

VISION IAS

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1828)

Name of Candidate	Sulabhi Yadav		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	1133075
Center	—	Date	15/12/22

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

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 **ENGLISH & HINDI** इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी 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. 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.

VisionIAS

1. Discuss the significance of the International Solar Alliance and highlight the initiatives taken by it in recent times. **(150 words) 10**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सौर गठबंधन के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए और हाल के दिनों में इसके द्वारा आरंभ की गई पहलों को रेखांकित कीजिए।

Ans. International Solar Alliance is a coalition of mostly solar resource rich countries to work for efficient harness of solar energy. Came together during COP21, Paris

Significance of ISA

- 1- Indian leadership - HQ gurgaon, India. India will get opportunity to lead alliance to clean energy.
- 2- Technology - will harness new technology and ease adopting renewable source of energy.
- 3- Finance - each nation contributing to create solar infrastructure.
India - \$ 27 million.
- 4- Energy Security - will help meet SDG 7 of providing clean energy.

5- Help Least- Developed Countries (LDC) develop low carbon growth.

Recent Initiatives of ISA

1- One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG)

- Based on Idea that Sun never Sets
- aim of building global cooperation to share renewable energy resources.

2- ISA Solar Alliance Technology and Application Resource Centre (ISTARC)

- It is created to help collaborative Research & Development among ISA members.

3- Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Scheme

- 21 day training to master trainers.

International Solar Alliance is an opportunity for India to strengthen its position in renewable energy sector and move towards addressing its NDC goals.

2. Identify the factors behind the problem of low agricultural productivity in India. What initiatives have been taken by the government to address this problem?

(150 words) 10

भारत में निम्न कृषि उत्पादकता की समस्या के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों की पहचान कीजिए। इस समस्या के समाधान के लिए सरकार द्वारा कौन-सी पहलें शुरू की गई हैं?

Ans. Agriculture sector employs almost 55% population (census 2011) yet contributes only 20% to India's GDP. This points towards low agricultural productivity - Reasons

- 1- Irrigation - Farmers depend on rainfall. With climate change - many irregularities in climate pattern
- 2- Fragmented land Holdings - Despite land reforms, Agricultural land remains fragmented, mainly due to division at inheritance.
- 3- low quality seeds - Due to high cost many farmers have not adopted HYV seeds
- 4- Inaccessible fertilizers - Despite huge subsidy, cost of fertilizers remain high.

- 5- Small lands - According to Ministry of Agriculture - average land holding is only 1.08 ha in 2015-16.
- 6- Costly inputs - eg: tractors & other accessories costly. Small farmers can't afford. SHGs not prevalent everywhere.

Initiatives by Government

- 1- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana.
convergence of investment in irrigation at field level.
- 2- National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)
focus on integrated farming, water use efficiency, soil health management.
- 3- Near Coated Urea : Govt has also granted permission to IFFCO to produce nano-UREA.

Farmers are the backbone of country. Agricultural productivity is important to ensure food security. Farmers need to be educated to maximise their yields - through apps like Super app.

3. Despite pulses providing dual benefits of nutritional security and sustaining agricultural production systems, India has not been able to achieve self-sufficiency in their production. Discuss. (150 words) 10

हालांकि, दलहन पोषण सुरक्षा और कृषि उत्पादन प्रणालियों को स्थायी बनाए रखने का दोहरा लाभ प्रदान करते हैं, तथापि भारत इनके उत्पादन में आत्मनिर्भरता प्राप्त करने में सक्षम नहीं हुआ है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans. India is one of the largest producer of pulses but also the largest importer. Pulses are consumed in abundance in India & also produced because -

- 1- High in protein content - provides strength.
- 2- Water efficient & climate resilient crop : can also be grown in drought prone areas.
- 3- Helps in fixing soil fertility.

But still India has not been able to achieve self-sufficiency in production because :-

- 1- Absence of availability of high yielding varieties of crop.
- 2- low level of mechanisation in general in agriculture.

- 3- Irregular procurement by government agencies.
- 4- Markets are uncertain.
- 5- Unfavourable prices and trade practices.
- 6- lack of serious attempt to use new / advanced technology to increase production.
- 7- Many farmers not aware of using pulses in crop rotation to enrich soil fertility.
- 8- Great promotion of crops like wheat and rice not done by government.

In the last few years we have seen decline in pulses import, saving more than 15,000 crore / yr. This needs further boost from government by creating better procurement policies, introduce new HYV seeds, ensure value chains development and farmer knowledge & awareness to be enhanced.

4. What do you understand by methanol economy? Critically discuss its role in achieving India's energy security and economic prosperity. (150 words) 10
मेथनॉल अर्थव्यवस्था से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और आर्थिक समृद्धि प्राप्त करने में इसकी भूमिका की समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans. The concerns have been raised at COP26 and recently at COP27 about the environmental impact of fossil fuels. So the world economies are moving towards cleaner fuels.

'Methanol Economy' is NITI Aayog's programme to replace petrol and diesel with methanol. According

to NITI Aayog Methanol, though low in energy content, it can replace petrol and diesel in

- 1- Transport sector (rail, road, marine)
- 2- Energy sector (boilers, tractors etc)
- 3- Retail cooking (LPG, kerosene, wood charcoal etc)

Methanol Economy role in achieving India's energy security & economic prosperity :-

- 1- Reduce import- Bill
 - can save 6000 cr annually by blending 20% DME in LPG.
- 2- Job creation
 - will create 5 million jobs.
- 3- 15% methanol in gasoline will reduce GHG emission by 20%.
Help meet NDC goals.
- 4- Household savings by atleast 20% by blending in cooking fuels.

However, there are certain challenges :-

- 1- Infrastructure & transportation constraints.
- 2- Municipal waste segregation serious issue to produce methanol from waste.
- 3- low investment & technology.

The Government should look for Research in Methanol Economy to make it efficient & cost effective on large scale.

5. Despite many initiatives towards road safety, India accounts for 11% of the global death in road accidents with about 1% of the world's vehicles. Discuss. (150 words) 10

सड़क सुरक्षा की दिशा में की गई अनेक पहलों के बावजूद, विश्व स्तर पर सड़क दुर्घटनाओं में होने वाली मृत्यु के मामले में भारत 11% के लिए जिम्मेदार है, जबकि यहाँ विश्व के लगभग 1% वाहन हैं। विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans. Government has taken various initiatives towards road safety like -

- 1- Road engineering - marking clearly accident-prone regions, glow in dark markings etc.
- 2- Vehicles engineering - Airbags etc.
- 3- Availability of Ambulances at each toll plaza for emergency needs.

Yet, India accounts for very high number of Deaths because -

- 1- Over speeding : Despite warnings like 'Dunghatna se der Bhali' and other warning, people especially youth drives at high speed making vehicles uncontrollable.

- 2- Won't wear Helmets / seat Belts -
It's just imbibed in nature of human, won't coz of minute inconvenience.
- 3- Lack of knowledge of traffic rules
- 4- Won't help person who met with accident for fear of police harassment - Despite SC directing that witness helping will have to give statement only once.
- 5- Poor conditions of roads - Many roads developed potholes. During rain - unrecognisable, people fall & die.

Government needs to ensure strict fines for not wearing helmet or not following traffic rules. Roads must be repaired at regular intervals by Municipal Corporations for cities & NHAI & other authorities for highways.

6. Increasing the share of rail freight in the overall modal mix could present a golden opportunity for India to shift to an efficient freight paradigm. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

समग्र मोडल मिक्स में माल ढुलाई में रेलवे की हिस्सेदारी बढ़ाने से भारत को एक कुशल माल ढुलाई प्रतिमान में स्थानांतरित होने का एक सुनहरा अवसर प्राप्त हो सकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans. Railways are one of the most important freight carriers in India, Specially bulk cargo. Railways carry almost 22-25% of the cargo in India.

However, its important to share rail freight because -

- 1- Relatively cheaper than road transport.
- 2- Meet environmental goal, as it produces relatively less GHG emissions.
- 3- Reduces congestion on roads
- 4- It contribute to integrated logistics

But it faces certain issues -

- 1- Infrastructural constraints - lack of separate loading/unloading

space at railway stations, poor handling area etc.

- 2- No last mile connectivity - goods need to be sent to railway stations & then picked up. increasing the cost to consumers.
- 3- Lack of prioritisation & implementation: - goods are not prioritised, which could be sent earlier.

Way forward

- 1- Government came up with Dedicated freight corridor to increase freight share to 50% by 2030. Needs to be implemented.
- 2- Better Infrastructure Development.
- 3- Training the staff better deal with goods.
- 4- Goods dedicated wagons could be developed.

Railways can emerge as important logistical aid to the government if well developed.

7. The Major Port Authorities Act, 2021, seeks to grant greater autonomy and flexibility to the major ports and professionalise their governance. Discuss.

(150 words) 10

प्रमुख बंदरगाह प्राधिकरण अधिनियम, 2021, प्रमुख बंदरगाहों को अधिक स्वायत्तता और लचीलापन प्रदान करने तथा उनके शासन को पेशेवर बनाने का प्रयास करता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

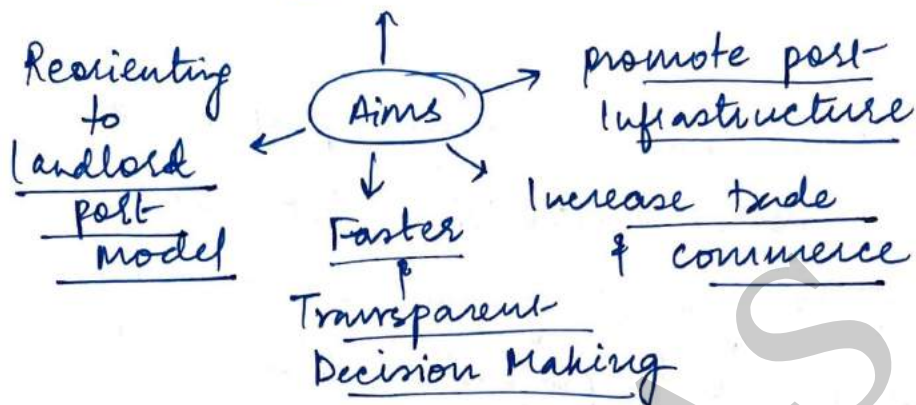
Ans. India has 12 major ports. and Major Port Authorities Act, 2021 aimed to grant greater autonomy to ports. and professionalise their governance.

It has following provisions :-

<u>Board of Major Port Authority</u>	<u>Adjudicatory Board</u>	<u>Penalties</u>
allowed to use Property, Assets, Funds as deemed fit for development of Ports.	carry out residual function of Tariff Authority of Major Ports	If anyone violates, fine upto one lakh.

The Act has following aims :-

Decentralisation



It'll provide

- 1- Equal playing field for major and private posts.
- 2- Develop on lines of Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

Challenges

- ~~is~~ Seen as moving towards privatisation & diluting powers of government.

The Board should be independent of political influence to be able to exercise the powers granted to it by the Act. It'll definitely help our posts compete with private posts.

8. Analyse the need for shifting from presumptive land titling to conclusive land titling system in India. Also, highlight the hurdles in its implementation. (150 words) 10

भारत में अनुमानित भूमि स्वामित्व से निर्णायक भूमि स्वामित्व प्रणाली में स्थानांतरण की आवश्यकता का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके क्रियान्वयन में आने वाली बाधाओं को रेखांकित कीजिए।

Ans. Presumptive land titling refers to the method of land records, maintained with information about possession. This information is determined by past transactions. On the other hand.

Conclusive land titling method, land records designate actual ownership.

Need for shift

- 1- Reduce litigation - won't have to derive ownership, its visible.
- 2- Reduce risk of questioning of ownership
- 3- Reduction in Black Marketing - of land transactions.
- 4- Help farmers have easy access

to credit by showing the records straight.

Hurdles in Implementation

- 1- land records have not been updated from a long time.
- 2- Many do not have conclusive papers to establish ownership
- 3- Records in name of grandparents with no proof of evidence.
- 4- Without updates, process could create more issues - as in case of NRC in Assam.

Way forward

- 1- Involving Gram Panchayat - carry out local level surveys.
- 2- Methods to update records periodically.

9. In light of various issues being faced, discuss the need for a revamped and need-based PDS in India. (150 words) 10

सामना की जा रही विभिन्न समस्याओं के आलोक में, भारत में एक पुनर्निर्मित और आवश्यकता-आधारित पी.डी.एस. की आवश्यकता की विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans. Public Distribution System is Central sponsored Scheme to ensure food security in the Nation.

However, PDS faces various issues:-

- 1- Exclusion : There's ~~arbitrarily~~ cap of maximum beneficiaries at 800 million. Also, no updates on Population Data since Census 2011.
- 2- Migratory labour can have access only at one place & not when they move to new place for work. eg' During Corona.
- 3- Corruption - Grain do not reach beneficiaries, fake data uploaded.
- 4- Huge subsidy bill incurred by government. approx 2.5 lakh crore.

Therefore, there's need for revamped & need-based PDS

- 1- Under PDS mainly wheat, rice procured by govt at MSP, higher

than market price, incentivise farmers, they don't grow other crops like pulses.

2- PDS crops are water intensive - Impact environment.

3- No. of people below poverty line are declining yet share of PDS increasing.

4- Inadequate Storage Capacity with fair price shops leads to rotting of grain.

5- NFSA increased withdrawal rates by State.

Way forward

1- Need to relook pricing mechanisms.

2- NFSA (National Food Security Act), 2006 needs to be revisited.

3- Flat rates could be replaced by slab system.

4- Re assessing the beneficiaries.

5- Implement One Nation, One Ration Card system.

10. Planning for the potential long-term impacts of climate change on agriculture needs to be prioritised to mitigate threats it poses to India's food security. Discuss. (150 words) 10

भारत की खाद्य सुरक्षा के समक्ष जलवायु परिवर्तन से उत्पन्न होने वाले खतरों को कम करने के लिए, कृषि पर इसके संभावित दीर्घकालिक प्रभावों की योजना बनाने को प्राथमिकता दिए जाने की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans. Climate change is impacting almost every sector, agriculture being one of the most vulnerable. It is important for food security.

Need for planning

1. Dependence on rains for irrigation
Irregular rains due to climate change impacts crop yield.
2. Plant based diet : India diet is heavily dependent on plant based food.
3. Meet SDG 2 : No hunger
4. Major component of Public Distribution system - wheat, rice, pulses, oil etc.
5. India already ranks 107/121 in Global Hunger Index Report-2022.

Challenges

- 1- Huge cost to develop climate resilient infrastructure: power supply to provide water to crops
- 2- Uneducated and fragmented land holdings.
- 3- Need Research & Development to devise climate resistance seeds & agricultural methods.

Government Initiatives

- 1- At COP27, new initiative - FAST - Food and Agricultural Sustainable Transformation
- Increase finance, contribute to adaptive efforts.
- 2- Reducing edible oil imports & developing productivity.

Thus, with better planning and measures we can ensure food security in long-term. Enhancing productivity and financial intervention could help secure food for future.

11. Private sector participation in the operations of Indian Railways can provide a solution to the multiple issues that it faces. Discuss. Also, highlight the features of the Bharat Gaurav Scheme in this context.

(250 words) 15

भरतीय रेलवे के संचालन में निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी इसके समक्ष विद्यमान अनेक समस्याओं का समाधान प्रदान कर सकती है। विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संदर्भ में भारत गौरव योजना की विशेषताओं को भी रेखांकित कीजिए।

Ans. According to CAI report Indian Railways has incurred loss of approx 26,000 crore in 2019-20. To reduce these losses one of the measure suggested to reduce losses and multiple other issues is private sector participation because -

1- Efficient Management of Human Resource: due to security of government job, staff become lazy & non-complacent, this could be alerted and more efficient with private sector.

2- Maintenance of Infrastructure: - like Road maintenance by toll collectors (pvt), in Railways they could look after track maintenance.

Cause of train derailment & accidents - eg

- 3- Competitive ticketing : Currently, prices of tickets are ~~very~~ low, thus losses, better facility and competitive ticketing can reduce losses.
- 4- Development of Railway Stations - Platform tickets & development of Infra like Airports could be enhanced.
- 5- Introduce better technology to coordinate train timings, signals, increase speed of trains, ~~to~~ seat location systems etc.
- 6- Incorporate more passengers with new trains developed by inviting private players.
- 7- Promote tourism with Tourist specific trains.

In this light, government has also
brought- Bharat Gaurav scheme

any service provider
can lease train from govt
to run on them-based
↑ circuit

Features → any private
player has freedom
to decide tourist
circuit

Trains will be
leased for a minimum
of 2 years and a maximum
of service life of coach.

The scheme will provide a boost to
the tourism sector and also generate
revenue to Indian Railways.

Thus, Indian Railways need
innovation from decade old
specific ^{services} and private sector could
provide that boost and
enhanced services.

12. Discuss how the India Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture (IDEA) will help the government in increasing farmers' income and improving efficiency of the agriculture sector as a whole. Also, state the associated concerns.

(250 words) 15

चर्चा कीजिए कि इंडिया डिजिटल इकोसिस्टम ऑफ एग्रीकल्चर (IDEA) किसानों की आय बढ़ाने और समग्र रूप से कृषि क्षेत्र की दक्षता में सुधार करने में सरकार की किस प्रकार सहायता करेगा। साथ ही, इससे संबंधित चिंताओं का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Ans. India Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture (IDEA) is initiative by government to provide information & Aid Farmers digitally.

IDEA will help farmers by

1- Access to information :

Farmers will have better knowledge about fertilisers, crops and government schemes, thus helping farmers realise better options to support their income.

2- Help State & Central government

in planning and execution of schemes. It will also aid private sector & Farmers Producer Organisation (FPOs)

3- Improve efficiencies of agriculture resources - fertilisers, seeds, irrigation, technology etc.

4- Access to data will enable Research & Development & thus helping farmer increase their income.

5- Will also look forward to Public Private Participation.

However, the initiative comes with certain concerns

1- Lack of digital education :-
According to data, less than 60% have access to internet in rural areas.

- 2- Data Misuse : Creation of unique farmer's ID linked with Aadhar could be misused.
- 3- Lack of willingness of farmers to accept changes and innovation - eg: seen in case of Three Farm Bills in 2020.
- 4- Lack of awareness of many farmers are not associated with any kind of farmers Organisation.

Way forward

- 1- Educate young farmers about digital world.
- 2- Increase penetration of farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs)
- 3- Access to digital world by building easy interface.

13. Owing to rapid depletion of water resources, there is an urgent need to increase water use efficiency. In this context, discuss the status of irrigation in India and challenges faced. Also, suggest suitable measures to address the challenges. (250 words) 15

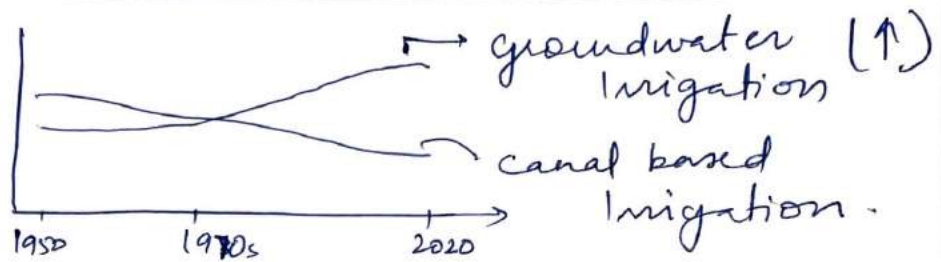
जल संसाधनों के तीव्र ह्रास को देखते हुए, जल उपयोग दक्षता बढ़ाने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में सिंचाई की स्थिति और सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए उपयुक्त उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Ans. Water, water everywhere, not a drop to drink. This presents the situation of water in the world. In recent decade we saw depletion of water resources, one of the contributing factor being irrigation.

Status of Irrigation in India

- 1- Since green revolution, cultivation of water intensive crops like Sugarcane, wheat, Rice in Haryana, Punjab, West UP, areas not suited for the crops. These use excessive irrigation.
- 2- 39 million hectares of irrigation from groundwater annually.

3.



Challenges faced by Irrigation

- 1- Falling groundwater level
 - almost 80% of groundwater in North India extracted for Irrigation.
- 2- Power Supply: Irrigation pumps are electricity based, which falls heavy on farmers pocket, govt provides power subsidy.
- 3- Wastage of Water: Do not practice efficient methods like micro-irrigation to meet water needs.
- 4- Facility of water pumps lacking especially for small farmers, have to borrow from large farmers.

Measures to mitigate challenges

- 1- Practise micro-irrigation: Saves water and also efficiently meet demands of crops.
- 2- To practise climate suitable agriculture pattern: water intensive crops should be grown in rain-fed areas.
- 3- River linking projects like Ken-Betwa to be undertaken to meet water demands in areas with low water.
- 4- Creation of Self Help Groups to facilitate irrigation equipments so that small farmers could benefit.

Thus, Irrigation is the backbone of Indian agriculture & ensure food security. Schemes like Pradhan Mantri Kishi Sinchai Yojana must be implemented properly to increase agricultural yield.

14. Dairying is a viable livelihood option for a large section of the population. In this context, discuss the significance, challenges faced and associated government initiatives for the dairy sector in India. (250 words) 15

डेयरी व्यवसाय, आबादी के एक बड़े हिस्से के लिए आजीविका का एक व्यवहार्य विकल्प है। इस संदर्भ में, इसके महत्व, विद्यमान चुनौतियों और भारत में डेयरी क्षेत्र के लिए सरकार द्वारा की गयी पहलों की विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans. To ~~do~~ meet the goal of doubling farmer's income, supplementing through animal husbandary is important. ~~the~~ ~~aa~~ Dairying is an efficient option to reduce heavy dependence (diguisd unemployment) in agriculture.

Significance of Dairying

- 1- Supplements farmers income.
meet government goal of doubling farmers income.
- 2- Women empowerment :-
In most households, women

look after buffaloes & cows and sell
milk, ghee etc and nurture
income.

3- Fodder for cattle can come
from the residue of agriculture
with no added cost.

4- High cost of milk and ghee
can provide significant
profit.

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However, there are certain

Challenges to Pairing

1- Cattle Diseases - high medical
expenditure if cattle ill. eg:
Recently lumpy skin diseases in
cows killed many.

2- Cattle costly - ranging between
20,000 - 80,000 on an average.
(cows) (buffalo)
Small Farmers cannot afford
such huge sums.

- 3- High maintenance specially when cattle stop milking.
- 4- Difficult to find market to sell milk, have to move to far off places, cost inconvenient.

Government Initiatives

- 1- National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding for genetic improvement.
- 2- National livestock mission entrepreneurship development, enhance feed & fodder.
- 3- National Programme for Dairy Development
- 4- Supporting Dairy Cooperatives like one developed in Anjarat - Amul.

Dairy sector can employ and provide sustenance to a huge population
It needs to be further explored with new initiatives.

15. Food subsidy bill is becoming an "unmanageably large" expenditure for the government. In this context, analyse the need for revisiting the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013. (250 words) 15

खाद्य सस्तिडी बिल सरकार के लिए एक "बहुत बड़ा और बोझिल" खर्च बनता जा रहा है। इस संदर्भ में, राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम (NFSA), 2013 पर पुनः विचार करने की आवश्यकता का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Ans. India's food subsidy Bill for 2021/22 was approx 3 lakh crore. It creates a dent on government's purse.

National Food Security Act, 2013 legally gives 75% rural population & 50% urban population, right to receive subsidised food grains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

= Shanta Kumar Committee recommends there's need to revisit National Food Security Act, 2013 because -

- 1- Though we spend so much on food grains but nutrition still remains an issue, high number of stunting & wasting.

and malnutrition reported.

2- Targeted audience need to be revised periodically.

3- TPDS need to be collaborated with health data.

4- Prices of foodgrains to be revised for subsidy.

5- Reports on bad quality of foodgrain being provided.

Article 21 not only guarantee Right to live but to live with dignity.

6- Storage Issue: Grains get rotted, or lost in transaction. Effective storage bears huge cost on government.

following considerations should be taken into account:-

- 1- NITI Aayog suggestion on reducing percentage of beneficiaries from 75-80 to 60-40%.
- 2- Direct Benefit Transfer could reduce mid-way leakages, storage and transport cost.
- 3- If government won't procure huge grains, it won't have inflationary effect on market grains. Thus, ensuring moderate grain prices.
- 4- Introduction of other edibles like pulses, milletts should be provided.

Thus, periodical revisiting of National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 could ensure better food security. It has been praised for food availability and PM Antyodaya Anna Yojana during COVID-19; Thus important for food security.

16. Food processing industry provides a vital link between the two pillars of the economy, i.e. agriculture and industry. In view of this, examine the
- ① constraints faced by the agri-food supply chain system in India. Suggest
- ② suitable solutions as well. (250 words) 15

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग अर्थव्यवस्था के दो स्तंभों अर्थात् कृषि और उद्योग के बीच एक महत्वपूर्ण कड़ी है। इसे दृष्टिगत रखते हुए, भारत में कृषि-खाद्य आपूर्ति श्रृंखला के समक्ष आने वाली बाधाओं की जांच कीजिए। साथ ही, उपयुक्त उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

Ans. Food processing Industry refers to value addition provided by industrial sector to food products provided by the agriculture, thus serving as a link. eg:- Pasteurisation of milk or making bread from wheat.

But this industry faces certain constraints such as:

- 1 - Perishable goods :- Raw material has low shelf life, Industry needs to be located nearby to fully utilise agricultural goods, which otherwise get rotten.
eg: Fruits, vegetables fresh for only 3-4 days.

- 2- Transportation - Costly for small scale farmers, high fuel costs discourage farmers.
- 3- Storage - Most farmers do not have appropriate storage systems.
- 4- Low produce - Most farmers have less than 1 ha of holdings, with very low produce, not ideal for industry supply.
- 5- Contractual Issues - Many farmers illiterate, no idea of legality of contracts with industry, get exploited.
- 6- Quality control - Industry demands certain quality standards, if farmer fail due to unavoidable reasons, farmers left in distress.

Thus, agri-food supply chain system faces certain issues.

However, there are certain suggestions to overcome these hurdles.

- 1- eNAM portal needs to be strengthened, so that farmers could trade their produce at live prices. It becomes legal and enforceable, protecting farmers.
- 2- MANDI system should be revamped to remove middle man and farmers get direct benefit.
- 3- SHGs like Farmers Producers Organisations to be strengthened so that group of farmers could collectively deal with their produce.
- 4- Storage system needs to be improved. Increase private participation to provide end-to-end storage and transport facilities.

Agricultural sector is backbone of Indian economy. Its strengthening could help us achieve 5 trillion economy envisioned by government.

17. Availability of adequate storage infrastructure has a direct bearing on agricultural yield and farmer's income. Comment. In this context, discuss the measures that can be undertaken to enhance India's agriculture storage capacity. (2) (250 words) 15

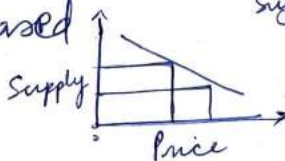
पर्याप्त भंडारण अवसंरचना की उपलब्धता का कृषि उपज और किसान की आय पर सीधा प्रभाव पड़ता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, भारत की कृषि भंडारण क्षमता को बढ़ाने के लिए किए जा सकने वाले उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Ans. To meet the goal of Doubling farmers income, it's important to have adequate storage infrastructure because -

1- Perishable goods - fruits, vegetable have very short-durability. Even grains like wheat, rice cannot last forever.

2- Realise good price for crop

During cutting season, there's large supply of grain, reducing prices to very low. Storage helps farmer to sell produce, when supply is low & prices increased.



- 3- Availability of goods throughout the year : most crops are seasonal. Adequate storage helps with year round availability.
eg: Frozen peas.
- 4- Food in days of needs. eg:
Stored food met demand-supply during COVID-19.
- 5- Prevents famine - were common in 19th century, due to crop failure in any one season.

Measures that can be undertaken to enhance India's Agri Storage Capacity

Shanta Kumar Committee has suggested various measures to rationalise storage.

- 1- FCI should outsource its stocking operation to various other agencies like Central

Warehousing Corporation, private sector under Private Entrepreneur Guarantee (PEG) scheme etc.

- 2- FC1 old storages can be converted into silos.
- 3- Implement National Policy on Handling & Storage of Food Grains, 2000 effectively.
- 4- Panchayats to be involved. Ensure storage facility at Panchayat level so that small farmers could be benefitted.
- 5- Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee Scheme (PEG) - ensures creation of storage capacity by private enterprises.

Thus, enhancing storage capacity of the nation.

18. A farmer-centric approach is required to realise the true potential of the animal husbandry sector in India and address the issues it faces. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत में पशुपालन क्षेत्र की वास्तविक क्षमता को साकार करने और इसके सामने आने वाली समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिए एक किसान-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Ans . Animal husbandry refers to rearing of cattles for milk, meat, fibre or other products obtained from animals. To maximise the potential of animal husbandry, it's important to have farmer-centric approach because -

- 1- Can realise goal of doubling farmers income.
- 2- Farmers have food for the animal in their field. Won't have buy elsewhere.
- 3- Farmers have space at their home in villages to rear animals effectively.

Issues Faced by Animal Husbandry Sector

- 1- Shortage of Fodder
- 2- Prevalence of Diseases
eg Lumpy skin Disease (LSD)
in many cows recently.
- 3- Lack of skills of farmers to enhance productivity
- 4- Improper infrastructure to rear animals - eg. warm areas in winters or save them from rain, apt sunlight etc
- 5- Absence of field oriented conservation strategy for indigenous breeds.
- 6- Poor availability of credit
- 7- Poor access to market which are organised for animals products.

Way forward

- 1 - Ensure credit facility to farmers to buy new cattles.
- 2 - Enhance the organised market structure at district levels.
- 3 - Aid for infrastructure development
- 4 - Government veterinary Doctors strength to be increased to access maximum cattles of disease

Animal husbandary can consume the disguised unemployment in Agriculture sector. It needs to be enhanced.

19. Despite being one of the largest agricultural producers in the world, India's agricultural exports have been a laggard. In this context, discuss the issues that need to be addressed for India to emerge as a top global exporter.

(250 words) 15

विश्व के सबसे बड़े कृषि उत्पादकों में से एक होने के बावजूद, भारत का कृषि निर्यात पिछड़ा हुआ है। इस संदर्भ में, उन मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिनका, भारत को एक शीर्ष वैश्विक निर्यातक के रूप में उभरने के लिए, समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है।

Ans. Since Green Revolution in 1970s, India has become from large Agri Importer to a self sufficient Agriculture economy & now even high levels of production. India is one of largest producer of cereals, milk, pulses & 2nd largest producer of fruits & Vegetables.

Still India's agricultural exports have been laggard because

- 1- huge wastage due to inadequate storage facilities.
- 2- Cumbersome export process, many farmers have no idea.

- 3- Perishable goods, not stored properly, development of mycotoxin ~~to~~ fungi in grains
- 4- Grains do not meet international quality standards.
- 5- Despite high Demand of Basmati Rice in Middle East, due to infrastructural & logistics constraints can't meet maximum demands

Issues that need to be addressed

- 1- Shipment cargo transportation
- 2- Meet WHO standards on Agreement on Agriculture.

3- Quality of foodgrains .

India needs to focus on export-
sector to enhance its Balance
of Payments account .

VisionIAS

20. The imperative to increase farmer's income must shift to creating value chains and must not be reliant on the MSP regime and subsidy bias prevalent in the current Indian agricultural system. Examine. (250 words) 15

किसानों की आय बढ़ाने की अनिवार्यता को मूल्य शृंखलाओं के सृजन से जोड़ा जाना चाहिए और इसे वर्तमान भारतीय कृषि प्रणाली में प्रचलित एम.एस.पी. व्यवस्था एवं पूर्वाग्रहयुक्त सब्सिडी पर कतई निर्भर नहीं होना चाहिए। परीक्षण कीजिए।

Ans Issues with MSP regime & Subsidy Bias :-

- 1- Procurement by government, maximum, leaving little grain in market creating inflationary pressure.
- 2- Interrupts Demand supply price determination.
- 3- Cultivation of only MSP assured crops - wheat, rice, sugarcane, which may be harmful to environment in various ways.
- 4- Farmers unable to understand market & take better decisions.

Need to shift to Value Chains

- 1- Increase agriculture productivity
- 2- Enhance farmers income.
- 3- Ensure competence in market
- 4- Keep grain prices reasonable.
- 5- Growth of multiple variety
of crops.

This will help stagnation in Agriculture sector since decades and boost income & economy.