Polity & Governance · GS - II

Discuss the importance of internet access for children's education and development. How can the government balance digital rights with online safety?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 17/10/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Digital rights, Right to Education, Article 21, Article 21A, digital divide, online safety, proportionality, balanced regulation, child protection.

Model Answer

Introduction

The internet has become an important tool for education, communication and personal development. Access to digital resources can help children learn and participate in modern society.

Importance of Internet Access

1. Education: Provides access to online classes, digital libraries and educational content.
2. Equality: Helps children from remote and disadvantaged communities access learning opportunities.
3. Development: Supports digital literacy, creativity and information sharing.
4. Constitutional values: Digital access may support the realisation of rights relating to education and personal development.

Challenges and Way Forward

Unrestricted internet use can expose children to cyberbullying, harmful content, privacy violations and online exploitation. Therefore, governments should promote age-appropriate safeguards, digital literacy, parental guidance and effective grievance redressal.

Blanket restrictions should be carefully assessed, and targeted measures may be preferable where they adequately address specific risks. Regulation should balance children's rights with their safety and welfare.

Conclusion

Children need both meaningful digital access and protection from online harm. A balanced, rights-based approach can promote safe and inclusive digital development.