

TEST CODE 8 1 3 4 2 7

MGP 2025

Time Allowed : Three Hours  
समय : तीन घंटे

Forum IAS

Maximum Marks : 250  
अधिकतम अंक : 250

## GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

|   |              |               |  |
|---|--------------|---------------|--|
| Name Of Candidate<br>परीक्षार्थी का नाम | HARSH NEHARA | Medium/माध्यम | English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Roll No./अनुक्रमांक                     | 1910123542   | Date/दिनांक   | 10/8/25  |
| Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र              | 1901         |               |  |

\*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.<br>प्र.सं. | Max. Marks<br>अधिकतम अंक | Marks Obtained<br>प्राप्तांक |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1                 |                          |                              |
| 2                 |                          |                              |
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| 18                |                          |                              |
| 19                |                          |                              |
| 20                |                          |                              |
| Total/कुल अंक     | 250                      |                              |

- 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।
- 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।
- 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।
- 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।
- 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।

## For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु

Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :

Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :

9:30

End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :

12:30

Total Marks/कुल अंक :

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

## For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु

\*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।

ECN CODE/  
ईसीएन कोड :

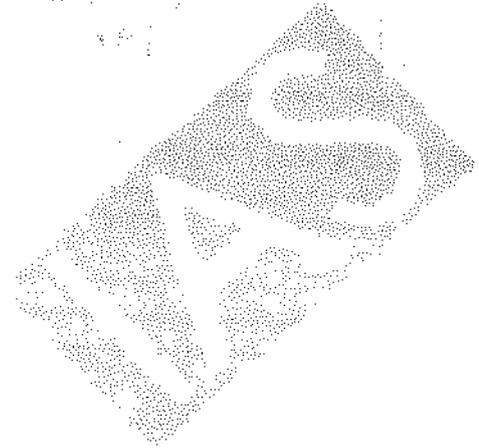
EG/ईजी :

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

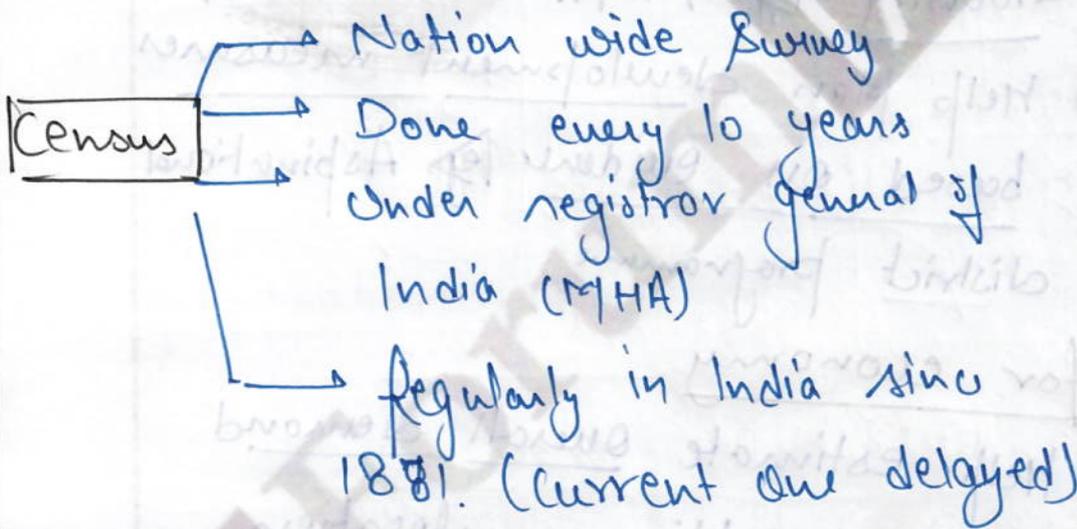
1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. 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.



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)

first done in 1871,  
the census is a nation wide survey that collects a variety of socio-economic data about the population.



## Importance of census

① for policy making

a) Provide absolute number of population & decadal growth rate. [1.21 Billion, 2011]

- b) Identify various trends in population  $\Rightarrow$  TFR.
- c) Point out human development indicators  $\Rightarrow$  literacy rate (74%, 2011)
- d) Provide picture of nations diversity  $\Rightarrow$  14.9% Muslim, 8.6% ST
- e) Help plan development measures based on evidence  $\Rightarrow$  Aspirational district programme

## (B) for economy

- a) Help estimate overall demand
- b) Estimate optimum location for industry. (labour availability)
- c) Chart out potential consumer behaviour
- d) Map for public & private investment

Thus there is a need to expedite Census

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

| #  | G | A | P |
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| AWIS   |   |   |   |
| CD & VA  |   |   |   |
| S & F  |   |   |   |
| P & R  |   |   |   |
| Please put tick marks in the above table.<br>Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |



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)

Established on 1st Jan

2015, NITI Aayog has aimed at transforming India's planning architecture through a collaborative, competitive & bottom up approach.

Role in transforming planning

① Shift from top down to bottom up approach.

⇒ Team India: State's inputs

② Engagement with CSO through dashon portal

③ Identifying & promoting best practices ⇒ Bhoomi portal (K.R)

④ Concretising the goal of village level plans ⇒ Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

⑤ Aim of long term visionary planning → India@75 strategy

In development

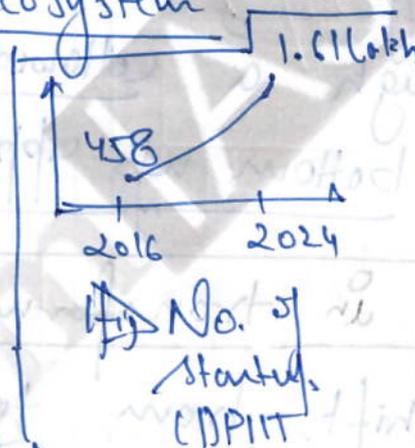
① Boosting startup ecosystem  
→ Startup India

② model laws for agri modernisation  
→ model land leasing law

③ Innovation led development  
→ Atal innovation mission

④ Promoting Sustainable development  
→ SDG Index, Mission life

⑤ Promoting spirit of competition & reform in states  
→ Various indices



Thus NITI has played crucial role in transforming planning & development landscape of India

**Feedback**  
(For OFFICE use only)

| #   | G | A | P |
|---|---|---|---|
| AWIS  |   |   |   |
| CD & VA                                     |   |   |   |
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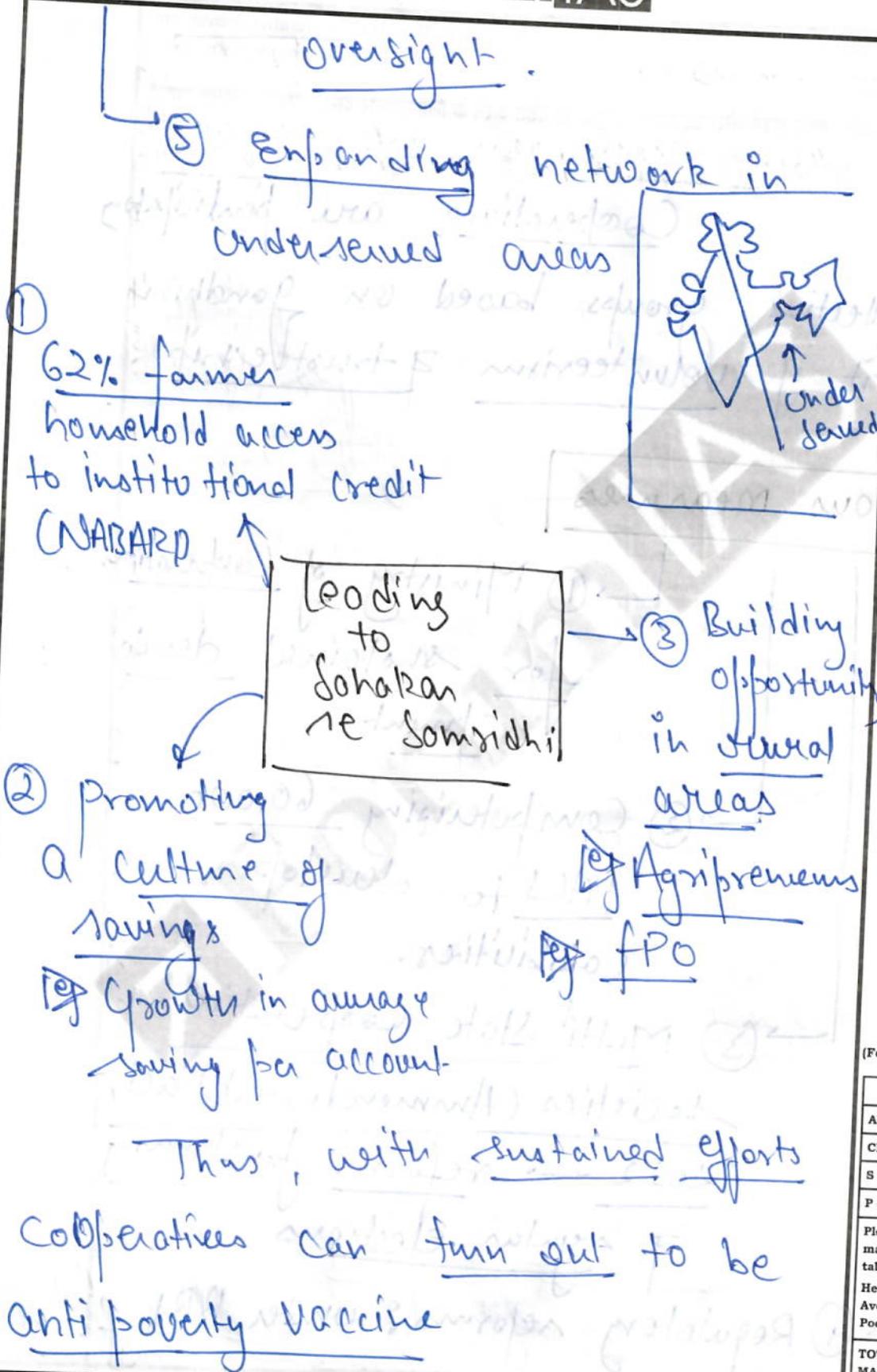
Q.3) Discuss various measures taken by the Government to strengthen the Cooperative movement and ensure "Sahakar Se Samridhi" (10 marks, 150 words)

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)

Cooperatives are participatory  
Collective groups based on Gandhian  
spirit of Volunteerism & trusteeship.

Various measures

- ① Ministry of Cooperation for sustained development
- ② Computerising 60,000 PACS to develop capabilities.
- ③ Multi State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Act, 2022 → reform functioning & regular elections
- ④ Regulatory reforms: under RBI



**Feedback**  
(For OFFICE use only)

| #       | G | A | P |
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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.

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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 remains the largest importer of pulses despite having the second largest net sown area in the world, highlighting a paradox.

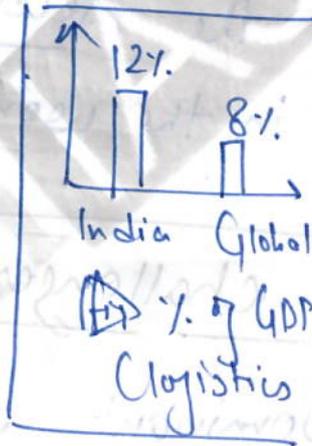
## Key challenges

- ① Dominant rice wheat system  
→ Replacing pulses → reduced area of  
Grom in Haryana
- ② Ignored by government policies  
→ limited procurement under  
MSP
- ③ fragmented land leading to  
low productivity → 1.08 ha average  
landholding (Agri Census)

④ Concentrated in drought prone, low irrigated area  $\rightarrow$  51% NHA depend on monsoon

⑤ Limited usage of quality seeds  
 $\rightarrow$  40% seed replacement ratio.

⑥ High cost of logistics



Government initiates

① MSP diversification for pulses  $\rightarrow$  Arhar, tur

② Development of microirrigation  
 $\rightarrow$  Atal Bhujal Yojana

③ Green Bhandaran Yojana  
 $\rightarrow$  Village level storage

Thus, these needs to be sustained effort to ensure atmanirbharta & protein security

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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



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 refers to the flight data recorder & cockpit audio recording device that helps upgrade safety standards & aid investigations. It is orange in colour.

Significance in flight safety & air crash investigation

① Record various variables during flight & engine thrust.  
↳ help identify engine issue

② Record cockpit conversations  
↳ determine content & whether human fault is the reason

③ Record weather details, aid in

Determining Outer conditions:

- ④ Record altitude, speed, location to help assess contextual information
- ⑤ Help upgrade ICAO norms regarding flight safety
- ⑥ Provide closure to victims families  
 ↳ Malaysian airline crash over Russia
- ⑦ Upgrading training modules using in flight simulation.

**Challenges**

- ① Ownership of data Controversy
- ② Limited indigenous data analysis capabilities
- ③ Inaccessible during some crash of over ocean

Thus a black box truly shed light on conditions leading to unfortunate crashes

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

| #  | G | A | P |
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| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |



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)

## Nasa - ISRO Synthetic

Aperture Radar is the world's most advanced earth observation satellite.

① NASA- ISRO Collaboration, a sign of growing partnership.

④ Equal footing of global north & global south.

USA & India

Exemplify International Cooperation

② Private - public Collaboration, job of SpaceX in launch.

③ Access to data for scientific research

WMO, ESA

① Observing oceans as Carbon sink in various wavelengths

② Observing emissions from industry & ~~and~~ natural sources

Helps in Climate Change monitoring

③ Monitor global albedo & glacial retreat

④ Monitor methane emissions

① Information about wildfires

Aid in Hazard management

③ mapping landslide & erosion prone areas

② Develop Early warning system for Volcanoes

④ Better charting out escape routes.

⑤ monitor sea level rise

Thus NISAR exemplify a spirit of cooperation for common benefit

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

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



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 खिलाफ 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)

Oceans cover  $\frac{2}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> of the global surface, produce majority of planet's oxygen and are mankind's greatest allies against climate change.

Mankind's best allies

- ① Absorbs excess heat, maintaining heat balance
- ② Ocean current shift heat from tropics to poles → Antarctic circulation (AMOC)
- ③ largest planet Carbon sinks of the
- ④ Indicator of climate change & ecosystem vulnerability  
→ Coral reef & Heat waves

⑤ Absorbs majority of dust, black carbon to ~~reduce~~ planet albedo  
 Least cooling effect.

Affected most by Climate Change

① Disruption in Antarctic mid ocean circulation. (due to heat)

② Ecosystem degradation due to heatwaves  $\rightarrow$  coral bleaching

③ losing species diversity  
 $\rightarrow$  Texas fish kill

④ Rising sea levels, reshaping boundaries.

⑤ Overfishing leading to excess pressure on resources (disrupting food chains)

⑥ Pollution threatening integrity  
 $\rightarrow$  Pacific garbage patch

Thus, global collaboration like montreal protocol is required to save our oceans.

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

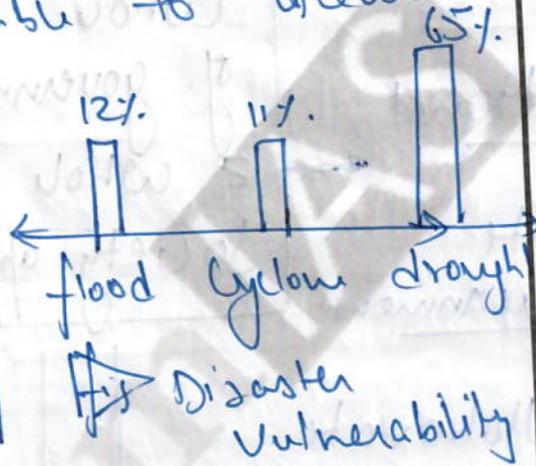
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| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |



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)

85% of India's geographical area is vulnerable to at least two disasters. (NIDM)



Why can't be managed by single agency

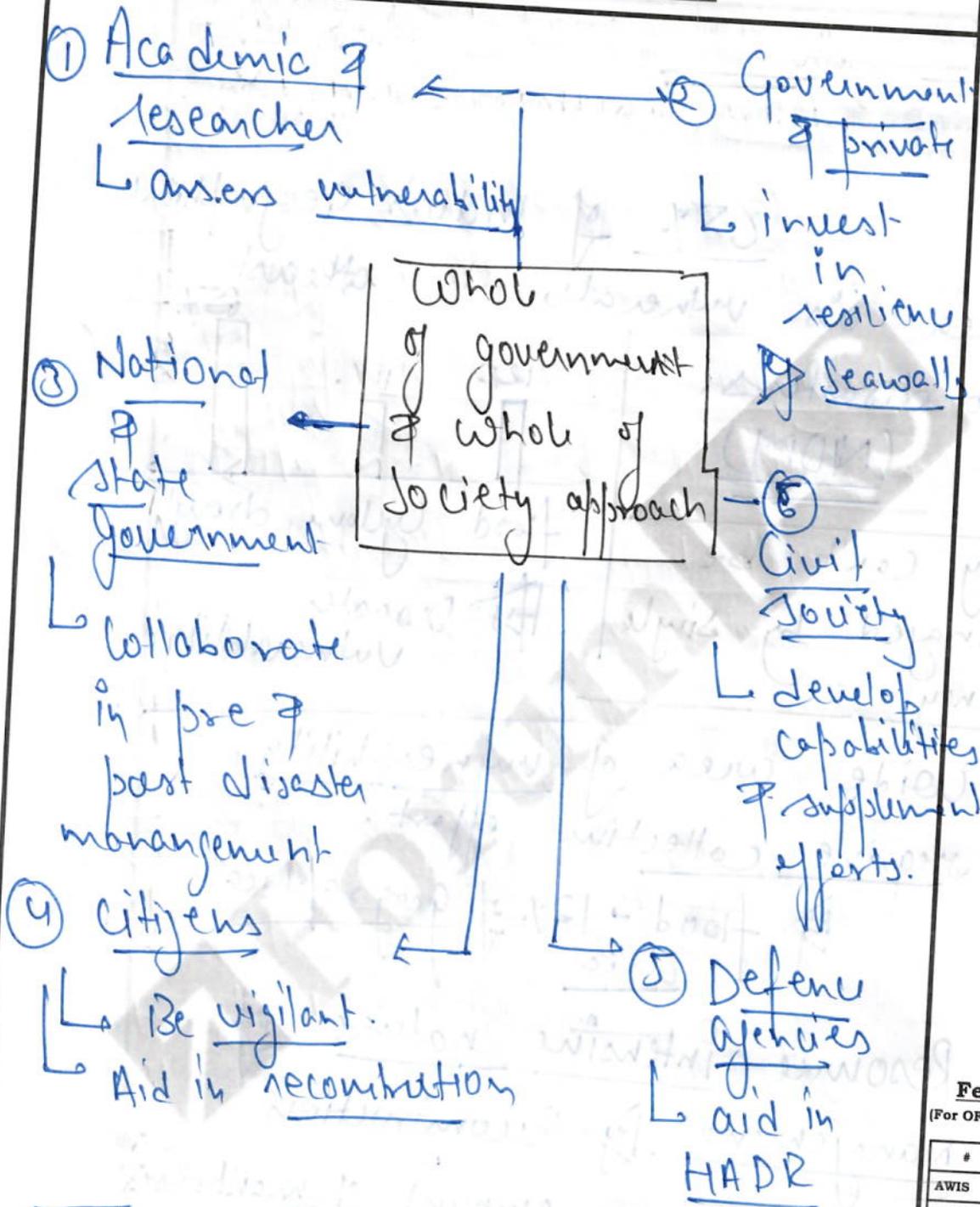
① Wide area of vulnerability, require collective effort.

flood - 12% of geographical area

② Resource intensive nature of management. Reconstruction

③ Require large amount of manpower

④ lack of collaboration lead to inefficiency & overlaps.



Thus, with collaborative approach the vulnerability can be reduced in line with CDRI.

**Feedback**  
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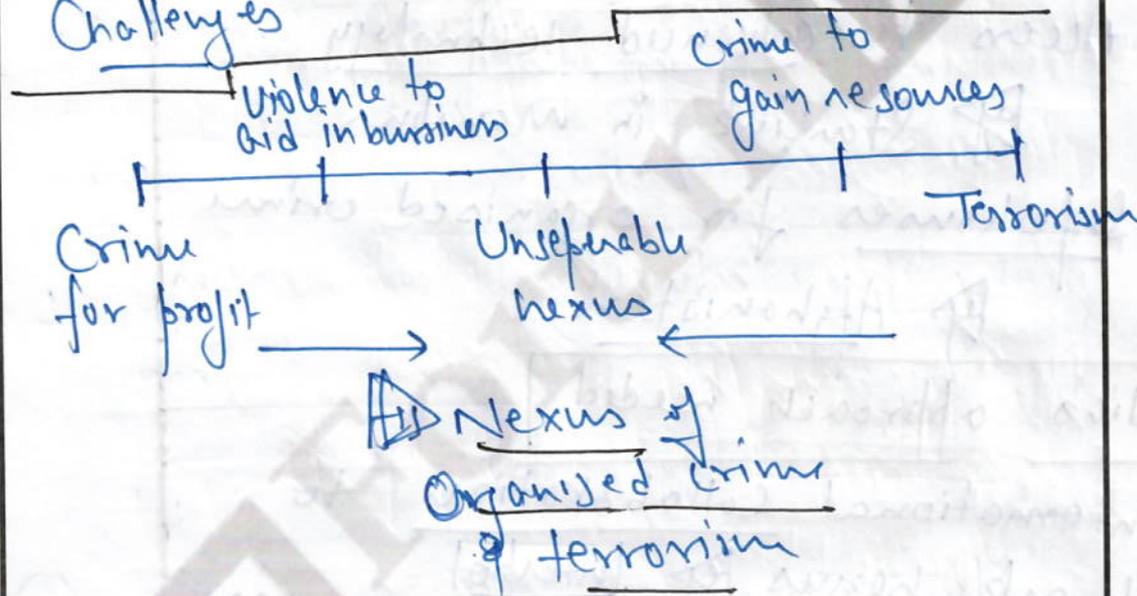
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| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |



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)

India ranks 13<sup>th</sup> on Global terrorism Index, highlighting vulnerability, adding to this nexus with organised crime poses serious Challenges



Convergence as formidable challenge

- ① Access to funds for terror activities  
     ↳ Taliban drug trade
- ② Usage of common routes for

Logistics → Boko Haram using human trafficking routes in Sahel

③ Recruiting → to terror through Crime → Social media recruitment

④ Nexus of Gun runner & insurgents → American rifles in N-E India

⑤ Access to advanced technology → Starlink in Manipur

⑥ Safehouses for organised crime → Afghanistan

India's approach needed

① International collaboration to break nexus → Interpol

② Deny access to financing, stricter KYC norms, use FATF.

③ Inter agency coordination → NCR-NIA link

→ To ensure organised crime doesn't provide any gen to terror efforts  
are needed.

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

| #  | G | A | P |
|--|---|---|---|
| AWIS   |   |   |   |
| CD & VA  |   |   |   |
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| P & R  |   |   |   |
| Please put tick marks in the above table.<br>Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |



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)

Security has long been seen as an area of state, in today's complex scene, this perception is changing.

Complex Security Challenges

① Growing cybercrime & crossborder networks

→ Digital arrest from Cambodia

② tech. integration in crime → Cryptocurrency  
Monsoon

③ Use of drones for logistics → drug smuggling in Punjab

This has led to the need of greater private sector participation

Role of private sector

- ① Developing new counter solutions  
 ↗ Jammers for drones
- ② Denying access to criminal groups ↗ Greater customer scrutiny
- ③ Developing self reliance in defence  
 ↗ Drone manufacturing
- ④ Track cross border digital networks  
 ↗ Telegram recruitment channels
- ⑤ freeze assets in bank accounts  
 ↗ Information sharing with security agencies
- ⑥ Investment in resilient systems  
 ↗ Counter cyberattacks

Thus, the goal of PPP can be broadened to national security to augment defence

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

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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 transferred around

2.4 Lakh crore as surplus transfer as mandated by RBI act, 1934.

meaning of surplus

Excess ~~of~~ income of RBI after deducting operational expenses for reserves

Sources of surplus

- ① Interest received on bonds, debentures.
- ② Revaluation of assets:  
    ↳ Gold
- ③ Seigniorage as a source of surplus.
- ④ Profit from open market operation

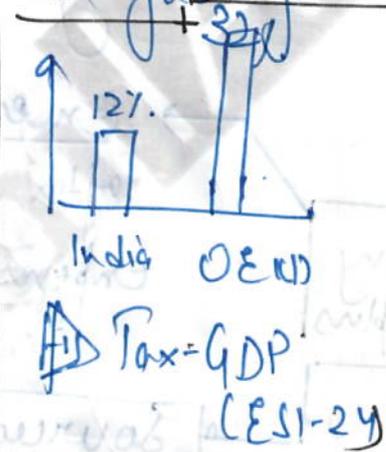
⑤ Receipts from penalties submitted by banks.

Significance for fiscal policy

① Aid government resources, ~~is~~ supplementing revenue in face of low tax-GDP ratio

② Boost capital expenditure in economy

→ 11.2 lakh crore for f.y. 2025-26



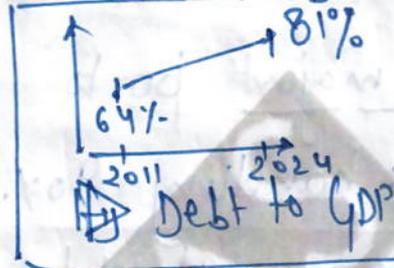
③ Resources for social sector spending  
→ 7.8% of GDP (f.y. 23)

④ Crowding in of private sector investment → 21% of GDP (2022-23)

⑤ Build confidence of investor & improve credit ratings

⑥ Eases burden on limited tax base

⑦ Reduce government borrowing requirement



However,

Challenges

- ① Perception of lack of autonomy for RBI
- ② Reduce government incentive for reforms (Moral Hazard)
- ③ Hampers RBI ability to deal with external disruptions in market.
- ④ lead to disagreements ⇒ Clash over amount of surplus

Thus, although helpful the dependence of fiscal policy shouldn't be on surplus transfer as highlighted by Bimal Jalan committee

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

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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।

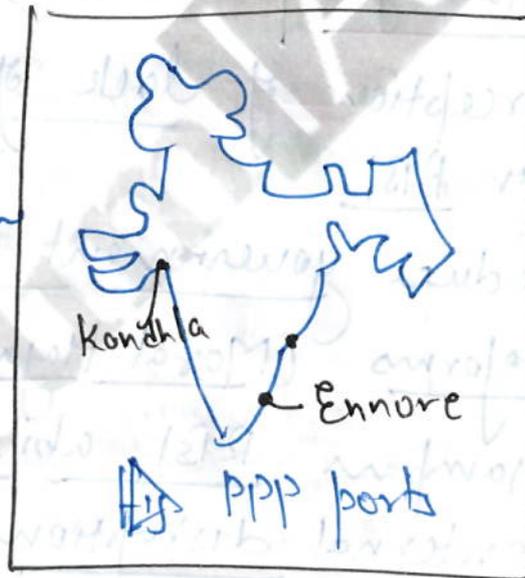
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India is home to 7 major ports & 200+ minor ports, ~~are~~ handling 90% of India's trade in terms of volume.

### Role of PPP

① Efficient management of ports.

→ reduction in TAT from 93 hours (2014) to 50 hours (2024)



② Less bureaucratized port leading to faster clearance thus improved export competitiveness.

→ Goal 2+ billion \$ export by 2030

- ③ Bring innovation in port handling  
 ↳ Green ports development by 2020
- ④ Competition for ports lead to  
lower handling charges
- ⑤ faster development of new  
ports ↳ Great Nicobar project
- ⑥ Reduced burden on government  
for managing port trusts.  
 ↳ Greater focus on Capex
- ⑦ Supplement government resources  
through capex.

## Challenges in port PPP

- ① frequent renegotiation of contracts  
due to poor planning

- ② Issues of delayed Clearances & land acquisition → Vishinjan port delay
- ③ Law enforcement of custom & security → Drug bust at Gujrat's Kandhla
- ④ Limited players leading to monopolistic tendencies.

**Way forward**

- ① Transparent contract formulation (Parekh Committee)
- ② Reform land acquisition & strengthen contract enforcement
- ③ Adopt best practices. → Rotterdam port model.
- ④ Transparent development. EIA & SIA before  
Thus, ppp & ports can serve as gateway to prosperity

**Feedback**  
(For OFFICE use only)

| #       | G | A | P |
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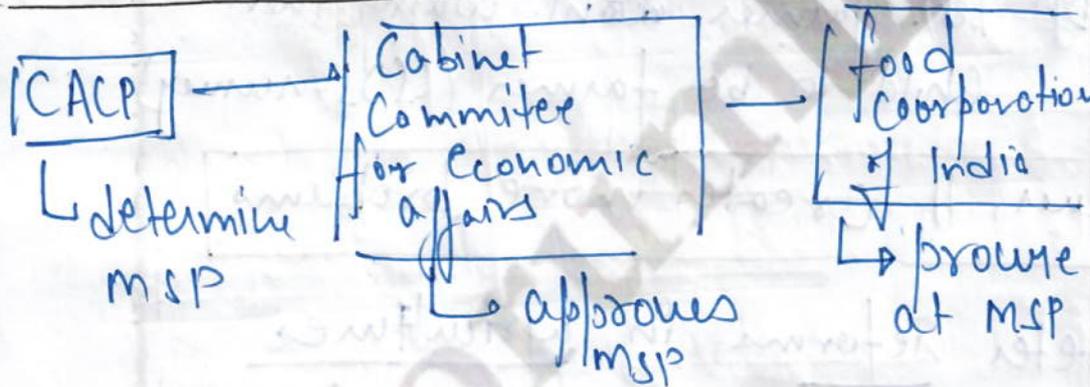
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Q.13 "Legalizing the Minimum Support Price (MSP) would create more challenges than it resolves." Comment. (15 marks, 250 words)

"न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) को वैध बनाने से समाधान की अपेक्षा अधिक चुनौतियाँ उत्पन्न होंगी।" टिप्पणी कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

MSP first initiated during 1960's to provide a safety net for farmers in case the market price drops to unprofitable level.



## MSP Value Chain

Challenges to be resolved by legalising MSP

- ① Ensure income security to farmers by 22% household BPL (Agriculturists)
- ② Can promote crop diversification

beyond wheat-rice system

→ MSP for pulses

③ Address debt crisis among farmer

→ Outstanding Credit = 50% of Agri GDP

④ Boost youth participation in agriculture

→ 73% farmer don't want their child to be farmer (ICDS survey)

However, it creates more problems

① Deter reforms in agriculture

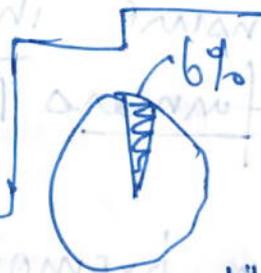
→ land ceiling reforms

② Inflationary impact on economy

↳ deter free market price

discouraging

③ Enhanced inequities as limited farmer benefit from MSP →



→ farmer benefit from MSP

- ④ Impact agricultural export competitiveness  $\rightarrow$  already only 2% of global agri export.
- ⑤ Challenge in WTO for breaching agreement on agriculture
- ⑥ Enhanced wastage of food due to limited storage  $\rightarrow$  30% of produce already wasted (Shanter Kumar Committee)

Way forward

- ① Promote payment of price difference  $\rightarrow$  MP Bhandara Bhugtan Yojana
- ② Rural industrialisation to shift workforce from agriculture
- ③ Integrated farming system to enhance farmer income (Dakshin Patel)

Thus, to ensure a strong spine for Backbone of India (farmers), reforms are necessary

**Feedback**  
(For OFFICE use only)

| #       | G | A | P |
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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's ~~exp~~ agriculture exports decline to 48 billion dollar (2024) from 51 billion dollar (2023) despite record production of 332 mmt of grains

Reasons for weak performance

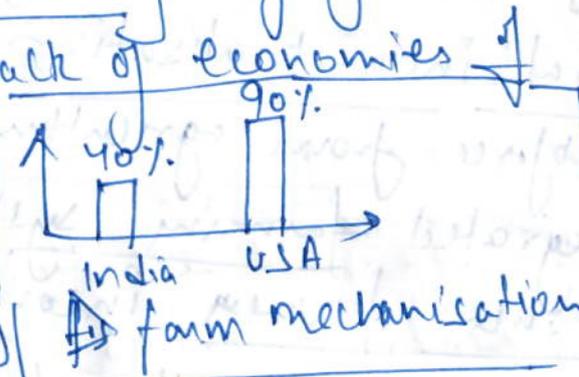
① Lack of coherent agri export policy

→ knee jerk bans to curb inflation

② Low productivity of agriculture

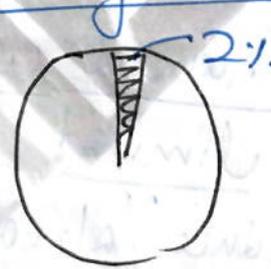
due to lack of economies of scale

③ land fragmentation reducing productivity



→ farm mechanisation

→ 1.08 ha average landholding (Agri census)



India share in global agri export

- ④ High wastage due to unscientific & limited storage → 30% of production
- ⑤ Low 'sanitary' & phytosanitary norms enforcement.  
→ EU denied mango exports
- ⑥ Stuck at lower end of Value Addition Chain due to limited processing. → India (<10% of produce) America (64% of produce)
- ⑦ High cost of logistics deter competitiveness. → 12-14% of GDP

## Suggested measures

- ① Promotion of farmer/producer organisations (promote economies of scale)
- ② Develop logistics & storage infrastructure (Shanta Kumar Committee)

- ③ Promote export focused FPI at village level of Millet processing
- ④ Develop coherent agriculture export policy.
- ⑤ New generation land reforms & agriculture infrastructure creation through investments.
- ⑥ Enhance RnD funding in agriculture (at least 1% of agri GDP)
- ⑦ focus on high value products → Honey from northeast
- ⑧ Enforcement of SPS measures to enhance credibility.

Thus, to ensure prosperity for farmer & a strong agriculture sector, efforts become necessary

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

| #  | G | A | P |
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| Please put tick marks in the above table.<br>Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
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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 सुझाएं। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

With rise of Artificial Intelligence, nearly all aspects of our lives are going to be affected by it including means of socio-economic development.

AI aid in socio-economic development

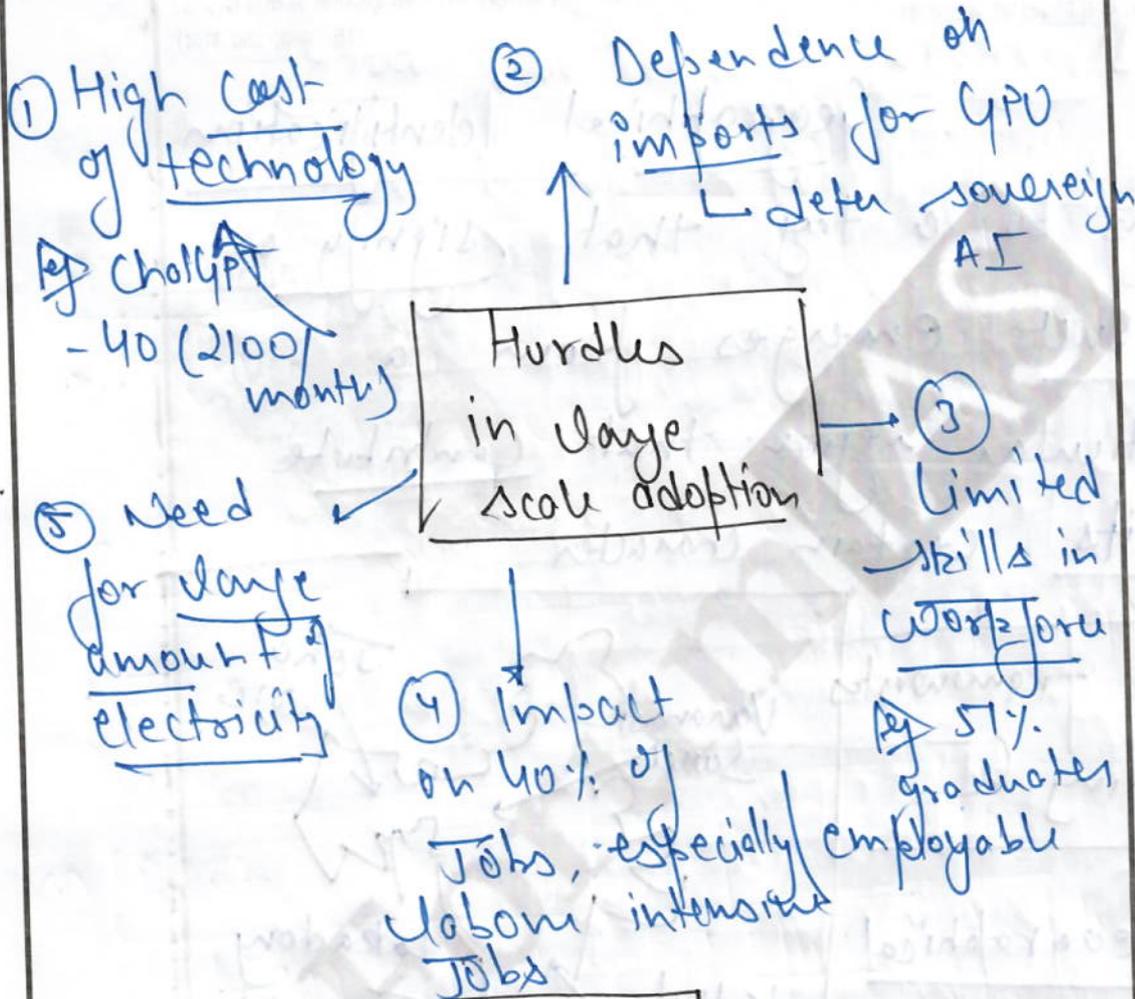
- ① Policy making & Enforcement
  - ↳ (1.1) Effective & efficient targeting of beneficiaries → Identifying ghost
  - ↳ (1.2) Reduce leakages & Corruption → DBT link to AI &

- ② Agriculture
  - ↳ (2.1) Evidence based decision

making enhance farmer income

- ③ Skilling → New skills for future ready jobs through AI assisted training → Singapore future skill programme
- ④ Education → enhancing learning outcomes through play based & customised ~~that~~ learning.
- ⑤ Health → enhancing reach through telemedicine  
→ reduced cost through tech integration
- ⑥ I.R. 4.0 → Enhance Make in India by promoting AI led industrialisation
- ⑦ Services → can make India as hub for AI led services  
→ India set to become largest

Chat GPT market



Corrective measures

- ① Enhance indigenous AI capacities  
 ↳ India AI mission
- ② Skilling of workforce in line of Singapore future skill programme
- ③ Develop data centres & promote private investment in AI infrastructure

Thus, with sustained measures India

can board the AI bus

**Feedback**  
 (For OFFICE use only)

| #       | G | A | P |
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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)

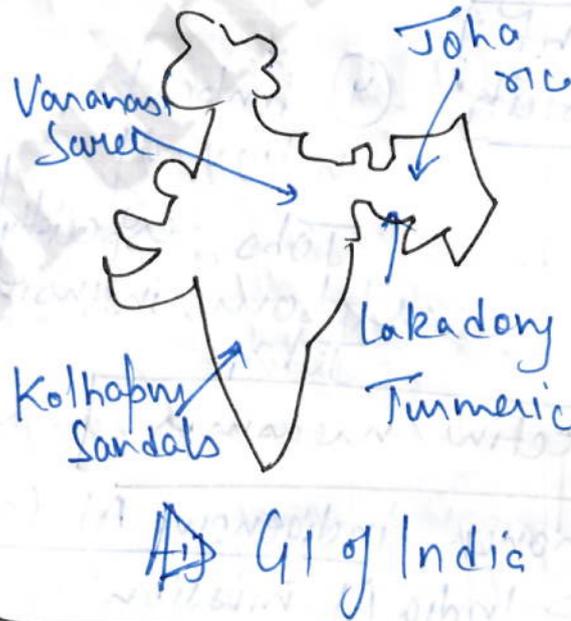
भौगोलिक संकेतक (GI) से क्या अभिप्राय है? इसे नियंत्रित करने वाले विधिक ढाँचे को स्पष्ट करें? यह ट्रेडमार्क से कैसे भिन्न है? GI उल्लंघन से कैसे निपटा जा सकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

## Geographical Identification

refers to a tag that signify a product emerges from a particular region that contribute to its certain character

Legal frameworks governing GI

① Geographical Identification tag act.



GI of India

↳ a) process for application

↳ b) scrutiny & approval by Commerce ministry

② TIRIPS agreement of wto

- ↳ Global treaty for IPR,
- ↳ includes GI tag

Difference from trademark

GI

① Signify geographical origin

② Time of 10 years

③ Both natural & man made object

Both allow renewal after expiry

Trademark

① Signify special character associated with a corporation or individual

② Time of 20 years

③ ~~Not~~ Not available for natural object

measures to tackle GI infringement

- ① Strengthen surveillance using AI → Scanning online marketplaces
- ② International Collaboration against infringement
- ③ Reporting mechanisms to be put in place
- ④ Strict monetary penalties for infringement
- ⑤ Provision for compensation in case of infringement

Thus, through collective efforts of community & governments, the IPR regime can be strengthened promoting innovation

**Feedback**

(For OFFICE use only)

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| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |



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"। सविस्तर 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 cover ~~3%~~ <sup>0.21%</sup> of India's landmass, yet these contribute significantly to Coastal economy & ecology

## Contribution of mangroves

### (A) To coastal ecology

① serve as biodiversity hotspots  
→ Sundarbans

② filter out heavy metals & sediments → pollution from industry

③ Bioshields during cyclones & protect against storm surges

④ Prevent ~~and~~ erosion, maintaining coastline integrity

⑤ Serves as crucial Carbon sinks i.e., defer Climate Change

**⑥ To Coastal Economy**

① Rich fishing & aquaculture grounds → shellfish farms

② Minor forest produce to coastal communities → Timber, Honey

③ Promote tourism in the region → Sundarban national park

**⑦ Factors threatening mangroves**

① Urbanisation & land use Change → east Kolkata mangrove

② Port development leading to

- ③ Destruction of Great Nicobar project
- ④ Pollution from aquaculture farms
- ④ Destruction due to paddy farming  
of Odisha mangroves
- ⑤ Over tourism & development of resorts of Thou Creek

Government initiatives

- ① MISHTI Scheme: aim at preserving mangroves with community participation
  - ② Global alliance for mangroves: share best practices of Indonesia Conservation programme
  - ③ Coastal regulatory zones: not allowing construction
- Thus, through these initiatives & additional community participation, mangroves can be preserved in spirit-

**Feedback**

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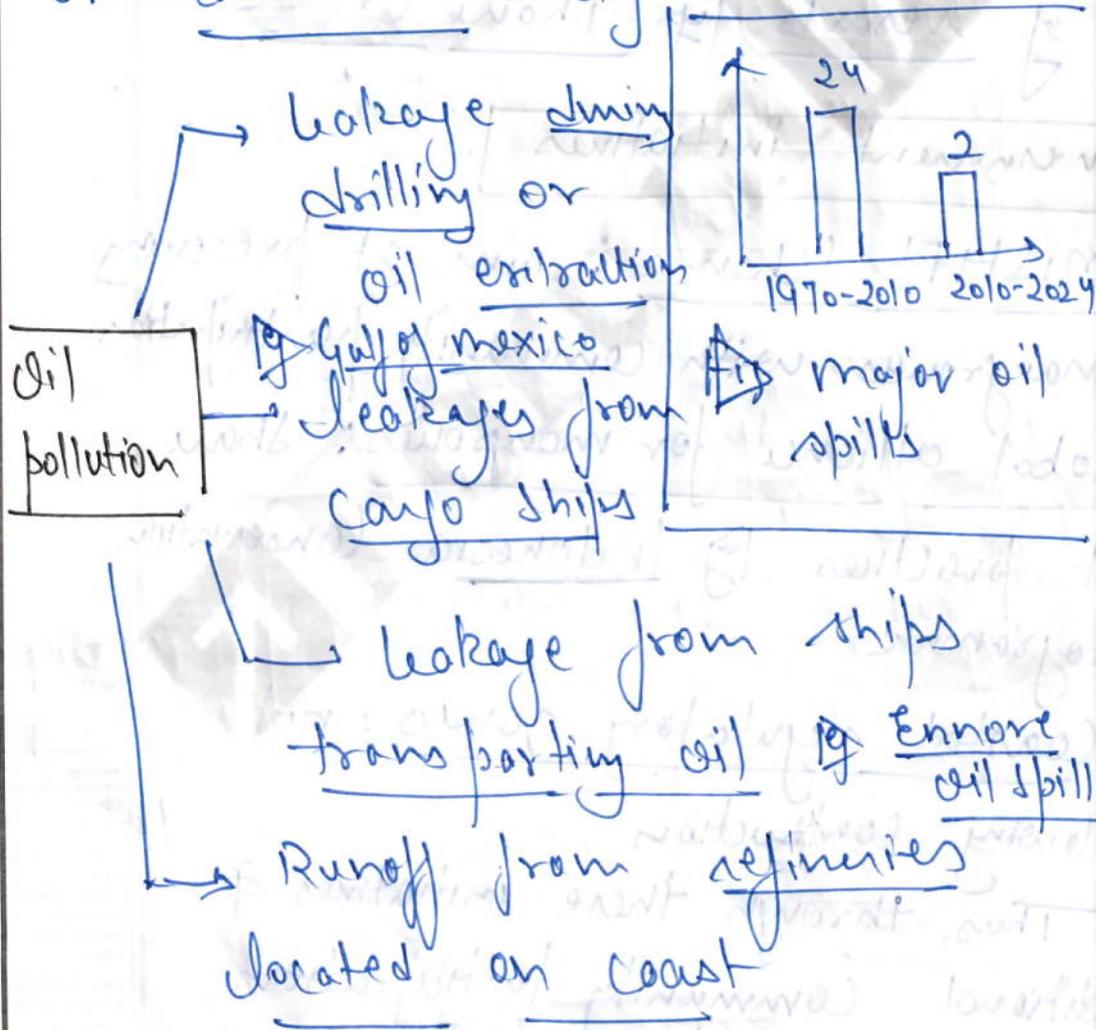
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Q.18) What is oil pollution? What are its impacts on the marine ecosystem? In what way is oil pollution particularly harmful for a country like India? (15 marks, 250 words)

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 contamination of an ecosystem by lipids, be it from petroleum or edible oil industry.



## Impact on marine ecosystem

- ① Coral bleaching due to absence of sunlight.
  - ② Destruction of marine phytoplankton disrupting marine food chains.
  - ③ Aquatic birds (e.g. seagulls, feathers) get coated in oil, leading to death.
  - ④ Disrupt oceanic sedimentation cycles.
  - ⑤ Promote conditions for heatwaves by ~~enhancing~~ <sup>reducing</sup> surface albedo.
  - ⑥ Health impact on communities relying on fishing.
- It particularly impact countries like India, us.

⑤ Threaten coastal ecosystems

→ mangroves

① Disrupt sea lines of trade

→ 90% trade volume through ocean

④ Diplomatic issues

→ Sri Lanka

Impact on India

② Impact on income of fishermen communities

② Need diversion of resources to containment

→ Coast Guards

① Enforcing safety & maintenance norms in oil exploration, drilling & transport

Way forward

② Develop bioremediation measures by oil voracious bacteria.

③ Early detection of spills using satellite

To attain SDG 13, crucial efforts to contain oil pollution is necessary

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

| #   | G | A | P |
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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)

The rapid advancement in UAV tech and its integration in modern conflicts is clearly visible in Russia-Ukraine & Armenia-Azerbaijan conflicts.

UAV integral to modern conflict

- ① for reconnaissance operations.  
↳ by CRPF in Abujman forest
- ② for kinetic attacks using loitering munitions ↳ Ukraine conflict
- ③ logistics in inaccessible areas  
↳ Drug trafficking in northeast
- ④ Electronic warfare using drone

to interfere with signals

Implication for national security architecture

① Tackling swarm drones need high-tech equipments

→ Swarm during operation  
blindness

② Challenge of drug trafficking from Golden crescent → Cross border  
drugs in Punjab

③ Significant advantage to adversaries

→ China : Global hub of drone  
manufacturing

④ Bypass traditional air defence  
effectively → USHORADS not  
sufficient

- ⑤ Low cost of attack, high cost of defence
- ⑥ Easy access to non state actors modified off the shelf drones in manipur.

**Measures taken**

- ① Drone policy, 2021
  - ↳ ① registration of pilots
  - ↳ ② No fly zone established
  - ↳ ③ import restrictions to promote self sufficiency
- ② Indrogyal by DRDO      ③ IDEX promote drone startup

**Measures needed**

- ① Significant private sector participation
- ② High energy counter drone weapon development
- ③ Integrate drone defence in air command.

Thus, Effort needs to be made to adapt to new age warfare

**Feedback**  
(For OFFICE use only)

| #  | G | A | P |
|--|---|---|---|
| AWIS   |   |   |   |
| CD & VA  |   |   |   |
| S & F  |   |   |   |
| P & R  |   |   |   |
| Please put tick marks in the above table.<br>Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |



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's revised Coastline stand over 11000 km, with an EEZ of 2.5 million sq km, highlighting need for strong maritime defence

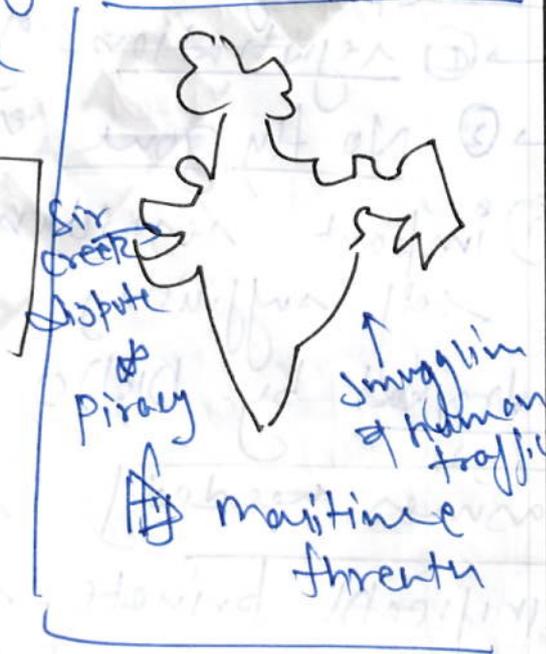
## Maritime Security Challenges

① Conventional

① Territorial disputes with neighbour eg Kachatheevu Island (Sri Lanka)

eg Sir Creek (Pakistan)

② IUU fishing in EEZ



→ Chinese translers in Bay of Bengal

③ Spying of sea lines of communication by Chinese ships

④ Illegal goods & gold smuggling from middle east

⑤ Used for infiltration by ~~non~~ terror groups  
→ 26/11 attack.

⑥ Non Conventional

① Piracy off the coast of Africa, spilling to Arabian sea

② Oil spills & sea pollution by shipping industry

3) Refugee influx & human trafficking from Myanmar

Steps taken

- 1) Collaboration with neighbours  
    ↳ Colombo Security Conclave
- 2) Integration of marine police, Coast guard & Navy
- 3) Information fusion centre, Program for IOR surveillance
- 4) GPS device fitted on fishing boats

Thus, along with these significant investment in Coastal security through community capacity building is necessary

**Feedback**

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| #   | G | A | P |
|---|---|---|---|
| AWIS  |   |   |   |
| CD & VA                                     |   |   |   |
| S & F                                       |   |   |   |
| F & R                                       |   |   |   |
| Please put tick marks in the above table.   |   |   |   |
| Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
| TOTAL MARKS                                 |   |   |   |

**Mentor Feedback Questions**

- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....

**Test Goal**

**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           |
|  | <b>Key / Relevant Point</b> |           |               |
|  | <b>Vague / Irrelevant</b>   |           |               |

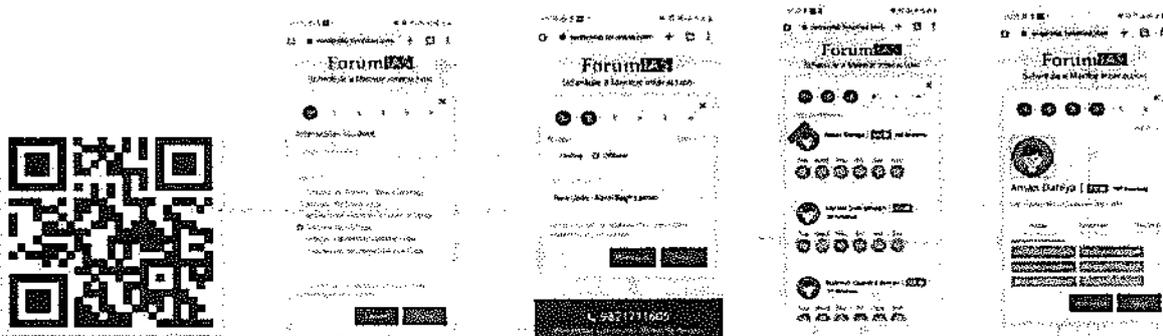
\* Subject to change without prior notice.

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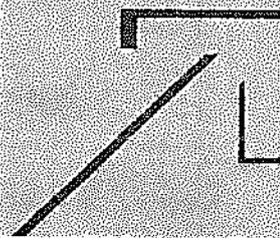
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