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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1836)

Name of Candidate	KASTURI PANDA		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	721089
Center	ONLINE	Date	29-08

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1	10		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	10		2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3	10		3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4	10		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	10		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	10		
7	10		
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19	15		
20	15		
Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			

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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.

1. The PM-AASHA scheme is aimed at improving procurement mechanism as well as ensuring remunerative prices for farmers. In this context, highlight the various components of the scheme and discuss the concerns associated with it. **(150 words) 10**

पीएम-आशा योजना का उद्देश्य खरीद तंत्र में सुधार के साथ-साथ किसानों के लिए लाभकारी मूल्य सुनिश्चित करना है। इस संदर्भ में, योजना के विभिन्न घटकों को रेखांकित कीजिए तथा इससे जुड़ी चिंताओं पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The Minimum Support Price and agri-produce procurement system only benefits 5% income of farmers which led to PM-AASHA scheme to target its deficiencies and improve the regime

Components of the PM AASHA scheme

- ① Assured procurement from remote areas and hinterlands

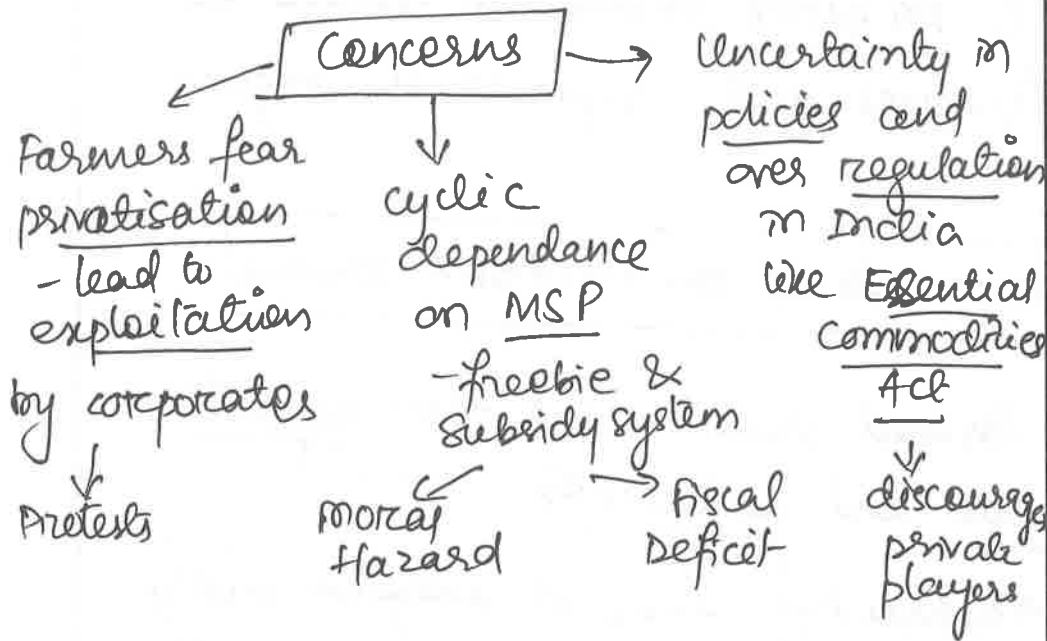
→ currently focus is ~~only on~~ mostly in bigger cities and North west India

- ② Diversify basket of procurement like pulses, oilseeds
- now mostly rice-wheat concentration due to high MSP announcement on it

③ Viability Gap payment to farmers

→ in case when they do not get minimum benchmark at APMCs or private centres of sale

④ Inclusion of private sector agencies to help FCI in transport and procurement



Despite the limitation, PM AASHA is viewed as a game-changing improvement to improve procurement & ensure remunerative price leading to doubling farmers incomes as per Ashok Dalwai report

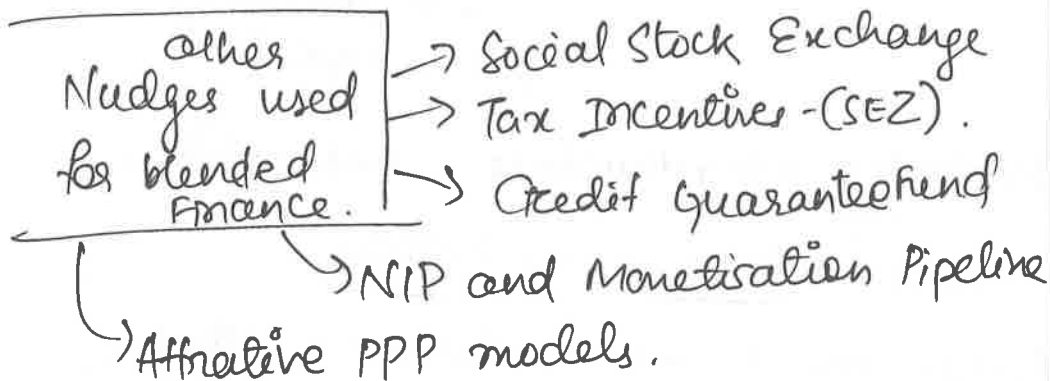
2. Explaining the concept of blended finance, discuss the role it can play in mobilizing capital for infrastructure development in developing countries like India.

(150 words) 10

मिश्रित वित्त की अवधारणा की व्याख्या करते हुए, भारत जैसे विकासशील देशों में अवसंरचना विकास हेतु पूंजी जुटाने में इसकी भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Blended Finance is a process of investment that adopts strategic decisions to encourage investment towards social impact and sustainable development.

E.g. Viability Gap funding for UDAN scheme - airports in small towns



Role played by blended finance in mobilising capital for infrastructure

- ① Addressing energy needs - India to become 3rd largest by 2030 as per

(International Energy Agency)

E.g. PATNET certificates on fulfilling
renewable obligations

② Transport and connectivity penetration
to rural areas - credit guarantee fund
under National Infrastructure Pipeline
and Gati Shakti Plan.

③ Improving ports, airports and
logistics - support from Min. of commerce
and industry
to improve exports

④ Digitizing infrastructure - expenditure
in National Broadband Mission.

⑤ Rural and urban development - Housing
structures - collaborating with builders.

Blended finance, especially in developing
countries like India can go a long
way towards 5 trillion\$ economy.

3. Discuss the challenges faced in the revival and revamp of dry ports in India and state the measures that can be adopted in this regard.

(150 words) 10

भारत में शुष्क पत्तनों (ड्राई पोर्ट्स) के पुनरुद्धार और सुधार में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए तथा इस संबंध में अपनाए जाने वाले उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Dry Ports refer to the connective ports on land that facilitate as a transit for major or minor ports

Challenges faced in their revival and revamp

- ① Archaic ~~bees~~ hierarchical and bureaucratic structure - delays and red tapism
- ② Fears of retrenchment and job loss
- ③ Trade union activities
- ④ Deteriorating conditions - need to incentivise private players.
- ⑤ Unplanned and unscientific connecting lands.
- ⑥ Requires upgradation of vehicle fleet

⑦ Reg. Resistance to Major Port Authorities
Bill - aims to modernise

Measures to be adopted

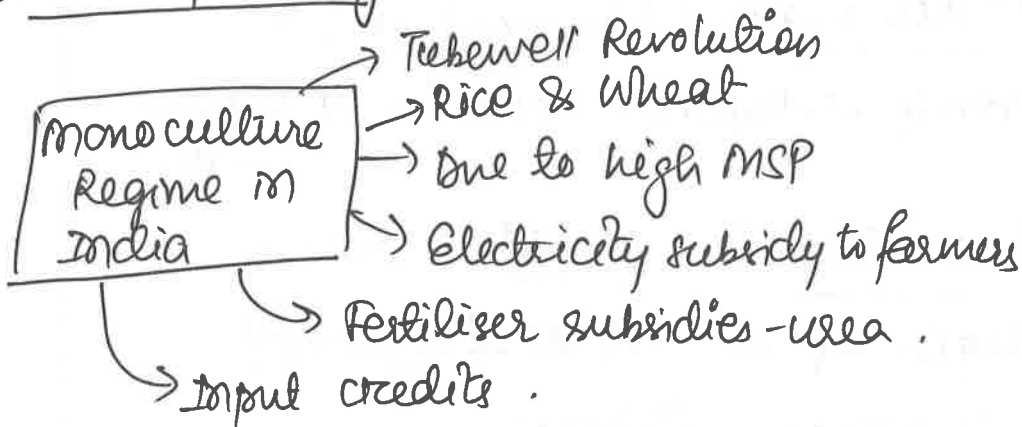
- ① Lay out clear guidelines - regarding loading, unloading
- ② Digitize processes - lower scope of bribery and corruption
- ③ Incentives and penalties of officers and workers - modernise the dry port administration
- ④ Set up tribunals - for conflict resolution similar to Major Port Authorities Bill
- ⑤ Investment in infrastructure - adopt electric mobility, green energy and road repairs.

Dry Ports as a medium of connectivity towards minor and major ports can assist reaching our export target of 1 bn USD by 2030.

4. Monoculture is one of the major threats to ensuring food security and sustainability of Indian agriculture. Discuss. (150 words) 10

एकल कृषि (मोनोकल्चर) खाद्य सुरक्षा और भारतीय कृषि की संधारणीयता सुनिश्चित करने के समक्ष विद्यमान प्रमुख खतरों में से एक है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Monoculture refers to the system of planting a single crop on any area of land repeatedly in all seasons.



Threat to food security

- ① ~~AB~~ Presence of micronutrient deficiency - Global Hunger Index - India - 105/116 despite surplus grain production.
- ② Lack of diversification of food basket - high import dependence for pulses and oilseeds.
- ③ Repercussions on brain development - poor

Learning outcomes in children
 (1) Risk of crop failures.
Threat to sustainability

(1) Soil health deteriorating - double
 the ratio of nitrogen due to fertilizers
overuse

(2) Faulty practice like sugarcane in
Vidarbha (dryland) - depletion of ground
water.

(3) Rice cultivation is 30% of Indian
wetlands - highest emitter of methane

(4) Recurrent droughts.

Measures to
 adopt other
 practices

→ Integrated Farming System
 - livestock, fishery ponds,
Agro forestry

→ penetrate drip irrigation

→ MSP on millets (dryland crops)

↓
multicropping - Relay cropping - include
horticulture, pulses

→ Risk aversion

Adoption of alternative to monoculture
 reiterates our independence period vision
 of Art 48 - agriculture on modern lines.

5. While highlighting the impact of single-use plastic on health and the environment, state the recent efforts taken by the government to curb plastic pollution in India. (150 words) 10

स्वास्थ्य और पर्यावरण पर एकल-उपयोग वाले प्लास्टिक के प्रभाव को रेखांकित करते हुए, भारत में प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में किए गए प्रयासों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

Single use plastics are polymers that are used only once, do not posses reuse value and non-biodegradable to nature.

Impact on health

- ① Humans - Bisphenol A - enters food chain when dumped - cancerous tendency
- ② waste collectors health - emissions & micro plastic exposure
- ③ Animals - intestinal disorders
- ④ Plants - affects growth & hampers nutrient uptake from soil.

Impact on environment

- ① long Retention - enters terrestrial and marine habitats - pollution
- ② Very difficult to degrade - lack of

remediation technology

- ③ Degrades coastal ecosystems - harmful
Algal Blooms - loss of aphotic life,
Fish kills, coral depletion.
- ④ When burnt - soot & aerosol - particulate
matter in air.

Efforts taken by government to curb
plastic pollution

- ① Ban on single use plastics - Based on
plastic management Rules - June 2022
deadline.
- ② Extended Producers Responsibility - polluter Pays
Principle - take back, recycle
- ③ Project REPLAN - empowers MSMEs
involved in single use plastic manufacture
- alternate livelihood.
- ④ LiFE movement at Glasgow COP - Stress on
circular economy.

Gradual phase out of single use plastics and
alternate practices adoption is a sabka
Saathi Sabka Vikas approach to curb plastic
pollution.

6. Aapda Mitra – a force of volunteers from across India trained in disaster response – is becoming a game changer in the field of disaster management in the country. Elaborate. (150 words) 10
आपदा मित्र-आपदा प्रतिक्रिया हेतु प्रशिक्षित भारत भर के स्वयंसेवकों का एक बल-देश में आपदा प्रबंधन के क्षेत्र में एक गेम चेंजर के रूप में उभर रहा है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Aapda Mitras are the force of volunteers who are recruited, trained and deployed across India to facilitate disaster response in an agile and swift way.

Features of Aapda Mitra scheme

- ① Young active select volunteers
- ② Financial incentives for contribution
- ③ Specialised training – for multiple as well as specific disaster response techniques
- ④ Employment opportunities – latest avenues to disaster management industry.

Role of Aapda Mitras – Advantages

- ① improve pre-disaster strategy

- technological empowerment for prediction and prevention
- manage drones, conduct hazard surveys
- ② Assist district administration
relief & recovery tasks
- ③ Participatory approach - Trained to
manage disability inclusive methods.

Challenges

- ① Does allocation of funds
- ② Generalised training
- ③ Uncertain career - Disaster in an
unforeseen event.
- ④ Disaster misconceptions and lack of awareness
not addressed.

~~Har~~da Mitra is new aspirational initiative which can empower youth and manage disasters in an holistic way for a Safer India.

7. Why is the rise in lone wolf attacks considered as a serious challenge for security agencies around the world? Highlight the role of the internet in exacerbating such attacks. (150 words) 10

विश्व भर में लोन वुल्फ हमलों में वृद्धि को सुरक्षा एजेंसियों के लिए एक गंभीर चुनौती क्यों माना जाता है? ऐसे हमलों की वृद्धि में इंटरनेट की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Lone wolf attacks refer to criminal tactics adopted by anonymous warfare to cause civilian damages and target strategic resources.

E.g. Charlie Hebdo - France
Easter Attack - Sri Lanka

Challenges for security agencies around the world

- ① Anonymity - lack of traceability - often attempt attack as suicide
- ② Difficult to gather intelligence - no connective evidence
- ③ Do not provide financial resource links.
- ④ Most uncertain - difficult to predict
or surveillance of attack-time & place
- ⑤ Manipulate strategic assets such as military camps or ports etc.

Role of internet in exacerbating Lone wolf Attacks

- ① Facilitates cryptographic secrecy
- no evidence of communication with the
criminal gang
- ② Internet penetration to difficult
terrains - easier attacking in Jammu &
Kashmir, also Naxal forests in Chhattisgarh
- ③ Allows avenues of cyber warfare
- attack on surveillance channels and
remotely disable drones.

Lone wolf Attacks are both internal and external threat to all countries around the world - its inclusion in UN-CCIT framework can facilitate better studies on them.

8. The fundamental inefficiencies embedded in our military structures and processes are now being addressed through a slew of defence reforms in the country. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

हमारे सैन्य ढांचे और प्रक्रियाओं में अंतर्निहित मूलभूत अक्षमताओं को अब देश में विभिन्न रक्षा सुधारों के माध्यम से दूर किया जा रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

With highest allocation of budget to Defence Ministry and India being 2nd largest defence importer points to the need of defence reforms.

Fundamental inefficiencies in military structure

- ① lack of modernised and technological training
- ② High dependance on imports - for warfare
E.g. Su30, Rafale, Araku class submarines
- ③ poor defence and border infrastructure
- due to difficult terrains

Defence Reforms announced to address

- ① Agnipath scheme - create a younger

and agile military force

- ② Indigenisation of defence procurement
 - incentives to Indian companies [SRITAN portal]
- ③ Collaboration at international level
 - for emerging technologies and hybrid warfare
 - GPAI, Project Kautilya with Israel
- ④ Upgraded surveillance system through cyber defence mechanism
- ⑤ Comprehensive Border Management System
 - Use BOLDQIT across Bangladesh, use of CCTVs, thermal sensors.
- ⑥ Boosting defence exports - revenue generation
- ⑦ Extension of PM Jan Aarogya Yojana to para-military forces - social security.
- ⑧ Integrated Theatre Commands [ITC]
 - Successive defence committees like Kargil Review Report and Shekhar report stress on PPP-GOCO model in defence for further reforms.

9. In light of the recent establishment of the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in India, discuss the advantages and challenges in mainstreaming traditional medicine in the country. (150 words) 10

हाल ही में, भारत में डब्ल्यू. एच. ओ. ग्लोबल सेंटर फॉर ट्रेडिशनल मेडिसिन की स्थापना के आलोक में, देश में पारंपरिक चिकित्सा को मुख्यधारा में लाने के लाभों और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, WHO has setup Global Centre of Traditional Medicine in Jamnagar, Gujarat for research and development of ancient healthcare practices.

Advantages of mainstreaming Traditional Medicine

- ① Find therapeutic and alternate cures to non-curable diseases like CANCER.
- ② Assist in treatments of systems along with modern medicine - without side effects.
E.g. Yoga and Naturopathy more preferable than painkillers.
- ③ Deep dive into more sustainable processes of medicine development
E.g. Sowa Rigpa and Ayurveda

- ④ cut import dependance of India
(like APIs from china)
- ⑤ Preventive healthcare knowledge
- best vaccine research.

Challenges in Traditional Medicine

- ① Lack of research and development
E.g. Homesopathy sometimes aggravates
symptoms in leukoderma
- ② No proper guidelines and less budget
allocation
- ③ Restraint and protest from other doctors
E.g. Recent agitation of giving them surgeon
status.
- ④ Perpetuates traditionalism and ritualism
- aggravate social inequalities, patriarchy
due to religious sanctions.

Traditional Medicine in multiple ways can
augment our health ecosystem in
fighting future pandemics but with necessary
studies on it to achieve SDG No 3.

10. Nano Urea Liquid has the potential to transform farming in India and across the world by improving productivity while reducing environmental pollution and input cost. Discuss. (150 words) 10

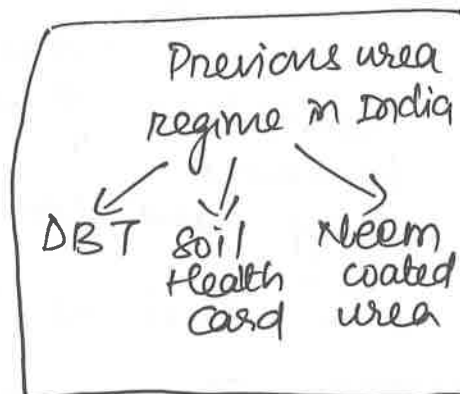
नैनो यूरिया लिक्विड में पर्यावरण प्रदूषण और इनपुट लागत को कम करने के साथ-साथ उत्पादकता में सुधार करके भारत और विश्व भर में कृषि कार्य को रूपांतरित करने की क्षमता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Nano Urea Liquid uses the nano-technology practice for targeted effect of the urea fertilizer on soil at nanoscale ($10^{-9}m$).

Potential of Nano urea liquid

- ① works at nanoscopic scale - optimum utilisation to avoid over use

(In India soil health on NPK fertilizers use is 8:3:1 while advised is 4:2:1).



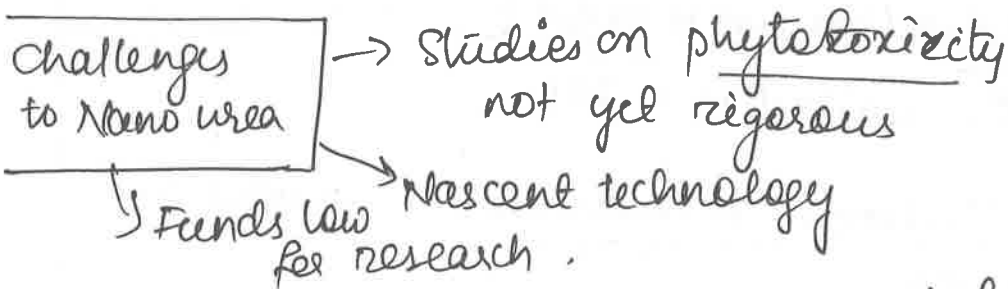
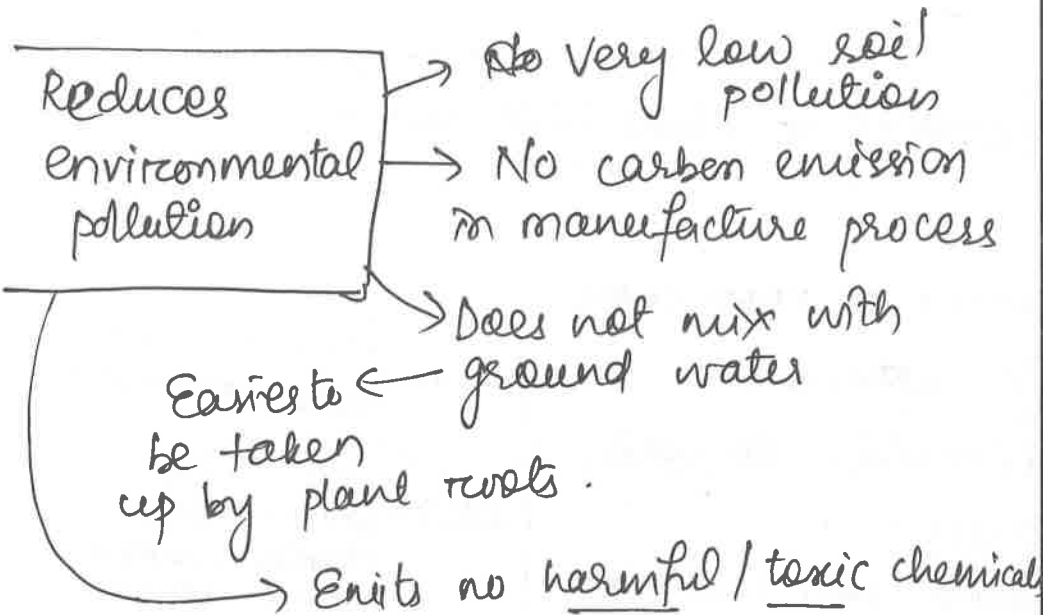
- ② Targeted intervention - maintains soil health

- ③ diquid form - no scope of smuggling, diverting or black market sale

- prevents revenue loss

④ Cheaper and easier process of manufacture - lower fiscal burden on subsidies

⑤ Easier to procure and transport
- better storage processes - with no losses.



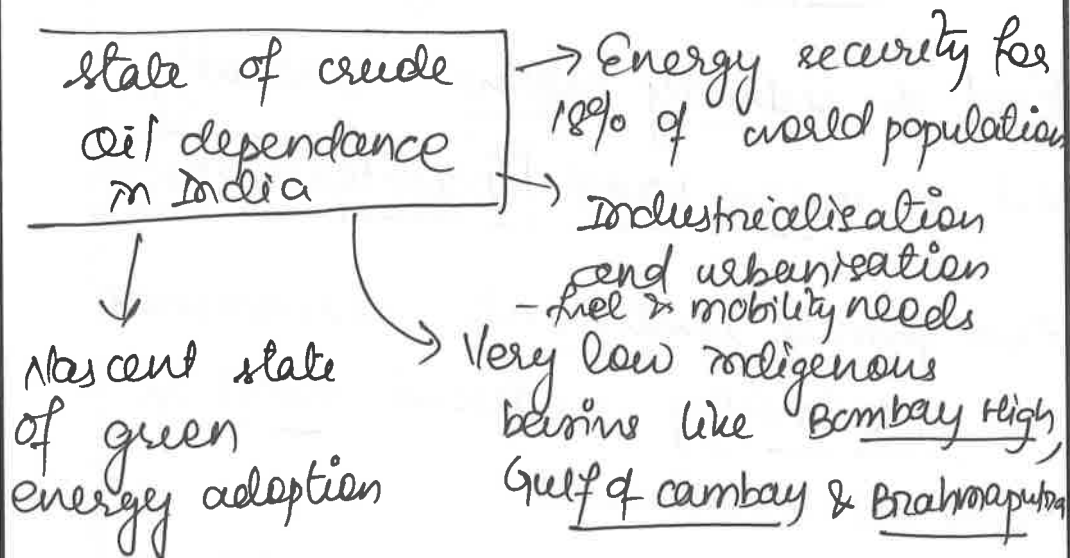
Nano urea can thus improve standard of living in soil biodiversity & and transform quality of welfare of farmers.

11. Discuss the domino effect of high crude oil prices on the Indian economy. Also, enumerate the measures that India can take in this context.

(250 words) 15

भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था पर कच्चे तेल की ऊंची कीमतों के डोमिनो प्रभाव की विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत द्वारा इस संदर्भ में अपनाए जा सकने वाले उपायों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

India fulfills 80% of oil and gas needs in energy sector through imported crude oils making high prices a cause of imported inflation.



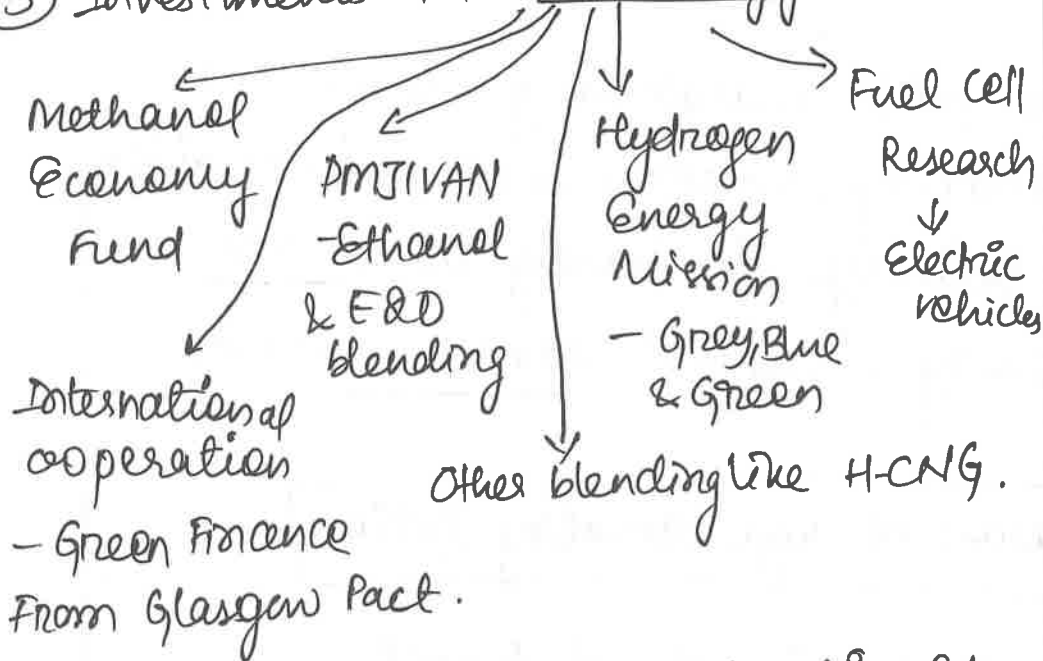
Domino Effect of high crude oil prices on Indian economy

- ① Rising fiscal deficit - occupies highest basket of imports

- ② Burden on middle class and general citizens - for domestic and vehicular needs
(LPG) (Petrol, Diesel).
- ③ raising excise duty and non inclusion in GST regime.
- ③ Perpetuates previous loans - repayment of oil bonds a challenge
- ④ End of subsidy regime - currently based on market based Trade Parity Price
- ⑤ Poor private sentiments - advancement in clean technology - reduced thrill in crude oil investment.
- Measures to nullify effect on economy
- ① Diversify import destinations - averse the instability risk of west Asia.

② Reduce import basket expenditure
- goal of 10% lowering by 2022

③ Investments in Clean Energy



④ Promote Hydrocarbon Exploration Policy

- Transparent auctions, revenue-sharing model, allow commercial use - include private participation

⑤ Burden on citizen reduce - inclusion in GST regime.

Reforms in India's crude oil and energy policies are a pre-cursor to achieving SDG 16 and higher Human Development Index.

12. The consistent high operating ratio of the Indian Railways is indicative of its incapability to generate high operational surplus. Explain the reasons behind this trend. Also, highlight the remedial measures taken by the government in this regard. (250 words) 15

भारतीय रेलवे का लगातार उच्च परिचालन अनुपात उच्च परिचालन अधिशेष सृजित करने में असमर्थता का संकेत है। इस प्रवृत्ति हेतु उत्तरदायी कारणों को स्पष्ट कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपचारात्मक उपायों को रेखांकित कीजिए।

The profit margin of government in functioning, maintenance and operations of Railways is hardly about 5% revealing a trend of very low surplus

Reasons of high operating Ratio

- ① subsidised rates of travel
- ② Poor maintenance and upgradation
Investments E.g. Delay in Mumbai-Ahmedabad
High Speed Railway
- ③ Government monopoly → Bureaucratic Archaic Decision making → Security of Tenure
↓
No incentive to improve
← Protests from railway unions
← ~~See~~ Improvement

- ④ Virtual absence of private excellence
- ⑤ outdated technology
- ⑥ continued dependance on non fossil
sources.
- ⑦ End of separate railway budget
- ⑧ Corruption across Railways hierarchy

Remedial Measures Taken by government

- ① Railway Policy vision 2030
- electrification, fleet modernisation
and increase cargo transport
- ② Private player inclusion and adopting
best practices - Tejas by IRCTC
- ③ Corporate bureaucracy - modernize
workforce - Indian Railway Management

Service - single hierarchy

④ Cleaning and maintenance of railway stations - under Swachh Bharat Mission

- beautification, Green curtains and

Bio Toilets. ⑤ Gati Shakti ^{NIP and} - Master Plan investments

⑥ Reforms in Railway Board

⑦ Digitizing processes - ticketing, Scheduling, cancelling etc.

⑧ Increase luxury fleet - more revenue generation capacity - cross pricing strategy.

Concerns → Retrenchment (officers)
→ Profiteering (privatisation)
→ skilling & capacity building.

Railway reforms ~~are~~ can go a long way to our historical vision of United India - Ek Bharat Sresth Bharat if done in an inclusive way

13. Micro food processing sector is the key driver of growth in the Indian economy as it encourages food processing innovation. In this context, state the challenges faced by the micro food processing sector and discuss how the recent initiatives taken by the government aim to address them.

(250 words) 15

सूक्ष्म खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्रक भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में संवृद्धि का प्रमुख चालक है क्योंकि यह खाद्य प्रसंस्करण नवाचार को प्रोत्साहित करता है। इस संदर्भ में, सूक्ष्म खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए और चर्चा कीजिए कि किस प्रकार सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में प्रारंभ की गई पहलों का उद्देश्य इनका समाधान करना है।

As per Shanta Kumar committee, food processing is done on only 3% of grains produced with 65% of industry having rural presence.

Challenges faced by micro food processing sector

- ① less value addition - stress on grain exports in India
- ② lowers availability & penetration of credit facilities - about 40% rural loans have informal origin
- ③ lack technology, manpower, funds and infrastructure

- ④ Poor cold storage and sterilization infrastructure Eg. Milk - Butter.
- ⑤ Marketing, branding, labeling
- still primitive - price realisation is low
- ⑥ Under developed upmarket - downmarket linkages.
- ⑦ Less awareness about govt help.
- ⑧ Regional disparity

Cooperatives prevail in west & south

privates - North west.

Government initiative to promote MFPs

- ① Mega Food Parks
- ② Tomatoes - Onion - Potato scheme (TOP)
- extension to all fruits & vegetables.

Fig: Potential of Micro food processing (MFP) in India



- ③ PM Kisan Sampada Yojana - Ministry of Food Processing
- ④ PM Matysa Sampada Yojana - promote fisheries
- ⑤ Agriculture & Animal Husbandary Infrastructure Fund
- ⑥ Kisan Credit card - can be used for farm & storage → infrastructure investment
- ⑦ Agro Export Policy - commerce Ministry support to Sanitary & Phytosanitary Guidelines
- ⑧ Ministry of cooperation formed - encourage farmer producer organisations
- ⑨ MUDRA, interest subvention for credit

Micro food processing can form a backbone for India as an export hub for processed food that supports Green Revolution 2.0.

14. Despite efforts by successive governments, equitable growth remains elusive and income inequality continues to persist in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

क्रमिक सरकारों के प्रयासों के बावजूद, न्यायसंगत विकास दुष्प्राप्य बना हुआ है और भारत में आय असमानता निरंतर बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए।

According to Oxfam Report, richest 1% Indians hold ~~to~~ more wealth than 70% at bottom whose wealth again increased by 34% (super rich) during COVID lockdown.

Efforts of successive governments
for equitable growth & inequality reduction

- ① Poverty alleviation programs like community development & MGNREGA.
- ② Livelihood generation - Swarna Jayanti Rozgar Yojana to NULM & NRLM.
- ③ Women empowerment by Maternity Benefit Act, ICDS, Matru Vandana

Causes of the failure of above & inequality persisting

① limitations in policy design

- lack of data (85% informal sector)
- very low coverage (MBA only for formal)

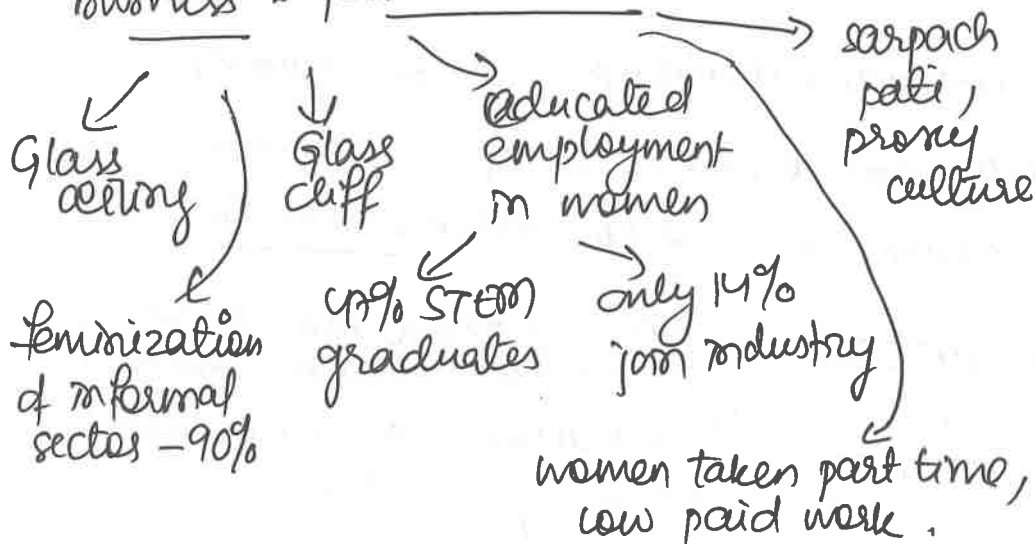
② corruption and misutilisation of funds

- siphoning MGNREGA, MDM allocations

③ social perceptions curbing gender

Equality - As per UN Social Norms Index,

90% Indians believe are not efficient
business & political leaders



④ social deficiencies - cultural barriers

that reproduce hierarchies - discrimination
against Dalits, displacements of

Tribals in development projects (Saxena committee).

⑤ Structural inconsistencies - persistent

malnutrition (NFHS - 2% children stunted
 → 15% Indians malnourished in some form
 → 50% women anemic).

⑥ Bureaucratic hurdles - Delays and scope of corruption

⑦ Lack of political will - perpetual
 freebies culture, vote bank and identity politics.

⑧ Unintended challenges - As per Human Development Report of UNDP - 100 million Indians pushed to extreme poverty.

Some success evident → 2005-2015 → 270 million rose away from extreme poverty
 → Reservation → Intergeneration mobility
 → POSHAN Abhiyan
 → lowering TFR & improving sex ratio

Inequality as a challenge is precursor dividend of equitable growth which requires proper address towards SDG Goal No 2, 5, 10.

15. Stating the factors that determine the employment situation of an economy in the long-term, discuss the measures that are needed for India to address its unemployment problem. **(250 words) 15**

किसी अर्थव्यवस्था की दीर्घावधि में रोजगार की स्थिति को निर्धारित करने वाले कारकों का उल्लेख करते हुए, उन उपायों की विवेचना कीजिए जो भारत में बेरोजगारी की समस्या के समाधान हेतु आवश्यक हैं।

With unemployment of situation of India reaching decades low at 7%, the problem has become a persisting policy change that halts economic growth.

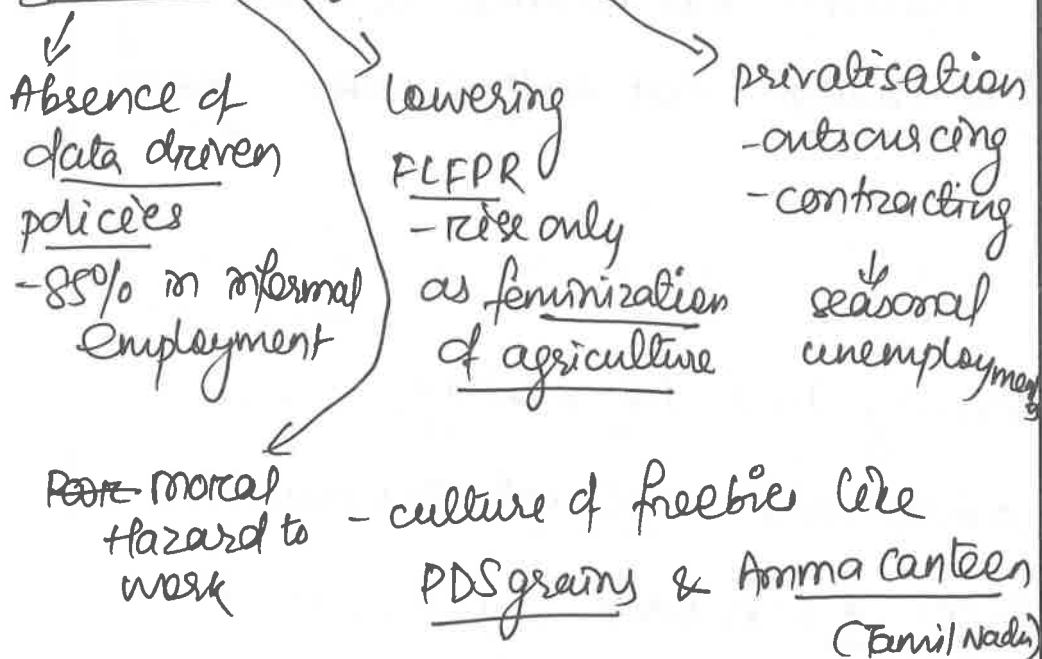
Factors of employment in long term

- ① skilling and Job creation
- ② capital and investment Expenditure.
- ③ sectors of economy E.g. misguised unemployment in agriculture
- ④ state of inflation - Phillips curve
- ⑤ stable policy regime - innovation and startup culture with MSME support
- ⑥ Government incentives like Rozgar

Pratsahan - for formalized employment

⑦ social conditions - determines female labour force participation rate (FLFPR)

Causes of high unemployment in India



Measures needed to address unemployment

① contextual skilling - preparedness for Industry 4.0

② creating level playing fields for privates - easing of Doing Business

GIPT city - tax incentives and detailed
companies set guidelines

③ labour code - reforms on social
security, employee responsibilities

④ Empowerment of disadvantaged
sections - make mobility feasible for
women, tribals, dalits - cut away
workplace discrimination.

⑤ Funds like Electronics fund, Green
Energy fund - job creation

⑥ Steps to formalise economy.

⑦ urban sectors MGNREGA

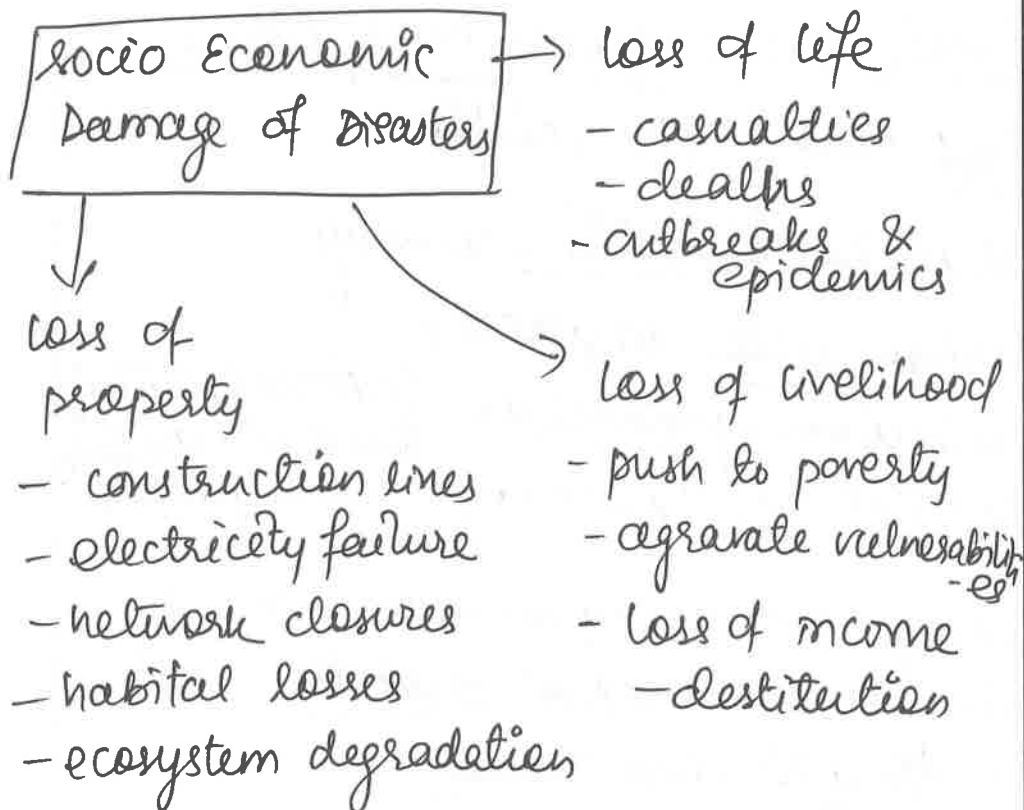
⑧ curriculum upgradation CVSSCOM survey
fund 25% graduate
⑨ Manufacturing share to 25% unemployable.

Tackling the unemployment crisis in
India is an essential facet to
our Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

16. In view of the rapidly increasing socio-economic damage caused by disasters, integrating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into development planning requires an effective stakeholder engagement mechanism. Discuss. (250 words) 15

आपदाओं के कारण तेजी से बढ़ रही सामाजिक-आर्थिक क्षति को देखते हुए, आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण (DRR) को विकास योजनाओं में एकीकृत करने के लिए एक प्रभावी हितधारक जुड़ाव तंत्र की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Disaster Risk Reduction is defined by UN as a set of organised steps that aims at decreasing socio-economic data damages before, during and after disasters.



Reduce

leveraging stakeholder engagement mechanisms to DRR

① Preparedness - development planning of resilient infrastructures, guidelines by government - Building Byelaws, Buffer Stocks and local empowerment

② Prevention and Prediction → Technology stakeholders
- early warning system
dEWS for landslides by GSI
INCOIS for cyclones
IMD predictions,
CSIR-disease research → Hazard zonation mapping
by NDMA, MoEarth Science,
Drone surveys

③ Mitigation - National and State
level Disaster Mitigation funds

- empowering locals and District Disaster Management Agency.

④ Rehabilitation - clear layout of entitlements of victims
 ↳ Disaster Insurance
 ↳ Survey of alternate habitation & livelihoods

⑤ Rescue & Relief Activities → volunteers like Aapda Mitras
 ↳ international cooperation by coalition on disasters
Resilient Infrastructure (CRI)

⑥ Reconstruction → Reinstating activities
 ↳ Climate smart PPPs - involve privates
 ↳ engage civil society → NGOs
 ↳ skilling of engineers, doctors.

Disasters can push population to extreme poverty, effective stakeholder mechanism envisaged in SENDAI framework is an urgent need.

17. Provide an account of the existing carbon trading mechanisms in India. Also, discuss the significance of an efficient carbon trading market in the country and state the challenges that currently exist. (250 words) 15

भारत में मौजूदा कार्बन व्यापार तंत्र का विवरण प्रस्तुत कीजिए। साथ ही, देश में एक कुशल कार्बन व्यापार बाजार के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए और वर्तमान समय में विद्यमान चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

Carbon Trading Market refers to the secondary market aimed at reducing carbon emissions through sale and purchase of carbon saving certificates.

Existing carbon Trading Mechanism in India

- ① Indian Energy Exchange (INX)
- ② PXIL - Power Exchange India Limited
- ③ GTAM - Green Term Ahead Market
- ④ Energy Saving Certificates - by Bureau of Energy Efficiency - Perform Achieve Trade Scheme.
- ⑤ Renewable Purchase Obligations - for industries and power sectors

⑥ Bundling system - Renewable Generation
Obligation on Thermal Power Plants

⑦ International level - India purchase
purchase carbon credits & Joint Implementation

Project — USA — USAID — USAID
UK — SUNRISE PROJECT
Netherlands — LOTUS HR.

⑧ BSE - GREENEX.

Significance of carbon trading

① Reduce carbon emissions by polluters
- cap their carbon footprint

② Reduces air pollution & marine eutrophication
NCR region.

③ Achieving Panchamrit target
of reducing by 50% - 2030.

④ Facilitates green financing

⑤ Encourage climate smart PPPs,
climate adaptive manufacturing

- ⑥ Funds for sustainable agriculture
- ⑦ Research on green energy - ethanol, hydrogen.

Challenges to Carbon Trading in India

- ① under-developed stock market and share-exchange penetration - NSE, BSE major players only.
- ② Limited retail participation
- ③ continued high dependance on coal - 80% of energy needs
- ④ most companies fail to comply
- ⑤ Absence of strict Environment Impact Assessment regime
- ⑥ less incentive for Renewable research - achievers keep certificates in surplus.

Carbon Trading Market in India can be beneficial in augmenting the social stock Exchange and achieving Net zero by 2070.

18. The menace of drug trafficking in India has been on a rise due to a mix of factors, both internal and external. Discuss. Also, state the challenges posed by drug trafficking to India's national security. (250 words) 15

भारत में ड्रग ट्रेफिकिंग का खतरा आंतरिक और बाह्य दोनों कारकों के समन्वय के कारण बढ़ रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत की राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के समक्ष ड्रग ट्रेफिकिंग से उत्पन्न चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

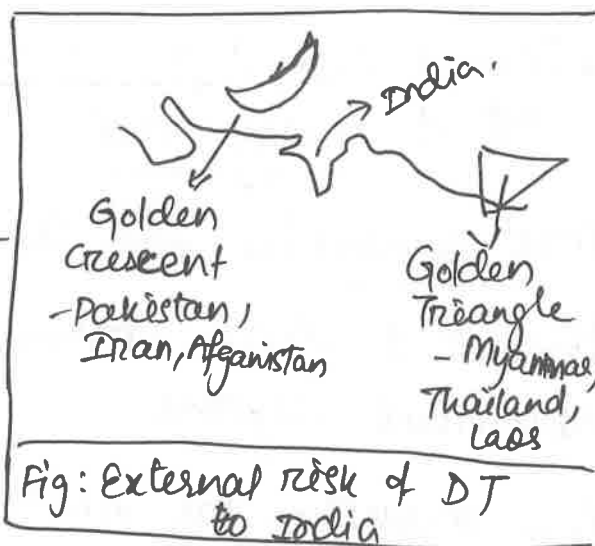
Drug Trafficking is an organised crime syndicate ^{DT} thriving on a parallel economy that has socio-economic and health repercussions.

External factors of DT

- ① Golden crescent - on North-west borders - high

Substance abuse in Punjab.

- ② Golden Triangle - North East borders - high intoxication in tribal men



Internal Factors of DT

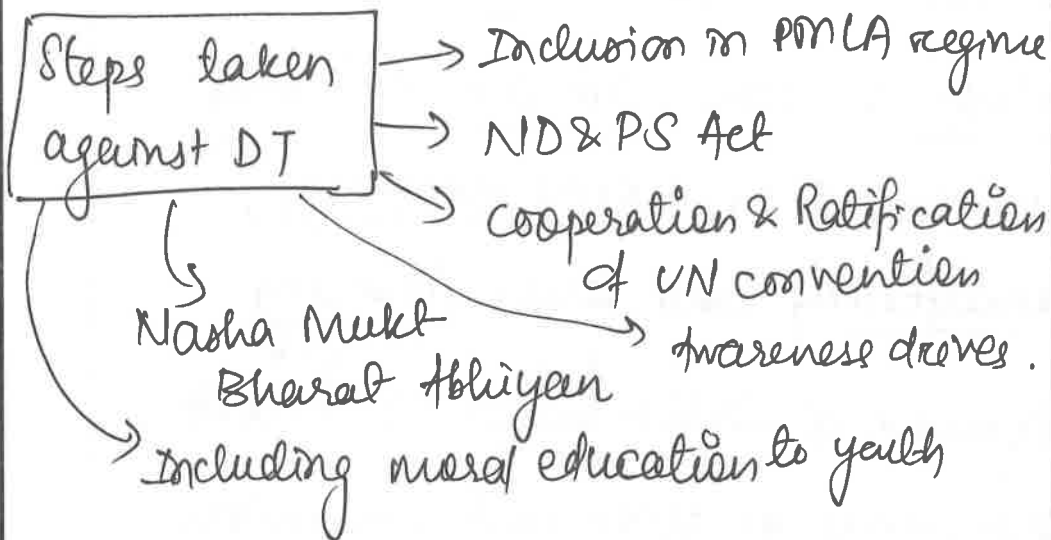
- ① unemployment

- and misleading youth
- ② individualism - modernity fallouts of stress and high aspirations.
 - ③ Radicalisation - indoctrinating agents of terror outfits

Challenges posed by DT

- ① links to other criminal networks
- involvement in money laundering,
counterfeiting and terror financing.
- ② Inclusion of Indian youth in terrorism
- insurgency in North East, extremism
in Jammu & Kashmir.
- ③ facilitate arms smuggling
- ④ Citizen security - Exchange of drugs
for human trafficking (women).

- ⑤ Tax evasion - hawala & loss to exchequer.
- ⑥ Health repercussions - reduces productivity of labour.
- ⑦ propagate riots, conflicts, violence, fake news and rumour mongering.



The menace of drug trafficking is an abhorrent crime that requires an immediate eradication plan at international level.

19. The Andaman and Nicobar islands' strategic significance in the Indian Ocean region (IOR) has been underplayed by India's policy of 'masterly inactivity and benign neglect'. Critically discuss. (250 words) 15

हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र (IOR) में अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह के रणनीतिक महत्व को भारत की 'कुशल अकर्मण्यता और सौम्य उपेक्षा' की नीति के तहत कम करके आंका गया है। समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

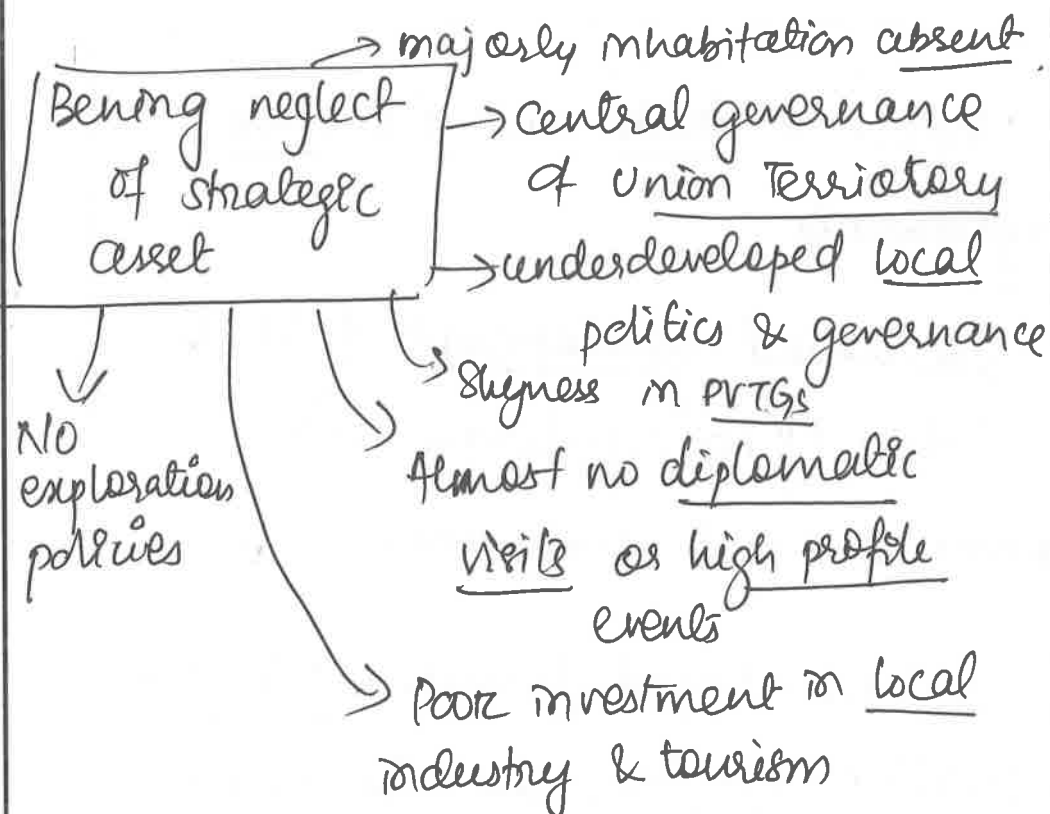
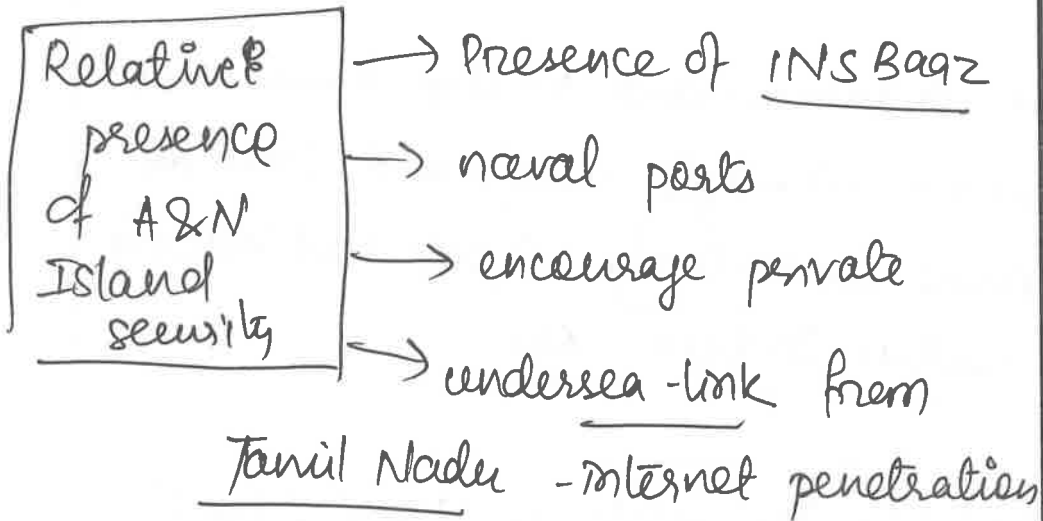
The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are India's strategic assets and land for marine connectivity, trade and security in Eastern Indian Ocean.

Masterly inactivity in A & N Islands

- ① Neglect in trade and transport agreements
- ② Overlooked development of locals
- holds PVTG populations like
Sentinelese and Andamanese.
- ③ Underdeveloped tourism potential
- pristine beaches, sand bar islands

and corals.

(4) Poor security, defence and military presence.



However, strategic importance being recognised and improvised gradually.

- ① Renaming of Neil, Ross, Barren Islands
→ Swaraj Sweep, saheed Sweep has re-energised awareness in mainland
- ② Connectivity improved - flights from Kolkata, Bangalore, Chennai airports
- ③ coral protection initiatives by Coastal Regulation Rules
- ④ mangrove restoration - rain forests.
- ⑤ increasing military presence.
- ⑥ supporting local business - proliferation of cafe, resorts, startups.

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands as a strategic significant island has to be incorporated to our vision of Azadi Ka Amrit Kaal.

20. India has recently commissioned the world's first large International Liquid-Mirror Telescope (ILMT). How will the newly commissioned telescope aid in India's astronomical observations and research? (250 words) 15

हाल ही में, भारत ने विश्व का पहला विशाल इंटरनेशनल लिक्विड-मिरर टेलीस्कोप (ILMT) स्थापित किया है। यह नवनिर्मित टेलीस्कोप खगोलीय पर्यवेक्षणों और अनुसंधान में भारत की किस प्रकार सहायता करेगा?

International Liquid Mirror Telescope
has been introduced in India as a
facilitator of advanced space and
astronomical developments.

Aid in observations and Research

- ① Multi wavelength capability and increased area of vision
- ② Provide inputs on space militarisation
- ③ Method of installation under water - safe, secure and secret way of surveillance possible.
- ④ Belter predict astronomical events like asteroid impacts and help in

Blackholes

- ⑤ Facilitate research on water and air quality - atmosphere of distant galaxies
- ⑥ Encourage private participation through NSPACE guidelines
- ⑦ Better insights - assist in space tourism
- ⑧ Find effects & increase in space debris.
- ⑨ Remote sensing, land graphing and connectivity advantages
- ⑩ Promote an era of innovation.

The ILMT as an new entrant to Indian astronomical industry can foster a scientific ecosystem and reduce brain drain.

