

# UPSC Mains 2013: (Solved) General Studies Paper 3

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## Disclaimer

1. The below answers have been reproduced purely from my memory of what I wrote. They may not be accurate. All discussions are welcome :-)
2. All answers were written more or less in the same sub-heading wise and point wise format. But the exact content may not be the same and I may be putting some additional points here or missing out some points written in the exam due to the gap between writing this and writing the exam.
3. 60 marks worth was left/wrong/very poorly attempted.
4. I have not been able to garner enough will power to put solutions to last few questions here. Will try to do so in due course.

**Instructions:** Answer each question in not more than the word limit specified. Content of the answer is more important than its length.

**Q 1. With a consideration towards the strategy of inclusive growth, the new Companies Bill, 2013 has indirectly made CSR a mandatory obligation. Discuss the challenges expected in its implementation in right earnest. Also discuss other provisions in the Bill and their implications. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

The Companies Bill, 2013 replaces the over half a century old Companies Act.

- Its CSR provision makes it mandatory for companies above a threshold to spend 2% of their average annual profits of last 3 years on CSR activities or else provide explanation. The company has to create a CSR policy and its implementation has to be seen by an independent director.

### Challenges in implementation of CSR provision

1. The allowed CSR activities will be prescribed in the rules. Many companies like Tata, Wipro have their own CSR programmes. What happens if their activities are not covered under the rules?
2. It may lead to armtwisting of companies by the local politicians.
3. Companies may simply donate to government funds like prime minister relief fund to avoid compliance costs.
4. There is no penalty for non-compliance.

### Other Provisions

1. Minority shareholders
  1. Electronic voting provision.
  2. Class action suits provision.
  3. Related party transactions approval provision.
  4. Impact: will protect minority shareholders.
2. Minimum 1/3rd independent directors. They can have maximum 2 terms of 5 years each.
  1. Impact: will improve corporate governance and prevent compromising of directors.
3. Audit and accounting related provisions

1. Auditors have to be changed periodically.
  2. Auditors have to act as whistleblowers.
  3. NFRA established to prescribe accounting standards and oversee conduct of auditors.
  4. Impact: will improve disclosures and corporate governance.
4. Small companies
1. 1 person companies allowed.
  2. Small companies have smaller compliance requirements.
  3. Impact: will encourage small companies.

Briefly wrote one sentence on each provision.

**Q 2. What were the reasons for the introduction of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003? Discuss critically its salient features and their effectiveness. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

#### Reasons for introduction of FRBMA

1. High fiscal deficit of centre and states: central deficit was over 6% and state + central combined over 8%.
2. This high fiscal deficit was unsustainable and could have led to Eurozone like sovereign crisis in India.
3. Public savings were running negative (-1.7% of GDP).
4. Revenue deficit was high. So to keep our public finances sustainable, FRBMA was enacted.

#### Salient features and effectiveness

1. Fiscal deficit to be kept below 3% before 2007-08.
  1. Effectiveness: It was achieved in 2007-08. But due to global financial crisis, it shot up over 6% in subsequent years and remained above 3%. The deadline has since been repeatedly extended and now it is 2015.
2. Revenue deficit to be eliminated. In 2012, the target was changed to effective revenue deficit to be eliminated by 2015.
  1. Effectiveness: It was achieved but since then has been breached.
3. Off balance sheet guarantees of the government for PPP projects to be limited to 0.5% of GDP.
4. RBI to not to participate in primary government securities auction. Government borrowing from RBI only to happen via Ways and Means Advance and not adhoc t-bills.
  1. Effectiveness: Totally effective.
5. Even state governments were given incentives by Finance Commissions to enact their FRBMAs and they have complied. Their fiscal deficit is < 3% now.
6. But the law requires only a simple majority to be amended and any government in power would have that. Its numerous amendments and deadline postponements have shown that it lacks efficacy.
7. There are also no penalties for violation of law.
8. Government has merely shifted fiscal deficit off the balance sheet by issuing oil bonds. Similarly power discom liabilities too don't come under fiscal deficit.

**Q 3. What is the meaning of the term 'tax expenditure'? Taking housing sector as an example, discuss how it influences the budgetary policies of the government. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

No idea. Didn't attempt.

**Q 4. Food Security Bill is expected to eliminate hunger and malnutrition in India. Critically discuss various apprehensions in its effective implementation along with the concerns it has generated in WTO. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

FSB makes it a statutory right of 67% of population (75% in villages, 50% in urban areas) to get 5 kg of cereals at

highly subsidised prices. However, it has given rise to many concerns.

1. Concerns in WTO: talked about Amber box subsidies, how they have to be limited to 10% by developing countries. AMS is calculated based on prices in the base year (1986) and on entire eligible output. India risks breaching that due to FSB commitments. So India should press for (a) food security and small and marginal farmers exemption. (b) updation of reference prices to present prices to account for food inflation. (c) peace clause (art 13 of AoA) for a long tenure or until a permanent solution is found. On the other hand, developed countries are only willing to give a peace clause for 4 years.
2. Food subsidy costs: Mentioned many estimates put astronomical numbers to the costs. But they include many other large costs such as money to be spent on development of agriculture (eg. Gulati) which would have been spent irrespective of FSB. The government says costs of FSB will be Rs. 125,000 crores as against present subsidies of Rs. 109,000 crores.
3. Will increase PDS leakages: Some argue that to push more money through already leaking PDS is a wastage. But empirical data doesn't support it. Experiences in states such as Chattisgarh, Odisha, TN and even Bihar since 2009-10 suggests more coverage of PDS results in better delivery and less leakages (Khera). The FSB also contains provisions for many PDS reforms.
4. Will cause inflation: People will spend money saved on food on other things which may lead to inflation. There is substance to this, but this increased demand can give a positive stimulus to the sluggish economy.
5. Increased procurement needs will lead to grain imports / Nationalization of grain trade: Critics argue that more food procurement requirements will lead to imports. But FSB's procurement needs are around 65-70 million tonnes and government has been procuring more than this for the past few years already. Total foodgrain production in India is over 250 million tonnes. As seen above, government procurement will still be limited to only a fraction of foodgrain production.
6. Will hurt farmers: Critics also argue that with everybody buying grains at so cheap costs, farmers will not get remunerative prices. But this is wrong. To meet FSB requirements, government will have to increase MSP which will benefit farmers.

**Q 5. What are the different types of agriculture subsidies given to farmers at the national and at state levels? Critically analyse the agriculture subsidy regime with reference to the distortions created by it. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Subsidies in agriculture came after the Green Revolution, both at centre and state levels.

#### Subsidies at central level

1. Fertilizers
  1. The urea is covered under retention price scheme while other nutrients (P & K) are under nutrient based subsidy regime.
  2. Distortions created: soil fertility imbalance, ecological imbalances like eutrophication. Recent spikes in P & K prices have worsened it.
  3. But needed to sustain HYV seeds and support marginal and small farmers who are heavy users of fertilizers.
2. Minimum Support Prices
  1. But it is effective only for wheat and rice and that too in Punjab, Haryana and West UP.
  2. This creates distortions that crops not suited to the climate of a place are cultivated. eg. water guzzling rice in arid areas in Punjab and Haryana.
  3. MSP can be used to promote ecological friendly farming and cropping patterns. So it must be made effective for all regions and all crops.
  4. They are also highly needed given poor state of our small and marginal farmers.
3. Credit / Interest Subvention Schemes / Debt waivers:
4. Diesel
  1. Distortion created is ground water depletion.
5. Insurance:

Subsidies at state level

1. Electricity: Distortion created is ground water depletion and poor supply of electricity in villages.
2. Irrigation water: Distortion created is (a) Irrigation systems don't even recover O&M costs. This leads to poor water supply and management. (b) farmers at canal heads use more water and cultivate water guzzling crops. (c) Ground water depletion. So water must be brought under public trust doctrine and O&M costs recovered, WUAs should be encouraged.

Wrote one sentence each describing each subsidy.

**Q 6. India needs to strengthen measures to promote the pink revolution in food industry for ensuring better nutrition and health. Critically elucidate the statement. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Didn't know what pink revolution is. Didn't attempt. Heard later some saying its meat, and some others saying its shrimps and onions. Don't know the truth.

**Q 7. Examine the impact of liberalization on companies owned by Indians. Are they competing with the MNCs satisfactorily? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

First gave theoretical arguments like:

Positive impact of liberalization on Indian owned companies

1. Technology transfer.
2. Outsourcing.
3. Ancilliary development and boost to MSMEs.

Negative impact of liberalization on Indian owned companies

1. More competition.
2. Better logistics, whole supply chain tends to become more efficient.

How Indian companies are faring

Wrote points. In each point, took some sectors and said Indian companies have outperformed MNCs (eg. telecom, insurance, banking) or Indian companies competing well (eg. automobiles) or Indian companies performing poorly (eg. food processing / beverages).

**Q 8. Establish relationship between land reforms, agriculture productivity and elimination of poverty in the Indian economy. Discuss the difficulties in designing and implementation of agriculture friendly land reforms in India. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Land reforms are of 4 types:

1. Zamindari / Intermediary abolition.
2. Land ceiling.
3. Tenancy regulation.
4. Land consolidation.

(Wrote a line each on what these are).

Impact

1. Reduced absentee ownership.
2. Reduced inequalities in village.
3. Checked the feudal system.
4. Kept greed of large landlords in check.
5. Reduced rent seeking.
6. Small farms have higher productivity.
7. But due to poor implementation, not all potential benefits have been realized. Tenancy went underground.

Besley and Burgess (2000) in their seminal work have established following relationships between land reforms,

Land Reform	Impact on Poverty	Impact on Productivity
Zamindari abolition	Reduced	No impact
Land ceiling	No impact	No impact
Tenancy regulation	Reduced	Negative impact
Land consolidation	No impact	Positive impact

#### Difficulties in design and implementation

1. Lack of political and administrative will.
2. Laws were kept pending for decades and were full of loopholes.
3. Ceilings defined were kept very high by states.
4. Tenancy went underground and no protection could be made available for such tenants.
5. Legislatures and administration full of land owning powerful elements.
6. Absence of land ownership records led to multiple litigations which have been pending for decades.

**Q 9.a Discuss the impact of FDI entry into multi trade retail sector on supply chain management in commodity trade pattern of the economy. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: I misinterpreted the question and wrote about impact of FDI retail on India's international trade. My answer is wrong

1. In the short term, India's import of consumer goods will increase. Because these MNCs have global procurement contracts.
2. But our own firms will also supply to these MNCs and will grow. This will increase our imports of raw materials and capital goods.
3. But with time, our firms would begin to supply overseas to these MNCs and others. So our manufacturing and consumer goods exports will grow with time.

**Q 9.b Though India allowed FDI in what is called multi-brand retail through the joint venture route in September 2012, the FDI, even after a year, has not picked up. Discuss the reasons. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

1. Sector and policy specific factors: Lack of clarity on some definitions, stringent conditions.
  1. eg. 30% procurement from MSMEs. These MNCs cultivate their relationships with suppliers and help them grow. What happens if with time these MSMEs grow beyond MSME definition.
  2. eg. FDI not allowed in cities with < 1 million population.
  3. eg. Minimum 50% investment in backend logistics. But this requirement is only over total investment, or on each investment tranche?
  4. Govt. has relaxed and clarified some of these conditions lately.
2. Global slowdown.
3. Policy uncertainty, retrospective taxation.

4. General investment turnaround in economy.
5. Land acquisition, multiple clearances issues both at central and state level.

**Q 10. Discuss the rationale for introducing GST in India. Bring out critically the reasons for the delay in roll out for its regime. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Gave a one sentence intro on GST.

#### Rationale

1. Currently there are multiple taxes and restrictions on trade within the country. It should be surprising that EU has lesser trade restrictions across the nations than we have across the states.
2. Improve tax compliance and reduce tax avoidance.
3. Reduce corruption and black money.
4. Will encourage economic efficiency, trade and commerce and further GDP growth.
5. To remove cascading effect of many taxes.

#### Reasons for delay

1. States' compensation: States are asking for Rs. 50,000 crore to be built in the constitutional amendment itself. Centre has only provided Rs. 9000 crore in current budget.
2. Inter State GST: Specially problematic for goods/services where the provider is not required to be present in consuming states. eg. broadcasting where viewers can be in Bihar while broadcaster may be in Delhi. How to collect GST in such cases.
3. Exemption list: States want to exclude petroleum, alcohol, gas from GST and build in this exemption in constitution itself. Centre wants to include it in GST with flexibility to impose additional taxes.
4. Rate structure: States want flexibility to change rates or at least a narrow band where they can charge multiple rates, while centre wants a single rate only.
5. Powers of GST Council: States want it to be a recommendatory body only and judiciary to resolve any disputes. Centre wants it to be a decisive body and a special dispute resolution mechanism to decide on disputes.
6. Revenue neutral rate: Even if an overall revenue neutral rate is arrived at, it won't be revenue neutral for many states since different states have different present tax capacities.

Note: I now realize, I completely missed out on "critically analyze" part. 5 more marks gone.

**Q 11. Write a note on India's green energy corridor to alleviate the problem of conventional energy. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

I wrote some BS about solar, wind, biomass etc. etc. But all that is wrong, this project involves synchronization of renewable energy with national grid.

**Q 12. Adoption of PPP model for infrastructure development of the country has not been free of criticism. Critically discuss pros and cons of the model. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

This is a very standard question. Wrote very standard answer giving positives and negatives.

**Q 13. Bringing out the circumstances in 2005 which forced amendment to section 3(d) in Indian Patent Law, 1970, discuss how it has been utilized by the Supreme Court in its judgement in rejecting Novartis' patent application for Glivec. Discuss briefly the pros and cons of the decision. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: I didn't know circumstances specific to the amendment to 3(d), but knew the circumstances leading to amendment of patent law itself.

Section 3(d) of the Patent law allows for patents in drugs only if the molecule displays a novel and significant improvement in efficiency. A patent cannot be given for minor / frivolous changes. The Supreme Court interpreted 'efficiency' to mean therapeutic efficiency and not just bio availability. This is needed to prevent frivolous patenting or patent evergreening where drug makers renew their patents on drugs by making frivolous incremental changes.

#### Circumstances leading to amendment

1. India became a member of WTO and signed TRIPS. This required it to amend its patent laws to bring in product patenting, compulsory licensing etc and make them TRIPS compliant.
2. But to protect public health from patent evergreening, Sec 3(d) was amended to say that patent be given only for significant increase in efficiency of drugs.

Pros and Cons of the decisions are very standard, and I wrote 3-4 pros and cons each.

**Q 14. What do you understand by Fixed Dose Drug Combinations (FDCs)? Discuss their merits and demerits. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Had no idea.

**Q 15. What do you understand by Umpire Decision Review System in Cricket? Discuss its various components. Explain how silicone tape on the edge of bat may fool the system? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

UDRS is the system whereby the players can challenge the on field umpires' decisions - 2 unsuccessful reviews each test innings and 1 unsuccessful review each ODI innings. Various technologies are used by the 3rd umpire to review the on field umpires' decisions. These include:

1. Hot spot: This uses infrared imaging to capture the thin edges. A white spot appears on the grey image of the bat on the spot where the ball has touched the bat.
2. Snickometer: This uses the stumps microphone to capture the thin edges by detecting faint sounds of ball hitting the bat. This is used to review faint edges.
3. Hawkeye: This predicts the ball's line and length which it would have followed had it not hit the pads. This is used to review lbw decisions.

#### Silicone tape on the edge of the bat

1. This fools the hot spot as it interferes with the heat signatures and the white spot doesn't appear even if the ball hits the bat's edge.

**Q 16.a What is a digital signature? What does its authentication mean? Give various salient built in features of a digital signature. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

Digital signature is used for verifying authenticity of the sender in electronic documents.

Explained the public key private key mechanism i.e. in a digital signature, the private key of the sender is used to encode a message and the recipient uses the public key of the sender to decode it. If message is decoded successfully by the public key of the sender, then it means that it could have been encoded only by the private key of the sender and hence the sender himself. This is called authentication.

Built in features

1. Safety, reliability.
2. Conclusively establishes that only the sender's key could have sent the message and hence functions as signature.
3. Only the public key is shared which doesn't compromise on the safety of the mechanism.

**Q 16.b How does the 3D printing technology work? List out the advantages and disadvantages of the technology. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

3D technology uses Computer Aided Designing (CAD) to prepare the models of the object to be 'printed' and then uses layers of a special plastic in an 'additive' process to build the whole object. It has recently been used in the International Space Station.

Advantages

1. No need for ISS to carry all objects they would ever need from earth. Can help in other space missions as well.
2. Mass customization is possible.
3. Objects of virtually any shape and size can be printed like this easily.
4. Reduces logistics costs substantially.

Disadvantages

1. It is expensive and not widely available yet.

**Q 17.a What is an FRP composite material? How are they manufactured? Discuss their applications in aviation and automobile industries. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

No idea.

**Q 17.b What do you understand by run of the river hydroelectricity project? How is it different from any other hydroelectricity project? (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

In run of the river, no water is diverted for the use in irrigation and other purposes. Water may be stored temporarily but then is released fully to generate electricity.

This is the difference from other projects. In other projects, water may be diverted to be used for irrigation, drinking etc. So the flow downstream is reduced.

**Q 18. As an administrator, what are the key areas that you would focus on in a Disaster Management System. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

This is a very standard question. Wrote about all the key aspects of the entire disaster management system from planning stage to response and rehabilitation. key words included community participation, vulnerability analysis, traditional knowledge blah blah.

**Q 19. What are the consequences of illegal mining? Discuss the Ministry of Environment and Forests' concept of GO and NO GO zones for coal mining sector. (200 words) (10 marks)**



**Ans.**

**Q 20. Enumerate the National Water Policy of India. Taking river Ganges as an example, discuss the strategies which may be adopted for river water pollution control and management. What are the legal provisions of management and handling of hazardous wastes in India? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

**Q 21. Money laundering poses a serious security threat to a country's economic sovereignty. What is its significance for India and what steps are required to be taken to control this menace? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

**Q 22. What are social networking sites and what security implications do these sites present? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

**Q 23. Cyber warfare is considered by some defense analysts to be a larger threat than even Al Qaeda or terrorism. What do you understand by Cyber warfare? Outline the cyber threats which India is vulnerable to and bring out the state of the country's preparedness to deal with the same. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

**Q 24. Article 244 of the Indian Constitution relates to administration of scheduled areas and tribal areas. Analyse the impact of non-implementation of the provisions of the 5th schedule on growth of Left wing extremism. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

**Q 25. How far are India's internal security challenges linked with border management particularly in view of the long porous borders with most countries of South Asia and Myanmar? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

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# UPSC Mains 2013: (Solved) General Studies Paper 1

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**Instructions: Answer each question in not more than the word limit specified. Content of the answer is more important than its length.**

**Q 1. Though not very useful from the point of view of a connected political history of South India, the Sangam literature portrays the social and economic conditions of its time with remarkable vividness. Comment. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Sangam literature is the Tamil literature composed during the great poetic confluences of 'Sangams' during 1-3rd century AD in Tamil land.

#### Economic significance of Sangam literature

1. It tells us about the brisk Indo Roman trade. It tells us we used to import gold, wine, pottery, slaves and export spices, textiles, silk.
2. It tells us of the important ports of the age (Muchiri, Arikamedu), important cities (Kanchivaram), important economic activities (textile making, agriculture).
3. It tells us the important role played by women in the economy.
4. It tells us that rice cultivation was important.
5. It tells us that economic decline had set in by the end of 3rd century as the poets don't praise the then kings highly.

#### Social significance of Sangam literature

1. It tells us that brahmanisation of tamil society was going on, it was not complete.
2. It tells us at the top of the society were brahmans. Below them everybody was shudra but among them the vellalars held importance.
3. It tells us of the clan based society, the importance of kinship. The poets praise entire kins of the kings and not just the king.
4. It tells us that main clans were hillsmen, forestmen, delta people, coastal people.
5. It tells us untouchability had come into existence.
6. It tells us of kannagi worship and thus the virtues expected from a noble woman i.e. chastity and devotion to husband.
7. It tells us education was dominated by brahmans.

#### Political significance of Sangam literature

1. Some of the stories like attempts to link to mahabharata war and pandavas are obviously an exaggeration. Yet it tells us some important real political events.
2. For example the Chola king Karikala who won his kingdom back after defeating an alliance of opponents.

**Q 2.a Discuss the 'Tandava' dance as recorded in early Indian inscriptions. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Didn't know much about this answer.

1. Tandava dance was performed by Shiva - the destroyer.
2. It represents the angry mood of Shiva.
3. It signifies that destruction is inevitable. What takes birth, must be destroyed. Its the 2 sides of same coins.
4. Shiva in this form terrifies all the other gods who plead for his mercy.

**Q 2.b Chola architecture represents a high watermark in the evolution of temple architecture. Discuss (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

The Chola temples like Brihadeshwara temple and Gangaikondacholapuram temples took the Dravidian temple architecture to new heights.

1. These temples had huge pyramidal vimanas and massive gopurams.
2. These also had huge thousand pillars mandapas to house devotees.
3. They were linked to wars and battles.
4. They were linked to the greatness and power of the king.
5. They also had idols of the kings and queens in them.
6. During Chola period, the temples grew both horizontally and vertically. Many new structures came up within the temple compound.

But the temple architecture continued to flourish even after Cholas. Many massive and beautiful temples were built during Vijaynagar times and their nayakas.

**Q 3. Defying the barriers of age, gender and religion, the Indian women became the torchbearer during the struggle for freedom in India. Discuss. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

- Started with Rani Laxmi Bai in 1857 revolt.
- Moved over to revolutionary extremism movement: Women used to act as couriers, give shelter, food to revolutionaries. Then slowly with Bhagat Singh and Surya Sen, they began to participate as equals, fire weapons.
- Talked about Swadesi, how women used to picket shops and burn foreign cloth.
- Arrival of the Mahatma - Until now the focus was only on the reproductive potential or motherly image of women. Gandhiji realised the immense sacrificing potential of the women. S
- In NCM and CDM, floodgates to women participation really opened. The womenfolk of CR Das stunned the nation by leading protests in Calcutta and courting arrest.
- Sarojini Naidu led the Dharsana satyagraha.
- Quit India Movement: talked about the role of Aruna Asaf Ali, Usha Mehta (Azad Radio) and Sucheta Kriplani.
- Captain Laxmi Sehgal was the leader of INA women regiment.
- Rani Gadileiu was just 14 years of age when she was arrested for leading CDM protests in Nagaland and was released only after Indian independence.

**Q 4. Several foreigners made India their homeland and participated in various movements. Analyze their role in the Indian struggle for freedom. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Indian national movement had the force of righteousness and justice. And so it attracted many foreigners too who contributed in its cause. Some of the major contributions are as below:

1. Madam Annie Baesant: INC president, home rule league which led to August declaration.
2. A O Hume: INC founder
3. Margeret Cousins: worked for women awakening which contributed in women participating in INM in large numbers.
4. Henry Vivian Derozio: Young Bengal Movement which contributed in national awakening, unity, getting rid of superstitions and divisive practices.
5. Lt. Governor of Bengal during Indigo movement: He was sympathetic towards indigo farmers' cause and used his powers to prevent continuation of anti-farmer legislation.
6. Besides these there were numerous journalists and activists who were associated with Gandhiji and other leaders and contributed immensely in INM.

**Q 5. "In many ways, Lord Dalhousie was the founder of modern India." Elaborate. (200 words) (10 marks)****Ans.**

Lord Dalhousie (1848-1856) was a staunch imperialist and had a profound impact on shaping India of the age.

Positive actions of Dalhousie

1. Founded Roorkee college of engineering which led to spread of modern education.
2. Started penny post which replaced the costly postal system and was used extensively by the nationalists later.
3. Started the indian railways which brought India closer.
4. Started the telegraph which was used extensively by nationalists.

Negative actions of Dalhousie

1. He annexed states after states by whatever means he could - doctrine of lapse (satara, jodhpur, nagpur, jhansi), doctrine of misgovernance (oudh), wars and battles (punjab).
2. He kept all princely checks under effective check.
3. He doubled the area of british indian empire and made it contiguous.
4. All this discontent united major part of India in the revolt of 1857!

**Q 6. Critically discuss the objectives of Bhoodan and Gramdan movements initiated by Acharya Vinobha Bhave and their success. (200 words) (10 marks)****Ans.**Objectives

1. Bhoodan was started so that big land owners and zamindars could voluntarily donate their excess land to landless and marginal farmers. Its objective thus was to reduce land inequality.
2. Gramdan was where entire village decided to come together and pool their land and cultivate it together. Each would then get a share in the produce as per his need. From each according to his capacity, to each according to his need.
3. Bhoodan could work in areas with high land inequality. Gramdan on the other hand could work in the areas where inequality was low.

Performances / Success

1. Only some thousand villages could come under gramdaan. This was due to its inherent nature that it could succeed only in areas with low inequality whereas Indian villages had high inequality in land ownership. Bhoodan could succeed in getting vast amount of land. But if we compare it to overall cultivable area then it was very less.
2. Even here it got affected by massive corruption. Peasants had to wait for years to get land.
3. Many areas got involved in land litigation.
4. Many zamindars donated land to bribe the officials / make a good name for themselves and earn political points.
5. Many lands so transferred were 'voluntarily' given back. Overall the movement left much to desire.

**Q 7. Write a critical note on the evolution and significance of the slogan, 'Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan'. (200 words) (10 marks)****Ans.**

Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri coined this slogan during his prime ministership.

Evolution and Significance

1. India had just fought a war with Pakistan in 1965 and also China in 1962.
2. We were surrounded by hostile neighbors with whom we had long running border disputes. The cold war politics was also complicating the situation in the sub-continent.
3. So India needed the strength of its soldiers and to boost their morale and develop our armed forces. Hence 'Jai Jawan'.
4. At the same time India was facing severe twin droughts.
5. Our economy was mostly agriculture based and agriculture was still primitive. Green Revolution had not yet come in.
6. Acreage under crops had become more or less constant while our population was increasing rapidly thus increasing the mouths to feed.
7. We were dependent on large scale food imports and USA had threatened to stop the food aid under PL-480 program to change our stand on Kashmir and Pakistan. Our sovereignty was under threat.
8. Naturally under these circumstances it was essential for us to strengthen our farmers and develop agriculture. Hence the 'Jai Kisaan'.

**Q 8. Discuss the contributions of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad to pre- and post-independent India. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: I had skipped all articles in Hindu on Maulana Azad thinking yeh to nahi aayega :-(((( And this question only came... so I knew nothing about him.

Maulana Azad was one of the greatest freedom fighters and nation builders of India.

Pre-independence contributions

1. He was a great Gandhian and freedom fighter. He joined Gandhiji and had full faith in his Satyagraha and non violence. He played an important part in all freedom movements.
2. He was a great secular leader and played an important role in diffusing the communal tensions, specially in UP. At a time when muslim league was playing the communal hatred card to its extreme, he was a great peaceful force.
3. He was a journalist as well and used to run his own paper to further the cause of freedom and secularism.
4. He was a great champion of education and was associated with many education institutions.

Post independence contributions

1. He was the education minister of the country after independence and helped founding many prominent education institutions.
2. He continued his great role in spreading communal harmony which was specially needed post-independence during the communal riots.
3. His contributions have been so immense that he was awarded Bharat Ratna.

**Q 9. Analyze the circumstances that led to the Tashkent Agreement in 1966. Discuss the highlights of the Agreement. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Only had a vague idea about the agreement.

India had fought a war with Pakistan in 1965 and scored a decisive victory. Indian forces had occupied Lahore. It was expected that finally Kashmir issue could be resolved decisively in India's favor. Then Tashkent Agreement was signed.

Highlights of the Agreement

1. Both sides would end all hostilities and resort back to pre war boundaries. They would give up all occupations.

2. But nothing was said on restoring Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. No progress was made to resolve the Kashmir issue.
3. Thus India was literally forced to give up all her gains.

### Circumstances leading to the Agreement

1. Although India had won the 1965 war, it was the era of Cold war and the big powers interfered routinely in the matters of the subcontinent.
2. USA was with Pakistan. It applied pressure on India so that the Agreement would not resolve Kashmir issue in India's favor.
3. This pressure consisted of diplomatic, arms transfer to Pakistan as well as the threat to suspend PL-480 food aid.
4. India, on the other hand, was going through a very tough economic period despite winning the war.
5. The war had put a huge drains on the finances of our poor economy.
6. On top of it we were going through huge drought and needed grain imports to feed our population.
7. So in the peace talks in Tashkent, India had to yield. Shastri ji died in Tashkent only after the Agreement.

### **Q 10. Critically examine the compulsions which prompted India to play a decisive role in the emergence of Bangladesh. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

India fought a war with Pakistan in 1971 which resulted in the emergence of free Bangladesh. Following factors led to India's involvement:

1. Exploitation of Bangladesh by Pakistan: West Pakistan had always treated Bangladesh (or East Pakistan) as its colony. It was always busy in suppressing the liberal elements in Bangladesh. It was against the unique Bangla culture and wanted to suppress it and encourage the hardliners. The brutalities increased particularly closer to 1971.
2. Emergence of Bangladesh Mukti Vahini: Under Sheikh Mujib-ur-Rehman the mukti vahini emerged to demand for the freedom of Bangladesh. It had popular support but Pakistan tried to suppress it violently and brutally.
3. Increase in the influx of refugees: East Pakistan had always treated its religious minorities and the liberal and secular muslims harshly. The suppression became extreme during 1971 leading to massive inflow of refugees into India. This complicated the situation immensely and necessitated India's reaction.
4. Strategic compulsions: Pakistan was a hostile state to India. Whenever there was a war, we had to fight on both fronts - east and west. Therefore it suited India's strategic interests to split the country and secure an independent Bangladesh. Also this would weaken Pakistan gravely and benefit India.
5. Cold war politics: Still due to US support to Pakistan, India's intervention was not easy. So India signed a Treaty of Friendship with Soviet Union and went ahead. Soviet Union blocked the moves of US to intervene in the sub continent.

### **Q 11. " 'Latecomer' Industrial Revolution in Japan involved certain factors that were markedly different from what West had experienced." Analyze. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Japan's industrial revolution started late after the Meiji Restoration in the late 19th century. It had many characteristics which were different from west.

1. West's industrialization was based on scientific discoveries and inventions. West had to discover all technologies on its own. Japan started from where West was there at that point in time. They reverse engineered most of the technologies and machines.
2. West's industrial areas were rich in both coal and iron. Japan on the other hand was poor in these resources and was mainly reliant on imports. So Japan's heavy machinery industry came up closer to the coast.
3. West had seen agriculture revolution and commercial revolution before IR. It wasn't the case in Japan.
4. In west, the capital for industrial revolution came from colonies and was voluntarily invested by large landholders and businessmen. In Japan, it was a forced extraction by the state from the agricultural sector.
5. State played a very important role in Japanese IR whereas in west it was private sector led.

6. Japan didn't rely on colonies to finance its IR.
7. Western products were better in quality and sold worldwide. Japanese products were inferior in quality and so couldn't sell in Europe.

**Q 12. "Africa was chopped into states artificially created by accidents of European competition." Analyze. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Africa was cut into states by the Europeans in a process which had no African participation or respect for their tribes and communities. The present African states are largely a result of colonization in which competition and 'accidents' played a major role.

### West Africa

1. By 1878, King Leopold of Belgium had carved out a large sphere of influence for himself in Equatorial Africa on west coast called Congo. This was rich in mineral resources and timber. He used a combination of treachery, treaties with local tribal chiefs, battles, missionary activities.
2. Naturally the other European powers got alarmed and they met in Berlin and carved out Africa into their individual spheres of influence. The African customs and tribal areas were given no respect in this and this is the reason why most African boundaries are straight lines.
3. British got Nigeria. France got Morocco, French Congo and large parts of interior Africa.
4. US founded Liberia to resettle the slaves liberated from America. But it continued to intervene heavily in the internal matters of Liberia.
5. Portugal got Angola.

### Southern Africa

#### 1. South Africa

1. The Dutch had settled in Cape of Good Hope first as it was a strategic point where ships on route to India turned from.
2. But after the Dutch lost to Napoleon, the government had to surrender her overseas colonies to English. South Africa was surrendered too. Even after Napoleon was defeated, South Africa remained under British control.
3. The Dutch settlers didn't like British control, so they moved in to Natal and Transvaal regions fighting and eliminating the local tribes using treachery and lopsided wars.
4. Soon the English came here too following the gold rush and whole of South Africa was formed.

#### 2. Rhodesia

1. This is present Zambia (North Rhodesia) and Zimbabwe (South Rhodesia). It was founded by an English explorer Cecil Rhodes by combining all the territories he could explore and establish his influence on.

### East Africa

1. Here the English got Kenya, Germans got Cameroons, French got Madagascar and Portugal got Mozambique.
2. The local ruler of Zanzibar was given a narrow strip along the coast and even that was annexed later by the British and the Germans.
3. After German defeat in the war, her colonies were not made independent, but were given to the victor powers.
4. Italy was given Somalia, Eritrea and Ethiopia but was defeated by the Ethiopian king in 1896. So Ethiopia could retain her independence for some time.

### North Africa

1. Here Algeria and sub-saharan Africa was given to France. England got Egypt and Sudan. British and French fought over Sudan for a while, but it went to British.
2. Italy got Tunisia and Libya. All the boundaries were drawn in the paper map in Berlin.

**Q 13. "American Revolution was an economic revolt against mercantilism." Substantiate. (200 words) (10**

marks)

**Ans.**

1. America was not exploited by the British like her non white colonies like India. She had her own legislative system and even the taxes were not oppressive.
2. A British army was maintained there to protect her from the French armies in Canada. After the defeat of French in Canada in 1863, their threat was eliminated. But still the British army was maintained in America.
3. British then decided to use Americas for their own commercial benefit and pay for their army. They began to follow many mercantilist policies.
4. Quartering Act was imposed to prevent Americans from moving westward and thus protect the land rentals and values of the British landowners in America.
5. Similarly Stamp duty was imposed. Britain also decided that only British ships could move in and out of American ports. This made shipping expensive for the Americans and made them discontent.
6. Finally the British East India Company was incurring heavy losses. So Britain gave it the monopoly over the tea trade with Americas. This was so unpopular that it led to the famous Boston tea party which marks the beginning of the American Revolution.
7. Some of the ideals of the revolution like protection private property rights, l'assize fairre, judicial supremacy, meritocracy, free trade all are anti-mercantilist ideals.
8. Yet it would be a narrow reading to label American revolution as merely an economic revolt. Its ideas such as natural rights of men, separation of powers, checks and balances had implications over much wider aspects of life.

**Q 14. What policy instruments were deployed to contain the Great Economic Depression? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

The Great Depression struck in 1929 in USA following the stock market crash. Soon many companies and banks failed and the depression spread all over world (except Soviet Union).

1. The initial policy decision was in line with l'assize fairre approach. Government simply let the banks and companies fail. The depression became worse instead of getting better.
2. Then Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected US president. He launched the "New Deal".
3. New deal was a programme of massive fiscal expansion of the government. Many large scale public works like the construction of inter-state expressways, public schools, hospitals etc. were taken up.
4. These not only built the infrastructure for future but also gave the economy much needed demand boost in line with Keynesian economics.
5. At the same time, social security programmes like health insurance, unemployment benefits were started. This gave assurance to people.
6. In the monetary policy, interest rates were lowered and easy monetary policy was followed.
7. Banks were separated from risky investment banking activities by the passage of the Glass Steagall Act.
8. Deposit insurance by the state also came into being so as to assure the depositors.

These policies were soon followed by other countries as well and when the world war 2 came up, the entire world had come out of depression.

**Q 15. Discuss the various social problems which originated out of the speedy process of urbanization in India. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: These are the kind of questions where if one thinks merely for 2 mins, one can come up with a lot of points. But for some reasons, don't know why, I wasn't able to come up with many points in the exam on this question.

India is rapidly urbanizing and already around 30% of our population lives in cities. This has created many social



problems some of which are:

1. Crimes: Explained linkages with unemployment, unorganized sector here.
2. Ghettoization.
3. Neglect of elderly.
4. Crimes against women.
5. Clash between tradition and modern cultures.
6. Neglect of health, education: Pressure on infrastructure, slums etc.

(wrote a couple of sentences explaining each point).

**Q 16. "Male membership needs to be encouraged in order to make women's organization free from gender bias." Comment. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Women in India are traditionally suppressed and exploited. There is a need to bring in gender equality in India. For this women need to be awakened and hence the need for women's movement and organization. That is why the need to make laws somewhat gender biased. But some organizations in their zeal go overboard.

- talked about the misuse of dowry laws.
- talked about the misuse of rape / sexual harassment charges.
- talked about the recent changes to divorce laws (women getting share in inheritable and pre-marriage property as well).

So the need to include more male members. But this is not the sole thing needed. One needs better training and sensitization of women members as well. Things should be balanced.

**Q 17. Critically examine the effect of globalization on the aged population in India. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Globalization has had many intended and unintended impacts on the elderly population.

#### Positive impact of globalization

1. People now have become more economically prosperous and have fewer children. So they are able to save more for their old age.
2. Average life expectancy has increased and health as well. This is due to newer medicines and medical techniques.
3. People now have become more educated, better aware of their pension rights etc.
4. Wrote 2-3 factors more, can't remember now.

#### Negative impact of globalization

1. Loneliness as fewer children now.
2. Indian culture used to hold elderly in high regard. Western culture is materialistic and treats elderly as a burden.
3. Crimes against elderly have gone up.
4. Lifestyle factors have created new diseases.
5. Wrote 1-2 factors more, can't remember now.

**Q 18. Growing feeling of regionalism is an important factor in generation of demand for a separate state. Discuss. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Initially misunderstood the question and started by saying that distinct culture strengthens feeling of regionalism leading to state demand. Then realize question is not about what leads to growing feeling of regionalism but about

what leads to separate state demand. So changed track...

1. Growing feeling of regionalism is definitely important in statehood demand. Statehood is a strong expression of regional feelings. People have to feel belonging to a region, culture, language, ethnicity etc. eg. Bodoland
2. But other factors are equally important.
3. Example, perceived or real sense of economic exploitation / deprivation may lead to separate state demands. eg. Telangana.
4. Better administration or initial state may be too large to manage well, then separate state demand may come up. eg. UP into 4 states.
5. Tribal population or geographical features which are distinct from rest of the state, then it may demand separate statehood. eg. Uttarakhand, Jharkhand.
6. If a region is more developed than rest of the state, then too it may demand separate statehood. eg. Coorg.

**Q 19.a What do you understand by the theory of continental drift? Discuss the prominent evidences in its support. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

This theory hypothesizes that all the present continents have come from pieces of an ancient super continent called Pangea drifting apart. Pangea broke into Laurasia (N America, Eurasia, Greenland) and Gondwanaland (S America, Africa, India, Australia, Antarctica). Similarly modern oceans too come from a single ancient ocean. This drifting of land masses was later found to be due to tectonic plate movements.

#### Evidences

1. Eastern boundary of South America can fit into western boundary of Africa.
2. Similar fossils have been found in Antarctica and Africa.
3. Similar rocks have been found in eastern parts of S America and west part of Africa.

**Q 19.b The recent cyclone on the east coast of India was called 'Phailin'. How are the tropical cyclones named across the world? Elaborate. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

#### Bay of Bengal

1. Each country has given a list of indicative names. eg. Phailin was a Thai name. Indian names include megh, bijli.
2. Cyclones are named from this list depending upon the country near to which it first originates.

#### Western Pacific

1. Here too a roster system is followed where each country has given a list of names.

#### Atlantic (Gulf of Mexico)

1. The US navy officers initially used to name the cyclones after their wives and girl friends. Later they began to name them after unpopular politicians.
2. Now again an indicative list of names is there and the names are assigned from the list.

**Q 20.a Bring out the causes for the formation of heat islands in the urban habitat of the world. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Didn't know what a heat island was. But guessed it must be a hot locality in a city from the question. Naturally it has to be due to human activities.

Causes for heat islands

1. Crowded area.
2. Concrete buildings and road network.
3. Congested area with lot of heat radiated from automobiles.
4. Tall buildings, many people living vertically.
5. Electrical appliances used by people radiate heat.
6. Lack of trees and green belts.

**Q 20.b What do you understand by the phenomenon of 'temperature inversion' in meteorology? How does it affect weather and the habitants of the place? (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

Temperature inversion

1. Normally air temperature falls as we go up. But in temperature inversion, it rises. The cooler air is below the hot air.
2. This may be formed as a result of frontal conditions, or in tropical deserts with clear sky and col nights or in valleys surrounded by mountains.

Effects on weather

1. Leads to very stable atmospheric conditions.
2. Sky is clear, temperature is low.
3. Less humidity, no vertical currents (because cool dense air is already below warm light air).

Effect on habitants

1. Have to face cool weather.
2. Valleys may become very cold due to this. They may have to migrate up the hills.

**Q 21. Major hot deserts in northern hemisphere are located between 20-30 deg N latitudes and on the western sides of the continents. Why? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

1. Sub tropical high pressure belt leading to air subsidence and anti cyclonic conditions. These don't favor precipitation.
2. Area under the effect of NE trades which have already become dry blowing over vast stretches of land before arriving on western sides of continents.
3. Cool ocean currents (California in N America, Canary in Sahara). This means air has less moisture and relative humidity falls further as air reaches land.
4. Vast stretches of land and hence may be far from ocean influence. eg. Thar, Sahara.
5. May be on the leeward sides of the mountains. eg. Rockies in N America.

**Q 22.a Bring out the causes for more frequent occurrence of landslides in the Himalayas than in the Western Ghats. (100 words) (5 marks)**

**Ans.**

1. Himalayas are young, still rising and unstable. W Ghats are stable and old.
2. Both the core and overgrowth falls in Himalayan landslides. Only overgrowth falls in W Ghats as a reason.
3. Himalayas are taller and steeper.
4. Himalayas have loose soil and mightier rivers.

**Q 22.b There is no formation of deltas by rivers on the Western Ghats. Why? (100 words) (5 marks)****Ans.**

1. Rivers flowing west flow in narrow trough valleys. They don't have scope to widen and form deltas.
2. Western coastal strip is narrow. Scope for wide delta formation not there.
3. Most of the sediments carried by west flowing rivers are already deposited to fill the gaps in their narrow beds only.
4. S E Monsoons also lead to turbulence - not a good condition for delta formation.
5. They form estuaries.

**Q 23.a Do you agree that there is a growing trend of opening new sugar mills in southern states of India? Discuss with justification. (100 words) (5 marks)****Ans.**

1. Sugar is a heavy weight losing industry (over 90% weight of cane is lost). So sugar mills have to be located close to the source of cane.
2. The bagasse is also used to generate electricity to power the mills. So again mills have to be located close to the cane.
3. In S India, climatic conditions are favorable for cane growth.
4. It is closer to ocean. Air carries moisture and hence higher sugar content in cane.
5. Temperature remains warm throughout and hence better for cane growth.
6. The area is also close to ports which are needed for export of sugar.
7. The area also has better infrastructure connectivity in terms of roads than UP.

So cane cultivation is shifting south.

**Q 23.b Analyze the factors for the highly decentralized cotton textile industry in India. (100 words) (5 marks)****Ans.**

1. Cotton textiles is neither a weight losing, nor a weight gainer industry. So location close to raw material is not needed and other factors become important.
2. Historical factors like emphasis on charkha by Mahatama Gandhi have helped it spread even in remotest of villages.
3. Government policies of favoring handlooms has also favored decentralization.
4. Cheap labor is a requirement. This is abundant all over India.
5. Family labor is used in textiles industry. Workers pick up necessary skills working within the family itself.
6. Some areas like Gujarat and Maharashtra have large industries due to better infrastructure and location close to major cities and ports.

**Q 24 With growing scarcity of fossil fuels, the atomic energy is gaining more and more significance in India. Discuss the availability of raw material required for the generation of atomic energy in India and in the world. (200 words) (10 marks)****Ans.**Thorium

1. It is used in the nuclear fuel cycle and converted to U-232 which then generates energy.
2. In India it is found in rich quantities in the monazite sands of Kerala.
3. India is very rich in Thorium.
4. Had no idea about availability in the world.

Uranium

1. Naturally occurring uranium contains only 0.7% of U-235 and rest U-238.
2. Availability in India
  1. India is poor in uranium availability and imports most of its needs.
  2. Thumallapalle mines in Andhra Pradesh have the largest uranium reserves in India.
  3. Jaduguda mines in Jharkhand are the other major source of uranium in India.
3. Availability in the World
  1. Nigeria, Australia, Canada, Kazakhstan are the major uranium producers and exporters in the world.
  2. Besides these USA, China and Russia too produce large amounts of uranium but it is mostly used for domestic consumption.

**Q 25. It is said that India has substantial reserves of shale oil and gas, which can feed the needs of the country for quarter century. However, tapping of the resource does not appear to be high on the agenda. Discuss critically the availability and issues involved. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Shale oil and gas is the oil and gas located in the hard shale rock beds inside the earth. These shale beds are very tough to crack.

Availability

1. Various estimates, including those by leading firms, put Indian reserves of shale oil and gas at a large number.
2. Shale oil and gas are more widespread than natural oil and gas.
3. Major regions of availability are Gujarat, Rajasthan, central India, KG Basin and offshore areas in Bay of Bengal.

Issues

1. Expensive fracking and horizontal drilling technology.
2. Large scale use of water.
3. Contamination of ground water aquifers.
4. Risk of earthquakes.
5. Many areas of shale oil and gas are located where natural oil and gas exploration licenses have been given under NELP. So there is an issue of how to let 2 separate miners work in the same area - one producing natural gas and other shale gas.

New shale gas policy

1. To resolve some issues, the new shale gas policy has been announced.
2. Initially only PSUs will be allowed to explore in their pre-NELP blocks. Only later private sector would be allowed.
3. Shale gas and natural gas would be kept at arms length distance.
4. Revenue sharing instead of the cost recovery method will be followed.

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## UPSC Mains 2013: (Solved) General Studies Paper 2

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## Disclaimer

1. The below answers have been reproduced purely from my memory of what I wrote. They may not be accurate. All discussions are welcome :-)
2. All answers were written more or less in the same sub-heading wise and point wise format. But the exact content may not be the same and I may be putting some additional points here or missing out some points written in the exam due to the gap between writing this and writing the exam.

**Instructions: Answer each question in not more than the word limit specified. Content of the answer is more important than its length.**

**Q 1. The role of individual MPs (Members of Parliament) has diminished over the years and as a result healthy constructive debates on policy issues are not usually witnessed. How far can this be attributed to the anti-defection law which was legislated but with a different intention? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

### Anti-defection law and original intent

1. The anti defection law was enacted with the intention to check horse trading, defection of stray legislators.
2. Such a defection amounted to violation of people's mandate because in a parliamentary democracy like India, lot of people vote because of the party irrespective of the candidate, hence the law sought to check it.
3. The law mandated that a legislator would be disqualified from the membership of the house if he/she violated the party whip or voted against it, except when more than one-third of members do so together.

### Decline in parliamentary debates

1. The parliamentary debates have witnessed a fall in diverse opinions recently. Members just toe the party line instead of voicing their own opinion fearlessly.
2. Certainly anti defection law has a significant role to play in that. But it is not the only major factor.
3. Other major factors are:
  1. Centralization in political parties and high command culture.
  2. Lack of intra party democracy.
  3. Proliferation of regional parties: Powerful regional leaders now form their own regional parties instead of remaining in the main party and voicing their own opinion.
  4. Disconnect between political leaders and electorate.
  5. Nepotism, dynasty culture etc.

**Q 2. Discuss Section 66A of IT Act, with reference to its alleged violation of Art 19 of the Constitution. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Article 19 of the Constitution gives us freedom of speech and expression. However, the same article restricts this freedom on grounds of:

- defamation
- incitement to crime
- contempt of court
- public order
- decency
- morality
- friendly relations with neighbors
- national security

### Sec 66A

1. However, Section 66A which restricts freedom of speech and expression over internet and other electronic mediums, prima facie goes much beyond the restrictions mentioned.
2. For example, it criminalizes sending messages which "cause annoyance" or "hurt" sentiments or are "knowing wrong" or even "blasphemous"!
3. The irony is that many of these actions are perfectly valid over other forms of media like print. So while an article may be entirely legal when a newspaper prints it, if one sends it over internet one can be arrested!
4. One also wonders how can blasphemy be a crime in a plural and secular country like India!

### Supreme Court's intervention

1. After a series of controversial arrests like Jadhavpur professor, Thane facebook girls, the supreme court intervened and mandated that arrest orders under the Act be only given by an officer not inferior to rank of SP.
2. But such arrests continue indicating the inefficacy of such order to check the abuse. Now the court is looking into the legality of the law.

**Q 3. Recent directives from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas are perceived by the Nagas as a threat to override the exceptional status enjoyed by the state. Discuss in light of the Article 371A of the Indian Constitution. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Straight from Vision IAS notes.

Art 371A gives special status to Nagaland and confers restricted sovereignty over the Naga legislative assembly in matters regarding their social customs, traditions, culture, civil and criminal justice, land and natural resources. Any law passed by the Parliament in these matters can be applicable in Nagaland only with the assent of the Assembly.

### Issue

1. The centre had passed the Miners and Minerals Regulation and Development Act (MMRDA) for major minerals including oil and gas which gives vast powers to centre in their allocation.
2. The Naga assembly felt that it encroached upon its restricted sovereignty given under Art 371A as 'land and natural resources' also include natural gas. So it canceled all gas exploration licenses awarded by centre in Nagaland and passed its own law and conducted own auctions.
3. The centre and the ministry didn't like it and said that Art 371A only gives a 'negative power' to the Naga Assembly to negate applicability of central laws to the state in these areas and not a 'positive power' to create its own laws.
4. The centre opposed the auctions conducted under the Nagaland's law.

### Way Out

1. The issue needs to be resolved politically in a statesman like manner and not by resorting to narrow readings of law.
2. Even legally, the intent of 371A could never have been to create a power vacuum in Nagaland in these areas. So Naga assembly has the powers to conduct own auctions.

**Q 4. "The Supreme Court of India keeps a check on arbitrary power of the Parliament in amending the Constitution." Discuss critically. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Straight from initial chapters of DD Basu.

The Constitution itself gives the Parliament the power to amend the constitution under Art 368 without any explicit restrictions other than procedural. This power has been exercised many times in over a hundred amendments so far, including some major ones like 42nd (which was called a mini constitution in itself), 44th, 73rd and 74th.

The courts have, however, exercised judicial review time and again to prevent arbitrary amendments.

1. Talked about issue surrounding compensation to be paid for land acquisition: how courts initially frustrated parliamentary amendments to read that full compensation should be paid or it should be formula based and not token.
2. Talked about Kesvanand Bharti case: Doctrine of basic features of constitution. Amending basic features would amount to 're-writing constitution'.

However, courts have not stood excessively in the way of parliament in amending the constitution as well.

1. Many major amendments like 42nd, 44th, 9th schedule (protecting laws from judicial review) have been passed successfully.
2. Amendments to fundamental rights: The court refused to restrict parliament from amending fundamental rights. It held that the word 'law' under Art 13 doesn't include constitutional amendments and merely includes ordinary laws. So parliament can amend FRs. In fact, Art 31 or right to property was taken out of fundamental rights altogether.

**Q 5. Many state governments further bifurcate geographical administrative areas like Districts and Talukas for better governance. In the light of the above, can it also be justified that more number of smaller states would bring in effective governance at State level? Discuss. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Creating a smaller state is not the same as creating smaller districts and talukas. State creation is a very strong expression of the regional sentiments.

#### Advantages of smaller states on governance

1. Administration can be more focused.
2. Regional aspirations can be satisfied and state needs will get priority.
3. Exploitation of a region can be ended.
4. Some large states like UP may be too large to manage effectively.

#### Governance issues related to smaller states

1. Our experience so far has not necessarily proved that smaller states have better governance.
2. For example, in the 68th round of NSSO figures, Jharkhand (8.5%) and Chattisgarh (9.5%) ranked at bottom among all states in reducing poverty between 2004-05 and 2011-12 compared to all India average of 15%.
3. Smaller states like those created in North East are also not financially sustainable and are always dependent upon the centre for financial aid. This affects the governance because it is the central priorities which get funded and not the state ones thus defeating the whole argument of satisfying regional aspirations.
4. Smaller states lead to multiple issues like sharing of waters of inter state rivers affecting governance.
5. Smaller states also reduce the power of states vis a vis centre in the federal setup.
6. Missed out on the point that more states mean more boundaries on inter-state commerce affecting whole nation and governance :-)

**Q 6. Constitutional mechanisms to resolve the inter-state water disputes have failed to address and solve the problems. Is the failure due to structural or process inadequacy or both? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Straight from Puncchi Commission report.

Our country has over the decades faced many inter state water disputes over major rivers such as Ravi, Krishna, Cauveri.

#### Structural inadequacies

1. Some people say that water is a state subject and so resolving inter-state water disputes is difficult. But this is not true for following reasons:



1. Entry 56 of Union List: Inter state river basins are explicitly mentioned in this entry of union list. The parliament has passed the River Boards Act also for inter state river basin management. But no such boards have been notified so far.
2. Art 262 of constitution: This explicitly provides for constituting water tribunals to settle the disputes the orders of which can't be challenged even in supreme court. Parliament has passed the Inter State Water Disputes Tribunals Act. But the experience with the tribunals has highlighted many problems so far.
2. The orders of these tribunals have the force of supreme court decree only after they are notified by centre. There is no time limit to notify and centre has taken advantage of these loopholes.
3. Many states have passed ordinances and legislations to nullify the awards of these tribunals.
4. Issues such as displacement of people, environmental costs have come to surface in recent years. There is no provision for the tribunals dealing with these issues and they are taken to supreme court. This leads to multiple delays.
5. Even though the tribunal awards can't be challenged in the court, each interim award is challenged, clarificatory orders sought, and sometimes even final award challenged under Art 136.

#### Procedural inadequacies

1. The tribunals were supposed to work in conciliatory fashion rather than legal. However, most have given primacy to legal procedures.
2. The tribunals were supposed to give primacy to technical issues. But they have been caught in legal issues mostly.
3. Many states refuse to cooperate and provide data to these tribunals.

#### Other issues

1. The main issue remains lack of political commitment.
2. Parties often take extreme positions and play politics over water which makes any mutually beneficial solution non-acceptable.
3. Without political commitment, hurdles will keep coming up in implementation.

**Q 7. Discuss the recommendations of the 13th Finance Commission which have been a departure from the previous commissions for strengthening the local governance finances. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Straight from Puncchi Commission report.

The 13th FC gave more than Rs. 80,000 crores grant to local governance bodies compared to ~ Rs. 25,000 crores of 12th FC. Some of its other path breaking measures were:

1. Share in central pool: Grants are non buoyant while taxes are buoyant. 13th FC wanted to give the local bodies a share in the buoyant tax pool. But constitutionally it can only recommend grants to them. So it converted 1.5% of pool into basic grant and another 1% into performance grant and gave the equivalent as grants to local bodies.
2. The states were encouraged to carry out PRI reforms by the means of performance grants. These reforms included
  1. Local body ombudsman.
  2. Presenting amount to be devolved to local bodies as a supplement to annual budget of the state.
  3. Providing for certain qualifications for selection as members of state finance commissions.
  4. Standardizing the reports of state finance commissions and their tenure.
  5. Audit system for local bodies.
  6. Giving them power to levy property tax.
3. These funds should be devolved based on the following criteria whose weightage were changed by the 13th FC:
  1. Population.
  2. Area.
  3. Index of devolution.

4. SC/ST population.
5. Utilization of past funds.
6. Income distance.

**Q 8. The product diversification of financial institutions and insurance companies, resulting in overlapping of products and services strengthens the case for the merger of the 2 regulatory agencies, namely SEBI and IRDA. Justify. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Straight from any good discussion on FSLRC recommendations.

The financial innovation has resulted into companies offering many hybrid products which are difficult to classify exclusively into one of the product categories. eg. Saradha, Sahara. The SEBI and IRDA spat over Unit Linked Insurance Policies (ULIPs) should be seen in this light only.

#### Need for merger

1. Regulatory arbitrage.
2. Consumer protection.
3. FSLRC's recommendation of Unified Financial Agency.

Wrote a couple of sentences on each point.

#### Other suggestions

1. Need for a principle based financial law as suggested by FSLRC and not sector based, rigidly defined laws.

**Q 9. The concept of Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme is almost a century old in India with early beginnings in Madras Presidency in pre-independent India. The scheme has again been given impetus in most states in the last two decades. Critically examine its twin objectives, latest mandates and success. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Straight from Planning Commission working group on 12th Plan report.

Mentioned the recent tragedy in Bihar as intro.

#### Objectives

1. To encourage students to come to schools, increase attendance, provide them nutrition and improve learning outcomes.
2. To promote equity and reduce class and caste differences.

#### Success

1. According to Planning Commission's recent report, over 40% students are OBC, 22% SCs and 13% STs, thus fulfilling the equity objective.
2. According to Planning Commission's recent report, most of the students are children of landless agriculture labor and micro enterprise owners, thus fulfilling equity objective.
3. The near 100% student enrollment ratio in primary schools almost fulfills the first objective as well.

#### Failures

1. CAG and Planning Commission reports highlight lack of sufficient infrastructure like utensils, cooks, hygiene etc.
2. Teachers have to spend on an average 2 hours daily on the scheme thus diverting valuable study time.

Students have to wash the utensils.

3. Cooks paid very little honorarium.
4. No doorstep delivery to schools from PDS, thus large leakages.
5. Last mile authority for quality check like Village Education Committee or Parents Association to be constituted by Gram Panchayat not working in many states including Bihar.
6. No accountability of the state, district, taluk level nodal officers as recent tragedy highlights.

#### New mandate

1. Centre will set up IVRS based MIS system to get details from school principals directly.
2. Social audit mechanism would be put in place to ensure accountability and quality.
3. Scheme would be extended to pre primary children as well and also poor children in private unaided schools.

**Q 10. Pressure group politics is sometimes seen as the informal face of politics. With regards to the above, assess the structure and functioning of pressure groups in India. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Defined pressure groups first: They are groups which exist to pressurize the government on specific policy decisions in their favor, but they don't seek to capture political power themselves.

Listed various types of pressure groups:

1. Profession specific. eg. bar council, medical council.
2. Industry lobbying. eg. ficci, cii, individual industry / sector specific.
3. Activist groups. eg. sardar sarovar.
4. Survey groups. eg. hungama, acer which conduct studies and try to build pressure on the government to act via their results.
5. Informal citizen groups: like delhi rape which are highly issue specific and leaderless.

Wrote a couple of sentences each on above types. In industry lobbying, also highlighted dangers of crony capitalism, bribing etc. eg. Nira Radia tapes.

One small paragraph on: Some people say pressure groups, specially the last ones, are bad for democracy as they undermine parliament. But no, they are good as they take people's voice to the parliament which may have grown distant from the people due to dynasty politics, criminalization etc.

**Q 11. The legitimacy and accountability of Self Help Groups (SHGs) and their patrons, the micro-finance outfits, need systematic assessment and scrutiny for the sustained success of the concept. Discuss. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: This was straight from ARC report.

Intro: Mentioned Andhra Pradesh controversy.

#### Benefits of SHGs

1. Gender empowerment.
2. Weaker castes and minority empowerment.
3. Poor people empowerment.

#### Issues with SHGs and microfinance

1. Multiple lending: 1 SHG borrows from multiple MFIs.
2. High rate of interest charged: Sometimes over 50% thus leading SHG into default.
3. Coercive practices used to recover loan.

4. Unsustainable nature of SHGs: Even in SHG federations. SHGs remain dependent upon their sponsor NGO or govt.
5. Low productivity and low skill set: SHGs indulge only in subsistence wage activities. Skills required are only rudimentary.
6. Concentration in rural and southern areas.
7. Increasing politicization: This may defeat the participatory nature of SHG and its entire concept. So governments should only create an enabling framework and not interfere too much.

### Suggestions

1. NABARD's mandate to support SHGs should be extended to peri-urban areas and urban as well to capture the migrants.
2. Skill development, technological progress encouraged.
3. Malegam Committee recommendations: 24% cap on interest charged, 12% cap on margin, only 1 MFI lend to 1 SHG, transparent fees.

**Q 12. The central government frequently complains on the poor performance of the state governments in eradicating suffering of the vulnerable sections of the society. Restructuring of centrally sponsored schemes across the sectors for ameliorating the cause of vulnerable sections of population aims at providing flexibility to the states in better implementation. Critically examine. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: 1. This was straight from ARC report and any good discussion on recent CSS restructuring.  
2. This answer had a somewhat unstructured beginning. I was very tired by now.

Intro: Gave some brief intro - don't remember.

Then a couple of sentences about accountability deficit: how CSS create parallel structures at each level and no one is ever held responsible for any failure. centre puts blame on states and states on centre.

(Now remembered that the answer should talk about recent restructuring first).

### Recent restructuring of CSS

1. Restructuring: 10% flexi funds to fund state needs. State specific guidelines for the schemes also possible.
  1. This will enable CSS to get rid of one size fit all syndrome.
  2. It will also make them flexible, ensure state needs are better satisfied, ensure more ownership from states.
2. Restructuring: Assistance to state to be routed only via consolidated funds of states.
  1. Presently parallel bodies are created at state level and central funds transferred directly to them.
  2. But there is no accountability, audit and monitoring mechanism of these funds and these bodies park large amount of money simply in bank deposits.
  3. Routing through states will lead to better audit and monitoring and also ensure accountability of these bodies to state government.
3. Restructuring: Reduction in number of CSS.
  1. Presently literally every new minister starts his/her own CSS.
  2. Since CSS encroaches upon the states' subjects mostly, it hampers state autonomy. So limiting their number and consolidation is a welcome step.

### Other issues remaining

Even after this restructuring, many other issues remain.

1. Accountability deficit as mentioned earlier.
2. Creation of parastatals which hamper the growth of PRIs. These parastatals should be brought under the control of PRIs.
3. States are often arbitrarily asked to match central contributions. The ratio is decided unilaterally by the centre without any consultation with states. Finance Commission should recommend grants to states for their part of

contribution to the CSS.

**Q 13. Electronic cash transfer system for the welfare schemes is an ambitious project to minimize corruption, eliminate wastage and facilitate reforms. Comment. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: I wondered what the hell electronic cash transfer system was! Then remembered it was Direct Benefits Transfer.

Intro: Brief description of DBT and mentioned it is already being implemented for LPG cylinders.

#### Positives of DBT

1. It will help in eliminating ghost beneficiaries when integrated with aadhar.
2. Many schemes like PDS, kerosene suffer from massive corruption because commodities are provided at much below market rates. This creates incentives for dealers to divert them to market and earn high profits.
3. But once DBT comes, all commodities will be delivered at market rates only. So incentive for diversion, corruption will end. Subsidy will directly reach the bank account without any human interference.
4. It will help migrant workers.
5. Economic theory suggests commodity specific subsidies reduce economic efficiency as they distort the prices. DBT will not reduce economic inefficiency.

#### Limitations of DBT

1. For the scheme to work, people should have at least a bank account. With the scale of financial exclusion in India, such a goal is still distant.
2. Amartya Sen has highlighted its dangers on gender equality, nutrition and health.
3. Banks may become the source of corruption.
4. Illiteracy, and specially financial illiteracy, in India makes it difficult to implement it.
5. Inflation may erode the value of the cash subsidy.

#### Way forward

1. The benefits of scheme are too large to ignore. Suitable inclusion activities must be carried out to prepare the ground for the scheme's implementation.

**Q 14. The basis for providing urban amenities in rural areas (PURA) is rooted in establishing connectivity. Comment. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Intro: PURA model was suggested by former president Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. It envisioned development of villages by:

1. Physical connectivity.
2. Knowledge connectivity.
3. Electronic connectivity.
4. Market connectivity.

Wrote a couple of sentences on each highlighting what they are and how they will benefit development.

#### PURA 2.0

Recently, PURA was amended to PURA 2.0 by Jairam Ramesh which will focus more on

1. Census towns.
2. PPP model.

**Q 15. Identify the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that are related to health. Discuss the success of**

**the actions taken by the government for achieving the same. (200 words) (10 marks)****Ans.**

Note: UPSC asked a question on MDG last year also. Last year too I sucked at that question. This year I thought UPSC won't repeat it. I sucked again.

MDGs related to health

1. Infant mortality: Reduce IMR to 30 per 1000 live births.
2. Maternal mortality: Reduce MMR to 150 per 100000 births from 600.
3. Universal immunization.

Success evaluation.*Infant Mortality*

1. Achieved 47 by 2012.
2. Some southern states like Kerala, TN, Andhra already achieved it, but northern states lie Bihar, UP, Rajasthan lagging behind.

*Maternal Mortality*

1. Achieved 212 but UN report places India 'behind' on achieving the goal.
2. Again southern states like Kerala, TN, Andhra already achieved it, but northern states lie Bihar, UP, Rajasthan lagging behind.
3. Institutional deliveries have increased significantly due to schemes such as Janani Suraksha Yojana, Indira Matritva Sahyog Yojana.

*Universal Immunization*

1. Lagging behind in this as achieved is only 61%.
2. Again southern states like Kerala, TN, Andhra already achieved it, but northern states lie Bihar, UP, Rajasthan lagging behind.

**Q 16. Though citizen charters have been formulated by many public service delivery organizations, there is no corresponding improvement in the level of citizens' satisfactions and quality of services being provided. Analyze. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: This is straight from ARC report.

Some small intro I don't remember.

Issues with Citizen Charters

1. They contain either broad mission statements or immeasurable goals.
2. They don't have statutory backing.
3. They don't have strong grievance redressal mechanism.
4. They are not in simple and local language.
5. They are not adequately publicized.
6. They have not been preceded by Business Process Restructuring (BPR).
7. No mechanism exists to capture citizen feedback and review them periodically.

Needed Reforms

1. They should be in simple clear local language.
2. They should not contain mission statements but contain measurable services provided by the organization

with clear timelines.

3. Displayed prominently, adequate funding for creating public awareness.
4. Strong statutory backing and grievance redressal mechanism. The Right to Public Service Delivery Bill is a welcome bill.
5. BPR and activity mapping should be done while preparing them.
6. Citizen feedback should be captured and they should be reviewed periodically.

**Q 17. 'A national Lokpal, however strong it may be, cannot resolve the problems of immorality in public affairs.' Discuss. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: This was totally unexpected since UPSC doesn't generally ask questions on such controversial, anti-government topics. So I couldn't do justice to the question.

#### Why a Lokpal is needed

1. International experience of Hong Kong, Singapore, Scandinavian countries suggest effective Lokpal can significantly curb public corruption.
2. CBI is not independent and was even called 'caged parrot' by the supreme court. So an independent body is needed to investigate government corruption without any conflict of interests.
3. CVC was setup earlier, but it has proved to be largely ineffective. So a strong body is needed.
4. If a strong Lokpal is there, it will have a strong deterrence effect on corrupt officials and politicians.

#### But a Lokpal alone is not enough

1. In a society where values and morality are falling, what can a Lokpal alone do?
2. Public service involves many situations where laws, rules are not clearly defined. Multiple interpretations can be made and discretions are required. How will a Lokpal punish in such situations?
3. Lokpal is just like another bureaucracy. India already has too much of bureaucracy but it hasn't solved problems.
4. Who will control the Lokpal?
5. It can undermine democratic process itself.

**Q 18. The proposed withdrawal of International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) from Afghanistan in 2014 is fraught with major security implications for the countries of the region. Examine in light of the fact that India is faced with a plethora of challenges and needs to safeguard its own strategic interests. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

#### India's strategic interests in the region

1. Terrorism and implications on internal security.
2. Access to Central Asian hydrocarbons and other resources.
3. Limiting Pakistan's influence in the region.
4. Protecting our investments and bilateral aid there.

Wrote 1-2 sentences on each point with some specific issues.

#### Challenges posed by ISAF withdrawal

1. The Karzai government is weak. There is a real danger terrorists will come back.
2. Pakistan is supporting the terrorists and when they come back, it will increase its influence and strategic depth.
3. Pakistan is opposed to any Indian role post 2014 in Afghanistan.
4. China's influence will increase too.
5. US is already negotiating with terrorists. It has also reportedly dropped the red lines for the peace talks that

Taliban must give up violence and express faith in democracy and constitution.

### Way forward for India

1. India has already signed the Strategic Partnership Agreement. But needs to back it up with more assistance, including weapons and training, to Afghanistan.
2. India needs to continue engagement with Afghanistan despite Pak's opposition.
3. India needs to continue press US that it should ensure Taliban gives up weapons and Islamic orthodoxy and accepts democracy.

**Q 19. What do you understand by "the string of pearls"? How does it impact India? Briefly outline the steps taken by India to counter this. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

String of pearls is the theory that China is trying to increase its naval influence in Indian Ocean and counter India's by surrounding it. It is developing a string of ports around India for this purpose. These ports include:

1. Kyaukpyu in Myanmar.
2. Chittagong in Bangladesh.
3. Hambantota in Sri Lanka.
4. Maldives, Seychelles.
5. Gwadar in Pakistan.

### Impact on India

1. Over 90% of our trade flows through Indian ocean. If we lose influence to Chinese, it will seriously hamper our security.
2. China has the upper hand in Himalayan borders. But its weakness is that most of its oil flows through Indian Ocean. Indian control over Indian Ocean is needed to balance Chinese advantage in Himalayas.

### Steps taken by India

1. Sri Lanka: India is developing the Kakesathurai port but needs to step up its engagement with SL.
2. Andaman and Nicobar Islands: A&N islands can act as the 'iron choke' to Chinese string of pearls. This is because most of Chinese oil and large part of its trade flows through narrow Malacca Straights overlooked by A&N islands. India is stepping up its eastern naval command and also established an air-naval station in A&N islands called Baaz.
3. Myanmar: After the opening of Myanmar, India has stepped up its engagement with the nation.
4. Maldives, Seychelles: India has tacitly expressed its strong disapproval for their acts of letting Chinese ships refuel.
5. Gwadar port: India is developing Chahbahar port in Iran which can counter Gwadar's influence.

**Q 20. Economic ties between India and Japan while growing in the recent years are still far below their potential. Elucidate the policy constraints which are inhibiting this growth. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Indian trade with Japan is merely \$12.5 billion with the target of \$25 billion by 2015. This is despite having a CEPA. Investments are also there, but considering the sizes of these multi-trillion economies, trade and investment is still far below potential.

### Policy constraints

1. Sectors exempted in CEPA: Automobiles and agriculture which have great trade and investment potential have been excluded from CEPA and continue to face high tariffs and NTBs.
2. Nuclear trade: It has suffered post Fukushima but Shinzo Abe's coming has changed the scenario and now negotiations are progressing.



3. Depressed Japanese economy: Japan failed to pursue policies to lift it out of depression. This has had adverse impact on the economic ties. But Abenomics is changing it.
4. Labor laws issues: The issue with the Maruti plant in Gurgaon doesn't bid well for more Japanese investment.
5. Land acquisition, numerous clearances required, delays in environmental clearances, poor infrastructure in India: This is constraining more Japanese investment in India.
6. Defence cooperation: Japan doesn't sell weapons to any country as a matter of policy. But this is changing now with the offer of Shinwaya dual use amphibious aircraft.

**Q 21. The protests in Shahbagh Square in Dhaka in Bangladesh reveal a fundamental split in society between the nationalists and Islamic forces. What is the significance for India? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Intro: Talked about Jamat-i-Islami (backed by BNP), and the secular bloggers (backed by Awami League) whose blogs led to the beginning of protests. Gave a brief of what the protests were.

#### Significance

1. Rise of Islamic extremism in our vicinity.
2. Jamat and BNP have been traditionally anti-India while Awami League and liberals pro-India.
3. The resulting violence and strikes may complicate the situation for Awami League and hence India in the upcoming elections there.
4. Protests show that secular forces are still strong in Bangladesh.
5. Bangladesh holds the transit key to north east and also is India's largest trading partner in the sub-continent.

Wrote a sentence or two for each point.

#### What should India do?

1. Strengthen secular and liberal forces in Bangladesh without any apparent domestic intervention.
2. Pass land boundary agreement in the Parliament.
3. Speed up the resolution of Teesta issues.

**Q 22. Discuss the political developments in Maldives in the last 2 years. Should they be of any cause of concern to India? (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Gave point wise development of whole Nasheed-Waheed saga from his ouster to present election results.

#### Concerns for India

1. Rise of Islamic extremism in vicinity.
2. Growing proximity of Waheed and Gayoom with Pakistan and China. On the other hand, Nasheed was pro-India.
3. GMR's contract canceled. Other Indian investments may also come in jeopardy.
4. Preservation of nascent democracy in Maldives.
5. Maldives holds strategic position in Indian Ocean.

**Q 23. In respect of India- Sri Lanka relations, discuss how domestic factors influence foreign policy. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

India's stand is that SL should implement 13th Amendment (with full land and police powers to provinces) and adopt LLRC recommendations.

#### Domestic factors influencing Sri Lanka's policy

1. The war was long and bloody. Led to heightened enmity feelings against the other community.
2. Rajapaksa paying attention to these extremist sentiments of majority community instead of acting statesmanlike and pushing for a lasting solution.

#### Domestic factors influencing India's foreign policy

1. Competitive populism in Tamil Nadu.
2. Led to India breaking its long term policy stand of not voting in favor of country specific resolutions in UNHRC. India voted against SL twice.
3. PM had to skip CHOGM meet.
4. India's aid also directed to Tamil areas mainly due to TN political compulsions. This has reduced the goodwill in SL.
5. India's own human rights record in Kashmir is complicating the policy and preventing India from taking an all out stand against Sri Lanka's human rights violation.

**Q 24. What is meant by Gujaral doctrine? Does it have any relevance today? Discuss. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Gujaral doctrine was given by IK Gujaral, former PM of India. It meant making unilateral concessions towards our neighbors without expecting them to match it. These concessions better our economic and political relations and given Indian eminence in the sub-continent are essential.

#### Relevance today

1. Yes very much relevant. Indian sub-continent is more divided and violence prone than in 90s.
2. India's neighbors can compliment India's growth. India is more confident and prosperous now than in 90s, so can afford to make such concessions.
3. We can invest in these countries to make use of cheap labor in say automobile parts in SL and cotton textiles in Bangladesh and import the intermediary products to manufacture final goods here and export to the world. Like China does with ASEAN nations.
4. Unilateral reduction in tariffs will lead to cheaper raw material imports from these countries which will make our export sector more competitive.

**Q 25. The World Bank and the IMF, collectively known as the Bretton Woods Institutions, are the 2 inter-governmental pillars supporting the structure of the world's economic and financial order. Superficially, the World Bank and the IMF exhibit many common characteristics, yet their role, functions and mandate are distinctly different. Elucidate. (200 words) (10 marks)**

**Ans.**

Note: Very little time left for this question.

#### Similarities

1. Both carry out economic research.
2. Both advise developing countries.
3. Both advance loans to developing countries.

#### Differences

1. IMF loans are used to overcome temporary balance of payments problems only. World Bank loans are used to finance long term developmental projects in the developing countries.
2. IMF loans come with very strict conditionalities. World Bank loans don't have such strict conditionalities.
3. World Bank loans don't have any stigma attached with them while IMF loans mean country is in a severe crisis.

4. IMF loans size are tied to the quotas of each nation.