



VISIONIAS

INSPIRING INNOVATION

ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-III)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-III) (4512)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: 250

सामान्य अनुदेश

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

General Instructions

This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 00392450

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : ABHISMAN KHANND

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख
Date

27/07/25

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-III) GENERAL STUDIES (Paper III)

केंद्र
Centre

GUWAHATI

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर
Invigilator's Signature

	महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।	Important Instructions Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.
1	(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। (ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।	(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates. (b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet
2	अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।	Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.
3	परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।	Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.
4	उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।	Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
5	उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।	Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
6	प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।	Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.
7	प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।	Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.
8	यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।	If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use	कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use
परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर Signature of Examiner(s)	

प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए)/ Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))

प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks		प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks	
1			11		
2			12		
3			13		
4			14		
5			15		
6			16		
7			17		
8			18		
9			19		
10			20		
उप-योग (A) Subtotal (A)			उप-योग (B) Subtotal (B)		
सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B)					



VISIONIAS

INSPIRING INNOVATION

ABHYAAS MAINS

सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-III)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-III) (4512)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे
Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250
Maximum Marks: **250**

प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

कुल बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो हिंदी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

There are **TWENTY** questions printed both in **HINDI** and in **ENGLISH**.

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

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 a medium other than the authorized one.

Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.

Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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.

All the Best

1.

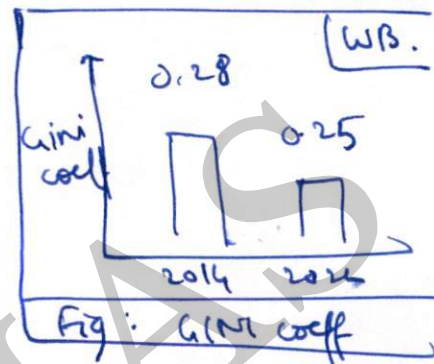
पिछले दशक में भारत की समावेशी आर्थिक संवृद्धि में योगदान देने वाले कारकों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Analyse the factors that have contributed to India's inclusive economic growth in the past decade. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Recently, World Bank's report highlighted that India has reduced Gini coefficient, making it the (4th) most equal country.



Factors contributing to inclusive growth

1. Poverty alleviation - Nearly (135) million lifted out of poverty [NRI, Aajog]
(Eg) MGNREGA, etc.
2. Affordable housing - through PM Awas Yojana, EWSAHH scheme etc.
3. Financial inclusion - banking penetration increased from 54% (2014) to 84% (2017)
(Eg) JAM trinity.
4. Health expenditure - through insurance schemes, improving health infrastructure

etc. (Eg) PMJAY, ASKUM etc → reduced
cost of pocket expenditure from (591) to
(287). (NHFE-5).

5. Tribal upliftment - through outreach
programs (Eg) PMJANMAN, Van Dhan Yojana.

6. Reducing regional backwardness
(Eg) through Aspirational Districts Program.

Challenges

1. Nearly (11%) of population below Multidimensional Poverty [NITI].
2. < (5%) below extreme poverty.

Way forward

1. Cluster based saturation of schemes
2. Quasi-UBI (E-12)
3. Conditional cash transfer (Philippines Model)

Thus poverty as the 'worst' form
of violence needs to be eradicated to
achieve 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas'.

2.

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक के अधिशेष हस्तांतरण सरकार को अत्यंत आवश्यक राजकोषीय राहत प्रदान करते हैं, फिर भी ये चुनौतियों से रहित नहीं हैं। आर.बी.आई. द्वारा सरकार को किए गए अधिशेष हस्तांतरण के निहितार्थों का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

The Reserve Bank of India's surplus transfers offer the government much-needed fiscal space, yet they are not without challenges. Critically examine the implications of the RBI's surplus transfers to the government. (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

10

Reserve Bank transfers surplus to states
through Ways and Means Advances and
other means under RBI Act.

[Implications of surplus transfers]

1. Augments state and central revenue
generation from taxes.
2. Helps reduce debt of govt.
(Eg) National avg of (28%) debt.
3. Reduces the deficit of tax collection
(Eg) (11%) tax to GDP ratio for Union govt.
4. Funds welfare measures and schemes.
(Eg) PM KISAN, MGNREGA etc.
5. Reduced govt dependency on external
borrowings → reduces currency volatility.

Challenges

1. Moral hazards → cultivates poor culture of fiscal discipline.
2. Against the spirit of FRBM Act → proposed to reduce govt dependence on RBI.
3. Discourages good performing states.
(Eg) Southern states.
4. Mark of poor fiscal prudence.
5. Discourages tax reforms like GST and income tax reforms.

Way forward

1. Promote only during 'Black Swan' events. (Eg) COVID.
2. RBI surplus can be used for new financial innovation like R-E, ONDC etc.

In this regard, Primal Jahan

Committee recommendations may be looked into for fiscal discipline.

3.

प्रथम राष्ट्रीय मुद्रिकरण पाइपलाइन (NMP) अपने उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में किस हद तक सफल रही है? हाल ही में 2025 के बजट में घोषित की गई नई परिसंपत्ति मुद्रिकरण योजना 2025-30 के उद्देश्य क्या हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent was the first National Monetization Pipeline (NMP) able to meet its objectives? What are the objectives of the new Asset Monetization Plan 2025-30 as announced in the recent 2025 Budget? (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस कक्ष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

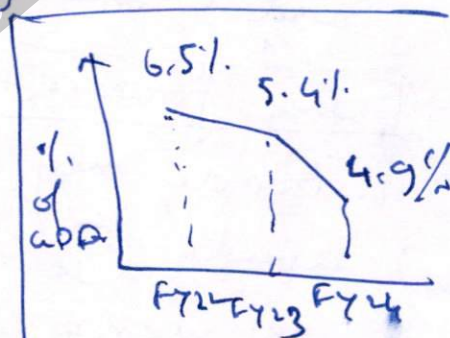
10

National Monetization Plan was launched for 2020-2025 to monetize govt assets.

Able to achieve ~~all~~ objectives

1. Augmented revenue of govt.
2. ~~also~~ Helped reduce

Fiscal deficit in the last 3 yrs -



3. Ensured Professionalism

in management & operations of PSU

Not able to achieve

1. Failed to achieve disinvestment targets for last 3 yrs. [refer table]

Year	(₹ cr) Target	(₹ cr) Achieved
FY22	65000	25000
FY23	51000	1600

उम्मीदवारों को
इस ह्रासिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

2. 'Asset stripping' of govt companies.
3. Inability to find buyer
4. Low price realization.
5. Lack of proper documentation of physical assets.

New NMP 2025 - targets/objectives

1. Create 'land banks' for consolidation
2. Create digital dashboard to find buyer and monitor.
3. Set up dedicated agency under OPAM to fasten up the process.

Thus NMP 2025 is a step in the right direction to reduce Fp to 4.5% of GDP.

4.

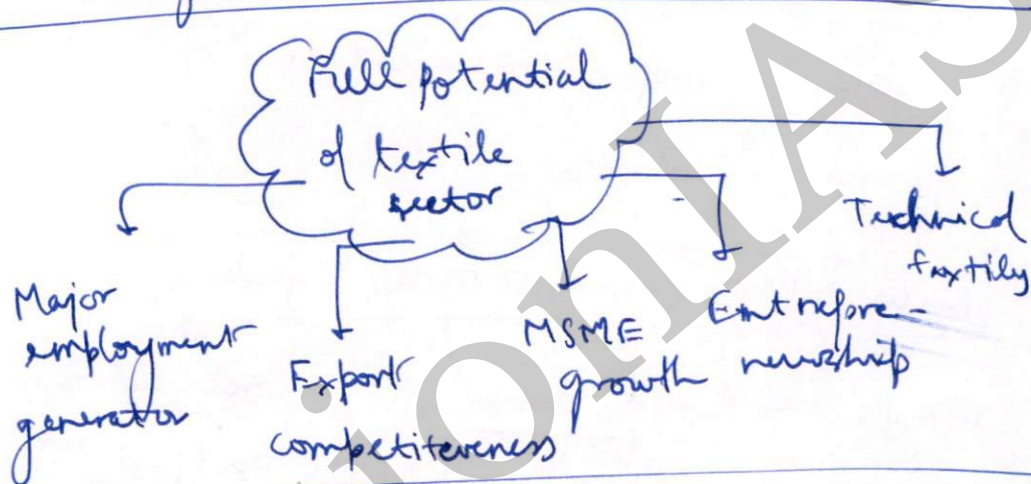
वैश्विक मूल्य श्रृंखला में भारतीय वस्त्र उद्योग को अपनी पूर्ण क्षमता प्राप्त करने से बाधित करने वाली प्रमुख चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Examine the major challenges hindering the Indian textile industry from achieving its full potential in the global value chain. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Indian textile industries contribute about 2.3% of Indian GDP (ES-25) and employs more than 45 million workers.



Major challenges

1. Technology fatigue - outdated technology affecting productivity
2. Fragmented industry → unable to leverage economies of scale.
3. 'MSME dwarfism' → always remaining small enterprise.

4. Raw material shortage - India becoming major importer of raw cotton in FY25 (pest attack issues)
5. Low skill workforce - Nearly 80% of workforce semi-skilled.
6. Competition from countries like Vietnam & Bangladesh.
7. Global agreements - (Eg) Bangladesh enjoys duty free access in EU markets.

Way forward

1. Technology upgradation - (Eg) IOT through CSS etc.
2. 'Sunset clause' for MSME benefits.
3. R&D in cotton tree production (Eg) Ht & Bt cotton.

Above suggestions will help India achieve high manufacturing growth (25% of GDP) as per National Manufacturing Policy 2012.

5.

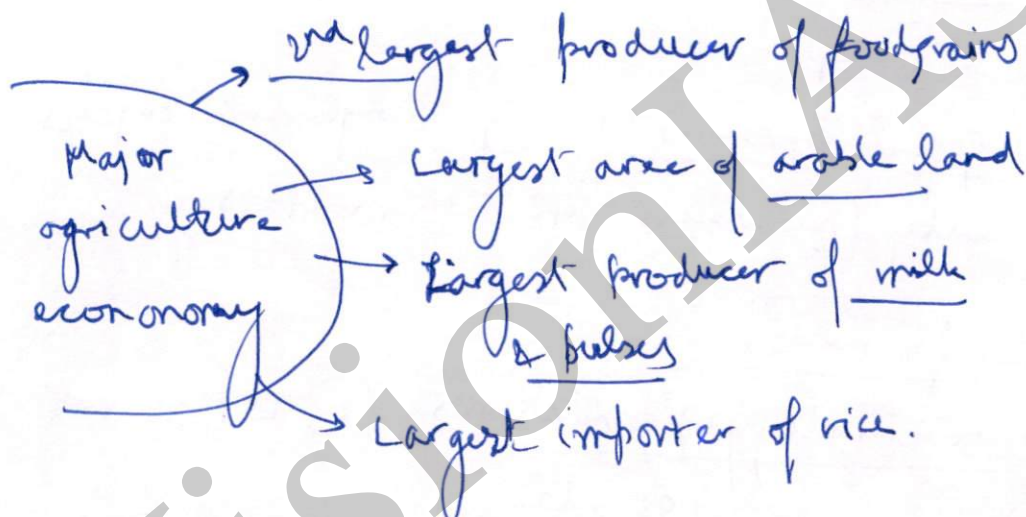
एक प्रमुख कृषि अर्थव्यवस्था होने के बावजूद भारत खाद्य तेलों के लिए आयात पर अधिकाधिक निर्भर क्यों होता जा रहा है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Why has India become increasingly import-dependent for edible oils despite being a major agricultural economy? (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

India imports nearly 65% of edible oil requirements from SE Asia, making it the 2nd largest importer of edible oil.



Oil dependence of India

1. Low yield oil crops in India - about 7mT per yr [ES 25]
2. Stagnant production of edible oil,
↳ inability to meet growing demand.
3. Shrewd support to rice & wheat through higher MSP.

4. Low price realisation for farmers from edible oil.
5. Lack of R&D in high yield variety, and climate tolerant variety of edible oil by more focus on rice & wheat crops.
6. Lack of irrigation facilities
- only 55% of area irrigates.

Way forward

1. Promote microirrigation (e.g) drip and sprinkler irrigation.
2. Promote 'dryland farming' models.
3. Increase MSP for oil crops.
4. R&D in high yielding varieties.

In this regard, steps like National Mission for Edible Oil Production NM-EOP is a step in the right direction to ensure 'edible oil security'.

6.

हवाई दुर्घटनाएं कम आवृत्ति वाली लेकिन उच्च प्रभाव वाली घटनाएं होती हैं। भारत में विमानन संबंधी आपात स्थितियों के लिए लागू आपदा प्रबंधन प्रोटोकॉल का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Air accidents are low-frequency but high-impact events. Examine the disaster management protocols in place for aviation-related emergencies in India. (Answer in 150 words)

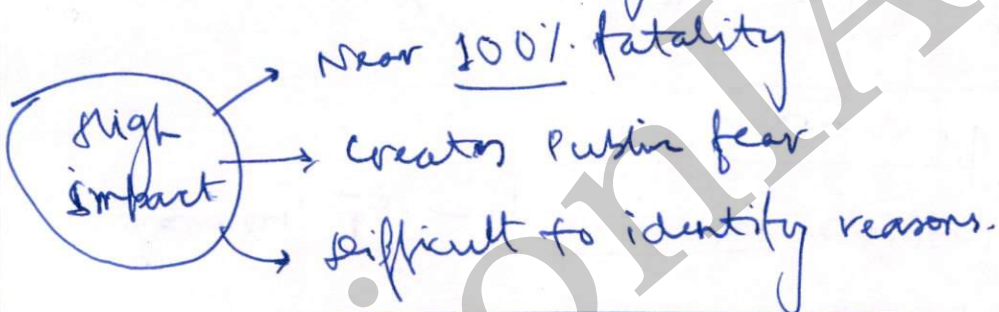
10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Recent accident of London bound

Air India flight 171 [Boeing 787] highlights

The issue and challenges of air accidents



Disaster management ~~protocol~~ Protocols

1. Response and relief to survivors.

(Eg) evacuating to safe place.

2. Identification of deceased through

DNA testing with relatives.

3. Guidelines for mandatory check-up of all flights by PCA.

4. Deploying SDRF & NDRF for supply of essential goods.
5. Compensation to victims and families.
6. Investigation for cause of failure by experts. (Eg) study of 'Black Box'.

Way forward

1. Timely audit of aircraft engines
2. Training of MRO personnel.
3. Ensure accountability of airline manufacturers.

Dr. This regard TC Venkatesh

Committee recommendation may be looked into to ensure Aviation safety.

7.

रासायनिक प्रदूषण भारत में मानव स्वास्थ्य और पर्यावरण के समक्ष एक गंभीर खतरा है। व्यापक रासायनिक संदूषण में योगदान देने वाले प्रमुख स्रोतों पर चर्चा कीजिए और इस समस्या को रोकने में मौजूदा पर्यावरण संबंधी कानूनों की प्रभावशीलता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Chemical pollution poses a grave threat to human health and the environment in India. Discuss the key sources contributing to pervasive chemical contamination and evaluate the effectiveness of existing environmental laws in curbing this problem. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस कक्ष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Recent oil spills in Russia highlights the issue of chemical ~~pollution~~ pollution in the world.

Key sources contributing to chemical pollution

1. oil and natural gas industries
2. Thermal power plants → released hot water into water bodies.
3. Hazardous chemical industries
(Ex) urea plants, plastics etc.
4. Plastic pollution → leaching of chemicals into soil and water bodies.

Existing environmental laws

1. Environmental Protection Act ~~2001~~ 1987
2. Hazardous and other chemicals - storage and transportation Rules

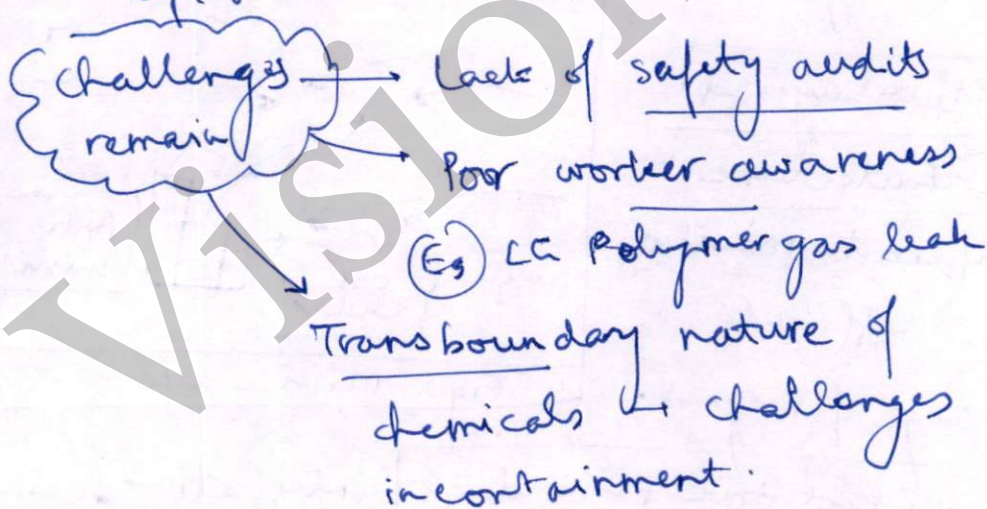
3. Water Act 4. Air Act

5. International Conventions

- Rotterdam convention
- Basel convention
- Stockholm conventions.
- Chemical Weapons Convention

Effectiveness of the schemes

1. Enabled higher compliance of polluting industries to environmental laws.
2. oversight mechanism
3. No major chemical leakage in India after Bhopal disaster.



Thus there is a need for comprehensive policy and laws on chemical pollution to achieve SDG #14 - life on land.

8.

उभरते क्षेत्रीय खतरों और उन्नत हथियार प्रौद्योगिकियों के मद्देनजर मिसाइल रक्षा प्रणालियां राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के लिए महत्वपूर्ण होती जा रही हैं। मिसाइल रक्षा प्रणालियों के कार्य सिद्धांत की व्याख्या कीजिए। स्वदेशी मिसाइल रक्षा क्षमताओं के विकास में भारत की प्रगति का समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Missile defence systems are becoming critical for national security in the face of evolving regional threats and advanced weapon technologies. Explain the working principle of missile defence systems. Critically assess India's progress in developing indigenous missile defence capabilities. (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

10

The recent operation Sindoor by India against Pakistan terror camps has highlighted the significance of missile defence system for India.

Working principle of missile defence system

1. Multilayered architecture - different missiles for different range of targets.

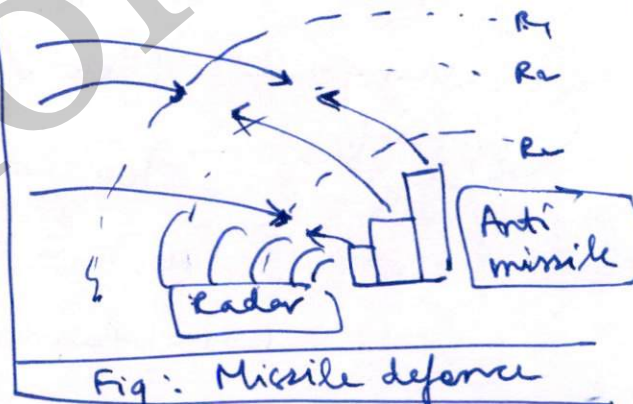


Fig: Missile defence

2. Electronic technology integration - to detect electronic signals of incoming missiles.

3. RADAR system - To detect movement of missiles.

4. Lock in system - targetting precisely.

India's Progress in indigenous missile defence

1. Anti-missile systems developed by DRDO. (Eg) Akash, Barak, Bhaagat, Astra
2. Anti-drone system - (Eg) Ruston, Laser Directed Energy weapon system.
3. Short range and medium range capabilities (Eg) MRSAM, ATAGS etc
4. Augmented by imports (Eg) S400, Harpy drones

Challenges

1. Need better anti-drone system.
2. Need long range anti-missile system to counter China.

Way forward

1. Foreign collabs. (Eg) Russia
2. Promote R&D - increase funding
3. PPP promotion (Eg) TAT, Adani etc

Indigenization of defence technology highlights the success of 'Atmanirbhar in Defence'.

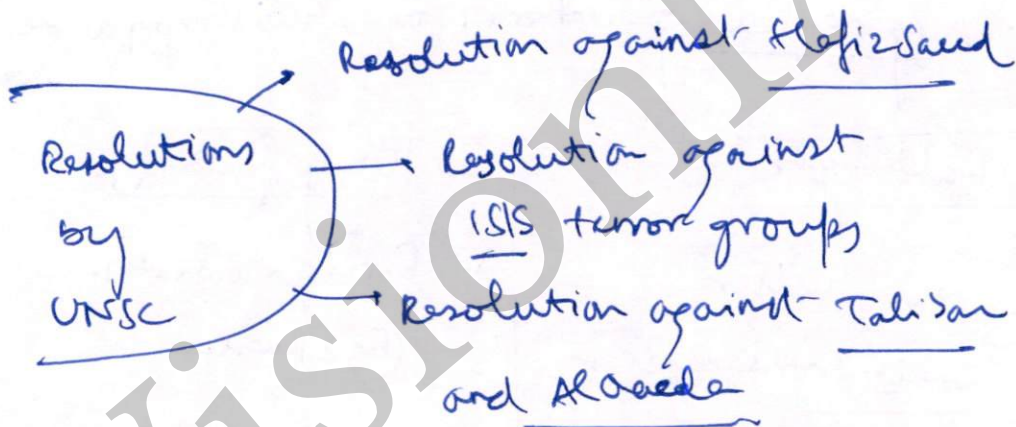
9.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद (UNSC) द्वारा अपनाए गए अनेक संकल्पों और पहलों के बावजूद, आतंकवाद का मुकाबला करने के उसके प्रयासों को सीमित सफलता प्राप्त हुई है। इस सीमित प्रभावशीलता के कारणों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite multiple resolutions and initiatives undertaken by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), its efforts to counter terrorism have achieved limited success. Discuss the reasons for this limited effectiveness. (Answer in 150 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Recent Pahalgam attack by TRF or Indian civilians highlights the threat of terrorism in India
(~~7~~ 13th rank in global terrorism index).



Reasons for limited effectiveness

1. Veto by China - Blocking India's efforts due to China-Pak axis.
2. Conflict between UNSC permanent members. (Eg) USA - Russia over Ukraine conflict

3. Lack of consensus on universal definition of Terrorism.

4. Institutional hypocrisy (Eg) IMF's bailout package to Pakistan during Operation Sindoor.

5. Institutional biases towards USA

6. Lack of inclusive representation in UNSC.

7. Non-uniformity of terror victims.

(Eg) Terrorism threat mostly felt by global south

Way forward

↳ Mobilization of like minded countries for CAIT conventions

↳ Indic-led grouping can be formed along the lines of CPRI, ISA etc to counter terrorism.

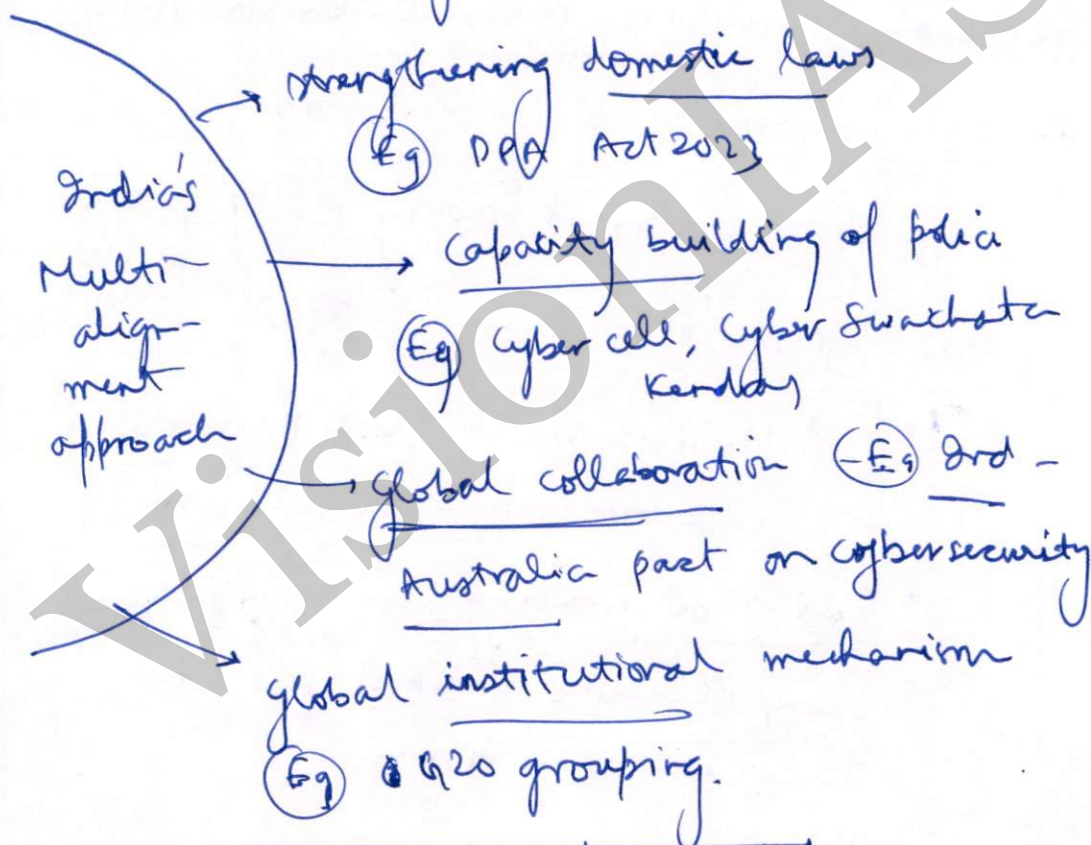
Thus there needs to develop global consensus on Terrorism eradication as 'Perpetrators of terror can't be equated with victims of terror' - Dr S. Jaishankar

10.

भारत अपनी साइबर कूटनीति में 'बहु-सरेखण (मल्टी-अलाइनमेंट)' दृष्टिकोण को अपनाता है। यह दृष्टिकोण रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता बनाए रखते हुए भारत की आंतरिक सुरक्षा को किस प्रकार सुदृढ़ करता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India practices a 'multi-alignment' approach in its cyber diplomacy. How does this posture strengthen India's internal security while maintaining strategic autonomy? (Answer in 150 words)

India suffered nearly 6 billion cyber attacks, amounting to loss of \$5 billion as per Kaspersky report 2023.



Strengthens internal security

1. Protects from cyber attacks. (Eg) Wanna-cry - Ransomware.
2. Prevents data leak and theft. (Eg) Axioms data leak.

3. Protects critical information infrastructure centres.

4. Ensures security of strategic resources
(Eg) Kudankulam cyber attack

5. Better performance in global cybersecurity ranking. (Eg) 10th rank in ITU-index and Tier 1 ranking with score of 99.

Maintains strategic autonomy

1. Ensures data localization (Eg) RBI's directive to banks.

2. Prevent illegal cross border trade of info
(Eg) India's refusal to sign 'Ogden track'.

3. Ensures digital sovereignty.

Thus India may look to sign Budapest Convention and

formulate a new cybersecurity policy for strengthening cyber framework.

11.

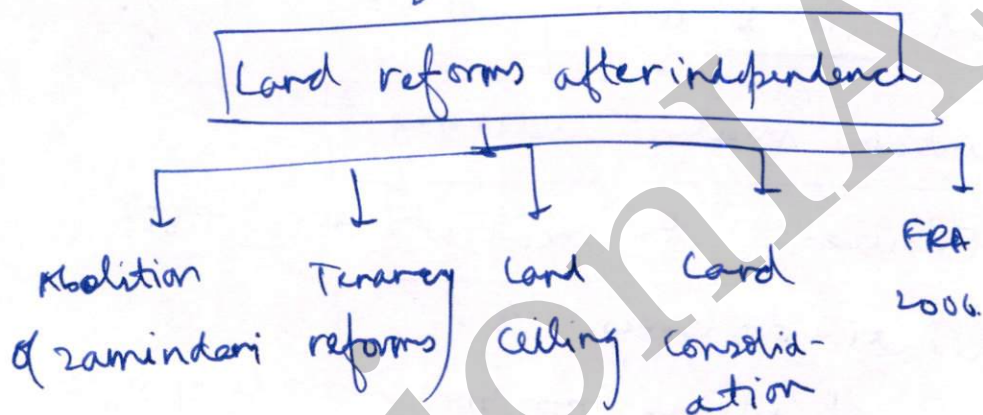
अतीत में किए गए भूमि सुधारों की कमियों का परीक्षण करते हुए, विस्तारपूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए कि भूमि सुधार 2.0 कैसा होना चाहिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

While examining the shortcomings of the land reforms in the past, elaborate what land reforms 2.0 should look like. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्डिप में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

India has (181) of world population
but only 2.5% of total land mass.
thus creating issue of land scarcity.



Shortcoming of past land reforms

1. Diversion of land by zamindars to their family members.
2. Lack of response by many states
(Eg) UP, Bihar etc due to populism
3. Quality of land located → poor quality
→ not suitable for cultivation.

4. Land ceiling kept very high
(Eg) Madhya Pradesh → effectively bypassed.
5. Fizzling out of voluntary movements
like Khodan & Gramdan.

Success achieved too

1. Successful in Bengal and Kerala.
2. Facilitated Green revolution.
3. Helped in the rise of OBC class
(Eg) Patidars, Jats etc got land rights.
4. Tribal rights - reversal of historical injustices.

Land reforms 2.0

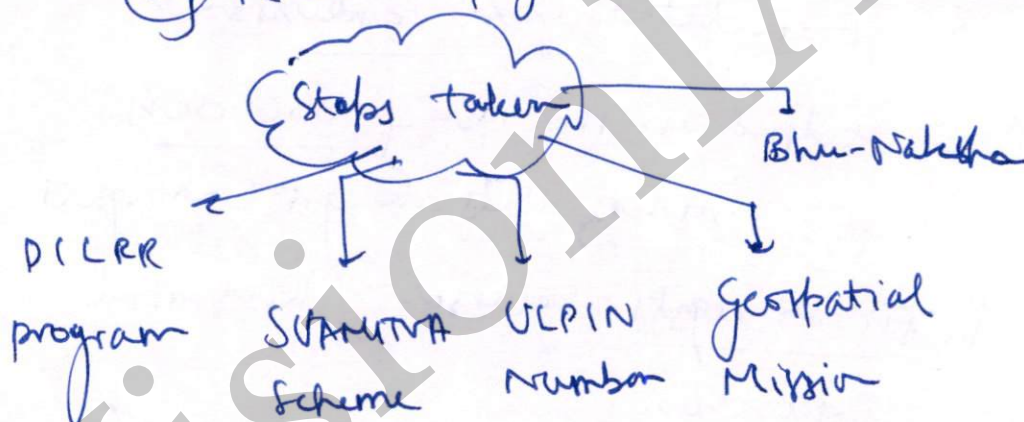
1. Digitization of land records for
proper transfer and mutation.
2. Fair compensation for land acquisition
by government.
3. Drones based mapping through ^{for} cadastral

and non-~~cast~~ cadastral maps

4. Facilitate land consolidation to address issue of declining land holding size [1.08 ha - National Agriculture census 2015]

5. Expediation of tribal rights of land

(Eg) Maldhari of Gujarat



Thus, there is a need to initiate Land reform 2.0 for achieving the goal of Art 39(c) of DPSP..

12.

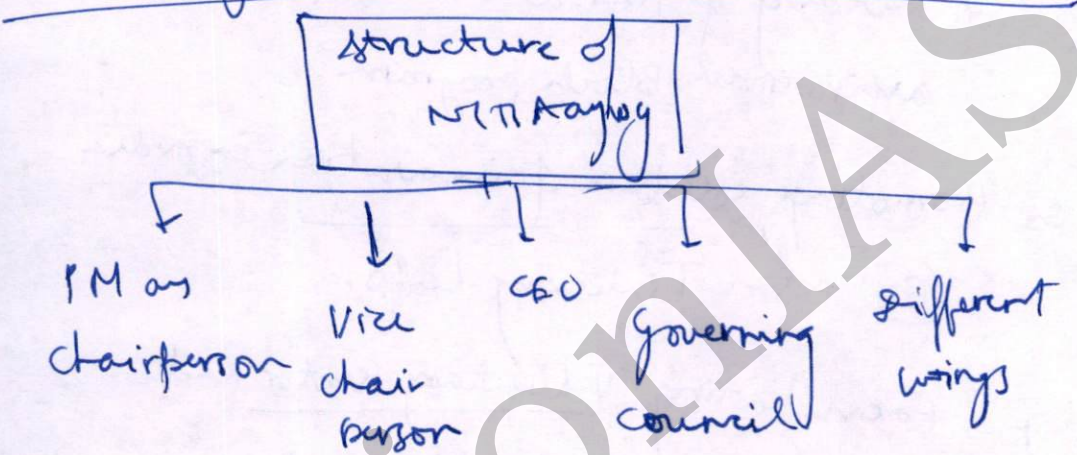
नीति आयोग ने अपनी स्थापना के 10 वर्ष पूरे कर लिए हैं, अतः भारत में नियोजन और अभिशासन के विकास प्रतिमान में इसकी भूमिका का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

As NITI Aayog completes 10 years of its establishment, critically examine its role in the planning and development paradigm of governance in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

NITI Aayog was established in 2015 replacing the erstwhile Planning Commission.



Role in Planning and development paradigm of governance in India

1. Shift from top down to bottom up approach.
2. Shift from 5yr Planning to multi-year flexible planning (Eg) 3 yr Action Agenda.
3. Promoting cooperative federalism

- (Eg) Team India wing, sharing of best practices etc
4. Promoting competitive federalism
(Eg) SPN Baseline Index.
 5. Backward regional development (Eg)
monitoring of Aspirational District &
Aspirational Block program.
 6. Promoting culture of innovation in India
(Eg) Atal Tinkering Labs.
 7. Facilitating Voluntary sector and
Civil society organization
(Eg) DARPA Portal

Limitations

1. No financial power but PC had
under Art 275.
2. Recommendations only advisory in
nature → lack of ground level
implementation.
3. Promotes 'Arm chair Bureaucracy' →

Observing from Delhi:

4. No power to resolve state disputes.
5. Too much report publications and paper works → theoretical nature of suggestions.

Way forward

1. Limited financial power may be given.
2. State level NITI-like body can be formed. (Ex) SITA of Assam
↳ synchronize it with NITI Aayog.
3. More representatives from states.

Thus NITI Aayog marks shift towards decentralization of power for 'double engine growth'.

13.

भारत में ग्रामीण तथा बैंकिंग सुविधा से वंचित आबादी के बीच सीमित औपचारिक ऋण पहुंच के लिए उत्तरदायी प्राथमिक कारण क्या हैं? इस अंतराल को समाप्त करने और समावेशी वित्तीय विकास को आगे बढ़ाने में लघु वित्त बैंकों की प्रभावशीलता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the primary causes of limited formal credit penetration among the rural and unbanked populations in India? Comment on the effectiveness of Small Finance Banks in addressing this gap and advancing inclusive financial growth. (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Formal credit penetration is very low in rural areas, with only 17% of banks' credit going to rural households [NABARD survey].

Primary causes of limited formal credit penetration

1. Lack of banking facility due to poor feasibility of commercial banks.
2. Presence of historical informal lenders like landlords, moneylenders etc.
3. Low financial literacy in rural areas.
4. Poor infrastructure & lack of connectivity in areas like North East.

5. Societal connection and family relationship with money lenders.

6. ~~High~~ Documentation issues - absence of land records, stricter KYC norms etc.

Small finance Banks are rural banks that provide affordable loans to unserved areas

Effectiveness of SFBs

1. High rate of returning of loans.
2. Low interest rates → affordable loans
3. Improves financial inclusion due to variety of services.

(Eg) Savings, remittances etc.

4. Awareness generation through Bank Mitra & Bank Sahis.

5. Facilitates entrepreneurial ecosystem

through microfinance

6. High percentage of clients from vulnerable
population (Eg) Women, Dalits etc

challenges

- Rising NPA of SFB - warned
by Raghuram Rajan
- Loan waiver by state govt
- Low digital literacy

Way forward

- Promote financial digital
literacy
(Eg) PM - DSH
- Incentivise opening of branches.
- Promote Decentralized finance

SFB need to be promoted to
achieve SDG #10 → reducing inequality
and achieve Saptarshi targets

14.

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों के लिए उत्पादन से जुड़ी प्रोत्साहन योजना ने भारत के खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग में मूल्यवर्धन, रोजगार सृजन और वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को किस हद तक सुगम बनाया है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

To what extent has the Production Linked Incentive Scheme for the food processing industry facilitated value addition, employment generation, and global competitiveness in India's food processing industry? (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्शिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Production linked Incentive scheme

(PLI) has been launched to provide incremental incentives for incremental increase in production and food processing industry has been a major beneficiary.

PLI facilitating food Production industry

① Facilitating value adding

1. Improved FPI's contribution to manufacturing sector to 45%.
2. Promoted growth of processed food industry. (eg) Jam, soft drinks etc.
3. Facilitated cluster based approach (eg) Mega food Parks, fishing industry etc.

④ Employment generation

4. Employs nearly 2 million people
5. Improved farmer income through
value addition and reducing wastage
6. Promote 'Food processors' in rural areas.
7. Enabled credit taking from banks
~~from~~ through FPOs.

⑤ Global competitiveness

8. Ensured standardization of products
(Eg) through FSSAI certification.
9. Increased self life of foods for
export. (Eg) Milk products.
10. Enabling competition with global
exporters by becoming part of GVC

Challenges remain

1. Fragmented nature of industry.
2. Forward & backward linkages
remain (Eg) APMC Monopoly.

3. Presence of middlemen → low remuneration to farmers.

4. Lack of market intelligence to farmers.

5. High pesticide & residue limits

(Eg) Recalling of 'Masale' consignment from Europe..

6. ~~3~~ Lack of cold storage infrastructure

Way forward

1. Promote PPP for procurement

(Eg) TOPS scheme.

2. Facilitate contract farming

3. Promote derivatives market

(Ashjit Sen Committee)

4. Improve connectivity. (Eg) Kisan Rail

Thus reforms in Agri-marketing is essential to fully harness the benefits of PLI in FPI for doubling farmer income (Atish Patel).

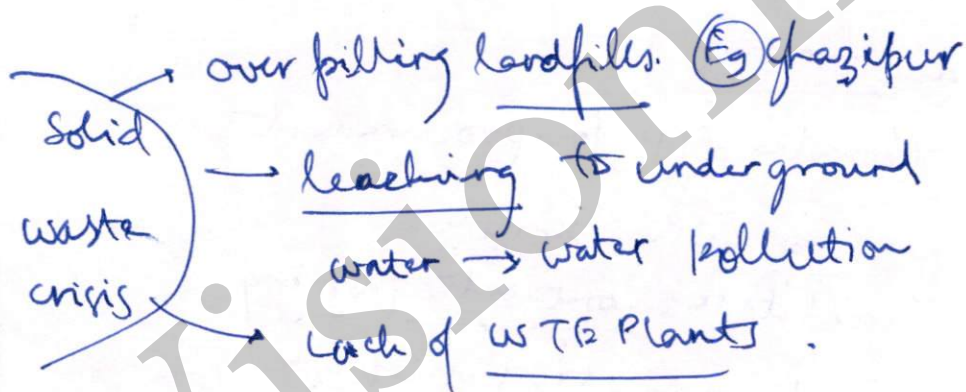
15.

अपशिष्ट चक्रीकरण भारत के बढ़ते ठोस अपशिष्ट संकट के लिए एक संधारणीय समाधान के रूप में उभर रहा है। अपशिष्ट चक्रीकरण के प्रमुख सिद्धांतों और इस संबंध में सरकार की पहल पर चर्चा कीजिए। चक्रीय अर्थव्यवस्था (सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी) को बढ़ावा देने में ये उपाय कितने प्रभावी रहे हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Waste circularity is emerging as a sustainable solution to India's mounting solid waste crisis. Discuss the key principles of waste circularity and the government's initiative in this regard. How effective have these measures been in fostering a circular economy? (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Indias 1.4 billion general population generates nearly 62 mt of municipal wastes annually, of which only 60% gets treated [NCB report].



[Key principles of waste circularity]

1. Reuse - Reusing same product by extending life
2. Recycle - Continuation to another product
3. Reduce - minimizing wastage → reducing environmental footprint

4. Refurbish - Modifications of damaged product through repair.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस कक्ष में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Key govt initiatives in this regard

1. Mission Life - Mobilize a strong Pro Planet people by promoting minimalistic lifestyle.
2. Plastic waste rules Ban single use Plastic, upto 120 um
3. Solid waste management rules → Proper handling and transportation of waste.
4. e-waste rules - Extended Producer responsibility.

Effectiveness of the policies

1. Helped generate awareness
2. Promoted use of environment friendly transportation. (Eg) Public cycles of Delhi.

3. Increase waste processing capacity of few cities like Chennai.

Challenges remain

1. Weak enforcement of EPR -
2. WTE Plants running at 50% of capacity.
3. Water Pollution due to dumping of waste. (Eg) Yamuna.
4. growing culture of materialism.

Way forward

1. Legal framework - (Eg) Right to repair of EV.
2. Incentivize EPR. (Eg) tax benefits.
3. Make env-friendly option cheaper

Thus circular economy will help achieve Sustainable responsible production & consumption.

16.

भारत के जनजातीय समुदायों के पारंपरिक पारिस्थितिक ज्ञान को आधुनिक आपदा प्रबंधन ढांचों के साथ एकीकृत करने के महत्त्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। ऐसे दो उदाहरणों का उल्लेख कीजिए जहां स्वदेशी प्रथाओं ने आपदा प्रतिरोधी क्षमता में योगदान दिया है। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the importance of integrating traditional ecological knowledge of India's tribal communities with modern disaster management frameworks. Mention two examples where indigenous practices have contributed to disaster resilience. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हशिप में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Sandai framework envisages a

bottom-up multi-stakeholder approach,

where indigenous tribal knowledge
can play a key role in Disaster Management.

Importance of integrating traditional knowledge

1. Learning from already available traditional knowledge → minimizing
efforts of duplication.

2. Better preparedness through shared knowledge.

eg Earthquake Preparedness of tribes
of North East

3. Mitigation strategies by reducing the

root cause of disaster.

(Eg) Sacred groves protecting forest -
[Pavagada of Karnataka].

4. Better disaster response, (Eg) Kudumbashree
SHG during Kerala floods.

5. Ensured supply of essential goods
after disaster. (Eg) Underwater
rice farming of Apatani tribe.

6. Adaptation measures → developing
disaster resilience.

(Eg) Gurjar tribe → Tanka system
of Rajasthan for protection from
droughts.

7. Reducing emission to atmosphere
by adopting simple life lifestyle
→ reduce climate related disasters

2 such instances

1. [Chang Gharo] Assam - Mishing tribe

- Bamboo hut at elevated height
- Protects from annual floods of Assam.
- Protects safe habitation and security.

2. Bamboo housing of Columbia

- Protection from Earthquakes.
- Acts as shock absorbers.
- Low cost of damage due to disaster
- Minimal financial loss and human loss.
- Easy to reconstruct after damage

Thus indigenous tribal knowledge can be helpful for disaster risk reduction as recommended

by GAR report on DRR by UNDRR,
in line with NDMA guidelines 2016

17.

हाल के वर्षों में क्रिस्पर (CRISPR) प्रौद्योगिकी ने नए उपकरणों और नैदानिक सफलताओं के साथ तीव्र प्रगति की है। क्रिस्पर-आधारित जीन संपादन प्रौद्योगिकी अनुप्रयोगों में हालिया विकास पर प्रकाश डालिए। इन प्रगतियों से स्वास्थ्य देखभाल और समाज के लिए उत्पन्न अवसरों और नैतिक चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

CRISPR technology has rapidly advanced in recent years, with new tools and clinical breakthroughs. Highlight the recent developments in CRISPR-based gene editing technology applications. Discuss the opportunities and ethical challenges these advancements present for healthcare and society. (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

15

CRISPR technology is a gene editing technology that consists of a marker (CRISPR) and an endonuclease (cas9).

Recent developments in CRISPR-based gene editing tools

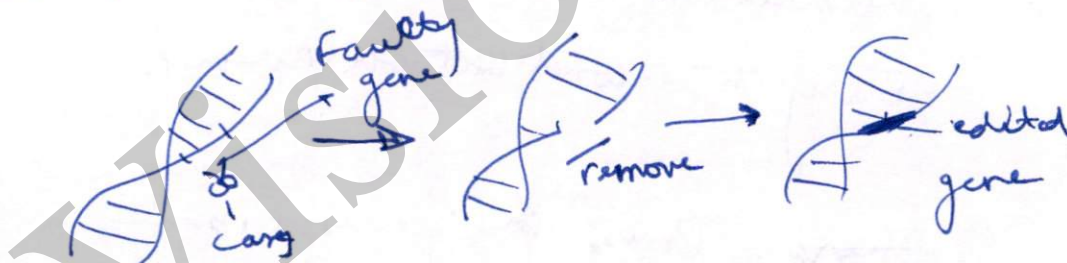


Fig : CRISPR technology.

1. Agriculture biotechnology - Modification of crops for improving yield.

(Eg) Ht-Bt cotton by adding Cry3A gene

2. Vaccine development - new novel

vaccines, esp during covid

(Eg) Covishield, Covaxin etc.

3. gene therapy - genetic modification of human genome to remove birth defects.
4. oncology : Cancer saving drugs research is going on at MIT for identifying genetic sequences that trigger cancer.
5. Car T-cell therapy (by IITB) for cancer treatment using T-cell.

opportunities for these advancement

- ⑤ Healthcare
1. Affordable healthcare for all.
 2. Treatment of rare diseases and congenital diseases.
 3. Development of new drugs & antibiotics.

- ⑥ Society
1. Promote public welfare
 2. Facilitate Agricultural growth.
 3. Improve culture of research and developments.

4. Motivate people to pursue STEM
of career.

[Ethical challenges]

1. Man playing the role of god -
2. Against the Principle of Natural selection and survival of the fittest.
3. Create division of society → only affordable to the super rich.
4. Creation of 'Designer Babies' with curated features.

Thus, there is a need for global standards for ethical use of Biotechnology to realise the goal of 'Jai Vigyan, Jais Amrudhan'.

18.

एक विश्वसनीय सेमीकंडक्टर इकोसिस्टम भारत की आर्थिक सुरक्षा के साथ-साथ राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के लिए भी महत्वपूर्ण है। इंडिया सेमीकंडक्टर मिशन (ISM) के रणनीतिक उद्देश्यों, प्रोत्साहनों और संस्थागत संरचना का विश्लेषण कीजिए। उन प्रमुख जोखिमों की पहचान कीजिए जो इसकी समय-सीमा को बाधित कर सकते हैं। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

A credible semiconductor ecosystem is pivotal for India's economic security as much as for national security. Analyse the strategic objectives, incentives, and institutional architecture of the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM). Identify the major risks that could derail its timelines. (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

15

India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) has been launched with a budget of ₹76,000 cr to make India self-sufficient in semiconductor production.

Strategic Objectives

1. Diversification of supply chain
2. Production of 10,000 GPU capacity
3. Reduce dependency on China
4. Become a 'global hub' of semiconductor fabrication

Incentives

1. Production linked incentive schemes (PLI) for semiconductor manufacturers

(Eg) Semi conductor Plant at Sanand,
Gujarat.

2. Faster land acquisition and forest
clearances. (Eg) TATA semiconductor

Plant in Jogirood, Arsan.

3. Availability of capital.

4. Credit linked subsidy schemes.

Institutional architecture

1. MeiTY As the Model Ministry for
the implementation of schemes.

2. PPP partnership between government
and companies.

3. State level oversight & monitoring
agencies.

Major risks that could derail

1. Labour laws - Multiplicity of laws
+ Lack of implementation by states.
of 4 Labour codes.

2. Policy uncertainty - poor enforcement of contracts.

3. Bureaucracy apathy and red-tapism.

4. Lack of skilled workforce -
Nearly (85%) of workforce semi skilled.

5. Poor industry academic linkage

Way forward

1. Single window clearance (Eg) PARIVESH Portal

2. Industry academic linkage
(Eg) Professor of Practice.

3. Global collaboration - (Eg) Partnerships with TSMC etc.

Thus semi-conductor mission is key for India to become part of AEC for a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

19.

विविध कारकों का जटिल अंतर्संबंध पूर्वोत्तर में उग्रवाद को बढ़ावा देने वाला कारक रहा है। विवेचना कीजिए। इस क्षेत्र में उग्रवाद के खतरे से निपटने के लिए एक बहुस्तरीय रणनीति का सुझाव दीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Intricate inter-play of diverse factors has been the force multipliers for extremism in the North East. Discuss. Suggest a multilayered strategy to tackle the menace of extremism in this region. (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हशिप में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

15

‘North East is a region of resources
water and land surplus but poor
governance and peace deficit’.

Factors for extremism in North East

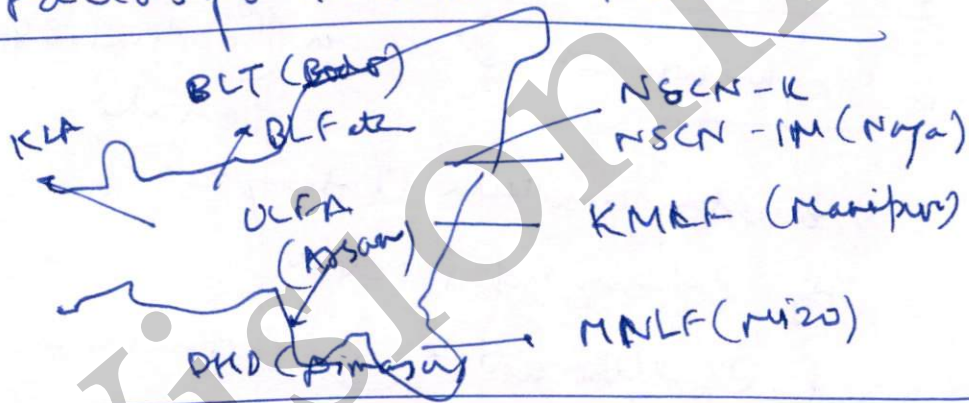


Fig: NE

1. Historical : Isolation of NE people
from National Freedom Movement

(Eg) Naga groups.

2. Geographical isolation from mainland
India → Poor connectivity.

3. Deep ethnic divide - (Eg) Kuki-Meitei
militancy → ethnic clashes.

4. Governance deficit - Lack of attention
post independence. (Eg) Tribal Panchsheel
→ followed eyes or hands off approach.

5. Threat against outsiders and illegal
immigrants. (Eg) ULFA in Assam.

6. External support - Funding by
Chinese agency to ULFA.

7. Porous borders + Safe haven for
terrorists in Myanmar & Bangladesh -

Multi-layered strategy

1. Dialogue and negotiations - (Eg)
recent ULFA - govt Peace Accord.

2. Implementing existing peace accord
(Eg) Bodo Accord.

3. Inclusive and Participative governance
(Eg) 6th schedule status.

4. Improve governance (Eg) NESIDS
scheme, PM DEVINE etc
⇒ for public welfare.
5. Improve connectivity infrastructure
(Eg) Dhola Sadiya Bridge, Dhubri-
Fulbari Bridge.
6. Political representation at National
level (Eg) Sri Kiren Rijiju (APJ)
7. Improve Border villages through
BAP. Vibrant village Program
8. Gradual withdrawal of AFSPA -
Santosh Hegde Committee.
9. Relook into FMR regime
10. Cross border cooperation (Eg) operation
'Sunrise' with Myanmar
North East needs to be seen
as 'Ashtalakshmi' for realising true
potential & peace.

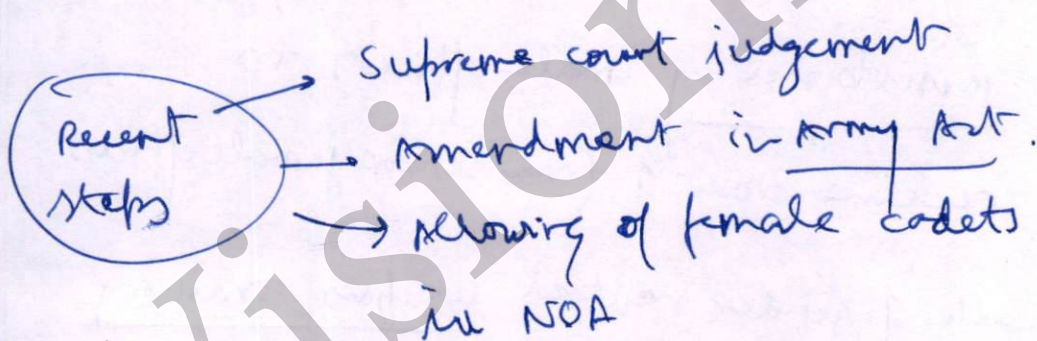
20.

महिलाओं को युद्धक भूमिकाओं (कॉम्बैट रोल) में शामिल करने की दिशा में हाल ही में उठाए गए कदमों के बावजूद, उनकी भागीदारी कम बनी हुई है। भारतीय सशस्त्र बलों में महिलाओं की व्यापक भागीदारी में बाधा उत्पन्न करने वाली प्रमुख चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही, उनकी भागीदारी बढ़ाने के लिए उपयुक्त उपाय भी सुझाइए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Despite recent steps towards inducting women into combat roles, their participation remains low. Examine the key challenges impeding the greater inclusion of women in the Indian armed forces. Also, suggest suitable measures to enhance their participation. (Answer in 250 words) 15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Recently Supreme Court in Babita Punjia case allowed induction of women in combat roles, but the participation remains low.



Key challenges impeding inclusion of women

1. Patriarchy at home - apprehension of sending daughter to male dominated force.
2. Army resistance for including women

3. High physical standards for women
4. Lack of gender-neutral infrastructure
in border areas
(Eg) Toilets, sanitary pads etc.
5. Biological difficulties - (Eg) Combating
during menstrual cycle, pregnancy etc.
6. Issue of Prisoners of war (POW) - Females
may face harassment at enemy hands
7. Resistance by male officers to
receive orders from senior female officers
8. Lack of gender neutral weapons training
modules:

Suitable measures

1. Establish adequate infrastructure
at Border areas for females.
2. Evolution of standards of training
for female officers.

3. Opening up of Agniveer to females
4. Sensitization from schools
(Eg) using of Zilla Sainik Welfare
offices.
5. Role modelling (Eg) Gurjara Saranya.
6. Separate academy for girl cadets
then gradually integrating
into army.
7. develop technology capability in of
modern warfare. (Eg) UAV etc.

Recently passing out of (F) cadets
from NDA is a good sign to
realize the goal of 'Nari Shakti'
for protecting Indian borders.

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

AL

VisionIAS