Model Answers UPSC- 2025

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General Model for Writing GS Mains Answers

Step 1: Decode the Question

1. **Identify the command word**
    - *Discuss*: Explain both sides, give examples.
    - *Examine*: Analyze in detail with evidence.
    - *Elucidate*: Clarify meaning with explanation and examples.
    - *Comment*: Express analytical opinion, supported by facts.
    - *Critically analyze*: Discuss pros and cons with judgment.
2. **Identify key terms** – underline important concepts (e.g., "sustainable growth", "tribal development", "Harappan architecture").
3. **Check the scope** – is it conceptual, factual, analytical, or mixed?

Step 2: Structure Your Answer

For 150-word answers (10 marks)

1. **Introduction (1–2 sentences)** – Define or contextualize.
2. **Body (3–4 sentences / 2–3 points)** – Key features, causes, impacts, examples.
3. **Conclusion (1–2 sentences)** – Forward-looking / evaluative / significance.

For 250-word answers (15 marks)

1. **Introduction (2–3 sentences)** – Set context, define, or state relevance.
2. **Body (3–4 paragraphs / 5–6 points)**
    - Paragraph/points can include:
        - Causes / features / trends
        - Examples / case studies

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- Government policies / schemes / thinkers
- Data / statistics (if relevant)

3. **Conclusion (2–3 sentences)** – Judgment, significance, or recommendation.

Step 3: Value Addition

- **Examples** – Current events, historical, local, or international examples.
- **Data / Statistics** – Census, NITI Aayog, UN reports, IPCC, etc.
- **Thinkers / Theories** – Sociologists, economists, philosophers, or constitutional provisions.
- **Diagrams / Maps** – Quick sketches of locations, flowcharts, or processes.
- **Micro-examples** – Specific local project, initiative, or case study.

Step 4: Writing Tips

1. **Clarity over length** – Stick to word limit.
2. **Balanced answer** – Avoid biased or one-sided explanation.
3. **Paragraphing** – Helps examiner read easily.
4. **Linkages** – Connect intro → body → conclusion logically.
5. **Terminology** – Use precise terms relevant to the subject.

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Step 5: Quick Checklist Before Submission

- Have you answered all parts of the question?
- Did you provide examples/data where possible?
- Is your answer structured with intro, body, conclusion?
- Did you maintain neutral, analytical tone?

UPSC CS MAINS-2025 (General Studies-II)

1. **Discuss the 'corrupt practices' for the purpose of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. Analyze whether the increase in the assets of the legislators and/or their associates, disproportionate to their known sources of income, would constitute 'undue influence' and consequently a corrupt practice.**

(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

The Representation of the People Act (1951) lays down a detailed framework of "corrupt practices" to ensure free and fair elections. Section 123 includes bribery, undue influence, use of religious or caste appeals, use of government machinery, false statements about candidates, and expenditure beyond limits. These are grounds for disqualification or declaring an election void.

Undue influence refers to threats, spiritual manipulation, or intimidation of voters. The issue of disproportionate asset growth of legislators or their associates, though ethically concerning, falls more under corruption laws and declarations in affidavits rather than electoral malpractice. Unless such gains are used to coerce or induce voters, they cannot strictly be termed undue influence under RPA.

Thus, while asset growth raises accountability questions, it does not directly qualify as a corrupt practice unless linked to electoral inducement or intimidation.

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2. Comment on the need of administrative tribunals as compared to the court system. Assess the impact of the recent tribunal reforms through rationalization of tribunals made in 2021.

(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

Introduction:

To reduce pendency and ensure specialized justice, administrative tribunals were set up under Articles 323A and 323B, following recommendations of the **Swaran Singh Committee**.

Body:

- **Need over Courts:** Courts face huge backlog (over 4.5 crore cases). Tribunals like CAT, NCLT, and ITAT deliver speedy, expert-driven justice in service, corporate, and tax matters.
- The **Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021** aimed at rationalization by merging several tribunals, setting tenure of four years for members, and allowing appeals to High Courts instead of tribunal appellate bodies.
- Impact has been mixed: while it simplifies the system and integrates judicial oversight, concerns remain about independence due to short tenure and dilution of specialized forums.
    - Positive – streamlined justice delivery, reduced fragmentation, enhanced judicial oversight.
    - Negative – short tenure threatens independence, merging may dilute technical expertise.

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Conclusion:

Tribunals remain vital for speedy, specialized justice. Reforms should aim at independence, adequate tenure, and expertise retention to balance efficiency with fairness.

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3. Compare and contrast the President's power to pardon in India and in the USA. Are there any limits to it in both the countries? What are 'preemptive pardons'?

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(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

Introduction

The power to pardon is an executive function aimed at correcting judicial errors, showing mercy, and upholding justice. It exists in both India and the USA but with differing scope and limitations.

Body

- **India (Article 72):** The President can grant pardon, reprieve, respite, remission, suspension, or commutation of sentences in cases of

offences against Union law, court-martial, and death penalty. However, the power is exercised on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers (Maru Ram vs Union of India, 1980). Judicial review is possible in cases of arbitrariness.

- **USA (Article II, Sec. 2):** The President has broad and independent power to grant pardons for federal offences, including before conviction — i.e., "preemptive pardons." Example: Gerald Ford's pardon to Richard Nixon (1974).
- **Limits:** In India, subject to ministerial advice and judicial review. In the USA, limited only by cases of impeachment and state offences.

Conclusion

Thus, India's pardon power is constitutionally restrained and accountable, while in the USA, it is wider and discretionary. *Preemptive pardons* reflect the expansive American model, highlighting the contrast in executive authority.

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4. **Discuss the nature of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly after the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019. Briefly describe the powers and functions of the Assembly of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.**

(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

Introduction

The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019 bifurcated the state into two Union Territories — J&K (with a legislature) and Ladakh (without

a legislature). This altered the nature, powers and functioning of the legislative assembly.

Body

- **Nature:** J&K now functions like Delhi and Puducherry with a legislative assembly but under strong central oversight.
- **Composition:** The Assembly has 90 elected members, with seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; some seats are reserved for displaced persons from PoJK.
- **Powers:** It can legislate on matters in the State List and Concurrent List, except subjects like public order and police which remain with the Union Government.
- **Governor's Role:** The Lieutenant Governor has enhanced powers compared to Governors of states.

Conclusion

Thus, the J&K Assembly post-2019 is a limited-legislature UT model, balancing democratic representation with enhanced Union control.

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5. "The Attorney General of India plays a crucial role in guiding the legal framework of the Union Government and ensuring sound governance through legal counsel." Discuss his responsibilities, rights and limitations in this regard.

(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

Introduction

The Attorney General of India (AGI), established under **Article 76 of the Constitution**, is the highest law officer of the Union, entrusted with ensuring that the government's policies and actions remain within constitutional limits.

Body

- **Responsibilities:** Advises the Union Government and President on legal matters; represents the Centre in the **Supreme Court and High Courts**; defends key legislations and constitutional amendments (e.g., Aadhaar case, NJAC).
- **Rights:** Has the right to participate in proceedings of Parliament and its committees, though without voting power (Article 88).
- **Limitations:** Not a government servant; holds office at the President's pleasure; restricted from appearing against the Government of India; cannot defend private parties in cases involving Union interest. Judicial review can check misuse of advice.

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Conclusion

The AGI acts as the Union's chief legal advisor, balancing constitutional morality and governance needs, thereby strengthening India's democratic-legal framework.

6. Women's social capital complements in advancing empowerment and gender equity. Explain.

(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

Introduction

Social capital refers to networks, trust, and collective action in society. For women, social capital acts as a crucial complement to legal and economic measures in advancing empowerment and gender equity.

Body

- **Collective Networks:** Women's Self-Help Groups (e.g., **Kudumbashree in Kerala**) provide financial access, micro-credit, and entrepreneurship opportunities.
- **Political Empowerment:** Women's federations in **Panchayati Raj Institutions** enhance leadership and decision-making, challenging gender stereotypes.
- **Social Change:** Groups like **SEWA (Self-Employed Women's Association)** and Mahila Mandals mobilize women against domestic violence, dowry, and for education.
- **Community Support:** Shared solidarity helps women negotiate patriarchy, access welfare schemes, and strengthen bargaining power in households and markets.

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Conclusion

Thus, women's social capital fosters empowerment by building trust, participation, and collective strength, complementing constitutional rights and economic opportunities to achieve gender equity.

7. E-governance projects have a built-in bias towards technology and back-end integration than user-centric designs. Examine.

(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

Introduction

E-governance in India aims at transparency, efficiency, and citizen-centric service delivery. However, many projects tend to emphasize **technology and back-end integration** rather than usability for the end-user.

Body

- **Tech Bias:** Large investments go into digitization, servers, data integration, and automation. Projects like **Aadhaar-enabled services** and **DigiLocker** initially stressed backend authentication over user simplicity.
- **Accessibility Challenges:** Citizens, especially in rural areas, face issues like poor digital literacy, lack of local language interfaces, and limited internet access.
- **User-Centric Gaps:** Services often prioritize compliance and data management for the state rather than ease of use for the citizen. For example, online land record systems (e.g., **Bhoomi in Karnataka**) faced usability issues in early phases.
- **Emerging Correctives:** Platforms like **UMANG App** and **Digital India Services** now stress single-window access and mobile-first design.

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Conclusion

While backend integration ensures efficiency, e-governance must shift towards inclusive, user-friendly, and citizen-centric design to realize its full democratic potential.

8. Civil Society Organizations are often perceived as being anti-State actors than non-State actors. Do you agree? Justify.

(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

Introduction

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are non-state actors that mediate between citizens and the government, promoting social welfare, accountability, and rights. However, they are sometimes perceived as **anti-State** due to their advocacy or dissent.

Body

- **Perception of Anti-State:** CSOs like Greenpeace India or PUCL often challenge government policies, environmental clearances, or human rights violations. Such activism can be interpreted as opposing the State, especially when it questions official projects or legislations.
- **Reality:** CSOs primarily function as **non-state actors**, aiming to strengthen democracy by ensuring transparency, policy critique, and citizen empowerment. Example: SEWA, Pratham, or Goonj collaborate with government schemes to improve outcomes.

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- **Balance:** Healthy democracy requires constructive dissent; labeling all CSOs as anti-State risks undermining accountability and social justice.

Conclusion

While some CSOs may confront State actions, their role is largely non-State, complementing governance, advocating citizen rights, and fostering participatory democracy rather than being inherently anti-State.

9. India-Africa digital partnership is achieving mutual respect, co-development and long-term institutional partnerships. Elaborate.

(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

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Introduction

India-Africa digital partnership reflects growing South-South cooperation, leveraging technology for mutual development, capacity building, and institutional collaboration.

Body

- **Mutual Respect:** India engages Africa as an equal partner, emphasizing shared development goals, cultural ties, and trust-based diplomacy. Example: India's **Pan-African e-Network Project** connects universities and hospitals across Africa with Indian institutions.

- **Co-Development:** Initiatives include ICT training, e-governance platforms, and telemedicine projects, enabling technology transfer while adapting to local needs. Example: **Digital India e-learning modules** deployed in Kenya and Rwanda.
- **Long-Term Institutional Partnerships:** Collaborative institutions like **India-Africa Institute of Digital Technologies** foster sustained research, capacity building, and policy support.
- **Impact:** Enhances human capital, strengthens digital economies, and promotes inclusive growth in Africa while projecting India as a responsible partner.

Conclusion

India-Africa digital cooperation exemplifies a win-win model of technology-driven diplomacy, fostering capacity building, long-term institutional ties, and mutual socio-economic progress.

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10. "With the waning of globalization, post-Cold War world is becoming a site of sovereign nationalism." Elucidate.

(Answer in 150 words) – 10 marks

Introduction

The post-Cold War era witnessed the rise of globalization, characterized by free trade, interdependence, and global governance. However, recent trends indicate a **waning of globalization**, with nations prioritizing sovereignty and national interests, giving rise to **sovereign nationalism**.

Body

- **Economic Nationalism:** Countries are adopting protectionist policies, reshoring industries, and restricting foreign investments. Example: US-China trade tensions and Brexit.
- **Political Assertion:** Leaders promote "America First," "India First," or similar agendas, emphasizing national identity over global cooperation.
- **Cultural Nationalism:** Protection of indigenous culture, language, and traditions gains priority, sometimes challenging global norms. Example: France protecting French language in tech and media.
- **Global Implications:** Decline in multilateralism, weakening of global institutions, and fragmented international order.

Conclusion

Thus, the post-Cold War world is witnessing a shift from integration to sovereignty-driven nationalism, where nations assert independence over

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global interdependence, marking a reconfiguration of global political and economic order.

11. "Constitutional morality is the fulcrum which acts as an essential check upon the high functionaries and citizens alike…" In view of the above observation of the Supreme Court, explain the concept of constitutional morality and its application to ensure balance between judicial independence and judicial accountability in India. (Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

Constitutional morality, as emphasized by the Supreme Court, refers to adherence to the principles, values, and spirit of the Constitution. It transcends literal interpretation, guiding both citizens and state actors, including the judiciary, to uphold democracy, equality, and rule of law.

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Body:

- **Concept:** Constitutional morality requires commitment to constitutional ideals, such as secularism, fundamental rights, social justice, and separation of powers. It ensures that high functionaries, including judges, do not act arbitrarily and remain accountable while exercising authority. (*Indira Gandhi vs Raj Narain*, 1975; *Kesavananda Bharati*, 1973).

- **Judicial Independence:** Judges must decide cases free from executive, legislative, or public pressure. Independence protects the judiciary from political interference and ensures impartial justice.
- **Judicial Accountability:** At the same time, constitutional morality mandates checks on judicial conduct to maintain public trust. Mechanisms include impeachment under **Article 124(4)**, the **Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968**, and in-house accountability committees. The **NJAC judgment (2015)** affirmed transparency and merit-based appointments while balancing independence and accountability.
- **Application:** Constitutional morality ensures that judges act ethically, uphold fundamental rights, and respect the Constitution, while institutional mechanisms prevent misuse of judicial authority.

Conclusion:

Thus, constitutional morality acts as a fulcrum, balancing judicial independence with accountability. It fosters ethical governance, protects the rights of citizens, and sustains democratic legitimacy, ensuring that the judiciary remains both **independent and answerable** to constitutional **principles.**

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12. Indian Constitution has conferred the amending power on the ordinary legislative institutions with a few procedural hurdles. In view of this statement, examine the procedural and substantive limitations on the amending power of the Parliament to change the Constitution.

(Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

The Indian Constitution provides Parliament the power to amend the Constitution under **Article 368**, empowering it to respond to changing needs while ensuring stability. However, this power is not absolute and is subject to procedural and substantive limitations.

Body:

- **Procedural Limitations:**
  - **Special Majority:** Most amendments require a **special majority** in both Houses (Article 368(2)), ensuring broad consensus.
  - **State Ratification:** Certain amendments (Article 368(2)) affecting federal structure, representation of states, or powers of the judiciary require ratification by **half of state legislatures**.
  - **Lapse of Procedure:** Failure to follow these procedures can render the amendment invalid (*Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillhu, 1992*).
- **Substantive Limitations:**
  - **Basic Structure Doctrine:** Parliament cannot alter the Constitution's **basic structure** (fundamental rights, federalism, secularism, separation of powers). Examples: *Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala (1973)*, *Minerva Mills v. Union of India (1980)*.
  - **Judicial Review:** Courts can strike down amendments violating fundamental principles, ensuring the Constitution retains its identity.

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Conclusion:

Thus, while the amending power gives Parliament flexibility to evolve the Constitution, procedural safeguards and substantive constraints ensure that core constitutional values remain protected. This balance maintains democratic legitimacy while allowing adaptability.

13. Discuss the evolution of collegium system in India. Critically examine the advantages and disadvantages of the system of appointment of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India and that of the USA.

(Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

The **collegium system** is India's unique mechanism for appointing judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts. It evolved to ensure judicial independence and minimize executive interference, reflecting the principle of separation of powers.

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Body:

- **Evolution:**
  - **First Judges Case (1981):** Executive primacy in appointments upheld.
  - **Second Judges Case (1993):** Supreme Court asserted primacy of judiciary in appointments.

- **Third Judges Case (1998):** Introduced the current collegium, comprising Chief Justice of India and four senior judges, recommending appointments and transfers.

- **Advantages (India):**
  - Protects judicial independence.
  - Insulates appointments from political interference.
  - Ensures merit-based selection and continuity in judicial philosophy.
- **Disadvantages (India):**
  - Lack of transparency and accountability.
  - Limited diversity in selection.
  - Criticized for opacity in decision-making.
- **Comparison with the USA:**
  - In the USA, the President nominates Supreme Court judges with **Senate confirmation**.
  - Advantages: Transparency, democratic participation.
  - Disadvantages: Politicization and delays in appointments.

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Conclusion:

The collegium system prioritizes judicial independence but struggles with transparency. A balance, as in the USA, between independence and accountability, could enhance credibility. Institutional reforms like the **NJAC (struck down in 2015)** aimed at this balance, highlighting ongoing debates in Indian judicial appointments.

14. Examine the evolving pattern of Centre-State financial relations in the context of planned development in India. How far have the recent reforms impacted the fiscal federalism in India?

(Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

Centre-State financial relations in India, enshrined in **Articles 268–293**, determine fiscal federalism, enabling planned development and equitable resource allocation. Over time, the pattern has evolved to balance autonomy with national priorities.

Body:

- **Historical Evolution:**
  - **Pre-1990s:** Centrally dominated resource allocation through plan transfers, tied grants, and ad hoc arrangements.
  - **Post-1990s (Fiscal Reforms):** Introduction of **FRBM Act (2003)**, **recommendations of 13th & 14th Finance Commissions**, greater devolution to states (42% of divisible pool), and performance-linked grants.
  - **GST Implementation (2017):** Streamlined indirect taxation, reduced vertical imbalance, and promoted cooperative federalism.
- **Recent Reforms Impact:**
  - **Enhanced Fiscal Autonomy:** States have more predictable tax revenues via GST compensation and increased devolution.

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- **Challenges:** Rising fiscal deficits, increasing debt burden, and dependency on central grants for social schemes.
- **Planned Development:** Centrally sponsored schemes like PMAY, MGNREGA still require central-state coordination, reflecting both autonomy and interdependence.

Conclusion:

Centre-State financial relations have gradually evolved toward cooperative federalism. Reforms like Finance Commission recommendations and GST have improved predictability and autonomy, but states remain partially dependent, highlighting the need for continuous fiscal balancing to support planned development.

15. What are environmental pressure groups? Discuss their role in raising awareness, influencing policies and advocating for environmental protection in India.

(Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

Environmental pressure groups (EPGs) are non-state actors advocating for ecological conservation, sustainability, and climate justice. They influence public opinion, policy formulation, and accountability.

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Body:

- **Role in Awareness:** Groups like **Greenpeace India, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), and WWF India** conduct campaigns, research, and community outreach to educate citizens on pollution, deforestation, and climate change.
- **Policy Influence:** EPGs actively lobby governments and courts to influence legislation, environmental impact assessments, and international commitments. Example: **Chipko Movement** influenced forest policies; **Narmada Bachao Andolan** brought attention to dam-induced displacement.
- **Advocacy and Protection:** Engage in litigation, social campaigns, and partnerships to enforce environmental laws. Example: Public Interest Litigations (PILs) filed by NGOs led to stricter air pollution norms.

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Conclusion:

Environmental pressure groups play a critical role in bridging civil society and governance, promoting sustainable development, influencing policy, and safeguarding ecological integrity in India. Their activism strengthens participatory democracy and environmental accountability.

16. Inequality in the ownership pattern of resources is one of the major causes of poverty. Discuss in the context of 'paradox of poverty'.

(Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

Poverty in India persists despite rapid economic growth, creating a "**paradox of poverty**," where wealth generation does not translate into widespread prosperity. One key reason is the **inequality in ownership of resources**.

Body:

- **Land and Agriculture:** Unequal land distribution limits access to productive resources. Example: Large rural landless population depends on marginal wages under MGNREGA.
- **Financial and Human Capital:** Wealthier sections have access to credit, technology, and education, leaving the poor trapped in low-productivity activities.
- **Paradox of Poverty:** Economic growth (high GDP) coexists with persistent deprivation because benefits concentrate in a few hands. Example: India's GDP growth of ~6–7% annually (2015–20) did not proportionally reduce rural poverty.
- **Social Dimensions:** Caste, gender, and regional disparities reinforce inequality, restricting access to land, employment, and infrastructure.

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Conclusion:

Inequality in resource ownership perpetuates structural poverty and explains the paradox where economic growth coexists with mass deprivation. Policies like land reforms, targeted subsidies, and inclusive growth strategies are necessary to reduce poverty and enhance social justice.

17. "In contemporary development models, decision-making and problem-solving responsibilities are not located close to the source of information and execution defeating the objectives of development." Critically evaluate.

(Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

Contemporary development models often centralize decision-making, creating a disconnect between policymakers and ground realities, thereby reducing effectiveness.

Body:

- **Problem:** Decisions made far from the source of information often ignore local needs, cultural contexts, and feasibility. Example: Some centrally sponsored schemes like **National Health Mission in early phases** faced implementation gaps due to rigid top-down design.
- **Consequences:**
  - Inefficient resource allocation.
  - Delayed problem-solving.
  - Low citizen participation and ownership.
- **Alternative: Decentralized planning** (Panchayati Raj, participatory budgeting, local water management committees) empowers local actors to tailor interventions. Example: Kerala's **People's Plan Campaign** improved literacy and health outcomes through local decision-making.

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- **Critical Evaluation:** While central coordination ensures uniformity and scale, excessive centralization defeats context-specific solutions and undermines participatory development.

Conclusion:

Effective development requires balancing central oversight with local autonomy, enabling timely, context-sensitive decision-making that achieves intended social and economic objectives.

18. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has to address the challenges faced by children in the digital era. Examine the existing policies and suggest measures the Commission can initiate to tackle the issue.

(Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

The digital revolution has created opportunities for children in education

and skill development, but it has also exposed them to cyberbullying, online sexual exploitation, misinformation, and excessive screen time. The **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** has the mandate to safeguard children under the **Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005**.

Body:

- **Existing Policies:**
  - **Right to Education Act, 2009:** Digital classrooms and e-learning under safe usage guidelines.
  - **Information Technology Act, 2000 & IT Rules 2021:** Penal provisions for online child abuse and pornography.
  - **POSCO Act, 2012:** Protects children from sexual offenses.
- **Challenges:**
  - Lack of digital literacy among children and parents.
  - Insufficient monitoring of online platforms.
  - Rapid proliferation of unregulated content and apps.
- **Suggested Measures:**
  - Digital literacy campaigns targeting children, parents, and educators.
  - Collaborate with social media and edtech companies to create child-safe platforms.
  - Establish a **dedicated cyber child protection cell** within NCPCR for real-time monitoring.
  - Policy advocacy for stronger laws and stricter enforcement on online child exploitation.

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Conclusion:

By integrating awareness, regulation, and technology-driven solutions, NCPCR can address digital-era risks and ensure holistic protection of child rights in India.

19. "Energy security constitutes the dominant kingpin of India's foreign policy, and is linked with India's overarching influence in Middle Eastern countries." How would you integrate energy security with India's foreign policy trajectories in the coming years?

(Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

Energy security, ensuring a stable supply of oil, gas, and renewable energy, is a core pillar of India's foreign policy, particularly in the **Middle East**, which supplies ~60% of India's crude imports.

Body:

- **Linkages:**
  - Strategic partnerships with **Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, and Iran** secure oil and LNG supplies.
  - Investment in energy infrastructure abroad, e.g., oil refinery stakes and joint ventures in Abu Dhabi, strengthens economic leverage.
- **Foreign Policy Integration:**

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- **Diversification:** Collaborate with multiple energy-exporting countries to reduce dependence.
- **Renewables Diplomacy:** Invest in solar and wind energy projects under India's **International Solar Alliance** with Middle Eastern partners.
- **Geopolitical Balance:** Navigate US-Iran tensions and regional conflicts to ensure uninterrupted supply.
- **Energy-Infrastructure Nexus:** Port agreements, pipeline projects, and technology sharing enhance energy security while reinforcing India's geopolitical influence.

Conclusion:

Integrating energy security with foreign policy involves economic diplomacy, renewable transition, and strategic partnerships, ensuring India's energy needs are met while projecting influence in the geopolitically critical Middle East.

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20. "The reform process in the United Nations remains unresolved, because of the delicate imbalance of East and West and entanglement of the USA vs. Russo-Chinese alliance." Examine and critically evaluate the East-West policy confrontations in this regard.

(Answer in 250 words) – 15 marks

Introduction:

Reforming the **United Nations** has long been stalled due to power

asymmetries between the **Global North (USA and allies)** and **Global South (including Russia-China alignment)**, reflecting a delicate East-West balance.

Body:

- **Core Issues:**
  - **Security Council Reform:** Permanent membership (P5) dominance prevents inclusion of emerging powers like India, Brazil, and Africa.
  - **Veto Power:** USA, Russia, and China often block reforms aligning with rival blocs' interests.
  - **Development and Aid:** Policy priorities reflect East-West divides in global development agendas.
- **Critical Evaluation:**
  - USA-led reforms emphasize liberal democratic norms and interventionist policies.
  - Russo-Chinese alliance prioritizes sovereignty, non-interference, and multipolarity.
  - Stalemate in UN reforms undermines credibility, hampers rapid responses to global crises, and reduces participation of emerging economies.
- **Way Forward:**
  - Promote consensus-driven, incremental reforms, e.g., expanding Security Council membership without altering veto.
  - Strengthen UN's technical and developmental arms to mitigate geopolitical gridlock.

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Conclusion:

East-West policy confrontations have frozen UN reform, highlighting the tension between power politics and multilateral cooperation. Addressing these imbalances is critical for a representative, effective, and legitimate global governance system.

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★ ये हैं हमारे। चमकते सितारे। ★

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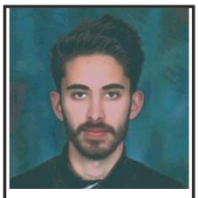
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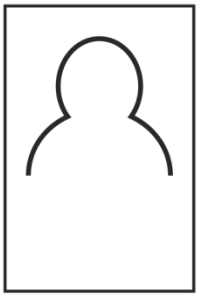

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