

TEST CODE 8 1 3 4 1 1

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	Shreya		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910178438	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1901	Date/दिनांक	16-8-25

*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. 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।	
1			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।	
2			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।	
3			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।	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।	
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Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :
			9:00 AM	12:00 PM
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हें 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 :

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) The Union Budget 2025-26 outlines a shift towards the 'debt-to-GDP ratio' as the fiscal anchor starting from FY 2026-27. Discuss the rationale behind this shift. (10 marks, 150 words)

केंद्रीय बजट 2025-26 में वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 से राजकोषीय आधार के रूप में 'ऋण-से-जीडीपी अनुपात' की ओर बदलाव की रूपरेखा तैयार की गई है। इस बदलाव के पीछे के तर्क पर चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The recent shift from fiscal deficit target of 5% as the fiscal anchor towards Debt-to-GDP ratio highlights a reformative shift in balancing the budgetary deficit.

Rationale behind this shift

- 1) To align with the 'international standards' to debt measurements like the IMF & World Bank.
- 2) This shift helps to overcome the drawbacks of 'escape clause' of the fiscal deficit target under FRBM act.
- 3) Government spending during the 'black swan' event can be justified if debt-to-GDP is measured instead of maintaining an fiscal deficit anchor.
- 4) Gives 'fiscal space' to government

without breaching the targets. Thus helps to improve the capex ratio.

5) Debt to GDP ratio will help in measuring the changes between the two and 'fiscal health' of the economy in better parameters.

6) 'Holistic comparison' with other countries can help to analyse our stand in the global markets.

However, few concerns raised → Breaching the FRBM limit of fiscal deficit can cause 'inflationary pressure' on the economy

→ Increase in the 'off-budget' borrowings can result in 'crowding out effect' to the private sector.

Thus, though the shift is reformative but must be balanced to ensure healthy fiscal targets are met.

Feedback

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

TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.2) Why does India need to transition from a 'build to print' to a 'build to design' model in manufacturing? What steps has been taken by the government in this regard? (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत को विनिर्माण में 'अनुसारी निर्माण' (Build to Print) से 'डिजाइन आधारित निर्माण' (Build to Design) मॉडल की ओर संक्रमण की आवश्यकता क्यों है? इस संदर्भ में सरकार द्वारा कौन-से कदम उठाए गए हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India's manufacturing sector though contributes to around 22% in GDP but employees only around 17% of employment and exports are also meagre.

Transition from build to print to build to design - needed

- 1) Realise the goal of 'Make in India' and raise the export share of manufacturing sector.
- 2) Reduce the import dependence of technology and material.
 (eg): Pharmaceutical APIs, Photo voltaic cells etc → huge burden on trade deficit.
- 3) To generate 'employment opportunities' for the 'working age' population

4) Innovation in the manufacturing sector is the need of the hour to make it 'globally competitive'

Steps taken

- 1) 3D printing mission by government to ~~use~~ newer techs for faster development.
 - 2) Increase the research & development through credit availability.
 - 3) Atal Innovation Mission under NITI Aayog to provide new tech smart resolutions
 - 4) Atal Tinkering Labs for skilling & re skilling the labour force.
 - 5) Reforms in the 'IPR' regime to ensure innovation in this field.
- Thus to make the manufacturing sector tech smart, tech transfers are also done with USA under iCet.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.3) Explain the concept of a nutrition-sensitive food system and suggest strategies to achieve it in the country. (10 marks, 150 words)

पोषण-संवेदनशील खाद्य प्रणाली की अवधारणा को समझाइए तथा देश में इसे प्राप्त करने के लिए रणनीति सुझाइए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

With around 35% of stunted children and 19% of wasted children under the NFHS-5 data, nutritional security must be the aim of food system.

Nutrition-sensitive food system

- 1) Meet the 'dietary' needs of India's population is the aim.
- 2) Nutrition enriched food like vitamins A, B₁, B₁₂, D, and minerals like iron, calcium etc should be met through food system.
- 3) India is home to large population of anemic women & children - thus folic acid and iron deficiency must be met.

Strategies to achieve it

- 2) shift from 'food security' to 'nutritional security' must be the goal.
- 2) Nutritional diet through 'Shree Anna' can be met as they are rich in fiber, gluten free and vitamins.
- 3) 'Food fortification' through genetic engineering like 'golden rice' should be done.
- 4) The PDS system needs reforms with a shift from 'rice - wheat' towards 'coarse meals' which are nutritionally enriched.
- 5) 'Mid day Meal' scheme with eggs and other proteins must be provided.

These strategies can transform the food system to 'nutritional - secure' and improve the health standard.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.4) Give a brief overview of the 'Digital Agriculture Mission'. How can it benefit the agriculture sector? (10 marks, 150 words)

'डिजिटल कृषि मिशन' का संक्षिप्त विवरण दीजिए। इससे कृषि क्षेत्र को क्या लाभ हो सकता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Digital Agriculture Mission is adopted to make agriculture 'tech smart' and 'digitally connected' through use of e-technology to aid farmers.

Brief overview

- 1) Tools like 'e NAM' for digital procurement has been introduced
↳ will help connect more farmers
- 2) 'e-Chaupal' & 'e-Rakam' initiative to provide direct transfers and price realisation of produce.
- 3) To make agriculture 'climate resilient' technologies like GIS based mapping and data meteorological briefings through SMS based system.

4) Kisan Samudhi Kendras for making farmers tech-smart.

5) Computerisation of Primary Agriculture Committee is also included.

Benefit the agriculture sector

1) Realising the goal of doubling farmers income - Shanta Kumar Committee through tech based data.

2) Reduce the role of 'sahayaks' thus direct connection with government & price benefits.

3) Improve the productivity through tech smart data like 'soil health card' & resource mapping.

4) Realise the goal of \$ 60 billion exports by agriculture sector through agri export centres.

Digital tech can make the agriculture as an enterprise & farmers as agri-preneurs

Feedback

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Q.5) Rare earths are not just elements; they are foundational inputs that act like 'seeds of technology'. Elaborate. (10 marks, 150 words)

दुर्लभ मृदा तत्व (Rare Earths) केवल रासायनिक तत्व नहीं हैं; ये प्रौद्योगिकी के 'बीज-तुल्य' मूलभूत निवेश हैं। सविस्तर वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Rare earth elements are a group of 17 critical elements which though are abundant in the earth's crust but due to their scattered-ness they become rare.

'seeds of technology'

- 1) Foundational elements for developing critical technologies like semicon and other techs.
- 2) Use of lithium in lithium ion batteries is also an important raw material for manufacturing industries.
- 3) Delevium and titanium are used in modern defence technologies.
- 4) space tech and development of

fuels also rely on rare earth elements.

s) Nuclear power plants and fission technologies thrive on rare earth elements.

Measures to make them available

→ India's Critical Mineral Policy for their extraction and mapping

→ Critical Mineral supply chain to make a resilient global supply chain of rare earth elements.

→ icet between India & USA for tech transfers and rare earth elements use.

with China holding more than 80% reserves, it becomes a concern and therefore resilient supply chains must be developed for 'equitable benefit'

Feedback

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Q.6) Why retrofitting Electrostatic Precipitators (ESPs) in Indian thermal power plants is a more viable and effective option compared to the installation of flue gas desulfurization (FGD) systems?

(10 marks, 150 words)

भारतीय तापीय विद्युत संयंत्रों में फ्लू गैस डिसल्फ्यूराइजेशन (FGD) प्रणालियाँ लगाने के बजाय विद्युत-अवक्षेपकों (ESPs) का पुनर्संयोजन क्यों अधिक व्यवहार्य और कारगर विकल्प है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Thermal power plant is responsible for around 50% of carbon dioxide and NO_2 , SO_2 emissions and these measures to curb pollution becomes important.

Why ESP better & viable than FGD system

1) Flue gas desulfurization releases flue gas and methane as by-product which also acts as GHG.

2) Ineffective results with used of FGD system has highlighted need of ESP.

3) Electrostatic Precipitators are easy to apply and ~~less~~ are cost-effective.

- 4) Reduce the GHG emission after waste treatment in thermal power plants.
 - 5) Reduce the toxic chemicals + gases released and the by-products like flue gas.
 - 6) electrostatic precipitators can be installed easily as compared to FGD systems.
 - 7) Precipitators help in curbing the aerosols and thus reducing its harmful effects on earth's atmosphere.
- Thus ESP's use can help to decarbonize the thermal power plants and reduce the carbon footprint.

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.7) The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regime in India remains weak and is often reduced to a procedural formality. In light of this statement, examine the key challenges in EIA implementation and suggest reforms. (10 marks, 150 words)

'भारत में पर्यावरण प्रभाव आकलन (EIA) व्यवस्था कमजोर बनी हुई है और अक्सर इसे प्रक्रियात्मक औपचारिकता तक सीमित कर दिया जाता है।' इस कथन के आलोक में, EIA कार्यान्वयन में प्रमुख चुनौतियों का परीक्षण करें और सुधारात्मक उपाय सुझाएँ। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Environmental Impact Assessment

is a process of assessing the ecological side effects of a developmental project or industry under the Environmental Protection Act.

Challenges in EIA Implementation

- 1) Lack of effective assessment and hasty decisions mars its efficiency.
- 2) The EIA lacks scientific & experienced professionals and staff and thus regulatory bars are not proper.
- 3) EIA decisions are challenged in courts thus its recommendations not implemented.
- 4) Legal loopholes are found & used

by the industries.

5) Only prior sanction are required & thus inability to curb past projects harmful effects.

Reforms

1) Make it legal & statutory and decisions as binding that cannot be challenged.

2) effective staff and funds to improve its capacity.

3) Dedicated committees for better assessment as per geographical conditions also required.

4) Social impact assessment along with EIA will help to reap its benefits.

EIA can become a game changer to reduce the pollution levels & harmful effects on the ecology & economy of the ^{country}.

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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.8) Plastic pollution is emerging as a serious environmental threat in India. Discuss the various mitigation measures to address this problem and also the government's initiatives in this regard.

(10 marks, 150 words)

प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण भारत में एक गंभीर पर्यावरणीय खतरे के रूप में उभर रहा है। इस समस्या से निपटने के लिए विभिन्न शमन उपायों और इस संबंध में सरकार की पहलों पर चर्चा करें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India is the largest country in terms of plastic pollution and accumulation which has harmful effects on the environmental health of the country.

Mitigation measures

- 1) Segregated waste collection to improve the waste disertion & treatment
- 2) Reducing the use of plastic by replacing it with reusable products like paper bags, glass bottles
- 3) Bioplastics can be used to reduce the plastic footprint & GHG emissions
- 4) Using 'bioremediation' & pyrolysis technologies for waste

treatment.

5) circular economy 'creation in field of electronics to reduce the plastic waste generated by them..

Government's initiatives

1) 'Ban on single use plastic' policy to regulate the pollution created by polythene & other stuffs.

2) Reducing the limit of micro plastics.

3) use of bio plastics and paper bags using geo engineering.

4) Door to door segregated waste collection vans to reduce the

dis waste.

5) Markings like Polyethylene, Polystyrene also helps in curbing their waste & proper treatment

Plastic pollution creates a huge threat to the biodiversity in the region & thus must be prevented.

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.9) Amid evolving threats, there is a need to blend private sector capabilities with India's current internal security architecture. In this context, elaborate on the ways in which the private sector can contribute to strengthening internal security. (10 marks, 150 words)

उभरते खतरों के बीच, भारत की मौजूदा आंतरिक सुरक्षा संरचना के साथ निजी क्षेत्र की क्षमताओं को जोड़ने की आवश्यकता है। इस संदर्भ में, उन तरीकों पर विस्तार से चर्चा करें जिनसे निजी क्षेत्र आंतरिक सुरक्षा को सशक्त करने में योगदान दे सकता है। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India's location with hostile neighbourhood in the surroundings places importance on developing a strong defence capability to protect against security threats.

Need to blend private sector capabilities

1) Lack of defence indigenous tech players in India.

(eg): DRDO only most important in the field.

2) Private sector can bring more resources capitalisation and tech transfers which can help in bridging the tech divide.

Ways to increase contribution of private

1) Dedication defence policy to channelise

the private sector in defence fields.

2) Academia-Industry linkages to enhance the research & development in defence sector.

3) capital and resources of privates can be utilized along with national level organisations blend.
collaboration.

4) Opening the non-military front capability for limited FDI sources can help to improve the finance gap.

5) Thus nations security can be protected with dedicated private interventions. But they must be properly regulated to balance the negative use. as well.

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.10) 'Radicalisation in Jammu and Kashmir is driven as much by socio-economic factors as by external influences.' Discuss how education and youth engagement can play a role in countering radicalisation in J&K. (10 marks, 150 words)

'जम्मू और कश्मीर में कट्टरपंथ सामाजिक-आर्थिक कारकों के साथ-साथ बाहरी प्रभावों से भी प्रेरित है।' चर्चा करें कि शिक्षा और युवा भागीदारी किस प्रकार जम्मू और कश्मीर में कट्टरपंथ का मुकाबला करने में भूमिका निभा सकती है।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Radicalisation in Jammu Kashmir

has enabled to wage proxy wars and 'bleed India through thousand cuts' by state & non state actors.

Driven by socio-economic as well as external influence -

- 1) Lack of developmental & connectivity projects in the region has created relative deprivation.
- 2) economic factors for employment of youth are insufficient → unemployment pushes them towards radicalisation.
- 3) education through schools & universities also lacks sufficient capacity & faces threats from terror attacks.
- 4) Political instability in the region has

also played a huge role in radicalizing factors playing their tactics.

5) 'state funding' & 'safe heavens' by Pakistan to fuel the POK issue is also a factor.

Youth engagement + education in countering radicalisation -

1) Operation Sadbhawna by government to reset the opportunities can improve the situation.

2) Education can provide rationality & thus the religious fundamentalist tendencies can be curbed.

3) Employment through industries and service sector can realise the youth's aspirations and reduce the monetary issues faced.

4) Regional development can be achieved thus radicalisation can be curbed with developmental initiatives.
The youth J&K is an integral part & thus can help in making India resilient.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.11) Outlining the key characteristics of the care economy, discuss how India can better integrate the value of unpaid and underpaid care work into its economic framework. (15 marks, 250 words)

देखभाल अर्थव्यवस्था (केयर इकोनॉमी) की प्रमुख विशेषताओं को रेखांकित करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि भारत किस प्रकार अवैतनिक और अल्प वैतनिक देखभाल कार्य के मूल्य को अपने आर्थिक ढांचे में बेहतर ढंग से एकीकृत कर सकता है।
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India has emerged as a growing hub of 'care economy' and 'medical tourism' are also increasing because of this.

Key characteristics +

- 1) Provide care based services like day care centres, nursing, hospitality etc.
- 2) Largely limited to the unorganised sector - not registered with the government.
- 3) Care economy employees around 90% of female labour force in its ambit.
- 4) 'silver economy' and → geriatric

care is also a part of care economy.

5) It supports the medical tourism and has made India a hub → This increase is four.

Challenges → Social Security Net is absent to the care workers

→ largely limited to women and thus low-mental wages.

limited to urban centres and health divide is increasing between urban & rural areas.

India can better the value of care work -

1) expanding the social security net through registering under E-Shramik portal

- 1) Labour codes can be implemented to regulate the unpaid labour gap.
- 2) Recognising the underpaid workforce and providing them wage benefits through minimum wage system.
- 3) Newer opportunities in the care economy can be created to employ large workforce.
- 4) ASHA workers and Primary Health workers must be registered to include them in the scheme benefits.

Thus care economy can help in realising the goal of Nari Shakti & women led-development and hence reforms are needed to realise its full capacity.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

Q.12) 'The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) presents both unprecedented opportunities and significant challenges for India's labour market.' Examine. Also suggest strategies to align AI adoption with inclusive and resilient labour market outcomes. (15 marks, 250 words)

'कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) की तीव्र प्रगति भारत के श्रम बाजार के लिए अभूतपूर्व अवसर और महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियाँ प्रस्तुत करती है।' परीक्षण करें। साथ ही, समावेशी और तन्वशील श्रम बाजार परिणामों के साथ AI अपनाने को संरेखित करने की रणनीतियाँ भी सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Artificial intelligence has heralded the Industrial Revolution 4.0 by transforming all the sectors of economy

Opportunities by for labour market of India

2) creation of 'platform economy' and 'gig workforce' thus adopting the worker population of labour force.

2) Has created nearly 12 million new job opportunities in the gig economy thus raising the standard of living.

3) employing the low skilled workforce as per the work available.

4) Machine learning and algorithmic invention helped India's service sector to improve its export base.

Challenges

- 1) Nearly 90% of unorganised economy employing large labour force is remains unregulated.
- 2) AI has threaten the jobs loss and mass scale removal of workers from industries.
- 3) 'Low labour wage' and lack of social security benefits to the workforce.
- 4) Unregulated use of AI has also created ethical concerns regarding its use → suffers from algorithmic biases.
- 5) Strategies to align AI with inclusive & resilient labour outcomes
- 6) Mission 'AI for All' by global platforms

can help in its ethical use.

2) NITI Aayog's 'India AI Mission' can help to use AI in skilling and re-skilling of labour force

3) Creating job opportunities through AI based platforms and regulating through tech smart solutions.

4) Reduce the 'digital divide' and use of AI in the rural sphere as well.

Thus AI can act as double edged sword, but its effective use can help to transform the labour market and reap 'Dividend''s benefit.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.13) 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 सुझाएंगे? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India's agri export share is around 2.8% and its stands at 8th in rank among global players.

Remain weak despite high production levels -

- 1) Lack of upward - downward linkages to transform the farm to fork and provide value addition.
- 2) Low scale development of food processing industries in improving the shelf life of agri products
- 3) Huge population load - 15% lives in India - thus very less available for exports

4) Faces 'Sanitary & Phytosanitary' barriers in the global markets

eg: Pomegranates of India being returned by USA.

5) Lack of nutrition rich farm products → miss its efficiency in global market.

6) Farm subsidies given to crops makes them globally less competitive

7) Staple crops like rice & wheat occupy nearly 80% of gross cropped area thus lacks diversity in food crops.

Measures to improve competitiveness

1) Farm mechanisation & tech-smart agriculture to improve the

productivity & efficiency of food crops.

2) Food Processing Industries must be developed for value addition and packaged food production

3) Clusters like 'agri food parks', 'mega food parks' should be developed

4) Export based subsidies to farmers to improve scalability in global markets.

5) Bilateral trade agreements to avoid the sanitary measures.

6) Quality check units through FSSAI can help to improve quality control

Thus the goal of \$ 60 billion targets of agri imports can be realised.

Feedback

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Q.14) "The agricultural subsidy regime in the country needs reforms to address the distortions it causes." Comment. (15 marks, 250 words)

देश में कृषि सब्सिडी व्यवस्था में सुधार की आवश्यकता है ताकि इससे होने वाली विकृतियों को दूर किया जा सके। टिप्पणी करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The fertilizer subsidy amounts to around 1.7 lakh crore of burden to government along with other agriculture subsidies like Minimum Support Price has created distortions.

Distortions by agri subsidy regime

- 1) 'Blue bon' and 'Amber bon' regulations by the World Trade Organization for breaching the "de-minimus" limit.
- 2) Distortions placed under sanitary & phytosanitary barriers due to chemical & pesticide limits in agri products.
- 3) Urea based subsidy of government regulates the market price →

India the biggest producer and consumer of urea based subsidies.

- 4) 'Mono culture' cropping patterns due to high MSP for Rice & wheat
- 5) India has become a 'Net water exporter' because of water intensive production.
- 6) The farm loan waivers have distorted the health conditions of banks through rising NPA limits.
- 7) Benefitted only 6% of farmers under the MSP regime - Shankar Kumar com. thus increased the rich - poor gap
- 8) Fertilizer use ratio from 4:3:2 to 8:4:2 of NPK has created soil surface run off & degraded soil fertility.

Reforms are needed

- 1) Changing MSP regime to MRP regime.
- 2) Fertilizer subsidy must be nationalised & bio fertilizers like neem coated urea must be used.
- 3) Farm loans should be replaced through credits under Kisan credit cards with market intervention to reduce NPA.
- 4) Quality measures through APEPA, MPEPA and NPOP should be promoted.
- 5) Zero budget Natural farming & Precision farming should be adopted.
- 6) Reform in subsidy regime will help to nationalise the enchequer money and improve the health of soil & farmers both.

Feedback

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Q.15) How can biomanufacturing transform today's consumptive manufacturing paradigm to the one based on regenerative principles? Also discuss how BioE3 Policy (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment) aims to foster biomanufacturing in the country. (15 marks, 250 words)

बायोमैनुफैक्चरिंग आज के उपभोगात्मक विनिर्माण प्रतिमान को पुनर्योजी सिद्धांतों पर आधारित प्रतिमान में कैसे बदल सकता है? यह भी चर्चा करें कि बायोई3 (BioE3) नीति (अर्थव्यवस्था, पर्यावरण और रोजगार के लिए जैव प्रौद्योगिकी) का उद्देश्य देश में बायोमैनुफैक्चरिंग को बढ़ावा देना है। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Biomufacturing is the use of bio organisms like bacteria, algae etc. to transform the manufacturing sector.

Transform from consumptive to regenerative principles

- 1) Use of bio ethanol for production can reduce the carbon footprint of manufacturing industries.
- 2) Bio based products can improve the shelf 'shelf life' of the products.
- 3) 'circular economy' can be created through disposing wastes based on 'bioremediation' techniques.

- 4) Reduce the import dependency on oil and other energy imports.
- 5) Biotechnology in manufacturing can transform the machinery and make them tech smart.
- 6) Gene based editing through biotech like CRISPR - Cas 9 can help in reforming the products.

Bio E 3 Policy's aim

- 1) Developing a biotech economy to make India self reliant and reduce the current account deficits.
- 2) ecology can be protected through phyto. & bio remediation waste regeneration technologies.

3) Create newer employment opportunities in the manufacturing sector to improve its share of employment from 17% to 25%.

4)

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.16) The future of digital innovation depends on self-reliant, domain-specific AI capabilities. In this context, bring out the key considerations in developing indigenous AI models and tools. Suggest measures to build an enabling ecosystem for AI innovation in India. What initiatives have been taken by the government in this regard? (15 marks, 250 words)

डिजिटल नवाचार का भविष्य आत्मनिर्भर, डोमेन-विशिष्ट AI क्षमताओं पर निर्भर करता है। इस संदर्भ में, स्वदेशी AI मॉडल और उपकरण विकसित करने में प्रमुख विचारों को स्पष्ट करें। भारत में AI नवाचार के लिए एक सक्षम पारितंत्र बनाने के उपाय सुझाएँ। इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या पहल की गई है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Artificial Intelligence is the use of human cognitive skills in the machinery to transform the technology and improve digital innovation.

Developing indigenous AI need of the hour -

2)



Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.17) Marine oil spills are a form of environmental disaster, with far-reaching consequences for biodiversity and coastal livelihoods; however, India's preparedness to prevent such incidents and mitigate their impact has significant gaps. Analyze. (15 marks, 250 words)

समुद्री तेल रिसाव एक प्रकार की पर्यावरणीय आपदा है, जिसके जैव विविधता और तटीय आजीविका पर दूरगामी परिणाम होते हैं; हालाँकि, ऐसी घटनाओं को रोकने और उनके प्रभाव को कम करने के लिए भारत की तैयारियों में महत्वपूर्ण अंतराल हैं। विश्लेषण करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Marine oil spills are the oil accumulated on the surface of marine water bodies due to mishandled oil reserves transported through marine routes.

Far reaching consequences of oil spills

- 1) 'Hypoxic conditions' and 'dead zones' are created due to lack of oxygen transfer because of surface oil layer.
- 2) Leads to death of marine biodiversity because of lack of available sunlight.
- 3) Threatens the 'coral reef' in the coastal areas due to ~~oil~~ the

zoanthellae's growth.

4) affects the food chain of 'marine ecosystem' and thus marine life faces threats.

5) Marine based economy on fisheries, shrimps also gets affected due to lower production dependent peoples.

6) Fisheries acts as 'bank on homes' for fishermen & oil spills affect their livelihood due to deaths.

7) 'Micro climatic' conditions get disturbed and thus affects the marine diversity and livelihood.

India's preparedness has significant gaps.

- 1) Lack of technology to develop 'oil-zappers' that can remediate the oil spills.
- 2) Lack of regulation on the shipping industry to prevent such disasters.
- 3) Large scale impact on marine diversity is not effectively managed due to lack of proper resource allocation.
- 4) Negligence to recognize the threats of oil spillage & mitigating the same.

Dedicated efforts is required to reduce the threat to marine economy as they are livelihood source for around 75% population of coastal India.

Feedback

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Q.18) 'The United Nations has declared 2025 as the International Year of Glacier Preservation.' Bring out the ecological and socio-economic significance of glaciers. What are the key challenges in preserving them? What measures have been taken at national and international levels towards preservation of glaciers? (15 marks, 250 words)

'संयुक्त राष्ट्र ने वर्ष 2025 को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ग्लेशियर संरक्षण वर्ष घोषित किया है।' ग्लेशियरों के पारिस्थितिक और सामाजिक-आर्थिक महत्व को उजागर करें। उन्हें संरक्षित करने में मुख्य चुनौतियाँ क्या हैं? ग्लेशियरों के संरक्षण के लिए राष्ट्रीय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर क्या उपाय किए गए हैं? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Glaciers are life bank of earth as it has immense amount of resources and functions in regulating the water cycle and climatic conditions on earth.

Significance of glaciers

- 1) Around 98% of freshwater is stored in glaciers.
- 2) Glaciers acts as source of carbon sequestration.
- 3) Its 'albedo' effects reduces the heat on earth and act as negative climate feedback.

- 4) Nearly 15% of oil reserves and 50% of natural gas reserves are stored in the Arctic glacier.
- 5) They regulate the water drainage of rivers and thus supports the agriculture economy.
- 6) Regulate the climatic conditions on earth as well.

Key challenges in preserving

- 1) Lack of global concentrated global measures to prevent the glacier melting.
- 2) Increasing GHG emissions and not meeting the Paris goals have threatened the life of glaciers.
- 3) Climate change & its effects are also threatening their melting.

4) glaciers are 'global commons' and so their preservation becomes difficult

Measures

National level

- 1) National mission to preserve the Himalayas - to reduce the melting
- 2) Reduce the GHG through sancharvit goals.
- 3) Regulating tourism in the hilly areas to reduce stress on ecology.

International

- 1) Arctic treaty and Ottawa declaration to protect arctic glaciers.
- 2) Antarctica glaciers preservation through global measures & co-ordinated approach
- 3) Thus measures must be implemented effectively to reduce the melting of glaciers & preserving them

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.19) What are the determinants of insurgency in the north-eastern region of India? What strategy should the Government of India, civil administration and security forces adopt to counter the threat in the affected areas? (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत के उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र में उग्रवाद के निर्धारक तत्व क्या हैं? प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में खतरे का मुकाबला करने के लिए भारत सरकार, नागरिक प्रशासन और सुरक्षा बलों को क्या रणनीति अपनानी चाहिए? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Though the north-east insurgencies are reduced by 70% as per Ministry of Home Affairs, yet it remains as a threat to India's security & unity.

Determinants of NE insurgency

1) secessionist tendencies fuelled due to insider-outsider conflict.

2) ethnic diversity in the region has created rising threats.

(eg): Manipur - Kuki-Meitei conflict

3) global players are funding the insurgents.

(eg): China is accused of providing funds in the region

4) The porous borders in the NE region with Bangladesh & Myanmar has fueled the refugee crisis.

5) Geographical factors like lush green forests prevents from effective curbing of the insurgents.

6) 'Developmental deficit' in the region has also increased autonomy demands
 eg: Nagalim and Bodoland.

Strategy to counter threats

I. Government:

- 1) Negotiation with the insurgent groups through deliberation & discussion
- 2) Amending the AFSPA rules to reduce army-civilian conflict.
- 3) Developmental access through

DONER and zonal councils engagement

II Civil society :

- 1) Act as catalyst to bridge the government and citizens and provide last mile service delivery
- 2) Awareness regarding rights under Schedule 6 and Autonomous District Councils demands. can reduce the autonomy
- 3) advocate for human rights protection.

III Army security forces :

- 1) Proper deployment of ITBP and border fencing
- 2) Restrictive powers under AFSPA regime
- 3) Pro-active measures through BRD to aid development.

These concentrated & constructive measures can bridge the divide & accommodate the NE region in mainland

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.20) 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 recent drone attack & use of UAV's by Pakistan during the operation Sindoor has highlighted its role in defence & security of a nation.

Implications for India's security architecture

1) Threatens the critical infrastructure of the country.

eg: Nuclear power plants are targeted.

2) Defence threats due to use in GIS tracking & locating army personnel in the border areas

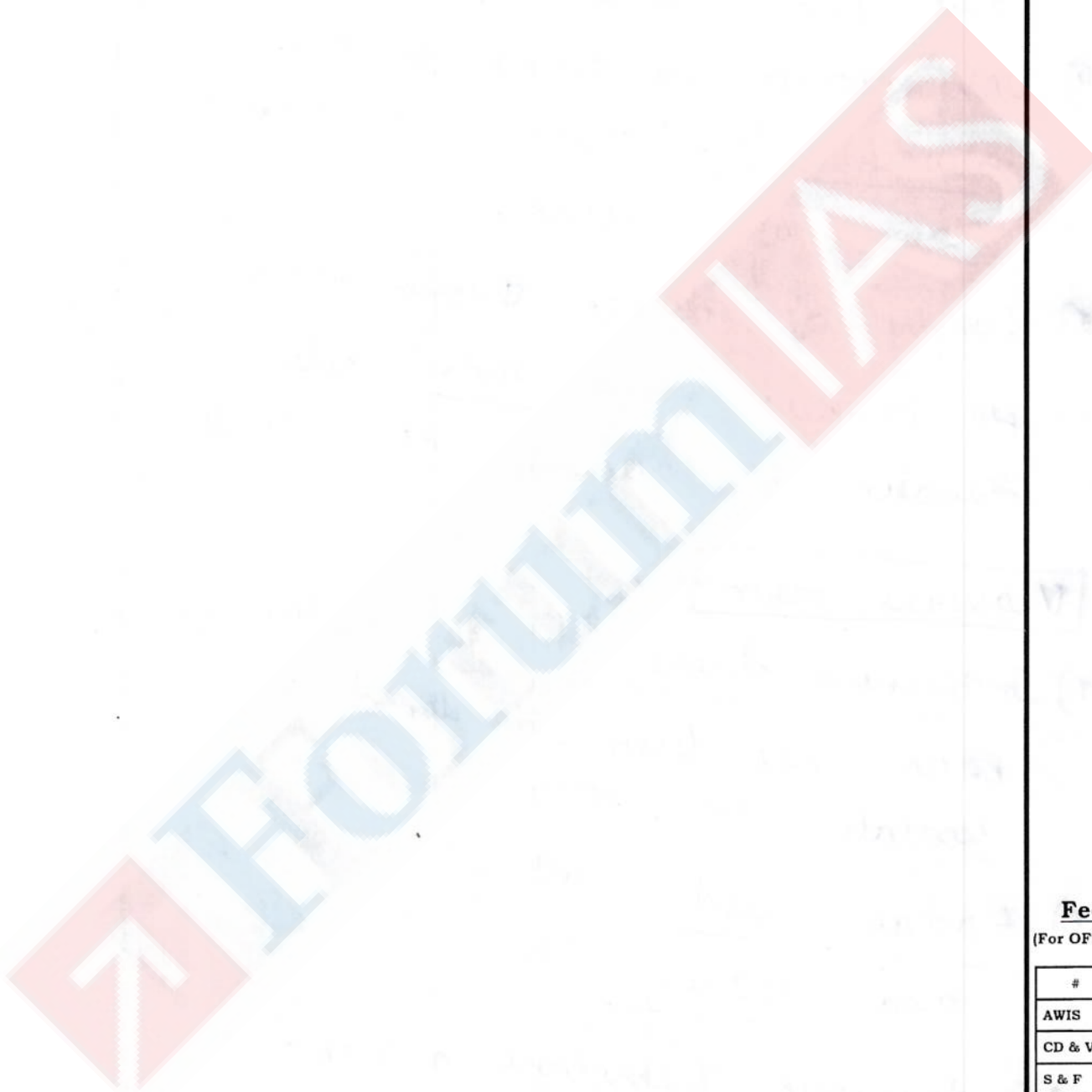
eg: Use of UAV's by Al-Qaeda in ~~Jamk~~ Jammu Kashmir region.

- 3) UAV's are used for 'surveillance' and supply of defensive materials also poses threat on India's security.
- 4) UAV attack by china in the galwan valley crashes is also a cause of concern.
- 5) Supply of drugs through porous borders using UAV's also threatens the security of the India.

Measures taken

- 1) Indigenous drone defence system by DRDO has been developed to regulate the UAV's.
- 2) Radar based system to track and destroy them.
- 3) Indigenous technology developed to design UAV's to tackle the enemy's UAV's.

Steps to tackle threats -



Feedback

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Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
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Test Goal

- 1
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Outcomes

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Marking Scheme

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

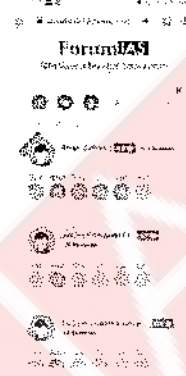
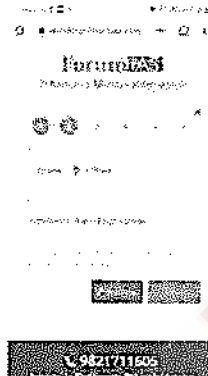
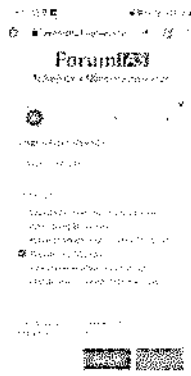
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