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2nd Mock Exam

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Pakistan Affairs

Part - II

Question: 2

Q: Does the Belt and Road Initiatives (BRI) significantly China's political growth or is it reflective of the developing world's inclination towards economic connectivity. Discuss.

Introduction :

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), launched by China in 2013, is a vast infrastructure and economic development project aimed at enhancing global trade and stimulating economic growth across Asia, Africa and Europe. Evaluating whether the BRI signifies China's political growth or reflects the developing world's inclination towards economic connectivity involves examining both perspectives, considering geopolitical ambitions, economic imperatives and responses of participating countries.

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China's Political Growth :

1. Geopolitical Strategy : Global Influence :

The BRI allows China to extend its influence globally by financing and constructing infrastructure projects in developing countries. This fosters dependency on Chinese investment and expertise, thus expanding China's soft power.

Strategic Positioning :

By establishing a network of ports, railways and roads, China secures critical supply routes and enhances its strategic military positioning. This can be seen as part of a broader geopolitical strategy to counterbalance Western dominance, particularly that of the United States.

2. Economic Leverage :

• Debt Diplomacy :

Debt Diplomacy critics argue that the BRI is a form of debt-trap diplomacy, where recipient countries incur significant debts to China, leading to potential political and economic leverage for China. Instances like Sri Lanka's Hambantota port, leased to China for 99 years, highlight these concerns.

• Resource Access :

The BRI also provides China with access to vital natural resources and markets, crucial for sustained its own economic growth. The economic interdependence can translate into political influences over resource-rich countries.

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3. Domestic Political Consideration :

a. National Prestige :

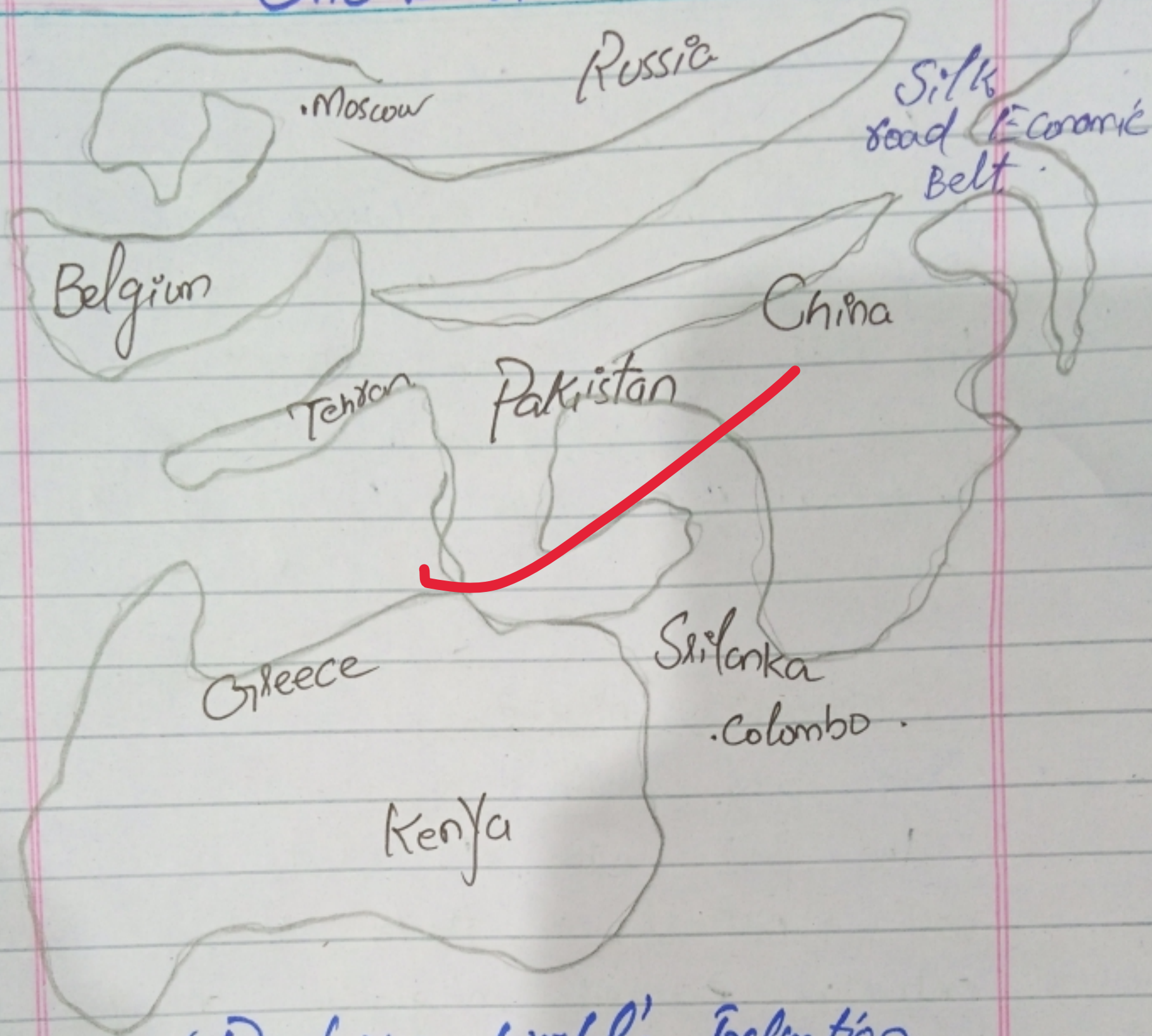
Domestically, the BRI serves as a tool for the Chinese government to bolster national pride and project an image of China as a global leader, thus consolidating political support for the ruling Communist Party.

"The BRI should aim for high-standard, sustainable and people-centered progress"
(President Xi Jinping)

b. Economic Diversion :

By investing abroad, China aims to export its surplus industrial capacity, thereby stabilizing its own economy and mitigating economic pressure.

One Belt, One Road Initiatives



Developing World's Inclination

Towards Economic Connectivity :

A. Infrastructure Deficit :

Development Needs :

Many developing countries face significant infrastructure deficit that hinders their economic growth. The

BRI provides much-needed investment in roads, ports, railway and energy projects, facilitating economic development and regional connectivity.

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• Alternative Financing:

Traditional international financing institutions like the World Bank and IMF often impose stringent conditions. The BRI offers an alternative source of funding with conditions, appealing to countries seeking rapid development.

B. Economic Integration:

• Trade and Investment:

The BRI aims to create a vast network of trade routes, enhancing economic integration among the participation countries. Improved infrastructure facilitate trade routes flows, reduce costs and attract foreign direct investment, contributing to regional economic growth.

Regional Connectivity :

Projects like the China - Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the railway network in East Africa illustrate how the BRI promotes regional connectivity, enabling countries to tap into broader markets and benefits from economic synergies.

C. South - South Cooperation :

Economic Partnerships :

The BRI exemplifies South South Cooperation, where developing countries collaborate to achieve mutual economic benefits. This can foster a sense of solidarity and collective advancement among the developing nations, distinct from traditional North - South dynamics.

Shared Development Goals :

Many Countries view participation in the BRI as aligning with their own development goals, such as poverty reduction, industrialization and modernization. This shared vision of development underscores the attractiveness of the initiatives.

Conclusion :

The BRI represents a dual phenomenon, it signifies China's political growth and ambition to reshape global power dynamics while simultaneously reflecting the developing world's inclination towards enhanced economic connectivity and infrastructure development. China leverages the BRI to extend its geopolitical influence and secure economic interests whereas participating countries are drawn by the promise of economic growth, improved infrastructure and regional integration.

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Question: 4

Q. Pakistan's lagging behind in achieving its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for education. Explain the issues and problems it is facing and recommend workable solutions to achieve these goals.

Introduction:

Pakistan's journey towards achieving its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for education has been fraught with numerous challenges. Despite some progress, the country remains significantly behind in meeting the targets set for universal primary education, gender equality and improved quality of education. The MDGs established in 2000 by the United Nations, aimed to address critical global issues, including eradicating extreme poverty, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and reducing child mortality, among others.

For Pakistan, education is not only a fundamental human rights but also a crucial driver for socio-economic development and poverty alleviation.

Issues and Problems of MDGs:

Low Budget Allocation:

Pakistan's education sectors suffers from low public expenditure. Historically less than 3% is allocated to education, which is insufficient to meet the MDGs.

Insufficient Utilization:

The allocated funds are often not utilized effectively due to bureaucratic insufficiencies and corruption.

“(Pakistan's education sector is chronically underfunded, with government expenditure on education often below the recommended 4-6% of GDP”

(UNESCO, 2015)

2. Political Instability and Governance

Issues:

- Frequent Policy Change:

Political instability leads to frequent changes in education policies, disrupting long-term planning and implementation.

- Governance Challenges:

poor governance structure and lack of accountability hinder the effective implementation of educational programs.

“Resources are not eventually distributed, with rural areas and marginalized communities receiving less support”

(World Bank, 2018)



Achieve universal
Primary Education

Promote
Gender Equality

Develop a global partnership

Millennium Development
Goals (MDGs)

Ensure Environmental
Sustainability

Reduce child mortality

3. Infrastructure Deficiencies :

• Lack of Schools and Facilities :

Many rural and remote areas lack schools, existing ones often lack basic facilities like clean drinking water, toilets and electricity.

Add references/examples against your arguments

• Overcrowded Classrooms :

Urban schools face overcrowding, which affects the quality of education.

4. Socioeconomic Barriers :

Poverty :

Economic constraints forces many children to drop out of school work and support their families.

"High poverty rates force children to work instead of attending schools".

(ILO, 2017)

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Gender Disparities :

Cultural norms and poverty lead to lower enrollment rates for girls, particularly in rural areas.

Workable Solutions to Achieve MDGs for Education :

1. Increase Budget Allocation :

Raise the education budget to at least 4-6% of GDP, aligning with global recommendation.

2. Improve Financial Management :

Ensure transparency and efficient utilization of funds through robust monitoring and evaluation mechanism.

3. Build and Upgrade Schools :

Construct more schools in underserved areas and upgrade existing ones to ensure they have basic facilities.

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4. Curriculum Reforms :

Update the curriculum to make it relevant to current economic and social needs, focusing on critical thinking, problem-solving and vocational skills.

Conclusion :

Achieving the MDGs for education in Pakistan requires a holistic approach addressing funding, governance, infrastructure, quality and social barriers.

By increasing investment, improving governance, enhancing teaching quality and updating

The curriculum, Pakistan can make

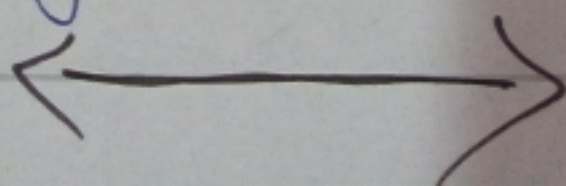
significant progress towards meeting

its educational goals. Consistent political

will and community involvement are

crucial for sustaining these efforts

and ensure long-term success.



Question: 6

Q: Enlist and explain the energy issues and explain the strategy to deal with them.

Introduction:

Energy issues in Pakistan are at the forefront of global challenges due to the profound impact on economic growth, environmental sustainability and social equity. As the world grapples with the twin crisis of climate change and energy insecurity. It is imperative to address these issues comprehensively. The global energy landscape is characterized by a heavy reliance on fossil fuels, uneven access to energy, inefficiencies and need for infrastructure upgrades.

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Key Factors of Energy Issues:

1. Dependence on Fossil Fuels:

The global energy system's heavy reliance on coal, oil and natural gas.

Many emissions of the contributors to greenhouse gas and climate change.

Not an energy problem directly.
Discuss more relevant issues first

2. Climate Change:

Energy production is the largest source of greenhouse gas emission.

Rising temperature, extreme weather events and ecosystem disruptions.

"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed."

(Mahatma Gandhi)

3. Energy Security :
Vulnerability to support disruptions due to geopolitical conflict and market volatility.

Example:
Economic instability and National security risks.

4. Energy Access :
Over a billion people lack access to modern energy services. This impedes economic development and quality of life in developing nations.

5. Renewable Energy Integration :
Difficulty in integration variable renewable energy sources like wind and solar.
Example :
Grid stability and reliability issues.

More relevant arguments are missed

6. Technological Development :

Need for continuous innovation in energy storage, transmission and efficiency.

Slow technological advancement hinders sustainable energy transition.

Strategies to Address Energy

Issues :

(A) Diversification of Energy Sources :

To increase the share of renewable in the energy sources.

To reduce fossil fuel dependency and enhance energy security.

(B) Investment in Renewable Energy :

To provide financial incentives for renewable energy projects.

To accelerate clean and energy development.

C) Enhancing Energy Efficiency :

To implement energy efficiency standards across sectors.

To reduce the energy consumption and emission.

D) International Collaboration :

To foster global cooperation on energy projects and energy transfers. Leverages global resource and expertise.

Conclusion :

Addressing global energy issues requires a multifaceted approach that includes diversifying energy sources, investing in renewables, enhancing energy efficiency and modernizing infrastructure. By adopting strategic relations and fostering international cooperation. Ultimately these efforts will lead to a resilient energy system that support economic growth, environmental sustainability and the social well-being.

Question: 7

Q: In modern day democracy, the role of higher courts is vital in development of democratic values?

Introduction:

In modern day democracy, the role of higher courts is indeed vital in the development of democratic values. These higher courts, particularly the Supreme Court, play a crucial role in shaping the legal framework, protecting individual rights, and promoting the rule of law.

"The democracy is the rule of government, of the people, by the people and for the people"

(Abraham Lincoln)

Contribution to the Development of democratic values :

1. Guardians of the Constitutions :

Higher Courts ensures that the Constitution is upheld and that the laws and actions of the government are in line with its provisions.

2. Protection of individual rights :

Higher Courts safeguard liberty of individuals and fundamental rights, such as freedom of speech, religion and equality which are essential to democratic values.

"The right to be left alone is the most valuable right in the Constitution"

(Justice Louis Brandeis)

3. Checks and Balances:

Higher Courts provides a check on the other branches of government, preventing any one branch from becoming too powerful and ensuring that power is distributed evenly.

"Checks and Balance are the very foundation of our constitutional system, they are essential to the protection of individual liberty"

(John Roberts)

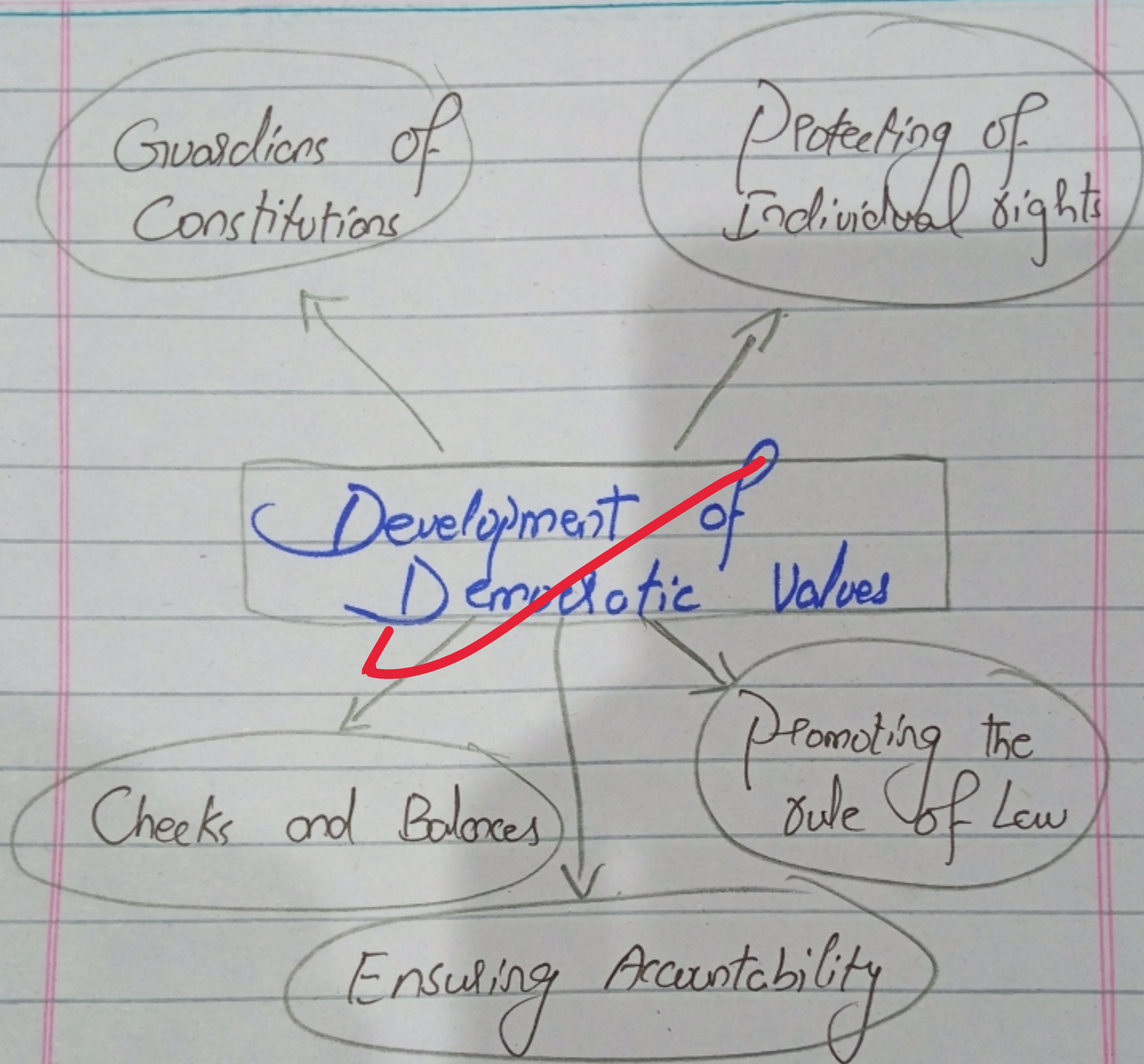
4. Promoting the Rule of Law:

Higher Courts ensure that the legal system is fair, impartial and accessible to all, which is essential for the development of democratic values.

"The rule of law is the safeguard of liberty, equality and justice"

(Ronald Reagan)

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5. Setting Legal Precedent :-

Higher courts set legal precedents that guide the lower courts and the entire legal system, shaping the development of democratic values.

6. Ensuring Accountability:

Higher Courts hold the government and public officials accountable for their actions, promoting transparency and accountability.

7. Protecting Minority Rights:

Higher Courts safeguards the rights of minority groups, ensuring that their voices are heard and their rights are protected.

"The test of democracy is how well it protects the rights of its minorities"
Mahatma Gandhi

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the role of higher courts in modern day democracy is vital in developing democratic values. They ensure that the Constitution is upheld, individual rights are protected and the rule of law is promoted. By providing checks and balances, setting legal precedents, ensuring accountability and protecting minority rights, higher courts play a crucial role in shaping the legal framework and promoting democratic values.

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