



TEST CODE 6 1 3 3 0 2

FIAS – MGP 2023 – GS PAPER 3_FLT #7

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

Forum IAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Aniket Kumar Dwivedi.		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910091977	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1901	Date/दिनांक	03.09.23.

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।	
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।	
3			4. 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. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।	
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Total/कुल अंक	250		For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु	
Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
			EG/ईजी :	
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Note: Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the solution provided in the answers. Discussion classes for the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the good copies of the tests and learn from them. You can also discuss your copy with a Mentor and discover ways and means to improve your answers, or if you have any issues with this test / copy. Asks specific questions, to get specific answers.

EXAMINER'S REMARKS

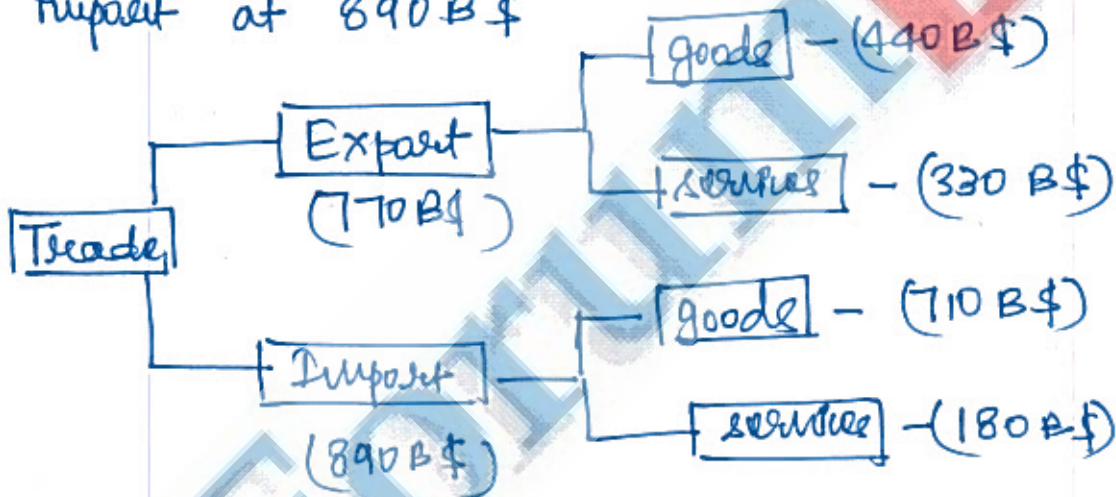
CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. Creative answer writing, sometimes missing the core demand, may fetch very high or very low scores, and exposes your answer to the subjectivity of the examiner.
2. **CD & VA = Content Density & Value Addition.** Examiner will evaluate the quality and quantity of your content in the answer. In the same word limit and space limit have you (a) written what is asked (b) gone beyond what is asked (c) enriched answers through combination of (but not all!) suggestions, ideas, quotes, flowcharts, diagrams, facts and figures, data etc. This affects objective components of assessment.
3. **S & F = Structure & Flow =** Whether you have structured your answer properly or not. Whether the answer has been broken into parts and sub-parts and each part has been addressed appropriately or not. Whether the flow of the answer is maintained. Affects both subjective and objective components of assessment.
4. **P & R =** How your answer performs on the criteria of **presentation, ease of read, clarity and apparent effort** in writing the answer. This affects the subjective components of assessment.

Q.1) Foreign trade is an important milestone on the path of becoming a 5 trillion USD economy. In this context, analyse the potential of the recently released Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 in revamping India's participation in global trade. (10 marks, 150 words)

5 ट्रिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर की अर्थव्यवस्था बनने की राह में विदेशी व्यापार एक महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर है। इस संदर्भ में, वैश्विक व्यापार में भारत की भागीदारी को पुनर्जीवित करने में हाल ही में जारी विदेश व्यापार नीति, 2023 की क्षमता का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

According to Budget 2023, India's total foreign trade is worth approx. 1600 B\$ with total export being 770 B\$ and total import at 890 B\$



Foreign trade - Important to become 5T\$ eco.

- ① Boost trade competitiveness → Improving productivity (capital output ratio).
- ② Increases foreign exchange reserves (foreign).
- ③ Decrease foreign dependency due to increased export.

Potential of foreign trade policy, 2023

- (I) Aim at doubling foreign trade by 2020.
- (II) To double merchandise exports to 800 B\$ by 2020.
- (III) Increase national share in global export from 1.5% (2021) to 3% (2020)
- (IV) Boost trade competitiveness - to improve productivity of Indian manufacturing unit.
- (V) Decrease foreign dependence by supporting schemes viz. Make in India etc.

Realisation of these targets require -

- (1) Boosting / improving Ease of doing business
- (2) Decentralising Company Act
- (3) liberalising FDI / FPI policies etc

Foreign trade competitiveness will be the strongest pillar en-route 5 T\$ economy target.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.2) Social protection schemes are an integral aspect of a welfare economy; however, the principles of fiscal prudence cannot be ignored. Discuss, with special reference to Old Pension Scheme (OPS). (10 marks, 150 words)

सामाजिक सुरक्षा योजनाएं कल्याणकारी अर्थव्यवस्था का एक अभिन्न पहलू हैं; हालांकि, राजकोषीय विवेक के सिद्धांतों को नजरअंदाज नहीं किया जा सकता है। पुरानी पेंशन योजना (ओपीएस) के विशेष संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Fiscal prudence refers to crafting fiscal policy in a way that decrease or keep fiscal deficit in check.

The idea of fiscal prudence is vital for macro-economic stability but various social protection schemes are antithetic to the same.

eg. Old pension scheme, Fertilizer, Food subsidies

Requirement of such schemes:

- (i) Ensure constitutional mandate — Art 38 welfare state mandates
- (ii) To decrease economic inequality [mandated by Art 39 (1)]
- (iii) To improve socio-economic development indicators eg. wealth, education standards

However, they are also drawn on public
exchequer -

- ① As reported by Fiscal Reform Committee viz. Raval Talwar committee, 15th FC etc
- ② They are non-productive expenditure - do not contribute to production capacity of economy
- ③ Used mostly as political tool to win election without considering fiscal condition of state.
- ④ Top GDP ratio is already lowest among BRICS nation (16% only)

Hence, these schemes need to be rationalised as per recommendations of 14th & 15th FC.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.3) What do you understand from AgriStack? To what extent can it become a panacea for the problems plaguing the farm sector. (10 marks, 150 words)

एग्रीस्टैक से आप क्या समझते हैं? कृषि क्षेत्र की समस्याओं के लिए यह किस हद तक रामबाण बन सकता है। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

AgriStack is a digital repository of all farmers — small, marginal, medium etc holding land. It contains details about their land holdings, its extent, soil quality details etc.

AgriStack — panacea for farmer's problems?

- Yes
- ① Digitalization means seamless procedure related to land transfer etc
 - ② Integration of records with banking channels for credit availability
 - ③ Evidence based policy making for farm sector
 - ④ In sync with other farm reform initiatives
Eg — SVAMITVA, DLR initiatives etc

- Issues**
- (i) Only record of land holding farmers
 - (ii) Ignore - landless, tenants, share-croppers etc - large chunks left out
 - (iii) No exclusive data on women farmers (45% agri labour force)
 - (iv) No details on title holding - not integrated with Digital Land Record Initiative.

How to make it more inclusive :-

- (i) Ensure enumeration of all leftout farmers
- (ii) Detailing - land quality, soil profile, nutrition profile etc.
- (iii) Integrate with NABARD, SIPB and RRBs for smooth credit availability

Digital initiatives such as Agri-Stack, Agro Accelerator Fund etc are right steps towards aim of doubling farmer's income

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.4) The objective of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to provide a long term and equitable solution to the dilemma between free trade and food security has remained unfulfilled. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

मुक्त व्यापार और खाद्य सुरक्षा के बीच दुविधा का दीर्घकालिक और न्यायसंगत समाधान प्रदान करने के लिए विश्व व्यापार संगठन (डब्ल्यूटीओ) का उद्देश्य अधूरा रह गया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

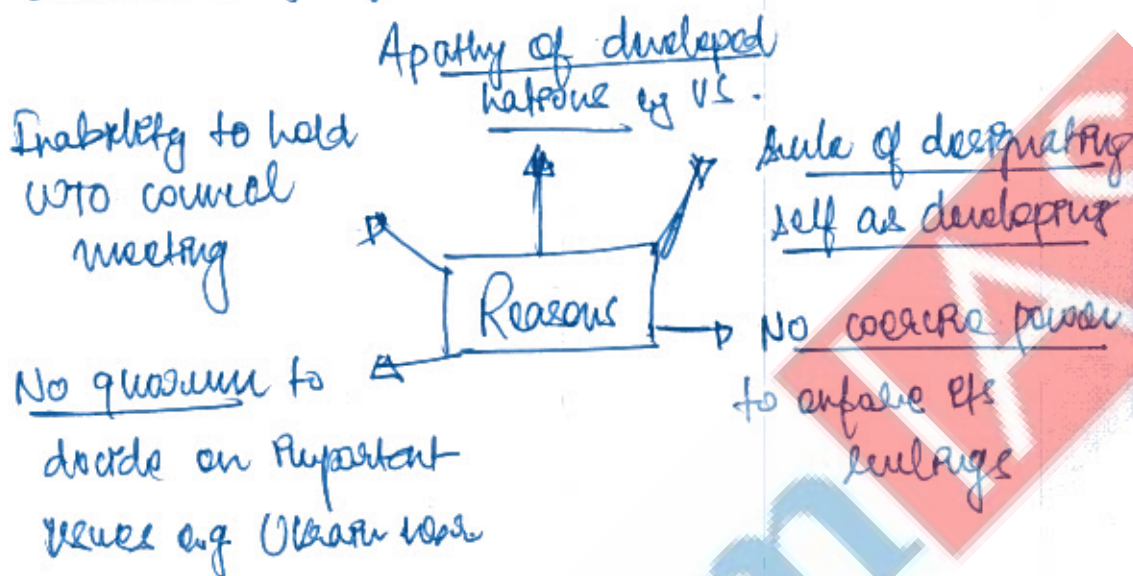
WTO was established as Global trade regulator by to establish and maintain rule based international trade as General Trade and Tariff Agreement after world war II.

Mandates - (i) Rule based international trade

- (ii) Distinction between developed, developing and least developed economies
- (iii) Review of trade policies of all members
- (iv) Provide way to developing economies to accept to international obligations. eg. Balance clause.

However, the crucial objective of maintaining balance between free trade and food security

Remains unfulfilled:-



- Way out:
- (i) Need direct implementation of its committees eg AW, S&F members.
 - (ii) Amendment to enforce its embargos through trade sanctions etc
 - (iii) Designation of nations based on economic parameters viz. per capita income, share in world export

Given the dysfunctionality of WTO in recent years, a thorough reform is waiting to ensure rule based international trade.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.5) Even after five decades of the Stockholm conference, narrowing the gaps between the targets and actions remains one of the biggest challenges towards reversing climate change. Discuss. Also, recommend measures for building a coherent actionable strategy to tackle climate change. (10 marks, 150 words)

स्टॉकहोम सम्मेलन के पांच दशकों के बाद भी, लक्ष्यों और कार्यों के बीच अंतर को कम करना जलवायु परिवर्तन को उलटने की दिशा में सबसे बड़ी चुनौतियों में से एक है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, जलवायु परिवर्तन से निपटने के लिए एक सुसंगत कार्यवाही योग्य रणनीति बनाने के उपायों की भी सिफारिश कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Stockholm conference, 1972 was the first global leadership conference that recognised the 'ill-effect of human developmental pursuit on environment and climate.

However, even after explicit targeting and actionable agenda, there has been gaps in meeting them.

- Reason
- (i) Difference between status of development between developed/developing world
 - (ii) Dependence of developing world on fossil fuel for energy needs. eg coal
 - (iii) Technological and capital inadequacy to switch to environmentally sustainable ways.

Reasons } (IV) Apathy of legacy polluters to commit to climate justice

(V) Trade / Economic competitiveness and resultant degradation of environment

Hence, a revamped strategy is the need of time.

(I) Set targets for nations to achieve carbon neutrality based on their development indicators

- Developed → By 2040
(USA, Europe)

- Semi Developed → By 2060
(China, Japan)

- Developing → By 2070.
(India, Brazil)

(II) Climate funding - Raghuram Rajan suggested per capita carbon emission based funding.

(III) Technological and financial support from developed to developing nations.

Climate justice is the only way out to reverse the climate change by different end.

Feedback

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Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.6) What are the impediments in management of E-waste in the country? In what ways can the trinity of citizens, businesses, and the government tackle this menace? (10 marks, 150 words)

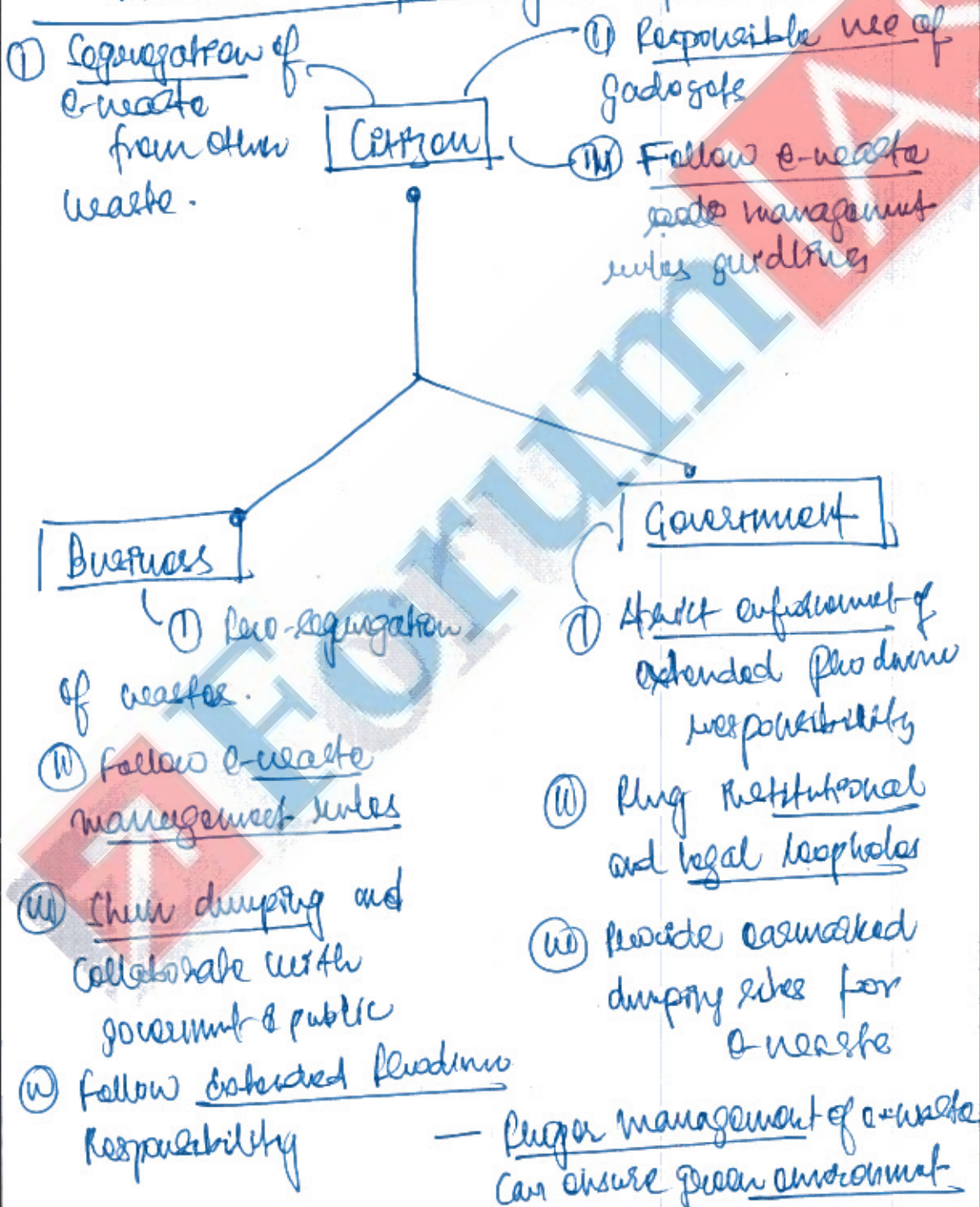
देश में ई-कचरे के प्रबंधन में क्या बाधाएं हैं? नागरिकों, व्यवसायों और सरकार की त्रिमूर्ति/त्रयी किस तरह से इस खतरे से निपट सकती है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

E-waste management Rules, defines e-waste
as all the waste having electronic origin
eg discarded mobile phone, television, electronic
equipment, electronic accessories etc.

Impediments in management :-

- ① Non distinction between hazardous and non-hazardous e-waste.
- ② lack of skill to differentiate between recyclable / non recyclable e-waste.
- ③ dumping of e-waste with ordinary waste - make them hazardous as well
- ④ Institutional incapacity - lack of workers and exclusive institutions to carry out management of e-waste..
- ⑤ Dumping from other countries.

In this regard, the tasking of citizen, business and government can altogether tackle this nuisance in following way—



Feedback
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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



Q.7) How does nuclear fusion differ from nuclear fission? Assess the relevance of nuclear energy in resolving the global energy security dilemma? (10 marks, 150 words)

परमाणु संलयन परमाणु विखंडन से किस प्रकार भिन्न है? वैश्विक ऊर्जा सुरक्षा दुविधा के समाधान में परमाणु ऊर्जा की प्रासंगिकता का आकलन कीजिए? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Nuclear Fusion

- Fusion of nucleus of two small atoms viz. Hydrogen, Deuterium etc
- Requires extremely high temperature to carry out fusion
- Requires Tokamak technology

Nuclear Fission

- Breakup down of nucleus of heavy atom viz. Uranium, Plutonium etc
- Process requires at high temperature
- Require nuclear reactors - viz. water reactor etc.

Relevance of nuclear energy in resolving global energy security dilemma

① Clean source of energy - NO GHG emission

- (11) 5th largest source of energy (10% global energy from nuclear plants)
- (12) No global warming issue..

However there are issues :-

- (1) Cost intensive and technological know how requirement - high.
- (2) Cost of power - expensive - 5 \$ / unit
v/s thermal power - 1.5 \$ / unit
- (3) Risk of nuclear leakage - eg Chernobyl disaster, Fukushima case
- (4) Requirements require lots of water - not suitable for water scarce nations.

Small reactors with capacity ranging between 300-500 MW can resolve much of above apprehension and can contribute to clean energy target of SDG-7

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and F is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



Q.8) What are run of the river hydroelectric projects? How far can run of the river hydroelectric projects balance ecological conservation with socio-economic development?

(10 marks, 150 words)

नदी जलविद्युत परियोजनाएँ क्या हैं? नदी जलविद्युत परियोजनाएँ सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास के साथ पारिस्थितिक संरक्षण को किस हद तक संतुलित कर सकती हैं?

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Run of the river hydroelectric projects
are projects wherein power is produced
by running river water falling from
great height. e.g. Pandoh Project (Kullu)

Run of river projects can balance ecological
conservation and development demands

① They don't require creation of
big dams for water storage

② They do not lead to siltation or
over-sedimentation here

③ Do not pose risk to downstream
catchment in form of flooding

However, they do have certain issues

- (i) Disturb ecological flow
- (ii) Mostly in ecologically fragile areas
eg - Arunachal project
- (iii) Run risk of overflow and destruction.
eg Vishnu prajog case
- (iv) Disturb free movement of aquatic organisms

Suggestion - (i) Follow Parv Chopra Committee report on such projects

- (ii) Expert led EIA before any such project.
- (iii) Local participation in plan formulation

Hydropower is solution for clean and green growth but need multi-stakeholder approach.

Feedback

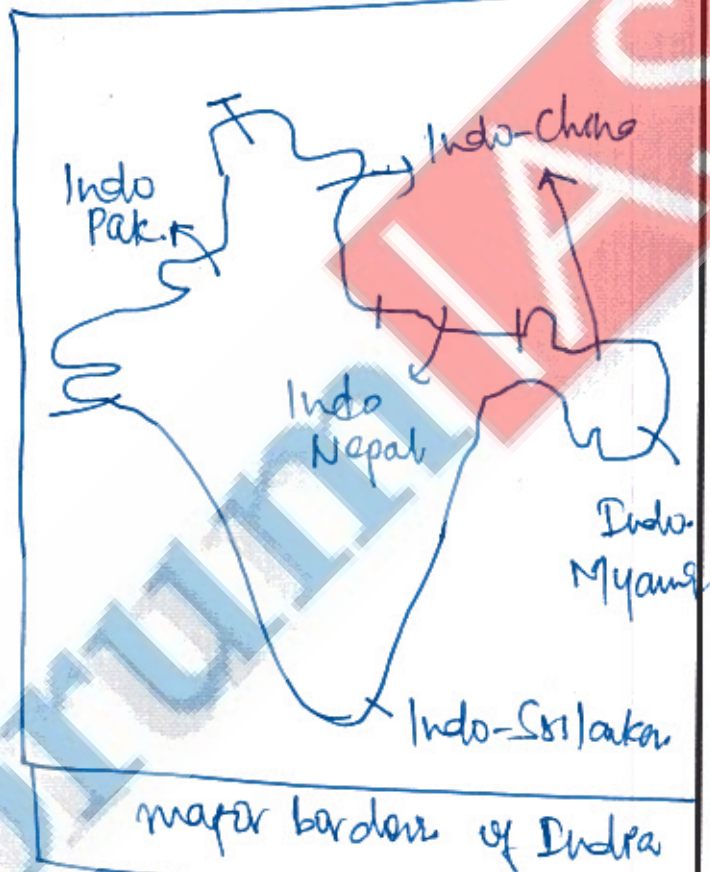
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Q.9) A robust border infrastructure is the surest way to counter multifarious threats emanating from inimical actors. Discuss, in light of Vibrant Village Programme. (10 marks, 150 words)

एक मजबूत सीमा बुनियादी ढांचा शत्रु तत्वों से उत्पन्न होने वाले विविध खतरों का मुकाबला करने का सबसे सुरक्षित तरीका है। वाइब्रेंट विलेज प्रोग्राम के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Indian International
border touches
Pakistan, China,
Bangladesh etc
and are manned by
various Border
Guarding forces i.e.
BSF, ITBP, SSB etc



Robust border infrastructure is surest way
to counter threats :-

- ① Help delimiting territories in
clear way - easy patrolling
- ② Improve all weather connectivity

(iii) Maintain peace full border eg- Boldip at Indo-Bangladesh - & Myanmar.

In this regard Vibrant Village Programme promotes robust border infrastructure development in following way -

(i) Development of all weather road to reach border outposts

(ii) Development of village infrastructure or hospitals, educational institutions etc

(iii) Development of border villages as market spots to boost economic activities

(iv) Increase Army-citizen interaction to reinforce citizen on potential threats.

Robust border infrastructure adds to the power in securing internal & border security.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.10) How far can a clearly articulated National Security Strategy help in tackling challenges to national security? (10 marks, 150 words)

स्पष्ट रूप से व्यक्त राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा रणनीति राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा की चुनौतियों से निपटने में किस हद तक मदद कर सकती है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India is fraught with multi faceted Internal security challenges viz. terrorism, insurgency, skewed development, extremism etc. In this regard, a clearly drawn map for National Security in form of National Security Strategy can help

in following ways—

- ① Integration of all agencies under one umbrella organization and legislation
- ② Coherent policy formulation and clearly laid out responsibilities flowing from one integrated strategy.
- ③ Decrease in duplication eg. various forces

for border and also internal law order maintenance

(iv) In line with evolving new age society threats viz - Cyber warfare, bio terrorism

However, the fruitful formulation of such strategy require political as well as civil and bureaucratic consensus.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.11) What are the factors that influence the inflation trends in the country? Highlighting the impacts, discuss the institutional measures in place to check inflation. (15 marks, 250 words)

वे कौन से कारक हैं जो देश में मुद्रास्फीति की प्रवृत्ति को प्रभावित करते हैं? प्रभावों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, मुद्रास्फीति को रोकने के लिए संस्थागत उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Inflation refers to general increase in prices of common goods and services. Measured with tools with - CPI, WPI, GDP deflator etc

Budget 2023 points to the fact that inflation in India is under tolerable limit @ 6% (approx).

Factors influencing inflation trends in India

- (i) Volatile crude oil price - leads to increase in logistic and transportation cost
- (ii) Cyclic nature of economy - recession followed by boom and again recession
- (iii) Unprecedented events viz. COVID pandemic, Russia - Ukraine war etc
- (iv) Climatological factor - weak monsoon \rightarrow low productivity \rightarrow high prices.

(V) Fiscal and monetary policies - determine availability of credit in market \rightarrow ~~fixed~~

(VI) Agricultural price regime - price distortion in prices of food basket - maximum effect on inflation.

(I) Stipulating prices of essential commodities e.g. vegetables, milk
 e.g. Tomato was recently ₹ 250/Kg

Impact - (II) Decrease in saving rate - leads to credit crunch for banks

(III) Tightening of monetary policy - to decrease inflationary pressure

(IV) Change in interest regime - central banks increase interest to mop up extra money from market

(V) Decrease in aggregate demand and public consumption expenditure

Institutional mechanism to check inflation:-

- ① RBI - and its monetary policy committee
↳ mandated by GOI to keep inflation within 4% \pm 2% limit
- ② Banks rate and Repo rates - to mop up extra credit or infuse more money as per requirement
- ③ CRR/SLR regime - to manage the availability of currency in market.
- ④ Open Market operations - to begin in the interest rate volatility
- ⑤ Windfall Gains Taxation - to manage the increased crude oil price related gains.

Inflation management is one of the key role of central banks of any nation and affecting management across smooth financial administration.

Feedback

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	G	A	P
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Please put tick marks in the above table.
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.12) Though a cornerstone of Atmanirbhar Bharat, Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme is not without its own challenges. Comment. (15 marks, 250 words)

हालांकि उत्पादन से जुड़ी प्रोत्साहन (पीएलआई) योजना आत्मनिर्भर भारत की आधारशिला है, लेकिन यह अपनी चुनौतियों के बिना नहीं है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme is a scheme by government of India to boost domestic manufacturing industries and their competitiveness by incentivizing them based on the production volume.

The flagship scheme is one of the pillars of Atmanirbhar Bharat and vital force towards 5T & economy target.

Features

- (i) Incentivize manufacturing units based on piece rate system
- (ii) Interest subvention (2%) on increased production.
- (iii) Expanded to various sector viz. electronics, textiles, MSME etc.

Benefits of PLI scheme :-

- (i) In line with National Economic policy of attaining 5% of economy target.
- (ii) Boost manufacturing sector's GVA contribution to economy (present - 26%).
- (iii) Improve competitiveness of domestic firms to decrease dependence of on foreign firms.
- (iv) Aids to Ease of Doing Business and helps attract FDI to various sectors (e.g. 50 B of in FY22).
- (v) Support to other sectors of economy e.g. services in electronics, mobile, IT, BPO etc.

However, although a revolutionary scheme, PLI is fraught with its own challenges-

- (i) Credit availability is not equal to increase in productivity - obsolete capital means waste of financial incentives.

- (ii) Not expanded to all sectors viz. MSME segment of MSME.
- (iii) Production capacity of most firms lag due to low incremental capital input - output ratio.
- (iv) Issue of credit availability due to high NPA's in Public sector banks.

These challenges need categorical resolution to make PLI scheme a success story.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.13) How is internationalisation of rupee different from De-Dollarisation? Highlighting the benefits of internationalisation of rupee, discuss the challenges associated with the same.

(15 marks, 250 words)

रुपये का अंतर्राष्ट्रीयकरण डी-डॉलरीकरण से किस प्रकार भिन्न है? रुपये के अंतर्राष्ट्रीयकरण के लाभों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इससे जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Internationalisation of rupee refers to increased use of ₹ for export & trade by various nations eg India - Russia using ₹ for oil trade.

While de-dollarisation refers to increased use among nations to replace dollar as dominant currency to carry out international trade. eg. Credit swap lines between ASEAN and Japan.

Internationalisation of ₹ has certain benefits -

- ① reduced dependence on US \$ to carry out foreign trade
- ② less susceptible to international trade shocks

- (iii) No need to maintain forex stocks in US\$.
- (iv) Insulate domestic economy from foreign trade disrupting incidents viz - Ukraine war
- (v) strengthening of Indian ₹ in international market.

However, there are certain challenges
as well: -

- Challenges**
- (i) low share of export - may lead to accumulation of ₹ by foreign partner eg. Russia declaring ₹ after threshold reached
 - (ii) Weak ₹ against major global currencies - can find hard to compete
 - (iii) dependence on countries such as China for certain crucial imports - does not accept ₹.
 - (iv) Tough management of inflation by MPC.

Way out ① Strengthen domestic economy by measures viz. reform in logistics, banking reforms etc

② Boost trade - specially export by policies viz. NAFED, TRIFED, APEEDA, EODTEP.

③ Strengthen and consolidate public sector banks - follow B.J. Nayak Committee and Narayanan-II recommendation

④ Allow trade partners of India to engage in ₹ trade among themselves viz. Russia and Bangladesh ~~can~~ may use ₹.

Internationalisation of ₹ should proceed with strengthening of economy at home

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



Q.14) What are Primary Agricultural Credit Societies? Can the cooperative push alone help in achieving the twin targets of boosting rural economy and mainstreaming small and marginal farmers? (15 marks, 250 words)

प्राथमिक कृषि ऋण समितियां क्या हैं? क्या केवल सहकारी प्रयासों से ही ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था को बढ़ावा देने और छोटे एवं सीमांत किसानों को मुख्य धारा में लाने के दोहरे लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने में मदद मिल सकती है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS) are the grass root level co-operative societies operating at panchayat / ward level providing credit facilities to small and marginal farmers.

Role of co-operatives in achieving twin target of boosting rural economy and mainstreaming small and marginal farmers —

① Boosting rural economy —

↳ Provide cheap credit facility for ~~the~~ rural development

↳ RCC facilities for consumption expenditure

↳ warehouse functioning

② Mainstreaming small and marginal farmers —

↳ Provide KCC facilities to small and marginal farmers

↳ Storage facilities to agro. produce

↳ Frame for agro inputs viz. equipment, seeds, fertilizers etc.

However, Co-operatives alone are not sufficient to reach the twin target —

① Skewed presence — mostly UCBs are in Tier II cities and towns

② Lack of professionalism — in personnel and credit/financial management.

↳ politicisation of cooperative boards

③ Cases of cooperative bank defaults eg. Maharashtra cooperative bank case

④ Dual regulation creates dual financial and administrative issues.

How to revamp cooperatives —

- ① Computerisation of All PACS to streamline credit activities
- ② De-politise appointments of top level management.
- ③ Co-operative sponsoring banks should have audit of all PACS and District-Co-operative Banks — to thwart mismanagement
- ④ More co-operatives in BIMARU states viz. Bihar, Jharkhand etc
- ⑤ Increase credit limit under KCC for PACS customers.

Strengthening of co-operatives is vital to ensure rural modernisation as per set by Budget-2023.

Feedback

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Q.15) Farm policies in the country have inadvertently led to undesirable consequences. Do you agree? Giving emphasis on PM PRANAM, discuss ways to enhance soil health and farm productivity.
(15 marks, 250 words)

देश में कृषि नीतियों ने अनजाने में अवांछनीय परिणामों को जन्म दिया है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? पीएम प्रणाम पर जोर देते हुए मृदा स्वास्थ्य और कृषि उत्पादकता बढ़ाने के तरीकों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Farm policies since Independence such as Green Revolution, White Revolution, 1950s regime, etc. have been able to improve agricultural productivity and harvest (300 MT cereal production in 1942).

However, these policies have also led to certain undesirable consequences -

- (i) Unfulfilled land reform - fuelled extremist tendencies e.g. Naxalism
- (ii) Negatives of Green Revolution - excessive dependence on water guzzlers, irrigation, wheat and resultant soil quality degradation
- (iii) Depletion of water table in Green Revolution States.

- (iv) Excessive use of fertilizers and chemicals for increasing productivity.
- (v) Bulgary food subsidy and fertilizer subsidy
eg. RSue price remains same at ₹ 2/3 for
rice & wheat but economic price at ₹ 26/37.

In this regard, PM-PRANAM is a scheme announced in Budget 2023 with following features —

- (i) Bringing behavioural change in farmers regarding use of chemicals.
- (ii) Incentivising them to use natural organic fertilizers.
- (iii) Help them adopt zero-budget natural farming.
- (iv) Help sustain the productivity of soil by maintaining its soil quality.

Other ways to enhance soil health and farm productivity

- ① Adoption of precision farming - deployment of technology for resource optimization
- ② Deploy Tol-Ya Irrigation technique for irrigation / groundwater management
- ③ Promotion of Agro-Biodiversity as suggested by UN FAO eg. Karaput farming method
- ④ Support to organic farming to decrease input cost & boost income
- ⑤ Promotion of Millet agriculture - high productivity with low maintenance.

India has set ambitious target of doubling farm income by 2024 and that requires adoption of above recommendations.

Feedback
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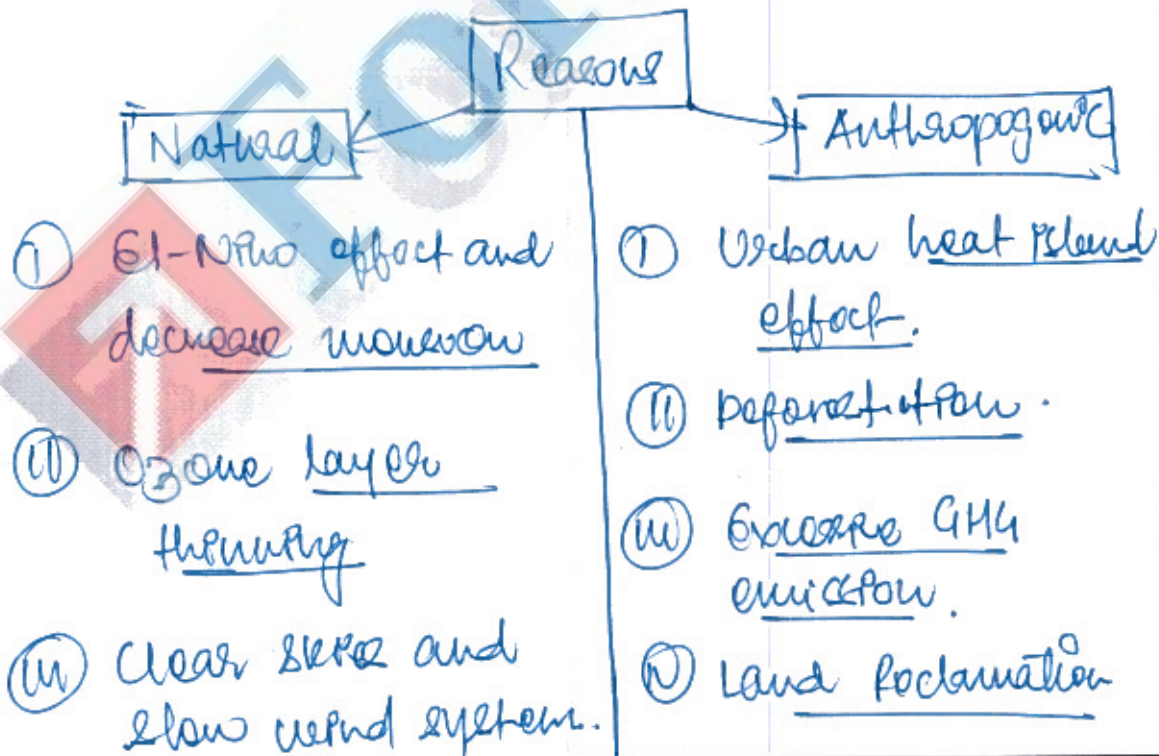
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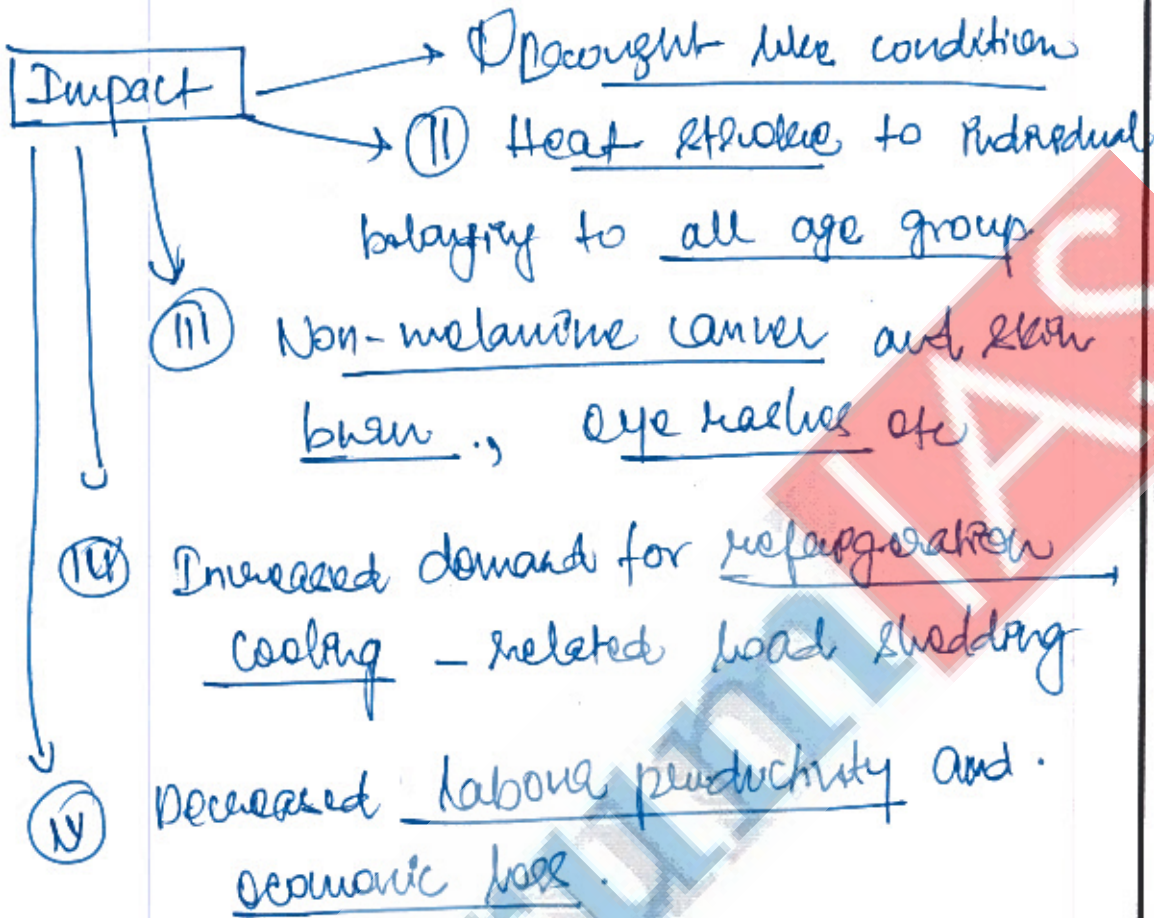


Q.16) What do you understand by heat waves? Highlight the reasons and impact of the rising frequency of heat waves across India. Also, recommend some measures to mitigate its impact. (15 marks, 250 words)

उष्ण तरंगों (heat waves) से आप क्या समझते हैं? पूरे भारत में उष्ण तरंगों (heat waves) की बढ़ती आवृत्ति के कारणों और प्रभाव पर प्रकाश डालिए। इसके अलावा, इसके प्रभाव को कम करने के लिए कुछ उपायों की सिफारिश कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Heat waves as per IMD is general departure of average temperature by 4-6°C for two consecutive days in plain areas. It includes temperature exceeding above 40°C in hills and above 47°C in plains for more than two days.





Mitigational measures

- (i) Nagar Van scheme - boost urban green patches
- (ii) Integrated urban planning - to design urban spaces.
- (iii) Phase wise closure of Thermal power plants to ↓ GHG emission.

④ Improving overall green cover to help maintain hydrological cycle.

⑤ Follow NAPCC and SAPCC targets and ~~complete~~ realise them timely.

⑥ Boost green growth - Green Credit Programme, focus on renewables etc.

Management of heat waves An integral part of realisation of CPGs by 2030

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



Q.17) How is Chandrayaan-3 different from its predecessor, Chandrayaan-2? To what extent can India's presence in Artemis Accords help in furthering the exploration of lunar surface?
(15 marks, 250 words)

चंद्रयान-3 अपने पूर्ववर्ती चंद्रयान-2 से किस प्रकार भिन्न है? आर्टेमिस समझौते में भारत की उपस्थिति चंद्र सतह की खोज को आगे बढ़ाने में किस हद तक मदद कर सकती है?
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Chandrayaan-3 is the third space mission in Chandrayaan series that targets soft landing on South pole of lunar surface.

It achieved its primary target of successful soft landing on lunar south pole on 23rd August 2023.

Differences from Chandrayaan 2 (C-2).

- ① Was without orbiter - used the lunar orbiter of Chandrayaan 2.
- ② Primary objective - soft moon landing vs C-2 of sending an orbiter along with attempting soft landing.

(iii) C-2 launched by ~~PSC~~, GSW-M-III, while C-3 by LVIII-III.

(iv) C-2 failed to pass the 20 minutes of torso phase. while C-3 made it.

Artwork Accord is a US led lunar mission and an extension of open space treaties that deals with peaceful exploration of outer space for common benefit of mankind.

India recently acceded to the Artwork Accord.

- Benefits
- (i) Greater interpolation with global space agencies viz. NASA, ESA et
 - (ii) Information exchange with other mission viz. Artwork Moon Mission by India

Benefit → (iii) Collaboration among global and Indian scientists on future lunar / MARS / space missions

(iv) Benefit in form of - technology, human resources and scientific input.

However, according to Aardal also marks a departure from existing nationalistic space policy to liberal space regime as it contains a clause on exploration for commercial purpose as well.

Feedback

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Q.18) Research and Development is the key to unlock the potential of 'knowledge economy.' In this perspective, analyse the role of the National Research Foundation Bill, 2023 in democratizing the research ecosystem in India. (15 marks, 250 words)

अनुसंधान और विकास 'ज्ञान अर्थव्यवस्था' की क्षमता को अनलॉक करने की कुंजी है। इस परिप्रेक्ष्य में, भारत में अनुसंधान पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को लोकतांत्रिक बनाने में राष्ट्रीय अनुसंधान फाउंडेशन विधेयक, 2023 की भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

'Knowledge economy' refers to presence of social capital such as educational institutions, intellectual stock, institutional capacity regarding ~~Research~~ Research and development of

Research and development is key to unlock potential of knowledge economy -

① leads to discovery of new products and richness of intellectual ecosystem

② provides for indigenous capacity to carry out strategic activities eg Chandrayaan series, Indigenous missile programme.

(iii) Boost the intellectual outcome e.g. no of
publication in international top journals

In this regard, National Research Foundation
Bill, 2023, is a right step in democratizing
R&D ecosystem —

(i) Exclusive earmarked fund (50K crore)
for next 5 years.

(ii) Open to all educational institutions
— government, semi-government, private etc.

(iii) Increased stipend for junior & senior
fellowship e.g. PMRF → 38K from
present ₹30K.

(iv) Decrease plagiarism by streamlining all
research under one umbrella.

However, Indian R&D ecosystem suffers from
certain fundamental flaws —

- (1) GDP expenditure is just 0.6% v/s top 10 economies average of 2%.
- (ii) Government sector contribution is 60% of total R&D expenditure.
- (iii) Health R&D expenditure is even abysmal at paltry 0.01% of GDP
- (iv) Private sector contribution is 30% of average private contribution by top 10 economies.

Suggestion: (i) Increase expenditure to 2% of GDP

(ii) Incentivize private sector by attractive schemes of health

(iii) Boost R&D expenditure to atleast 0.1%.

(iv) Increase successful patent files from present 30% to 50%.

Vibrant research ecosystem is also-quo-here
in some developed nation target by 2027

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.19) What do you understand by the term 'Hybrid warfare.' Highlighting its implications for India, recommend measures to develop a comprehensive ecosystem to counter the same.

(15 marks, 250 words)

'हाइब्रिड वॉरफेयर' शब्द से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत के लिए इसके प्रभावों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इसका मुकाबला करने के लिए एक व्यापक पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र विकसित करने के उपायों की सिफारिश कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Hybrid warfare means extrapolation of conventional warfare with new age techniques viz - Cyber war, Cyber-sabotage, low-wolf attack, sleepers cells etc.

Implication for India

- (i) loss of life, resources and property
- (ii) Threat to internal security — low wolf attack destabilise peace in J&K.
- (iii) Jeopardise critical infrastructure security eg recent attack on Mumbai power supply!
- (iv) Back support to existing security forces eg- terrorists, Extremism, secessionists etc

- (v) Destabilising role in communal and local harmony - by liberal elements through propaganda videos etc.
- (vi) Threat to national unity, peace, progress and development.

Suggestions to counter them :-

- (i) Comprehensive legislation - dealing with definition, extent, institutional mechanism etc to deal with evolving warfare type
- (ii) Offensive and defensive training to intelligence officers - R&AW, IB etc
- (iii) Central Intelligence Command - to integrate inputs of various intelligence agencies.
- (iv) Training & Capacity building of CERT-In officers - securing 30% vacancy.

- ① Modernisation of State police force —
15th FC recommendation is good
- ② Comprehensive reform in criminal justice system — Nabamath Committee suggestion

Ajit Prasad, NSA puts it rightly when he says,
a country is strong only if has strong
capacity to tackle internal and external security threats.

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

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Q.20) How are internal security challenges related to peace in neighboring countries? Explain with special reference to instability on India's eastern frontier. (15 marks, 250 words)

आंतरिक सुरक्षा चुनौतियाँ पड़ोसी देशों में शांति से कैसे संबंधित हैं? भारत की पूर्वी सीमा पर अस्थिरता के विशेष संदर्भ में व्याख्या कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Internal security challenges pertaining to peace that threaten domestic peace, development and harmony e.g. Naxalism, organised crime, cyber security etc

Relation of internal security with peace in neighbouring countries

- (i) destabilisation in economic condition in Sri Lanka led to influx of Sinhala Tamils
- (ii) Military takeovers in Myanmar - led to influx of Kachin, Zo, & Rohingya into Indian border
- (iii) Internal disturbances in Pakistan has spill over effect in form of cross-border insurgency

⑩ Unstable Afghan polity - led to influx of many Afghans in India.

⑪ Communal disharmony in Bangladesh causes constant infiltration into India.

These challenges are more pronounced on the Eastern frontier of India: →

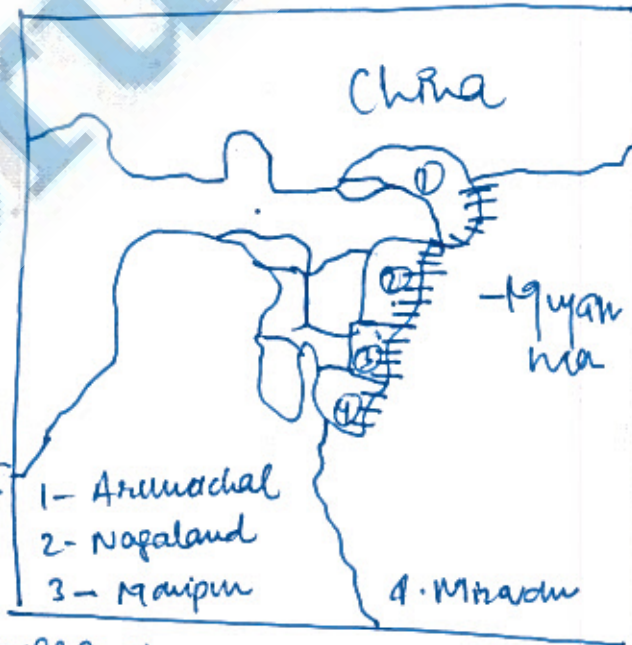
① Military crackdown on Karen & Kachin

people in Myanmar leads to influx of migrants

② Close relation b/w Zo and Kachin people and free

movement regime also

fuels influx / & insurgency.



③ Waifu takeover also made many people free Myanmar.

(iv) Myanmar volatile conditions make it easy for insurgents to creep in.

How to tackle :-

- (i) Strengthen political and diplomatic relations with Myanmar
- (ii) Carry out joint patrolling ops. Exercise swaraj with Myanmar
- (iii) Strengthen BIMSTEC, SAARC etc to resolve petty disputes
- (iv) Expedite developmental projects eg Kabadi multilateral project, tribal highway etc
- (v) Invest in Human development (AIDS, Malaria) is good.

Taming the insurgency at earliest least can ensure peaceful North East.

Feedback

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Mentor Feedback Questions

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Test Goal

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Outcomes

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Marking Scheme

Mark	Good	Average	Below average
10 Marker	3.75 – 5.0	3.0 – 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 – 7.0	4.0 – 5.5	< 4.0
✓✓	Key / Relevant Point		
✗	Vague / Irrelevant		

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