

210

TEST CODE 7 1 3 3 0 4

MGP 2024

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	RHYTHM KATARIA		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910118525	Medium/माध्यम	English ☒ हिंदी ☐
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	DELHI	Date/दिनांक	28/08/24

*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। 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. 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. 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. 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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Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु	
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Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन ☐ Offline/ऑफलाइन ☒
*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	
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Note: Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback 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. Ask 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) Why has there been an increased focus on negotiating, renegotiating and concluding Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) by India in recent years? (10 marks, 150 words)

हाल के वर्षों में भारत द्वारा मुक्त व्यापार समझौतों (FTAs) पर बातचीत, पुनर्वार्ता और समापन पर ध्यान क्यों दिया जा रहा है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The historical signing of India- EFTA agreements between India and countries like Iceland, Switzerland, Norway and Liechtenstein has brought the focus back on the importance of FTAs in augmenting trade.

Increased focus.

- 1) Augment export production leveraging India's economic potential. (Merely 4% of global exports)
- 2) Sustainable employment and livelihood opportunities (50% graduates are not employed)
(e)
- 3) Diversion of workforce from agri-related industries. (~ 50% population directly linked in Agriculture)
- 4) Supports technology transfer and renders India as a destination for high

tech industries (Tesla announcing plant in Karnataka)

5) Reduction in costs like import and export duties rendering an equal level playing field.

6) Establishes India as a global trade leader in compliance with WTO mandate.



Thus FTA landscape needs to be leveraged to establish India as 'Vishwabandhu' and achieve the target of \$5 trillion economy by 2030.

Feedback

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AWIS			
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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) A well-designed fiscal policy can serve as a vital instrument to facilitate the equitable distribution of resources and ensure the welfare of all sections of society. Elaborate. (10 marks, 150 words)

एक अच्छी तरह से डिज़ाइन की गई राजकोषीय नीति संसाधनों के समान वितरण को सुविधाजनक बनाने और समाज के सभी वर्गों के कल्याण को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण साधन के रूप में काम कर सकती है। विस्तार से वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Fiscal policy refers to the policy of the government relating to taxes and expenditure in order to regulate spending and investment in the economy in accordance with inflationary targets.

Facilitate Equitable distribution of Resources

- 1) Taxes have a cascading effect and prove to be burden on the lower strata of the population (bottom 50% of the population bear 64% of GST burden)
- 2) Facilitates nutritional security through equitable distribution of welfare schemes (PM POSHAN), (PM GKY)
- 3) Facilitates educational & Research based spending (India $\Rightarrow$ 0.6% of GDP spend)

4) Facilitates Inclusive and Equitable growth ensuring social justice principles.

Ensures welfare of all sections

- 1) Welfare spending on sections of women ensure their empowerment.
(Eg PM Matsyashiksha Yojana)
- 2) welfare of poor & other vulnerable sections ensured.
(Eg. MGNREGA)
- 3) welfare of population like LGBTQIA and beggars who are often marginalised
(SMILE scheme)

Thus a well designed fiscal policy can reduce fiscal deficit and better target beneficiaries ushering intergenerational and intragenerational growth.

Feedback

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Q.3) What are the primary factors contributing to India's significant reliance on imported edible oils? What measures do you suggest to increase domestic production and to reduce India's reliance on imported edible oils? (10 marks, 150 words)

आयातित खाद्य तेलों पर भारत की महत्वपूर्ण निर्भरता में योगदान देने वाले प्राथमिक कारक क्या हैं? घरेलू उत्पादन बढ़ाने और आयातित खाद्य तेलों पर भारत की निर्भरता को कम करने के लिए आप क्या उपाय सुझाएंगे? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India imports 86% of its edible oil including palm oil which accounts for the largest share from countries like Indonesia, Malaysia etc.

Factors for significant reliance on imported edible oils

- 1) Low indigenous capacity of oil production
- 2) Lack of favourable geographic conditions suiting production
- 3) Very high consumption of edible oils in food choices & habits.
- 4) Lack of skill development towards oil production
- 5) Fragmented land holding (~ 1.1 hectare per person)
- 6) Low levels of farm mechanisation (~ 40% farm mechanisation levels)

Measure to increase domestic production and reduce import reliance

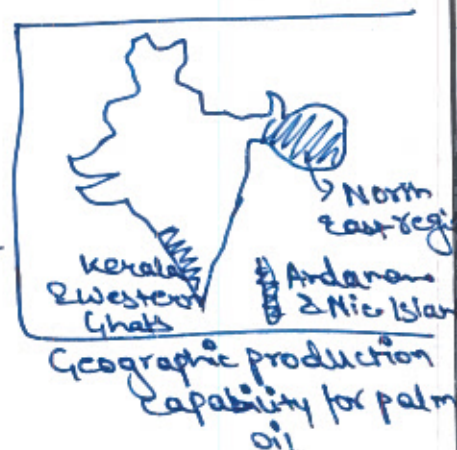
1) Leveraging National Oil Seeds Mission and National Palm oil production Mission.

2) Developmental support through AFMCs and FPOs

3) Farm credit augmentation through NABARD

4) Scientific cropping techniques through genetic modification

5) Leveraging Industrial clusters through farm mechanisation in geographically significant regions.



Thus Import of Edible oil remains a huge burden on public exchequer and needs to be immediately check to us here the dream of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

Feedback

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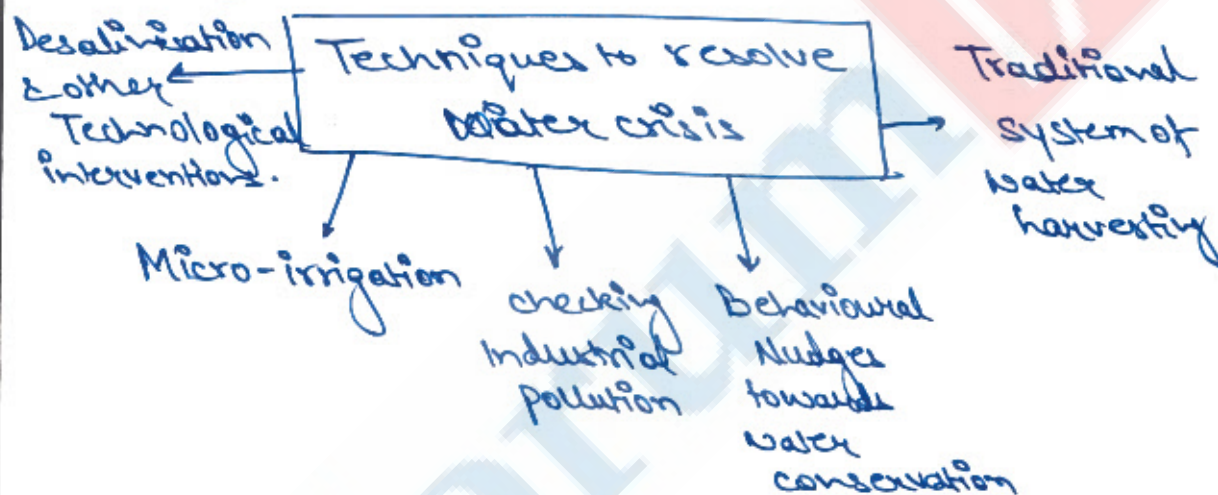
Q.4) With the growing water crisis in India, micro irrigation offers a sustainable solution for water conservation; however, its adoption remains skewed and below its potential. Discuss.

(10 marks, 150 words)

भारत में बढ़ते जल संकट के साथ, सूक्ष्म सिंचाई जल संरक्षण के लिए एक स्थायी समाधान प्रस्तुत करती है; हालाँकि, इसका उपयोग अभी भी विषम है और इसकी क्षमता से कम है। चर्चा कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India while possessing only 2.4% of world's water resources supports 18% of world's population causing acute water stress and crisis.



Potential for Micro Irrigation to resolve water crisis

- 1) Increases water use efficiency through use of precision agriculture
- 2) Increase water productivity through schemes like Per Drop more crop.

- 3) Reduced surface water runoff
- 4) Lesser upfront costs providing benefits to farmers.
- 5) Protection against vagaries of climate change like monsoonal variation.

Adoption remains skewed and below potential

- 1) Lack of holistic awareness.
- 2) Behavioural issues of flood irrigation as the preferred form
- 3) Lack of Access to formal Agri credit
- 4) Lack of Scientific information related to farming.

Way forward

- Leveraging collective strength of APMC, FPO and co-operatives
- Implementing National water policy holistically
- Access to credit enhanced

Thus water use efficiency through micro irrigation can achieve SDG 6.

Feedback

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Q.5) The recurring railway accidents highlight the urgent necessity for addressing the myriad challenges related to safety, undercapacity and lack of modernization within Indian Railways. Analyse.

(10 marks, 150 words)

बार-बार होने वाली रेल दुर्घटनाएँ भारतीय रेलवे के भीतर सुरक्षा, अल्प-क्षमता और आधुनिकीकरण की कमी से संबंधित असंख्य चुनौतियों के समाधान की तत्काल आवश्यकता को उजागर करती हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Railway Board has flagged the issue of repeated rail accidents eroding public trust and loss of lives due to various factors which needs urgent catering

Challenges ailing Indian Railways

1) Safety ⇒

a) Lack of adoption of KAVACH systems holistically on all trains within India.

b) Locomotive pilots facing irrationally high working hours

c) High amount of work pressure on other rail employees eg. station masters.

d) Technical faults in signalling system

e) Deliberative attempts at de-railing (Eg Recent Gonda Derailment)

2) Undercapacity ⇒

- a) High operational costs of Railways
- b) Lack of Electrification on railway lines
- c) Highest no. of vacancies in railway staffing since 2010.
- d) Lack of budgetary support to railways.

3) Lack of modernisation ⇒

- a) LCF and ICF coaches still not implemented in all rail lines.
- b) Passenger and goods service lines still not segregated

Thus according to Ribick Debroy committee recommendations there is a need for a holistic overhaul of Railways in order to truly tagline railways 'The back bone of Indian transportation'.

Feedback

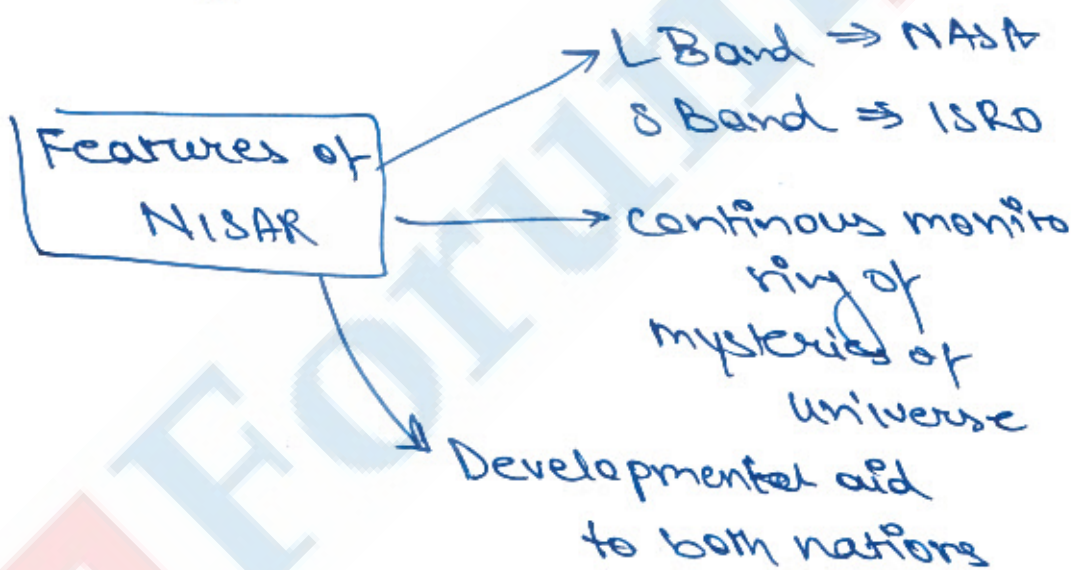
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Q.6) How does NISAR mission exemplify international cooperation in space exploration and scientific research? In what ways will it help in climate change monitoring and natural hazard management? (10 marks, 150 words)

NISAR मिशन अंतरिक्ष अन्वेषण और वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग का उदाहरण कैसे प्रस्तुत करता है? यह जलवायु परिवर्तन की निगरानी और प्राकृतिक आपदा प्रबंधन में किस तरह से मदद करेगा? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

NISAR or Nasa ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar is a game changing space co-operation partnership which shall be realised through launching the satellite in early 2025.



Exemplify international co-operation

1) Tech amalgamation and resource synergy through joint mission.

- 2) Capacity building of both organisation and employees through greater mutual participation.
- 3) Promotes research into evolution of earth and early light i.e. cosmic microwave background
- 4) Aids in further collaboration like ARTEMIS Missions
- 5) Scientific discoveries to augment mankind support.

Role of NISAR

- ↳ Climate change
 - ↳ Identify sources of emivent emissions
 - ↳ suggest possibilities of reduction
- ↳ Natural Hazard management
 - ↳ Early warning system
 - ↳ continuous monitoring, resource detection and human aid.

Thus NISAR shall pave the way for more

future co-operation among all agencies of world

Feedback

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Q.7) Nuclear technology can play a transformative role in enhancing food security and agricultural sustainability. Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

परमाणु प्रौद्योगिकी खाद्य सुरक्षा और कृषि स्थिरता को बढ़ाने में एक परिवर्तनकारी भूमिका निभा सकती है। चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Nuclear technology is slated to usher in
Pink revolution in India's energy mix
through the culmination of India's 3 stage
nuclear power program.

Transformative Role of Nuclear Technology

1) Enhancing food security -

a) Small modular reactors can
aid in supplying essential
energy for -

↳ Irrigation

↳ Pumps

↳ sprinkler

↳ water discharge from
canals.

b) FBR can supply large scale
energy for farm incomes and

Increased yield & Productivity

c) Food fortification requirement through power generated from Nuclear Tech

d) Nutritional hunger addressed.

2) Agricultural sustainability -

↳ Reduction in farm expenses on energy

↳ Reduction in biomass burning and associated ecological concerns

This Nuclear technology shall play a decisive role in
Visit Sharat@2017

Feedback

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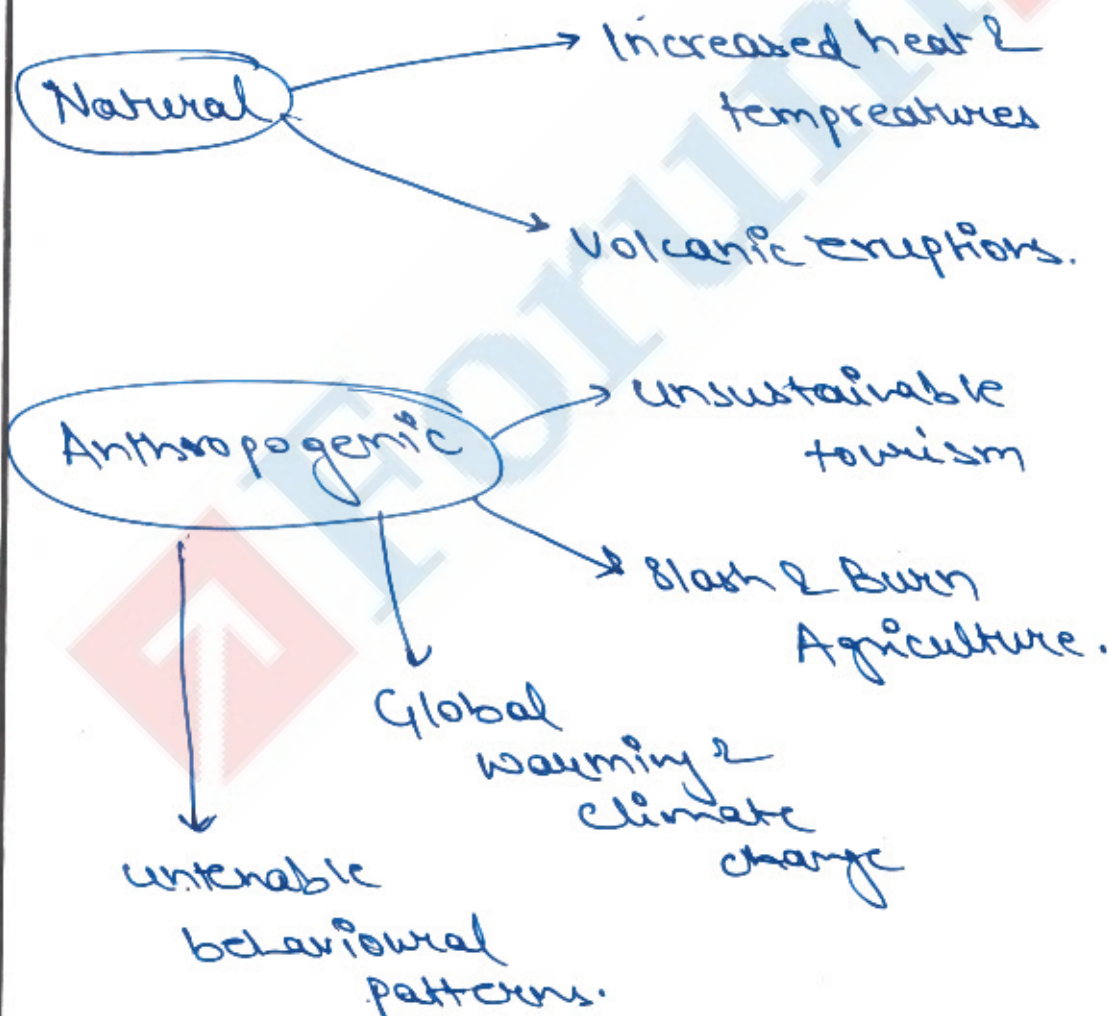
TOTAL MARKS

Q.8) Increasing frequency of forest fires in India underscores the urgent need for sustainable forest management practices. In light of the statement, bring out the causes and multidimensional impact of forest fires. Also, suggest measures for their prevention and management. (10 marks, 150 words)

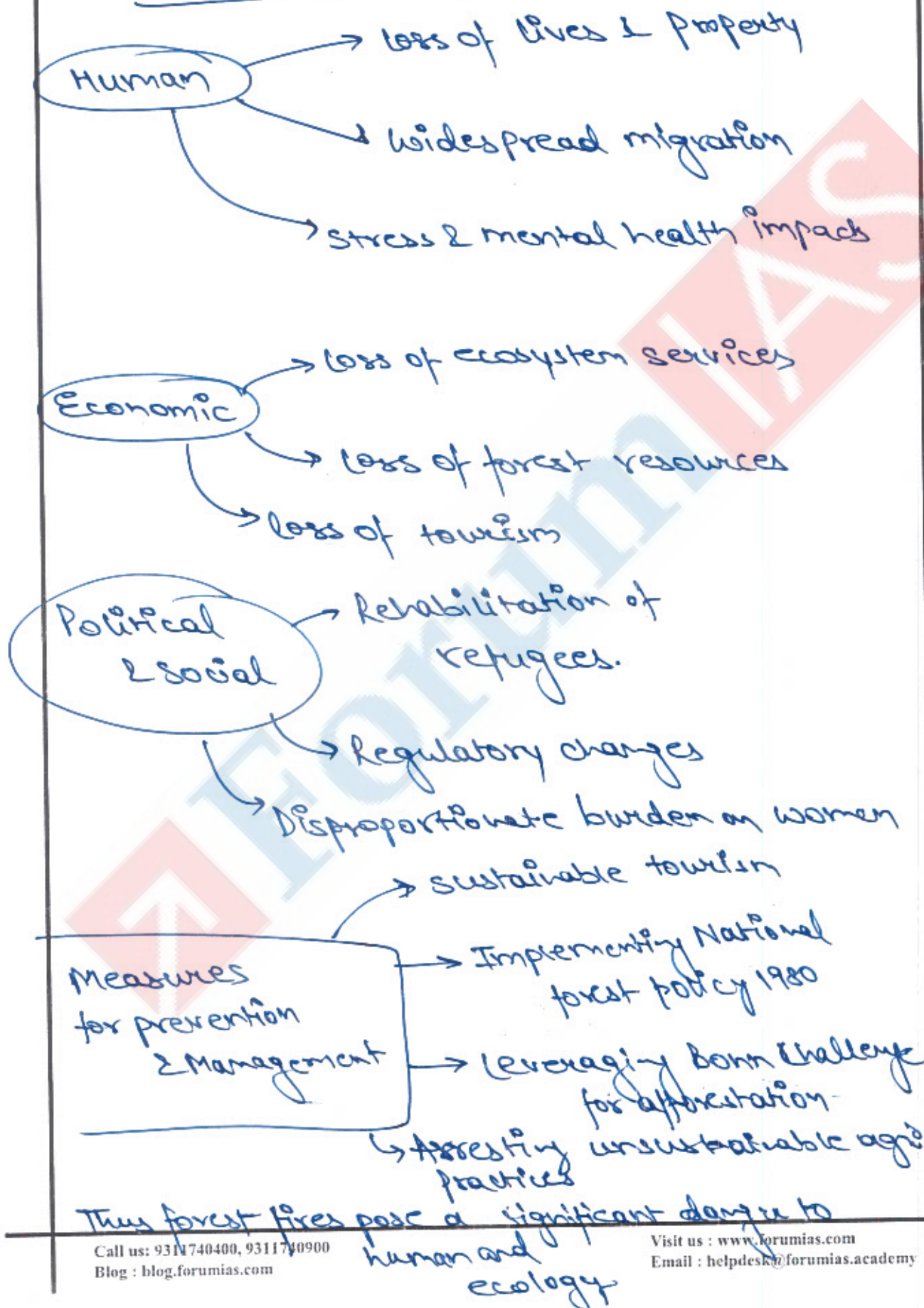
भारत में जंगल की आग की बढ़ती आवृत्ति स्थायी वन प्रबंधन प्रथाओं की तत्काल आवश्यकता को रेखांकित करती है। इस कथन के प्रकाश में, वनाग्नि के कारणों और बहुआयामी प्रभावों का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही इनकी रोकथाम और प्रबंधन के उपाय भी सुझाएं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India's forest store about 770 mt. of carbon and forest fires pose a significant danger to their sustainability and ~~and~~ enhancement

Causes of forest fires



Multidimensional Impact of forest fires



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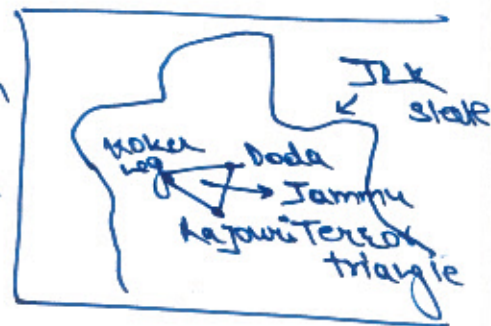
Q.9) What reasons can be attributed to the recent surge in terror related violence in Jammu and Kashmir? What strategies would you suggest to counter it? (10 marks, 150 words)

जम्मू-कश्मीर में हाल ही में आतंकवाद से संबंधित हिंसा में वृद्धि के क्या कारण हो सकते हैं? इसका मुकाबला करने के लिए आप क्या रणनीति सुझाएंगे? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The recent terror related incidents in Kishtwar, Doda and Kokernag area especially in Jammu region hints towards evolving nature of terrorism in the valley

Reasons for recent surge

- 1) Historical conflict and infiltration from Pok and Pakistan region
- 2) Developmental and Governance along with Trust deficit
- 3) Technology infiltration in terror organisations
- 4) OGW $\Rightarrow$ On ground workers of terrorism spread in the valley



5) lack of political stability in the region

6) feeling of relative deprivation fuelled by religious fundamentalism

Strategies to counter

1) Holistic human development and economic growth of the region

2) Restoring statehood & political stability to the region

3) Technological aid & Advanced warfare techniques

4) Theaterisation of command (Shakti committee)

5) Jungle warfare training
Thus Jammu & Kashmir remains the crown jewel of India's security landscape & needs to be protected.

Feedback

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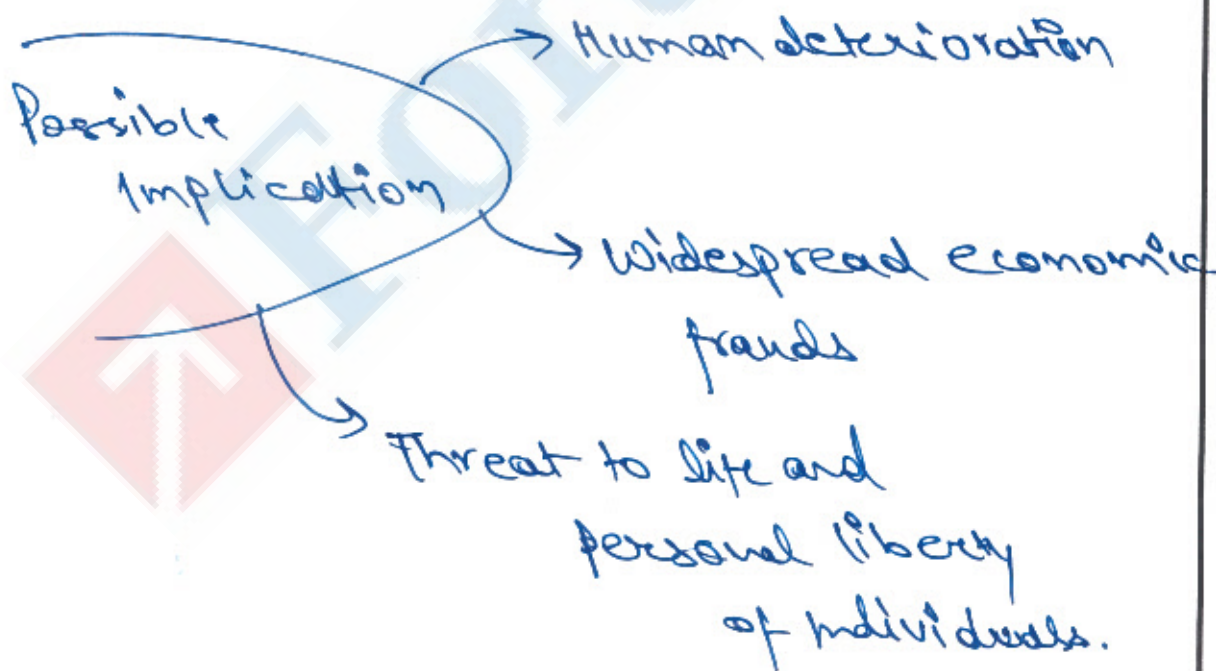
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Q.10) In the light of recent events, throw light on the possible implications of 'cyber slavery' on internal security of India. (10 marks, 150 words)

हाल की घटनाओं के आलोक में, भारत की आंतरिक सुरक्षा पर 'साइबर स्लेवरी' के संभावित प्रभावों पर प्रकाश डालिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Cyber slavery has emerged as a pertinent threat in Indian security landscape. It refers to ransom, forced displacement and forced job to those who are forced into committing cyber frauds as recently seen in Vietnamese and crime with Indians.



Feedback

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Q.11) "The liberalization policies of 1991 significantly enhanced India's economic dynamism, but the evolving global and domestic landscape necessitates 'Reforms 2.0' for sustained economic development and prosperity." Comment. (15 marks, 250 words)

"1991 की उदारीकरण नीतियों ने भारत की आर्थिक गतिशीलता को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से बढ़ाया, लेकिन उभरते वैश्विक और घरेलू परिदृश्य में सतत आर्थिक विकास और समृद्धि के लिए 'सुधार 2.0' की आवश्यकता है।" टिप्पणी कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

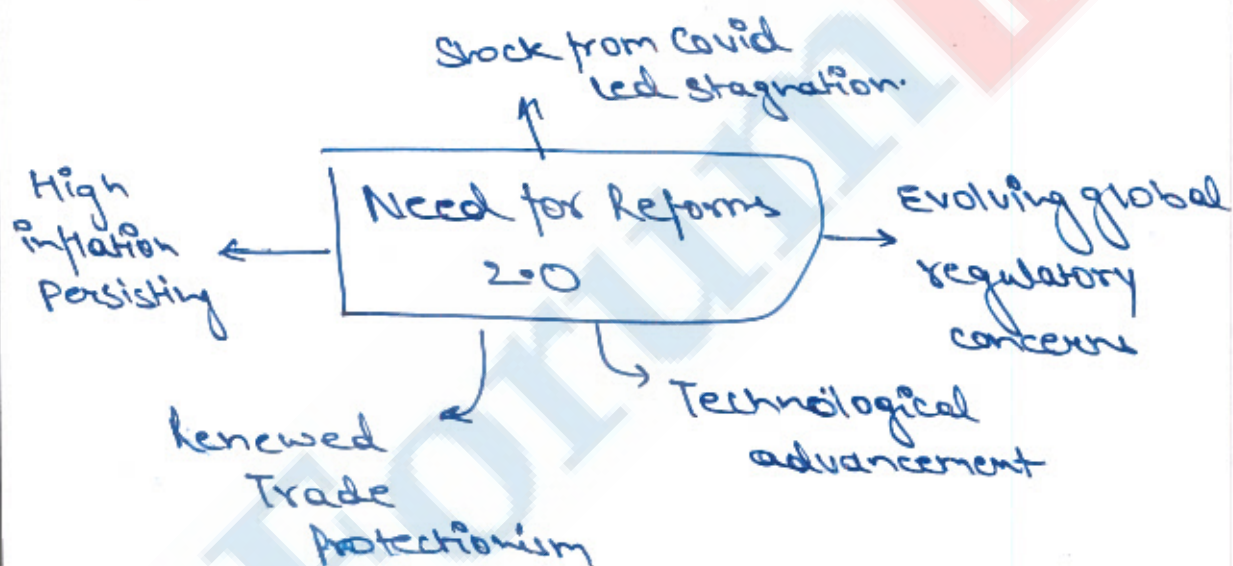
Budget 2024-25 talks about the need for a 9 pillared inclusive development approach to achieve the true dreams of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 with a thrust on Reforms 2.0.

1991 economic policies significantly enhanced India's economic dynamism

- 1) Development of service sector contributing 54% to India's GDP
- 2) Trade liberalisation accruing export gains and augmenting India as a favourable trade facilitator
- 3) Agri transformation through scientific indulgences in mechanisation
- 4) Strengthened the co-operative movement to overhaul agri sector.

5) Promoted India as a manufacturing hub through liberalised policy & regulatory landscape (Eg. Make in India scheme)

6) Privatisation of non-core sectors led to fiscal attention towards welfare needs



Augmenting Reforms 2.0 for Development and Prosperity

1) Expanding R&D spending to global average of 4% to field earlier adaptations.

- 2) Technological uptake especially in sectors like AI, ML and Robotics
- 3) Trade facilitation through export led growth (Eg RDTES & ECLGS scheme)
- 4) Agriculture overhaul through increased mechanisation and need for scientific interventions like precision agriculture.
- 5) Promoting India as a global manufacturing destination
- 6) Intergenerational growth through coo centric sustainable development (ESG Norms & BRSR compliances)
- 7) Employment linked Incentives to holistically provide skilling & employment opportunities

Thus Reforms 2.0 shall augment human development along with economic renewed push aiming to achieve collective prosperity and shared humanity.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	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			

Q.12) Infrastructure development is essential not just for economic transformation but also for sustainable development and societal well-being. Elaborate with examples. (15 marks, 250 words)

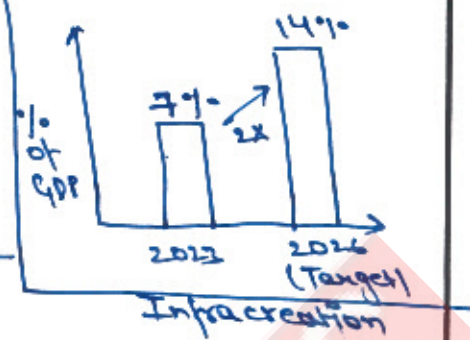
बुनियादी ढांचे का विकास न केवल आर्थिक परिवर्तन के लिए बल्कि सतत विकास और सामाजिक कल्याण के लिए भी आवश्यक है। उदाहरणों के साथ विस्तार से समझाइए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Infrastructure creation through capital expenditure in the budget has achieved the highest attention through allocation of Rs. 11.11 trillion.

Essential for economic development

- 1) Pushes the GDP of the country by a multiplier effect
(1% increase in Infrastructure leads to 4% increase in GDP : WB)
- 2) Promotes crowding in effect for private investment leading to joint development
- 3) Per capita income through job creation gets augmented
- 4) Entrepreneurial abilities given renewed push
- 5) Export competitiveness gets a boost

Infrastructure creation for sustainable development



- 1) Promotes agrimechanisation
reducing farmer stress and farm labourers
skilling
- 2) Infra creation in field of waste management
leads to efficient waste disposal
techniques.
- 3) Biodiversity conservation through renewed
methods of protection & preservation
- 4) Promotes sustainable fishing and reduce
stress on livelihoods.
- 5) Improves forest quality through expenditure
on conservation & protection
measures (Eg CAMPA funds)

Arguments societal well being

1) Skilling opportunities through infrastructural development and job - employment - market linkage.

2) Healthcare receives a renewed push as health of citizens given increased focus

3) Promotes inclusive & intergenerational growth

4) Slum rehabilitation giving a better life to all residents.

5) Reduces traffic congestion leading efficiencies of fuel & economy

Thus Infra creation & development as a pillar of holistic growth needs to be leveraged to its full potential leading to a prosperous & happy India as the vision call.

Feedback

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Q.13) Bring out the significance of aquaculture towards nutrition security, livelihood generation, and economic growth. Also, mention various measures taken by the government to promote aquaculture in the country. (15 marks, 250 words)

पोषण सुरक्षा, आजीविका सृजन और आर्थिक विकास के लिए जलीय कृषि के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, देश में जलीय कृषि को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए विभिन्न उपायों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Fisheries sector contributes 8% towards total Agriproduction & 1.3% towards the GDP providing sustainable employment to coastal and inland population and making India as the 3rd largest producer of fisheries in the world.

Significance of Aquaculture

1) Towards Nutrition security

- a) ~~Achieves~~ Serves to remove nutritional hunger in coastal population.
- b) Removes '6 Million zero food children' from India.
- c) Targets undernutrition and malnutrition among adults & children.
- d) Food fortification through fisheries leads to sustainable growth.

2) Livelihood generation -

- a) Employment opportunities for fisherman in coastal & inland areas
- b) Market linkage through fish produce marketing
- c) Shrimp product and export market leverages.
- d) Fish tourism is a developmental area of focus.

3) Economic growth -

- a) Sustainable and inclusive development
- b) Resource augmentation towards vulnerable section
- c) Self-employment and other opportunities for growth
- d) Significant contribution to GDP (1.3%) and export market reducing fiscal burden.

Measures to promote aquaculture

1) PM Matsya Sampada Mission $\Rightarrow$ Holistic scheme for fisheries sector targeting -

- a) Sustainable fishing
- b) Credit subsidy
- c) Credit availability & affordability
- d) Skilling & job creation.

2) National Fisheries Policy $\Rightarrow$ Overarching regulation to aid sustainable and equitable fisheries growth.

3) SAIME initiative $\Rightarrow$ To introduce joint ecological development of mangroves & shrimp farming.

4) FPOs and APMC augmentation

5) National Co-operative Policy.

Thus aquaculture stands as an important sector subscribing to the growth of India holistically and measures to increase its productivity needs to be enhanced.

Feedback

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Q.14) The MSP system, though well-intentioned, has led to market distortions and ecological stress, necessitating reforms to make it more inclusive and efficient. Examine. (15 marks, 250 words)

MSP प्रणाली, हालांकि अच्छी नीयत से बनाई गई है, लेकिन इसने बाजार में विकृतियां और पारिस्थितिकी तनाव पैदा किया है, जिससे इसे और अधिक समावेशी और कुशल बनाने के लिए सुधारों की आवश्यकता है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

MSP refers to the minimum support price provided to farmers for the procurement of their farm produce. The current standard of MSP is

$$A2 + FL$$

Objectives of MSP

- 1) Protecting farmers from Market distortions leading to income & sustainability issues
- 2) Providing assured guarantee for procurement
- 3) Essential facilities of storage, grading provided to reduce post harvest farm losses.
- 4) Assured supply of produce (cereal etc.) towards government welfare schemes
(eg) PMCKY.

5) Encouraging farmers to take up agri mechanisation and scientific farming through resource distribution.

Challenges to MSP

1) Ecological Stress

↳ Creation of rice-wheat economy leading to monocropping.

↳ Increased water stress in regions of Punjab & Haryana

↳ Non-geographic cropping suitability

↳ Increased pest attacks & generation of superbugs

↳ Environment pollution through burning of paddy straw and fertiliser runoff in rivers.

2) Market Distortions ⇒

- a) Promoting a cob-web cycle.
leading to market distortion
- b) Inflation in food market
(largest contributor of
Headline inflation)
- c) Artificial increase in seed and
other input prices

Reforms required

- 1) MSP to be decided in conjunction with
market realities & buffer stock
- 2) Moving away from populist measures of
MSP increase
- 3) Scientific and mechanised interference
- 4) Promoting MSP for Horticulture, oil seeds &
pulses leading to self dependency
- 5) Following recommendations of MS Subramaniam
committee in deciding MSP.

Thus MSP remains the hotspot in Agri economy
of India and need to be used resourcefully to
aid and achieve
intended outcomes.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.15) Biotechnology holds immense potential for achieving sustainable food production, efficient waste management and significant advancements in human health. Elucidate. (15 marks, 250 words)

जैव प्रौद्योगिकी में टिकाऊ खाद्य उत्पादन, कुशल अपशिष्ट प्रबंधन और मानव स्वास्थ्य में महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति हासिल करने की अपार संभावनाएं हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The launch of Bio manufacturing for Economy, Employment and Ecology scheme by union cabinet has put the focus back on significance of Biotechnology and its implications in various sectors.

Significance of Biotechnology

(1) Achieving sustainable food production -

a) GM Technology aids yield enhancement and agri productivity

(Eg. BT Cotton, GM Mustard and GM Brinjal)

b) Addresses Nutritional security through food fortification.

(Eg Beta carotene)

c) Ecology - food production balance

d) Better water use efficiency &

productivity (Eg: GM Rice and Golden rice)

c) Nanotechnology used in fertiliser and other agri sector increases nutrient use efficiency.

(Eg Nano Urea, Sulphur coated urea)

2) Efficient waste management -

a) Sustainable waste treatment plants

b) Resource segregation

c) Production of ethanol (3G 24G)

d) Carbon capture & storage through biotechnology

e) Reduction in manual scavenging and associated health issues

f) Waste to wealth plants.

3) Advancement in human health. →

- 1) Development of pharmacogenomics aiding person-specific specialised treatment-
- 2) Efficient drug delivery
- 3) Effective detection of cancers, and treatment (Eg CART cell therapy, CRISPR Cas-9)

Steps taken by Govt

- 1) National Bio-technology policy for overarching guidance in the field of Bio-tech
- 2) ICAR and IIFCO joint research projects
- 3) GEAC assisting in regulation of Bio-tech
- 4) GM technology development by IARI, Pusa and Delhi university

Thus Bio-technology shall prove to be a game changing field in the years to come however constraints of capital cost, R&D and ecology needs to be arrested at the earliest

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.16) Climate change is leading to significant alterations in ecosystems, resulting in cascading effects on biodiversity, ecosystem services, and human livelihoods, necessitating integrated approaches to conservation and climate adaptation. Analyse. (15 marks, 250 words)

जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन हो रहे हैं, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप जैव विविधता, पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र सेवाओं और मानव आजीविका पर व्यापक प्रभाव पड़ रहा है, जिसके कारण संरक्षण और जलवायु अनुकूलन के लिए एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Climate change refers to modifications in earth's atmosphere due to prolonged Natural and Anthropogenic factors. It is estimated that earth will heat upto 3.3°C by 2100 resulting in grave climate change.

Consequences of Climate change

1) Significant Alterations in Ecosystems

- 1) Tropicalisation of Arctic leading to melting of ice caps
- 2) Large scale vagaries in environmental disasters
- 3) Increasing temperatures in plains & semi-arid regions

2) Cascading effects on Bio-diversity -

- a) Premature death of trees
- b) Widespread deforestation for cooling needs & ~~for~~ energy requirements
- c) Extinction of species.
- d) Strain on resources of one place due to high concentration of species
- e) Species migration.

3) Effects on ecosystem services ⇒

- a) Lack of plant produce due to heat stress & irrational monsoon
- b) Lack of protective inundation against disasters.
- c) Large scale depletion of mangroves & sacred groves leading to loss of coastal ecosystem services.

4) Effect on human livelihood

- a) Increased human migration leading to increased climate refugees
- b) Vulnerabilities due to heat stress
- c) Vulnerabilities of irrational disasters like flood, cyclones leading to loss of lives, property & livestock.

Integrated approaches to conservation and climate adaptation

- 1) Adhering to Paris climate goal of 1.5°C temperature arrest
 - 2) Operationalisation of Loss & Damage fund for large scale mitigation & Adaptation
 - 3) Adhering to Global Bonn challenge of planting 26 million hectares trees
 - 4) Best Practices of Denmark $\Rightarrow$ Methane tax
 - 5) Adherence to Principle of CDR needs to be ensured
- Thus climate change is a reality which needs to be

Feedback

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Q.17) Urban areas, often referred to as the cradle of civilization and growth engines, are increasingly experiencing various natural and man-made disasters. Discuss in the Indian context. Also, suggest suitable mitigation and management strategies. (15 marks, 250 words)

शहरी क्षेत्रों को अक्सर सभ्यता और विकास के इंजन के रूप में संदर्भित किया जाता है, जो विभिन्न प्राकृतिक और मानव निर्मित आपदाओं का सामना कर रहे हैं। भारतीय संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उपयुक्त शमन और प्रबंधन रणनीतियों का सुझाव दीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The recent deaths in Delhi of a coaching student has led to focus being brought back on urban areas and associated disasters of flooding, inundation etc.

Cradle of Civilisation & Growth

- 1) Supports 35% of Indian population
- 2) Provides Job opportunities to significant proportion of population
- 3) Promotes holistic & Inclusive development through opportunities for women, SC, ST and other vulnerable sections
- 4) Serves as manufacturing hubs, attracting population away from agriculture.

5) Opportunities for growth in healthcare and education sector promoting skilling and human development.

Various Natural and Man-made Disasters

↳ Natural Disasters

a) Large scale vulnerabilities

Eg.
Gaziantep ←
(Syria) Earth
quake.

to Earthquake due to
lack of design norms

b) Landslides in mountainous
cities. (Eg) Himachal Pradesh
and Kerala.

↳ Man-made disasters

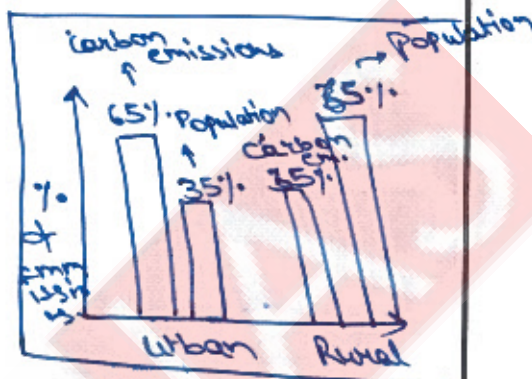
a) Urban flooding due to skewed
and poor development along with
lack of regulatory adherence

b) Fire disasters due to improper
mitigation and extinguishment

opportunities.

c) Heat stress and heatwave related manmade disasters due to carbon emissions ↑.

Suitable Mitigation and Management Strategies.



1) Early warning systems operationalisation for floods & landslide (Eg. 431 landslide EWS system)

2) Technological aid and satellite monitoring (Isro's landslide mapping atlas)

3) Confirmation to National Building code 2016

4) Leveraging Smart cities mission & AMRUT

5) Developing rural industries to discourage large scale migration

6) Reducing carbon emissions through LIFE mission and sustainable townships

Thus Urban areas serve as engine of growth

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.			
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.18) "India's disaster management framework has made significant progress in the 21st century, yet challenges persist in ensuring timely response and effective coordination during crises." Comment.
(15 marks, 250 words)

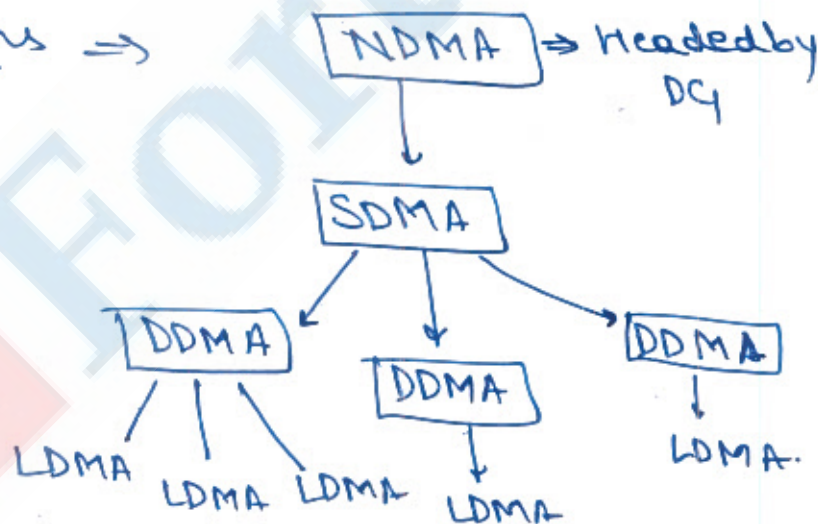
"भारत के आपदा प्रबंधन ढांचे ने 21वीं सदी में महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति की है, फिर भी संकट के दौरान समय पर प्रतिक्रिया और प्रभावी समन्वय सुनिश्चित करने में चुनौतियां बनी हुई हैं।" टिप्पणी कीजिए।
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India's disaster management framework has been tested time and again due to increased urban and local disasters and newer forms of risks and disasters.

India's Disaster Management framework

Overarching legislation → National Disaster Management Act, 2005.

Institutions →



Resources → Budgetary support and public support through EM and PM Disaster relief fund.

Significant progress by Disaster Management framework

1) Efficient rescue & rehabilitation

(Eg.) Cyclone Bipargoy $\Rightarrow$ 2hr evacuation

Cyclone Arenal $\Rightarrow$ 7hr evacuation

2) Tested terrains $\Rightarrow$ NDMA & SDMA has

been tested on terrains like

Mountains (2013 Uttarakhand floods)

and urban landscape (Srinagar floods)

3) Early warning systems and

efficient mobilisation of resources

4) Close coordination with other

disaster management

and weather forecasting agencies

(Eg. IMD, GSI etc.)

5) Significant achievement in International humanitarian efforts. (Eg. Op. Dost in Turkey)

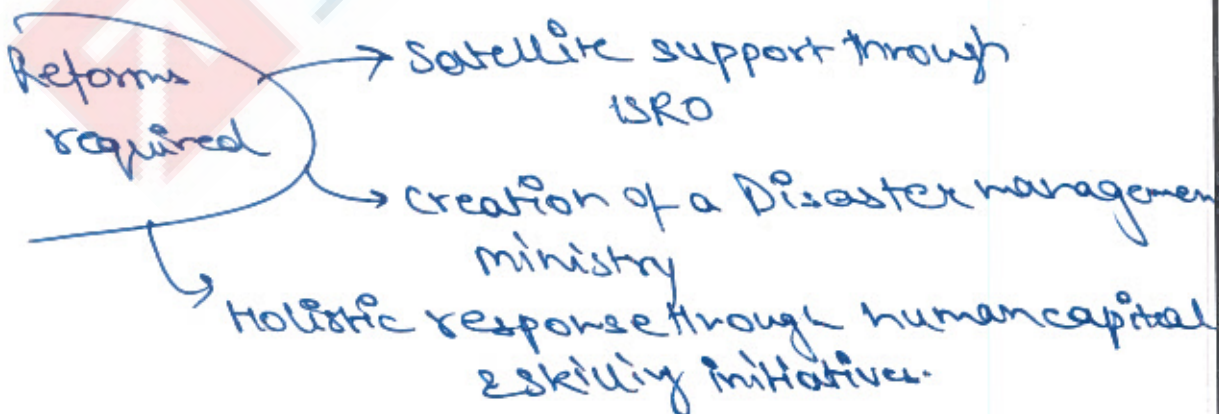
Challenges persist

↳ (1) Timely Response

- ↳ lack of effective & efficient capabilities due to equipment shortage
- ↳ Resistance from beneficiaries
- ↳ Mobilisation and Involvement breaks
- ↳ lack of technological supports

↳ (2) Effective co-ordination

- ↳ No overarching framework for co-ordination
- ↳ Internal resistance from cadres



Thus Disaster management remains the key

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.19) Explain how the symbiotic relationship between organized crime and terrorism further aggravates internal security concerns. What steps can be taken to address this linkage and the threats emerging from it? (15 marks, 250 words)

बताइए कि संगठित अपराध और आतंकवाद के बीच सहजीवी संबंध किस तरह आंतरिक सुरक्षा संबंधी चिंताओं को और बढ़ाता है। इस संबंध और इससे उत्पन्न होने वाले खतरों से निपटने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The symbiotic relationship between organised crime and terrorism is well reflected in India's neighbourhood and internally and needs decisive action mooted by India's home minister Amit Shah.

Symbiotic relations aggravates Internal security concerns

- 1) Organised crime of money laundering aids terrorist financing through non-state actors. (J&K militancy)
- 2) Cross border delivery of drugs through Golden triangle and Golden Crescent routes leads to smuggling and extremism in Punjab and Manipur.

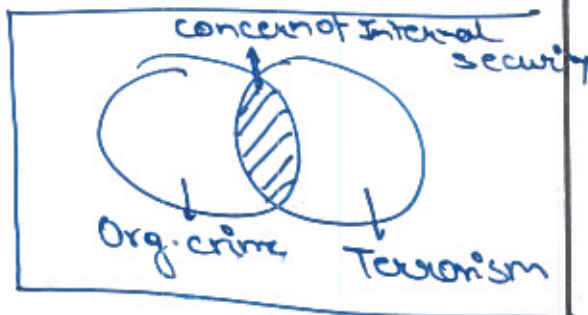
3) Smuggling of Arms and weapons through porous routes in nearby areas leads to militancy concerns disturbing peace & good order.

4) Aggravates LWE regions and strengthens cadre through resource support and financing

5) Promotes smuggling of cattle into and outside of India. (Bangladesh border)

6) Rise in technological crimes like cybercrimes and counterfeit currency

aggravates the internal security concerns



Steps to be taken

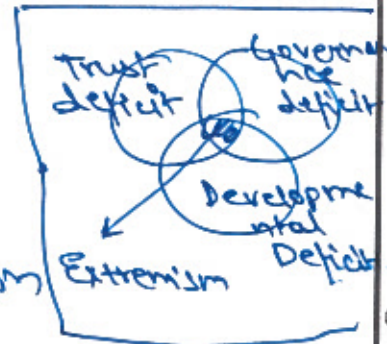
1) Breaking the nexus of organised crime and terrorism through -

a) Border security measures like CIBMS

b) Deployment of Border guarding forces like BSF, ITBP, SSB etc.

c) Holistic prosecution and quick conviction under UAPA by NIA

2) Bridging developmental & governance along with trust deficit



3) International collaboration like FATF and UNSC

4) Global co-operation through Summit on Countering Terrorist financing through financial & physical checks

Thus security India's security is an urgent need to provide stability &

impetus for growth of the nation.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.20) Strengthening security apparatus in border areas and forging developmental partnerships with the locals are essential components of a robust and effective border management strategy. Discuss, with initiatives taken by the government in this regard. (15 marks, 250 words)

सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों में सुरक्षा तंत्र को मजबूत करना तथा स्थानीय लोगों के साथ विकासात्मक साझेदारी बनाना एक मजबूत और प्रभावी सीमा प्रबंधन रणनीति के आवश्यक घटक हैं। इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए प्रयासों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

"Security is a collaboration between technology, humans and ^{one} vision, ~~and~~ cannot be replaced for another"

- General S Padma nabhan.

Robust and effective Border Management strategy

1) Strengthening security Apparatus in Border areas.

a) Deployment of tech enabled human operations

b) Increasing border guarding forces

c) Advanced weapons supplied to border forces including Army.



- d) Satellite support in difficult Jungle terrain
 - e) Quick mobilisation of reinforcements
 - f) Comprehensive air and naval support in case of war.
 - g) Close-Coordination with different agencies including MHA, NIA etc.
- 2) Forging developmental partnership with the locals ⇒
- a) Bridging the developmental, trust and governance deficit
 - b) long-term solution for on-ground support for armed forces.
 - c) local co-operation and terrain knowledge supports operations
 - d) Men and labour support in Joint operations.

Initiatives taken by Govt.

⇒ Strengthening security apparatus

- Use of CIBMS, UAV, Drone technology
- Indigenisation of defence (Tejas LCA, Drones etc.)
- Supply chain resilience for undisturbed supplies.
- Cadre enhancement of CAPFs
- Agnipath scheme for more personnel
- Advanced warfare training eg. HAWs, Jungle warfare etc.

⇒ Developmental partnership with locals

- Village frontier guards committee
- Border village development program
- SA Op. Sadhbhavana by Army

Thus, security remains a challenging domain in evolving space of warfare however border area defence and local support shall enable quicker resolution

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1 ☐
- 2 ☐
- 3 ☐

Outcomes

- 1
- 2
- 3

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
20 Marker	7.75 – 10	6 – 7.5	< 6
✓✓	Key / Relevant Point		
✗	Vague / Irrelevant		

* Subject to change without prior notice.

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If we are already doing well, a reinforcement from the Mentor will further assist us in following the right path. A Mentor may also be able to give valuable inputs with respect to time management, presentation, structure etc. He may recommend you clearly to work on content or may suggest you to take courses / read books in case he feels you lack content that may be quickly improved with a course at ForumIAS or elsewhere, or some study material.

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