| TEST CODE | 8 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 7 | | GP 2025 |

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Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Astha		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910109161	Medium/माध्यम	English ✔ हिंदी ☐
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	19/8/2025

*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

Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक
1		
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20		
Total/कुल अंक	250	

Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :

Total Marks/कुल अंक :

*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।

INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश

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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Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :
9.30 am	12.40 pm

Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन ✔ ☐ Offline/ऑफलाइन ☐

For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु

ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी : ① ② ③ ④ ⑤	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :

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.

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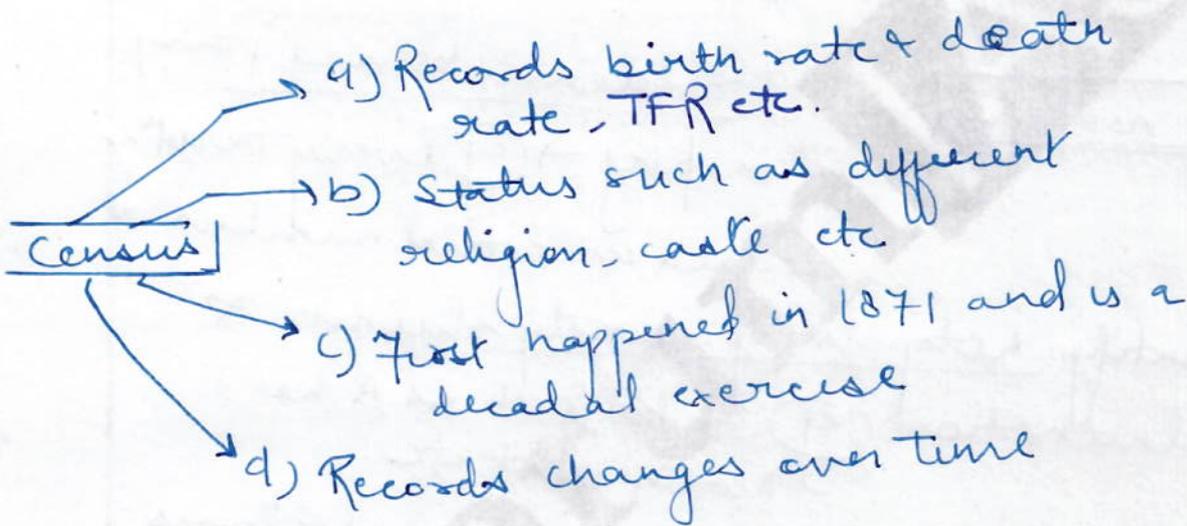पर कुछ न लिखें)

Q.1) What is a 'Census'? Discuss the importance of Census for the economy and policy making.

(10 marks, 150 words)

'जनगणना' क्या है? अर्थव्यवस्था और नीति निर्माण के लिए जनगणना के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Census refers to the documentation of a population, recording the growth in actual number and other characterstic such as birth rate etc.

Census	→	a) Records birth rate & death rate, TFR etc.
	→	b) Status such as different religion, caste etc
	→	c) First happened in 1871 and is a decadal exercise
	→	d) Records changes over time

Importance for economy →

a) help in calculating the state of economic growth

(1) Per capita income → currently around $3000.

b) Calculating various [metrics] —

(1) labor force → person who are engaged in various activities or are willing to

(2) unemployment rate, work force etc

c) State of inclusive growth

    ↳ 1) Poverty data and Poverty line estimation — currently around 11%. MDP (NITI)

    ↳ 2) Human Dev. Index → document people's status of education, health, standard of living.

Policy making → a) Evidence based policy making → (eg) Poverty targeting based on actual numbers

b) Identify hotspots of poverty, hunger & malnutrition (eg) States such as Bihar, North east etc.

c) Better targetting of vulnerable sections for various schemes (eg) Ayushman Bharat

d) Input - output model → can make policy more grounded & holistic (eg) Jal Jeevan mission

e) Ensure current realities taken into account (eg) Caste census, family planning

    Census will help to compare our progress over the last decade.

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Q.2) Assess the role of NITI Aayog over the past decade in transforming the country's approach to planning and development.
(10 marks, 150 words)

देश के नियोजन और विकास के दृष्टिकोण को बदलने में पिछले दशक में नीति आयोग की भूमिका का आकलन करें।
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

NITI Aayog was est. in 2014 replacing Planning commission, to usher in a new era of planning for the modern India.

Role in transforming

① Bottom up planning → NITI Aayog takes inputs from the grassroot levels eg District Admin, Gram Sabha

② Support local planning eg Assistance to Ahmendabad for city plan

③ TEAM INDIA vehicle helps in cooperative federalism → plans made with state consultation

④ Public participation → invites public suggestions on various policies through its website

⑤ Expert oriented → make plans with expert advise, invite dignitaries, researchers etc

6) Continuous plan & adaptation → NITI made 7yr plan, India @75 plan etc

7) Development through stakeholder approach → (eg) Including businessmen in planning

8) Positive competition (eg) various indices such as Composite water Index, MDP etc

9) Evidence based policy making based on data collected

10) Various schemes → Atal innovation etc

Issues → a) No powers to allocate funds → hamper its utility

b) Conflictual federalism → states complain about bias

c) Planning becoming more complex

d) Lack of resources → capacity etc to conduct meaningful research

e) overlap → various ministries, depts etc also in planning

f) Still top down plan model followed

NITI Aayog can ensure a Viksit Bharat by 2047 with its inclusive approach

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in this Area / इस स्थ
पर कुछ न लिखें)

Q.3) Discuss various measures taken by the Government to strengthen the Cooperative movement and ensure "Sahakar Se Samriddhi". (10 marks, 150 words)

सहकारी आंदोलन को सशक्त करने और "सहकार से समृद्धि" सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए विभिन्न उपायों पर चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

<u>Cooperatives</u> are bodies working on the principle of one man one vote and 'profit' for all. Around 73000+ cooperatives are working in the nation

why
need
}
→ a) Economic growth (eg) Amul
→ b) Income enhancement (eg) Dairy
                                    farmers
→ c) Boost exports
→ d) Employment generation → around
                                    8+ crs farmers

<u>measures</u>

① [97th AA] → Added new Part [IxB]
    for cooperatives
  → FR (Article 19 (1)(c)), DPSP (43B).

② <u>Ministry of cooperation</u> → to lead
    the cooperative movement in India

③ world largest grain storage program
  → recently announced to make [PACS]
    work in storage sector

④ Financial support → NABARD refinance
cooperative banks

⑤ National cooperative Mission → aim
to boost cooperatives in agriculture

⑥ Promotion of scaling in cooperatives
by providing extension services

⑦ State led initiatives → Maharashtra,
Gujrat leads in cooperative mov.
(eg) AMUL in gujrat, SEWA

⑧ Empowering local farmers to connect
with banks ✓ (eg) DAY NRLM - cooperative

Concerns → a) Skewed concentration → 80%
in 5 states
→ b) Poor functioning → admin
issues
c) Low capacity building of farmers,
members → entreprenrial spirit weak

way
ahead
→ a) National cooperative fund
→ b) Digitalise cooperatives
→ c) Extension service by NITI

Feedback
(For OFFICE use only

#	Ⓒ	Ⓐ	Ⓟ
AWIS			
CD & VA			
S & F			
P & R			

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

TOTAL MARKS	

Q.4) India remains significantly dependent on imports to meet its pulses demand. Examine the key challenges in achieving self-reliance in pulses. Also, mention the major government initiatives taken in this regard.

(10 marks, 150 words)

भारत अपनी दलहन की माँग को पूरा करने के लिए आयात पर काफी हद तक निर्भर है। दलहन में आत्मनिर्भरता प्राप्त करने में आने वाली प्रमुख चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में उठाए गए प्रमुख सरकारी कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India is the largest producer, largest consumer and largest importer of pulses in the world.

Key challenges—

① Skewed pulses concentⁿ
→ only 5 states contribute around √ >50% of productⁿ

Top 5 states of pulses

② MSP induced wheat - rice monoculture
→ replaced pulses in punjab-Haryana

③ Low productivity → less varieties of HYV seeds present

④ Tech. innovation slow → GM crops not been in pulses sector

⑤ less renumerative → compared to MSP insurance of wheat - power etc

(6) Less procurement under MSP regime despite Tur, Arhar in it → 80% wheat & rice procured.

(7) Less awareness about its multifarous [benefits] → a) Nitrogen fixation
→ b) high international demand & domestic market
→ c) Climate resilence

Govt intiaves

① Recent budget announced 5 year Mission for pulses to boost productivity as well as area under it

② MSP enhancement → procure at high rate for scrumgable farming

③ Cluster based approach → focus on rainfed areas such as Karnataka, Maharashtra. etc.

④ State govt. intiatives → maharashtra largest producer of tur

⑤ Financial incentives to farmers

⑥ R&D support → for GM, HYV etc.
Pulses can ensure Evergreen Revolution in India

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पर कुछ न लिखें)

Q.5) What is a 'Black box'? Explain its significance in flight safety and airplane crash investigations.
(10 marks, 150 words)

'ब्लैक बॉक्स' क्या है? उड़ान सुरक्षा और वायुयान दुर्घटना परीक्षण में इसके महत्व का वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Black box was recently recovered from airline crash site in Ahmedabad revealing crucial detail.

Black box
→ a) An instrument to record all activities and messages in the plane
→ b) Specially designed to survive any accident
→ c) Kept to get info about every minute detail of flight

Significance

① Provides crucial information → flight height, progress, pilot's convo etc.

② Helps in knowing the last minute details of accident → (eg) Ahmedabad crash details

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पर कुछ न लिखें)

③ <u>Fixing the blame</u> → why did it happen?
eg) Pilots were heart saying i didn't switched off → proved it was not their mistake.

④ <u>Helps when accidents</u> leave no trace because of severe damage → only black box can be the only source.

⑤ <u>Future safety</u> → by helping in investgⁿ it helps to avoid tragedy in future.

⑥ <u>crucial communication</u> device → records pilot's communication as well.

**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 is a joint collab of ISRO and NASA, to launch a satellite for space exploration & research.

International cooperation —

Survey the earth — NISAR → Earth
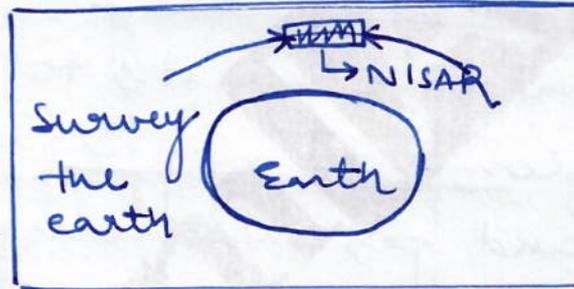
① Significant for cross country agency collab → ISRO & NASA

② An example of pooling resources for better research program → using experiences of both countries

③ ISRO & NASA will work to record data sent by NISAR and further collab on research.

④ Combines rich knowledge, tech and experiences of agencies for advantage

Climate change monitoring!

↳ a) Survey the earth and record
CO_2 emissions, concentration etc

↳ b) will also provide info about
changes over time → can help to
target policies

↳ c) Methane tracking → 24X7 → providing
real time updates to govt.

↳ d) Complete mapping of atmosphere
and gaseous composition in it

Natural hazard management

① Provides data regarding changes in
glacial activities → can warn about
GLOF, floods etc

② Can track meteorological changes
such as weather pattern, precipitation

③ Monitor Oceans & its activities →
helpful for tsunami alerts

④ Forest fire data can be made
available.

Q.7) While oceans are considered among mankind's best allies in the fight against climate change, they are themselves heavily impacted by the same. Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

जबकि महासागरों को जलवायु परिवर्तन के खिलाफ़ लड़ाई में मानव जाति के सबसे अच्छे सहयोगियों में से एक माना जाता है, वे स्वयं भी इससे बहुत प्रभावित हैं। चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

71% of the earth is covered with oceans, giving it the nickname "Blue planet".
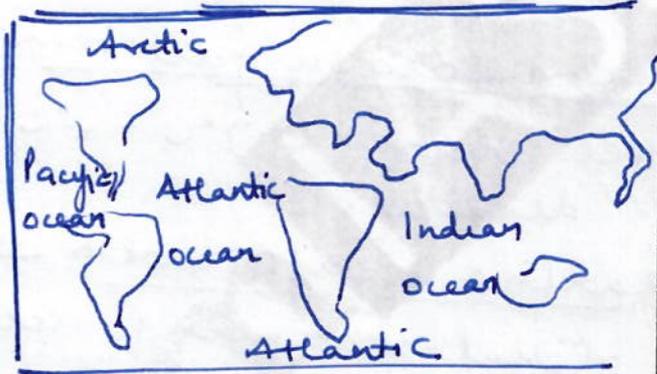
Best allies →

① Absorb CO2 emission → around 80%.

② Carbon Sequestration → act as a carbon sink → prevent release into atmos

③ Cooling affect → counter global warming

④ Biodiversity preservation amid mass extinction

Arctic
Pacific ocean
Atlantic ocean
Indian ocean
Atlantic

Heavily impacted by climate change —

① Ocean acidification due to excess carbonation as they absorb CO2

② Loss of biodiversity

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↳ a) Corals bleaching + difficulty to carboneous shell formation as ocean become acidic

↳ b) marine fisheries decline as they are sensitive to temp.

3) Ocean seas surface temp. rising → IPCC record 0.7°C – 2°C rise in last decade.

4) marine heatwaves → frequent as global warming accentuate

5) ENSO, other weather abnormalities become intense & common (eg) 2024 ENSO cycle

6) Sea level rise → islands drowning & glaciers melting → positive feedback loop creation

ways to tackle {
→ a) limit warming under 2°C → under 2 allowance

→ b) Net zero → (eg) India by 2070

→ c) marine protection zones (eg) marine National parks

→ d) climate engineering activities
}

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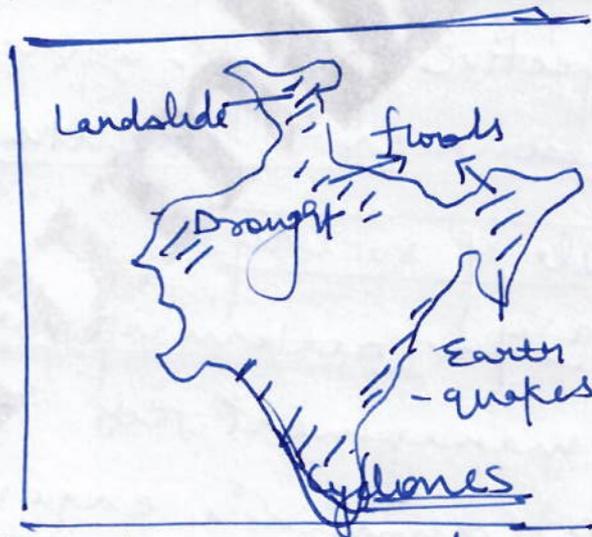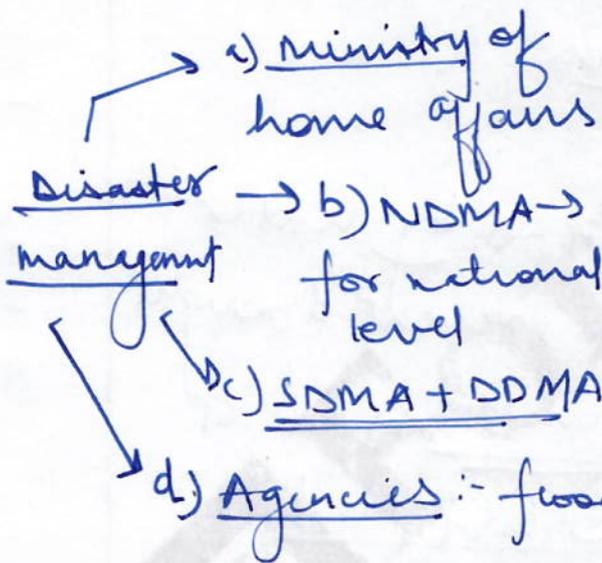**Q.8)** "Disasters cannot be managed by a single agency, department, or ministry on its own. It requires a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach." Elucidate.   (10 marks, 150 words)

"आपदाओं का प्रबंधन किसी एक एजेंसी, विभाग या मंत्रालय द्वारा अकेले नहीं किया जा सकता। इसके लिए संपूर्ण सरकार और संपूर्ण समाज के दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता होती है।" स्पष्ट करें।   (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Disasters are phenomena of
natural or man made induced
loss of lives, infra etc due to
sudden or slow onset of calamities
eg Drought, flood etc

a) ministry of
    home affairs   Landslide   floods

Disaster → b) NDMA →
management   for national   Drought
             level   Earth
                                      -quakes
c) SDMA + DDMA
                                      cyclones

d) Agencies :- flood risk management etc.

Need for whole of govt approach —

① To tackle 'silos approach' → coordinate
   between various ministries
   eg MoHUA, MHA etc for urban floods

② Better integration and planning →

various dept. can ~~coordinate~~ coordinate

3) <u>Ensure collective</u> accountability of govt to manage risks + vulnerabilities

4) Reduce disaster <u>risk</u> as per <u>Sendai framework</u> by active collab. among agencies

5) <u>Disaster mitigation</u> & adaption can be effective if dept, agencies pool in <u>resources + expertise</u>

<u>whole of society.</u>

↳ a) <u>For bottom up plan</u> → (eg) water management tech. to prevent drought

↳ b) <u>community engagement</u> → as 1st line of defense (eg) <u>Orissa Model</u>

↳ c) <u>Better preparedness & response</u> (eg) mock drills for earthquakes

↳ d) <u>Traditional knowledge use</u> → for local mngmnt of disasters.

We need to ensure realisation of Sendai Targets by 2030.

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Q.9) The convergence of organized crime and terrorism presents a formidable challenge to the country's internal security. Analyse. (10 marks, 150 words)

संगठित अपराध और आतंकवाद का संमिलन देश की आंतरिक सुरक्षा के लिए एक विकट चुनौती प्रस्तुत करता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Organised crimes are crimes carried out by 3 or more person in a group such as Drug or human trafficking, Kidnapping etc.

Terrorism is violent activities to gain political agendas or to terrorise masses for personal gains/ideologies.
(eg) Pulwama attack.

Convergences

① Coordinate to escape govt. oversight
(eg) In Sahara, Criminal networks & terror groups coordinate on same route.

② Provide funds to carry out activities
(eg) Mumbai attacks with help of D company

③ Use of terror for crimes (eg) Extortion
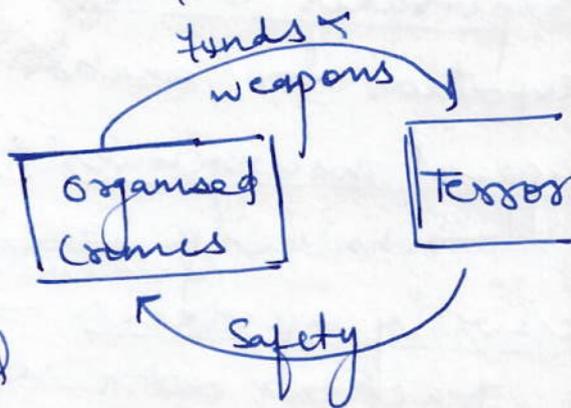
Challenge for Internal Security

① Difficult to trace → both coordinate
to escape & find safe havens in
foreign countries

② mask eachother's activities (eg) organised
groups shield terror acts

③ Online networks → used by both,
sometimes same handle for both
(eg) Dark web pages, networks

④ Perpetrates crimes such as kidnapping,
extortion for eachother's activities

⑤ support insurgencies (eg) J&K. North east
→ challenge law & order

⑥ Security agencies → challenge of
tracking both networks

ways
to
tackle
{
→ a) whole of govt. approach →
for coordination among agencies
→ b) BOLD GITs under CIBMS
(Shetkar)
→ c) Tackle financing routes (eg) Hawala
}

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Q.10) In an era of complex security challenges, examine the ways in which the private sector can contribute to strengthening India's internal security. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

जटिल सुरक्षा चुनौतियों के इस युग में, उन तरीकों का परीक्षण कीजिए जिनसे निजी क्षेत्र भारत की आंतरिक सुरक्षा को सुदृढ़ बनाने में योगदान दे सकता है। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Internal security facing various challenges!
→ a) Border challenge (eg) galwan
→ b) cyber crimes (eg) AIIMS attack
→ c) Insurgency (eg) North east
→ d) Terrorism (eg) Pahalgam
→ e) Online radicalisation, organised crime networks (eg) Marcos
→ f) others:— Naxalism etc

Role of private sector

① Provide funds for security enhancement (eg) fencing etc

② Research & Dev in strategic sector (eg) Startups in Defence such as Agnikul

③ Expertise:— can work with govt to share their expert knowledge.

④ <u>Defense indiginisation</u> (eg) Baba
Kalyani's firm providing artillery
equipments , guns etc

⑤ <u>Reduce dependency on foreign firms</u>
↳ to attain strategic sovereignty

⑥ <u>Grey zone warfare capabilities</u>
→ can enhance cyber security by
investing in CII protection
→ Develop space warfare capacity
(eg) space startups

⑦ <u>PPP for defense projects</u> such as
<u>border roads</u>, fencing & modernisat^n

<u>challenges</u> → a) Deep mistrust between both

→ b) Threat of leaks of sensitive
info

→ c) Silos with govt agencies

→ d) Funds required is high

The need is a collective effort to
tackle new age challenges.

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Q.11) Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced a transfer of surplus to the Union Government for the financial year 2024–25. What does 'surplus' mean in this context? How does the RBI generate it, and what is its significance for the country's fiscal policy? (15 marks, 250 words)

हाल ही में, भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक (RBI) ने वित्तीय वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए केंद्र सरकार को अधिशेष राशि हस्तांतरित करने की घोषणा की है। इस संदर्भ में 'अधिशेष' का क्या अर्थ है? RBI किस तरह इसका सृजन करता है, और देश की राजकोषीय नीति के लिए इसका क्या महत्व है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

RBI recently announced a fund transfer of around ₹2.6 lakh crore which is the highest ever surplus transferred with 10% rise over 2024.

<u>what is surplus</u>
→ income generated by RBI from various sources.
→ The remaining amount to money left after meeting admin expenditure & other needs.

<u>How it's generated</u>
① <u>Seneorage</u> → the difference between cost of printing money v/s actual value of money
② <u>Loans given to foreign countries</u> →

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Interest generated over them

③ <u>State govt. securities</u> met by Centre
→ loans etc & interest over them

④ <u>Govt. investments</u> in various
financial instruments such as shares

⑤ <u>Profit from RBI activities</u> → such
as market operations (OMO)

⑥ <u>Income from deposits of banks</u>
→ CRR and others

<u>Significance</u> —

① <u>Provides funds</u> to govt. for
financing budgetary deficits
(eg) F.D. is around 5·4% in 2024

② <u>cushion burgeoning</u> revenue
expenditure of govt → (eg) subsidy
burden of around 2% of GDP

③ <u>Helps in supporting fiscal</u> consoli
-dation efforts (eg) N·K singh'

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FRBM target of 50% debt: GDP.

(4) Reduce govt. dependency on loans
& borrowings ——> interest payment
liability reduction

(5) Supports capex efforts of govt —>
₹11.11 lakh cr target

(6) Gives space to fiscal policy innovation
eg Interest free loans to states

(7) Helps govt. to meet its targets such
as debt reduction, inflation control

(8) Boost money multiplier by govt.
investment enhancement

——> a) Perpetuates dependency on
RBI by govt.

concerns ——> b) Can lead to fiscal
slippage

c) Debt: GDP may not come down
if funds unutilised for
populism.

Q.12) Examine the role of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model in the development of ports in India.

(15 Marks, 250 words)

भारत में बंदरगाहों के विकास में सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी (PPP) मॉडल की भूमिका का परीक्षण करें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

PPP model refers to the collab. model between govt. and private sector firm to share <u>risk, revenue + rewards</u> by co-developing infra.
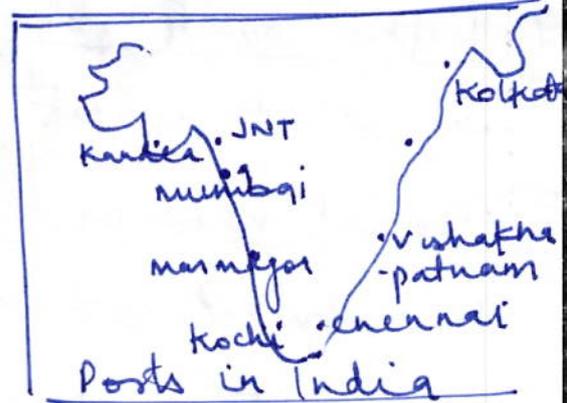
(eg) Road development by NHAI 4 private firms.

<u>Role of PPP in port</u>

<u>Positive</u>

① <u>Private sector expertise for port development</u> → (eg) Adani developing ports abroad in Sri Lanka.

Ports in India

② <u>Better pool of resources</u> → address fund crunch in port dev. sector

③ <u>Various models provide flexibility</u>

(c) BOT, EPC, HAM etc

(4) Facilities enhancement on ports

(a) Cargo Storage infra

(5) Can help in reducing turn-around time of ships by better advanced facilities at ports

(6) Reduce logistic costs of Indian economy → 13% to 7%.

(7) Innovative tech. by private sector can make ports → world class

(8) Cargo handling capacity can be enhanced by private sector

(9) Est. of new ports such as JNT with substantial private sector investmnt

(10) Free up govt. resources for other sectors such as port led dev & connectivity to ports

(11) Sagarmala Initiative → also leverage PPP model for meeting target

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Challenges

① High initial cost → ports require substantial capital outlay

② Large gestation period → deter private investments

③ Low enthusiasm & private firms interests in port handling activities

④ Renumeration → difficultly in cost realisation

⑤ Balance sheet concerns → corporates face significant losses in infra

⑥ Difficulties in distributing respons -ibilities between govt. & private sector

⑦ Rise of accidents, ports mishandering & compromise on quality

ways for effective PPP
{
→ Innovative Models such as HAM

→ SAGARMALA → incentivise private investment

→ Learn from foreign practices eg Belgium.

Q.13) "Legalizing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) would create more challenges than it resolves." Comment.

(15 marks, 250 words)

"न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) को वैध बनाने से समाधान की अपेक्षा अधिक चुनौतियाँ उत्पन्न होंगी।" टिप्पणी कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

MSP refers to minimum price guarantee provided on 23 crops by GoI to support farmers and prevent price crash.

MSP regime

a) Covers 23 crops
  → Cereals → wheat, rice
  → Pulses → moong, tur
  → Cash crop → copra, cotton

b) Decided by CACP on the basis of $A_2 + FL$

c) Final announcement by CCEA

d) Revised before every cropping season & procured through APMC networks.
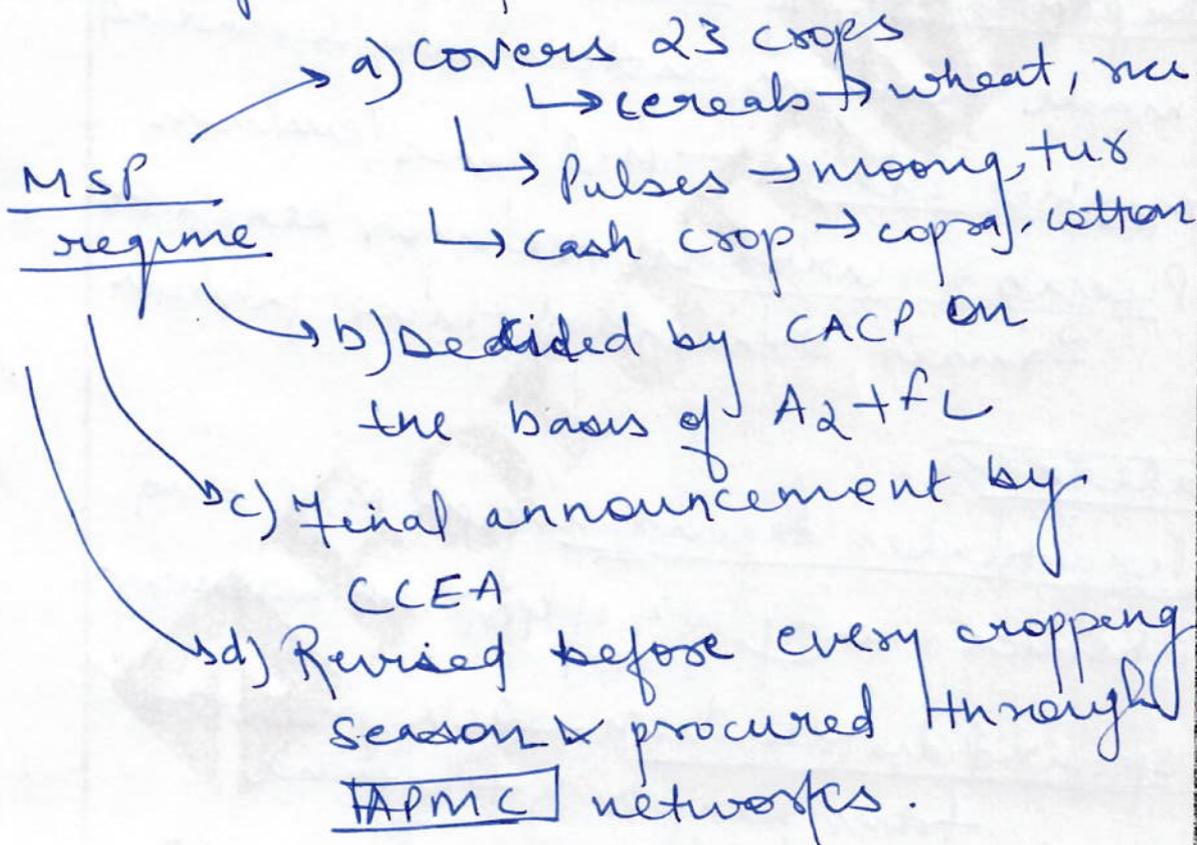
why demand for legalisation —

① Farm bill controversy → farmers felt govt is dismantling MSP.

② Rising uncertainities in farming sector → climate shocks, extreme weather events etc

③ Reducing crop productivity → need of govt. assurance eg Heatwaves reducing wheat production

④ Dependency Syndrome → MSP has made farmers continuosly dependend

⑤ market shocks! → MSP gives cushion

⑥ Punjab & Haryana → major benefactor → main demand of these farmers

Challenges

① Perpetuates dependency on MSP and subsidies → eg 2% of GDP on subsidy

② Skewed distribution → 80% procurement from punjab & Haryana

③ Lack of capacity of storage with APMC → legalisation will led to wastage

④ market distortion → demand & supply logic will fail

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5) Monoculture of wheat - rice → affect crop diversification efforts of GOI

6) Substantial burden on exchequer
   → 72000 cr on just few crop procurement

7) Environmental challenges
   a) Soil fertility ← → b) water mngmt.

8) WTO challenge → Red box
   as subsidy as challenged for the market distortion.

9) Export distorting as prices are high compared to international prices

10) FCI buffer stock excessive storage leads to food wastage! - 92000 cr (NITI)

way ahead
   → a) PM AASHA ⌈ PSS
                  ⌉ PDPS
                  ⌊ MIS
   → b) Ashok Dalwai → MSP must be expanded
   → c) Swaminathan → C2 + 50%.
   → d) Ashok Gulati! - Income policy

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Q.14) Why does India's agricultural export performance remain weak despite high production levels? What measures would you suggest to improve agri-export competitiveness?   (15 marks, 250 words)

उच्च उत्पादन स्तर के बावजूद भारत का कृषि निर्यात प्रदर्शन कमजोर क्यों है? कृषि-निर्यात प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता में सुधार के लिए आप क्या उपाय सुझाएँगे?

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India aims to export around $1 trillion of agri-produce by 2030, currently India is around $400 bn.

<u>High production levels</u>

a) 2nd largest in <u>wheat</u> & <u>rice</u> after China

b) 2nd in fruits & vegetables → 1st in mango, papaya etc

c) 2nd in <u>sugarcane</u> after brazil, 7th in coffee

d) leading in <u>spices</u> etc.

e) largest producer of pulses (23%)

f) <u>milk</u> production → 25% of world

g) <u>fisheries</u> → 3rd largest producer 4th in export

h) Poultry & animal husbandry → also <u>leads</u>

Why exports weak —

① MSP leading to inflated prices →
   less competitive in international
   market

② Less market exploration → exports
   concentrated to Europe, US

③ Few crops dominate export market
   → rice largest shares > fisheries
   & meat.

④ Quality issues eg Europe Phytosan
   -itary measures

⑤ Poor branding → eg make in India
   brand not competitive

⑥ Lack of food processing → only 2%
   meat, 23% milk

⑦ Productivity issues → t/v not
   in pulses, oilseeds etc

⑧ Tech. adoption low eg farm mechan
   -ation 40%, US → 60%.

⑨ Small landholding → 1.08 hectares
   → less productivity & scaling

⑩ Competition from west eg New zealand

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Suggestions

① Learning from [best practises]

a) Australia & New Zealand in milk product^n

b) US in corn product^n

c) Israel water management

② R&D support → only 0.6% of agri GDP spent on R&D

③ Explore new markets (eg Egypt food grain needs. Latin America

④ Quality checks → follow Codex Alim entarais of FAO

⑤ Labs for testing & packing

⑥ Branding → role of APEDA \ MPEDA

⑦ Credit to farmers for enhancing mechanisation, yield → NABARD

⑧ Promote FPOs & cooperatives for scaling

⑨ Innovation (eg Agri SURE scheme for agri Startups

⑩ Food processing → Kisan Sampada

⑪ Crop diversification (eg Op. TOPs.

Q.15) How the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) can help India in its socio-economic development? Identify the hurdles in its large-scale adoption and suggest corrective measures.

(15 marks, 250 words)

कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) का अनुप्रयोग भारत के सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास में किस प्रकार सहायक हो सकता है? इसके व्यापक पैमाने पर अपनाने में आने वाली बाधाओं की पहचान कीजिए और सुधारात्मक उपाय सुझाइए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

AI refers to simulation of human like intelligence by machine learning based on deep learning & neural networks.

AI and socio-eco development —

Agriculture Sector
→ a) Precision agriculture using sensors, IoT based on AI

→ b) Crop surveillance & data for assessing requirements

→ c) Productivity enhancement by assisting farmers to adopt new tech.

Industrial dev.
→ a) Industry 4.0 → based on AI for advanced manufacturing

→ b) Improve capital intensive output by assisting labor

→ c) Help in skilling workers and improve labor productivity

→ d) Create new jobs such as AI professionals etc

→ e) Boost IT sector; electronics manufacturing etc

Other benefits →
a) Aids govt. → Scheme implemⁿ
↳ Grievance redressal
(eg) CPGRAMs

b) Awareness & knowledge dissemination → Evidence based policy making

c) Boost knowledge economy

d) Student education → (eg) AI smart classes
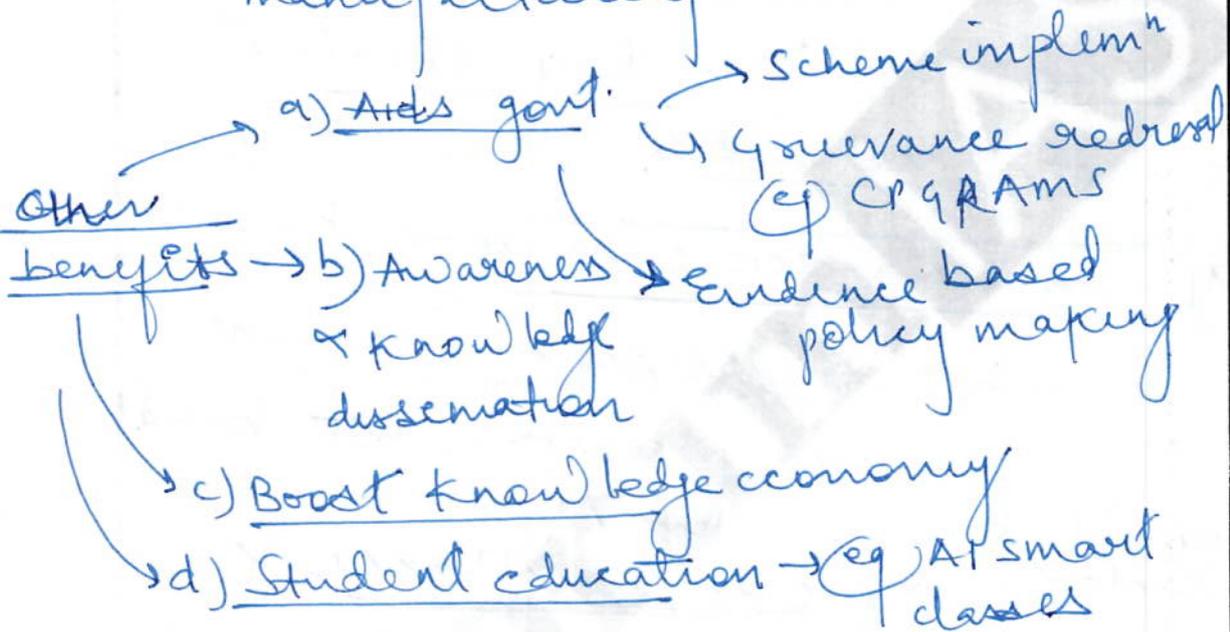
Twedlus –

① high cost of AI dev → Chatgpt by OpenAI developed over $ billions

② Digital illitracy → India lacks online use educational framework
↳ only 30% women knows mobile use

③ Digital divide { Rural – urban → only 35% rural connected
Men – women

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④ Internet connectivity → remote areas &
rural areas lack broadband
connection

⑤ Low awareness → (eg) farmers not
aware about Agristack

⑥ Privacy concerns & data sovereignity
issues (eg) Meta-Google monopoly

④ Geographic constraints

Suggestions —

① Develop Indigeneous models (eg) BHASINI

② Promote startups (eg) Agnikul

③ R&D expenditure → from 0.67%
to atleast 2% of GDP

④ Data privacy laws based on EU's
GDPR → (eg) DPDP

⑤ PPP for investing resources in AI
scaling & applications

⑥ Industria-academia linkage for
large scale adoption

⑦ Education → AI courses on SwAYAM
↳ NEP 2020 → school ed.

Q.16) What is a Geographical Indication (GI)? What are the legal frameworks governing it? How does it differ from a trademark? How can GI infringement be tackled?   (15 marks, 250 words)

भौगोलिक संकेतक (GI) से क्या अभिप्राय है? इसे नियंत्रित करने वाले विधिक ढाँचे को स्पष्ट करें? यह ट्रेडमार्क से कैसे भिन्न है? GI उल्लंघन से कैसे निपटा जा सकता है?   (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

GI refers to the certification given to a product that is famous for its geographic characteristic & unique nature.

Legal frameworks

(1) International

a) Lisbon agreement to ensure international collab in recognition of GI

b) Madrid Convention + Geneva Convention + Paris agreement → govern GI tag agreements

(2) National

(1) GI Act! — to recognise GI products & certify them in India

GI products

• Banarasi Saree • madhubani
black pottery
• chekantry
• Patan Patola • Nagpur oranges
• Kalamkari
• Kanjivaram silk

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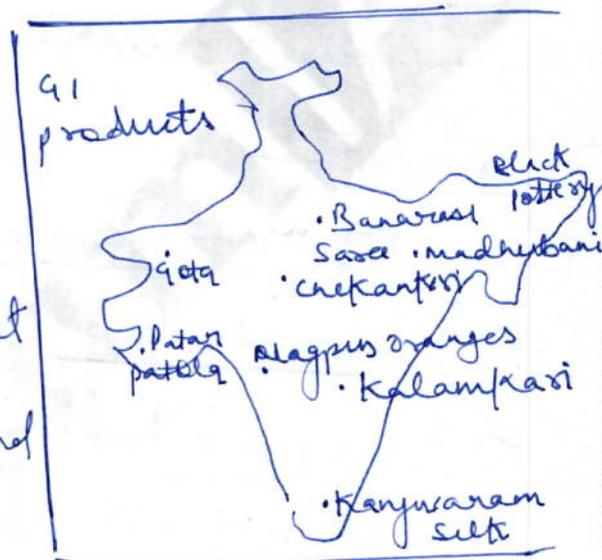
(b) GI rules → to detail procedure of GI recognition

(x) Trademark act → also govern unique identification of products

Differences

Trademark	GI tag
(1) Identify products based on characteris -tic not related to geography alone.	(1) Identify product specialy renowed for geographic uniqueness.
(2) Can be given to individual products	(2) Given to geo. product collectively
(3) Can be applied for and renewed → evergreen	(3) Persist as long as geographic uniquen -ers exist
(4) Pepsi, McD	
(4) Protect trade secrets	Protect geographic identity
(5) Preserve brand identity	Preserve regional diversity

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How to tackle infringement

① Get GI recognition in multiple
countries & internationally to
prevent infringing GI

② TKDL → document regional diversity
           & uniqueness for preventing
    piracy

③ Popularise GI brands and market
   them → eg) Prada Kolhpuri Incident

④ Agreements with nations eg India
   & EU, India - UK respect GI

⑤ Awareness generation → among
   endigeneous population

⑥ Litigation & court cases internationally
   to fight for legitmate recognition

⑦ use of WTO → TRIMS, TRIPS etc.

Q.17) "Mangroves contribute significantly to the coastal economy and ecology, but they are threatened by numerous factors". Elaborate. Also, state the measures taken by the government for mangrove conservation and restoration.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

"मैंग्रोव तटीय अर्थव्यवस्था और पारिस्थितिकी में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देते हैं, लेकिन वे कई कारकों से खतरे में हैं"। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, मैंग्रोव संरक्षण और बहाली के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए उपायों के बारे में भी बताएँ।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Mangroves are ecotone zone vegetation known as the kidney of earth. India has 8% of land under Mangroves (Forest survey)

contri to coastal economy →

① Provides timber → softwood trees such as Sundri

Mangroves in India — Gulf of kutch, Sunder bans, •Bhitarkan Ka, •Andhra, •Pichavaram
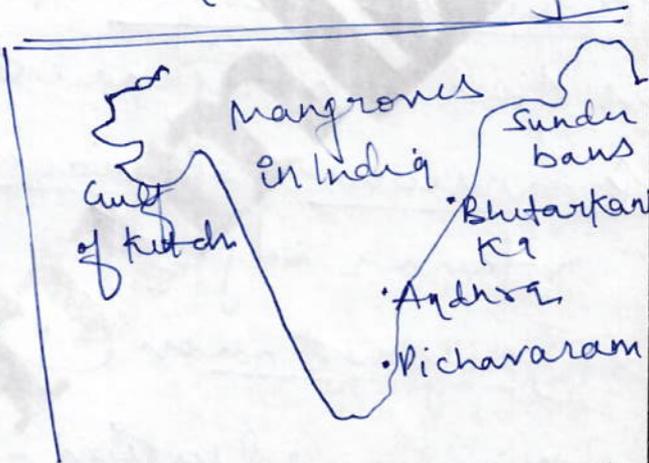
② Boost handicraft, wood craft etc industries + Tourism

③ Support livelihood → eg coastal pop depend on colecting fruits etc

④ Fisheries Support → they provide breeding ground for fishes

⑤ Prevent shocks from natural disaster → act as 1st line of defence

Coastal ecology |

1. Water filteration → act as sediment and pollutant absorber

2. Regulatory services → provide micro climate control

3. Biodiversity support → (4) Birds, vegetation diversity etc

4. Preserve ecosystem → act as keystone as foodweb dependent on them

5. Provisioning services such as flora & fauna support

> a) Deforestation (eg) Sundarbans declining

> b) River pollution → heavy pollutant load

<u>Concerns</u>

↳ c) Agricultural expansion

↳ d) Population pressure and over exploitation

<u>Govt measures —</u>

1. <u>MISHTI</u> → protect, preserve and promote mangroves by supporting state govt.

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(2) Mangrove alliance → intl. cooperation for preserving Mangroves

(3) Plantation drives (eg) Ek Ped Prakruti ke naam.
(SIAME)

(4) Coastal Zone Regulation → based on Shailesh Nayak Committee.

(5) Strict measures to prevent unauthorised cutting of mangroves

(6) River pollution control measures such as Namami Gange.

(7) Assisting NGOs such as Green India for civil society led preservation

(8) Funds under National Mission for Green India

(9) Restoration efforts by afforestation promotion (eg) Gujrat initiative

what more is needed
a) Strict regulation of illegal expansion & deforest^n
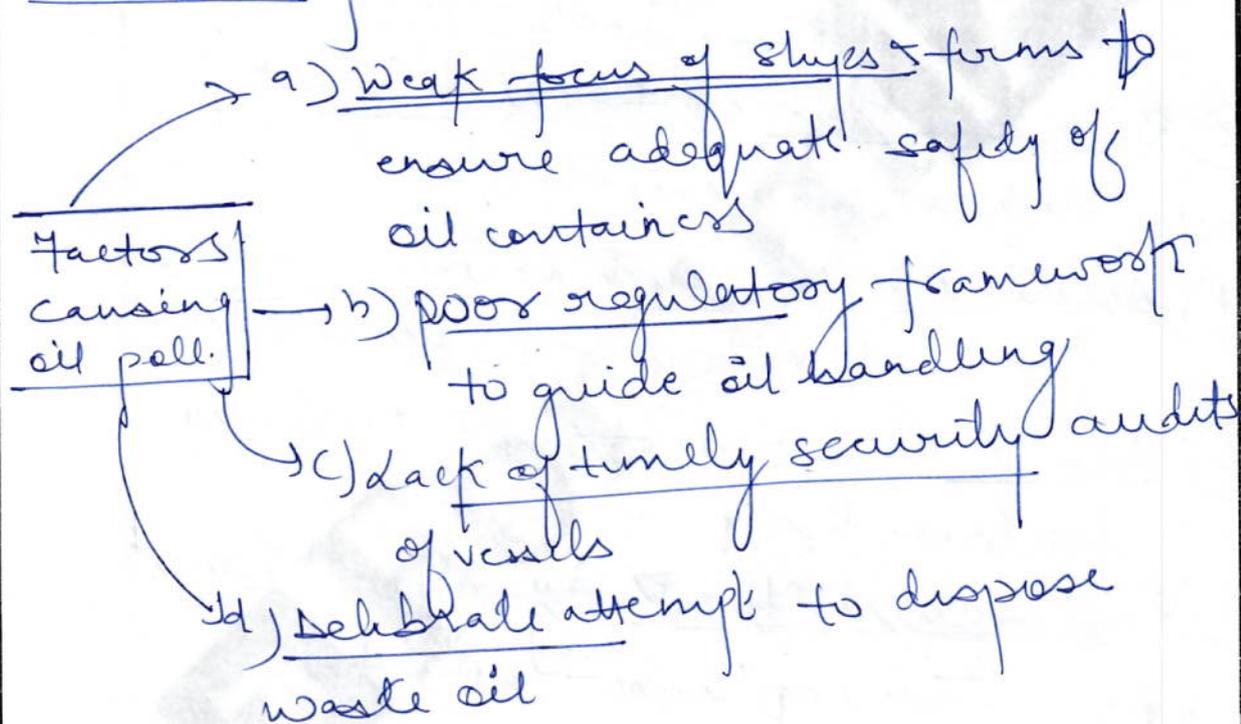b) Awareness among locals
c) Innovative solutions for restoration.

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Q.18) What is oil pollution? What are its impacts on the marine ecosystem? In what way is oil pollution particularly harmful for a country like India? (15 marks, 250 words)

तेल प्रदूषण (ऑयल पोल्यूशन) क्या है? समुद्री पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र पर इसके क्या प्रभाव हैं? भारत जैसे देश के लिए तेल प्रदूषण किस प्रकार विशेष रूप से हानिकारक है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Oil pollution refers to the release of oil in the open seas or on coast either due to mistaken failures or deliberately.

→ a) Weak focus of ships & firms to ensure adequate safety of oil containers

Factors causing oil poll. → b) poor regulatory framework to guide oil handling

→ c) lack of timely security audits of vessels

→ d) Deliberate attempt to dispose waste oil

Impacts on marine ecosystem

① Fisheries :— oil gets into their gills, cells etc → affect their survival

② Organisms such as seacow, crabs etc

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face respiratory issues (eg) Alaska
                              Disaster.

(3) <u>Toxicity</u>:- leads to mass death such
            as whales etc.

      (eg) Kerala incident 2024

(4) <u>Hypoxic zones</u> creation as oil &
    water can't mix → oxygen related
    deaths

(5) <u>Biodiversity</u> decline → oil hamper
        existential conditions of marine
                              fauna

(6) <u>Coralreefs</u> → suffer as oil enter
        their bodies and pollutes it

<u>Harmful for India</u>-

① <u>Coastal ecology</u> → oil pollution
    cause immense damage to
    balance of ecology

② <u>Huge dependence of coastal population</u>
    on oceans for <u>livelihood</u> → affect
    their survival

③ <u>Food security</u> → fisheries decline
                    lead to insecurity

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④ Economic loss → production from blue economy gets affected (fisheries contribute 6% of agri GDP)

⑤ Biodiversity zones impact
   (eg Tamil Nadu — Dugong)

⑥ Difficult to tackle & contain → investmn put extra burden on resources

⑦ Harms ecological resilience → as entire food chain gets affected

Ways to tackle
   ↳ a) Bioremediation (eg Oil zapper
   ↳ b) Safety audits → regular inspection of vessels
   ↳ c) Mechanical containment using machines
   ↳ d) Training & capacity building of coastal Guards, police, people etc
   ↳ e) NDMA guidelines on oil pollution must be implemented .

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(Don't Write anythin
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पर कुछ न लिखें)

Q.19) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) have become an integral aspect of modern conflict and warfare, employed by both state and non-state actors. Discuss its implications for India's security architecture and state the measures being taken to address them. Also suggest other steps to tackle the threats emanating from UAVs.

(15 marks, 250 words)

मानव रहित हवाई वाहन (UAVs) आधुनिक संघर्ष और युद्ध का अभिन्न अंग बन गए हैं, जिनका उपयोग राज्य और गैर-राज्य दोनों ही प्रकार के अभिकर्ता करते हैं। भारत की सुरक्षा संरचना के लिए इसके निहितार्थों पर चर्चा करें और उन्हें संबोधित करने के लिए किए जा रहे उपायों का वर्णन करें। UAVs से उत्पन्न होने वाले खतरों से निपटने के लिए अन्य कदम भी सुझाएँ।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

[UAVs] also known as Drones are devices which can be remotely controlled and work independently for various tasks.

Integral aspect of conflict

Used: by states

> a) India - Pak conflict → India attacked pak radar with drones

b) Russia - Ukraine Conflict → Ukraine op. Spiderweb to target deep russian infra

c) Israel-Hamas — Israel used drones to target key leaders

Non state

a) Terror outfit use it for weapon supply (eg) Punjab border

b) organised crime networks use for drug trafficking

Implication for India —

① Rising organised terrorist coordination
  → use of drones for supply of weapons
    funds & drugs by both

② Border infra → need to update for counter
    UAV architecture

③ Threaten border population as seen
    during Op - Sindoor

④ Need for upgradation of security archit^n
    → New UAV command in IAF

⑤ Insurgency → drones used by J&K
    militants, north-east insurgents
  to carry out their activities

⑥ Difficult to trace & current radar
    system ill-equiped to handle low
    flying UAVs

measures taken

① Anti-Drone System (eg) Op Sindoor
    saw use of indigeneous Akash System

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② UAVS produced by DRDO → NISHANT,
Tapas etc for modern warfare

③ Seperate command en army for
tackling emerging UAV threats

④ Empowering local border police
eg) Punjab police with anti drone
guns.

⑤ UAV use in border security
a) Surveillance   b) Providing supplies
to army

More measures needed

① Develop UAV fleet for operation
readiness → learn from Iran &
Turkey

② Indigenous production → encourage
defense startups like yudha

③ Capacity building of army
personnel, police

④ Coordination between armed forces
& local police

⑤ Innovation → spend on R&D (Just 0.6%.
now)

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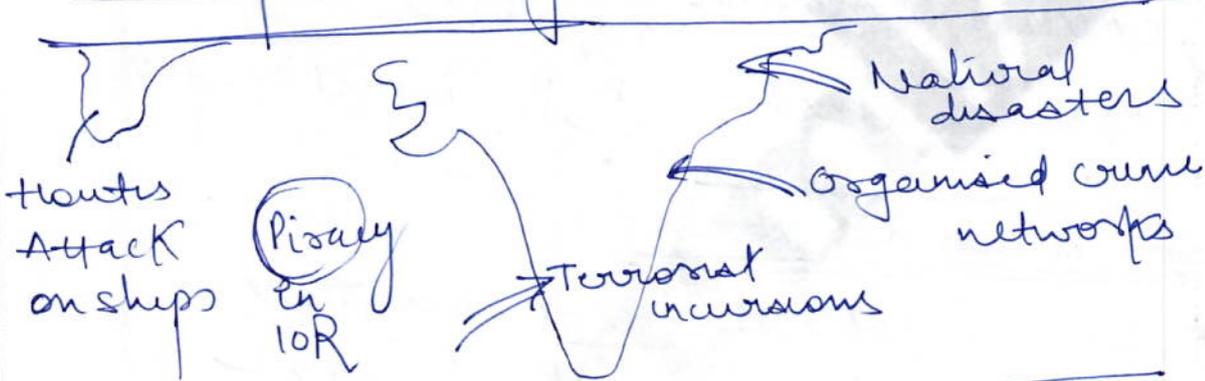(Don't Write anythin
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पर कुछ न लिखें)

Q.20) Maritime security challenges are complex, driven by both conventional and non-conventional threats. In this context, discuss the key maritime security challenges in India. Also, highlight the measures taken by the government in this regard. (15 marks, 250 words)

समुद्री सुरक्षा चुनौतियाँ जटिल हैं, जो पारंपरिक और गैर-पारंपरिक दोनों तरह के खतरों से प्रेरित हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में प्रमुख समुद्री सुरक्षा चुनौतियों पर चर्चा करें। साथ ही, इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए उपायों पर प्रकाश डालें।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India has a long coastline of around 15000 km, presenting its own security challenges

Houtis Attack on ships • Piracy in IOR • Terrorist incursions • National disasters • Organised crime networks

key challenges

① Conventional threats

↳ a) Maritime attacks by adversary

↳ b) China's string of pearl to choke India eg Gwadar, Pak Hambantota, SL

↳ c) Surveillance by enemies such as Chinese fleet in IOR

↳ d) maritime disputes (eg Sir Creek

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in this Area / इस स्थ
पर कुछ न लिखें)

(2) Non-conventional

   a) Terrorist incursions → eg Mumbai attackers used sea route to enter

   b) Drug trafficking eg Coastal guard caught kilos of drugs

   c) Threat to freedom of navigation
      ↳ chokepoints such as Strait of Hormuz.

   d) Disasters :- Tsunami, cyclones

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1 ....

2 ....

3 ....

4 ....

5 ....

Test Goal

1 ....
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2 ....
.... ☐

3 ....
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Outcomes

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Marking Scheme

| Mark	Good	Average	Below average
10 Marker	3.75 – 5.0	3.0 – 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 – 7.0	4.0 – 5.5	< 4.0
20 Marker	7.75 – 10	6 - 7.5	< 6
✔✔	Key / Relevant Point		
✖	Vague / Irrelevant		

* Subject to change without prior notice.

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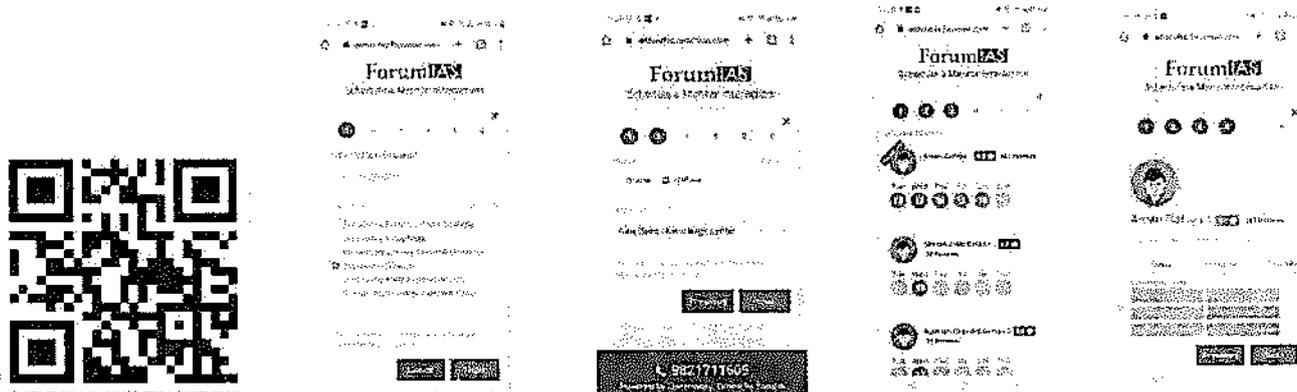
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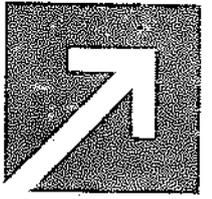
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