

VAJIRAM & RAVI

SURE SHOT TEST SERIES FLT 2024

GENERAL STUDIES

Full Length Test

Test - 2 (GS2 CT2)

Time allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

ADMIN. NO.:

NAME:

MOBILE NO.:

EMAIL.:

SUBMISSION DATE:

**UPSE CSE 2025
AIR - 428**

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:

There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH. All the questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/ part is indicated against it. Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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

Follow these steps to avail the facility of mentoring –

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

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

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



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

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

DRSC was constituted in 1993 to provide a continuous & effective monitoring of department work.

Structure of DRSC

- + ① 24 DRSC
- + ② each has 31 members both LS & RS
- + ③ Both LS & RS have DRSC under them.

Role in promoting effective parliamentary control

① by monitoring the demand of grants of ministry during budget.

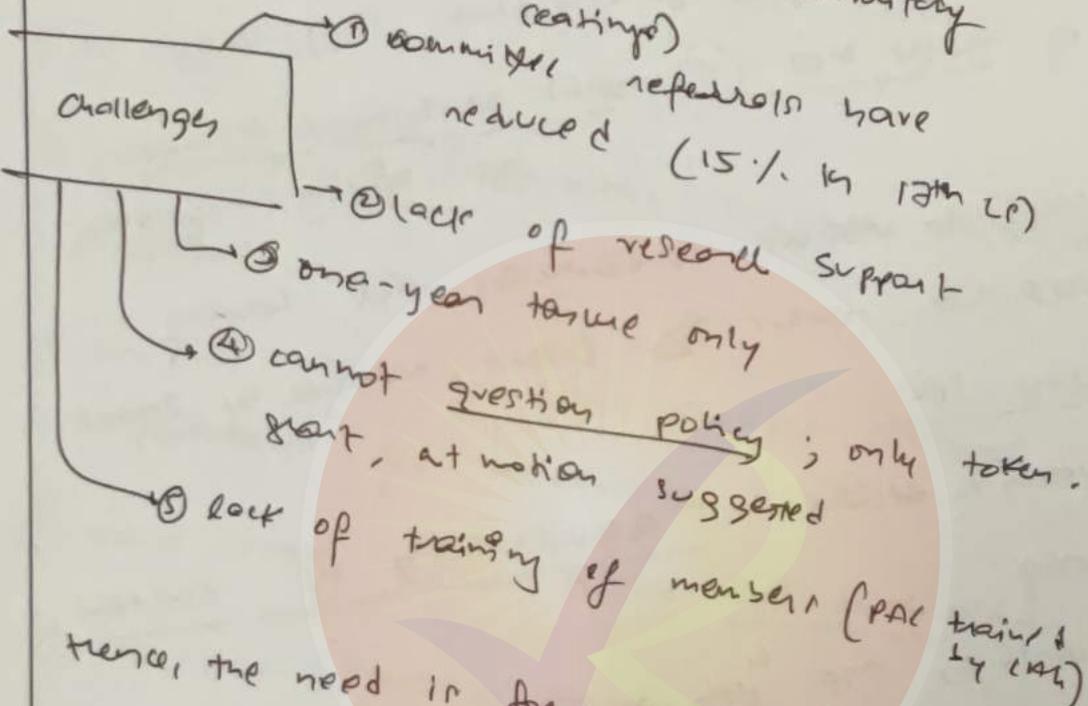
② by evaluating departmental policies [ex]: Standing Committee (SC) on External Affairs monitored diplomatic activities

③ promote effective evaluation of bills [ex]: Data Protection Bill.

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- ① include RS members to control financial expenditure of Parliament
- ② use expert representation; people's petition
- ③ promote bi-partisan review of policies
- ④ ~~use~~ continuous evaluation of policies instead of apologetic (60-70 days parliamentary readings)



hence, the need is for more robust
 R&D support; improving tenure of MR in
 DRSC; minister must be made member too,
 power of civil audit to be restored

students should not write anything inside the box

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

74th Amendment Act provided for the urban local bodies [Act 243P to 2432G]

Presence of parastatal bodies dilutes autonomy.

- ① due to overlap of jurisdiction [ex] - take of Delhi MCD (or) Delhi Development Authority over building regulation
- ② leads to elected representative not having adequate powers [ex] - Indore managed by smart City SPV.
- ③ leads to decline in accountability of elected body
- ④ violates the principle of 'colorable legislation' of the 74th Act & principle of 'substantive' by state
- ⑤ would lead to bureaucratization of the URB development at urban level
- ⑥ fragmentation of jurisdiction [ex] - Delhi Jal Board (or) MCD over sanitation

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- ③ prevents cooperation for common agenda
Text - primary education, slum removal.
- ④ ~~promotes~~ violates the 12th schedule jurisdiction provided under constitution.
- ⑤ would lead to decline in voter turnout
Ex: Delhi now had 50% turnout (2022)

Way Ahead

- ① ISher J. Athwal committee suggested disbanding parastatal bodies
- ② promote ULB to have multiple internal departments for motivation.
- ③ don't have SPV outside ULB architecture
- ④ District Planning Committee (Act 243 20) to be empowered for planning of city.
hence, with 60% of GDP from cities, they have to be governed smoothly

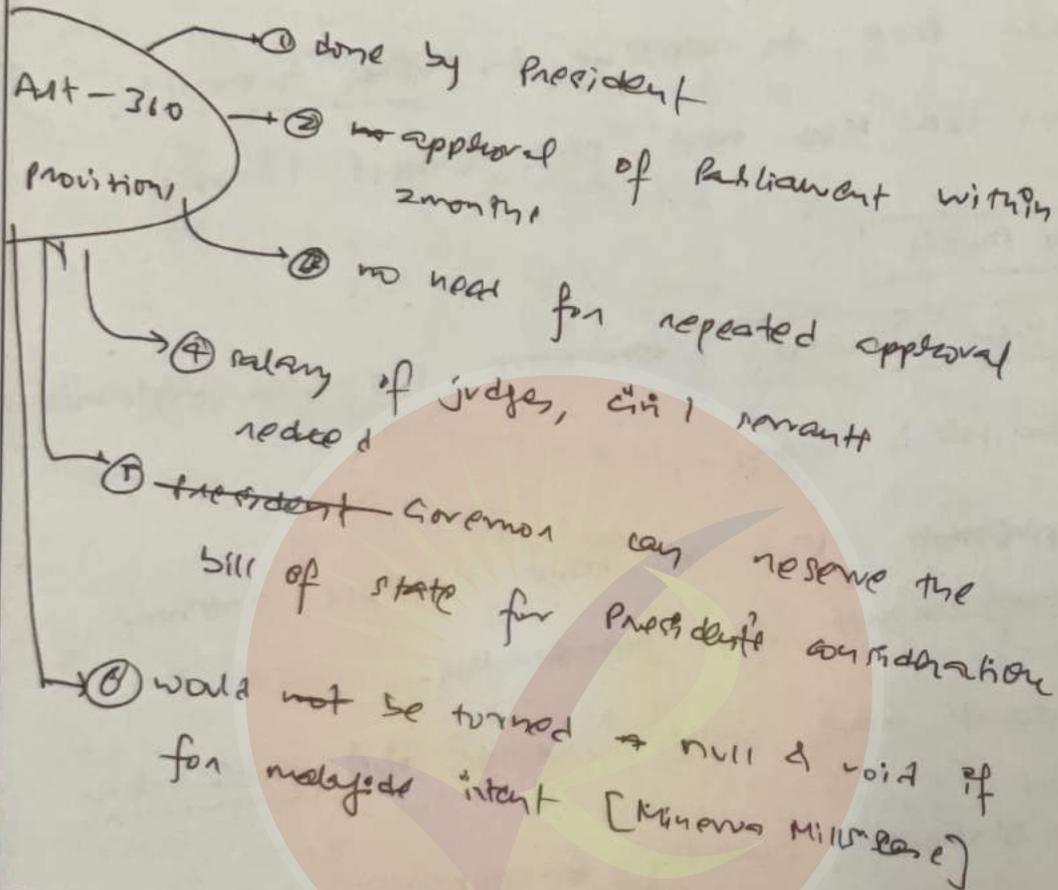
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Suggestions:

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

Art 360 provides for the financial emergency to be declared by President



Dead letter even during worst economic crisis :-

- ① to prevent fiscal federalism is impacted
- ② to ~~prevent~~ promote investor confidence from

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declaring if emergency is declared &

③ to prevent any control over the state's regulative power

④ would not enable ~~prevent~~ handling the crisis (ex): BOP crisis (1997) due to external market crisis.

⑤ would lead to reduced salary of civil servants → impact morale.

⑥ may take away bandwidth of finance ministry in maintaining state law

Jay Ahead

① FRBM Act promotes fiscal prudence of 3% Fiscal Deficit
② Fiscal deficit commission on fiscal revenue expenditure

③ RBI's role in averting external payment crisis

④ Financial Stability & Development Board to monitor the developments

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Hence, the fiscal prudence of leaders prevented any fiscal crisis ⁶ till 1990.

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

Both India & USA are republican, constitutional democracy.

Indian constitution is blended with rigidity & flexibility

Rigid aspect

① ~~Art 368~~ need to be upheld by basic structure
[ex] = NJAC turned null & void

② ~~Art 19~~ Part II restricts parliamentary sovereignty

③ Federal features
like Division of Power (Art 246)

④ power of court cannot be reduced

⑤ cannot be arbitrary & capricious

[ex]: Emergency provision

Flexibility

① Art 368 can amend any part of constitution (Minnerva mill case)

② no limit on the amending powers

[ex]: Part II can be amended

③ with states' consent even federal features can be amended

US has a rigid constitution

① a constitutional convention convened by 1/2 of states approval is needed who further need 2/3rd approval for amendment

② very limited number of amendment due to this

③ powers of courts, senate, executive cannot be changed without states approval.

④ unlike India's "implied limitation" under DBP; USA has "explicit limit" under constitution.

⑤ separation of power, Bill of Rights & Federalism also keeps check on the amendment → judicial review applicable (Art-III).

Here, both the constitutions are paradigmatic of democracy..

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

MFI are financial products that include - micro-savings, micro-insurance, & micro-credit for the vulnerable section of society. It is seen as "anti-poverty vaccine".

Role of MFI in rural financial empowerment

- ① promotes financial inclusion EX: 6.6 crore women in 129 districts included (MFIN Report)
- ② promote financial literacy with access to credit; loan repayment discipline etc.
- ③ ensure asset creation for "Swarajya" EX: SHG-Bank linkage for micro loans for income generating activities.
- ④ promote cooperatives to scale business.
- ⑤ provide catalytic capital for - skill development EX: sewing machine learning, computer cafe management.

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- ② provides loans to SC/ST for financial empowerment (20% of loans go to SC/ST)
 - ↳ Economic Survey 2018-19
- ③ culture of saving introduced with better loan repayment rate (only 2-3% NPA).

Issues with the MFI

- ① dominated by Banks (40%) and NBFC (30%) → MFIR Report
 - ② promote only asset-creating activities not personal loan ex: marriage.
 - ③ high interest rate than market loans
 - ④ other products like - Stand up India loan, NRLM loan more affordable
 - ⑤ doesn't provide financial literacy training to SHG/cooperatives
- hence, the NABARD Pradhan Mantri for promoting -
 savings, accounting system, group meetings etc

Introduction	Suggestions:
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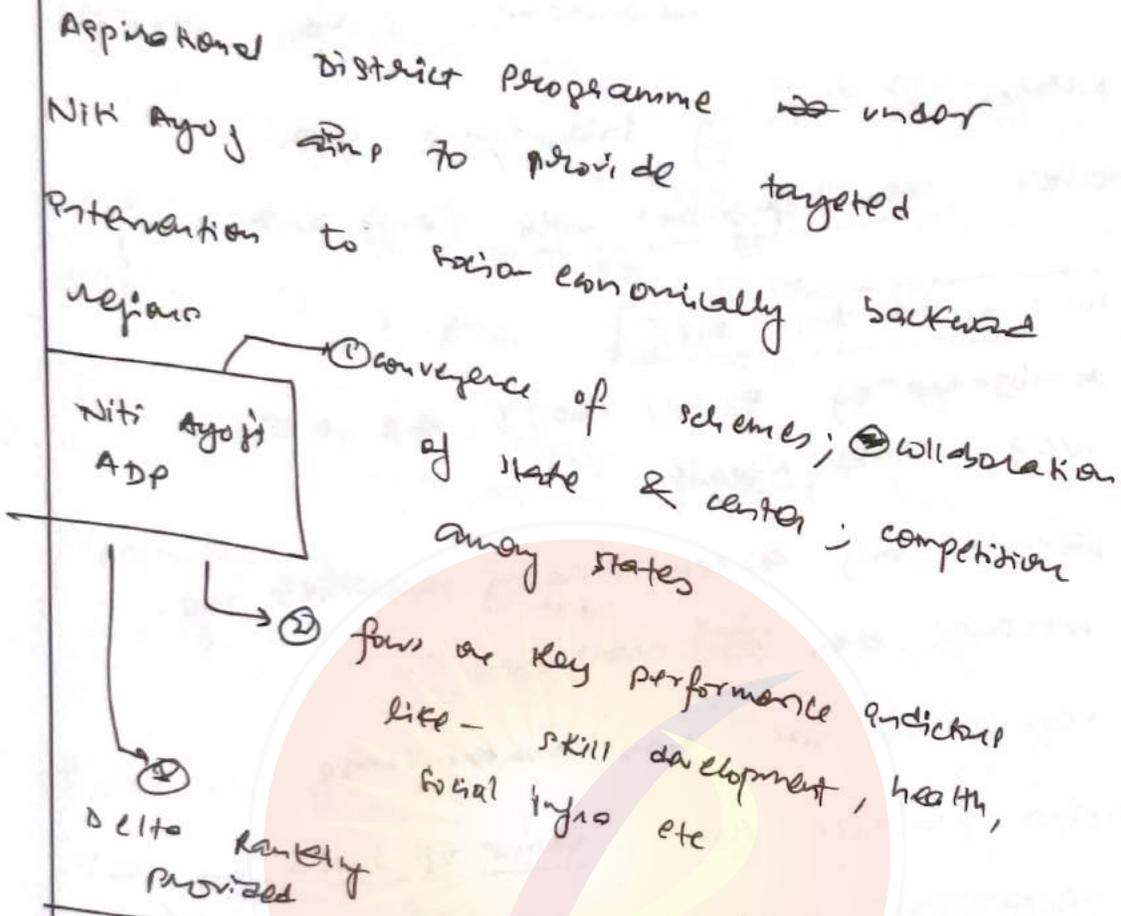
for robust financial management.

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



TEMPLATE FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE

- ① provides targeted intervention in low outcome regions.
- ② provide data driven dashboard for real time monitoring of the outcome.

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- ① focus on competitive federalism to foster employment in atoms
- ② focus on high priority areas [ex]: Kupwad saw rise in institutional deliveries.
- ③ Niti Aayog can provide strategic inputs [ex]: e-governance initiatives facilitated in rural Odisha/Andhra Pradesh.
- ④ improve outcomes on short run ("low hanging fruits") [ex]: West Singhpur improved registration of pregnant women.
 - ① slow pace of improvement
 - ② states not incentivised fiscally
 - ③ Niti Aayog's role is limited to providing advice.

Way Ahead: ① Appraisal and Block Programme also promoted; ② provide financial incentive for improvement; ③ include district level

Introduction	Suggestions:
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officer in planning of AOP; ④ promote best practices for NEU India

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

Platform workers ~~don't~~ work outside the traditional employer-employee relation. Currently, there are 17.5 million platform workers in India (NITI Aayog's Report).

Raising the concern of social security

① does not provide any social protection like EPFO; ~~to~~ pension.

② even in accident during the job no accident insurance provided

③ against Art 42 → just & humane condition of work.

④ even income is dependent on algorithmic outcomes → violates Minimum wage Act, & Art 43 (living wage for all)

⑤ does not have any statutory payment, bonus payment based on 100 on wages

② no rules applied for gender - equity in ~~the~~ payment

However, it is needed as :-

- ① Injunctive the essence of SDG economy.
- ② would dilute the model of business.
- ③ promote low profit margin, thereby, preventing 'ease of doing business'.
- ④ companies have system of incentives like Star-rating, customer tip etc

WAY AHEAD

- i) we need a statute to uphold right of social security
- ②) social security board needed (mandated in code of social security)
- ③) provide accidental relief funded by state @ employer
- ④) job security provided.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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Hence, need is to provide SDG: decent work conditions.

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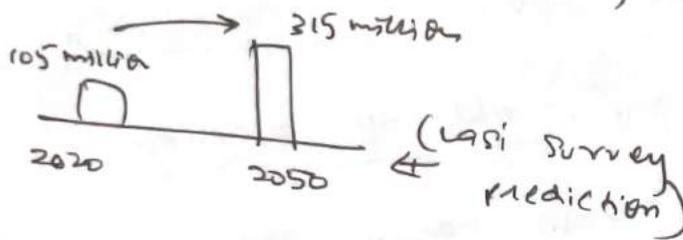
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8. Demographic transition demands renewed focus on healthcare intervention patterns. Discuss the statement in the light of geriatric health in India.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Currently, the elderly population comprise of ~105 million. (Census 2011)



Renewed focus on healthcare intervention needed

- ① to provide primary healthcare as point of contact for old age in rural areas (70% in rural)
- ② promote diagnostic center, referral services, critical care facilities for elderly, in rural areas
- ③ special focus on assistive technology becoming affordable is needed
- ④ promoting mental well-being (30% of elderly suffer from - mental health : NHI Agos Report)

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⑤ health insurance penetration is low

Ex: 25% have health cover.

⑥ feminisation of elderly needs to be addressed with focus on - destitute, widow, Urnidavan widow etc.

Way Ahead :-

- ① community-based health care system (Kerala model)
- ② from 'static - come-to-me' model; we need mobile palliative care.
- ③ screening facilities @ rural areas for diabetes, arthritis.
- ④ APHA for elderly
- ⑤ Telemedicine feature for urban elderly.
- ⑥ Text: mental health counselling
- ⑦ health insurance dedicatedly for elderly.
- ⑧ promote Ayush medicines

hence, we need to promote "Society of all ages" & "Healthy ageing"

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

UNESCO is a multilateral specialised institution of UN which aims to foster economic, cultural, educational, scientific & environmental ties with the members.

Funding remains a major limitation

- ① due to withdrawal of funds by USA due to its allegation of bias.
- ② due to weak private sector funding of UNESCO
- ③ budgetary allocation done to UN in general is low @ \$8/per person per year
- ④ low bureaucratization of UNESCO also increases its expenditure
- ⑤ low accountability measures leads to

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misutilisation of ~~source~~ source resources.

② Lack of governmental funding for - UNESCO World heritage sites; Creative Cities Network weakens its implementation

Way forward

- ① Improve resource mobilisation, viz. social stock exchange.
 - ② use of private sector funding, CSR funds.
 - ③ reform red tapism + bureaucratisation of UN
 - ④ promote higher national targets + to member nations.
 - ⑤ action taken for deficit by nations.
- Hence as a institution to promote global cooperation in science & culture + promoting soc

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more funding is needed. India has also pointed this out in ¹⁸ New declaration for Reformed Multilateralism

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10. How will the BBIN grouping promote regional integration in South Asia? Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

BBIN is a grouping of - Nepal, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh to promote regional connectivity & ensure 'soft regionalism'

Promoting regional integration

1) by transport projects streamlined [ex]: BBIN - Motor vehicle Agreement

2) promote economic ties to be harmonised [ex]: Hydro cooperation (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal) for hydroelectricity trade

3) bolster people-people connect [ex]: on-arrival visa

4) platform to resolve disputes [ex]: Tista issue; Kalapani issue

5) would boost border development [ex]: Integrated check post developed for trade

6) improve security cooperation [ex]: joint

border management; joint patrolling; joint military exercise

- ④ boost the initiatives of BIMSTEC TEX: Blue economy, NE India development

Challenges to BSIN

- ① China's dependence on infrastructure development TEX: Trans-Himalayan multidimensional regional connectivity project in Nepal.
- ② delivery deficit of India in projects
- ③ overlapping organisations like PAARC, BIMSTEC etc
- ④ "big brother - small neighbour" syndrome
- ⑤ high retaliatory tariff; average tariff is also high in region (35%)
- ⑥ Intra-BSIN trade low (<5%)

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hence, need is to harness "low hanging fruit" of - connectivity & infrastructure development.

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

India has a cooperative federal model where both the centre & state are independent in fiscal domain but also cooperate on common concerns [Art - 266 - 293]

Centre's resources are elastic and substantial

- ① Income tax provides for an elastic source of income
- ② Custom duty, excise duty other source of income (indirect source)
- ③ Corporate taxation provided to promote ease of paying taxes to corporates.

Reason for these powers :-

- ① to fund states' development via devolution prog.
- ② have to provide grants based on fiscal commission recommendations.

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- ③ enables center to correct for regional inequality [ex]: NE Development vision 2025.
- ④ promote welfare of SC/ST [ex]: SC/ST subplan.
- ⑤ to focus on - defense, railway, telecom. which requires resources.
- ⑥ would enable center to fund infrastructure projects [ex]: PM Gati Shakti

State's financial powers are limited & inadequate

- ① professional tax capped under Art 292 provision
- ② only tax m - electricity, road, purchase tax
- ③ excise duty ~~only~~ states depend on cost of crude oil
- ④ ~~no~~ power to tax income, corporates.
- ⑤ agriculture tax can be levied.

Reasons for these powers

- ① to allow independence to state for following economic policy of choice

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- ② already devolution amount provided by FC
- ③ would increase tax burden.
- ④ would lead to lack of ease of doing business

However, things are changing

- ① GST has promoted common tax power (Art 246-A)
- ② → power to ~~tax~~ levy royalty on minerals could boost revenue

Way Ahead

- ① → reduce cess & surcharge of union (10% of GTI)
- ② → improve the grant-in-aid provided (₹1.45 Lakh crore FY 23)
- ③ provide property tax & concessions to be facilitated.
- ④ user fee charge by ULBs to promote local development (ex: waste management)

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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- ⑤ → Saranam Krishna Committee → 10% of income tax to city fund
- Here, we need fiscal federalism.

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

Judicial Review (Art 13, 32, 226) provides for the power to review any law / order / executive decision which may be contravening constitution.

Supremacy of constitution require all laws to conform to constitution

① power of court to uphold right to equality

ex: Mandal Reservation was capped with 50% (Indira Sawhney case).

② could reject bill/act for being arbitrary

ex: MTP Act provided arbitrary distinction between married/unmarried women → struck down

③ to uphold constitutional morality ex: Section 377 struck down in Navtej Johar case

④ to prevent violation of federalism etc.

① cooperative law on states turned null & void
§ In Agarwal state case

② promote separation of power in system.

Ex: NJAC Act was rejected in 4th Judge
Case

③ to uphold Art 19(1)(a) right to speech

Ex: Suresh Singh case struck down Section
66A of IT Act.

④ promote the minority rights without
with Art 14, 21 Ex: Debate over the
CAA & CAA Act.

⑤ to prevent misuse of Art 15(5) for
subta. Ex: Manoj reservation was turned
ultra vires.

⑥ to interpret the ordinary law so that
it does not violate the Constitution

Ex: GNED Act interpreted to have
give only limited power to LG.

However, there are challenges.

- ① Judicial overreach [ex]: DBS in KB case (1975)
- ② would make judiciary "third chamber"
- ③ leads to national sovereignty of parliament being diluted.
- ④ makes judgements into "artefact of individual judges"
- ⑤ violates - accountability, separation of power & constitutionalism
- ⑥ would lead to 'elitism' in law-making.
- ⑦ may go against social morality ^{criminalisation} turned null & void. [ex]: adultery

there, the need is for judicial restraint & follow constitutional morality.

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

Art-82/170 provides for the readjustment of boundaries after every census.

Art 319 provides that no law for delimitation would be challenged in court of law.

Delimitation: A wedge b/w representative & democracy & federalism

- ① would lead to ~~less~~ more representation of UP, Bihar (>60% of population)
- ② would violate equity in representation
- ③ asymmetric federalism principle is violated
- ④ would disenfranchise the votes of the South India / NE India
- ⑤ would promote 'resentful federalism' (ox), in tax collection South India is higher.

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- ⑥ would promote political homogenisation in Lok Sabha.
- ⑦ would promote "tyranny of North" over "South".
- ⑧ disincentive discipline to reforms in federal structure → impacts cooperative federalism.

However, there is another aspect

- ① to follow 'one man, one vote', delimitation is needed based on 2011/2020 census
- ② to uphold more population → more representation
- ③ should lead to political inequality in federal system.
- ④ good governance merits MP/population ratio to be constant
- ⑤ would lead to 'tyranny of minority' against majority democracy.
- ⑥ incentive based on Finance Commission devolution be provided to promote reform in social sector

Way Ahead

- ① revamp Inter state council for solution
 - ② Model of finance commission based formula for devolution of funds can be followed (NK. Singh)
 - ③ promote delimitation when population of north also stabilise → reach < 2.0 TFR
 - ④ promote internal readjustment of the constituencies.
 - ⑤ need for women's reservation, 10% reservation rotation of seats require that delimitation occur.
- Here, the need is to promote consultative + 'samvad' (dialogue) to arrive at consensus over 'delimitation for development'.

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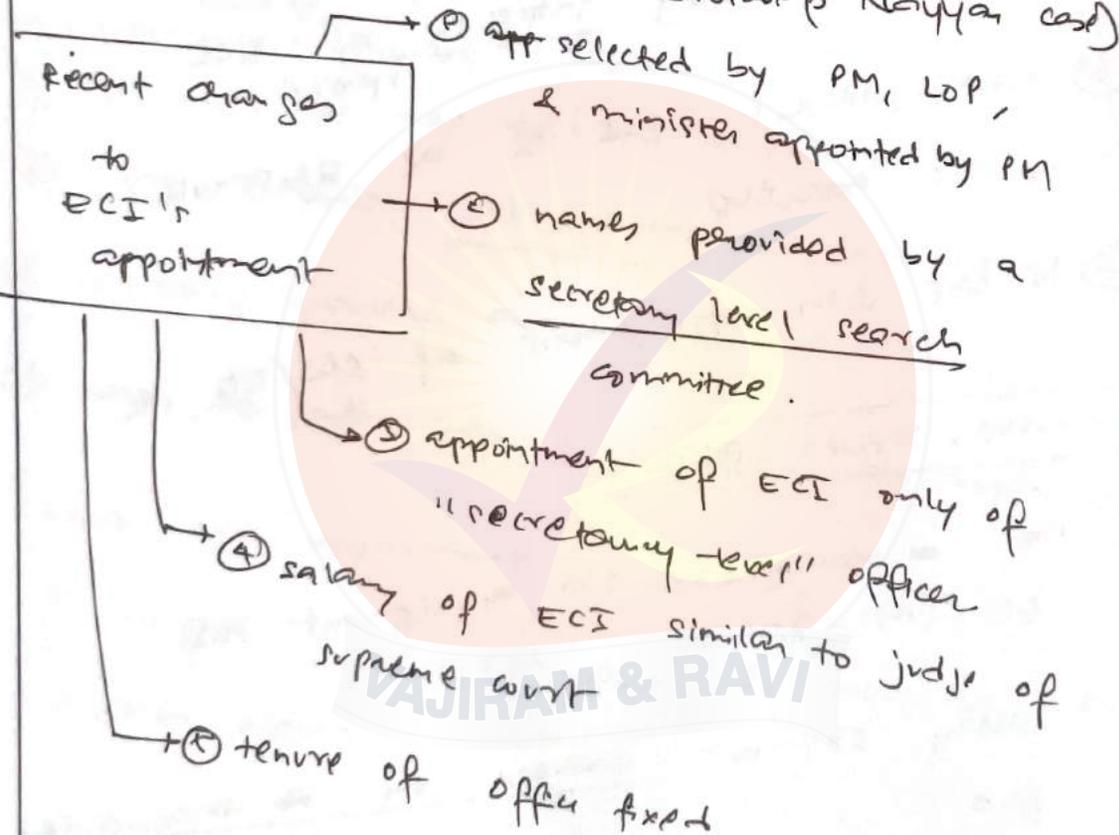
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14. Examine the impact of recent changes to the election commissioners' appointment process on autonomy and independence of the election commission.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Annop Barnwal case pointed to the need to reform the system of appointment of the ECI for "free & fair election" (Kuldip Nayyar case)



Impact of changes on autonomy & independence

① would promote collegium based appointment as recommended by Dinanath Goswami committee

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- ① prevent arbitrary appointment of ECJ
- ② would de-politicise the ECJ appointment
- ③ would cause consensus-oriented appointment
- ④ the collegium also empowered to look beyond govt ministry suggested list → promoting "integrity" of ECJ upheld
- ⑤ would prevent ECJ to be subservient to the executive
- ⑥ in line with appointment of CBI/ED etc

however, issues present

- ① no. modification in appointment of EC. (Art - 324)
- ② salary still not changed or consolidated
- ③ would not prevent executive from "bulldozing" candidates due to 2:1 ratio in collegium
- ④ CJI removed from collegium violates SC orders.

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⑤ Act of "colorable legislation" promoting similar system as before

⑥ no restriction on post-retirement office.

⑦ removal process of EC not stipulated ~~also~~ at par with CEC

WAY AHEAD :

① CJI must be appointed in collegium

② going beyond IAS officers in appointment

③ providing financial autonomy to ECs

④ power to parliamentary oversight over appointment

hence, the appointment process of ECs

is critical for "free & fair" & independent election system.

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

Mission Karmayogi aims to promote a ~~stable~~ ^{based} bureaucracy going beyond the weberian model of bureaucracy.

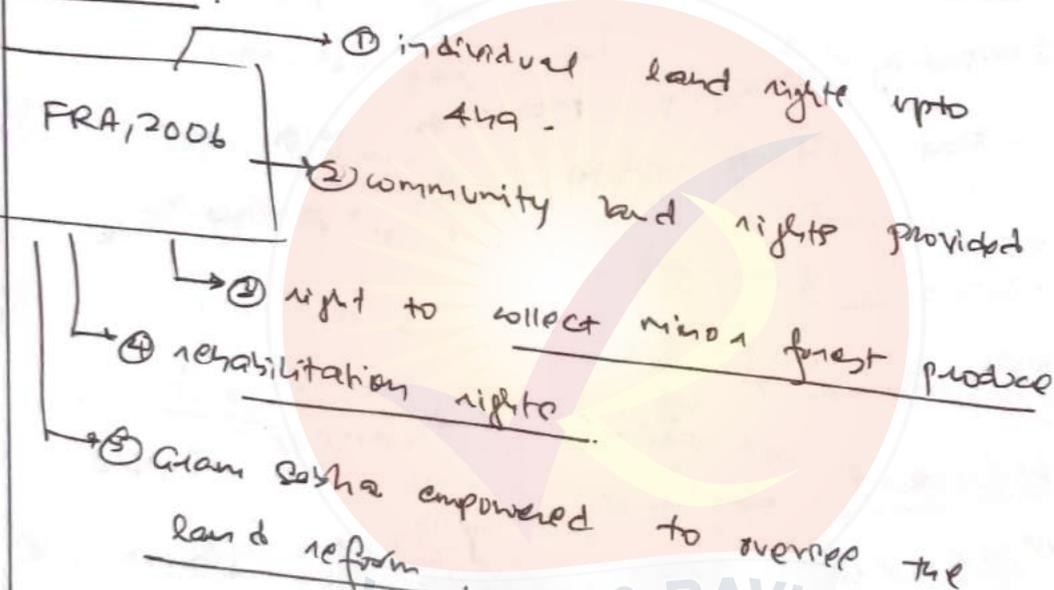
Role of Mission Karmayogi in promoting performance targets

- ① provides - framework for behavioural, domain & outcome targets for the officers to achieve.
- ② to provide

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

Forest Right Act, 2006 was aimed at undoing the historical injustice to tribals in lack of land rights & actual - economic rights to uphold "Tribal Landheel".



Status of implementation

Positive developments :-

- 1 Habitat rights provided to tribals including PVTG [ex]: Baiga tribe
- 2 provided oversight of Gram Sabha.

to prevent corruption

- ③ prevented land acquisition by corporates
- ④ promoted cultural & community forest land used for - grazing, livestock rearing
- ⑤ provided rehabilitation in case of development project [ex: Jalavaram project rehabilitation]
- ⑥ balancing ecological protection with the critical wildlife habitat for inviolable area.

Issues :-

- ① only 2-3% of individual rights provided
- ② FRA rules not notified by states [ex: HP/UK/ etc]
- ③ only 5/75 PVTs have got habitat rights
- ④ at off date of 2004 is arbitrary.
- ⑤ lack of documentation to proof stayed for 3 generations
- ⑥ Customs & Excise mandate can be overruled

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by Block-level administration

- ① critical wildlife ~~act~~ used to take over land
- ② overlapping laws → used to take land

③ Coal Bearing Act, MMDR Act etc

Ways to improve

① by providing documentation facilitation
④: Waynadi 'ARBC' camp for document at one-stop place

② promote basit rights with leaser scrutiny → to ensure livelihood.

③ not use forest (conservation) Act; Ecologically Sensitive Zone Area declaration to take land

④ proceedings of Gram Sabha without any version.

⑤ role of TRIFED to promote MFP marketing.

⑥ PESA - led governance
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Introduction	Suggestions:
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hence, we need to promote tribal autonomy as envisaged in Somtha³⁸ case & Yoxa committee

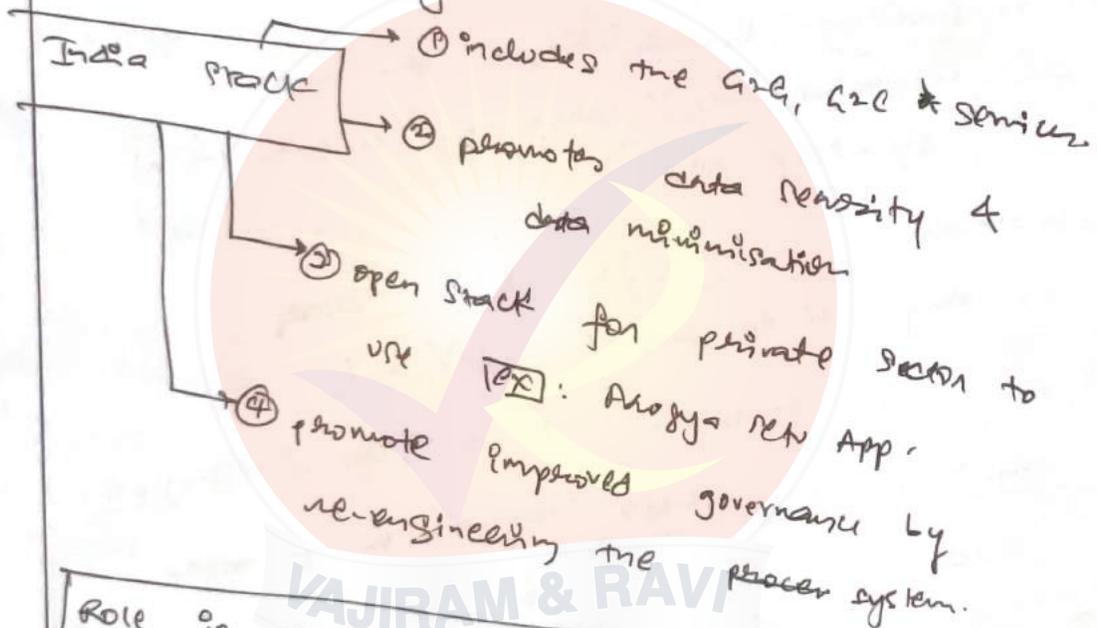
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17. What do you understand by India Stack? Discuss its role in good governance and improving ease of living. (15 marks, 250 words)

India Stack is the collection of e-governance initiative of government of India to promote good governance, ease of business & living.



Role in good governance

- 1 provide for improved access to benefits
ex: DBT system.
- 2 reduce the delay in service delivery
ex: e-driver license system.
- 3 improve agriculture governance
ex: Fasal Bima

App to monitor farm output using GIS.

④ reduce the ~~to~~ duplication of data collection ^{open} ex: Data on platform for horizontal & vertical sharing of information.

⑤ improve the last mile delivery of services ex: ACP based MGNREGS payment

⑥ improved monitoring of performance of schemes ex: PM's Prayas Portal.

⑦ role of private sector participation enhanced ex: PM Gati Shakti Portal to be used by private sector

Goal in case of living

① access to services with no information asymmetry ex: 'eAarogya Seva'

② reduce the documentation hassle for services ex: one-stop document verification for PAN CARD

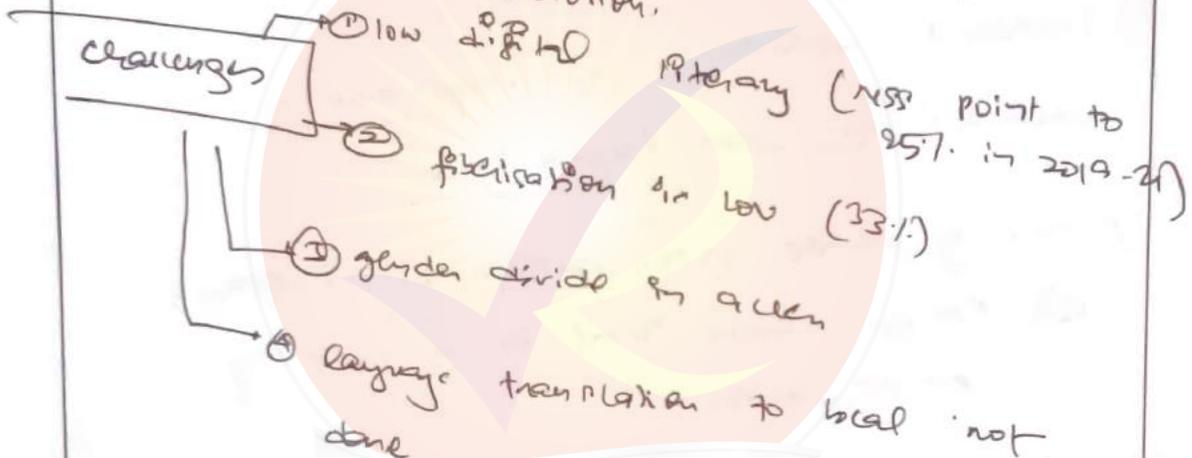
③ role of academic document management

Improved ex: National Academic Depository.

④ ease of complaining for grievance ex: LCRAM postal of union

⑤ ease of tax payment- ex: 477 IN portal

⑥ ease of doing business for small industries ex: MSME samadhan for dispute resolution.



hence, way forward is: ① promote

PM Pradhan Mantri for language translation with

AI use short net for liberalisation; ②

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hence India state can facilitate next generation governance.

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

(15 marks, 250 words)

Gujral's doctrine of neighbourhood policy was based on principle of non-reciprocity in relation along with respect for territorial integrity; non-intervention in internal affairs & respect for security concerns of nations.

Relevance of Gujral doctrine

① promotes harnessing economic complementarity with the neighbour [ex]: trilateral coop border trade with - Nepal & Bangladesh

② promote trade ties with market access [ex]: duty free market access to Bhutan.

③ promote soft power in the region [ex]: 3 billion\$ line of credit to Sri Lanka Corp

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④ uphold India's security concerns in region

Ex: Sri Lanka's 'India first policy'

⑤ promote people-people ties Ex: 800,000 Nepalis in India (MEA)

⑥ ensure a first responder during crisis
Ex: Vaidhe Matha initiative

⑦ upholding India as net-security provider
Ex: Doklam crisis - India intervened for Pakistan

⑧ ensure Indian dominance in South Asia
Ex: SACAR Policy; BIMSTEC, ABIN all are India-led

However, Sijral doctrine relevance is also declining

① due to Chinese debt-trap diplomacy & "no-string attached" funding Ex: ~~Trans~~ Trans-Himalayan project with Nepal.

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- ① assertion of autonomy by nations ex: Sri Lanka didn't sell the East Terminal Port to India
- ② due to political hostility ex: BNP hostile to India in Bangladesh
- ③ not based on real-politik bargaining
- ④ would lead to nation being dependent on India without reciprocity.

Way Ahead :-

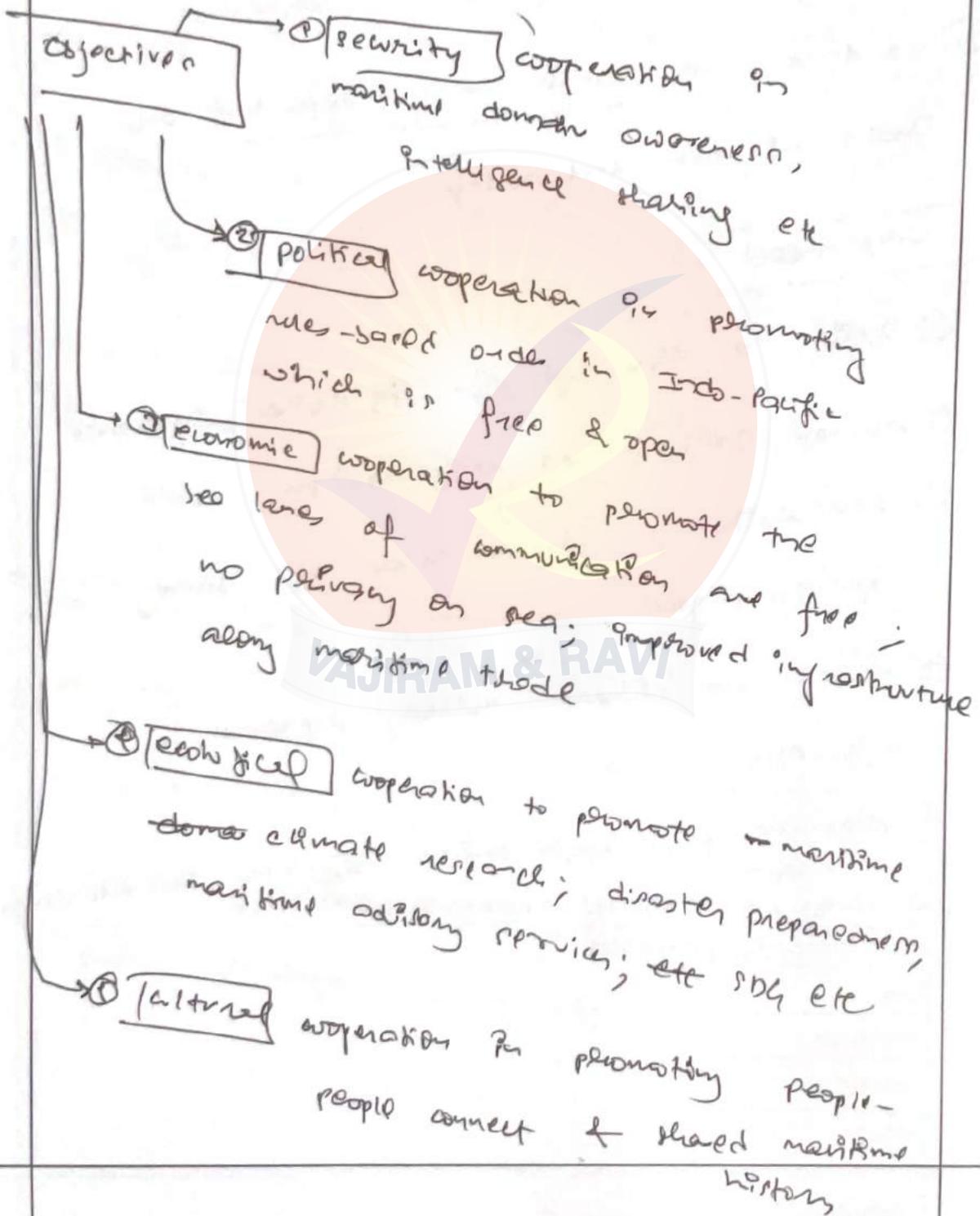
- ① India to grow out of "big brother" syndrome
- ② promote BRISTEC-led regionalism
- ③ connectivity for win-win trade ex: BRIIV, Kaladan project
- ④ ensure no Chinese military presence in South Asia
- ⑤ promote people-people connect ex: Visa liberalisation
- ⑥ resolve

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top, Gujal Doctrine in today's multipolar world is needed for regional hegemony

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

Indian Ocean Rim Association is an international political grouping of Indian Ocean Rim nations



Drawbacks of the IORA

- ① not included - Japan, USA as major stakeholders
- ② the militarization of Indo-Pacific not adequately dealt
- ③ does not promote trade liberalisation
- ④ failed states like - Myanmar, Somalia also present
- ⑤ no concept of - visa liberalisation for smooth people-people movement
- ⑥ overlapping bodies QUAD, AUKUS, ZPEF exist
- ⑦ no military exercise, naval cooperation, joint patrolling done under it
- ⑧ incentive of some states to cooperate is low Text: axis of sin.

Importance of Indian Ocean

- ① 80 60% of global GOP + 50% of global trade through it
- ② sea choke points like - Babel Mandab, Malacca Strait
- ③ resources like polymetallic nodules present
- ④ maritime bases of India ex: Agalega, Dugim to counter china's string of pearls
- ⑤ climate change ex: 2004 Tsunami; cyclone need ocean monitoring
- ⑥ to develop 'blue navy' 'sea denial' 'sea control' & potential
- ⑦ to promote humanitarian diplomacy ex: Vande Mataram; Operation Rahat
- ⑧ counter-terrorism (26/11) - At Pinaraj etc

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① cooperation with littoral nations like - east Africa,

hence as put by Alfred Mahan → the one who controlled ocean will control

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20. What are the strategic challenges to the global economy in active decoupling from China? How will it benefit India's economic growth prospects? (15 marks, 250 words)

China recently controls \rightarrow 18% of global manufacturing GDP. It has, thus, become a 'manufacturing hegemon'

Strategic challenges in de-coupling from China

- ① would lead to cost of products becoming more (inflation to increase \uparrow)
- ② would promote fragmented economy Text:
rise of regional trade agreement \uparrow
- ③ dilute role of WTO in trade negotiations due to every nation on trade war
- ④ would lead to 'tariff war' with retaliatory tariff for political ends.
- ⑤ would lead to fragile economic supply chains due to the most fragmented sources of supply.

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④ would potential for bipolar competition between USA & China → forcing nations to choose sides.

⑤ lead to sanction diplomacy used to promote ~~geo~~ geo political interest

⑥ \$ may lose Yuan in long run by China as ~~an~~ alternative to \$.

⑦ China SKI control lithium refining, solar PV cells → would impact ecological transition for climate targets.

However, it offers opportunities for India

① using 'friendshoring' to improve business in India

② 'China+1' strategy would promote domestic manufacturing

③ opportunity for FTA with nations to improve trade Res [ex]: UAE, Australia

- ④ manufacturing of critical commodities in India ~~to~~ semiconductor, API for pharma, Lithium ion battery would improve
 - ⑤ would lead to more multilateral initiatives like - IPEF for trade facilitation; I2U2 for more investments in India for green transition.
 - ⑥ India can be the "bridge" between the East Asia & Europe ~~to~~: IMEC project
 - ⑦ FDI in India would increase to 600 budge from 400.
 - ⑧ export of food product like - horticulture, milk etc would improve to South East Asia
 - ⑨ promote regional trade groups like BIMSTEC FTA negotiation.
- hence, need it to develop an foreign Economic Policy for 21st century

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Policy for 21st century