Under Article 102(1) (a) (Central Govt) and Article 191(1) (a) (State Govt) of the Constitution, a person shall be disqualified as a member of Parliament or of a Legislative Assembly/Council if he holds an “Office of Profit”

UN 1267 Committee to include certain individuals in the list of proscribed terrorists- India tried to include Masood Azhar bt China vetoed the proposal; Russia abstained from voting.  

2322- strengthen international judicial and legal cooperation in anti terrorism efforts, a very significant development

Election Symbol Dispute

Settled under Elections Symbols order 1968. Checks for support enjoyed in organisational as well as legislative wing. May allot the symbol to one party and ask the other faction to register as a separate party.  
If no such conclusion can be reached say in case of vertical division of party, it will freeze the symbol and ask the 2 factions to register as new political parties.

Other acts are RPA, 51 (Section 8-6 years ban on criminals frm date of completion of jail-term fr those conviccted of jail term of 2 or mr years, Section 10- failure to produce correct electoral expenditure (asset information )will cause disqualification, 58- to cancel elections ins case of booth capturing, 123 (3)- religion ko use karna a corrupt practice) and Conduct of election rules, 1961- this 61 wala changed recently to allow postal ballot (one way postal electronic ballot)

EC disqualified MLA fr filing wrong account of election expenditure. Membership of the minister was revoked under section 10A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. This relates to providing wrong information to the Commission on expenses incurred during the polls. EC also disqualified an MP for Paid news bt PN is not an electoral offence so he ws charged with suppressing electoral expenses.

Govt advertisements n Paid News
SC noted that govt ads carrying photos of pol leaders is a misuse of public funds to promote cult leadership. There is no rational behind carrying photos of leaders, doing so promotes party to be in continuous election mode all the time.
So SC banned use of photos of pol pary leaders except PM, Union ministers, President and their counterparts at state levels. No party symbol, logo or flag

Paid News- Law Comm has suggested making PN an electoral offence, disclosure norms shd be implemented that disclose whethere the news is paid content or editorial. This will enable the EC to keep a track of exchanges between parties and media as well.

EC & LCI hs asked totaliser machines to be included to prevent victimisation

Should elections be state funded?
State funding means support provided by the Govt to political parties to contest elections in cash or kind.
Y state funding?
- Because expenditure by political parties to contest elections is a natural cost of democracy, so it makes sense for the state to provide funding
- It will obviate the need of parties to go searching for funds from private donors and thus reduce corruption.
- It will put various parties on equal footing and ensure a level playing field

Y not?
- It will cause burden on Govt exchequer and the govt is already reeling under fiscal deficit
- It may not prove successful in curbing corruption, parties may still resort to private funding along with Govt support thus defeating the entire exercise
- Any Party worth the name may contest elections just to avail the money from Government

2nd ARC recommended strengthening regulatory mechanism before going for state funding. Further, it argued for partial funding only. Thus the need of the hour is to strong surveillance and monitoring of funding by EC. Idea of state funding can be introduced only with sufficient regulation in place and other conditionalities like the ITR filing by parties. Elections are the fountainhead of corruption in our country and cleansing election funding will go a long way in curbing corruption in the country.

EC ke good points:- one of the bulwarks of democracy along with SC, CAG n UPSC
- Conducting elections successfully since independence for state n central legislature
- Introduced several reforms from time to time to reduce criminalisation of politics n ensure free n fair elections by giving suggestions to parliament n approaching SC
- MCC to control conduct of parties to ensure peace- despite nt having legislation mandate
- Introduced progressive measures to enhance democracy participation such as
  - Proxy votes fr NRIs
  - Postal Ballot fr defence personnel
  - NOTA (RS elections mein open ballot voting hoti hai, NOTA will allow MLAs to register vote independently without inviting anti defection (AD) for violating party whip; Prez election mein bhi NOTA is there, wahan secret ballot voting so no Q. of AD; Lok Sabha elections mein bhi AD applicable hai)
  - EVMs n nw d demand for VVPAT to further strengthen

A report released by the Association of Democratic Reforms last month revealed that 69% of funds of political parties in India from 2004-05 to 2014-15 came from “unknown” resources.

Remember for political parties there is a rule as per IT act to file their returns but not legally binding hence evasion by them. Further, there is no mechanism for their independent audit. These lacunae shd be eliminated to cleanse political funding

Budget announced electoral reforms
- Anonymous donation reduced from 20k to 2k
Electoral bonds to protect corporate donors from victimisation by rival parties, while still allowing them to avail tax benefit on donation, only be bought thru cheque or online payment

- No need to disclose donee parties’ name in company’s financial statements- to maintain anonymity n protect them against victimisation

- Reiterated that parties shd file IT returns to avail tax benefit

Negatives: -

- black money will nt be curtailed, only more inconvenient for the parties to break the donations into smaller tranches of 2k cash payments. Govt did nt reduce total anonymous payment amt to 20 cr, as per EC n Law Commission recommendation. Shows half hearted n insincere attempt towards reforms

- Removing the upper cap on corporate donations which ws 7.5% is a bad move as parties will nw exert more pressure on firms to donate more especially on those which r awaiting any approval frm Govt

- 4th point is redundant as it ws already In place

Though appreciated that reforms remain a focus area but more needs to be done. EC has time n again made recommendations which shd be adhered to. Election funding fountainhead of ......

**India Africa Partnership - AAGC**

Asia Africa Growth Corridor- has been proposed by India n Japan recently. It will be a multilateral collaboration involving connectivity of Africa with India, SE Asia n Oceania. Japan will provide quality infrastructure, India will provide institutional capacity

Key areas of cooperation include: health & pharmaceuticals, Agriculture and processing, DM and skill enhancement

Comparison with OBOR-

- OBOR is trade and commerce centric, AAGC is multidimensional- people oriented along with socio economic development focus, thus ,more inclusive

- OBOR includes both land n sea connectivity but AAGC is sea connectivity only

- OBOR is focused on Eurasia, AAGC focuses on Africa

- China is leading the OBOR initiative and believes in going alone while India has taken the initiative in collaboration with Japan

- OBOR focus is commercial profits, AAGC focus is sustainable development and creation of skilled manpower in Africa

However, given the massive scale of investment and extensive presence covering Asia, Europe and some part of Africa; AAGC is a smaller initiative. It is too early to say that it will be a game changer. Quick n efficient implementation will be the key to its success.

Concern areas:
China has a massive presence in Africa already and it is advancing rapidly. India and Japan must move quickly to gain ground.

China makes massive investments, it will be difficult for the 2 countries to match the size of investments.

*Pelindaba treaty* prevents free transfer of African natural reserves, this could prevent full utilisation of the arrangement to full capacity.

Hate crimes in India against African community like Noida thrashing of African youth.

How India benefits?: *Strategic, Economic, Geopolitical, Defence and Misc.*

- **Strategically**, it will help in countering massive Chinese OBOR project.
  - India and Japan will take their relationship to a higher level which is very much needed keeping in line with Act East policy and Japan EPQI- Extended partnership on quality infra.
- **Economic**- It will boost trade and export between India and Africa, both economies will benefit from increased economic activity.
- **India** will get a much needed destination for its software and pharmaceuticals exports given US curbs on exports of both.
- **Geopolitical**- Relationship between India and Africa will become stronger, Africa is needed to support India’s claims of UNSC membership and also for NSG entry. Presently Africa is a member of New Agenda for Coalition which opposes NSG membership to non-NPT members.

**INDIA-AFRICA**

Areas of cooperation between India and Africa

- SA and India are members of several multilateral fora such as BRICS, IBSA, IORA, G20, NAM.
- Both support UNSC reforms.
- India provides a people oriented developmental model as against China’s neo-colonialism therefore much more suited to African needs and sensibilities.
- Agriculture- India is the largest contributor to AARDO (Asia Africa Rural Development Organisational autonomous org. HQed in Delhi); Feed the Future India Triangular Training Program along with US to train 1,500 agricultural practitioners across Africa and Asia about specialized farming practices to improve productivity and income.
- India recently hosted the African Development bank’s summit- for the first time it was hosed outside Africa.
- India Africa summits since 2008. 2nd such summit took place in 2015. Last year, host of bilateral treaties were signed with Kenya, Rwanda and SA covering a host of areas.
- In areas of renewable energy- Solar Mamas were trained in India and Africa (solar engineers to install and repair solar house lighting systems).

Cooperation between India and Africa date back to post-independence years when India participated in Asia Africa meet in Bandung Indonesia in 1955 (1954 mein Panchsheel agreement signed). Africa has presence in NAM grouping. India has supported the anti-apartheid movement in Africa, Infact India cut off diplomatic relations with SA when it was under apartheid supporting regime and resumed only when
democratically elected Govt came to power in 94. Both regions share a history of colonialism too-
similarity of past, Eg of South South Cooperation, shared history of colonialism, democracy etc

Q- What do you understand by legislative privileges? Discuss the problem of legislative privileges as seen in India time to time

Ans- Legislative privileges are a set of **rights and immunities (exemptions)** enjoyed by the members of legislative bodies (at centre as well as state levels) individually and also by the legislative bodies collectively. This includes the right to punish for its contempt, freedom from appearing before judiciary during ongoing sessions of the house, right to hold secret sittings etc

Why needed?- to maintain dignity of the parliament, to allow parliament to discharge its functions effectively, to let legislators speak without fear, right to arbitrate its proceedings is meant to prevent interference of court in parliament proceedings

Problems associated:

- Diffused sources- **constitution (Art 105)**, parliamentary laws, Court orders, Rules of Houses. There is no apt codification of the privileges, **absence of limits on the powers gives it unlimited powers**
- Legislative bodies can punish for contempt of these organs, it violates the principle of natural justice- right to be a judge in ones own case. Further, these are not qualified (hv no expertise) to act in judicial capacity
- There is no right to appeal against the orders, SC does not have the power to review it
- Possibility of misuse of these provisions to curb dissent and criticism
- Can lead to violations of others FRs- freedom of expression and right to life if law n order prob due to inflammatory speeches

Recent ruling by karnataka assembly to sentence 2 editors to one year jail term is a case in point. It violates their fundamental rights and also sets a bad precedent. It is excessive and harsh.

It is high time that the parliament created a comprehensive law to deal with the matter of legislative privileges. In the absence of clear guidelines, possibility of arbitrary judgements is high as has happened in this case. Ambiguity always paves the way for misuse. SC review should be made applicable to the ruling of hte assembly and an appellate mechanism should be instituted. Doing so would promote democracy and protect fundamental rights of citizens.

We should not forget that the opening words of the Constitution are “we the people” and not “we the legislators of India.”

Q- Art 105 violates some of FRs. Comment

Ans- Art 105 deals with some parliamentary privileges such as:

Freedom of speech- they cant be held liable for anything said in the house

Power to arbitrate its own proceedings: Parliament is its own judge and punish offenders for breach of privileges.
Freedom of public to publish parliamentary proceedings

It can be used to curb freedom of expression of press. Eg: Karnataka assembly prescriging jail term to editors

Speeches cd be defamatory n lead to law n order problem thus hampering right to life

Art 102- Office of Profit, President

Post 2013 UK floods mishap, there are more than a crore mentally distressed people there but only 8 psychiatrists. This shows the grim reality. There is a long path to tread before making the Mental Health Bill a reality

Philanthropy in India

Growing n improving, earlier enfrined to wealthy now the mindset is changing

- Azim Premzi recd Carneige awar fr his contribution to public edu improvement,
- India Philathropy report mentions India as a mature mkt- Indians donate more than similar economies
- Mostly thru informal channels
- Formal channels include- CSR efforts n those thru NGO

How to improve?

- Ensure transparency n accountability to gain donors’ trust
- Institutional measures to tap into Indian diaspora abroad – Eg Bharat ke Veer app fr donation to defence personnel
- Streamlining tax breaks associated with charity to ensure benefits to donors especially NRIs

It is imp to tap into this channel cz India wd need funding to meet her SDG goals

Women role in agri

- Studies show they work longer n harder than men on fields.
- Sm activities r exclusively women driven like animal rearing, sericulture, fruit n veg grwing.
- This phenomenon is further rising due to feminisation of agriculture

But they are nt represented proportionately in public sphere, men get all attention be it farmer suicides or loans waivers, agricultural promotion schemes etc. Barely 12% women r land owners as per Census 2011

How Advancing women rights cd help? They shd be given land ownerhsip rights, loans in the name of women

- Women tend to invest their income in well being of the household, better health n nutrition for family members
- Giving them land ownership will slowly undo patriarchal attitudes- give them mr say in decisions
- Economic empowerment will raise her status in socieity
- Women r mr likely to promote their daughters’ education, furthering her life chances
Undr NFSM n National Horticulture Mission, special provisions fr women farmers’ training n SHG organisation

Corruption

Causes:
- 2nd ARC argues MDA ie Monopoly+Discretion= Accountability= Corruption
- Govt procedures are cumbersome, promote administrative delays- leads to coercive corruption
- Atmosphere of laxity and permissiveness which leads to no fear of punishment
- Politician-bureaucrat nexus producing collusive corruption
- Electoral funding is the fountainhead of corruption in India

Remedies:
- Using ICT to promote electronic transactions and avoid customer face to face interaction- this will curb collusive corruption to a great extent
- Placing the burden of proof on accused in case of collusive corruption as proof is difficult to locate in such cases
- 2nd ARC recommended removing Article 311 which promotes impunity among bureaucrats, CSB for appointments, code of ethics for civil servants
- Speedy resolution of cases to instil fear of punishment
- Cleansing of electoral funding – bringing parties under RTI (suggestion of Law commission)
- Legislative reforms shd be operationalised- Whistleblower protection shd be effected, Lokpal and Lokayuktas shd be constituted immediately to enhance accountability

Corruption after liberalisation??
- Increase in standard of living of ppl, dont mind paying bribe to expedite the work
- Corruption hs spread to myriad sectors other than just license, quota n permit. Such as Real estate, utility, infra etc
- General decline in value systems..chalta hai attitude
- Crony capitalism even more

Q- What is governance?

WB defines governance as the process and institutions by which authority in a country is exercised. it is also used to refer to proper functioning of institutions and their acceptance by the public ie legitimacy. It includes the ways of allocation n mgmt of resources. 3 pillars of governance are- transparency accountability n participation. Add more -3 E’s efficiency effectiveness and economy

New Urban Agenda (NUA) and Smart City Mission (SCM):

NUA focus is sustainable development of cities. It is the foremost platform for countries to make collaborative efforts in making their cities respond better to emerging challenges including climate change, Disaster management, sustainability and so on.
Focus of New Urban Agenda is **Urban Plus** which argues for an integrated approach for Urban and nearby rural spaces development.

Focus areas of NUA:

- Focus on participatory governance- involvement of individual, civil society and communities at the local level
- Decentralised approach- enhanced local governance bodies participation in urban planning and development
- Inclusiveness- by taking care of needs of women, disabled and children
- Climate change n DM- to promote green cities with low energy needs and impact on environment
- Smart Cities- Use of Technology to provide solutions

Convergence of goals bw SCM n NUA:

- Participatory approach- SCM uses polls and views of citizens at every stage of planning
- Decentralised approach- local bodies hv an imp role to play, SCM is focusing on LB raising their own resources for which MoUD has arranged fr credit rating of civic bodies. So, SCM is promoting MC Bonds
- E-Governance- is the key, increased focus on ICT and electronic platforms to connect with people and improve governance
- Environment- Solid waste mgmt and reduced energy needs are focus areas of SCM too

Therefore, the SCM can be viewed as an extension of the strategy expressed in the NUA. Indian cities can gain learnings frm NUA such as more focus on resilience and allied approach between SCM n NUA will lead to Indian cities turning into competitive global cities, not restricted to competitive sub federalism in India only

Pokhran test- 1974, in response NSGc reated in 1974

Then in 1998- Sancions were imposed, Nuclear doctrine in 2003 put a moratorium on nuclear testing, sm sanctions lifted, India cd nw enter into nuclear deals

1947- Asia relations conference, delhi

1954- Panchsheel, part of treaty signed with China on Tibet Autonomous Region

1955- Asia Africa conference, Bandung, precursor to NAM

1961- NAM in Belgrade

**PD- Preventive Detention**

**What is PD**

- it means
  - detention without trial
the arrest
  - is made on the basis of ‘suspicion’

on grounds
  - mentioned in 7th schedule of constitution

PD provisions are not self-executory
  - these require a law to be put into effect

eg of PD laws
  - NSA, 1980
    - still in force
  - Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980
    - still in force
  - TADA, 1985
    - repealed in 1995
  - POTA, 2002
    - repealed in 2004

Constitutional safeguards against arbitrary detention (under ordinary law)

• Art. 22(1)
  - the detainee must be informed of the grounds of his arrest ASAP

• Art. 22(2)
  - he must be produced before the nearest magistrate within 24 hours of the arrest

• these safeguards don’t apply to – Art. 22(3)
  - enemy aliens
  - arrest made under PD laws

Constitutional Safeguards against PD

• period of detention (Art. 22(4))
  - 3 months
  - advisory board’s approval needed for extending it further

• the detainee, ASAP, (under Art. 22(5))
should be informed of the grounds of his arrest
should be allowed to challenge the order

- **PD provisions are ‘non self-executory’ (Art. 22(7))**
  - a centre or state law is needed to be passed

- **grounds of PD**
  - 7th schedule gives an exhaustive list (see below)

### Grounds for PD – Schedule 7

- **Centre’s has greater power than states**
  - as states can only pass laws wrt entry 3 of concurrent list
  - states’ PD laws are popularly known as “Goondas Act”

### Why is it used – intended purpose

- **to bypass the normal legal procedure**
  - avoid quick bail
  - buy more time for investigation

- **‘effective deterrent’**
  - to send a ‘tough message’ to habitual offenders

### The problems –

- **Political motive**
  - the ruling party misuses PD laws to stifle dissent
  - eg. arrest of Thirumurugan Gandhi, leader of the May’17 mvmt

- **arbitrariness**
  - PD laws provide great discretionary powers to the police

- **democracy**
  - PD is unheard of in other democratic countries
it is a vestige of our colonial past

- fundamental rights
  - PD violates the fundamental and human rights of citizens

**Disabled friendly banking & FS**

Archaic laws prevent opening independent accounts
Hostile attitude of bank staff- dont pay attention
Insist on a witness fr them to carry any transaction
No ramps, no staff who can understand sign language

Disability is socially created, need is sensitisation and training of staff, mending archaic laws and punitive action against errant officials. Weak norms n poor implementation reflects administration apathy. We must address the concerns to ensure right to access to public places (Art 15), also a part of SDG

**SEDITION LAW-**

Sedition law is present in section 124 (a) of IPC. It defines sedition as the act of inciting hatred against the Government. SC, in Kedarnath case, has interpreted it. An act to be classified as sedition should involve inciting violence and attempt to dislodge government by violent means.

It shd be scrapped:

- It has been often misused to curb dissent against Govt policies
- It violates freedom of speech as per article 19 of constitution
- To settle political scores, often, opposition to Govt moves is labeled as antinational and sedition law liberally used

Adivasis have faced the ire of this law most often as they oppose developmental projects.

On the flip side:

- IB report mentions that NGOs receive money to oppose developmental projects in India
- SC in Kedarnath case has upheld the validity of the law
- Even Law Commission in its report has argued for strengthening of laws against hate-speech which is a real threat to democracy (this also applies to the art 105 permitting freedom of speech to MPs within the house fr which they cant be held accountable in any court of law)

Resolution:

- SC being the guarantor of FR should put in place effective checks n balances against the misuse
  - To begin with, it shd be made a bailable offence
  - And also made a non-cognisable offence so that judicial permission is required to arrest the person

It is important to prevent liberal n unwarranted use of sedition law to protect democracy, Government and SC should take remedial measures
DEFAMATION (Section 499 n 500 of IPC)

Is a criminal offence in India, upto 2 yrs punishment. BUT unlike sedition it is bailable n non cognisable (warrant needed). It should be made a civil law cz:

- It is used to stifle/curb dissent
- It impinges on right to freedom of speech n expression.
- In the absence of reasonable criticism, media n public cant hold govt accountable hence goes against democratic principles
- In mature democracies like USA, it is a civil offence only

Those who argue that it shd stay a criminal offence argue that:

- A defamer may be a poor person without any means to pay d defamed
- It is imp to protect the dignity n reputation of ppl

However, right to reputation cannot override right to freedom of speech. FoS hs no meaning if it ds not involve a right to reasonably criticise. The need therefore is to make it a civil offense. Burden of proof shd be placed on the person suing the defamer so that unnecessary harassment in the form of multiple appearances b4 the court can be avoided.

Identity politics vs developmental politics- Dev politics centres around key deve agendas such as poverty alleviation, housing, health, employment and education. Identity politics- is taking political positions basis ones’s identity group such as caste, religion, language, region affiliations

+ gives representation to neglected groups like lower castes and backward castes, enhanced people’s political awareness, given rise to regional parties, resulted in 3rd gender communities agitating fr their rights and getting a positive legislation passed

- It goes against liberal democratic principles, strengthens parochial identities and prevents one from making a rational decision, also promotes divisiveness and secessionist tendencies such as demands by Nagas, Mizos, used by politicians for vote bank politics, often gets translated into vicious forms like communal riots, caste clashes etc

Q- 3) How will GST impact local self governing bodies? Critically examine.

Ans- GST is an indirect tax regime that replaces many state and central n local taxes into a single uniform tax to create a unified common market pan India, in line with the mantra- One nation, One Tax n One market. It is the biggest economic reform in independent India. GST has come into effect from July 1. This is expected to bring urban Local Bodies to more dependence on state Governments and reduce their already low autonomy.

This is explained below:
ULB chief source of revenue is octroi, sale tax, entertainment tax, property tax etc. With GST regime coming into picture, these sources are gone. Further, in the GST legislation; there is no mention of...
division of revenue between ULBs and states the way it is defined for revenue distribution between centre
and states.
So, their financial autonomy will further deteriorate and dependence on state Govts go up. In the absence
of funds, Governance standards are therefore expected to worsen off. They provide services like health,
education, public spaces, drinking water, sanitation etc which will be adversely impacted

GST was an important opportunity to empower ULBs but it was lost. This is important for states now to
rectify this error and promptly legislate on distribution of revenues between the states and ULBs. Cue can
be taken from Maharashtra Govt. which has taken the lead and secured funds to ULBs. Cooperative sub
federalism is the need of the hour.
Also, ULBs should be strengthened to allow them to access funds directly through Bond issuance.

3 July 2017
India Japan- SPECIAL STRATEGIC and Global PARTNERSHIP
- Civil Nuclear Deal, AAGC, RCEP, Strategic partnership, 3rd largest investor in India, presence
through companies Toyota which benefits Make in India, India hs declared it strategic partner and
instituted Japan Plus(FDI investments le liye, Korea Plus bhi hai) to expedite projects n
investments;
- S&T- collaborating in stem cell research (Japan is birthplace of pluripotent stem cells), UAVs,
Robotics etc mein collaboration, space research, Grapes lab in Ooty TN n Belle exp in Japan
- Infra- Bullet train project frm Mumbai to Ahmedabad, North east region, Delhi-Mumbai
industrial corridor creation
- Defence- Malabar exercise, defence equipment frm Japan under talks
- Open sky agreement
AAGC converges with japan’s EPQI- Expanded Partnership fr Quality Infrastructure, and
involvement with Japan converges with Act East Policy of India
AAGC- combines India’s experience of operating in African mkt with japan’s technology know
how and funding

Role of Japan in Infra sector in India
- Japan’ involvement in Delhi Metro Project, Bullet train project
- Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor creation
- Particularly imp role in NE in dev of connectivity, electricity n DM, especially imp since WB nt
ready to invest due to border disputes
- AAGC- seen as an ans to China’s BRI

WB exited frm Sardar Sarovar dam due to environmental concerns
Indo-Japan partnership will bring stability in Indo-Pacific region

India n Japan hv commonality of past and convergence in future. Explain
Commonality- colonies, imp Asian economies (Tiger Economy n fastest growing major economy),
similarity of views on terrorism, bth hv interest in a multi polar world n r wary of an aggressive China n
also its BRI, both advocate freedom of navigation in seas and adherence to a rule based world
order;....reflected thru Special strategic n Global partnership, Japanese investments in India, cooperation
in S&T- Cyber space, stem cells, space research etc; Nuclear Deal, Metro Rail Project, Investment in
North East, Delhi Mumbai Corridor, Recently initiated Bullet Train Project (Japan is providing cheap
loans to India), Mk IN India mein contribution, Open Sky Policy and the v imp- AAGC, Malabar
exercise, Trade
Convergence in future- due to above initiatives, relationship is going to be stronger...buouyed by US inward looking approach- less role in International politics. They hv launched India Japan vision 2025. India’s Act East and Japan’s Free & Open Indo Pacific Strategy naturally converge

India Bhutan (Bhutan is a parliamentary democracy but with a monarchy like Britain)
India Bhutan friendship treaty was signed in 2007. Both countries will not allow their territory to be used against the other. Practically, Indian military is responsible for the protection of Bhutan’s sovereignty from d kind of external threat posed by China.

Doklam Issue: In 1890 India-China agreement that maintain status quo till issue resolved in consultation with 3rd party. China signed a similar agreement with Bhutan in 90s to maintain status quo bt violated it by attempting to construct the road.
In Doklam region, Chinese military is constructing a road. This is a threat to India cz:
- Strategic location at trijunction of India, Bhutan n China
- Barely 100 Km distance from Siliguri corridor/ Chicken neck which is strategic fr being the only land connection to North east
- Located near Chumbi valley of Tibet where China is constructing a railway line
How diff from earlier border skirmishes?
- Soldiers wd only make incursions into foreign territory bt this time they are making a permanent move by building a road
- This is nt a bilateral bt a trilateral issue, Bhutan too is involved along with China n India
- Usually resolved thru bilateral dialogues but this time there appears no possibility as of now

Hw shd India resolve?
- High level political engagement aimed at defusing the tensions- is needed, Diplomats can initiate the process
- India must mk it clear that its intervention is a part of Bhutan India friendship treaty and aimed at ensuring peace in the region. This will rein in misunderstandings and fueling of situation
- Statements of threat, instances of soldiers transgressing into each others territories must be avoided.
- Appeasing China through pursuing of BCIM vigorously, this will assuage Xi to some extent
- CBM in the long term ie keeping each other informed of military movements to avoid tension escalations n speculations on each others motives will be required

India China had implemented SR (Special Representative) mechanism fr dialogue on security

Tactical n strategic moves
Tactical- appeasement of China by supporting n expediting developments on the BCIM, political dialogue at top level, ignore muscle flexing by China as we cannot afford a war at this stage. USA help cannot be expected given Trump’s Tactical n nt strategic mode of functioning
Strategic- shift the centre of dispute away from Indian Ocean to SCS (strategy adopted by USA with Russia in cold war eta, avoided direct confrontation at bering Strait and confronted her through NATO presence in Europe), strenthening relations with Japan, South Korea for balance of power, India is known to play fair while China is involved in boundary disputes with all nations except Pak n is known to threaten weaker nations into submission- its claims over SCS are enough proof of her machinations n use of muscle power

Disruption of the Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra may seem humiliating, but if China insist on flexing its muscles in this manner, we may need to ignore it for the present and await a suitable opportunity to demonstrate our growing clout in the world. But for that, India’s economic growth must catch up with China at least in the medium term. Resolving the border issue cannot be our priority till then
Doklam stand off resolution shd nt b considered a victory fr India, cz
- China hs bigger picture in mind- wants to be seen as a peace loving country
- Given rising global profile, wants to play role of global leader fr which its imp to settle issue
democratically n n tmilitarily (earn trust n inte. Goodwill)
- Crucial to her success in BRI initiative that peace prevails else disturbances in Asia cn prove
counterproductive to her ambitions
- Imminent events such as BRICS summit ws to be chaired by China in Xiamen; Congress party
Meet in China where he wd want to be remembered nt as a leader who brought war to the country
- Economic considerations- skewed trade balance in favour of China
Bt credit must be given to diplomats fr peaceful resolution after long stand off

The main reasons why India is important for Bhutan are as follows:

On Security:
a) Indian army has been providing training to the Royal Bhutan Army consistently to cope up with any
external and internal threats.
b) India has provided sufficient arms and defence equipment to the small state to protect it’s sovereignty
with a belligerent neighbor at the gate.
c) Issues such as Chumbi valley and Doklam crisis needs intervention by others where India plays a key
role.
d) India supports Bhutan’s interests at the United Nations (UN).

On Economy:
a) Bhutan imports majorly from India and the centre even extends subsidies to the state. Hence, there is a
large scale dependence on economic front.
b) Geographically to seek markets for trade it depends upon India. Agreements such as BIMSTEC and
BBIN Motor vehicle agreement seeks to increase this co-operation.
c) India imports Electricity from Bhutan’s major hydroelectric power projects. It is the only natural
resource by which the country can gain revenue.
d) India represents Bhutan on the international organisations such as IMF, WB, etc.

India’s prime interest in Bhutan stems from the many needs:

a) as a neighboring country, it acts as a buffer state to an expanding China;
b) as a Himalayan State, it has huge hydrological potential;
c) as a landlocked state, it is a pure market for establishing a monopoly of India Inc.;
d) it’s strategic location.

Conclusion –

The relation between the two neighbors has been more or less based on mutualism, except that India has
had more to offer owing to its vastness, which rivals often describe with negative connotations like
calling it a “protectorate state”. However, it is not a protectorate state of India and follows it’s own,
independent development and foreign policy.

War ds nt decide who is right but who is left

Why border dispute with China? (Draw diagrams in such questions)
- China ds not accept Mc Mahon Line demarcation of Yr 1914 claiming Tibet was nt autonomous
at that time, so a resolution arrived at by Tibet ds nt hold water
- China wants India to remain engaged in territorial disputes with Pak n China so that she cannot
develop at its potential pace and China can easily maintain her lead over India
- China further wants to establish her domination n authority by pricking India time n again.
- Imminent reason this time cd hv been PM visit to US & India’s opposition to OBOR (this explains an increase in transgressions/incursions by Chinese soldiers in India territories)

For these reasons, China-India army stand offs along the border r v common. Army case mein write India needs theatre command structure like China has, operating in silos is counterproductive

**China-Hambantota port stakeof 70% implications (draw Diag showing location of Hambantota)**

Indian Ocean has been one of the imp transit routes for global trade. India hs expressed desire to operate Mattala airport as a response to hambantota, situated 40 km from Ham., trincomalee farm tank being developed by SL

- China gets an increased presence in Indian Ocean region, will provide her leverage to use the same to ascertain her authority
- China can now control East-West route marine trade between Suez n Malacca strait- CAN CONTROL SLOCs in Indian Ocean
- It is another pillar in her policy of encirclement of India
- It will boost her OBOR project
- Diff countries are worried for their sovereignty given China’s aggression in international order, especially on land n marine areas

In SL- concerns over loss of jobs, environmental concerns since it will be the largest port on land ever constructed and China’s neo-imperialism

China uses dollar diplomacy to influence foreign policies in its favour; at the same time uses trade as a weapon to bully others into submission (intimidates its neighbours). Egs of misusing trade dependence of others on it are:

- South Korea- THAAD missiles deploy karne ke liye, sanctions on SK
- Mongolia- for hosting Dalai Lama, raised fee on exports to Mongolia which is almost totally dependent on chinese exports, being a land locked country
- Japan- in response to a territorial dispute over an island, cut off rare earth metals supply to Japan
- Norway- for giving Nobel peace prize to democracy champion lodged in jail, cut off imports frm N

Egs of trade being used as a political weapon, shows its high handedness, unilaterlism and aggression approach. Dint use the same with India cz its exports r much much more than its imports from India, so used other approach- cutting off routes to Kailash pilgrims. Only a concerted international strategy, with a revived TPP which includes India, South Korea stands a chance of compelling China’s leaders to abide by the rules.

China might start trade war with India- India hs levied ADD on Chinese imports. This might infuriate China n she will respond with trade war- Likely cz India hasonly 2% share in Chinese trade bt China is largest trading partner fr India, so China’s restrictions will harm India mr than it will harm China. China ds need India due to skewed trade (high trade deficit- China gains 50Bn $ annually) bt this is a small amt for China, China is known to use trade as a weapon, recently used against Korea

**SCS importance to India**

**Economic-** India’s trade with ASEAN hs grown in recent times n further grow with RCEP, so freedom of navigation in high seas such as SCS is crucial

**Energy Security-** India n Vietnam want to undertake joint exploration in the SCS fr oil; will help address energy security concerns

**Security-** China is building military bases in SCS, reclaiming islands such as Paracel, Spratly, scarborough...they lie quite close to the Mouth of Indian Ocean thus help block India’s Eastern coastline. Military bases like Gwadar n Djibouti fence western arc; can be used to block India’s western coastlines. **Chinese submarines r nt meant fr shallow SCS bt in reality meant fr deep Indian Ocean waters.**
**Geo strategic** - China’s rise in SCS using resources like methane hydrates, oil, fisheries and control of imp trade lanes (SLOC) passing through SCS help her overtake India’s natural geographical advantage. China’s consolidation of power is a threat to regional stability and security. Also, a direct challenge to India’s sovereignty can’t be ruled out.

Paracel, iske neche Spratly, inke RHS pe Scarborough

**OBOR** - is a network of rail, road, ports, and pipelines connecting Asia, Africa, and Europe. It has 2 parts: Belt and Road (land route) and Road (sea route).

How to counter? - Strengthen cross border connectivity with neighbours thru rail and road; improve trade infra, reduce barriers; leverage on her democratic, people-centric multilateral model of engagement as against China’s neo-colonialism (or say unilateral trade specific model); Japan has not joined too n introduced its own partnership fr Quality Infrastructure - India shd actively engage with Japan on the same.

- India needs to speed up its own infrastructure projects (such as Kaladan n trilateral highway) and find ways to strengthen its sphere of influence.
- Also, India may reconsider its decision if project is renamed or CPEC is declared not a part of OBOR.

**India Philippines relations**
- Look East Policy - crucial fr this
- Economic - part of RCEP FTA has seen a continuous rise, though below potential till date
- Geopolitical significance - located on imp trade route via sea, hence imp for India to maintain cordial relations
- Strategic - convergence of interests to balance growing Chinese assertion in SCS, though Philippines hs of late been subdued by Chinese dollar diplomacy despite winning the case against China at PCA, China in fact sent a submarine to Philippines airport
- Cultural - commonality between languages - filipino lang borrows heavily from sanskrit
- Fight against terrorism - India recently sent anti terror aid to Philippines which has seen emergence of IS after being driven out of Iraq n Syria

Concerns - Warming up to China, trade below potential, tourism nt yet developed due to lack of direct flight.

Despite similarities such as colonial past, South South cooperation, both being democracies, wide English speaking population...much scope to grow. Though they share cordial relations, there is scope fr improvement.

**India Thailand**
Share a cultural past, religious, language affinity; both regions have wide English speaking population, there is a large Hindi speaking population in Thailand plus Thai language borrows from sanskrit, shared link of Buddhism

- Look east policy ke liye crucial
- India- ASEAN FTA - trade hs grown
- India trilateral highway
- Mekong Ganga cooperation - for culture, tourism, transportation n education exchanges
- Part of regional fora like RCEP, BIMSTEC, IORA
- Wide tourism - Indians largest share of tourists in Thailand

**India- Syria**
Past - both a part of Silk route; Civilisational contacts;
Post independence, both NAM members; India supported her right to Golan heights and she reciprocated by recognising Kashmir as a bilateral issue.
Present- cautioned distance n neutrality by nt siding with either US or Russia in teh proxy war; support thru humanitarian aids thru UN, support to the cause of Syrian refugees fleeing civil war Economic- invested in thermal plant n ONGC invested in jt exploration bt stalled after war

Q- Examine what lessons should India learn from Israel in water management.
Ans- Lessons to learn:
- Recycling of urban waste water to be used in agriculture
- Desalination of water- especially useful for India considering her large coastline- 7500 Km roughly
- Cleaning of rivers- Indian rivers r dying
- Innovative water mgmt practices such as micro irrigation n sprinklers

India needs help on above matters and also on how to implement these technologies on a wide scale. Israel ds accounting fr every drop of water which reflects good water governance, India must learn from it. Israel is known as the land of innovative water mgmt practices

1967 war left Israel in control of Gaza Strip n West bank which hv large palestinian populations

India-Israel Strategic partnership- 48 mein India recognised Israel bt voted against it at UN, In 92- diplomatic relations set up..celebrating 25 yrs today....Ariel Sharon first Israeli PM to visit India during Vajpayee time...Last yr, Modi visited n nw Netanyu in 2018 setting the base fr stronger ties
SP means a long term convergence in areas of vital importance such as defence, trade, energy etc
Both countries r set to benefir frm the SP
Areas of cooperation with Israel:
- Defence- Israel is third largest defence partner for India and India in turn consumes 40% of Israel exports. India imports range of items from Missiles (Barak) to sensors
- Water mgmt- Israel is expert at water mgmt. Despite being an arid land, they export agri commodities too. Israel’s water harvesting, desalination, water cleaning and recycling capabilities r of particular interest to India
- Agriculture- drip mgmt pioneered by Israel, in India its scale is limited....jt centres of excellence in agri hv been established.....date palms can be grown in arid areas of Gujrat n Raj
- Merchandise trade- includes gems n jewellery, agri goods. Other areas of cooperations include space, ICT, S&T, CYBER SECURITY
- People to people- Israel can benefit from skilled Indian IT workforce n doctors; Israel is a start up hub too
- Counter terrorism/Border mgmt- India hs a lot to learn in this field as Israel constructs jewish settlements in the conflict region right upto the line of control which shows its level of preparedness n confidence

Israel has helped India in her wars against Pakistan by supplying her arms n ammunition in time and witholding delivery of warship to Pakistan which was sent for repair to Israel.
Since opening of diplomatic relations 25 years back, this ws the first visit by an Indian premier. The 2 countries shd make good use of this opportunity. Israeli PM declared it as a match made in heaven.

INDIA MUST STRIKE RIGHT BALANCE IN THIS REGION (BW ISRAEL N ARAB COUNTRIES)
India and issue of Palestine conflict:
Historically India has supported the cause of Palestine and thus its stance has become the important component of its West Asia policy. This can be seen in:
- India voted in favour for accepting Palestine as a full member of UNESCO in 2011
- India voted in favour of upgrading the status of Palestine to a ‘non-member state ‘in UN in 2012
- In 2014, India supported a UNHRC resolution to launch probe into the Israel’s offensive in Gaza
Militant grp Hamas (administering Gaza Strip) and Fatah (Mahmoud Abbas party governing West bank parts) hv come together to forge a single entity to rule over the Palestinian territory. This is imp
- Both grps combined will hv better bargaining power vis a vis Israel
- This shows a moderation in stand of Hamas and therefore its possible acceptance as a non militant grp by other countries...recently, Israel recognised it as a Civil Grp after the former showed willingness to accept 1967 border
- It signals the world community to come together n pressurise Israel to come to negotiating table and thus bring Israel-Palestine issue to a closure

UNHRC- HR Commission
UNHCR- UN High Commissioner fr Refugees

India- Russia
- Signed FTA with EEU
- Considering Chennai-Vladivostok direct shipping link instead of route arnd Europe which proves quite long n costly- It will also juxtapose/align with Indo-Japan (pacific to Indian Ocean) corridor; ONGC Videsh hs imp investments in this region in Sakhalin Project
Arctic mein also natural gas exploration with Russia...Yamal LNG project

Aadhaar privacy concerns
No mention of rights of individuals and recourse available in case of a breach
There is no law on right to privacy in India while developed countries have stringent privacy protection laws in place eg Germany
Aadhaar data is prone to leakage- several incidents of data leakage hv happened in recent past, cd be sold to pvt firms which can mine this data fr commercial benefits
Also prone to cyber attacks- recent attacks like wannacry ransomware and Peyta globally have revelaed the vulnerability of computer systems
Biometric info, once compromised, nothing can be done about it, for instance in case of credit card theft, we can change password but one cannot change the biometric information
Linking of adhaar with IT filing, ticket booking, bank accs, school admission etc leavesone vulnerable to be spied on n whole lot of personal information being collected

Hence, securing the entire system is of utmost importance. Govt has classified Aadhaar data as critical infra; stringent norms r needed such as blockchain technology, QUESS by China, CERTIn strengthening

Steps taken by Govt fr Data protection
- Cert in Set up n being strengthened (mr posts), sectoral CERTS set up (eg financial sector n power sector), state CERTs r being planned by states
- Declared Adhaar data as critical infra
- Appointed B N Srikrishna committee to submit report on this matter
- Rbi hs asked all mobile wallet cos to appoint cyber security officers n asked firms to report asap any security breaches
- Cyber crime cells hv been opened in police depts and Police being trained in cyber crime cases

B N Srikrishna (on BIT n Arbitral improvements) as well as Data Protection

Right to Privacy
Right to bodily integrity, dignity, confidentiality and protection against state surveillance. Nt defined in d constitution bt forms an extension of R to Life (21).
Cases: Kharak Singh Case and Satish Chandra vs MP Sharma- NT a FR.
Govt stand: Govt has kept shifting its position. In Kharak n Satish Chandra cases, Govt argued that it was a fundamental right saying elitist right of a few can override right of many to welfare benefits. But in Whatsapp case n Criminal defamation cases, it agreed with SC ruling that its an extension of 21 art. Again in the Adhaar case, Govt is arguing that R to Life can be subordinated to larger goal of improved governance, transparency n accountability.

Need is to end ambiguity and let a clear stand be presented. Its a matter of citizen rights.

SC Judgement- In Putta sway case, SC has ruled that RTP is a FR under Art 21. It includes rt to repoduction, rt to sexual orientation..basically rt to be left alone.

Impact:
- Overruled its previous judgements in Kharak Singh n Satish Chandra vs MP Sharma cases
- Will have impacts on following
  - Section 377 because SC said that rt to sexual orientation is included in rt to privacy. In line wid d principle of 'Everyones’ home is a castle (In Koushal case, Sc ruled that the so called right ......n right of a few only ds nt justify the adult consensual relationship between same sex ppl). Majoritarianism view ds nt pply here
  - MTP Act 1971, rt to abort allowed only till 20 weeks
  - Whats app case- SC hd ruled dat Whats app can’t ‘share’ data with FB or other firms because it can be misused to invade ppl privacy (theres no consent n its being shared free)
  - Adhaar Act will also b impacted. SC has asked a panel to draft norms safeguarding RTP-Sc hs stated that restrictions imposed on RTP must be reasonable fair and compelling state interest
  - It also talked about ADM Jabalpur case n officially declared that judgement as wrong n violative of RT Life n Privacy (there it ws upheld that during emergency rtL ds nt apply, state cd detain ppl n opposition members without habeas corpus; darkest hr of judiciary, PN Bhagwati ws a part)
  - the right to eat food of one’s choice was now protected under privacy.

RTP is also included under Article 12 of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Privacy hs bth negative n positive content- Negative means state cant interfere in personal life n positive means shd mk arrangements fr protection.

RTP includes right to mk personal choices, this has widened the scope of RTP... ( it includes one’s choice to decide whether or not to terminate a pregnancy. It also protects various aspects of an individual’s intimate life,including their sexual orientation)

Implications fr Data Mining:
DM is process of using data to fnd patterns, draw inferences n find out useful information using machine learning, DB mgmt n analytics. Implications of RTP fr DM:
- Strengthens RTP of individuals
- Puts curbs on Govt excessive data collection and mks it mr transparent n regulated
- Checks tendency of pvt firms to use personal data to use it fr profit making while violating their privacy Eg whats app, google, FB collect data n keep sending emailers, SMSs

On the other hand, DM is imp fr consumer beh analysis, consumer preferences..needed by start ups n other firms

5) Differentiate between natural right, legal right and fundamental right.
Natural right is one thats nt dependent on customs or laws of a region, they r universal. Eg: RT Life
Legal right that r bestowed statutorily Eg: Right to min wages
FR r those contained in the constitution n that r so fundamental that they cant b taken away even by legislature Eg: RT Equality

Q- 5) What are the bilateral irritants that are affecting economic ties between India and Iran. How should India resolve them? Discuss. (200 Words)

Ans- Recently Ayatollah Khomeini, the supreme leader in Iran raised the Kashmir issue citing India as the accused for plight of Muslims in the region. This has again sparked off a debate on the several irritants that plague the 2 countries’ relations:

- Strategic- India has always been wary of Iran’s support to Pakistan in the Organisation of Islamic Countries
- Geopolitical- India’s growing ties with Saudi Arabia and UAE are a cause of concern for Iran (Saudi n Iran r involved in proxy war in Syria, Yemen and now in Qatar isolation- they r opposite camps)
- Economic- Chabahar port progress has been slow, Iran even warned of Pakistani n Chinese involvement in development of the port. This undermines the whole idea n objective of Port as an answer to Gwadar Port development by China in Pakistan.
  - Iran has been vacillating in giving oil exploration project to ONGC Videsh, rather shown inclination towards Russia
  - India has also reduced her oil imports from the country

These need resolution. India should actively engage with Iran diplomatically for the latter is extremely important for India for her strategic as well as energy needs. Hassan Rouhani Government is looking at economic integration with the world and has a reformist agenda on mind, hence convergence on some of these issues is likely. India should walk the talk n finish the Chabahar port developments in time, credibility of Indian promise is at stake here. The kashmir issue shd not be allowed to derail the ties between the 2 countries. They should forge other ties while agreeing to disagree on this issue. At the same time, india shd convey her concern regarding treating Kashmir as a bilateral issue. India needs to smartly balance her relations with Saudi Arab camp vis-a-vis Iran, it shd nt turn to be an either or issue. Payment for oil in India Rupee can be started once again.

Minor irritants must ne be allowed to upset bilateral ties.

Saudi Arab formed IMAFT

Chabahar port and air cargo corridor to Afghanistan will help India bypass Pakistan to reach Central India

Q- 5) “Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani’s presidency saw a historic shift in Iran’s ties with India, laying the groundwork for the cooperation that has unfolded, haltingly, over the past 20 years.” Discuss. (200 Words)

Historical relations:
1979- Ayatollah Khimeini led revolution- fundamentalism- thaw in relations
Akbar Rafsanjani revived relations (liberalisation in India n Pak support to Taliban brt the 2 closer) in 90s........Kashmir- supported India’s stand; pro India stand in UNHRC resolution) despite disapproval from OIC
Economic- laid foundations India-Iran-Turkmenistan transit project

Sagar Mala Initiative 4 aims
- Port modernisation and new port construction
- Port led Industrialiation
- Port led connectivity- evacuation to n from the hinterland
- Coastal Economic Zones
**SDG 2015-30:** Contains 17 goals n 169 targets
Adopted as a result of Rio+20 Earth Summit (2012) initiatives; They build on the broad principles agreed under famed document “Our Common Future”
No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good health n well being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Clean water n sanitation, Clean Energy, Climate Action, Sustainable cities, Reduce inequality, Life on land, Life below water, Peace n Justice

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon that "we don’t have plan B because there is no planet B"

**SMART Police**
S- Sensitive, M- Modern, A- Accountable, R- Responsive, T- Tech savvy and trained

**Merit Order Dispatch**
An app that helps state/distribution companies procure electricity at economic rates from the power generation companies by swapping coal with the least costly generator. This has information on marginal variable cost, fixed cost and volume of electricity.

**Benefits:**
- Helps optimise cost thru merit order based procurement
- Promotes efficient and economic operations
- Low costs to discoms means low cost to consumers
- Earlier discoms were giving flimsy reasons for not following the merit order; with this app n website; there is transparency in operations thus disallowing deviations
- Further, in case of any deviation, explanation needs to be given

The flexibility in utilization of domestic coal scheme envisages transferring coal to more efficient generating stations, leading to lower generation costs and ultimately lesser cost of electricity for the consumers

**RBI:** ‘The government set up the Financial Sector Search and Recruitment Committee — headed by the Cabinet Secretary — to choose the members and heads of the RBI, the Securities and Exchange Board of India, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority.’

**Community Policing** means cooperation between police and local communities for effective policing /ensuring law n order
Merits- participative approach, improves police-public relations, enhances accessibility, helps police maintain law n order, provide intel n helps solve cases fast
Parliamentary Reforms
Parliament is an imp pillar of democratic form of Govt. its main task is to legislate and hold executive responsible n accountable for their decisions.

Weaknesses/Concerns:
- No of parliamentary hours is declining. In 60s, parliament used to meet for 120 days today it is down to 70 (means their ability to hold accountable impacted) (Britain n Us mein 140-150 days)
- Women constitute a meagre 11% of parliamentarian strength as against roughly 50% share of population
- Anti defection law ds not allow MPs to think n vote independently, they are required to follow party whip
- Frequent walkouts, disruptions n logjams by opposition disrupts parliamentary productivity and efficiency
- Often, Bills are hastily drafted and ill considered; then they r nt referred to parliamentary committees. Rules are not framed in time after passing the bill. Classic eg is Benami Transaction Act act passed in 89 and rules nt yet framed after amending the act in 2016
- Ordinances prmulgation subverts parliamentary authority in legislation making
- Parliamentary library is understaffed leading to low expert help to MPs
- Private members’ bills hardly get any attention.
- Parliamentary privileges are misused sometimes to curb dissent
- The criminalization of politics is another concern. Reports show that 34% of the MPs in the 2014 Lok Sabha faced criminal charges

Solutions:
- Minimum no of parliamentary hrs shd be stipulated, Orissa leads by example here, stipulated 60 hrs of legislative hrs
- Women reservation bill (33%) should be passed
- Anti defection law must be amended to allow MPs n MLAs to vote independently (UK allows independent decisions by MPs) *(ADL reforms suggested by NCRWC- pre poll alliances shd be btr under ADL ambit)*
- Parliament Library shd be staffed adequately to ensure research support n expert help to MPs
- Individual voting record of MPs shd be recorded n publicised, this will ensure accountability of MPs conduct

It is imp to ensure efficient functioning of the parliament- apex law making body in the country. Will be in line with Sustainable dev Goal of sound public institutions n current govt motto of minimum government and maximum governance.

Q- PBO (Parliamentary Budget Office)- an independent body to help MPs understand the technicality of the budget n thus help debate effectively...Similarly, simplify the fiscal aspects of various bills presented in d parliament....Y?...Accountability better secured...MPs r laymen....practice exists in developed countries
US**E** the words **system of checks n balances**

Q- 5) What laws and regulations exist to deal with drunk driving in India? Do you think these have been successful in dealing with drunk driving? Examine what is lacking and what should be done to plug loopholes. (200 Words)
Ans: India at present penalises drunken driving with a fine of Rs 2000, this has been increased to 10,000 in the draft Motor Vehicle amendment Bill. Further, the vehicle will be impounded and the driver needs to appear before the court to pay fine or face jail term.

Problems:
- Despite fine being there, problem was ineffective implementation.
- Only few places where checks are carried out. Drivers alter their routes and avoid these spots
- Surprise check are rare.
- Police was poorly equipped to check drunkenness on the spot. Breath analysers are NA. They often hv to carry the driver to nearby hospital to carry out the check
- Paucity of police staff is another hindrance. India has 140 policeman per lac population UN prescribes 222 policeman per lac population. Within this, they are overworked and loaded with non core policing responsibilities like passport related verifications
- Further, there is the problem of corruption- offenders are let off on payment of bribe

Now, breathanalysers are being provided to policemen for on the spot testing. Upcoming Legislation will make it more stringent. Now the need is to strengthen the enforcement by rectifying above lacunae.

Q- North Korea testing of nuclear weapons
Ans- NK is being ruled by a dictator, totalitarian regime present.
- To deter NK, sanctions nt sufficient. Global cooperation in isolation can be fruitful. Economic sanctions by the international community will weaken NK economically n build pressure on it.
- China shd be pressurised to take a tough stand, porous Chinese borders used fr nuclear material supply
- 6 party talks must be revived (NK SK, US Russia, China n Japan), they hv proven effective in past

Most importantly, the world community must show tangible movement towards nuclear deterrence. Nuclear powers shd set up a precedent by destroying their nuclear armament. As long as some countries continue to be nuclear powers, it exerts other s to go fr nuclear armament in line with deterrence principle, to save their territories. Infact, NK was a signatory to NPT, it was the discriminatory approach n US hostility that led NK to withdraw from it n pursue d nuclear armament in the first place.

Q- PDS system, Aadhar based identification, etc
PDS is the mechanism fr distribution of food n non food items to poor n unprivileged people, means to implement the NFSA. PDS started in 1940, evolved much since then, corruption hs been reduced, coverage increased, now, being linked with PoS machines for biometric identification based on Aadhaar

Merits:
- checks leakage by curbing identity fraud. Bogus ration cards get eliminated
- reduces burden on Govt exchequer, Fiscal deficit to improve
- Saved money can be redirected to enhance the welfare efforts
- Improves transparency n accountability

Demerits:
- Only identity fraud curbed, poor quality n adulteration issues nt removed
- Reach of internet access to rural remote areas is poor
- Sm villages do nt hv electricity even
- Chances of erroneous mismatch of beneficiary with the backend can result in exclusion of beneficiaries.
- Exclusion may also result from non seeding of Aadhaar cards, nt all people hv aadhaar cards seeded with banks

On pilot basis, learning d deficiencies n rectification better way. Over ambitious plan may prove counterproductive
Backgrnd- NFSA 2013 entitles BPL n APL employees, covers 75% of rural population n 50% of urban population. 2 categories: Priority- 5 Kg/person/month Antyoday- 35 Kg per household

Q- Kolkata flyover collapse
Ans- CAG Audit objections if lowest bidder is nt selected. Price as the sole determinant is a flawed bid criteria, jeopardises quality n efficiency. Total cost over the life of project turns higher due to multiple maintenance, breakdowns n disasters

Remedy:
Merit as d sole criteria, Cue from WB contractor selection criteria- first technical bids evaluated, only those that meet threshold quality criteria are financially evaluated. Negotiations shd be tough, clawback agreement, Then, strict monitoring n evaluation;

Q- SAARC efforts towards economic integration
- SAFTA signed in 2006 but many items have nt been removed from the sensitive list yet (Sensitive items r nt included under FTA)
- Free Trade in Services ws signed subsequently bt v low services flow abhi
- It planned for a custom Union by 2015 and Economic Union by 2020 bt nowhere in sight
- BBIN among 4 nations proposed but Bhutan backed off

Concerns:
- Indo-pak rivalry prevents optimal utilisation of this forum
- Competing intersts – similar exports like bw Bangladesh n India- both excel in textiles
- Non tariff barriers like Red tapism, bureaucratic hurdles, manual systems, ultiple forms, inconvenient processes

Energy, road n rail were signed bt Pak prevented progress of last 2, hence road taken separately

Globalism vs Globalisation
Globalism is the ideology that seeks to integrate countries across the world politically socially economically. Globalism is the ideology, globalisation is the process to achieve this aim.

G-20 lacklustre performance
- Lacks clarity of objectives and a coherent plan to achieve them
- No formal secretariat to track progress and monitor outcomes
- Overlapping n specialised institutions to tc of trade, governance etc
- Opposing interests n mutual rivalry among nations prevents reaching consensus

India can play a role in bringing the world together n drawing attention to relevant issues such as India’s reiteration to climate change, terrorism. Shd collaborate with like minded nations n try to bring convergence. This will be in line with her rising global profile

Concept of European Union Army
EU forming a dedicated Army of its own is being discussed.
Rationale:
- With Brexit and similar demands surfacing elsewhere, EU legitimacy and importance is at stake. This move will restore to some extent its importance.
- A dedicated army will help take up security concerns in a coherent and integrated manner as against coordination of multiple militaries which suffers from coordination hassles.
- It helps EU to respond to threats posed by Russia’s expansion in the Eastern Europe.
- Also take up joint terrorism initiatives, given rising incidents of terror attacks and enhanced threat due to refugee influx.

Concerns:
- Such an army acts as direct competition to NATO existence and undermines its relevance and legitimacy.
- US might particularly be against this.
- Every country managing its own military and contributing resources and personnel to a joint military will be cumbersome and burdensome.
- Truth is that Europe does not have the manpower or the resources to contribute to such a cause.
- Terrorism does not require more forces but enhanced cooperation in investigation, legal and judicial matters; dedicated anti-terrorism institutions and online tracking of radicalisation given the rising incidents of Internet enabled terrorism.

Joint response to any threat would mean concurrence on world issues by all EU partners, this might not be palatable for countries which have opposing views or a neutral stand on that issue.

The need should be well thought out, should not lead to more bureaucratic institutions and more paperwork which is not really needed.

Q- 4) What does the law say on nominating members to the Assembly of a Union Territory? Why does the system of nominated members exist in Puducherry? In the light of recent controversy, examine
Constitution allows Parliament to enact a law wrt constituting assembly in a UT (Art 239 A). So Parliament has enacted Govt of UT Act- it says- Central Govt can nominate nt more than 3 members to the UT. Rationale- to give representation to underrepresented sections

Flaws
- No clarity on who will appoint- Speaker or smone else?
- Rationale of nomination in a small region such as UT ds nt hold much water
- No grnds laid dwn to nominate weaker sections

Need of the hr is to clarify the law- arrive at a consensus with the LA n bring requisite amendment in the law. Ambiguity always paves teh path fr misuse of a provision. Hence, focus shd be on clearly laying dwn the norms. Essence of participatory democracy shd be realised

Q- India SL accord in 87 n its impact on SL n on bilateral relations
Ans- Accord signed in 1987, to bring the civil war to a peaceful end. Aims:
- To persuade militants to shed militancy through political dialogue
- Constitutional changes to give autonomy to them

Partial success only. Results:
- Tamil militant grps other than LTTE were convinced n left militancy (LTTE war ended only in 2007 after severe repression by army)
- Constitutional amendment n devolution of powers request ws accepted. Provincial councils wr constituted as a model of power sharing
- Later these councils turned into an extension of central rule only n also gt steeped in corruption

Impact on relations: accord tried to bring 2 countries closer however, gradually
- These provincial bodies did nt effectively devolve power, India criticised SL for the same.
TN grew highly critical of SL motives and slow progress towards objectives of accord, India had to vote against SL at UN.

Due to India's pressure for devolution of power on SL, SL warmed up to China to balance India. Cz SL took this as an interference in her sovereignty. Expectation of SL complete adherence to accord would be self-defeating. India shd rather try to encourage SL to find amicable solution to Tamil problem.

At present, India is building affordable housing project and other social infra in SL.

Q- 4) What is bottom trawling? Why did Sri Lanka recently ban this practice? How does this ban affect Indian fishermen and, in your opinion, what measures should Tamil Nadu government take? Discuss. (200 Words)

Ans- DRAW DIAGRAM

Bottom trawling is a destructive fishing practice that involves use of fishing nets suspended from the boats to bottom of the sea using heavy weights. It has been often criticised as a non eco friendly way of fishing and is at the centre of dispute between India and SL in fishing arena.

SL has recently banned the practice because:

- It will help in preventing overexploitation of fish stock by Indian fishermen who use this practice, thus benefiting the fishing community of SL.
- Ecological benefits: Bypatch other than the targeted catch can sometimes be as high as 90%, bottom trawlers disturb and destroy the seafloor ecosystem, causing irreparable damage.
- Further, it gives them the legal justification for catching Indian fishermen straying in their waters and impose high penalty or even a jail term.
- Tough measures are set to act as a deterrent.

As explained above, it gives SL a legal tool to act against Indian fishermen straying into SL waters decisively and punitively. Indian farmers must be on their guard to prevent being heavily fined or jailed.

This issue can become a thorn of contention between the two countries. TN Govt shd address root cause of the problem:

- Bottom trawling shd be banned by TN, deep sea fishing shd be promoted while ensuring non straying into others territories.
- ICT tools shd be used to warn fishermen crossing into international waters.
- Sustainable fishing practices shd be encouraged, alternatives like Ornamental fisheries can be promoted.
- TN shd pressurise the Joint working Group to expedite mutual resolution to prevent getting into an awkward situation.

Sustainable and inclusive development are important dimensions of growth. It would be prudent for the state and Central Govt to jointly make efforts to ensure fast, inclusive and sustainable growth.

Q- 5) What is the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)? What are its important features? Discuss its significance today. (200 Words)
Answer - CWC is an intergovernmental agreement signed in 1993 facilitated by OPCW (Org for prevention of CW), it is a non UN body.

Features:
- Main objective is to get the signatories to destroy their chemical stockpile
- It outlaws production n transfer of CW n their precursors
- It also has provisions for conducting assessments of CW stocks n monitoring n ascertaining the efforts of destruction
- Convention also covers investigation into allegations of use of CW by a signatory state

Significance:
- More than 93% of declared CW hv been destroyed as of today
- The organisation has been making huge efforts to make the world a safer place, these efforts hv been recognised in the form of a Nobel prize
- At present, unrest in West Asia and rising threat of terrorism make this institution all the more relevant.

Syrian Govt use of Sarin against its own citizens is a case in point. Though it shows failure of the CWC bcz Syria had declared complete destruction of chemical arsenal few yrs back, at the same time it shows why CWC is needed.

Q- 2) Do you think the Chinese geo-economic encirclement of India has already taken place? In the light of recent tensions between India and China, critically examine. (200 Words)

Answer - China is known for its aggressive economic n geospatial policies. It can be argued that China has already encircled India geopolitically
- India today has huge trade deficit- roughly 40 Bn with China
- China keeps Yuan undervalued, keeping its exports cost competitive. It also dumps her cheap imports in India
- With China’s OBOR initiative to which India is nt a party, this geo economic encirclement takes another turn
- China Pak nexus further adds to circling of India as Pak ds nt allow her territory to be used for Indian exports
- AIIB set up is another dimension that enhances China’s dominance in economic sphere
- China is known to follow dollar diplomacy in countries like SL, Bangladesh, Nepal etc and offset India presence there

However, there are a few saviours:
- India hs undertaken Chabahar port construction to bypass Pak imposed restrictions n find alternative routes to Central Asia
- India makes use of anti dumping duty to counter cheap Chinese imports
- India hs blocked giving MFN status to China n aggressively negotiating RCEP to mk the deal attractive fr India

China is a 5 times bigger economy than India and with OBOR initiative, it is set to scale new heigths. India must ramp up manufacturing capacity n invest in R&D to counter a growing n aggressive China. Ramp up Make in India and intitaitves like AAGC
Geo political encirclement, String pf pearls strategy of China is aimed at encircling India.
- China built up Gwadar airport (new one called jiwani port is being planned) n gt direct access to the v imp Indian Ocean
- CPEC has added another dimension to it
- Coco Island mein it is said to have military presence
- China has built ports in SL which r being used by China only as SL cd nt pay up the loan, In Myanmar too, China has massive presence in terms of investments n a port called kyuphyku
- Similarly, she has a strategic base in SA- Djibouti
- In Nepal, she is constructing railway line fr direct access to our immediate neighbour, Bangladesh is nt left untouched too, China is eyeing massive presence here, even supplied 2 submarines to her

Measures: cartosat se monitoring the borders

Q- 3) Critically analyse the significance of issue where activists are demanding making eco-friendly sanitary pads tax-free and reduce the tax bracket of other napkins from 12-14% to 5%

Ans- in a disturbing incident recently, a girl dies of infection after using unhygienic sanitary pads. Demands r being made fr....

Significance:
- Lack of access to personal hygiene care is one of the reasons for high dropout rate among adolescent girls (no toilets, no sanitary pads)
- Access to affordable sanitary pads is a must for their good health n well being. Often, non affordability forces them to use unsafe alternatives like ash or rags
- Pads distribution in schools as a part of NRHM hs clearly nt provided last mile reach
- Eco-friendly pads is very imp given the ecological harm from non biodegradable sanitary pads.

Govt may find it. Gender sensitive policy making is the need of the hour. It will go a long way in empowering women.

Q- 4) What are the geo-political significance of Malabar exercise that is conducted between India – Japan – USA in the Bay of Bengal? Is it time to elevate India-Japan-US triad to strategic status? Comment.

Ans- Malabar exercise is an annual naval joint exercise between Inida-US and Japan.

Its geo political significance:
- It helps show of solidarity against a particularly aggressive China which has been flexing its muscle in Pacific Ocean and Indian Ocean
- It helps strengthen navies' interoperability. Indian Navy can learn n upgrade her skills n technology in line with the global standards, taking inputs frm such exercises

Its importance can be gauged frm the fact that China issues statements like the exercise shd remain a joint naval affair n nt signal ny offensive against China.

Why a strategic status between the triad?
- 3 players already hv bilateral strategic partnerships, a triad will be a natural extension only.
- The 3 have common economic, military and strategic interests vis-a-vis Asian and specially China. India has technological, Civil Nuclear, trade deals with both.
- On the strategic front, all 3 have converging interest in deterring China and balancing its power

However, it might not be prudent for such a move will irk China and may trigger similar formations by China and/or Russia. Such moves do not augur well for stability in the region and backfire. Besides, Tactical nature of current US leadership can act as a dampener. All 3 have deep economic ties with China which can't continue if such a traid were to form

Hence, continuation of existing strategic arrangements while increasing the strength of partnership bilaterally among them will be the best option

India’s Internal and External Security Challenges
External Security Challenges- Terrorism, Border Disputes with 2 hostile countries, Projects that hamper India’s sovereignty etc
Internal Security Measures means those processes that threaten internal law and order and stability within Indian borders. There is no water tight compartmentalisation- often issues overlap too
Egs: Regionalism- NE states, J&K, Khalistan, Mizo n Naga Tribes demands of secession from mainland; Communalism- often fomented by politicians for petty gains, LWE in 10 states, Terrorism, J&K separatism etc
SOLUTIONS
J&K- Short term: Invite people for talks, engage them in a dialogue to understand their grievances, If it doesn't work out; deal with the stone pelters with firmness.
Long term: Providing dev n employment opportunities to d youth, sending moderate ulemas to counsel the youth away from terrorism.
Pakistan shd be made to realise that there r many faultlines of Pak which India doesn't utilise and it is not a permanent position. India shd adopt a defensive offence position wrt Pak which means launching offensive attacks in order to defend oneself. She shd be made to realise that she would lose more by continuing her support n nurturing of terror.
As it is, a failing state, which is nuclear armed is a threat to the whole world; World community shd also be mobilised against it. Separatist leaders shd be arrested for sedition if house arrest doesn't work out to prevent them from implementing Pak driven agenda. While freedom of speech is important; safeguarding the law and order n lives of ppl is even more important.

Tackle Terrorism: In keeping with the nation’s resolve, India must prepare hard-hitting pre-emptive strike plans on terrorist infrastructure in POK and elsewhere in Pakistan, as and when required. Thirdly, India must determinedly endeavour to constantly improve its intelligence gathering, analysis and dissemination machinery - both HUMINT and TECHINT. Pakistan has to be made to realize, both through dialogue and, failing which, by speedy and effective kinetic responses, that terrorism against India will not pay. Stern action against all indigenous separatist leaders must be taken in case they continue to indulge in anti national or any form of secessionist activities. India must never be seen as a soft state, either by nations inimical to us and, importantly, by its own citizens. Importantly, India has to raise the costs for Pakistan whenever it indulges in mischief. Additionally, Pakistan has to
be reminded that till date, India has not exploited Pakistan’s many fault-lines and India’s strategic restraint is not India’s permanent policy!

E- NAM- It is an online marketplace having a physical mandi at the backend for physical delivery. It aims to bring the nationwide Mandis, farmers and buyers- all at one place

**Benefits:**
- It helps integrating the whole country in a unified market and thus provide a large buyer base to farmers n mandis and large supplier base to the procurers.
- By cutting out middlemen, price realisation of farmers goes up, increasing their margins.
- Bulk-buyers like large retailers, processors or exporters, will save on costs of intermediation buying through eNAM if supported by a robust logistics network and a well-developed quality testing mechanism. in turn it can have a salutary effect on prices, thus benefitting the customers.
- It also effectively deals with problems such as delays in payments by Mandis to farmers, fragmented markets and ensures transparency in operations
- It acts as an effective price discovery mechanism.

**What next? (Cn say Ashok Dalwayne comm. recommendations for doubling inc)**
Integration of eNAM (spot market) with Derivatives mkt (Futures mkt) wd be a natural next step as both trade in same commodities. It will benefit farmers by assuring them of a fixed
price for sale of their produce in future, thus helping them make informed decision based on locked in price. This helps reduce uncertainties and also saves against inefficient procurement mechanism of PDS
Quality standards should be developed which will encourage farmers to grade and sell their produce, thus making them switch to better quality crops
Warehousing and logistics should be strengthened for the whole system to work smoothly.
SMS based alerts should be introduced to farmers - it will be cost effective means of connecting with them
Fin. Institutions should be encouraged to offer credit basis warehousing receipts.

NGT has not more than 20 judicial and 20 expert members as per NGT Act 2010. Who are Experts?- those who have a PhD ie Doctorate or bureaucrats who have at least 5 years of administrative experience

Q- common areas of cooperation for India and China.
Ans- conflicting positions- obstructionist attitude of China towards UNSC reforms, NSG membership, Masood Azhar terror list designation, APEC membership, Pak as a terror supporter

Common areas:
- 21st century as Asian Century- both can help to realise this dream
- Economic growth- world – negative growth, both are bucking world trend with reasonable growth rates
- Climate change- same position of CBDR
- Common problems like poverty, sustainable growth, renewable energy
- Terrorism- China in Xinsiang and India from Pak sponsored
- Opposing developed countries domination at WB, WTO, IMF etc
- Common history of exploitation by Western colonial powers, now both have goal of becoming global powers
- Afghanistan stabilisation
- Regional groupings like SCO

Areas of complementary relationship:
- Space and Tech- low cost vs high tech (Quess n TANSAT)
- Our IT prowess- can be helpful to China

3) India and China hold the key to the emerging global political economy. How can both countries, especially India, ensure that the Asian century belongs to them? Comment. (250 Words)
The Hindu

Introduction:
- The world is witnessing the rise of developing countries like India and China and the age of developed countries is coming to an end with rising protectionism, fastest growing economies being from Asian countries.

How they hold the key:-
India and China hold the key to the emerging global political economy. Joining the U.S. and other advanced economies in closing up will only lead to slower growth.

With international institutions like IMF and WB, WTO losing significance the formation of new banks like AIIB and NDB put India and China in the forefront.

The growing clout in the UN of these countries especially India is visible

The recent election of Judges in International court of justice put India again in the forefront which for the first time Britain does not have a judge in the court showing the growing power of India.

BRICS is fast becoming an influential political forum for the world’s new powers.

Experts suggest that by 2030, the BRICS would account for 40 per cent of the world’s GDP.

China and India are first and third in the world GDP pecking order, based on purchasing power parity.

China recently almost tripled its contribution to the United Nations budget, increased Chinese peacekeepers by several thousand, and committed several billion dollars in aid for the poorest countries to meet the UN’s sustainable development goals.

India’s rise in Southeast Asia:-

First, there are no territorial disputes between India and its immediate neighbours in Southeast Asia.

Despite India’s more advanced military capabilities, New Delhi is not claiming the mantle of leadership there but prefers to work in accordance with the local norms and mores.

**How can they ensure that Asian century belongs to them?**

India and China, as the two fastest growing major economies, need to engage with each other and with other willing partner nations, particularly in the East Asia and the Pacific region (including advanced economies like Japan and Australia), to maintain openness and embrace globalisation.

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is one forum where this engagement can happen.

India can engage on free trade and free investment in other groups like the BBIN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal) and BIMSTEC (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand, Bhutan) and via these groups with the entire ASEAN region.

India, China and the rest of the region need to look beyond rivalry and defensiveness to explore the possibilities of economic integration.

China has acquiesced in India’s participation in the East Asia Summit and India has joined the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. While Asia is devoid of meaningful security institutions, **interlocking economic and trade relationships could knit China and India closer together.**

India needs to embrace an export-oriented development strategy acknowledging the importance of global market for merchandise trade.

There is much room for **intra-BRICS cooperation.** The civilian aviation sector where China and India will provide most of the world expansion is one.
China and India have broadly similar interests and approaches on a wide range of international questions, from most issues of international peace and security to the principles of world trade and the ways and means of coping with globalisation.
- They have already begun working together in multinational forums on such issues as
  - Climate change and environment protection
  - Have no real differences on matters like encouraging biodiversity
  - Promoting population control
  - Combating transnational crime.
- All of these areas provide a realistic basis for further long-term multilateral cooperation.
  - China-India cooperation could also improve on issues of piracy, oil spills and other international environmental issues. Both share a mutual interest in keeping open the sea lanes of communication in the Indian Ocean.
  - Multilateral issues like nuclear disarmament and arms races in outer space, human-trafficking and natural disasters are issues on which the two countries could play mutually supportive roles, take joint responsibility and contribute to the establishment of new rules in the global system.
- China can be more open to India’s admission into the Nuclear Suppliers’ Group and similar international bodies as well showing the congruence of interests of both countries.

Conclusion:-
Despite having divergent ideas to handle international terrorism and the China –Pakistan axis there are many ways India and China can cooperate and see that that Asian century belongs to them.

Ordinance Route:

5) Why there exists a temptation to use the power vested in the President and the Governors under Articles 123 and 213 of the Constitution? What is the opinion of the Supreme Court on frequent use of this power? Examine

Ans- The temptation to use the power vested in the President and the Governors under Articles 123 and 213 of the Constitution is generally a result of one of the following three reasons: reluctance to face the legislature on particular issues, fear of defeat in the Upper House where the government may lack the required numbers, and the need to overcome an impasse in the legislature caused by repeated and wilful disruption by the Opposition.

The Supreme Court had already declared in 1986, in D.C. Wadhwa, that repeated re-promulgation of ordinances was unconstitutional.

Now, in Krishna Kumar Singh v. State of Bihar - failure to place an ordinance before the legislature constitutes abuse of power and a fraud on the Constitution. It noted in this case that a 1989 ordinance by which the State government took over 429 Sanskrit schools in Bihar was promulgated several times until 1992, but not once tabled in the State Assembly. It also widens the scope of judicial review of ordinance. The court can go into whether the President or Governor had any material to arrive at the satisfaction that an ordinance was necessary and to examine whether there was any oblique motive.
Egs of misuse: Motor vehicle Ordinance and Citizenship Amendment Ordinance

Significance
It will ensure that overall ethical grounds should be there and constitutional propriety should be maintained. Also, will put pressure to resort to ordinance route only in exigencies, as Constitution mandates.

The courts can only define the boundaries between the use and abuse of power, but it is up to parties in the legislature to observe the limits of constitutional propriety and show that they have both the time and the will to enact laws.

India-Myanmar (it ws a military ruled state till 2008 when elections were held fr d first time bt military backed party came to power amid allegations of fraud).......president is nominal head, de facto head is state counsellor Aung San Sui ki...(free elections in 2015)
How to manage growing Chinese presence?
- India shd publicise the projects in agricultural n industrial areas that have been completed in time. Further, shd focus on timely completion of pending projects and operationalise them eg: Kaldaan multimodal project and India Myanmar Thailand Trilateral highway
- Cross border surveillance shd be strengthened, joint efforts should be used to curb infiltration and smuggling of drugs and arms
- Must mk use of existing fora like BIMSTEC, ASEAN+6, SASEC to enhance trade and commerce and mutual investments
- Myanmar is a nascent democracy, India, being largest democracy, can offer her lessons in political sphere
- High level forums like India-US forum meets should be orgnised to find timely solutions to issues in cross border investments or projects' completion
- ASI is undertaking restoration of temples as a part of our outreach program
India must mk use of Chinese weaknesses viz. her aggressive attitude and allegations of neo colonialism, to promote India's people centric and democratic approach. Myanmar hs adopted a “Non aligned“ approach in its foreign policy whcih gives India trust to build up her relations with Myanmar without letting Chinese factor as a deterrent

India signed MOU fr restoration of Pagodas in Myanmar.- will generate good will, strengthen bilateral ties, growing presence imp to counter China’s presence there and showcase our skills at restoration projects, better cultural relations

India- Nepal
- Cross border trade should be strengthened by upgrading trade infra. Membership in common fora like SAARC, BIMSTEC, SASEC shd be used
- India shd offer Nepal access to her ports to help Nepal access foreign markets
- India shd look beyind providing aid for disaster relief, rather help her improve disaster preparedness and resilience
- Military ties shd look beyond Joint exercises, like training of Nepali officials
- Most importantly, she shd stop meddling in her internal affairs and respect her sovereignty
Tourism can also be used to improve ties given cultural and religious continuity in 2 countries.

India is now building a railway link between Bihar and Kathmandu (construct a strategic railway link with Nepal through Tibet); need to come out of (India dithers and China delivers)

Natural adv for India:
- India has an open border with Nepal, allows Nepali citizens jobs and residency in India, they can join army too. Such closeness is rare in foreign relations.
- India also has cultural and regional continuity with Nepal.
- India must make use of Chinese weaknesses viz. her aggressive attitude and allegations of neo-colonialism, to promote India's people-centric and democratic approach.

So, she should make use of both above factors to strengthen relations with Nepal.

Madhesis issue - they are an ethnic group residing in hill areas in Nepal, they allege discrimination by Nepali Govt in constitution formation and hence have been organising bandhs. India allegedly supported the bandhs. Because they have cultural continuity with Bihar and UP regions, intermarriages are common.

**Nepal follows an equal distance policy** which means a balanced & neutral approach towards her 2 strong neighbours. It is similar to Non-aligned approach followed by Myanmar.

Merits: it's a safe play, it helps her maintain cordial relations with both and not invite suspicions from either, she gets help from both countries like HADR during Nepal quake, she gets access to foreign markets thru ports in India n rail-road network of China, economic investment from both countries.

Demerits: she can't rely on a country in case she faces aggression from either, can't have deeper bilateral relations with either for strong ties do involve common strategic interests.

Notwithstanding the flaws, it is important for a less powerful economy as can be seen in case of India post independence, or Switzerland whose neutrality is appreciated by all.

Why is Nepal anti India? - constitution making, interference, support to Madhesi, economic blockade organised for the same, these things taken as challenge to sovereignty; further water agreements with Nepal in past have led to feeling that India wants to control her natural resources; there is unresolved border dispute too.

**India Bangladesh (Sheikh Mujibar Rehman; Sheikh Hasina)**
- Trade n commerce should be upgraded, using multiple fora like SAARC, SASEC, BIMSTEC, IORA, BBIN, BCIM.
- Cross border patrolling n joint military efforts will help in infiltration attempts and smuggling of drugs, arms and fake currency.
- Teesta water issue and Farakka Barrage issues should be resolved.
- Quick completion of projects should be done to boost Bangladeshi confidence in Indian capabilities.
Advantages over China-
- India must mk use of Chinese weaknesses viz. her aggressive attitude and allegations of neo colonialism, to promote India’s people centric and democratic approach
- Historical factors like India helping in formation of Bangladesh shd be optimally utilised to forge further relations
- India hs proximity advantage also
- Both settled land border agreement peacefully, which is a feather in cap for the 2 countries

Areas where cooperated:- Landmark Land Border agreement signed between the two countries that involved peaceful exchange of territories between the two.
- BBIN Motor vehicle Agreement which facilitates freee flow of goods from Bangladesh to India and to others like Bhutan and Nepal.
- Action taken against the insurgent groups operating in Balgladesh at the behest of India
- Pulled out of SAARC meet in Islamabad, Both share similar stand on terrorism, condemning it in entiret without differentiating between good and bad terrorism and holding those responsible who harbour terrorrists
- Successful operation of Border Haats which facilitates market access to people living on border areas

TEESTA issue not resolved yet because of following reasons:
- Firstly, non cooperation by WB Government, Lack of cooperative federalism
- Climate change leading to water scarcity and hence all the more important to both countries. Both countries needing maximum water to protect their farmers interests and settling for anything lesser is seen as a threat to vote share
- Coalition government in India often leads to stalemate in Policy making (Policy paralysis)

It would be pragmatic to get water scientists, farmers’ leaders, agri experts besides the political sides to get on board and arrive at a scientific and mutually agreeable solution. India has successfully managed Indus Water Treaty agreement under hostile conditions with Pakistan and Land Border agreement with Bangladesh, which clearly shows its ability to manage such contentious issues. HEALTHY COOPERATIVE FEDERALISM SHOULD NOT FALL PREY TO PETTY POLITICS

India Afghanistan
Nature of relationship between the 2 partners-
Relationship is based on common interests in security in the region and common factor of Pakistan.
- Afghanistan is reeling under threat of terrorism by groups like Taliban, Democracy is nascent and unstable due to threat posed by extremists
- Pakistan supports terrorism in both countries (Haqqani+taliban in Af n attacks on Indian installations) and has border conflicts with both
Engagements:
- India n Afghanistan trade agricultural goods
- TAPI pipeline- Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pak n India gas pipeline (slow progress after inauguration in 2015)
- Afghanistan provides access to Central Asia. Chhabahar trilateral partnership. With signing of FTA with Eurasian Economic Union, this bcms mr imp. Its central to
- India provides military training to Afghan forces and supplies arms n weapons
- Both cooperate in isloating pak as sponsor of terror
- India built Af-Parliament, Salma Dam, Zaranj Delaram highway for her
- Nw India will b training the police of Af as well......medicine, education help already being given

Areas to improve:
- Trade has a lot of scope to improve, at present Pakistan hinders free trade
- Anti terror operations- India
- Afghanistan is strategic to India to keep Chinese influence in the region under check
US started Operation enduring Freedom in wake of Sep 2001 attack on Pentagon; Trump is the 3rd Prez to continue on it.

TAPI benefits (from gasfields of turkmenistan)
- Turkmenistan- help earn revenues, at present supplier to few countries only
- Rest 3- diversification of energy sources and low price
- Pak n Af earn from transit fee too- infact, Pak can extend it to Gwadar port to supply it to other countries too
- Help in improving relations by providing a ground fr common interest

Probs: strained India-Pak relations, security concerns given terror grps operating in both Pak n Af, Maintenance wd be tough too
India, Iran n Pak started talks in 2007 wrt Gas pipeline frm Iran to the 2 countries bt security concerns hv forced her to nt continue wid talks though we hv nt officially withdrawn

India n Iran
On July 14, 2015, the P5+1 (China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States), the European Union (EU), and Iran reached a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) to ensure that Iran’s nuclear program will be exclusively peaceful.

Why did North Korea back out of NPT? Bcz of inconsistency in US regime's outlook

India shd take a stand in international matters. Y?
- In line with her rising global profile, she shd hv independent views on imp matters
- India is a champion of democracy and her foreign policy has a strong bend of ethics like peace n cooperations; staying true to this, she shd condemn killings in Syria, Afghanistan, Myanmar etc
- She is a signatory to Universal declaration of human rights n international convention on civil n political rights, this also pushes India to take a stand
Shd nt comment cz she shd think most abt national interests, By condemning, she risks to lose rapport with her close partners like Russia or US. India’s capacity to influence is limited only. 
Bt these shd nt be taken as excuses to ignore the humanitarian crisis of enormous proportions, She shd issue carefully worded statements while staying neutral. Further, she shd extend her support thru relief n rehab measures thru UN 
Other than universal declaration of human rights, India is also a signatory to international convention on civil n political rights (under the latter, India’s FCRA is a violation) 
**Iran Pak India** Gas pipeline hs been languishing owing to security threats from Pak, So India is nw considering laying an undersea pipeline which will be cheaper n safer

India-Malaysia  
- UJALA scheme is being implemented in Malaysia by EESI, MoP 
Note- Its been implemented in UK already

**India-Switzerland**: shared cordial relations since independence based on democracy n rule of law in both countries 
- Geostrategic- Neutrality- India NAM n Swiss traditionally maintained neutrality 
- Geopolitical- supported India’s bid fr MTCR, NSG; India’s side in war against Pak in 1971 
- Trade n Commerce- large bilateral trade including **merchandise export** (goods) n services such as software 
- Tourism- large chunk of Indians go there, **we hv extended e-tourist visa to Switzerland** 
- Cultural- hv a sizeable Indian diaspora in Switzerland, celebrated Indian Yoga day 
- Financial- support to India to help nab tax evaders, automatic info exchange MOU signed; India receives FDI frm there 
- Convergence of interests- in terms of shift to renewable energy which bt countries r ambitiously taking up,

India cn tk lessons from her in increasing participation of citizens in democracy n also her HDI (among the best on various parameters)

Q- **3) Write a critical note on the “Doval doctrine”. (200 Words)**
Ans- Doval Doctrine is a foreign policy approach proposed by NSA Ajit Doval. 
Its basic premises are:
- Use of military might 
- No relevance of Morality

It argues that a country has 3 options to choose from:
Defensive, Offensive and defensive offensive
He argues that on Kashmir issue, India has till date followed Defensive mechanism, need is to follow Defensive offensive. It means that India makes use of attacks to protect her sovereignty- basically increasing the cost of mounting attacks on India, for Pakistan. He said- One Mumbai n u lose Balochistan.

Within India, it argues that there shd be no talks with separatists n agitation shd be curbed by force.

Wrt China, it argues that India shd act as an equal without any fear. Infra shd be strengthened along borders

Though it might seem like an effective mechanism with capacity to offer immediate solutions; in the long run it might not be so because:
- It ds nt leave any scope for negotiations or peaceful talks
- It is against India’s foreign policy based on principles of peace and cooperation
- Tit for tat approach will invite more aggression from perpetrators n not produce any long lasting result
- It is a hard line approach and India may face isolation at international stage.

Gandhi said- An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind. We must remember that peace cannt be achieved by force it can only be achieved by understanding.

Q- 4) How will GST of 18% on tendu leaves impact tribals? Critically examine. (200 Words)
Ans- GST of 18% on tendu leaves impacts tribals adversely as
- Profit margin on tendu leaves sale will go down
- It will cause them economi deprivation and harms their livelihoods

Benefits:
- It is an aim to bring down the consumption of tobacco and related products in line with WHO regulations.
- It is set to lower the consumption systematically and hence lead to health benefits

Govt shd consider offering alternatives to tribals say in the form of exemption of other product like gum or resin which can offset n bring relief to them

**PAC public hearing of officials**

**Merits:**
- Promotes transparency and accountability of officials
- It is in line with democratic principles where people hv the right to information on govt functioning
- Other countries also are implementing this like UK
Demerits:
- Being in public eye, political leaders might resort to grandstanding (histrionics) to catch attention of public
- Too much of scrutiny might prove counterproductive. These committees are mechanisms of exercising control and accountability over parliamentarians
- Officers might decline to appear before the Committee for the fear of being held accountable and might not give a fair or truthful account
- It might leak important economic or strategic information which is not warranted

Instead of going for making the scrutinies public, it is important to give some powers to PAC to get their orders executed

Q- 5) The recent report of a joint task force on social audit has made unanimous recommendations that have opened the possibilities of social audit. What are its possibilities? How can governments ensure these possibilities are realised? Examine.

Ans- Social audit is performance assessment by the ppl who will be impacted by the work. So CSO can vet official records with real outcomes.
Possibilities of the move:
- ES pointed out that Indian efforts at redistribution have been massive but inefficient. Social Audit will provide opportunity to public to verify official claims and hold state accountable
- CAG has pointed out the need of such a move to enhance transparency and efficiency of execution of govt programs
- SA can be used to audit numerous govt social welfare programs like MGNREGA, SMART City program etc

Govt willingness is paramount for this move to materialise. So, state should make requisite moves to realise this such as:
- drawing up rules to lay down rights and obligations of various bodies and also lay down penalty provisions to ensure compliance
- devising an institutional framework to implement social audit in reality
- Publicising the social audit plan so that an aware citizenry can make optimum use of it

This will be an additional layer of scrutiny and accountability and help improve 3 E’s of programs like economy, efficiency and effectiveness. Leakage, inclusion and exclusion errors are set to fall

Asian Financial Crisis- reasons and lessons
Cause- Financial liberalisation by East Asian countries led to huge inflows of foreign capital. Capital inflows were in 2 forms- as debts taken by Asian countries and as equity investments. In the absence of regulations, inflows led to real estate and stock market bubble. When the increased prices became unsustainable, stock prices came down, outflow of capital, foreign reserves declined, currency depreciated, import prices went up, inflation high and so on.

Lessons- sound mgmt of capital flows is essential. Effective regulation of institutions- BFS is extremely crucial, central banks here have a key role to play. Further, a country must not be totally dependent on export led growth, domestic demand shd be robust too, that helps it absorb shocks in terms of sudden inflows/outflows.

Imp to keep aligned with changing technology and changing investment climate

Q- 5) Discuss the objectives and provisions of National Strategic Plan for Malaria Elimination

Ans- India is notorious for malaria cases while her smaller neighbours SL n Maldives stand freed from the disease.

India has come up with a comprehensive strategy to eliminate Malaria called National Plan for Malaria Elimination. Objective is to eliminate malaria by 2030. It shd be noted that earlier India has launched plan to control Malaria bt this time, to eliminate Malaria.

Provisions:
- Divide country into 4 categories- Cat 0,1,2,3 from lowest to highest risk category
- By 2022, all cat 1 & 2 states will hv zero case detection
- Intervention in d form of (CDES) diagnosis, case management, epidemic control; surveillance. It is based on WHO program to tackle Malaria
- R&D and behavioural change

It is a comprehensive program and lists out the details of yearwise Budget allocations too.

Challenges- Shortage of manpower as there are only 40000 multi purpose health workers against sanctioned 80000

§ Access to conflict affected tribal areas like in North-East.

§ Lack of Political and Administrative will to meet challenge.

Corporal Punishment

India hsnt abolished capital punishment, SC directed that it shd be used fr rarest of rare crimes.

Merits:
- It acts as a deterrent
- It gives a sense of justice to the accused
- It is used in rarest crimes, hence no concern of rampant use or misuse
- Attacks on our security personnel by extremists are increasing, Death sentence here, is needed
- Nt awarding death sentence wd lead to added burden on our jails to manage him for lifetime

Demerits:
- No evidence to prove that it actually deters
- It is a violation of human right to live and It is nt in line with modern judicial systems and modern societies
- Trend across the world is abolishing capital punishment- All EU countries hv banned
- It addresses only retributive part of the justice and nt the reformation
- There is no possibility of correction once punishment hs been carried out. What if the convictions turns out to be flawed
- Studies show that it is the poor marginalised people who face death sentences in majority of the cases, thus social justice is violated
- It may jeopardise our chances of extradition of criminals from foreign locales sincemost countries do nt transfer to a country having as CP as legal

Law Commission says that it shd be banned except in case of terrorists, Accordingly, law can be modified

Q- AMASR- Ancient monument and archaeological sites n remains (protection) act, 1958 has been modified recently to allow public works in the earlier prohibited 100m zone around protected monuments.

Y?- enable essential public works n projects completion, ASI says that commercial structures arnd monuments can be used to generate revenues which can help improve protection efforts, transport n communication facilities for citizens will get better

Y nt?- goes against art 49, pollution from construction n vibrATIONS produced will harm the monument, congestions arnd monuments will lower torism attraction, structures arnd monuments will lower the aesthetics of the ancient sites, encroachments around the monuments will get encouragement

This goes against the very objective of act, Ministry of culture will find itself prioritising development rather than protection. Balance between development n preservation is utmost needed. State shd put down rules specifying only indispensable constructions, an independent committee can look into the detailed rule construction regarding this and all construction work shd undergo rigorous assessment and approval before beginning

construction.

“We hv nt borrowed .....inherited them from posterity”

Y r monuments imp?- our cultural legacy, our pride and representation of composite culture; they hv potential to act as sources of art n cultural info n also S&T knowledge, source of tourism revenue, international prestige in the form of World Heritage sites, soft power ka source, historical cities present egs of sustainable development which today is extremely imp
Q- 2) Recently, the UN voted into existence the prohibition of nuclear weapons or the Nuclear Prohibition Treaty (NPT). Compare and contrast the Nuclear Prohibition Treaty (NPT) with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Ans NPT signed in 1968. It follows a discriminatory and hegemonistic approach. Allows five countries to continue to hold nuclear stockpile and prohibits remaining from developing them. Thus, it creates nuclear haves and have-nots. It is based on principle of deterrence.

Nuclear Prohibition treaty adopted by UN in 2017 has a holistic and inclusive approach. It prohibits possession of nuclear arms by any country. It is therefore in line with India’s philosophy of complete disarmament. It criticises deterrence theory and all nuclear armed nations as liability holders who have an obligation to remove the nuclear stockpile. This will remove the possibility of nuclear arms access to rogue nations or terrorists.

However, it is yet to be seen how the nuclear powers respond to this. It is an interesting and useful development which India should keep track of.

**Lateral Entry from Pvt sector into Civil Services**

*Y?* - cz shortage of staff at IAS cadres - Often states r unwilling to send IAS staff on deputation to centre bcz of shortage. Specialised ppl from private industry instead of generalist officers wd be better suited to the job, it will help bring in professionalism n customer centricism which is forte of private sector, also lead to competition hence spur IAS officers to perform better thus improving governance.

*Y nt?* - Pvt sector individuals will nt hv the experience of working at grassroot levels, thus policy formulation will b divorced from implementation. It will breed resentment (discontent) among permanent civil servants who work their work thru the grind of ground implementation (grassroot level) first before reaching the creamy policy making stage. Demotivation also will result frm uncertainty in career progression post mid level. This will deter competent individuals from opting from civil services, they cn better take the pvt sector route which also pays higher, to reach same level. Experience of pvt sector managers leading PSUs hs nt been successful eg Indian Airlines n Vayudoot. This reflects poorly on personnel mgmt system which hs nt been able to develop the right talent n in right quantity.

Problem is the absence of enabling environment in Govt and nt the quality of talent which prevents ppl from performing to their potential (political interference & strict adherence to rules, any deviance is often risky).

To rectify, upgradation of personnel mgmt system (like performance appraisal) n creating an enabling environment r needed (encourage risk taking). CS shd be allowed to go fr mkt experience once in a while to hone their skills and acquire best practices. Lateral entry shd
be an exception rather than norm eg: for special & urgent projects like Nandan Nilekani n Adhaar. Here too, clearly defined role, eligibility & performance appraisal shd be put in place. Streamline the cumbersome rules, remove political interference.

**Probs of short tenure of IAS**

- Forces them to seek favours frm pol class n promotes nepotism, corruption, partisanship
- Dont get time to improve governance
- Demotivates them
- Promotes inefficiency

2nd ARC suggested Civil service Board to decide on appointments, transfers & promotions to reduce pol interference (Section 311 scrapped, code of ethics, Lateral Entry). It will provide stability n prevent abrupt arbitrary transfers. BUT problem persists as PM or CM can reject recommendations of CSB. Cabinet secretary or chief secy may act in a partisan manner.

Need is to get clearance frm Lokayukta in case of premature transfers.

**Specialist vs generalist**

- Specialist hs thorough knowledge of subject matter & therefore better policy making
- Eg is ISRO, managed by Specialists is bringing laurels to the country with new..
- They understand the needs of employees, processes etc well & take effective decisions
- Generalists r inclined towards rules n regulations & promotes red tapism & bureaucratic rigidity

**Generalist**

- As one goes up the hierarchy, one’s job is nt implementation but mgmt which generalists r good at
- Egs of Air India n Vayudoot prove specialists r no surety of better administration
- Specialists infact r good at theoretical knowledge but lack admin skills
- They wd nt be suited to coordination role with their jargon based communication with pol leaders who wd nt understand

**IFS reforms**

IFS recruited thru UPSC conducted exam.

Probs- shortage of IFS staff (smaller than even Sweden), dilution of talent cz in recent past- IFS posts hv been filled thru lower rankholders, ppl lack basic knowledge of IR

**Solutions:**
- **Lateral entry in Foreign services frm other IAS cadres**: Specialists rather than generalists can head imp international projects eg railway officer to head international railway project

- **Entrance exam to be tweaked**: so that ppl with requisite academic backgrnd can enter and nt others who dont hv IR knowledge

- **Revolving door mechanism**: followed in US where academia n thinktanks get opportunity to head IR posts

Q- What is majoritarianism n minoritarianism?

Majoritarian refers to the approach that gives primacy to a majority community (identified on basis of caste, region, religion, class etc) and giving it the right to take decisions for the society

Minoritarianism refers to the approach that gives primacy to minority in taking decisions for the whole society. Egs: Whites rules in South Africa

**Zonal council success**: partial- mr active during initial years, inactive in recent past,

Some of successes r Bhakra Nangal Dam benefitting both Punjab n HP, similarly Chambal Valley project pe cooperation be states

**Inter state council** (Constitutional body, set up on recomm of Sarkaria):- Proved key in implementing many of the recommendations of Sarkaria commission fr improving federal relations. Though sm recommendations were ignored such as those pertaining to making Governor free frm Central control but successful in resolving disputes at many other places.

Lasty yr, ISC ws convened aftr mr than a decade, hencequite imp

Y needed when niti aayog is there- cz ISC is a constitutional body, so states on mr solid footing

Q- **3) NITI Aayog is responsible for monitoring and evaluating government schemes. Critically evaluate its functioning. (200 Words)**

NITI aayog is a policy think tank, created to replace PC which used to follow top down model of planning
Objectives:
- Foster cooperative federalism, to act as a true think tank and advise Govt on important issues and developments, review govt schemes performance, to encourage ppl participation in planning process, to promote welfare of marginalised sections of society

Evaluation:
- It has resulted in more say for state Govts, hence appreciated by states
- It has come up with a well thought up strategic and tactical plans viz. 3 yr action plan, 7 yr strategic plan and 15 yr long term vision
- It has encouraged competitive federalism by launching several new indices such as innovation index, ease of doing business etc
- Innovative mechanisms: Pvt sector participation in govt hospital model,

Negatives:
- Objectivity is a question since headed by PM, n its closeness to the Govt. Chairperson n Vice chairperson hv been found defending govt on various counts
  - Financial independence is also a question as of now
  - People’s participation is lacking

Impartiality n objectivity is of utmost importance for NITI aayog to maintain its legitimacy in eyes of civil society. An institute seen to be performing functions of evaluating schemes must be seen to be transparent n accountable itself first.

**Critical note on NITI Aayog action agenda: means u need to cover what it is, objectives, positive n negative**

- **Action agenda:** Tasked with preparing 3 yr action agenda, 7 yr strategy, 15 yr vision plan

**Objectives:** defines the key areas needing reforms
- Doubling farm incomes by 2022, Energy, Transport, Job creation, S&T, tariff inversion problem is being addressed and so is modern land leasing law to address land fragmentation

**Positives:** it is comprehensive, agriculture, jobs creation key concern areas are being addressed

**Negatives:** Political reforms, judicial reforms, inequality do nt form key areas; land reforms in India hv been slow

**Probs identified by NITI Aayog in rural schemes n improvements suggestions:**
- Lack of funds, delays in funds release
- Poor maintenance of NREGA assets
- Behavioural change hs been lacking despite community led initiatives eg in SBM
- HR lacking, reqd fr efficient implementation
- Education quality is big Q mark

**Suggestions:** Collection of schemes benefit data in SECC so that Panchayats cn assess the reach of schemes, focus on monitoring, focus on community led behavioural change, electricity connections to all villages, educ improvement

**Imp- NITI Aayog hs suggested reduction in ministry counts-** in line with minimum government n mixaimum governance

**Q- Steps taken by EC n SC for cleansing of criminalisation of politics**

**Ans-** Criminalisation means participation of ppl in political process who r convicted of criminal acts- minor or major or facing criminal charges. Every 3rd MP in 16th LS has criminal charges, this is a matter of concern

**Steps by SC:**
- RPA section 8 disqualified those convicted (means proven guilty) of criminal charges to contest elections but allowed existing MPs and MLAs to continue in office by filing an appeal despite criminal charges being pressed against them. SC removed this anomaly.
- It directed candidates to disclose criminal record in nomination paper filing so that public can take apt decisions.
- Introduced NOTA option.

Steps by EC: to prevent malpractices by criminal elements in elections:
- Suggested use of EVMs to prevent instances of bogus votes polling.
- Now suggested VVPAT to make system further foolproof against hacking and tampering.
- Suggested CCTV installations at sensitive spots.
- Suggested the Govt to prevent those facing criminal charges (not convicted yet) from contesting elections and permanently disqualify those found guilty of rape, murder and such heinous crimes, not accepted yet.
- Asked Govt to make changes to RPA so that EC can take action in instances involving use of bribe, at present EC has to use its special powers under A 324.

Thus, pivotal role played by them, however:
*A person convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for varying terms under Sections 8 (1) (2) and (3) shall be disqualified from the date of conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his release.*

**Comment on EC reforms suggested by EC n Law Commn n steps taken by Govt on them. EC recommendations**
- Election Commissioners same as CEC should have security of tenure.
- EC should have the right to amend RPA.
- RPA mein-Allow EC to take action against bribery cases within RPA itself not needing to resort to special powers under 324:
  - Criminalisation protect karne ke liye-prevent those facing criminal charges (not convicted yet) from contesting elections and permanently disqualify those found guilty of rape, murder and such heinous crimes, not accepted yet.
  - Mk Paid News electoral offence n ensure disclosure norms.
- Party funding-allow ECI to audit party accounts, ensure transparency in funding (reduce anonymous donation amount and cap it at overall 20 cr):
  - Partial state funding but only after ensuring sufficient regulatory mechanism.
  - Bring parties under RTI.
- Others like EVM, VVPAT, CCTV coverage of sensitive locations.
- Simultaneous elections.
Law Comm- partial funding after ensuring regulatory, bring under RTI n internal democracy in parties besides transparency in funding

Govt accepted EVM.....wala, introduced Bonds fr transparency in funding, reduced anonymous donation limit, NOTA to give mr choices to voters bt hs nt adhered many mr

PFMS- Public Fund Mgmt System- it is a financial mgmt system providing end to end IT solution.
Uses- accounting, reconciliation, reporting, MIS n Analytics and tracking
Users- Central n state Govt departments, banks, Post offices, UIDAI, Citizens
Draw 2 circles to represent it

Benefits:
- Just in time approach for funds release, will help in saving billions in interest
- Real time tracking n monitoring, will improve efficiency of allocation n use of funds
- Brings in transparency n accountability, thus improving governance

CAG efficiency- use these points- highlighted flaws in Indradhanush scheme (more than reqd capital infused n criterion of performanc for release of capital ws nt adhered to), Now CAG has released at a very opportune moment that Akash missile system is unusable n untested- poses grt operational challenge. (we wr thinking of installing Akash at Chicken neck corridor- siliguri to defuse Chinese build up or coercion at border bt truth is bitter), CWG, 2G scams revealed by CAG only

Tribunal Bill- decision hs to be given within 2 yrs, extendable by 1 yr...but total pd is 4.5 years

LEMOA- logistics exchange memorandum of agreement
Plus points:
- Helps in easy logistics (food, fuel replenishments) and repair n maintenance during military exercises n HADR
- Helps save costs as settlement allowed in kind or to be settled thru equal value exchange. Further, to earn from maintenance n repair
- To US, it helps by giving her a foothold in Indian Ocean region in the wake of an increasingly hostile China
- Greater integration between India n US

Negative:
- US wd get access to our systems n may use this info against us in times of war or hostility; thus India cd be jeopardising her sovereignty by signing this agreement
- China irked by growing closeness wd further harden her stand against India on various issues

Care shd be taken to retain the option of saying no to access of our bases by India; if need be, in future

Future
Communications and Information Security Memorandum of Agreement (CISMOA) for secure communication during peace n war between 2 countries
Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) for Geospatial Intelligence - this will help in navigation and targeting; essentially keep a watch over Chinese activities.

Army is apprehensive sharing details of our systems with US, definitely we will benefit using advanced systems of US but we will be jeopardising our security too.

**MAJOR DEFENCE PARTNER**

It will facilitate US to transfer of advanced defence technology.

**Outer Space Treaty**

Signed in 1967, aim is to facilitate peaceful use of outer space and protect it from any damage.

**Features:**
- No country can lay claim to outer space or any astronomical body.
- Outer space cannot be used to install WoMD.
- Outer space only to be used for peaceful purposes.
- Country will be responsible for any damage caused due to its space activities.

**Weaknesses:**
- Individuals or firms can technically lay claims to outer space.
- It can be used to install conventional weapons, if not WoMD.
- An individual or firm can refuse to abide by treaty provisions since they are not signatory and there is no international police to prevent them from doing so.
- It has been long since treaty was made, today the use of satellites is for innumerable purposes, any of which, if destroyed, can potentially cripple a country.

Hence, there is a need to modify the laws in the wake of ....

**RTE Act, salient features**

RTE is a rights based framework that came into force in 2010. It is a landmark legislation.

**Salient features:**
- Free and compulsory education for children from 6-14 yrs of age.
- Private schools to reserve 25% of seats for weaker sections, Govt to reimburse costs.
- Makes provisions for training and qualifications of teachers.
- Student teacher ration at 30:1.
- No detention till standard 8 under CCE and special attention to academically weak students to catch up with others, in higher classes.
- No donation, interview of child or parents for admission in the school.

**Weaknesses:**
- Focus on inputs not outcomes of education.
  - Pratham survey - 50% class 5 and 75% class 4 cant read 2.
- Gender equity - girls have higher drop out rates.
- Quality of teachers and teacher absenteeism.
- Poor infra- paucity of even toilets n drinking water besides chalk, duster, classroom, library n computers

Achievements:
91% of schools hv toilets now, enrolment ratio gone up to 96%, opportunities avialable to weaker sections to enrol their children in pvt or Govt schools

Education mein- mk that diag of triad- job, ethics, critical thinking.............Quote malala- one child, one teacher, one pen n one book cn change the world.....................Talk nos- 3.7% spend, ASER survey..............solutions- teacher pupil ratio to impreve, biometric identification, focus on scientific enquiry..............Schemes n Comittees- Atal Tinker labs, TEQUIP, HEFA,NIRF, HEERA, MANAK, IDEA, IMPRINT, BBBP, WB Scheme getting UN award (Kanyashree Yojna), .................TSR Subramaniam Committee

Niti Aayog proposal to privatise tier-2 & tier-3 District hospitals:

Proposal- tie-up between pvt n public hospitals at district level in tier-1,2 cities for treatment of cancer n cardiac diseases. Pvt players will operate in d premises of govt hospitals, allowed to charge full cost from patients, those covered under state insurance will be treated free of cost and pvt hospital will be reimbursed. To address the hassle of delays in payment from Govt to hospital; it plans to set up an escrow account

Benefits:
- Ensure culture of Professionalism in govt healthcare delivery
- Diffusion of tech n best practices from pvt hospitals to public hospital staff
- Patients of govt hospitals will get best category treatment
- Will help in attracting best talent to public hospitals due to professionalisation in pub hosp

Weaknesses:
- Pvt hospitals r likely to choose big public hospitals in better off districts n leave out the ones in smaller towns, this will further weaken their capacity to attract doctors n nurses
- Citizens cn anyway go to pvt hospitals if they hv to pay same price. Further, wrt those covered under Govt insurance- their share is small- only 11% of ppl covered under State insurance
- Scheme will expose thousands of patients to unethical practices by private providers, such as additional ‘top-up services’.
- If pvt institutions bcm dominant in pub institutions, the whole concept of public health gets eroded

Perhaps Govt shd try this at a pilot basis n proceed accordingly. Though innovative, ds nt seem to hold much benefit as of now

RCEP talkinh bout patent extension beyond 20 yrs, fallouts
......shd talk bout such move prioritises commercial interests over social welfare. It is a question of greater profits vs human health n life. In the benefit of mankind, shd continue with TRIPS only n nt TRIPS plus.

Evergreening of patents (incremental innovations without sound therapeutic value), patent term extension and data or market exclusivity clauses hinder poor patients’ across the globe ability to access cheap drugs. WHO warned regarding such moves n argued for support to generic pharma drugs
Stent pricing
NPPA capped prices of metal n drug eluting stent. Stent is a device (scaffold) fitted into blocked arteries to keep them open n allow blood flow. Metal stent- arnd 8k n other at arnd 30k. though a customer friendly move, it may be self defeating in the long run. 
Short run, help attract medical tourism, easy on customers’ pockets- especially useful fr lesser well off. In long run, it hampers mfg in India. Firstly, it paints a picture of India as an investor unfriendly destination, with uncertainty. further, lower margins wd mk it commercially non viable. R&D efforts will also suffer a blow as firms less inclined to tk up research, recouping being tough. Fixing a price arbitrarily goes against mkt dynamics 
Right approach is to promote make in India thru giving tax breaks, setting medical parks, providing a conducive policy n infrastructural framework. Govt shd also consider correcting the inverted duty structure which makes importing economical compared to local mfg, this also forms a part of National trade policy

Q- 2) Examine how the constitution of India has defined the role of the President and Vice President of India. Can these functionaries use their offices to present their personal ideologies to the nation? Critically comment. (200 Words)
Ans- Prez- head of state, commander of armed forces, formal head of legis, exec n judiciary. VP is 2nd highest constitutional office, acts as pres in case of death, absence or sickness. Most imp duty is to uphold constitution of India

Personal ideology:
  - Discretionary powers of pres- hung assembly mein t invite largest party or head of coalition to form Govt which he thinks will be stable, pocket veto, substantive veto and seek info from PM on admin of country
  - Else
    o Bound by advice of Council of Ministers
    o Being the highest office bearer nt supposed to involve his personal ideology bt just abide by constitution (ditto for VP)
    o They r supposed to be highly impartial n thus free from advocating a personal ideology
Thus, these 2 posts despite being high offices are required to be highly impartial so that dignity and respect of the constitution are maintained and preserved

If someone says- Public institutions, it means all 3 organs of Govt, economic institutions like RBI SEBI IRDA, administrative bodies like Bureaucracy, Committees n bodies liek NHRC, NCM etc

Problems of Panchayats n ULBs:
  - Do mention multiplicity of agencies- Single purpose agencies led by bureaucrats go against the principle of decentralisation of powers. Egs include state transport corporation, water supply department, state electricity board
- Devolution of powers has not taken place, scarcity of funds-dependence on state, naturally poor governance, state control n interference remains high except in Corporations, quality talent-skilled manpower absent

5) What are the implications of the disqualification of Nawaz Sharif as the Prime Minister by the Supreme Court of Pakistan on India – Pakistan relations? Examine. (200 Words)

The Indian Express

Background: What is the Panama Papers case against Nawaz Sharif?
The Panama Papers case against Sharif is related to alleged money laundering by the Pakistan PM in 1990s, when he twice served as prime minister, to purchase assets in London, surfaced when Panama Papers leak last year by a consortium of international journalists, revealed the assets allegedly purchased by Sharif were managed through offshore companies owned by Sharif’s children.

This decision will have following possible impacts:
- Sharif has been India’s best shot at normalising relations with Pakistan. From the 1999 Lahore Declaration to the December 2015 lunch, Sharif consistently advocated peace with India.
- The environment of instability may give boost to militant outfits. Such kind of situation can create challenges to internal security of India.
- Political instability will further embolden the Pakistan army. The new army chief Qamar Javed Bajwa had already begun asserting himself against the political class. The Panama gate verdict will increase dominance of military over the civilian government.
- The disqualification has created a political volume in Pakistan, which means there is not going to be any diplomatic talks related to various persisting issues between two countries until some new government forms.

Such developments would be keenly watched by India as relations between both countries have deteriorated a lot in the last one year because of terrorism emanating from Pakistan. This decision is crucial with respect to India Pakistan relationship as the positive attitude of Nawaz Sharif will be the missing link in the overall process. This decision is also learning that the corruption must not be tolerated even though the involved person holds a very influential post.

3) Why is there a need for the Parliament to urgently enact a comprehensive law covering the rights of the country’s roughly 20 million domestic workers? Examine. (200 Words) (Do from Mindmap)

A domestic worker is a person who is involved in domestic work like cleaning, washing, cooking etc. India mein its nt considered an economic activity, visible from fact tht no labour laws apply to them—nt covered under any act-, MBA, MWA, UWSSA 2008, Sexual HaWoW 2013( mein covered hain)

Standard of living will increase if minimum wage is fixed as it is in Andhra Pradesh & Tamilnadu.

India is signatory to ILO convention on Domestic workers bt nt ratified. Why?-bcz Daily household work is not considered as an economic activity in Indian society. domestic laws r nt in place yet. Fears unionisation if it ratifies convention cz convention gives freedom to form union n collective bargaining. Labour legislation comes under state government.
SBM- central Govt scheme to improve sanitation n cleanliness in the country, launched in 2014, with Urban ministry n drinking water n sanitation ministry spearheading it. 2 parts- urban n rural
Objectives:
- Eliminate open defecation
- End manual scavenging
- Behavioural change towards cleanliness

Tools:
- Construction of toilets
- Solid waste mgmt
- Monitoring n Ranking os states n districts

Pluses:
- More than 50% urban wards in the country hv achieved door to door collection waste collection
- More than 90% schools hv separate toilets fr girls
- 5 states declared ODF, 2 lac villages

Negatives:
- Focus is on toilet construction, behaviour change measures though taken yet inadequate. Spend on IEC (info, edu n commnic) hs cm down from 3% to 1%
- Continued usage remains a problem, though toilets hv been constructed
- Absence of water in toilets constructed makes them useless, further, ppl r nt using them fr the fear of emptying the pits once full...single pit toilets r a problem thus
- States r sidelined as centre is directly liasoning with the districts


Introduction –
A whistleblower is anyone who discloses insider knowledge of illegal activities (fraud or corruption) occurring in an organization.

Aim- to prevent victimization of Whistle Blower, bring down corruption, system of checks n balances to act as a deterrent to illegal activities

Provisions of the act:
2) Whistleblower can be a public servant or any other person including an NGO and may make such a Vigilance Commission.
3) The Vigilance Commission (VC) shall not disclose the identity of the complainant except to the head of the department if he deems it necessary.
4) The Bill penalizes any person who has disclosed the identity of the complainant.
5) The Bill prescribes penalties for knowingly making false complaints to deter malicious n vindictive complaints

Loopholes –
1. Whistleblower cant mk complaints regarding items under Official Secrets Act n can be penalised fr doing so- will act as a deterrent to well meaning individuals
2. Complaints involving qs of national security (defence n security), national interest will nt be investigated- prone to misuse
3. No penal provisions for govt officials who threaten or victimise the complainants.
4. Corporate fraudulents or corruption cases are not covered under this act even after the cases like “Vyapam” and “Satyam”;
5. State govt officials are not covered under the whistleblower protection act 2014.

Cases of leaked identity of whistle blowers and their victimization have occurred in the past and shows the loopholes or improper execution of the provisions. Eg. S.P. Mahantesh of Karnataka was whistle blower in the case of controversial land allotment by societies and killed due to the leakage of identity.

Conclusion —
Concerns need to be addressed to make it an effective piece of legislation

SNAP or Food Coupon Program of USA, shd it be copied in India?
Mechanism- a food coupon is issued to poor eligible people which has a worth mentioned on it. Beneficiary can buy food of his choice (as per scheme covered items) from nearby participating stores thru this.
Benefits- from a mere recipient, one bcms an agent, his choice increase as to what he wants to eat, when and frm where- so increase of choices. Pilferage problem reduces like it happens in case of subsidised grain distribution. Quality prob is addressed too cz one buys from where one pleases n nt frm a specified PDS godown which cd be storing adulterated food
Negatives: In US, it hs been found to benefit big MNCs while state admin costs hv continuously gone up.
TN introduced the scheme bt withdrew it- nt successful. In times of inflation; food coupon purchasing power goes down n consumers interest get hurt. Stores which do nt want to participate do nt stock the item, thus a food coupon ds nt ensure delivery of food. Process is complex n lengthy- reimbursements to stores get delayed leading to them turning away coupon holders.
So, essence is whether it is food coupon or subsidised food; implementation probs need to be tackled thru surveillance, monitoring n penal measures

National Health Policy- Do write in the end of various new programs n policies
"A Policy is only as good as its implementation” “Proof of pudding lies in eating” hence effective implementation is the key to success.

NOTA in RS polls- LS polls mein NOTA is there since 2013, next yr included in RS polls as well, bt some parties r raising protest against it as they fear that NOTA use will let the party members go against party whip
+ helps in democratisation of elections, right to vote also includes right to reject, this is a part of one’s freedom to speech n expression, as ruled by SC, puts pressure on the parties to project clean candidates only; further ds nt impact outcome of results- the one getting biggest share wins irrespective of NOTA votes recd; Sweden, Finland, France all hv it

Breastfeeding- nt only protects infant against diseases, also the mother against breast n ovarian cancer, reduces risk of diabetes too; Even if sm amt of pollutants r there, it is yet the best option
**India ds hv diplomatic relations with North Korea n Palestine**

- **India-Taiwan:** Over the last two decades, India-Taiwan relations have progressed considerably despite not having diplomatic status to their ties. Although because of the constraints of one-China policy the two sides do not have diplomatic ties, their bilateral working relations have always generated a political context.

- **India-North Korea:** Diplomatic relations between India and North Korea were established in 1973.

- **India-Palestine:** India was one of the first countries to recognise the State of Palestine in 1988.

**NGOs topic- 3 lac file returns out of 30 lacs, IB report eg Kundankulam plant ke against protest, Central Govt has made NITI aayog as the agency to accredit NGOs to receive funds and imposed a penalty if funds nt utilised on time.** Conclusion: It is necessary for NGOs who receive government grants because, “after all it is the tax payers’ money and thus cannot be left opaque and unaccountable.

**Adhaar as a tool of foreign policy- Russia n sm other countries hv evinced interest in Aadhaar. (similar eg is E-VIN)**

- Strategic benefit- India cant match China’s investment but can gain much political n strategic leverage by helping countries improve governance thru Aadhaar
- Helping in curbing terrorism-terrorists get fake IDs made n travel to foreign countries on fake docs, Aadhar with its biometric authentication will help nab them
- Reduce leakages by curbing identity fraud, thus countries will gain immensely from this initiative
- Bangladesh can use AC to identify beneficiaries of MFI who have taken multiple loans n thus rationalise the structure thus reducing debt burden (Mohd Younis, Malegaon Committee recommendations in India on SHG)
- Help identify illegal immigrants- its a point of tension as Bangladesh keeps refusing illegal immigration.
- Adhaar linked data can improve welfare measures efficiency thru DBT, improve e governance
- Using Big data analytics, countries can further use AC related data to improve upon public delivery locate deficiencies n remove thm. Will generate Jobs in IT n related fields.
- For example, return of military occupied land in Sri Lanka’s Northern Province to the Tamils. It will authenticate the legitimate recipients of land.
- Indian IT firms r sure to benefit from this who can help build up on the UPI, BHIM like apps

*It will present yet another instance of democratic, multilateral n people oriented approach of India as compared to sheer economics n unilaterally driven Chinese approach of international engagement.*

**The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.** As per the convention, if a child less than 16 yrs of age is removed from his or her place of habitual residence, then they must be returned. India is yet to sign it.

**Why shd sign?**

- It will ensure that future of child’s stay is decided on merit basis by a court. May be the parent who has taken away the child is not best suited to take care of the child
- It will help parents residing in India to get custody of their children who hv been taken away by the other parent
- It will help align Indian laws with global laws pertaining to child custody
- India has a large diaspora, signing Hague Convention will address concerns of this large group
**Why not sign?**
- One apprehension is that many estranged Indian women who are living away from their husbands to avoid abusive relationships will be forced to return the child and get back into those relationships again if they want to stay with child.
- Indian laws at present do not recognise foreign courts’ judgements.

*Law Commission of India, post a detailed study argued that India shd acced to Hague Convention. It is a must to to safeguard rights of child. Else India should take care of child rights in bilateral negotiations while ensuring that Convention on Child Rights is adhered to.*

**Motor Vehicle amendment Bill 2016**

**Highlights of the Bill:**
- The Bill amends the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to address issues such as *third party insurance, regulation of taxi aggregators, and road safety.*
- At present, the liability of the third party insurer for motor vehicle accidents is unlimited. The Bill caps the maximum liability for third party insurance in case of a motor accident at Rs 10 lakh in case of death and at five lakh rupees in case of grievous injury.
- The Bill provides for a *Motor Vehicle Accident Fund* which would provide compulsory insurance cover to all road users in India for certain types of accidents.
- Provides for *cashless treatment of road accidents within golden hour*
- The Bill defines *taxi aggregators,* guidelines for which will be determined by the central government.
- The Bill also provides for: (ii) *recall of vehicles in case of defects,* (iii) *protection of good samaritans from any civil or criminal action,* and (iv) *increase of penalties for several offences such as drunken driving.*

**Road accident report says - more than 80% accidents r due to drivers’ mistakes in which overspeeding is the biggest.**

Steps taken by Govt to reduce road accidents:
- Approved Road Safety Policy- create awareness, enforcement of safety laws etc
- Ministry hs advocated use of 4E’s- Education, engineering, enforcement and Emergency Care
- Audit of roads; identification of black spots on national highways

**National Council on Teacher Education and MHRD functions - their role in improving education**

NCTE primary role is promote the standards of teacher quality and it does so through:
- Conducting surveys on various aspects of teacher education
- Advise UGC, Universities n colleges on steps to be taken fr improvement
- Prescribes the min qualifications for teachers, norms guiding course content, teachers remuneration

MHRD prime job is to improve the quality of human capital in the country. It does so thru capacity building and slew of other measures listed below:
- Formulate National policy on education n ensure its implementation
- Ensure horizontal n vertical spread of education
- Special attention to disadvantaged sections
- Offer scholarships to deserving n deprived sections
- Encourgae collaboration with international institutes n corroboration with UNESCO

**Is India a soft state?**

A soft state means an indecisive and ineffective state. It means one which is not able to take decisive actions; even if it takes one then its not able to enforce its decisions and ground implementation is found lacking.

**How?**
Economically- large tax evasion; nt able to ensure compliance. Large scale corruption, black market n parallel economy bt nt able to tame it

Politically- Nt able to get rid of criminal elements in the legislature; use of bribe, threats n victimisation of those who did nt vote fr a particulr party r quite common. Cd nt ensure transparency in the party funding. Cd nt prevent communal riots on multiple occasions, creation of states on linguistic lines

Socially- Female foeticide; child marriages- 30%, caste system widey prevalent, dowry harassment; crimes against women such as molestation, kidnapping etc; displacement of tribals cd nt be prevented, preventing abuse of HR violations by officers – misuse of AFSPA, UCC n Shah Bano case

Internal n external security- Soft on terror, no surgical strikes, defensive policy- merely rhetoric, cd nt contain infiltration across borders; Naxalite insurgency or insurgency in NE, attacks on our security personnel by locals like stone pelting incidents; Demands of secession n separation

China- we supported her UNSC candidature bt China hs nt done so till date, Aksai Chin by China, Army post fled in d wake of attack from China

Pakistan- did nt take PoK back from them despite several occasions presenting themselves

SL- remained indecisive on Hambantota airport, it was offered first to India

Other side- To be fair, every country has moments when its authority is challenged and violations of laws takes place.

- Surgical strike by our forces
- Helped SL though proved a setback
- Helped Maldives fight a coup attempt, Helping Bhutan
- Democracy brings its own constraints shen human freedom n liberty hv to be given space to flourish
- More than softness, it is often corruption that prevents them from taking a stand

Problem is- Structural problems- weak norms n poor implementation; weak institutions to implement, Political interference, lack of political will n apathy, bureaucratic rigidity, Rampant corruption, Bid to protect one’s image of an ethical country bent on peace n cooperation- continuing since Nehru’s times; India wants to earn international goodwill

Conclusion- needs to learn the lessons of history and exploit the benefits of both kinds of power. The examples of authoritarian states such as the Soviet Union and Maoist China suggest that open and unrestrained use of hard power triggers the formation of a balancing coalition against a rising state. At the same time, no country has ever gained international respect just for being peace-loving and projecting a benign image of itself. Preserving the goodwill currently generated by Indian soft power while retaining the strategic autonomy provided by hard power is therefore, a key challenge for New Delhi. This is especially true of relations with Pakistan. To fight terror, the country needs to strengthen its security and intelligence. The need of hour is to revamp border security, maritime security and aerial security

Chabahar port (Drawing diag must- show both Gwadar n Chabahar)

- Connectivity to Afghanistan- no longer dependent on China
- Counter to China’s presence thru Gwadar
- Enable utilisation of TIR (treaty fr smooth n quick flow of trade thru roads) n INSTC (Iran, India, Russia, Central Asia n Europe thru multimodal network of rail, road, ship routes) to get access to EEU n Central Asia
- Can be used to coordinate our HADR operations
Can be used as a military port to station our ships there, if need be.

Q- issues of legislators salaries in India
Ans- salary is to compensate them for their role of legislating, debating n ensuring healthy check on executive

- Multiple revisions without any rationale
- Propriety is being violated such as MH MLAs salary is higher than Prez
- No external mechanism to review or regulate

This salary is over n above the numerous perks such As resisdene, phone, travel etc. this is despite the fact that their performance has only gone down as we saw in case of parliamentary performance.

What is asymmetric strategy?
Pakistan’s “asymmetric strategy” advocates the use of proxy war and terrorism to counter India’s superiority. This means constantly subjecting India to a thousand bruises. It also involves is developing alliances with India’s enemies and using strategy of cross-border terrorism.

Q- 3) Discuss the significance of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Bill. (200 Words)
Ans- Public Premises Act ds nt cover residential accomodation. Result s when notice ws served to the occupants, theywd refuse to vacate n move the court. Amendment answers this aspect in following ways:

- It defines residential accomodation- licensed accomodation fr the period of holding the office
- It lays down the procedure for eviction- show cause notice wd be served by the estate officer and he wd consider the defence presented by the resident n then decide the matter
- If he refuses to vacate the estate officer can use force
- Most imp prov is- if resident decides to move the court to buy time, he is required to pay damages for every month of such occupation

It is a significant improvement, Quite commonly, it has been found that Govt officials overstay their limits n refuse to vacate after expiry of their occupation. This results in losses to the Govt n also goes against rule of law.

NOTA Pros n Cons (NOTA hs be en there in MLA, Members of Lok Sabha elections since 2013, In 2014, they wr introduced fr RS elections from legislative assemblies too, it is also applicable to Prez n VP elections) remember Prez n VP elections are thru secret ballot bt nt the RS elections in assemblies

Merits:
- Promotes democracy by giving voters choice to express their disapproval with candidates in fray. It will mk parties mr conscious of fielding a better candidate
- Right to vote also includes right to nt vote; this option allows one to participate while nt being forced to choose one candidate
- It is complementory to constitutional provisions of freedom of speech n expression
- Besides, ds nt impact the outcome of elections, one who gets majority is chosen irrespective of NOTA votes
- Foreign countries mein hai

EC had proposed this n SC has upheld this

Demerits:
- It paves the possibility of horse trading or use of money n power in the elections
- Since RS elections r open ballot, those voting NOTA can be harassed by party leadership. Like universal adult franchise trusted the voters to exercise their voting rationally. Our MLAs shd also be trusted with exercising their votes cautiously. We should have faith in the collective wisdom of the electorate to take the right decisions.

Do we need a lynching law?
Lynching refers to killing by mob without any proven offence.
We need an anti lynching law:
- Instances on rise
- No law that criminalises mob killings at present
- Though proceeding can take place under IPC laws, bt they fall short of an adequate legal framework

We dont need cz:
- Lacuna lies in ineffective implementation of existing laws n nt really absence of law
- Slow judicial proceedings n political apathy create an atmosphere of laxity n permissiveness
- Need is to sensitise the society, advocating tolerance and showing zero tolerance attitude towards mob killings will help rein in lynchings

Ultimately, new rule or old rules- anyone can suffice as long as political will is there to penalise the criminals. Justice shd be done asap n accused shd be brought to book. Communal harmony n universal brotherhood are the pillars of our constitution; they shd nt be allowed to crumble

VVPAT- paper trail of electronic votes
- In the case of Subramanian Swamy vs Election Commission of India (ECI), the Supreme Court held that VVPAT is “indispensable for free and fair elections”
Justice shd nt only be done bt also seen to be done.

Global Retirement Index- released by France put India at last- the worst place to retire
Based on 4 factors: ACCESS TO
- Economic factors which help in living comfortably
- Financial Inclusion
- Health services
- Cleans n Safe environment

Q- All RS, LS, Parliamentary or LA polls r based on secret voting be it elections to Prez, VP, RS members frm LA or MP/MLA by citizens

There is one caveat though, Conduct of election rules state that they r nt required to share their vote with anyone. Bt they shd show it if asked by Party whip. This is to prevent cross voting. Cz under the garb of conscience voting; ppl were resorting to cross voting. Thus, making it obligatory to show the vote to whip will prevent cross voting

Narmada Dam project issue
It involves a slew of large n small dams n hydroelectric power projects. 2 of large dams r Sardar Sarovar Dam (in Gujrat) n Narmada Sagar dam (MP). Benefits- irrigation, power n drinking water.

**Issues:**

Social-...Political- states r indulging in politics over the issue with elections approaching

Economic- poor compensation n loss of fertile lands n vacated frm traditional forest set ups

Ecological- serious water logging n soil salinity probs, soil being black

**Article 35A provides fr J&K Govt to define PR criterion applicable to the region-**

**Provisions of Art 35A-** Only a PR (resident) can own property and get Govt job in Kashmir

**Problems:**

- denies property rights to native women who marry from outside the State. The denial of these rights applicable to her children also.
- Violates art 14- equality before law as other states ppl cannot own property or get state Govt jobs here............Discriminates against non residents- nt allowed to buy property there
- 35 A ws introduced thru Prez order n nt thru constitutional amendment
- The industrial sector & whole private sector suffers due to the property ownership restrictions. Good doctors don't come to the state for the same reason.
- Son of soil factor is against the spirit of unity in diversity of India

**Support:**

- Other states too enjoy such special treatment such as Nagaland etc
- Revoking this wd amount to breach of trust with J&K
- It will fuel tensions in the valey n raise suspicions about intentions of the Govt

**Autonomy of state is mr imp than the technicalities, Central Govt shd protect it**

**UN principles of non-refoulement:**

UN principles of non-refoulement applies in this case. According the these principles, no nation shall expel or return a refugee in any manner to territories where his life or freedom would be threatened on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.

India had proposed sending Rohingya muslims from rakhine region of Myanmar back as they r a burden on limited resources, security challenge is also there. BUT UN Secy General Antonio Gueterres hs asked it cd jeopardise their lives and here above principle applies

**India’s Rohingya Policy n impact on its image**

Centre wanted to deport Rohingyas, reasons being

- Security threat- terrorist infiltration along with refugees
- Drug smuggling
- Resource limitations in India

India hs Already been receiving Rohingyas since 2012; more cn cause problems as cited above. They hv spread to far off states like Kerala, J&K etc. Extended support to Bangladesh in terms of food, mosquito nets n other aids (OPERATION INSANIYAT)

- Bangladesh- a much smaller n dense country hs sheltered mr than wht India is doing
- Its a humanitarian crisis n India prides herself in ethical foreign policy n humanistic approach
- Nt gud fr her foreign image- int’l goodwill at jeopardy
- Violates principle of refoulement
SC observed that right of equality applies to Rohingyas too n nt only Indian citizens

Myanmar had a coup in 1960s, it had been a military rule since then..till 2010.

Refrain frm immediate deportation, rather tk lead in convincing Myanmar to stop violence n take them back. In line with India’s cherished principles of peace n harmony. We hv started sending food n relief to Bangladesh.

Asylum is different from Refugee. Asylum seeker is a person whose application of refugee has not been decided yet. He is one who is fleeing from his country on fears of persecution due to his political beliefs, membership of some social group, race, religion, nationality. However, a refugee is one whose application has been successful, Also refugees can be those natural disaster and not necessarily fearing persecution. Egs of asylum given- Edward Snowden (former CIA official) frm US to Russia, Australia to London- Julian Assange (wikileaks); Bugti seeking asylum in India frm pak

Pros n Cons of nt having a refugee policy
Pros- retains flexibility to tk decision case by case basis; have political leverage to decide on asylum requests suiting India's interests
Cons- Asylumm seeks- hv no clue as to their rights, expectations of treatment, may get exploited; nt good fr int image of a global player; leads to delays n inconsistency of stand in granting asylums; Our stand on high moral grounds fr European countries to allow Syrians stands diluted n shows double standards; Guided by archaic Foreigners act 1951 n another registration of foreigners act 1939- multiplicity, violation of art 14 n 21

Solution- must sign UN Convention on Refugees 1951, need to hv a proper law in place to deal with Refugee aspects; Shashi Tharoor hd proposed a bill in 2015 that shd be taken up fr discussion, pending as of now; shd delineate foll aspects
- Political- engaging with states to deal with refugee influx smoothly, cz often few states face disproportionate burden
- Social- coordinating with masses to be sensitive to distress of immigrants
- Security- train our security staff well to distinguish between genuine asylum seekers n illegal immigrants
- Legal- define all terms such as asylum, refugee, grounds on which it wd be given, nodal agency etc
- Economic- equip ourselves well to deal with influx
We cn hv requisite caveats here to safeguard our interests.

National Mission on Bovine Productivity scheme

Under the scheme, 88 million milk producing animals out of 300 million cattle and buffaloes are being identified using polyurethane tags with 12 digit unique identification (UID) number.

- The polyurethane tags, which will last for a few year, will be affixed by the technicians using a special applicator. Next, the technicians will, using a tablet, upload details of the cow including its vaccination and deworming status into an online database.
- The purpose of the exercise, in the long run, is to improve vaccination practices, and ensure that scientific interventions can be made to improve both breeding and milk production.
- The Pashu Sanjivni is crucial for control and spread of animal diseases, scientific management of animals, enhanced production and productivity, improvement in quality of livestock & livestock products, increase in trade of livestock and livestock products by meeting out sanitary and phytosanitary issues.

e-BIZ portal- launched 4 yrs ago
Aim- to create an investor friendly environment by providing all regulatory info reqd to set up a biz in India at one place.
- An imp e-governance initiative which was to be implemented in a mission mode
- Helps in smooth delivery of gov to biz services delivery
- Strengthens ease of doing business n also Mk in India
- With FIPB, all the more important

Probs
States’ apathy imp prob, many hv nt cm on board
Multiple tech platforms, diff depts operate on diff tech platforms making integration difficult
Multiple stakeholders- coordination amng all results in delays

AFSPA, 1958
The Union Home Ministry is set to give up its power to impose the ‘disturbed areas’ tag on Assam and Manipur. It will now be the States’ decision to either continue the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) or revoke it.

POCSO Act 2012- before this, law treated adult n child as same n IPC laws wr applicable
Features:
- Child is the one- less than 18 years of age
- Protects children against child pornography
- Mandatory for police to register complaints, reporting to special court within 24 hrs
- Makes provisions for special courts, in camera recordings, accompanied by a parent
- Medical treatment to be available within 24 hrs
- Examination by a lady doctor
- Child to be taken to a safe place if threats being issued
- Makes it clear that in case of inconsistency with any other law, POCSO will prevail over that

Merits:
- Fulfills UN convention on Rights of Child
- Child friendly process
- Covers pornography too
- Mandatory filing by police n reporting to Special court within 24 hrs
- Clear instructions in case of inconsistency with other laws

Demerits
- Ds nt treat a mental patient having similar mental age as that of children under POCSO
- Ds nt allow for consenting sex between adolescents, it goes against the autonomy n freedom of adolescents, especially considering the needs of changing time; every sexual contact is treated as rape, will lead to adolescents being charged fr rape even if consenting

Problems:
- Low reporting- due to fear n shame, frustration
- Indifferent/callous attitude of police continues, lack training n social skills to deal with children victims
- Effective counselling n medical services nt provided due to lack of facilities
Most cases r nt booked under POCSO...............mr than 50% children r victims to sm form of sexual abuse, urgent need to .......

India’s economic n security achievements n challenges

Economic- +....self sufficient in foodgrains, poverty dropped to 21%, services hub of world, IT firms are force to reckon with n source of remittances, well developed BFSI sector, 3rd largest economy in PPP terms n among fastest growing large economies
Concerns- Jobless growth, agri sector distress- farmer suicides, mfg sector neglected, growing inequality, High Debt/GDP ratio, Low tax/GDP ratio, twin balance sheet problem, black money huge quantum- parallel economy

Security- bangladesh ke saath border agreement, mr forces n ICT deployed in borders along countries, no of districts affected with left wing extremism came down- Samadhaan lauched, upgraded our weapons n arms systems thru imports n nw push to mk in India-; ISRO is offering indigenous solutions to needs of military

Negatives- Pak n China relations all time low, cross border ceasefire violations n infiltration attempts continue, slow fencing along J&K, communalism n regional tendencies rising again, military in need of modernisation

Adhaar passed as money bill

Adhaar Bill- talks bout identification of beneficiaries using Adhaar. Bt also mentions that cn be used fr other purposes too
Art 110 ka violation which states only matters contained under 110 can be there in a money bill. Items such as withdrawal from CFI, tax impose karna etc
SC ruled in Mohd Siddiqi case that judicial review NA (immunity de di) cz its a matter of procedural regularity. Shd nt be taken advantage of.
Speaker is supposed to act objectively n fairly, uphold constitution is his duty

Ds nt set the right precedent by bypassing the RS, violative of constitutional principles of RS powers

What cant be done directly shd nt be done indirectly

Hambantota concerns- with revision of agreement, India’s concerns stand eliminated or nt?
In previous agreement, China’s stake ws 80%, it hs been brought down to 70% (99 yr lease). SL has put in place a clause of nt allowing China to dock her navy n fighter ships without SL permission.
Bt India’s concerns persist as:
- China is most likely to tk advantage of ambiguity in agreement to her adv.
- Majority share is with China only, in case of any disagreements; she will prevail over SL
- With this port, China’s presence hs gone significantly up in Indian Ocean region; India must be cautious

India must be watchful n It is high time for India to strengthen herself to challenge China’s growing dominance in India’s backyard. India hs offered to manage another port in SL which is some distance away from Hambantota to balance China

AIJS
India hs roughly 3 cr pending cases in courts today. Over 50% hv mr than 5 yr pendency
AIJS on lines of AIS is being debated currently. AIS consists of IAS, PS n FS who r recruited centrally and work under state cadres while also serving the centre alternatively. AIJS aims to recruit **district judges** at all India level thru a competitive exam and then allocate them to various states.

**Merits:**
- Level playing field fr all
- Will ensure quality at the entry level which in turn will ensure talent at upper hierarchies as well; at present judges serve at least 10 yrs in subordinate judiciary before moving to district court level. This system will ensure that young judges get opp to be district level judges
- Will be a transparent system of recruitment
- Will address huge backlog of vacancies
- *Supported by Law Commission of India*

**Demerits:**
- Local laws, customs r v diff across states. Training them centrally will be tough job
- Today, problem faced by judiciary is- poor quality pvt law schools at every nook n corner; this prob remains unaddressed
- Appraisals being non transparent, delays in judgements r other major problems that need resolution

It will only be first step, nt a panacea; complete system needs overhaul. EoDB mein contracts enforcement score is among the poorest in d world which is a reflection of hte urgent attention that needs to be given to judiciary

* The economic survey, in its latest mid-year report, says “estimates indicate that currently India incurs losses of about $ 9-10 billion annually due to extreme weather events. Of these, nearly 80% losses remain uninsured”.

SDG1- poverty, 2- hunger, 3- Health, SDG 4- Education for all
SDG 5- Gender parity
7- Clean energy
12- Sustainable consumption n production

**Judicial Review-** 13 mentions explicitly JR (WITHOPUT USING THE WORD)- SAYS law vilative of FR r ultra vires.Under art 32, (it names SC as teh body to ensure JR) except habeas corpus n mandamus, it can be filed only by locus standi.
Judicial activism- locus standi is removed, anyone cn file a petition; Court cn tk suo moto cognisance of sm violation of rules n laws n mks rules fr ensuring justice

Judicial activism.....................turns into judicial overreach or judicial adventurism
Good egs- Basic structure, PIL, revoking president rule in states, check on AFSPA, BCCI reorganisation, ..........hs helped address legislative excesses or inaction
Bad egs- national anthem ruling, liquor ban on highways, NJAC striking down, scene cuts in movie Jolly LLB-2; ban on crackers, n on diesel vehicles entry, burning of crop stubble; expediting river interlinking project
Judicial restraint is advisable...........activism shd be resorted to when absolutely unavoidable

Ds nt set right precedent
Hampers the independence of other 2 organs
Violates constitutional principle of separation of powers
Ds nt represent the elected reps, nt authorised to mk laws..job is to interpret them

Q- 1) In your opinion, which factors pushed North Korea to go nuclear? Critically examine. (200 Words)
North Korea is a totalitarian state ruled by a dictator. He has historically used theory of Brinkmanship to bring others to his point of view.

Brinkmanship is the practice of trying to achieve an advantageous outcome by pushing dangerous events to the brink of active conflict. It occurs in international politics, foreign policy, labour relations, and military strategy involving the threat of nuclear weapons, and high-stakes litigation. This maneuver of pushing a situation with the opponent to the brink succeeds by forcing the opponent to back down and make concessions.

North Korea’s threats- After US President George W Bush labeled it part of the “axis of evil” in 2002, Pyongyang said it would “mercilessly wipe out the aggressors”.

The probable reasons for such policy can be:
1. US has switched its position on Korea with the cnage in Govt- Clinton Govt amicably handled NK which acceded to NPT n halted its nuclear program but successive regime of Bush put hard sanctions. Successive regimes too have used threat n sanctions. In this scenario, Nuclear weapons r a method used by NK to protect its sovereignty which cd be jeopardised any time by US attack
2. North Korea wants to be recognised as a legitimate nuclear state by the US and establish diplomatic relations with the US. Constantly reminding the world and especially the US of their nuclear and missile capabilities is part of their regime survival calculations.
3. This is a way to react against the harsh economic sanctions imposed by US n world, to resist US hegemony
4. Sanctions have isolated and weakened its economy badly
5. The lack of people say in state affairs has allowed a small group of people to take decisions.

The North Korean nuclear crisis is the threat to global peace. The bilateral dialogues, demilitarization of the area and inclusion of small nations in world representation can calm the tensions rising in Korean region

Q- 2) In the light of recent events, critically comment on the working of judiciary in South Asia. (200 Words)
Ans- At diff places, Judiciary enjoys varied powers (Due process of law vs procedure established by law).

Pakistan:
Conviction of topmost political figure gives credibility to SC upholding law above all. Tough stand against corruption BUT involvement of military is also being suspected in it, impartiality n fairness itself is being questioned

Maldives
SC is to an extent responsible for the present chaos in Maldives. A parallel Govt is being run by an exiled PM along with a PM present at the helm in the country. SC has sided with the ruling Govt n suppressed dissent
India
Fair and transparent, mostly. Upheld rule of law. Adopted due process of law. But painfully slow

South Korea
President had to resign on charges of corruption after convicted by SC.

Thus at diff places, Courts hv displayed impartiality or fairness in diff proportions

Whats dehyphenated foreign policy n benefits fr India?
Ans- The De hyphenated foreign policy means the foreign policy with More pragmatism and more need based approach than the traditional ethos.

Helpful fr India:
- Manage Israel & Palestine relations separately while eking out the best in favour of India’s interests
- Deal optimally with US & Russia individually without the need to balance each other out
- Fruitfully utilise our relations with China- focus on economic cooperation while keeping strategic n competitive aspects separately

Lawyers strikes hv been noticed as one of the leading causes of strikes. Wht r suggestions by Law Commission of India
Q- Recommendations of law commission :-
  ▪ As per recommendation of the Law Commission, the state Bar Councils and Bar Council of India will consist of non-lawyers, including people from other professions like chartered accountants, architects, politicians, doctors etc.
  ▪ Resultantly, the disciplinary proceedings against advocates would be conducted by people not connected with legal profession i.e., handing over the regulation and control of legal profession and legal education over to non-lawyers.
  ▪ In light of the current recommendations of the Law Commission of India, judicial officer has been authorised to cancel even the licence of an advocate on grounds of contempt, serious misconduct or abstention from court functioning.
  ▪ The Law Commission proposed a provision of compensation to clients in case of lawyer’s participation in strike

Q- 3) The social boycott act passed by the Government of Maharashtra is an important step in arresting the abuse of power by in-group elites. What hurdles would this legislation face in realisation of its desired goals? Examine.
Ans- Salient features of the bill:
  ▪ The Bill provides for prohibition of social boycott of a person or group of persons, by an individual or a group like caste panchayats.
  ▪ The provisions of the law define social boycott as a cognisable, but bailable offence, and provide for an imprisonment of up to three years or Rs. 1 lakh fine or both.
The legislation had provisions for disbursing the fine amount to the victims and their rehabilitation.

The law recognises the human rights dimension to issues of social boycott, as well as the varied forms in which it occurs in a caste-based society.

The bill takes into account discrimination on the basis of morality, social acceptance, political inclination, sexuality, which it prohibits.

Bill makes it an offence to create cultural obstacles by forcing people to wear a particular type of clothing or use a particular language.

Hurdles can be faced by legislation :-

- A maximum number of cases arise out of the issue of inter-caste marriages. As consent is an alien, intolerable concept in almost all caste and community traditions in India, these kind of marriages lead to divisions in communities and even lead to violence, causing caste panchayats to come together to resolve them. The worst affected in these cases are women, often young women, who are forcibly separated, their unborn killed, left to raise their ostracised children by themselves, sexually exploited, abandoned or forcibly remarried. The act has no provision for special protection or compensation and rehabilitation of these victims.

- The act neither deals with the question of inter-caste/inter-community/inter-religious marriages clearly, nor takes a position on collective caste panchayats which are not intra-caste affairs. It must be underlined that rehabilitation and compensation to all victims of caste panchayats continues to be a consistent demand from activists working with these victims.

- Given that something as basic as filing a first information report would require community identification in this matter, such communities largely remain outside the purview of the act, as the act makes no special provisions for them.

- It cannot be ruled out that the rationale of the government behind this could have been the legal and constitutional hurdles that have sealed the fate of such laws in the past. The Bombay Prevention of Ex-communication Act, 1949 which was pulled back after the Constitution bench was divided on the matter, is an example.

- It is this treatment of the problem, as one of mere law and order, that has led to the shift in the definition of victimhood as attached only to physical and material harm rather than also to “mental, psychological, emotional” harm—factors included in the draft bill but excluded from the act.

- Though the definition of social boycott which lists 15 kinds of possible offences is detailed, it is by no measure exhaustive. The exclusion of affective harm—the driving force of the power of these panchayats—from victimhood creates tremendous scope for legal (mis)interpretation, and conflict is always likely to arise between the definition of victimhood and social boycott.
Sub categorisation of OBCs under Art 340- Centre hs appointed a commission to look into sub categorisation matter. Why? Sm see this as a means to reach out to a section of OBCs

Is sub-categorisation permissible under the law?- Yes, SC in Indra Sawhney case (Mandal case) observed that there is no bar to a State categorizing backward classes

How are OBC reservations offered at present?
At present, there is a single Central OBC list, with entries from each State. People belonging to all of these castes can seek reservation from within the single 27% OBC reservation pie for Central government jobs and Central educational institutions. Nine States, however, have already sub-categorised OBCs.

123rd Amendment Bill 2017
NCBC was a stat body earlier, Now it will be a constitutional body under Art 338 B Prez cn specify the list of SEBC (Art 342A new art) , it can be amended by parliament only

Functions
- Examine welfare measures as specified in constituion being implemented or nt
- Prepare a report n present to Prez
- Enquire into complaints recd (earlier investigation into complaints ws dn by NCSC)

Challenges- it shd protect inclusion of advancned castes into OBC AND division of OBC into backward, most backward etc to spread the benefits amng larger share of population n to the more needy ones

Social Security is protection of social economic n cultural rhs of ppl (as per UNHRD 1948)

National Vaya Vandana Yojna- demonetisation hd led to fall in interest income of elderly hence this scheme fr elderly safety

- **Aim:** To provide social security through regular pensions during old age and to protect elderly persons aged 60 and above against a future fall in their interest income due to uncertain market conditions.

- It is launched by Ministry of Finance and will be solely operated by Life Insurance Corporation(LIC)

Assured return of 8%-8.3% payable per month
GST exemption
Premature exit allowd fr terminal illness
The Supreme Court, in July, held unconstitutional a law enacted by Assam government in 2004 that allowed appointment of parliamentary secretaries enjoying the rank of minister of state. As per the Act parliamentary secretary was given the rank and status of a minister of state and exercised such powers, functions and duties as were assigned by the chief minister.

- The court said, "Article 194 does not expressly authorise the state legislature to create offices such as the one in question." Therefore, the legislature of Assam lacked the competence to create the post of parliamentary secretaries.
- Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland have 26 parliamentary secretaries, which is more than 43% of the total strength of the 60-member legislative assemblies of the two states.

Parliamentary Secretary- Assam had appointed PSs, SC in 2017 cancelled their appointment, Similarly HCs hv cancelled such appointments in d past and also struck down bills that declared PSc as exempted frm being an oop

Who is a parliamentary secretary?
A Parliament Secretary is similar to a Minister of State who assists a Minister in his or her duties. (NT A constitutional post)

**Issues associated:**

**Office of profit:** First, the Constitution specifies conditions which disqualify MPs, MLAs, Municipality and Panchayat members from membership of their respective institutions. The first is holding an "Office of Profit" under the state or central government. The essence of this disqualification is that there should be no conflict between the duties and interests of an elected member. MPs and MLAs hold the government accountable for its work, and if they held an "Office of Profit" under the government, they might be susceptible to government influence and might not discharge their constitutional mandate fully.

Article 102(a) and 191(a) of the Indian Constitution bars a member of the Indian Parliament and state legislature respectively from holding an office that would give its occupant the opportunity to gain a financial benefit. This concept is designed to:

- Secure independence of the MPs and MLAs.
- Ensure that legislatures do not contain persons who have received favours or benefits from executives.
- Obviate a conflict of interest between the duties of office and their legislative functions.

Nt defined in constitution, bt thru various rulings...Sankari Prasad case- defined 4 characteristics. Criterion to decide- appointing authority, removing authority, source of remuneration, determining the remuneration

There is a need to clearly define and end the ambiguities in office of profit clause. Ambiguities leave way fr misuse

**Cap:** Second, the Constitution caps the number of members in the union and state cabinet. Article 164(1A) specifies that the number of ministers including the Chief Minister has to be within 15% of the total number of members of the Assembly (10% in the case of Delhi, which is not a ‘full’ state).

Now, EC has disqualified 21 AAP MLAs fr holding oop, earlier HC had set aside their appointments as PSs..................Current CEC (Om Prakash Rawat)
Q- 2) Discuss the implications of the US President Donald Trump’s new assertive policy in Afghanistan for India and Pakistan. (200 Words)

Ans- features- open ended stay in afghanistan; Kill terrorists wherever they r meaning Pak providing safe haven wont be safe nw; warning to pak to stop harbouring terrorists n using India as an excuse to do so Greater role fr India in Afghanistan

India- India- US ties will strengthen, cd mean more pressure on India’s resources in terms of funding; mr training n arms supply also a possibility; it will hv implications fr India afghan relations also, yet to be seen hw Afghanistan responds to the policy n hw it sees India’s role unfolding

Pakistan- cut in aids, exposed as a terror haven in clear terms by US prez signals hardening of stand towards Pak, India’s greater role in Af will be seen as a threat by Pak, China-Pak axis will try to counter US-India cooperation

Terrorism is a global threat, its imperative that world countries unite to fight this scourge

HISTORY- US attacked Afghanistan as Taliban regime in Af was shielding Osama Bin Laden of Al Qaeda which had carried out terror attacks. Taliban means student..............ISAF (int Security alliance force) waged d war led by NATO...it had soldiers frm many countries...set up by UNSC

US attacked Iraq on the pretext of WoMD (thus end terrorism) n topple dictator Saddam Hussein regime to bring about a democratic Govt there, but ultimate aim was to install a sympathetic Govt and control their oil wells.

Q- EU is a customs Union. Y UK wants to leave?
- Rise of protectionism n nationalism tendencies across the world
- Mistrust n fear of multilateral organisations as impinging on sovereignty of nations
- Immigration putting strain on limited national resources
- Xenophobia, islamisation fear and security concerns in the wake of serial attacks in European countries

Q- 7) Examine how science and technology (S&T) will affect geopolitics. (200 Words)

Ans- S&T ..
- It helps a country stregthen her security n border mgmt. Eg: India fencing its borders using IR radars n laser sensors
- It improves n strengthens her soft power Eg: China launchign QESS sat
- It helps a country counter threats effectively Eg: Israel
- Increases ones power, control n efficiency

Negatives:
- US n Russia cold war beginnings lay in use of nuclear weapons by US, US used its prowess to establish as a superpower n started hostility n nuclear race
- China using tech to control methane hydrates in SCS n building artificial islands

Essentially, S&T helps a country build strategic leverage. Amng most imp factors fr a country’s rise in global order. India must focus on innovation n efficiency, invest in human capacity building. Atal Labs, indigenous GPS, create 20 world class universities, ISRO advancements etc r good starts
**Surrogacy Bill**

**Defn**
- Bans commercial s., allows only altruistic s.
  - Married couple who have been married for 5 yrs at least, n cant conceive due to medical probs
  - Only close family member can be surrogate mother
  - Bans foreigners, LGBT, live-in partners to opt for s
  - No compensation other than medical expenses can be paid
  - State n central surrogacy boards

**Benefits:**
- Ethical issues like twins born but parents ready to accept only one child
- Instances of death of s. mother & foreigner parents refusing to accept babies after separation had been reported
- Not giving adequate protection to the surrogate resulting in her death
- Commercial exploitation which they could be forced into by their family members to earn extra income wd be avoided

**Drawbacks:**
- Banning commercial s. (instead of regulating it) altogether removes opportunity of women to earn livelihood, which was very important for many poor women
- India wd lose share in S mkt to other countries like Indonesia
- Ban on LGBT n foreigners is not morally tenable
- Reducing surrogacy options to close family member only reduces possibility of finding s mother
- Further, lack of monetary incentive adds to unwillingness of close relatives
- Other probs like ds not define who is a close relative

Conservative approach, Opportunity lost

Q- importance of National comm fr socially & educationally backward classes being constitutional body
Ans- bill passed to amend constitution n mk abv a c. body

Importance:
- Gives mr weight to NCSEBC, its suggestions wd hv mr importance
- Enhance political accountability
- Gives it the power of a civil court, can investigate into complaints regarding OBCs issues, just like NCSC & ST
- Mr transparent procedure to modify OBC list (parliament nt cabinet)
- Voices r being heard frm JATs, .....so relevant

Is India a great power?
Power measured thru parameters like Hard power – military strength, Economic strength, demographic & technological strength, and soft power like leadership in international institutions, culture, state capacity, strategy/diplomacy, and national leadership
Grt power cz:
- Largest democracy, 3rd largest military, 3rd on PPP terms
- Leading role in global institutions like NDB, AIIB, WB, IMF, FATF, G 20, BRICS etc
- Demographic dividend, large Indian diaspora
- Scientific advances like ISRO, medical tourism hub, IT & software exports
- Cultural importance- oldest civilisations, yoga, spirituality etc
- Imp role in Afghanistan security maintenance, giving aid like in Nepal
- Champion of democracy n peace n cooperation; founder member of NAM
- Own GPS system using Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System: Navigation with Indian Constellation (IRNSS: NavIC) (launched thru PSLVs)

Nt Gr8:
- Dependent on imports fr defence capabilities
- Higher education needs upgradation
- Nt able to hv her say at WTO etc
- Limited responsibility sharing at global level like Syria issue etc
- Probs of insurgency, terrorism, naxalism, communalism
- Poverty n security issues

2) Critically evaluate performance of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)

Ans- Pros:
- Offers free accidental cover n free LI to those registered in the first yr of scheme
- Zero balance acc, will earn int at same rate as others
- Rupay Debit Card will help improve online transactions
- Being used for DBT- helping avoid leakages n thus corruption
- Majority of unbanked pop hs cm under the coverage nw
- More than 55% hv turned frm 0 acc to non zero acc

Negatives:
- Duplication of accounts open acc in more than 1 bank) since KYC norms hv been relaxed to improve coverage
- Many r still out of ambit of banking, specailly those in remote rural areas
- Increased the work load of bank employees, wrt acc maintenance bt non profit earning accs
- Linking with Adhaar n making it mandatory fr DBT will render many unbanked out of its ambit
- BCs coverage needs extension n need to be trained. Along with BC, focus shd be on providing infra such as micro biometric scanners n internet facility

Q- 4) “Recent developments threaten the long-cherished unity in diversity in India and Indonesia

Ans- Both r democracies; multiculturalism n multireligious.

Threats- In Indonesia:
- Rise of fundamentalism- time n again keep disturbing the peace n cordiality, demanded ban on Yoga
- Rise of conservatism- Liberal n progressssive view holder Governor Purnama ws prosecuted n jailed
- Religion based mobilisation- taking place
- Spread of Saudi funded preachers
In India- Religious intolerance, Racial Intolerance and caste intolerance (Una March showed the prob of atrocities n exclusion of dalits)

Q- Lessons fr India from Doklam issue wrt Border Mgmt
Infra strengthening- rail n raod connectivity; robust surveillance
Bilateral agreements- expedited fr peaceful resolution of boundary disputes
CBMs thru hotlines bw border personnel

Most important- as of nw, LAC (frm J&K to AP) is nt demarcated, hence differing claims. We must start talks to demarcate the LAC

India shd hope fr d best bt b prepared fr d worst

Section 375 probs- Sec 375 of IPC deals with rape.
Probs:
- **NOT applicable any longer**- after criminal law amendment act 2013- it modified IPC, CrPC etc, (based on JS Verma committee recommendations), other acts such as object insertion or oral etc r also under definition of rape. Earlier Defined it as penetrative (vaginal) sex without woman's consent, other forms of sexual assault on any other body part r out of ambit
- Ds nt treat sexual crimes against boys as rape leaving young boys out of protection
- Marital rape hs been provided an exception
- Inconsistency between age of marriage of gals at 18 bt sex with wife from 16-18 yrs of marriage is nt a crime (only below 16 yrs pe its treated as a crime)

Law Comm of India hs suggested change in def- mk it gender neutral n include all sexual assaults under it (nt only penetrative); removal of marital rape exception

Y marital rape shd be exempted?
- It might destabilise institution of marriage
- Indian society might nt be ready fr such a radical move
- It cd be misused- cz no evidence available to prove or disprove

Y marital rape shd be like any other rape?
- LCI recommended it
- Right of woman over her body
- Many developed countries like US UK Canada, Australia n Switzerland hv done so
- Its in line with recent SC judgement of Rt to Privacy
- Its a progressive move n protects women against exploitation, treating her like an object

Even if the society is nt ready at the time; enacting a law will pave the way fr such progressive step. Further, fear of misuse shd nt be an excuse to deny protection to someone,Whats needed is effective implementation n deliberating on ways to prevent misuse. Que cn be taken frm other countries.

JS Verma committee recommendations- age of consent shd be reduced, review AFSPA, max punishment fr rape as life imprisonment......................Noted that failure on part of police n GoI wr main reasons fr continuation of crimes against women

Inter state dispute tribunal amendment Bill- sets the limit for dispute adjudication at 4.5 yrs
Remember Inter state river water dispute act ws set up under Art 262
River Board Act too set up- this remained a dead end since beg. Under Art 262

NITI Aayog has launched the National Nutrition Strategy.
The recently published NFHS-4 results reflect some progress, with a decline in the overall levels of under nutrition in both women and children. However, the pace of decline is far below other countries.

Objectives:
- Revolves arnd 4 areas: improvement in nutrition, drinking water, sanitation n health facility
- Decentralised planning
- Behavioural change

38% of children in India r stunted, 50% of women r anaemic

Name of the org that works fr arranging safe n humane migration is IOM- Int Org for Migration, set up in 1951, Also UNCHR

3) Critically examine Britain’s recent visa policy towards Indian students and other various visa related issues faced by Indian students in Britain.
Ans- tightening its visa regime of late, reducing the count of students take up, reducing the no of months in which to find a job (only 4 mths); also cracked down on fake universities
Probs to students:
- 4 mths is too short a time to find job aftr degree, major set back

UK alleges- Indian students overstay their visas which is nt proven empirically

UK must understand that students provide a big chunk of revenue to Govt, that shd be recognised

Q- RTI proposed amendments n flaws:
An attempt to dilution the watershed legislation
- Puts limit on time period during which complaint can be made- within 90 days of cause of complaints arose, else application needs to be given fr delay
- Allows RTI activist to cancel a RTI request by giving application in writing; this cn be grossly misused to pressurise activists
- On death, automatically req comes to an end
- Archaic methods such as data to be given in floppy disks n demanding price fr d same shd be replaced with email, CD etc

RTI Act hs helped ppl to expose corruption, crime; n even mobilise ppl n bcm sarpanches. Vry imp tool fr dalits n marginalised sections

BRICS
Xiamen declaration contained foll
- Declaring LeT n JeM as terrorist groups (Very positive development)
- BRI ws nt mentioned in the declaration, keeping in mind India’s sensibilities as India is opposed to this
- Pak ws nt invited while other countries wr invited by China such as Thailand n Mexico

Wht else India shd focus on frm such meets?
- Data sharing on Brahmaputra
- Entry of Indian pharma into China

Why BRICS cd be bcmng redundant?
- No mention of the imp issues present on the world stage such as West Asian crisis, unrest in Afghanistan, North Korea crisis, Myanmar crisis
- Similarly, not mentioning BRI cd be bcz China ds nt consider BRICS as imp enough to contribute to it
- Such forum is nt used to focus on issues like freedom of navigation in seas, SCS issue, these r burning topics which ideally shd figure in such multilateral fora
- Diff countries hv diff priorities today- Braz n SA remain on the outlines nt showing much interest, Russia hs interests in expanding her presence in Europe n China n India dont hv much to cooperate on, their natural rivalries leaving little scope to reconcile n cooperate

MCA (Civil Aviation) hs released new CA rules protect against unruly behav
- No fly list will be created pan India
- 3 types of categ- 3 month ban, 6 month n 2 yr ban
- Appeals mechanism is there

Such a list will be the first time in the world
In line with Tokyo convention- that governs beh that cn jeopardise safety on board
Spain- Catalonia Problem
Catalonia lies in NE Spain, part of Iberian peninsula. Catalonia has has its own language, ‘Catalan’. They r demanding separate nationahood cz:
- Feel deprived due to spain’s attempt to suppress use of their language (despite Catalonia being joint official language along with Spanish)
- Discrimination in public service delivery by Spain
- Pay mr taxes bt receive less frm Govt

Cow Vigilantes Issue
Cow vigilantism means a person or grp which takes up enforcement of law without having the authority to do so

SC gave directions recently to stop cow vigilantism. Wat did it say?
- Asked states to appoint district police officers to crack down on the attackers
- Asked centre to respond to- that Centre cannot wash off their hands by stating its a state subject

Constitutional provisions regarding centre’s role in such situations:
- **Article 256** says Centre cn give directions to state to comply with state n central laws
- **Article 355**- duty of centre to ensure that state is run in accordance with constitutional provisions
- **Art 365**- can give directions to state to ensure law n order

4) Recently, the US ended amnesty scheme for young immigrants. Why this scheme was introduced? How will its end impact immigrants?
Ans- DREAM Act- was launched to protect the ppl who entered US illegally in the past as minors (children).

Gives protection against deportation and gives work permit fr a 2 yr renewable period. Also gives them legal status in exchange fr military job or college education. Trump hs announced to revoke it.

Immigrants will be deported back, this includes many undocumented Indians as well. Loss to US economy will be massive. Currently there r arnd 8 lac DREAMERS, as they r called

Chakmas n Hajongs- Buddhists n Hindus respectively; left East Pak when
- religion basis pc persecution n
- Kaptai dam ki wajah se displacement;
Settled in NE especially AP. SC ruled in 2015 that they shd be given citizenship; AP is opposing the decision, it will dilute their culture n change the demographics of hte place.
Centre says it will not grant them land rights, only the Inner Line permit ie the permit to travel and work. Now Centre has revised its stand and accepted AP plea to not grant them citizenship because this would dilute AP culture.

Citizenship amendment Bill that was brought in to give these people membership is pending due to opposition wrt religion based discrimination.

SHG Probs..................................................Egs of SHG: SEWA initiative, NRLM- Aajevika, KUDUMBASHREE program of poverty elimination in Kerala
Sustainability n technology issues- still need mentorship support; use subsistence models of livelihood, poor technology
Financial Linkages poor- Banks’ reach is limited, MFIs charge exorbitant interests n hidden charges..................NABARD shd step up its reachout, NGOs shd be roped in n awareness generation to avoid extra charges
Political interference- shd be kept to a minimum
Social disapproval- due to patriarchal set up, these SHGs dont get social support as they lead to empowerment of women

Malegam committee recommendations shd be implemented- one person shd be a member of one SHG only, rate spread bw banks n MFIs shd not be mr than 10%

U can write probs n solutions together in same postulate........

NIRF- conducted by MHRD- ranks institutions on 5 parameters- TRIPG
- Teaching n learning
- Research
- Inclusivity (n Outreach)
- Perception
- Grad outcomes

Improvement- earlier conducted ranking fr those instis which volunteered, Nw for all

Seen in conjunction with HEFA, its a much needed initiative to bring out the improvement

NIRF, HEERA, HEFA
V imp Atal Tnikering Labs proposed by Niti Aayog...also called open innovation workspaces

open-innovation workspaces will have simple equipment with which school children can play

Significance
- Constitutional provision of promoting scientific temperament n contributing to nation’s dev
- Aligns with MII, Skill India Missions
- Encourages innovation among children, brainstorming, which is needed to improve environment of patents, IPs in India....aligns with the National IPR policy objectives too
- Its said that India ds nt hv culture of risk taking n innovation....this intervention will address it by shaping their personalities at an early age
- An interactive n fun way of learning, breaks monotony of regular studying, discourages rote learning
- Stokes their creative potential, inquisitive approach
- Human resource Development: This workspace will develop technical skills, the
- ability to work in teams, develop problem solving attitude

Art 171 of Constitution- voting of Leg Council members by teachers, students etc

SC hs issued guidelines fr prison reforms- DK Basu Guidelines
Why jail reforms r needed? (in such Qs write, the probs that exist n smwhat write the benefits tht will accure)
- Overcrowding of jails- 150% se bhi jyaada
- Unhygienic n inhuman conditions of existence
- 67% prsoners r undertrials, nt aware of their rights like rt to be released if 50% term served
- Majority belong to the sub altern section of society- poor uneducated backward
- Prison conditions promote crime n violence in jails
- Instancies of police torture n custodial deaths r common

DK Basu guidelines hd been released earlier, nw some more
- Give compensation to kin of those who died in prisons
- Medical help to them
- Circulation of model prison manual prepared by NHRC
- Training n sensitisation of police officers

Paradiplomacy?
When state of a country liasions with foregin country central Govt/state Govt it is called paradiplomacy. For eg:

Simultaneous Elections
Why good?
- Elections r happening in one or the other part of the country always, it disrupts regular administration as MCC is in force
- Govt wd be able to focus on governance n nt on winning elections
- Public money cd be saved by simultaneous holding of elections in the country
- Requirement of govt employees and teachers fr duties in d elections wd be reduced, this wd reduce disruption to education n office work
- Security forces need nt be diverted frm critical areas to election duty

Why prb?
- This will require amendments to d constitution, Staets must also be onboard fr this idea to tk shape
- Regional parties especially oppose it citing reason that simultaneous polls favour national parties as ppl r likely to vote fr d same party at centre and state
- Massive preparation wd be required in terms of officials, security fr simultaneous polls
- There will be practical probs such as hw to hold byelections, all state govts n central govt completing their 5 yr terms fr synchronised elections

This is an imp idea which needs to be deliberated n solutions to be sought. It has been proposed by EC, Niti Aayog n several states too hv displayed willingness to go ahead.
Election funding is the fountainhead of corruption; simultaneous elections would reduce the need for money and hence curb corruption too.

**Alternative Dispute Redressal Mechanism**

**Tribunals** - Article 323 A n 323 B
Lok Adalat
Autonomous District Councils
Gram Nyayalays - Mobile courts established under Gram Nyayalay Act...settle petty cases involving small disputes, give doorstep justice delivery, some states have implemented it

**CIBMS - Comprehensive Integrated Border mgmt services**
It is an integrated system combining sensors and manpower to smoothly manage the borders. Being deployed by BSF to secure our border with Pakistan.
Benefit:
- Will help secure our borders from infiltration on land, thru tunnels or underwater
- Will prevent mining of border areas which prove fatal for security forces
- It will be systematic and organised method of long term security, will help curb organised crime as well

**SSB - Sahasra Seema Bal**
Guards Nepal Bhutan border
Has an intelligence wing recently to collect actionable intel in the border areas, this intel will help in preventing cross border smuggling, infiltration attempts and trafficking

**Women reservation Bill**
Has been pending for several years (since 96), 108th amendment Bill
Features:
- 1/3rd seats to be reserved for women in LS n LS
- 1/3rd of SC n ST seats also to be reserved for women
- Reserved seats allotted to different constituencies basis rotation
- This reservation to end after period of 15 years
Why beneficial?
- Promotes idea of gender justice
- Amongst lowest parliamentarians in the world, this is an important indicator of GII (HDI report- RELA)
- Has been proven to help the cause of women empowerment in Panchayats
Why opposed?
- Goes against meritocracy
- Limits voter choices, can vote for the women only
- Disincentivise MPs from doing developmental work for constituency when chances of returning as an MP are low due to reservation for women in the upcoming election
- Face opposition from Nagaland which did not allow women reservation in local bodies as well

A long needed step, to end the systematic exclusion of women...Chiristine Lagarde...27% base goes up merely by participation
Medical field needs regulatory overhaul. Comment
Probs- proliferation of medical colleges, which r nt accredited.corruption n commercialisation
- Outdated syllabus n outmoded pedagogy- no use of technology
- Teachers selection basis their degrees n nt clinical experience, so less effective teaching
- Mere 11% doctors serve in rural postings, social accountability is missing
- MCI has corruption n nepotism issues, highlighted by jt working committee
Solutions
-..................NEET shd be given statutory basis, abhi only SC ruling

SATH- fr transforming human capital thru edu n health initiatives, 3 states will be chosen to act
as role models fr others, NITI Ayog along with pvt firms will be implementing the
project...another eg of cooperative federalism

About ESMA:

The Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) is an act of Parliament of India. It is a central
law.

- It was established to ensure the delivery of certain services, which if obstructed would
affect the normal life of the people. These include services like public transport (bus
services), health services (doctors and hospitals).
- Although it is a very powerful law, its execution rests entirely on the discretion of the
State government. Each state in the union of India, hence has a separate state Essential
Services Maintenance Act with slight variations from the central law in its provisions.
This freedom is accorded by the central law itself.

Encephalitis- a natural disaster. Comment
Encephalitis- disease that involves inflammation of brain, high fever. Caused by mosquito bite and also
thru contaminated water consumption....open defecation, rainy season, building of dams n barrages
that causes water logging aggravate it
Disaster because- High prevalence in Bihar n UP...found in North n South India- both. Mainly less than
16 yrs age affected
Annual phenomenon, hundreds of deaths every yr, irony is its preventable..neglect n apathy hv caused it
to survive fr so long since it was detected in 50s....included in UIP under NRHM

Solution
Data collection, Research, Intervention- mosquito mgmt, sanitary conditions, awareness generation
Vaccination- must fr all affected regions.......Infrastructure strengthening n funds availability..monitoring
n sureveillance

Steps taken by Govt fr elderly
National policy fr older persons
National commission fr older persons.. renamed as NC fr Senior citizens
The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 - obligatory maintenance of parents n elderly relatives, else property transfer cn be revoked

**Schemes** - Vay Vandana Yojna fr pension in old age, APY, Vayoshree Yojna, Protection of rights of persons wid disabilities

**Financial inclusion** - providing access of fin pds n services to poor n marginalised sections of society. Eg bank accs, insurance, online transfers facilities. Helps them by ---------increasing savings, credit availability, DBTs n hence avoid leakages n quick supply of welfare measures

Modern Slavery - bonded labor, forced child labor, forced begging, forced prostitution, forced marriages. *Global Slavery Index, by Walk free foundation* - 30 mn ppl in India into modern slavery

**Why largest in India?**
- Large population
- Weak norms n poor implementation
- Political apathy- eg. Child labout act was amended after so many yrs
- Governance structures r poor- corruption in police, smtimes hands in gloves with the criminals
- Socio economic conditions of society- eg parents force their daughters into marriage fr money. Feudal set ups persist leading to continuation of bonded labour n forced labour
- Porous borders n organised crime- which facilitate trafficking of children to other countries such as fr slavery in civil war regions

160 children go missing every day, this is shocking...operation muskaan

**Challenge method** - adopted by govt to allot projects to states based on ranking on a variety of parameters.................transparency n accountability and END giving away projects for political considerations.....(PREVENT projects being given fr pol considerations) eg 3 states have been chosen fr SATH initiative

**10. Bihar prohibition and excise act, 2016**
- This is a new and more stringent liquor-ban law with provisions such as arrest of all adults in the family if anyone consumes or stores alcohol.
- It aims to ensure that the ban on sale and consumption of alcohol, including Indian-made foreign liquor (IMFL), continues in Bihar.
- Those flouting the ban face up to 10 years in jail, a fine of up to Rs 10 lakh and there is also a provision to confiscate the house or premises where liquor is stored or drunk.
- Though in a rare case, it also prescribes death penalty if people die after consuming hooch.

**National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP)**
National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) is the first ever national plan prepared in the country. The plan is based on the four priority themes of the “Sendai Framework,” namely:

- Understanding disaster risk
- Improving disaster risk governance
- Investing in disaster risk reduction
- Disaster preparedness, early warning and building back better in the aftermath of a disaster.

It provides for horizontal and vertical integration among all the agencies and departments of the Government.

The plan also spells out the roles and responsibilities of all levels of Government right up to Panchayat and Urban local body level in a matrix format.

CCI enforces CA, 2002...ie prevents activities that hv a adverse impact on competition. The Competition Act, 2002 prohibits anti-competitive agreements, abuse of dominant position by enterprises and regulates combinations (acquisition, acquiring of control and Merger and acquisition), which causes or likely to cause an appreciable adverse effect on competition within India.

Comp. appellate tribunal merged in NCLT

NGO- non state non mkt (means profit oriented) bodies
FCRA to be monitored by Home ministry

United Group
Small parties n independents cm together to hv a higher say in the RS, strength of party determines time allotted fr participation in debates....so small parties wr at disadvantage...happened only d 3rd time

SC ruling on AFSPA- no ABSOLUTE immunity, another instance of judicial activism being favourable

Admiralty Jurisdiction Bill gives admiralty jurisdiction to HC, in regions upto Territorial waters
Admiralty means claims over transport by sea

Enemy Properties Bill, 2016 amends enemy property act, 68
Features
- Defines enemy property as the assets n property belonging to an enemy country, enemy citizen or enemy firm
- Law of succession ds nt apply to enemy property
- Property Belongs to custodian of enemy property under GoI
After Indo pak war, Pak disposed of Indian property soon aftr war bt India mein it went to custodian. Due to sm flaws in d original act, several claims were laid to d properties by the heir or children of the enemy nationals.

Lodha committee recommendations
- One state one seat in d BCCI...........no member can be part of both state body n BCCI........ Capping on retirement age n nt open ended
- IAS or ministers nt to be a member of BCCI
- Legalise betting.......................bring under RTI
- CEO run organisation responsible to Apex council
- An ombudsman to look into complaints n grievances
- Ethics officer to advise in conflict of interest
- Electoral officer to conduct elections

Strategic forces command, pol council n executive council all cm under Nuclear command structure
EC headed by NSA advises on use.....pol council takes dec, headed by PM.............SFC implements the decsn..nuclear weapons lie under control of SFC

SFC removed from RTI obligation
Section 8 states that matters of national security, sovereignty etc exempted frm RTI......Section 24 says intel agencies n security agencies r out .....so schedule 2 mein SFC ka name added

Indus watre treaty- 1960..nehru ayub khan.....WB mediated.....3 n 3 rivers each..........Indus commissions on each side........arbitration mechanism too..........................Kishenganga n Ratle on J&C rivers each........Arbitration tribunal ruled in India’s favour earlier in Kishenganga dispute...

**Cold Start Doctrine**
- Cold Start is a **military doctrine developed by the Indian Armed Forces to put to use in case of a war with Pakistan**

battle Groups will be well forward from existing garrisons. India’s elite strike forces will no longer sit idle waiting for the opportune moment, giving Pakistan the luxury of time.
- Cold Start Doctrine was developed as the **limitations of the earlier doctrine – Sundarji Doctrine** – were exposed after the attack on the Indian Parliament.

AP e governanceproject is e pragati

**CETA is the FTA signed bw Canada and EU**
Mkt economy status- means we will have to accept exports from China at the pdn costs and selling price will be the benchmark

ADD...CVD (anti subsidy).......safeguard duty (to protect against increase in imports...temporary measure)

Transparency international says India has the highest corruption index among Asian Pacific countries

**Terminally ill patient bill**- does not permit active euthanasia, recognises advance directive by patient that should be used by the doctor in treating him, in case of passive euthanasia- consent of patient, medical practitioner, HC n then MCI should be there

Probs- reliance on MCI is best avoided given its facing corruption n inefficiency charges n likely to be replaced, long drawn procedure which might kill the execution.....how will a vegetative state person give consent for passive euthanasia...

Cues should be taken from develop countries which have gone ahead with euthanasia

Cases:- Santhara- Narain Soni Case- suicide hence illegal...............diff...Active Euthanasia is one who is mentally alert, not on life saving drugs and can survive without external help..............Passive – vegetative state, dependent on life saving drugs, cannot survive without external help

Film certification........shyam benegal committee recommendations- only certify not censor
Solution- above point plus a tribunal to be set up consisting of film makers, retired judges which will decide in the cases which CBFC finds objectionable

EVMs are safe how?
- One time programmable chip
- Non-networked by wire or wireless, means not connected to internet or any machine
- R tested before any voting in presence of reps of all parties on the day of polling as well as when they are allotted to the booths
- SC n HC have also confirmed on their safety
The Indian constitution prescribed the method of First past the post (FPTP) for elections in India. The method is different from the proportional representation (PR) method. The significant differences are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FPTP</th>
<th>PR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The country is divided into small geographical units called constituencies or districts</td>
<td>Large geographical areas are demarcated as constituencies. The entire country may be a single constituency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every constituency elects one representative</td>
<td>More than one representative may be elected from one constituency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voter votes for a candidate</td>
<td>Voter votes for the party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A party may get more seats than votes in the legislature</td>
<td>Every party gets seats in the legislature in proportion to the percentage of votes that it gets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candidate who wins the election may not get majority (50%+1) votes</td>
<td>Candidate who wins the elections gets majority of votes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples: U.K., India | Examples: Israel, Netherlands

PR not good for India because it promotes instability, frequent elections would prove costly, not necessary that a party wins a clear majority, is complex to understand; also people do not have a specific representative to go to for their grievances for voting is done for party and not candidate.

**Plan non-plan bifurcation has been removed.........Why? (based on Rangarajan committee)**

Plan exp meant which is a part of 5 yr plan

Non-plan meant not a part of plan .....................Intent was fully capture the segregation into productive and non-productive but this did not do so. Cz large part of plan exp is also exp ie non-asset generating

Resulting in reduction in non-plan spend, which results in non-neglect of already constructed assets

Fragmented view of resource allocation making it difficult to link outcomes to outlays

Now in line with constitutional bifurcation of capital n revenue...in line with global practice

**Rationalisation of spending** is based on NITI aayog recommendations. Sub Grp of CMs was set up to look into these recommendations. Gave 2 suggestions- 

- Pruning of schemes to less than 30 and
- Further CSS schemes divided into

Core of core (social welfare n social justice), core (National development), optional (states hv an option to implement)............in decreasing order of importance.....75:25, 60:40 n 50:50

Intent is to promote cooperative federalism

Benefits- cooperative federalism, increased accountability of specific Govts...else usually centre n states keep blaming each. States did not implement efficiently, Or Centre had control over finances Movement of funds hs bcm easy
In RS, domicile requirement has been removed long time back. Benefit - promotes feeling of national integration; small states can get opportunity of greater representation, if political parties wish. Negatives: pol parties use it fr political expediency eg use RS membership to get in members who hv lost LS election; such members r cut off frm ground realities, voters of constituency r nt able to connect with him, he ds nt represent the socio ethnic background of the state, hence nt d diversity of country; further small states r increasingly losing out on representation.

Solutions
Reinstating the domicile requirement......fr all states to hv similar rep, rule like US senate- same seats to all states.

RTI n Judiciary
Judiciary has 2 functions- admin n judicial......admin functions r under RTI but nt the judicial

Y judicial fns shd be brought under the RTI?
- At present, collegium system is totally opaque and bring transparency
- Bringing it under RTI wd secure accountability n eliminate misconduct
- Bring in rationality n logic in judgements

Negatives
- Appointment decisions also entail personal reasons such as medical conditions which harms RTP of judges
- **Undermine** the independence of judges and harming free n frank expression of judges
- Revealing their personal information might harm national security

Need is to strike a balance between the 2

Inner Line Permit (ILP)
Started by British in 19th century. Its objective is to prevent the settlement of outsiders in tribal areas to protect their culture n identity. AndaM (Mizoram)

Manipur is also demanding d same. Meitis r the biggest ethnic grp (nt a tribal grp), they reside in valleys. They say influx has led to reduced employment opportunities.
- Hill tribes - Nagas n Kukis r opposing it since tey see demselves as the original inhabitants of hte state n look at Meitis with suspicion
- Goes against FR to move n reside in any part of the state
- More isolation n exclusion fr d natives, promotes primitive culture which might nt be int heir best interests

Must initiate political dialogue n arrive at a consensus.

**Pol party related Q aate hi MUST MENTION..... corruption in electoral funding, Perosnality CULT, criminalisation of pol parties, lack of inner party democracy, centralisation of power and dynastic rule, opportunism and lack of adherence to ideology n principles, lack of meaningful choice to ppl as all talk about same things, shift towards issue based politics from ideology n identity is emerging, parochial tendencies ke basis pe mobilisation, Non transparent functioning- do nt fall under RTI, do nt file returns, Defections are common**
Regulators ki Problems: NSEL Scam-FMC merged with SEBI  
- Pol interference- Chairman n key members r appointed by Govt  
- Ambiguity to lack of clarity of roles and also overlap of functions (intrusion in each others domain) eg TRAI n CAT  
- Lack autonomy n independencein functioning  
- Lack of accountabaility- nt accountable to parliament  

Solutions- Define MoUs to secure accountability as well as grant autonomy  
Clearly laid down rules n procedures  
Accountable to parliament- DSC to oversee functioning  

CAG and GSTN  
GSTN had refused to allow the CAG to audit its data on the ground that it was a nongovernment company and nt a public enterprise.  
The GSTN also argued that it was just a “pass through portal” and that the CAG must approach the Central Board of Excise and Customs and states which would have original data filed by taxpayers.  

Arguments from CAG  
CAG has said the source of all taxpayers’ data in the GST regime would be with GSTN. It is from here that the data is selectively pushed to CBEC and states. It is therefore essential for the CAG to access the data lying at the primary source for performing its constitutional duty. The CAG argued that the government had “strategic control” in GSTN irrespective of the shareholding pattern.  

Later, finance ministry declared that the CAG will audit the GSTN.  
Such issues have come before as well where a private entity performing public duties have refrained to come under scrutiny. Their implications are wider on public interest like a government entity (e.g. BCCI case). Many experts thus believe that such bodies should come under scrutiny banner like RTI or CAG.  

Law Commission of India 268th Report  
Law commission is an executive body under the Ministry of law and justice. In its 268th report, the issue of early and accessible bails to the undertrials was emphasized. It was observed that the ‘bail is norm and jail is exception’ remains true only for the rich and due to this, Indian prisons have become overcrowded with the under trial people. Inadequate n inefficient bail system needs an overhaul  

Probs  
- This is because of the need of Financial bond to avail a bail. Even SC highlighted concern that the under trials are languishing in jails due to poverty.  
- 67% of prisoners are under trials is a matter of concern  
- Overcrowding  
- Main problem in India is the slow judicial system and  
- Lack of awareness among inmates that they r scheduled to be released on completion of 50% of their jail term..Jailers do not do the task of awareness generation
Solutions:
- Prescribed alternatives to financial bond so that rich n poor r on equal footing
- Cautioned police to exercise restraint in arrests
- Speedy execution of trials is the ultimate solution

Single Permanent Tribunal-
How to ensure that states will adhere d award eg at present Punjab Govt has gone against tribunal award in Beas- Satluj water dispute award

SCO- economic, political n military org.....seeks to strengthen security situation iin central asia by countering prime threats- terrorism and separatism
Benefits....Strategic- improve rel with China n Pakistan...............neutralise China’s growing influencein Eurasia
Economic- opportunity to enhance trade n commerce...............growing protectionism in West means our IT n BFSI sector can find ground here
Energy- This region is rich in Uranium reserves...help strenthen our energy security
Stalled projects like TAPI n IPI might start moving
Political turmoil in Afghamistan will see improvement

Negatives
- Relations with West might tk a backseat as West sees SCO as a counter to NATO
- Trust deficit bw members my jeopardise smooth functioning
- China’s dominance means India will be playing a second fiddle
India will have to do a smart balancing of her interests and bilateral relations with her partners

Civil services reforms by ARC
- Ethics code of conduct
- Article 311 removal
- Civil Services Board to remove political interference
- Lateral entry of officers...shd be an exception rather than the norm

SECC vs NSS Data
SECC conducted by Census Commission, Home Ministry...NSS by NSSO, MoSPI
SECC covers entire pop, NSS covers only small samples
SECC measures hh level data NSS measures per capita
SECC measures deprivation, NSS measures income levels
SECC covers caste n oder detailed Qs, NSS covers mainly consumption related Qs
The SECC would be important for the identification of beneficiaries of programmes while NSS-based estimates would be useful for assessing changes in levels of living at the macro level over time.

Relevance of NSS data
§ The NSS data would be used basically to assess the changes in poverty at national and state levels, or at the district level.
§ This will be useful for assessing efficacy of poverty alleviation schemes and create appropriate policies.

There are many differences between data of SECC and NSS. But these data can be complementary and both sets of data can be used to get a complete picture of poverty.

GOVERNANCE changing definitions- earlier WB defined G. as the processes by which authority is exercised. But nw it has been changed to a more comprehensive view- the ways in which decisions r taken n implemented...it is a holistic view encompassing state, market and Civil Society.

9. What do you understand by Geneva Conventions? Do you think they are irrelevant today? Also comment if it’s time for a digital Geneva Convention to be signed by all countries of the world.

Geneva Conventions are a set of international treaties to regulate war crimes. It encourages ethical behaviour even with those who are involved in either international or noninternational conflicts. It defines the code of conduct that must be met while dealing with criminals (within country conflicts), PoW and civilians.

Contemporary relevance:
After seeing extreme war crimes in Syria or mutilation of Indian soldiers by Pakistani forces, it is being questioned if Geneva Convention has helped to put some deterrence on these crimes. In Modern world, challenges have grown like wars without borders, extreme terrorism and complexity of wars.

It is difficult to say that Geneva conventions are irrelevant today due to following reasons:-
1. Conventions provides a vital framework. Without them, there would be no clear way of knowing what is acceptable in war, and what is not.
2. Even though the Geneva conventions are widely violated, they still save lives. For e.g. millions of people in Syria have been provided medical help due to these conventions.
3. The media and humanitarian agencies often only publicize breaches of the law, not the many instances in which it is respected and applied.

These conventions may be frequently violated, but that does not mean they have become irrelevant. It continues to have a vital role to play. War without any such laws is simply not acceptable.

Digital Geneva Convention
Microsoft has recently proposed digital Geneva Convention. It called on governments to sign Convention, which will commit governments to implement the norms needed to protect civilians on the internet in times of peace just as the Fourth Geneva Convention has long protected civilians in times of war.
Need of Digital Geneva Convention:
In recent years, cyberattacks have become global threat. They have affected the presidential elections in the U.S.; they’ve been stealing millions of dollars from businesses and even central banks, wreaking havoc in the industrial sector, stealing corporate and state secrets as well as individuals’ private data, and generally causing great damage to global peace, security and prosperity.

Conclusion
Geneva conventions and proposed digital Geneva Convention are very important in the modern world. With increase in conflicts on the ground and in the cyberworld, It has become important to protect civilians and ensure that no harm would be caused to them.

Jobless Growth mein u can say- focus on SMEs as they r highly labour intensive bt face competition frm MNCs which have access to tech n capital

Nagas protested creation of new districts bcz it reduced their population majority in new districts...they fear domination of Kukis................Further, Hill area committees formed under section 371 C hv nt been consulted..............Naga n Kukis r hill dwelling and Meitis are plains dwelling.

Materity Benefit Act....benefits only the organised sector women
50 employees se more, creches shd be made availabe
Fr more than 2 children, 12 weeks to continue

Us withdrawal from TPP benefits India...How?
- Trade diversion wd be avoided- India faced stiff competition frm Vietnam in textile n leather(cheaper pdn costs), frm Philippines in ICT exports. This ws be avoided
- RCEP where India is a participating member wd get mr focus and there wd be a pressure to quickly wind up the negotiations
- India has been engaging in FTA talks with Australia, NZ n Canada. With US withdrawal frm TPP (these countries were a part of TPP); their bargaining power wd stand reduced, India stands a better chance of finalising favourable terms
- India wd be saved frm non tariff barriers such as restrictions around quota, sanctions etc, stiffer IPR norms which wd hv been imposed on India by participatory TPP countries. Pressue to abide by stringent TPP standards in ongoing trade negotiations such as RCEP, other bilateral FTAs will go down

3) What were the objectives of the New Delhi Declaration signed between India and Iran? Have they been realised? Critically examine. (250 Words)
The Indian Express

Introduction:
In January 2003, when Iran’s President Khatami visited India as the chief guest for the Republic Day celebrations, he and then-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee signed on an ambitious roadmap of strategic cooperation. Among the key projects agreed on was Chabahar, which held the potential to link the South Asian subcontinent to the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, Central Asia and Europe. At a press conference, Vajpayee said that the two countries were determined to “consolidate, expand and diversify” bilateral relations, with clear targets to be achieved over the “next five years”, or by 2008.

Objectives envisaged under New Delhi Declaration

1. Economic relations – Transport Corridors and Energy security

- In the New Delhi Declaration they signed, the two leaders recognised that their “growing strategic convergence needs to be underpinned with a strong economic relationship”.
- In boosting the economic content of ties, the focus was on building transport corridors and deepening energy cooperation.

2. Transit to Afghanistan bypassing Pakistan

- India’s ambition of reaching Afghanistan — since Pakistan had blocked land transit and access through its territory — fuelled the need for developing the strategic project of Chabahar.

Why not realised fully?
US declaration of Iran being one of the “axis of evil” — along with Iraq and North Korea — pushed New Delhi to abandon its strategic relationship with Tehran.

- The relations gathered momentum in 2015 as the Iran-P-5+1 talks bore fruition and geopolitics took a new direction.
- In 2017, the new US administration’s attitude towards Iran is again bitter.

Way forward
New Delhi appears determined to stay the course since it believes the benefits of the Chabahar project are clear. **Delhi’s approach also stems from the fact that China is aggressively pursuing its own Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) under Chinese President Xi Jinping’s One Belt One Road (OBOR) project** — many in Delhi view this as one of India’s projects to counter Xi’s BRI.

Indian policymakers will have to **use the Chabahar project as a lynchpin to integrate it with its larger connectivity project** — the **International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC)**.

The INSTC, initiated in 2000 by Russia, India and Iran, is a multi-modal transportation route linking the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea via Iran, and onward to northern Europe via St Petersburg in Russia.

GoI has appointed Dineshwar Sharna as special representative for talks with various grps in Kashmir. Another step is amnesty given to first time offenders booked under stone pelting incidents.

**NGT efficacy**

NGT established in 2010 under Imp rulings- on ban of old diesel vehicles, stern actions against sand mining, directives on river cleaning, plastic ban in Delhi NCR, Tawang Hydel project in Arunachal Pradesh- fr it wd endanger black necked cranes, Art of Living Festival pe ruling- that pay as per d damage and capping no of pilgrims at Vaishno Devi to 50k per day and now maintenance of silence in Amarnath shrine (bhajans n chanting allowed).

Most importantly, it has come as a saviour to subaltern sections of society protecting their environmental rights.

Negatives- its AoL order was nt taken seriously, directives fr cleaning Ganga n Yamuna hv nt produced desired results; vacancies r high (less than 1/3 of sanctioned 20)

India n Pak exchange list of nuclear sites and each others’ nationals in their prisons on 1st Jan (Non-Nuclear Aggression Agreement signed in 92..reason- Israel attacked Iraq n accidentally its nuclear weapons gt destroyed; also India’s military operation brasstacks which had deep offensive capabilities made Pak put its nuclear weapons on high alert); NSA advisors of both countries also met even after the meeting of Jadhav’s mother n wife with him. Tis shows that the backchannels r alive and working.

India cannot be totally subdued by China’s economic power bcz:

- Ultimately all countries r sovereign and there is a limit to which one can dictate terms to them.
- There r ill effects of excessive meddling eg Nepal economic blockade by Delhi
- China lacks democracy and it promotes resentment in its citizens; recently HK residents were seen protesting against Chinese intervention in their affairs.
Chinese economic prowess is not permanent; India will equal it or surpass it sm decades down the line. This is what happened in past when Chinese neighbours who were influenced by US n Japan (n were unwilling to entertain China) in 1950s warmed up to China later. Iran is also witnessing protests against the supreme leader due to its economic problems and unemployment. An overturn of leadership took place in Zimbabwe too though it was military driven n nt led by ppl)

Growing Nepal-China ties
- China providing internet line thus ending sole dependence on India
- Connecting Tibet to Nepal via rail n road to end dependency on India fr access to Seas
- Aiding Nepal with solar power generator equipments
- China announced $48 bn aid to Nepal fr renovation fr Tatopani hydel project

Maldives- SC ruled all opposition leaders who had been jailed in an unfair trial earlier to be released including Mohd Nasheed. Abdullah Yameen did nt implement the ruling rather declared emergency as he cd hv been impeached now by the opposition which hs bcm a majority post reinstatement of disqualified members
- To bring chaos to an end, Yameen must abide by Court’s orders and make arrangements fr peaceful n fair elections
- India shd apply sanctions such as on tourism, trade etc; India shd build pressure on Maldives along with like minded nations such as US, UK n UN. India shd stay in touch with d opposition leader Nausheed
- This is needed cz its a zone of India’s influence
India is looking at tourism n trade sanctions but not boots on ground bcz
- Unlike in 1988, request fr intervention is nt by ruling Govt but by opposition
- China has a bigger role in Indian Ocean than past, we do nt want another stand off with China
- Consequences of a military intervention r quite unpredictable
This emergency is invalid cz Abdullah Yameen ds nt hv d majority in Majlis to pass the decision. Then, SC orders violated n judges arrested.

In the past, the Maldives became a middle-income country, primarily through development loans from the State Bank of India. India has the ability to provide more sustainable loans for Indian Ocean countries, and that is where it has an edge

Operation Cactus was the name of the procedure in 1988. Maldives adopted new constitution in 2008 which led to judiciary becoming independent
**Bangladesh**- Khaleda jia has been sent to prison over corruption charges, her party is left in lurch and the upcoming election has become one-sided thus removing system of checks and balances which is very important in a democracy. It's good that she was jailed for her corruption involvement but the fact that charges were dropped against members of ruling Govt and not that against opposition parties is an injustice.

**Soft Power**- Non military and non coercive measures of diplomacy

We can use leadership of important institutions, cultural norms, Yoga, democratic values, Gandhian values, film industry, educational scholarships given to foreigners, HADR exercises

Govt is planning ranking system for national sports federation. **Funds release** can also be linked to the performance which will ensure competitive spirit and improve efficiency.