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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2208)

Name of Candidate	KASHMIRA SANKHE		
Medium Eng./Hindi		Registration Number	1356950
Center		Date	6/8/22

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. 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)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. 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।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. 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. An effective approach to green budgeting is underpinned by strong strategic framework, tools for evidence generation and an enabling budgetary governance framework. Discuss. (150 words) 10

हरित बजट के लिए एक प्रभावी दृष्टिकोण को सुदृढ़ रणनीतिक ढांचे, साक्ष्य निर्माण हेतु उपकरण और एक सक्षम बजटीय शासन ढांचे द्वारा सुदृढ़ता प्रदान की जाती है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Recently in the Conference of Parties (COP-26) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) India has committed to 'Panchamrit' targets - including Net zero by 2070. In this regard 'green budgeting' is gaining traction.

GREEN BUDGETING :-

- It means making room for receipts and expenditure on account of green technology + investment in green projects.
- It is underpinned by strong strategic framework, tools for evidence generation + enabling budgetary framework in

the following ways:-

- (1) Carbon tax of petrol & diesel - to fund green projects
- (2) Promotion of e-vehicles by providing incentives & disincentives in the form of a green tax or higher road tax on conventional vehicles
- (3) Battery swapping policy announced in Budget 2022-23 is also a step towards this
- (4) Sovereign green bonds have also been announced for resources & funding
- (5) Ethanol & methanol blending in petrol & diesel as well as utilization of biogas or compressed biogas.

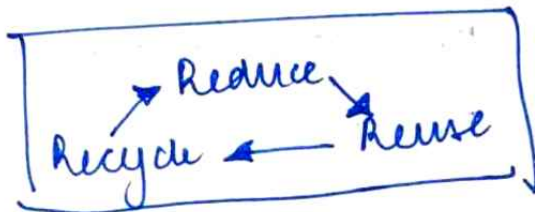
Green budgeting can help us achieve sustainable development goals - 1, 2, 13, 7 by 2030 and thus an effective budgetary framework, research and development, etc. is the need of the hour

2. State the need for circular economy in India and the challenges associated with it. Also, discuss the measures that are required to build a circular economy in India. (150 words)

भारत में चक्रीय अर्थव्यवस्था की आवश्यकता और इससे जुड़ी चुनौतियों का उल्लेख की साथ ही, भारत में एक चक्रीय अर्थव्यवस्था के निर्माण के लिए आवश्यक उपायों पर कीजिए।

Circular economy refers to the process of reuse and recycling. In a circular economy, the waste / by-products of one process can be used as input in another.

NEED :-



1. Plastic pollution of nearly 4 million tonnes generated annually
2. Can help to create job opportunities
3. Pollution by plastic & other solid wastes are responsible for ground water contamination & river pollution - even affecting India's marine biodiversity
4. Recently - dumping of rubber tyre types has become an issue

air pollution as well

CHALLENGES

- 1) lack of collection of plastic due to poor segregation
- 2) hazardous substances threaten health & working conditions (eg. e waste contains heavy metals)
- 3) technologies needed to make waste products reusable are costly.

MEASURES

1. The e-waste & plastic waste management rules provide for producer responsibility & waste segregation
2. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can be roped in

Thus, the circular economy can not only address economic problems but also environmental problems and so

3. The Major Port Authorities Act, 2021, seeks to grant greater autonomy and flexibility to the major ports and professionalise their governance. Discuss. (150 words) 10

प्रमुख बंदरगाह प्राधिकरण अधिनियम, 2021, प्रमुख बंदरगाहों को अधिक स्वायत्तता और लचीलापन प्रदान करने तथा उनके शासन को पेशेवर बनाने का प्रयास करता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Recently, the Parliament passed the Major Port Authorities ^{Bill} Act, 2021 & President assented it. It seeks to provide greater autonomy & flexibility to major ports.

FEATURES :-

1. Abolition of Port trusts - which had fallen prey to political interference and corruption
2. Autonomy given to private players and using Public-Private Partnership models.
3. Corporate social Responsibility can also contribute to port development
4. Landlord model adopted in Jawahar

Nehru port - by which government owned port property is handled by private entities.

5. Port Trust will be replaced by Boards will have representation of State governments and private entities.



Thus, the bidding process should be kept transparent & fair to avoid rent seeking & crony capitalism. Further projects like Sagarmala & PM-Gati Shakti can also boost port development.

Increasing the share of rail freight in the overall modal mix could present a golden opportunity for India to shift to an efficient freight paradigm. (150 words) 10
Discuss.

समग्र मोडल मिक्स में माल ढुलाई में रेलवे की हिस्सेदारी बढ़ाने से भारत को एक कुशल माल ढुलाई प्रतिमान में स्थानांतरित होने का एक सुनहरा अवसर प्राप्त हो सकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

currently, the logistic sector ^{cost} in India is high - at around 14% of GDP. A country that has an ambitious target of \$5 trillion by 2025 should focus of diversifying modal mix. In this context - railway and increasing share of freight can play a big role.

1. dominated by roads (~50%+)

current problems with modal mix

2. cross subsidisation - due to populist measures

4. affects make in India programme

3. high logistic cost affects export competitiveness

HOW ↑ IN THE SHARE OF RAIL FREIGHT CAN PRESENT GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

1. Railway utilized less fuel - almost

~~2.15/t~~ 1.5 tonne / litre as opposed to
road 2 tonne / litre

2. Thus it is more economical

3. Further, transport of bulk goods
is faster as there is no problems
of traffic induced delays.

4. This can bring down the cost of goods
and thus increase export competitive-
ness → export-led growth can be
achieved.

MEASURES / WAY AHEAD :-

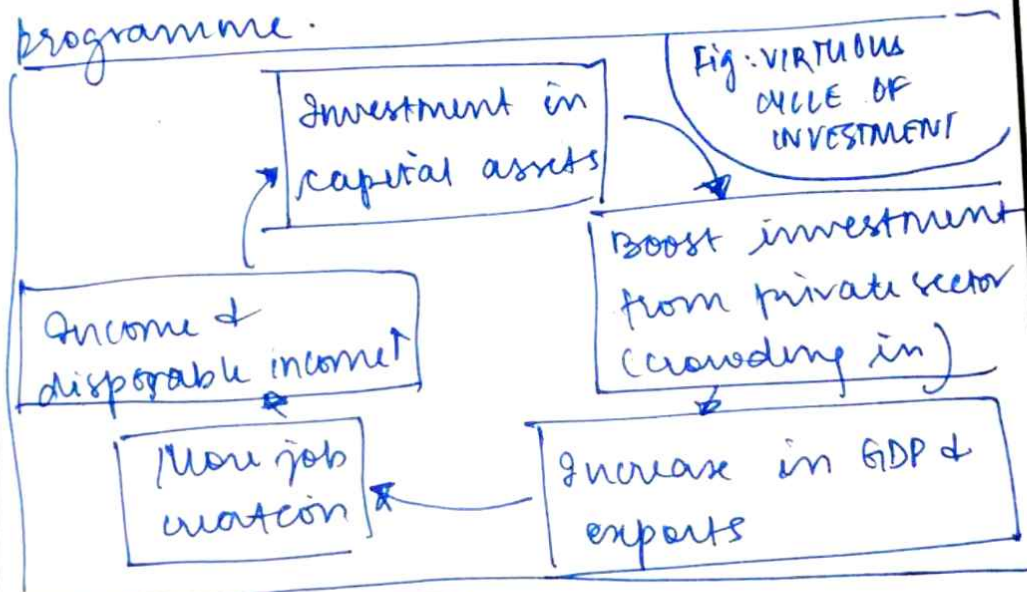
1. Leveraging Sagarmala, Bharatmala
& PM Gati Shakti to improve rail
connectivity to ports & hinterlands
2. Incentivising transport from rail
3. Improving rail infrastructure by
leveraging IT infrastructure & new
technologies

Thus, increasing share of rail freight
presents a golden opportunity for Indian

5. Investment in infrastructure is pivotal for accelerated and inclusive socio-economic development of a country. In this context, discuss the significance of the National Monetisation Pipeline. (150 words) 10

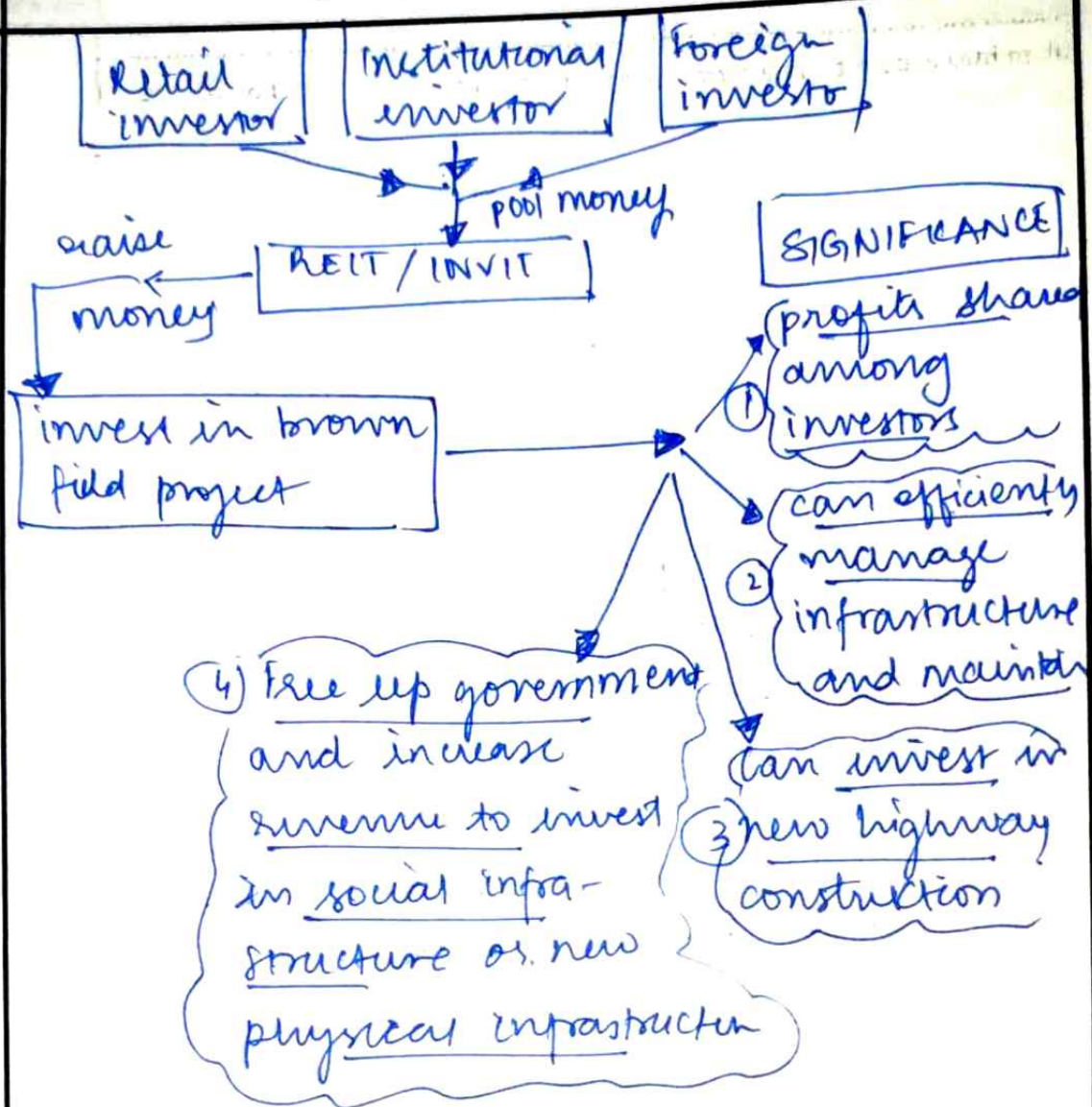
किसी देश के त्वरित और समावेशी सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास के लिए बुनियादी ढांचे में निवेश महत्वपूर्ण है। इस संदर्भ में, राष्ट्रीय मुद्रीकरण पाइपलाइन के महत्व की विवेचना कीजिए।

In the post pandemic, recovery is being spearheaded by the government's investment in infrastructure of capital assets. In this regard National Monetisation Pipeline ^{CNMP} is an important programme.



2. NMP: FEATURES

1. Seeks to monetize core infrastructure like road, port, rail, airport, etc
2. Investment from retail investors + institutional investors



It also helps to reach our dis-investment targets set at about ₹80000 crore this year and promote inclusive development through investment of generated revenue in health & education sector to ensure - 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas'

भारत में एक राष्ट्रीय रोजगार नीति की आवश्यकता की विवेचना कीजिए। ऐसा करने में निर्माण में किन विषयों का ध्यान रखा जाना चाहिए?

As per the ^{Centre} Council for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) - unemployment levels have risen to around 7% in the month of July, 2022. In this context, National Employment Policy is the need of the hour.

NEED :-



- 1) can boost rural economy
- 2) reap demographic dividend

3) Improve agriculture sector output by leveraging MGNREGS

- 1) In post pandemic period - urban youth have seen massive job losses

2) National Urban Livelihood mission focuses of entrepreneurship +

not unskilled

THINGS TO BE KEPT IN MIND DURING FORMULATION

1. Focus should be not only on wage employment, but also self employment
2. Should meet aspirations of educated youth
3. Focus should be on skill development and industrial sector (Currently skilled youth are only 13%)
4. Should also factor in flexible work hours for women workers.
5. Special needs of SC, disabled, etc should be factored in - higher wages, use of braille, etc.
6. Floor wage should not be below state's minimum wage and ensure social security benefits

National Employment Policy can promote inclusive development if the formulation keeps the things in mind & promote inclusive growth.

7. Planning for the potential long-term impacts of climate change on agriculture needs to be prioritised to mitigate threats it poses to India's food security. Discuss. (150 words) 10

भारत की खाद्य सुरक्षा के समक्ष जलवायु परिवर्तन से उत्पन्न होने वाले खतरों को कम करने के लिए, कृषि पर इसके संभावित दीर्घकालिक प्रभावों की योजना बनाने को प्राथमिकता दिए जाने की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

According to the Climate Vulnerability Index - German watch - India ranks 7th globally. With Indian agriculture being heavily dependent on rain & vagaries of rainfall, planning for long term impact of climate change threats is important.

LONG TERM IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

1. Frequent droughts and floods can cause crop failure.
2. Global warming is linked with increased incidence of locust attack & pest attack

3- can lead to food insecurity.
As per Global Food security index -
Economist Impact - India ranks 71/113
countries

4. Socioeconomic conditions of farmers will worsen & suicides can rise due to income & debt trap

MEASURES NEEDED TO BE TAKEN:

1. Promote drip irrigation / sprinkler irrigation → reduces water consumption by ~30% & electricity consumption ~10 to 25%
2. Promote agro-biodiversity. Steps like GIAHS (Agriculture Heritage Sites) in Koraput, Kashmir, is the right step.
3. focus on use of technologies - geoimaging, drone technology & weather forecasting
4. Promoting organic farming
5. farm mechanisation - tractors - can increase output → ↑ farmer's income

Thus, planning for potential long term impacts of climate change on agriculture & its threat to food security can be managed if proper steps are taken

सामना की जा रही विभिन्न समस्याओं के आलोक में, भारत में एक पुनर्निर्माण और आवश्यकता आधारित पी.डी.एस. की आवश्यकता की विवेचना कीजिए।

Public distribution system (PDS) deals with the storage, transport & distribution from farmgates to fair price shops / ration shops. It is an important scheme to address food security in India.

ISSUES FACED BY PDS :-

1. Lack of scientific storage → ruin of grains / → post-harvest losses (~ ₹92000 crore)
fruits
2. Open ended procurement → increases food subsidy bill & burden on government.
3. Transportation - techniques / methods and transportation cost.
4. Excessive focus on food security rather than on nutritional security.

Thus, on account of the threat to food security and low ranking of India

in various health indices like Global hunger index (101/116 rank) - there is a need for revamped PDS

REVAMPED PDS

1. using IT infrastructure for tracking & surveillance
 2. using modern storage techniques like cold storage for prolonging shelf life
 3. Diversification of MSP - to encourage growing of coarse cereals & pulses
 - 3.4. Promoting decentralised procurement system by states.
 5. Incorporation of PDS with PM POSHAN SHAKTI - and using local grains/eg. Goanberry in Assam
food
- Given the importance of PDS in achieving SDG-1,2 it is important to have a revamped & need based PDS.

9. Analyse the need for shifting from presumptive land titling to conclusive land titling system in India. Also, highlight the hurdles in its implementation. (150 words) 10

भारत में अनुमानित भूमि स्वामित्व से निर्णायक भूमि स्वामित्व प्रणाली में स्थानांतरण की आवश्यकता का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके क्रियान्वयन में आने वाली बाधाओं को रेखांकित कीजिए।

Land titling is an important issue plaguing the land reforms initiative of the government for ensuring a redistributive justice. Recently, an announcement has been made regarding of shifting from presumptive to conclusive.

PRESUMPTIVE	vs	CONCLUSIVE
→ based on <u>past records of transaction</u> → land <u>may not</u> be of the person the <u>title is being awarded</u> to → can lead to <u>manipulation of documents</u>		→ giving title to the <u>rightful inheritor of land</u> → based on <u>past ownership</u>

NEED FOR SHIFT :-

1. Can reduce litigations related to land.
2. Land acquisition for various infrastructure projects - dams, roads, etc can be speeded up.
3. Right valuation for the land can be established.
4. Compensation received would be commensurate of amount of land that is leased or acquired.

1. Determining
rightful
heir in
case there
is none

Challenges

2. valuation
issues

(undervalued
or overvalued)

3. Can create
more litigation.

There is a need to do village level surveys
by leveraging technologies & make integrated
land records to address issue.

10. What do you understand by methanol economy? Critically discuss its role in achieving India's energy security and economic prosperity. (150 words) 10

मेथेनॉल अर्थव्यवस्था से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और आर्थिक समृद्धि प्राप्त करने में इसकी भूमिका की समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

In the global context, rise of crude oil prices in the backdrop of Russia - Ukraine war has spelt the need for diversifying energy needs. Methanol blending is one of the technologies to achieve this.

METHANOL BLENDING - BENEFITS :- Energy security

1. Methanol economy - or methyl alcohol - is the backbone of hydrogen fuel
2. Can reduce dependence on petrol & diesel by 10-20%
3. Can ~~be~~ sourced from coal-bed methane or biogas

Economic prosperity

1. Savings on fuel import can reduce our current account deficit (CAD)

2. Methanol sourced from sugarcane or starch based crops - can have economic implications for farmers → doubling farmer's income
3. Can reduce carbon emissions & help us achieve Paris targets.

CHALLENGES :-

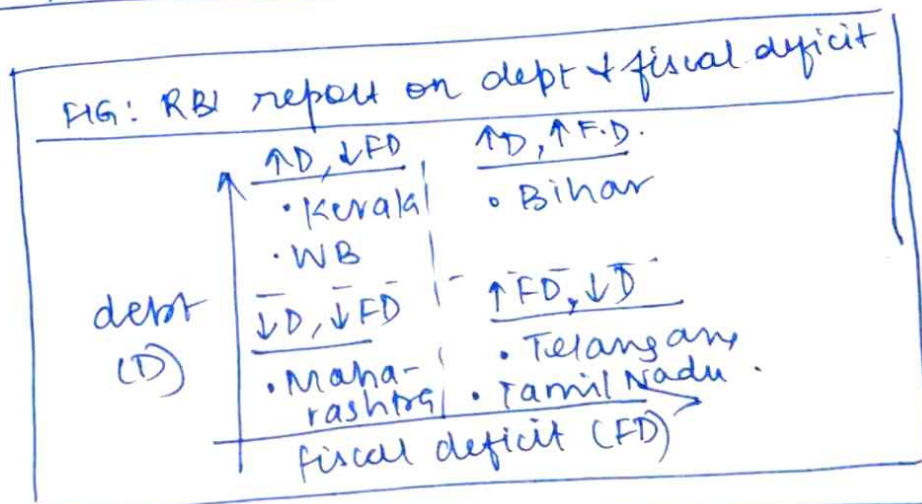
1. Engines need to be able to run on methanol blended fuel
2. Ethanol blending has reached only 8% blending
3. High prices of sugarcane & GST rates increase cost
4. Can damage engines if engine is not optimized.

There is a need to address the various challenges by investing in research and development, diversifying sources for methanol, and reduce GST rates to boost methanol economy.

11. State finances in India present a worrying picture, with debt sustainability being a major concern. Discuss in context of the recent RBI report on state finances. (250 words) 15

भारत में राज्य वित्त एक चिंताजनक स्थिति प्रस्तुत करता है, जिसमें ऋण संधारणीयता एक प्रमुख चिंता का विषय है। राज्य वित्त पर आर.बी.आई. की हालिया रिपोर्ट के संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए।

Recently, RBI has released a report on state finances that are reeling under the pressure from pandemic induced lockdown, lack of revenue generation and low GST compensation cess, etc.



STATE FINANCES V/S CENTRE FINANCES

1. Unlike the centre which can borrow from the market and

foreign entities, state source of finance is limited.

2. Limit on central government is set by FRBM Act - 2003 (Parliament)

3. Limit on state finance - can borrow only from within India & market (WMA)

However, states having outstanding loan on centre need to ask centre's permission. Tbills are not allowed

4. Further, GST has reduced financial autonomy & revenue as many state taxes got subsumed. Denial of centre to give adequate compensation also became a point of contention

However, given the role states have to play in implementation of policies and in maintaining pandemic, Centre has taken steps to improve state finance.

1. Under FRBM Act - limit of 3% increased to 4% and additional 0.5% on bringing power sector reform.
2. In 2017, state ^{of government} PSUs can borrow from foreign entity, in that case Centre is guarantor.
3. Union Budget 2022-23 - financial assistance to states of almost ₹1 lakh crore (from '23) - for a 50 year interest free loan ^{GST} compensation till 2027.
Further, entire nature of funds need to be increased and states should given financial autonomy with respect to taxes. Petrol & liquor disel should be brought under GST.
So this can bring state finances out of the red & improve fiscal federalism.

12. The Indian experience provides several lessons of an inclusive digital economy model that enables formal digital governance structure at a low cost and with easier access. Discuss. (250 words) 15

भारतीय अनुभव एक समावेशी डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था मॉडल के कई सबक प्रदान करता है जो कम लागत पर और आसान पहुंच के साथ औपचारिक डिजिटल शासन संरचना को सक्षम बनाता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Digital inclusivity is at the heart of inclusive growth & development. In this regard, the digital governance & digital economy model adopted by the Union government is a significant step towards inclusivity.

PROGRESS IN INDIA'S DIGITAL REVOLUTION

1. PM-Jan Dhan Yojana) JDY accounts.
 - Recently 15 lakh crore have been opened until 2022
 - It has helped government to provide direct benefit transfer, transfer of subsidies, etc.
 - Women empowerment has been an important pillar of JDY.

- Has promoted rural entrepreneurship and household savings have increased

2. DHIM - Unified Payment Interface

- launched by National Payment Corporation of India
- Has given boost to cashless economy and digital technologies. Also being considered to be adopted in other countries.
- Recently UPI-Lite & UPI 123 has been launched
- e-RUPI launched by the Prime Minister has also been an important

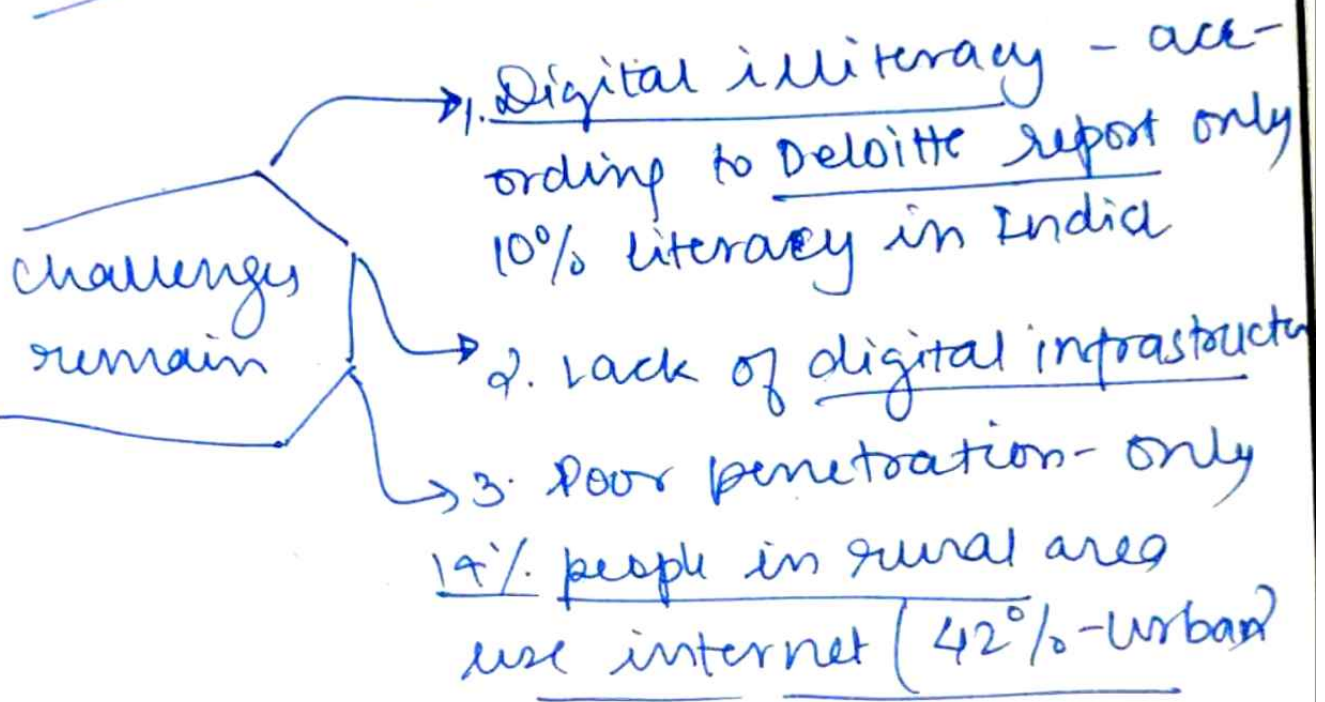
3. PM-WANI Initiative - public access of wifi

All these initiatives have led to low cost & easy access to digital services and internet.

LESSONS LEARNT :-

1. Digital technologies & connectivity can

- lead to employment - 0
- Sections - women, children.
2. Can reduce problems related to black money
 3. Can lead to improved socio-economic economic status



There is a need to address challenges through initiatives like BharatNet, cheap internet access, mobile phones, etc. to boost the digital economy in times of Industrial Revolution 4.0

13. To capitalize on its demographic dividend, India must create well-paying, high productivity jobs. In view of this, discuss the challenges in creation of such jobs in India. What policy measures can help in addressing these challenges?

अपने जनसांख्यिकीय लाभांश का दोहन करने के लिए, भारत को अनिवार्यतः बेहतर भुगतान करने वाली व उच्च उत्पादकता वाली नौकरियों का सृजन करना चाहिए। इसे दृष्टिगत रखते हुए, भारत में ऐसी नौकरियों के सृजन में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों से निपटने में कौन-से नीतिगत उपाय सहायक हो सकते हैं?

(250 words) 15

India's demographic dividend
is set to reach its peak in around
2060. There is a need to ensure that
they are adequately skilled to
contribute positively to economic
growth. Thus, there is a need to
create well paying - high productive

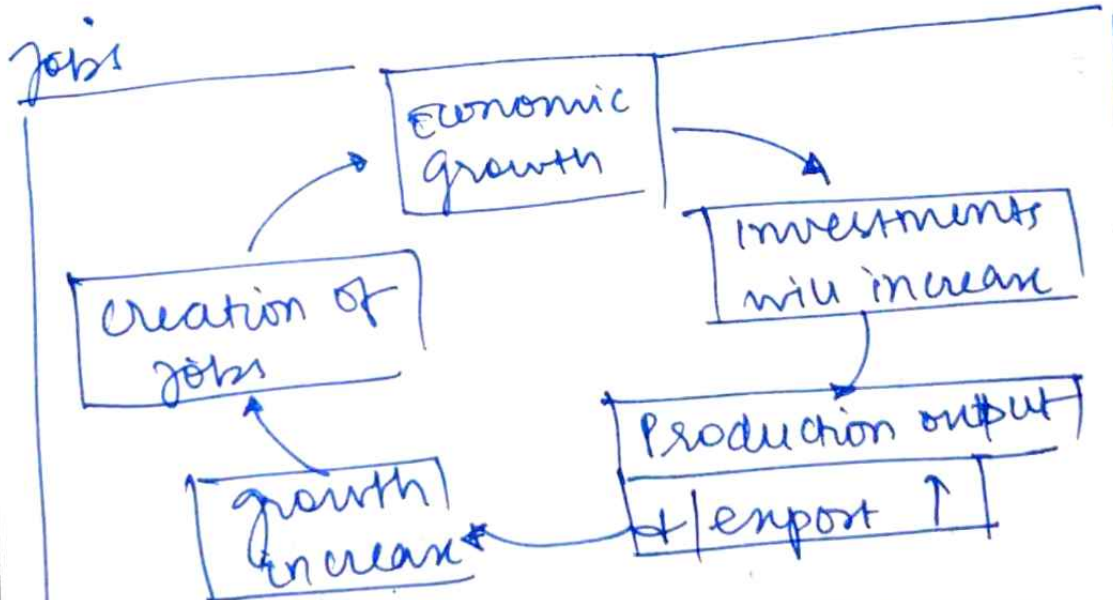


Fig: Virtuous cycle of job creation.

However, job creation has many challenges.

CHALLENGES :

1. lack of focus on skill training for dropouts - Formal training in India = 2% ; South Korea = 96%
2. Focus on wage employment, rather than self employment (e.g. MGNREGA)
3. Policy instability - of government & taxation (retrospective) has deterred investment → low jobs
4. low employability of graduates - only about 20-30% are employable
5. ^{-ve} Government investment & in physical capital & social infrastructure is lacking. e.g. education budget only around 2.5% & health budget around 1.6% of GDP.

6. Lack of investment in research & development [$\text{GERD:GDP} = 1.7\%$]

MEASURES :-

1. Promoting vocational training through ITIS (Technical Institutes)
2. Promoting startup culture through ease of doing business, easy entry & exit (Chakrabarty problem)
3. Promoting Institute of eminence like IITs which are islands of excellence and foreign faculties.
4. Removal of retrospective & regressive taxation to make investment environment more conducive
5. On job training for new graduates & skill upgradation

* Further, there is a need to increase investment in R&D to at least 2% of GDP - in order to capitalize of demographic dividend.

14. Though Special Economic Zones (SEZs) can play a significant role in e promotion in India, they are struggling with multiple challenges. Dis (250 word

हालांकि विशेष आर्थिक क्षेत्र (SEZs) भारत में निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने में महत्वपूर्ण निभा सकते हैं, लेकिन ये कई चुनौतियों से जूझ रहे हैं। विवेचना कीजिए।

Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are specific designated areas / enclaves in a country where customs duty and other taxes are nil. They promote employment economic activity, investment & infrastructure.

EVOLUTION OF (SEZ)

1. 1st SEZ or Export zone in Kand 1965 (1st in Asia)
↓
2. Followed by SEEPZ in Santacruz Mumbai
↓
3. Currently around 320 SEZ all the country.

POTENTIAL

1. It has played a significant role in export promotion. In 20 (before SEZ Act) - export was ₹25

now it has reached around ₹8 lakh crore
(in 2020-21)

2. It has provided employment to
around 25 lakh people &
investment of ₹5-10 lakh crore

This shows their immense
potential in export promotion. However,
there are still many challenges - as

CHALLENGES | Indian export : global export is
stagnated at 2%

[I] Tarication challenge

1. Sunset clause of 5 years on duty
free trading introduced recently
2. Minimum Alternate Tax is change
(MAT)
3. Domestic tariff Area still charge
tariff on import

[II] Approach

1. unlike China model - many
number of small FET have been
established.

2. Most of SEZ located in winterland with poor port connectivity

(III) Regulatory challenge

1. Lack of dedicated courts
2. Delay in land acquisition
3. High litigations → delay

(IV) External challenge

1. SEZ of China, Vietnam are more successful & preferred
2. FTA (free trade agreements) have reduced their significance

There is a need to adopt recommendations of Baldev Kalyan committee who has ~~put~~ denoted them as 3E (Economic & Employment Enclave) export specialisation, promotion of industrial sector, infrastructure development, etc. to address the many challenges.

15. Do you agree with the view that the mixed results of economic reforms in the last three decades can be attributed to the reforms being half-baked and incomplete? Discuss.

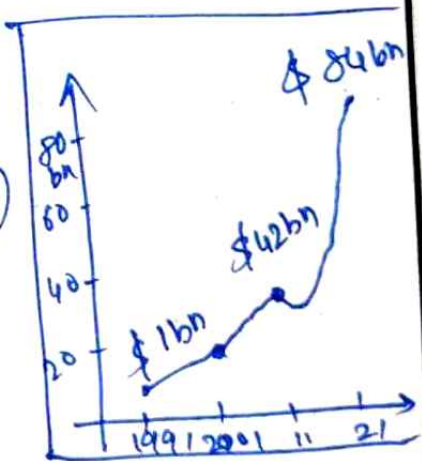
(250 words) 15

क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि पिछले तीन दशकों में आर्थिक सुधारों के मिश्रित परिणामों का श्रेय अनियोजित और आधे-अधूरे सुधारों को दिया जा सकता है? विवेचना कीजिए।

In the backdrop of the Balance of Payment (BOP) crisis in 1991, India went for economic reforms in the form of liberalisation. In the last three decades of liberalisation many lessons have been learnt.

RESULT - POSITIVE

1. Increase in FDI (foreign direct investment) from ~1 bn (1991) to ~4 bn (2021)



2. Increase in jobs in service sector & service sector has shown immense growth
3. Import diversification - provided more choice of quality & price to consumers

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4. Indian exports recently hit \$ 400 bn mark and it has been thanks to liberalisation of export promotion.

However, not all has been well.

NEGATIVE RESULTS :-

1. Agriculture sector has declined from ~30% to just 18% of GVA



2. Industrial sector has seen stagnation

3. India is witnessing stagflation, low growth & jobless growth.

Unemployment rate of 6.1% was at a 40 year high in 2029. (PLFS report)

4. low output from agriculture has led to migration of workers out of agriculture - but service sector has not been able to absorb.

5. Industrial sector - capital intensive rather than labour intensive (eg automobile preferred over textile industry)
6. Rent seeking has increased - recently BSNL is being resued due to unviabl dues. Telecom sector has been one of the worst sectors.
7. Economic inequality according to Oxfam - 10% population holds 3/4 of wealth.

Thus, the result has been mixed largely due to half baked policy and on account of lack of protection to domestic industries, underutilization of FTA, etc. There needs to be protection of domestic industries & normal study structures to compensate for the negative results.

16. Dairying is a viable livelihood option for a large section of the population. In this context, discuss the significance, challenges faced and associated government initiatives for the dairy sector in India. (250 words) 15

डेयरी व्यवसाय, आबादी के एक बड़े हिस्से के लिए आजीविका का एक व्यवहार्य विकल्प है। इस संदर्भ में, इसके महत्व, विद्यमान चुनौतियों और भारत में डेयरी क्षेत्र के लिए सरकार द्वारा की गयी पहलों की विवेचना कीजिए।

The dairy industry in India ranks 1st in milk production & 2nd in export. It has provided viable livelihood option for the population & extra income along with inclusive growth.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SECTOR :-

1. Women empowerment : around 70% workers in animal husbandry & dairying are women in comparison to 30% in agriculture.
2. Additional income & insurance against crop failure & in time of agriculture off season.

3. employment opportunities
for rural youth.

4. Health outcomes :

- rich in protein, milk is an important component of diet - especially young children - calcium, iron, etc
- can address anemia & obesity

5- Integrated farming system.

CHALLENGES :-

➤ challenge from external / international competition -

eg. milk from Australia & New Zealand

➤ Lack of indigenous breeds used.

eg. Dharward cattle & Manda

➤ Branding & marketing is still lagging behind and quality

issue over SPS (Sanitary & phytosanitary) are common.

➤ Poor milk yield due to low quality of cattle

► Diseases like Foot mouth disease & Brucellosis + lack of vaccinations

MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT

- 1. Promotion of indigenous breeds - Sindhi, Dharwad
- 2. vaccination under E-Pashu hat & pashu Sanjivani programme
- 3. Rashtriya Gokul mission - promotion of artificial insemination
- 4. Credit facility to FPO & SHG - Mudra loans etc.

Further, connectivity through Krishi sail, Krishi Udan and branding infrastructure in plug & play mode has helped the dairying sector and led to an equitable & inclusive rural development.

17. The imperative to increase farmers' income must shift to creating value chains and must not be reliant on the MSP regime and subsidy bias prevalent in the current Indian agricultural system. Examine.

(250 words) 15

किसानों की आय बढ़ाने की अनिवार्यता को मूल्य श्रृंखलाओं के सृजन से जोड़ा जाना चाहिए और इसे वर्तमान भारतीय कृषि प्रणाली में प्रचलित एम.एस.पी. व्यवस्था एवं पूर्वाग्रहयुक्त सब्सिडी पर कतई निर्भर नहीं होना चाहिए। परीक्षण कीजिए।

The Asnax Dalwai committee has recommended many measures to ensure doubling of farmers income by 2022. There is an imperative to create value chains rather than rely on MSP regime to achieve this.

Current MSP & subsidy regime

- MSP announced on around ²³ crops
- Further subsidies like water & nutrient subsidy and subsidies on electricity for pumping out water is given.

Fallout of this system

- Monocropping
- Soil fertility lost
- Water logging & water scarcity

high subsidy bill of around ₹6.5 Lakh crore

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The investment in agriculture is at around ₹2 lakh crore whereas subsidy at ₹6.5 lakh crore. Further benefits from this subsidies accrue mainly to large farmers and increase social-economic inequalities.

Need to create value chains :-

1. Backward linkage:-

1.1. Promoting Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) which will increase bargaining power of farmers for inputs

1.2 Use of technologies - Soil

health card, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Agriculture Extension Service, drone etc.

1.3 Providing high yield seeds + promoting micro irrigation + mechanisation to ↑ production.

2. Forward linkages :-

2.1 Promoting agri-market infrastructure

2.2 transportation → Kisan Rath
→ Kisan Udan
→ Kisan Saurthi, etc

2.3 Food processing industries - can
help reduce post harvest losses &
increase value of goods.

2.4 use of technologies like tracking,
geo imaging, etc

2.5. providing credit to farmers &
allowing out of APMC mandi
loading.

Thus, while MSF and subsidies
are important short term measures,
they do not address structural
problems with agriculture. This can
happen only through value chain
formation which can lead to doubting
farmer income in a sustainable way.

constraints faced by the agri-food supply chain & suitable solutions as well.

(250 words) 15

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग अर्थव्यवस्था के दो स्तंभों अर्थात् कृषि और उद्योग के मध्य एक महत्वपूर्ण कड़ी है। इसे दृष्टिगत रखते हुए, भारत में कृषि-खाद्य आपूर्ति श्रृंखला के समक्ष आने वाली बाधाओं की जांच कीजिए। साथ ही, उपयुक्त उपायों का सुझाव भी दीजिए।

Food processing Industry (FPI) are those industries that use agricultural produce as inputs in order to add value, increase shelf life and reduce post harvest losses. They form a link between agriculture & industry

CONSTRAINTS FACED

Backward

1. Many of the inputs are perishable - lack of speedy transport causes losses
2. Setting up FPI is

Forward link

1. Transport & logistic connectivity is costly (14% of GDP)
2. Problem of branding & marketing - costly & lack expertise

costly due to land,
labour & capital

3. Quality of agriculture
produce is a major
determinant

4. Lack of financial
funding due to
low banking &
insurance penetra-
tion

5. Price fluctuation of
inputs

3 Quality issues
eg. Maggi was filled
up for mercury
contaminant

4. Access & visibility
is supermarket
of small FPI as
compared to large
established ones
like Haldiram

Thus, there is issues with the agri-
food supply chain systems from
farmgate to industry.

SOLUTIONS :-

1. Pre-agriculture :-

• Supply chain for inputs - fertilizer,
seeds, pesticides, etc should be
streamlined

2. Post farming :-

- improve storage - infrastructure
- cold chain infrastructure
- using road, rail + waterways
to reduce cost + time
(eg. Kisan Udan, Kisan Rail, etc)

3. FPI :-

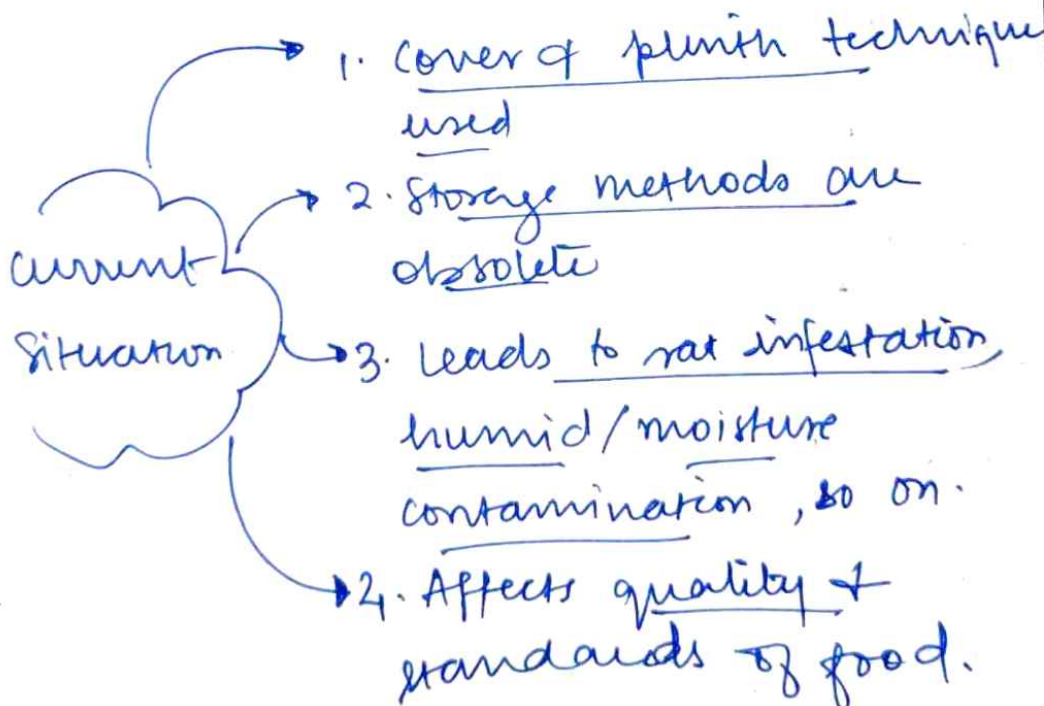
- Setting ~~or~~ up of machinery, labour, etc.
- Easy credit to FPO - under Agriculture
Infrastructure Fund - + PM Krishi
Sampada / Matsya Sampada Yojana
- Plug & play mode for branding
& packaging.

Many steps have been taken
by our government to revive the
agri-food supply chain which boosts
economy but also provide food security
& farmers security

19. Availability of adequate storage infrastructure has a direct bearing on agricultural yield and farmer's income. Comment. In this context, discuss the measures that can be undertaken to enhance India's agriculture storage capacity. (250 words) 15

पर्याप्त भंडारण अवसंरचना की उपलब्धता का कृषि उपज और किसान की आय पर सीधा प्रभाव पड़ता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, भारत की कृषि भंडारण क्षमता को बढ़ाने के लिए किए जा सकने वाले उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

India's post harvest losses - due to inadequate quality & capacity of storage amounted to ₹ 92800 crore in 2020. This has spurred the government to take adequate measures to improve storage.



How adequate storage infrastructure has bearing on yield & farmer's income :-

1. Good quality seeds (uncontaminated) can improve yield.
2. Can reduce post harvest losses of farmer who can sell more
3. It also addresses food security of the economy.
4. Can be used for food processing → increasing value → increasing farmer income.

Measures :-

1. Should move away from cover & plinth (CAP)
2. Should invest in cold chain infrastructure - especially in the preservation of meat & fish

3. Improving transportation + connectivity
 → decrease delay in transport - by
 building roads, rail connections
4. It can even improve export
 competitiveness
5. Recently Warehousing Depository
Receipts used by farmers to exchange
or trade surplus / deficit receipts
6. Integration of agriculture marketing
through e-NAM.

Thus, adequate storage infrastructure
 can benefit the backward +
forward sectors of agriculture +
improve yield + farmer's income

20. Owing to rapid depletion of water resources, there is an urgent need to increase water use efficiency. In this context, discuss the status of irrigation in India and challenges faced. Also, suggest suitable measures to address the challenges. (250 words) 15

जल संसाधनों के तीव्र ह्रास को देखते हुए, जल उपयोग दक्षता बढ़ाने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में सिंचाई की स्थिति और सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए उपयुक्त उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Water is a vital resource - especially in agriculture. Around 89% of surface water & 91% of groundwater is used by agriculture. So, depletion of water resources has a direct bearing on food security and this calls for increase in water use efficiency, through irrigation.

STATUS OF IRRIGATION IN INDIA

1. Only 42% of land is irrigated
2. Rest 52% depends on rainfall.

Eg- water use efficiency



3. water sourced from water table is most predominant in punjab & haryana
4. Other methods are - tank irrigation, well irrigation & canal irrigation
5. Microirrigation is low.
6. Excessive irrigation has caused soil salination, soil fertility loss & water pollution + eutrophication
7. electricity subsidy provided for pumping out water → loss of state income & revenue.

MEASURES :-

1. Adoption of micro-irrigation
 - drip
 - spinkler
 - fogger
 - emitter.

can reduce water consumption by 30-50% & electricity consumption by 10-20%

2. Reviving traditional water management structures like johars, Bundhs & baolis.
3. Water harvesting through creation of watershed areas - here MGNREGA can be leveraged
4. New technologies like Hydroponics aeroponics - use minimum water
5. River interlinking - eg. Ken - Betwa can give water to MP & Rajasthan's drought affected areas,
6. Drones can be used for irrigation.

Thus, many technologies & innovations can improve irrigation usage in agriculture which will make it sustainable, resilient & save water.