

EDEN IAS



Educational Development & Enrichment Network

STEPS

DAILY MAINS ANSWER WRITING

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

SUBJECT: _____

INVIGILATORS
SIGNATURE

CANDIDATE'S
SIGNATURE

11-B/8, FIRST FLOOR TEWARI HOUSE, OPPOSITE METRO PILLAR NO. 137

PUSA ROAD, KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions

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NOTE

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- 1.Understanding of the Questions.
- 2.Quality of Content in the Answers.
- 3.Decipherment of the Command.
- 4.Structuring of Arguments.
- 5.Presentation and Conclusion.

FEEDBACK

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STEPS

Q. 1 "An economic critique of colonialism was perhaps the most important and greatest contribution of the moderates to the development of national movement in India."-Analyse. **10**

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Q. 2 "The British and French policy of appeasement led to Nazi aggrandizement."
-Examine. **10**

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Q. 3 “El-Nino years are often associated with the failure of Indian Monsoons, however occurrence of El-Nino in itself may not be sufficient to engender the failure of monsoons”- In the light of the above statement systematically highlight the various factors that determine the success or failure of the Indian monsoons.

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Q. 4 "Greater gender equality not only raises absolute income, it also helps to reduce income inequality."-In the light of the above statement discuss the impact of globalization on the socio-economic condition of women in India.

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(MODEL ANSWERS)

STEPS 02/07/2018- (GS I)

Q1. "An economic critique of colonialism was perhaps the most important and greatest contribution of the moderates to the development of national movement in India."-Analyse. (10)

Approach:

- 1) Explain what do you understand by Economic critique of colonialism, its various dimensions and associated concepts
- 2) Highlight that how it was the most important contribution of the Moderates (The Mild fraction and the Constitutionallists among the various national movement streams)

Answer:

The early leaders of the congress, the moderates, were the first to develop an economic critique of colonialism. This was the most important contribution to the development of national movement in India. The moderates had faith in British justice and goodwill. They were called moderates as they adopted peaceful and constitutional methods for achieving demands. They were loyal to British and looked to it for inspiration. They confined their activities to political class only.

Indian intellectuals in the early 19th century had positive attitude towards the British rule hoping it would modernize India. Later they were disillusioned by the rule as progress in new areas was slow but overall the country was regressing and under developing. This change of image led to a deeper probe into the reality of British rule and his impact on people.

Amongst the economist who studies **Dadabhai Nauroji** was the most prominent. He was the grand old man of India. He spent his entire life and wealth in forming a national movement. He was the first Indian to become member of the British House of Commons. He popularized the drain theory in his book "**Poverty and UnBritish Rule in India**" (The Drain of Wealth). He also founded Bombay Association in 1852 and East Indian Association. Justice **MG Ranade** was his contemporary and taught an entire generation of Indians the importance of industrial development. **RC Dutt** examined minutely the entire economic impact of colonial rule from 1757. **GV Joshi, G Subramaniam Iyer, GK Gokhale, PC Ray** were the others.

They understood that British imperialism was leading to subordination of Indian economy by British economy. They agitated against the British policies that aimed to turn India into supplier of raw materials and consumer of British manufactured goods.

Industrialization was believed to be the answer to all problems of poverty. So the economists tried to look into foreign trade, railways, currency, tariffs and labor legislations as it affected industrialization. They also firmly believed that Indian capital and not foreign capital was the great need of India for industrialization. Foreign capital would only exploit India further and suppress Indian capital.

At the end of 1905 even prominent leaders like Dadabhai Nauroji asserted self government or Swaraj as the main political demand. Due to the firm foundation laid by the economic critique the later nationalist could launch powerful mass agitations and movements. They didn't waver in their anti imperial efforts due to this firm foundation.

Q2. "The British and French policy of appeasement led to Nazi aggrandizement."-Examine. (10)

Approach:

- 1) Explain the policy of appeasement and its various attributes.
- 2) Highlight how the British and French followed this policy to pacify Hitler and how the policy backfired.
- 3) Finally analytically present how the policy of appeasement strengthened the Nazis and brought the world on the threshold of a war.

Answer:

As the League of Nations crumbled, politicians turned to a new way to keep the peace - appeasement. This was the policy of giving Hitler what he wanted to stop him from going to war. It was based on the idea that **what Hitler wanted was reasonable** and, when his reasonable demands had been satisfied, he would stop.

Although historians recognise appeasement in the actions of Britain and France before 1938, the Sudeten Crisis of 1938 is the key example of appeasement in action. Neville Chamberlain was the British prime minister who believed in appeasement.

In 1938, Germans living in the border areas of Czechoslovakia (the Sudetenland) started to demand a union with Hitler's Germany. The Czechs refused. Hitler threatened war. On 30 September, in the Munich Agreement - without asking Czechoslovakia - Britain and France **gave** the Sudetenland to Germany.

Reasons for appeasement

There were many reasons why Chamberlain appeased Hitler, but here are the main ones:

1. The **British people wanted peace** - they would not have supported a war in 1938.
2. Many of **Hitler's complaints appeared reasonable** at the time - especially about the Treaty of Versailles.
3. **Chamberlain wanted a strong Germany** to serve as a barrier against expansion by communist Russia.
4. **Britain's armed forces were not ready for a war** and they could not have helped Czechoslovakia anyway.
5. **Many people admired Hitler.** In 1938, the American magazine 'Time' declared him 'Man of the Year'.
6. Chamberlain remembered the **slaughter of the First World War**; he thought another war would destroy civilisation.

Results of appeasement

- **Czechoslovakia was weakened.** Poland and Hungary took other land.
- **Britain gained a year to build up its armed forces,** but so did Hitler.

- **Hitler decided that Britain and France were afraid of him** and that they would not stop him whatever he did.
- **Russia** decided that Britain and France would never stand up to Hitler, and that war with Germany was inevitable.
- The people of Britain realised that they had been **duped**, and decided that war was inevitable.
- It improved the **war morale** of the British people, who knew they had done everything possible to avoid war.

So rather than averting War the British and French policy of appeasement only strengthened the will of the NAZIS it led to their gaining enormous popularity in Germany. Hitler became an undisputed dictator who would now demand anything he deems fit and any disagreement to his demands whether internal or external would be addressed with an iron –fist. Hence the policy of appeasement was a total failure.

Q3. “El-Nino years are often associated with the failure of Indian Monsoons, however occurrence of El-Nino in itself may not be sufficient to engender the failure of monsoons”- In the light of the above statement systematically highlight the various factors that determine the success or failure of the Indian monsoons. (15)

Approach:

- 1) Very briefly in your introduction write an account on the concept of Monsoons and define Indian Monsoons.
- 2) Link El-Nino and Southern Oscillation to the success or failure Indian Monsoons
- 3) Systematically highlight the various factors that affect the Indian Monsoons.

Answer:

Monsoon is the seasonal reversal of wind that occurs over a particular geographical area and is often engendered by differential heating and cooling of land and water. The phenomenon is best developed over the Indian Subcontinent (North East Monsoons and South West Monsoons).

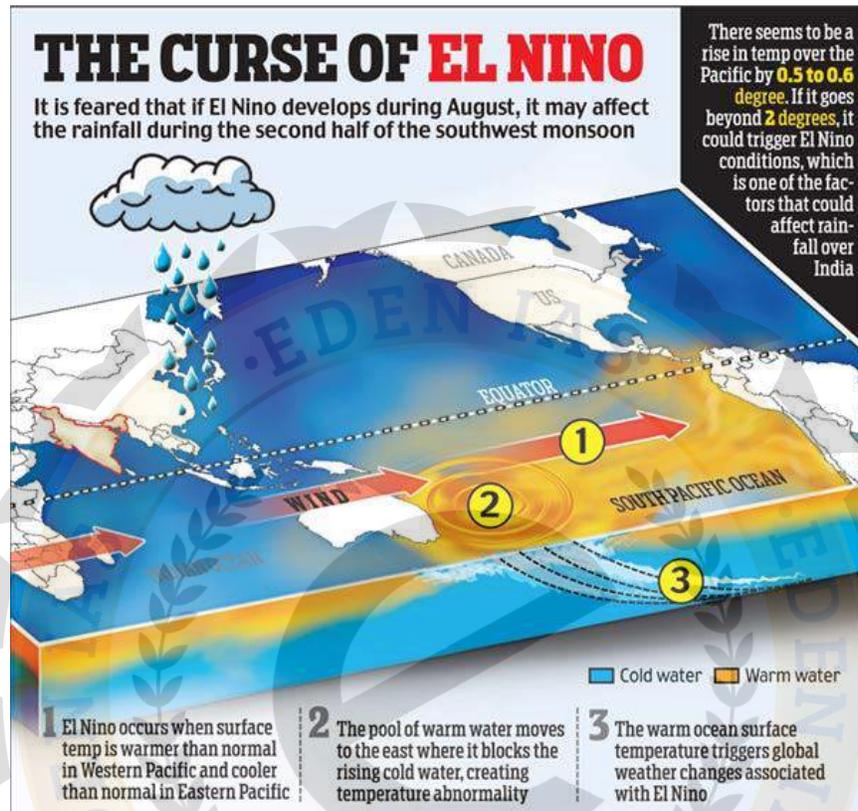
The two important meteorological events as far Indian sub continent is concerned are monsoons (southwest monsoon and northeast monsoon) and cyclones, which generally form during the pre-monsoon (March-May) and the post-monsoon season (October–December). And the two important phenomena which influence the Indian Ocean are the El Nino and Southern Oscillation (popularly known as ENSO) and the recently discovered Indian Ocean Dipole that refers to the difference in temperatures between the surface waters in the west and east of the ocean.

El Nino can further be classified into two types— traditional El Nino which is characterized by strong anomalous warming in the eastern equatorial Pacific and the El Nino Modoki that is associated with strong anomalous warming in the central tropical Pacific and cooling in the eastern and western tropical Pacific

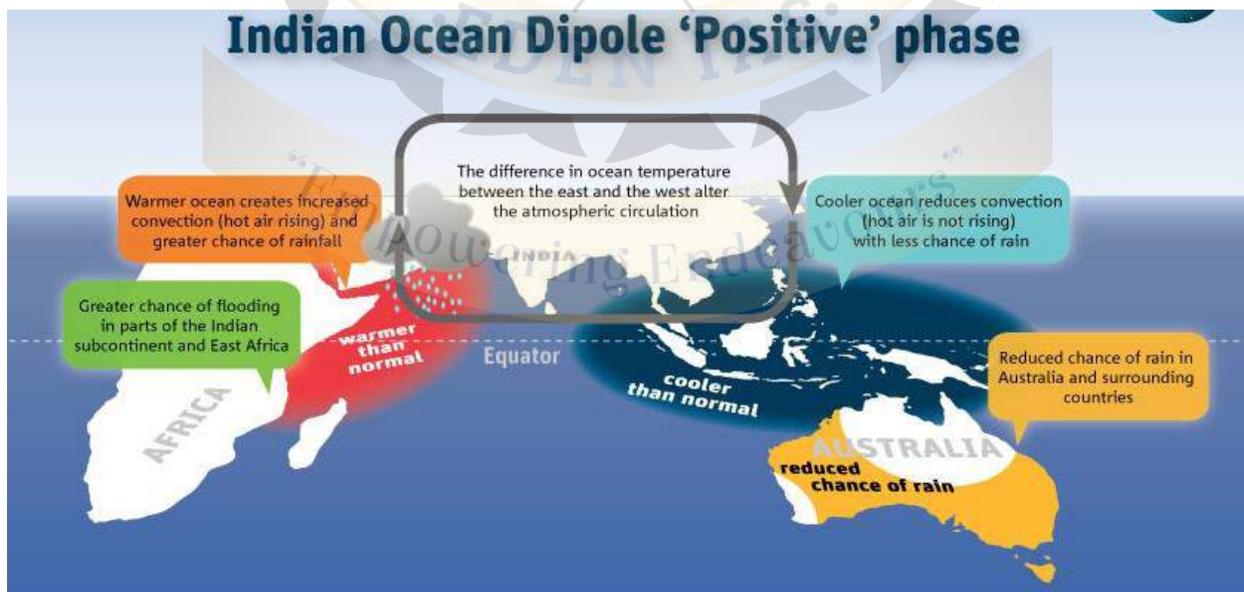
However El-Nino alone does not guarantee the failure of Monsoons as there are other factors too that affect the Indian Monsoons like

- i. The differential heating of the landmass of Asia and the Indian Ocean.
- ii. The existence of the Himalayan ranges and the Tibetan Plateau.
- iii. The occurrence of heavy-light snow over the Tibetan Plateau.

- iv. The existence and circulation of upper air jet streams in the troposphere.
- v. Indian Ocean Dipole etc.



The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), also known as the Indian Niño, is an irregular oscillation of sea-surface temperatures in which the western Indian Ocean becomes alternately warmer and then colder than the eastern part of the ocean. Monsoon in India is generally affected by the temperature between Bay of Bengal in the east and The Arabian Sea in the west.



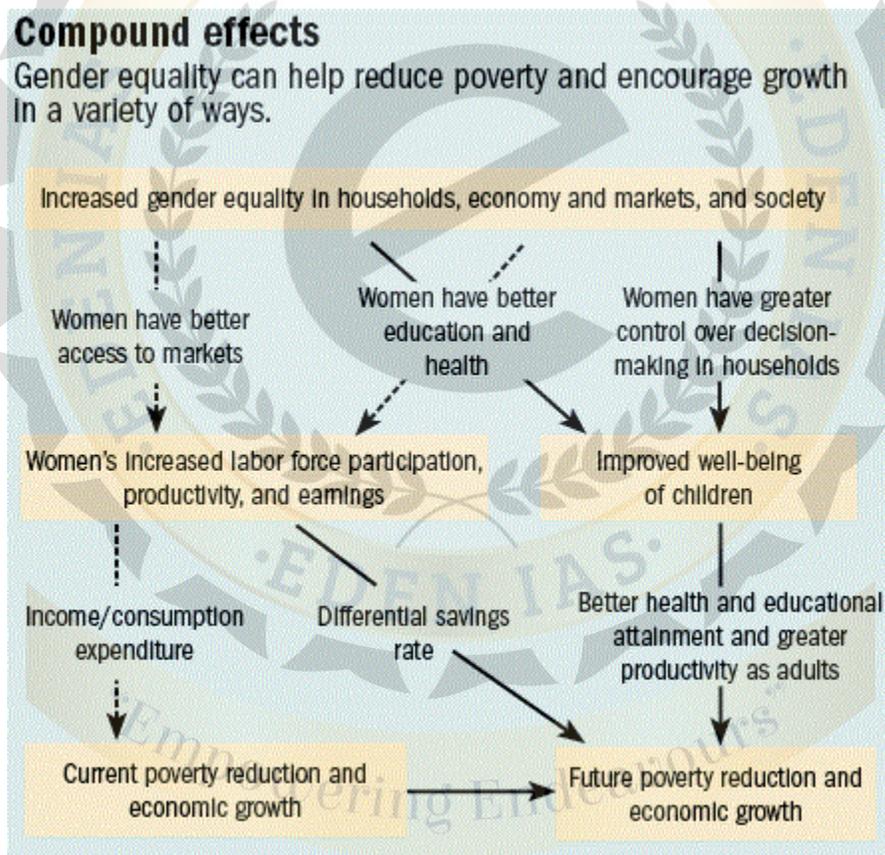
Q4. "Greater gender equality not only raises absolute income, it also helps to reduce income inequality."-In the light of the above statement discuss the impact of globalization on the socio-economic condition of women in India. (15)

Approach:

- 1) Highlight how gender equality and improve the livelihoods and ensures better redistribution of wealth.
- 2) Discuss how globalization has had a positive and negative impact over women in India.

Answer:

Gender wage gaps directly contribute to income inequality, and higher gaps in labor force participation rates between men and women result in inequality of earnings between sexes, thus creating and exacerbating income inequality. Women are more likely to work in the informal sector, in which earnings are lower, which widens the gender earnings gap and exacerbates income inequality.



Globalization has undermined the traditional role of women in homemaking, farming, livestock, animal husbandry, handicrafts, handlooms etc and resulted in a relatively better environment for women. Women have more jobs, become more active in avenues generally reserved for men, have played a more prominent role in society and not just restricted to the household. It has affected both the quantity and the quality of work available to the majority of women in India.

Globalisation has posed a major challenge to the institution of patriarchy in India. As women take up jobs and achieve social mobility, they have also begun to stand up for their rights. Other benefits that have flowed include

- 1) Prospects of higher and quality education have become feasible for those women who can afford them, economically and socially.
- 2) Employment in technological and other advanced sectors, which have global bearing, has opened up for suitably qualified women.
- 3) With changing attitude towards women, especially in the urban areas, women enjoy more egalitarian set of gender relationship.
- 4) Augmentation of women's movements through exposures at the international level will help bring about major changes in the economic, social and political lives of women.
- 5) Reduction in gender inequalities will have positive effect on women's empowerment in the socio-economic context.
- 6) Attitudinal changes towards women's role in the family due to good education, benefits of family planning and health care, child care, good job opportunities etc. will surely help in the development of more confident and healthy women.
- 7) Positive approach to economic and cultural migration will facilitate women to be exposed to better prospects at the international level.

However Globalisation has created some negative consequences too. Globalization has increased the number of low paid, part time and exploitative jobs for women. Increased prices due to open economy demand more cope up with changes from women. With increasing nuclear families, the older women's life has become pitiable, sometimes spending their later days in old age homes and isolation. The feminization of population has further aggravated this problem. Similarly, male migration from rural areas to urban centres has put the women under triple burden of home making, farming and job in rural sector. At the same time, migration of women for economic reasons has led to increased exploitation including sexual exploitation and trafficking.



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Q. 1 "The Indian Constitution is a beautiful blend of **Parliamentary Sovereignty** and **Constitutional Supremacy**"-Analyse.

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Q. 2 "Any sharp escalation of the US-China trade war is likely to drag down global trade growth and hurt India"- Analyse.

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Q. 3

Enumerate the various challenges before SHGs in India. Discuss how corporate-SHG linkage can help in creating flourishing rural markets.

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Q. 4 "A visible gender minority in India, the transgender community continues to remain on the fringes of development and welfare programmes, with little access to public goods and services"- Elucidate. **15**

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(MODEL ANSWERS)

STEPS 03/07/2018- (GS II)

Q1. "The Indian Constitution is a beautiful blend of **Parliamentary Sovereignty** and **Constitutional Supremacy**"-Analyse. (10)

Approach:

- 1) Discuss the concept of Parliamentary sovereignty and judicial supremacy.
- 2) Explain the arrangement under the Indian constitution by highlighting the powers of the Parliament and Judicial review.
- 3) Show how there is a compromise between the two doctrines under the Indian Constitution.

Answer:

The issue of parliamentary versus judicial supremacy has been a subject of heated scholarly debate over the last few years. It has exercised the minds of legislators, jurists, politicians and non-professionals as well through-out the world. The supporters of absolute independence of judiciary argue that in the absence of an impartial, independent and sovereign judiciary, democracy cannot succeed. In contrast to this view, supporters of parliamentary supremacy pursue the concept that judicial supremacy which is expressed in the form of judicial review, is incompatible with a democratic government because the importance of majority rule lags behind by the few unelected judges who are not directly accountable to people.

The Constitution of India has opted for a middle path between Judicial Supremacy (of United States) and Parliamentary Supremacy (of UK). In fact, both parliament and the judiciary should not exceed their limits as defined by the constitution of India, so that harmony can be maintained between the legislature and judiciary. Parliamentary sovereignty was ensured by conferring upon the Indian parliament which can amend all parts of the constitution, save perhaps the basic structure. At the same time, Judiciary was given the power of declaring a law unconstitutional if it is perceived to be going beyond the competence of the legislature as per distribution of powers enshrined in the constitution.

Though Indian Constitution does not have express provision of separation of judicial and parliamentary supremacy but it's not quite unclear also. While it is the prerogative of the

parliament to amend the constitution and make the laws; it is the duty of the judiciary to decide if basic ideals and structure of the constitution are transgressed by such laws. Hence the Indian constitution confers sovereignty upon the parliament only to the extent which appears possible within the bounds of a written constitution.

Q2. "Any sharp escalation of the US-China trade war is likely to drag down global trade growth and hurt India"- Analyse. (10)

Approach:

- 1) Highlight how the global trade future is deeply rooted to the present trade disputes and tensions between US and China.
- 2) Discuss its short term and long term impact over developing countries in general and India in particular.

Answer:

The tit-for-tat trade war between the United States and China may well mean a throwback to the protectionist past. The competitive imposition of tariffs by the two economic superpowers to raise the entry barriers is fraught with dangerous ramifications for the global trade.

Any sharp escalation of the US-China trade war is likely to drag down global trade growth and hurt India. The global economic recovery is likely to be adversely affected if the Sino-US tariff war intensifies further. The US has a trade deficit of \$375 billion with China and the ongoing trade war would undermine the interests of its farming community, technology companies, automakers, pharmaceuticals and aircraft manufacturers.

Similarly, American technology companies and automakers with factories in China could take a hit. The international agencies may soon start revising down their growth projection for global trade if the situation escalates. The trade war is a cause for concern for India.

If the trade war were to intensify then there is a possibility that a diminished US-China trade engagement could have positive results for countries such as Brazil and India from a trade perspective, at least in the short run.

But in the long term, a full-fledged trade war is bad news. It invariably leads to a higher inflationary and low growth scenario. Inflation is generally good for assets such as gold, while having a negative impact on currency and some sectors in the equity market. It will also push the interest rates high in the long run thereby affecting investments and capital formation.

Q3. Enumerate the various challenges before SHGs in India. Discuss how corporate-SHG linkage can help in creating flourishing rural markets. (15)

Approach:

- 1) Try to explain how SHGs have become an agent of hope for the poor and the marginalized.
- 2) Enumerate the various challenges that the SHGs face in India.
- 3) Discuss how SHG-Corporate linkage can help the corporate and the SHGs.

Answer:

The SHG method is used by the government, NGOs and others worldwide. Self Help Groups (SHGs) have become the vehicle of change in the rural areas, transforming the lives of the marginalized. Realizing that problems cannot be solved alone, or by a single agency, small voluntary groups get together to pool their resources, skills and talent to better their lives. SHGs organize the poor and the marginalized to join hands to solve their problems and the method has been very successfully used by the government and the Non Government Organizations in achieving several goals. As a form or enterprise, SHG performs the role of collective banks and enterprises and ensure better access to loans with a lower rate of interest to start or micro unit enterprises.

Problems faced by Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in India

- 1) Ignorance of Members/Participants
- 2) Inadequate Training Facilities
- 3) Problems Related with Raw Materials
- 4) Problems of Marketing
- 5) Lack of Stability and Unity Especially among women SHGs
- 6) Exploitation by Strong Members
- 7) Weak Financial Management
- 8) Low Return
- 9) Inadequate Financial Assistance
- 10) Inadequate and ill-trained staff to meet the challenges

To overcome the barriers and making SHGs more viable in long run and profitable ventures Corporate interventions can contribute a lot. Thus the integration of private corporations and SHGs can go long way in providing symbiotic benefits to both the parties. Vast majority if rural markets are untapped by companies because of market characteristics (uneven population density, uneven income generation, poor infrastructure thus making these areas inaccessible).

Various models adopted by companies for distribution of their products to these markets includes-hub and spoke model, piggybacking, manual distribution centers etc. SHGs suffer from issues of product quality, marketability and sustainable business models. If both can integrate it will attract some prominent benefits to both.

Company benefits

- 1) These microenterprises (developed with identified SHGs) can assist in delivery and distribution of company products in the areas untapped
- 2) Procurement of raw materials or semi finished materials can be developed
- 3) Diffusion of innovation in those areas will be easy
- 4) Brand awareness and Equity can be enhanced

SHG Benefits

- 1) They will have secured business and hence secured revenue.
- 2) Skill enhancement of members
- 3) Social status upliftment

Q4. "A visible gender minority in India, the transgender community continues to remain on the fringes of development and welfare programmes, with little access to public goods and services"- Elucidate. (15)

Approach:

- 1) Define the term Transgender and describe how they face various socio-economic discriminations.
- 2) Highlight the various problems faced by the transgender community in India.
- 3) Write something about the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2016.

Answer:

Transgender is an umbrella term, coined in the US, used to include people whose lifestyles appear to conflict with the gender norms of society. Transgender people are marginal group in the society. They suffer from the lack of continuity in their identity, lack of self-esteem, overemphasized and unwanted distinctiveness and injustice at every turn.

Every day, transgender people are facing social and economic marginalization due to their gender identity and expression. They are excluded from effectively participation in all level than the other marginalized sects of civil society. A major reason of the exclusion is the lack of legal recognition of the gender identity.

Countless issues are associated with the gender identity of transgender community in India such as discrimination, Persistence of stigma, lack of educational facilities, unemployment, lack of shelter, lack of medical facilities like HIV care and hygiene, depression, hormone pill abuse, tobacco and alcohol abuse and problems relating to marriage, property, electoral rights, adoption, Alienation from family and society, Absence of sensitivity, Insecure life, Forced sex work and begging. Social stigma includes being disempowered due to the labeling and negative generalized attitude towards such members who are forced to work as sex workers or sex solicitors. Even in cases of inheritance of property or adoption of a child, they are a neglected group. Most members are driven to begging and pushed furthermore towards the margins. This is by all means human trafficking. Some members even engage themselves as sex workers for survival. Without the adequate legal polices and necessary awareness marginalization of transgender will not be changed. Government has to take all the initiatives with support of the general people. Keeping in view the problems faced by the transgender population the government has introduced a bill in the Union Parliament viz.

Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2016

- The Bill defines a transgender person as one who is partly female or male; or a combination of female and male; or neither female nor male. In addition, the person's gender must not match the gender assigned at birth, and includes trans-men, trans-women, persons with intersex variations and gender-queers.
- A transgender person must obtain a certificate of identity as proof of recognition of identity as a transgender person and to invoke rights under the Bill.
- Such a certificate would be granted by the District Magistrate on the recommendation of a Screening Committee. The Committee would comprise a medical officer, a psychologist or psychiatrist, a district welfare officer, a government official, and a transgender person.
- The Bill prohibits discrimination against a transgender person in areas such as education, employment, and healthcare.
- It directs the central and state governments to provide welfare schemes in these areas.
- Offences like compelling a transgender person to beg, denial of access to a public place, Physical and sexual abuse, etc. would attract up to two years' imprisonment and a fine.

The Supreme Court has held that the right to self-identification of gender is part of the right to dignity and autonomy under Article 21 of the Constitution. However, objective criteria may be required to determine one's gender in order to be eligible for entitlements. The Bill states that a person recognised as 'transgender' would have the right to 'self perceived' gender identity. However, it does not provide for the enforcement of such a right.

A District Screening Committee would issue a certificate of identity to recognise transgender persons. The definition of 'transgender persons' in the Bill is at variance with the definitions recognised by international bodies and experts in India. The Bill includes terms like 'trans-men', 'trans-women', persons with 'intersex variations' and 'gender-queers' in its definition of transgender persons. However, these terms have not been defined. Certain criminal and personal laws that are currently in force only recognise the genders of 'man' and 'woman'. It is unclear how such laws would apply to transgender persons who may not identify with either of the two genders.



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FEEDBACK

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Q. 1 In a development that will ring alarm bells for both environmentalists and policy makers, the mangrove forest cover in the Indian Sunderbans has been depleting alarmingly over the past few decades. Highlight the various reasons responsible for such decline and suggest some measures to counter such progressive decline. **10**

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Q. 2

“Through its ‘Make in India’ campaign, the Government of India aims to invigorate the country’s manufacturing sector, enhance the country’s global competitiveness, facilitate investment, foster innovation and ramp up the ease of doing business in the country.”- Examine.

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Q. 3 "Amid the increasing agrarian distress across the country, the Union Budget 2018-19 proposed to give farmers a minimum support price (MSP) 1.5 times of the production cost." - Critically examine.

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Q. 4 "India's internal security problems are a manifestation of internal weaknesses and external attempts at waging a proxy war."-Elucidate.

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(MODEL ANSWERS)

STEPS 04/07/2018- (GS III)

Q1. In a development that will ring alarm bells for both environmentalists and policy makers, the mangrove forest cover in the Indian Sunderbans has been depleting alarmingly over the past few decades. Highlight the various reasons responsible for such decline and suggest some measures to counter such progressive decline. (10)

Approach:

- 1) Highlight the reasons for the decline of the mangrove cover in the Sunderbans.
- 2) Suggest some steps to check this decline.

Answer:

A new study about the forest cover in India's Sunderbans reveals that the mangrove forest cover in the Indian Sunderbans has been depleting alarmingly over the past few decades. The mangrove forest cover in the Indian Sunderbans has been depleting alarmingly over the past few decades. The fragile ecosystem of the Indian Sunderbans that, other than being home to the Royal Bengal Tiger, also harbours a population of 4.5 million people.

Mangrove forests in Sunderbans are deteriorating due to over-exploitation, deforestation, land reclamation and pollution. Large areas of mangroves have been cleared for fish and shrimp farming. Agricultural practices and industrial development, urbanization, over-logging in coastal areas as well as unregulated discharge of liquid and solid wastes are the most serious threats.

Measures to Counter Such Progressive Decline

Adequate of policy, legal and institutional Framework	Ecological regeneration and extension of Forest cover
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Formulation of adequate rules and Regulations2. Capacity building2. Conflict resolution mechanism3. Efforts to reduce all threats on forests4. Mechanism for protection, management and Benefit -sharing5. Accountability and financial transparency	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Improve silvicultural system to promote Effective regeneration2. Extension of forest area and type of forest Cover (e.g., natural forest, man-made forest)

Meaningful participation of all key Stakeholders

1. Local communities
2. Forest officials
3. Governmental agencies, national and International institutions including local NGOs
4. Local policy makers (e.g., representative of Local governments such as zila Parishad)
5. Participation and empowerment of women Groups

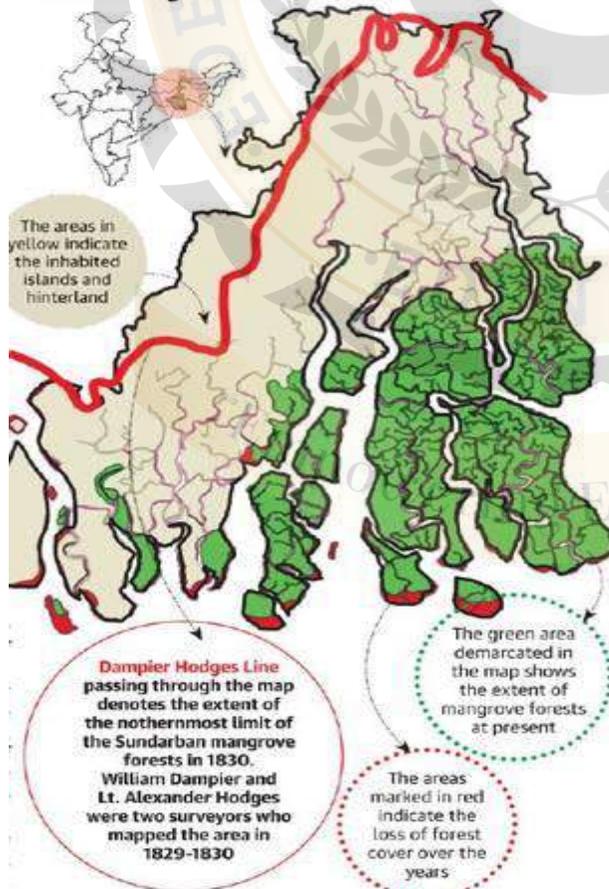
Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and Modeling

1. Estimation of forested area and inventory of forests
2. Ecosystem health and vitality
3. Comprehensive protection management measures
4. Monitoring of timber harvest including fuel wood
5. Survey of forest regeneration status and reporting

Scientific research and planning

1. Research on eco-physiological functions, ecosystem productivity management, genetics and taxonomy
2. Identifying and monitoring biodiversity
3. Identifying and understanding threats to mangrove forest
4. Development of sustainable technologies
5. The effects of the global climate change on the forests
6. Pest and disease control and management techniques
7. Pollution prevention, control, and remediation
8. Integrated conservation and management systems of mangroves

Bird's-eye view



The total forest cover of the Indian Sunderbans as assessed by remote sensing studies for the year 1986 was about 2,246.839 sq. km., which gradually declined by 2,201.41 sq. km. in 1996, then down to 2168.914 sq km in 2001 and to 2122.421 sq km in 2012. The loss in the mangrove forest in the Indian Sunderbans is about 5.5 %.

More than one in six mangrove species worldwide are in danger of extinction due to coastal development and other factors, including climate change, logging and agriculture, according to the first-ever global assessment on the conservation status of mangroves for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

Q2. “Through its ‘Make in India’ campaign, the Government of India aims to invigorate the country’s manufacturing sector, enhance the country's global competitiveness, facilitate investment, foster innovation and ramp up the ease of doing business in the country.” - Examine. (10)

Approach:

- 1) Highlight the government’s aim to increase the share of manufacturing sector in the GDP.
- 2) Discuss different steps taken by the government to improve the infrastructure and other facilities for the manufacturing sector.

Answer:

The plan is to increase the share of manufacturing in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to 25% by 2025. This ambitious goal requires creation of a world-class infrastructure, building a healthy business ecosystem and developing state-of-the art transport facilities. The government has been making steady progress in pursuit of this goal and its plan to build Industrial Corridors and develop Smart Cities is a noteworthy step in this direction. With a total of five planned industrial corridor projects, India is trying to bring a paradigm shift in its industrial development.

Approved in 2011, Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) is touted as the world’s largest infrastructure project with a total estimated investment of USD 100 billion. The aim is to develop the corridor as a “Global Manufacturing and Trading Hub” with infrastructure linkages like power plants, high capacity transportation, assured water supply and other things that would further the objective of building a world-class infrastructure to aid manufacturing – the very essence of Make in India!

24 investment regions are proposed to be completed in 4 phases with 8 under Phase-I and a 1504 km long Western Dedicated Freight Corridor is planned spanning six states making it the largest infrastructure project in the world.

The government plans to build smart cities, power projects, Airports, Mass Rapid Transportation Systems (MRTS) and Logistics hubs in the corridor with a Project Development Fund of USD 2.6 billion and additional USD 153 million over a period of Five years.

With these megaprojects at its disposal, the target is to boost employment potential, multiply industrial output and increase exports from the region, in the coming seven to nine years. These projects are expected to fuel India’s economic growth for next 20-30 years.

Q3. "Amid the increasing agrarian distress across the country, the Union Budget 2018-19 proposed to give farmers a minimum support price (MSP) 1.5 times of the production cost."- Critically examine. (15)

Approach:

- 1) Very briefly in the introduction highlight the intention of the announcement made in the Union Budget.
- 2) What are the challenges in the implementation of such an announcement?
- 3) Conclude and suggest a way forward.

Answer:

The Union Budget evoked mixed responses from the farming community. While welcoming the announcement of fixing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) at 1.5 times of input/production cost, the farming community was disappointed over non-announcement of farm loan waiver.

Honourable Prime Minister gave a clarion call to double farmers' income by 2022 when India celebrates its 75th year of independence. Government has been very much sensitive to this resolution and it has declared Minimum support price (MSP) for the majority of Rabi crops at least at one and a half times the cost involved. In case of market price of the crop is lower than the MSP, then in that case Government should purchase either at MSP or work in a manner to provide MSP for the farmers through some other mechanism.

For better price realization, the Government has announced strengthening of e- NAM and to expand coverage of e-NAM to 585 APMCs. 470 APMCs have been connected to e-NAM network and rest will be connected by March, 2018. 22,000 rural Haats are to be developed and upgraded into Gramin agricultural markets (GrAMs) for farmers to directly sell to consumers and bulk purchasers.

The announcement made in the Union Budget 2018-19 to increase crops MSP by 1.5 times will face many issues and challenges at the implementation stage. MSP and Inflation highly co-related and any increase in MSP will eventually result into price hike of many agricultural products.

There is a kind of confusion among states as States have no idea how Center is going to implement this proposal. How it would calculate the cost is very important. Because, all States will have to agree with that cost, further allocation for major schemes like MGNREGA, PMGSY, PMAY, Tribal sub-plan is stagnant which is not encouraging.

An increased MSP declaration is not sustainable given the fiscal and market challenges rather the government should work towards making farming a profitable occupation by infrastructure

building, market connectivity, logistics development, transparent mechanisms, promoting best practices and fueling innovation. The objective should be to enhance farmers' income through theme pavilions like micro irrigation, neem-coated urea, and soil check/soil health card, reducing input costs through less use of fertilizer, effectiveness of crop insurance scheme and new dimensions of income generation such as animal husbandry, bee keeping and poultry farming.

Q4. "India's internal security problems are a manifestation of internal weaknesses and external attempts at waging a proxy war."-Elucidate. (15)

Approach:

- 1) Discuss the nature of challenges and the reasons behind Internal security problems
- 2) Highlight the role of state and non-state actors in fuelling internal strife and terrorism in India.

Answer:

India's internal security problems are a manifestation of internal weaknesses and external attempts at waging a proxy war. Inadequate socio-economic development, apathy towards the genuine grievances of the people, political brinkmanship amongst other reasons, has created internal contradictions, which have led to over five decades of internal strife. Similarly, a number of internal security challenges faced today are fuelled and controlled from Pakistan.

If we divide the internal security challenges into four main groups, to include, Jammu and Kashmir, Northeast India, Left Wing Extremism and Terrorism in the Hinterland, then the first and the last are a direct manifestation of Pakistani influence. It is part of Pakistan's state policy to bleed India through a thousand cuts, given its obvious disadvantages on the conventional war fighting front. The use of non-state actors is essentially the employment of a proxy element, which gives the state of Pakistan a degree of deniability. However, there is no doubt that none of the so called non-state actors like the Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) could have operated with impunity without the active funding, logistical and military support of Pakistan. The close linkages of the ISI and such groups are well documented as is their direct involvement in attacks like 26/11.

These groups aim to not only create instability in states like J&K, they also have a larger aim of destabilizing the country. This is done through sporadic terrorist strikes, which spreads terror and panic. This could also adversely affect the ability of the Indian state to pursue economic modernisation. The flooding of the country with counterfeits is also a way of weakening the economy. Therefore, the non-state actors operating from Pakistan are the proxies of the state, functioning under a clear charter of state policy.

EDEN IAS



Educational Development & Enrichment Network

STEPS

DAILY MAINS ANSWER WRITING

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

SUBJECT: _____

INVIGILATORS
SIGNATURE

CANDIDATE'S
SIGNATURE

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FEEDBACK

EDEN IAS

STEPS

Q. 1 What do you understand by Big Data? Discuss some of the applications based on Big-Data technology. Highlight the various concerns regarding Big Data

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STEPS

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Q. 2 Highlight the various challenges that confront the Indian Dairy Sector. Discuss some of the recent steps taken by the Government of India to address these challenges. **10**

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STEPS

Q. 3 "B. R. Ambedkar had warned against the overweening influence of the executive in judicial appointments. This does not imply that executive participation should be wholly absent."-In the light of the above statement discuss the recent developments regarding the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) and its controversial clauses. **15**

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Q. 4

“India and China should discuss nuclear issues bilaterally to eliminate the uncertainties that have emerged due to their differing perspectives and postures.” – Comment

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(MODEL ANSWERS)

STEPS -05/07/2018- (GS IV)

Q1. "Corruption allocates resources and opportunities in ways that are unfair and inefficient"-In the light of the above statement differentiate between coercive and collusive corruption. How ethics can help in fighting corruption? (10)

Approach:

- 1) Define Corruption and discuss how it acts as a barrier in the delivery of justice.
- 2) Highlight the differences between collusive corruption and coercive corruption.
- 3) In the conclusion explain how ethics can help in fighting corruption.

Answer:

Corruption, defined as '**the abuse of public power for private gain**', has existed for long. It encompasses unilateral abuses by government officials such as embezzlement and nepotism, as well as abuses linking public and private actors such as bribery, extortion, influence peddling and fraud. Evidence confirms that corruption hurts the poor disproportionately and hinders efforts to achieve the Development Goals and human development by reducing access to social services and diverting resources away from investments in infrastructure, institutions, and social services. In the political realm, corruption undermines democracy and good governance by subverting formal processes. Corruption in elections and in legislative bodies reduces accountability and representation in policy-making. Corruption in the judiciary suspends the rule of law, and corruption in public administration results in the unequal provision of services. More generally, corruption erodes the institutional capacity of government as procedures are disregarded, resources are siphoned off, and officials are hired or promoted without regard to performance.

Corruption can be said to be of two kinds – Collusive **Corruption and Coercive Corruption**. In collusive corruption, there is really no victim. It is the system that can be said to be victimized and exploited. Here both the bribe giver and the taker collude together to short-circuit the system. A young man paying off the policeman for being caught not wearing his helmet is also collusive corruption. In the case of coercive corruption, there is a defined victim. The bribe giver is forced or coerced to pay out in order to get his work done.

It is not enough to consolidate a legal responsibility to fight corruption, in fact corruption happens due to lack of awareness rather it is necessary to educate offenders so that they can understand their moral virtues, ethic standards and moral responsibilities and then the internal ethics would act as a bulwark against corruption.

Q2. Probity in governance is an essential and vital requirement for an efficient and effective system of governance and for socio-economic development. (10)

Approach:

- 1) Highlight the importance of probity in Governance.
- 2) Define probity in governance and its various facets.
- 3) Link the idea of probity in governance to the loftier goal of good governance.

Answer:

Probity in governance is an essential and vital requirement for an efficient and effective system of governance and for socio-economic development. An important requisite for ensuring probity in governance is absence of corruption. The other requirements are effective laws, rules and regulations governing every aspect of public life and, more important, an effective and fair implementation of those laws, etc. Indeed, a proper, fair and effective enforcement of law is a facet of discipline. Discipline implies inter alia public and private morality and a sense of honesty.

Probity is the act of **strict adherence to highest principles and ideals** (integrity, good character, honesty, decency) **rather than avoiding corrupt** or dishonest conduct. It **balances service to the community against the self-interest** of individuals. Probity in public life requires adherence to high moral and ethical standards like integrity, honesty, impartiality, commitment to constitutional principles, dedicated and selfless public service on the part of all public servants. **Public servants include not only legislature, executive (temporary and permanent) and judiciary**, but also scientists, technocrats, members of statutory, advisory bodies and even non-governmental organisations, educational and research institutions receiving government grants in the conduct and performance of their official duties and responsibilities.

Probity has been described as **a risk management approach ensuring procedural integrity**. It is concerned with procedures, processes and systems rather than outcomes.

The principle of probity in public life is the **cornerstone of good governance**. It is the **sine qua non of democracy and sustainable development**. According to Second Administrative Reforms Commission, apart from the traditional civil service values of efficiency, integrity, accountability and patriotism, it is necessary for civil servants to inculcate and adopt ethical and moral values including probity in public life, respect for human rights and compassion for the downtrodden and commitment to their welfare.

Probity in governance is the antithesis of corruption in public life. Probity is emphasised by the UN Convention against corruption. Probity is in fact the evidence of ethical behaviour in a particular process.

Q3. "It is the greatest good to the greatest number of people which is the measure of right and wrong."- Elucidate. (10)

Approach:

- 1) Discuss the concept of Utilitarianism in the light of the given statement
- 2) Highlight the differences between the views of Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill.
- 3) In the conclusion discuss some of the problems related to Utilitarianism.

Answer:

Utilitarianism began with the philosophies of **Jeremy Bentham** and **John Stuart Mill**. Utilitarianism gets its name from Bentham's test question, "What is the use of it?" He conceived of the idea when he ran across the words "the greatest happiness of the greatest number" in Joseph Priestly's Treatise of Government. Utilitarianism is a normative ethical theory that places the locus of right and wrong solely on the outcomes (consequences) of choosing one action/policy over other actions/policies. As such, it moves beyond the scope of one's own interests and takes into account the interests of others.

Jeremy Bentham's Principle of Utility:

- (1) Recognizes the fundamental role of pain and pleasure in human life
- (2) Approves or disapproves of an action on the basis of the amount of pain or pleasure brought about i.e., consequences
- (3) Equates good with pleasure and evil with pain and
- (4) Asserts that pleasure and pain are capable of quantification (and hence 'measure').

In measuring pleasure and pain, Bentham introduces the following criteria: INTENSITY, DURATION, CERTAINTY (or UNCERTAINTY), and its NEARNESS (or FARNNESS). He also includes its "fecundity" (will more of the same follow?) and its "purity" (its pleasure won't be followed by pain & vice versa). In considering actions that affect numbers of people, we must also account for its EXTENT.

John Stuart Mill adjusted the more hedonistic tendencies in Bentham's philosophy by emphasizing

- (1) It is not the quantity of pleasure, but the quality of happiness that is central to utilitarianism,
- (2) the calculus is unreasonable -- qualities cannot be quantified (there is a distinction between 'higher' and 'lower' pleasures), and
- (3) Utilitarianism refers to "the Greatest Happiness Principle" -- it seeks to promote the capability of achieving happiness (higher pleasures) for the most amount of people (this is its "extent").

Problems with Utilitarianism

A major problem with utilitarianism is predicting the consequences. If morality is based on results, then we would have to have omniscience in order to accurately predict the consequence of any action. But at best we can only guess at the future, and often these educated guesses are wrong. The end never justifies the means. The means must justify themselves. A particular act cannot be judged as good simply because it may lead to a good consequence. The means must be judged by some objective and consistent standard of morality.

Q4. In a remote village in Odisha the quality of education and food that was delivered by a government run elementary school was very substandard and hence people in the vicinity were not happy with the way the school was functioning. Things got worse when a survey was conducted by a NGO, the survey found that some of the minor girls have been ill-treated and molested by a particular school staff. There was anger amongst the local people when the news spread around the village. People gathered with sticks and stones in and around the school and started pulling the school building down.

- a) Suppose you are the Sarpanch of that village what steps would you take?
- b) Highlight the various ethical rights that were infringed in this case.

(20)

Approach:

- 1) Highlight the various stake holders involved in this case.
- 2) Carve out a short term and long term strategy to tackle the situation.
- 3) Discuss the various ethical rights that were infringed in this case.

Answer:

The Various Stake holders in this case are

- Government and Police
- Parents/Children
- Panchayat of the village
- School and its staff
- Village community at large

The Rights infringed in the case were

- Right to Education(RTE)
- The right to food and hygiene.
- Right against exploitation.
- Child rights.
- Community Rights.
- Social Justice.

The Sarpanch of the village can take the following steps.

Immediate Steps

1. The Sarpanch should talk to all the people who have gathered before the school to take stock of the situation so that he can explore various options to tackle this problem.
2. He can take legal advice on RTE so that he can know about its complexity and ensure the people to abjure violence and give him an opportunity to set things right, if possible set a deadline to pacify the crowd immediately.
3. Ensure the safety and security of the children and innocent staff. Try to contact the police as soon as possible to report the molestation case and comfort the victim by involving the victim's family.
4. The Sarpanch can seek some more time from people lead a delegation to the District collector and the local MLA and conduct meetings of the Gram Sabha to decide on immediate course of legal and peaceful action.

Long-term Steps

- 1) Form vigilance committee consisting of SHGs, NGOs and other local members that will conduct regular inspections.
- 2) Strengthen public school infrastructure and seek funds for the same both from the government and from the village community
- 3) Forming parents' committee to provide an avenue for largest stakeholder in education sector, Enhance accountability mechanism, Provide an immediate monitoring mechanism.
- 4) The Gram Sabha should become the apex body at local level to supervise the above activities and hold people including the school authorities and the Sarpanch responsible

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Educational Development & Enrichment Network

STEPS

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FEEDBACK

EDEN IAS

STEPS

Q. 1 What do you understand by Big Data? Discuss some of the applications based on Big-Data technology. Highlight the various concerns regarding Big Data

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Q. 2 Highlight the various challenges that confront the Indian Dairy Sector. Discuss some of the recent steps taken by the Government of India to address these challenges. **10**

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Q. 3 "B. R. Ambedkar had warned against the overweening influence of the executive in judicial appointments. This does not imply that executive participation should be wholly absent."-In the light of the above statement discuss the recent developments regarding the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) and its controversial clauses. **15**

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“India and China should discuss nuclear issues bilaterally to eliminate the uncertainties that have emerged due to their differing perspectives and postures.” – Comment

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(MODEL ANSWERS)

STEPS -06/07/2018- (CURRENT AFFAIRS)

Q1. What do you understand by Big Data? Discuss some of the applications based on Big-Data technology. Highlight the various concerns regarding Big Data (10)

Approach:

- 1) Define the term Big Data and highlight its importance.
- 2) Discuss the various applications based on Big-Data Technology.
- 3) Highlight the various concerns relating to Big Data.

Answer:

Big data is a term that describes the large volume of data – both structured and unstructured – that inundates a business on a day-to-day basis. But it's not the amount of data that's important. It's what organizations do with the data that matters. Big data can be analyzed for insights that lead to better decisions and strategic business moves. It is characterized by its huge Volume; velocity and variety. (3Vs)

Applications based on 'Big Data' Technology

- **Seed Selection** – Big-data businesses can analyse varieties of seeds across numerous fields, soil types, and climates and select the best.
- **Crop disease** – Similar to the way in which Google can identify flu outbreaks based on where web searches are originating, analyzing crops across farms helps identify diseases that could ruin a potential harvest.
- **Irrigation** – Precision agriculture aids farmers in tailored and effective water management, helping in production, improving economic efficiency and minimizing waste and environmental impact.
- **Weather** – Advanced analytics capabilities and agri-robotics such as aerial imagery, sensors help provide sophisticated local weather forecasts can help increasing global agricultural productivity over the next few decades.
- **Climate change** – Since, climate change and extreme weather events will demand proactive measures to adapt or develop resiliency, Big Data can bring in the right information to take informed decisions.

- **Food processing** – They help in streamlining food processing value chains by finding the core determinants of process performance, and taking action to continually improve the accuracy, quality and yield of production. They also optimise production schedules based on supplier, customer, machine availability and cost constraints.
- **Loss control** – In India, every year 21 million tons of wheat is lost, primarily due to scare cold-storage centres and refrigerated vehicles, poor transportation facilities and unreliable electricity supply. Big Data has the potential of systematisation of demand forecasting thus reducing such.
- **Pricing** – A trading platform for agricultural commodities that links small scale producers to retailers and bulk purchasers via mobile phone messaging can help send up-to-date market prices via an app or SMS and connect farmers with buyers, offering collective bargaining opportunities for small and marginal farmers.
- **Big Data for detecting water leakages**- The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is using Big Data and predictive analytics technology from IBM to create systems for monitoring water distribution systems

Apart from the above Big data can be helpful in train and traffic management; financial inclusion; crime management; in developing socio-economic policies etc.

Big Data concerns

Big Data gives us unprecedented insights and opportunities, but it also raises concerns and questions that must be addressed:

- **Data privacy** – The Big Data we now generate contains a lot of information about our personal lives, much of which we have a right to keep private. Increasingly, we are asked to strike a balance between the amount of personal data we divulge, and the convenience that Big Data-powered apps and services offer.
- **Data security** – Even if we decide we are happy for someone to have our data for a particular purpose, can we trust them to keep it safe?
- **Data discrimination** – When everything is known, will it become acceptable to discriminate against people based on data we have on their lives?

Facing up to these challenges is an important part of Big Data, and they must be addressed by organisations who want to take advantage of data. Failure to do so can leave businesses vulnerable, not just in terms of their reputation, but also legally and financially.

Q2. Highlight the various challenges that confront the Indian Dairy Sector. Discuss some of the recent steps taken by the Government of India to address these challenges. (10)

Approach:

- 1) Highlight the importance of Dairy Sector in the Indian Economy.
- 2) Enumerate the various challenges that are present before the dairy sector.
- 3) Discuss some of the recent moves by the government to infuse new life into the dairy sector.

Answer:

In India, the Dairy Sector has grown substantially over the years. India ranks first among the world's milk producing countries, with an annual output of nearly 155.49 million tonnes. However the Indian Dairy Sector faces a lot of challenge some of them are:

Challenges before the Indian Dairy Sector

1. Cost effective and nutritionally balanced feed for animals
2. Reproductive efficiency of the herd with sound heifer management
3. Captive and entrepreneurial marketing acumen of milk and milk product
4. 'Optimum usage of technology' available for herd management and genetics
5. Quality of milk and milk products are a barrier to entry to the export market, especially the EU and the USA.
6. Lack of policy focus on strengthening indigenous breeds
7. Because of low access to credit and risk-taking ability, farmers cannot increase their herd size.
8. Milk production is scattered over a large number of farmers producing miniscule quantities
9. Milk distribution is limited to urban and peri-urban areas
10. Large share of milk (70–85%) of marketable surplus goes through informal channel where quality is a big concern

Recent Initiatives taken in the Dairy Sector

Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF): The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved a Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund in September 2017, with an outlay of Rs. 10,881 crore for 2017-18 to 2028-29. The project will focus on building an efficient milk procurement system by setting up of chilling infrastructure and installation of electronic milk adulteration testing equipments, creation/modernization/expansion of processing infrastructure and 4 manufacturing facilities for Value Added Products for the Milk Unions/Milk Producer Companies.

Pashudhan Sanjivani: It is an animal Wellness Programme, encompassing provision of Animal Health Cards (Nakul Swasthya Patra) along with Unique Identification (UID) number of animals in milk and a National Data Base. Under the scheme 8.5 crore animals in milk will be identified using UID. This will play a crucial role in controlling animal diseases and will also lead to increase in the trade of the livestock and livestock products.

E-Pashudhan Haat Portal: Under the National Mission on Bovine Productivity an E-Pashudhan Haat Portal has been developed. This portal will play an important role in connecting breeders and farmers of indigenous breeds. Through this portal farmers will be aware about breed-wise information on indigenous breeds and can directly deal in the sale and purchase of indigenous breeds. Information on all forms of germplasm has been uploaded on the portal for the benefits of the farmers.

Rashtriya Gokul Mission: The Rashtriya Gokul Mission was launched in December, 2014 exclusively for the development and conservation of the indigenous breeds in a scientific and holistic manner.

Q3. “B. R. Ambedkar had warned against the overweening influence of the executive in judicial appointments. This does not imply that executive participation should be wholly absent.”-In the light of the above statement discuss the recent developments regarding the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) and its controversial clauses. (15)

Approach:

- 1) Discuss the situation post NJAC and the 99th Constitutional Amendment Acts failure.
- 2) Explain the purpose of Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) and its various clauses.
- 3) Highlight the controversy regarding the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP)
- 4) Note the present developments on the same issue.

Answer:

Declaring that the judiciary cannot risk being caught in a “web of indebtedness” towards the government, the Supreme Court had already rejected the **National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act** and the **99th Constitutional Amendment** but the **Supreme Court admitted that all is not well even with the collegium system** of “judges appointing judges”, and that the time is ripe to improve the 21-year-old system of judicial appointments.

It was on December 16, 2015 that the **Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court** had **directed the Government** to draft a new **Memorandum of Procedure [MoP]** for appointment of High Court and Supreme Court Judges. The MoP has since been getting tossed back and forth

between the Centre and the collegium, with both the sides being adamant on their stands on several issues.

In this regard, the SC asked the Govt. to work on a revised MoP addressing the following issues of the Collegium –

- 1) **Opaque working**
- 2) **Lack of objectivity**
- 3) **Lack of accountability**
- 4) **Missing broad-based consultations**

The revised MoP proposed the following

- **Nominations** – Proposal is to setup a Technical Committee. This committee will accept nominations and hold wider consultations to select the best candidates.
- **Eligibility** – a) The prime criteria will be Seniority along with b) Merit and integrity. In case a senior Chief Justice being overlooked for elevation reasons for the same be recorded in writing.
- **Permanent Secretariat** : maintaining records of high court judges, scheduling meetings of the SC Collegium, receiving recommendations as well as complaints in matters related to appointments, scrutinize data relating to prospective appointees, and lays down a judicial mechanism for redress of complaints against judges.

Points of contention

Most of the points mentioned above stand sorted except for the Security Clause.

Security Clause : The clause under which Govt will have powers to reject any candidate recommended by the collegium on grounds of public interest and national security. Revised draft proposes that the government will communicate to the collegium the reasons for rejecting any name recommended by it.

Curiously, the Goel-Lalit bench's initiative to hear the MoP case on the judicial side coincides with reports suggesting that the deadlock over the MoP may be nearing resolution.

- 1) First, the Supreme Court's recent decision to constitute a committee of judges and a permanent secretariat in the Supreme Court and in the high courts to screen applicants for designating senior advocates may well provide the required data for selecting judges.
- 2) Second, the collegium has diluted its reservations over the Centre's insistence that it could reject a candidate recommended by the collegium on the ground of national security, if it records its view in writing, for it to reconsider its recommendation.

- 3) Third, the collegium appears to be veering round to the Centre's position that merit, rather than seniority, must be the criterion for selecting judges.

By deciding to revisit these issues, the Supreme Court is perhaps preparing to settle them once and for all.

Q4. "India and China should discuss nuclear issues bilaterally to eliminate the uncertainties that have emerged due to their differing perspectives and postures." – Comment (15)

Approach:

- 1) In the introduction try to highlight the importance of a nuclear dialogue between India and China.
- 2) Describe the changes in the Chinese Stance regarding the Indian missile programme.
- 3) Explain the reasons why there is a possibility of nuclear escalation between the two economic giants and then conclude in a prescriptive manner.

Answer:

Discussions on nuclear security in South Asia generally focus on the India-Pakistan relationship. Given the volatile military equation and frequent saber-rattling between these two neighbours, that is unsurprising. China as a nuclear power that has a bearing on nuclear security and stability in South Asia is discussed in India primarily in terms of its nuclear relationship with Pakistan – the materiel and technology that Indian analysts believe China provides to bolster Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme. That the India-China relationship might itself merit a discussion on issues of nuclear security, perhaps even Confidence Building Measures (CBMs), is seldom mooted.

In the wake of India's first intercontinental ballistic missile test of Agni V in 2012, the spokesperson for China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) did not so much as allude to the missile test and emphasised only that China and India were cooperative partners rather than rivals. 4. By 2016, when India undertook the fourth Agni V test, China's reaction to the test was very hostile. Not only did the MoFA spokesperson insinuate that India's missile test was in violation of United Nations Security Council Regulations, but also sought clarity on its "intentions".

From muted reactions that seemed to ignore missile development to belligerent statements that place the blame for

Destabilising South Asia at India's door, there has clearly been a change in perception regarding India's nuclear capabilities within the Chinese government. When considered along with the fact that China maintains nuclear missile launch sites and storage facilities in the provinces

bordering India, it seems reasonable to suppose that China's security assessments do actively account for India's growing nuclear capabilities.

The stand-off at Doklam demonstrated that they could well become embroiled in territorial disputes that are not strictly bilateral. Could a similar stand-off occur in the South China Sea if Indian naval vessels were to be challenged by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy?

The rapid militarisation of features controlled by China in the disputed waters of the South China Sea along with the active expansion of China's area of operations in the region makes this a real possibility. Chinese investment and military presence in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor too raises the prospect of Chinese military involvement in conflict between India and Pakistan in the area.

That there will be no nuclear escalation between India and China has become conventional wisdom. The growing capabilities, competing aspirations and overweening hubris of these two neighbours, however, suggest that reliance on accepted assumptions will lead to complacency. It may therefore be time for India and China to discuss nuclear issues bilaterally with a view to mediating the uncertainties borne of their differing perspectives and postures.

