TEST CODE	8	1	3	4	1	5		MGP 2025

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : **250**
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	RUPAL JAISWAL		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910159229	Medium/माध्यम	English ✓ हिंदी ☐
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	Online	Date/दिनांक	14/08/2025

*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. प्रश्.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक
1		
2		
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18		
19		
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।

For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु	
Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 2:43PM	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 5:43PM

Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्त्ता का विवेक :

Total Marks/कुल अंक :

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

*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.

मूल्यांकन कर्त्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ़्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।

For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु		
ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी : ① ② ③ ④ ⑤	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :

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.

Instructions: All questions are compulsory. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. Quality of the answer is more important than the length of the answer.

निर्देश : सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं। प्रत्येक प्रश्न द्वारा धारित अंकों को उसके सामने इंगित किया गया है। उत्तर की गुणवत्ता उत्तर की लंबाई की तुलना में अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है।

Q.1) Explain the significance of the recent changes made to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) with respect to labour market data estimation in the country. **(10 Marks, 150 Words)**

देश में श्रम बाजार डेटा आकलन के संबंध में आवधिक श्रम बल सर्वेक्षण (PLFS) में किए गए हाल के परिवर्तनों के महत्व को समझाइए। **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.2) Discuss the implications of the rising trend of protectionism and tariff wars in global trade for India's macroeconomic stability. **(10 marks, 150 words)**

वैश्विक व्यापार में संरक्षणवाद और टैरिफ युद्ध की बढ़ती प्रवृत्ति के भारत की व्यापक आर्थिक स्थिरता पर पड़ने वाले प्रभावों पर चर्चा कीजिए। **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.3) "Genome-edited crops have the potential to strengthen food and nutritional security in the country." Examine. **(10 Marks, 150 Words)**

"जीनोम-संपादित फसलों में देश में खाद्य और पोषण सुरक्षा को सशक्त करने की क्षमता है।" परीक्षण कीजिए। **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.4) Assess the role of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) in expanding irrigation coverage and improving on-farm water use efficiency. **(10 Marks, 150 Words)**

सिंचित क्षेत्र का विस्तार करने और खेत पर जल उपयोग दक्षता में सुधार करने में प्रधानमंत्री कृषि सिंचाई योजना (PMKSY) की भूमिका का आकलन करें। **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.5) Starlink, a satellite internet service provider, has recently been granted a license to operate in India. What is satellite internet? How does it work? What are its advantages and limitations? **(10 Marks, 150 Words)**

सैटेलाइट इंटरनेट सेवा प्रदाता, स्टारलिंक को हाल ही में भारत में परिचालन का लाइसेंस मिला है। सैटेलाइट इंटरनेट क्या है? यह कैसे काम करता है? इसके क्या लाभ और सीमाएँ हैं? **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.6) 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? **(10 Marks, 150 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? **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.7) What are the salient features of Mission Mausam launched by the Government of India? Why is such a mission needed? What are the likely challenges in its effective implementation? **(10 marks, 150 words)**

भारत सरकार द्वारा शुरू किए गए मिशन मौसम की मुख्य विशेषताएँ क्या हैं? ऐसे मिशन की आवश्यकता क्यों है? इसके प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में संभावित चुनौतियों का वर्णन करें? **(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)**

Q.8) Highlight the key provisions of the Disaster Management (Amendment) Act, 2025. How would the amendment help strengthen the disaster management framework in the country?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

आपदा प्रबंधन (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2025 के प्रमुख प्रावधानों पर प्रकाश डालिए। यह संशोधन देश में आपदा प्रबंधन ढाँचे को सुदृढ़ करने में किस प्रकार सहायक होगा?

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.9) 'Operation Sindoor' signals a strategic evolution in India's approach to cross-border terrorism. Analyze.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

'ऑपरेशन सिंदूर' सीमा पार आतंकवाद के प्रति भारत के दृष्टिकोण में एक रणनीतिक बदलाव का संकेत देता है। विश्लेषण करें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.10) 'Cyberspace has emerged as a distinct domain of warfare, posing serious threats to national security.' Discuss this statement and suggest counter-measures.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

'साइबरस्पेस युद्ध के एक विशिष्ट क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरा है, जो राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के लिए गंभीर ख़तरा पैदा कर रहा है।' इस कथन पर चर्चा करें और सुरक्षात्मक उपाय सुझाएँ।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Q.11) What are the key objectives of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016 ? To what extent has it been successful in achieving them?

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

दिवाला और शोधन अक्षमता संहिता (IBC), 2016 के प्रमुख उद्देश्य क्या हैं? यह उन्हें प्राप्त करने में किस हद तक सफल रहा है?

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.12) Despite phenomenal growth in recent years, India's startup ecosystem lags in innovation across strategic sectors. Identify the factors responsible for this inadequate focus on deep-tech and suggest strategies to bridge this gap.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

हाल के वर्षों में अभूतपूर्व वृद्धि के बावजूद, भारत का स्टार्टअप पारितंत्र रणनीतिक क्षेत्रों में नवाचार के मामले में पिछड़ रहा है। डीप-टेक पर इस अपर्याप्त ध्यान के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों की पहचान करें और इस अंतर को पाटने के लिए रणनीतियाँ सुझाएँ।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.13) What is floriculture? How is it helpful in enhancing farm income and boosting agri-exports?

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

फूलों की खेती क्या है? यह कृषि आय बढ़ाने और कृषि निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने में कैसे सहायक है?

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.14) "Women play a crucial role in Indian agriculture, yet continue to face systemic exclusion." Discuss with reference to land ownership, access to credit, and agri-extension services. What initiatives has the government taken in this regard?

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

"महिलाएँ भारतीय कृषि में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती हैं, फिर भी उन्हें व्यवस्थागत बहिष्कार का सामना करना पड़ता है।" भूमि स्वामित्व, ऋण तक पहुँच और कृषि-विस्तार सेवाओं के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या पहल की हैं?

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.15) Launched on 25th June 2025, the Axiom-4 (Ax-04) mission has been much in the news since then. What are the key features of the mission? What significance does it hold for the Gaganyaan project and India's long-term space ambitions? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

25 जून 2025 को लॉन्च होने वाला एक्सिओम-4 (Axiom-4; Ax-04) मिशन तब से ही काफी चर्चा में है। इस मिशन की मुख्य विशेषताएँ क्या हैं? गगनयान परियोजना और भारत की दीर्घकालिक अंतरिक्ष महत्वाकांक्षाओं के लिए इसका क्या महत्व है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.16) Energy storage technology is one of the major components of renewable energy integration and decarbonization of world energy systems. Briefly discuss any three such technologies, citing their key merits and demerits. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

ऊर्जा भंडारण तकनीक, विश्व ऊर्जा प्रणालियों के नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा एकीकरण और कार्बन-मुक्तिकरण के प्रमुख घटकों में से एक है। ऐसी किन्हीं तीन तकनीकों की संक्षेप में चर्चा कीजिए और उनके प्रमुख गुण-दोषों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.17) Global Pandemic Agreement (2025) recognizes the 'One Health' approach as critical to pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response. Highlight the key features of the agreement, and elaborate on how the One Health approach can help in preventing future pandemics. What steps are needed to integrate this approach into India's environmental and health governance? (15 marks, 250 words)

वैश्विक महामारी समझौता (ग्लोबल पैंडेमिक एग्रीमेंट; 2025) महामारी की रोकथाम, तैयारी और प्रतिक्रिया के लिए 'वन हेल्थ' दृष्टिकोण को महत्वपूर्ण मानता है। इस समझौते की प्रमुख विशेषताओं पर प्रकाश डालिए और विस्तार से बताइए कि वन हेल्थ दृष्टिकोण भविष्य की महामारियों को रोकने में कैसे मदद कर सकता है। भारत के पर्यावरण और स्वास्थ्य प्रशासन में इस दृष्टिकोण को एकीकृत करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाने की आवश्यकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.18) The frequency and intensity of heatwaves, particularly in urban centres, have increased in recent years. Describe the various causes and effects of heatwaves. What policies and frameworks have been adopted in India towards extreme heat risk management? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

हाल के वर्षों में, विशेष रूप से शहरी क्षेत्रों में, हीटवेव की आवृत्ति और तीव्रता में वृद्धि हुई है। हीटवेव के विभिन्न कारणों और प्रभावों का वर्णन कीजिए। भारत में अत्यधिक ऊष्मा के जोखिम प्रबंधन के लिए कौन सी नीतियाँ और ढाँचे (फ्रेमवर्क) अपनाए गए हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.19) Discuss how emerging technologies and globalization contribute to terror financing. Elaborate measures to tackle the menace of terror financing both at national and international levels. (15 marks, 250 words)

चर्चा कीजिए कि उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियाँ और वैश्वीकरण किस प्रकार आतंकवाद के वित्तपोषण में योगदान करते हैं। राष्ट्रीय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दोनों स्तरों पर आतंकवाद के वित्तपोषण के खतरे से निपटने के उपायों पर विस्तार से चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Q.20) Explain the key components of the National Policy and Action Plan (2015) that have contributed to the significant decline of Left-Wing Extremism (LWE). What additional steps would you suggest to eliminate LWE in the near future? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

राष्ट्रीय नीति एवं कार्य योजना (2015) के उन प्रमुख घटकों का वर्णन कीजिए जिन्होंने वामपंथी उग्रवाद (LWE) में उल्लेखनीय गिरावट में योगदान दिया है। निकट भविष्य में वामपंथी उग्रवाद को समाप्त करने के लिए आप कौन से अतिरिक्त कदम सुझाएँगे? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

①

Periodic Labour force Survey was first conducted in 2017 by NSO. It replaced the Labour Bureau's Employment Survey.

Significant changes made in PLFS

① Increased frequency of survey

(i) Current weekly status estimates every three months for both rural and urban areas (earlier, only for urban)

(ii) annual estimates of CWS and usual Principal Subsidiary Status (UPSS)

② Increased sample size of households surveyed

③ Data collection now expanded to education, socio-economic data (income) as well

④ Duration of survey : aligned with

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

calendar year (ie. January to December)
↓
earlier, it was July to June.

[Significance of these changes]

① more accurate data collection as larger data sample

② Alignment with international best practices (ILO standards)

③ Reflects dynamic changes as more frequent data collection

④ Evidence-based policy making as previous ~~of~~ PLFS (2023-24) based on 2022 data.

⑤ social justice implementation @ DBT to unorganized sector workers under PM SVANIDHI.

The PLFS changes reflect values of data integrity and is a timely move considering LFPR of India still around ~56%.
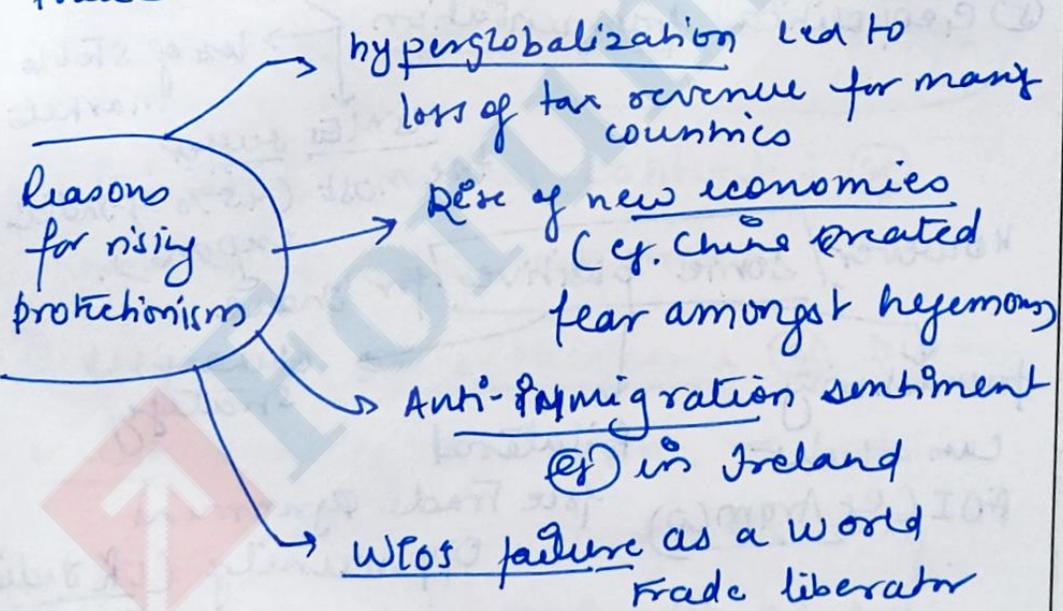
UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

②

In Aug 2025, President Trump imposed 25% tariffs along with penalty of 10% on Indian exports to US. This is a part of larger protectionist trend in international trade.

reasons for rising protectionism →

- hyperglobalization led to loss of tax revenue for many countries
- Rise of new economies (eg. China created fear amongst hegemons
- Anti-Immigration sentiment (eg) in Ireland
- WTOs failure as a world trade liberator

【Implications for India】

① Volatile markets : due to impulsive tariffs raise price of oil (85% import dependence)

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space) कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

② Domestic inflation: as counter-tariffs may be imposed by India

③ Rising unemployment: due to loss of export markets (12% of overall exports are to US).

④ Declining ~~value~~ demand of Indian export → creates/widens Trade deficit (currently current a/c deficit ~ 2% of GDP).

⑤ Geopolitical fragmentation
→ fuels wars
→ loss of stable markets
↓ MSMEs suffer the most (45% of India's exports).

However, some positives for India
↓ friendshoring can attract FDI (eg Aramco)
↓ Bilateral free Trade agreement Opportunity (UK India FTA (2020))
→ China +1 strategy

To tackle rising protectionism, India itself took step forward - reduced tariff rates from almost 15 to 8.
Reciprocation is expected from others.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए Candidates must not write on this margin

③

In 2023, Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee approved genome-edited mustard DMH11 to enhance food security. Yet, the Ministry of Environment has halted its release.
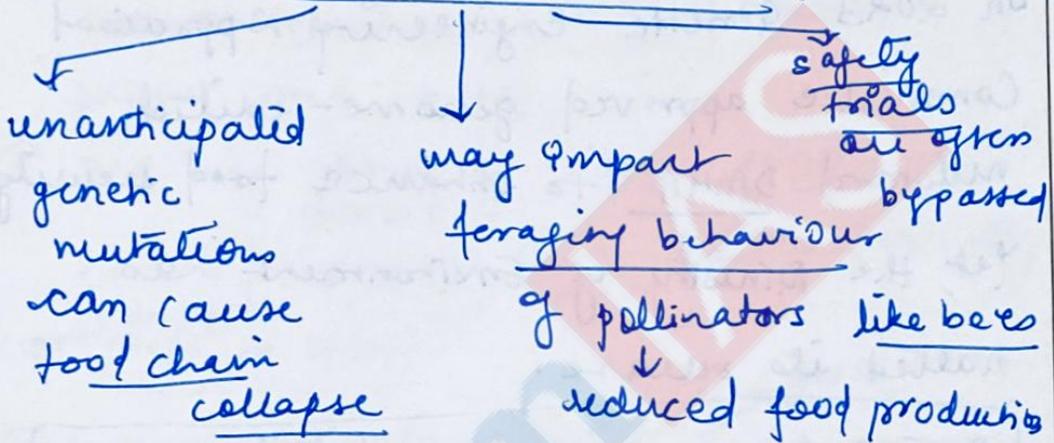
Potential of Genome-edited crops

① Enhanced nutrition content ⊙ biofortified rice varieties

② Improved stress-tolerance ⊙ Dwarf wheat variety by ICAR → boosts productivity

③ Climate-resilient seeds ⊙ Of cotton through bacillus thurengenesis prevent crop damage

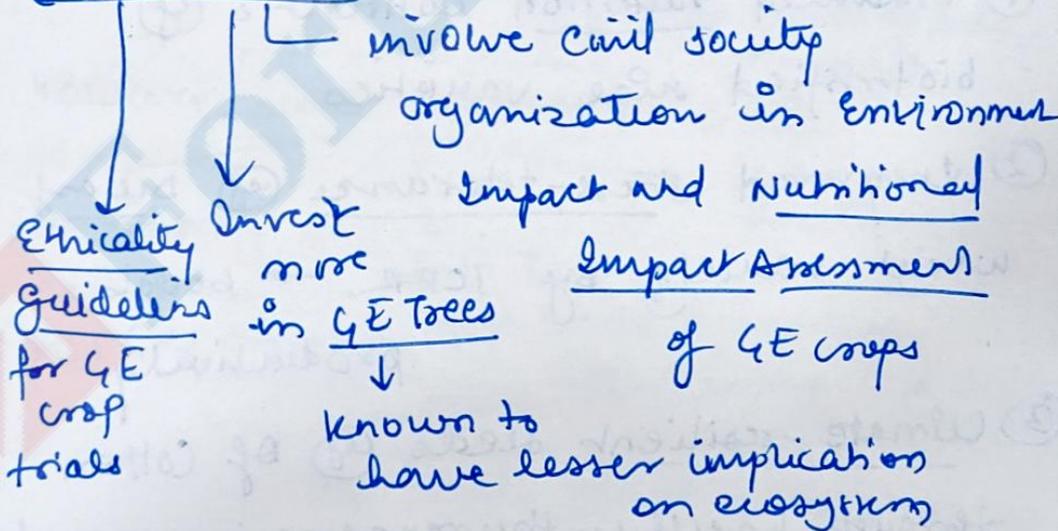④ Combat maternal malnutrition ⊙ iron folic-rich millets

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(5) Pest-resistance of Bt Brinjal in the US raised nutritional outcomes

However, [concerns do exist]

- unanticipated genetic mutations can cause food chain collapse

- may impact feraging behaviour of pollinators like bees ↓ reduced food production

- safety trials are often bypassed

[Way forward]

— involve civil society organization in Environment Impact and Nutritional Impact Assessment of GE crops

- Ethicality Guidelines for GE crop trials

- Invest more in GE Trees ↓ known to have lesser implication on ecosystem

Aforesaid flags can help GE crops achieve [SDG 2] No hunger and [SDG 10] Reduced inequalities in nutritional outcomes
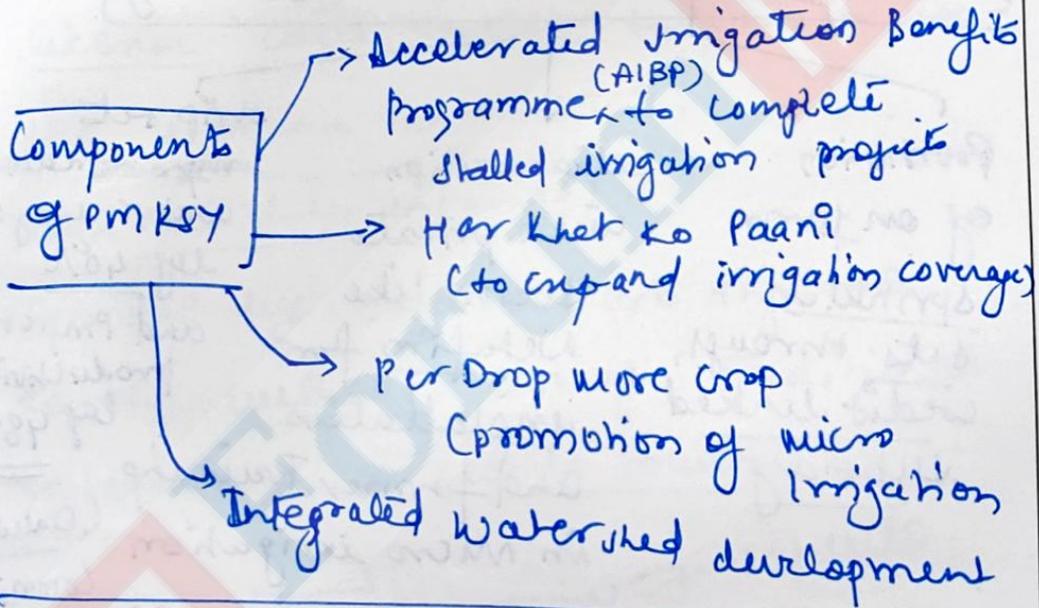
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(4)

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) is an umbrella scheme launched in <u>2015</u> by Ministry of <u>Jal shakti</u>, and ministry of <u>Agriculture</u> in collaboration.

Components of PMKSY:

→ Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to complete stalled irrigation projects

→ Har Khet ko Paani (to expand irrigation coverage)

→ Per Drop more Crop (promotion of micro Irrigation

→ Integrated Watershed development

Role of PMKSY in expanding coverage

① Incentivizes minor Irrigation projects through <u>subsidies</u> ② In <u>Buldhana</u>

② Special focus on low <u>productivity</u>

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

areas of Rajasthan's Jaisalmer

③ Promotion of river interlinking project under AIBP → reach water deficit areas

④ Focus on small and marginal farmer
    as currently only 47% of Gross Cropped area is irrigated.

[In improving water use efficiency]

Promotion of on farm sprinkler sets through credit linked subsidy

collaboration with private sector like Netafim for installation and farmer training in micro irrigation

drip sets reduce water usage by 40% and improve productivity by 48% (Dalwai Committee)
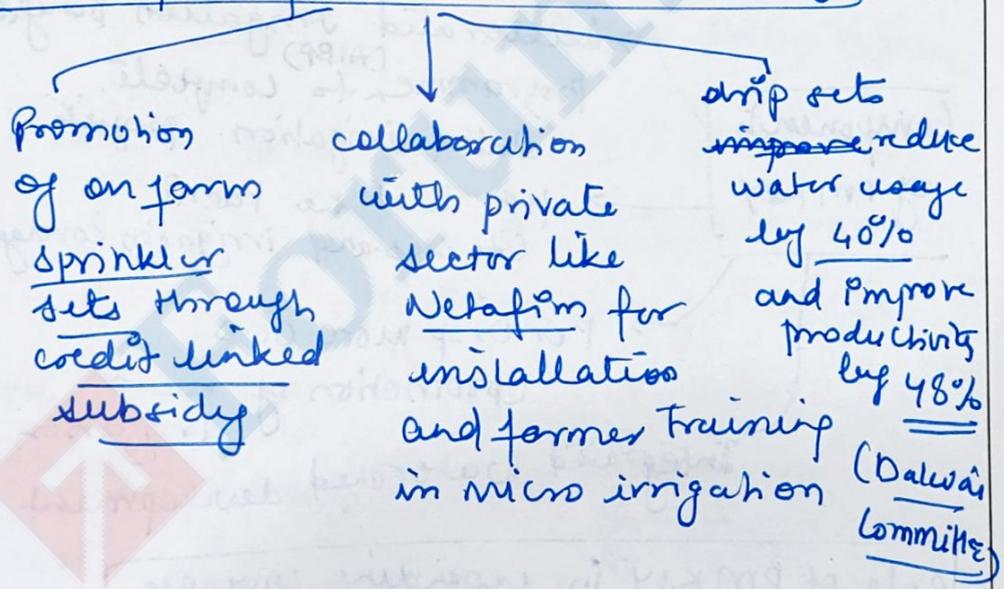
PMKSY has thus been a gamechanger. However, uneven Micro irrigation adoption (50% in Southern States); high rate of interest (Malegam Committee) and lack of extension services an issue.

Government can improve through PPP, farmer awareness campaign and micro finance.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हिशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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(5)

Starlink is a constellation of ≥200 satellites operating in low earth orbit providing internet connectivity on earth. ~~Other~~ granting of satellite license will enable Indians to use the Starlink connectivity.
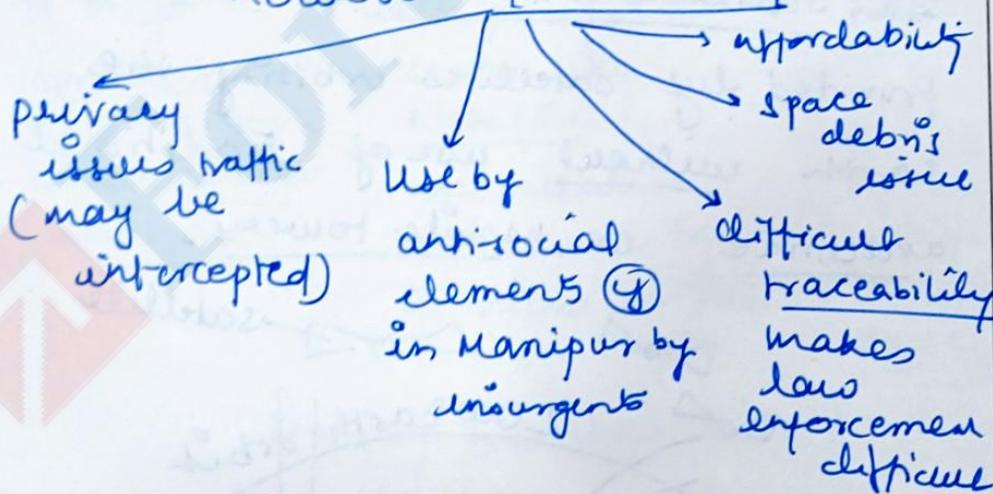
~~Sat~~ | Satellite internet |

Provided by satellites orbiting the earth ~~without~~ use of traditional antennae or mobile towers.

Fig: Working of satellite internet

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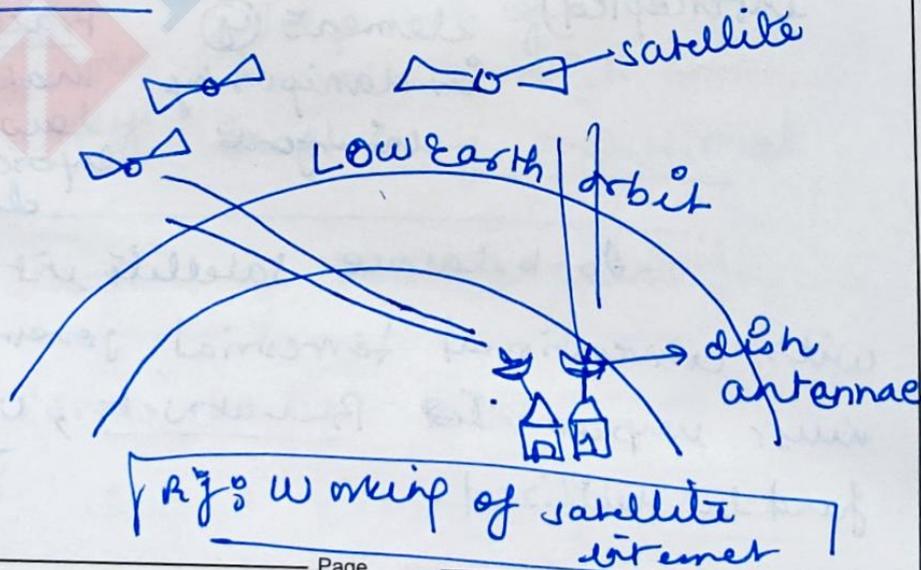
Advantages of satellite internet

① Accessibility: of remote areas, hamlets to internet

② Utility in sensitive establishments: where traditional radio waves are prohibited e.g. hospitals, flights.

③ Delivery of government e-services e.g. e-sanjeevani, eVIDYA to rural areas

④ close digital divide

However limitations are:

→ affordability

→ space debris issue

privacy issues traffic (may be intercepted)

Use by antisocial elements e.g in Manipur by insurgents

difficult traceability makes law enforcement difficult

To balance satellite internet with conventional terrestrial, government must implement BharatNet, USOF fund be utilized.

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(6)

Geographical Indications is an Intellectual property right attached to a product which has special characteristics attributed to its place of origin.

Legal framework governing GI

① Geographical Indication (Registration) Act 1999

(i) establishes a GI Registry in Chennai

(ii) provides exclusive usage right

(ii) makes use, production of GI product without license, an offence

② GI Rules, 2000 - application procedure, fees, timeline for registration

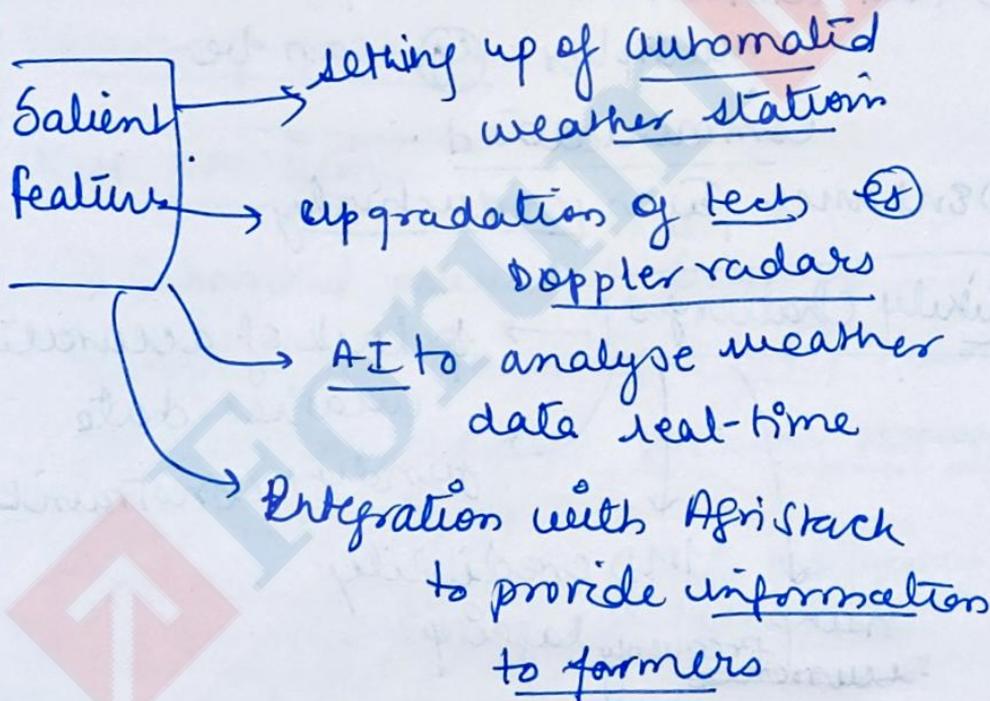Difference between GI & Trademark

Trademark is a distinctive

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graphical representation to identify
a product - used for Branding, labelling.

Basis	GI	Trademark
Law	GI Act 1999	Trademarks Act 1957
Exceptions	No exceptions	(i) Previous well known mark (ii) exhaustion of rights
Examples	Mithila Makhana, Banarasi Saree	Yahoo!, Ranbaxy etc.

Infringement of GI

① filing a suit for Injunction In District court
② Passing off action by any registered user of GI
③ any appeal can be filed with commercial court

GI can be leveraged to improve
income of our artisans and give
them recognition on world stage.

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(4)

Mission Mausam launched to provide <u>real time</u> weather forecasting under <u>Ministry of Earth Sciences</u>.

Salient features

→ <u>setting up</u> of <u>automated</u> <u>weather station</u>

→ <u>upgradation</u> of <u>tech</u> (g) <u>Doppler radars</u>

→ <u>AI</u> to analyse weather data real-time

→ Integration with <u>Agristack</u> to provide information to <u>farmers</u>

Need of the Mission

① Rising <u>extreme</u> weather events

(g) <u>Cloudbursts</u> in <u>Shimla</u> (2023),

② heavily populated areas

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require preparedness in advance

③ economic losses of crops, construction sector to be mitigated (India lost USD 2.18 million in 2024 due to disasters)

④ Tech advancements & → innovation multiplies (eg) can be commercialized.

⑤ Enhance farm productively

Likely Challenges → lack of accurate weather data
→ funding constraint

IMD credibility

rising frequency lagging by climate change make prediction difficult.

Mission Mausam is a timely step as each 1 USD invested in Disaster Risk Reduction yields USD 7 return through loss reduction (UNDP)

Page

(8)

Disaster Management (Amendment) Act 2025 aims to reform India's <u>reactive</u> handling of disasters to a <u>proactive</u> Disaster preparedness.

Key Provisions

① Enhanced powers of National Disaster Management Authority [(S.6)] : can now prepare <u>National Disaster Management</u> <u>Plan</u> on its own

② Creation of <u>High level</u> Crisis Management Committee as a statutory body

③ Mandatory creation of <u>State</u> <u>Disaster Response Force</u> in every state

④ Creation of <u>Urban Disaster Management</u>

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Authority (UDMA)

⑤ Tying of funds for <u>mitigation</u> under National Disaster Response Fund (s.46).

┌─────────────────────────────────────┐
│ <u>Amendment to strengthen disaster</u> │
│ <u>management</u>   │
└─────────────────────────────────────┘

① Better preparedness of NDM Plan as NDMA has experts

② <u>UDMA</u> to coordinate <u>capacity building</u> at lower levels

③ <u>SDRF</u> can aid states <u>respond speedily</u>, reducing casualties

④ Alignment with <u>Sendai framework</u> helps improve India's international image.

~~Thus~~ ~~NDA~~ However, Amendment must be followed up with <u>adequate funding</u> and <u>political will</u>,

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①

Operation Sindoor (2025) displayed an India which would not merely react to terrorism but respond to terrorism. In Pahalgam tourist attack

Strategic Evolution

① Precision strike against terrorist hideout - show pre-emptive response to terrorism

② Closure of all integrated check post with Pak - verbal sanction to economic sanction

③ Garnering international support through multi party delegation

④ Diplomatic coein when UNSC Resolution attributed Pahalgam attack to TRf.

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(5) India put Indus Water Treaty in abeyance → signalling shift to "BLOOD and Water cannot flow together" —

. However, some counter effects of Operation Sindoor:

(i) US mediation internationalised the issue

(ii) Threat of nuclear warfare at India's doorstep

(iii) seen as failure of Indian intelligence

India has shown indomitable spirit through this strike — must balance diplomatic isolation of Pakistan with security across the border.

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(10)

According to ~~International Bureau~~ UNODC, cyberspace has emerged as the "5th domain of Warfare".

Threats posed by Cyberspace
- → Cybercrimes like digital arrest, cyber slavery eg in Cambodia
- → Cyber Ops — Psychological warfare used by Pak during Operation Sindoor
- → Cyber terrorism (used by ISIS to share beheading videos)
- → Cyber hacks by states eg Estonia crash (2008) allegedly by Russia.

Threats to Indian national security

① Large digital footprint - 50 crore social media users

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② Race Radicalization campaigns
④ by ISIS, Voice of India Page after
North East Delhi riots

③ Influence on elections by profiling

④ Disinformation campaigns of ISI.

[Strategies to tackle]

① NCIIPC set up under $S70A$ of
IT Act 2000 — build capacity

② Training of ethical hackers to
prevent attacks (Cyber Dome
                    of Kerala)

③ AI to filter and flag suspicious
content ④ Cyber Swachhta Kendra

④ Focus on IEC campaigns ④
Operation Pigeon of Kerala +
        Sahi Raaste Campaign

Cyberspace can be a <u>force</u>
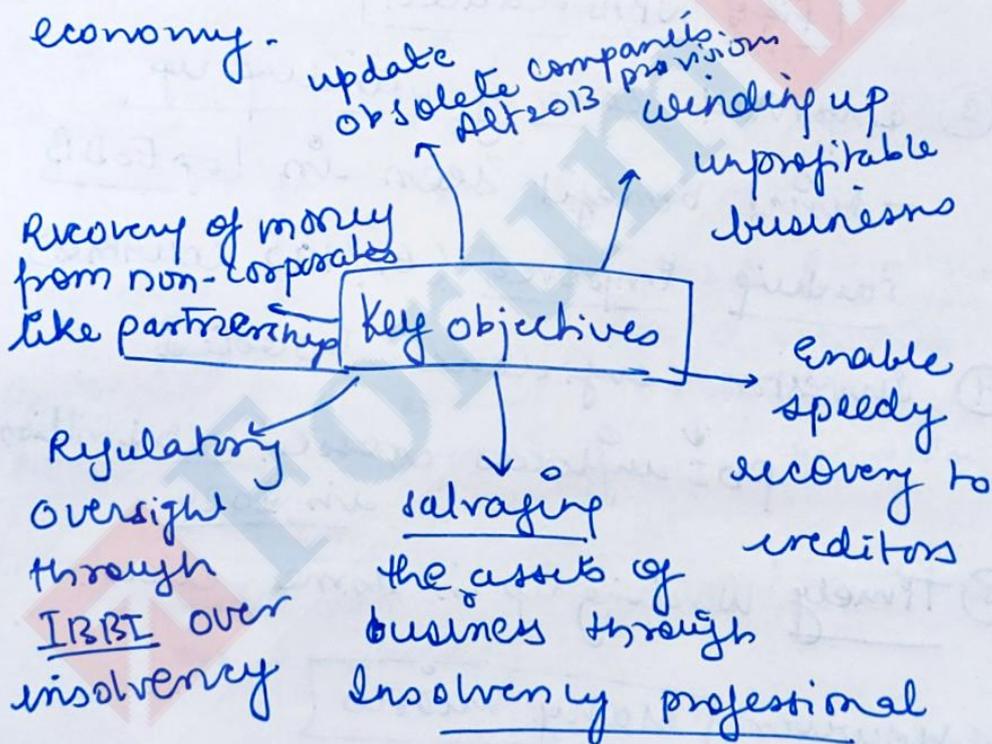multiplier rather than threat
multiplier if safeguarded well.

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(1)

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) enacted in 2016 to counter chakravyuh challenge of Indian economy.

update obsolete companies provision Act 2013 — winding up unprofitable businesses

Recovery of money from non-corporates like partnership

Key objectives

Enable speedy recovery to creditors

Regulatory oversight through IBBI over insolvency

salvaging the assets of business through Insolvency professional

(Evaluation of IBC's success)

① Some positive outcomes

(i) Chuped recovery of stuck

Page

capital for legacy creditors

② Reduced banks' <u>NPAs</u>
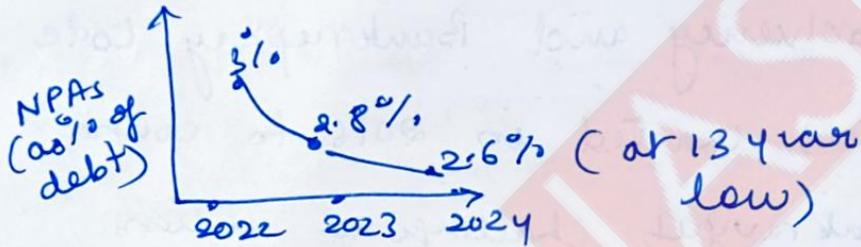

Fig: NPAs reduced

③ Improved <u>Ease of winding up</u>
— direct benefit seen in <s>log</s> <u>EoDB</u>
<u>ranking improved</u> (63/192 countries)

④ Investor confidence boosted
↓
FDI inflows crossed <u>USD 1 trillion</u>
in 2024

⑤ <u>Timely</u> winding up in some cases.

However, Many misses

① Delayed insolvency declaration
ⓔⓖ Jet Airways took > 2 years.
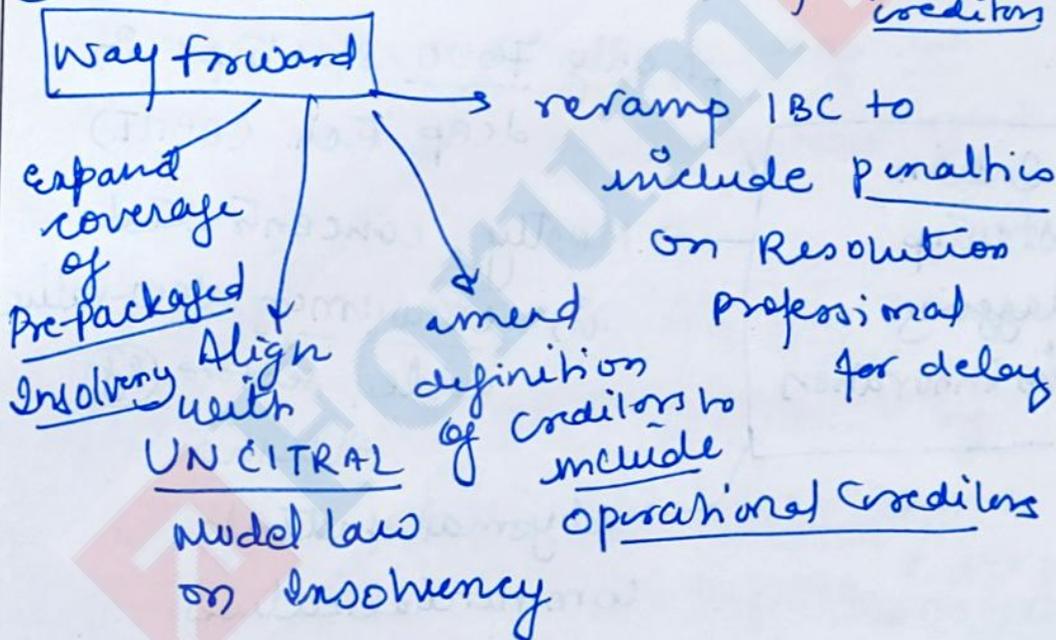
② Haircuts very high (almost
80% in some
cases)

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कृपया इस स्थान
में प्रश्न संख्या के
अतिरिक्त कुछ
लिखें।

Candidates
must not
write on this
margin

③ Untrained insolvency professionals

④ Cross border insolvencies not
covered by IBC → reduced
venture capitalists
investments

⑤ Statutory timelines not adhered
(eg) 330 days mandated for
resolution but ~600 days taken.

⑥ financial creditors dominating operational
creditors

Way froward

→ revamp IBC to
include penalties
on Resolution
professional
for delay

expand
coverage
of
Pre-Packaged
Insolvency   Align
              with
              UNCITRAL
              Model law
              on Insolvency

amend
definition
of creditors to
include
operational creditors

IBC has been a mixed bay -
IBBI must play a proactive advisory
role in getting it reformed.

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(12)

In 2024, 1·57 lakh startups have been registered with DPIIT. This makes India 3rd largest startup ecosystem in the world.

Indian startup lagging in innovation
→ Only 7000 startups in deep tech (DPIIT)
→ Mostly concentrated in consumer, low-value added sectors (eg) Meesho
→ abysmal patent commercialization

factors responsible for this lag

① Lack of funds: high interest rate, collateral requirements by banks

Page

② ~~drop~~ IPR underutilisation: lack of

IPR management training

③ Industry - academia linkage lacking

↓

not venturing into market intelligence

④ High gestation period of deep tech

calls for risky investors → low

takers in India

⑤ Poor Research and Development

ecosystems: only 0.64% of GDP spent

on R&D.

[Strategies to bridge this gap]

① Demand-driven Innovations - by

studying markets eg ADITI Scheme

for defence start ups

to Garuda

② Government providing seed fund eg

Startup fund of funds by SIDBI to

Meesho

③ focus on tech upgradation eg

India AI Mission to reduce capital

costs

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④ International collaboration (&) mentors under PRABHASS, VAJRA scheme

⑤ Streamlining IPR regime in India
↓
reducing timeline for patent examination

⑥ Commercialization support through FTAs etc. (NSIL supporting Agnikul]

   In this way. Indian startups can gain a first mover advantage in Deeptech → realising (SDG 9) innovation and business.

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(13)

Floriculture refers to systematic
production of flowering plants on
a scientic basis on a commercial
scale.

Floriculture in India
→ Covered under Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
→ Arunachal Pradesh leads in orchid exports
→ Government promoting export through APEDA

Floriculture in boosting farm income and ~~exports~~

① Diversification of traditional agriculture → helps against vagaries of nature

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② Provides <u>stability of Income</u>
↓
<u>decreased farm stress</u>

③ Higher <u>productivity</u> than foodgrains
(Horticulture covers <u>13%</u> of Gross
Cropped area but <u>contributes 33%</u> of
of agri GVA)

④ Rising demand for flowers
(i) <u>Mahakumbh</u> economy
(ii) wedding decoration
provide higher Income

⑤ | Boosting agri exports |

① Market for <u>tropical flowers</u> in
durloped countries → orchids

② <u>Value added products</u> → Incense
<u>sticks</u> made by startup ⊗ <u>Phool</u>
for exports

③ <u>Cultural</u> economy from abroad

④ NRIs in US, UK demand <u>marigold</u>
for Diwali

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(4) Untapped markets — high yielding investment eg Netherlands floriculture model.

Way forward

(1) Promote local artisans to develop garlands etc. → tap One District One product

(2) Develop post-harvest infra eg Cold storage, reefer Trucks

(3) Air cargo facilities eg Krishi Udan to help boost exports

(4) forming flori clusters under FPO scheme

(5) Digital Agriculture Mission (2024) with Decision support System for climate forecasting can aid floriculture economy in India

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(4)

"Blood of women is the edifice through which agri economy is built".

Feminization of agriculture due to increased male migration has not helped create better status for them.

Systemic Exclusion of women

→ 85% women farmers but only 13% own land

→ 98% of women farmers access microfinance (no long-term finances)

↳ poor education leads to lack of awareness and uptake of extension services

[Reasons for systematic exclusion]

(1) Patriarchal mindset - women's

farm work goes unpaid

② Dual burden of work: household and form (70% of cattle breeders are women)

③ Traditional stereotypes: women cannot hold property — incapable of self. agency

④ Lack of education: prevents assertion of own rights.

[Government initiatives]

① capacity building of women farmers: Mahila Kisan Sashakhikaran Yojana

② Nudge effect: PMAY (Rural) houses registered in eldest women member's name

③ Economic agency to women: Krishi Sakhi (trained para volunteers) to help train other farmers

④ Improvement of infrastructure for self employment ① DAYNRLM

Page

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⑤ SHGs as antidote to exclusion

Ⓐ Vaishno SHG opened Krishi Samriddhi Kendra with government support

⑥ promoting exports and procurement from women farmers Ⓑ on GeM Portal

⑦ stand up India for credit facilities

⑧ SHG-Bank Linkage Programme successful.

⑨ Drone Didis to empower women farmers through extension services.

The government has thus been promoting ideals of Art. 39(e), Art. 14 and 15 in agriculture.

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(15)

Axiom 04 Mission created history by taking the 2nd Indian Captain shubhanshu Shukla to the ~~moon~~ space - almost 40 years after Captain Rakesh Sharma.

[Key features of the Mission]

① Micro gravity experiments :

    (i) growing of chickpea seeds as part of ISRO's experiments

    (ii) understanding oxygen-carbon levels impact on plants

② Impact on astronaut's health :

    (i) on the brain functions

    (ii) on blood circulation

③ International space stations upkeep.

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उम्मीदवार इस हाशि नहीं लिख चाहिए Candidate must no write on margin

④ Private sector's growing prowess:
Axiom 04 was built by SpaceX

⑤ Understanding ISS capacity holding
Its significance for Gaganyaan project

① Crew safety testing

② Docking of humans safely in ISS
    ↓
useful for India's Antariksh
station

③ Health effects studies on Capt Shukla
helps preparedness specific to Indian
body types

④ Training of pilot gained by Capt
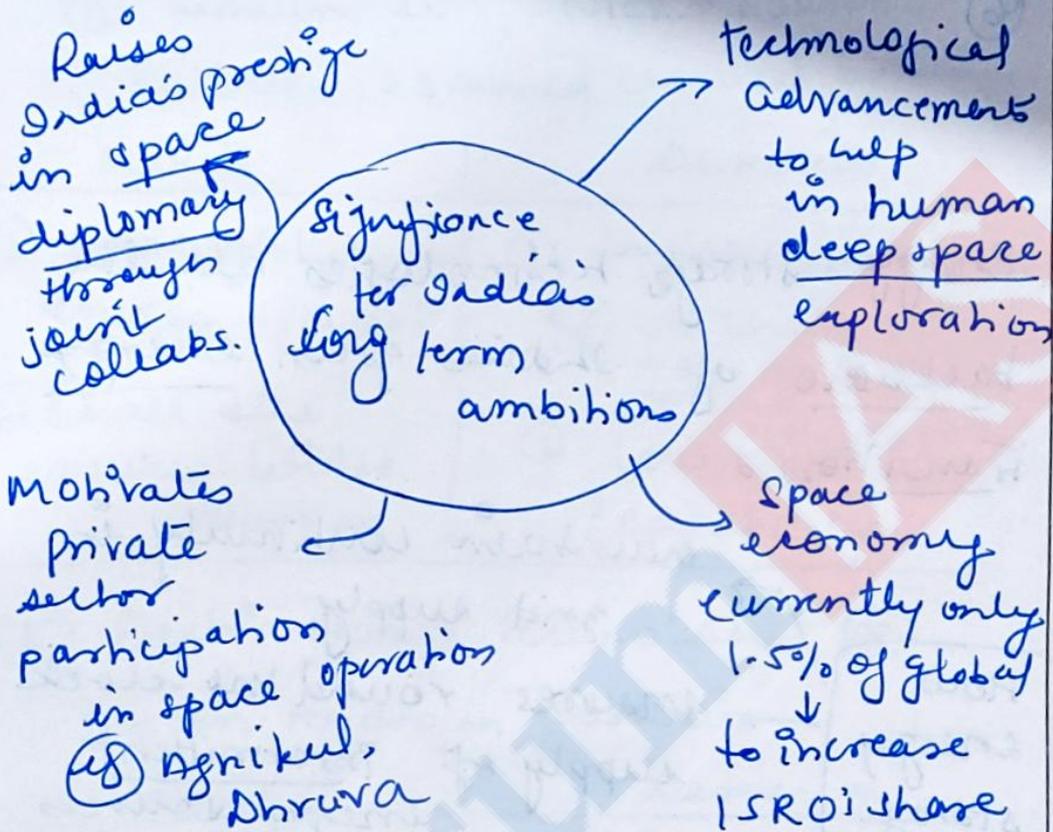Shukla → will Steer Gaganyaan too

⑤ Capt Shukla's Indian diet carefully designed
    ↓
its working will be helpful
for Gaganyatris

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(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें ।

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Raises India's prestige in space diplomacy through joint collabs.

Significance for India's long term ambitions

technological advancements to help in human deep space exploration

Motivates private sector participation in space operations eg) Agnikul, Dhruva

Space economy currently only 1.5% of global ↓ to increase ISRO's share

Thus, through expenditure of ₹ 500 crores on getting a berth for Capt Shubhanshu on Axiom 04 India has generated manifold benefits.

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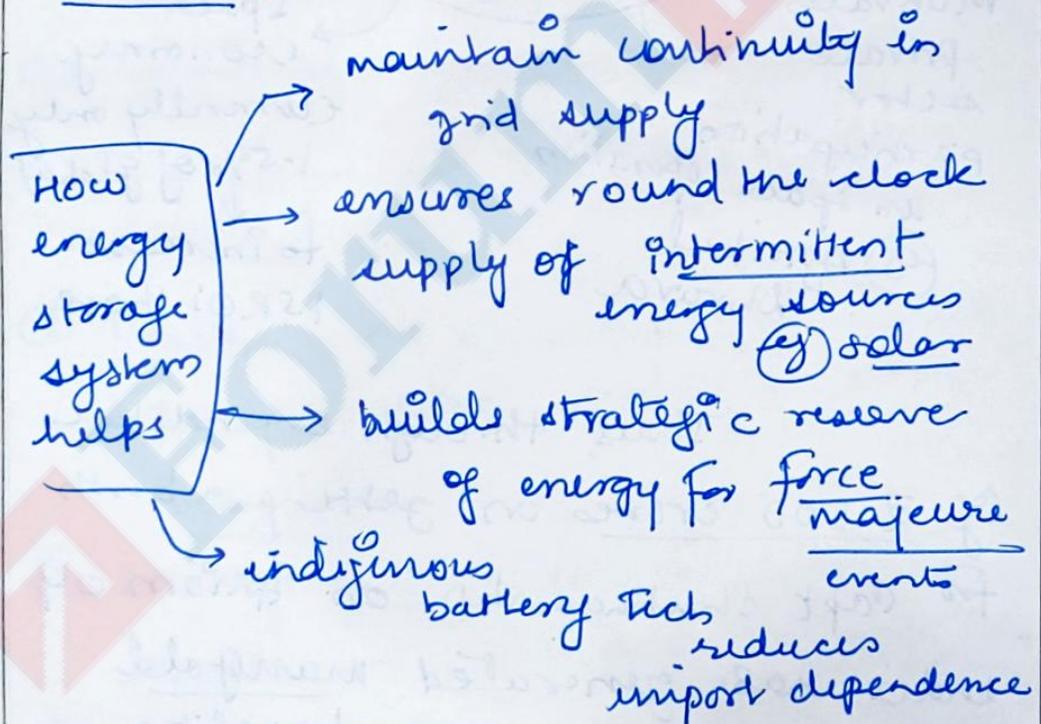(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

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6

Energy storage technologies are the backbone of India's green energy transition.

How energy storage system helps →

→ maintain continuity in grid supply

→ ensures round the clock supply of intermittent energy sources (eg) solar

→ builds strategic reserve of energy for force majeure events

→ indigenous battery tech reduces import dependence

Battery Storage Technologies

① Chemical battery storage: where electrons mobility from anode to cathode used to store energy

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(i) Lithium ion, Nickel sodium
batteries, Advanced chemical batteries.

Merits	Demerits
① highly energy efficient	① Import dependence on china for 70% of REES
② Small size ensures wider adoption	② Low recycling capability

(II) Electric storage technology (eg)
Green Hydrogen batteries

Merits	Demerits
① greener production — low GHG emission	① inflammability of hydrogen which is difficult to store.

(III) Gravity / Mechanical storage
technology (eg) in abandoned
mines by lifting heavy weights

Merits	Demerits
① No resource exploitation — low carbon footprint	① less efficiency storage

— Page —

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Battery storage technologies in India still at nascent stage and governments PLI for Advanced chemistry Cell Batteries, National Policy on Electronics 2019 are steps in the right direction. Will help achieve SDG 13 Climate action.

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(17)

Pandemic Agreement was signed by World Health Assembly in 2025, under the aegis of WHO.

Key features of the Agreement

① Obligation of parties:
   (i) Bring national legislations in compliance
   (ii) Sharing relevant health data when required
   (iii) Mandatory reporting of any emergency spread.

② Technology Transfer:
   (i) Countries which provide pathogen data entitled to receive a share of vaccines.

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(ii) fund to be established to enable vaccine tech development

③ Power of WHA to require:

(i) parties to grant inspection access to labs etc.

• (ii) sharing of pathogens free of cost

④ One Health approach - integration of animal, plant, human, environment into policy making

How one health approach helps (OHA)

① Prevent spread of zoonotics (eg)
Nipah (2018) in Kerala

② Eco-centric preparedness for pandemic
↳ herd immunity creation

③ Protects plant health - no such toxins be used which can bioaccummulate and hamper food chain

Steps needed to integrate it in India

① Organic farming promotion (eg)

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under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana

② Animal disease surveillance proactively ← India's Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme.

③ ~~Into~~ Reducing overusage of growth Hormones in animal husbandry

④ Preventing over the Counter sale of generics ← prescription be made mandatory under Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940

⑤ Promotion of AYUSH ← Global Centre in Jamnagar

In this way, India can integrate best of Pandemic Agreement with local health — achieving healthy lives for all (SDG 3).
↓
avoiding COVID like Pandemic again.

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(18)
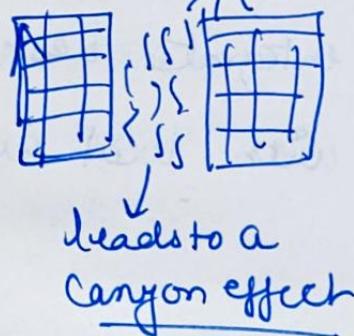
Heatwaves refer to the ~~usual~~ unusually high temperatures during summers. As per IPCG 6th Assessment Report, increased heatwave frequency directly related to climate change.

Causes of heatwaves

① Urban Heat soland Effect : due to high rise building, heat does not dissipate

② Deforestration : reduces evapotranspiration and natural cooling

leads to a canyon effect

③ poor ventilation of residential spaces increases greenhouse effect

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④ Rising temperatures due to global warming (2024 was the hottest year on record)

⑤ Concretization, use of insulating materials etc. increase heating.

Effects of heatwaves

① Risk of stroke due to excessive perspiration (eg) 99 deaths in UP, Bihar in 2023.

② Reducing worker productivity - will cause 5-8% reduction in working hours

③ Disproportionate impact on women - physiologically more prone to heat stress, cultural attire

④ Vegetation die backs (eg) In Spain (2023)

⑤ Increased evaporation → water scarcity (already per capita water 1465m³ which is less than 1700m³ recommended

Policies and frameworks

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① NIDM guidelines: On Early warning

② IMD issues heat wave alerts
   └ if exceeds 4°C from average heat wave
   └ if exceeds 6°C, severe heat wave

③ India Cooling Action plan 2019
   └ to increase comfort ventilation
   └ reduce demands of ACs.

④ Afforestation Programmes eg)
   Haritha Haram of Telangana

⑤ Green Building Code by GRIHA

      Way forward is to adopt mitigation (greening spaces, nature-based cooling by lakes restoration) as well as adaptation (research into green cooling tech and comfortable fabrics).

Please do not write anything except the question number in this space) प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

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(19)

As per FATF Report on Terror financing (2025), terrorists have adopted megabyte money to finance their operations.

> Emerging tech and globalisation role in terror financing

① Cryptocurrency :- leads to anonymous transfers (eg) by ISIS through Bitcoin

② Dark Web :- used to covertly turn black money into white (eg) the Onion Ring by Al Shabab

③ Global banking integration through SWIFT - facilitate cross border terrorist financing.

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④ Globalisation has opened new avenues:

(i) International tax havens facilitate shell companies to finance

(ii) social media used for crowdfunding (g) Hezbollah in Lebanon

(iii) Urban naxalism rising (g) People's Democratic Front of India financing LWE

(iv) Trade-based money laundering (g) phantom shipments facilitate terror funding

(v) Transborder organized crime networks help layering and integration

[Measures taken]

① National level

(i) PMLA 2002 enacted to combat money laundering

(ii) UAPA 1967 ~~tackles~~ makes terror funding an ~~offence~~

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(iii) FIU-IND to gather intelligence on suspicious transaction

(iv) Customs capacity building to counter smuggling of FICN.

② International :

(i) FATF created in 1989 by G7

(ii) No money for Terror Conference

(iii) UN Convention on Transnational organized crimes (2000) to combat funding nexus.

(iv) ~~कम~~ UNCTC Resolution 1267 to black list and freeze terror assets

Terrorism definition however remains elusive. Can justify funding Need to adopt comprehensive Convention on Terrorism at the earliest.
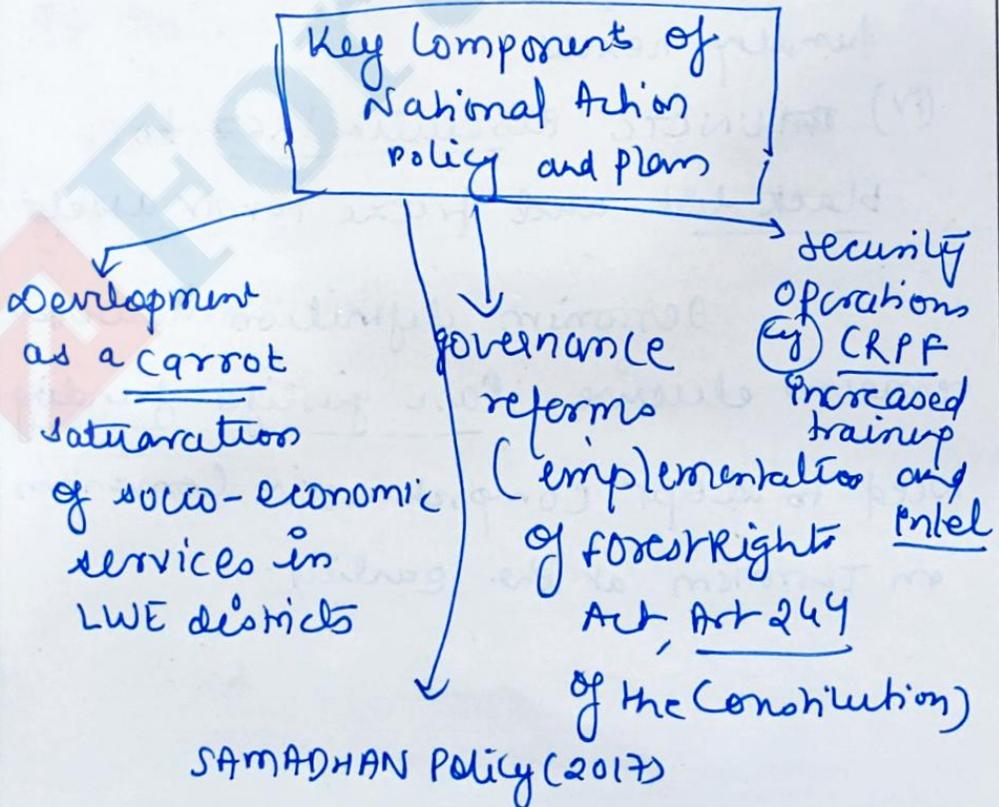
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(20)

In 2024, 237 LW Extremists have been killed, 812 have surrenderd (MHA data). National Action Plan of combating Left wing Extremism (2015) has played a major role in this.

┌─────────────────────┐
│ Key Components of   │
│ National Action   │
│ Policy and Plans   │
└─────────────────────┘

Development as a Carrot
Saturation of socio-economic services in LWE districts

Governance reforms (implementaton of forest Rights Act, Art 244 of the Constitution)

Security Operations by CRPF Increased training and Intel

SAMADHAN Policy (2017)

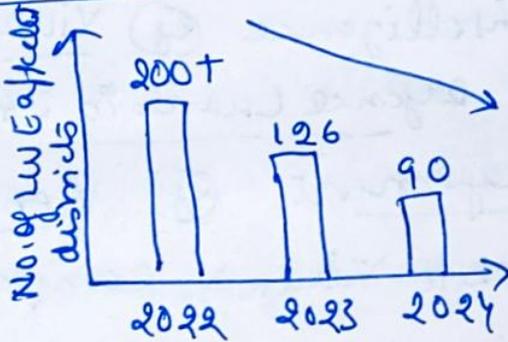# UPSC

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Contributed to significant decline in LWE

No. of LWE affected districts

200+ — 2022
126 — 2023
90 — 2024

① No. of LWE affected districts have come down

② No. of violent LWE incidents declined by 77% (MHA).

③ Red corridor has shrunk

MP   Jharkhand
            Odisha
→ Chhatisgarh
→ Odisha
→ Telangana

Fig: Red corridor shrunk
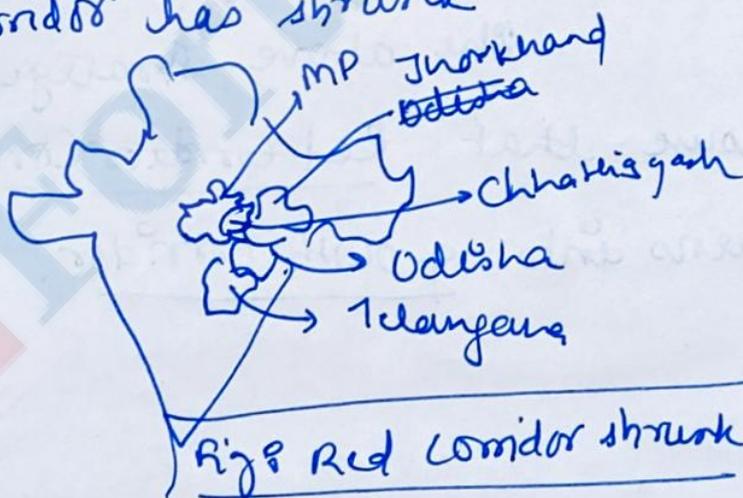
Additional strategies

① Civic Action Programmes & ④

Aasdwar Programme of Bihar gave grants to LWE-free gram Panchayat

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② Involvement of village defence volunteers to counter through actionable intelligence eg Village Defence Guards in J&K

③ Media management eg Kon Vaasalu (Back to Village) campaign of Chhattisgarh

④ Strict implementation of Schedule V and PESA 1996 (Bandopadhyay committee)

The above strategies can ensure that Red ~~Corridor~~ Corridor turns into growth corridor.