to overhaul manufacturing sector.
- ④ India securing free-trade agreements with many countries
(eg) India-UAE CEPA

Issues

- ① Competition from South Asian countries like Vietnam
- ② Policy uncertainties and large logistic cost.
- ③ failure in exploiting China + 1 strategy.

India need to be active player in attracting investments and provide ease of doing business to emerge as viable alternative to decoupling from China.

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