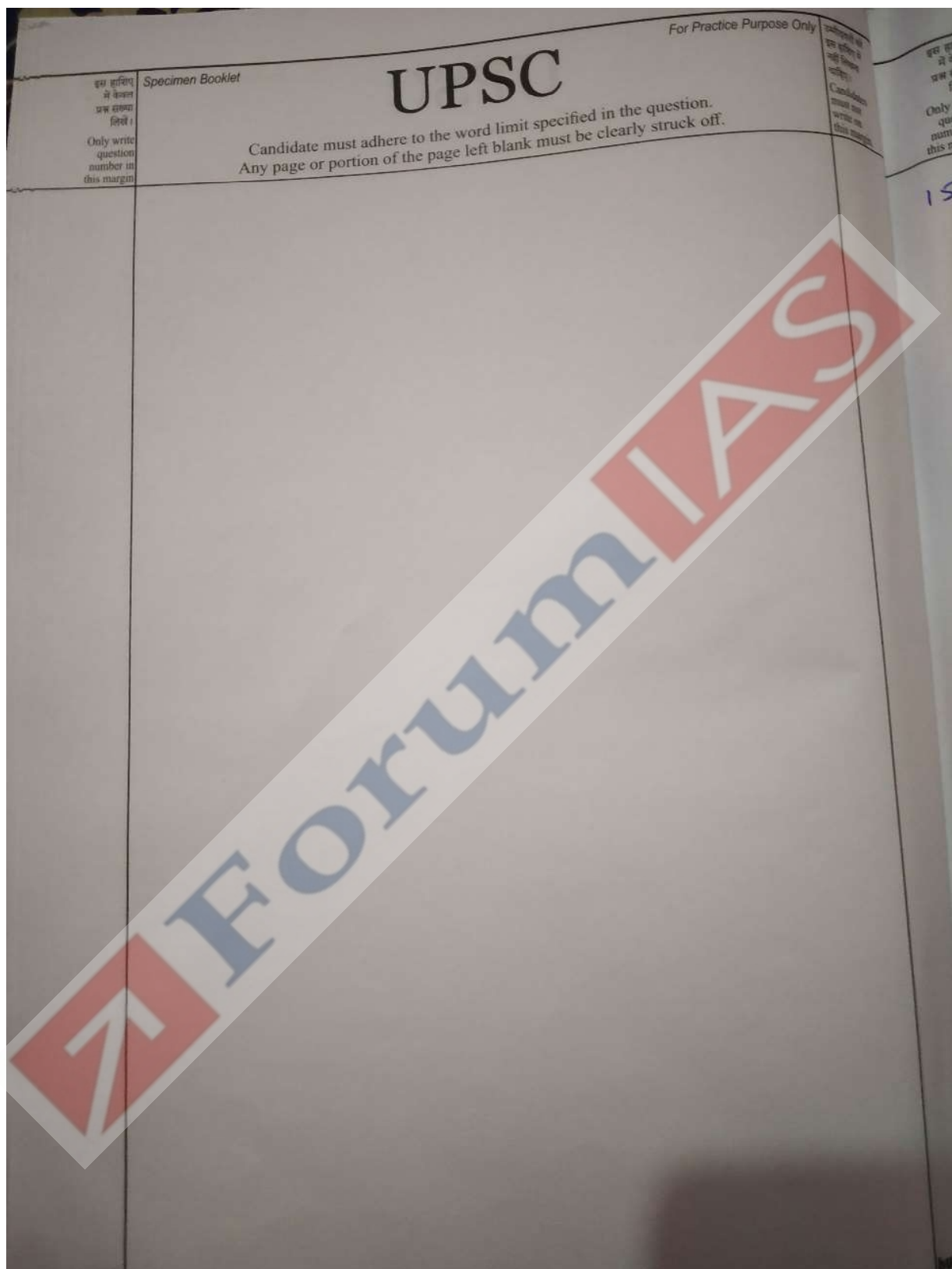


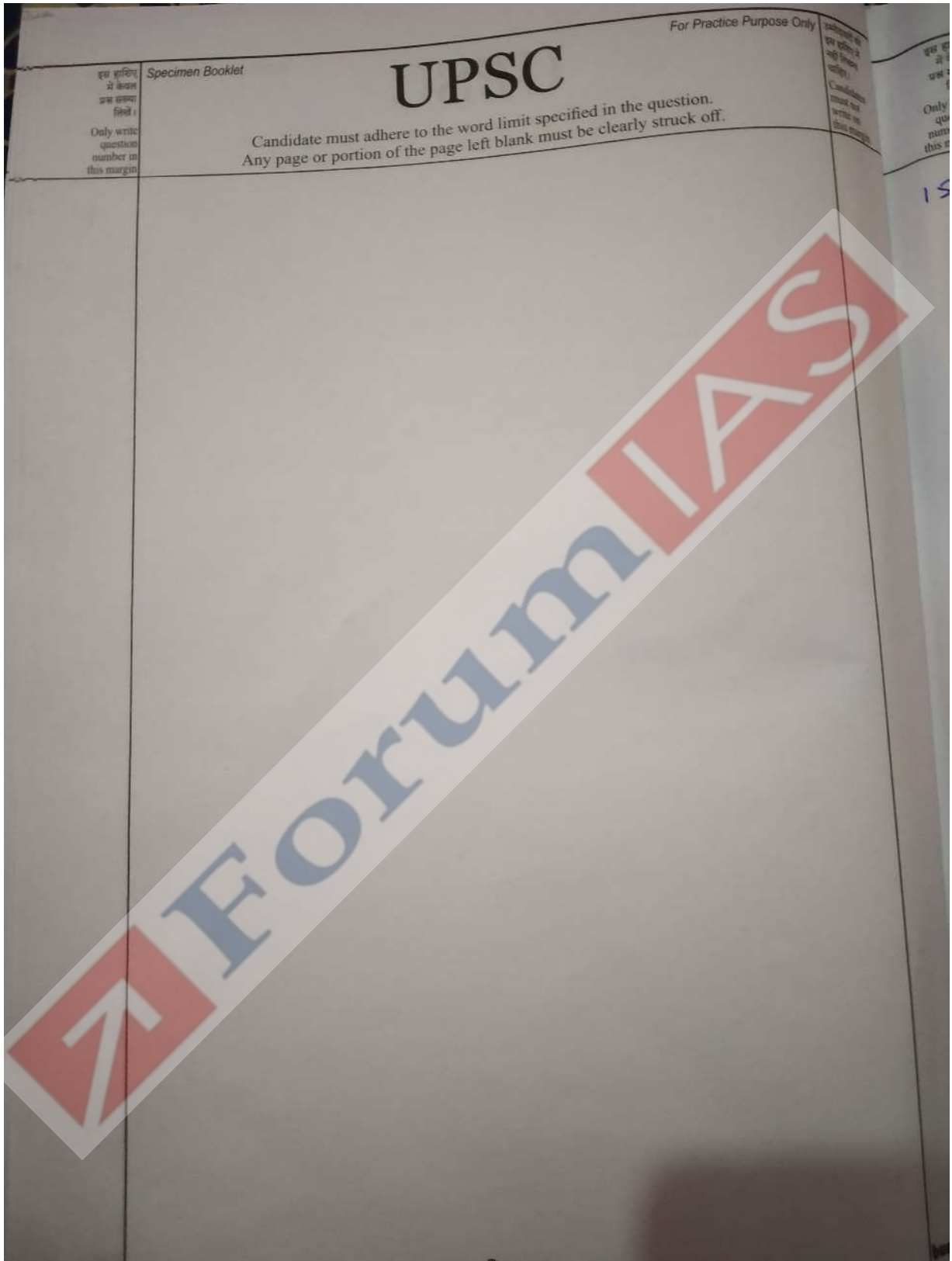
MARKING SCHEME

<i>Parameter/Criteria</i>	<i>Aspects Considered</i>	<i>Total Marks</i>	<i>Essay 1</i>	<i>Essay 2</i>
Basic Format	Introduction + Conclusion	10		
	Body	15		
Content	Data/Facts/Interpretation/ Analysis	25		
Organisation	Flow of ideas/ Absence of Deviation from the topic	25		
Language Skills	Punctuation/Grammar/ Sentence Formation/Spellings	25		
Examiner's Discretion	Perception/ Innovation/ Engaging	25		

<i>Parameters</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Poor</i>
Coherence				
Language				
Handwriting				
Pre-writing				

<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>
120 and above	100-120	Below 100





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<p>Reaction is <u>Reality</u> is <u>ultimately</u> a <u>selective</u> act of <u>perception</u> and <u>interpretation</u></p> <p>Shortly after being elected the <u>President</u> he was exposed to <u>crisis</u> between two social phenomenon. Being <u>empathetic</u> to the cause & sufferings of <u>slavery</u> he chose to face the dominant <u>Capitalist</u> class. Engulfed into a <u>Civil War</u> American Society ultimately learnt the value of <u>freedom</u> and <u>dignity</u> of all.</p> <p>The above story refers to the USA President <u>Abraham Lincoln</u>. He ultimately interpreted <u>slavery</u> as gross injustice towards <u>human rights</u>. Thus,</p>		
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slavery was outlawed and the personal liberty & freedom for slaves became reality. Lincoln took the selective route/perception of Slavery and rejected the notion of Capitalist anarchy.

But often these legends like Lincoln are rare in number. It pushes us to understand the meaning of reality, on our own. We have to cultivate the practice of selective act of perception and interpretation. But what do we actually mean by these terms? Let us explore now.

Reality is a state of events/ things surrounding a person's cognitive or emotional sphere. It can be love tolerance for someone like Buddha.

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It can be war against poverty, terrorism like visible in world's SDGs. It can even be simply peace and happiness in one's state of ignorance like North Korea's dictator KIM JONG-UN.

Likewise, perception and interpretation means seeing the things through the lens of our values. These values can be rationality, spirituality or simply ignorant mind. Interpretation is like giving the meaning to what we see — our 'Reality'.

Since we live in different socio-cultural settings we select them arbitrarily. An individual of same nation may select the reality different from that of Government institutions, religious institutions and soon. But

as selectively they may seem, they are inter related too. Let us see how.

Back during the start of 20th the moderates and extremists had their own selective perception of fighting Britishers. They were forming two realities uncontradicting one another. But soon Gandhiji entered and with Satyagraha the 'reality' of Non violence became the dominant interpretation of our real freedom struggle.

But since it led to the rejection of earlier forms of reality - violence, suicide & bombs etc. how do we decide what's important? Do we always have to select few things and reject others? Let us see find out.

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way back in 2015 Rafael Nadal was suffering from severe foot injury. Critics had put an end to his career. But for Nadal - it was the perception of starting from scratch, building a resilient foundation, honing one's skills another. Within just 6 years, Nadal emerged to shape his reality of becoming the most decorated tennis player ever.

At the same time, in 2015, ~~crisis~~ crisis whose EU was facing refugee crisis from Middle East. Refugees were being interpreted as opportunists to influx Europe and came disharmony in society. But for Angela Merkel - Germany's ~~crisis~~ crisis chancellor - Reality was based on selective interpretation of their miseries, hardships & trauma back at home. Soon, she ~~entered~~ opened German borders to them.

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But is it always so easy to selectively interpret our reality. Are our realities always rooted in ethical values of love, tolerance, hard work. Terrorists finding in Afghanistan or Iraq for their Jihad or Maxalites in India fighting for Communist state - do they not form our 'reality'?

Our own set of socio-cultural & historical background also affect the selective perception of reality. Values being culture-centric shape our reality differently. In a country like USA - it may not be liberal for safe women abortion rights but in India it forms the personal liberty of women. (Article 21). But can we just abandon the hope of any common reality?

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Common reality today has been shaped by our immediate needs of humanity. SDG goals since 2015, Action against climate change etc are the conforming realities. They are being selectively interpreted as a means of saving 'mother' ~~earth~~ Earth, ending inequalities in society and achieving social shared prosperity.

As KANT argued, there are certain values like universality, humanism, rationality and duty which can guide our selective perception to form our reality.

Today, we have perceived the pain of 'Gay people', 'Dalits', 'Transgender' and interpreted their right to human dignity, compassion and tolerance, as a part of our social reality.

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But it's not easy to selectively
 undergo perception of our reality. We
 saw how HITLER wouldn't consider
Jews as worthy of human rights. Today
 we have a culture of 'no boundary' resulting
 in lynchings seen in DADRI massacre.
 In all these situations, we are driven
 by our narrow pursuits of ignorance to
 names of companions, tolerance.
 The world is pushed to a
catastrophe when the realities are perceiv-
 ed in a mutually exclusive way.
 Today, the communal tensions in India,
caste violence like Bhima-Koregaon
 or rise of ISIS in Levant region are
 the mirror to our misconceived
reality. So it pushes us to think
how to selectively interpret our reality.

UPSC

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Post WW II the world adopted UN Charter to guide peace and stability in world. Declaration of human rights by UNESCO in 1951 led the template for universal human rights. In nascent borny democracies, people adopted their own CONSTITUTION, to be governed. Their reality was based on selective perception of constitutional morality as supreme. Nations like Japan gave up the right to declare a war. Large scale decolonisation of Africa became the reality. It agreed on the selective interpretation of SELF RULE as the birth right of nations. Even India formed Non Aligned Movement NAM to selectively interpret the COLD WAR race as anti-trustical to its hard fought & won nascent democracy.

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Even today our reality is being continuously being moulded. Selective perception of unbridled industrialisation as a driver of climate change, we have adopted Net zero targets in GHG emissions. Today, we interpret our growth not in GDP but the selective perception of HDI - human development Index.

Countries like Bhutan have gone a step ahead. They perceive their reality not in selective GDP numbers but interpret their growth in happiness based on environment health, social support capital, generosity, etc. Bank in India, women reality is built upon equality in political, socio-economic sphere. Patriarchal reality is being rejected by and large.

इस हार्डिंग में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें। Only write question number in this margin.	Specimen Book	<h1>UPSC</h1>	For Practice Purpose Only	उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्डिंग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए। Candidates must not write on this margin.
Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question. Any page or portion of the page left blank must be clearly struck off.				
<p>This is visible in India's <u>President</u>, <u>Finance Ministry</u> offices, etc being governed by women. But does this all, make our reality complete?</p>				
<p>APJ Abdul Kalam in his book <u>India @ 2020</u> envisaged a different reality. Kalam <u>selected</u> the women equality & equity in society, end of poverty zero tolerance to corruption etc. as the ultimate perception and interpretation of our <u>prospering</u> Reality. Definitely we as <u>citizens and nations</u> are progressing towards our endeavour - SDGs etc. But we also need to <u>build</u>, <u>perceive</u> & <u>selectively</u> interpret our Reality in <u>universal</u> names of <u>companions</u>, shared <u>success and prosperity</u> everywhere.</p>				
Page 11.				

प्रश्न संख्या लिखें। Only write question number in this margin.	<h1 style="margin: 0;">UPSC</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question. Any page or portion of the page left blank must be clearly struck off.</p>	इस हॉगिंग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए। Candidates must not write on this margin.
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Agricultural Revolution: Road to progress and prosperity or to perdition.</h2>		
<p> About 10,000 years ago, man stumbled upon <u>wild grains</u>. Little did he realize that soon these grains will <u>enslave</u> man itself. Man began <u>irrigating</u>, <u>nurturing</u> these wild grains. Soon man became <u>sedentary</u> and gave up its <u>hunting-gathering</u> traditions of over million years heritage. Scholars like <u>V.G. Childe</u> call it as the first major event of social evolution in human history. </p>		
<p> This new technique of <u>cultivating</u> food itself has persisted since then. Still today despite all <u>wealth</u>, <u>riches</u> or <u>technology</u> we have, <u>Agricultural</u> </p>		
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production is quintessential for one and all. But now the changing climate technology and infant changing human ambitions have exposed us to a bifurcating road — road to progress and prosperity and road to perdition. Let us now see the role of Agricultural Revolution.

Modification of production techniques or adoption of new technology to raise yield/quality is called Agricultural Revolution. It is a continuous process since Neolithic Age resulting in accumulated result. Shift from plough to tractor or canal to drip irrigation are its various attributes.

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<p style="text-align: center;"> When Agricultural revolution leads to increase in <u>production quality</u> and <u>yields</u>, or increase in <u>farmers income & lifestyle</u>, it embarks upon <u>Road to progress</u> and <u>prosperity</u>. It feeds the stomachs of entire <u>nation - rich and poor alike</u>. It leads to <u>humanitarian food relief assistance</u> during drought or war. </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> But Agricultural Revolution turns into <u>Road to perdition</u> when despite increasing yields or not, it affects our <u>social-ecological setting</u>. Rising farmers suicides, widening inequality, depleting soil moisture, bio-diversity are attributes of <u>road to perdition</u>. It also leads to rise in <u>volatility</u> / <u>unreliability</u> to climate change. <u>But are the two roads inter related?</u> </p>		
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Common start point of ~~both~~ the roads is the Agricultural revolution i.e. technology and production system.

The destiny is guided by human pursuits rooted in values of profit or sustainability, inter and intra generational equity and so on. Let us explore how the journey has been and where is it destined to be?

Rightly mentioned by V.G. Childe Agricultural production is referred to as a revolution. It allowed humans to settle down, feed large population and most importantly create surplus. Based on this surplus, ancient civilizations of Indus Valley or Mesopotamia prospered. Later it gave rise to monarchies and republics.

Page 4.

सिद्धे। Only write question number in this margin	Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question. Any page or portion of the page left blank must be clearly struck off.	चहिए। Candidates must not write on this margin.
<p>Fast forward to Modern World, Agricultural revolution is the principle means of sustaining over <u>600</u> people on Earth. <u>Food security</u> is as vital part of a nation's <u>sovereignty</u> as its <u>military security</u>. Rise of <u>ISRAEL</u> and its <u>sustenance in desert ^{desert}</u> is due to the Agricultural revolution of <u>Drip Irrigation</u>, <u>Sprinklers</u> and so on.</p> <p>Today with the use of <u>HYV</u> needs, modern fertilisers, chemical pesticides we achieved <u>Green Revolution</u> in 1970s. Then came the rise of <u>GM crops</u>. We defeated pink bollworm pests via <u>Bt Cotton</u> and became one of the largest <u>cotton producers</u>. Today we are turning deserts like <u>Rajasthan</u> <u>Bundelkhand</u> into farmlands through <u>canals</u>, <u>reservoirs</u> and so on.</p>		
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But can we say that we are
 truly on road to progress and prosperity?
 Its difficult to ignore the fact that
 10,000 farmers and Agriculture labourers
 commit suicide yearly in India. ISRO
 points out that intensive use of
 chemical fertilisers has turned 30%
 of India's land degraded and salinized.

Similarly SECC survey show
 that over 50% rural HH are in debt.
 Reports of cancer are common in Punjab
 Malwa region. Our butterflies are
 facing threat due to GM crops. Likewise
 monocropping has already exhausted
 30% India's groundwater levels in
 Rice, Sugarcane. Acres of forests have
 been cleared to make way for reservoirs
 to feed water-hungry Agriculture.

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But is there really any problem?
Deaths are a part & parcel of our life so
who cares for farmers suicides? Likewise
forests are no longer of use as we abandoned
hunting and gathering activity 1000s
of years ago. We have technology to
desalinate water, capture rainwater
or even edit the gene of a wild plant
into a crop of our own use.

Answer to this lies in the
fact we still cannot manufacture our
food in factories. Whether be it Pope
or Queen or an ordinary man, we still
eat soil grown food mostly. We still
face droughts and now rising pest or
locust attacks. We are still trading
food items as top 3 commodities amongst
us. It has the potential to stall a war
as seen in Ukraine-Russia mediation
for some global grain export crisis.

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So, if there is a problem or a potential risk of going on road to perdition then what are the ~~relevant~~ factors of vulnerability?

Biggest factor is growing inequality among farmers. Rise of capitalist farmers & landlords farmers are an unwanted reality.

This transforms into inequitable access to irrigation system, credit source HYV seeds and so on. even the declining groundwater affects or climate change induced pest attacks in droughts affect them adversely & in greater intensity.

Across world, farmers from lowest class of society, barring few modernised nations like USA etc. In India, farm MSP - life line for farmers to ensure food security is limited to just 6% farmers.

Similarly, the rising use of chemical fertilisers have led to Biomagnification resulting in Cancer etc. But even the solution lies both in technological and traditional alternatives to improve our current state of Agriculture.

Agricultural Revolution can promote the use of drip irrigation & sprinklers for micro irrigation, fertigation and higher water productivity. Schemes like PM Kisan Sinchayi sojans are built around this approach. Similarly we have begun the use of soil health cards, urea coated Urea to conserve soil biodiversity. Likewise the use of Natural Farming and organic farming is being promoted in a phased manner.

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Today, we also make use of Precision farming to irrigate with water effectively fertiliser effective methods. Use of GIS based mapping have helped to predict the level of irrigation needs. Similarly, today farmers are provided with climate and monsoon advisories to make real time decisions.

we have begun Integrated Rice Aquaculture, Mixed farming and Agroforestry. They help in soil rehabilitation - nutrient restoration, recycling etc. Success of Organic farming in Sikkim is a prime exemplary to our collective endeavours to shift towards sustainable Agriculture for progress & prosperity.

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Even the traditional networks of rainwater harvesting networks are being revitalized. Mission Kakatiya in Telangana, GOI, Jal Kranti or 'Catch the rain' campaign are steps in this direction. Even local leadership, gives excellent result. Success of Hware Bazar model in anoyent prond Marathwada, with 'millionaire' farmers is a prime example. It makes use of water budgeting and natural farming.

Not all technology of gene editing are harmful. We have developed RNA interface which is seen as vital to repare GM crops. Experiments in (RNA-i) selected fruits have given promising result. Likewise we have developed nano polymers and technical textiles to conserve soil moisture and give better yields.

Page 10.

Specimen Booklet

UPSC

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इस हार्डिप में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें।
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Not just the production, even the income of farmers are vital to make Agricultural prosperous activity. We have today eNAM, Krishi Udaan, MSP, etc. But we need to enhance awareness of farmers and plug loopholes in our policies. Revision of MSP, expanding it to millets, seed are the major pre-requisites.

Even the world has come together to collaborate in Agricultural revolution success. SDG goals targets and indicators are a vital link for pushing Agricultural revolution on the road of progress and prosperity. Imminent discussions can be upon technology sharing, subsidy

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<p>इस हार्जिए में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें। Only write question number in this margin.</p>	<p>Specimen Booklet</p>	<h1>UPSC</h1>	<p>For Practice Purpose Only</p>	<p>उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्जिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए। Candidates must not write on this margin.</p>
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<p><u>Rationalisation</u> by <u>Western</u> nations and the <u>need</u> to understand developing nations concerns of <u>food security</u> and <u>subsidies</u> (India's PDS).</p>				
<p>Thus, prosperity of <u>farmers</u>, <u>economy</u> and the <u>world</u> as a whole is based upon <u>Agricultural Revolution</u> embarking upon <u>road to progress and prosperity</u> and NOT ON ROAD TO PERDITION.</p>				
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