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TEST CODE 6 1 3 3 0 2 FIAS - MGP 2023 - Cohort 13 - GS Paper 3_FLT #3

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	KRITI KAMNA		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910122374	Medium/माध्यम	English <input type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	PATNA	Date/दिनांक	17.08.2023

*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 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 समय 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	
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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)

Foreign Trade Policy 2023 sets the target of 2 million \$ trade by 2030 with 1 million \$ each in merchandise & service exports.

Potential of policy:-

- ① Recognition of ^{successful} exporters and asking them to share best practices on lines of "Each one Teach One".
- ② Updating SCOMET policy according to international standards.
- ③ Amnesty scheme to promote realisation of legal duties by traders.
- ④ Advanced Authorization Scheme for duty free imports of raw materials to be used in exports.

⑤ Decentralisation of export manufacturing via Towns of Export Excellence and District Export Hubs.

Challenges:-

- ① High logistics cost (14% of GDP)
- ② Protectionist measures (India removed from GSP system of US)
- ③ Decline in international demand due to Covid & War

Way Ahead:-

- ① Bilateral deals (ETCA with Australia)
 - ② Internationalisation of ₹ (Doha-₹ deal)
 - ③ PLI & DLI
- These measures will catapult India to be a Nichuagun in export sector.

Feedback

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

TOTAL MARKS	
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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; हालाँकि, 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)

Old Pension & New Pension Schemes are important social security measures for post-retirement benefits.

Need for Social Protection :-

- ① In contingency situations of illness & death
- ② Protection for disabled & old age
- ③ Ensures minimum living standard.

However, fiscal prudence needs to be taken care :-

Revenue expenditure still 80% of India's expenditure

Tax/GDP ratio only 17% as compared to 47% of Denmark

↳ Economic Surveily

Old Pension Scheme

- ① 50% of Basic pay given by government as pension
- ② Assured pension
- ③ Non-taxable corpus

New Pension Scheme

- ① Only 14% contributed by government with 10% employee contribution
- ② Can vary depending on investment returns
- ③ Annual payments taxable

Here, fiscal prudence is seen in New Pension scheme in taxation rights & limited contribution in pension.

However, Old Pension Scheme is a sure way for income protection.

A balance needs to be struck in between to enable a New India @ 75 with enabled fiscal consolidation & older generation.

Feedback

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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)

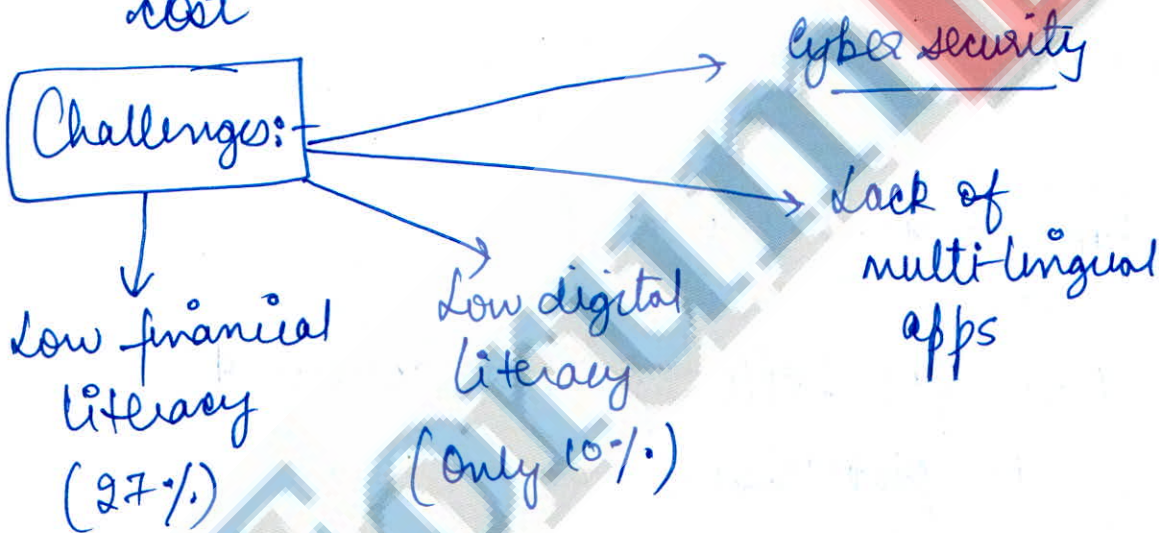
AgriStack refers to all the information about farmers & technological solutions (open-source) for farming sector. It is an important tool in modernisation of agriculture.

AgriStack as a solution:-

- ① e-NAM for better price discovery & fresh produce
- ② i-KHET to track Custom Hiring Centres & available equipment
- ③ Jal-doot App to gain knowledge about ground water
- ④ SMART-PDS for planning mobility & consumption patterns via smart ration cards

⑤ e-RUPI to improve access to subsidised fertilisers via coupon-code
(Reduces black marketing)

⑥ SVAMITVA and DILMP for better access to credit & reducing litigation cost



Agristack can be complemented with PMGD(SHA) & Digi Saksham (increase digital literacy), Village Knowledge Centres (Ashok Dahai Committee) & Bhashini portal (for multilinguistic services) to converge Jai Kisan & Jai Vigyan motto.

Feedback

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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 formed for the peaceful & rule-based trade relations and prevention of unilateral & discriminative practices.

Unfulfilled:

- ① WTO's objection to agricultural subsidies of India despite not updating the food basket
- ② WTO's no objection of indirect subsidies given developed countries (fuel tax to fishers by USA)

③ WTO's inaction in Ukraine & Russia war leading to food insecurity

④ Absence of consensus from LMIC & developing countries.

Way forward:-

① Needs to balance food security & agricultural subsidies in LMIC

② Updating consumption basket

③ Giving relaxation to LMIC as they are dependent on agriculture.

Such reforms are needed in WTO for an equitable & fair trade relation.

Feedback

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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 कार्रवाई योग्य रणनीति बनाने के उपायों की भी सिफारिश कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Climate Change and ~~World Development~~
Climate finance go hand in hand in
reversing & halting climate disasters.

Gaps between Target & Actions :-

- ① IPCC report says that the current climate finance is 10 times lower than the requirement under Paris Agreement
- ② Ratcheting mechanism of UNFCCC for Nationally Determined Contributions are failing ($\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ already has risen in temperature)
- ③ Poor implementation of Climate Justice

(10% of world's richest countries emit 50% of Green house gases)

④ Establishment of Loss & Damage Fund after 5 decades with still no clear deadlines / instructions.

Measures:

① Improving participation of SIDS & Global South in multilateral forums

② Mobilising Just Energy Transition through fund & technical assistance of developed countries

③ Legal actions on missing of targets under NDCs.

A coherent strategy based on CBDR with respective capabilities needs to be put in place to bridge target with actions.

Feedback

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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 refers to the electronic appliances, gadgets, batteries that are discarded either at end-of-lifecycle or to satisfy fast-fashion of youth.

Impediments :

① 80% of recycling takes place in informal sector which leads to :-



② Poor waste segregation & waste picking practices

③ Rise of consumerism and credit-culture has increased waste generation.

Solutions:

① Citizens:-

- (a) Sustainable usage of electronics (LIFE initiative)
- (b) Civic awareness about waste segregation

② Business:-

- (a) Environment-friendly designing of equipment
- (b) Innovative recycling solutions (eg:- ASHIFY)
- (c) Circular economy to reduce input costs
- (d) Sound assistance support for people to increase life cycle of equipment.

③ Government:-

- (a) Right to Repair portal: (P3 movement)
- (b) Mandating Extended Producer Responsibility
- (c) Formalisation of recycling work force.
- (d) Mineral security Partnership.

The above measures will promote

India's Panchsmit goals of LIFE & sustainable lifestyle.

Feedback

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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)

The recent completion of energy surplus nuclear fusion reaction achieved by US has opened up the possibilities of nuclear fusion.

Nuclear fusion

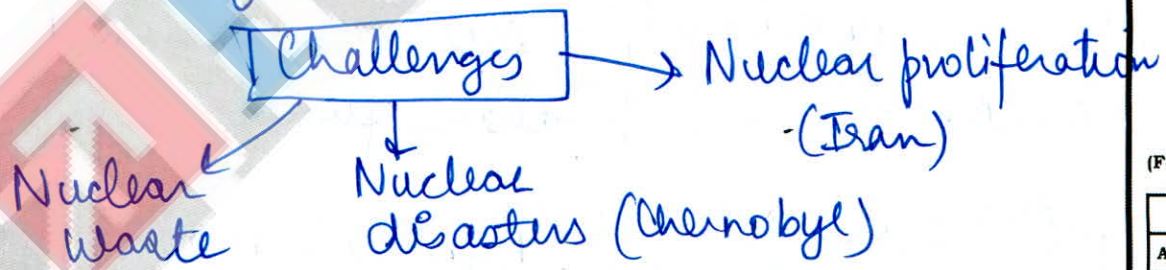
- ① Combining of 2 light weight nuclei
- ② Not self-sustaining
- ③ More energy released (x10 more)
- ④ Requires extreme conditions like high temperature (in millions) and pressure
- ⑤ No nuclear waste generated

Nuclear fission

- ① Splitting of heavy atom into smaller nuclei
- ② Self-sustaining
- ③ Less energy released than fusion
- ④ Requires neutron for chain reaction in a controlled reactor
- ⑤ Nuclear waste

Relevance of Nuclear energy :-

- ① Energy security as India has one of the largest reserves of thorium
- ② Small storage & transportation costs as compared to coal.
- ③ Can replace high-energy fuels in submarines (INS Arisht) and missiles
- ④ Nuclear fusion will replicate conditions of sun and can be an unexhaustible source of energy.



These challenges need to be curbed with small modular reactors and strong NSG actions to make nuclear energy the future of tomorrow.

Feedback

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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)

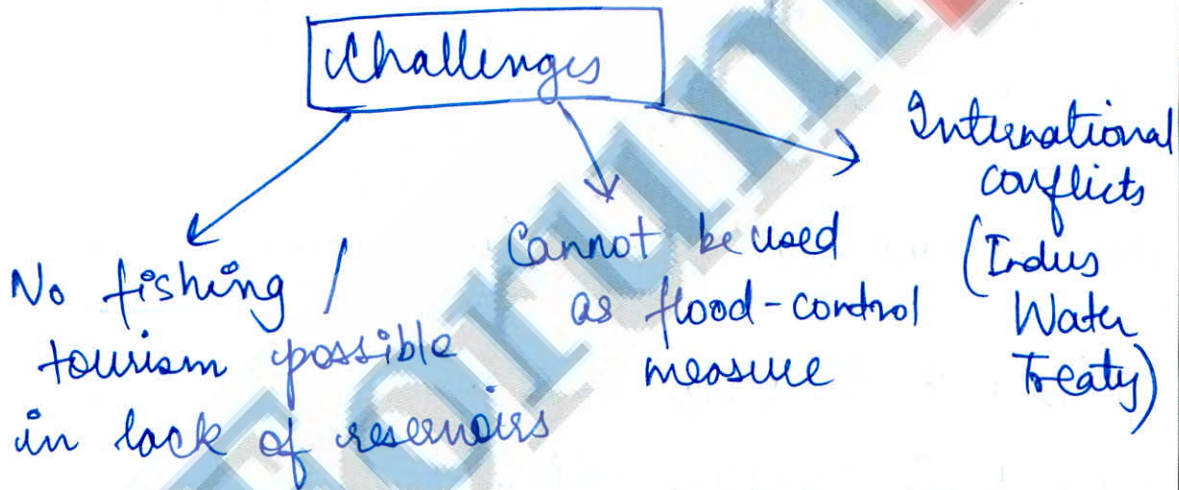
Run of the river hydroelectric projects use the natural flow of rivers to generate electricity without creating a dam/reservoir. Kishenganga & Ratle dam are important run-of-river projects in North India

Balancing Ecological Conservation:-

- ① Does not lead to increase in isostatic pressure of dams
- ② Maintain regular flow of water.
- ③ Prevents siltation
- ④ Minimal disturbance to ecological habitat.

Socio-economic development:-

- ① Justice to lower riparian states & reducing inter state disputes
- ② Reduces risks of Reservoir-induced-seismicity.
- ③ Minimal eviction of tribals (opposite to dam projects like Sardar Sarovar dam eviction)



These challenges need to be curbed by promoting exchange of hydrological data, sluicing gates and inter-state water dispute council to enable equitable water & hydroelectricity distribution.

Feedback

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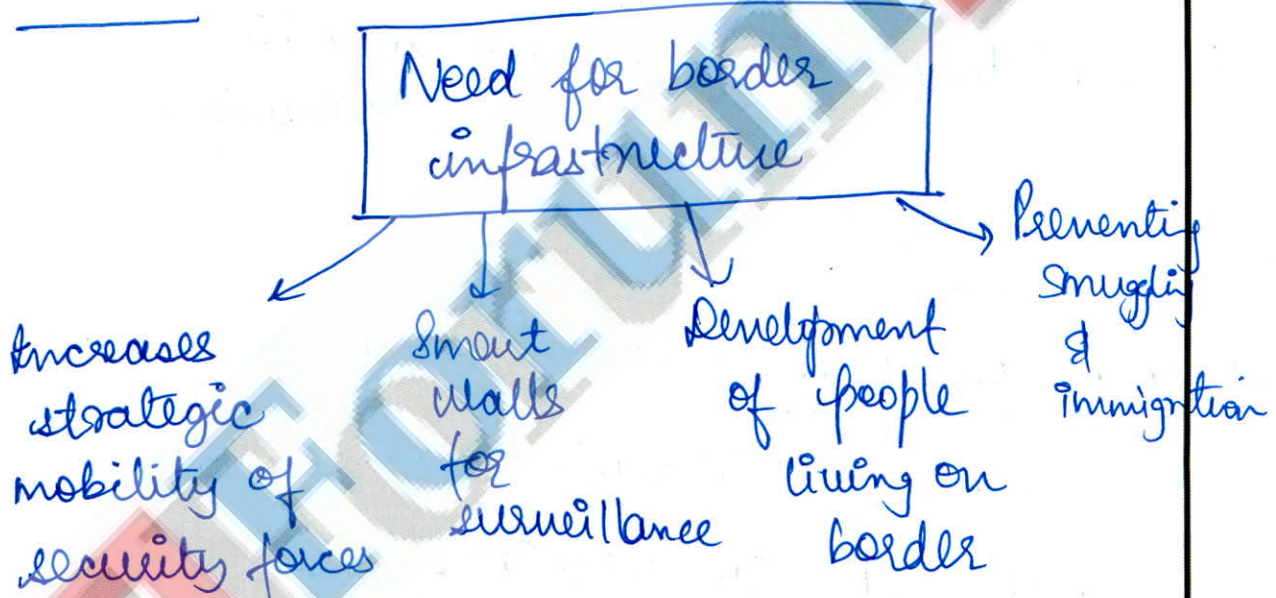
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Q.9) A robust border infrastructure is the surest way to counter multifarious threats emanating from inimical actors. Discuss, in light of Vibrant Village Programme. (10 marks, 150 words)

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)

India's 15000 kilometre long border needs to be secured from multifarious threats of immigration, drugs & arms trafficking, terrorism and chawala networks.



CISF is the responsible body to ensure safety of border infrastructure :-

Vibrant Village Programme:-

① Promotion of youth & female

entrepreneurship

② Promoting agri-business via 'One Village One Product' Program

③ Ensuring security of Northern Borders with building of infrastructure.

(4.1 Km shinku la tunnel for all-weather connectivity to Ladakh)

④ community policing through capacity building.

Other measures:-

① Shethal Committee recommended :-

a) Private participation in infrastructure

b) Allow BRO to recruit foreign technologies

② BOLD-QIT programme for smart fencing in Brahmaputra delta.

Border infrastructure will be robust in ensuring 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'

Feedback

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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)

National Security Strategy refers to the chain of command, security infrastructure & personnel for maintaining peace & integrity.

Importance :

- (a) Directed expenditure on border infrastructure
- (b) Encourage R&D in emerging technologies of UAV, Space & AI
- (c) UP Bhadrnagar Committee recommended
One Border One Force
- (d) Making unilined chain of command

- (e) Raising agile battalions (Integrated Battalion groups)
- (f) Better integration of three forces under Chief of Defence Staff
- (g) Indigenous production via bilateral treaties (Jet engines by General Electronics)
- (h) Creating military surveillance (GSAT, GSOMIA)
- (i) Military training exercises (VAJRA-Prakas, Surya Kiran, Malabar)

Hence, a clearly articulated National security policy can bring coherence in defence & integrity of nation.

- Feedback

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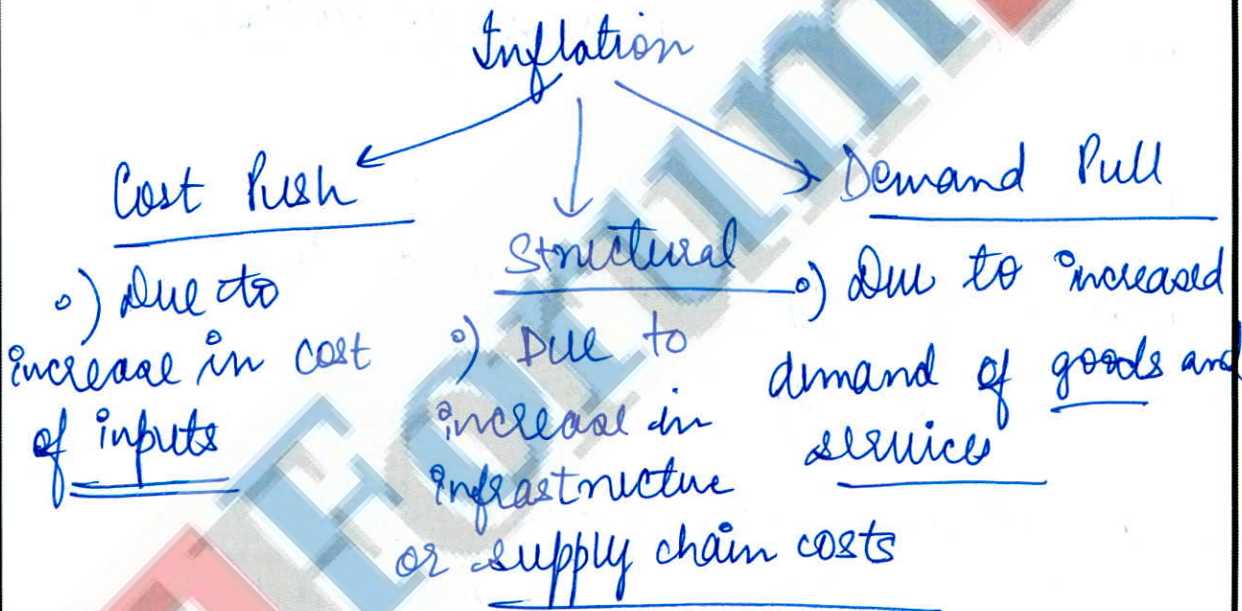
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Q.11) What are the factors that influence the inflation trends in the country? Highlighting the impacts, discuss the institutional measures in place to check inflation. (15 marks, 250 words)

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 the increase in price levels of commodities & services in a country. FY23 has witnessed inflation breaching RBI's 6% level in most months.



Factors for inflation :-

Domestic factors :-

① pent up demand after Covid-19 lockdown

drive prices upwards

- ② RBI's MSAP policy increased money supply in the economy
- ③ Government's income support like PM-KISAN, ECLGS increased money supply which increased demand
- ④ Weather failure reduced wheat production

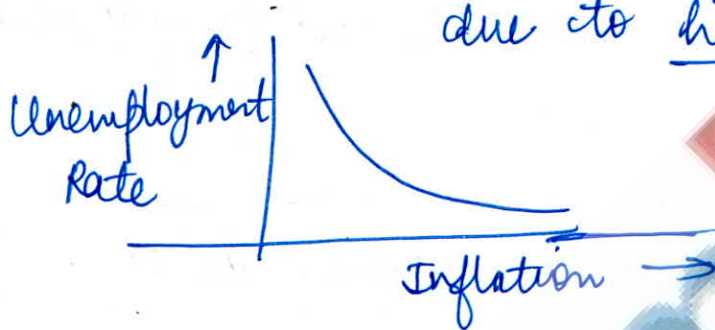
International factors :-

- ① Breakdown of supply chain due to lock down (eg:- laptops prices ↑)
- ② Russia-Ukraine war increased prices of agricultural fertilisers & grain output
- ③ Oil prices increased due to OPEC cut

Impacts

- ① Rise in imported inflation

- ② Hits vulnerable sections more due to essential items
- ③ Depreciation hit on ₹ due to more ₹ in economy
- ④ Philip's Curve: Probable push to employment due to hiring & demand



Institutional measures :-

- ① Monetary Policy targeting :
 - deposit ratio of banks
 - increasing repo rate
 - decreasing Reserve
 - Increasing
- ② Wheat ban
- ③ Impert duty on gold
- ④ Reduction of Antiod excise duty on petrol
- ⑤ Windfall tax on crude oil & products
- ⑥ Encouragement on Standing Deposit facility

These institutional measures along with moral suasion has slowly helped India to come out of Inflation in initial months of FY24

Feedback

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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)

Atmanirbhar Bharat's PLI scheme is to provide monetary incentive to manufacturers which record growth in sales and technological upgradation.

Production Linked Incentive scheme as the cornerstone

- ① Besides manufacturing impetus to 14 critical & emerging sectors
- ② Increase in jobs and possibility to absorb ~~and~~ disguised employed workers
- ③ Together with Make In India and DLI, India can not only become self-sufficient but also exporter
(Boost seen in pharmaceutical industry)

- ④ PLI will attract FDI (crowding in)
along the lines of China+1 Strategy
- ⑤ PLI in EVs (FAME-II), UAVs and
renewable energy can drive India's
self-sufficiency in achieving Panchamrit

Challenges:

- ① Focus on capital-intensive rather than
labour-intensive
- ② Poor logistics : 14% of GDP is spent on
logistics which reduces competitiveness
of goods
- ③ Too much push to PPP projects can lead
to informalisation of work force
- ④ Land acquisition cost is high in India
with red-tapism and corruption.
- ⑤ Protectionism killing export market
(India removed from USA's GSP)

Measures:

- ① Allow free movement of FDI
(Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal of DPIIT)
- ② Increase ease of doing business (Easy registration of MSMEs via UDYAM portal)
- ③ strict IPR measures (India needs to work out of "Special 301 report")
- ④ National Logistics Policy for technologically enabled logistics (Target = 8% of GDP)
- ⑤ Fund support to Start Ups not in 17 sectors
(ASPIRE, SMILE fund)

These measures will complement the challenges of PLI and help achieve target of manufacturing comprising 25% of GDP as per National Manufacturing Policy.

Feedback

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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 ₹ and de-dollarisation has been increasingly pursued to preserve economic resilience and diversify transactions & exports.

Internationalisation of ₹

- ① Move to ₹ for settlement of trade
- ② Can be established via bilateral deals
- ③ Neutral & autonomous move
- ④ Eg:- Vostro accounts
Dirham-₹ deal
Masala bonds

De-dollarisation

- ① Movement to any other currency apart from \$
- ② Needs a world-wide movement
- ③ Can be considered as anti-West / anti-US.
- ④ Eg:- Inclusion of Yuan in SDR; push for Central Bank Digital Currency

Benefits of internationalisation of

- ① Increase resilience of economy
(Pakistan & Sri Lanka facing BOP crisis)
- ② Reduced transaction cost for exporters
(Net Importer)
- ③ Reduced depreciation pressure on
~~ECB~~ External Commercial borrowings
- ④ Can avoid non-UN sanctions
(current oil imports from Russia)
- ⑤ ₹ can be used as an entrepot to
pay in other currencies with other
countries.
- ⑥ No capital flight

Challenges of

- ① Indian ₹ constitutes only 1.5% of world's
forex market
- ② India ~~is~~ does not follow full capital

account convertibility which reduces liquidity of ₹

③ If Full capital account convertibility is allowed, India's economy will no more be immune to economic shocks (as seen in US Subprime Lending Crisis & Covid)

④ Demonetisation & withdrawal of ₹2K notes reduce trust in ₹

Way Ahead:-

① Bilateral deals like Disham-₹ settlement deal or hosted accounts

② Using regional bodies like SCO, BRICS for promotion of ₹

③ Creating investment market of ₹ in India

④ Reduction of catastrophic events like Demonetisation

Such measures will improve India's position in global order and increase the acceptance of ₹.

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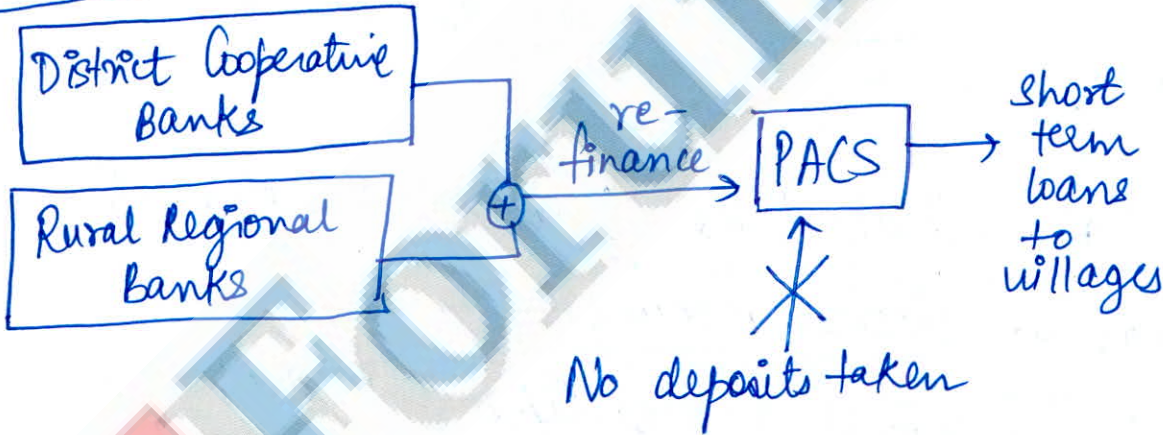
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Q.14) What are Primary Agricultural Credit Societies? Can the cooperative push alone help in achieving the twin targets of boosting rural economy and mainstreaming small and marginal farmers? (15 marks, 250 words)

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 Agricultural Credit Societies or PACs are rural cooperatives meant for last-mile credit delivery. It is primary in rural areas to overthrow menace of money lenders.



Working of PACS

Demerits of PACS:-

- ① Not financially sustainable
- ② Not technologically enabled
- ③ Poor handholding by NABARD or DCCBs.

Push of cooperatives :-

- ① Enabling micro-credit leads to prevention of debt traps of marginal farmers
- ② Micro-insurance (PM-Fasal Bima Yojana) protects farmers from cultivation risks
- ③ Micro-credit also enable self-employment (SHG-NABARD-Bank linkage)
- ④ Cooperatives promote access to creation of assets
- ⑤ Micro-savings encouraged by Credit Cooperatives increase saving habit in poor
- ⑥ Increase in financial literacy (currently over 27%) due to peer support.

Homework :-

- ① Credit Cooperatives often over-regulated by states in name of audit.

- ② Irregular elections and lack of accountability
- ③ Reduced participation of professionals that can bring best management practices
- ④ Cooperatives although democratic, suffer from Patron-Client syndrome and inequitable participation of lower castes

Way Ahead:-

- ① Recent Multi State Cooperatives Bill to ensure timely elections ensured by State Finance Commission
- ② Increasing training for agri-business through APOs & SFAC
- ③ Reducing logistics cost for rural economy
- ④ Encouraging technology in rural areas (e-NAM, Custom Hiring Centres, nano-fertilisers)

A holistic revamp of cooperatives as envisioned in 'Sahakar ee Samriddhi' along with participative democracy can strengthen rural economy

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)

India's agricultural growth has started from land reforms, green revolution, minimum support price, cooperative movement and is still continuing strong to make India one of the major agriculture exporting countries.

Benefits of farm policies

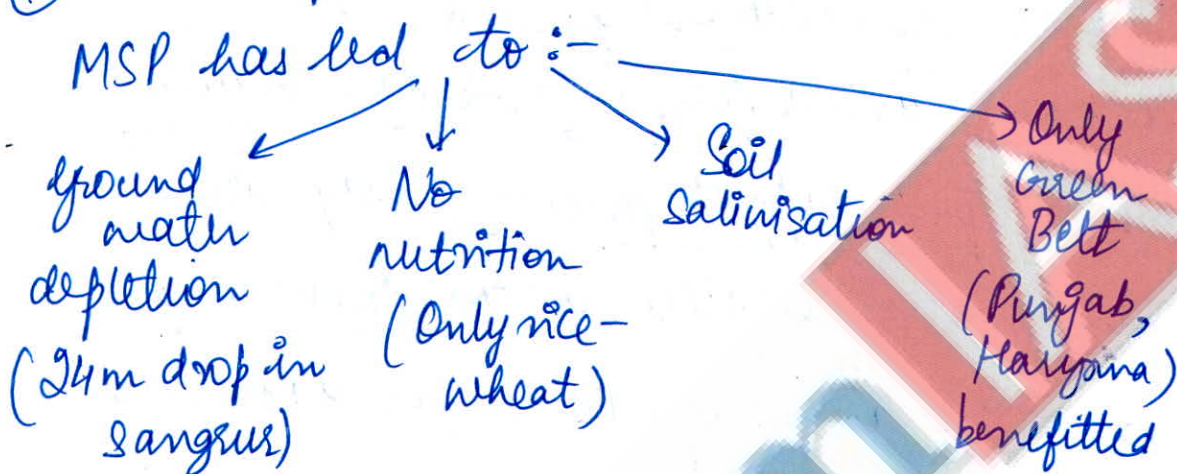
① Green Revolution: Increased crop yield & productivity of farmers (wheat production increased from 11 million tonnes in 1960s to 110 million tonnes now)

② Land Reforms have abolished feudalism & led to "land to the tiller"

③ Irrigation policies have improved farm productivity (Indira Gandhi Canal, Damodar dam etc.)

However, it has also led to undesirable consequences:-

① Over-emphasis & regional disparity in MSP has led to:-



② Fertiliser subsidies has led to overuse & ground-water contamination.

(Required ration of $N:P:K = 8:4:1$ but $31:8:1$ followed in Punjab)

③ Inflation of other products (horticultural) due to over-production of MSP crops

④ Lack of cooperatives leading to marginal farmers (96%) with low economic of scale

⑤ Cartelization & Corruption in APMCs

⑥

Way Ahead :-

- ① PM-PRANAM → ensures alternative nutrients to be used to restore soil health
→ also reduce subsidies & groundwater contamination
- ② Zero based Natural farming : To move to agro-climatic farming & reduce fertilisers
- ③ Custom Hiring Centres to increase productivity
- ④ PM-SAMPADA to improve markets for farmers via food producing industries
- ⑤ Soil Health Card, nano-urea & neem-coated urea for soil health
- ⑥ live crops & mulching for diversifying income & soil health

India needs to conserve soil and improve productivity for a "Rainbow Revolution" that can feed the most populous nation.

Feedback

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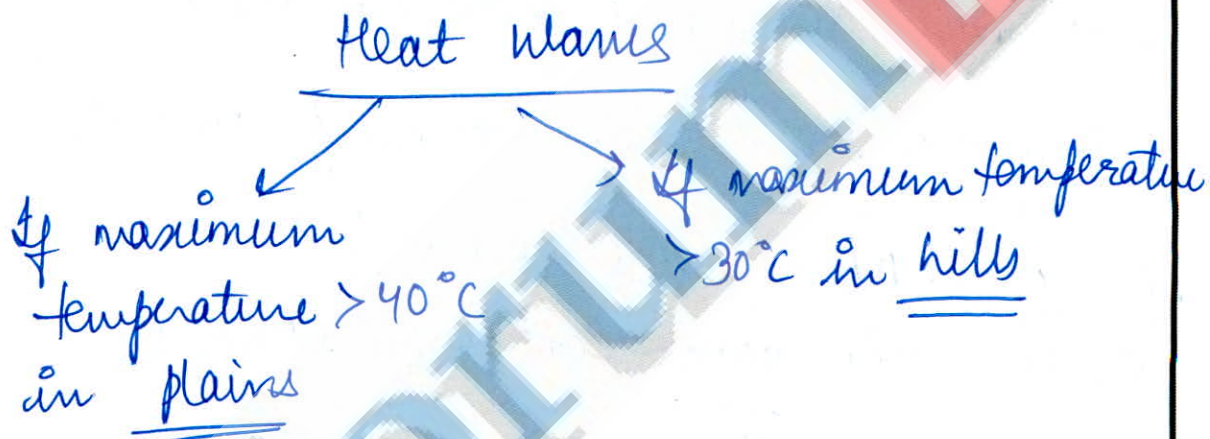
Q.16) What do you understand by heat waves? Highlight the reasons and impact of the rising frequency of heat waves across India. Also, recommend some measures to mitigate its impact.

(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 refer to the abnormal increase in temperature that causes physiological stress



Reasons for heat waves:

Anthropogenic causes:-

- ① Climate change (already increased by 1.1°C (IPCC))
- ② Pollution & increase in particulate matter leading to Urban Heat Island Effect
- ③ Release of green house gases & Deforestation

Environmental Causes

- ① El-Nino frequency increasing
(Only 6 El-Nino years in 1900-1950 & 14 El-Nino in 1951-2023)
- ② High pressure areas have descending air that gets adiabatically heated and loss of clouds increases received insolation :-

Impact of heat waves of

- ① Flash floods (Hydrabad 2020)
- ② Glacial melting leading to landslides & GLOFs
- ③ Heatstroke & dehydration
- ④ Impacts food security : withering of wheat grains observed in 2022
- ⑤ Loss of income for unorganised workers & street-vendors .

Measures of Mitigation :-

- ① Staying indoors & increased rehydration
- ② fodder banks for health of livestock
- ③ Canals & Reservoirs should be covered (solar panels etc) to ^{reduce} ~~remove~~ evaporation
- ④ Urban shelters for homeless with ^{drinking} facilities
- ⑤ Afforestation (Green India Mission)
- ⑥ Mulching for reducing agricultural drought
- ⑦ Participation of SHGs & CSOs for awareness

Increasing heat waves are an outcome of unsustainable development of Earth. Transboundary collaboration & (Bonn Challenge) and domestic interventions can help mitigate impact for "Sabka Saath & Sabka Vikas"

Feedback

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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 recently launched for the lunar exploration mission and technology demonstration for rover & lander.

Chandrayaan-2 :-

- ① Included orbiter
- ② Narrower legs of lander
- ③ ~~Low~~ Minimum propulsion velocity not enough.
- ④ Solar panels only on 2 sides

Chandrayaan-3 :-

- ① Orbiter of Chandrayaan-2 used
- ② Wider legs of lander to safely land
- ③ Lowered propulsion velocity for safe landing
- ④ Solar panels on all 4 sides

These measures are included to reverse the losses faced by Pragyan & Vikram lander of

Chandrayaan 2.

New devices in Chandrayaan 3 :-

① Vikram (Lander) has :-

- ↳ Rambha for mineral composition
- ↳ ILSA to learn lunar quakes
- ↳ Chaste to study thermal properties of plasma

② Pragyan (Rover) has :-

- ↳ LIBS for soil composition

③ Propulsion module :-

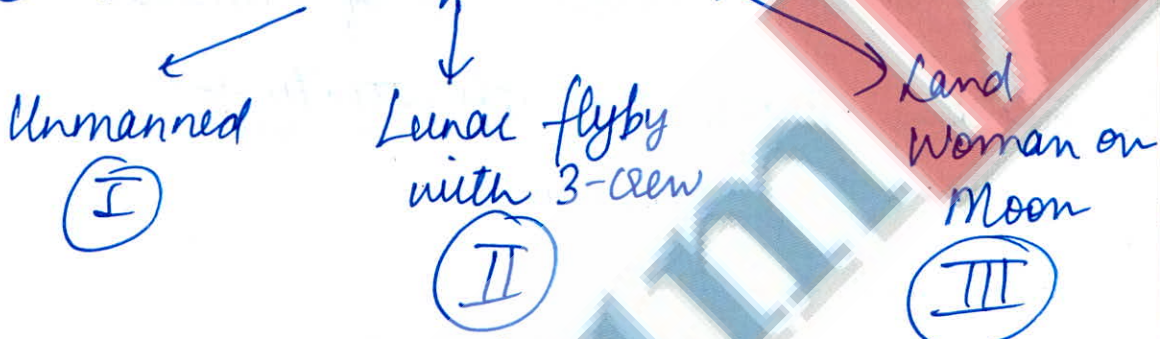
- ↳ SHAPE to look for small planets around

Asteris Accords :-

① India joined as 27th nation for peaceful civil exploration of outer space resources (moon, meteors etc)

② Artemis Accords will help in access of technology & training of astronauts which will help both Chandrayaan & Gaganyaan mission

③ Three lunar explorations planned:-



These will be a huge impetus to India's exploration

④ India's competitiveness & affordable operations will also benefit Artemis missions.

Lunar exploration with Chandrayaan & Artemis mission will open new opportunities for mankind — space tourism, mineral reserves, Helium for nuclear fusion and possible stopover for interplanetary missions.

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 is the economy where growth is mainly driven by data and information. With 65% of GDP in service sector, India has opportunity to become Knowledge economy.

Role of Research & Development:

- ① Pioneering solutions: Use of AI & nano-technology in health & agriculture
- ② Attraction of talent & reversal of brain drain (eg: VATRA scheme for international faculty)
- ③ Collaboration with Knowledge Economies (eg: ISRAEL & in waste treatment & water efficiency)

Role of National Research Foundation Bill :

- ① Industry will be linked with academia for needs-based research
- ② NRF will direct funds to much in need state Universities as opposed to UGC's focus on Central Universities
- ③ NRF will mobilise ₹ 5000 crore in next 5 years
- ④ NRF will also connect private investors to researchers to improve low R&D public funding (Only 0.69% of GDP)
- ⑤ NRF will promote the officials for digitalisation of paperwork to give more research time to researchers.
- ⑥ Unpolitical distribution of funds

Some challenges :-

- ① Active participation of private sector needed
- ② strict IPR regime needs to be followed to leverage "Knowledge economy"
- ③ connecting academia with startups required.
- ④ Need to increase global talent for knowledge economy (VAC's proposal for foreign universities to open campus in India)
- ⑤ Increasing gross enrollment ratio (currently only 27% in # colleges)
- ⑥ Promotion of women in STEM (CURIE)

India needs to overcome these challenges to truly become the 'Vishva Guru' in knowledge as it has been since time of Aryabhatta.

Feedback

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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 refers to a combination of crimes of conventional technologies and emerging technologies.
The recent attack on Ladakh's power grid or Ransomware attack on AIIMS are few examples.

Hybrid Warfare:-

Uses technologies like :-

- ① Cyber espionage (eg:- Pegasus controversy)
- ② Cyber crimes (eg:- Catfish accounts)
- ③ UAV surveillance (China's spy balloon over USA)
- ④ AI driven robots or nanotechnology in spyware
- ⑤ Space war (eg:- Jamming of technologies ^{communication})

Implications :-

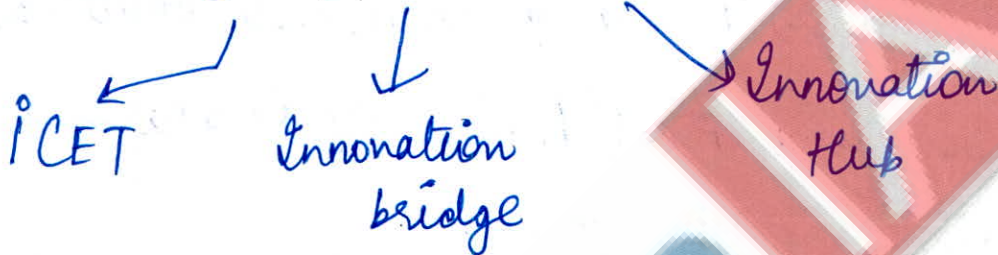
- ① Holistic attacks that are difficult to detect (Eg:- Aadhar data leakage)
- ② Attacks resilience of Critical Information Infrastructure
- ③ Loss of lines & physical assets (A-SAT tests)
- ④ Can exacerbate to lose-lose nuclear wars
- ⑤ Disturbs international peace due to transnational impact.

Measures for comprehensive ecosystem

- ① Unilevel chain of command
(Removing multiplicities like Cert-1N & 14C)

② Implementation of Gulshan Rai Committee for strengthening Cyber-space

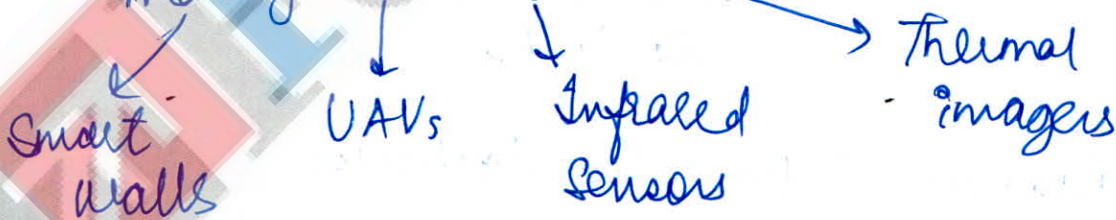
③ International collaboration for capacity building :-



④ 24x7 surveillance (NCIPC, NETRA)

⑤ UP Bhatnagar Committee :- One border One force

⑥ Comprehensive Integrated Border management system :-



India needs to step up her game to protect the country & promote the true spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

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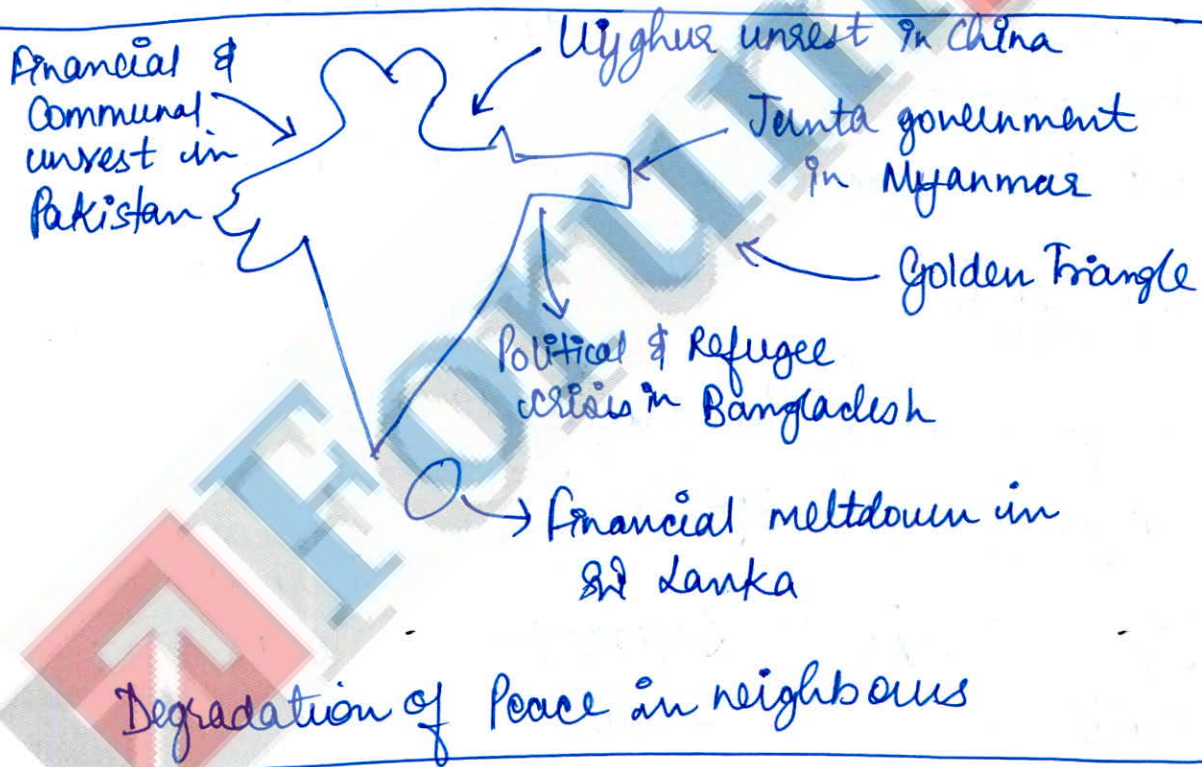
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Q.20) How are internal security challenges related to peace in neighboring countries? Explain with special reference to instability on India's eastern frontier. (15 marks, 250 words)

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)

India is surrounded by ~~instability~~ countries facing a multitude of financial, political, weather and communal challenges. 'Neighbourhood First' Policy of India seeks to stabilise the region.



Challenges in internal security:-

Eastern frontier :-

① Military government in Myanmar

- (a) Led to Rohingya refugee crisis
- (b) Drugs trafficking from Golden Triangle
- (c) Haven to insurgent groups (NSCN & ULFA)
- (d) Strong ethnic transboundary ties leads to secessionist demands (Greater Nagalim)
- (e) Arms trafficking igniting ethno-nationalist unrest (Kuki-Meitei Conflict)

② Population pressure in Bangladesh

- (a) Infiltration crisis & cattle-smuggling (Demand of NRC in Assam)
- (b) Safe haven for criminals in river deltas

③ Unmanned terrain of China & Bhutan

- (a) Smuggling of ~~China~~ Chinese goods
- (b) Drug & Arms trafficking in Bhutan

Western frontier :-

- (a) Terrorist attacks & Manala network as low political stability
- (b) State-funded terrorism & policy of "Bleed India through a thousand cuts"
- (c) Drug & arms trafficking due to terrorist haven

Way forward:

- ① "Neighbourhood First" policy → Water treaty with Bangladesh
→ Promote ASEAN's intervention in Myanmar
- ② Smart Border Management
↳ Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System with infrared sensors, UAVs etc
- ③ Connect North-East Policy to reduce ethnic unrest & attack root of problem.

A multi-pronged solution is needed to prevent spill-offs of neighbourhood disturbances & create an Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

Feedback

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Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

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		

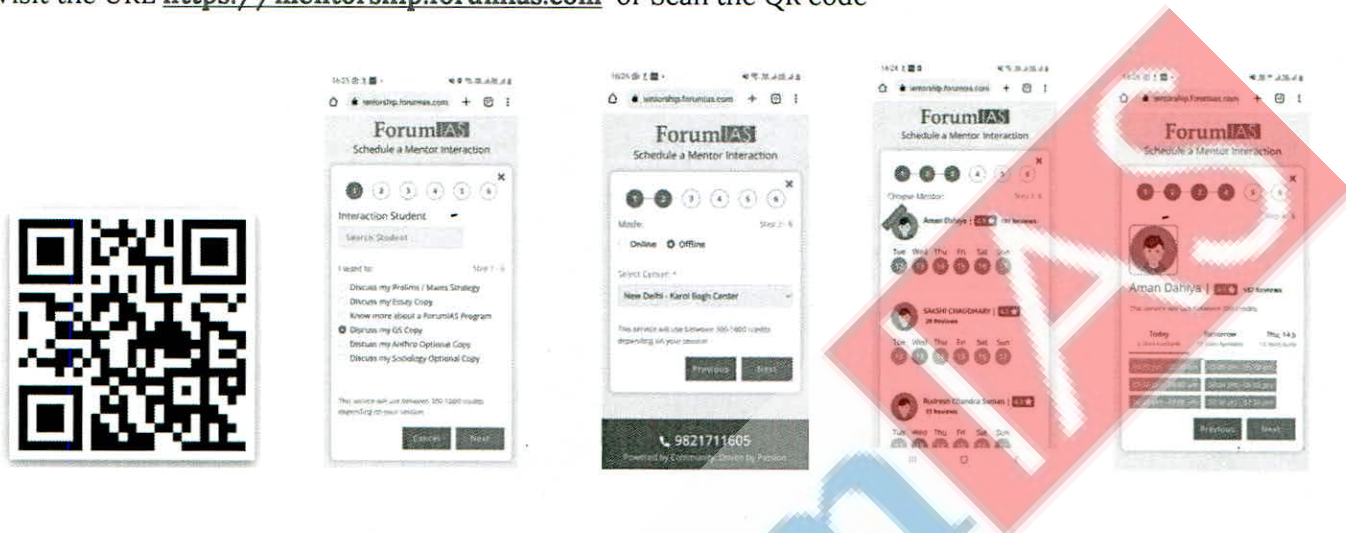
* Subject to change without prior notice.

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