



Educrat IAS ACADEMY

India's Best Mentorship for Civil Services

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GENERAL STUDIES

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INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q.No	Max.Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Please write your Name, Email, UPSC Roll No. and Mobile number in the answer sheet</p> <p>2. There are 20 questions printed in English, all questions are compulsory</p> <p>3. The number of marks carried by a question or part is indicated against it.</p> <p>4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate (English), which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.</p> <p>5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be struck off.</p> <p><i>Any specific message from Educrat IAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy?</i> Mentor's Remarks:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	
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20	15	0	Mode of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Marks		78	TEST CODE:	Medium of Examination:

1. "Nehru's 'temple of Modern India' consisted not only of steel and power plants, irrigation dams, but included institutions of higher learning, particularly in the scientific field." Elaborate. (150 words, 10 marks)

On 14th August, 1947 midnight, unfurling the national flag of India, India's first PM Pt. Nehru in his celebrated speech named 'Trust with destiny' dreamt of a temple of modern India which was a holistic development plan for the nation.

This plan had ~~area~~ⁱⁿ scope

infrastructural developments like

→ steel plants (eg. Bhilai steel plant with Russian technology)

→ power plants (to make India energy sufficient)

→ irrigation dams (to make India food sufficient)

and also institutions of higher learning particularly in scientific field.

Short intro



eg. ① IIT - starting with IIT. I got
of pre-independence times, many
other technical institutions were
set up.

② focus on agricultural technology
(which resulted in HYV seeds
usage during green revolution)

③ Space technology - Bhabha atomic
research centre ISRO

④ Nuclear technology - needed for
security of nation in presence
of two nuclear states as
neighbours → BARC

⑤ Technical education for improvement
in manufacturing field

⑥ Jawahar Nalaya vidyalayas
Thus, Jeebhoo's vision of Temple
of modern India consisted both
infrastructural & scientific higher
educational plans.

I I M S.



2. Critically examine the nature and scope of environmental movements in independent India. (150 words, 10 marks)

Independent India has seen many environmental movements post independence. Below is their nature and scope discussed —

① Chipko movement → movement against felling of trees where rural women hugged the trees so that they cannot be cut down. Trees were not only tied with their economic but emotional needs. This example is still revered worldwide.

② Narmada Bachao Andolan - Against creation of dams on Narmada resulting in loss of habitation for many on the banks and lower regions of Narmada - This was an instance of poor planning for rehabilitation and subsequent actions by the people.

- ③ silver ~~valley~~^{line} movement (TN)
against illegal
construction of buildings
in coastal zones.



- ④ Movement against uranium such
industries (Tamil Nadu, Kerala)
- for safety of people

- ⑤ Sc judgement to construct NGT
(National green tribunal) was
a move to expedite environment
related cases dip disposal - in a
way it caused many a
movement for environment staying
in the limits of judiciary.

Thus, the environmental
movements in India since post
independence times have had various
scopes.

3. "After Indian Independence India-China relations started on a high note, but during the course of the coming years India had to face a bitter experience due to the Chinese aggression." Elaborate. (150 words, 10 marks)

After Indian Independence, India-china ~~st~~ relations started on a high note ^{a)} during cold war when capitalist USA and socialist Russia was forming two political poles of the world, India had maintained its ethical non-alignment

recognize as the govt in India + Taiwan
 * *Parabrahma*
 * *Hindli Chini*
 * *Bhai Bhai*
 * *Cross exchange of cultural & diplomatic leaders*
 * *Meit*
 * *Mao and Nehru*

It recognised China as a country. voted for China's seat in UNSC in spite of Russia's opposition.

Some During Naxal movements, likes of charu Mazumdar got political support and declared President Mao is our president Indian communism CPIM was also the first democratically elected communist party to form a government anywhere in world.

Bitter experience

Bitter experience due to China's aggression

① Aggression in Tibet → dalai Lama & others had to flee

② Aggression in Arunachal Pradesh

③ cartographic aggression at different times (changing maps)

④ Indo-china war of 1962

⑤ recent times - recent issues of doklam stand-off, cartographic expansion and physical aggression in North Arunachal Pradesh, along with increased presence in south china sea and Indo-Pacific due to its own malacca-dilemma is ~~cause~~ of bone of contention between the two countries.

• Global narrative building of China's aggression, counter projects of China's BRI and usage of soft power (eg. Mamallapuram visit of Xi Jinping) can be used to counter China's aggression.

4. "India's need for a federal system was more an imperative than a political choice." Do you agree? (150 words, 10 marks)

Good

Indian constitution mentions it as a union of states (Article 1) but follows a federal system with unitary bias. Indian federal system is a case sui generis (one of its kind) ^{many are of view} but this was more of a imperative need than political choice.

Imperative

① India had just suffered from partition and Pakistan's two nation theory had wrecked havoc.

Colonial legacy

② In this situation, the system needed to have a strong unitary control, otherwise there were chances of demand of secession.

Integration

③ Assimilation of 565 princely states post independence was ~~was~~ made the choice of a federal structure with strong central imperative.

④ Indian tenets of freedom and grass root level democracy mandated federal structure.

demand
state
basis

⑤ Diversity of India - terrain wise, region, religion, cast, language wise diversity mandated the need of different units (states) taking care of their own developmental needs with centre taking care of major things like national security, defence etc.

Political Choice

① It was a conscious choice by the members of constitution assembly to take few best practices from other constitutions but let India remain a case sui-generis

② The rigidity & flexibility of Indian constitution & federalism is equal to none. This has to be a choice as well.

Thus India's federal structure, though a necessity was a conscious choice well made.

5. In light of persistence of various forms of violence against women in India, discuss the ways in which the issue can be addressed effectively. (150 words, 10 marks)

NERB data revealed that cases of violence against women rose by 33% during ^{18.3% in 2021} covid induced lockdown.

does not match with actual figures

Lifecycle of violence against women

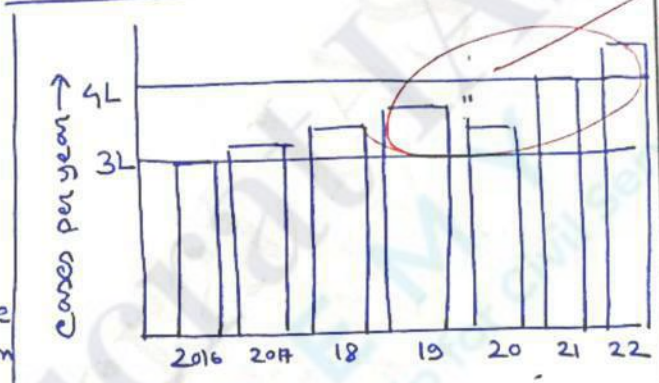
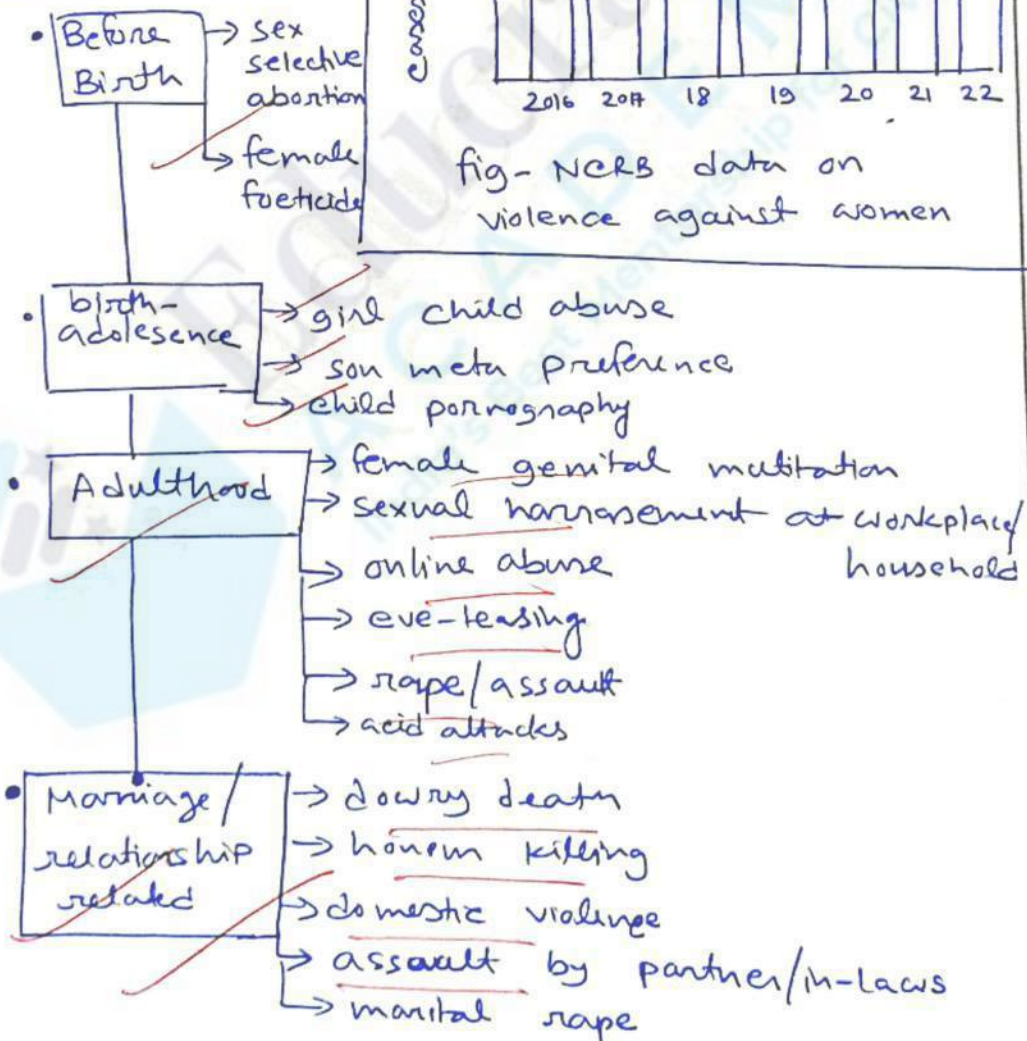


fig- NERB data on violence against women

Ways to address this issue effectively

① Just as shown, the issues at different point in a women's lifecycle needs to be solved differently - with a lifecycle approach.

② Educational, financial attainment of women → lead to protest against domestic violence.

③ voice to speak → movements like #MeToo on recent event of Indian cricketers protest gives women power to voice out their issues.

④ change in societal mindset → patriarchal mindset → awareness of women rights and issues at all levels.

⑤ sensitization of authorities (eg. police, local authority)

⑥ women distress helpline, SHe box, women friendly initiatives by railway for safe travel etc.

A broader societal awareness will help effectively bring down violence against

Women.

6. Explain with examples how globalisation is manifested in both local in the global and the global in the local.. (150 words, 10 marks)

globalisation is the process of breaking geographical boundaries and reaching out of global ideas, cultures, economies affecting the national, regional and local lifestyles, economies and ideas.

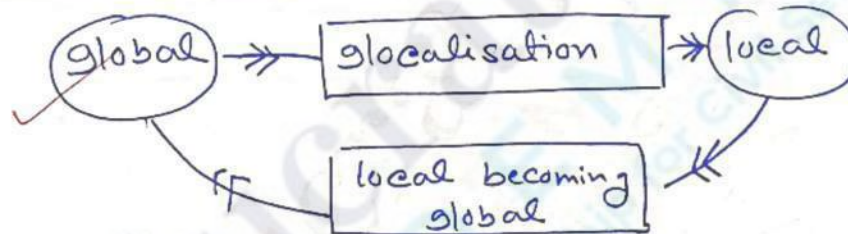


fig- globalisation- the two way method

① global. in the local ① global
flavours / cuisines. → ② Indo-western
food, pizza, continental food

② global culture / celebrity / entertainers /
music → has a huge fan base in
India (eg- ^{South} Korean movies (k-drama)
music bands - BTS has ~~been~~



③ global events → ^(eg) halloween, valentines day has found its way in Indian culture

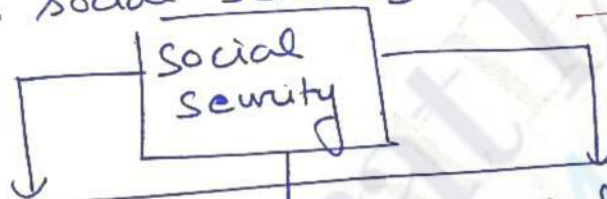
④ global economy → has huge impact on indian economy (2008 financial crisis of USA impacted India) (US-fed tapering)

local in the global

- Culture → Spirituality, Yoga, Vedic traditions, Sathguru, Yoga, Yogi Bhaagwat*
- ① local dishes like / spices / ~~like~~ flavours
taking global stage
(eg- Indian masala flavoured chips)
- ② local culture - music - dance - movies
getting global views - (eg- songs in different local languages becoming global sensations - 'Kolaveri D', 'RRR', 'Bahubali')
- ③ entertainers getting global recognition (many like Shahrukh Khan, Priyanka Chopra - acting in hollywood movies.)
- ④ local issues become global - comment about prophet mohammad by a political leader was condemned by many islamic countries.
- Thus, globalisation is a two way process. ASL

7. Social security should not only involve economic empowerment but also social empowerment. Discuss in the context of India. (150 words, 10 marks)

Social security means providing the needy with state sponsored security for a fulfilling living. Across world, more developed countries has better social security provisions.



Economic Empowerment

Social Empowerment

① financial inclusion

② Access to banking credit (basic bank accounts - PM-Jan Dhan)

③ Access to life and medical insurance (PM-JAY)

④ universal basic income - (PM-KISAN - UBI to farmers)

⑤ food for work / rural/urban

① food security (National Food Security Act)

② Free food grains during covid induced lockdown (PM-Sarab Kalyan Yojana)

③ Healthcare facilities (PM-Jan Aushadi, PM-JAY) (upheaval of medical infrastructure)

employment
guarantee programmes
(eg. MANKREGA)

⑥ loan for crop/
self employment
(eg - PM - Mudra,
Skill India, ~~seal~~
PM - SVANidhi)
↑
for street vendors

⑦ crop insurance
schemes - helps
in doubling farmer
income

⑧ push to self
reliance? How

④ women led
development
models (eg - PM -
UJJAWALA
Yojana)

⑤ loans to women -
Bank - SHa linkage
(women friendly
interest rates)

⑥ education to
marginalised section
(Ekalavya schools,
Beti Bachao Beti
Padhao, Sukanya
Samridhi Yojana)

⑦ socially empowered
personal laws →
triple talaq, Sabarimala
Judgement

⑧ Institutionalised delivery

Thus, social security both
economic and social empowerment.

8. Discuss the role of women and women's organizations in various spheres of life such as education, health, economy, politics and social movements. (150 words, 10 marks)

Role of women and women's organisations are vital, in all sectors of life.

Education

- ↳ ① women led developments in education → aim to get gender parity in enrollment ratio
- ② extended time limits to complete P.T.D. as women has more drop out rates due to family responsibility

Health

③ Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Sukanya Samrithi.

* Anshu was carrying fear of the substitution of the girl

- ↳ ① Access to institutional deliveries ??
- ② maternity benefits, laws against sexual harassment → cause safe deliveries
- ③ folic acid tablets, sanitary provisions, separate toilets at school result in

Economy

better development & educational attainment.

- ↳ ① improved female labour force participation
- ↳ ② economic/hospitality sectors led by women - (eg - nursing, care giving)

→ Women are found to be more financially prudent in household economy management

Politics

→ Preservation of women in politics (33% in local levels & ~~present~~ proposed in parliament level) → will bring new views to the global politics

→ Indira Gandhi, Jayalalitha and others from Indian politics are torch

Social movements bearing in this case

→ Environmental movements

(eg) Chipko, Narmada Bachao

→ Against prohibition (if liquor)

(eg - in Bihar)

→ Against sexual harassment

(eg - recent case of women wrestlers)

→ Against social evils → dowry, domestic violence etc - women groups are actively participating.

Thus, women as well as women organisations are leaving a mark in all sectors.

9. Communalism In A Secular India Is A Threat To Minorities.
Justify. (150 words, 10 marks)

Can write about the stages of Communalism
Short notes

Indian concept of secularism of sarva-dharma-sam-bhaba on of principled distancing of state of religious affairs. Communalism in Indian context is proliferation of one religious community at the cost of belittling others having different religions.

Communalism is a threat to the societal fabric as a whole but it is more heavy and dangerous for the minority, especially religious minorities.

This is how →

① minority groups in society are kept out of the purview of developmental gains by siphonage of funds etc. by groups of other community.

Not only threat to minorities but the idea of India? → Measures to be taken?

② linguistic minorities → face aggression & other communities
(es- urdu is often facing aggression due to unnecessary linkage with antisocial activities)

③ social minority - (es- transgenders)
From groups of minority religion will face more societal wrath than one from the major community.

④ religious minority → face problems in celebration of different religious festivals in wake of communalism.

Thus, communalism is a social ~~evil~~ evil, hampers everyone - but wrecks havoc on the minorities.

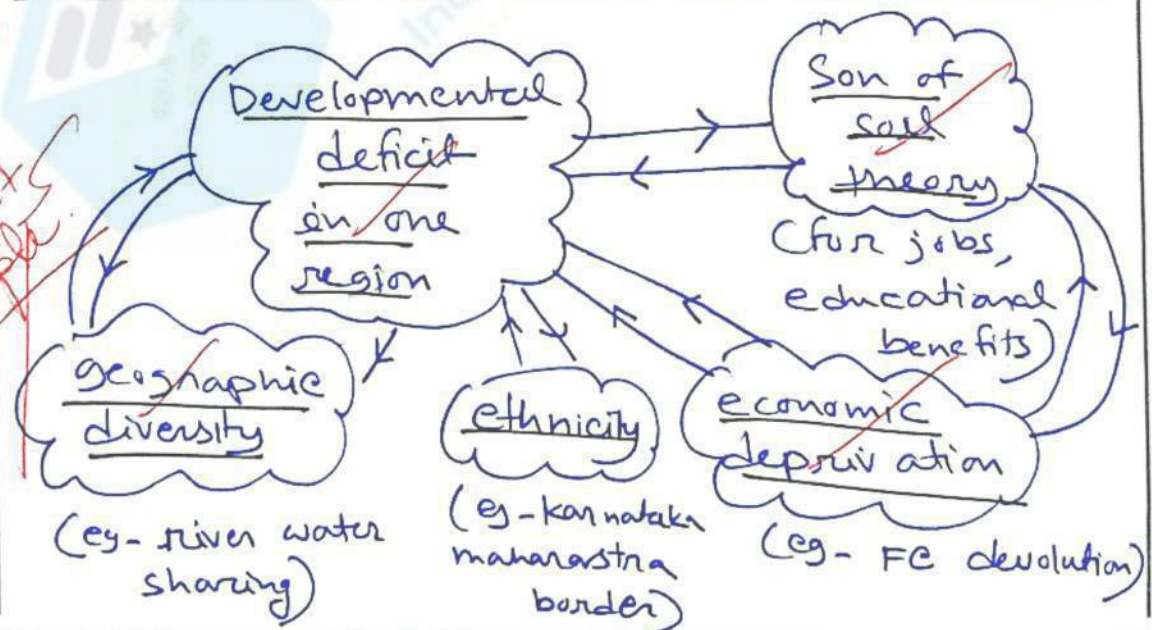
10. Regionalism in India is a result of various interconnected factors. In this light discuss the various types regionalism in India and also suggest suitable measures to curtail negative impact of regionalism. (150 words, 10 marks)

Regionalism is defined as love for one's own region at the cost of national integrity and other regions. Though there can be positive regionalism as well.

not exactly
expression of a country's identity
purpose within a geographical region

- gandhiji's regionalism (I am a good citizen and good Indian)
- positive competition of development (eg NITV Aayog's developmental indices)

Interconnected factors of regionalism



Keep it simple

Types of regionalism in India

- ① inter-state regionalism → caused Telangana (2014), Jharkhand (2006) to form
- ② intra-state regionalism → North East India states (7 states) Separated by chicken neck ^{linguistic} ~~ethnic~~ divides related _{→ identity}
- ③ resource based regionalism → river water dispute between states. ^{→ different states}

Measures to curtail negative impacts of Regionalism

- ① developmental gains to be distributed equally.
- ② Nation building effort — eg one nation one nation card, one nation one market, one nation one tax (GST) etc.
- ③ Special focus of historically deprived areas

Thus, regionalism should be used for positive competition (eg. NITI Aayog developmental index) and not for belittling other regions

11. The political and administrative reorganization of states and territories has been a continuous ongoing process since the mid-nineteenth century. Discuss with examples. (250 words, 15 marks)

India had gained independence in ~~20~~ 1947 with 565 princely states and few presidencies like Bombay, Madras, Bengal presidencies etc.

Even before independence, since mid nineteenth century there has been continuous political & administrative reorganisation of states & territories.

Before Independence

→ Before 1857 / revolt

→ aggression on states like Awadh, ring fence policy, subsidiary alliance policy caused significant reorganisation

→ this ~~also~~ was a reason of 1857 revolt

→ Attempt to partition of Bengal

~~Attempted~~ in 1905, annulled in 1911 → shifting of capital to Delhi

1920 Nagpur
1935 Act

more power to governor general
of Bengal than Madras &
Bombay by various acts of
centralisation

After Independence

Gandhiji had ~~promised~~
promised state reorganisation on
linguistic lines before Independence
but after Independence the communal
riots, partition induced violence &
migration made Indian government
defer it.

① Integration of 565 princely states

→ ② on linguistic lines → demand

started in AP, by Potti Sreeramulu
and spearheaded in other

parts. Despite denial by JVK
committee, state reorganisation

committee had to agree to
linguistic reorganisation of states.

③ Integration of ~~other~~ Dutch &
French colonies

④ Nortu East insurgency & reorganisation on tribal demands

→ ~~Meghalaya, Arunachal~~ carved out of Assam

→ ~~Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur~~ given statehood on tribal demands

⑤ Developmental deficit & demand of statehood → caused creation of Punjab, Haryana from Pepsu, ~~Maharashtra, Gujrat, Jharkhand~~ from Bihar, ~~Telangana~~ from AP.

⑥ continuing demands of statehood

① ~~Bodoland~~ ~~for~~ from Assam

② ~~Hilly Areas~~ from Northern West Bengal.

③ ~~Khalistani~~ movement for separation from Punjab etc.

Thus, ~~indeed~~ it has been a continuous process of reorganisation in India post mid-nineteenth century.

12. "Nehru's policy of Non-Alignment came to symbolised the struggle of India and other newly independent nations to retain and strengthen their independence from colonialism." Critically evaluate. (250 words, 15 marks)

India after Independence chose to remain independent in terms of its foreign policy as well. India maintained non-alignment from both the major blocs of the world at that time. (eg - capitalist USA & socialist USSR).

~~✓~~ Pt. Nehru had rightly mentioned, "I am against nobody. I am for my own country's interest."

- India's non-alignment and spirit of Panchsheel
~~✓~~ (a) peaceful co-existence (b) respect for national boundaries, (c) non-intervention in local matters of countries, (d) respecting sovereignty of countries and non aggression) ~~over~~ and

India's 3rd world solidarity was a symbol of not only India's independence in foreign policy but also ~~it~~ served as a template for many other countries of global south to retain their independence from colonialisation in ~~economic~~ economic, moral, policy forms.

- India's non-alignment led it be close to Russia for defence ~~inf~~ diplomacy but also seek for UN intervention in few matters.
- It helped India's food security by PL-480 scheme from USA
- It allowed moral and policy sovereignty in cases of Bangladesh & Indo china war

multilateralism → shift from non-alignment

With the emerging global order, India is moving towards multilateralism and sticking on its own ground.

① Stand on Russo-Ukraine war

→ condemned violence but did not abide by USA led economic sanctions

② Stand on Russian oil diplomacy

→ placing country's energy needs first

③ help to Sri-Lanka, Afghanistan, but
principled distance from political matters.

④ Voice of global south - A partner in development to countries of global south.

This, non-alignment as a movement might have lost relevance, but as an ideology still persists in India's foreign policy.

13. The caste system in India has continued to persist by adapting itself to a variety of changing socio-economic and political conditions in the past few decades. Discuss. (250 words, 15 marks)

The caste system in India started with the ancient varna system which was basically based on profession. However, with time it has grown into a more rigid form and continues to persist by adapting itself to changing socio-political-economic conditions.

caste system → surviving socio-economic conditions

- ① ~~inter-caste~~ honour killing, khap panchayats — show existence of cast identity in society
- ② Dalit literature → show that people are trying to stick to their caste identities in field of art as well.

③ inter-caste marriages is not as prevalent in rural area as in urban.

④ caste based professions - in various parts of country (eg mostly SC involved in manual scavenging)

⑤ caste based festivals → eg - huli diwas, Birsa munda Diwas

⑥ caste based violences - continuing inspite of Acts like Prevention of Atrocities Against SC, ST

cast system surviving political conditions

① reservation → for scheduled cast and scheduled tribes in education and jobs - ensures maintenance of cast system (but it has a positive impact of their representation in society)

② race to bottom — desanskritisation

→ many castes are claiming to be historically underprivileged and backward class to gain benefits of reservation for SC/ST/OBC (eg — Meena in Rajasthan)

③ Many caste based reservation in legislation → continued for social & political representation

④ Autonomous councils in tribal areas

⑤ vote bank politics for caste identity

Way ahead ^{Time} → step wise revoking of cast based affirmative actions or strict measures to curb caste based violence are need to curb casteism from Indian society.

14. Child marriage in India is still a significant problem. Analyse the reasons for the same and suggest suitable solutions to expedite social change in this regard. (250 words, 15 marks)

Recent arrests in Assam in respect of prevention of child marriage Act has fuelled controversies relating to child marriage

Reasons for child marriage

Social →

① continued rural practise

② low level of awareness of ill-~~isst~~ effects of child marriage

→ health issues

→ increased maternal mortality (MMR)

→ increased IMR

→ low economic attendance attainment

③ practise of dowry → elder girls's parents need to give more dowry as per rural customs.

④ Administrative failure

→ ineffective implementation
~~due~~ in spite of law

⑤ political failure → vote bank politics

→ ~~put~~ myopic agenda of
political parties do not want to
impact the political equilibrium
in societies.

⑥ low educational attainment of
women → unable to make choices
for themselves.

Solutions to stop

① awareness of girl child and
parents

mention some
about reasons.

② strict implementation of child
marriage prevention act

③ political consensus at all levels
to stop this social menace

④ Role modelling → women who

gained success in life due to not getting married early

⑤ grassroot level organisations should be involved for intelligence and awareness building

⑥ educational institutes eg schools to be active participant in curbing this social menace

⑦ punishing the priests, who perform these marriages

⑧ securing rights of children who are married below age of 18

⑨ social security net for children to deny marriage at early age.

These steps at war footing may bring societal change.

15. Globalisation has changed the role of State. Critically evaluate its impact in the context of developing countries. (250 words, 15 marks)

Globalisation is the process by which geographical boundaries are blurred and global ethnic, cultural, social ideas and practices are spread all over the world.

Globalisation has impacted every sphere of political-social-economic existence → even the role of a state in many cases

How it has changed the role of the state?
Focus on Ethical + E-governance + public org

where it has changed role of state

where state retains its pre-globalisation position

① proliferation of some global apps by MNCs → eg Apps like youtube, amazon, google has reduced

① states can control what can be used in a country (eg - USA & India banning



States role in restricting what reaches to the viewers of a particular country.

② global references - eg. racial discrimination in USA on Race vs trade judgement invokation called for global condemnation

600 Chinese apps and China banned million of US

② State narratives - countries like China North Korea have significantly controlled effect of globalisation by building narratives suitable to their state interest.

③ good practices practised in one state gets spilled over - eg. LeBSTAT rights movement # Me too movement - Chinese aggression started in

③ National interest first - global condemnation could not stop Russian aggression on Ukraine or in South China sea



Different countries
reached India

④ Globalisation
shape state's
economies. In
today's unneted
global economy,
covid showed how
~~important~~ supply
chain resilience
is - Now countries
are moving towards
friendshoring

④ Fruits of
globalisation to
be cherished
~~needs~~ state
~~can~~ support and
strong state
morality
eg - positive state
control from India
~~ca~~ (PLI, ex
production linked
incentive, Atma-
nirbhar bharat
etc)

Thus, for developing countries
globalisation has changed the
roles of state in various
ways.

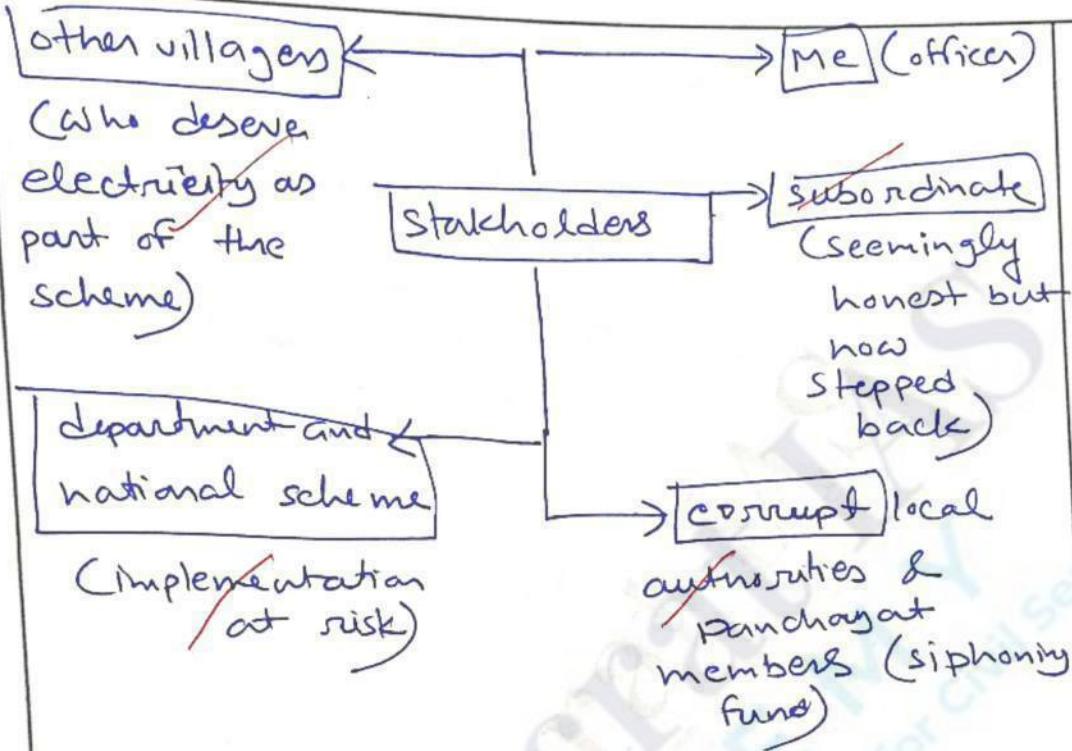
16. You are working in the electricity department of a State. You are assigned with electrifying all the villages of the State under Saubhagya scheme. Around 35 personnel work under your supervision. A seemingly honest subordinate has come to you and said that he has unearthed a major corruption done in a village by local authorities in collusion with elected panchayat members. Being an officer of integrity, you have asked him to submit a detailed report in two days. But the politicians and local authorities have approached your subordinate and encouraged him to help them in return for a share in the lump sum amount siphoned off by them. Being convinced, your subordinate comes to you after two days and claims that he has mistakenly believed there has been a corruption, but in reality he claims no such irregularity has occurred.

Answer the following:

- (a) What are the ethical issues in this case?
 - (b) How will you respond to the changed opinion of your subordinate?
- (250 words, 15 marks)

Facts of the case

- ① ✓ I am working in state electricity dept - honest officer
- ② ✓ subordinate unearths corruption
- ③ ✓ takes back charges / allegation due to pressure from miscreants.



A) Ethical issues involved

- ① powerful corruption nexus.
- ② Lack of evidence as subordinate backed out
- ③ right to dignified livelihood of people of village will be disturbed due to lack of electricity
- ④ me stepping taking actions can cause pecuniary actions including transfer, threat to life etc.

b) My response

- ① I myself will prepare a detailed report by ground level investigation and send it to my department higher authorities
- ② will request to take actions against miscreants by appropriate authorities (both local auth & elected members)
- ③ Implement the scheme with full integrity with help of all 35 subordinate staff by monitoring progress of scheme implementation at regular interval thus removing chance of collusion of subordinates.

Right to dignified life
includes basic amenities like electricity (also part of basic necessity index) - ~~and~~



18. In the light of the recent remarks of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence, critically evaluate India's preparedness to counter China's growing military ambitions. (250 words, 15 marks)



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19 India is known across world for its diversity. Discuss the reasons why India happens to be so diverse and whether India's diversity is serving India well? (250 words, 15 marks)

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20. Despite being a multilateral organization, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) faces significant challenges in achieving its goals. Analyze the key challenges faced by the SCO and suggest measures to enhance its effectiveness in promoting regional stability and economic cooperation. (250 words, 15 marks)