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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1432)

Name of Candidate	ANKUR DAS		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	670858
Center	ONLINE	Date	14/08/2019

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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4	10	
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17	15	
18	15	
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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।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi- 110009

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. Explaining the reasons behind India's lower female labour force participation rates (LFPR), list the steps that have been taken to augment it. What more needs to be done? (150 Words) 10

भारत की निम्न महिला श्रमबल भागीदारी दर (LFPR) के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों को स्पष्ट करते हुए, इसे बढ़ाने हेतु उठाए गए कदमों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। साथ ही, बताइए कि इस दिशा में और क्या किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

According to a report by Deloitte, India's female labour force participation has decreased from 36.5% in 2005 to 26% in 2018.

Reasons

- ① Social reasons: reluctance of women to participate
- ② Patriarchal setup: discourages women participation
- ③ Unequal wages.
- ④ Lack of women friendly amenities in informal workplaces (eg toilets, creches)
- ⑤ Skill mismatch.
- ⑥ Harassment, including sexual harassment

Steps taken

- ① Equal Remuneration Act: providing equal pay for both men & women
- ② Maternity Benefits Act: Providing 26 weeks paid maternity leave, child care facilities (creches).
- ③ Prevention of Sexual Harassment Act
Acting on Vishakha Guidelines by S.O. - Internal complaints committee, escalation of complaints
- ④ Skill Development: Through PM Kaushal Vikas Karyakam, Natⁿ Career Serie
- ⑤ Stand Up India: Loans to female entrepreneurs.

Way forward:

Additionally, proper implementation, adequate grievance redressal mechanism, awareness among women, adequate toilets in informal workplaces, security should

2. By rebalancing project risks between the public and private sectors, the HAM model has encouraged investments in the road infrastructure sector. Discuss. (150 words) 10

सार्वजनिक और निजी क्षेत्रों के मध्य परियोजना जोखिमों को पुनर्संतुलित कर, HAM मॉडल ने सड़क अवसंरचना क्षेत्र में निवेश को प्रोत्साहित किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Hybrid Amity Model involves government and private developer jointly investing in the project cost on a 40:60 ratio, with govt payment in annual "amities", based on quality of work done

Balancing project risks betⁿ public and private sector

- ① 40% of cost borne by government — easing financial pressure on private partner
- ② Annual payment on quality of work — no traffic risks on private partner.
- ③ Enables better quality of roads, transport development.

- ③ Government involvement ensures better credit access for private party
- ④ Govt. assured of work done within specified time frame
- ⑤ Fixed project cost + quality monitoring.

Risks :

- ① Long gestation period
- ② Reluctance in credit access due to NPAs.
- ③ Corruption and red tapism.
- ④ Traffic congestion in roads,
reluctance for priv. investors.

Way forward

- ① Adoption of Kelkar Committee recommendations regarding statutory regulatory body, dispute resolving mechanism.
- ② Development (inc. industrial) to ensure sufficient traffic on roads.
- ③ Monitoring of quality standards by
NHAI + Quality Council
of India.

3. Examine the need for a comprehensive policy on e-commerce in view of its domestic expansion as well as safeguarding India's interests globally.

(150 words) 10

ई-कॉमर्स पर एक व्यापक नीति की आवश्यकता का इसके घरेलू विस्तार के साथ-साथ वैश्विक स्तर पर भारत के हितों की सुरक्षा को देखते हुए परीक्षण कीजिए।

E-commerce is defined as virtual selling - buying of goods over electronic medium without physical interaction between seller and buyer.

Issues & Need for e-commerce policy

- Smoother out taxation glitches in era of GST [states want more control of goods sold vs. received].
- Domestic expansion marred by transport / logistical glitches
- Issues related to fraud.
- Payment related glitches - digital payments not fully adopted by Indian population
- Concerns regarding data -

storage of data of domestic consumers + international users.

An e-commerce policy should:

- ① Smoothen out logistical bottlenecks
↳ simplification of Customs procedures for international clients.
- ② Tax compliance eased.
- ③ Definite data storage guidelines
in compliance of international standards [European GDPR]
- ④ Security of online transactions to be ensured.
- ⑤. Consumer protection - protection from frauds, misleading advertisements
- ⑥ Protection against predatory pricing, fair trade for physical stores.

The growth of e-commerce should be ensured by a proper regulatory environment and e-commerce policy

4. In view of the growing significance of FinTech innovations, discuss the potential and challenges of mainstreaming FinTech in Indian economy.

(150 words) 10

फिनटेक (FinTech) नवाचारों के बढ़ते महत्व को देखते हुए, भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में फिनटेक को मुख्यधारा में लाने की संभावनाओं और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Fin Tech innovations refer to new-age methods for streamlining financial transactions across digital payments, equity, insurance and other sectors.

Potential

- ① Goes with Digital India + Digital Payments push of govt.
- ② Convenient and efficient payments.
- ③ Secure - 2 / 3 factor authentication
- ④ Ability to plug leakages in subsidy delivery / PDS.
- ⑤ Prevention of money laundering enables monitoring of suspicious transactions.

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Challenges

- ① Lack of robust financial security mechanism in virtual space.
- ② Reluctance of people to accept.
- ③ Low internet penetration + high cost of hardware.
- ④ Regulatory compliances cumbersome
- ⑤ Concerns about data-protection, phishing, data fraud.

Way forward:

- ① Awareness about Fintech innovations-
- ② Robust digital security ecosystem.
- ③ Spreading awareness about safe fintech practices among people.
- ④ Regulatory Sandbox for development and trial of new innovations.

5. With India striving to achieve its development objectives, examine how blue economy can help in pursuing the objectives of economic development and ecological sustainability. (150 words) 10

भारत द्वारा अपने विकास उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने के प्रयास में, परीक्षण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार नीली अर्थव्यवस्था आर्थिक विकास और पारिस्थितिकीय संधारणीयता के उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में सहायता कर सकती है।

Blue Economy refers to the harnessing of marine & freshwater living resources for economic development.

The NITI Aayog Action Agenda states that Blue Economy has the potential to ensure economic deep of populations while ensuring ecological sustainability.

→ Enables growth of small scale fishing / prawn cultivation in marine / freshwater areas.

→ Provides scope for food processing and further export.

→ Allinate source of income
for people engaged in agriculture

Ecological sustainability ensured by

- ① Use of proper sized nets -
prevents killing of spawn/
young fishes.
- ② Prevention of overfishing -
- ③ Organic pisciculture,
avoiding use of growth
regulators, artificial feed.
- ④ Rearing of indigenous fish
varieties - no invasive/exotic
species.

Blue economy has the potential to
secure economic development of
coastal communities, Care should
be taken they are ecologically
sustainable.

6. 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 तथा उन उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिनसे इसमें बेहतर संसाधन सृजन और उपयोगिता प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

Borrowings for capital expenditure in railway is a sign of weak financial position

Reasons:

- ① Large scale erosion of ticketing by passengers
- ② High operating costs (power, diesel)
- ③ Large number of non-essential assets (stadiums, large colonies etc)
- ④ Low - unrevived freight rates.
- ⑤ Old age of rakes - low energy efficiency.
- ⑥ Slow adoption of modern, more efficient technology.

Better resource generation + utilization:

- ① Monetisation of existing railway properties [hotels over stations, shopping complexes].
- ② Adoption of energy efficient rolling stock.
- ③ Prioritised electrification of all tracks - save diesel costs.
- ④ Revision of freight rates.
- ⑤ Strict measures to ~~ensure~~ prevent ticket-less travel.

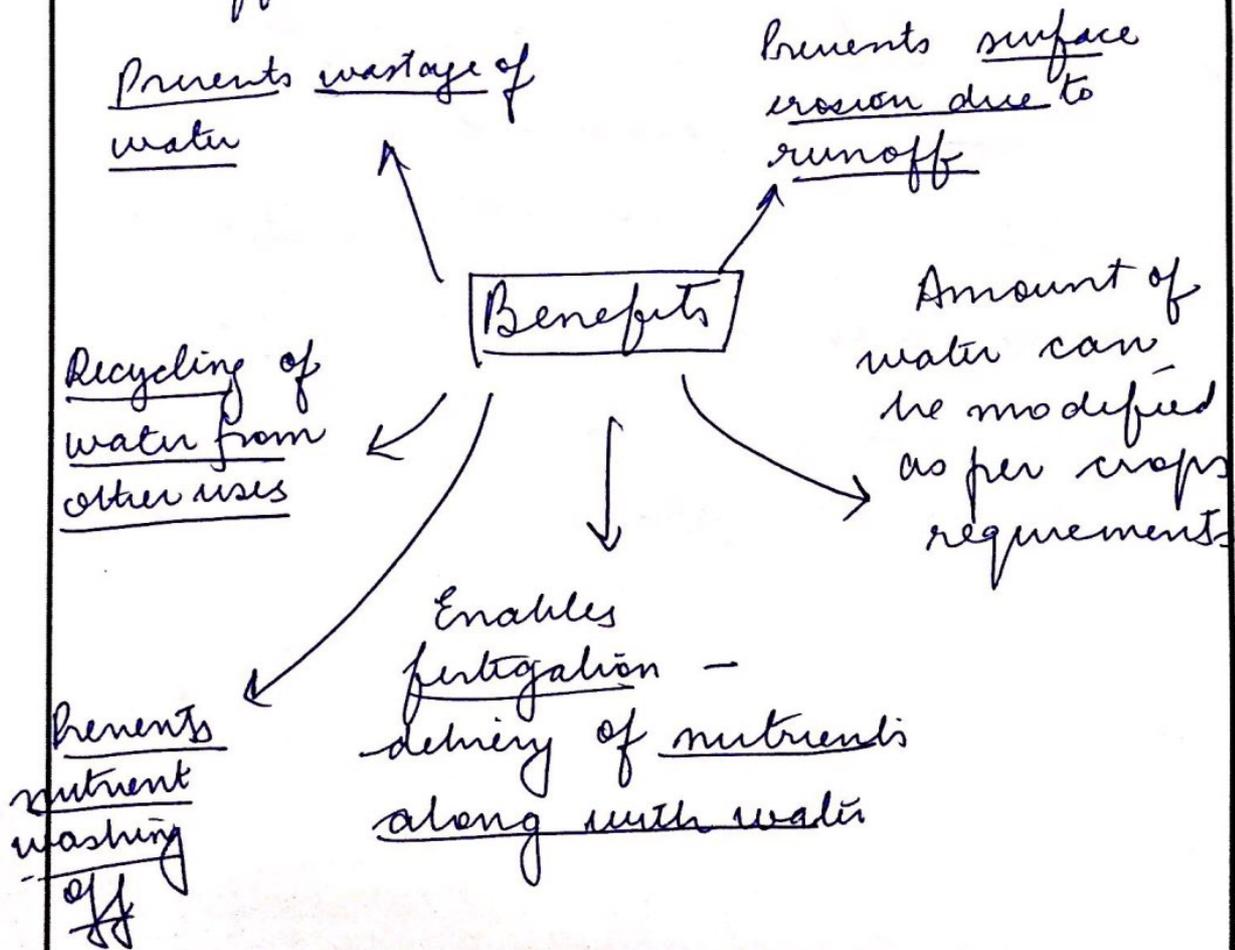
Railways is known as "life-blood" of the nation. Its sound financial health and efficient operation is essential for smooth functioning of economic engine in India.

7. 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 delivering water directly at the roots of plants to minimise wastage and surface runoff



Steps being taken by Govt

- ① "Harkhet to Pani" - promotion of micro-irrigation among farmers
- ② "More Crop per Drop" - water use efficiency through awareness of techniques among farmers
- ③ Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Program to focus on micro-irrigation techniques.
- ④ MoU with Israel for transfer of technology - Israel is a world leader.

8. 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 सविस्तर 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 is practised by 60% of rural population and is affected by global climate change.

Contribution to Climate Change

- Emission of methane, ammonia by ruminants (cows, buffaloes).
- Large amount of water required [80 l water to produce 1 kg meat]
- Large energy reqd to produce fodder.

Effect of Climate change

- ↳ Increased fungal + bacterial

↓ diseases due to higher temperature
 ↓ Reduction in milk yield
 ↓ due to large variation in
temperature

Measures to make farming sustainable

- ① Free range cattle - as opposed to industrial fodder fed ones
- ② Improvement in food processing technology - reduction in energy requirement.
- ③ Improvements in transport infrastructure.

Measures for resilience

- ① Development of disease resistant varieties.
- ② ~~Resilience~~ Promotion of natural crossing to preserve natural genetic variation.

The success of livestock farming depends on its adaptability and sustainability in an increasingly changing climate.

9. 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।

The cropping pattern of a region is influenced by various factors

① Geo-climatic: Monsoon type of climate in India enables sowing of rice during onset and harvest during dry season, making India one of the largest producers of rice in the world.

② Socio Cultural: People in North India as well as greater central - Asian region have traditionally consumed wheat since ancient times (Indus Valley). This trend shows in current cropping patterns.

- (3) Economic : Famine in Ireland led to large scale cultivation of potato as it was a cheap and abundant source of carbohydrates.
- (4) Historical : Introduction of rice to Japan by ancient Indian traders has led to rice being prominent crop in East Asian Countries.
- (5) Political : Large scale plantation of Tea in Assam by colonial government led to Assam being the largest ~~pro~~ tea producing region till date.

Cropping factors are influenced by a myriad range of factors, providing an interesting insight to human history.

10. 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 Waterways involve use of navigable channels of rivers / other water bodies to efficiently move goods & passengers ~~over~~ over long distances. India has developed IWT along rivers Ganga (NW-1), Brahmaputra (NW-2) among others

Cheap and efficient transport.

Connects hinterland to ports (Industrial belt in UP to Haldia port)

Provides multimodal transport (Taj Marg project) Cross Border Trade (India - Bangladesh through NW-2)

Provides connectivity to landlocked areas (North-East India to Bay of Bengal)

Role in Multi-Modal Transport

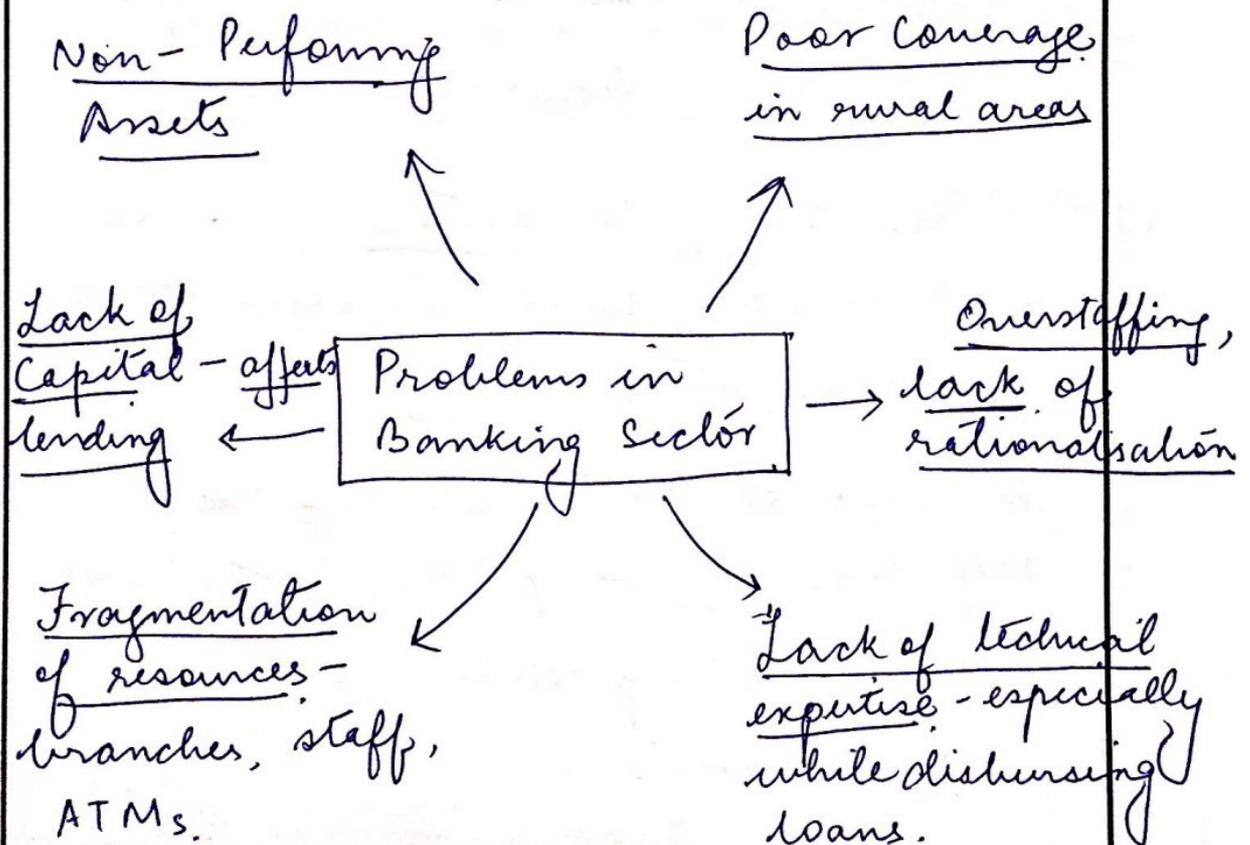
- ① Connects hinterland to industrial areas through road + railways (JMVP - Passing through dense agricultural and mineral rich areas)
- ② Goods efficiently / cheaply transported over water and last mile connectivity by road / rail [North East India]
- ③ Connects Industrial Corridors / Dedicated Freight Corridors to Upstream areas;
- ④ Roll on - Roll off system ensures cheaper transport costs (At Dhubri, Assam, over River Brahmaputra)

The role of IWT is very important in ensuring cheap and cost effective connectivity between agriculture / mineral rich hinterland and ports, among others. Their development

11. Can the consolidation of banks help in stemming the existing problems in the banking sector? Discuss. (250 words) 15

क्या बैंकों का समेकन बैंकिंग क्षेत्रक में वर्तमान समस्याओं से निपटने में सहायता कर सकता है? चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, Vijaya Bank, Bank of Baroda and Dena Bank merged to form a consolidated entity. This follows the merger of State Bank Group bringing into focus the role of consolidation of banks.



Role of Consolidation in addressing these problems

- ① Consolidation will help in taking adequate haircuts / rationalisation of loans / NPAs.
- ② Will give access to wider capital pool for lending activities
- ③ Expand reach of branches / ATM to unbanked areas.
- ④ Eliminate fragmentation [presence of large no. of banks in some areas, lack in other areas]
- ⑤ ~~It~~ Lead to better quality of staff training - provide technical expertise - help eliminate chances of "bad loans".
- ⑥ Overhaul + fresh ideas in leadership / management

Points to note:

① Consolidation should not deviate banks from welfare obligations.
(opening of Jan-Dhan a/c's in rural areas)

② Interests of staff should be taken into account.

③ Should be accompanied by governance / management reforms.

④ Larger capital → larger lending exposure → more risks : Adequate precautions to be taken

While consolidation of banking sector will lead to greater synergy and coordination, it should be ensured that adequate precautions are taken to avoid financial distress to large capital banks.

12. Why has the contribution of manufacturing sector, as a percentage of the GDP, remained stagnant in the recent years? In this context, analyse the achievements of National Manufacturing Policy, 2011 with regards to its intended objectives. (250 words) 15

विगत वर्षों में GDP के प्रतिशत के रूप में विनिर्माण क्षेत्रक का योगदान स्थिर क्यों रहा है? इस संदर्भ में, अपने लक्षित उद्देश्यों के संबंध में राष्ट्रीय विनिर्माण नीति, 2011 की उपलब्धियों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The contribution of manufacturing to GDP is currently at 16%. It has remained stagnant for the following reasons:

- ① Lack of market demand owing to higher inflation in necessary goods.
- ② Global economic slowdown - affects export demand.
- ③ Lack of skill upgradation among factory workers.
- ④ Regulatory hurdles in setting up of newer industries.

- ⑤ Lacunae in transport infrastructure
- ⑥ Lacunae in essential infrastructure like 24x7 electricity, internet connectivity, water.
- ⑦ Failure to catch up with technology driven manufacturing processes.

National Manufacturing Policy 2011

- ① Improve share of GDP manufacturing in GDP from 16% to 25%.
- ② Skilling of workforce.
- ③ Easing setting up of manufacturing units.
- ④ Impetus to ~~the~~ MSME sector.
- ⑤ Active collaboration with state governments.

Achievements of NMP - 2011.

- ① Make in India program drawing increased FDI in manufacturing sector.
- ② Share of MSME about 40% of total industrial output by value.
- ③ Skilling programs - PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana
- ④ Spirit of competitiveness - federalism, role of states increased - drawing investors
- ⑤ Setting up of SEZs (Spl. Economic Zones), NIMZs etc.

While the NMP 2011 envisages greater manufacturing output, it should be accompanied by on-ground reforms

India's progressive increase in Ease of Doing Business ranking shows we

13. One of the goals that a developing economy aspires for is to bring down the Incremental Capital-Output Ratio (ICOR). In this context, what are the constraints that underlie the efficient conversion of savings rate to investments in the Indian economy? Also suggest some measures to improve this efficiency. **(250 words) 15**

एक विकासशील अर्थव्यवस्था जिन लक्ष्यों की आकांक्षा रखती है उनमें से एक वृद्धिशील पूंजी-उत्पाद अनुपात (इंक्रिमेंटल कैपिटल-आउटपुट रेश्यो: ICOR) में कमी लाना है। इस संदर्भ में, भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में बचत दर के निवेश में कुशल रूपांतरण के समक्ष आने वाली बाधाएँ क्या हैं? साथ ही, इसकी कुशलता में सुधार हेतु कुछ उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

Incremental Capital - Output Ratio is a measure which shows the amount of capital required to produce a given product.

High ICOR indicates inefficient economic environment as a large amount of capital is being used to produce low value goods.

Constraints to efficient conversion of savings to investments.

- ① low savings rate - Indians usually prefer investing in immovable assets / gold to saving in banks.

- ② Aversion to investments: Retail investment is affected by reluctance to invest in equity and preference for gold / immovable property.
- ③ NPA Crisis: Proliferation of bad loans makes it difficult for banks to lend for business -
- ④ Lacunae in Corporate Governance:
Recent instances of malafide disbursement of loans (ICICI Bank case, PNB - Nirav Modi case) leads to reluctance in credit access.
- ⑤ Regulatory hurdles in setting up business affects investments

Measures to improve.

- ① Abatement of NPA crisis through strategic waivers / writing offs, haircuts, bank consolidation.
- ② Awareness and promotion of financial inclusion among savers.
- ③ Efficient transmission of bank rate cuts by RBI.
- ④ Overhaul of corporate governance structures - Kotak Committee recommendations.

Efficient conversion of savings to investments and lowering of ICoR is ~~an~~ sine - qua - non for rapid economic growth. Various regulatory and statutory measures should be introduced to ensure the same.

14. Highlight the factors responsible for rise in the number of start-ups in India in recent years. Analyzing the challenges in the existing start-up ecosystem, suggest some measures to resolve them. (250 words) 15

विगत वर्षों में भारत में स्टार्ट-अप की संख्या में वृद्धि के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों पर प्रकाश डालिए। वर्तमान स्टार्ट-अप पारिस्थिति की चुनौतियों का विश्लेषण करते हुए, उनका समाधान करने हेतु कुछ उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

A start-up is defined as a newly incorporated business entity (5 years old) which operates in a niche / unique market segment, often with the use of technology.

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has reported a four fold increase in number of registered start-ups in recent years.

Factors responsible

- ① Proliferation of high-speed low cost internet connectivity.
- ② Reduction of costs in mobile handsets - wider market reach in Tier II and III cities for startups

- ③ Rising disposable incomes
allowing greater leisure spending
(Food ordering apps, entertainment
apps)
- ④ Preference for convenience
among consumers (cab aggregators,
household service apps)
- ⑤ Large pool of IT trained
human-resources engaging
in development.

Challenges in existing ecosystem:

- ① Regulatory compliance burden
(labour, taxation, permission)
- ② Data storage threats - European
GDPR mandates stringent
data storage norms.
- ③ Taxation issues: recent
concerns about Angel Tax.

- ④ Rapid development in technology -
unable to keep up.
- ⑤ Cut-throat competition from
foreign startups (Flipkart vs. Amazon
etc)

Measures to resolve:

- ① Simplifying regulatory requirements,
permissions
- ② Strengthen capital access through
initiatives like "Start-up India"
- ③ Provision of incubators in
colleges to house early stage
startups.
- ④ Development of robust data
protection policy.

Startups have the potential to create
high value and employment in
current economic scenario. It should
be ensured that their growth is
encouraged.

15. There is a high cost of compliance as well as complexities associated with existing labour laws at centre and state levels. Discuss. What steps have recently been taken by the central government to address these challenges? (250 words) 15

केंद्र और राज्य स्तरों पर वर्तमान श्रम कानूनों के साथ अनुपालन की उच्च लागत के साथ-साथ जटिलताएँ भी जुड़ी हुई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए केंद्र सरकार द्वारा हाल में क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

Labour laws in India are enforced by both Central and State governments - which leads to multiplicity and high associated compliance costs.

Effects of such complexity

- ① Reduces ease of doing business, difficult to set up compliance mechanisms across separate states
- ② Lack of benefit portability among workers - adversely affects migration
- ③ Pushes up costs for companies.
- ④ Leads to lack of employment opportunities.

- ⑤ Unequal regulations leads to lower wages for workers in some states.

Steps taken by Centre:

- ① Parity of Wage Code Bill:
consolidates various labour laws including Payment of Wages Act, Bonus Act etc.

→ equalised minimum wage across similar geographical areas.

→ Easier compliance

- ② Shram Suvidha Portal:

→ Compliance online by integrating various labour regulations.

→ Ensures social security portability.

③ Various pension schemes and welfare schemes for workers (PM Shram Yogi Maan Dhan Yojana).

→ Provides assured pension and social security to workers.

The success of India as an investment destination depends upon ease of compliance. ~~that~~ such measures also boost employment. Taking steps to streamline these issues, it should be ensured that workers rights are not affected.

16. 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।

Coal Based power-generation
is the mainstay of the power
sector in India.

Reasons for pervanance → increased
power demand

- High demand for power
from industrial sector
- Rising urbanisation - more
power demand.
- Focus on Make in India
Policy - large scale -
uninterrupted power required.
- Railways modernisation -
electrification of all tracks
by 2022 - high demand
for power.

- IT sector requires uninterrupted power supply.
- Energy intensive Capital goods industries [iron and steel, heavy machinery]
- Heating up of climate - increased usage of air-conditioners.
- Food processing industry major consumer [production, storage of perishable goods in cold storage].

~~Significance~~ Significance of coal based power vis a vis renewable energy

- ① Low generation capacity compared to thermal power plant.
- ② High cost of adoption of renewable energy.

- ③ Higher calorific value of coal - more energy per unit raw material.
- ④ Climatic conditions not always feasible for renewable energy.
- ⑤ High amount of power needed, ~~new~~ renewables cannot generate.
- ⑥ Concerns about ecological effects of mega-hydel power-plants.

While impetus on renewable energy exists, its penetration remains low (16%). This coupled with high energy requirements makes coal based power indispensable.

→ Need of the hour is to devolve efficient and clean generation technology from coal.

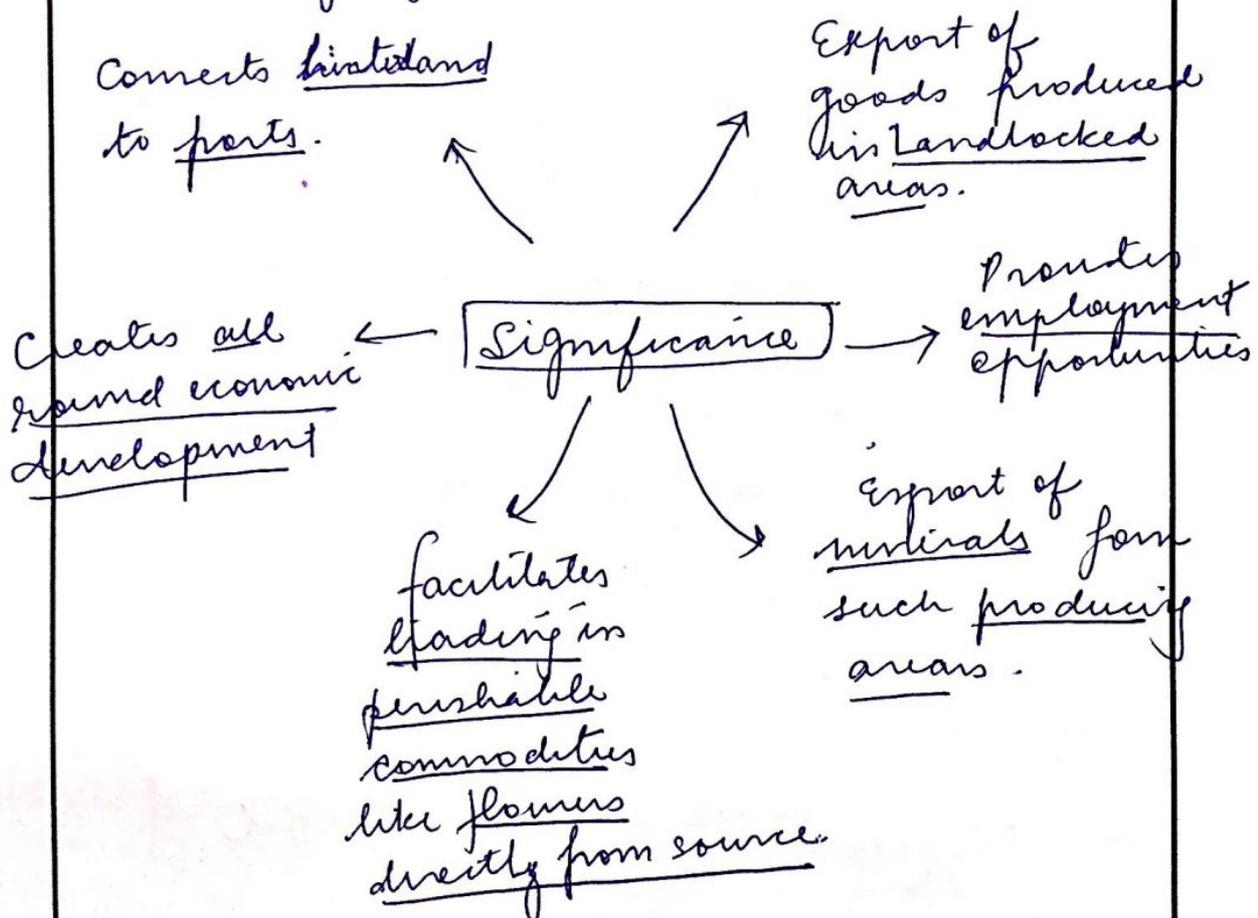
17. Elaborate the strategic and operational elements of the Agriculture Export Policy, 2018 and discuss the role it can play to achieve the target of doubling farmers' income by 2022. **(250 words) 15**

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।

18. 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 inland ports which are connected to sea-ports by multi-modal transport networks enabling efficient export-import.



Challenges

- ① High cost required for development.
- ② Absence of multi-modal transport network.
- ③ Lack of significant business in hinterland to justify setting up of dry ports.
- ④ Credit availability reduced due to NPA crisis.
- ⑤ Road infrastructure found to be inadequate.
- ⑥ Lack of willingness among private sector.

Way forward

- ① Provision of PPP model in their development.

- ② Development of freight corridors (Eastern + Western dedicated freight corridors)
- ③ Co-operation with state governments to share costs + provide necessary infrastructural facilities.
- ④ Industrial development, to generate sufficient business / goods
- ⑤ Accelerated road development (Bharatmala Pariyojana) and multimodal transport networks. (Jal Marg Vikas Project).

Dry Ports are essential for all-round economic development.

While the government has provided impetus in setting up of such ports (Inland Container Depots, Airport oriented Industrial Clusters), some shortcomings are to be addressed to ensure their development.

19. 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 provides significant possibility of inclusive growth & food security.

- ① Enables crop diversification and improved revenue for farmer.
- ② Increases shelf life of food items
- ③ Prevents wastage and distress selling by farmer.
- ④ Ensures availability of food items all over India (Amul Butter, canned fish available all India)

- ⑤ Provides employment in industrial sector.
- ⑥ Industrial development in rural areas.
- ⑦ Earns valuable foreign exchange.
- ⑧ Inclusive growth through greater revenue for farmers, than just raw produce.
- ⑨ Enables food security by helping in preservation and transport. (Amul baby milk powder - cheap nutrition for infants all over India)

Competitive advantage

- ① Largest dairy producer worldwide
- ② Large cropping season + varied climate supports many different crops.

- ③ Long coastline provides ample marine production.
- ④ Large domestic market
- ⑤ Large expatriate community, demand all around the world for pickles, milk products
- ⑥ Constitutionally sanctioned systems of co-operatives for helps in easier conglomeration of producers into co-operative units - fair price.

The food processing sector holds immense potential. While govt has devised schemes like SAMPADA, Mega Food Parks, on ground implementation through proper cold storage infrastructure, proper transport, credit availability should be ensured to ensure proper success of the sector.

20. 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।

Changing land holding pattern is one of the major problem in Indian agriculture.

- Land fragmentation — resulting in decreased revenue.
- Inability to use large machinery in ~~small~~ small landholdings.
- Prevalance of subsistence agriculture.
- Sub-leasing of land to landless labours.
- high land rates being imposed on non-statutory tenants.

- Women not inheriting agricultural land - landless farmers.
- Conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses.

Ways to resolve

- Statutory and strict enforcement of land reform laws.
- Ensuring equitable distribution of land among women.
- Prevention of sub-leasing land to agricultural labourers [prevent absentee landlordism]
- Discouraging fragmenting land -

→ Awareness of new age cropping practices, high yielding seed varieties

→ Encouragement of mechanisation.
(loans, machine banks etc)

Rationalisation of land holding
is of paramount importance in
ensuring higher agricultural yield.

Strict implementation of all
statutory guidelines should be
ensured