UPSE CSE 2025

AIR – 873

VAJIRAM & RAVI

SURE SHOT TEST SERIES VTS - 2025

General Studies Full Length Test Test - 2 (GS - 2) Test Code - VR1052502	Evaluator Code: Date of Assignment: CQ:

NAME: Anshul Singh

STUDENT. ID.: 1 2 4 0 1 6 0 0

UPSC ROLL NO:.: 0 8 1 8 3 8 2

MOBILE NO.:

Time allowed: 3 Hours

Email:

Submission Date: 8/8/2025

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

VAJIRAM & RAVI
VAJIRAM & RAVI

Instructions:–

1. **Legible Scanning:** Exercise due diligence in scanning your scripts for clear legibility
2. **Submissions** marred by poor scanning, notably those with illegible sections or blackened pages due to improper scanning, risk being excluded from the evaluation process.
3. **Non-Adherence Consequences:** Failure to comply with the aforementioned instructions may lead to the disqualification of your submission.

For Student Only		
Start Time - 2:00 p.m	End Time - 5:00 pm	
Mode of Examination	Online	Offline ✓
Receiving date -		Dispatch date -

VAJIRAM & RAVI STUDY CENTRE LLP
08 AUG 2025
RECEIVED

Parameters		Good	Average	Needs Improvement
Conceptual Understanding				
Understanding Demand of Question				
Structure	Introduction			
	Body			
	Conclusion			
Presentation-Illustrations, flowcharts, diagrams, etc.				
Language and Handwriting				
No. of Questions Attempted				
Adherence to Word Limit: Yes/No				

Mentor's Feedback

VAJIRAM & RAVI
VAJIRAM & RAVI

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions

VAJIRAM & RAVI

VAJIRAM & RAVI

👍 ☺ All the Best ☺ 👍

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions

VAJIRAM & RAVI

VAJIRAM & RAVI

👍 ☺ All the Best ☺ 👍

(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. 'Constitutional morality' is not a natural sentiment in India but has to be cultivated. Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer with relevant examples.
(10 marks, 150 words)

As per Dr. Ambedkar, Constitutional Morality refers to complete obedience and respect for the principals and provisions of Constitution to resolve dilemma and ensure justice.

Constitutional Morality - A natural sentiment in India

① Ideal of Vasudhev Kutumbukam - Whole Planet is 1 family and thus dignity and equality to all.

② Sarva Dharma Sama Bhava - Equal treatment of all religions - ground for Secularism (Article 25-28)

③ Philosophies of Jainism and Buddhism like

Aparigraha and Asteya (Non-Possession) leading to equitable distribution of wealth (Article 39(b))

(4) Principles of Ahimsa (Gandhi) → Non-violence in alliance with Fundamental Duty No harm to public property and Article 21

Constitutional Morality → needs to be cultivated

(1) Issues of Casteism → still dominant via stigma of untouchability.

(2) Communal Violence → Eg. Delhi Riots (2019) (need to ensure tolerance and secularism)

(3) Dignity of Labour → via Rehabilitation to ensure Article 21 (Right to Livelihood)

(4) Discrimination against women → at workplace

Constitutional Morality is needed for ethical decision making leading to inclusive society.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

2. Compare and contrast 'procedure established by law' and 'due process of law' with reference to their implications on personal liberty in India.

(10 marks, 150 words)

'Procedure established by law' was incorporated by India following Constitution of UK and Japan to establish rule of law (Article 21) while 'Due Process of Law' is an American Concept ensuring just procedure while following law.

Procedure Established by Law	Due Process of Law
① Just looks into whether decision is by – (i) Competent Authority (ii) Followed all procedures (iii) No interference by others	① Looks into whether the law itself is just, fair, and reasonable or not.
② Limited powers to judiciary (narrow interpretation of law)	② Wider power of interpretation of law to judiciary

(3) Promotes the regime of procedural justice	(3) Promotes the regime of substantive and distributive justice
(4) British Concept	(4) American Concept (Judicial Supremacy)

Implications on Personal Liberty in India

(1) Maneka Gandhi Case → SC reinterpreted Article 21 and ensured doctrine of Due Process of Law in India.

(2) Protection of Personal Liberty → Law ~~can~~ will be struck down if it is unjust, unfair, unreasonable.

(3) Led to wider interpretation of Liberty → not just absence of restraints but privacy (Puttaswamy Case) and information (Indira Nehru Gandhi Case)

Due Process of Law is required to uphold security accountability and prevent authoritarianism

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

3. The Supreme Court's recent invocation of Article 142 to confer 'deemed assent' to state bills raises critical questions about the separation of powers. Critically examine. **(10 marks, 150 words)**

Article 142 of Indian Constitution gives the power to do [complete justice] to the Supreme Court and was recently used during Tamil Nadu Governor Case (2025).

Use of Article 142 essential in Tamil Nadu Governor Case and other cases

① For ensuring accountability → to uphold the [accountability] of executives and non-delay of Bills

② For check and Balances → to ensure that powers of Governor are [checked] and ~~just~~ not used arbitrarily (by centre).

③ For justice to public → [No delays] in Bills and restore [trust of public] in democracy.

Raising critical questions about separation of powers

① Interference by Courts is often seen as [Judicial Activism] [Courts use power to interfere in executive matters, breach Cjs].

② Violate Separation of Powers As per Constitutional Expert [Upendra Baxi] Courts role is to interpret Constitution and [not amend it] (setting timelines for Governor).

③ Former VP Dhankar's called [Article 142] as 'Nuclear Missile' on Constitution

[Way Forward] → ① Article 142 needs to be reserved ~~use~~ in [rare cases] when all other doors closed.

② It is needed to ensure [democratic justice] but with alignment to separation of powers 'Article 142 gives voice to voiceless' - Former CJI Gogoi

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

4. The impartiality of the Speaker of Lok Sabha is central to the integrity of the legislative process. Explain with relevant examples.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Article 93 of the Constitution establishes the post of Speaker in Lok Sabha, who ensures the smooth functioning of the house, acting neutrally and impartially.

Impartiality of Speaker central to integrity of legislative process

① Allocating equal time to Government and opposition → whole debate on [national security] like recent debate on [Operation Sindoor].

② Anti defection Role → Role is to accept the [petition] and take action within prescribed time limit.

③ Show Non-partisanship spirit → eg. [Medam Sangma Reddy] resigned from party after

becoming speaker].

(4) Nominate members to Committees impartially from both opposition and government. Eg. like done by former Speaker S. Chatterjee [accepted opposition demand on debate on nuclear question].

(5) Money Bills: Certification of Money Bills carefully as it gives bypass in Rajya Sabha. Recent trend

(1) Allegations over Money Bills: Speaker passed Aadhar Act (99B) as Money Bill.

(2) Cases of Microphone turn off: alleged by opposition during debates.

As per JL Nehru, office of Speaker is an office of dignity as he takes care over the temple of democracy, and must be exercised impartially.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

5. How does the Sixth Schedule balance tribal autonomy with national integration? Evaluate its success and limitations. (10 marks, 150 words)

Sixth Schedule of the Constitution grant Certain special administrative powers to the states of Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya and Mizoram to ensure tribal development

Sixth schedule Balancing tribal autonomy with national integration

① Deters demands of secession by Certain special rights

District Councils (30 members) — Regional Councils

② These Councils enjoy rights over local police, markets, Courts and mining rights.

③ Ensure welfare of indigenous Communities Respect cultural rights and respect for Constitution.

(14) Part of / Asymmetric Federalism - Special powers to [Certain region] to overcome regional inequalities like lack of education

Success	Limitations
(1) Implemented in [letter] i.e. the effect is seen on ground.	(1) Not implemented in [spirit] (Not complete powers given)
(2) Led to stopping of regionalism and ~~[illegible]~~ secessionism	(2) Role of Hindrance by [Governor] (over laws imposition)
(3) Cultural protection Awareness (Second Phase mining and land rights)	(3) Attack of Customs - (tribals allege of 'Hindunization')

Sixth Schedule played an important role in [mainstreaming] of North Eastern states but need [further development] for efficient administration

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

6. Explain how Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, while aiming to safeguard privacy, risks weakening the transparency framework established by the Right to Information Act, 2005. **(10 marks, 150 words)**

Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDP Act) was passed in 2023 to ensure informed consent and prevent cross border flow of data, protecting Article 21 (Right to Privacy)

DPDP act safeguarding privacy

1. Informed Consent → Consent of user is must before taking his details.
2. Data Fiduciary → Can't store data for more than 3 years.
3. Penalty on Data Fiduciary → if they try to sell data to third parties.
4. Prevents Cross Border flow of Data → to other Inscure Countries like Pakistan, China. etc.

DPDP Act accountability transparency network

① Stringent rules for data access → by third parties and journalists for stories.

Eg: No data can be taken on ground of not available on open source sites.

② Government Agencies → on which data to make public and which data to hide.

③ Data fiduciaries → immunity from RTI (as they are private entities) → No obligation to share data.

④ Mechanism of fear and deterrence → Data taken will be considered as data stolen and both parties → punished

DPDP Act must cater to recommendations of Krishna Committee calling for comprehensive rules on data access and sharing.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

7. Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms offer a viable solution to India's overburdened judiciary. Enumerate the types of ADR mechanisms in India and analyze their advantages over conventional litigation.

(10 marks, 150 words)

ADR (Alternate Dispute Redressal) Mechanisms refer to alternative modes of justice, other than conventional courts that are usually statutory, more accessible, less expensive and have less formal rules.

Types of ADR mechanisms in India

① Tribunals → by 42nd Constitutional Amendment
→ for specialization. Eg. Armed Forces Tribunal
→ follow principles of Natural Justice.

② Lok Adalats → NALSA Act
→ Civil + Non Compoundable Criminal Cases
→ No cost of litigation

③ Mediation Council → Mediation Act 2023
→ resolve cases via mediation.

④ Arbitration Council → Arbitration Act

→ ~~settle~~ resolve disputes in front of independent arbitrator.

⑤ Gram Nyayalayas → (Gram Nyayalaya Act)

→ for speedy justice at grass root level.

Advantages over conventional litigation

① Reduce Burden → Malimath Justice Report

(Judiciary) ~5.4 crore case pending

② Less cost → almost zero (Lok adalats)

③ No formal rules and procedures → as practised in court (No need of lawyers)

④ Specialization → like tribunals.

⑤ Easy to access for common man

⑥ Quick justice → not 20 years (High Court)

ADR are the 'ray of tomorrow' for common man but need formalization and full vacancy

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

8. Examine how Community-based financial institutions promote responsive governance and address structural inequalities, especially for marginalized women. **(10 marks, 150 words)**

Community Based financial institutions refer to such institutions that grant aid and loan to members of community for their social and economic upliftment.

For eg. SHGs (Self Help Groups).

Community based financial institutions promoting responsive governance

① Gender Empowerment: giving livelihood to women. Eg. SEWA (SHG) which gave financial support to women.

② Equitable Order and Opportunities: Eg. AMUL (as a dairy cooperative) gives its farmers aid for technology.

③ For starting new ventures: UK schemes

like NABARD-SHG Linkage which plays a crucial role in success of Lijjat Papad

(4) Role of Cooperative Banks → low rate of interest → help women of marginalised communities to lean upwards and in poverty alleviation

Role in addressing structural inequalities

(1) Inclusive approach → Women or people of all castes and groups are allowed to get and receive aid.

(2) Emergency fund → to some people to overcome vulnerabilities like Disaster (Cyclone)

(3) To overcome vicious cycle of Poverty and unemployment via savings, DRONE Didi of Community based financial institutions are backbone of economic independence leading to Women Empowerment

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

9. Despite their intended purpose, Citizen's Charters in India have fallen short in transforming administration into a citizen-centric service system. Do you agree? Justify your answer. **(10 marks, 150 words)**

Citizen charters refer to list of voluntary commitments that are issued by departments or ministries laying down standards and grievance redressal for quality in public service.

Citizen Charter falling short in achieving its goal of citizen centric service system

① One size fit all Approach: One Charter for all departments.

② Complex language: Not understandable by people

③ Lack periodic reviews: some charters are as old as 1999. (2nd ARC)

④ Lack legal binding: No power of enforceability

(5) Poor and Ineffective Grievance Redressal Mechanisms often leading to delays.

(6) Lack of technology integration leading to poor accountability and lack of awareness in people.

Methods of improving citizen charter to make it effective and citizen centric

(IInd ARC recommendations)

(1) Simple Common Language, understandable by common folk.

(2) Effective GRM & Grievance Redressal Mechanism for regular complaints

(3) Different charters for different departments (to add efficiency).

(4) Periodic Reviews and Capacity Building

Citizen Charter ensure Bottom up Accountability and necessary for good governance.

10. Mauritius remains the 'Star and Key' to the Indian Ocean for India. Analyze the geopolitical significance of Mauritius in India's Indian Ocean strategy.
(10 marks, 150 words)

Mauritius is an island country in Southern Indian Ocean having proximity to Africa and remains a key player for India's SAGAR and IORA initiatives.

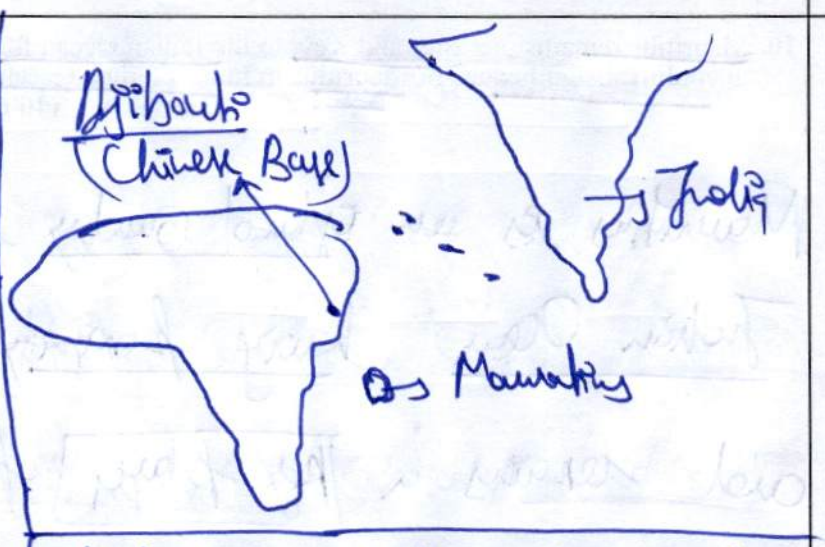
Geopolitical significance of Mauritius in India's Indian Ocean strategy

① Secure key shipping lanes from Africa for robust trade ($50 Bn - FY2025)

② For infrastructure and connectivity - Asia Africa Growth Corridor to boost connectivity to Africa.

③ India's SAGAR - Security and Growth for all and emphasize as image as net security provider in Indian Ocean.

(4) Consolidate Programmes with IORA ↓ Control strategy in Indian ocean via bases at Mauritius.



Map showing strategic position of Mauritius

(5) Energy security → for oil trade from Countries of Africa like Nigeria.

(6) Bring Africa into Indo-Pacific Vision (Free, Open, Rules Based Order).

(7) Counter China → which has military base at Djibouti (Diamond Necklace Strategy)

(8) Counter Terror, Joint Exercises with Mauritius → ensure stability

Mauritius is part of India's Extended neighbourhood policy and is key to energy security.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

11. Discuss the constitutional and statutory provisions governing the disqualification of Members of Parliament in India. How effective are they in upholding the integrity of the legislature? **(15 marks, 250 words)**

Article 102 and Article 191 of the Indian Constitution lay round for disqualification of MPs and MLAs respectively in India by the President (on advice of Election Commission (ECI))

Constitutional and Statutory Provisions

I. Constitutional

Article 102
Disqualification by President of MPs on advice of ECI

Article 191
Disqualification of MLAs on advice of ECI

II. Statutory Provisions

① RPA, 1951 → lays grounds for disqualification under Section 8. For example, Section 8(3) → if the MLA/MP is convicted in a crime of sentence more than 2 years.

② Disqualifications under various acts

- Corrupt Practices Act
- UAPA
- PMLA
- TADA

If the MP/MLA is convicted under such laws (for a minimum sentence), he/she is disqualified.

(52nd Amendment)

③ Anti defection Laws and Rules (Constitutional and statutory)

If MP/MLA changes party or submits voluntary resignation or goes against party whip, he/she is disqualified.

Effectiveness of laws

I. They are effective as –

① Stop 'Aayaram and Gayaram Politics' and put public trust at primacy.

(2) Deterrence against crimes → like hate speeches; Corruption etc.

(3) Prevent Criminalization of Politics → Section 8 of RPA, 1951.

(4) ~~Prevent use~~ Develop sense of duty and responsibility in MPs.

II. Lack effectiveness

(1) Criminalization of Politics increasing → 43% of MPs in 18th Lok Sabha → Criminal background

(2) Inherent Flaws → After being on disqualification, no legal action, still win (on another seat) and return as minister.

(3) Disputed Speaker Role → favour government

(4) Independent Members → can join party within 6 months.

As per IInd ARC, there is need of Code of ethics for MPs and stringent laws.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

12. India's fiscal federalism is heavily vertical, transactional, and tax-centric. In light of this, critically examine the case for institutionalizing "resource federalism" to ensure more equitable and autonomous state-level economic development.
(15 marks, 250 words)

India's fiscal federalism is reflected via Finance Commission, GST Council, and Fiscal Council that are there in Article 280 and Article 279A of Constitution

Fiscal federalism heavy vertical, transactional, and tax centric

① Vertical → due to vertical devolution
Finance Commission → set up by centre (no say of states).

② Transactional & Tax Centric → due to heavy reliance on taxes and duties.

Need of Resource Federalism (economic benefits)

① Distribution as per Need not well →
Eg- States like Bihar and Odisha

require more funds, they will be granted more (from Centre's share) not other states.

(2) Inclusion of states in [Planning] and [devolution] like GST Council (example of Resource Federalism).

(3) Affective distribution of resources like fertilizers, seeds by [Centre] instead of direct budget (chances of Myopic).

(4) Horizontal Distribution, If Tamil Nadu lacks [food products], it can directly trade with UP with (Centre as facilitator). (More powers to state)

(5) Performance Based Incentives, advocated by [15th Finance Commission] to ensure transparency and efficiency.

Demerits of Hyperfederalizing Resource Federalism

① Lead to chaos and disagreements → No state will likely accept demands and reach common consensus.

② Politicization → Can lead to opportunistic politics allowing bias in distribution.

③ Resource Race → May lead to over-extraction of resources like critical minerals (threaten environment sustainability)

④ No dedicated Body → Will need reforms # (Tariff process) → GST took 5 years.

⑤ Chances of Protectionism and Legal Battles over resource claims.

Thus, there is need of Cooperative federalism with reforms in fiscal federalism by following multi-stakeholder approach.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

13. While India has a structured but rarely used process for the removal of judges, the UK emphasizes ministerial responsibility and in house mechanisms . Compare and evaluate these approaches in maintaining judicial accountability.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Article 124(4) and 124(5) along with Judges Enquiry Act lay grounds for judges removal in India while UK follows in house mechanism and ministerial responsibility.

Approaches towards Judicial Accountability

UK	India
① In house Mechanism → laying grounds for charges, and allegations against judges.	① In house Mechanism (but ~~through~~ opaque process) → Conducted by CJI.
② No detailed law for removal of judges	② Judges Enquiry Act (1968) which ~~to~~ establishes (3-member body) to

	investigate crimes against judges.
(3) Parliament has final power to remove judges.	(3) Here, also Parliament has final power to remove judges
(4) Mandatory to disclose assets of judges	(4) Voluntary disclosure of assets of SC Judges (by CJI Khanna)
(5) Independent Oversight Committee to select judges	(5) Collegium System → Judges select Judges
(6) No act like Contempt of Court Act	(6) Contempt of Court act often used as 'shield' against criticism and avoid public scrutiny.

VAJIRAM & RAVI

Evaluation of approaches

I. UK System (Integrated Judiciary)

① Parliamentary Sovereignty is ~~at~~ but upheld judiciary accountable (transparent in large mechanism).

② Judges are under all necessary laws and acts and their assets are public.

II Indian System

① Constitutional supremacy led to strong judiciary but relatively lesser accountability (No public scrutiny)

② No ~~[illegible]~~ mandatory declaration of assets

While judicial independence is of utmost importance for separation of powers, judicial accountability is needed for no 'tyranny of unelected'

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

14. Despite being part of the Directive Principles, the Uniform Civil Code remains unrealised at the national level. Examine the factors behind the delay and suggest potential measure for its national implementation.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Article 44 of Directive Principles (Constitution) by ground for the establishment of Uniform Civil Code (UCC) i.e common set of laws across all religions in civil affairs like divorce, adoption, inheritance etc.

Factors leading to delay of UCC

① Affect secular character, As per Constitutional expert Faizan Mustafa, UCC will downgrade Article 25 (No respect for one's choice)

② No consensus among different political and religious groups.

③ Fear of Minorities, like Muslims fear

that UCC will be interference in their culture (Imposition of Hindu Culture)

(4) Threat of Social Conflicts → might polarize society leading to Communal clashes and riots.

(5) Impact Unity in Diversity → As per opposition leaders like Owaisi, UCC will cause dent to diversity of India.

(6) No clear guidelines → issued by Govt.

(7) Stance of Law Commission → UCC is "neither necessary nor desirable"

Need of UCC
- (1) Gender Equality
- (2) Remove gender discrimination like Role of Women in property matters in Personal laws
- (3) End Communalization of religion

Other issues of Need of UCC

- Constitutional Mandate (Article 44)
- Principle of Equity (Common law for all)
- Replace old Personal laws (Shariat law, 1936)

Potential Measures for national implementation

1. Employing citizen approach, involve multiple stakeholders for all religions.
2. Following Rawls' Justice, Original position to ensure justice while Making rules.
3. Pilot Projects, like Uttarakhand, study its potential harms and benefits.
4. No Politicization, otherwise will lead to hijack of Cause

UCC is needed to ensure legislation social order but must not be implemented as imposition.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

15. Judicial recognition of intra-caste inequality within Scheduled Castes opens new debates in affirmative action policies. Examine the challenges and opportunities this poses for social justice in India. **(15 marks, 250 words)**

Supreme Court in Davinder Singh Case (2024) called for sub-categorization within Scheduled Castes, highlighting the inequalities that exist within the community (Based on data)

Challenges of such new affirmative action policies

① Hindrance from Scheduled Caste Parties and Groups → Calling it as a policy of divide and rule by Supreme Court within Scheduled Castes.

② Resistance by Groups within SCs like Jatav Community (who fear of losing out on reservation benefits).

③ Data insufficiency → Lack data about

SC numbers date back to 2011 (last Census) and new data will be released only after Census 2026 (Nationwide Caste Census).

(4) Resistance from other groups → due calling for Ban on Reservation for those who have benefitted out of reservation.

(5) Lack of Enthusiasm by State governments due to 'vote Bank politics'.

Opportunities for social Justice

(1) Upliftment of Marginalised As per Rohini Commission → 1000/2633 OBC Communities get 75% of reservation. Such data can exist for SCs too.

(2) Reservation to needy and No politicization → No continued reservation as acts Insure

by selective communities only.

③ Promote equity → spirit of [Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Prayas]

④ Inclusive Growth → Principle of [Antodaya] Benefitting the last in line].

⑤ Community Upliftment → like [Thalay] (Rajasthan) by job benefits and education leading to [quality of life].

⑥ Realize full potential of Affirmative Action → as said by [CJI ~~Gavai~~ Gavai] (Benefit of Reservation to needy).

Subcategorization is a positive step but needs to implemented without seeking political interests by state governments.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

16. AI-driven education can play a transformative role in achieving the goals of New Education Policy 2020. Discuss the opportunities and challenges in integrating Artificial Intelligence into India's education system. What safeguards are needed to ensure its safe deployment? **(15 marks, 250 words)**

New Education Policy was launched in 2020 to ensure holistic development of students by giving them skill based vocational education to multiply employability factor.

Opportunities of integrating AI in NEP 2020

AI → refers to artificial intelligence i.e system of networks which are capable of independent decision-making.

① Ensure efficiency → AI can ensure that child can learn multiple things at one time and place. (Reward System, Quizzes)

② Practical Learning → via 3D Models, especially in stage schools, that lack infrastructure

③ Monitor and Evaluation → by evaluating

tests and giving proper feedback on assignments and projects.

(4) Research and Innovation → develop critical thinking by using AI tools like Perplexity which helps them to strengthen ~~the~~ essay writing skills. and 'School from Home' concept.

(5) ~~Em~~ Curriculum designing and Syllabus for evaluation and administration based on data sets. Eg. 'Plan Smart' (AI).

Challenges with integration of AI

(1) Inherent Bias → found to not recognize Black children in America.

(2) Data Privacy → students (vulnerable) may give consent on private details.

(3) Miss human touch → Though the advanced

that AI can replace teachers, it lacks emotions needed by children.

(4) Digital divide is too much screen time exposing to 'weak eyesight' in children.

Safeguards needed for AI integration

(1) Safe and Inclusive AI as advocated under Global Collaboration on AI

(2) Ethical AI with Guardian Angel to ensure data is safe. (Lavanya Nelanthi)

(3) No inherent bias about caste, religion to ensure harmony in classrooms.

(4) Restricted usage should be used as aid to school (not substitute)

AI's role in schools is needed to ensure Quality Education (SDG 3) and achieve 100% literacy rate in India.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

17. Discuss the role of targeted welfare schemes for nomadic communities in achieving inclusive development. What are the implementation bottlenecks and how can they be resolved? **(15 marks, 250 words)**

Nomadic Communities refer to those Communities that have no permanent residence and wander in search of food, and resources and characterized as Denotified Tribes (DNT)

Role of Targetted Welfare Schemes to help nomadic communities achieve inclusive growth

① Education ~~and Health~~ via schemes like Ekalavya Schools for increasing their literacy levels.

② Healthcare benefits under Comprehensive scheme like PM JANMAN (₹6000 cr)

- Holistic Healthcare
- job opportunities
- Sanitation
- Electricity.

VAJIRAM & RAVI

(3) Recognizing their rights and protecting them by Govt. formed [Denotified Tribal Commission] to address the issue of their rights and protect them.

(4) Stable Livelihood and Mainstreaming them by [reservation] in under both SC and ST category in education and employment.

[Implementation Bottlenecks]

(1) No clear Data leading to [information asymmetry] about their number. (Outdated Census data).

(2) No permanent residences leading to [Confusion] (different state different scheme)

(3) No proper identification whether SC or ST

(4) Administrative Hindrances - often citing as 'no suitable candidate found' in educational posts.

(5) Stigma of Untouchability - No [mainstreaming fund to legally cast of government]

Resolution of Bottlenecks

(1) Proper Rehabilitation with jobs
- Provide data
- Benefit from Scheme
- Mainstreaming

(2) Education & Awareness - to remove stigma of [Untouchability].

(3) Constitutional Post of DNT Commission - to [increase its powers] (like NCSC, NCST)

Nomadic Communities need to be brought under [Shell Jobs] and [PM Vishwakarma] to upgrade skills and boost employment

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

18. "Cultural diplomacy through diaspora outreach has emerged as a soft power tool in India's global engagement strategy." Evaluate the strengths and limitations of diaspora-led cultural diplomacy in advancing India's national interest.
(15 marks, 250 words)

India already boasts of about 33 million diaspora (as per MEA report) situated in America, Middle East, Europe and often used as agents of soft power.

Cultural diplomacy via diaspora as soft power tool

- Yoga
- Festivals → Diwali (USA)
- Lobbying Units → for deals (Indo-US Civil Nuclear deal)
- ~~Indian Culture~~ → Jobs to Indians → Employment

Strengths of Diaspora led Cultural Diplomacy in advancing India's national interest

① Active Lobbying for India's Interests
eg. Role of India-Israel forum in

Indo-US Civil Nuclear Deal (2005).

② Project India's values of Peace, Tolerance and [Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam] at Global stage

③ Send Remittances help India in [Forex Reserves] ($120 Bn → FY2024)

④ Jobs and Employment to Indians. Eg. Sundar Pichai (Google), Satya Nadella (Microsoft)

⑤ Help at Multilateral level → [World Bank] support over [Indus Treaty] [Ajay Banga]

⑥ Investment in India → [FDI] via Companies

[Limitations of such diplomacy]

① Create dilemma → over Recent [India-US tariff situation] to Indians living in US and [H1B Visa].

② Can be used as soft power only, not hard power (like military) and therefore limited effect. Eg. Can't be used to tackle Pakistan's terrorism

③ Act as Brain drains Many PIOs and NRIs don't consider themselves as Indians anymore and work for others' interests

④ Limited Engagement: 18th Pravasi Diwas (2015) witnessed only participation from Africa (Indian Community)

Steps Needed: ① India needs to tap full potential by escalating platforms like Pravasi Portal and OCI Card.

② Need to build stronger pressure (by lobbying) to counter tariff regime.

PM Modi's Diaspora is 'Rajdoot' (Indian ambassadors)

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

19. How have the growing tensions between the U.S., Israel, and Iran affected regional stability in West Asia? In this context, evaluate the key considerations for India's foreign policy to safeguard its interests in West Asia.

(15 marks, 250 words)

The recent attack of US on Iran after the Iran-Israel war (2025) on allegations of Iran building a nuclear bomb had devastating effect on the whole world.

Tensions affecting stability of West Asia

① Persian Gulf - blocked by Iran through which 12% of total trade happens

② Active Resistance Nexus (by Iran) in form of Houthis (Yemen), Hezbollah (Lebanon) and Hamas (Gaza) (Axis of Resistance)

③ Security Dilemma for players in West Asia like Iraq & Kuwait which have US military bases.

(4) Arms Race of nuclear bomb in West Asia with others like Saudi Arabia also demanding a bomb. (after Iran)

(5) Halt to strategic Projects like IMEC (via Israel) and Chabahar Port (via Iran) to connect to Central Asia.

(6) Energy security as Iran is key exporter of oil (crude oil) to many countries including India.

Key Considerations for India's foreign policy to safeguard interests in West Asia

(1) De hyphenation actively engaging with both Iran and Israel independently for strategic interests.

(2) Call for immediate Ceasefire approach

of Dialogue and Diplomacy.

(3) Follow the policy of Nuclear Disarmament and call for global peace.

(4) Ensure timely completion of its projects by acting as mediator to restore trade in West Asia (along with Saudi).

(5) Impart diversification (from Iran) to other players like Venezuela, UAE, Kuwait etc. to meet security needs.

(6) Track II and III diplomacy, People to people contact (use lobbying) to ensure that trade continues as ever.

As Global Balancer and Leader, India must leverage support from Global South and restore peace for its own interests and others in West Asia.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

20. With overlapping geographical and strategic interests, ASEAN–BIMSTEC cooperation can enhance Indo-Pacific connectivity and resilience. Analyze the institutional, political, and external challenges that impede this collaboration.
(15 marks, 250 words)

ASEAN is a regional organization of 11 South East Asian states like Indonesia, Malaysia while BIMSTEC is a sub-regional organization connecting South Asia to South East Asia.

Overlapping geographical and strategic interests of ASEAN-BIMSTEC

1. Indo Pacific → Open, Free and Rules Based (Based on ASEAN Outlook)
2. Secure key shipping lanes → for smooth and resilient supply chains (Contain China's aggressive role).
3. Trade and Commerce → via FTA
4. Cultural Cooperation → over Buddhism
5. Connectivity → via projects like Kaladan

and IMT Highway

Challenges in this Collaboration (ASEAN - BIMSTEC)

I. Institutional Challenges

① BIMSTEC → Irregular meet ups
(6th Meet up in 2015 despite organization was formed in 1995)

② Not all countries have FTA with ASEAN → Only India (not with Bhutan)

③ Connectivity Issues → Only India including Kaladan and IMT Highway (March to May Sept)

II. Political Issues

① Delays in Projects → Kaladan not started yet.

② Regional Instability → Myanmar Coup (2021)
→ Bangladesh Coup (2024)

③ Lack of Synergy on Common issues → like refugee crisis (Rohingyas)

II. External Issues

① Role of China → getting support of Countries like Cambodia, Laos and even Nepal (part of BRI).

② Conflicts → Recent attack of Cambodia on Thailand (2025).

③ Maritime disputes → China's 9-dash line claim leading to free international law.

Steps needed → ① Active engagement via regular and timely summits

② Joint Working Groups for Bilateral Disputes

③ Timely completion of Projects for strategic and economic use.

"BIMSTEC is critical for both India's Neighbourhood First Policy, and ASEAN" – S. Jaishankar

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

Space for Rough Work

VAJIRAM & RAVI

Space for Rough Work

VAJIRAM & RAVI