

GENERAL STUDIES

Name of the Candidate	[REDACTED]	Roll No.	0621263
Email ID		Date	11/7/23
Mobile No.			

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q.No	Max.Marks	Marks Obtained		
1	10	4	1. Please write your Name, Email, UPSC Roll No. and Mobile number in the answer sheet 2. There are 20 questions printed in English, all questions are compulsory 3. The number of marks carried by a question or part is indicated against it. 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. 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.	
2	10	4		
3	10	5		
4	10	4		
5	10	4		
6	10	4		
7	10	5		
8	10	5.5		
9	10	5		
10	10	4.5		
11	15	7		
12	15	6		
13	15	6		
14	15	6.5		
15	15	6		
16	15	7		
17	15	6.5		
18	15	6.5		
19	15	6	Start Time: 2:40	End Time:
20	15	6	Mode of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Marks		108.5	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)

India pursued the policy of industrial development in the 2nd five year plan under Nehru Mahalanobis model

It mainly consisted of temples of modern India like

- 1) Bhakra Nangal dam on Sutlej river
- 2) Tata Steel Power plant in Chhattisgarh
- 3) Bhila, Roukela power plants

However, it was not limited to it. There was a focus on higher learning as well:

1) IITs and IIMs were built across the country to promote higher education

2) National Council of Scientific Research focused on research and development in various fields

3) Atomic Research Centre with Homi Bhabha as the head to promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy

4) CSIR was expanded from a

Space Technology
Nuclear Technology
Vidyalaya



single institution to multiple laboratories
across the nation.

Thus the temples of modern
India focused not only on economic
development but social development
through higher education

Educrat IAS

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

Environmental protection is a part of fundamental duty of citizens under Art 51A.

In view of this, many environmental movements have taken place:

Scope

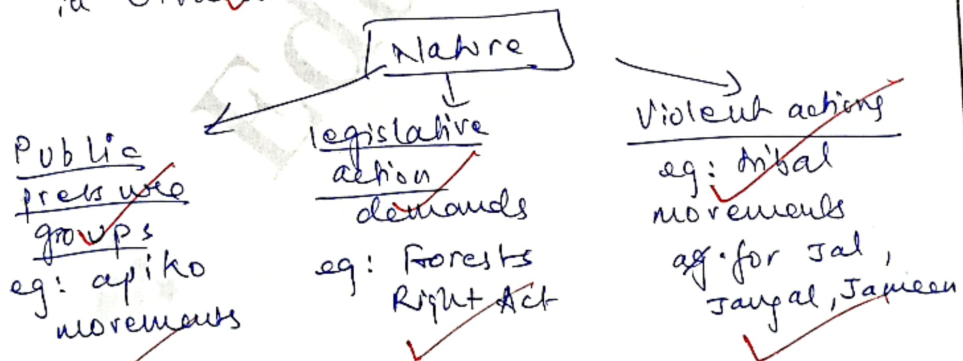
1) Protecting rivers — eg: Narmada Bachao Andolan

2) Wildlife protection — eg: Bishnoi movement to protect Blackbuck

3) Forest protection — eg: Chipko movement in Uttarakhand to protect forests

* legal
* constitutional
* NGO → Society

Goal



While the movements has helped in protecting biodiversity, preventing displacement and reducing man animal conflicts, it has certain drawbacks:



- 1) It has taken the form of armed insurgency eg: NWF to protect forests
- 2) It often inhibits development under the guise of environmental protection eg: Protest against Sardar Sarovar dam
- 3) It is instigated by vested political groups with vested interest eg: tribal groups in Madhya Pradesh

While environmental protection is a necessity, focus should be on sustainable development and not inhibiting growth.

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)

India shares a land border of 3900 km with China. After independence, India's relation with our large neighbour was that of cooperation:

1) Signing of Panchsheel agreement between India and China in 1954 to protect territorial integrity

2) India supported China's bid for permanent seat in UN

3) India did not support USA's resolution declaring China as aggressor in the Korean war.

4) China provided India with food and aid during 1960s droughts.

However, relations deteriorated

over the course of coming years:

1) 1962 China-India war was a major blot on Indo-China relations.

2) Non recognition of Mac Mohan line

along North East India by China led to territorial aggressions.

- 3) India's support to Dalai Lama and Tibetans in 1959 on humanitarian ground further led to issue between the 2 nations as China saw it as interference in internal affairs
- 4) China's support to Pakistan during 1971 Bangladesh Liberation war opposed it to India's stand.

Today, India-China relations have further declined due to China's wolf warrior diplomacy and border skirmishes. The narrative of "Indo-Chini Bhai Bhai" should be resurrected while strengthening defence forces.

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

Federalism is the distribution of powers between centre and state according to the constitution. India is a quasi federal country i.e. Federalism with a unitary bias.

While it was a conscious political choice to promote regional development along with nationalism, it was more of a need than a want.

1) Ensured integration - earlier autonomous states like Manipur would not have acceded to India unless they were given sufficient powers

2) Accommodative of princely states - more than 500 princely states agreed to be a part of Indian Union as they were given independent powers as well. eg: Kashmir

3) Regional parity - the regional diversity could lead to lopsided development if one size fits all approach was used. Hence, states were given

→ Colonial Legacy

own set of powers to promote development of their own regions.

4) Reducing protests - unless states were given some form of autonomy, protests would have continued.

The federal structure of Indian society was imperative owing to the political and social conditions prevalent. Today it is a symbol of cooperation and hence part of Basic structure of Constitution.

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)

According to National Crime Records Bureau, there has been a 17% increase in crime against women in 2021.

Various forms of violence against women:

Dowry deaths
has increased
in the past
2 years.

Sexual harassment
at workplace

Girl child

- female foeticide
- POCSO cases



Domestic violence

- 1400 cases registered in March - May 2021 (NCRB)

Pornography

99% of deepfake
uses of pornographic
images

Maternal

mortality
due to decreased
nutrition

In order to curb such issues, the following measures can be taken:

- 1) Legal actions - providing for more strict laws against such violence
eg: death penalty under POCSO
- 2) Educating women to become more

aware and independent. eg: She STEM
initiative

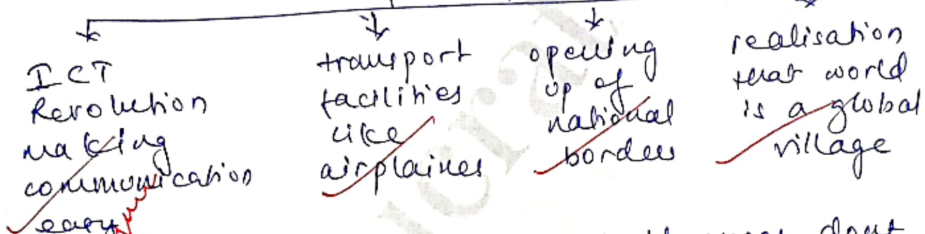
- 3) Awareness among men and women
to promote equality
- 4) Technological measures for seamless
reporting of issues eg: She Box
- 5) Institutional structures to protect
women eg: Swadhaa Cell to
rehabilitate women facing abuse

Women constitute 50% of
the population. It is imperative to
protect them from any form of violence
for their own well being as well as that
of society.

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 increasing interconnectedness and interdependence across the world in economic, social and political arenas along with other areas.

The major reasons for globalisation:



Globalisation's influences don't flow in one way. They are widespread in:

Local in Global

Global in local

1) local traditions becoming globally important
eg: celebration of Yoga at UNGA

1) Global festivals now celebrated in local arena
eg: friendship day

2) local ideas now applicable worldwide
eg: Ayurveda now a global form of medicine

2) consumption patterns changing according to global preferences
eg: fashion.

Food → spices
Dances → Indian
Dresses → Indian
Art and Architecture → Indian
Temples → Indian
Architecture → Indian
New global form of medicine → Indian

Global Pop Culture
Education

3) Small economies
influencing global
ideas economies
eg: ~~of~~ V20 demands
incorporated in G20

3) New forms develop
in various areas
eg: vegetarian
Mc Donalds.

The influence of globalisation
flowing two ways has resulted in
globalisation i.e. mixing of the global
with local.



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 a minimum number of protections guaranteed to an individual for a decent standard of living.

It involves:

Economic opportunities

- minimum wage
- pension facility
- insurance

Social opportunities

- education opportunities
- freedom from violence
- decision making power.

Give example through govt schemes

Involving social empowerment is a must for providing social security:

- 1) Education - with literacy an individual will not be economically empowered as they will be confined to low paying jobs. eg: Adult literacy program.
- 2) (safety) - ensuring safety from violence allows individuals to work freely. eg: Shreejan initiative in Kerala.

training women in martial arts.

3) Food security - with hunger as a major problem plaguing society, ensuring food availability and accessibility is a must
eg. National Food Security Act

4) Decision making - unless groups are involved in decision making, they will not be able to avail social security benefits
eg: Kerala's People's Plan.

Art 41 makes it State's duty to provide social security to all its citizens. State should pursue it diligently to put ensure that DPSP is implemented.

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)

In India, women make up almost 50% of the population. They are equal partners in various spheres of life.

Role of women and women's organisation in the following spheres:

1) Education:

- Women like Annie Besant and Savitri Bhanu Phule promoted women's education
- All India Women's Council was instrumental in promoting literacy.

2) Health:

- ASHA workers were instrumental in expanding vaccination coverage in rural areas

3) Economy:

- SHGs like Amul Cooperative increased women's participation in economy
- SEWA by Ela Bhatt was a major organisation providing livelihood to women.

4) Politics :

Bharat Stree Mahamandal was the 1st all India woman's organisation that encouraged women's participation in politics.

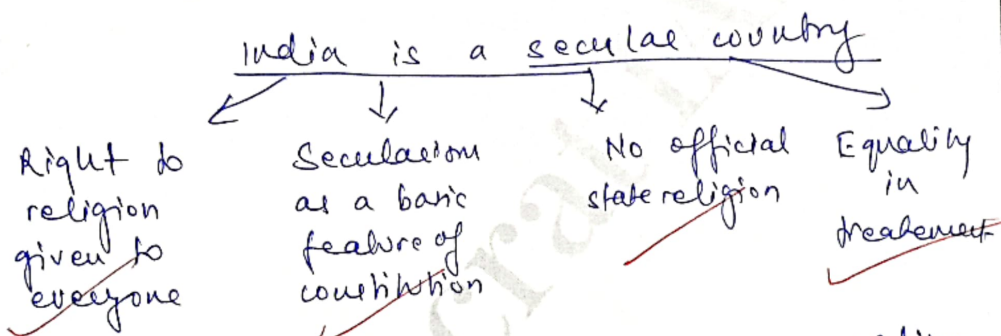
5) Social

- Dahej Mukht Mahila Morcha led to passing of Anti Dowry legislation
- efforts by Medha Patkar in Narmada Bachao Andolan protected women's rights over their land.

While women are still not placed on an equal footing, women's organisations have definitely improved the status of women in today's world.

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

Communalism is the ideology of extreme religion i.e. thinking that different religions have incompatible interests and are thus in conflict.



However, increasing communalism

has led to increased threat to minorities:
1) Rise of Hindutva nationalism - conceiving India as a Hindu nation makes minorities as foreigners

2) Islamic revivalism poses a threat to other religions and promotes terrorism

3) Communal violence has increased against minority sections
eg: 1984 sikh riots

4) Security of minorities threatened
eg: Mob lynching are a new reality.

access to public resources

5) Increases refugee burden eg: minorities
fleeing to other nations. like Kukis
 Rohingyas.

However, secularism is resilient
in India and it can be seen through:

- 1) Religious extremism has declined
to a great extent eg: ban on communal politics
- 2) Unity and tolerance continue to guide
actions eg: Peace committees in
districts
- 3) Fundamental Right to Religion is
protected.

Communal forces will always
continue to exist in some form. There
is a need to promote secularism as
an ideology and way of life to achieve
the state of Vatudaira Kutumbakam.

How?
Joy EC
RPA 1957

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 an ideology that promotes excessive attachment to one's region while seeing other regions as subordinate and incompatible.

It can result due to factors like historical ideas, geographical isolation, political ideology etc.

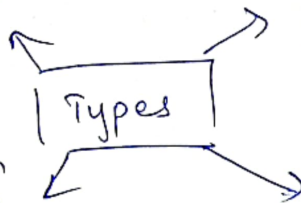
Various types of regionalism:

Liberal regionalism

- promoting a healthy competition with other states

Extreme regionalism

- promoting son of the soil theory
- seeing all resources belonging to only residents of that state



Demands for autonomy

it can lead to autonomy demands within the nation
eg: Bodoland

Secessionist

demands for a separate nation due to widened regionalism
eg: Khalistan

In order to curtail regionalism, following measures are needed:

- 1) Promoting regional unity among various states eg: Panipil Sankashtra
Sanyam
- 2) Use of force against secessionist politics eg: against Nagaland
- 3) Promoting regional parity - eg: developing border states as much as mainland
eg: Vibrant Village Programme
- 4) Necessary connectivity eg: In North East states → Kaladan Project

India is a state with multiple nations. This diversity should be protected while promoting unity through ideas like Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat.

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)

The reorganisation of states within India was a long standing demand since the freedom struggle.

At present India has 28 states and 8 union territories. This has evolved over the years.

1) 1840s - 1880

- Linguistic reorganisation demand was growing
- However, the country was divided along the lines of princely states and Presidencies.

eg: 500 Princely states existed

2) 1900s - 1920s

- Partition of Bengal in 1905 led to reorganisation of state on basis of language (Hindi and Bengali) and religion (Hindu and Muslim)

Major partition

3) 1920s - 1947:

- focus on promoting unity across the

country rather than division.

- However, a division based on geography became prominent eg: East Bengal, West Punjab etc

4) 1947 - 1956:

- Linguistic reorganisation on a broad basis. Language as a broad criteria led to creation of 14 states.

5) 1956 - 1990s

- demand for autonomy on the basis of culture emerged - religion, culture etc came to the fore

eg: Demand for Khalistan

Demand for Greater Nagalim

6) 1990s - 2010:

- reorganisation done on the basis of administrative convenience and for promoting regional growth

eg: Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand created

7) 2010 - 2015:

- Linguistic demand reemerged

eg: Telangana created out of Andhra



8) Present day :

• Multiple factors present for reorganisation demands

eg: Vidarbha wants to form a separate state
Bodoland wants to separate from
Assam on cultural grounds.

India's reorganisation process is a continuous one which is shaped by the current political and socio economic factors

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)

Non alignment policy was promoted by Nehru as an ideology that did not support or reject any single power bloc during the cold war.

It was initiated during the Afro Asian Bandung Conference and ultimately got reified as the Non Alignment Movement Forum in 1961 at Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

It became a symbol for 120 nations to follow an independent policy that benefited them.

India exercised its non alignment during various episodes.

1) condemning china's aggression during Korea war but criticizing USA for

its unilateral action

2) Mediating between Franco, USA and china during Indo-china conflict

In Vietnam.

It has helped India retain its sovereign position :

1) Reduced dependency on any one nation :

eg: India was supported by Russia and

China after ^{delays in} USA's PL480 program

2) Balanced approach - nations following NAM proved to be a balancing power between the 2 blocs in cold war

3) Against colonialism - NAM countries actively worked against colonialism
eg: India recognised Africa as an independent nation

4) Principled distance - India while signing Treaty of Friendship with Russia refused arms procurement during Sino-India war in 1962

However, NAM is often criticized on the following grounds :

1) Immoral distance - countries following NAM do not comment on important issues like aggression

* Not effective after 1991
 * Change in China's view
 * Not effective in UNSC while condemning China's action in Korean war.
 * Could not in Korean war
 * number of themselves & bloc politics.
 * to

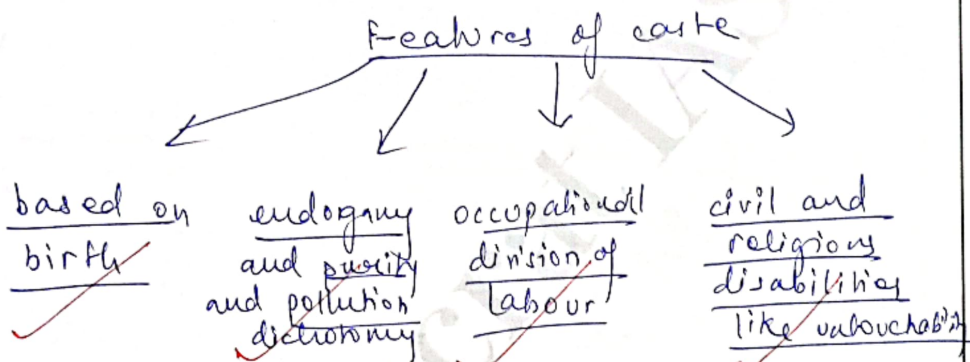
limited scope: NAM does not deal with emerging issues like human rights abuses, trafficking etc

3) No ideology - NAM does not have any ideology. It only looks at own self interest of supporting China's seat in UNSC while condemning China's action in Korean war.

There is a need to revise NAM as an institution. In an increasingly multipolar world it continues to hold importance as it depicts a responsible stance than promoting divisiveness.

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)

Caste is the hierarchical organisation of various sections in society based on ascriptive identities.



The caste system is seen as redundant in today's world due to:

- 1) Constitutional Rights - eg: Art 17 abolished untouchability
- 2) Legal actions eg: Protection of Civil Rights Act
- 3) Political participation eg: universal adult suffrage
- 4) Achieved identities - education and skill development determine one's position in society rather than caste.

However caste continues to persist in new forms:

1) Casteization of occupation - certain occupations are still predominantly performed by certain caste
 eg: 95% manual scavengers are Dalits

2) caste - class nexus: mostly higher class people belong to higher castes
 eg: Brahmins in higher posts

people belonging to high income groups

3) Diffusion of caste - caste is no longer a Hindu institution. It is found in other religions too. eg: Muslim - Ashrafs and Ailafs

4) caste based politics - increasing politicisation of caste can be seen through various caste demanding lower caste status eg: Jat movement for reservation.

5) Caste and poverty - most BPL families are Dalits

While castes have changed its form, their resilience has reduced.

1) Positive discrimination in form of

reservation has increased lower caste presence in higher strata.

a) Increase in inter caste marriage also shows blurring caste lines.

caste is a reality in India which cannot be completely done away with. It is imperative however to reduce its presence and remove the noxious of purity and pollution associated with it.

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)

40% of the marriages in 5 major states were below the age of 18 according to NCRB data.

While the child marriage restroint act provides the legal age of marriage at 18 and 21 years for boys and girls respectively, child marriage continues to be a persistent problem.

Reasons:

1) Poverty: major reason for child marriage is the inability to feed the child.
eg: child marriage common among BPL

2) Dowry demands: girls married at a young age lead to reduced demands for dowry

3) Religious scriptures promote early marriage eg: in Islam, the legal age of marriage is when the child

Wits puberty

- 4) Lack of education: According to UNESCO, lack of education leads to early marriage rather than marriage leading to illiteracy
eg: during COVID, children first dropped out of school and then got married
- 5) Psychological moulding - it is easier to demand submissiveness from children rather than adults.
- 6) Patriarchal mindset - protecting virginity of females also is a cause of early marriage

In order to change the situation, following measures can be taken:

- 1) Stringent laws - action to be taken against those promoting child marriage
- 2) Providing education opportunities to prevent early marriage eg: Sukanya Samridhi Yojana and Kanyashree scheme
- 3) Attitudinal changes - creating awareness on the benefit of marrying at legal age - eg: Behi

Bachao, Beti Padhao

4) Promoting uniform civil code to prevent religious sanction to early marriage - making Art 44 legal.

5) Increasing community participation to report on such cases eg: In Gujarat, Mahila Morchas spread awareness and report cases of child marriage.

6) Providing employment to households to prevent view of girls as a liability

While child marriage is abolishable in India, it is not yet fully implemented. Legal and institutional measures along with behavioural change can help solve this menace.

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

Globalisation refers to opening up of national boundaries to the global players. It is characterised by economic, social, political and technological interconnectedness.

Globalisation has changed the role of the state in the following ways:
It state has to deal with increasing migration

- a) Many activities performed by state are now outsourced eg: health facilities being provided by global institutions eg: WHO
- ⇒ Rise of multilateral institutions can lessen state burden eg: World Bank as a new source of finance

However, the impact of globalisation is not the same for every nation.

Developing countries have benefitted from globalisation but also been negatively impacted too.

Positive Impact

1) Developing countries get funding from developed nations

eg: Vanuatu islands being funded by India

2) They benefit from technology transfer

that they are incapable of developing
eg: India received Brahmos missile from Russia

3) They are able to handle emerging issues in a better manner

eg: Africa receiving vaccinations from India

Negative Impact

1) Small states have lost their sovereignty due to globalisation
eg: Sri Lanka has to follow IMF's conditions for bailouts

2) Leads to band-wagging effect
eg: Pakistan bandwagging China

3) They are impacted disproportionately due to activities of developed nations
eg: Sudan became a ground of conflict for powerful nations

PSUs → privatisation
E-governance
Privatizing
Competition to private sector
JPI, QIP



It is important to take into account the needs and requirements of developing states while analysing global policies. Their sovereignty should not be lost in a globalised world.

Educrat IAS

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?

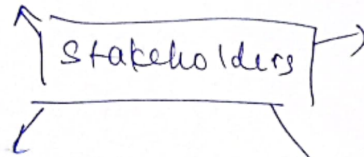
(b) How will you respond to the changed opinion of your subordinate?

(250 words, 15 marks)

Synopsis of the case:

- 1) I am working in electricity department to implement Saubhagya scheme
- 2) An honest subordinate unearths corruption and collusion among panchayat members
- 3) He is asked to file a report on the above issue
- 4) On being offered, a lump sum amount he switches sides and labels the corruption incident as mistake.

Me
(working in
electricity
department)



Panchayat
members
(alleged
nexus in
corruption)

Subordinate
(uneasiness
corrupt activities)

Villagers
(not receiving
benefit of the scheme)

a) The various ethical issues involved in the above case are:

- 1) Corruption - done by village members along with Panchayat officers
- 2) Moral myopia - short term gain taking precedence over honesty and integrity
- 3) Crony capitalism - nexus of Panchayat officers and electricity department.
- 4) Cognitive dissonance - experienced by me if no action is taken.

b) My course of action:

- 1) Since I have no evidence about the

corruption, I will have to rely on the subordinate for evidence

2) I will pursue him to not compromise on his integrity for monetary benefits

3) I will question him about the events that led him to allege corruption activities to verify and gain knowledge about the matter.

4) An appeal to his conscience and commitment to duty can help him ~~to~~ return to his original statements

5) In case, he does not change his opinion, I will form an enquiry committee

6) Terms of reference of enquiry committee:

a) Question the subordinate about what he earlier meant to get some knowledge about ongoing activities

b) Investigate the matter at field level to verify facts.

c) Present a detailed report for further action.

Since the subordinate is honest, an appeal to his moral duty can help. However, in case it is not fruitful, further investigations by another team should be carried on.

It is the duty of the officers to implement policies and tasks given to them by full honesty and commitment. Short term benefits should not blur their duties.

17. Urbanization has long been associated with human development and progress, but it has been observed that urban settings can also lead to significant inequalities and health problems. Discuss the statement. (250 words, 15 marks)

In India, 37% of the population live in urban areas. The urbanisation process has been traditionally seen as a marker of progress.

Benefits of urbanisation:

- 1) Increased educational and economic opportunities for rural migrants
- 2) Traditional barriers like caste are irrelevant due to anonymity. It helps in upward mobility
- 3) Increased workforce can lead to development.

However, urbanisation has led to inequalities and health issues as well.

- 1) Class inequalities persist in cities.
eg: poverty of rural migrants visible during reverse migration

2) Gender inequalities - women in cities are confined to low paying, pink collar jobs

3) Slum formations and overcrowding can facilitate unhygienic conditions causing health issues. eg: spread of dengue in slum areas

4) Increased population density can promote contagious diseases eg: COVID affected people more in urban areas than in rural areas

5) Increasing child labour further perpetuates class distinctions eg: employing children for cheap labour

6) Increasing issue of trafficking also fuels inequalities in cities

In order to reduce such issues, there is a need to:

1) Planned urbanisation - taking into account factors like migration during planning city development

2) Transformation of slums into Affordable

Renewal Housing Complexes under PM Awas Yojana

- 3) Promoting sub urbanisation i.e. developing sub urban areas to reduce pressure on main cities.
- 4) Promoting WASH facilities in overcrowded areas, regular vector control etc.

India's urban population is expected to grow to 45% by 2050. It should be transformed into equitable spaces for everyone.

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)

India shares the 2nd largest border with China after Bangladesh. The increasing skirmishes along LAC reflects the need to strengthen India's defence system.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence has claimed that more measures should be taken to control China's growing ambitions along the border areas.

India's preparedness:

1) The recent construction of DSDBO road has reduced time ^{needed} for army to mobilise. It will help in quick action across LAC border in Kadakh.

2) Modernisation of defence forces: the soldiers are equipped with the F-INSAS system which includes

better arms, night vision etc

3) Infrastructural development: the construction of Char Dham Highway has allowed quick mobilisation of troops during emergency situation

4) Moro deployment of troops - currently more than 50000 soldiers are posted in Ladakh

5) Involving community through development: eg: Vibrant Village Program to counter Chinese settlements.

However, much needs to be done yet:

1) Technological modernisation is incomplete. eg: Laser fencing is still absent in many sectors

2) Monetary deficit: India is unable to counter China's chequebook diplomacy due to low funds

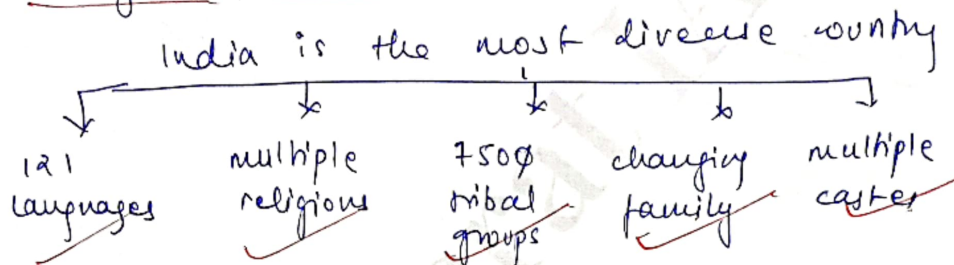
3) Dedicated force: ITBP is still engaged in other tasks like disaster management, crowd control etc

4) Defensive strategy: India responds to ~~threats~~ rather than challenge opponents. This makes it difficult to counter sudden attacks.

China's military ambitions has led to deterioration of Indo-China relations. India needs to strengthen its defence strategy while mobilising support in the international arena.

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)

The proverbial diversity of India is manifested in its structures and institutions of family, language, religion, tribe and so on.



Reasons for India's diversity:

- 1) Geographical expanse: India is spread over a large area ranging from mountains to deserts leading to diverse lifestyle
- 2) Historical factors: India has witnessed Aryan era along with Mughal and British tradition.
These diverse settlements led to diverse religions
- 3) Accommodative culture: India is accommodating of various groups present and thus

continues to be vibrant eg: 750 tribal groups

4) Preservation of ideas: India continues to preserve traditional knowledge which adds to its diversity - eg: Astutism still prevalent in India

5) Increasingly migration: new settlements continue to form in India which is supported - eg: Anglo Indians are a relatively new group

India's diversity has served

India well:

1) Acts as an instrument for soft diplomacy - eg: promoting Yoga globally

2) Enhances India's representativeness eg: India as a voice of Global South due to diversity of ethnicity, religion etc

3) Promotes investment in India as it is a diverse market

4) India's global stature is improved due to its diversity.

However, it can cause

* linguistic
* art and architecture
* political diversity
* cuisine

Some issues like:

- 1) Increasing conflicts within diverse groups eg: Ethnic conflict among Kuki - Meitais
- 2) India's diplomatic stand is often challenged eg: India silent on Rohingya crisis despite having substantial Muslim population.
- 3) Critical analysis of every action eg: we criticised India for CIT citizenship Amendment Act.

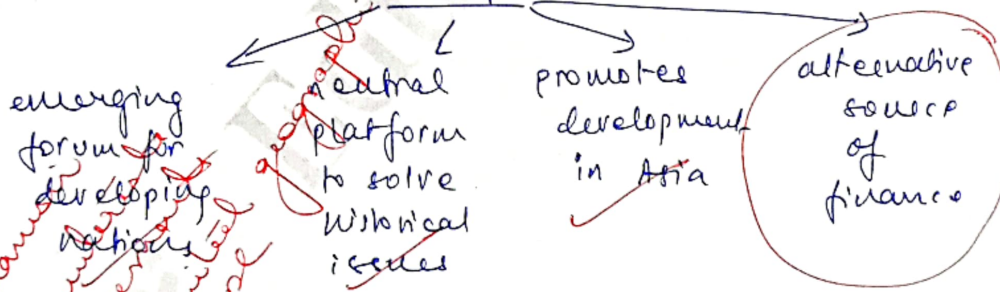
Nonetheless, India's diversity has served India well in promoting unity within the country while promoting ^{enhanced} reputation across the globe.

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)

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a Eurasian military, economic and political organisation that seeks to promote development of member nations.

It includes ^{most} Central Asian nations, China, India, Pakistan, Russian and Iran

Benefits



* limited trust mechanism
* Disagreement and Disagreement
* Not an effective
* weak and

However, it faces certain

challenges:

1. Irregular meetings - meetings are not held consistently by member nations.

2) Bilateral disputes continue to dominate major agenda eg: India - China LAC aggressions prevented discussion in SCO meeting

3) No unified ideology - all nations have different ideologies ranging from socialism to capitalism, from democracy to monarchy preventing proper action

4) Terrorism - while RATS exists to curb terrorism, Pakistan a member state continues to provide safe haven to terrorists

5) Emerging issues of climate change, technology transfer etc not discussed. It has a limited scope.

These can be improved by:

1) Framing an SCO charter that clearly spells out its objectives and agenda

2) Bilateral disputes should be solved through consultations. SCO can act as an additional forum.

3) Meetings should not be cut short

Division with grouping

due to border disputes among member nations

4) Expand scope by framing policies on issues like trafficking etc.

5) Taking action against member states going against charter eg: Pakistan should be penalised for state sponsored terrorism

6) Expanding scope to include new member to increase its outreach
eg: Belarus to become a member.

SCO can provide an effective forum to develop a multipolar asia.
It should be utilised effectively.