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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1068)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	33161
Center	DRN	Date	Sept 9, 2018

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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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. There are many challenges in sustainably scaling up renewable energy in India. Analyse. Also, discuss what can be done to address these challenges.

(150 words) 10

भारत में नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा को संधारणीय रूप से बढ़ाने में कई चुनौतियां हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है।

Renewable Energy is today's tool to deal with climate change & yet it only forms 12% of India's energy matrix.

This is because of many challenges that it faces:

- 1) Lack of domestic capacity to manufacture the parts locally.
- 2) Poor resource stockpiles in India for lithium - essential for solar cells & panels.
- 3) Non-connection of renewable energy to grid networks - limits its use & as it restricts the sale of surplus by private entities & thus discourages due to high cost.
- 4) Lack of technology for storage of renewable energy - limits the viability of solar power at night.

5) High costs — not justified by saving
little benefit

6) Lack of awareness among households &
industries about benefits & cost
savings by going solar.

7) Lack of coordination between states
and lack of dedicated policies to
utilize potential.

There need to be addressed to ensure
that limited scope of renewable energy
is scaled up:

- invest in technologies to make storage
of electricity possible to expand its
profitability.
- Centre must coordinate with all
states to make them use their
potential in wind, solar, small hydro energy
- India must enter into bilateral agreements
with Chile & Bolivia for import of
lithium to accentuate domestic
manufacturing
- The green grid network project being
undertaken must be ramped up.

These measures can ensure sustainable supply
of renewable energy. Kusum scheme is one

2. The policies and indicators introduced by the government, in recent times, to finance urban development in India are key in addressing the existing challenges. Discuss with special reference to municipal bonds.

(150 words) 10

हाल ही में, भारत में शहरी विकास का वित्त पोषण करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा आरंभ की गई नीतियां और संकेतक वर्तमान चुनौतियों से निपटने हेतु महत्वपूर्ण हैं। नगरपालिका बंधपत्रों (म्युनिसिपल बॉण्ड) के विशेष संदर्भ के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

The Urban development faces key challenges in terms of lack of finances with the urban local bodies which have the lion's share of responsibility in Urban development.

Realising this the government have taken steps to deal with this:

- i) Increased budget allocations by states to local bodies.
- ii) Schemes like AMRUT & SMART Cities have also led to greater flow of finances for urban development.
- iii) Several schemes for urban development such as PM Awas Yojana, Saubhagya, Swach Bharat - Urban programmes are ~~also~~ financing the much needed urban development.

iv) A major step has been allowing the local urban bodies to raise money through MUNICIPAL BONDS

- This enables urban local bodies to raise funds from the debt market
- RBI has set up guidelines to promote the use of bonds
- Government has promoted CRISIL & other bodies to rate the municipalities which can be an indicator of credit worthiness
- This can raise huge funds needed for urban development & provide the flexibility in use as per needs.

Recently, Pune raised huge sums from municipal bonds for transport system & also ranks no 1 on ASICS rankings.

However, municipal bonds face challenges:

- lack of credit worthiness
- poor accountability
- difficult procedures
- under utilisation

There must be ~~steps~~ added to promote municipal bonds which are currently under-used.

3. With a number of issues continuing to be a roadblock, a large section of India's rural population is still 'financially excluded'. Discuss. Analyse how these issues can be addressed and the measures taken by the government and RBI recently in this regard. (150 words) 10

कई मुद्दों के लगातार अवरोध बने रहने से भारत की ग्रामीण जनसंख्या का एक बड़ा हिस्सा अभी भी 'वित्तीय रूप से अपवर्जित' है। चर्चा कीजिए। इन मुद्दों से कैसे निपटा जा सकता है और हाल ही में सरकार तथा RBI द्वारा इस संबंध में उठाए गए कदमों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

For financial inclusion to become a reality, the majority population residing in rural India needs to be included.

Issues in this:

- 1) STGs have limited potential for financial inclusion
- 2) Still many ~~banks~~ villages don't have basic & market bank branches
- 3) Lack of internet connectivity for promoting internet banking & providing benefits of government schemes
- 4) Digital illiteracy
- 5) Lack of ~~trust~~ trust in modern ways of banking.
- 6) Exploitation by money lenders
- 7) Lack of collateral for loans

These issues can be addressed by a
mix of steps:

- i) ^{RBI approved} Payment banks (consolidation of
25% branches in rural areas)
& small banks — cater to rural areas
- ii) Expanding scope of banking correspondents
- iii) opening more common service centres
to provide financial services
- iv) Expand the reach of SHG.
eg: Odisha has recently decided to
use SHG for financial inclusion
- v) Bharehat will provide the much
needed internet connectivity.
- vi) PM Gramin Digital Library scheme
(PM DISHA)
- vii) MUDRA scheme — for collateral
free loans
- viii) Trinity of JAM — Jan Dhan Mobile
& Aadhar & Direct benefit transfer

Thus many steps are being taken &
many more can be taken to enhance
rural financial inclusion.

4. What do you understand by the term 'Environmental Accounting'?
Discussing the rationale behind introducing environmental accounting,
highlight its status in India. (150 words) 10

'पर्यावरणीय लेखांकन' पद से आप क्या समझते हैं? पर्यावरणीय लेखांकन आरंभ करने के औचित्य की चर्चा करते हुए, भारत में इसकी स्थिति पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Environmental accounting means ^{tracing} tracing
environment costs of certain activities
and including them in the pricing of
those products

RATIONALE

- to identify the environmental cost
of the activities.
- to make our process, manufacturing
& other systems sensitive to
environmental damage
- To discourage environmental
damage as environmental activity
will add to cost of products
- This will help us lead towards
sustainable development by
bringing in a consciousness of
responsible consumption.

Thus to make our process environment friendly we first need to identify the environmental cost → only then can mitigation of the same can be done.

STATUS IN INDIA

- This hasnt taken off to a great extent.
- Some steps are being taken by private manufacturers like ITC.
- But government policies such as Carbon Tax, tax high taxes on petrol are a sort of method of improving environmental acounby.
- Maldives : Maldives became the first country in India to go for carbon pricing.

5. While access to irrigation is important, efficiency of water use is equally, if not more, crucial. Examine. (150 words) 10

जहाँ सिंचाई तक पहुँच महत्वपूर्ण है, वहीं जल उपयोग दक्षता भी यदि अधिक नहीं तो उतनी ही महत्वपूर्ण है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

Water resources are limited but our needs are not. India has merely 4% of fresh water resources to support 16% population. And in this agriculture uses almost 87% of ground water extraction.

While access to irrigation is important for agriculture → 53% land has no irrigation
→ high dependency on rains
→ temporal & spatial distribution of rains hampers yield

Efficiency of water use becomes even more important → limited water resources
→ For long term sustenance
→ non-efficient use such as flood irrigation is degrading soil, causing water pollution from runoffs → further reducing water availability & hampering sustainable agriculture.

In light of this govt is taking steps to not only ensure access to irrigation but also efficiency of water use:

- PM Kushti Sechai Yojana aims to provide
 - Har khut ko pani (access)
 - Per drop more crop (efficiency)
- M/S Swaminathan Report on Per drop more crop suggests use of more irrigation techniques such as drip irrigation, sprinklers.
- Related deal with Israel for import of more irrigation technology
- Equipments for micro irrigation must be provided at subsidised rates.
- Promoting water use efficiency through awareness programmes & extension schemes to promote benefits
 - higher productivity
 - better soil quality
 - less use of fertilisers

Thus, we need to turn focus on ~~more~~ water use efficiency to not only save water but increase productivity.

6. For a holistic approach to disaster risk reduction, there is a need to mainstream indigenous traditional knowledge and link it with modern technologies. Analyse. **(150 words) 10**

आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण के एक समग्र दृष्टिकोण के लिए, देशज पारंपरिक ज्ञान को मुख्यधारा में लाने और उसे आधुनिक तकनीकों से जोड़ने की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

7. What do you understand by food irradiation? Highlighting some of its unique applications, examine its relevance for India. (150 words) 10

खाद्य विकिरण (food irradiation) से आप क्या समझते हैं? इसके कुछ विशिष्ट अनुप्रयोगों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत के लिए इसकी प्रासंगिकता का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Food irradiation is the technique of treating food with radiations for

- increasing shelf life of products
- kill germs & other microbes
- make food safer for consumers

It is of extreme relevance in India:

- spoilage of food happens at large scale.
- tropical weather in India and increases microbial activity
- Due to large size of India, food takes longer to travel thus long shelf life can help
- It can also improve the quality of Indian packaged food for purpose of exports - as Indian food is often rejected for being unsafe.

Some of its unique applications are:

- it can eliminate risk of food borne disease
- it can arrest maturation or sprouting of food.
- It can be used to create food for medical purposes

However, the food even irradiated must be sterilised to remove bacteria

8. Whereas misuse of technology has abetted the spread of fake news, it is with the aid of technology that this menace can be curbed. Elaborate.

(150 words) 10

जहां प्रौद्योगिकी के दुरुपयोग ने फेक न्यूज़ (झूठे समाचारों) के प्रसार को बढ़ावा दिया है, वहीं प्रौद्योगिकी की सहायता से ही इस खतरे पर अंकुश भी लगाया जा सकता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Fake news is a menace today which is not only threatening democracy but it is also big and to spread hatred & enmity into lynchings.

Misuse of technology has abetted:

- Fake news on social media spreads like wildfire without corroboration.
- Standards of news safety are not applicable to social media.
- Increasing access to mobile phones has increased scope of spread of fake news through whatsapp.
- The originator of fake news is able to retain anonymity online thus ~~thus~~ abetting this technology abetting fake news.

However, this technology itself can be used to curb this menace:

- Using tracking software to trace the originator
- Govt can use the very same social media, like done by Telangana Government, to reach out to people regarding fake news
- Whatsapp has come up with tools to identify forwarded messages to alert the receivers of fake news
- AI/ML Algorithms can be built in the form of BOTS to sieve through loads of news for eliminating fake news.

This can help eliminate the problem of fake news just like it alerted it in the first place. Plugging the loopholes will curtail fake news

9. Explain the salient features of the recently established Defence Planning Committee. How can it help in credible defence preparedness?

(150 words) 10

हाल ही में गठित रक्षा नियोजन समिति (डिफेंस प्लानिंग कमेटी) की प्रमुख विशेषताओं की व्याख्या कीजिए। यह विश्वसनीय रक्षा तैयारी में कैसे सहायता कर सकता है?

10. Recent reports of Maoist leaders having amassed huge assets in property and cash underlines the significance of probing the funding network as part of counter-terrorism efforts. Discuss. (150 words) 10

संपत्ति और नकदी के रूप में विशाल परिसंपत्तियां एकत्रित करने वाले माओवादी नेताओं की हालिया रिपोर्टों ने आतंकवाद-रोधी प्रयासों के भाग के रूप में वित्त पोषण नेटवर्क की जाँच करने का महत्व रेखांकित किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The difficulties in eradication of Maoist & recent reports of huge assets held by Maoist leaders reflects the role that money plays in fueling Maoist activities:

- provides them the means of sustenance without government support
- Neighbouring countries also run proxy wars by pumping in fake currencies.
- Money is essential for buying
 - buying arms
 - recruiting more Maoist.
- Constant flow of money also incentivises the Maoists to continue with their Maoist activities
 - ↳ fueling it

Therefore it becomes critical to deal with funding networks as part of counter-terrorism.

- demonetisation saw a fall in terrorist & LWE activities.
- Vigilance for fake currency.
- Dealing with porous borders to prevent smuggling of money
- money laundering provisions and strengthening.

⇒

These steps can go a long way to a possible complete eradication of terrorism & money in India.

11. Not only do services MSMEs contribute mightily to the overall GDP growth, they have a powerful, multiplier impact on the local economies as well. Elaborating on the statement, highlight the problems faced by service sector MSMEs. How can the government make it easier for MSMEs to start and grow a business? (250 words) 15

MSMEs से संबद्ध सेवा उद्यम न केवल समग्र GDP संवृद्धि में बहुत अधिक योगदान देती हैं, बल्कि उनका स्थानीय अर्थव्यवस्थाओं पर भी एक सशक्त और गुणक प्रभाव है। इस कथन का सविस्तार वर्णन करते हुए, MSMEs सेवा क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं पर प्रकाश डालिए। सरकार MSMEs के लिए किसी व्यवसाय को आरंभ करने और उसके विकास को कैसे आसान बना सकती है?

Micro, small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) owe a special place in the growth picture of the Indian economy. They contribute mightily in many respects:

- They contribute nearly 37% of GDP
- Employ a huge chunk of the population
- Promote self-employment as alternate employment options.
- Multiplier impact on the local economies.
 - They up the earning potential thus create demand
 - They supply the goods as per the local needs of market.
 - This further the economic growth in the local economy leading to larger savings.

-) MSMEs in turn support bigger industries by providing them inputs, as revealed by GST data

Thus MSMEs not only contribute to GDP, but also provide employment to many, spurring the overall economic growth of local economies.

However, they face several challenges:

- Credit - lack of adequate institutional credit
- lack of skilled workforce
- lack of essential facilities such as electricity
- Policy changes such as demonetisation affected them the most.
- lack of institutional support such as incubation centres to support new MSMEs
- lack of access to latest technologies and ICT to modernise

However, the government can make it easier to start & grow a business in the following manner:

- i) Providing access to cheap institutional credit to start & further expand business. MUDRA yojana is a good step.
- ii) Providing 24x7 electricity in all villages to reduce operational losses. Schemes like Saubhagya & Gram Jyoti Yojana can help.
- iii) Promoting latest technologies & technology upgradation as done in the textile sector.
- iv) Any policy change must keep in mind the interest of MSMEs & they must be insured against losses from it.
- v) To promote MSMEs, government should join hands with local civil society to provide them best expertise & incubation facilities.
- vi) Skilling of workforce as per market needs.

These steps can go a long way in realising the potential of MSMEs in the growth of Indian economy.

12. Contract Farming has many advantages, however it suffers from market failures. Elaborate. What can the government do to correct problems that lead to contract failures? Also, discuss whether the Model Contract Farming Act, 2018 is a step in the right direction. (250 words) 15

संविदा कृषि (कॉन्ट्रैक्ट फार्मिंग) के कई लाभ हैं, हालांकि यह बाजार की विफलताओं से ग्रस्त है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। सरकार, संविदा विफलताओं का कारण बनने वाली समस्याओं को ठीक करने हेतु क्या कर सकती है? साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या मॉडल संविदा कृषि अधिनियम, 2018 सही दिशा में उठाया गया एक कदम है।

Contract Farming is farming done based on pre-harvest agreements between the farmer & the buyer.

It has many ADVANTAGES:

- i) The farmers can fetch better prices for produce than in Mandis
- ii) It supports growth of food processing industry by ensuring timely adequate farm produce
- iii) Farmers can directly sell to buyers thus reducing exploitation by middlemen
- iv) It can help in better crop planning and management & provides an assurance to farmers.
- v) The buyer will support the farmer in the process to ensure good produce by providing access to services such as extension

However it suffers from market failures:

- 1) Many times buyers refuse to buy produce if it turns out low in quality or quantity
- 2) There is uncertainty ~~and~~ of compensation in case of destruction of produce due to disasters.
- 3) The APMC Act acts as hindrance to direct selling & contract farming is limited
- 4) Buyers at times subject farmers to undue pressures & exploit them as farmers get tied to buyers
- 5) It also impacts soil health due to monoculture - reducing productivity

The Government can do the following to prevent contract failures:

- 1) Make buying produce mandatory
- 2) Regulating & monitoring body
- 3) Insurance to farmers against risk.
- 4) Make policy changes to expand its scope so that farmers have better choices

It is in this regard that the government has come up with Model Contract Farming Act 2018:

- 1) Mandates compulsory buying of entire produce.
- 2) The contracts will be registered with local bodies & monitored
- 3) Dispute resolution mechanism at local level
- 4) Insurance to farmers
- 5) The buyers cannot buy the land of farmers
- 6) It is outside the purview of APMC
- 7) It has expanded the scope to include farm produce, livestock, fisheries, etc

Thus, the new model Act aims to attack at the causes of market failures & is definitely a step in right direction as it safeguards farmers. However, the centre must ensure that this is implemented by states.

13. Suggest the measures needed to improve the employability of labour force as well as increasing number of employment opportunities in light of structural changes being brought by disruptive technologies.

(250 words) 15

विघटनकारी प्रौद्योगिकियों (डिस्रप्टिव टेक्नोलॉजी) द्वारा लाए जा रहे संरचनात्मक परिवर्तनों के प्रकाश में श्रम बल की नियोजनीयता में सुधार लाने के साथ-साथ रोजगार अवसरों की संख्या बढ़ाने के लिए आवश्यक उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

World Bank has projected that Artificial intelligence might affect nearly 69% jobs in India. This has resulted in a warning against the coming of disruptive technologies like automation, AI, blockchain, etc.

However, technology & man have evolved together for many years & we cannot not accept these disruptive technologies. Rather the need is to adapt to them to bring maximum benefits.

IMPROVING EMPLOYABILITY OF LABOUR FORCE

- Changes in technology turn the skills of
 - rendering workforce's skills obsolete
 - Training & skills obsolete -

Thus the following can be done:

- ① Re-skilling the workforce as per changing technology
- ② Re-train the trainees & teachers granting vocational training.
- ③ Use the disruptive technologies to the benefit of workforce.
For instance, use virtual reality to create virtual work spaces to train better
- ④ Identifying new sets of skills that are needed such as data analytics & mould our skilling programmes around it.

INCREASING NUMBER OF EMPLOYMENT

OPPORTUNITIES :

While disruptive technology do take away certain jobs that can be now performed by machines, it can be dealt with :

- ① Every technology brings with it more scope. For instance, more job opportunity for data analytics after IIT.

Similarly AI, internet & things will require more programmes & thus these new job demands should be captured

- ② Some jobs that require human touch & emotions cannot be replaced by technologies. So target such jobs such as doctors, care providers, hospitality, etc.
- ③ Technology can increase self-employment opportunities. Incubation centres & support infrastructure can help realise this potential.

These steps can be taken to ensure that technologies, like every time, remain a more small disturbance & rather provide more employment options.

14. India's trade policy in agriculture, marred by ad-hocism and pro-consumer bias, has constrained realization of export potential, and prevented the farmers from reaping the benefits. Examine the statement and discuss ways, including government initiatives, to improve agricultural exports.

(250 words) 15

तदर्थता और उपभोक्ता समर्थक पक्षपात से प्रभावित, कृषि में भारत की व्यापार नीति ने निर्यात सामर्थ्य की प्राप्ति को बाधित किया है तथा किसानों को लाभ उठाने से रोका है। इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए और सरकारी पहलों सहित कृषि निर्यात में सुधार लाने के तरीकों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

International trade opens many opportunity for the local manufactures & products however India's trade policy in agriculture has constrained the potential of export for farmer :

- Policy measures such as Minimum Export Price make our agricultural products non-competitive
- Restrictions on quantity that can be exported to ensure enough surplus for domestic consumers, leads to losses for farmers
↳ also disincentivises from producing more
- Ad-hoc changes in the export policy regarding quantity, price & types of products that can be exported discourages farmers from

taking the risk of producing for export

- further, ad-hoc import policies such as bilateral agreement for import of pulses as done recently, ~~may~~ though reduces the prices for the consumers → it leads to distress sales for farmers.

Thus the ad-hoc nature of trade policy and over-emphasis on ensuring low price food for consumers is doing more harm to farmers:

- wastage of extra surplus which they cannot export
- Forced to sell at low prices in Mandis
- Do not have access to better markets & prices abroad
- Erratic policies also prevents them from becoming part of global value chains due to uncertainty of supply.

This is the reason that despite being one of the largest producers of agri products our contribution to international trade is less than 5%.

How to improve Agricultural exports:

- 1) Have a proper policy in place in place of ad-hocism
- 2) Organise international agriculture fairs to help connect farmers with global value chains.
- 3) Promote Indian products under "Produced in India" brand.
- 4) Focus on international demand for organic produce. Paramparagat Krishi Yojana is right step.
- 5) Improve the quality of produce to meet the international standards of sanitary & phyto-sanitary needs. The Pashu Sanjeevani Yojana tackles this issue.
- 6) Promote export interests of farmers in bilateral & multi lateral trade agreements. Recent agreement with China which allowed export of all rice variety is a heart warming step.

Such steps can make a brand for agricultural products from India & help exports of farmers reach their true potential.

15. Is currency exchange rate a suitable measure of relative economic performance of countries? Despite improving macro-economic fundamentals, trade deficit in India continues to widen. Bring out the factors responsible for this situation. (250 words) 15

क्या मुद्रा विनिमय दर देशों के सापेक्ष आर्थिक प्रदर्शन की एक उपयुक्त माप है? मैक्रो इकॉनॉमिक फंडामेंटल्स (समष्टि-आर्थिक आधारों) में सुधार के बावजूद, भारत में व्यापार घाटा निरंतर बढ़ा है। इस स्थिति के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों को प्रस्तुत कीजिए।

Currency exchange rate determines the rate at which various currencies can exchange with each other. It reflects the relative strength & weakness of a currency.

The currency exchange rate is often considered a suitable measure of relative economic ~~and~~ performance of countries:

- determines the strength of currency in international market.
- Reflects the acceptability of currency
- a good / lower exchange rate is an indication of larger foreign investments, thus signify economic performance
- It also reflects the strength of economic situation in the country to prevent capital flight & retain

→ It also reflects robust trade where exports are more than imports

However, not always does currency exchange rate reflect the economic performance, as it also depends on other factors:

- the exchange rate policy in the country.
- many times the central bank manages the exchange rate artificially. (As often done by China)
- Sudden rise or fall of essential import items such as oil can impact the exchange rate in visible manner.
- Often, exchange rates change in other countries impacts exchange rates in others.

For instance, Fall in Turkish currency has weakened Indian currency.

Therefore, in the highly globalised & connected world today the exchange rate though is an indication of performance of economy but it not the complete picture

Despite improving macro-economic fundamentals (GDP rising, debt falling), Trade deficit in India continues to widen due to following factors:

- Rise in prices of crude oil has increased the import bill
- Rise in prices of other key import items such as jewellery, gold, silver, electronics (as noted by economic survey)
- A strong rupee for the most part of 2017 made the exports expensive and imports cheaper — thus making Indian goods non-competitive.
- Further, Indian exports are losing market share to fast emerging exports from Vietnam, Bangladesh especially in textile sector (Economic Survey)
- ⇒ Furthermore, Indian exports have not been able to take advantage of global value chains.

Due to these reasons, our import cost have been more than export benefits thus widening the trade deficit. However, the same can be remedied with changes

16. It will take much more than relief packages to address the problems being faced by the sugar industry in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत में चीनी उद्योग द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं को दूर करने के लिए राहत पैकेज से आगे और कुछ करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The sugar industry is one of the major industries in India and is mostly located in → UP
→ Maharashtra
→ Tamil Nadu.

However, of late the sugar industry has been facing various challenges:

- Lack of sufficient good quality sugarcane
- ⇒ Fluctuations in supply due to variability of rainfall & failure of irrigation
- ⇒ Mounting debts & inability to pay the Fair & remunerative prices
↳ further discouraging farmers to produce.
- ⇒ Lack of infrastructure such as roads, electricity and labour technology.

- ⇒ lack of sufficient workforce due to seasonal nature of work
- ⇒ High competition from good quality imports.
- ⇒ limited export options due to limits on stockpiling & ~~lower~~ inability to meet international standards.

Thus, what the sugar industry is facing is not merely a one of crisis but a deep structural problem → which cannot be remedied with mere policy package.

Further steps needed:

- i) The problems of contract farming need to be remedied. The new model Act can go a long way
- ii) There is a need to secure the agricultural produce of sugarcane by → providing better irrigation facilities as they require large amounts of water

→ better cropping pattern to encourage sugarcane in water sufficient areas & discourage in water deficit.

- iii) Instead of debt relief packages what is needed is better access to institutional credit & better guidance on its investment.
- iv) The Fair & Remunerative price policy needs to be looked into.
- v) Export opportunities should be widened to provide alternative markets & better price discovery.

These steps can help the sugar industry come out of crisis & return to being the vibrant industry that it always has been.

17. NAPCC, almost 10 years old and formulated with lofty objectives, has not served as the best answer to cope with the impacts of climate change. Critically discuss. (250 words) 15

लगभग 10 वर्ष पुराने और उत्कृष्ट लक्ष्यों के साथ सूत्रबद्ध, NAPCC ने जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों का सामना करने संबंधी सर्वोत्तम अनुक्रिया के रूप में कार्य नहीं किया है। आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

The National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC) was formulated almost 10 years ago ~~with~~ as India's response to the problem of climate change.

It had far-reaching objectives to tackle the menace of climate change:

- i) Indusive & sustainable development strategy for poor's protection.
- ii) Cost effective strategy to end un demand side management
- iii) Employment of appropriate technology for carbon sequestration & mitigation of green house gases
- iv) These objectives were bundled into 8 missions such as mission on Green India, water, solar energy, Sustainable Agriculture, etc.

⚠ Thought it was an early warning,
the NAPA's design & implementation
faced challenges which limits its
ability to cope with impacts of
climate change:

- it is formulated in over-arching
terms without identifying
specifics
- climate change requires deeper
understanding of problems &
targeted action. Amidst the lofty
objections of NAPA — ~~the~~ targeted
action was lost.
- Further, the challenges of climate
change are increasing every day.
There is a need to update this
plan made in 2008.
- To cope with impacts of climate
change there is a need to
involve people at the very
grass root level & build their
capacity → something that the
plan lacks.

→ The plan with its 8 missions under different ministries creates problem of coordination & a single minded action.

Thus, in light of these the NAPCC must be relooked:

- incorporate other issues such as waste to energy, coastal issues due to climate change etc.
- Centre's plan to introduce 3 new missions is a good step
 - ↳ missions on health, waste & wind
 - ↳ will make the plan more holistic.
- There must be synchronisation in command for implementation of plan.
- Time bound specific targets must be incorporated & accountability must be fixed.

This can make the NAPCC better equipped to deal with climate change.

18. Proliferation of nuclear weapons and the threat of their use are key concerns for global security nonetheless existing international arrangements seem to be ineffective. Comment. Also, identify the salient features of India's policy in this context and discuss whether India should join the NPT in the current form. (250 words) 15

परमाणु हथियारों का प्रसार और उनके उपयोग का खतरा वैश्विक सुरक्षा की प्रमुख चिंताएं हैं, इसके बिना वर्तमान अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यवस्था अप्रभावी प्रतीत होती है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संदर्भ में भारत की नीति की प्रमुख विशेषताओं को चिन्हित कीजिए तथा चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या भारत को वर्तमान प्रारूप वाले NPT में सम्मिलित होना चाहिए।

The exchange of heated words between American President Donald Trump & North Korean leader Kim Jon regarding the size of their nuclear weapons made the threat of nuclear warfare alive yet again. It reminded us of the Cuban crisis that almost led to nuclear war.

This raises key concerns for global security:

- i) Proliferation of nuclear weapons by authoritarian powers like North Korea with little international control over them.
- ii) Loose talks & threats of use of such weapons
↳ Pakistan's foreign minister had threatened India

↳ North Korea & US threatened each other

- iii) Development of new technologies such as tactical nuclear weapons lower the threshold for their use.
- iv) Proliferation of nuclear weapons might drive non-nuclear states such as Japan & South Korea to go nuclear for safety.

There are various mechanisms in place such as :

- i) Non-proliferation treaty
- ii) Comprehensive Test Ban treaty
- iii) Export control regimes such as Nuclear Suppliers Group
- iv) Regional Agreements such as JPOA between PS + I + EU and Iran

However there seem to be inefficiencies :

- i) These measures don't talk of complete nuclear disarmament
- ii) Allows the PS countries to retain weapons — which remains a threat to others such as to India from China
- iii) They have been unable to bring all countries on board such as India.

iv) However been able to control the proliferation.

It is due to the failure of them that the UN recently adopted the Treaty for Prohibition of Nuclear Arms for complete disarmament but none of the P5 countries have signed it.

In response to all this; salient features of India's nuclear policy:

- i) No first- First use doctrine
- ii) Only for deterrence
- iii) Will use only when another country uses nuclear weapons
- iv) Demand for complete disarmament by all.

India didn't join NPT as it was not an equal treaty & allowed P5 countries to retain weapons. It didn't have provision for complete disarmament. Without this being satisfied, India must not sign the treaty.

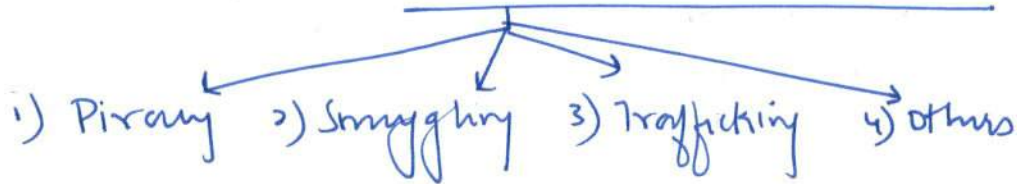
Non-signing of NPT has not done much harm to India's civil nuclear prospects as the world has recognised India as a responsible power.

19. The maritime security domain requires collective multilateral and regional cooperation to combat non traditional threats. Discuss in the context of threats in the Western Indian Ocean and the recent amendments in the Djibouti Code of Conduct.

(250 words) 15

समुद्री सुरक्षा प्रक्षेत्र (डोमेन) गैर-परंपरागत खतरों का सामना करने हेतु सामूहिक बहुपक्षीय और क्षेत्रीय सहयोग की मांग करता है। पश्चिमी हिंद महासागर में खतरों और जिवूती आचरण संहिता में हालिया संशोधन के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

The vast oceans surround India & the rest of world have thrown upon us various NON-TRADITIONAL THREATS



To tackle them what is needed is collective multilateral & regional cooperation :

- 1) Crimes like piracy are international crimes against humanity & are of the kind out in international waters



Thus necessitating action by the world as a whole, especially regional cooperation.

- 2) Due to vastness of oceans it is impossible for any one country to effectively deal with these challenges

→ scale
reach
capacity
technology

- 3) The pirates, smugglers, traffickers have access to best technology & have a ~~very~~ vast worldwide network

↓
This enables them to escape from jurisdictions easily.

- 4) These non-traditional crimes are a threat to all nations alike.

For instance, ~~the~~ smuggling from the golden crescent & golden triangle has impacted all nations.

Thus this needs coordinated effort, as is also being seen:

→ Indian navy conducts anti-piracy operations in Western Indian Ocean & the coast of Himalaya

- China recently aided the rescue of a private ship.
- Enhanced satellite surveillance & data is enabling the littoral states of western Indian Ocean to deal with.
- India has signed bilateral agreements with Bangladesh to deal with rising threats of non-traditional maritime crime in Eastern Indian Ocean.
- The Djibouti Code of Conduct is also an example of setting international standards



-) Provides guidelines to various ships from different nations to jointly prevent piracy
-) Also provides common operating procedure guidelines to various operators in the region

All these steps can collectively lead to resolution of the non-traditional threats

20. India's space programme was initiated with the vision of utilising outer space for peaceful purposes, however with changing times it has the potential to play a significant role in strengthening security capabilities of India. Discuss with adequate examples. (250 words) 15

भारत का अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम, शांतिपूर्ण उद्देश्यों हेतु बाह्य अंतरिक्ष का उपयोग करने के दृष्टिकोण के साथ आरंभ किया गया था, हालांकि बदलते समय के साथ इसमें भारत की सुरक्षा क्षमताओं को मजबूत बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाने की क्षमता है। यथोचित उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

India's space programme spearheaded by ISRO was initiated with the vision of using outer space for peaceful purposes and has been doing so for long:

- use of INSAT & GSAT satellites for communication purposes & weather forecast.
- Using Landsat, Cartosat, Resource-sat & others for imaging, observation & weather forecast.
- It sent missions to Mars & the moon (Chandrayaan & Mangalyaan) to look for possibility of existence of water & life.

However, with changing times India's space programme has potential to play significant role in strengthening capacity of security infrastructure:

- Imaging satellites can provide reconnaissance services
- Refusal by US to aid India during the Kargil war to identify the position of infiltrators & was a wake up call to build own capabilities.
- Satellites can help us monitor borders in different terrains & identify infiltration in time.
- It can also help us identify the position of terrorist camps near borders or movement of troops to help us prepare on time.

It is towards these objectives that some steps have been taken:

① NAVIC - India's GPS - has a section of it reserved only for military use & has restricted access

② India recently launched its only military satellite RUKMANI-1 ✓

This reflects the potential of India's space programme to buy up our security capability however we must make sure that such activities do not lead to space wars & militarisation of space.