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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1068)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Date	29/08/2018
Center	ORN		

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	- 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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Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			

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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।

In UNFCCC, India committed for a renewable energy target of 175 GW — 100 GW from Solar, 60 from wind, 10 from small hydel and 5 GW from Bio-energy. However several CHALLENGES exist in its realisation

(i) Cord Connectivity — has not been utilised fully yet to freely transmit energy from renewable ~~energy~~ sources

(ii) Capital and Investment — According to world Bank additional \$200 bn would be required for India to realise its renewable energy targets

(iii) Disputes — eg with U.S.A over manufacturing of Solar panels at WTO

(iv) Human Resources — are inadequate in terms of skilling for India to.

to realize its target of renewable energy

(v) Taxation and Land — Due to disposition
acquisition in the tax structure
and regular delays in the land
acquisition process. There are time
and cost overruns in project
implementation.

(vi) Increasing reliance upon Coal - v

(vii) High cost of renewable energy
makes it unattractive for users

(viii) Battery storage issues.
Way forward

- India can tap the markets for Green Bonds
and allow Pension and Insurance funds
to invest in renewable energy.
- Funds in NAFCC (National Adaptation
Fund on Climate Change) can be channelled
towards realization of renewable
energy targets
- Providing single-window clearances
using SPV route
- Using lithium-ion and graphene battery
based decentralized solutions for storage
create R&D to reduce cost

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।

Around 30% of India's population resides in its cities and it will be over 600 mn by 2050 which makes investment in Urban amenities essential to bring upgradation and value to urban services.

POLICIES USED

- Devolution of funds - from Centre and State government to finances.
- Smart City Mission of Centre Government to fund urban amenities and establish new cities while improving facilities in existing cities
- AMRUT - it aims at revitalising the city infrastructure scheme in terms of various facilities

•

o MUNICIPAL BONDS - Govt. has allowed UCB's (Urban Local Bodies) to raise funds from Capital Markets to fund its infrastructure. These bonds are usually long-term in nature and help UCB's with large capital at a comparatively short interest rate.

However several challenges exist in realising true potential of Municipal Bonds.

- high credit rating requirement
- restrictions on certain class of institutional investors to invest in municipal bond markets
- Non-interested buyers to invest in municipal bonds

Government needs to guarantee the municipal bonds in order to enhance their viability and credit rating to make buyers interested in investing in them.

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।

Financial inclusion refers to provision of basic financial services to like banking, payment, microinsurance etc. to everyone without any discrimination.

Acc. to RBI's report, although strides have been achieved in financial inclusion; however several challenges exist in the true realisation

(i) Poor spread of banks; Narasimham Committee recommended for every bank to be located in every 5 km and the reality is far from it

(ii) Financial illiteracy

(iii) High rural-urban divide

(iv) Gender-divide - with women having lesser literacy and access to financial services.

- (v) Weak Digital and electricity networks which make it difficult to ensure 100% financial inclusion
- (vi) Segments like Person with Disabilities have not yet been addressed in government's policies for financial inclusion

Measures by government

- P.M. Jan Dhan Yojana
- white label ATM scheme
- Banking Correspondent Scheme
- PM Teewar Tyoti Beema Yojana
- MUDRA Yojana.
- Swabhiman Campaign of RBI
- P.M. Vittiya Shiksha Yojana.

Steps further required

- Innovative routes; like Small finance banks and NBFC's can play a big role in including left out sections, however they remain largely utilised. Therefore thrust should be on tapping these 100% potential.

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; refer to the move towards factoring environmental externalities in the project cost; so as to reflect the true cost and true benefits of the project and not just profits.

normal $\Rightarrow \text{Sales} - \text{Cost} = \text{Profit}$
accounting

Environmental. = Sales + Positive externalities
accounting - Cost - negative externalities
= Sustainable Profits

In the context of rising number of protests against several developmental projects and industries e.g recent protest against Sterlite in Tamil Nadu; makes it more viable to conduct and statutorily introduce Environmental Accounting provisions in the

Rationale

- o It would make investors and other stakeholders aware of the environmental costs of the project and they will be more comfortable in investing their
- o It would help companies tap the Green Bonds market
- o Government would be better able to assess the environmental viability of the projects and better able to distribute subsidies or penalise projects
- o Markets would be more transparent and sustainable
- o It will help green business and green jobs flourish in the Indian Market

Status

Though NAT and Supreme Court have used provisions of Environmental Accounting in several cases; however it is not yet statutorily been made necessary.

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।

- India has only 4% of world's water resources and has the burden of 16% of world's population with around 70% of its water resources being contaminated.
- By 2050; India would be categorised in 'water-stress' category which makes it all the more necessary to look back into water usage patterns and correcting them.
- The challenge exists in dual issues; as only 52% of India's agricultural lands have access to irrigation which makes farmer highly vulnerable to monsoon patterns and with climate change these vulnerabilities will only increase further.
- The present state of situation has been partly a result of government.

policies which have over time advocated for cultivation of water intensive crops. e.g. over 80% of area in Punjab is under Paddy cultivation, which is unnecessarily high for a water-stress state.

- o Government had launched K.M. Krishi Sinchayee Yojana to provide better irrigation with aim of 'More-Gooder Drop' and 'Har Khet Ko Pani' by improving water use efficiency.
- Need for improving water use efficiency
- o to address the issue of water scarcity
- o to tackle the problem of depleting ground water table
- o to ensure sustainable water pattern and usage for human consumption

Article 21 makes Right to water a fundamental right for all; therefore, necessary policy actions are required to realise its realisation.

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।

The use of technology (both traditional and modern) is essential in all 3 stages of Disaster management - Prevention & Mitigation, Response and Rehabilitation.

PM 10 point agenda and Sendai framework aim to maximise the use of traditional knowledge of citizens in order to minimise the disaster risk.

[29] in Orissa local settlers have a better knowledge of the signal indicators of ~~flaw~~ cyclones which can be utilized in providing a faster Early Warning System.

India lacks in terms of investment and human resources to fully tap the potential of modern technologies like UAV's; AI; Big Data; Remote

Sensing etc. to exploit their potential towards use in disaster preparedness.

→ Therefore use of traditional techniques like using local dwellers knowledge of forest fires, can address the gaps existing in the use of modern technology.

Use of modern technology.

Ex-9) → (i) forest fires can be tackled by providing early information and regular surveillance using Drones & UAVs

(ii) for information dissemination;

ITEWS; Sagar Vani have been established for various coastal districts

(iii) Robotics can be used in areas of disaster where humans can't reach and it would help minimize human loss

(iv) Even in the area of mitigation; with retrofitting of buildings and other technologies; risk can be minimized.

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 refers to the technology of exposing the food to minute nuclear radiation in order to kill the harmful germs and other viruses or bacteria present within.

Benefits → it would help kill dangerous and harmful viruses/bacteria in food.

→ it can help preventing the sprouting in potatoes and onion.

→ it can help reduce the usage of chemical disinfectants and insecticides, thus making food safer to use.

→ if done after packaging; the chances of radiation in food are almost none.

→ helps in increasing the shelf life of a product.

Applications → e.g. BARC's project in
Marik maharashtra uses food
irradiation for potato and onion
against sprouting

→ FSSAI has given green signal to the
use of food irradiation in food
processing industry.

Relevance - with regard to India's
staggering state of food processing
sector; one of the major concerns
that of food quality and use of
chemicals which make them unsuitable
in export market; the use of food
irradiation can help address
this issue by providing a
better ~~big~~ quality and higher
life products

Challenge → • exist in high Capital
investment and
• Possible consequences on human
health.

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 as defined by National Broadcaster Association; refers to the unsolicited news without any scientific or rational source and aims to create a havoc in society by generating a false perception about something.

with the advent of social media; this trend of fake news has been increased with its features like
 • anonymity • lack of verification •
 high spread • lack of regulation.

Ex-g) recently several people have been killed on account of spread of fake news over whatsapp about them being child lifters. and in part also it has created huge security concern in Muzaffarnagar riots and exclusion of North East people from Bangalore.

It is not just the social media; but conventional media also ~~been~~ publishing unverified news; but several checks exist in its regulation. However social media is rather very free in spreading whatever it wishes.

Consequences

- Reduced trust upon media
- Threat to national security
- Concerns regarding communal disharmony
- Could be used for radicalization
- Can lead to influencing the democratic cycle of elections and politics.

Though it has been technology which is responsible for the advent of phenomenon of fake news but with use of technologies like BIG DATA and AI; this issue can be addressed also

Ex) Recently Facebook signed an agreement with an Indian fact verification agency for countering 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?

Recently, Government had announced the constitution of Defence Planning Committee for providing an integrated and coordinated function of the three services and faster defence acquisitions.

Features

- Constitution: includes heads of 3 services, Chief of Staff Committee, Secretary of defence, finance and external affairs
- headed by National Security Adviser
- it would assess India's external security risks
- it would provide for regular defence review and suggest changes and give inputs for defence budget
- it will help integrate the resources and expertise of the three services and ensure synergy in their actions

and functioning.

- it would prevent situation of information silos within any services
- it would help strengthen the civilian control over defense architecture.
- provide for faster defence acquisitions and their clearance within a common platform,

By providing an integrated and comprehensive structure of defence forces; as had been stressed by Narsinh Chandra Committee; this would help provide a better and credible defence preparedness and a proactive and holistic nature

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।

Though several initiatives and programmes have been launched to curb the funding sources of Maoist leaders but regular reports of their increasing wealth raise concerns about the efficacy of their ~~pro~~ efforts.

According to some reports; many of the naxal and maoist leaders have become much richer than before and have entered urban spaces and are better able to access modern weapons, spread propaganda, even sympathisers, and conduct disinformation campaigns.

FUNDING & SOURCES

- o Hawala money & Money Laundering
- o From foreign sources using fake Indian Currency Notes.

- Sale of Minor Forest Products resource
- Cut from several government schemes
- Organized crimes like smuggling, looting, kidnapping etc
- Using front organisations and NGO's for arranging funds from urban location
- Charities from sympathisers

CONSEQUENCES - It can destabilise efforts of government and further strengthen the ~~no~~ left wing Extremism movement with more vigour and energy the using modern weapons and better techniques.

THEFORE; moving away from jini-response centric measures; government should try to cut the very life and bloodline of this naxist movement that is funding sources.

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?

SERVICE MSME's play a ^{big} ~~best~~ role in flourishing service sector in India in the areas of transportation, warehousing, customer services, insurance etc.

Of the 5.1 crore MSME's registered in India most are in the services sector and with the structured transformation of Indian Economy; the major transformation has been from primary activity to services MSME's.

CONTRIBUTION - Of the 32% contribution of MSME to Overall GDP mostly comes from services sector

- Big share in exports (around 60% of)

overall exports of MSMEs which range upto 40% of total exports)

- largely ~~export~~ labour intensive; therefore a big contribution to employment

HOWEVER; their biggest contribution has been in their multiplier role and helping other industries and primary sector flourish. As without the presence of large service MSME sector; transportation and logistics which are the backbone of Indian Economy would not have existed. By providing mobility to Indian growth; service sector MSMEs play one of the most crucial roles

to CHALLENGES faced by them

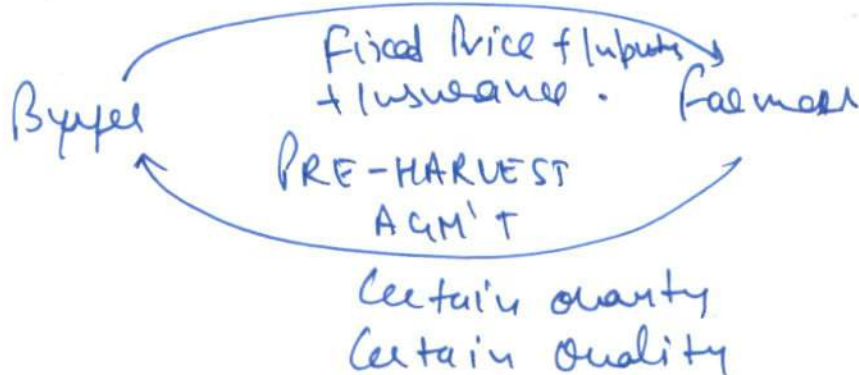
- o Access to Capital - on account of their inability to provide collateral and a good credit score
- o Technology backwardness.

- Access to skilled labours has not been effective ; thus reducing their competitive ness.
 - Non - awareness about the government programmes and policies for them
 - Rising cost of fuel and related costs
 - Competition from large MNC's
- Government has launched several programmes including
- SFURTI Scheme (Scheme for Fund. Generation and Rejuvenation of Traditional Industries)
 - ~~TREDS~~ Platform of RBI for bill discounting
 - PM Employment Generation Programme
 - National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme
 - ASPIRE fund of SIDBI
 - Udyog Aadhar Memorandum for easy establishment of business and reduced compliances
 - MSME Sambandha and MSME Sandadhaan - addressing several grievances of MSME's.

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 ; refer to the.
pre-harvest agreement between a
buyer and seller to trade for certain
quantity product of a fixed quality
at a certain payment



ADVANTAGES

- It provides for a price security to the farmer for its produce.
- It helps producer arrange a high-quality product at a certain price without any threat of market fluctuations.

- o It helps farmer to save himself from a long of APMC intermediaries and get a better price realization.
 - o It can help reduce farm wastages and food losses.
 - o It can ensure a better and more integrated farm supply chain Management.
 - o It provides a boost to the food processing sector.
 - o It reduces farmer's dependence on unorganised ^{labour} ~~labour~~.
- MARKET FAILURES
- o Better quality inputs.
 - o Restrictions on maximum quantity stored by Essential Commodities Act, 1956
 - o APMC Act of states imposing several restrictions on contract farming deal
 - o Only certain states like Punjab have contract farming clauses in their APMC Acts
 - o ^{with} Small holdings of farmers; make it difficult for producer to source inputs/ ^{produce} ~~produce~~.

GOVERNMENT can help correct the situation by providing for digital market mechanisms like e-NAM and organising Farmer Producer Organisations with a proper grievance redressal mechanism; and requesting states to amend their APMC Acts in light of Model APMC Act, 2016 and Model Contract Farming Act, 2018 of NITI Aayog.

MODEL CONTRACT FARMING ACT

- Provides for a detailed quasi-dispute resolution mechanism • registration authority • insurance and escape clause within the contract farming deals
- Mutual decision of farmer and producer to be outside the purview of APMC mandis
- Removes the quantity restriction of several legislations.

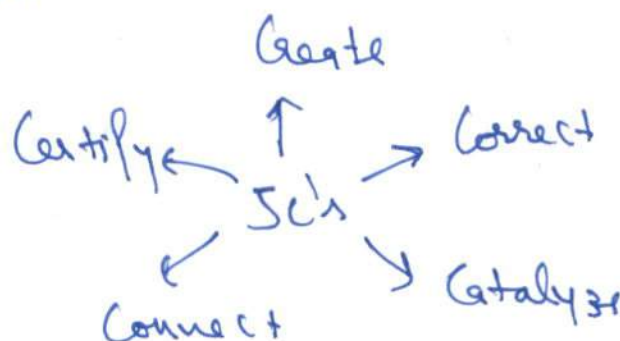
Therefore it helps bring more transparent and detailed mechanisms for working of contract farming which can go a long way in doubling farmer's income.

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 (डिस्ट्रिप्टिव 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।

- With DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES like AI, Big data, Internet of Things, Robotics and Blockchain; making existing skills redundant and providing new opportunities for new high productivity and high salary areas.
- Acc to IMF; if not address AI and Robotics only can lead to 20% of workforce as redundant.
- Steps required to improve employability SC's



Create → • by improving and ~~case~~ innovating college curricullams and creating new skilled workforce which can be absorbed in industry

- in demand and industry based skills
- creating suitable employment opportunities by building an environment for these industries to flourish.

Connect → employee and Candidates

- using better and more flexible employment exchangers
- giving participation to private sector in skilling policies and University boards
- using regular Internship and Apprenticeship for employees to assess their skills

Catalyze → the potential of these industries and technologies by giving incentives and perks for establishing their setup in India

- providing and arranging seed funding.

- these disruptive technology startups
- providing them tax breaks and faster clearance

CERTIFY → the skills employed by the workforce through several skilling and education institutions.

CORRECT → the existing skilling and educational framework by making them more dynamic and industry oriented

→ Special skilling policies and institutions are required for high end skill like AI, Big Data etc.

→ Need for regular Re-skilling to make it more dynamic.

Around 1,50,000 human resource is required in Big Data only for research while lakhs of IT graduates are unemployed which presents the wide disparity in ~~their~~ what graduates are educated for and what is actually demanded. Around 12mn workforce enters Indian workforce every year therefore to ~~require~~

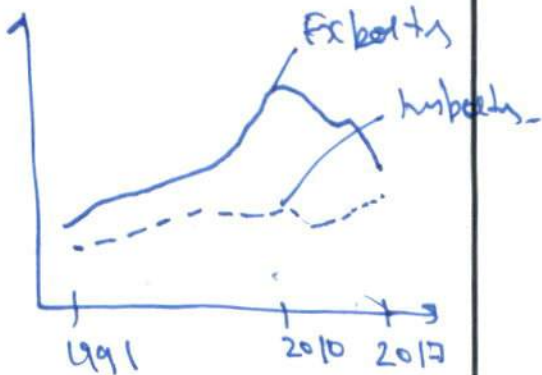
14. India's trade policy in agriculture, marred by ad-hocism and pro-consumer bias, has constrained realization of export potential, and prevented the farmers from reaping the benefits. Examine the statement and discuss ways, including government initiatives, to improve agricultural exports.

(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।

Agricultural Exports have been declining in the recent 3 years and have achieved an all time low these years.

REASONS FOR LOW AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS



- Export restrictions on edible oils and other essential commodities
- Use of Minimum Export Price systems to restrict exports to other countries
- Quality restrictions imposed by other countries on our agri exports eg by China and Europe using SPS system
- Tough and complicated procedures for exports of agri goods.

- Confusing policies as both Participatory Guaranty Schemes and National Program on Organic Production have different methodologies for quality inspection.
- Lack of storage and warehousing capabilities.
- Low Value addition facilities to augment export incomes.
- Low provision for agri exports in Foreign Trade Agreements.
- Lack of integration among agencies as agriculture comes under Ministry of Agriculture but Agriculture Exports is under APEEA i.e. under Minister of Commerce and Industry.

GOVERNMENT has recently introduced Draft Agri Export Policy which aims to increase Agriculture Exports.

- o Agriculture Export Zones and Agri-Processing Zones for large scale cultivation and processing
- o Doing away with Minimum Export Price Regime
- o Providing an institutional and detailed mechanism for quality inspection with improved testing capabilities
- o Strengthening Value addition infrastructure
- o Increasing the number and capacity for various warehousing and cold storage facilities
- o Doing away with quantitative restrictions in Essential Commodities Act
- o Enhancing coordination amongst various agencies and partners in agri exports

Ashok Dalwai Committee had identified Agri Exports as the basic driver of doubling farmers income. These necessary steps need to be strengthened and fastened.

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 इकनॉमिक 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 is determined by several factors but mainly demand and supply for the currency. e.g. a high USD would reflect high demand for US currency which would indicate a strong position of US currency in the global market.

However it will be wrong to say that it is a suitable measure by itself as.

→ countries like India; use flexible exchange rate with regular interventions by RBI to alter exchange rate.

→ There is dirty floating by Countries like China; to depreciate its currency in order to increase its exports.

→ Other factors like global oil prices, interest rates, also provide a big influence on the international currency exchange prices

[2.9] India particularly has high import dependency on oil prices; and because of a rise in crude oil prices → Indian currency normally depreciates

Therefore, a weak currency might indicate high import price but it may also result into higher investment and high exports

Since 1991, India has now become the 6th largest economy and the largest growing economy with a proper fiscal discipline and almost in control inflation and interest rates. But since 1991, our trade deficit has only widened.

and with China only we have a trade deficit of over \$50bn

Reasons

- High Oil Import dependency and rising prices with OPEC charging Asian Premium
- India's FTA utilisation rate has been extremely low and has only widened India's trade deficits as addressed in the NITI Aayog report
- Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures have been imposed on India's exports by external markets.
- India has not been able to build large size export houses because of several quantitative and trade restrictions
- Narrow export market
- Low FDI in export oriented products.
- Rising waves of protectionism and tariff wars thus weakening India's position in global stage.
- Stalled negotiations on Sustainable Development

Agenda at WTO

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।

India is the largest producer of sugar cane; however sugar cane industry is facing several issues and government recently announced a relief package of ₹5 per quintal for farmers.

ISSUES by Sugar cane Industry

- o Dual Pricing Formula with presence of both Fair Remunerative Prices and State Assisted Prices has made the situation confusing and for the sugar cane producers and has resulted in regular delays.
- o Low sugar cane productivity - especially in Northern India where the production season is limited only in summer months; thus.

- limiting sugar cane production
- low sugar recovery - with only 10% of sugar recovered compared to around 15-16% in Indonesia and Malaysia
 - Poor investment - with high government interference in the industry
 - Technological backwardness - with age-old machinery still being used in sugar cane manufacturing and processing, affecting the efficiency of industry
 - Regional disparities - as sugarcane is being cultivated in water-stress regions which impose environmental threats of over irrigation, ground water depletion and soil salinisation.
 - Confusion regarding by-products i.e. molasses and bagasse with restrictions upon their end uses.

- o Competition from countries like Indonesia and Thailand ; reducing export competitiveness
- o Reducing sugar consumption.

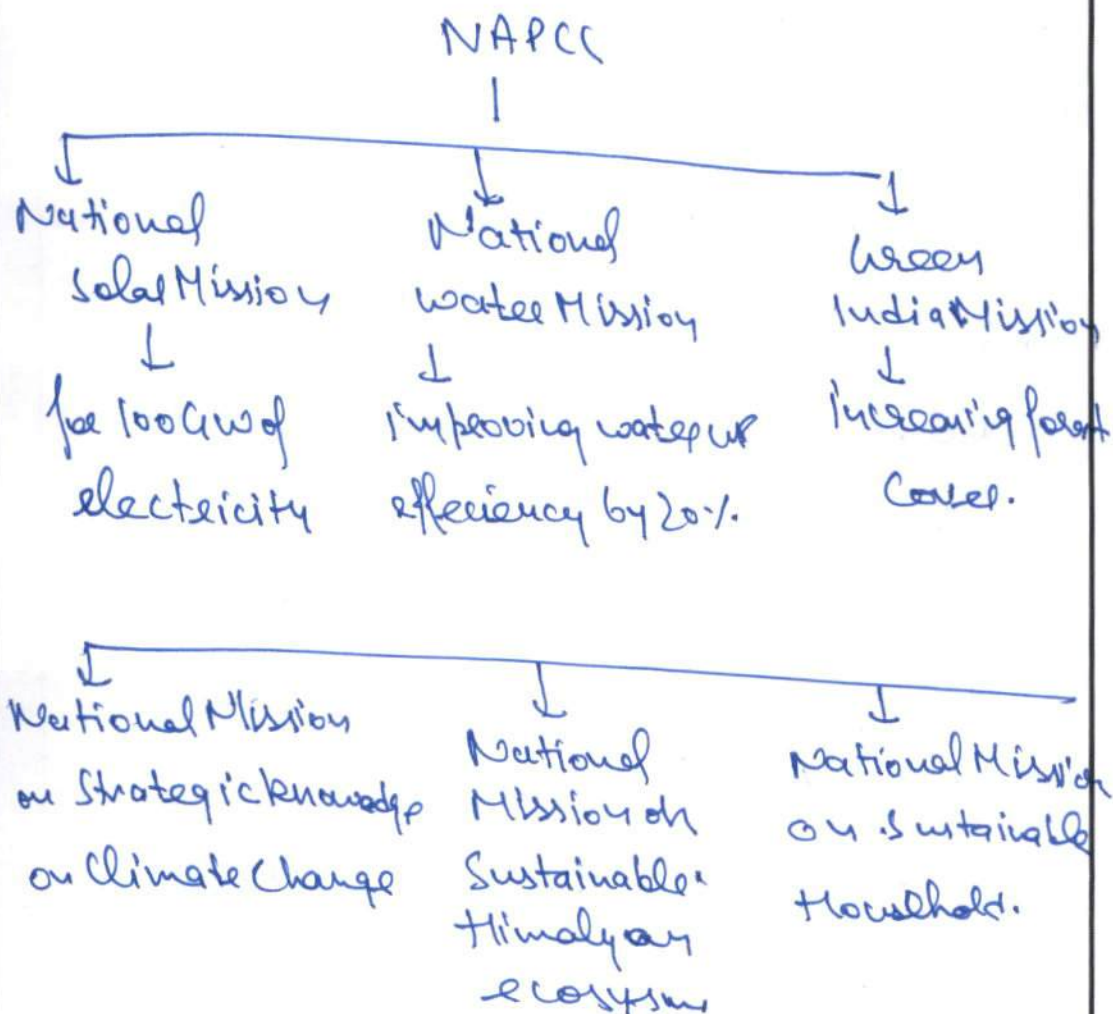
STEPS REQUIRED

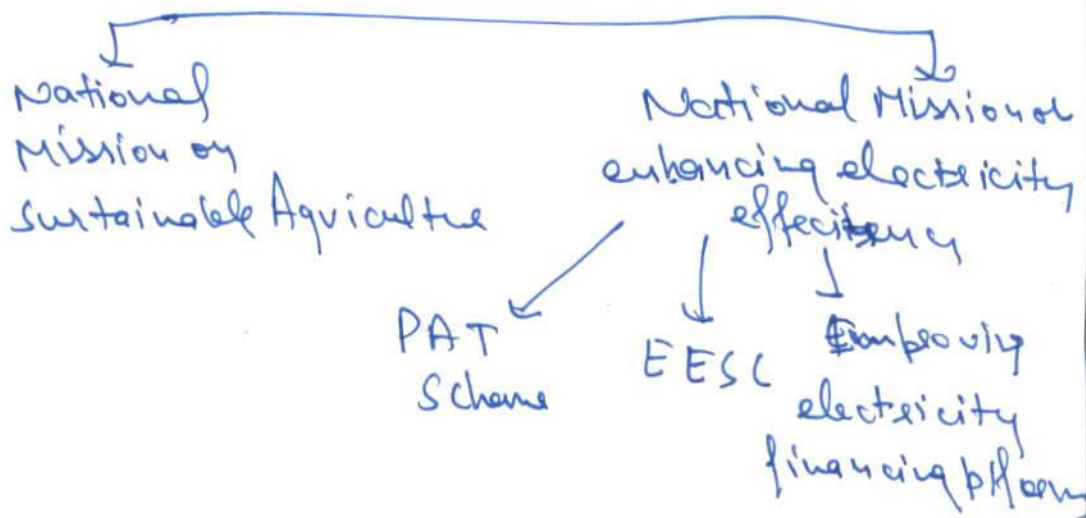
- ① E-Rangarajan committee advocated for a revenue sharing formula where the producer would share 70% of the the produce revenue with farmers
- ② Sustainable Sugarcane Initiative needs to be strengthened for higher yields and sustainable production
- ③ Improving technology [2-7] Cogeneration can be used to process by-products and manufacture electricity
- ④ An integrated supply chain for its by-products ; to fuel the the mixing and bio-fuel requirement of 20% in petrol.

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।

NAPCC was aimed at given an Indian Response to the issues of Climate Change, with 8 missions and started in 2008; it has several parts





However there have been several challenges in achieving the targets set in these Missions.

- ① Lack of integration and coordination amongst several targets and sub targets
- ① Funding problems with falling savings and investment rates and low credible credit rating.
- ① Lack of an effective monitoring mechanism to assess their performance
- ① Many of these projects take long

gestation periods which make it difficult to measure their progress.

- ① Excessively bureaucratic and political control and working
- ① Low private sector participation
- ① Regular time and cost overruns and delayed projects
- ① Top-down and Centralized structures of these projects

STEPS Required

- ① Using innovative instruments like Sovereign INVT's on the lines of Real INVTs and allowing mutual funds, pension funds and ~~green~~ insurance funds to invest in renewable energy targets
- ① Creating green jobs with green skill's to augment human resource shortage to realize these targets
- ① Tapping international funds like Green Fund, Bio Carbon Fund and national funds → ~~NAF~~ NAFACC to address capital issues.

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।

India has always been an ardent supporter of global nuclear disarmament. Starting from Pandit J. L. Nehru to Indira Gandhi to Rajiv Gandhi and further; all the leaders have advocated for a nuclear weapon free world.

Recently, Nuclear Weapon Ban treaty was adopted in U.N for complete ban on acquisition and possession of nuclear weapons in any form. However all the nuclear weapon states have stayed away from negotiations; India citing its reasons as Conference on Disarmament to be the right place to discuss disarmament.

- However the negotiations have been very slow and no concrete outcomes have emerged yet from the Conference on Disarmament discussions and the issue yet remains unresolved.

After the 1998 nuclear weapon test and the subsequent economic and technological sanctions by the ~~the~~ international community over India. India opted for its nuclear policy based on nuclear disarmament, non-first use policy and minimum credible deterrence. But is reluctant to join the Non-proliferation treaty in its present form because of its discriminatory character and against the principle of equality.

India's Nuclear Policy

- No first use Policy and Credible Minimum Deterrence.

- o Not to attack any non nuclear state
- o First attack on response would be big enough to provide irreversible damage
- o As a response to chemical and biological weapons, India can use its nuclear weapons.
- o The nuclear weapons and its control would lie along civilian concerns by Nuclear Command Authority headed by PM

To join NPT in its present form

POSITIVES

- o It would ensure India's membership to NSG.
- o It would help nuclear technology transfer
- o It would strengthen India's position as globally responsible power.
- o It would help build suitable nuclear energy infra.

NEGATIVES

- o It would reduce India's security position in South Asia on a/c of presence of 2 hostile nuclear power states.
- o Highly discriminatory in its present form
- o India already uses NFU and CMD principles and promotes disarmament.

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 जिबूती आचरण संहिता में हालिया संशोधन के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

India has a long coastline of 7500 km and a vast Exclusive Economic Zone and enjoys a central and dominant position in the Indian Ocean which provides it several opportunities and challenges.

Threats in Western Indian Ocean.

- Piracy and trafficking
- Illegal drugs and arms smuggling.
- Rising presence of Chinese warships and naval stations
- Terrorism as was manifested in 24/11 Mumbai Attacks
- Unsafe Sea Lines of Communication
- China's String of Pearls policy to.

Contain India in Indian Ocean

→ Rising differences between India and its traditional security partners in Indian Ocean like Maldives

→ Non-traditional areas like use of remote sensing, Satellite technology and Navigations System. in maritime area.

Need for regional and multilateral cooperation.

o India had been playing a key role in negotiations in platforms like Indian Ocean Rim Association and Indian Ocean Naval Symposium but of the emerging new challenges, India needs to widen its presence by fastening the development of its infrastructure projects and naval stations ~~and faster~~ in international port facilities.

- o Using platform like IONS, IORA, RIMES & BIMSTEC to promote free navigation and condemn Chinese actions while ensuring cooperation towards building an integrated strategy for response.
- o Further negotiation over deals like Assumption Islands, Dugun Port, Agalega Islands, Diego naval base etc and increasing investment to secure India's Sea line of Communication.

DJIBOUTI CODE OF CONDUCT

Aims to provide a pre-dictated and coherent international cooperation in Western Indian Ocean to augment countries responsibility regarding their actions in this region - It also aims to contain several crimes like piracy and smuggling prevalent in the Western Indian Ocean Region along Africa

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 which began right after Independence under the able guidance of Dr. Vikram Sarabhai and has since then attained its unique position as one of the best, efficient and cost effective platforms for commercial launches.

Over time the role of space in defence had been ignored but with recent changes in defence dynamics and the rising role of space in defence, ISRO has augmented its efforts in improving India's defence architecture.

Q.9

o 14 Communication - use of INSAT series of satellites for safe, verified and ~~codified~~ encrypted communication ~~using~~. The recent launch of GSAT-6A was aimed at augmenting defence communication capabilities.

o 14 navigation - use of NAVIC series of satellites for naval and aerial forces for exact locationing and navigating services.

→ It's need was identified after the refusal of U.S to provide GPS data during Kargil war.

→ There are 2 separate services one for general and open use and the other is encrypted only for defence use.

- o 1/4 remote sensing using
remote sensing satellite to carry
a camera view and regular surveillance
along borders and across borders
to identify terrorist infiltration and
unauthorized activities.
- o 1/4 space launcher - development
of Cryogenic engine by ISRO has
help augment India's missile
capabilities. and augment weapon
and defense strength