Rathi

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	KIRAN. KAMATE		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910086644	Medium/माध्यम	English ☑ हिंदी ☐
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1901	Date/दिनांक	10.08.25

*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		
2		
3		
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20		
Total/कुल अंक	250	

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।

Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्त्ता का विवेक :

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Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 9:30 AM	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 12:30 PM

Total Marks/कुल अंक :

Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि : offline	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 कर्त्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्त्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।

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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)

census 2026 — will commence soon as per the government's recent declaration. First digital census too of India.

census is the enumeration of total population size and its characteristics like distribution, urban-rural divide, age, caste, gender, occupation, migration etc.

Importance for economy & policy making

1. Better policy making that is date driven and evidence based

2. accurate targetting of beneficiaries for welfare scheme
   — reduce exclusion/inclusion errors

3. Better design & formulate economic budgetting to address every section. according to their needs

4. help understand the extent of benefits accrued by previous programmes.
   (eg) Rohini commission

5. Data is the new oil – helps in assessing new demands of changes in population.

   address the demographic slump

6. in south and youth bulge in North states.

7. helps in zerobased budget → improving efficiency of outcome:
   outcome based programme rather

8. than output based

   reduce leakage of public transfer.

9.
   challenges {
   ① trained personnel.
   ② errors in interpretation
   ③ political misuse or manipulation.
   }

Thus, census is needed. since 1931 there has been no caste census and 2011 was last general census. Will help make better policies.

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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)

2025 marks 10 years to NITI Aayog as it replaced the planning commission in 2015

Role of NITI Aayog over the decade in country planning & development

1. date driven policy making
   → use of KPIs.

2. promoting competitive federalism through various indices like CWMI, SECI, Fiscal performance etc

3. "whole of Government" approach
   → involve think tanks, experts, State & central govt. eg DhanDhanya PM

4. Focus on bottom up approach as against top down by P.C.

5. tailored policies rather than "one size fits all" eg Asp. Dist. Programme

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6. short to long term policies documents

     ⓔⓖ India @ 75 document, to regular shortterm goals.

7. use of sector specific research based policy ⓔⓖ AI for All policy.

8. cooperative federalism — TEAM — INDIA approach as PM Modi call it.

9. collaboration with external agencies ⓔⓖ UNDP — oxfam and MPI index

challenge ⎨
① perceived centralisation by states.
② lack of financial powers.
③ recommendations are not mandatory.

NITI Aayog over the decade has changed the paradigm of development via its "BHARATIYA MODEL OF Inclusive Growth"

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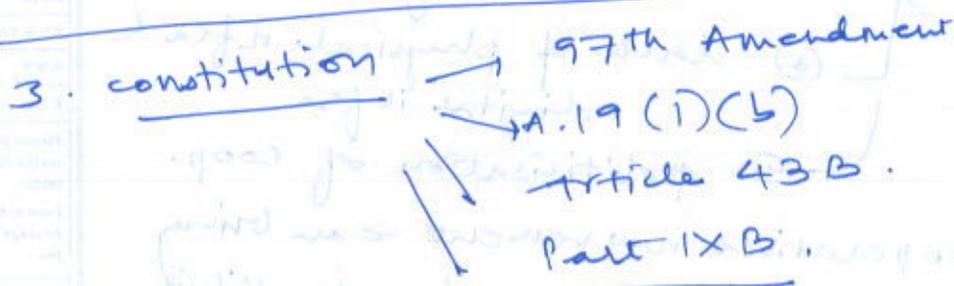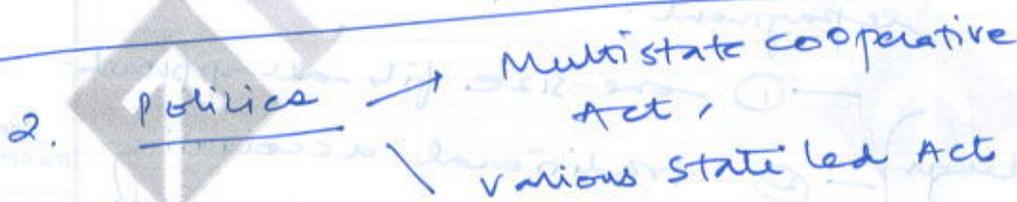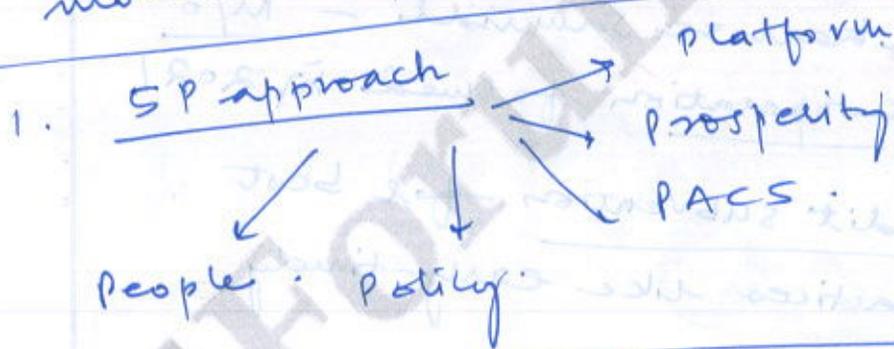Visit us : www.forumias.com
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Q.3) Discuss various measures taken by the Government to strengthen the Cooperative movement and ensure "Sahakar Se Samriddhi". (10 marks, 150 words)

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)

What started in 1904 by Lord Curzon, today cooperative movement has lead to prosperity, unity and development with over 80 lakh cooperatives (2025)

Measures taken to promote cooperative movement

1. 5P approach → Platform
   → Prosperity
   → PACS
   People. Policy.

2. Politics → Multistate cooperative Act, various state led Act

3. constitution → 97th Amendment
   → A.19(1)(b)
   → Article 43B.
   → Part IX B.

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4. FPOs promotions — Budget 2021
   → target of 10,000

5. Regulation of cooperative banks
   by Registrar and RBI

6. PSL framework under RBI to
   lending to cooperatives.

7. Internal democracy promotion
   — via regular elections.

8. Sahkaar se Samriddi — M/o
   cooperation formed in 2021

9. credit subvention for best
   practices like early-timely
   repayment.

Challenges
   ① one-size fits all approach
   ② traditional accounting
      & management practices
   ③ lack of physical infra &
      digital infra
   ④ politicisation of coop.

cooperatives movement can bring
" Prosperity " via cooperation in Viksit
                                    Bharat

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 recently imported pulses from several African nations like BOTSWANA etc. This has both fiscal costs and nutritional cost to INDIA.

Key challenges

① cereal centric policies
→ wheat-paddy dominated MSP regime

② lack of awareness of health benefits

③ MSP coverage — disincentive farmers to grow

④ dietary habits have changed → no market demand

⑤ lack of drought/heat resistant varieties to farmers.

⑥ skewed production region-wise
→ western & south/central INDIA

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Govt. measures taken

1. "Minus ten, plus five strategy"
   — reduce the rice/wheat area under
   cultivation and divert it too
   PULSES.

2. Millet-sister Network and
   Deccan Development Agency
   → tie up with NGO/CSOs/FPOs.

3. promotion under Mid Day Meals
   — to increase demand

4. Eat Right movement — awareness.

5. State-led projects. — Andhra Pradesh
   Pulses programme

6. Year of PULSES → (2025)

7. incentivisation through NFSA, 2013
   — across 24 States already.

   PULSES can be the
PULSE OF Indian agriculture, if
right policy, support, and awareness
is built.

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 is the ultra-sensitive instrumental device in the aircraft that forms the basis of sensitive information of the pilot communication with the external agency (say ATC)
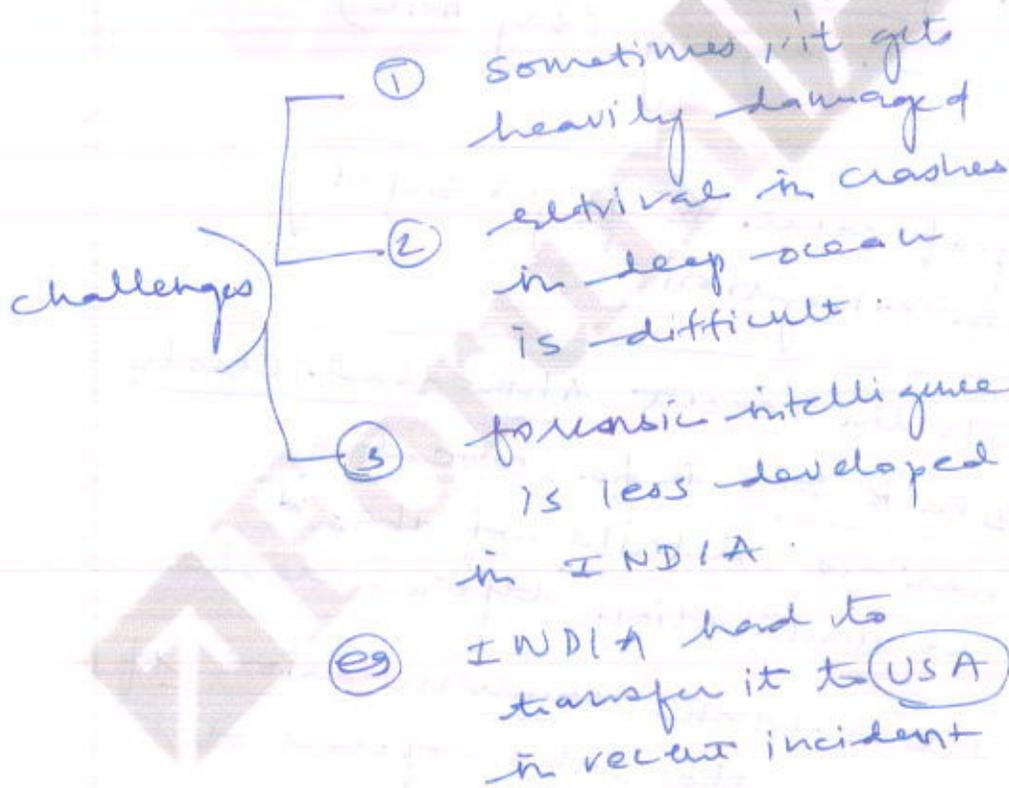
Significance in flight safety & investigation

1. In the recent Ahmedabad crash, Black box info. revealed various details of the communication before crash.

2. It contain communication of pilots, the tabs opened or closed during the flight

3. It remains indestructible, this makes it the only secure source post-accident.

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4. The AAIB - agency for aircraft investment uses this to interpolate and extrapolate the 'major milestones'.

5. Black Box - thus forms the important centre piece of investigation

challenges
① Sometimes, it get heavily damaged
② retrival in crashes in deep ocean is difficult.
③ forensic intelligence is less developed in INDIA.
eg INDIA had to transfer it to USA in recent incident

Black BOX solves the mystery jigsaw puzzle of Aircraft crash. However, cooperation in tech. needs to be supported

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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 - (OV) NASA - ISRO
~~Satellite~~ Synthetic Aperture Radar
was an important milestone in
recent space cooperation.

① joint partnership
— sharing the risks
and benefits

How it
exemplifies
cooperation
in
space
research

② playing according
to strengths

eg India provided
the S band
— while NASA gave
L-band

③ India's expertise in
launch payload while NASA-space
is communication

④ supports / encourages more
joint venture eg Japan-India

Benefits of NISAR

1. high res-lution optics.
   → better quality changes reflected

2. large bandwidth
   — 164 km viewing at once horizontally.

3. covers the entire earth in 12 days
   → Realtime changes
   — can view through clouds & Rains, snows, vegetation.

4.

5. can observe smallest of changes. both at land and sub-surface levels.

6. helps in disaster management like GLOFs.

7. help in NDC Ratchet Mechanism of tree cover/afforestation ↗

NISAR is a gamechanger in the way space tech — Mah-climate — disaster Care all handled.

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)

- oceans absort over 50% of the total carbon and thus are the nature's best allies. However, as per IPCC AR6, oceans how are net-carbon emitters.

Best Allies against Climate Change

1. absorb carbon.
   - of the total emission

2. Nature based solution (NbS)
   → help address storm surge by waves.

3. Resilience to coastal livelihoods
   ⊕ Fishing community.

They are themselves heavily impacted

1. Increased Marine heatwaves
   → leading to increased sea surface temperature

2. Lack of inter mixing of oceanic layers due to stratification

3. plastic pollution — deepest trenches also find plastic

   (e) Marina Trench.

4. Increased cyclone activities due to heating of ocean

5. AMOC weakening leading disturbances to global conveyor belt mech:

6. oil spillage — anthropogenic causes.

WAY FORWARD
1) better weather forecasting.
2) coordination with IMD / WMO / NOAA
3) community resilience via EWS — early warning system
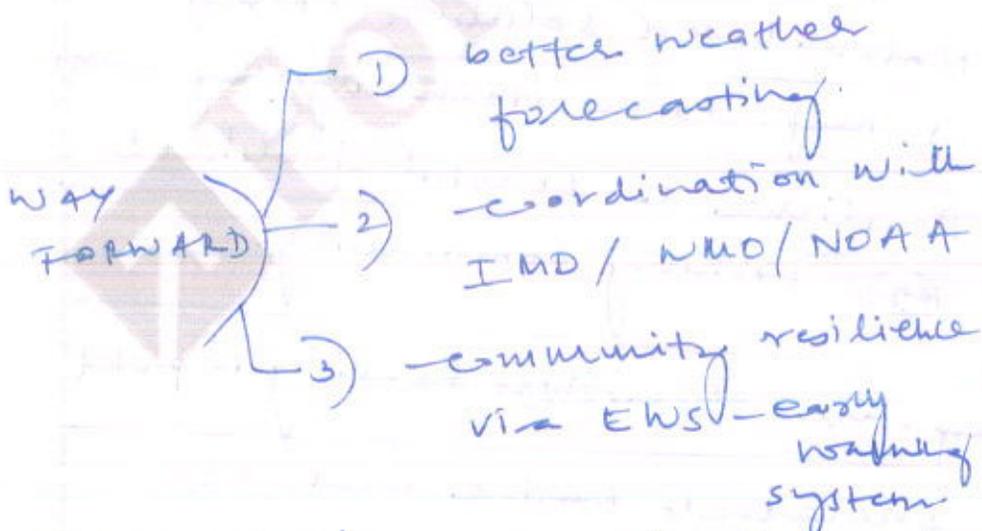
'oceans' are the shock absorber of vagaries of climate change

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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)

It is said "disasters don't kill, it is the lack of preparedness"

Need of whole of government & whole of society approach.

1. Need interdepartmental coordination
   eg → NDMA, SDMA, DDMA

2. creation of local level governance as first responders
   eg → UDMA; urban level.

3. technological coordination
   eg → IMD's forecasting and NDMA's guideline and SDRF Mockdrill.

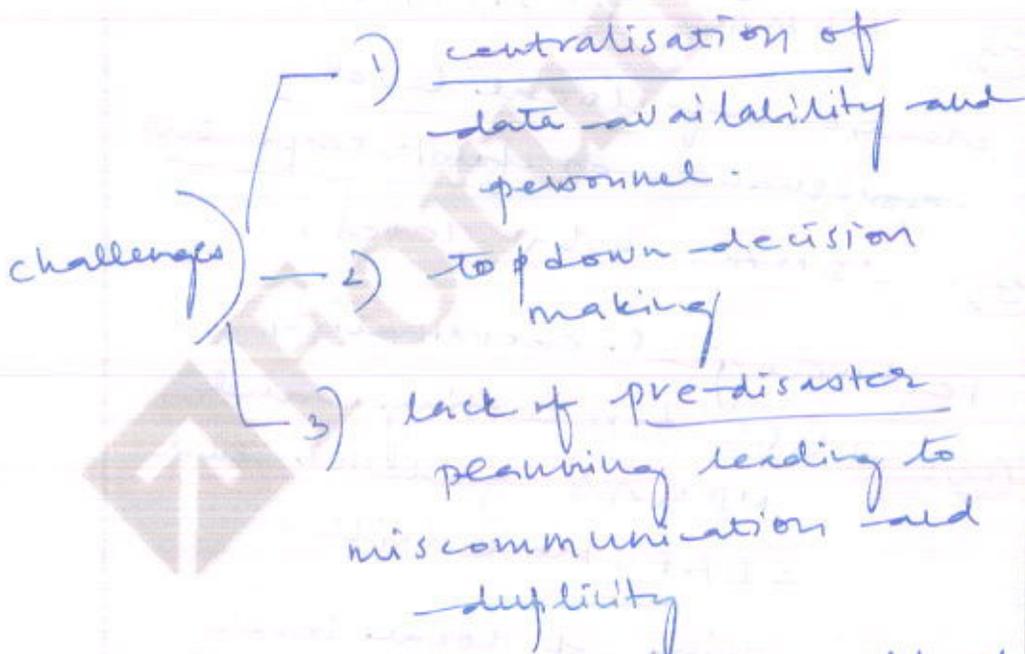4. The training of local level
   eg → schools, panchayat

5. Integration of indegenous knowledge of disaster awareness to the advanced tech.
→ whole of society app.

6. NGOs - Government - people app.
→ PPPP → People - Private - Public partnership

ⓔ India Action NGO

challenges {
1) centralisation of data availability and personnel.
2) top down decision making
3) lack of pre-disaster planning leading to miscommunication and duplicity
}

The new NDMA rules address the above issues and make way for whole of govt & society app.

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 crime and terrorism" are problems without passport and present security challenge to sovereignty of country.
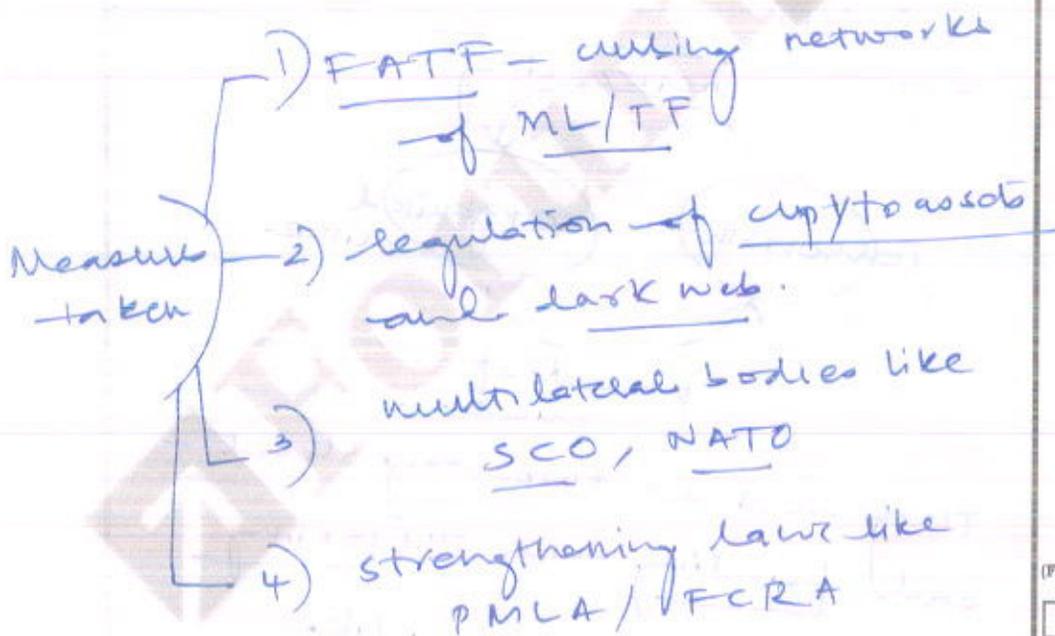
Convergence of Organised crime and Terrorism

1.

networking

Terrorism — Organised crime
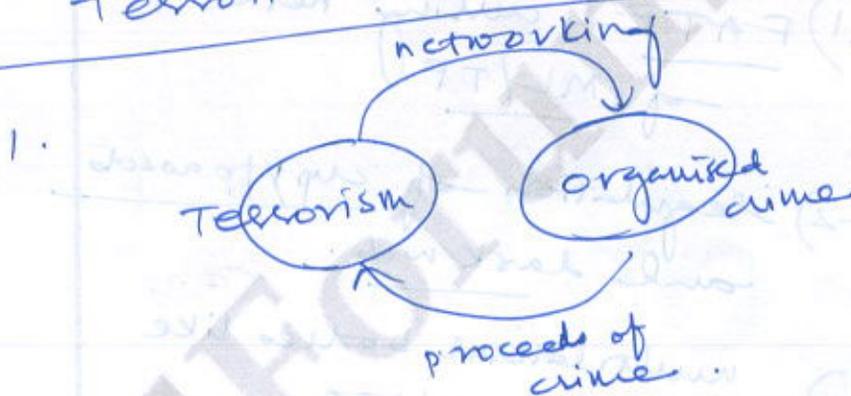
2. They act as two-way street — each funding and supporting

3. while organised crime like smuggling, FICN, organ transportation, trafficking leads to proceeds of crime ⇒ terrorism gives the route map, networking and personnel

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4. challenges to NE states and frontier border states.

5. helps support Non-state actors terrorism. Eg. Op. sindoor and The Resistance Front (TRF).

6. The proceedings of Drugs trade in golden crescent aids TALIBAN. and this is used by Pakistan

7. is a strategic depth against INDIA

Measures taken

1) FATF - cutting networks of ML/TF

2) regulation of crypto assets and dark web.

3) multilateral bodies like SCO, NATO

4) strengthening laws like PMLA / FCRA

"No tolerance to terrorism" and no diff. between Non state actor or its supporter — calls of PM post op. sindoor

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)

The era of AI has added a new layer of complexity to the existing conventional threats. leading to "ASSYMETRIC security challenge"

Role of Private sector in strengthening India's Internal security

1. Defence production
   - via defence startups.
   - smart fencing / ISR enhancement.
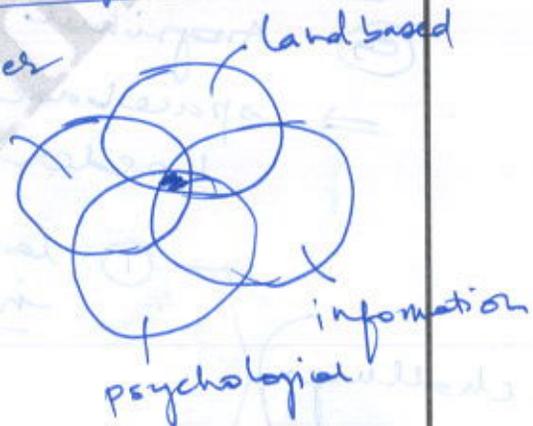
2. cybersecurity frameworks to secure data
   → data localisation practices by Private.
   (eg)

3. Awareness of "cyber hygiene" and cybersecurity to critical infrastructure.
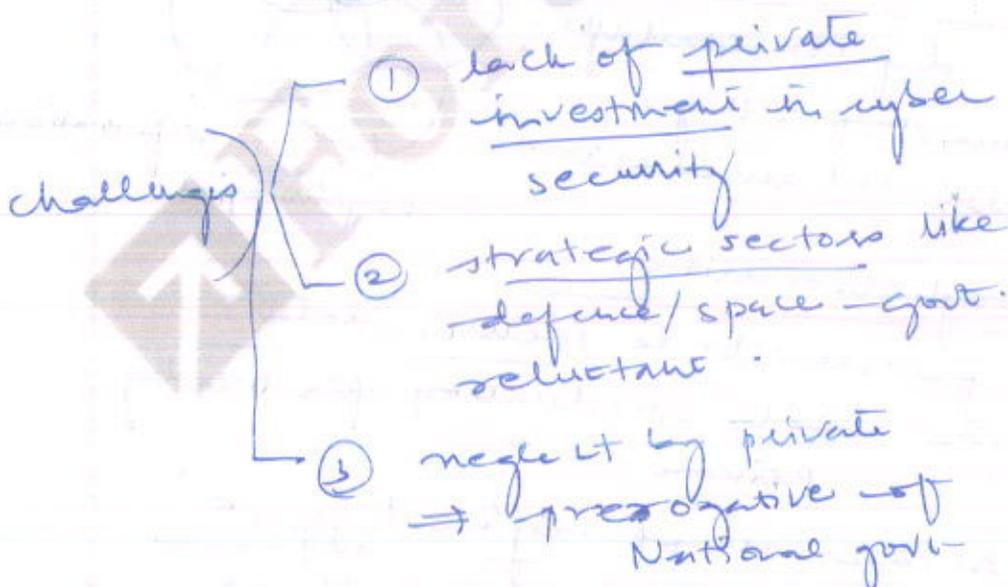
cyber   land based

psychological   information

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

4. ~~collaboration~~ on addressing
~~fake news~~; disinformation
campaign.

⊙ eg SAHYOG PORTAL are section

79(3)(b)
of IT Act

5. investment in PPP
project ~~of defence corridor~~
and ~~defence infrastructure in~~
Border states.

6. Space technology

⊙ eg Agnikul, skyroot, Pixxel.

⇒ space based monitoring of
~~border areas~~

challenges {

① lack of ~~private~~
~~investment in cyber~~
security

② strategic sectors like
~~defence~~/space — govt.
reluctant.

③ neglect by private
⇒ prerogative of
National govt.

" Private players can be active
participants of National security "

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)

The RBI under its Economic capital framework (ECF) transfers surplus to the government of India. For the year 2024-25, it was 2.75 lakh cr.

What does surplus mean

① the net gain over of its profits over it's administrative costs & liabilities.

② Governed by recommendations of various committees over the years
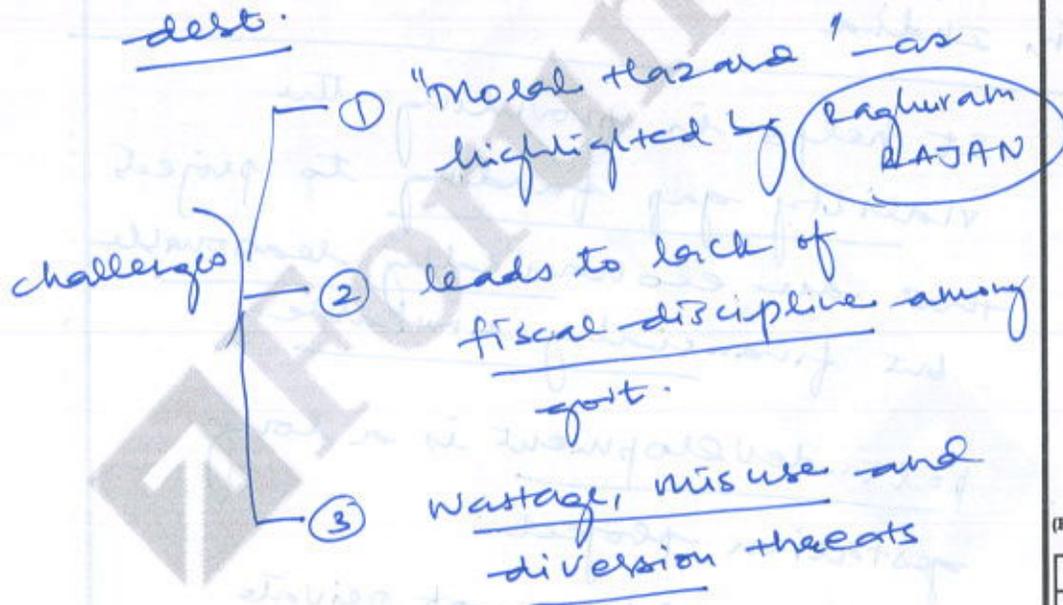— BIMAL JALAN committee (2015)
— USHA THORAT (2005)

How does RBI generate it ?

1. significant part comes from "seignorage" — i.e. diff. between cost of printing money and its intrinsic value

2. Through its earning via reverse repo and repo lending to the commercial bank.

3. Interest gained/earned over its Gold Holdings

4. lending to state governments through its "way & Means" framework.

5. Foreign exchange earnings

6. other Miscellaneous investment and earnings thereof.

Significance to Fiscal Policy

1. Additional source of revenues to govt.

2. ease the fiscal deficit constraint.

3. Help govt during contingencies and exigencies like COVID19. aid the revenue and capital

4. expenditure

5. address governments external debt.

challenges {

① 'moral Hazard' as highlighted by (Raghuram RAJAN)

② leads to lack of fiscal discipline among govt.

③ wastage, misuse and diversion threats

The surplus transfer by RBI aids the govt's fiscal stress, however it should be regulated as per the BIMAL JALAN comm. recommendation

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)

The recent inauguration of india's first transshipment deep water port in Vizhingam via PPP is a major success in development of Ports.

Role of PPP Model in port development in India

1. It helps in providing the viability gap funding to projects that are economically reasonable but financially unviable

2. Port development is a long gestation project.
   1. needs assistance of private players through innovative investments

3. Risk-sharing — derisking the project vulnerabilities and also risk distribution

4. brings advanced technology transfer via private engagement
   (eg) Adani in Vizhinjam.
        Ports

5. faster completion of project for a port-led development ambition

6. better management systems - ease of doing business.

7. Reduce govt's liability to finance large amount.

8. better risk distribution according to each's strengths & weakness.
   (eg) Govt: land aquisition
        Private: Finance/tech/expertise.

9. Explore various models based on the terms, objectives and suitability
   (eg) PBOT, DBT, HAM,

Challenges exist

1. dispute resolution mechanism
   → India still has complex mechanisms; emphasis on conventional ~~court~~ court over arbitration

2. financing by Banks.
   — hesistant to lend.

3. uneven teems of risk sharing
   — leading to conflict / delays.

4. dominance of few players leading
   to "concern of fair market
   practices"

5. lack of proper EIA
   — as seen in A&N post development

6. corporate bond market — still
   very nascent — just 18% of GDP

7. lack of innovative financing options

Thus, PPP can be a
greater booster to SAGARMALA &
port development idea. Needs to
creates suitable ecosystem to
incentivise more.

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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)

Various groups like MKSS/ AKSS/ Shethakari sangathan staged massive protests demanding legalising Minimum support price (MSP) recently.

Legalising creates more challenges than it resolves

1. huge fiscal stress to the govt. exchequer
   eg study by Yogudra Yadav, IE needs 75,000 cr every year. at the current coverage of (23 crops)

2. demand for more crops as currently only 28% of total produce is covered under MSP.

3. demand by perishable goods like vegetables & fruits.

4. distorts market prices and disturbs natural price discovery

5. leads to skewed pricing and procurement regime
   → cereal centric agriculture

6. hinders the growth of pulses, millets, oilseeds etc
   → threatens food security

7. water guzzling crops will be promoted — leading to GW depletion at 1.5 ft/year late

8. increases debt liabilities to govt.
   → already 1.75 L Cr — (Fertiliser subsidy)
   2.1 L Cr — (Food subsidy)

9. will lead penalty from WTO against its 'de minimis policy' of govt. price support.

10. Private players disincentived to investment in stocking/warehousing

① sense of income security

② improves the income of farmer ⇒ decrease the debt liability.

③ guarantee by govt. of procuring the produce.

Benefits of legalising MSP

④ consumer-centric → reduces the prices of food grains from increasing rapidly

⑤ competitiveness in international market.

WAY FORWARD

① provide alternatives like DBT of Fertiliser/ PM-KISAN etc

② update the formula of MSP calculation from A2 to C2.

③ option trading/ futures should be promoted

MSP has lived its age and purpose says Dr. Ashok Gulati, need to promote market based mechanisms
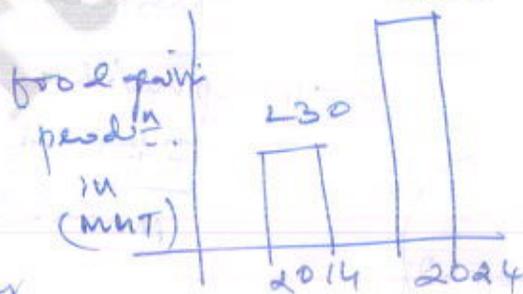
Q.14) Why does India's agricultural export performance remain weak despite high production levels? What measures would you suggest to improve agri-export competitiveness? (15 marks, 250 words)

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 export of Agriculture produce occupies merely (2.4)% of total trade, despite being largest producer of milk, fruits, vegetables, foodgrains etc.
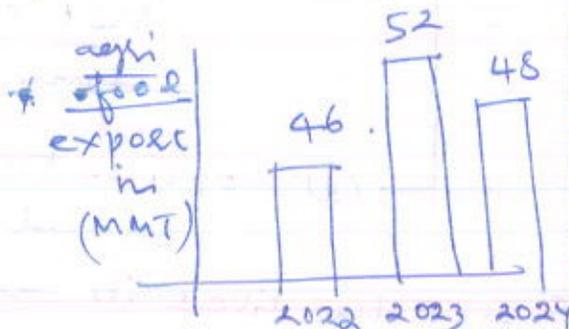
Why Agri. exports performance remains weak despite high production level

1. foodgrains increased to 330 (2024-25) MMT

→ export of paddy only 20 MMT.

foodgrain prod^n. in (MMT)

330
230

2014   2024

2. it has dipped after reaching 52 MMT.

agri & food export in (MMT)

52
48
46

2022 2023 2024

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

3. lack of food processing
   "remains the missing middle of
   agriculture" —ECONOMIC SURVEY

   — struggles at
   just 23% even food
   after decade processed

4. high wastage
   (ex) 1,52,790 cr rupees of food
   grain wastage ↓

5. lack of standard export quality
   assessment
   (eg) Participatory guarantee scheme
   is not recognised by EU ; b
   while IPOP - integrated prog. on
   organic prod. — is recognised.

6. increased NBT; non-tariff
   barrier like SPS- sanitary &
   pytosanitary standards (or) CBAM

7. uniform standards of quality
   like grading, polishing, branding

8. lack of value addition to the primary
   produce.

Measures to Improve

① Standardise organic processing standards.

② negotiate bilaterally.
→ EU, USA, UK-CETA✗

③ promote exports at South Asia & South East Asia

④ cold storage and warehousing — currently just 37 MMT capacity

⑤ FPOs → for bargaining power and economies of scale

⑥ relook at corporate farming to address fragmented farming
→ land pooling & cooperativisation

⑦ promote options/futures trading — MS SWAMINATHAN

⑧ reversing farm to Fork Model for better decision-making.

Thus, for India to become Viksit Bharat its agri. exports too need to play its part.

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in this Area / इस स्थान
पर कुछ न लिखें)

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 is the ability of machine to mimic human thinking and give responses accordingly.
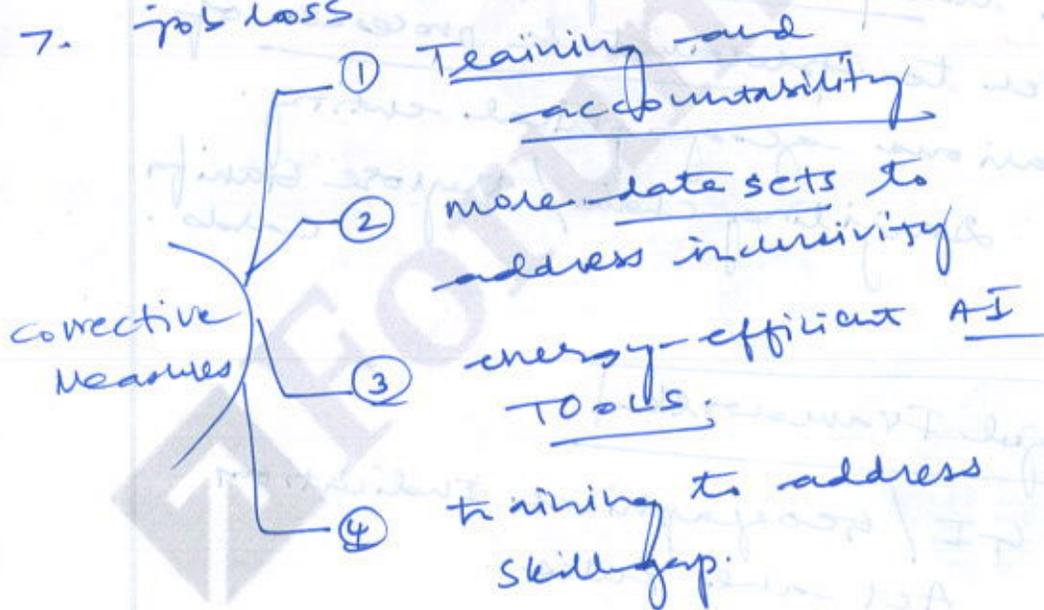
Applications in socio-economic development

1. BHASHINI - To address the language barriers

2. AI helps in acting as "personal mentor" for school children

3. AI can help in repetitive works being done efficiently and costfree.

4. ChatBOTS - helps address grievance redressal mechanism
   eg. Railways.

5. create new art — and help develop skills like CODING.

6. help the cause of digital health and tele-medicine

   (eg) Recently, chatGPT helped detect wrong dosage of prescription

7. Help in AI based toll collection

   (eg) * NICE Road — Traffic violation captured via (AI)

8. Smart camera — for traffic management.

9. help elderly → AI assistant

   (eg) Japan's Okhinawa adopted it.

hurdles to large scale adoption

1. energy intensive + requires large and continuous supply power.

2. water intensive — (eg) 1 ChatGPT search = 500 ml of water

3. lack of digital infrastructure
   — Rural divide

4. gender divide : only 33% Rural
   women can access smartphone.

5. Bias in training
   — leads to concentration of societal
   biases.

6. "outsourcing of thinking"
   — as named by various tech experts

7. job loss

① Training and accountability

② more data sets to address inclusivity

③ energy-efficient AI tools.

④ training to address skill gap.

corrective measures

"AI for All" should be the
mantra for INDIA's AI policy

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)

The recent PRADA's infringement of Kolhapuri chappal GI Rights led to concerns over GI Tag regulation.

Geographical Indicators are unique copyright-like rights given to products & processes of various geographical entity.

(eg) Darjiling chai / Mysore Ganifa cards.

Legal Framework

1. GI / Geographical Indication Act and Rules.

2. gives protection for upto 20 years.

3. Need to be renewed.

How is it different from trademark

1. Trade mark is governed by Trademark Act

2. Trademark are unique to any particular business logos (or) product logos

   ③ Nike's Logo.

3. Trademark are given protection less than 20 years.

How GI infringement can be tackled

1. proactive outreach & awareness programme.

2. GI Tag popularisation via Marketplace like GeM

3. Mainstreaming GI tag products via Flipkart / Amazon.

4. use of social media to promote awareness of various GI products.

5. dedicated e-Market place exclusively for GI products

① lack of awareness among people (or) traders.

challenges
2) fraudulent GI Tag to dupe foreign consumers

3) lack of govt-support of NE states.

4) dispute resolution is weak

eg Rosgolla controversy b/n WB and Orissa

GI Tag thus needs to protected, promoted and secured via 'whole of govt approach'.

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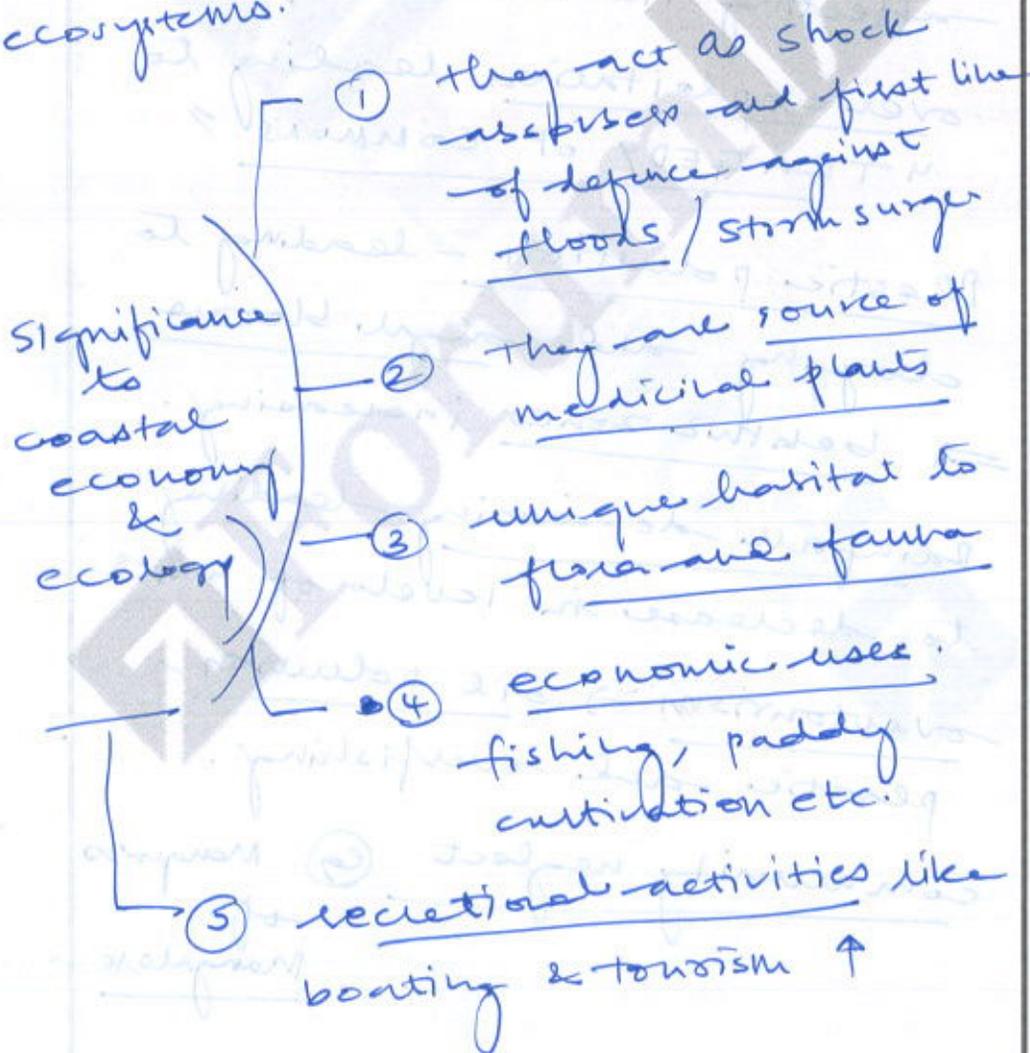Email : helpdesk@forumias.academy
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Q.17) "Mangroves contribute significantly to the coastal economy and ecology, but they are threatened by numerous factors". Elaborate. Also, state the measures taken by the government for mangrove conservation and 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।
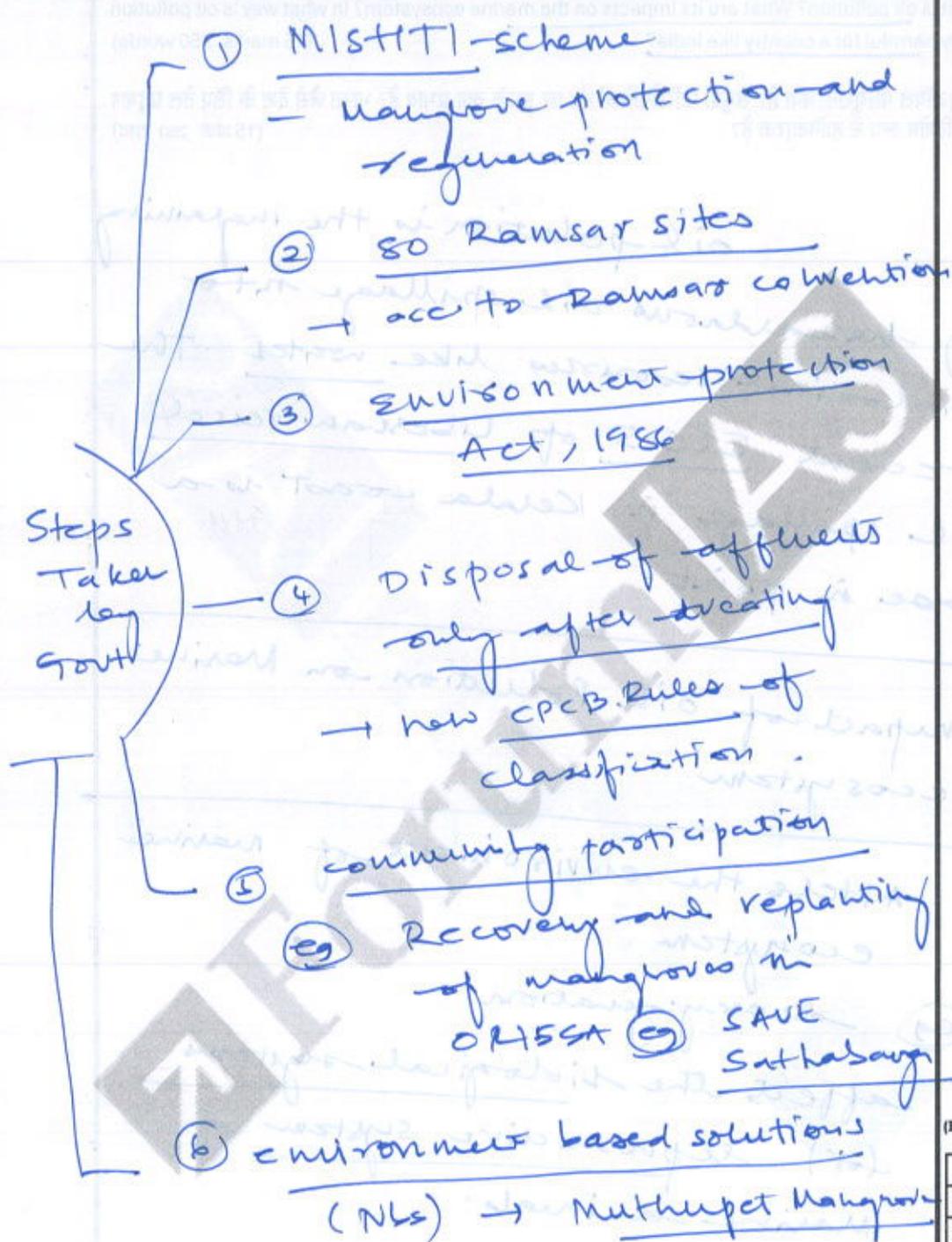(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Mangroves are transitional ecosystems between coastal and land based system leading to niche ecosystems.

Significance to coastal economy & ecology

① they act as shock absorbers and first line of defence against floods / storm surges

② they are source of medicinal plants

③ unique habitat to flora and fauna

④ economic uses: fishing, paddy cultivation etc.

⑤ recreational activities like boating & tourism ↑

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Threatened by various factors

1. Urbanisation - leading to land-use change and diverting of land.

2. Industrialisation → leading to industry effluents discharge

3. heavy metal contamination affecting the biodiversity.

4. over-exploitation leading to "TRAGEDY OF COMMONS" =

5. Plastic pollution - leading to clogging and algal blooms ⇒ benthic zones increasing.

6. Rainfall decreasing - leading to decrease in levels of water

7. overtourism → oil pollution - plastic and overfishing.

8. community neglect (eg) Mangroves of Mangalore

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पर कुछ न लिखें)

① MISHTI scheme
— Mangrove protection and
regeneration

② 80 Ramsar sites
→ acc to Ramsar convention

③ Environment protection
Act, 1986

Steps
Taken
by
Govt

④ Disposal of effluents
only after treating
→ new CPCB Rules of
classification.

⑤ community participation

e.g) Recovery and replanting
of mangroves in
ORISSA ⊙ SAVE
Sathabauga

⑥ environment based solutions
(NbS) → Muthupet Mangrove

As M.S. Swaminathan says

" Mangroves are the natural coastguard's
Their protection is to extend the services
and focussing on (deep ecology)

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 is the ingraining of hazardous oil spillage into biological resources like water. The recent ELS-5 of Liberian vessel oil spillage in Kerala coast is a case in point.

Impact of oil Pollution on Marine ecosystem

1. Alters the environment of marine ecosystem.
   eg deoxygenation.

2. affects the biological systems (or) reproductive system of Marine animals.

3. death of fauna and flora due to hazardous oils

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4. stratefgfication of ocean layers leading to lack of intermixing
⇒ increases the sea temperature

5. hot oil spillage
— sea surface temperature ↑↑

6. coral ecosystem
— reef collapse and atolls destruction

7. change the chemical composition of sea ⇒ changes in marine livelihoods.

8. Blue economy is hurt
→ livelihoods of fishing community is affected.

How particularly harmful to a country like INDIA

1. India has large coastal distance of 11,000+ kms and 14500 km inland water
→ any oil pollution leads to large negative effect.

2, India's focus on Blue Economy will be distrubed.

3. affects the composition of safe drinking water

4. India is ~~the~~ among largest marine / inland fisheries producer
⟹ will lead to food insecurity and export losses.

5. fishing community is large
⟹ reduces their earning livelihood

Measures {
① MARPOL convention

② London convention
 – due to shipping oil leak.

③ bio-augmentation techniques like OIL ZAPPER

④ environment protection Act

⑤ CRZ Rules
}
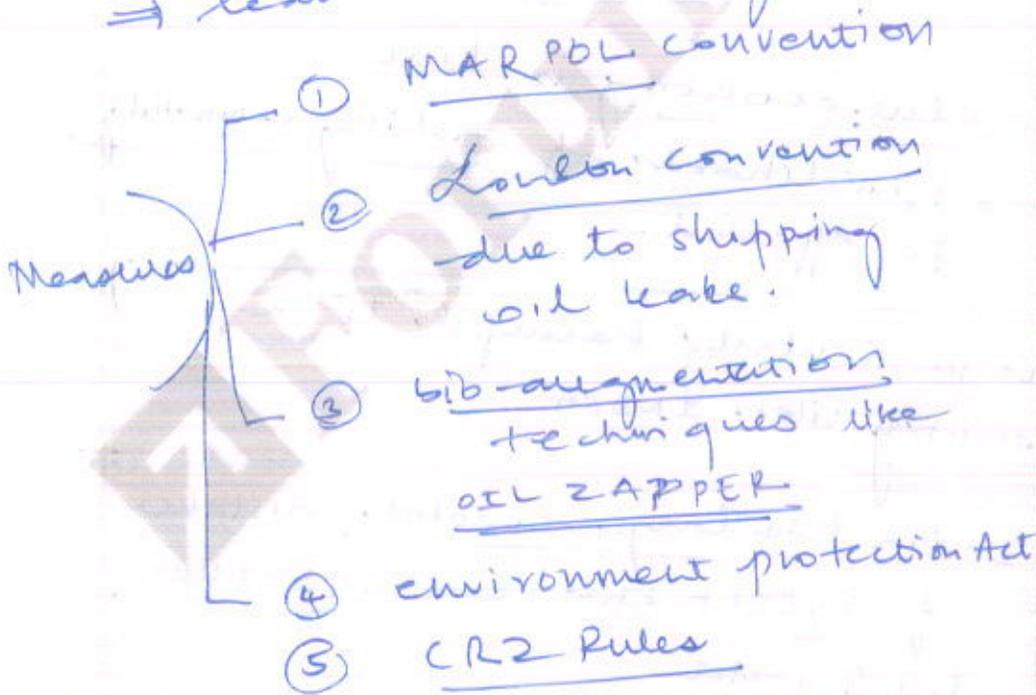
oil pollution – leads to large scale economic, ecological and equity losses.

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in this Area / इस स्थान
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)

The conflict of Armenia-Azerbaijan started a new warfare strategy of using UAVs. This has also witnessed in recent op-sindoor

integral part of modern warfare

① → assymmetrical warfare

② → adds to the conventional strategies through (ISR) - intelligence Reconossinance & survellience

③ use by Non-state actors
eg ULFA in crossborder

④ Proxy warfare
eg BALAKOT strike.

⑤ lt Gen. Chauhan - "it is cheap. But difficult to avert"
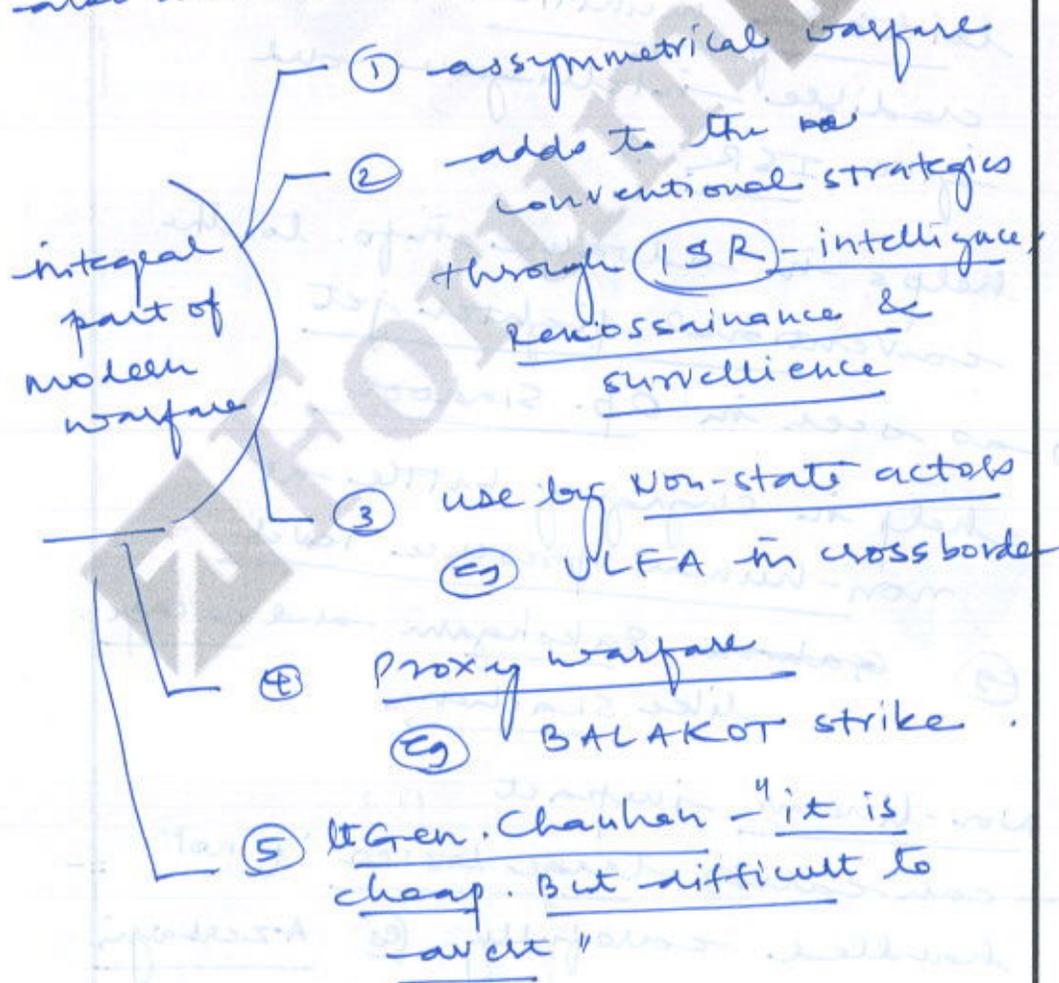
Implications for India's security architecture

1. Drone swarming to overwhelming the air radar system of adversary

2. helps in attacking accurately, without non-escalation
   (eg) Kamikaze Drones.

3. loitering munition — attain credible intelligence and give, ISR.

4. helps in advance info. to the conventional fighter jet
   ⟹ as seen in Op. Sindoor.

5. help in engaging battle at non-human presence level
   (eg) ~~Galwan~~ Sakshgam and ice caps. like Siachen

6. Non-linear impact — can cause large losses if not handled carefully. (eg) Azerbaijan

Measures to address
1) indigenous development
   — RUSTOM
2) counter damage drone
   → to real-time neutralisation.
3) better inter-dept coordination
4) Drone Rules, 2022

Steps to tackle threats from UAVs

① increase the sensitivity of the radar system as UAVs pose/disguise with low-surface area going undetected.

② international collaboration with ISRAEL / RUSSIA to develop anti-drone technology.

UAVs are unmanned, but not their objectives. They have changed the way wars are fought and INDIA needs to take proactive steps to address them

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)

Mackinder - Mahaan Theory
debates around the need to secure marine challenge and its implication for overall security. India being at the centre of INDO-PACIFIC to more prone to maritime challenges.

Maritime challenges

Conventional

1. Naval attack
   eg: 1971 - USA fleet

2. Piracy
   Ⓖ. Djibouti

3. Axis of Resistance in Red sea.

Non-conventional

1. Blockade.
   eg: suez crisis.

2. oil spillage and environment issue.
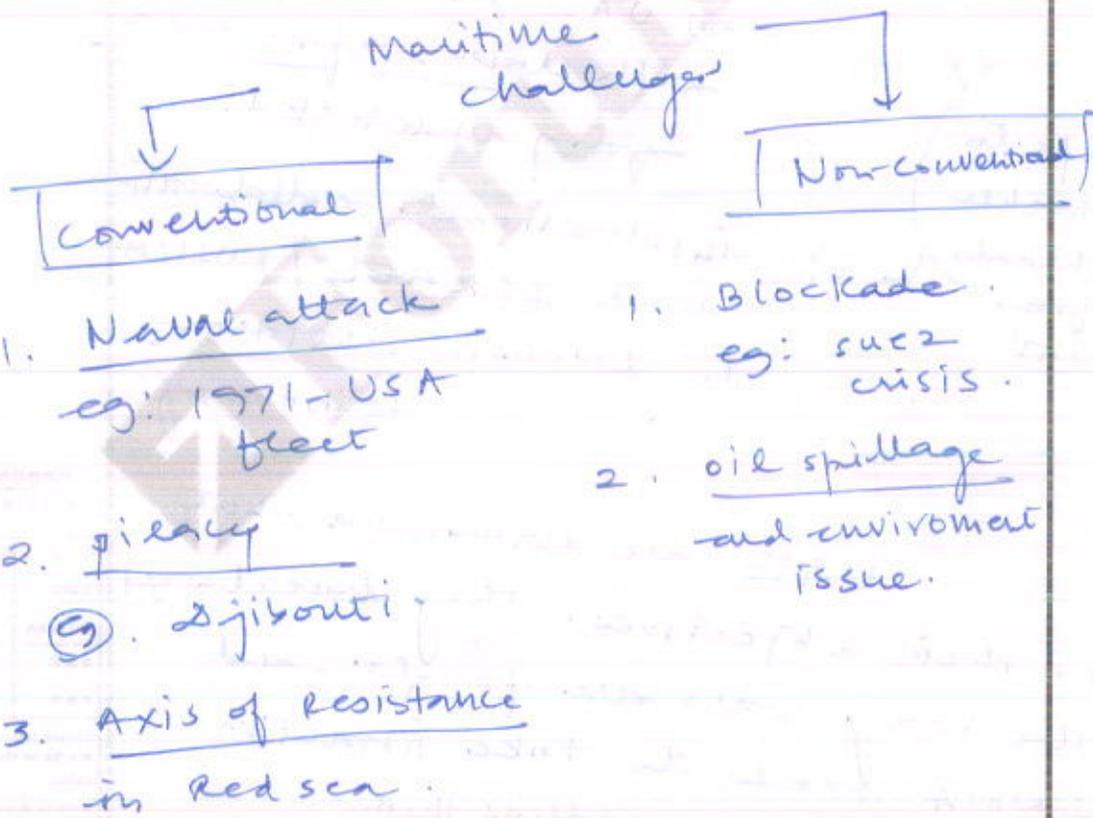
Key Maritime challenges in INDIA

1. long coastaline → 11,000 km (latest)

2. china's increasing encirclement leading to SAGAR MANTHAN (c. Raja Mohan) via String of Pearls

3. lack of coordination between the tier architecture, of Navy, coast Guard & state police

4. Increasing china's footprint in the region - salami slicing technique

5. SLOCS → sea lanes of communication → valuable trade.

6. piracy → due to "flag-changing" technique employed

7. illegal migration - via (SL), Bangladesh

8. terrorism : Ajmal Kasab via coast of Gujarat and then bombay

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Measures taken

1) RECENT : NMDA
   — National Maritime domain awareness programme

2) QUAD
   Indo pacific maritime domain awareness

3) IFC → information fusion centre at gurugram

4) coastal guard

5) state police

6) Navy

Navy / Coast guard / State police

7) IONS — Naval symposium

8) IORA → Indian ocean regional organisation

9) SAGAR Doctrine and recent MAHA-SAGAR

10) joint exercises: eg with philipines in South China Sea
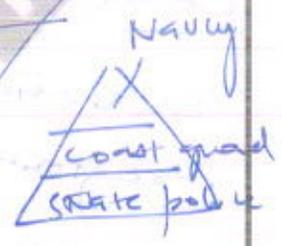
Maritime dominance was always India's strength since the CHOLAS the current security architecture needs to be further strengthened

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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
✔✔	Key / Relevant Point		
✖	Vague / Irrelevant		

* Subject to change without prior notice.

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