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TEST CODE 6 1 3 2 0 1

FIAS - MGP 2023 - Cohort 13 - Sectional Test #5

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	Devdarsn		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	Date/दिनांक	28/8	

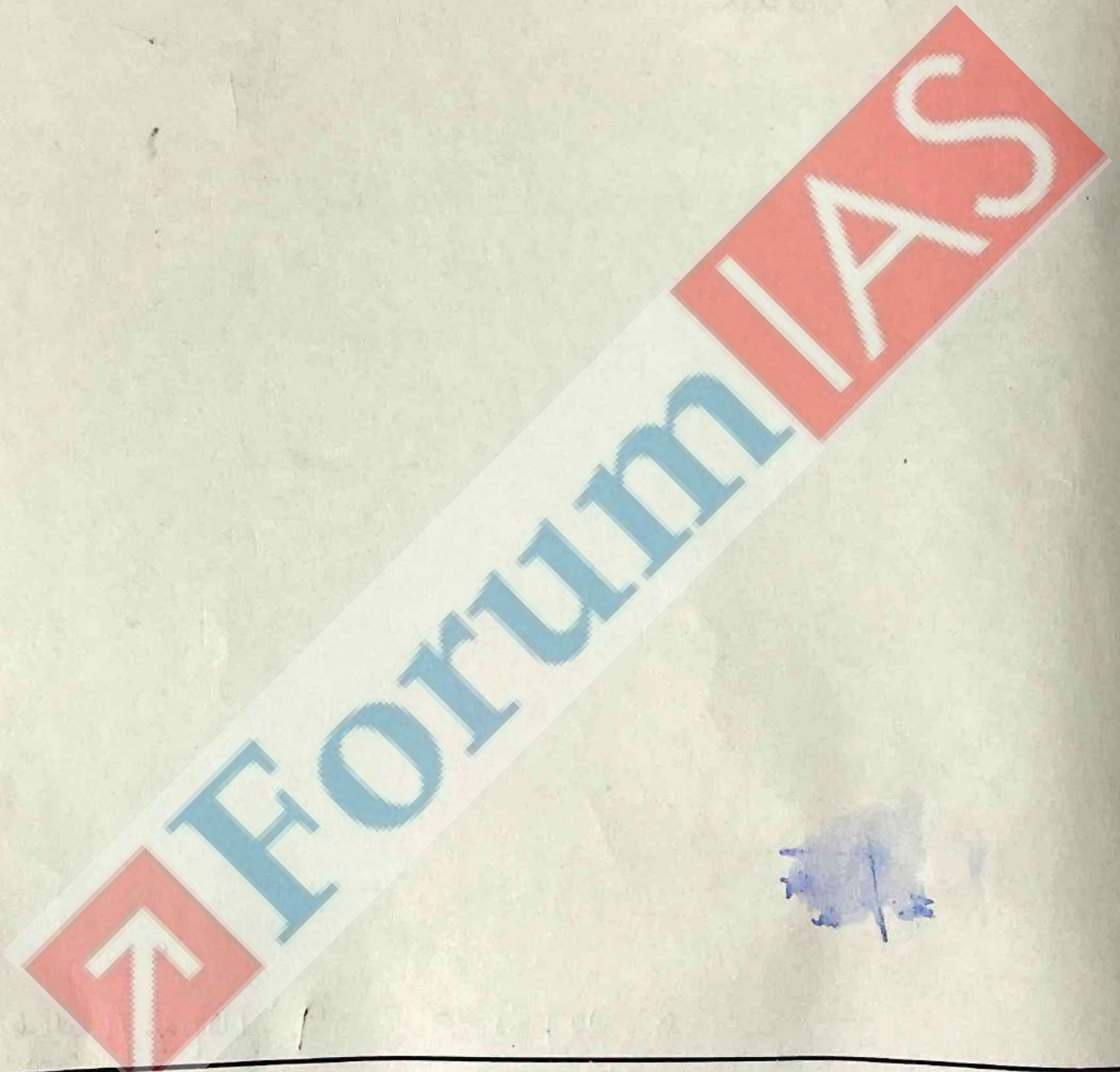
*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक		
1			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।	
2			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।	
3			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।	
4			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।	
5			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 : 6:00 pm	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 9:10 pm (pl deduct accordingly)
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input 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 आरखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों का समग्र रूप, चित्रों अन्य विषय वस्तु जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आये क आधार पर (जबकि इनकी तक शामिल नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
			EG/ईजी : ① ② ③ ④ ⑤	

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You can discuss your evaluated copy with the Mentor. Raise a ticket from your portal to schedule a mentor call or visit the offline centre to meet mentor (all 7 days, Timings - 11 AM to 6 PM). Further if you are unsatisfied with the evaluation, you can seek re-evaluation of the copy.

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, 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, 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, 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 subjective components of assessment.

Q.1) Investment in infrastructure is a precursor to social and economic transformation; however, the focus on economic gains must not marginalise the concerns for safety. Comment.

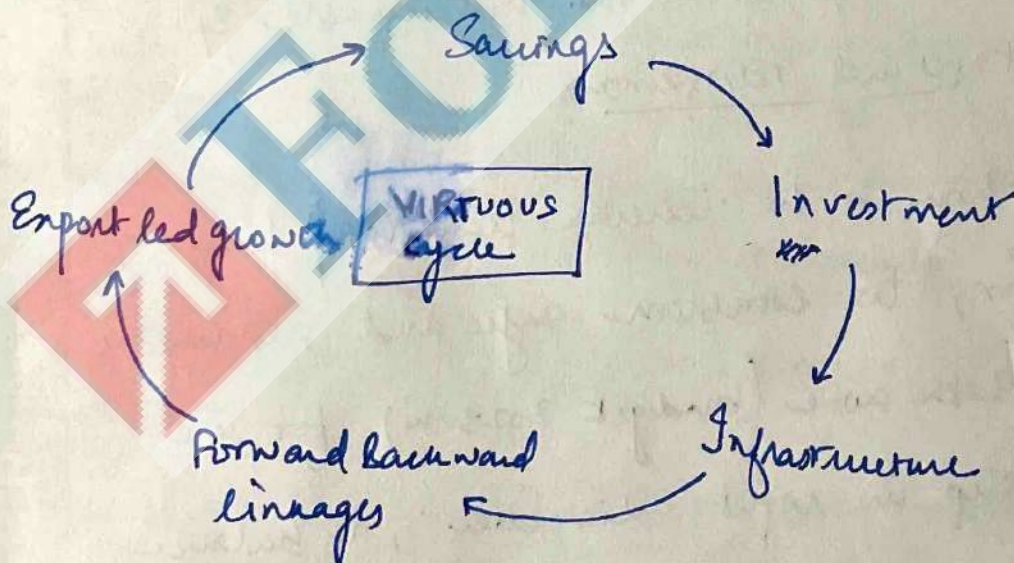
(10 marks, 150 words)

बुनियादी ढांचे में निवेश सामाजिक और आर्थिक परिवर्तन का अग्रदूत है, हालाँकि, आर्थिक लाभ पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने से सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंताओं को हाशिए पर नहीं डाला जाना चाहिए। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Investment in infrastructure has a multiplier effect on economy. As Indian economy boasts of being 5th largest in the world, it must equally emphasize on ^{safety +} Inclusivity of investments for lasting effect.

Precursor to socioeconomic transformation:



That's why govt has launched National Infrastructure Pipeline with an outlay of

Fill gaps for 'boosting' -

- Logistics - rail / road / waterways / port infra
- ~~Key~~ supply chain resilience + value addition
- Construction and capital investments

Need of inclusive infrastructure & safe infrastructure

- To reap demographic dividend (35 year bracket)
- Ensure access to resources + $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Health} \\ \text{Education} \\ \text{Skills} \end{array} \right.$ to most vulnerable
- Resilience to disasters (climate change \rightarrow $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{bipartite} \\ \text{cyclone} \end{array} \right.$)
- Quality over quantity (eg. balance train accident)
- Rising security concerns - cybercrimes, asymmetric warfare
- Hasty investments are not sustainable & lead to structural retrogression

Need of the hour is to leverage technology from private sector, to establish safe and sustainable infra; $\&$ to take care (budget 2023-24) for the sector is step in right direction, to balance Grey & Blue-Green infrastructure that lasts!

Feedba	
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AWIS	
CD & VA	
S & F	
P & R	
Please put the marks in the table.	
Here G is Good is Average and Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

Q2) Do you think the low Female Labor Force Participation Rate presents a correct picture about the 'working women' in India's economy? Give reasons in support of your answer.

(10 marks, 150 words)

क्या आपको लगता है कि कम महिला श्रम बल भागीदारी दर भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था में 'कामकाजी महिलाओं' के बारे में सही तस्वीर पेश करती है? अपने उत्तर के समर्थन में कारण दीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

With an unemployment rate of 4%,
worker population ratio of 40% (52 core workers),
rate of 9% FLFPR seems ambiguous and
ironic.

Yes, this data is not unworthy as,

1) Appendages of patriarchy are flourishing in

home & workplace

son meta preference

control over salary

'prohibition' on women
going out of homes to work

sexual harassment at wp

Glass ceiling.

It will take 98 years
to close the gender
gap for Indian economy,
so the data reflects our
society.

2) Marriage → migrations (70% of total migrants
in India are women, and 20% of all women
migrate because marriage unlike men migration)

for better employment

3) As awareness improves, women go for higher studies (3rd education, R&D), thus the delay in reflection of improvement in FIFPR rate

4) Backward bending labour curve

Yet the rate is not fast prog because:

- 1) Dominance of informal sector in Indian economy (90%) →
- 2) Poor data representation [FIFPR is mostly based on sample data sets]
- 3) Geographic inequities - Rural-urban divide; N-S-NE divide, hence data averages reflect only a broad trend.

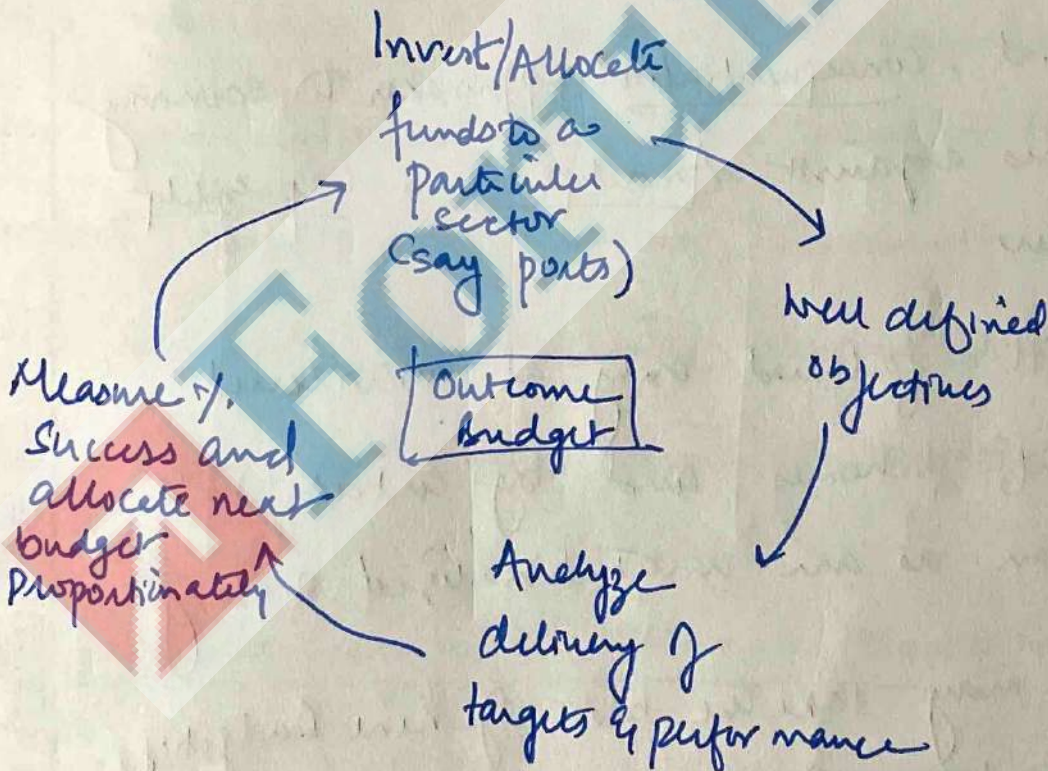
While more women are going into pink collared jobs, the dual burden of home & workplace needs to be addressed to curb rising lowering trend of FIFPR (Bangladesh model has much to offer in this regard)

Feedback	
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Please put marks in this table.	
Here O is Overall Average and P is Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

Q.3) Outcome budget convert outlays into outcomes. Examine various advantages and disadvantages of outcome budgeting and assess its status in the country. (10 marks, 150 words)

परिणाम बजट परिव्ययों को परिणामों में परिवर्तित करता है। परिणाम बजट के विभिन्न लाभों और हाणियों का परीक्षण करें और देश में इसकी स्थिति का आकलन करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

If budget denotes Annual financial statement of receipts & expenditure of the government in a given financial year (Art 112 of constitution), Outcome budget denotes budgeting in proportion to outcomes of programmes.



Advantages: 1) From rule based to roles & outcomes based fiscal policy.

- 2) Enables better targeting of capital investments over unproductive budgets
 - 3) Weeding out inefficiency & uneconomic schemes
 - 4) Unutilized funds (Nirbhaya, Child Labour fund) can be channelized elsewhere (health) → only 2.1% of GDP now
- Concerns:
- 1) Not all investments yield production consequences — salaries, routine budgets.

2) Lag in results of developmental schemes like Enhance MRS.

3) Parschwal, consequentialist approach to economy which goes against Amartya Sen's Capability approach

Status: It is followed only at micro level for specific schemes and by certain states rather than as an institutionalized strategy.

We may take the best of line budgeting, Outcome budgeting & Zero based budgeting & adopt the amalgam to Indian scenario.

Feedb	
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S & F	
P & R	
Please put marks in the table.	
Here G is Good, A is Average & P is Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

Q.4) What do you understand by inclusive growth? Is economic growth sufficient to ensure inclusive growth? (10 marks, 150 words)

समावेशी विकास से आप क्या समझते हैं? क्या आर्थिक संवृद्धि समावेशी विकास सुनिश्चित करने के लिए पर्याप्त है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Inclusive growth denotes growth of every region, every section and every sector of society/economy irrespective of baggage of vulnerabilities and stigmas they carry.

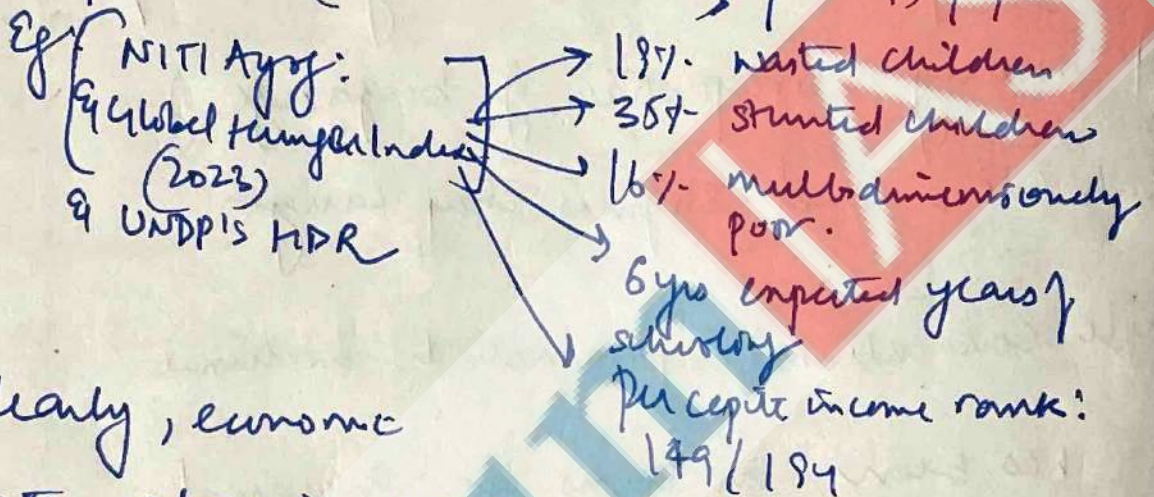
While conventional approach to inclusive growth has been in terms of 'increased income' at sustained rate, new paradigm of economic development involves, sustained growth of GDP around 8% (per capita), coupled with structural change to make growth sustainable & inclusive.

Rift between economic & inclusive growth in Indian context:

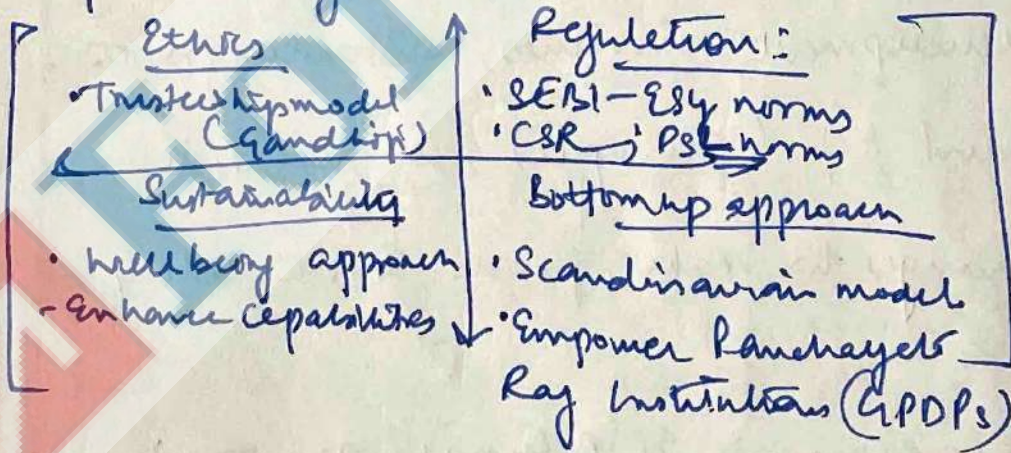
- 1) Oxfam report: 'Survival of the Richest', 2023:
Top 1% Indians own 40.5% wealth

2) 36 crore people live in poverty as India grows to be proud of lost unicorns, 9 companies in fortune 500 list.

3) Impoverished (multidimensional) poverty population



Clearly, economic growth alone is not sufficient, it must be accompanied by -



Budget 2023-24's provision for Credit Guarantee scheme for MSMEs, Mahila Samman Savings certificates & Atalaya MIs are steps in direction of 'Sabhe Sath, Sabhe Vines'!

Q5) Evaluate the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) in addressing the challenges of Public Private Partnership (PPP) in the country. (10 marks, 150 words)

में सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी (PPP) की चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए हाइब्रिड वार्षिकी मॉडल (HAM) का प्रस्ताव करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

PPP model stands as a golden opportunity for a nation thirsty for investment in brown-field & green field projects for logistics, food processing and other infrastructural sectors.

HAM - tries to address shortcomings of BOT, BOOT, etc, and other similar PPP models of investment.

What: 60-40% structure where part of payment is upfront to the private sector, and rest in form of performance linked annuities.

Status: MoRTH has initiated HAM for Road / Highways development in India.

Significance: 1) Reduced initial cost burden on private sector (as in BOT)

- 2) Performance linked annuities allow for proper delivery of targets by private party
- 3) Optimal risk sharing between the two contracting parties
- 4) True symbiosis of public & private sector - relationship of equals & has potential to attract FDI

Concerns; however, remain: 1) Performance norms are not always decided in contract (e.g. post approach)

2) Delayed clearances (despite rationale) faster clearances by joint body involved.

3) Better alternatives coming up - Swiss challenge

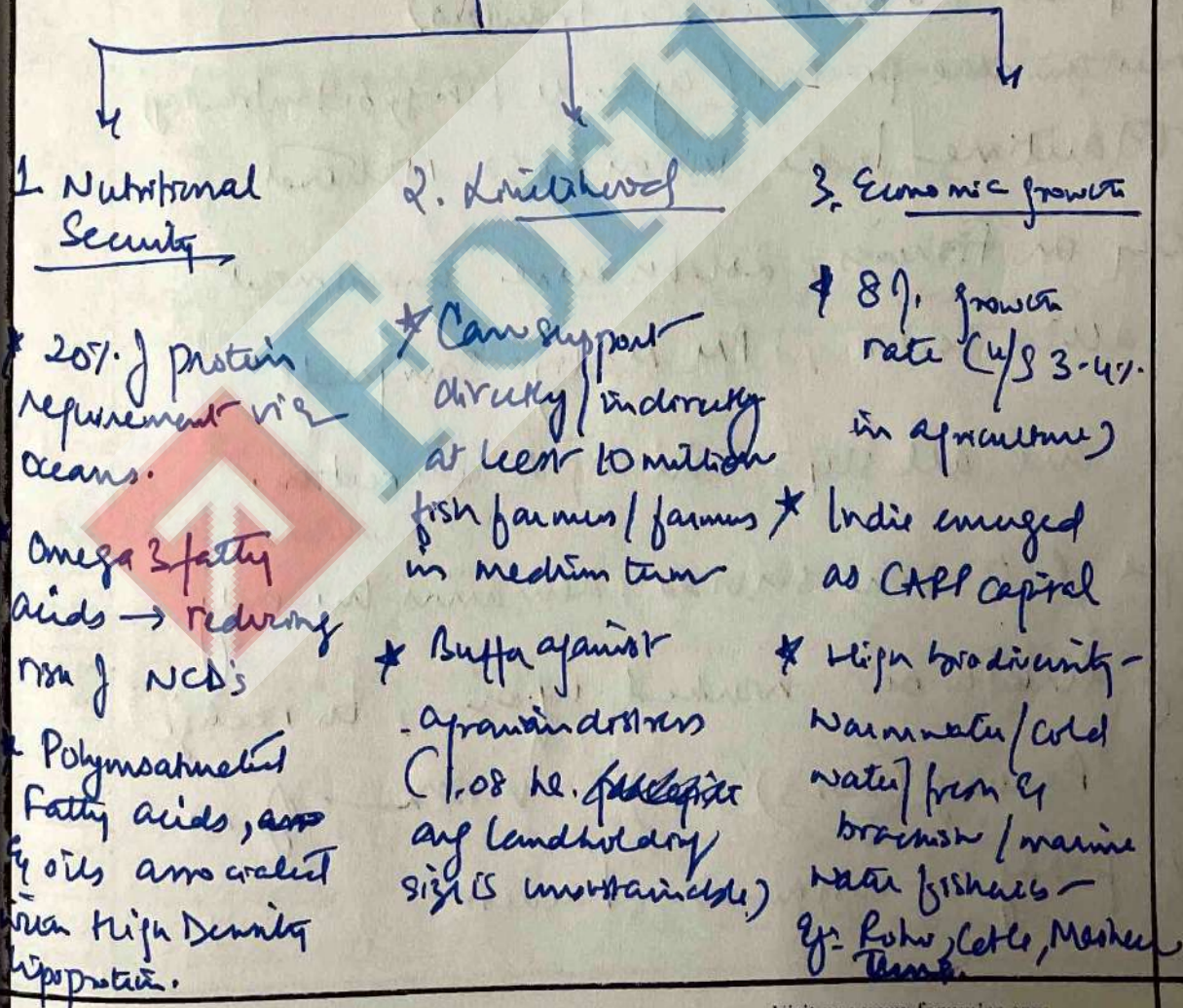
While much appreciable model, Kelkar Committee's recommendations must be incorporated to realize potential of PPP projects in India

Q. Analyse the role of fisheries in nutrition security, livelihood generation, and economic growth. What are the major challenges faced by the fisheries sector? (10 marks, 150 words)

पोषण सुरक्षा, आजीविका सृजन और आर्थिक विकास में मत्स्य पालन की भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए। मत्स्य पालन क्षेत्र के सामने प्रमुख चुनौतियाँ क्या हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India is second largest producer of aquaculture fisheries, 3rd largest overall and 4th largest exporter in the world.

Role of fisheries:
BLUE REVOLUTION



Challenges: 1) Poor cold chain facilities
→ 20-30% losses

2) Climate change - low potential ports

3) Bilateral issues - Kachchethuwa (Sri Lanka)

4) Impure / mixed stands of fish w/s temperate regions - better commercialization (Eg. Penaeus, Anchoa)

5) Sanitary Phytosanitary restrictions as by EU

6) Poor credit availability

7) Equipment (modern nets, trawlers)

8) Unsustainable practices (Cybernetic fishing, bottom trawling)

* Maritime India Vision 2030, National

Policy on Fisheries, 2018 are investment for allied sector, PM Matsya Sampada

Yojna are all steps in right direction.

Proper extension services remains the only missing link to be worked upon, to realize Geneva Package (2023) (WTO)'s vision of no LCV fishing of sustainable harvest

Q.7 In what ways can precision agriculture become a panacea for multipronged challenges plaguing the agriculture sector? Discuss. Also, analyse various impediments in widespread adoption of precision farming in India. (10 marks, 150 words)

प्रकार परिशुद्ध कृषि कृषि क्षेत्र की बहुआयामी चुनौतियों के लिए रामबाण बन सकती है? चर्चा कीजिए। इसके अलावा, में परिशुद्ध खेती को व्यापक रूप से अपनाने में विभिन्न बाधाओं का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Accounting for 18% of GVA and employing 50% of Indian population, agriculture remains the Achilles' heel of Indian growth strategy

Precision agriculture, in this regard can help realize goal of doubling farmers' income

Challenge

How P.A. can help

→ Water scarcity (4% of global groundwater resources, but 25% of total extraction in India)

→ N:P:K = 40:4:1 at certain places -
fertilizer, saline soils

Micro-irrigation (tensiometers); sprinklers, drip irrigation → 'Per drop more crop'

• Soil health band fertilization application by measuring

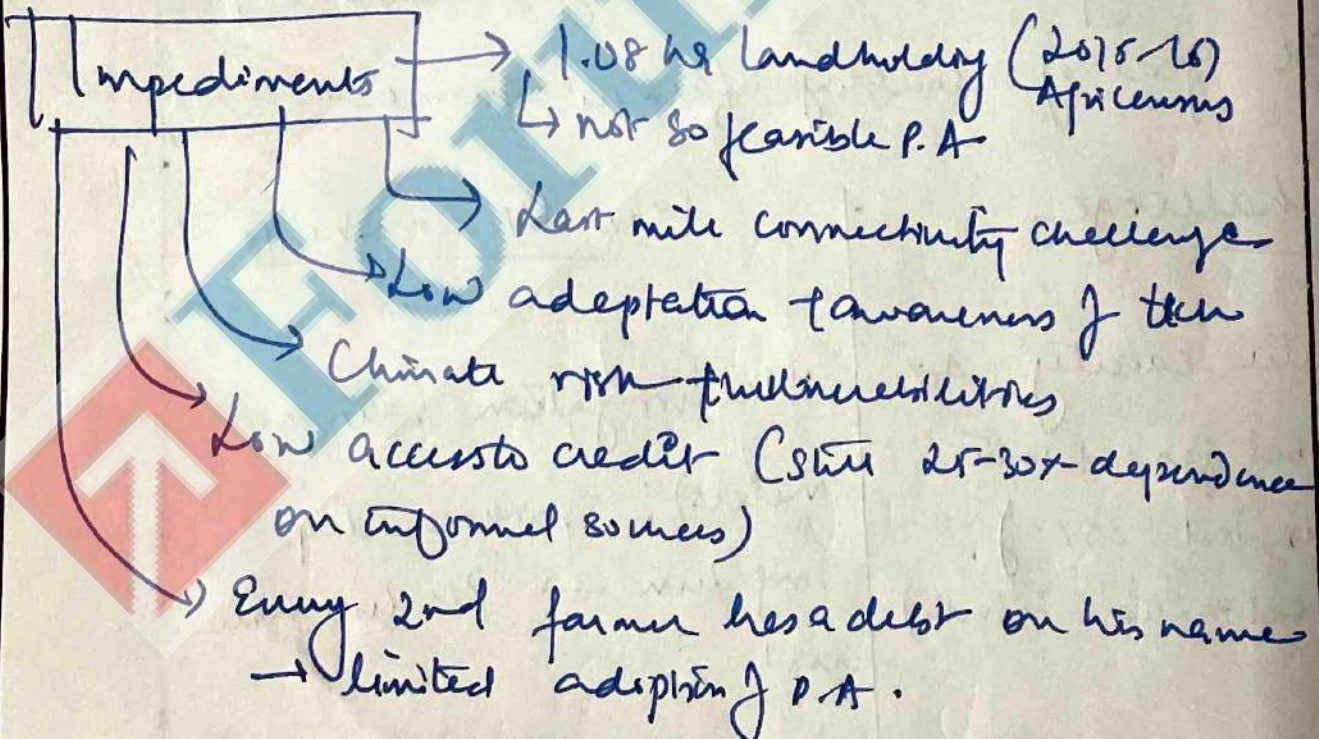
3) Unsustainability, agrarian distress (wheat - rice cropping pattern - plateaued productivity)

4) Wastage of water etc
 → Algal blooms, GHG emissions

1^o nutrients = N, P, K.
 2^o nutrients = Sulphur
 Other parameters: Organic content
 Micro nutrients: Mn, Zn

Better productivity by Chinese smart agriculture

Nanofertilizers (nanosized) can be applied liberally P-A



* Need to promote Green Growth & add P.A in National Mission on Sustainable Agri.

AWIS
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S & F
P & R
Please put marks in table. Here G is Average Poor.
TOTAL MARKS

Q.8) Agriculture subsidy regime in its present form fuels economic inefficiency and creates ecological imbalance. In this perspective, examine various issues related to farm subsidies. Also, recommend measures to rationalise the same. (10 marks, 150 words)

कृषि सब्सिडी व्यवस्था अपने वर्तमान स्वरूप में आर्थिक अक्षमता को बढ़ावा देती है और पारिस्थितिक असंतुलन पैदा करती है। इस परिप्रेक्ष्य में कृषि सब्सिडी से संबंधित विभिन्न मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही, इसे युक्तिसंगत बनाने के उपायों की सिफारिश करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India spends 2.3% of GDP on its farm subsidies, which is unparalleled in the world.

Rationale → agrarian distress, vulnerability of farmers, 50% population dependency.

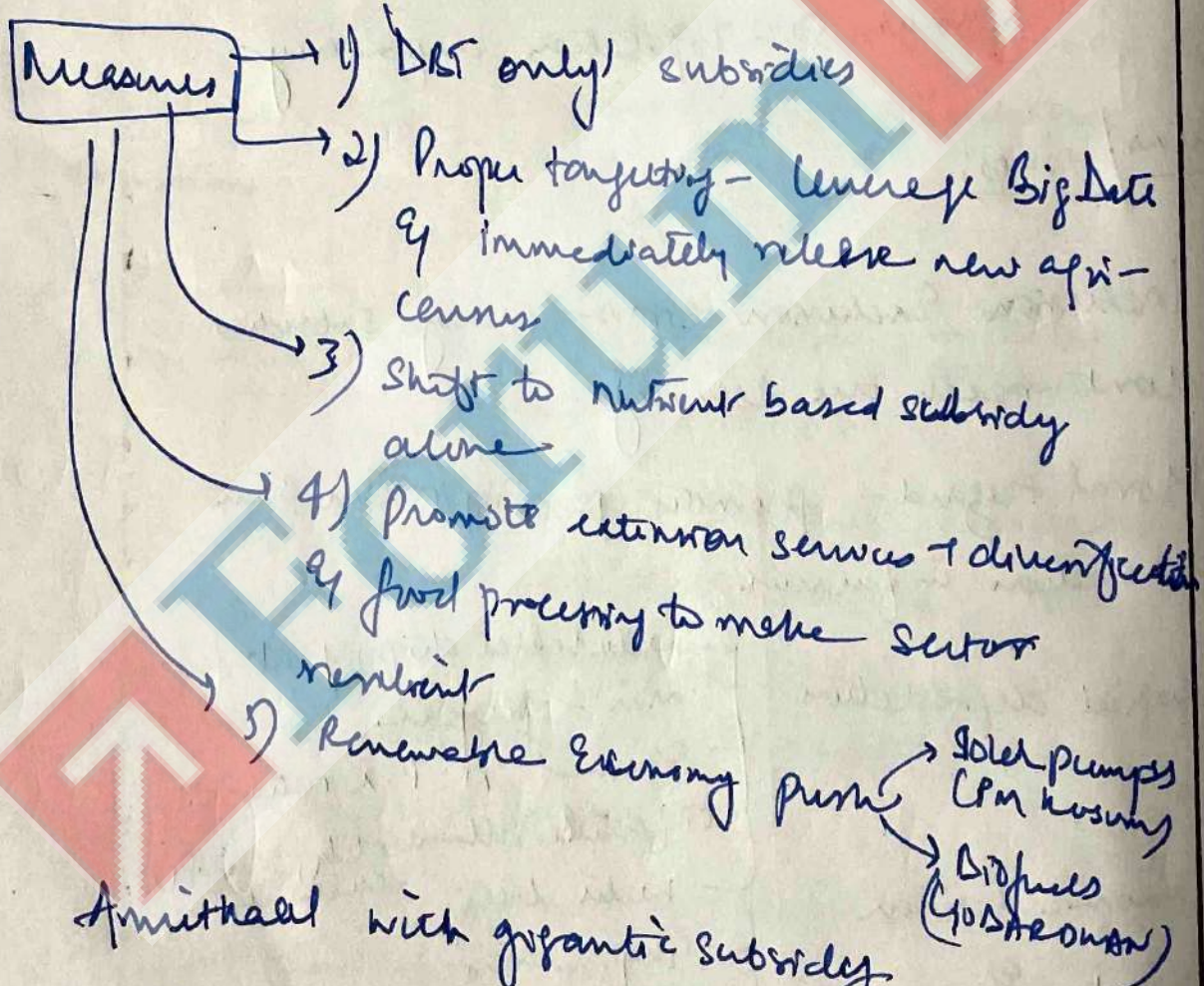
Concerns/Issues:

- 1) Inclusion-Exclusion errors - many subsidies don't reach the deserving
- 2) Moral hazard - promotes passivity rather than innovation in farmers
- 3) Ecological degradation
 - water tables dropping at farmer's pace
 - Skewed N:P:K ratio → infertile soils - acidity, salinity, alkalinity
 - water logging
 - GHG emissions
 - Algal blooms.
- 4) Economic burden on govt & opportunity cost:
 - eg: Budget 2023: of every ₹ that central govt receives,

7 pain go to subsidy

1) Protection of middlemen who exploit farmers
(as noted by T. Hapue committee)

2) Promotes wheat rice cropping rather than diversity
in accordance with agro climatic zones
(eg: sugarcane in mandal, Sambal rice in
Kamesh dute)



Amithal with gigantic subsidy
regime would remain a force of an
eyesore

Feedb
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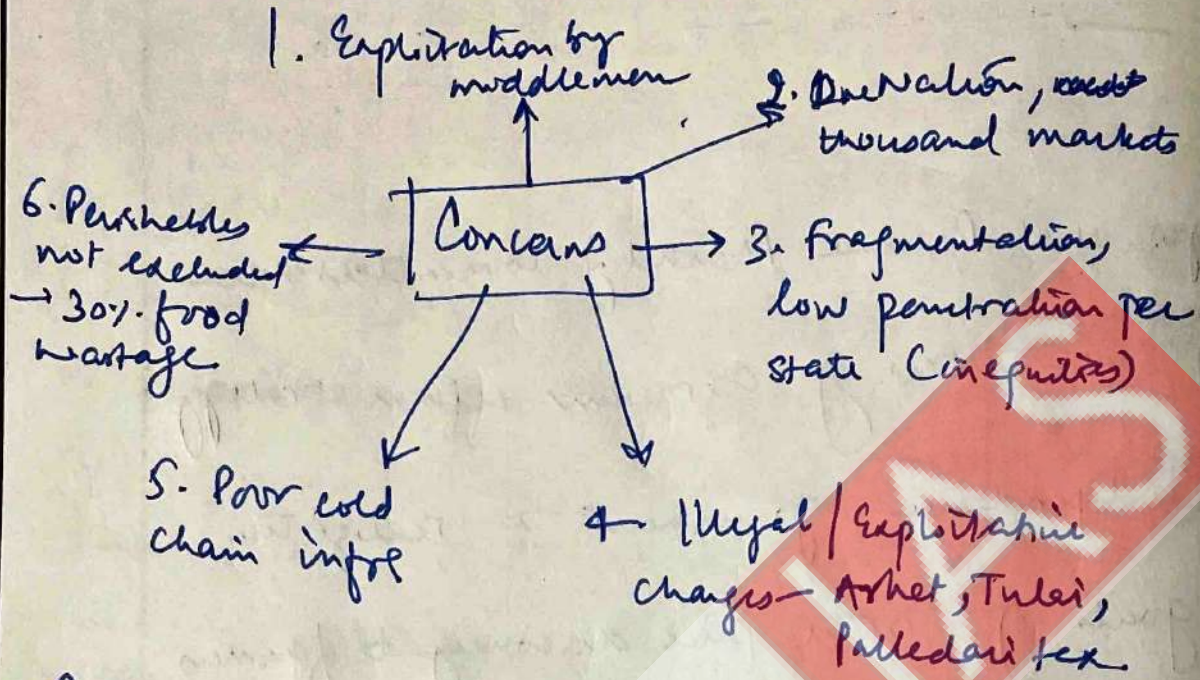
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Here G is Average Poor.
TOTAL MARKS

Q.9] Despite their flaws in limiting access to larger market and poor price realization for agricultural produce, APMCs have their utility. Analyse the statement and suggest reforms in agriculture marketing in the country. (10 marks, 150 words)

बाजार तक पहुंच को सीमित करने और कृषि उपज के लिए कम कीमत की वसूली में उनकी खामियों के बावजूद, एपीएमसी की अपनी उपयोगिता है। कथन का विश्लेषण करें और देश में कृषि विपणन में सुधारों का सुझाव दें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees were one of the pillars of agrarian reform strategy of post-Independence government to realize the twin goals of better price discovery to farmers & sustain able prices for consumers.

- Utility:
- 1) Integral link in farm to farm value chain
 - 2) Advantages of 'coming together' - better price discovery
 - 3) Social capital + network → loans for capital investment (from Arhetiges etc)
 - 4) Reducing scope of distress sales.
 - 5) provide infra for better sales - e.g. grading & need to moisture measurement



Reforms required:

- 1) NITI Aayog's recommendations & model APMCs can be brought at earlier
- 2) Remove purchases & promote future contracts for better price discovery
- 3) Accelerate e-NAM
- 4) Identify national / strategic APMCs for focused action

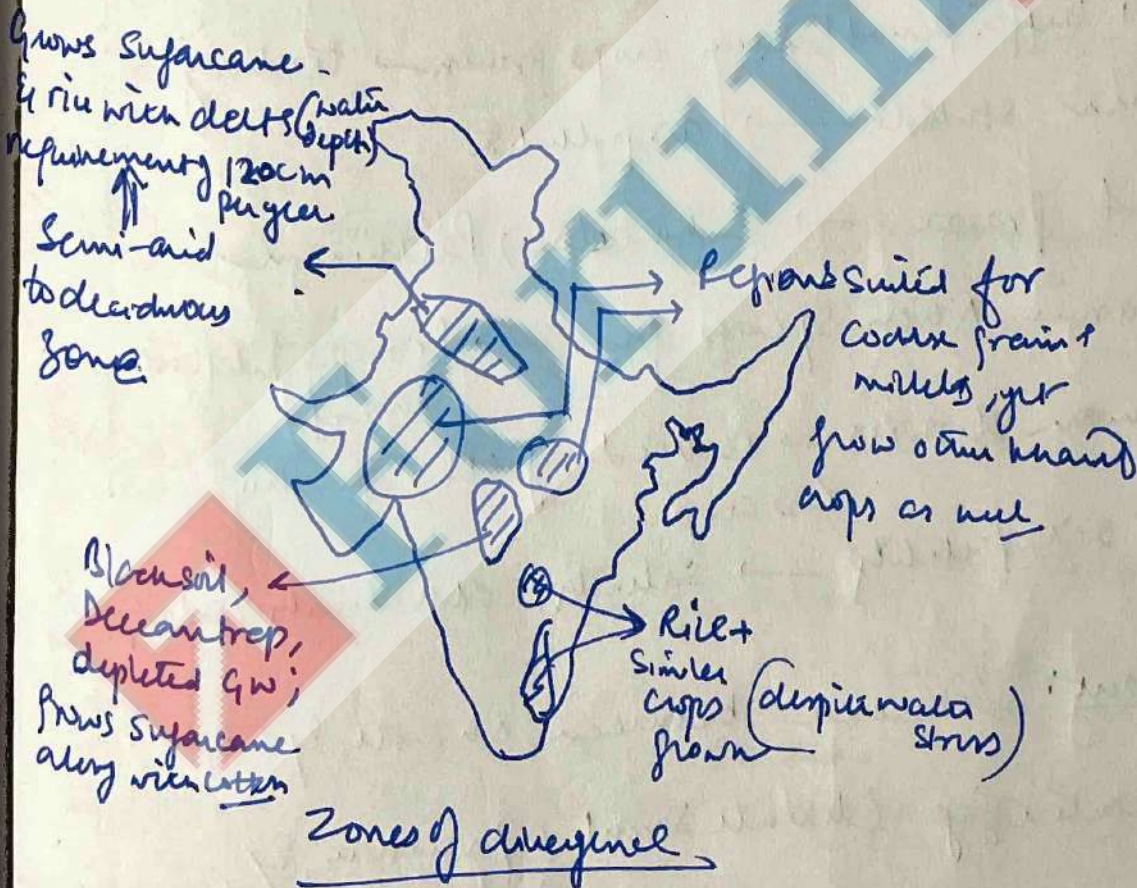
APMCs, as of now, are a necessary evil in dire need of reforms.

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Here G is G is Average Poor.
TOTAL MARKS

Q.10) Cropping pattern in the country does not concur with the agro-climatic reality, leading to unintended and undesirable consequences. Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

देश में फसल पैटर्न कृषि-जलवायु वास्तविकता से मेल नहीं खाता है, जिसके कारण अनपेक्षित और अवांछनीय परिणाम होते हैं। टिप्पणी करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India has around 16 agroclimatic zones, with climate ranging from arid & semi-arid to tropical deciduous & evergreen. But there's often a divergence between these zones & cropping patterns.



Unintended implications:

- 1) Lower productivity: If 51% area is rainfed, growing rice there for MSP ^{as} fails principles of economy
- 2) Ecology → Wheel rice cropping system in Punjab led to GW depleting at unprecedented rates
- 3) Low buffer period between crops grown → tendency to burn stubble → air pollution
- 4) Weed growth → Echinochloa, Parthenium
- 5) Invasive Alien species flow → Prosopis juliflora / Jand
- 6) Agrarian distress → reduced yield, push crop
- 7) Poor soil fertility → Salinity, alkalinity / Sodicity

Wayouts Concurrence between climate & crop
by incentivizing Climate smart agriculture &
limiting perverse MSP regime's flaws.

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Q.11) Labour and export intensive industries are key to problems of jobless growth. In this perspective, analyse the opportunities and challenges associated with the textile sector.
(15 marks, 250 words)

श्रम और निर्यात गहन उद्योग रोजगारहीन विकास की समस्याओं की कुंजी हैं। इस परिप्रेक्ष्य में, कपड़ा क्षेत्र से जुड़े अवसरों और चुनौतियों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Indian growth strategy saw direct shift from agrarian economy to service sector led economy without intermediate stage of industrial revolution, as seen in America/ Europe.

Problems of jobless growth: 1) Poor employment opportunities due to skill gap (50% non-employable as per India Skills Report 2023)

2) Limited potential of service sector → 50% GVA
vs Brazil (49% GVA contribution, 22% employment share)
vs Germany (50% employment share)

3) Disguised unemployment, zero marginal productivity of labour.

Employment elasticity of 0.1 (2023)



Labour/export-led
growth model

Productivity & Sustained
growth model



Amithaal for
Amrit Pledhi
(Budget 2023's vision)

Textile sector

Opportunities

2nd largest producer of cotton

2nd largest producer of jute

2nd largest producer of silk

2.3% contribution to India's GDP

nature of sector

* needs semi-skilled labour

* Pro MSME sector

* Employment intensive

* Skills of a ^apraman surplus workforce can be well leveraged

* Culture + Heritage - demand of Batik, Ikat, Saree, Phulkari in West (soft power)

Challenges: 1) Credit support - for initial investment

2) Tough competition from Bangladesh

3) Unfavourable export regimes w/s EU-Vietnam
Delayed BTIA with EU FTA

4) Inward look - eg: 53% - global jute production
only 7-8% share in global exports

5) competition from synthetic industries. (China)

What to do: 1) Handholding support, technological support
Eg: POWERTEXT India, Solar channels

2) Negotiate better bilateral agreements

3) Effective implementation of SFURTI, A-TUFS.

4) Revitalize KVIC, side board & engage in capacity building

5) focus on Technical Textiles [Natural FT]
Micro

— These steps can help attain a truly

Atmenabhar & yet well interpreted share

Feedback

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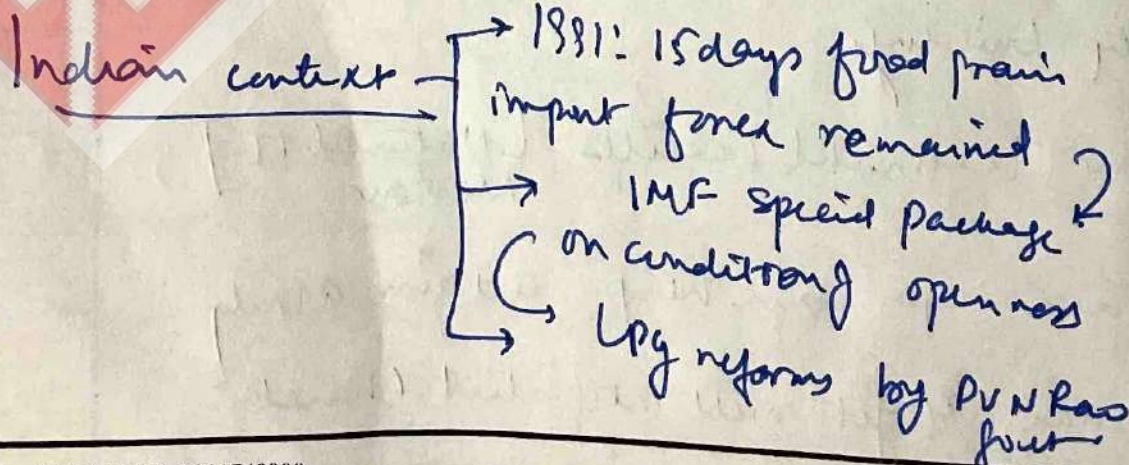
Q.12) What do you understand from Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation (LPG)? Examine the effects of LPG reforms on different sectors of Indian economy. (15 marks, 250 words)

उदारीकरण, निजीकरण और वैश्वीकरण (LPG) से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों पर LPG सुधारों के प्रभावों का परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Liberalisation is the policy of eased regulations of sectors of economy, as opposed to license Raj and Quota systems. It is manifested internally & externally as Privatisation & Globalization respectively.

Privatization: Rollback of state from all sectors of economy (except a few)

Globalization: Entry of goods, services, technology & investment into an economy from outside. [as many countries transform into global village]



Effects on different sectors:-

- 1) Openness of public sector to private sector -
Eg: food processing, railways (infrastructure), thermal power.
- 2) Enhanced foreign Direct Investment via automatic & approval routes - Eg: 74% FDI through automatic route in insurance sector, 100% in renewable energy.
- 3) Banking - approach of RBI from controller of regulator ^{to facilitator} in liberalization, entry of private sector banks at unprecedented scales. (Narasimham committee)
- Rise of SFBs, Payment banks prudently (Chakrabarti committee)
- 4) Industry - NE Policy 1981 - except atomic power etc, industry liberalized - license/quota system abolished.

5) Agriculture - Export orientation and India's share in global agri trade grows to 4%.

6) Services sector: IT/ITES - largest beneficiary of L10Y regime - now driving IoT, CG, AI revolutions in India (SDY - 4VA)

7) Foreign Exchange regulation → management FEMA

Despite revolutionary impacts, concerns of 'Round Tripping', monopolies, restrictive trade practices need to be addressed by bringing new industrial policy & better coordination of Competition Commission of India & Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

(Don't write anything in this area)

(Don't Write anything in this Area इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें)

Q.13 In the financial year 2021-22, Indian merchandise exports have crossed the 400 billion USD mark. Identify the reasons for this spectacular performance of Indian exports and suggest reforms to further boost the exports. (15 marks, 250 words)

वित्तीय वर्ष 2021-22 में, भारतीय व्यापारिक निर्यात 400 बिलियन अमरीकी डालर के आंकड़े को पार कर गया है। भारतीय निर्यात के इस शानदार प्रदर्शन के कारणों की पहचान करें और निर्यात को और बढ़ावा देने के लिए सुधारों का सुझाव दें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India achieved 400 bn usd merchandise export mark to approach the 3% market share in global trade. While a lot needs to be done, this performance can be attributed to following

- 1) Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) - (extended till 2023)
 - ↳ Merchandise exports from India scheme
 - ↳ Duty scrubs and star certification
- 2) Ease of Doing Business
 - ↳ ICEGATE portal
 - ↳ e-Sanchit
 - ↳ Land ports
 - ↳ Seamless Customs reform
- 3) Tax benefits, tax holidays eg for startups.
- 4) Deducted Freight corridors, Logistics Initiatives - Sagarmala, Bharatmela, Diamond corridor
- 5) Zero defect zero defect scheme (ZFD)

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- 6) Boost to MSME → contributes 29% to exports
 ↳ MSME Samadhar, MSME policy, Make in India, Mudra Yojna
- 7) Exclusive Economic Zones, One district one product
- 8) Diversification of reported goods
 (eg. ~~20%~~ handicrafts)
 ↳ export markets
 (eg. Latin America, Central Asia)

Reforms needed:

- 1) Further Logistics Improvement [38th rank in WB's LPI];
 ↳ still only 0.5% share of waterways, v/s 53% of roads (cost double than w/w rail)
 (Netherlands: 42% waterway share, USA - 8%)
- 2) Focus on sunrise & fast track sectors like electronics and technical textiles
- 3) Bala Kalyani Committee's recommendations (EEG's)
- 4) Bilateral / multilateral trade investment pact

eg: with Mexico, Caribbean countries.

- 6) Build Brand India - by focusing on clean & green products
- 7) effective & early ^{implementation} ~~launch~~ of Gati Shakti, National Logistics Policy, National Policy on APEX exports (2018)
- 8) Ensure credit supply & give duty scrips on capital imports, linked with exports
- 9) Coherence between Make in India - Digital India - Defence ~~as~~ indigenization & Export -
- 10) Focus on new technologies where India has potential skill resources - Biotech, nanotech, ML, AI.

The road to \$1 trillion dollar economy has to pass through our custom gates, hence the need of an Export led growth model (on lines of Asian Tigers)

Feedback

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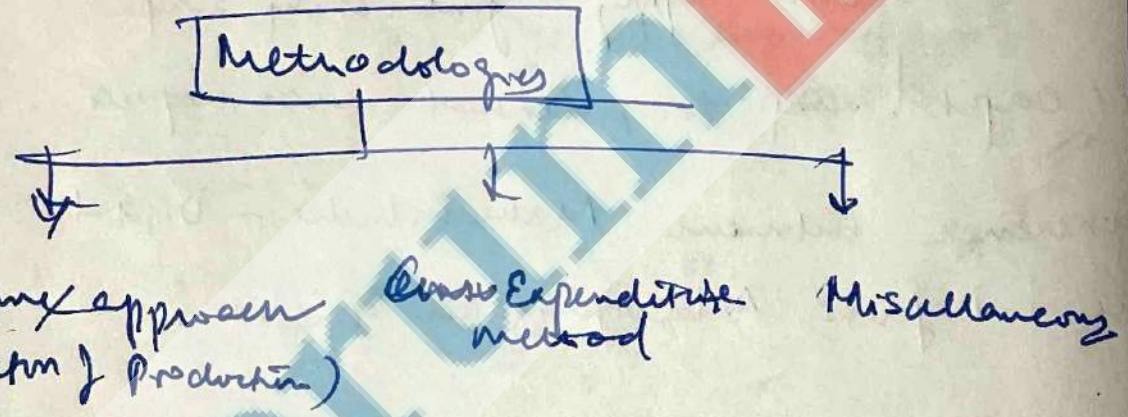
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Q.14) Examine the advantages of adopting new computation methodology for calculation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2015. Also, discuss the limitations of using GDP as a measure of development of a country. (15 marks, 250 words)

2015 में सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (GDP) की गणना के लिए नई गणना पद्धति को अपनाने के लाभों की जांच करें। साथ ही, किसी देश के विकास के उपाय के रूप में GDP का उपयोग करने की सीमाओं पर चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Gross Domestic Product stands for sum total of all goods + services produced by residents of a country in a particular year.



• Current methodology is based on breaking of annual productivity into consumption, income, government expenditure and net exports, relative to base year 2012. We have linked GDP computation methodology with international accounting standards by calculating GDP at market prices.

Limitations of GDP as measure of development:

- 1) Meaning of development (under GDP regime) is narrow & denotes economic development alone, & ignores social improvements (eg. human capital formation)
- 2) Does not take into account production by nationals located outside, & includes, ration, foreigners in India → untimed picture
- 3) Better models for focusing on happiness rather than standard of living alone - eg. Govt of Bhutan
- 4) Does not include externalities - eg. highly polluting industries, even if contributing to economy, must account for negative ecological consequences
- 5) High informal sector of economy (80%) - not fully accounted
- 6) Parallel Black economy
 - Dark web
 - Handled transactions
 - Money laundering

Thus, while ~~is~~ serving as powerful parameter for measuring macroeconomic stability (eg: 6.8% g.r. in 2023-24), GDP has its own limitations.



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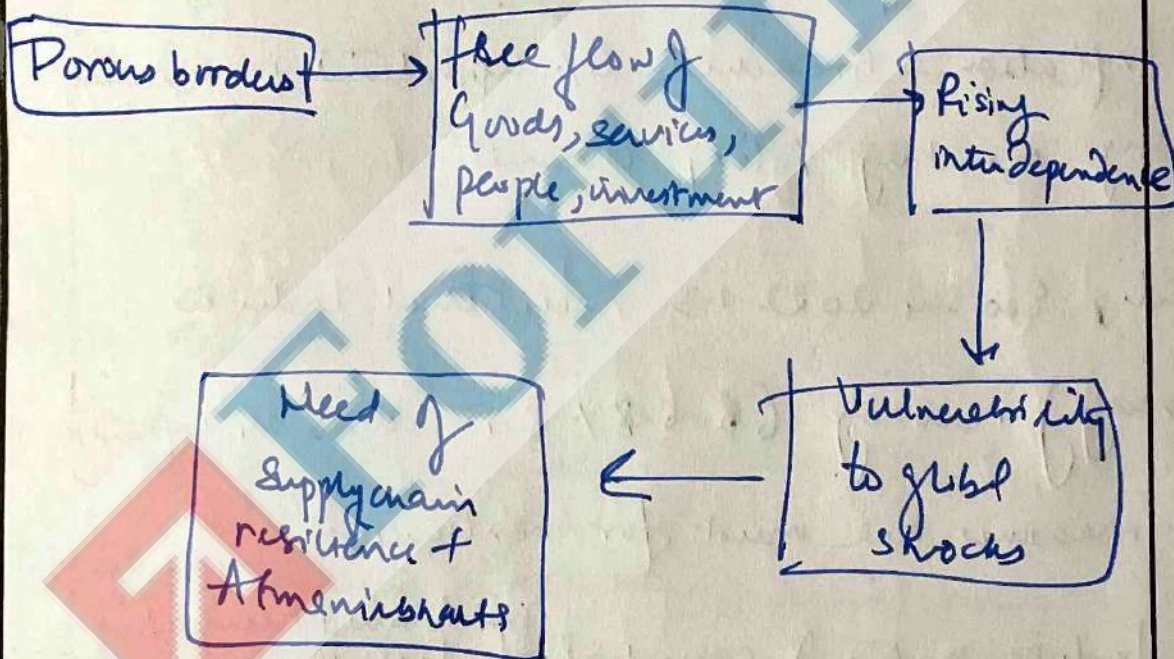
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Q.15) In an era of interconnected challenges, the emerging global polycrisis poses significant implications for India's macroeconomic stability. Examine and suggest measures to make the Indian economy more resilient to global shocks and challenges. (15 marks, 250 words)

जुड़ी चुनौतियों के युग में, उभरता हुआ वैश्विक बहुसंकट भारत की व्यापक आर्थिक स्थिरता के लिए महत्वपूर्ण प्रभाव डालता है। भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था को वैश्विक संकटों और चुनौतियों के प्रति अधिक लचीला बनाने के लिए उपायों का परीक्षण और सुझाव दीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

As world has shrunk into a global village, more interconnected than ever, it poses unprecedented predicaments for Indian economy.



Consider for instance, triple crisis of 1) COVID, 2) Russia Ukraine war & 3) Climate change. All three are not India's creation, yet,

they affected India significantly & continue to do so,

- MSME's → hit by COVID 19 lockdowns → share in exports reduced to 26% from 31% pre COVID.
- GDP gr. rate declined from near 8% to -7%.
- Fiscal deficits widened to 9%, breaching even the escape clause limits of NSICG committee report.
- Inflation - breached 6% upper limit recommended by monetary Policy Committee.

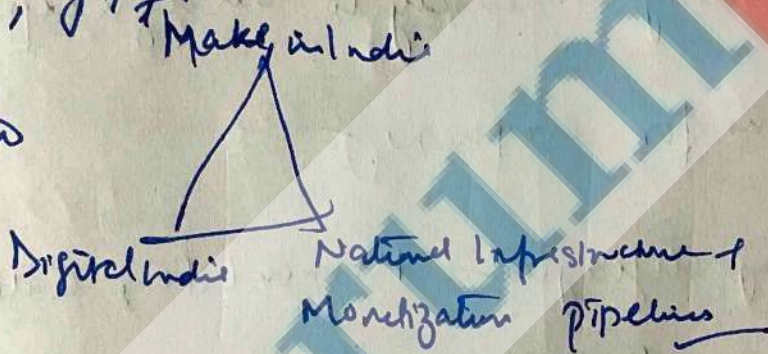
While, Geo Sur 2022-23 notes that India is on way of recovery (6.6-6.8% g.r. 2023-24 expected) foll. measures are must for resilience

- 1) Indigenization of essentials of
 - Pharmaceutical ingredients
 - Solar panels,
 both of which are highly dependent on Chinese imports.
- 2) Diversified markets and input sources - E.g.

Rare earth minerals, so essential for digital India, can be exposed in Central Asia & Australia, apart from famous REE triangle of Argentina - Brazil - Chile

1) Strategic autonomy w.r.t. international / multilateral trade deals by leveraging platforms like G24, G77.

2) Push to



These steps may provide us resilience, but growing gloom about globalization & energy reactions (Copenhagen jingoism) must not be ~~not~~ entertained.

Feedback

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Q.16) What are the reasons for increasing emphasis on the horticulture sector in recent years? Evaluate government measures for the development of the horticulture sector. (15 marks, 250 words)

हाल के वर्षों में बागवानी क्षेत्र पर अधिक जोर देने के क्या कारण हैं? बागवानी क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए सरकारी उपायों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

While agriculture ^{sector} ~~manages~~ tries hard to maintain 4% growth rate, horticulture sector comes as a boom, growing at around 8% CAGR and contributing immensely to our agri exports.

Other reasons for emphasis —

- 1) Changing lifestyles — Mission LIFE, Eat Right campaign, Fit India campaign → move away from packaged / fast food to home products
- 2) Agrarian distress → alternate livelihood opportunities → diversification of income sources
- 3) Export orientation —
 - Alphonso mangoes,
 - Bananas
 - Vegetables.
- 4) Realizing economies of scale as per ^{production} agro clusters zones Eg. Fazilke emerald as California

Punjab, which in turn became largest producer of kinnows in India.

3) Climate change → pure factors

- Honey
- ~~Wheat~~ Medicinal & aromatic plants
- Bamboo

Government Measures:

Evaluation

1) National Horticulture Mission of Ministry for Integrated Development of Horticulture.

• Cluster based / area based approach

* Success for ~~self~~ fruits & vegetables → India one of 2 largest producers in world

• concerns did not accompany credit supply to last mile;

• Special in aid of farmers - ten helped improve productivity

• Increased price discounting for farmers & exports. But capacity building of

2) CHAMAN Project

3) National Bamboo Mission of September mission

4) Golden Revolution
(1990s) &
Sweet Revolution,
National Honey
Mission

Promoting value added
products as required
India emerged as leader of
Fruits & Honey, need to
promote both wild +
indigenous varieties of honey bee
CAPS DOKATA, APIS INDICA

Yellow
Oil Palm Revolution
National Mission for
Oil Palm

Oil seeds
Production revolutionized
opportunity ^{Palm} need to
promote HYV seeds
of BT varieties.

Further interventions are required to promote
aromatic & medicinal plants, that can be
aligned with Ayush mission for multiple
effect

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Q.17) Despite the potential to check the triple whammy of nutritional deficiency, environmental degradation, and receding farm incomes, the adoption of Millets has been abysmally low. Analyse. (15 marks, 250 words)

पोषण की कमी, पर्यावरणीय गिरावट और घटती कृषि आय की तिहरी मार को रोकने की क्षमता के बावजूद, मोटे अनाज की स्वीकृति बेहद कम रही है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Millets are small sized coarse grains of Poaceae family that offer immense nutritional, ecological & economic advantages.

① Nutritional: ¹⁵⁻ 20% protein content
 + low glycemic index (gluten)
 unlike wheat etc
 - + high fibre content

② Need for India: Not even in Top 100 ranks in Global Hunger Index; 35% stunting, 18% wasting in children; high malnutrition incidence (kwashiorkor, marasmus)

③ Environmental Degradation: 1) Don't harm soil fertility unlike pesticide intervention wheat rice system
 2) Regenerate biogeochemical cycles

- 3) low water intermit
- 4) Drought prone
- 5) Defuminous properties

⑧ Receding farm incomes:-

- 1) 51% rainfed area - suitable for millets
- 2) Changing lifestyles - higher acceptability of ~~stale~~ Anne.
- 3) Buffer against failed crop - intercropping

Slow adoption

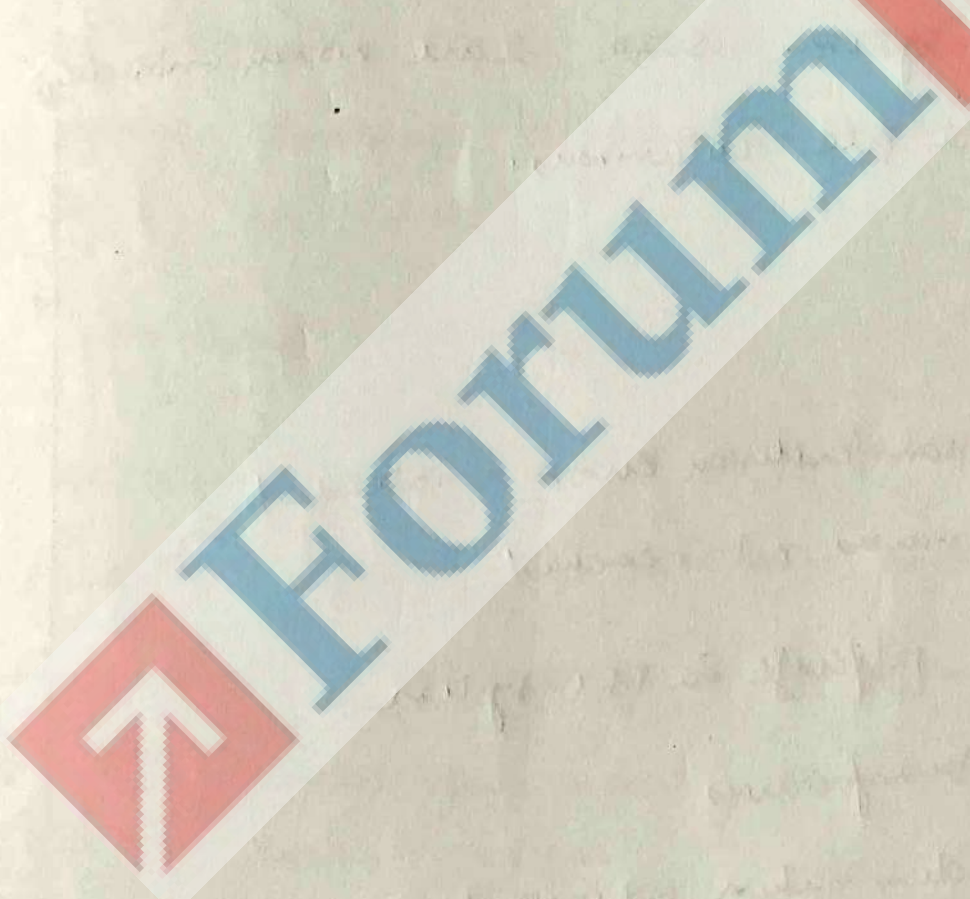
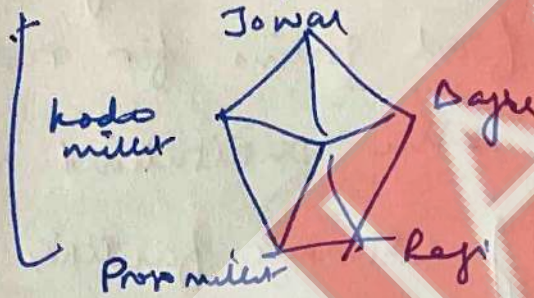
- Poor acceptability in food basket due to poor awareness of benefits
- MSP regime in favour of wheat/rice
- Inward look - one of largest millet producers, but yet low share in exports.

Good steps

- 7470 crore for millets in Budget 2023
- India's insistence → 2023 declared as International Year of millets
- IIMR being promoted as Centre of

excellence for R&D.

Thus it's need of the hour to promote
millet diversity of India to emerge as MILLET
Capital of the world.



Feedback

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Q.18) Reforms in Public distribution system (PDS) and Food Corporation of India (FCI) are two sides of the same coin. Discuss the statement along with suitable reforms in PDS and FCI.

(15 marks, 250 words)

सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली (PDS) और भारतीय खाद्य निगम (FCI) में सुधार एक ही सिक्के के दो पहलू हैं। PDS और FCI में उपयुक्त सुधारों के साथ इस कथन पर चर्चा करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

While PDS is the system for purchasing sufficient food grains for redistribution among poor, FCI is the institutional measure for provisioning of storage facilities and ancillary functions of PDS system. Since 2 are woven intricately, reforms in both are cotermious.

PDS issues

- 1) Inclusion exclusion errors - intended beneficiaries not reached
- 2) High pilferage in the system
- 3) Ghost beneficiaries
- 4) Poor distribution infrastructure
- 5) Low transparency & accountability
- 6) Inefficient pricing mechanism

7) Geographical / federal inequities in performance

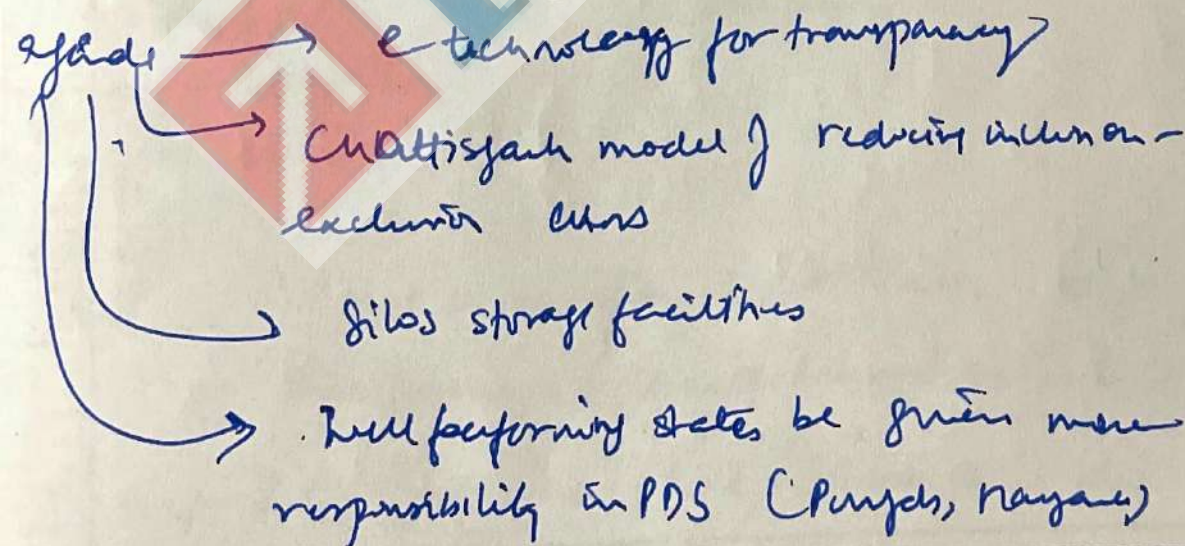
Key issues:

1) Poor storage / connectivity network - still high focus on coarse + paddy storage; Silos penetration remains limited

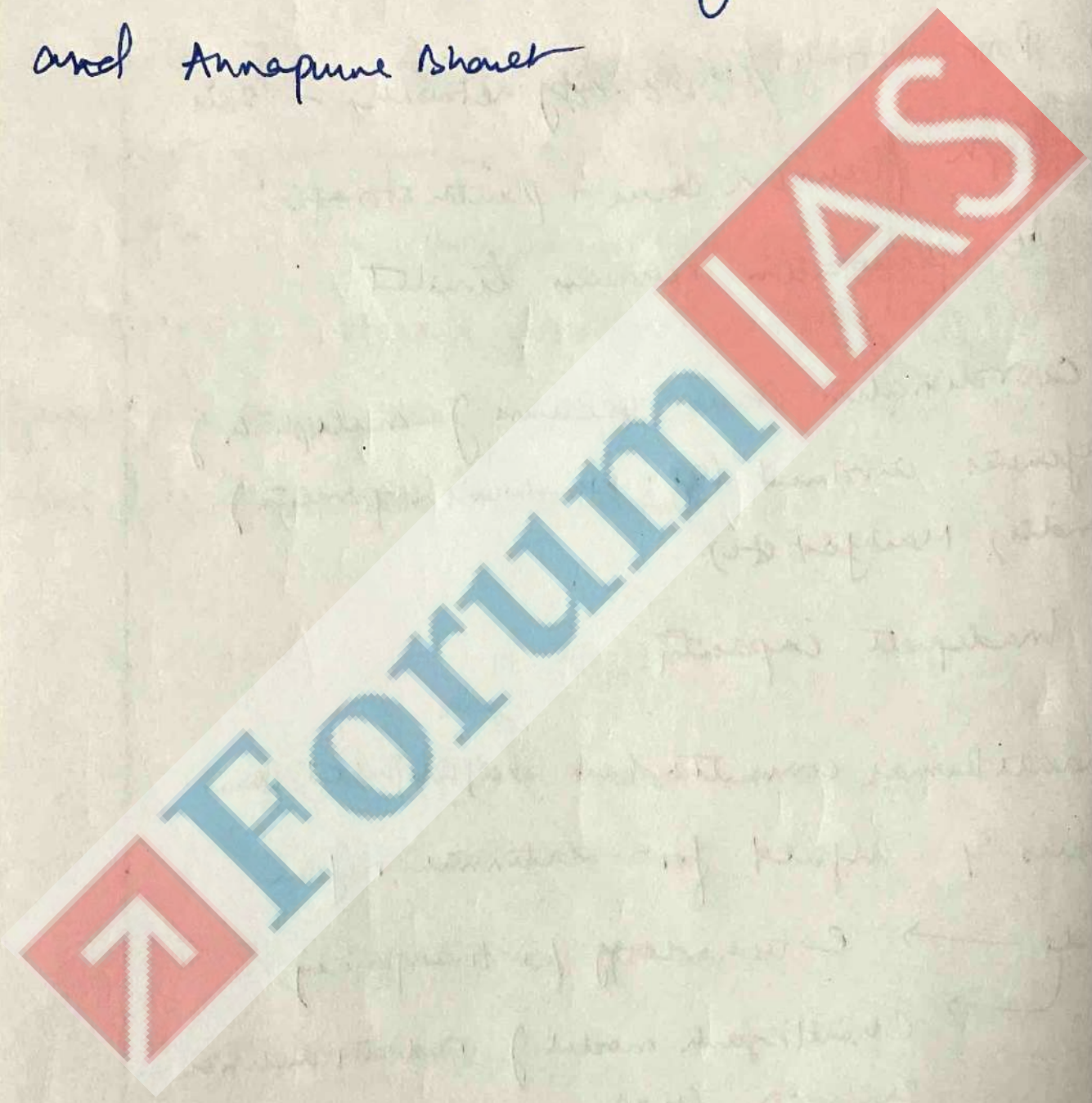
2) Coordination issues because of multiplicity of agencies involved (eg: Warehouse Corporation India, NAFED etc)

3) Inadequate capacity -

Shanti Kumar committee had highlighted these issues & asked for determine reforms



Then measures must be taken at
earliest to - realize vision of *Krishishakti*
and *Annapurna Bhavet*



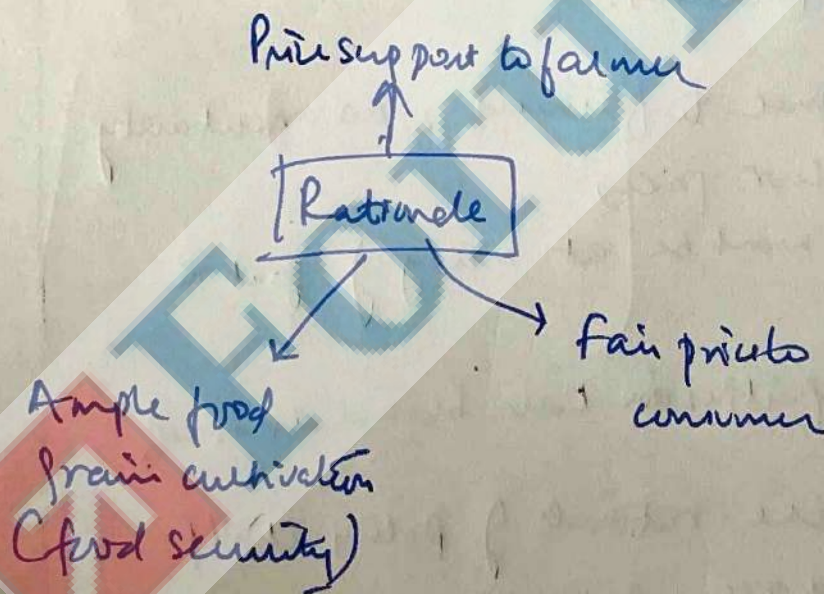
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Q.19) Discuss the rationale behind declaring Minimum Support Price (MSP) and various issues related to MSP regime in the country. Do you think that providing legal backing to MSP is necessary and sufficient for making farming financially sustainable? (15 marks, 250 words)

न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) घोषित करने के पीछे तर्क और देश में MSP शासन से संबंधित विभिन्न मुद्दों पर चर्चा करें। क्या आपको लगता है कि खेती को आर्थिक रूप से टिकाऊ बनाने के लिए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य को कानूनी समर्थन देना आवश्यक और पर्याप्त है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

MSP denotes minimum price at which government agrees to buy food grains (pre-sowing season) at a predetermined rate from farmer, in case price levels in market drop that threshold



- Issues:
- 1) MSP's benefits don't reach 94% of the farmers (shanty pressed committees)
 - 2) MSP often becomes the black price due

due threat of unfair trade practices involved

3) Means of appointment politics - difficulty in doing away with MSP / lowering MSP esp. evidence / data / evidence

4) Focus only on wheat rice, even though theoretical regime is for around 2 dozen crops.

5) microeconomics doesn't include interest costs.

Legal backing being demanded by farmers and have foll. implications:

(+ve) → Assurance to farmers, no uncertainty in floor prices
 → farmers won't be at mercy of govt in power
 → State deficit less can be addressed

(-ve) → Violates the rationale of policy itself
 → will reinforce anti climate resilience cropping patterns
 → 'Dole' mechanism rather than capacity building
 → Extreme economic burden on govt

The govt must take a decision backed by evidence, data & vision of sustainable yet inclusive economy

Feedback

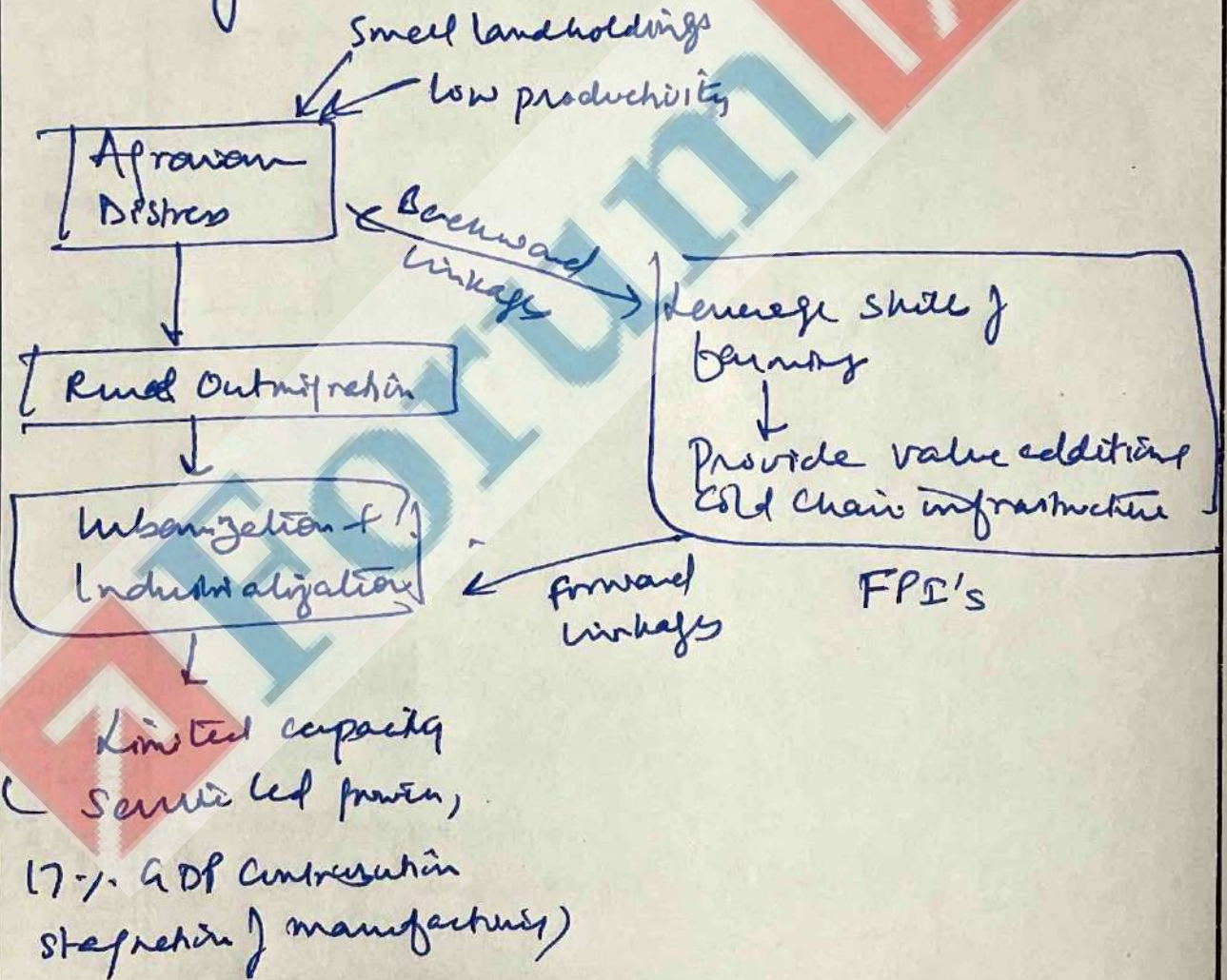
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Q.20) A link between unorganized farming community and formal industrial sector, FPI can play a key role in advancing the rural economy. Evaluate. (15 marks, 250 words)

असंगठित कृषक समुदाय और औपचारिक औद्योगिक क्षेत्र के बीच एक कड़ी, एफपीआई ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था को आगे बढ़ाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकती है। मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Food processing industry, growing at 8%. Aggr is the panacea for unemployment, ruralization and agrarian distress trend visible in Indian economy



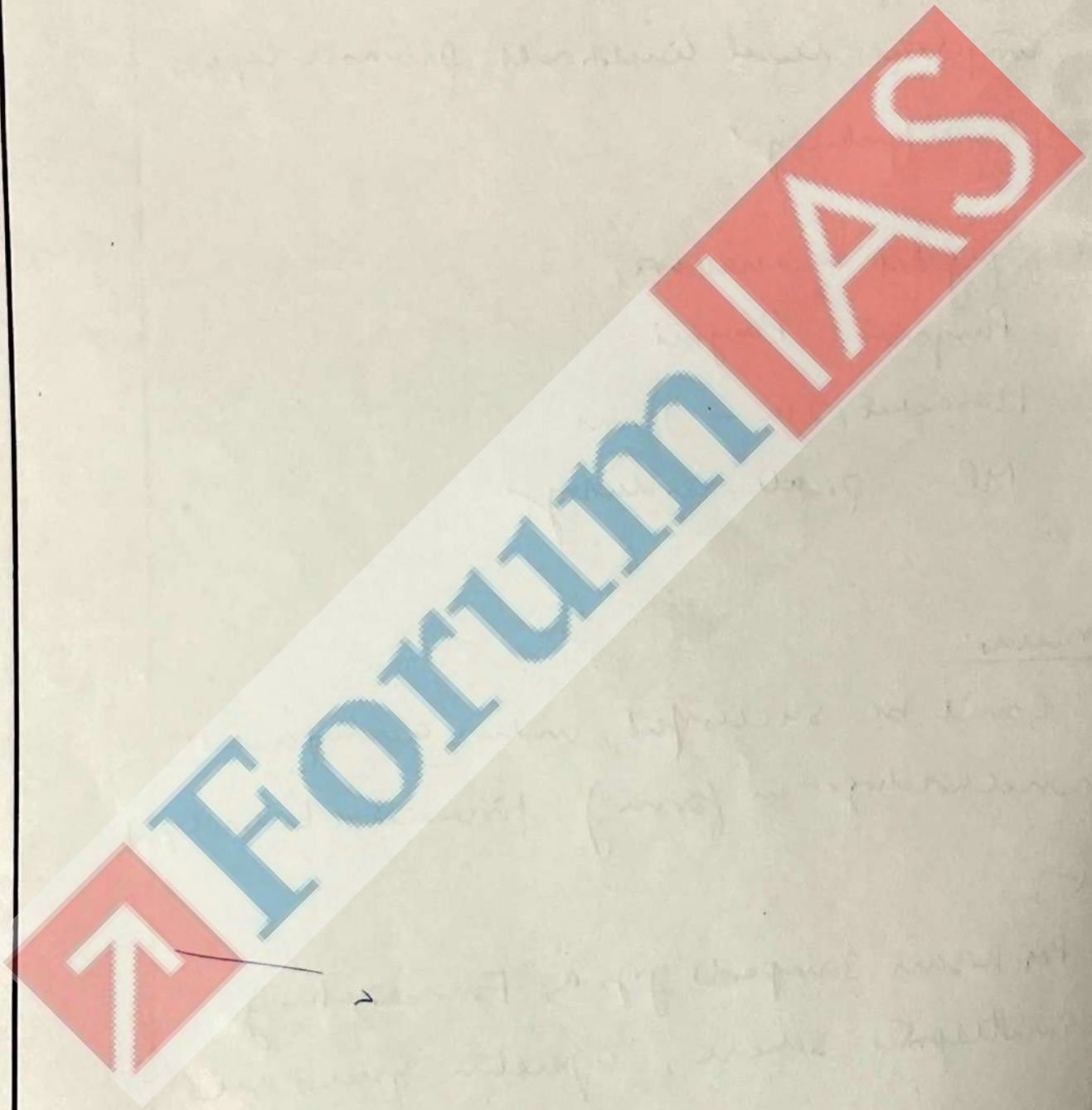
By absorbing unemployed workforce & using
semi-skilled agrarian workforce, FPIs can
help improve rural livelihoods, promote exports
of local manufacturing

Eg: Gujarat - khakhra,
Punjab - Pongli
Himachal, JH - Jams
- MP - pickle industry

Key Concerns:

Can't be successful, unless accompanied
by handholding in form of financial + technological
support.

• PM Kisan Sampada yojna, Formalization of
FPI enterprises scheme, Operation Greens are
steps in right direction, but modernization
of abattoirs, expansion of operation greens to millets
etc, Price stabilization measures must follow to
make FPI, integral element of our Green Growth.



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