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11 SEP 2016
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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 843)

Name of Candidate	Amol Sheer Singh Bedi	Registration Number	24247
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Date	11 Sept 16
Center	Rajinder Nagar		

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in HINDI and ENGLISH.
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं तथा हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
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.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

All the questions are compulsory and carry 12.5 marks each.

1. Discuss the need for adhering to the road map for fiscal consolidation by fixing the fiscal deficit. Has the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003 served the purpose for which it was envisaged?

राजकोषीय घाटा के निर्धारण के माध्यम से राजकोषीय समेकन (कंमोलिडेशन) के लिए एक रोड मैप का पालन करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। क्या राजकोषीय उत्तरदायित्व एवं बजट प्रबंधन (एफ.आर.बी.एम) अधिनियम, 2003 ने अपनी परिकल्पना के उद्देश्य की पूर्ति की है?

- The FRBM also called as Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, was enacted to ensure overall predictability of government's fiscal expenditure and ensure that government would adhere to overall discipline in both short term & long term.
- The FRBM act, is a phase wise act i.e. it progressively sets targets for government to adhere to basic targets of expenditure.
- It ensures that excessive government borrowing does not "crowd out" private investment in the country by increasing the viable level of interest rates & ensures overall fiscal transparency.
- Acc to the original FRBM, India was to reduce its revenue deficit within 4-5 years to zero and also pledge to reduce the fiscal deficit within a stipulated time period based on MAASTRICHT TREATY guidelines. (3%)

- It did not contain, governments response to various contingencies, which is linked with Global Economic crisis, therefore lacked flexibility.
- During the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, Govt of India had breached the FRBM targets and resorted to Fiscal Expansionary policies, therefore deligitimising the various principles of the Act.
- Similarly, there has always been a pressure on govt to breach FRBM targets for overall expenditure. Therefore, In the Budget, Finance Minister has setup a committee under NK Singh to modify the FRBM Act and introduce a target range rather than a static non flexible limit.

It must be remembered that FRBMACT has been responsible for pressuring govt to adhere to certain pre decided targets. Overall it has enhanced investor confidence and provided transparency in Govt Actions.

On the other side, the Govt has felt that FRBM Act should be made nuanced i.e in line with emerging global conditions and therefore a target approach should be adopted.

2. Public investment in railways has a multiplier effect for the larger economy. Elaborate. What factors have held back the railways despite having a separate budget and considerable resources? In this context, enumerate the relevant recommendations of Bibek Debroy committee?

रेलवे में किए गए सार्वजनिक निवेश का, वृहद् अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए गुणक (मल्टीप्लायर) प्रभाव होता है। विस्तार पूर्वक बताईए। अलग बजट और यथेष्ट संसाधनों के बावजूद कौन से कारकों ने रेलवे को पीछे रखा है? इस संदर्भ में, बिबेक देवरोय समिति की प्रासंगिक अनुशंसाएं बताईए?

* Railways has always been a cornerstone of India's unity and overall development.

Railways as an entity not only serves the purpose of individual travellers, but is also connected with commodity transportation, be it cement, steel, Agricultural goods etc. Railways are also the cheapest source of pan-Indian transportation, providing economical means of transport and therefore is sensitive to various businesses both private & public.

* Despite overall growth in railways sector, it has faced several difficulties to expand itself further due to various reasons

1. Lack of investment in railway sector
2. Lack of sufficient Research and Development in Railways sector.
3. Lack of autonomy of railways to set its own prices. It is heavily regulated by government

4. Huge maintenance cost and surging bill of salaries & pensions in Railways
 5. Lack of growth in distant areas like North East or Central/Hill areas of India.
 6. Rising level of competition from road sector and the reducing cost of Air transport etc
- * Bilek Debroy committee was recently constituted by govt to provide new recommendations for overall sustainability of railways sector.
1. It has proposed that private investment, must be allowed in Railways.
 2. The Railway Department must not involve itself in ancillary services like providing education & schooling, building locomotives, it must concentrate only on its sole role of providing seamless travel through rail.
 3. It has proposed Railways Regulatory authority with relevant autonomy & Jurisprudence to set prices for comprehensive financial gains of railways
 4. It has also proposed, foreign investment in railways sector for bringing innovation & R&D.

Overall, these reforms can prove to be game changer and give new life to Railways sector.

3. "There is a myth that small firms create the most jobs in an economy. The fact is that small firms that grow big create the jobs". In context of the Indian economy what are the factors that prevent firms that start small from growing bigger. What progress has India made in this respect and what other measures are required?

"ऐसा मिथक है कि किमी अर्थव्यवस्था में छोटी फर्मों सर्वाधिक रोजगार पैदा करती हैं। जबकि तथ्य यह है कि वही छोटी फर्मों जो बड़ी फर्मों के रूप में विकसित होती हैं, रोजगार पैदा करती हैं। भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था के संदर्भ में, छोटी फर्मों को बड़ी फर्मों के रूप में विकसित होने से रोकने वाले कारक कौन-से हैं? इस संदर्भ में भारत ने क्या प्रगति की है और कौन-से अन्य उपाय आवश्यक हैं?

- * Raghuram Rajan, in one of the interviews had highlighted that, the governments support measures and subsidies to MSME sector had not provided India, with either enough growth or employment.
- Several people believe that MSMEs have not benefitted India despite proactive government policy to support them. There are several reasons for the same which include 1. Non sophisticated technology 2. Lack of innovations 3. Competition from big industries from abroad 4. Lack of sufficient quality etc
- MSME sector industries, are also totally reliant of government's affirmative action providing favourable tax slabs, subsidised electricity, barriers to protect their interests.

- * In the globalised world, MSME's need to invest heavily in Research & Development, expand their operations, suit themselves to the growing trend and competition, become more efficient.
- * India, has made significant progress in secondary sector. The overall dependence of India in primary sector has reduced, which has been compensated by growth in secondary sector both in terms of employment and share in GDP.
 - There has been modernisation, albeit slow of realisation that if India is to progress forward the sector has to play important role
 - Indian Govt has come up with several policies for benefit of MSME's.
 - ~ Priority Sector lending
 - ~ MUDRA policy for refinancing of loans with CGF
 - ~ SIDBI, Small industry development Bank of India for providing loans at cheap rates
 - ~ Skill Development schemes like Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, Nai Manzil for enhancing human capacity.

On a long term scale, MSME needs to become self
reliant by adopting new technology, expand its
operations, collaborate with foreign companies
to ensure, that India emerges as the Next gen
hub of Manufacturing.

4. Enumerate the reasons why problem of NPAs is more pronounced in the public sector banks as compared to the private sector. Discuss the implications of having high NPAs in an economy. Also list the measures which the government has taken in order to address them

निजी क्षेत्र की तुलना में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंकों में एन.पी.ए. की समस्या अधिक गंभीर होने के कारण बताएं। किसी अर्थव्यवस्था में उच्च एन.पी.ए. के निहितार्थ पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस समस्या से निपटने हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाये गए कदमों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

* NPAs - Non performing Assets, have been high in public sector because of several reasons provided below :

1. The most important reason is - LACK OF SUFFICIENT AUTONOMY and interference of govt in regular day to day lending operations of
2. Lack of understanding of risk associated with lending. Lack of accountability and responsibility fixation.
3. Judicial and legal entangles have severely affected investment in various sectors.
4. Bank's preponderance over investment in backward areas and other PPP investment sectors.
5. Overall slow growth in Export market due to slowdown in Global Growth.

* High NPAs severely affect banking business and financial transactions.

1. Subdued bank's lending to private sector
2. Lack of complete monetary policy transmission
3. Lack of sufficient funds to deal with Basel Norms etc.

4. High interest rates etc

5. Affects the macro-economic stability and investor confidence from abroad in India as a market

* To improve the situation, govt has come up with Indra Dhenukh package for relieving public sector banks from liquidity crunch. It has 7 pronged approach that deals with financial autonomy. Many of the recommendations are therefore inspired from the P.J Nayak Committee report like.

- Appointment
- Bank Board Bureau
- Capitalisation
- Destressing
- Empowerment
- Framework of Accountability

The Economic Survey has also highlighted govt's

approach of Recognition, Reforms Recapitalization etc
for rejuvenating public sector banks

5. Mention the salient features of the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) proposed by the government to reinvigorate private investment in infrastructure sector. How is it an improvement over the EPC model?

अवसंरचना क्षेत्र में निजी निवेश को पुनर्जीवित करने हेतु सरकार द्वारा प्रस्तावित हाइब्रिड एन्युटी मॉडल (एच.ए.एम.) की मुख्य विशेषताओं का उल्लेख कीजिए। कैसे यह ई.पी.सी. मॉडल से बेहतर सुधार (इम्प्रूवमेंट) है?

The Hybrid Annuity Model is a relative mean of EPC Model of and BOT of Model of Public private investment

In a Hybrid Annuity Model, the government provides initial funding for overall sustainability and attractiveness of the project, to the private sector.

Secondly, it then provides payments which are made annually to the private sector much like annuity model after which the private party transfers ownership.

The initial payment made by Govt can be classified under Viability Gap funding, to promote private sector to invest in a particular project & to ensure that there is a level playing field between private & public sector in terms of risks, responsibilities and returns.

Overall, there has been a great enthusiasm by private sector, because it addresses their concern

and also provides public sector a partner to share its risks involved

- * In the traditional EPC Model, all risks & responsibilities were undertaken by public sector

The private party was asked to construct the infrastructure, for which the govt would provide full financing. Therefore it was a deformed way of public private investment.

In the EPC Model, the private sector did not take interest and innovate for the overall sustainability of the project. They were also not keen to innovate & cut costs.

Therefore, the EPC model was detrimental because all the financing had to be done by government without any flexibility of time, as is the case with Hybrid Annuity Model.

In a committee led by Vijay Kelkar, the model of Hybrid Annuity has been recognized as a suitable model of PPP in transport. It has further proposed that initial payment made by

Govt should not be more than 40% of the total cost of the project.

Therefore HAM is certainly next step over EPC, recognizing needs, interests of both private & public sector.

6. Even within the multilateral format of WTO the FTA route has served India well. Comment. How can India effectively deal with the challenges posed by the new mega regional agreements such as TPP?

यहां तक कि डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. के बहुपक्षीय प्रारूप (multilateral format) के अंतर्गत भी भारत को एफ.टी.ए. मार्ग (FTA route) का अच्छा साथ मिला है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। भारत टी.पी.पी. जैसे नये मेगा क्षेत्रीय समझौतों द्वारा प्रस्तुत चुनौतियों में किस प्रकार प्रभावी ढंग से निपट सकता है?

* The WTO format of providing Most Favoured Nation status to other members, enjoying normal trading relations with other countries have helped India's exports.

Under the flexible WTO rules, India has also forged preferential trading policy (PTAs).

Free trading Agreements both (full) & Early Harvesting has helped India understand

Global Markets, increase exports, improve technology, adopt modern techniques and attract FDI's.

• For in just after signing FTA in goods with ASEAN, India's overall trade with countries have relatively grown

• It has given a level playing field to India's manufacturers to become global companies to increase profits. For in Consensus decisions in WTO, use of Compulsory licensing.

* But similarly, there has been increase in overall trade deficit as far India is concerned

Rising imports from other countries, increasing competition in Global Markets, Beggar thy Neighbour policies of devaluing currencies by certain nations has increased India's rising current account deficit especially trade in Goods.

- * Hence there has been both positive and -ve impacts.
- * It is predicted that, India not joining the TPP would reduce its growth by 0.1% annually by 2030

It will lead to trade diversion, with firms shifting their operations in countries like Vietnam, Singapore for taking benefits of Trade.

It will be detrimental to Indian Firms because of custom duties and Tariff barriers, therefore will decrease the attractiveness of product.

- * If India joins TPP, it will severely increase CAD, India will have to bring its manufacturing, much in consonance with international norms related to environment - IPR, labor industry.

It will severely impact India's pharma industry because then it would not be able to use

WTO compliant, compulsory licensing Norms
in case of public health emergencies. It will
seriously affect its role as "pharmacy of the world"
in Generic Medicines.

In the short term as well as Medium term, It
is better for India not to join TPP. But in
long term, India needs to bring reforms to
integrate its economy with Global markets,
adopt IPR reforms, modernise its manufacturing etc.

7. Cashless economy is a global trend now. What are the challenges of achieving a cashless economy in the case of India? How can these challenges be overcome?

नकदीरहित (कैशलेस) अर्थव्यवस्था अब वैश्विक प्रवृत्ति बन गई है। भारत के प्रकरण में नकदीरहित अर्थव्यवस्था प्राप्त करने के समक्ष उत्पन्न होने वाली चुनौतियां क्या हैं? इन चुनौतियों का समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है?

* Cashless economy has become a global trend with the proliferation of information technology and Communication sector (including internet and ^{World wide web} www). Adoption of new technology, revolution in IT sector, use of it by various international organisations and governments have further legitimised use of Cashless economy.

* But there are several challenges

1. Digital Divide : It is present both in terms of areas (rural/urban) & age (old/young)
2. Low proliferation of 'internet in developing countries like India
3. High internet costs in developing countries due to significant costs of investment.
4. Rising issues of cyber security and other issues of cyber frauds have severely impacted people's confidence.

5. Lack of reliable connectivity and Network issues

6. Stagnant beliefs of society for the use of Hard currency over soft currency.

7. Low penetration of ATM's in Tier III towns and rural villages etc

* The above challenges can be overcome by

1. Proactive government policy of supporting Digital revolution
2. Providing incentives to various MNC's to invest in building capabilities of communication in far flung rural areas.
3. Reducing tariff and internet rates
4. Creating awareness and bringing societal change in towards Digital world.
5. Subsidising electronic goods or giving tax incentives.

Overall, there is a tremendous growth potential for Cashless Economy in India to reduce transaction costs, paper costs, improving transparency,

providing spontaneous service. Govt has also
come up with diversified policies like Payment Banks,
Unified Payment Interface etc to usher cashless
Economy.

8. Abysmal level of formally skilled workers in Indian economy, as indicated by the Labour Bureau Report 2014, is a cause of concern. What are the factors responsible for such a scenario? Also, examine the measures taken by the government in recent years to address the relevant concerns.

श्रम ब्यूरो रिपोर्ट 2014 द्वारा यथा इंगित, भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में औपचारिक रूप से कुशल श्रमिकों का अति निम्न (Abysmal) स्तर, चिंता का कारण है। ऐसे परिदृश्य के लिए उत्तरदायी कारक कौन-से हैं? साथ ही, प्रासंगिक चिंताओं को दूर करने हेतु हाल के वर्षों में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

* The Labour Bureau report has highlighted the appalling condition of labour deficiency in skills which has severe impact in overall productivity and sustainability of Indian businesses

The factors responsible for such a scenario are.

1. Lack of Basic Education and Literacy.
2. Shift of Labour directly from agriculture to industry during lean seasons. The labour generally doesn't have recognised skills, neither he/she invests because of seasonal nature of employment.
3. Rise of Casual Labour.
4. Large number of unskilled labourers in women especially because of societal neglect and preferences.

- Lack of sufficient gains on investment in human capacities. The need of skilled labour is very less compared to Manual unskilled labour.

- Lack of private sector investment in building human resource or training of individuals.

* In the recent years, the govt has come up with several schemes like

1. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana
2. Nayi Manzil by Minorities Ministry.
3. Udaan
4. Apprentice Induction Yojana by Labour industry

Overall, Govt has recognized the need to skill Indian labour, much in consonance with growing needs and requirements of Global world.

It has further promised a scholarship of Rs 8,000 to those who successfully complete the training further strengthening its objective of skill India. These efforts are likely to bring new changes

and provide skill to unskilled and a provision
of skilled training

9. In the 10 years of its existence MGNREGA has won laurels as well as attracted criticism. Comment. What changes are required for the scheme to be relevant in the current scenario.

अपने अस्तित्व के 10 वर्षों में मनरेगा ने ख्याति अर्जन के साथ ही आलोचनाएं भी झेली है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। वर्तमान परिदृश्य में योजना को प्रासंगिक बनाने के लिए कौन से परिवर्तनों की आवश्यकता है?

* MGNREGA, has changed the approach from welfare based model to rights based model of providing benefits and social security to people

It has been a successful endeavour, in fulfilling its aim of greater economic prosperity of people from rural areas, providing them with the hope of self sufficiency in times of rural stress like drought etc.

* On the other side the results of MGNREGA have been contested by many because it has failed to address long term employment to rural people

There is lack of transparency and deficiency of uniform results. In some states, people have gained meaningful employment for a period of 120 days while in other states the results have been dismal.

• It is further criticised because it has not resulted in creating useful infrastructure, only resulted in widening country's deficit of creating rural inflation. There is widespread corruption, duplication, and lack of suitable outcomes.

✗ To become relevant in current scenario, MGNREGA has to create useful employment i.e.

- 1) There must be creation of useful infrastructure
- 2) Provide assured employment of 120 days uniformly in all areas of country to relieve rural stress.

• Similarly, we need to check widespread nepotism & corruption in MGNREGA

• Change strategy from top down to Bottom up for effective public participation.

The Govt's support for MGNREGA has also not been complete. A total Rs 38,500 crore will be spent on MGNREGA in the coming budget, but it has not factored rising inflation over the years.

* The wages given to poor are notified wages which are much less than ~~the~~ minimum wages. Inflation costs must be factored in as well.

Overall Govt's proactive support is required to make MGNREGS successful. If implemented in a right way, there due it can address several dimensions of rural poverty.

10. Power sector reforms, crucial as they are, have remained elusive. Discuss the reasons for their failure. How far can the UDAY scheme address the issues concerning DISCOMS and improve the entire power sector value chain?

विजली क्षेत्र में सुधार अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण होने के बावजूद दुष्प्राप्य बने हुए हैं। इनकी विफलता के कारणों पर चर्चा कीजिए। उदय (UDAY) योजना डिस्कॉम (DISCOMS) से संबंधित समस्याओं को किस सीमा तक समाधान कर सकती है और सम्पूर्ण विद्युत क्षेत्रक मूल्य श्रृंखला (power sector value chain) में कैसे सुधार ला सकती है?

* UDAY - Ujwale Discom Assurance Yojana is a proactive government reform to address problems faced by it in current scenario.

* Earlier reforms did not yield results because of several reasons

1. Lack of understanding of power sector & its problems
2. Inadequate govt's understanding of Distribution sector which suffers from
 - Liquidity crunch
 - High input costs
 - Responsibility of investment to ensure well connected grids & last mile connectivity and availability of power
3. High AT&C losses faced by Distribution companies.
4. High cost of Maintenance of grids faced by Distribution sector.

- * VDAY, also holds the promise for bringing change in current scenario. Various provisions of VDAY include:
1. State govt will take over 75% of Debt of Distribution companies. It will restructure their existing loans and provide credit at cheap rates (i.e. from 14-15% to 8-9%.)
 2. The companies will be barred from taking short term loans directly from markets.
 3. Distribution companies will have to cut down their Aggregate technical & Commercial losses
 4. They will have to break even by 2018-2019
 5. They will have to invest further to ensure overall connectivity of Distributed Electricity Networks.
- * Thus VDAY, puts pressure on Distribution companies to adopt corrective actions for power sector reforms. It can prove to be a landmark policy, if adopted with right approach.

11. Market volatility and vulnerability to weather are the major issues facing Indian agriculture. Elaborate. In this regard, critically examine the importance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana vis-a-vis earlier insurance schemes in addressing the problems of Indian agriculture.

बाजार की अस्थिरता और मौसम के प्रति सुभेद्यता (vulnerability to weather) भारतीय कृषि के समक्ष बड़ी समस्याएं हैं। वर्णन कीजिए। इस संबंध में भारतीय कृषि की समस्याओं का समाधान करने के संदर्भ में पूर्व की बीमा योजनाओं की तुलना में प्रधानमंत्री फसल बीमा योजना के महत्व का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

* India has in past adopted various policy frameworks to address the insurance concern of farmers in response to calamities and disasters like cyclones, floods etc. Schemes like NAIS National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, MNAIS Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme have failed to address genuine problems of farmer sector.

* The insurance premiums charged were relatively high, also it was far difficult for farmer to prove the loss, which was genuinely calculated by private insurance companies.

The Earlier reforms also did not have insurance for post harvest losses and did not genuinely address farmer's concerns.

* Major issues like Market Volatility & Vulnerability

continue to plague Indian agriculture. Lack of Govt support for crops other than wheat, rice severely affects Diversified crop growth etc.
 → Vulnerability to weather conditions also severely impacts farmer's security of ^{extreme} profits etc.

* The newly launched PMFBY, has addressed several of farmer's concerns

1. Insurance premium of only 2% for Kharif crops, 1.5% for Rabi crops, 5% for Horticulture crops etc
2. Risk cover of more than 90% will be ensured
3. Post harvest losses would also be covered
4. A new framework of assessing the total loss has also been adopted to provide genuine analysis of net returns to farmer in case of crop destruction.
5. Penetration of scheme would be more than 80% of farmers to provide real gains to farmer community.

a) The new scheme can play an integral role in addressing ^{farmer's} ~~govt's~~ concerns of insurance of their

crops.

The scheme can be further improved by addressing crop destruction due to animals etc

12. The Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) is a step forward from the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). Compare the two policies and elaborate how HELP can encourage investment in the hydrocarbon sector as well as curtail India's export dependence?

हाइड्रोकार्बन एक्सप्लोरेशन (अन्वेषण) लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी (नीति) [HELP], न्यू एक्सप्लोरेशन लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी (NELP) से एक कदम आगे है। दोनों नीतियों की तुलना कीजिए और वर्णन कीजिए कि हाइड्रोकार्बन क्षेत्र में निवेश को प्रोत्साहित करने के साथ ही आयात पर भारत की निर्भरता कम करने में HELP किस प्रकार सहायता प्रदान सकता है?

* A new policy HELP has been proposed to take over from NELP to provide new life to hydrocarbon exploration in India. Many of their previous issues have been addressed.

1. HELP is based on open acreage, which means that the auctioneers (private parties) will get to extract various kinds of hydrocarbons.

In the earlier policies different licenses were required to extract different hydrocarbons, impacting "ease of doing business" and further complicating legal issues.

2. HELP is based on Revenue sharing arrangement NELP was based on profit sharing arrangement.

3. In HELP, companies can auction for any of the existing blocks without they being specifically listed by Govt. This is in contrast to NELP.

4. In HELP companies would auction by addressing the total amount of revenue percentage, they would share with govt. In Nelp companies first recovered their extraction costs, (which were very subjective and difficult to account) before sharing it with govt.
5. HELP reduces litigation entanglements & cost and ushers in cooperative partnership.
- * Therefore, it will expand exploration of oil and hydrocarbon fields in India, enhancing the extraction and intensifying search for hydrocarbons.
- It will hence curtail India's dependence on foreign oil and gas for meeting its needs.

13. Although equal land ownership rights are essential for the economic empowerment of women, these rights are often overlooked. Discuss. What steps have been taken by the government to ensure land rights for women?

यद्यपि समान भूमि स्वामित्व अधिकार महिलाओं के आर्थिक सशक्तिकरण के लिए आवश्यक हैं परन्तु इन अधिकारों की प्रायः अनदेखी की जाती रही है। चर्चा कीजिए। महिलाओं के लिए भूमि अधिकार सुनिश्चित करने हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

- * To address economic independence of women, equal land ownership is very integral for a just and fair society.
- > Many scholars of Feminist studies, (primarily Marxist feminists) believe that economic emancipation of women is must to relieve discrimination in society. Among economic empowerment strategies, providing equal land ownership rights are must ^{why these}
- There are several reasons ~ are often overlooked.
1. Lack of concern for women issues
 2. Patriarchal value system
 3. Historical reasons that support discrimination of women. For ex. Hindu law looks like Mitakshra that deny property to women
 4. Fear of distribution / division of Land holdings.
 5. Cultural reasons ~ Like Dowry is considered as women's property rather than Land holdings.

- Govt has taken cognizance of the discriminatory status of women. It has therefore amended Hindu property - Marriage laws that are against inheritance of property by women. (2005 Act)
- Supreme Court in various Judgements have also addressed that, women should be given right to property much in similarity to their male siblings.
- Govt has also attempted to create widespread awareness of lack of ^{concern of} women's economic interests in society.
- * Therefore, it is important for government to bring change in social mindset of people. Take affirmative action for safeguarding property rights of women.

14. Micro irrigation methods would not only lead to increased productivity but also conservation of water. Enumerating the different methods of micro irrigation, identify the bottlenecks in their implementation and benefits that can accrue once they are implemented.

सूक्ष्म सिंचाई पद्धतियों में न केवल उत्पादकता बढ़ेगी बल्कि जल संरक्षण भी होगा। सूक्ष्म सिंचाई की विभिन्न पद्धतियों को गिनाते हुए उनके कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली बाधाओं एवं उनके कार्यान्वयन में प्राप्त हो सकने वाले लाभों की पहचान कीजिए।

* Micro Irrigation techniques have become important to address, the growing shortage of sufficient rains due to climate change in various parts of the country. It can address, some of the concerns in areas where there ~~are~~ is no permanent irrigation infrastructure & where farmers depend on rain.

- * Micro Irrigation is popularly of 2 types
1. Drip irrigation
 2. Sprinkler irrigation

Both these systems, are better techniques than traditional Flood irrigation that consumes huge quantities of water.

* In Drip irrigation, water is poured directly at the place of roots to address water shortage issues.

In sprinkler, water is sprinkled on the crops.

for judicious use of water.

BENEFITS (ONCE they are implemented)

- * Micro Irrigation also leads to reduction in weeds, preventing soil erosion & addressing problem of soil salinity.
- It will also lead to effective use of water & reduce exploitation of ground water.
- * But there are several bottlenecks in implementation
 - Some crops inherently require standing water, for ex rice, where micro irrigation strategies cannot be employed
 - Many farmers despite present in water deficient areas, choose to grow high water^{usage} crops.
 - There is a need to diversify crops
 - Lack of proactive government policy to distribute microirrigation kits at reasonable rates to people
 - Lack of farmer awareness regarding benefits of Micro Irrigation.
- Overall, Micro irrigation techniques have become very popular in countries like Israel, which has lead to a huge production of dates, palms
- India needs to adopt the same technology to address the concerns of present scenario.

15. It has been argued that the Nutrient based subsidy (NBS) scheme launched in 2010 has created more problems than it intended to solve. Examine. What measures are required to address concerns arising out of the fertilizer subsidy policy in India?

ऐसी दलीलें दी जाती रही हैं कि वर्ष 2010 में आरंभ की गई पोषक तत्व आधारित सब्सिडी (एन.बी.एस.) योजना ने समस्याओं के समाधान के बजाए कहीं अधिक समस्याएँ उत्पन्न की हैं। परीक्षण कीजिए। भारत में उर्वरक सब्सिडी नीति से उत्पन्न चिन्ताओं का समाधान करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

* Nutrient based subsidy Model has created severe problems

1. It was introduced to ^{reduce} ~~produce~~ government's subsidy on fertilizers

2. It also set on an objective of promoting optimum benefits of nutrients (fertilizers) based on their nutrient value.

* Nutrient based subsidy Model was only introduced in only certain sectors like based Nutrients like Potash, DAP - Di Ammonium Phosphate and other ancillary fertilizers

Urea, the most important fertilizer continued with cost based subsidy Model

* The consequences of the policy meant that urea was imported in huge quantities and was possibly diverted from farming sector to

Industry sector

- * Acc to Economic Survey, the benefit of ~~Urea~~ Nutrient based subsidy model has been directly or indirectly to well off farmers at the cost of poor farmers.
- * For sound policy on Fertilizer subsidy, the following policy decisions could be taken.
 1. Progressive subsidy Model could be adopted where rich farmers would pay more for their share over poor farmers
 2. Strict controls and regulations to ensure that fertilizers especially Urea do not get diverted for industrial purposes, creating shortage for farming sector.
 3. Urea and other subsidies are imported from other countries by 3 to 4 firms. This leads to cartelization and high cost of fertilizer import.
 4. Use of Neem Coated Urea, to check use of Urea for industrial purposes
 5. Action against hoarding and those involved in

Black Markt

thus there is a need to make fertilizer subsidy
more economically inclusive.

16. The success of "Operation Flood" proves that thoughtful intervention in the livestock sector has the potential of acting as a growth engine for the agriculture sector and rural economy. In light of this, examine the potential of the livestock sector and the challenges it faces. Also enumerate the steps taken by the government in recent years to leverage the potential of this sector.

"ऑपरेशन फ्लड" की सफलता से मिद्ध होता है कि पशुधन क्षेत्र (लाइवस्टॉक सेक्टर) के लिए उठाए जाने वाले विचारशील कदमों में कृषि क्षेत्र एवं ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था हेतु विकास इंजन के रूप में कार्य करने की क्षमता है। इस तथ्य के आलोक में, पशुधन क्षेत्र की क्षमताओं एवं उसके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही, सरकार द्वारा हाल के वर्षों में इस क्षेत्र की क्षमता का लाभ प्राप्त करने हेतु उठाए गए कदमों को गिन डिए।

- * The operation "Flood" signifies India's achievements in creating suitable ecosystem / environment for growth in the Milk production and related goods. Due to operation flood, India's milk consumption is higher than world's average.
- * Livestock sector can provide benefits to people in various ways.
 - For consumers, it addresses their nutritional security concerns. Milk contains high volume of fat, calcium etc.
 - For farmers, it is a source of augmenting their production resources. They can create alternative sources of income.
 - For food processing industry, it provides raw material to produce diversified products for changing lifestyles.

Challenges

1. Lack of government support in modernising traditional livestock sector
2. Lack of Grazing grounds, impacting for livestock
3. Livestock sector is not arranged on scientific line
4. Mining of urea and other malpractices may severely impact the growth of sector in long run

To give leverage to livestock sector, Indian govt has taken innovative steps

- Gokal Mission : For production & breeding of top quality cows and buffaloes for milk
- Protecting cows from rampant livestock diseases like Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
- Creating awareness regarding use of livestock along with traditional farming
- Use of livestock waste as fertilizer for Organic farming

India is the world's largest producer of milk. It has the largest number of cows/buffaloes, therefore

it requires proactive government policy in
regulating livestock sector.

17. What are the twin objectives of government food procurement policy in India? Discuss the instruments of this policy. Do you think there is an urgent need for rationalization of MSP policy in India?

भारत में सरकारी खाद्य खरीद (अधिप्राप्ति) नीति के दोहरे उद्देश्य क्या हैं? इस नीति के साधनों पर चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आप यह मानते हैं कि भारत में न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (एम.एस.पी.) नीति को तत्काल युक्तिमंगत बनाये जाने की आवश्यकता है?

* Twin policy objective of the Govt's food procurement policy includes

1. Stable prices of crops (cereal), providing food security and regulating the market to ensure that food prices do not go high and is well within the reach of common man

2. Also, considering the interests of farmers by providing assured price of their crops which provide security to farmers and protection from volatile international market prices

These policy objective hope to create an optimum price of cereal goods which are mutually beneficial for farmers as well as buyers.

* The policy instruments of MSP can be used to promote growth of specific goods. For ex govt has increased the MSP of pulses by Rs 450 per tonne, to signify that farmers who would grow

pulses would be given assured arience
This MSP, plays an indicative role in
promoting cultivation of specific crops

* There are 2 schools of thought regarding govt's
policy of providing MSP's

1. The first school justifies government's proactive
policy of declaring MSP, because it provides
security to farmers as well as stable price for
consumers

2. The second school, criticise government's policy
because it increases govt's burden. They believe
that Farmer's interest could be better addressed
by Free market where everything is decided
on demand & supply

→ Hence we can say that, after factoring in
arguments that MSP remains the keystone of
govt's intervention in Agriculture. It has high
relative advantages compared to downpoints.

* Govt can modify MSP policy to factor in
other important crops like pulses, cash crops
to promote their cultivation.

In the^a country of, where 40 crores live under constraints of meeting their needs of nutritional security, MSP can play important role in meeting these challenges

18. Discuss the potential of Food Processing Industry with regards to employment generation in India. What are the key impediments which need to be overcome before the sector can become internationally competitive and achieve high growth?

भारत में रोजगार सृजन करने के संबंध में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग की संभावनाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। वे प्रमुख बाधाएँ कौन-सी हैं जिन्हें इस क्षेत्र को अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर प्रतिस्पर्धी बनाने एवं उच्च विकास प्राप्त करने हेतु दूर किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

- * Food processing industry in India, has not seen relative growth as other sectors. While there has been significant growth in Agricultural sector and production, India's ability of processing food and adding value to it remains a problem.
- Food processing industry can have spilling effect in creating employment in India.
 1. Food processing industry is linked with several other sectors, For ex Agriculture, ~~Electricity~~ ~~Electricity~~ as its main raw material
 2. It requires heavy capital investment, and therefore requires new technology to produce specialised food products. It creates employment opportunities ~~for~~ by enhancing use of Research & Development
 3. With the diversified personal interests and rise in corporate brands in food, people's preferences have changed. For ex Frozen food, ~~and~~

because of changing lifestyles.

• It ultimately creates demand for other sectors.
For ex Electricity, Polyethylene industry,
Refrigeration etc

* Major impediments to its growth.

1. Lack of proactive government policy.
2. Lack of popular domestic brands
3. High capital requirements of Food processing industry.
4. International competition from established brands

Certainly, there is huge potential for the growth of this sector, if it is supported by Govt.

With the changing lifestyles and promotion of Western values - processed food market has continued to increase

there is a need to address and retain benefit from this opportunity

19. Mixed farming for the resource poor farmer is mostly a poverty induced option. Comment. What role can the government play to help farmers realise the potential from mixed farming.

संसाधनहीन निर्धन किसानों के लिए मिश्रित कृषि मुख्य रूप से निर्धनता प्रेरित विकल्प है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। मिश्रित कृषि की संभावनाओं को साकार करने हेतु, सरकार किसानों का सहयोग करने में क्या भूमिका निभा सकती है ?

* Mixed farming involves both cultivation of crops and managing livestock simultaneously, keeping in mind the convergence of needs of both the activities.

For poor farmers with marginal lands, it becomes difficult for them to depend solely on cultivation of crops. The need for nutritional security through livestock, cropping & cultivation of crops via livestock and in turn marginal land holdings providing grazing opportunities to livestock. - COMPLEX INTERLINKAGE

Thus, because of overall interlinkage of crops cultivation & livestock - it becomes a poverty induced option.

Mixed farming provides opportunity to augment resources from small land holdings.

* Govt can provide medicines to farmers for their livestock at a cheap cost

- * Govt can create awareness among people regarding the use of mixed farming in alleviating poverty and augmenting income.
- * Govt can provide knowledge based on scientific lies to farmers for augmenting their profit.
- * It can provide market for goods produced by using Natural fertilizers (Derived from livestock)
 - Organic farming, products for domestic & international market

Mixed farming has tremendous potential in providing secondary sources of livelihood to poor farmers.

20. What do you understand by cropping pattern? What are the factors that influence the cropping pattern in India? Is there a need to change the cropping pattern in the country keeping the agro-ecological concerns in mind?

फसल प्रतिरूप (क्रॉपिंग पैटर्न) से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत में फसल प्रतिरूप को प्रभावित करने वाले कारक कौन से हैं? कृषि-पारिस्थितिकी चिंताओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या देश में फसल प्रतिरूप को परिवर्तित करने की आवश्यकता है?

Cropping Pattern : It can be defined as comprehensive ~~and~~ ^{pattern} of cultivation of crops, based on seasonal preferences, ecological preferences and regional preferences. It means periodic ~~table~~ of pattern of crop cultivation & its harvesting. ~~The~~

* The cropping pattern is largely determined by climatic, Ecological, Regional geographical dimensions.

For ex some parts of India has 2 established seasons in cropping pattern while some have 3 cropping seasons

→ Cropping pattern in India are largely based on seasonal & climatic dimensions.

Cropping Pattern: It can be defined as a way through which farmers grow their crops, it involves all the comprehensive techniques starting from cultivation of crops (including intensive/ extensive), culturing of crops (Multiculture/ Monoculture) keeping in mind the regional agricultural, ecological preferences etc and ending with harvesting of crops.

- * Cropping patterns in World are based on agricultural preferences
 - For example traditional tribal people grow Multi culture cropping as opposed to monocultured cropping patterns.
 - Intensive / Extensive cropping patterns:
 - Based on size of Land holdings farmers use either intensive or extensive patterns.
 - Seasonal influence in growing crops
 - Regional - Geographical factors on growth of crops. Farmers on Hilly Areas employ subsistence cropping pattern

- * Because of changing nature of climatic conditions due to anthropogenic activities due regard has to be given to climate change
 - * Cropping patterns, should take into consideration weather and Ecological factors
 - * For eg. cultivation of pulses after certain time period can help soil gain fertility
 - * Intensive cropping patterns can affect fertility of soil in long run
 - * Agro-Ecological concerns like natural threats to crops must also be given due importance.
- For an ~~rice~~ sugarcane in areas of Marathwada can take cause of shortage of water for other usage. Thus cropping pattern are essential for overall sustainability of agriculture.