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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1236)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Date	7 th July 2019
Center	ORN		

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
- There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI** इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.**
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

1. Livestock farming not only contributes to climate change but is also affected by it. Elaborate the statement and discuss some measures that can be taken to make livestock farming more sustainable as well as resilient. (150 Words) 10

पशुधन खेती (लाइवस्टॉक फार्मिंग) न केवल जलवायु परिवर्तन में योगदान देता है, बल्कि इससे प्रभावित भी होता है। इस कथन का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए और पशुधन खेती को अधिक संधारणीय के साथ-साथ लचीला (रिज़िलियंट) बनाने हेतु उठाए जा सकने वाले कुछ कदमों की विवेचना कीजिए।

Livestock farming includes rearing of cattle, goat, sheep and other animals for selling their products. India has largest population of cattle in the world.

Livestock farming contributing to climate change

- 1) Methane released by excreta results in global warming.
- 2) Over exploitation of grazing ground can cause desertification & reduce carbon fixation.
- 3) Release CO₂ through respiration

Affect of climate change on livestock

- 1) Increase in diseases : Warm climate diseases moving to colder climate.

- 2) Reduced grazing ground due to high temperature.
- 3) low productivity as all animals have an ideal temperature requirement.
- 4) climatic events such as floods affecting physical security.

Measures to make livestock farming sustainable and resilient

- 1) High productivity animals through in-vitro fertilisation with foreign breeds.
- 2) Research spending on animal diseases
- 3) Skilling of farmer for taking care of animals in changing climate.
- 4) Use of IT e-technology for regular updates

livestock farming in impact way of subsistence for farmer and climate change should be included in National Mission on livestock.

2. A developed Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) will not only augment the overall transport capacity of the country, but also help correct the multi-modal transport mix. Discuss. (150 words) 10

एक विकसित अंतर्देशीय जलमार्ग परिवहन (IWT) न केवल देश की समग्र परिवहन क्षमता को बढ़ाएगा, अपितु इससे मल्टी-मॉडल परिवहन मिश्रण को सुधारने में भी सहायता मिलेगी। चर्चा कीजिए।

Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) is based on the usage of rivers, lakes and canals for mechanised boats.

Augment overall transport capacity

- 1) India has potential of 22,000 km of navigable water
↳ declared under National Waterway Act
- 2) Over utilisation of roadways and railways leading to delay and high cost.
- 3) low cost as compared to other transport systems
↳ Rs 1.10 / ton / km vs 1.40 for railway & 2.00 for roadway.
- 4) hinterland connectivity of ports would

be augmented

↳ major ports given permission for
expanding IWT

- 5) Potential in most populous Gangetic valley
where land availability for road and
railway limited

Correct multi modal mix

- 1) over use of roadways (75% of all
freight & 86% of all passengers)

↳ costly

↳ more pollution

- 2) China & Korea use IWT for 40% of
transportation need - India 15%.

- 3) Help in manufacturing and export
due to reduced cost.

Jal Vikaz mega Phase I completed

at ₹ 2.5 crore / Km vs ₹ 5 crore / Km for
canal and road also highlight the
cost benefit of IWT.

3. Highlight the importance of Agricultural Market Intelligence for farmers in India. Identifying the issues in the present system, suggest some measures for improving Agricultural Market Intelligence in India. (150 words) 10

भारत में किसानों के लिए कृषि बाजार आसूचना के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए। वर्तमान प्रणाली में निहित समस्याओं की पहचान करते हुए, भारत में कृषि बाजार आसूचना में सुधार लाने हेतु कुछ उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Agricultural Market Intelligence system
helps in forecasting the demand and
supply of pulses - thus helping
farmers take decision for growing of
crops.

Importance of Agricultural Market Intelligence

- 1) High returns for farmers as get high market rates.
- 2) Assures good security through supply of all needed agricultural products.
- 3) Help in expanding through re-emerging demand.
- 4) Government support in form of MSP would be minimised.

Issues in Present System

- 1) Lack of technological expertise for correct prediction.
- 2) No separate department in ministry of agriculture for market intelligence.
- 3) No government policy on market intelligence.
- 4) Adhoc location on import & export make intelligence system of no use.

Steps to be taken

- 1) Data from usual mandis to be recorded through open platform.
 - 2) Updates through market to farmer before growing season starts.
 - 3) Import & export location policy to be harmonised.
 - 4) separate department in ministry.
- Market intelligence system would help in doubling farmer income by 2022

4. With water increasingly becoming a scarce resource, large scale adoption of micro irrigation techniques could prove to be a game changer in India. Analyse. Also enumerate various steps taken by the government to promote micro irrigation in India. (150 words) 10

जल के उत्तरोत्तर दुर्लभ संसाधन बनते जाने के कारण भारत में सूक्ष्म सिंचाई तकनीकों का व्यापक पैमाने पर अंगीकरण निर्णायक सिद्ध हो सकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में सूक्ष्म सिंचाई को बढ़ावा देने हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए विभिन्न कदमों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

micro irrigation refers to under ground or on ground irrigation technologies which provide targeted water to crop.

can prove to be a game changer

- 1) water supply of India limited
 ↳ 4-1% of all water and has to support 16-1% of all human population
- 2) low water efficiency at present
 ↳ uses 2 to 4 times more water than China and Brazil
- 3) High wastage because of flood irrigation
 ↳ Agriculture using 80-1% of total water use
- 4) Fertilization i.e. providing fertilizers

along through micro irrigation would
reduce excess of fertilisers

5) increasing agriculture productivity through
large supply.

Various steps taken by India

- 1) micro-irrigation fund under
NABARD of 10,000 crore,
- 2) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sanchai Yojana
has a component on micro irrigation.
- 3) Finances to SHGs and FPO at reduced
interest for micro irrigation
- 4) KVIC have been providing information
regarding micro-irrigation technology.
- 5) Irrigation start ups promoted under
start UP India

micro irrigation has biggest issue
of finance need and can be provided
through MNREGA work and cheap loan.

5. The cropping pattern of a region is influenced by geo-climatic, socio-cultural, economic, historical and political factors. Substantiate with relevant examples.

(150 words) 10

किसी क्षेत्र का शस्य प्रतिरूप भू-जलवायविक, सामाजिक-सांस्कृतिक, आर्थिक, ऐतिहासिक और राजनीतिक कारकों से प्रभावित होता है। प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ पुष्टि कीजिए।

Cropping pattern refers to the various crops being grown in various parts of the country.

Various influences on cropping pattern

1) Geo-climatic

→ various crops need different geo climatic condition

↳ eg: wheat needs temperate climate grown in North India in Rabi season.

2) socio-cultural

→ food habits lead to growing of those crops.

↳ eg: coffee is drunk in South India grown in Karnataka and Kerala.

3) Economic reasons

- Demand of tea in India & abroad
lead British to introduce tea
- ↳ grown in hills of Assam,
Dooars (West Bengal)

4) Historical reasons

- many crops once introduced,
kept on being grown in those areas.
- ↳ eg: Pineapple brought by
Portuguese, still grown in
Goa and surrounding areas

5) Political factors

- government policies influence
crops being grown
- MSP procurement of wheat & paddy
have lead to 77.1% of land growing
these 2 crops.

Thus cropping patterns are influenced
by socio-cultural, economic, historical
and political factors

6. Integrating ecology and technology is the way forward towards achieving Evergreen Revolution in India. Discuss. (150 words) 10

पारिस्थितिकी और प्रौद्योगिकी का एकीकरण भारत में सदाबहार क्रांति की प्राप्ति की दिशा में आगे की राह है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Green Revolution was huge success for India which helped India become self sufficient in number of cereals.

Need of today is evergreen revolution - a revolution which affects the whole country and has minimal negative affect.

Integrating Ecology & Technology

- 1) High Yield GM crops which can sustain changing climate and increasing temperature.
- 2) Technology such as sensors, satellites, soil cards for field specific crops
- 3) Using technology to reduced negative

impact on ecology.

↳ eg: muco irrigation
↳ high nutrient leakage

4) Real time ecological updates to farmers
for taking best decisions for increasing
productivity.

Issues at present

- 1) low spending on research & development
↳ Only 0.1% of agri budget
- 2) low lack of agricultural institutes
- 3) Focus on technology without understanding
ecology.

What needs to be done

Technological development should
come from farmers who understand
ecology. Scientist should work closely
with farmers for making green
revolution a success.

7. The adoption of agro-based clusters can generate positive spill-over effects on agricultural and rural development. Discuss. (150 words) 10

कृषि आधारित संकुलों (क्लस्टर्स) को अपनाना कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास पर सकारात्मक अधिप्लावन प्रभाव उत्पन्न कर सकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Agro based clusters refers to areas which would grow similar crop and have infrastructure for value addition & food processing.

Positive spill over effects

- 1) Increased income for farmers due to reduced intermediaries
- 2) employment generation for rural population
- 3) Entrepreneurship opportunity for rural youth in the clusters
- 4) Infrastructure development such as transport links and coldstorages would be beneficial for rural economy.

- 5) spreading latest technology among farmers would reduce input cost and increase productivity
- 6) Access to future market predictions to the farmers.
- 7) Opportunity for rural women in service sector area in the clusters.
- 8) migration of people from cities to villages would strengthen economy.

Steps to be taken to make clusters successful

- 1) Easy finance
 - 2) Land acquisition
 - 3) Basic infrastructure such as road and electricity.
 - 4) Human resource through skilling
- Agri cluster has proved boon for farmers and rural economy.

8. Reliance on borrowings for capital expenditure in railways reflects a weakening financial position. Comment on the statement and discuss ways in which better resource generation and utilisation can be achieved therein. (150 words) 10

रेलवे में पूंजीगत व्यय के लिए उधारी पर निर्भरता कमजोर होती वित्तीय स्थिति को प्रतिबिंबित करती है। इस कथन पर टिप्पणी कीजिए और उन उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिनसे इसमें बेहतर संसाधन सृजन और उपयोगिता प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

Internal ~~cost~~ revenue of railways
has been falling as % of cost. The
dependence of railway on government
support reflect weakening financial
position.

Reason for reliance on borrowing

- 1) Increasing wage and pension costs
of employees.
- 2) Passenger fares are not increased
regularly.
- 3) Less subsidisation of passenger fare
on freight fare is reducing freight
demand.
- 4) Minimal non-fare revenue from
advertising, public utilities etc

Better resource generation

- 1) Bibek Debroy committee recommended
 - Modern accounting
 - Updated HR
 - Independent regulator
- 2) Independent regulator and Railway development authority for fare determination.
- 3) Independent freight corridor authority
- 4) Non-fare revenue policy to be created.
- 5) Penalising manufacturing-maintenance and ~~eat~~ lean stock

Railway through increased electrification, dynamic fare and improving ticket booking has been trying to improve revenue generation and should be continued.

9. Why does achieving road safety in India remain a challenging task? Keeping different stakeholders in mind, suggest some measures which can be adopted for reducing road accidents in India. (150 words) 10

भारत में सड़क सुरक्षा प्राप्त करना क्यों एक चुनौतीपूर्ण कार्य बना हुआ है? विभिन्न हितधारकों को ध्यान में रखते हुए, कुछ उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए, जिन्हें भारत में सड़क दुर्घटनाओं को कम करने के लिए अपनाया जा सकता है।

Every year around 4 lakh citizens are killed in road accidents which amount to loss of around 3.5% of GDP.

Why achieving road safety remains challenging task

- 1) Poor road design, having blind spots.
- 2) Poor maintenance of road.
- 3) Bad driving habits due to corruption in license getting.
- 4) Limited or no safety features in vehicles.
- 5) Over dependence on roads for travel.

Reducing road accidentI Roads

- regular maintenance
- scientific survey for removing blind spots.
- special pedestrian and bicycle space.

II Devices

- Use of technology for license approval.
- strict penalties (Road safety (Amendment) Bill)

III Cars/Vehicles

- Improved safety such as Anti Brakes, lock system, steering response etc
- Reg Registration after every 10 years after safety check.

IV Pedestrians

- separate space on roads
- good Samaritan law

India has signed Brasilia declaration for reducing road accidents by 50% and would work towards it.

10. Despite initiatives taken in recent times to support the logistics sector, it continues to face multiple challenges. Discuss. What further steps can be taken to address these challenges? (150 words) 10

लॉजिस्टिक्स क्षेत्र के समर्थन हेतु की गई नवीनतम पहलों के बावजूद, इसे लगातार कई चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों के समाधान हेतु और क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

logistic sector consist of handling - packaging, warehousing, transport and shipping and is important for manufacturing.

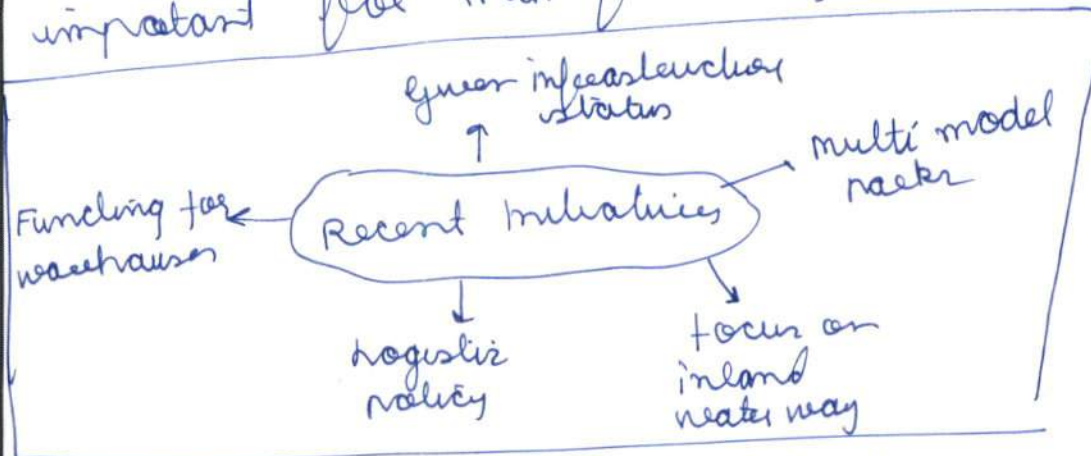


Fig : logistic sector initiative

multiple challenges faced

- 1) High cost of logistics at 14% of GDP vs 9% in USA
- 2) Lack of skilled human resource for various component

- 3) multiple authorities controlling separate logistic component eg: warehousing, handling & transport.
- 4) lack of funding
- 5) old technology used & latest such as GIS, etc. not used.

Further steps

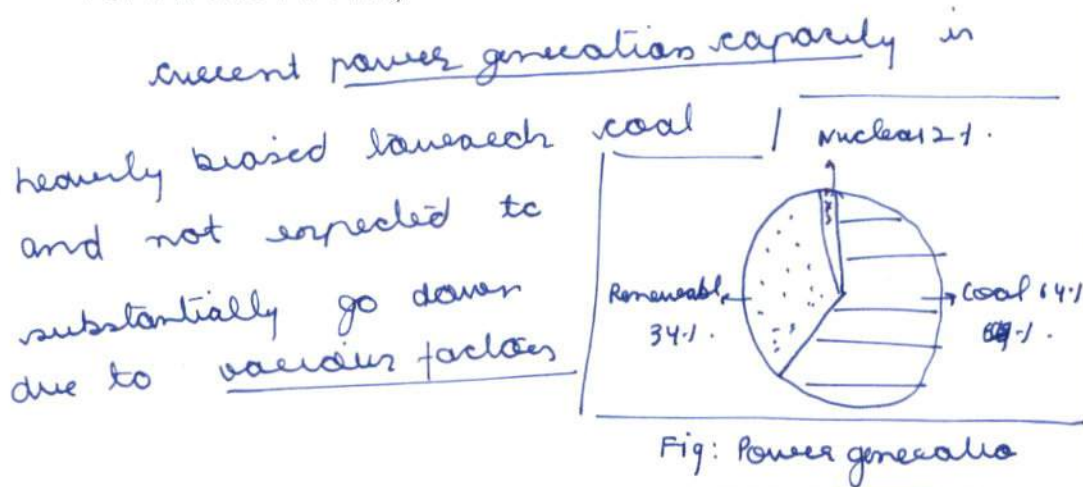
- 1) latest technology promoted
- 2) spilling with help of original equipment manufacturer
- 3) separate ministry on logistics.
- 4) Reduce turn-around time
(Use hub & spoke model)
- 5) making railway & IWT preferred transportation method.

Strong logistics would increase manufacturing & export and thus should be promoted.

11. The contribution of coal based power generation is not expected to substantially go down in the next few decades, despite growing importance of renewables. Comment on the statement in light of increasing demand for power in India.

(250 words) 15

नवीकरणीय संसाधनों के बढ़ते महत्व के बावजूद, कोयला आधारित विद्युत उत्पादन के योगदान में अगले कुछ दशकों में मूलतः कमी आने की उम्मीद नहीं है। भारत में विद्युत की बढ़ती मांग के आलोक में इस कथन पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।



Why coal would not substantially go down

- 1) High cost of transmission for renewable as are present far away from cities
 ↳ eg: wind farms in water.
- 2) High cost of technologies related to renewable
 ↳ eg: lithium ion battery in solar
- 3) consistency of power from renewable can not be assured
 ↳ eg: days without sunlight or without wind flow.

- 4) INDC target of India also leaves 60% of power to be generated by fossils including coal.
- 5) Existing coal plants can not be shut down as to investments already made
- 6) Transmission connectivity of these coal plants is good.

Increasing demand for power in India

- 1) Economic survey states that power requirement in India would increase by 3 times to 2030.
- 2) Electrification of villages under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana would increase power requirement.
- 3) schemes like Saubhagya would further increase demand.

Steps to be taken

(I) Clean energy from coal

- 1) use of high quality coal for power

reduction.

2) Technological improvement in coal power plants

↳ eg. catalytic converters

3) Carbon capture technologies to be widely implemented.

4) No new coal power plants

II Increasing renewable

1) Financial support for renewable energy plants.

2) Decentralised renewable generation
↳ Roof top

3) Smart metering

4) Solar pumps and solar stoves to be promoted

5) Wind mapping for India.

Contribution of coal based would remain high in next few decades which need improvement in functioning of coal India limited and ensuring coal based plants can be made efficient

12. Despite comprehensive government support to agriculture, why is it that farming in India remains unremunerative? Do you agree that direct income support under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a much needed measure to make agriculture a viable source of livelihood? (250 words) 15

कृषि के निमित्त व्यापक सरकारी सहायता के बावजूद, ऐसा क्यों है कि भारत में खेती अलाभकारी बनी हुई है? क्या आप इस बात से सहमत हैं कि प्रधान मंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि (PM-KISAN) के अंतर्गत प्रत्यक्ष आय सहायता कृषि को आजीविका का एक व्यवहार्य स्रोत बनाने हेतु एक अति आवश्यक उपाय है?

Agriculture gives jobs to 49% of working population but only contributes to 18% of the total GDP. Government has been trying to support agriculture

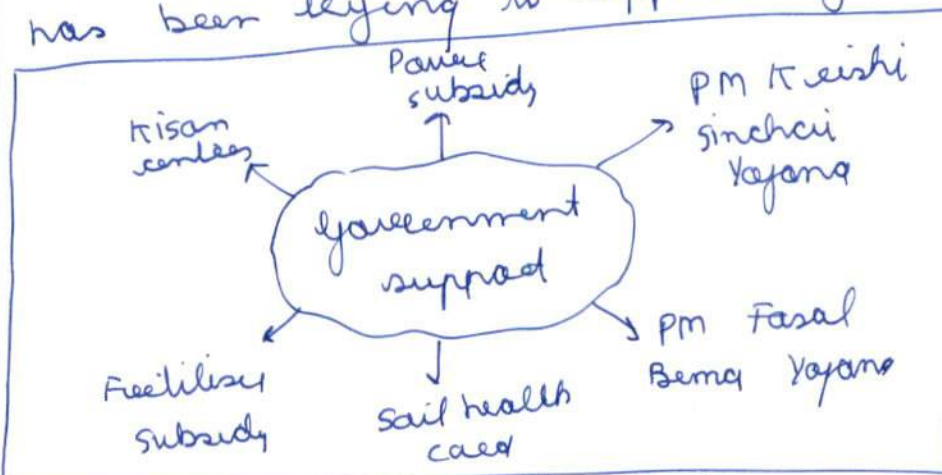


Fig: Agriculture initiative

Farming remains unremunerative as

- 1) low per capita income of 20,000 ₹ vs country average of ₹ 1,00,000
- 2) Increasing suicides : 5000 according to NCRB
- 3) Farm distress : Farmer marching in

Bombay.

Reasons for agriculture being uneconomical

- 1) spread to irrigation is minimal
↳ only 35% of grain cropped area irrigated
- 2) Small landholdings
↳ 85% of farmers small and marginal
- 3) effect of climate change has been major
(economic survey)
- 4) land becoming infertile
- 5) low technological know-how and agriculture
extension

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi

The program aims at

- ₹ 6000 direct cash support to all farmers
family having less than 2 hectares of
land.

Advantages of PM-Kisan

- 1) Social security net for bad harvest
and crop failures

- 2) how leakages due to direct cash transfers.
- 3) Better targeting as farmer list would be verified at village level.
- 4) other subsidies which are inefficient can be scaled back.
- 5) Production affect would be nil, as seen due to MSP.
- 6) WTO limit does not apply.

Issues with PM-Kisan

- 1) ₹6,000 is very less when compared to per capita income of country.
- 2) Tenant cultivators and landless labourers are not covered.
- 3) Bank linkages is still poor in villages.
- 4) Use of Aadhar could cause issues
- 5) may lead to further fragmentation of land among family.

PM-Kisan ~~is~~ is a much needed measure and can be strengthened by digitising land records and covering landless farmer.

13. Elaborate the strategic and operational elements of the Agriculture Export Policy, 2018 and discuss the role it can play to achieve the target of doubling farmers' income by 2022.
(250 words) 15

कृषि निर्यात नीति, 2018 के रणनीतिक एवं परिचालन-संबंधी तत्वों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए और 2022 तक किसानों की आय को दोगुना करने के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में इसके द्वारा निभायी जा सकने वाली भूमिका की विवेचना कीजिए।

Ministry of agriculture recently announced the Agriculture Export Policy with following aims:

- Doubling export from \$30 billion to \$60 billion
- Diversifying markets and products
- Increasing value added export

Strategic elements of the policy

- 1) Policy for import and export ~~tax~~ rates would be harmonised for stable policy.
- 2) Bringing products out of APMC.
- 3) State inclusion in export through state level bodies.

- 4) Sanitary and phytosanitary issues
faced in countries to be taken
care.

Operational elements of policy

- 1) Increasing storage capacity
- 2) Infrastructure development such as
rural connectivity
- 3) Identifying and focussing on export
agricultural sector.
- 4) Quality control through labs and
testing centres.
- 5) Product of India marketing to be made
mark of quality.

Role in doubling farmer income

- Srinivasan
Reddy Kumar committee recommended
increasing export to \$100 billion for
doubling farmer income
- Value addition export can take India

to Top 5 world exporters.

→ For doubling income agriculture sector needs growth of 10% annually, export can reach the same.

→ FDI would be interested once export increase.

Issues with Export Policy

- 1) Global slowdown which has reduced demands.
- 2) Post harvest wastage which is around 40,000 crore.
- 3) Indian traditional export of basmati, meat, seafood have shown slowdown.
- 4) Impact of climate change on agriculture.

Export policy could play a major role in assessing the aim of doubling farmers income is made a reality. The policy should work along with schemes such as Food Park, Agriculture Mission,

Kushti Sanchay Yojana and Fasal Bima Yojana for success.

14. Highlight the reasons behind inconclusive land ownership titles in India. Discuss its repercussions and suggest measures for moving towards conclusive land titling system in India. (250 words) 15

भारत में अनिर्णायक भूस्वामित्व स्वत्वाधिकारों के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों पर प्रकाश डालिए। इसके अप्रत्यक्ष प्रभावों की विवेचना कीजिए और भारत में निर्णायक भूमि स्वत्वाधिकारों की प्रणाली की दिशा में आगे बढ़ने के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Recent survey of McKinsey stated that as high as 90-1% of land records in India are inconclusive.

Reasons behind inconclusive land ownership titles

- 1) Historical reason of Zamindari system where the real owner never worked on the field.
- 2) Benami transactions after independence.
- 3) Failure of land distribution policy after independence.
- 4) Multitude of authorities involved

Log: map of area, taxation records on land and buy/sell deed under different authorities

5) Lack of use of technologies such as GIS,
UAV etc.

6) Digitalisation of all records have not
taken place in states like Bihar,
West Bengal

Repercussions of inconclusive titles

1) Government schemes based on ownership
of land do not reach beneficiary
↳ eg. PM-Kisan

2) Contract farming and land pooling
becomes difficult leading to low
mechanisation and low productivity

3) Land acquisition for projects become
difficult

↳ Delay in infrastructure projects
causing NPA in bank.

4) Land of government department and PSU
lying waste.

measures for conclusive land titling

- 1) Digitisation of all agriculture land records
↳ Using LIN (Land Identifier number)
- 2) Sadhar seeding of land owner record.
- 3) Central repository of all government land.
- 4) strict implementation of Benami Property Act
- 5) Tribal lands to be officially registered to the tribe.

Land titling would not only help in agricultural beneficiaries getting benefits of government schemes but also help in improving ease of doing business. It would assure land acquisition becomes easy & projects get completed on time.

15. Despite measures taken by the government for promoting investment in the infrastructure sector in the last few years, there are multiple challenges that still exist. Discuss. What further steps can be taken in this regard? (250 words) 15

विगत कुछ वर्षों में अवसंरचना क्षेत्र में निवेश को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपायों के बावजूद, कई चुनौतियाँ अभी भी विद्यमान हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। इस संबंध में आगे और क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

Economic Survey (2017-18) stated that infrastructure needed a funding of \$4.5 trillion till 2030. ~~the~~ target

measures taken by government for promoting infrastructure

- 1) National Infrastructure & Investment Fund (NIIF) created with corpus of 40,000 crore
↳ investing in greenfield & brownfield projects
- 2) Foreign Institutional Investors (FII) can invest in government securities
- 3) 100% FDI in urban infrastructure such as sewage, electricity & transport.

- 4 municipal bonds for urban infrastructure
- 5) Hybrid Annuity Model for development of PPP.
- 6) In Budget 2019 Finance Minister announced getting loans from foreign markets.
- 7) REIT & InvIT have been allowed.

Multiple Challenges Existing in Investment

- 1) low investment and saving rate of the whole economy (Economic survey 2017-18)
- 2) Non performing Assets in banks still high, due to which don't lend.
- 3) Delay in getting clearance have delayed projects thus funds tied.
- 4) Twin balance sheet problem has limited investment.
- 5) Increasing rates by federal bank USA has reduced FDI.
- 6) Long term finances getting reduced

↳ ILFES ceases.

Steps that can be taken

- 1) RBI has recommended long term Finance banks.
- 2) Infrastructure bonds with long maturity period.
- 3) safe and long term investment from pension funds to be used in infrastructure
- 4) masala bonds to be promoted
- 5) secondary bond market for municipal bonds.
- 6) IndAS, accounting standards to be implemented for transparency of accounts.

Investment in infrastructure
assures multifold return and should
be promoted through long term fund
both in India and abroad.

16. Identify the problems faced by Indian agriculture as a consequence of changing land holding pattern as witnessed in the findings of Agriculture census, 2015-16. In light of these problems, suggest suitable ways to resolve such structural issues in agriculture. (250 words) 15

जैसा कि कृषि संगणना, 2015-16 के जाँच परिणामों में देखा गया है, परिवर्तनशील भू-धारण प्रतिरूप के परिणामस्वरूप भारतीय कृषि के समक्ष आने वाली समस्याओं की पहचान कीजिए। इन समस्याओं के प्रकाश में, कृषि में ऐसे संरचनात्मक मुद्दों का समाधान करने के लिए उपयुक्त उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

The Agriculture census 2015-16 highlighted that land holding patterns are keeping agriculture backward.

Problems faced due to changing land holding pattern

1) Decreasing average land holding from 1.15 hectare (2010-11) to 1.08 hectare (2015-16)

- ↳ low productivity
- ↳ lack of mechanisation
- ↳ contract farming can't take place.
- ↳ farmer family gets low prices

2) Increasing women holdings of
agricultural land from 13% (2010-11)
to 14% (2015-16)

- ↳ women 65% of agricultural labourers
so land holding still low
- ↳ lack of focus on women farmers
- ↳ low skill training programs for women
farmers.

3) ~~As~~ 65% of the farmers have no land
or hold land less than 2 hectares
(small and marginal farmers)

- ↳ Government schemes do not include
landless labourers / tenant cultivation

eg: PM Fasal Bima Yojana

- ↳ Prohibits agriculture extension
- ↳ Agriculture becoming unremunerative

Suitable ways to resolve such issues

1) land leasing act to be implemented

by states for bringing landless labourers
in formal record.

- 2) land pooling to be promoted
- 3) strengthening Farmer Producers Organization
(FPO) for collective technology
adoption and price bargain
- 4) extending schemes for landless and
timor farmers
 - ↳ PM Kisan
 - ↳ PM Fasal Bima
 - ↳ ~~PM~~ Kisan credit card
- 5) Atleast 30% of funds focussed on
women farmers (Economic survey)
- 6) Digitalisation of land record for
better targeting and low leakage of
scheme funding.

Changing land holding patterns should
be kept in mind when government
introduces new schemes & upgrades old
scheme

17. Write a brief note on 'Dry Ports' and their significance in mitigating logistic challenges in India. Also, discuss the challenges in their development and measures needed to address them. (250 words) 15

भारत में लॉजिस्टिक्स की चुनौतियों को कम करने में 'शुष्क पत्तनों' एवं उनके महत्व पर एक संक्षिप्त टिप्पणी लिखिए। साथ ही, उनके विकास में आने वाली चुनौतियों और उनके समाधान हेतु आवश्यक उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Dry Ports are transshipment hubs deep inside territory of a country where various sources of transport connect with each other.

Significance of dry ports

- 1) Reduces logistic cost : As companies can choose cheapest option
↳ logistic cost at 14-15% of GDP high ;
vs 9-10% in USA
- 2) Reduces requirement of documents from various agencies
↳ under control of single agency.
- 3) Fast turn about time
- 4) Work on hub and spoke model, so trucks / rail do not return empty.

5) Use technology for efficiency.

Challenges In Development

1) Land acquisition for dry ports is an issue

↳ Land Acquisition Act 2013 prohibitory
(Niti Aayog)

2) Lack of funding, as requires large upfront investment.

3) Lack of trained human resources for working and running such facility.

4) Transport networks in India developed in silos, not connected.

5) Overly government ownership (70%) keeps private players disinterested

6) Low utilisation of current ports (20%)

Measures needed to address

1) Land Pool to be developed as in

Odisha

- ↳ ready availability of land
 - 2) Using PPP model for development
 - ↳ funding from private sector
 - 3) skill development in association with original equipment manufacturer (OEM)
 - 4) Planned development of all transport infrastructure
 - ↳ complement & supplement each other.
- key points would not only help in resolving issues of logistics which would help in increasing manufacturing and exports. They would also help in regional development and create jobs.

18. Development of food processing industry will help in achieving the twin goals of inclusive growth and food security. Discuss. Also, account for the competitive advantages enjoyed by India in the food processing sector. (250 words) 15

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग के विकास से समावेशी विकास और खाद्य सुरक्षा के दोहरे लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने में सहायता मिलेगी। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्रक में भारत को प्राप्त प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक लाभ का भी विवरण दीजिए।

Food processing industry helps in value addition to agricultural products which is beneficial for inclusive growth and food security.

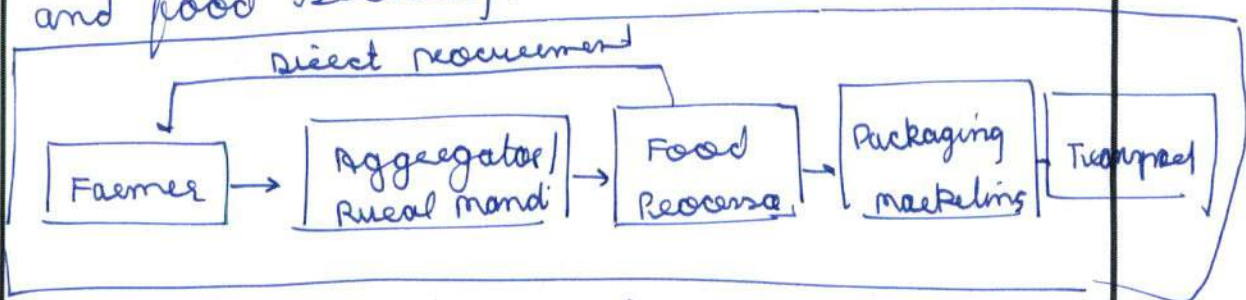


Fig: Food processing cycle.

Inclusive growth through food processing

- 1) Higher prices for farmer as processor can directly procure, thus reducing intermediaries.
- 2) Job growth in food processing, packaging, marketing and transport.
- 3) Equitable growth as present in rural areas.
- 4) Village youth can start entrepreneurship.

initiatives.

Food security through food processing

- 1) Reducing food wastage
↳ At present around 33,000 crore
- 2) Fortification of food
↳ Adding vitamin in milk
- 3) Quick delivery to areas of demand
- 4) Reducing poverty in rural areas, ensuring money for food.

Competitive Advantages enjoyed By India

- 1) largest grown cropped area in the world.
- 2) Huge market for food products.
- 3) easy export through Arabian sea to Middle east and Europe.
- 4) Variety of raw food availability
↳ eg: cereals, milk, fruits,

fish, meat etc.

5) Improving rural infrastructure

↳ PM Gram Sadak Yojana

↳ Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Village
electrification.

Challenges for food processing

2) lack of storage facility such as
cold storage

2) lack of skilled manpower

3) Difficulty in contract farming due
to small landholdings.

4) Over focus on cereal crops due to MSP

Government has started many
initiatives such as SAMPADA, Mega
Food Parks and TOPS Mission. These
would go a long way in the development
of food processing industry.

19. Despite existence of a large market, the real estate sector is facing many challenges in India. Elaborate. Also, discuss the measures taken by the government to address them. Can Housing for All by 2022 be a game-changer in this regard? (250 words) 15

एक बड़े बाजार की उपस्थिति के बावजूद, भारत में रियल एस्टेट क्षेत्र को कई चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, इनके समाधान हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों की भी विवेचना कीजिए। क्या 2022 तक सभी के लिए आवास इस संबंध में निर्णायक सिद्ध हो सकता है?

Real estate sector is the 2nd largest employer in India with more than 80-1. unskilled jobs.

Challenges in real estate sector

- 1) Lack of funding
 - ↳ Their balance sheet
 - ↳ NPA in bank
- 2) Lack of transparency
 - ↳ Declared semi-transparent in international real estate study
- 3) Difficulty in land acquisition
- 4) Taxation issues
 - ↳ cement and other inputs outside GST.

- 5) High cost due to black money being widespread
- 6) Insolvency proceedings against builder
 - ↳ eg: Jaypee Infrastructure

Steps Taken By Government

- 1) Real Estate Regulatory Authority
 - ↳ Compulsory registration of all developers
 - ↳ separate fund (70:1) for construction
 - ↳ maintenance & structural defects correction till 5 years.
- 2) Tax Benefit for buying 1st home.
- 3) No tax if capital gains due to selling house used to buy 2 houses instead of 1 before. (Budget 2018)
- 4) PM Awas Yojana (Urban & Rural)
- 5) National Housing board brought under RBI. (Budget 2019)

Housing for All by 2022

- creation of 2 crore houses
- states given central over execution
- interest subsidy, capital support and avenue lead development
- use of local material and technology
- 2 components {
 - Rural
 - Urban
- ~~the~~ Allowing MHREGA work for adult members.

Housing For All by 2022 would require financial support and construction support. However land acquisition and basic facilities remain an issue which need to be looked into for making Housing for All by 2022 a success.

20. Identify the maladies affecting the proper functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Comment on the feasibility of alternatives available to TPDS. (250 words) 15

लक्षित सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली (TPDS) के समुचित कार्यकरण को प्रभावित करने वाली विकृतियों की पहचान कीजिए। TPDS के लिए उपलब्ध विकल्पों की व्यवहार्यता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Targeted Public Distribution System
(TPDS) focuses on implementation of Right To Food security Act by providing subsidised food grains.

maladies affecting Targeted Public Distribution System

- 1) High leakage of around 47.1% noted by Shantha Kumar committer
- 2) low quality food grains being provided
↳ Recent case in Bihar
- 3) Use of mandatory PDS causing exclusion of beneficiaries
- 4) TPDS centres close away and not opening on time.

5) Wastage of grains in godowns in Food Corporation of India (FCI)

6) Inclusion & exclusion issues

↳ SECC data used which is not updated yearly

↳ High number of beneficiaries: 75% of total rural and 50% of total urban

↳ Better targeting required

7) Regional distribution as mostly only rice, wheat and coarse grains distributed.

Feasibility of alternatives

① Direct bank transfer

→ does not account for inflation

→ possibility of loss of physical availability of grains

→ low density of banking correspondents for getting cash.

→ use of money for other purposes

② Payment to private entities for selling
at a capped price

↳ difficulty in assessing adequate
food grains.

↳ corruption through forging
documents.

↳ market price to rise due to
centralisation

eg: seen in MP's Bhugantar
scheme.

③ coupons to public to buy from anywhere

↳ coupon exchanged for money by
government

↳ lack of physical accessibility

↳ Acceptance of coupon may not be
universal

Chattisgarh PDS model should be
used through repeating transport and
selling identity - digitisation, fixed timings
and citizen feedback for fixing TPDS