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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1072)

Name of Candidate	MOHAMMAD MUNEEB BHAT		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	325391
Center	DELHI	Date	30-08-18.

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	10		<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.3. All questions are compulsory.4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
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Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			
Signature of Examiner			

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

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All the Best

1. Explain why it is important to urgently address the problem of poor land records and infirmity of land titles in India. Also discuss how this problem can be addressed. (150 Words) 10

Ans: According to Economic Survey 2016-17, more than 70% of Indian farmers own less than 2.5 hectares of land.

• Importance of addressing the problem of poor land-records & infirmity in land-titles :-

Ⓐ To encourage contract-farming.

Ⓑ Reap benefits of 'Economy of Scale' (Swaminathan Committee).

Ⓒ Doubling farmers income (2022).

Ⓓ Dealing with agri-stress & farmer protests e.g:- Narath agitation.

Ⓔ Prevent further fragmentation (Ashok-Dalwai Committee).

• Addressing the problem:-

- (a) New ^{model} land records Act.
- (b) e-recording e.g:- Bhoomi - by Karnataka.
- (c) Using SECC-2011 data to prevent exclusion & inclusion errors.
- (d) By increasing awareness about benefits of land-reforms.

• To achieve goals under SDG-1 & SDG-2, land-reforms are essential prerequisites [Economic Survey 2017-18].

2. What are the special features of the infrastructure sector that make its financing a challenge? What measures have been taken to facilitate adequate amount of finance to this sector? (150 Words) 10

Ans:- Infrastructure sector has a multiplier effect on economy both positively & negatively [NITI Aayog 3-year Action Agenda]

• Special features that make financing a challenge in infrastructure:-

- (a) Long gestation periods (so the need for VGF (viability gap funding).
- (b) Land-acquisition issues e.g:- Environmental angle & LARR-Act
- (c) Ecological fall-out of infra-projects e.g:- Sardar Sarovar dam.
- (d) Multi-sectoral nature of projects leading to delays & conellations.
- (e) Over-regulation & Red-tapism e.g:- MoRTH.

• measures taken for adequate finance :-

(a) Investment models like PPP-models (BOT + EPC) = Hybrid-annuity model.

(b) Revenue-sharing basis leading to win-win-situation.

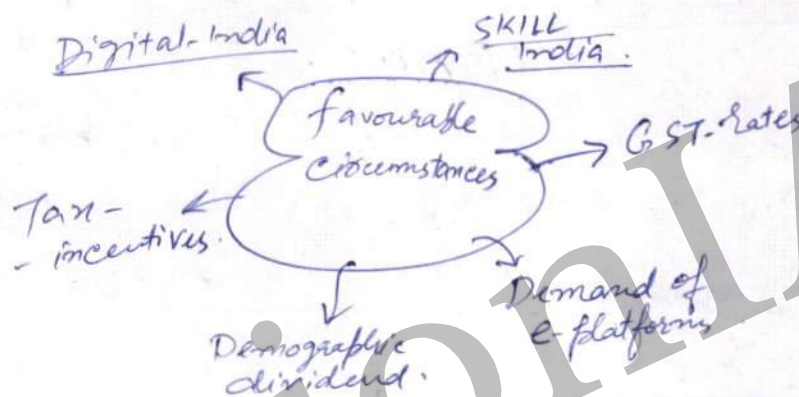
(c) Resolving Twin-Balance sheet problem to free ~~cost~~ banks for finance.

(d) Environmental measures like CAMPA-fund to overcome land-acquisition challenges.

• Infrastructure sector will be handy to achieve growth rate above 6% [world-banks].

3. Despite favourable circumstances, India's electronics manufacturing has been unable to respond to the rising demand. Discuss. What steps can be taken to address this situation? (150 Words) 10

Ans:- India's electronics manufacturing sector has the potential to bridge trade deficits and create employment for emerging markets like India [World-Bank report].



Unable to respond to rising demand
Reasons:

- (a) Dependence on external sectors (imports from china - for spare-parts) - widening trade-deficit.

③ Infrastructural deficits like power-cuts (load-shedding).

④ Lack of skilled-manpower (electronics sector).

⑤ Regional-imbalance (Urban dominance).

• Steps that can be taken:

① Skill-development (Skill-banks, TRIFED, KIRAN).

② Technology transfer (Germany, Nordic Countries).

③ Favourable-WTO-negotiations.

④ Tax-incentives & thrust to MSME-sector manufacturing.

• To achieve goals under Digital India, electronics sector holds the key.

4. Despite registering a high growth rate in the post-reform era, India continues to witness a high incidence of poverty. Explain this paradox and suggest ways to resolve it. (150 Words) 10

Ans:-

The divergence phenomenon between growth & poverty reduction was highlighted by successive Economic surveys & IMF & World Bank reports.

• Reasons for the paradox :-

- (a) Concentration in certain Sectors (Manufacture led growth) — neglect of agriculture in post-LPG-era.
- (b) Lack of robust redistribution mechanism viz-a-viz inequality (Thomas Piketty report).
- (c) Lack of less spending on health & education as a %age of GDP [$< 2\%$ for both].

(d) Land-fragmentation and burgeoning youth population (15-29 yrs)

• Steps to be taken:-

(a) Universal basic income (Eco-Survey 2016-17)

(b) DBT & other TPDS-mechanisms (Amartya-Sen)

(c) Job-creation in Small & medium industries (Textiles & apparel sector)

(d) Overcoming regional-disparity in industrial & agri-concentration.

• 2nd green-revolution and make in India along with Digital India can act as Catalysts for sustainable growth.

5. In light of the argument that India has entered a regime of "permanent surpluses", discuss whether the time has come to remove agricultural commodities completely from Essential Commodities Act. (150 Words) 10

Ans: Essential Commodities Act (ECA) was enacted to ensure food-security and farmer-welfare during crisis-hours.

With the country witnessing permanent surpluses in crops like wheat, Rice etc, there are questions being raised against ECA.

• (Why remove ECA):

- ① Surpluses & universal food-security almost attained.
- ② Market-economy has no place for such regulation.
- ③ Compulsions at WTO-negotiations.
- ④ freedom to grow or not to grow.

• ECA - still relevant :-

- ① Still vast populace out of purview of PDS or MDM-schemes.
- ② MSP as a cushion to small & marginal farmers.
- ③ Lack of technology & incentives for diversifying the crop-production.

• Since, the income inequality is growing by the day, ECA holds relevance for time being.

6. The 1988 National Forest Policy (NFP) was visionary in its scope and ambition. However, there is a need for a new forest policy in the current context. Discuss. (150 Words) 10

Ans:-

1988-NFP was a landmark legislation to repeal colonial era statutes & give forest populace the authority to govern their surroundings.

• Visionary :-

(a) Bottom-up forest management (in sync. with 73rd & 74th Amend. Act).

(b) Balancing development & environment.

(c) Role of Gram-Sabhas.

(d) Climate-change taken into consideration.

• Need for a relook :-

(a) new legislations like LARR Act and FRA-2006 call

for relook of NFP 1988.

(b) Newer-challenges like IRWD (water-shed development) .

(c) latest-surveys like forest-survey's give different projection (increase in forest-cover to 23%).

(d) Developmental challenges like Roads (Bharatnala) and infrastructure (CAMPA).

• The Statutes like PESA-Act and the call for greater role to forest-based populace call for relook of 1988-NFP.

7. How does rapid urbanization increases the vulnerability to major disasters?
Explaining with examples, suggest measures to develop disaster-resilient cities. (150 Words) 10

Ans:- According to a report by UNESCO, urbanization is a double edged sword for developing countries like India, in that it can provide opportunities as well as multiply disaster impacts.

- Link

Rapid-urbanization	Disasters
① <u>Increasing ghetto-situation.</u>	→ <u>pandemics</u> e.g.: <u>Slums in Delhi & Mumbai.</u>
② <u>High-rise-buildings.</u>	→ <u>fires</u> (e.g.: <u>Mumbai</u>).
③ <u>Unplanned urbanization.</u>	→ <u>Earthquake effects</u> are exacerbated e.g.: <u>Indonesia's recent earthquakes</u> .
④ <u>Lack of Sanitation & Sewage.</u>	→ <u>Urban-flooding</u> (<u>Chennai, Srinagar</u>)

• measures to develop disaster resilient cities:-

① NDMA-guidelines:-

- ↳ Urban-planning
- ↳ Standby-services (firefighting)
- ↳ Collaboration & Synergy.

② Smart-Cities
↳ planned.

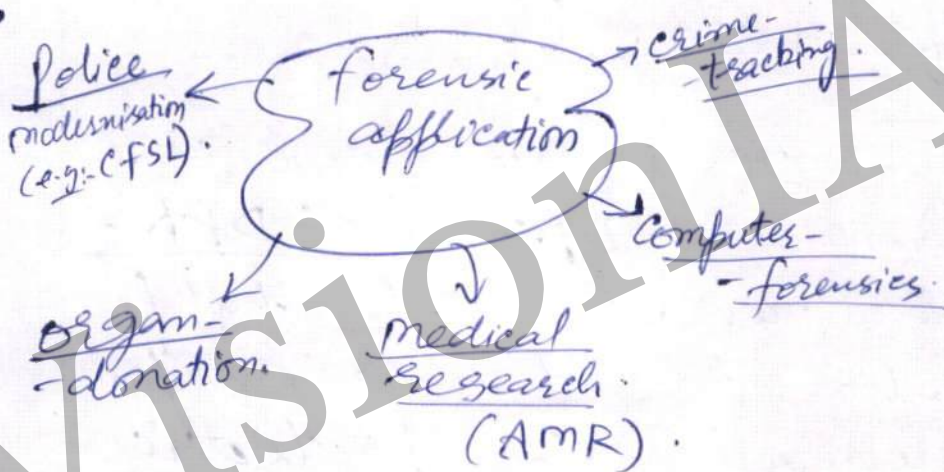
③ Population-mapping & use of GIS-data.

④ Satellite towns e.g:- Noida for Delhi, Navi-Mumbai etc.

Urbanisation has an imp. role to play in growth of GDP (> 6%) (Economic-Survey), so needs proper attention.

8. Explain DNA profiling and highlight its forensic application. Also discuss the significance of DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2018 in this regard. (150 Words) 10

Ans:- DNA profiling refers to use of genomics to determine the identification and bodily features of a specimen for various socio-economic & medical uses.



- Significance of DNA tech. (USA)
Reg. Bill - 2018 :-

⊙ In sync. with privacy concerns

e.g.: Puttaswamy case.

- (b) Focus on 'consent' in ^{cases} terms of DNA-profiling or data-gathering.
- (c) In view of Aadhaar - Biometrics - ensures data - Safety.
- (d) Regulating mushrooming of DNA-profiling clinics.
- (e) Penalties & fines on medical practitioners for unethical use of data.

It is in sync with Europe's GDPR - GDPR - Guidelines & will help India to frame comprehensive Data-protection law.

9. What is meant by the term Blue Water Capabilities? In this context, identify the key measures that have been undertaken to enhance the blue water capabilities of the Indian Navy. (150 Words) 10

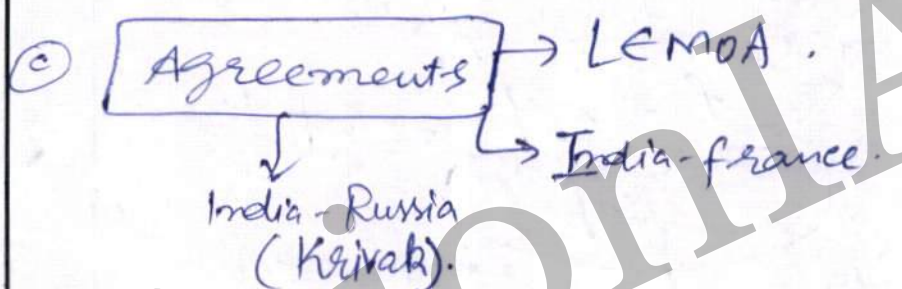
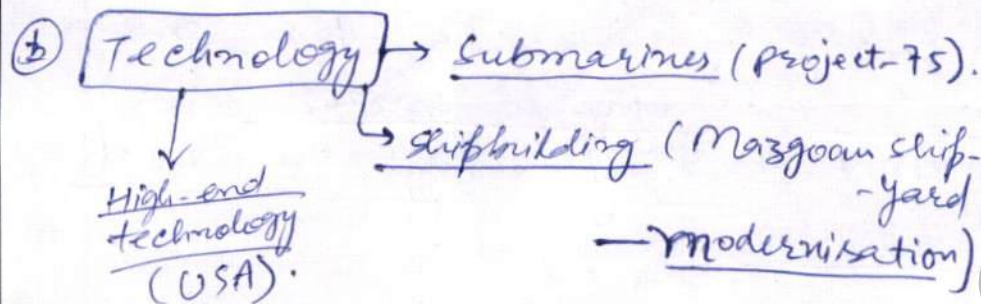
Ans:- According to ^{India's-} Maritime Strategic Review (2015), blue water capabilities are a nation's assets both over-water & under-water to make it self-reliant in naval defence.



Key measure taken:-

- (a) Strategic Policy Review (2015)
- focus on Indian Ocean

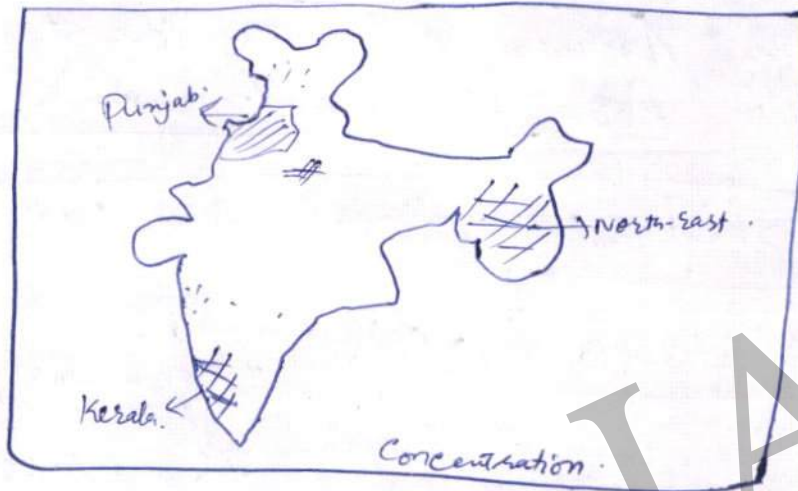
- Region.

Zone of Influence.

India's security is directly dependent on Indian ocean, so Naval self-reliance is vital (Budget-2027-18)

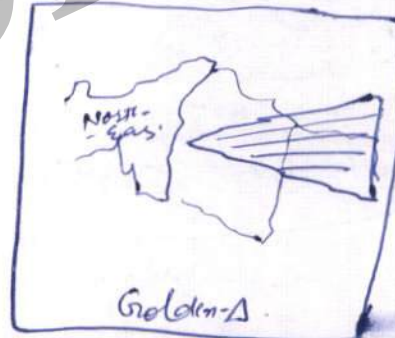
10. Identify the factors that make India vulnerable to drug trafficking? Also discuss the key steps taken to deal with it in our country. (150 Words) 10

Ans:- Drug-trafficking has increased over the past decades [NERB]-especially in border areas.

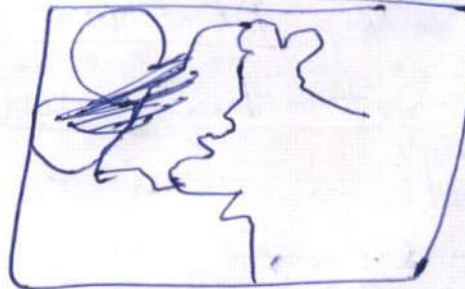


Factors that make India vulnerable:-

- (A) Golden triangle
(East-India)
• Myanmar-Cambodia
& Thailand.

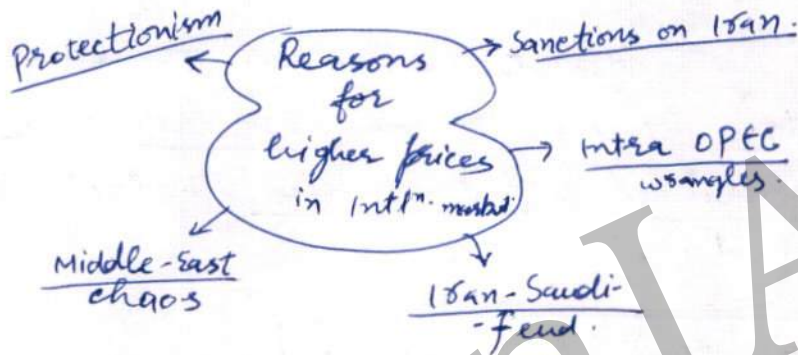


- (B) Golden-crescent
(Afg - Iran + Pak)



11. How do higher global crude oil prices affect the Indian economy? What steps can be taken to gradually insulate India from global oil price volatility in the long term? (250 Words) 15

Ans: Indian imports more than 70% of its oil and natural gas needs with majority portion from volatile middle-east [Economic Survey 2017-18]



Effect of higher oil-prices :-

(a) widening trade-deficit -
e.g:- with Saudi-Arabia, Iraq and Iran (Economic Survey)

(b) Devaluation of Rupee and pressure on foreign exchange

-reserves (currently >\$400bn).

© Inflation - in domestic market & the need for MPC to keep 'conser-
-vation monetary policy'.

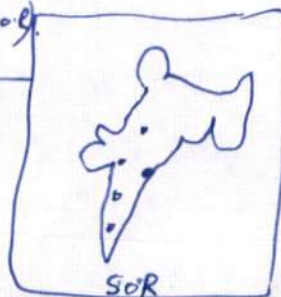
④ Sludged demand especially in auto-
-mobile sector & thus declining
Industrial production.

Apart from these effects, there are political
and societal consequences (strikes
& protests).

Steps to be taken :-

① Bilateral FTAs & BITs with
GCC Countries e.g:- India-UAE-
-Collaboration

② Strategic oil reserves (SoR)
e.g:- Padur, Mangalore



③ Exploring gas alternatives
in the form of Bio-CNG and

- Bio-gas (e.g.: organic farming)
- (d) shifting to Shale-gas (e.g.:
India - US)
- (e) Increasing role of clean-sources
(Solar etc) in India's energy mix.

Steps taken by govern-
-ment like ISA (Int'l. Solar Alliance)
and exploration in K-G-basin &
other coastal areas are good
starts. As Economic-survey
says, decreasing the dependence
on import of oil should be the
immediate goal.

12. Critically discuss the role of private sector in skill development in India in recent years. In this context, what are the measures required to improve oversight as well as financing in the skill development sector?

(250 Words) 15

Ans:- Private Sector ^{especially-} after the LPG-reforms (1991) has contributed to job creation, innovations, skill-development and overall national development (Economic Survey 2016-17).

• Role of private sector in skill development :-

- (a) Recognition of prior-learning -
e.g:- ~~fatty~~ mechanics, electricians -
-thus endorsing informal skill-sector.
- (b) Exposure to latest technology and machinery e.g:- automobile-sector.
- (c) Industry-academia interface helps in skill-education at college & university level.
- (d) In-house or on-job training
e.g:- Apprenticeship - scheme 2016.

- Private sector has not been upto the mark
 - (a) Limited Capacity to absorb the unskilled & skilled-workforce leading to joblessness.
 - (b) Sectoral imbalance - dominated by manufacturing sector.
 - (c) Regional-imbalance - Concentrated in urban areas leading to rural-distress & joblessness.

• Measures needed to improve oversight :-

- (a) Role of NITI Aayog in formulating ranking system for corporates (Competitive skilling).
- (b) collaboration b/w NSDC and NASSCOM, FICCI & CII.
- (c) Use of platforms like e-monitoring - PRAGATI etc.

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• Improving financing :-

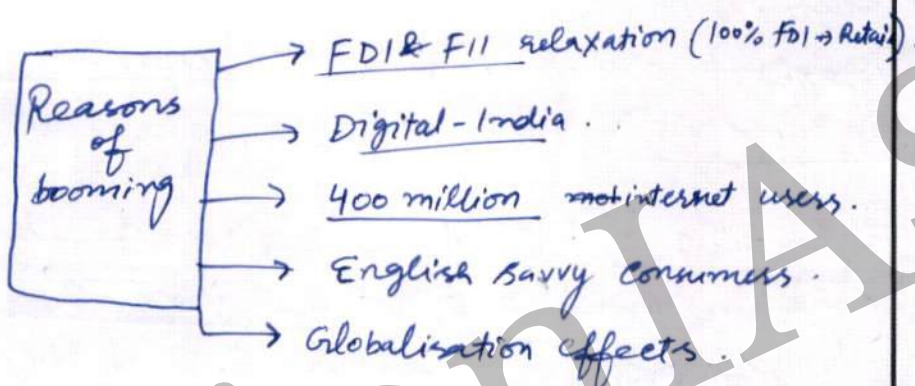
- (a) Tax-breaks & incentives to corporates
(e.g.:- Apprenticeship Scheme).
- (b) mobilising CSR for skill-training.
- (c) Budgetary provisions e.g.:- Skill-Banks (U.P, Bihar) etc.

Govts initiatives like PMKVY
Skill-India etc will be successful
with overrelying private sector
participation (Economic Survey).

13. The e-commerce sector has been booming in India for the last few years. Examine the need for its regulation in light of the recently proposed draft e-commerce policy. Further, identify the challenges that the sector is currently facing. (250 Words) 15

Ans: e-commerce sector contributes to more than 5% to national GDP and employs around 3-million people in backend & forward-linkages (Economic Survey 2017-18).

⊙



The recent e-commerce policy aims at hassle-free Commerce for businesses & fair-service for consumers. By allowing 100% FDI in retail e-commerce, this is seen as a land-mark change.

• Need for Regulation:

- (a) To prevent Collusion & predatory pricing (role of CCI).
- (b) Ensure quality & service delivery (role of F&CCEI for food-products).
- (c) Preventing the interests of small-players & traditional retail-businesses.
- (d) Regulate overseeing mergers & acquisitions (e.g.: Amazon, walmart)
- (e) Balancing privacy with freedom (preventing 'data-colonisation' by foreign e-commerce companies).

• Challenges faced by the sector:

- (a) Complex tax-rules & red-tapism especially at State-level.
- (b) Lack of full-internet penetration ($> 60\%$ population is not out of internet) ~~net~~

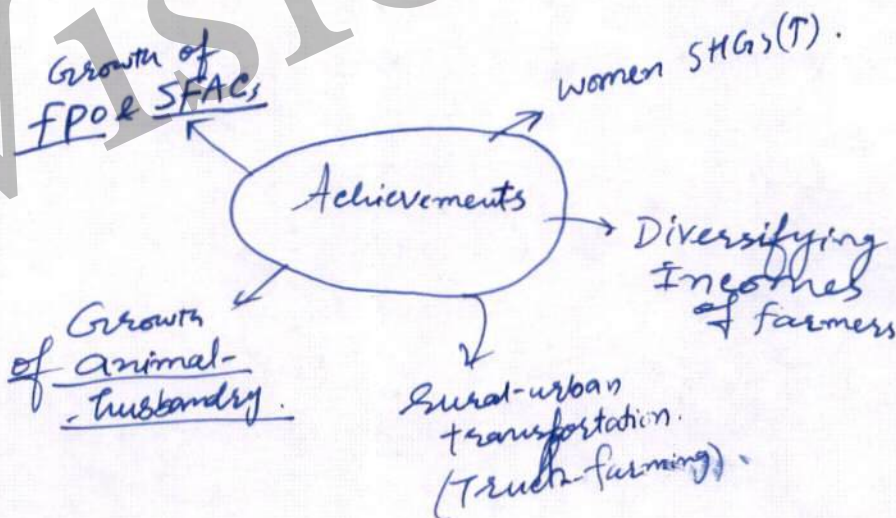
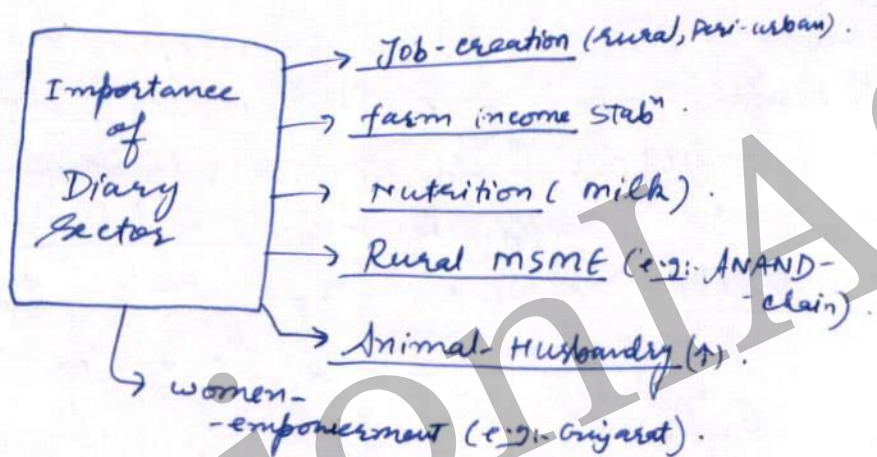
- (c) Predatory pricing by some players.
- (d) Infrastructural hiccups like role of intermittent GPS-signals in case of OLA-cab services.

The steps like Digital India and make in India will go a long way in creating robust e-commerce set-up. To achieve the goals under SDGs (collaboration), all the countries need to coordinate on cyber-security issues to reap the benefits of e-commerce.

14. Explaining the importance, highlight the achievements of dairy sector in India. Examine whether over-production is the reason for the problems being faced by the dairy industry. Give some solutions to address the problems. (250 Words) 15

Ans:

Dairy sector is an important food-processing area ^{that} which is high employment generator and diversifying income & nutritional matrix. [Budget-2017].



Problems faced by Dairy sector:-

- (a) Technological lags e.g. as in New-Zealand & Australia (milk-storing & hygiene).
- (b) Infrastructural deficit (warehouses, cold-storage, vans etc).
- (c) Lack of formal credit - especially in Eastern-India region (Chattisgarh, Jharkhand).
- (d) Dominance by large-farmers & crowding out of small-farmers.
- (e) Cattle-diseases (foot & mouth).

Over-production becomes a problem when there are no cold-storage facilities or no robust market-linkages. Otherwise over-production can be channelled to improve incomes & nutrition in other areas.

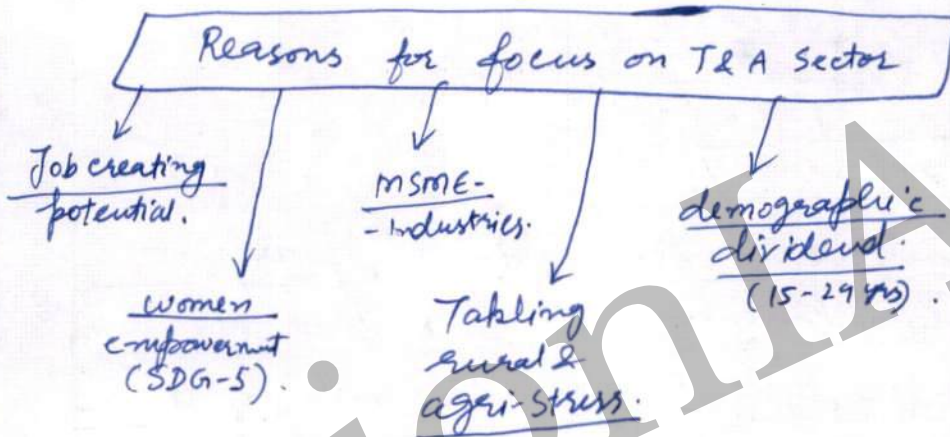
• Solutions :-

- (a) Technical knowhow to farmers to handle cattle-diseases.
- (b) Incentives to small-farmers to keep animals (mixed farming) [Budget-2017-18].
- (c) Credit — through e-banking & Bank-mitras.
- (d) Synergy with ^{Revolution} Blue-economy, SAMPADA and MIDH.

• Keeping in view the 2nd green-revolution in Eastern region, dairy sector becomes vital just as 'White-Revolution' did in 1970's & 80's.

15. There has been a focus on Textile and Apparels industry in India in recent years. Elaborate the potential of this industry and the challenges that lie in achieving it. What steps have been taken in this regard? (250 Words) 15

Ans:- Textiles & apparels sector contributes to substantial amount of job-creation, value-addition & thrust to MSME-industries in both rural & urban areas [Economic Survey].



Potential of the Industry:-

- (a) Pan-India expertise in dealing with garments & clothing - e.g.:-
Kanchipuram → Sarees.
Panipat → Cotton & Woolen.
North-East → Traditional & Tribal wear.

- (b) well-laid down networks of Textile & apparel sector in Tier-II & Tier III cities (Benaras, Ludhiana, Coimbatore, Aurangabad).
- (c) women-empowerment potential & the role of SHGs & NGOs.
- (d) Varied climatic conditions of India so demand for all kinds of wear.
 → woolen → J&K, H.P.
 → cotton → U.P., T.N.

Challenges :-

- (a) obsolete technology at powerlooms & handlooms.
- (b) majority of the units are smaller - in size & in informal sectors.
- (c) lack of insurance & credit-facilities e.g.:- MSME-sector.
- (d) GST-filing challenges & lack of internet-connections.
- (e) Regional-disparity (Concentrated in urban areas).

• Steps taken :-

- (a) msme - sector sofs in GST -
- rate structure.
- (b) Technology - upgrade (machinery).
- (c) Power - sector ^{reinvigoration} collaboration (UDAY
and other reforms).
- (d) Skill - upgradation - (PMKVY, skill -
- banks).
- (e) Thrust to women SHGs e.g. :-
MUDRA - Loans.

• Textiles & apparels sector holds the promise of tapping demographic dividend and dealing with rural distress or by curbing rampant rural to urban migration.

This is important for 'New India vision - 2022'.

16. How do transportation corridors in biodiversity rich areas impact the wildlife? Examine the current policy framework in this regard. Also, suggest measures to minimise the negative effects while balancing the need for development. (250 Words) 15

Ans:- Balancing developmental needs (infrastructure creation) and ecological-concerns is a major challenge that developing countries like India face [UNDP-report].

• Transportation corridors through biodiversity rich areas creates ^{various} ~~the~~ problems like :-

- (a) Displacement of wildlife & their habitats [UNDP].
- (b) Increasing Man-Animal Conflict
e.g:- Karnataka, Assam.
- (c) Ecological-issues e.g:- Bandipur-Tiger-Reserve.
- (d) Killing of animals - by accidents or by culling of animals.
(mob-lynching of animals).

• Current policy is derived by wildlife protection Act 1972, forest-policy and various other State-
-Statutes.

• Current framework is:

(a) Preserving wildlife habitat by
Circumventing sensitive zones.

(b) No Road construction through
National parks, W.L. Sanctuaries.

(c) Role of Buffer-zones in pre-
venting harm to core-zones.

(d) Role of Gram-Sabhas under
PESA-Act 1996 & FRA-2006
in determining developmental
activities.

Measures that can be taken:

(a) Strict enforcement of laws to
protect sensitive ecological zones
like Tiger-Reserves (Code of ATPE)
NTCA).

(b) Diversion of roads using tunnels viaducts - without disturbing animal-corridors e.g:- Elephants in Bandipur & Kaziranga.

(c) Ring-roads and pillar-based fly-overs — to circumvent semi-tive zones.

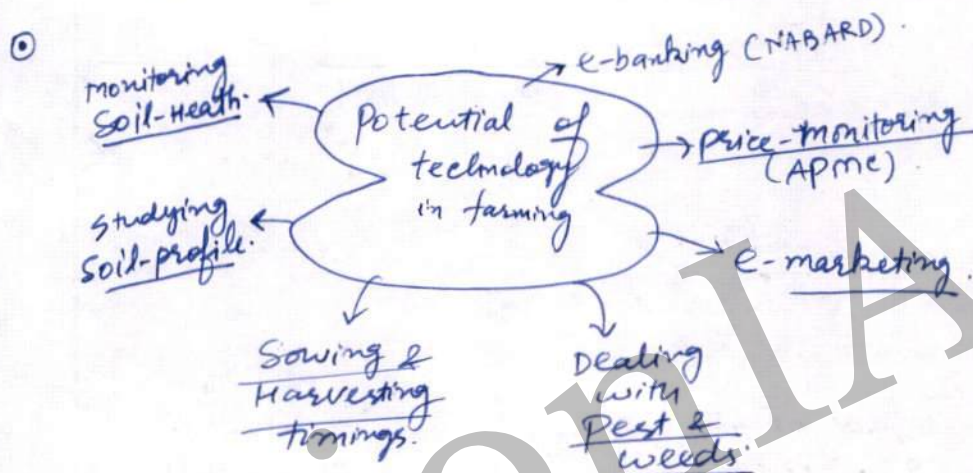
(d) Green-roads and using Camouflage to prevent obstruction to animals.

(e) Dedicated Forest-cadre force to prevent lynching of animals. (DPSP).

Balancing animal rights [DPSP & FD] with developmental exigencies has to be broadbased (role of civil-society) & locals (G-sabha) to make it sustainable.

17. The potential of technology to aid farmers in increasing productivity as well reducing susceptibility to climate change remains underutilized. Identify the reasons for the same and suggest measures to improve technological penetration in agriculture. (250 Words) 15

Ans:- According to FAO, using technology to aid farmers has the potential of tackling hunger & improve nutritional standards.

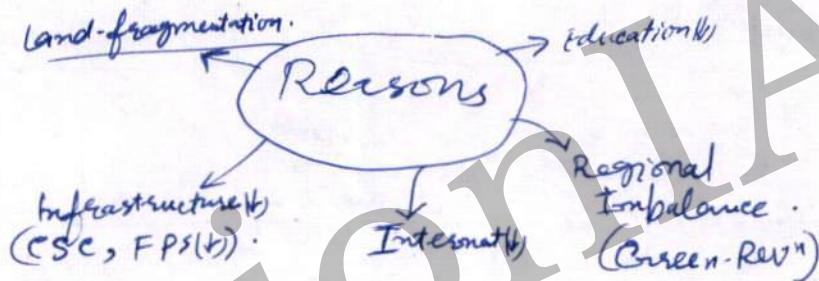


• Reasons of underutilization of Tech.:-

- (a) Illiteracy among rural masses & farmers (higher drop out rates).
- (b) Lack of full internet penetra-
-tion (only 400 million).

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- (c) Lack of faith in technology & over-reliance on physical markets like mandis.
- (d) Lack of e-technology infrastructure like Common-Service-Centres and E-Kiosks.
- (e) Predominance of small-farmers due to land fragmentation (< 3 hectares/farmer - average)



(Steps that can be taken):-

- (a) Tapping the rural educated masses by training & re-skilling them.
- (b) Infrastructure - creation (CSC, kiosks etc).

© PPP-mode in increasing cell-phone & internet-penetration (Bharatnet).

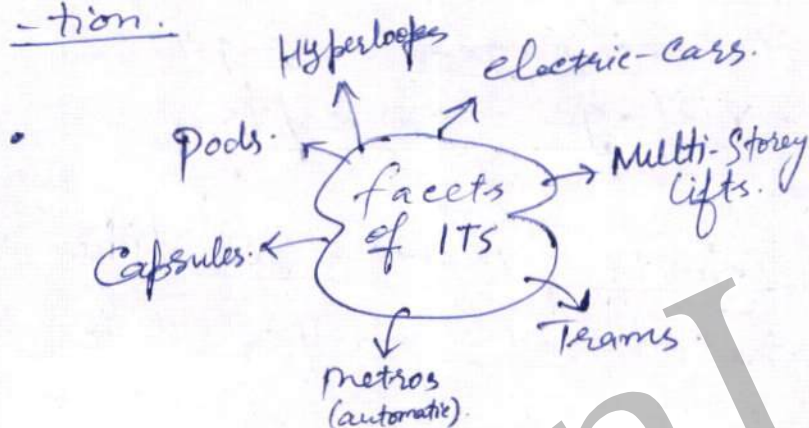
© Role of video-conferencing through e-panchayats.

© Pilot-projects on ISRO-led & owned villages. e.g:- Smart-village-concepts.

Govts' initiatives like MIDH have GIS-enabled technology at its core. Sensitising rural masses & increasing the reach of digital-India-mission could go a long way.

18. What is Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)? Explaining the need of ITS in India, identify the challenges in deploying it. (250 Words) 15

Ans: Intelligent Transport System
(ITS) is ~~the~~ combination of means of transport based on cutting edge technology like driver-less-vehicles and smart-transportation.



• Need of ITS in India:

① To overcome urban-pollution (CPCB) by reducing the no. of Cars on road.

② Part of Smart-City Mission (Smart transportation).

- © Dealing with burgeoning urban population (600 million by 2025).
- © Saving energy (fuel, oil & gas) to save foreign-exchange reserves (currently \$400 bn).
- © Emerge as technology hub by utilising Big-data, AI & machine-learning.

• Challenges :-

- ① Technological Knowhow (dependence) on western countries - USA, Germany).
- ② Infrastructural deficit - e.g. charging, electric cars.
- ③ Regional-imbalance in development.

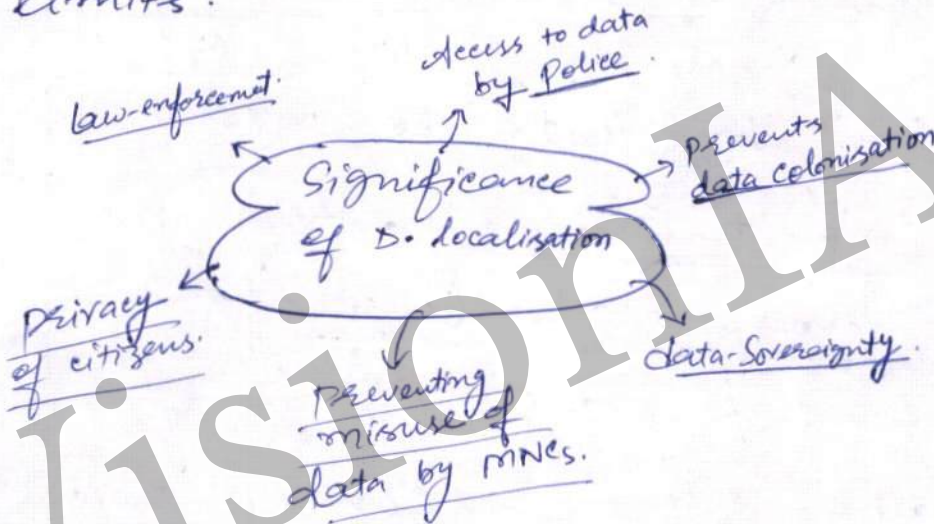
P.T.O.

- (d) funding challenges (e.g. - G.C. fund).
- (e) protectionist policies by west
e.g. - US's withdrawal from Paris
agreement (no-technology transfer).

The programmes like
Electric mobility scheme and the
proposals of hyperloops, pods
& metros (Ahmedabad - Mumbai)
HSR - are good starts but
need funding & proper
planning to succeed.

19. Explain the concept and significance of Data Localisation. Also discuss its limitations in strengthening law enforcement efforts in the context of Srikrishna Committee report and the draft Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018. (250 Words) 15

Ans: Data localisation refers to strict bar on taking data of Indian citizens outside the country by MNCs or (data-localisation - colonisation) and using the data within the legal permissible limits.



- Highlights of Srikrishna Committee report & Data protection Bill :-

① focus on data localisation (curbs on open-ended businesses in data-managing).

- ① upholding privacy (Puttaswamy case).
- ② Exposing data-breach.
- ③ finer & penalties on misuse of data.

• Limitations of data localisation in strengthening law-enforcement:-

- ① Primacy to privacy of individuals (Srikrishna Comm).
- ② only & in extreme & substantial cases of national interest can ~~be~~ data be used.
- ③ 'Consent clause' acting as a major challenge for law-enforcement agencies.
- ④ NO 24x7 access to data of citizens to enforcement agencies.

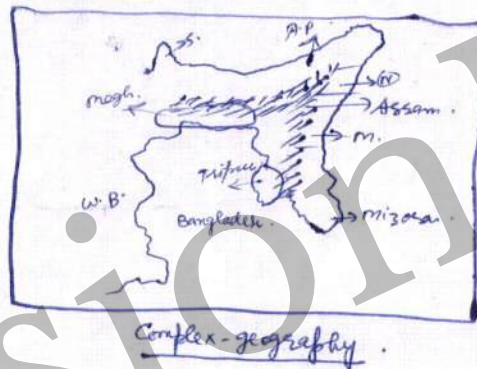
• The recent Aadhaar.

- Bill Controversy will act as
a reason for e-literacy and
ensure 'vigilant citizenry' to
prevent both data Colonisation
& harassment by State machinery
by upholding rights under A-19.

VisionIAS

20. What is the link between illegal immigration and national security? In this context, critically discuss the exercise of creating a National Register of Citizens in Assam. (250 Words) 15

Ans: According to a Group of ministers ^(nom) report - 2001 on illegal immigration from Bangladesh, there has been substantial change in demographics on border areas of Tripura, West-Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya & Mizoram.



• Link b/w illegal immigration and national-security:-

- ① change in demography - direct bearing on national & state-elections.

- (b) fundamentalism in Bangladesh spilling over to North-East.
- (c) Relingya victims ~~can~~ as soft-targets of fundamentalist groups.
- (d) Role of North-East militant groups like NSCN(IM), Bodoland-groups in fomenting trouble.
- (e) Social troubles (lynchings & riots).

• National Register of ^(NR) citizens in Assam is to vet-out illegal immigrants who entered the State of Assam ~~prior~~ after 1971.

• Positives :-

- (a) Solving the problem of illegal immigrants.
- (b) Dealing with Assam insurgency.
- (c) Discouraging *vote-bank-politics.
- (d) Strengthening border controls.
- (e) Protecting genuine citizens.

• Challenges :-

- (a) India-Bangladesh ties in tight spot.
- (b) Inter-State Rivalry (Assam vs WB)
- (c) Against Cooperative federalism (Centre vs W.B)
- (d) fate of illegal-immigrants.
- (e) Social-tensions (Violence in the aftermath).

• Way-forward :-

- (a) Deal ^(Bilateral) with Bangladesh.
- (b) Work-permits to illegal-migrants.
- (c) focusing on 'Act-East Policy'
to create infrastructure
& spur job-creation.

• NRC has to handle
sensitively & prevent any
negative fall-out for a long
& sustainable-solution.