



IAS Edge

GS Mentoring (Mains) - Test 01

Topic: Current Affairs

Important Instructions

Name:-		Email ID:-	
Contact No.:-		Date:-	

Candidates should read the under mentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the instructions may lead to penalty.

DO'S :

1. Read the instructions on the cover page and the specific instructions to this Question Paper mentioned on the next page of this Booklet carefully and strictly follow them.
2. Write your Name and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover page of the Question-Cum-Answer-Booklet.
3. Write legibly and neatly in ink. Pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
4. For rough work, blank pages provided at the end of this booklet should be used. The rough work should be crossed through afterwards.
5. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it or write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.
6. Hand over your Question-Cum-Answer-Booklet personally to the supervisor/invigilator.

DONT'S:

1. Do not write your Name or Name of the subject of Question-Cum-Answer-Booklet anywhere inside this Booklet.
2. Do not write anything other than the actual answers to the questions anywhere inside your Question-Cum-Answer-Booklet.
3. Do not tear off any leaves from your Question-Cum-Answer-Booklet. If you find any page missing, do not fail to notify the Supervisor/invigilator.
4. Do not write anything on the Question Paper available in detachable form. Write answers at the specified space only.

(To be filled by Examiners only)

Questions No.	Starting Page No.	Marks	Section Total	Signature of Examiner
1	2	6		
2	5	6.5		
3	8	5		
4	11	5.5		
5	14	6.5		
6	17	6.5		
7	20	6.5		
8	23	6		
9	26	6.5		
10	29	7		
Grand Total		62		

62/125

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1. Discuss the recently passed ordinance by U.P. government to deal with Unlawful Conversions in the light of K.S. Puttuswamy judgement of the Supreme Court.

The states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and a few others recently promulgated ordinances seeking a ban on 'deception based' interfaith marriages which has been sensationalised as 'LOVE JIHAD'. It criminalised conversion by marriage as it is impossible to have a 'change of heart' enough to change faith this quickly. The government's argument had been that hindu women were being married out of deception and forced to convert into their partner's faith and faced punitive consequences if refused or done otherwise.

The ordinances and its nature fundamentally contradict the landmark judgement passed by supreme court in the KS Puttaswamy case (2018):

- ① The Supreme court upheld that Right to Privacy is a fundamental right.
- ② Right to Privacy is pivotal to individual sense of dignity and is essential for living a dignified life. This is inclusive of marriage, life partner, procreation, and even sexual orientation (Article 21)
- ③ So, in this case, change of religion is the individual's prerogative.

The ordinances also bring pervasive state intervention through a 'public District Magistrate' and was recently thus quashed by the Allahabad HC.

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Along with the Right to privacy, the Supreme court had also established under the Haduya case in 2018-19 that the Right to marry, is a part of right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 and not even the parents have the right to interfere in the choice of 2 consenting adults.

Besides, the ordinance is also violative of Article 25, where an individual has the freedom of conscience over one's morals, beliefs to practice, profess a faith that they wish to.

Thus, the beauty of Indian Constitution is such that it perfectly blends in the Personal liberties of an individual and the State's intervention and ensure Rights are upheld most of the time to the development of the individual as a whole and society at large and keep draconian and arbitrary laws or rules by the state apparatus away.

Good attempt

Right to privacy is an inalienable right of every citizen. It is for judiciary to see if this ordinance meets the constitutional morality & legality under part

III

6/12.5



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2. NREGS has emerged as a safety net during the pandemic for jobless migrant workers returning to their villages. Comment. Also discuss the problems associated with the migrant workers and suggest ways to overcome them.

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The year 2020 witnessed a humanitarian crisis when more than 50 million migrant workers had to return back from their place of work, with no businesses operating due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Often on foot, many migrants workers and labourers working in the higher income states such as Punjab, Haryana (as Agricultural workers) or Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu (as industrial labourers), returned to their villages usually in UP, Bihar, MP, Jharkhand etc.

In this scenario, the NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE scheme has emerged as a LIFELINE and a Safety Net for these workers in distress.

- 1) By amending labour laws, states like UP and MP are trying to tap into the labour supply for building activities and boosting state based industries.
- 2) Potential for using semi skilled and unskilled labourers into making Rural roads, housing (under PM Awas Yojana) Anganwadi centres (under Ayushman Bharat - Health and Wellness centres)
- 3) The central government has already attempted to converge its central schemes such as JAL JEEVAN MISSION for fitting taps and tanks.
- 4) Laying down optical fibre for 2.5 lakh panchayats under NATIONAL BROADBAND mission

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5) The NREGS scheme provides 100 days of assured employment to the Rural unemployed youth, including women / SCs / STs and an unemployment allowance, if they are unable to find any work.

6) The Panchayati Raj Institutions get to play a key role in 'Decentralised Governance' in arranging for adequate resources, allocating responsibilities, power, providing work and authorising wage payment.

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Challenges to Migrant Workers

- 1) Job cards to workers on time by state governments
- 2) Timely Wage Payments. A study found out that almost 1/3rd of wages are wasted in checking whether wages have been paid.
- 3) Employment opportunities and Respect for labour Rights and dignity
- 4) Precautions and safety protocols with proper social distancing to prevent a 'SUPERSPREADER EVENT'
- 5) Adequate Skill Mapping and database for Migrant workers and work allocation on the basis of that.
- 6) Timely tests, SEROLOGICAL survey and adequate healthcare and isolation facility
- 7) ensure NO migrant worker is on foot and transportation facilities
- 8) Food and Blankets to those in transit through partnership with NGOs, CSO

- NREGS budget almost doubled during pandemic - to meet migrant crisis

which study be specific

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Measures to overcome Migrant worker Challenges .

- 1) The Government of India set up a MIGRATION COMMISSION to specifically look after migrant affairs
- 2) PM-Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhyas provides for 125 days of employment to 116 districts of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, UP, Odisha, Jharkhand
- 3) Special focus on migrant workers coming from 27 ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS under NITI Aayog's 'ASPIRATIONAL INDIA'
- 4) Provision of free pulses, coarse grains, cereals, monetary assistance to poor, destitutes and disabled under NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME
- 5) Skilled workers Survival Data Base for (SWADES) employment scheme
- 6) conditional or Non-conditional cash transfer scheme
- 7) Engage NGOs and banks to build Cooperatives and build Institutional strength to workers

Migrant worker crisis could thus successfully be used by the state as a valuable opportunity to build new kinds of economic structures in india, rebuild economic production and revive our economy in the post pandemic world.

Good - almost all points have been covered

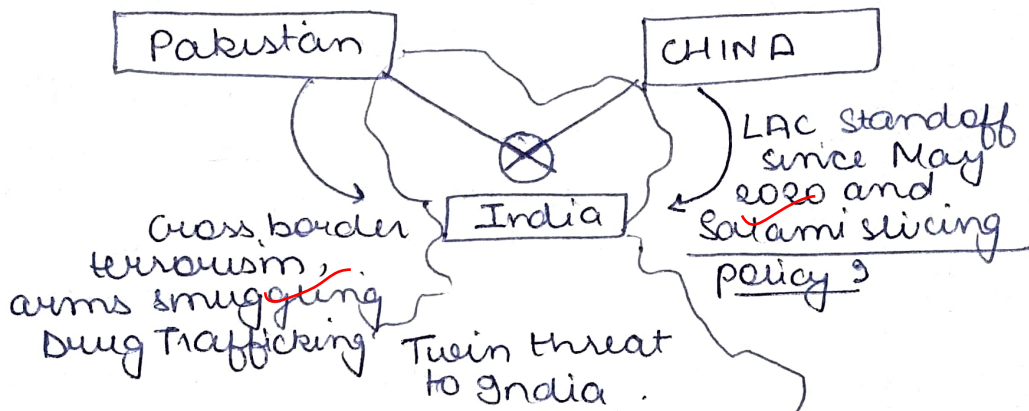
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3. Discuss the importance of SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) in the light of recent stand-off between India and China on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and cross-border terrorism.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is an International Organisation of 8 EURASIAN states consisting of almost half of the world's population and almost 25% of the world's GDP. The SCO is immensely important to India to fulfil its national interest and meet its ENERGY security Targets and India recently also hosted the SCO summit in December 2020, for the first time since its joining 2017.



India unfortunately has to face the TWIN-CHALLENGE of China and Pakistan along its North Western and North-Eastern borders.

- ① Terrorism, militancy and proxy war by Pakistan
- ② Arms smuggling, Drug Trafficking and organised crime and BLEEDING INDIA through a THOUSAND WTS
- ③ whereas China's AGGRESSIVE posturing at LAC, expansionism, Mao's 5 Fingri policy where Sikkim and LAC along with NEFA are included.

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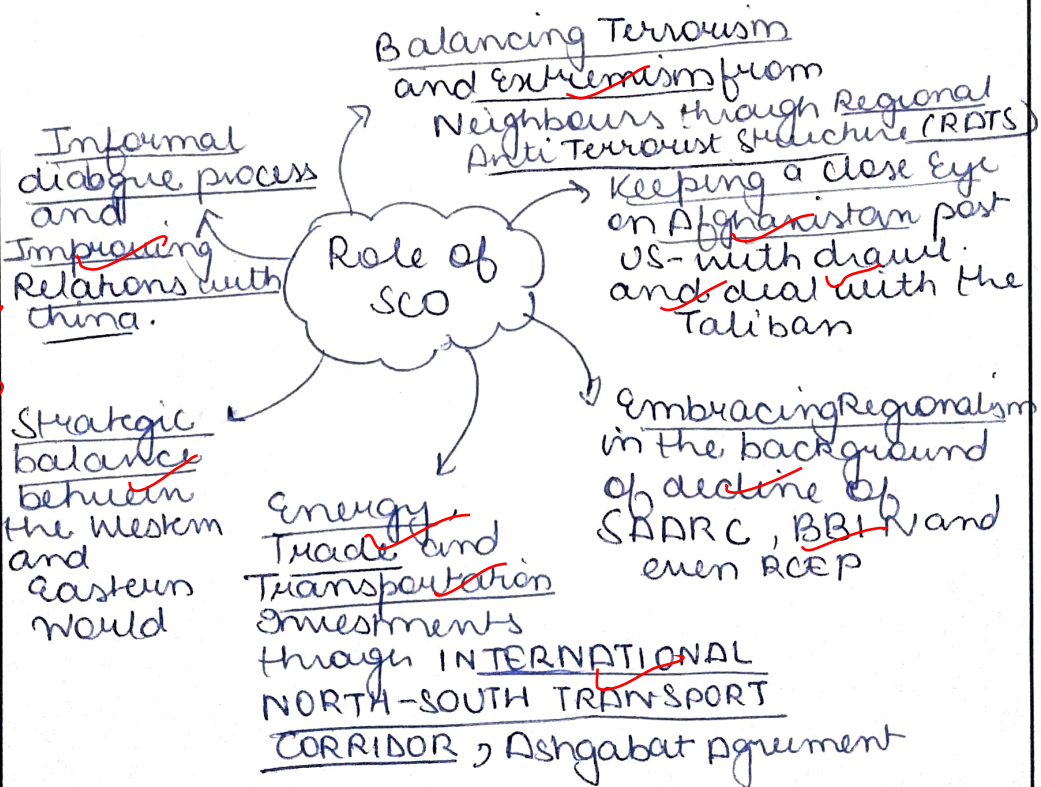
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④ China is heavily investing in the illegally occupied GILGIT BALTIKISTAN region especially the DIAMER-BHASHA dam and also has Pakistan included in its Belt and Road Initiative that encroach upon Shaksgam valley in illegally occupied Kashmir (PoK)

⑤ Both China and Pakistan have little to no respect for India's Territorial Integrity and sovereignty.

In such a case, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation becomes very relevant for India's own interest.

Few points on SCO



Pm of India in 2018 at Shangai dialogue said, 'Asia of Rivalry will hold us back, while Asia of cooperation will shape this century.' India needs to manoueuere its way through the tough mud and approach

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towards Central Asia with a soft but firm hand to increase not only its economic but Global strategic profile.
New, pragmatism and our policy of PRINCIPLED DISTANCE will win the way.

- Add more points on how to as platform can help India to overcome this twin challenge.

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4. Critically analyse the National Policy of Education (NEP). Also discuss the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.

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The National Education Policy (NEP) is a reformed approach to education to meet the needs of the 21st century. It is based on the recommendations of TSR Subramanian committee (2016) and K. Kasturirangan committee (2018).

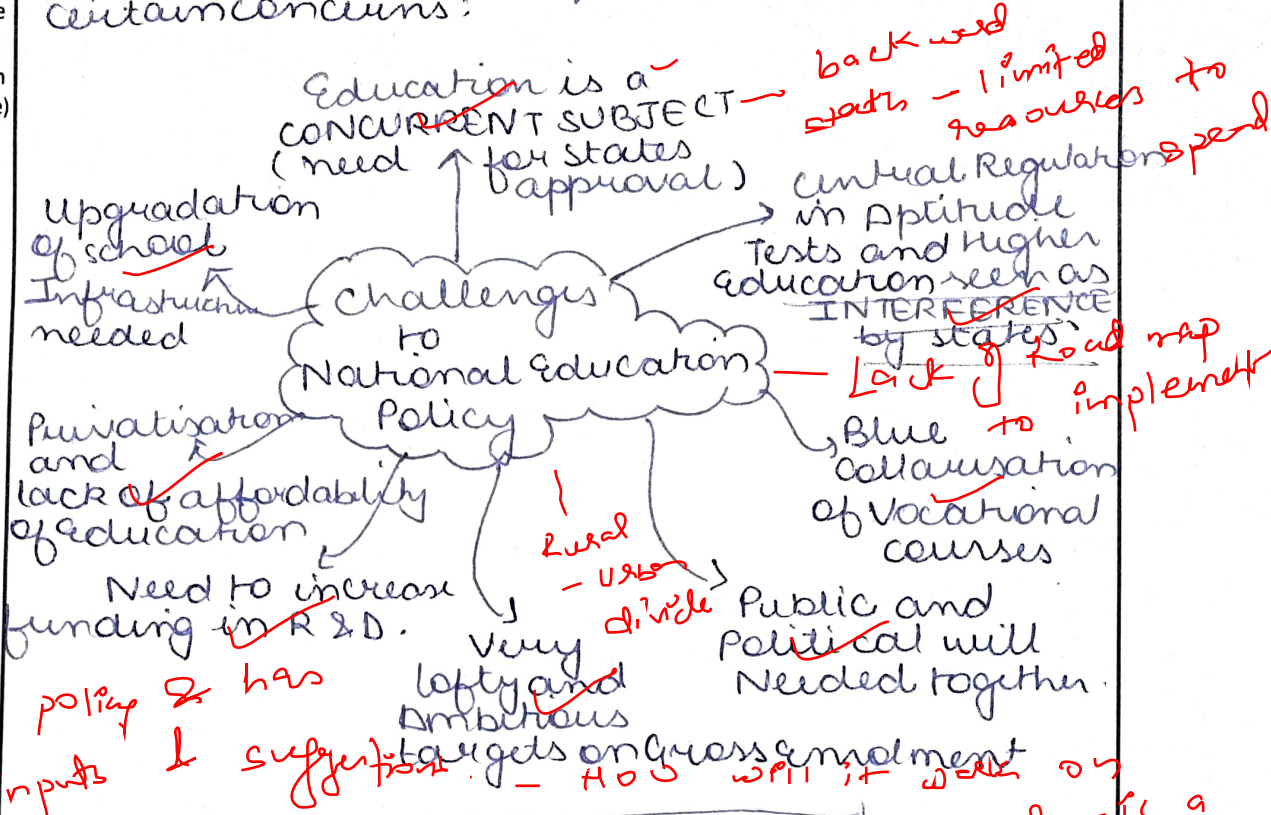
Some of the remarkable features of the policy include:

- Replacing 10+2 structure with 5+3+3+4 (Foundation (5) + Preparatory (3) + Middle (3) + Secondary (4)).
- Flexible and Interdisciplinary education based learning.
- Ensuring basic skills, vocational activities, folk art learning, tribal and indigenous knowledge.
- Instruction up till Grade 5 in Mother Tongue or Regional language giving impetus to vernacular literature.
- Improving Health and Nutritional outcomes through Breakfast + Midday Meal Approach.
- Focus on Inclusive and Gender sensitive Education through National scholarship Portal, Special Education zones and assistance to female and transgender students.
- Improve Gross Enrolment Ratio to 50% in secondary / Higher Education by 2035.
- Flexible college education with diploma and Multiple exit options.

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While the NEP may look very rosy, several experts have asked questions and raised certain concerns:



NEP - is mainly inputs & suggestions

UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is a scheme initiative of the Ministry of Human Resource Development that seeks to link Higher Educational Institutions (such as IITs and IISc) with at least 5 villages to solve their socio-economic problems and bring betterment to their lives.

- The various areas of collaboration include:
- Sustainable Agriculture
 - Water Resource Management
 - Artisans
 - Basic Amenities and Infrastructure
 - Rural Energy

grand - is a challenge

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with the help of these, a number of collaborations have emerged.

- eg. MUSHROOM cultivation in Gendikata cluster with the help of IIT Delhi
- Paper Bag Making (with BIT Mesra)
- Safe Drinking Water (IIT Jodhpur)

Both the National Education Policy and Unnat Bharat Abhyaan have tremendous potential to reform pedagogy and improve human lives and livelihoods through a better look at Human Resource development. It will enable us to move from rote learning and focus on Real World problems and Self Actualisation.

Good Attempt

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5. Recent Farm Acts aim to increase the availability of buyers for farmers' produce thereby ensuring the goal doubling farmer's income. Critically discuss various apprehensions in its effective implementation along with the concerns it has generated in various federal units.

A number of Farm Acts that have been recently passed by the central government are part of the larger process of Agricultural Reforms. These are second generation Reforms, post liberalisation and privatisation of the Indian economy, that began in 1991.

① The Farmers Produce (Trade and Commerce) Act, 2020.

- Allows farmers the choice to sell within and outside the earlier mandatory AGRICULTURE PRODUCE Marketing Committees (APMC) market
- promote barrier free inter state and intra-state trading of goods.
- earlier, an extra cess was levied for selling products outside APMC
- Farmers can now escape the unhealthy nexus between MIDDLEMEN and local Government officials who colluded to ensure self-benefit and barely meeting production cost for farmers.

② The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Act.

- Creates a NATIONAL FRAMEWORK on CONTRACT FARMING where mutually agree fair and remunerative prices are provided to farmers on PREDETERMINED and TRANSPARENT Terms.
- preventing sale, lease, mortgage of farmers' land against any recovery.

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⑧ Essential Commodities (Amendment) 2020

- It differentiates between Speculative hoarding and Necessary hoarding to meet buffer stock requirements by keeping Cereals, pulses, onion, potatoes, edible oil seeds DEREGULATED from Government.
- It also encourages private players to set up COLD STORAGEES and value chains.

Apprehensions on Implementation

- ① The concern over the bills lie in their lack of effective Implementation.
- ② Agriculture despite employing more than 50% of our population, continues to stagger in its productivity and contribution to GDP.
- ③ Concerns over CORPORATISATION of Agriculture - where farmers might be at the whims of private players whose primary concern might be profit.
- ④ Legal language of contracts difficult to be understood by farmers resulting in them becoming SLAVE CONTRACTS.
- ⑤ Unfavourable nature of contracts and legal hurdles. (Eg - PEPSICO sued Gujarat farmers for violating contract and cultivating FCS potatoes (with low moisture, suitable for snacks))

Violation of Federalism

Several state govt are heavily criticising the Acts (Punjab, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, West Bengal) on the following grounds.

- ① Lack of consultation from States.

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- ② Agriculture (Entry 14) is part of state list
- ③ State government earns through PPMs Mandis, and these acts will result in loss of 1500-2000 crore worth Revenue
- ④ Centre used its special powers under Entry 33 on concurrent list (Trade and Commerce) where certain commodities like food, oilseeds, cattle fodder can be legislated by the Parliament in 'Public Interest'
- ⑤ Seen as an attack on Federalism as a whole + withdraw → § MSP (in future)

With all the implementational and legal challenges mounting its way, the centre must go the extra mile in addressing concerns of each and every section of the groups involved thereby ensuring the effective and smooth implementation of the Acts as a whole and meeting the goal of Doubling Farmer's Income.

Nicely put

- Farm laws are originally intended to move India from supply driven to demand driven
- However, wider consultations needed to bring it on ground

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6. Because of Covid-19, Indian economy is technically going through the period of recession. Suggest the steps to be taken by the government to improve the economic grounds keeping pandemic in mind.

- explain - 2 marks
competitive
growth
-ve
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The recent World Economic Outlook report by the IMF highlighted the contraction of the global economy as a whole and several major economies in particular. NSO Report noted a contraction of 23.9% + in the first quarter compared to 2019-20.

-7.5%
(82)

- 1) Sectors majorly impacted by the twin trouble of the pandemic and the lockdown
 - CONSTRUCTION, REAL ESTATE
 - HOTELS and TOURISM
 - TRADE and COMMUNICATION
 - MANUFACTURING
- 2) The crisis has been further aggravated by the WEAK FUNDAMENTALS of the Indian economy which were neglected by successive governments over the years
- 3) Private consumption at an all time low that has hit both the DEMANDS and the SUPPLY
- 4) Medical sector, Agriculture, Food items have seen a significant increase in sales
- 5) Fall in government's tax Revenue collection → hesitancy to address Demand side focus. Increasing FISCAL DEFICIT
- 6) Fear of being pushed into a VICIOUS CYCLE of joblessness, lack of demand, lack of supply and further Recession.

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Steps that can be taken by the government

- ① Increase spending and revive demand without caring about Fiscal Deficit for the moment.
- ② Free food grains to the poor and needy and conditional or non-conditional cash transfer to revive economic activity under PM Aush Kalyan Yojana.
- ③ Need to find New ways to raise taxation revenue amidst crisis to meet excess expenditures and pay GST obligation to states.
 - a) Sovereign Bonds in the International Market
 - b) Loans against a Public sector undertaking (PSU) from RBI
- ④ Increase expenditure in healthcare
- ⑤ Loan Moratorium to debtors
- ⑥ EPFO contributions by government on behalf of the employees. + special package
- ⑦ Printing Money as last Resort. just last
- ⑧ Ease Labour laws, land acquisition for sector
- ⑨ Assured procurement of farm products, forest products at MSP impact ed
- ⑩ Citizen engagement and government tax rebate Eco4 cred
- ⑪ Giving Digital India a push, in the world of WORK FROM HOME, cashless digital transactions, online shopping and virtual education. E-commerce companies like Grofers and Big Basket can be brought in.

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② Focusing on Research and Development to have self sufficiency in supply of Raw materials which has been imported in huge numbers from Neighbouring countries

③ Multilateral outlook towards the world combined with Domestic interests at economic level otherwise Globalisation might be replaced by isolationism and 'SLOWBALISATION' and import substitution

The COVID-19 crisis has exposed several gaps in the health sector, social protection the government stimulus has to focus on filling these gaps and also meeting the sustainable development goals. The priority will be to create jobs for those rendered jobless and bounce back into recovery as soon as possible.

Good

6.5/12.5

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7. Discuss the concepts of 'Green Politics'? Do you think that the idea of Green Politics is an urgent requirement for country like India to be mandatorily inculcated in the working of the government.

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Green Politics or Ecological Politics is a political ideology which fuses together Environmentalism along with peace, social justice and decentralised democracy. The idea emerged from 1960s and 1970s, Club of Rome that went on to witness the first conference of UNCTAD in 1972 that addressed 'sustainable development' for the very first time.

- ① It is a left-leaning liberal ideology.
- ② Shares similarities with environmental conservation, Feminist and Movement for civil liberties.
- ③ The origin of this ideology is rooted in the 'Marxist idea' that the actions of a few will bring in unwanted consequences for many.
- ④ Green politicians view 'ECO-FASCISM' as their ultimate enemy and indulge in various political mobilisation, protests, rallies to address the issue and get the world leaders to negotiate with them → "THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY".
- ⑤ Various subtenets of this ideology include eco-feminism, eco-socialism, and Green anarchism. The Climate Strike, 'Friday's for Future' led by Greta Thunberg, a Swedish teen activist shows a perfect synergy of all these ideologies.
- ⑥ The Right wing has also adopted a form of this ideology called 'GREEN CONSERVATISM'.
- ⑦ eg - Green Party in USA, UK, Mexico, Australia.

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While the idea of adoption of such an environment friendly and environmentalist policies seem attractive, there's both a benefit and disadvantage to it.

Benefits

- ① Will make government officials environmentally conscious
- ② Will enable environmentally friendly legislations to be legislated
- ③ Saving Resources and Energy within the government
- ④ Imparts knowledge on indigenous practices
- ⑤ More Research and Development will encourage innovation in technology
- ⑥ Help us meet our SDG goals on time and achieve climate neutrality and Neutral Emissions targets based on NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS.

Disadvantages

- ① Green politics like any ideology is a political one and government officials ought to remain politically non-partisan
- ② Environment tends to conflict with theories of economic growth.
- ③ a green-political approach will hinder infrastructural growth and development activities - Eco dev & poverty alleviation is
- ④ It is better to collaborate with green thinking academia and corporates so that new ideas emerge. pr. use comes
- ⑤ Conflict between several rights. Eg - Right to forest vs Right to Health (of clean air and less polluting transport like Metro)

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Thus, if the government chooses to go ahead with green environmentalism, it has to cautiously balance between various needs and stakeholders in the society, so as to benefit the maximum number of people and meet a public good.

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India is well on target to achieve its Paris climate commitments.

Sustainable livelihood is the need of the hour

Social welfare, justice and

$$\frac{6.5}{12.5}$$

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8. Allowing large corporate or industrial houses to be the promoters of private banks has raised a lot of concern. In the light of above premises, suggest the ways to strengthen the banking sector.

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Recently, an INTERNAL WORKING GROUP of RBI was constituted to to Renew the status of ownership and corporate structure within the Indian Banking System. The body recommended the following on Banks.

- 1) Large corporates or industrial houses can become PROMOTERS of Banks with suitable safeguards and Amending the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- 2) Allowing NBFCs of 50,000 crore and above to be acquired by corporates
- 3) NBFCs privatised could be converted to banks after 10 years.
- 4) Allowing Payments Banks to become SMALL FINANCE banks, owing to a 3 year experience as Payments banks.

While, the government is reasoning to introduce this step may have been many, the primary being, the need to Fund our future growth through improvement of balance sheet of banks, the move has raised a lot of concern.

- 1) Public banks are more stable than private banks
- 2) RBI needs to balance between PRIVATE led EFFICIENCY vis a vis FINANCIAL EQUITY and STABILITY.
- 3) Fear of CONNECTED LENDING - when banks themselves may become promoters and

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borrowers, so as to channel the depositors money into their own ventures. The very same has happened recently with ICICI bank and Videocon, Yes Bank, DHFL etc.

- 4) Fear of Evergreening of loans → where one loan is used to meet the other and is actually never paid and continually renewed. 5) single owners are too Risky

WAYS TO STRENGTHEN THE BANKING SECTOR.

- 1) Banking sector should foremost be Revitalised and Recapitalised by the Government.
 - *Social banking & welfare*
 should have
- 2) Resolution of Non-Profitable Assets through quick implementation of IBC.
 low budget
- 3) Addressing structural and governance issues in Banking sector
- 4) meet the growing credit demand of a Growing Economy.
- 5) Independent, third party auditing and Review
- 6) ensuring that Basel III guidelines are being sufficiently met by setting aside the required RWA (Risk Weighted Assets).
 - *de capitalisation of PSB (Public sector)*
- 7) Also, giving banks the required relief during COVID-19 when small businesses are falling and debtors are unable to pay on time.
 - *Widening the powers of Audit & scrutiny*

A healthy and inclusive Banking sector is healthy for the economy as it has the ability to set into motion a VIRTUOUS CYCLE of GROWTH.
 Co-operative banks

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9. Paris agreement seems to be very promising on the account of taming green house gas emissions but in reality, it discarded the 'Polluter's must Pay Principle'. Critically analyse.

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The Paris agreement, signed in 2015 by 195 countries was a landmark step towards global climate action within the United Nations Framework Convention on climate change (UNFCCC) to deal with climate mitigation, adaptation and finance.

The Agreement came down heavily on curbing global emissions by attaining 'NET ZERO EMISSIONS' between 2050 and 2100 and keep global rise in temperatures well below 2°C and even 1.5°C above pre industrial levels.

One of the hallmarks of the Agreement was the 'common but differentiated responsibilities' where the highest emitters that, is, the developed countries were told to PROVIDE FINANCES to help developing countries in dealing with climate change and for adaptation measures through a CLIMATE ADAPTATION FUND of 100 Billion dollars and also help them overcome losses due to the DISPROPORTIONATE impact faced by climate change like drought, floods etc.

But, the Paris Agreement in reality did not have any compensation mechanism for these highest polluters through the 'Polluter pays principle'.

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① The USA's exit out of Paris Accord in 2017 on account of 'unfair to US interests' was a step against pettiter pays Principle. USA on an average emits 16 tonnes per capita, and around 14% of world's CO₂ emissions.

② Following USA's exit, many developed countries have shown disinterest to continue forward since they feel they would unfairly have to cut their own growth. This would bring to standstill one of the most comprehensive deal for climate change.

③ It also precludes China, the opportunity to take leadership at the International forum. China emits almost 23% of world's CO₂ with a per capita emission of 7.7 tonnes.

④ The deal would then be unfair to India as well with 0.5 tonnes of CO₂ emissions per capita, which is well below the global average of 1.3 tonnes. India is one of the few countries who are on their track to fulfil Paris Agreement commitments.

⑤ USA's withdrawal is a jolt to multilateral cooperation and diplomacy as a whole for which a very few number of countries will have to suffer. (Eg - Bangladesh, Mauritius, Sri Lanka)

Thus, countries of the Global North must reverse the dysproportionate impact of their actions on the Global South

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and work towards a Financial Compensation mechanism to make better the Accord. and ~~the~~ achieve Carbon Neutrality by 2050.

New Zealand recently has emerged as the first country to DECLARE a CLIMATE A EMERGENCY and has reavowed its commitment to phase out industrial affluents and achieve Neutral emissions by 2025 itself in the public sector. ~~A small~~ country could that, the larger ones could certainly follow.

Good

6.5/12.5

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10. Is it apt to say that the porous international boundaries putting india's internal security at stake. Substantiate your answer.

India has a land border of over 15,000 km which it shares with seven countries (Pakistan, China, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Bhutan and Afghanistan). It also has a maritime border of over 7500 kms. The porous nature of international boundaries make border guarding a HUMUNGOUS TASK.

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Security at Risk

- 1) Lack of proper demarcation our land and Maritime borders
- 2) Diverse Terrain that includes deserts, swamps, hills, tall snowy peaks, Rivers that make border guarding difficult
- 3) Lack of coordination and Multiple Agencies along border. Eg - BSF as well as Indian Army along Indo-Pak border.
It also results in problem of command and control and lack of accountability for encroachments, poor intelligence
- 4) Inadequate Infrastructure due to difficult terrain.

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The porous nature of border coupled with geo-political and technical difficulties put India at a great vulnerability. These may include -

- Smuggling** → large scale smuggling of luxury electronic and other consumer goods
- Cross border Terrorism** → the recent discovery of several tunnels and hideouts from Jammu & Kashmir highlight Pakistan's attempt to destabilise India through infiltration
- Drug Smuggling** → Rampant across Punjab through GOLDEN CRESCENT (Afghanistan - Pakistan - Iran)

 - North East India is also a victim to the GOLDEN TRIANGLE (from Myanmar Thailand and Laos)
 - There also exists a nexus between Narcotics and Armed Smugglers.
- Counterfeit currency** → especially through cross-border nexus of Hawala dealers
- Illegal Migrations and cattle smuggling** → Rampant along the Indo-Bangladesh border and Myanmar
- Cross border funding for Naxal and insurgent activities** → Many groups like Bodo, ULFA smear insurgents via Bhutan border.

 - They also have contributed to Goorkhland political secessionism

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Border management this is a significant security concern to India. ~~These~~ can be tackled through dispute Resolution with Neighbouring countries and adopting a friendly but firm 'Neighbourhood First' approach to diplomacy. At the same time our technology and intelligence needs to be upgraded to coordinate into a synergetic level.

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V. B. S. D.

7/12/15

- Overall - good effort - keep it up

Few suggestions

- keep intros & conclusions - make precise

- facts should be mainly from government sources / world Bank / International etc.