

# NEXT IAS

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16 AUG 2025

anubhav-2025

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : ANV2503

Name of Candidate: KIRAN. KAMATE Mobile N

Roll No. : MT25FLTRA015 Start Time 2:00 End Time 5:00 PM

Date of Examination: 16/08/25 Medium : English  Hindi

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	
TOTAL MARKS - 100		

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
11.	15	
12.	15	
13.	15	
14.	15	
15.	15	
16.	15	
17.	15	
18.	15	
19.	15	
20.	15	
TOTAL MARKS - 150		

GRAND TOTAL - ...../ 250

EVAL CODE: ..... EVAL DATE: .....

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Immediately on receipt of the QCA booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.
2. Candidates must mention all relevant details like Name, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
3. Candidate is expected to attempt all 20 questions within the given timeline.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized at the time of admission.
5. Candidates must write answers for the specific question under the respective question itself. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.
6. Please write neatly. Avoid illegible writing.
7. Do not write/mark irrelevant matters in the QCAB.

## सामान्य निर्देश

1. QCA पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर कृपया तुरंत जांच लें कि इस QCA पुस्तिका में कोई पृष्ठ या सामग्री आदि गलत छपी हुई या फटी हुई या गायब तो नहीं है। यदि ऐसा है, तो इसे एक नई QCA पुस्तिका से बदल लें।
2. अभ्यर्थियों को सभी प्रासंगिक विवरण जैसे नाम, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल नंबर आदि का आवंटित स्थान पर उल्लेख करना होगा।
3. अभ्यर्थियों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह आवंटित समय-सीमा के भीतर ही सभी 20 प्रश्नों के उत्तर-लेखन का प्रयास करें।
4. प्रत्येक उत्तर, प्रवेश के समय चुनी गयी भाषा के माध्यम में ही लिखे जाने चाहिए।
5. अभ्यर्थियों को विशिष्ट प्रश्न के उत्तर संबंधित प्रश्न के नीचे ही लिखने होंगे। आवंटित स्थान के बाहर लिखे गए किसी भी उत्तर को क्रेडिट नहीं दिया जाएगा।
6. कृपया साफ-सुथरा लिखें। अपठनीय लेखन से बचें।
7. QCAB में अप्रासंगिक तथ्यों को न लिखें / न ही चिह्नित करें।

REMARKS: .....

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

<u>Student Concerns / Query</u>	<u>Evaluator's Feedback / Response</u>
1 .....	1 .....
.....	.....
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.....	.....
2 .....	2 .....
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.....	.....
3 .....	3 .....
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**MARKING SCHEME \***

Marks Per Ques	Below Average	Average	Above Average
10 Marks	Below 3.00	3.00 - 3.75	4.00 and above
15 Marks	Below 4.50	4.50 - 5.75	6.00 and above

\* Subject to change without prior notice.

**IMPORTANT QR CODES**



Topper's Copy



Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB



Copy Scanner App



Next IAS Test Centre Location

**MACRO COMMENTS**

*The Purpose of MTS 2.0 Score Improvement Program (SIP) is to provide constructive suggestions on 'How to improve Answer Writing and thereby score better marks.*

Q1.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q2.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q3.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q4.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q5.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

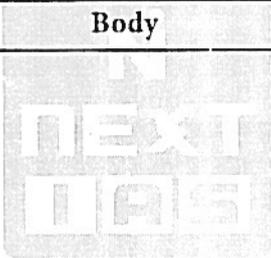
Q6.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q7.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q8.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
		

Q9.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q10.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

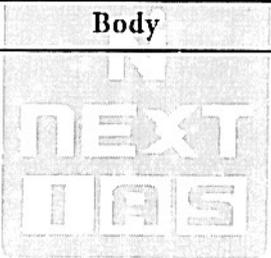
Q11.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q12.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q13.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
		

Q14.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q15.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q16.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q17.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q18.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
	NEXT LAST	

Q19.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q20.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion



1. आपके विचार में भारत के कर ढाँचे में सुधार के हालिया प्रस्ताव भारत के कर उत्पादकता और कर आधार को बेहतर बनाने में किस सीमा तक सहायक होंगे? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक
- How far do you think the recent proposals to reform India's tax structure will help in improving India's tax buoyancy and base? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Tax buoyancy is the change in tax revenue with respect to change in GDP. And according to Economic survey, India's tax to GDP ratio is < 10%.

Recent Proposals to reform Tax structure

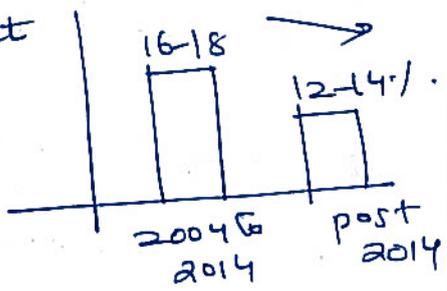
1. New tax regime - 12 L (Rupees) per year. no tax. → NEW INCOME TAX BILL
2. 12.75L → (75,000/-) tax rebate
3. Corporate tax regime

Corporate tax rate	29%	22%
	< 2029	2019
4. changes in GST  
- rationalisation of GST slabs.
5. crypto assets.  
- taxed at 30% and more ↑

Benefits.

1. increase in GST YoY  $\rightarrow$   $\frac{1.97 \text{ lakh cr}}{\text{in } 2023-24}$  recall
2. increase in domestic demand  
 $\rightarrow$  demand driven growth.
3. IT and corporate tax  $\rightarrow$  contributing 17% and 16% respectively  $\rightarrow$  steady increase

ISSUES

- ① Private sector investment has remained stagnant  
 $\rightarrow$  in fact 
- ② Securities Market tax  
 $\rightarrow$  one of the highest  $\rightarrow$  deters investment.
- ③ GST tax brackets  $\rightarrow$  too many  
 $\rightarrow$  leading to increase in "regressive taxation"

As Chanakya says in Arthashastra taxation should be like Bees sucking the nectar; there is a need for taxation reforms. Akhilesh Rayan taskforce recommendations are to be followed

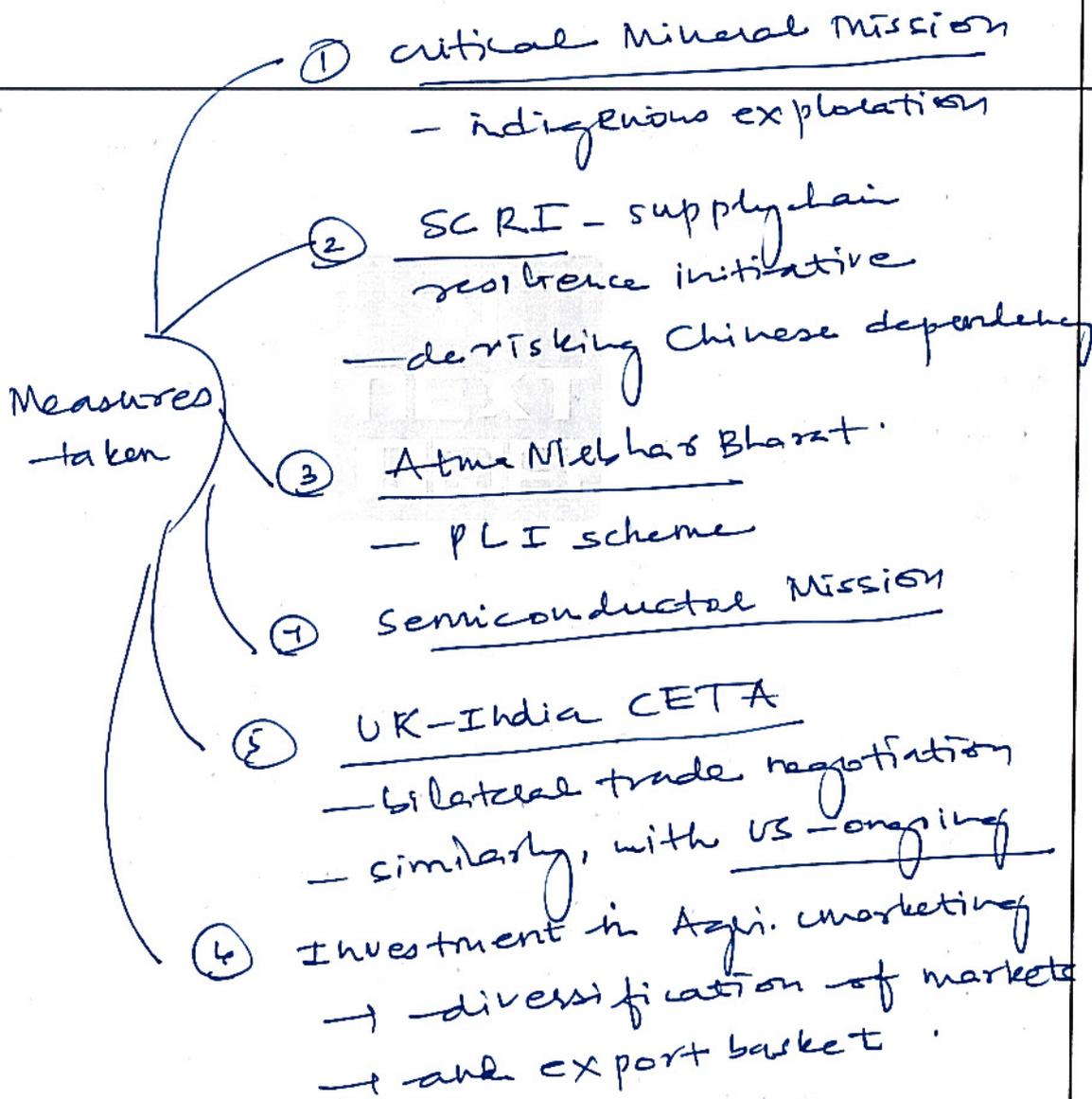
2. आर्थिक राष्ट्रवाद और संरक्षणवाद की बढ़ती प्रवृत्तियाँ भारत की वैश्विक व्यापार प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता को कैसे प्रभावित करती हैं? इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए भारत ने हाल ही में क्या उपाय किए हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक
- How do the rising trends of economic nationalism and protectionism affect India's global trade competitiveness? What recent measures has India taken to navigate these challenges?  
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

According to S. Jaishankar,  
there is a rise of inward looking  
economic policies across the world,  
signalling SLOWBALLIZATION against  
the Globalisation

Rising Economic Nationalism and  
protectionism

1. Temp Tariffs - of (25%) initial  
+ an addition (25%) Tariffs.
2. Techno-nationalism (eg) China's  
REE export ban.
3. supply chain disruptions - (eg) post  
COVID. → Parag Khanna - calls this  
as weaponisation of supply chain.
4. rising unilateralism and  
decreasing global value chains  
(GVCs)  
(eg) BTA vs. WTO dysfunctioning

5. increase the access to Raw materials.  
⇒ increase prices.
6. make Indian products unattractive.  
→ increased tariff.
7. CBAM → by (EU) → Indian vegetables and fruits exports ↓ (decrease)

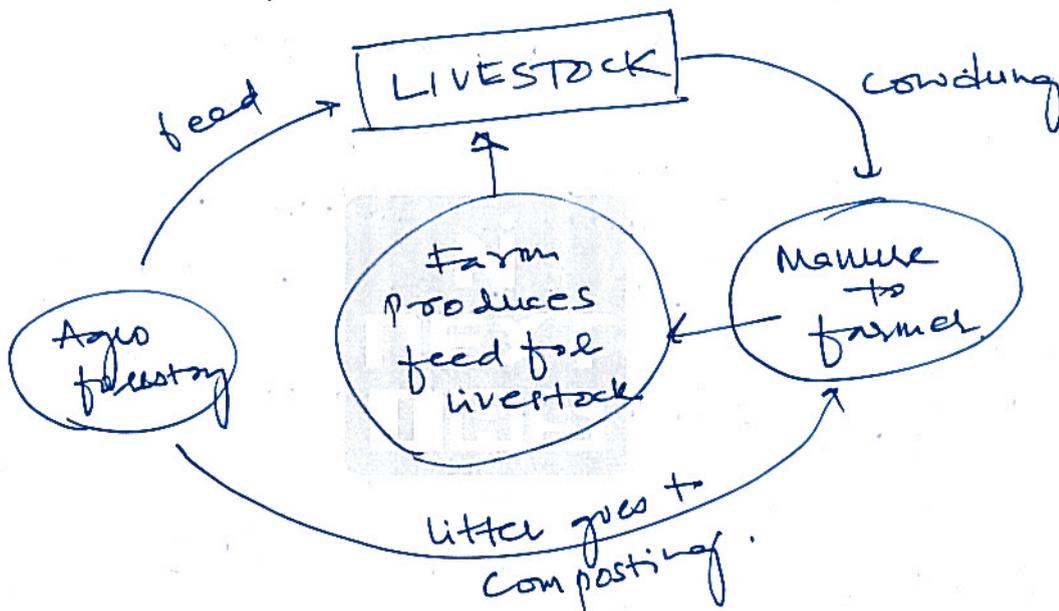


"The world is in a state of flux". India needs to chart its own path to rise as a economic powerhouse (3rd largest by 2027)

3. कृषि उत्पादकता में सुधार लाने और कृषि के पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव को न्यूनतम करने में एकीकृत कृषि प्रणाली (IFM) की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

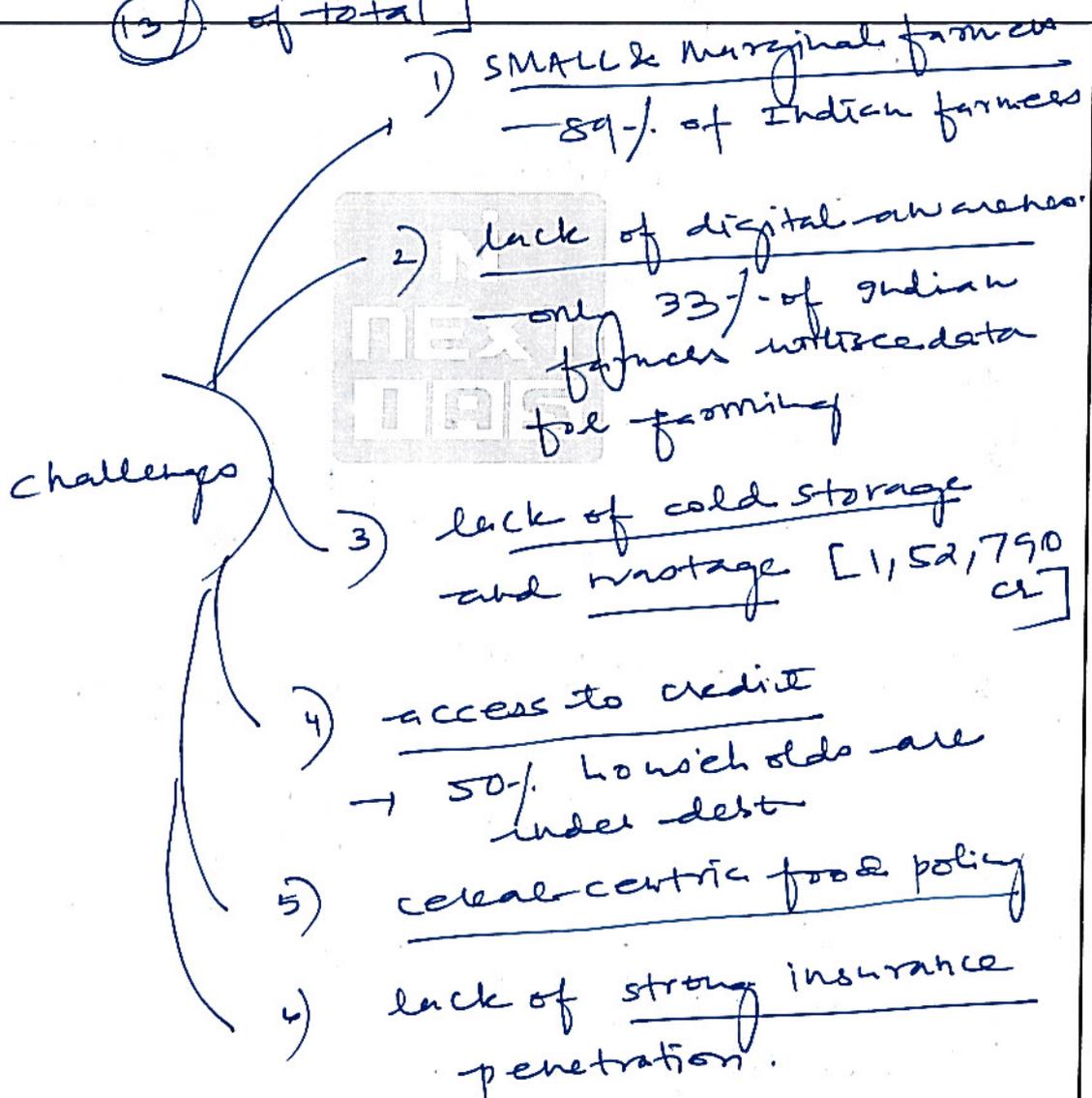
Examine the role of Integrated Farming System (IFM) in improving agricultural productivity and minimizing the environmental impact of agriculture. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Integrated Farming system is where entire lifecycle of farming is integrated into the field.



1. helps in resource efficiency  
→ reduces the cost of farming.
2. increases the farmer's income  
→ multiple source of income.
3. Economic survey - increased risk distribution of farmers  
⇒ decreased ↓ ↓ indebtedness.

4. increase in yield  $\rightarrow$  Deccan development society.
5. resilient to climate change
6. promote regenerative farming (nature based)
7. minimise the agri. emissions (currently 13% of total)



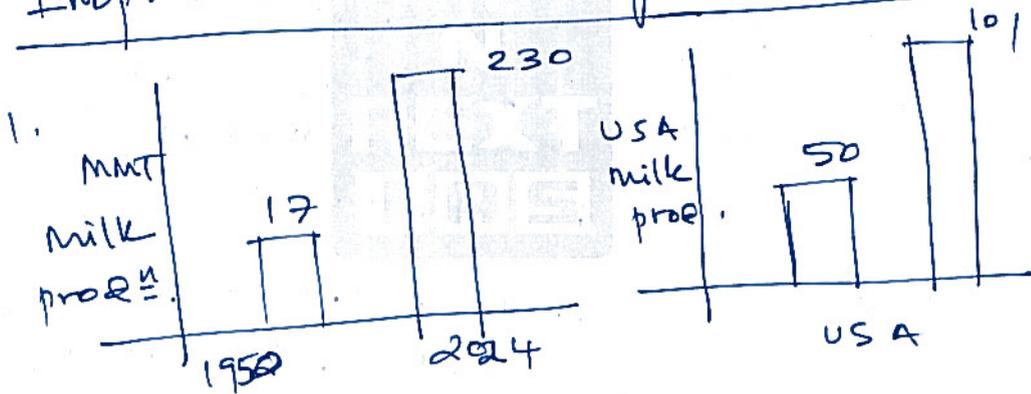
The above challenges are to be addressed by Arhok Dalwai, MK Jain, Vaidhyarathan and MS Swaminathan committee reforms.

4. हाल ही के वर्षों में, भारतीय कृषि बेहतर उत्पादकता और किसानों की आय में सुधार की दिशा में एक परिवर्तन का साक्षी रही है। कृषि को अधिक लाभकारी और संधारणीय बनाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा कौन-से संस्थागत और संरचनात्मक सुधार किए गए हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

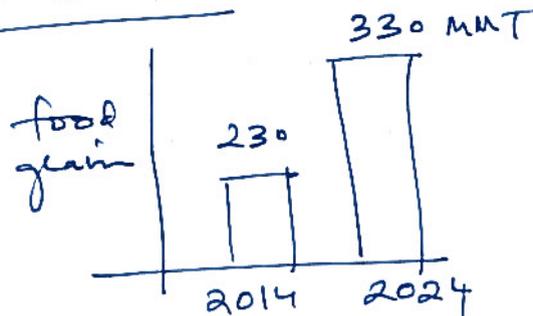
In recent years, Indian agriculture has been witnessing a transformation towards better productivity and improved farmer incomes. What institutional and structural reforms have been undertaken by the Government to make agriculture more rewarding and sustainable? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

In last 5 years, according to Prof Ashok Gulati, Indian agriculture has consistently grown at 3.5%.

Improved Productivity and farmer income



2. Food grain production



3. Fruits and vegetables.

→ production of 360 MMT.

4. Increasing insurance coverage

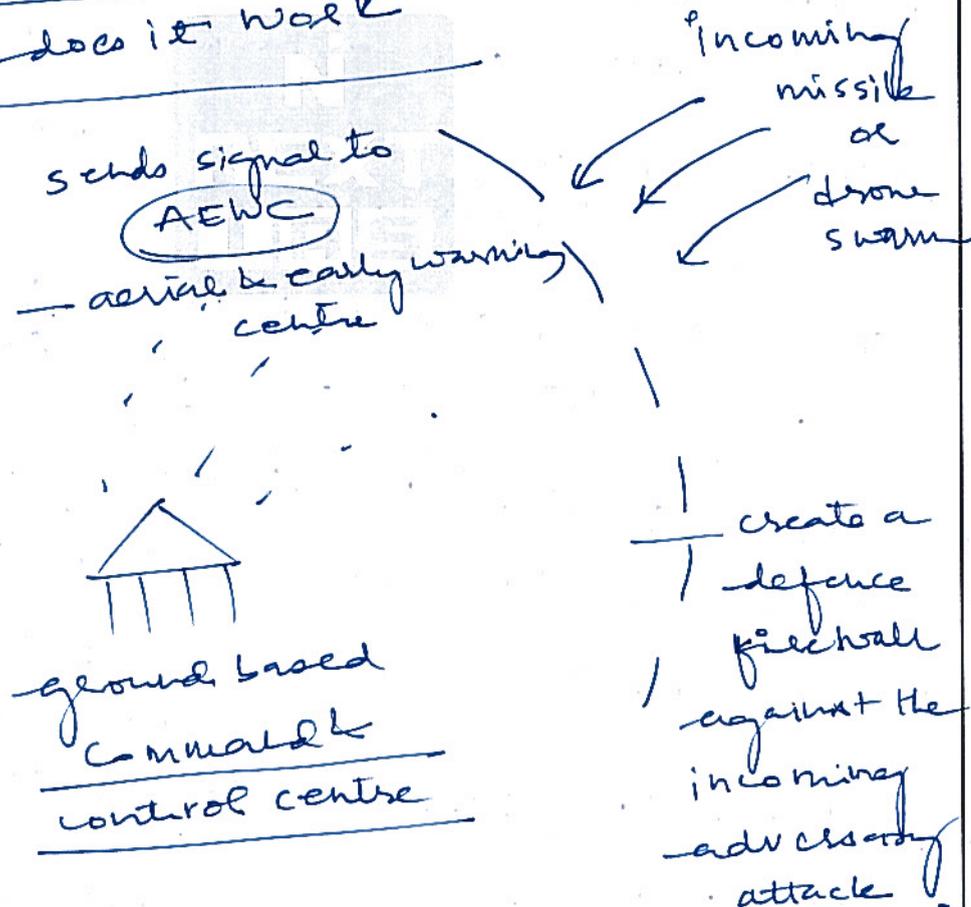
Steps taken by Govt. to make agriculture rewarding and sustainable

1. PM- Shouksham-Kischi Yojane  
→ data driven agriculture.
2. PM-KISAN - direct income transfer of 6000/-
3. Livestock promotion Integrated farming  
- as supported by ASTOK DALWAI panel
4. Integrated Pest Management  
→ resilience to attack increased ↑↑
5. NMNF → national mission on Natural farming
6. Paramparagat Kischi Vikas Yojane (PKVY)  
- promote organic farming
7. Climate resilient Agriculture (NICRI)  
→ to address and adapt to climate change
8. Precision Agriculture - use of Drones and AI
9. Digital Agriculture Mission (DAM)
10. PM-FBY (Insurance)  
Issues like consumer centric  
and lack of optional future trading like USA  
and microinsurance adoption remain.  
Needs to be addressed to make Agriculture  
into Agri-preneurship

5. वायु रक्षा प्रणालियाँ कैसे कार्य करती हैं? भारत के पास वर्तमान में कौन-कौन-सी विभिन्न वायु रक्षा प्रणालियाँ हैं?  
 (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक  
 How do Air Defence systems work? What are the various air-defence systems that India currently possesses?  
 (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

The use of India's air defence system and its credibility due to operation ~~Sindoor~~ was a testimony to India's defence indigenisation and collaboration

How does it work



Various air-defence systems of India.



1. S400 & S300  
 — Russian made air defence system

2. Barak - Israel  
 — Israel's home grown air defence

3. Akash → air to air missile defence

4. Schillka → indigenous produced defence system.

5. Drones like RUSTON / Harop / Heron / Reaper as the tertiary defence

Best practices like THAAD

of USA and IRON DOME of Israel need to be studied and indigenised.

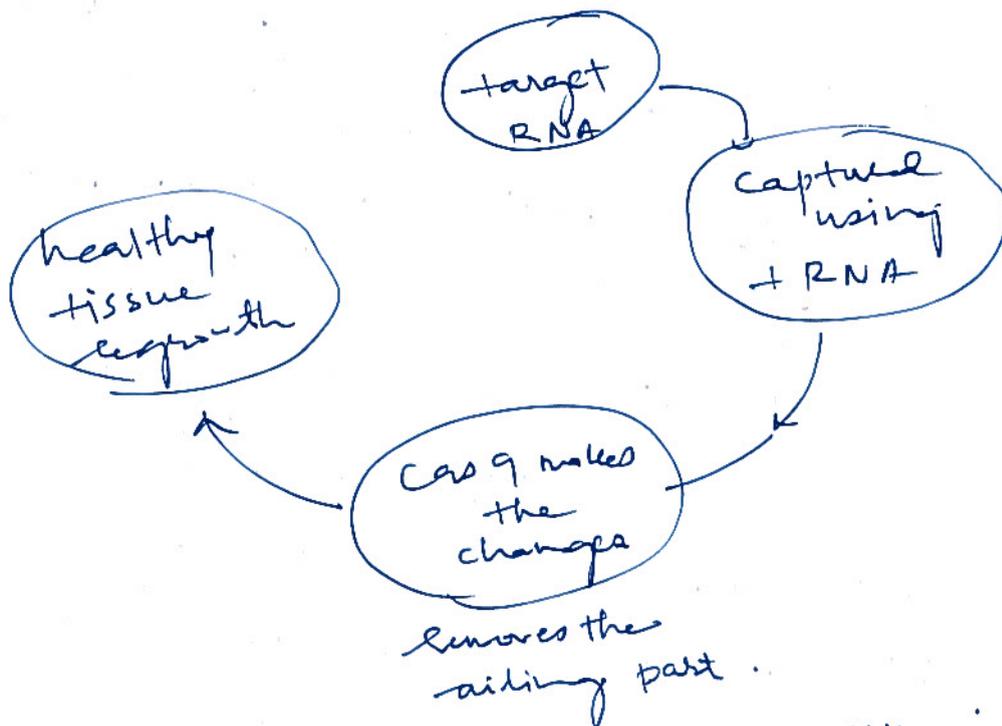
Sp. indode is the beginning of new indian air defence strategy.

6. आनुवंशिक विकारों के उपचार में आरएनए संपादन (एडिटिंग) की क्षमता पर चर्चा कीजिए। डीएनए संपादन की तुलना में इसके क्या लाभ हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक
- Discuss the potential of RNA editing in treating genetic disorders. What are its advantages over DNA editing? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

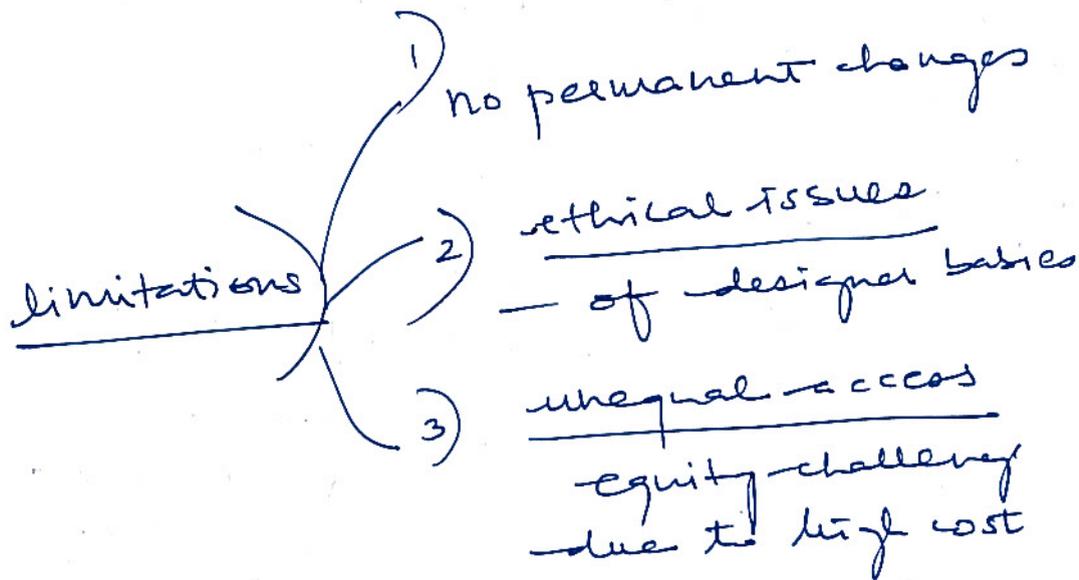
The recent CAR-T cell therapy is a brilliant exposition of RNA editing in treating genetic disorders.

Potential of treating genetic disorders

1. use of CRISPR-technology
  2. Cas 9 - gene scissors.
  3. +RNA - target RNA
- } components



4. can help in curing diseases like Thalassemia; Sickle cell anaemia



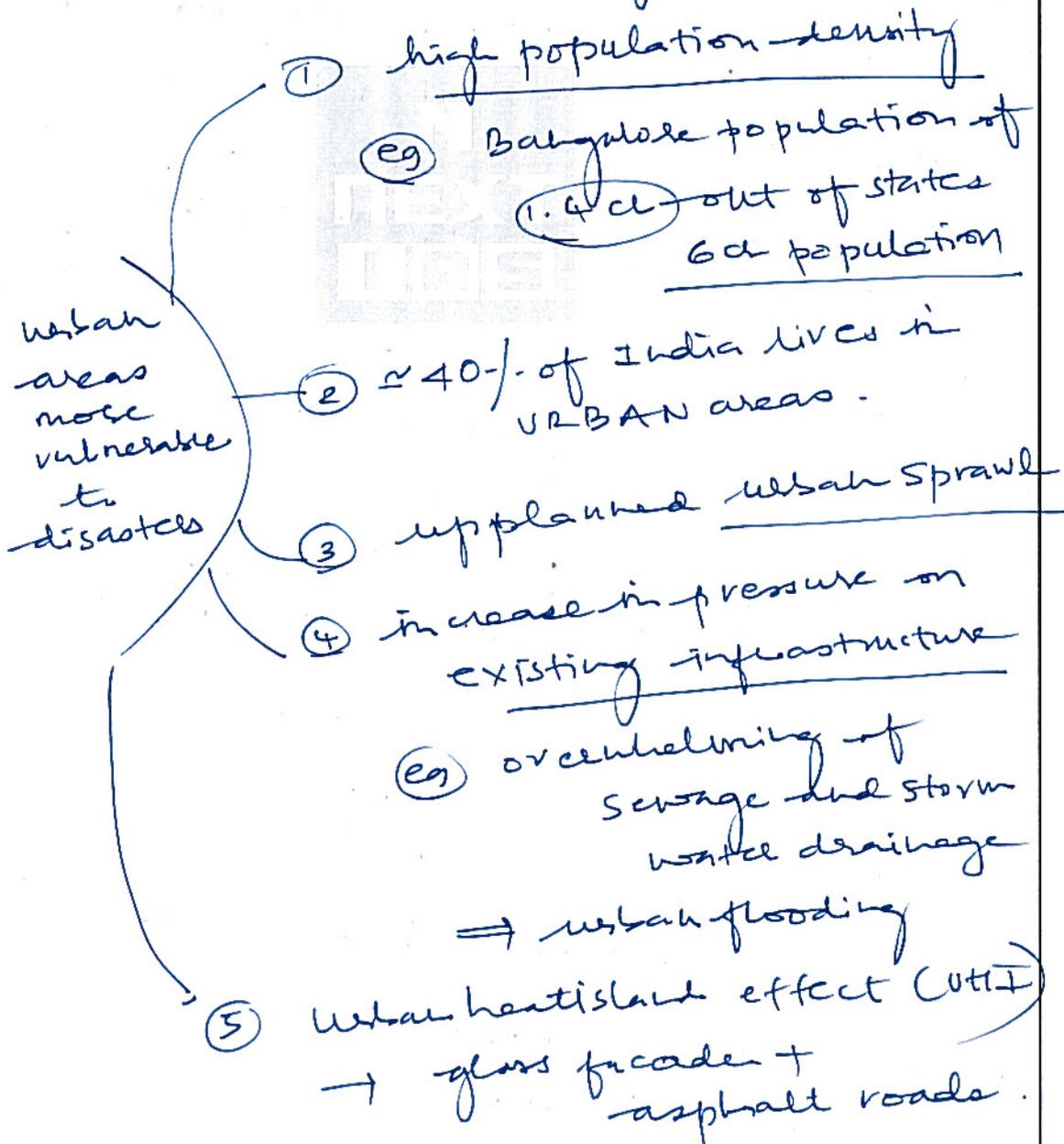
RNA editing using CRISPR-Cas9  
is a major breakthrough in addressing genetic disorders and creating a better world.

7. अनियोजित विकास और बुनियादी ढाँचे के ढहने के कारण नगरीय क्षेत्र आपदाओं के प्रति अधिक सुभेद्य होते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।  
ऐसी आपदाओं के प्रति नगरीय समुत्थानशीलता बढ़ाने के लिए आप कौन-सी रणनीतियाँ प्रस्तावित करते हैं?

(उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Urban areas are more vulnerable to disasters due to unplanned growth and infrastructure collapses. Discuss. What strategies do you recommend to enhance urban resilience to such disasters?  
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

According to World Bank,  
urbanisation is a causing economic growth. However, it is also causing increased vulnerability to disasters.



## Strategies to enhance urban resilience

1. "Spongy cities" - programme of China  
- permeable pavement.
2. Room for River → Amsterdam  
→ creating catchment areas to capture rainwater.
3. Vaze Model of urban forestry (PUNE)  
→ Miyawaki Method
4. "White topping programme"  
- Telangana → to increase albedo of cities.
5. Heat Action Plan (HAP) - Ahmedabad  
- to address heatwaves.
6. Glens Project → Japan  
→ groundwater recharging use rainwater.
7. vertical farming; terrace farming  
to increase the green cover.
8. Rammed earth housing project  
→ heat repellent and sustainable

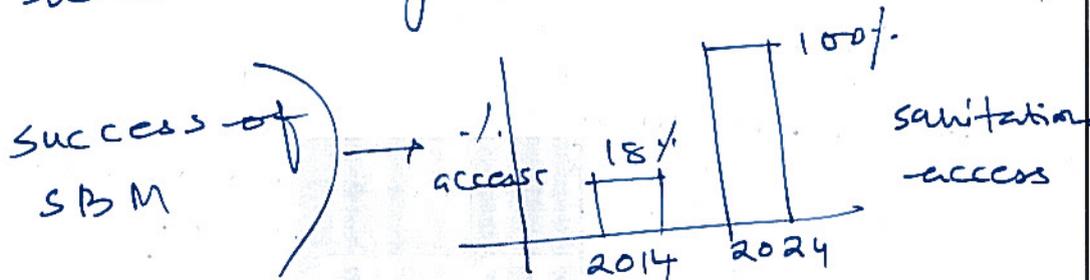
Thus, a new charter of  
URBANISM is need. one that makes  
- an urban growth Resilient, Inclusive  
and ready for 21st century

8. स्वच्छ भारत मिशन की सफलता के लिए इसकी महत्ता के बावजूद, भारत में ठोस अपशिष्ट प्रबंधन अब भी उपेक्षित (Sub-optimal) स्तर पर है। इस संदर्भ में, प्रभावी ठोस अपशिष्ट प्रबंधन हेतु दीर्घकालिक प्रौद्योगिकीय और संस्थागत समाधान सुझाए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

Despite its criticality for the success of the Swachha Bharat Mission, solid waste management in India remains at a sub-optimal level. In this context, suggest long-term technological and institutional solutions towards effective solid-waste management.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

India produces around 1.5 lakh tonne of municipal solid waste everyday → NITI Aayog



- Solid waste a challenge
- ① rapid urbanisation
  - ② lack of workforce
  - ③ lack of technological intervention
  - ④ single use plastic — 80% of plastic
  - ⑤ lack of segregation at workplace

Long term technological and institutional solutions.

1. use of magnetic classifier for waste segregation

2. use of Bardikoot - mechanised sewage cleaners [Gujarat]
3. segregation at source → use INDORE model of sanitation  
inspectors → high penalties.
4. use of innovative technology like Waste To Energy plant

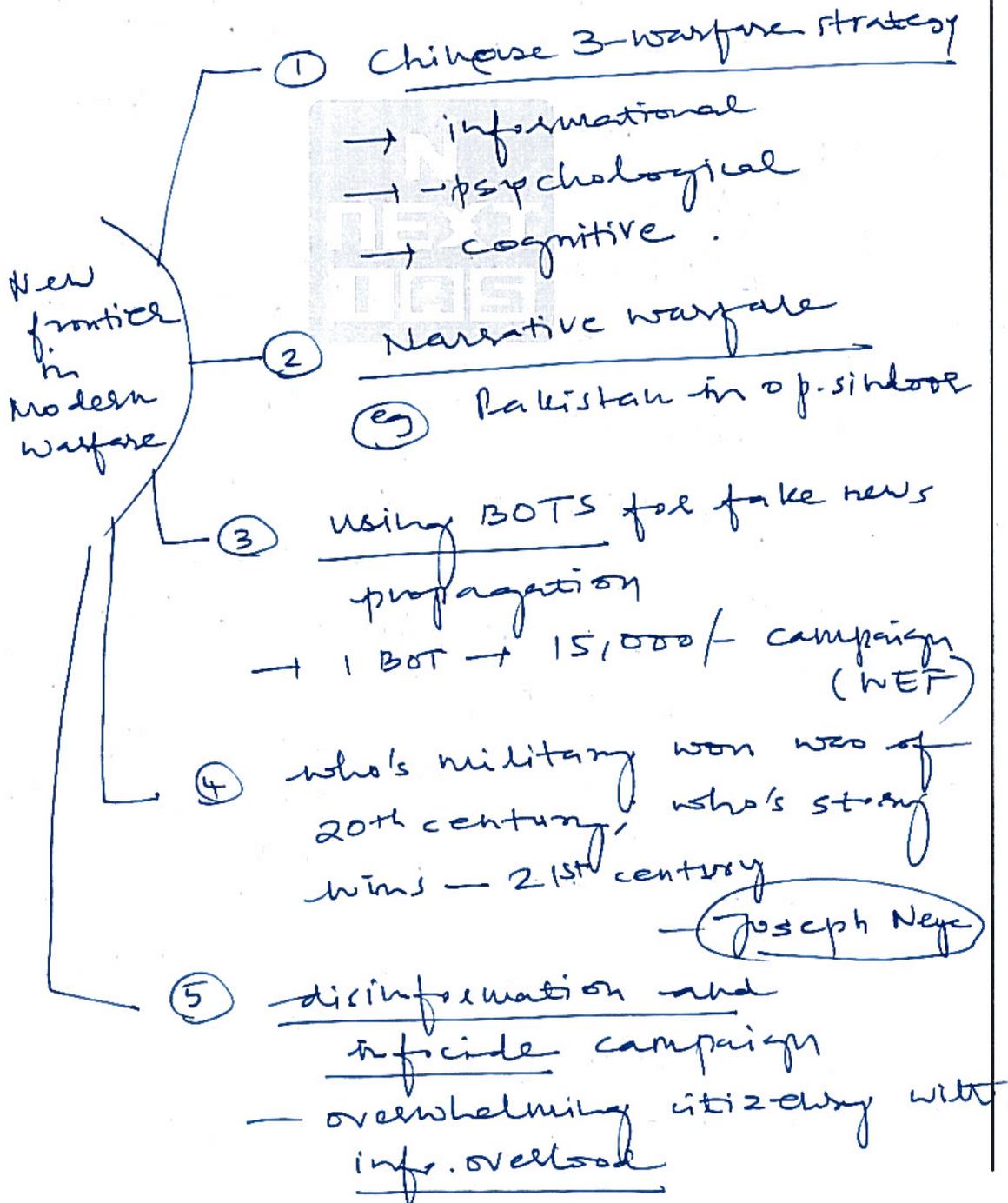
5. incineration plants and carbon capture (DAC)  
(eg) Okhla plant  
Bangalore Ramnagar plant
6. use of bio-engineered bacteria  
and microbes for bioaugmentation
7. new alternatives to plastic  
(eg) Biodegradable plastic
8. use of solid waste based pellets  
for construction item like bricks.  
(eg) Delhi NGO
9. sewage water treatment / KE Valley Basin  
Bangalore
10. skilled ground level workers

Every Indian needs to become  
a SWACCHA GRAHI to create a  
Swachh Bharat

9. "सोशल मीडिया आधुनिक युद्ध में एक नए आयाम के रूप में उभरा है, जो अभिभाष्यों को आकार दे रहा है, धारणाओं को प्रभावित कर रहा है तथा राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा को प्रभावित कर रहा है।" इस संदर्भ में, समकालीन संघर्षों में सोशल मीडिया की भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Social media has emerged as a new frontier in modern warfare, shaping narratives, influencing perceptions, and impacting national security". In this context, analyse the role of social media in contemporary conflicts. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

According to Army Chief UPENDRA DWIVEDI, "cyber-cognitive" is new buzz word in warfare.



Role of social media in Contemporary conflict

1. use of social media to send out diplomatic messages → TRUMP
2. use of social media for warfare → Op-sitdoo → mis-information → Pakistan's Narratives
3. use to create deception — psychological warfare.
4. according to WEF — disinformation will be the most threatening area of conflict. esp. for JNDA
5. fake news — spread via fake videos (deep fakes), doctored images etc.
6. use of BOTS → to hijack credible news.

Issues

- Arun Prakash — india missed the Narrative: Strategic messaging
- cheap bots; — difficult to tackle → Kt. Rahul Singh

Social media is emerging as new frontiers in this modern warfare leading asymmetric and hybrid warfare

10. सीमा सुरक्षा बल (BSF) ने अपने क्षेत्राधिकार और रणनीतिक महत्त्व, दोनों में ही सीमा प्रबंधन और आंतरिक सुरक्षा ढाँचे के संदर्भ में उल्लेखनीय विकास किया है। BSF की भूमिका और अधिदेश की व्याख्या कीजिए। सीमावर्ती राज्यों में कार्य करते समय बीएसएफ को किन समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए) 10 अंक
- The Border Security Force (BSF) has evolved significantly in its jurisdiction as well as its strategic importance in border management and the internal security framework. Explain the role and mandate of BSF. What are the issues BSF faces while operating in the border States? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks



Candidates must not  
write on this margin



11. भारत की संवृद्धि गाथा असमानता और मध्यम आय-जाल की दीर्घस्थायी चुनौतियों से प्रभावित है। चर्चा कीजिए। मध्यम आय के जाल से बाहर निकलने और समावेशी एवं सतत आर्थिक संवृद्धि सुनिश्चित करने के लिए भारत को किन उपायों का पालन करना चाहिए, इस पर प्रकाश डालिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

India's growth story is marred by persistent challenges of inequality and the middle-income trap. Discuss. Highlight the approaches India should follow to escape the middle-income trap and ensure inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

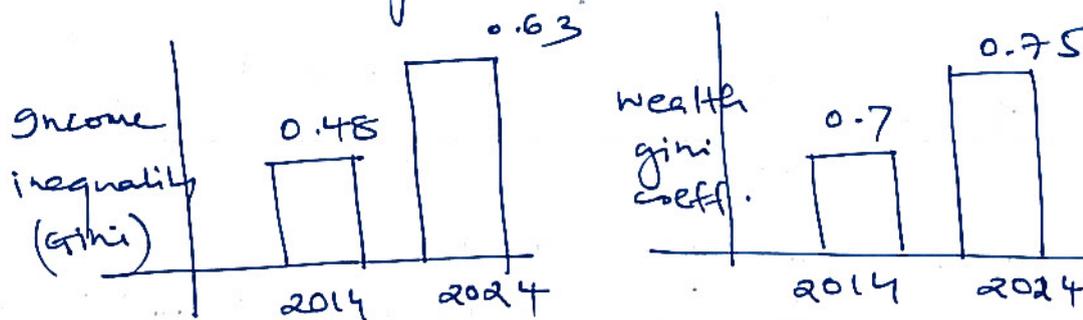
As per IMF, India now is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world with GDP of 4.19 trillion USD. However, World Bank reports suggest that India is likely to suffer from Middle-income trap.

Persistent Challenges of inequality and Middle income trap.

1. Middle income trap is when per capita income remains stuck between \$ 3000 USD to 13000 USD.  
⇒ currently India is at under 3000 \$

2. According to Oxfam Report  
- India top 1% population control 22% of income and 40% of wealth. ⇒ inequality

3. The gini coefficient of income inequality increased from 0.48 to 0.63



4. according to Gender Gap Index  
— India ranks 131 out of 167  
(increased by 2; 129 in 2023)

Approach for inclusive and sustainable economic growth

1. creating employment  
→ qualitative jobs (BIBEK DEBROY)
2. investment in agriculture  
→ non-agri. sources of income to farmers.  
(eg) livestock and agro forestry  
[As highlighted by Ashok Dalwai Panel]
3. digital divide  
— bridge it, especially in villages  
with innovative technologies like Sat.com.

4. investment in social infrastructure  
 (eg) health expenditure is currently just 1.3-1.6%  
 → Acc. to National health policy 2.5%

5. similarly, education  
 — raise investment to (6%) of GDP.

6. GERD — (on Research and development)  
 — currently (0.7%) — raise it to over (2%)

7. Make in India 2.0.

→ Manufacturing sector boost  
 (eg) shift from Capital intensive to labour intensive sectors like Apparel and Textile

Challenges

- ① lack of private investment  
 (eg) just (12-14%) GDP.
- ② crowding-out effect  
 — increased fiscal stress.
- ③ regional-disparity  
 NE states contributes just (1%) of GDP

The blueprinting Model of inclusive growth advocated by NITI Aayog is the way forward

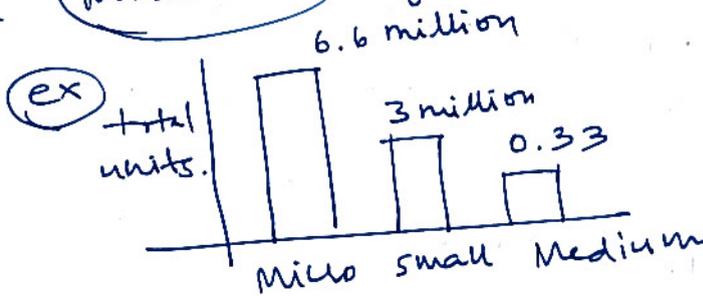
12. MSMEs (सूक्ष्म, लघु एवं मध्यम उद्यम) "मेक इन इंडिया" पहल की सफलता के केंद्र में हैं, फिर भी उन्हें आमाप वर्धन और औपचारिक आपूर्ति शृंखलाओं में एकीकरण में चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए। MSMEs (सूक्ष्म, लघु एवं मध्यम उद्यमों) को अधिक समुत्थानशील और प्रतिस्पर्धी बनाने के लिए आवश्यक संरचनात्मक सुधार प्रस्तावित कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

MSMEs are central to the success of the Make in India initiative, yet they face challenges in scaling up and integrating into formal supply chains. Discuss. Suggest structural reforms needed to make MSMEs more resilient and competitive. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

MSMEs are the foundation of Make in India contributing over 40% of Manufacturing GDP and over 50% of Indian exports. However, they are marked by several challenges.

Challenges faced by MSMEs.

1. Missing Middle of Manufacturing / MSMEs



2. lack of integration into global value chains

3. inverted duty structure  
— leading to uncompetitive prices in global markets.

4. Lack of technological upgradation  
→ leading to not able to  
achieve "ECONOMIES OF SCALE"
5. lack of skilled workforce  
→ acc to ILO, only 3% of total  
workforce is skilled
6. advent of AI  
→ job loss growth. (IMF)
7. access to credit — fragmented  
and lack of institutional
8. compliance burden  
→ for registering an MSMEs —  
more than 48 + approvals needed  
→ "PILLAR TO POST V regime."

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### Structural Reforms Needed

---

1. Technology upgradation  
→ use of AI, Big Data and  
mechanisation, automation  
1% investment in tech → 11% return.
2. defence production indigenisation  
→ can be a new venture

3. skill training



4. uniformity in attention to

all the three sectors

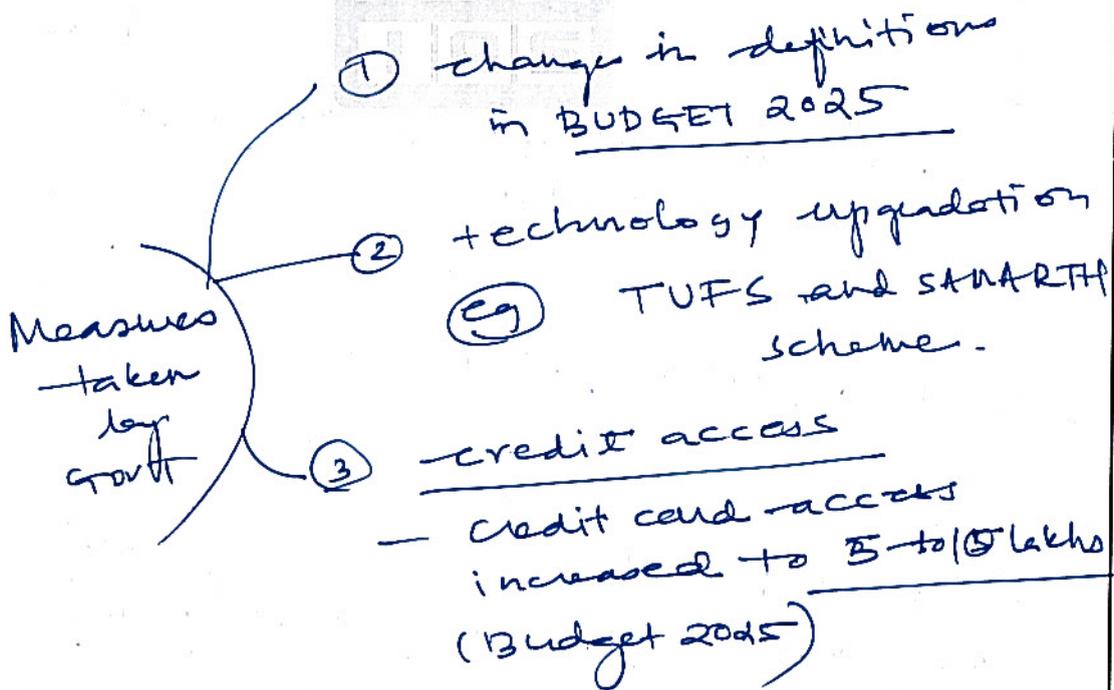
→ address MISSING Middle

5. regulatory cholestrol - address it

via light touch regulation

"Peeling the onion approach"

6. Best Practice: MITTLE STAND of Germany

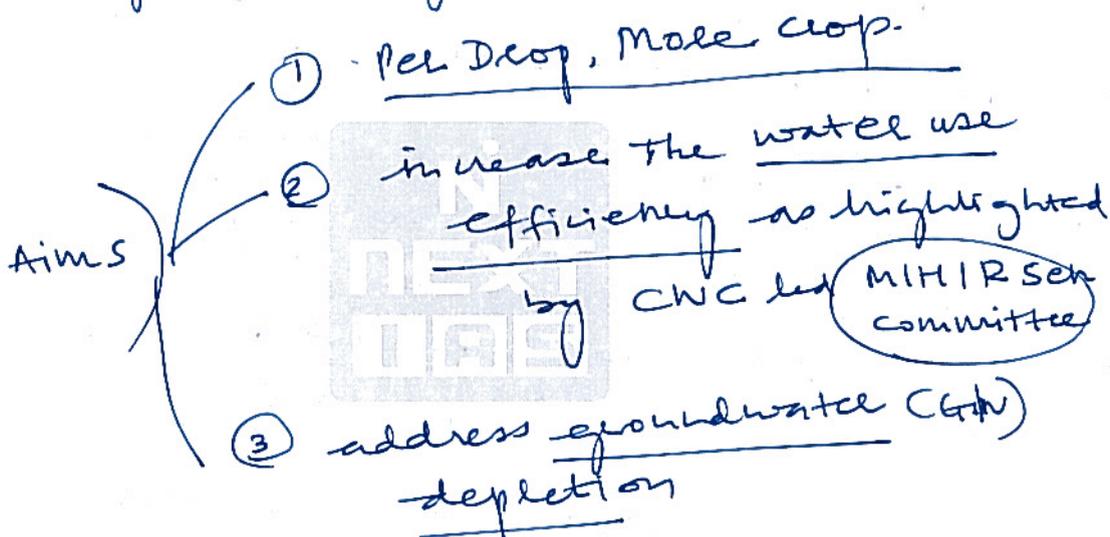


MSMEs thus, can contribute to India's aspiration to be global manufacturing hub

13. "प्रधानमंत्री कृषि सिंचाई योजना (PMKSY) का लक्ष्य 'प्रति बूँद अधिक फ़सल' प्राप्त करना है, फिर भी भारत में सिंचाई दक्षता अभी भी उपेक्षित बना हुआ है।" आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए। इसके कार्यान्वयन को सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिए किन सुधारों की आवश्यकता है? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

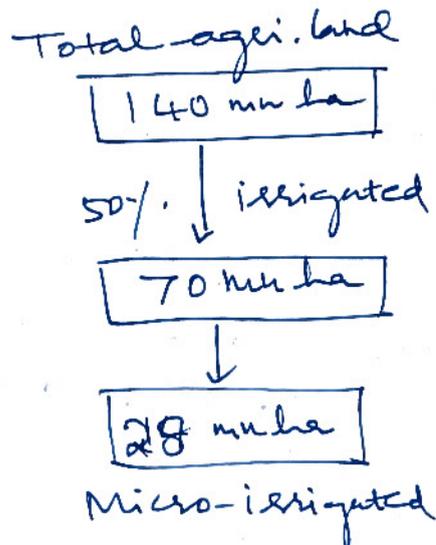
"The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) aims to achieve 'more crop per drop', yet irrigation efficiency in India remains suboptimal." Critically analyse. What reforms are needed to strengthen its implementation? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

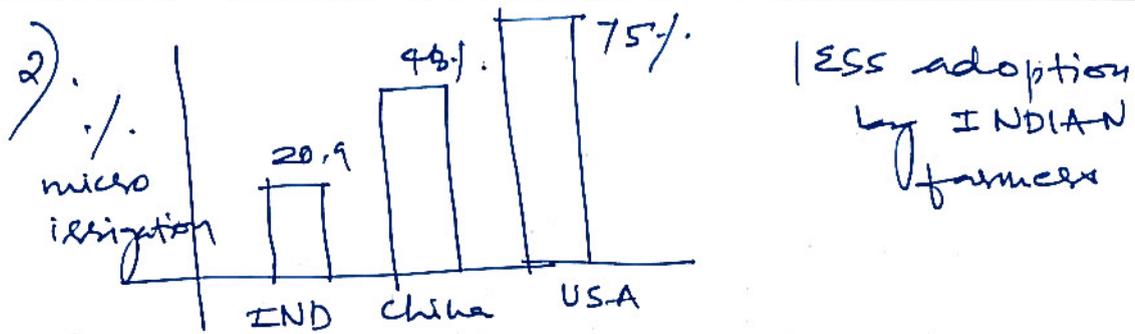
PM Krishi Sinchayee was brought to address the increasing groundwater usage (70%) by the agriculture sector



Yet, irrigation efficiency remains low :

1. only 20.9% of area micro-irrigated





3) cereals centric food policy  
 → Paddy and wheat → uses flood irrigation

4) Power subsidies (e) Punjab/Haryana  
 → lack of adoption of microirrigation  
 ⇒ 1.5 ft / year GW depletion

Reforms needed to strengthen the implementation

1. custom-hiring-centres  
 → for promotion and accessibility.
2. subsidies for adoption of microirrigation  
 → high initial costs will be addressed
3. awareness among small & marginal farmers (89% of total: NABARD)

4. outreach programs by KVKs and extension services
5. skilling of local youth  
→ create jobs in installation, repair and maintenance.
6. FPOs: promotion of Microirrigation via FPOs.  
⇒ increased collectivisation
7. Access to credit - soft loans for Microirrigation.
8. landform-based micro-irrigation facilities  
→ stopped, tough terrain etc.
9. direct Price Transfer as part of PM-KISAN

Thus, PM-Sinchayee Yojana needs an overhaul and make it more democratic for adoption.

14. तिलहन और दलहन के बढ़ते आयात ने इनकी कृषि को अलाभकारी बना दिया है। इस कथन के आलोक में, भारत में तिलहन और दलहन के उत्पादन और उपभोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आवश्यक कदमों का विशदीकरण कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

The rising import of oilseeds and pulses has made their cultivation unremunerative. In the light of this statement, elucidate the steps needed to promote the production and consumption of oilseeds and pulses in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Though India is the largest producer and consumer of PULSES it remains a net importer of pulses.

Similarly, India is largest edible oil importer.

Steps needed to promote the production of oilseeds and pulses.

1. increase MSP on par with paddy and wheat → to shift the production from cereal centric to pulses & oilseeds.
2. Govt's "minus five plus ten" strategy → diverting 5 million ha of paddy area to pulses and oilseeds.
3. PM AASHA
  - PDPS - price deficiency payment scheme
  - PPS - private participation price scheme.

4. NMEO-Palmoil

→ increase total area to 69 ha  
of palmoil.

→ growing in A&N Islands

5. promotion of drought variant and short term crops by ICAR.Steps to promote consumption1. PM-GKAY - Anna Yojana

→ promotion of pulses in 28 states

2. pulses in Mid Day Meals scheme  
in state led initiatives.

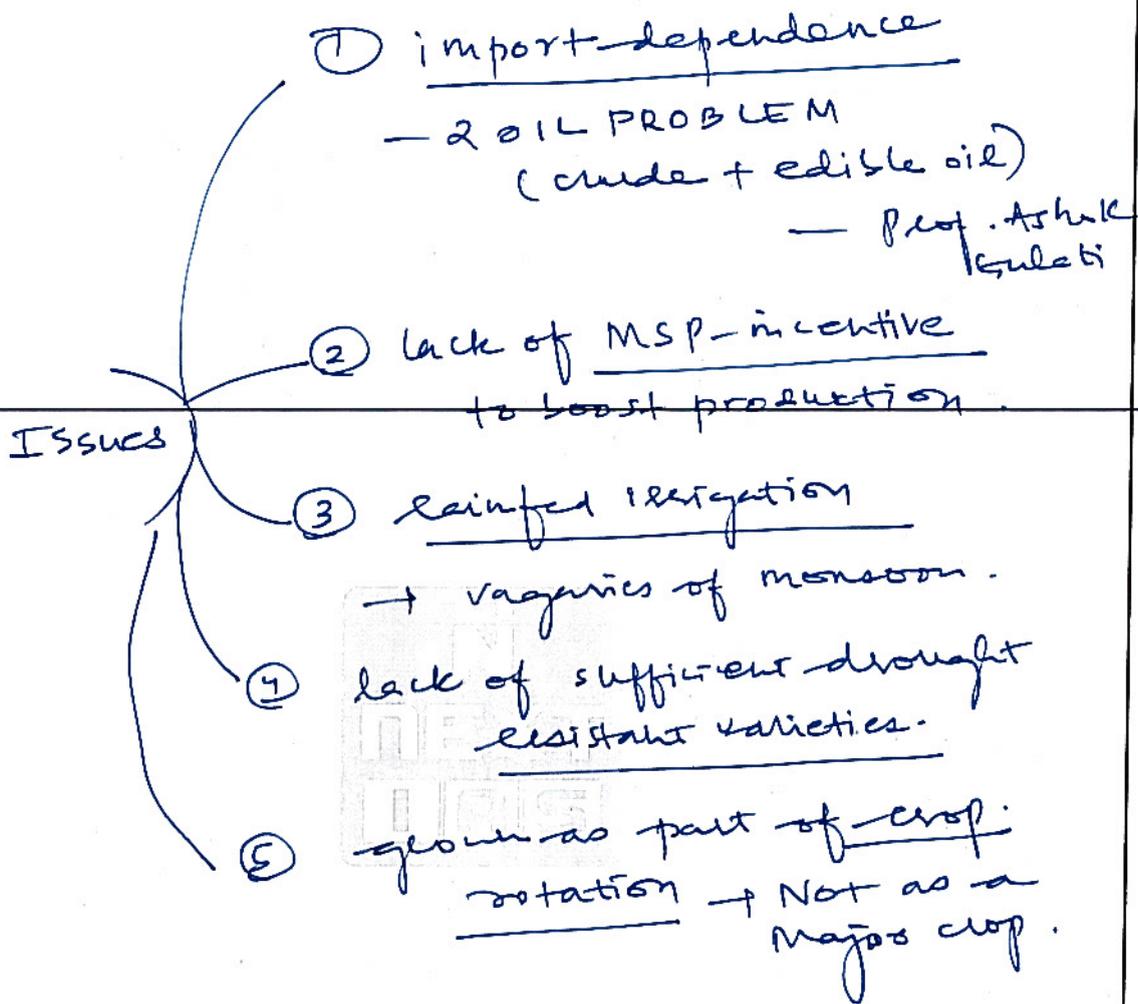
(eg) Maharashtra; Karnataka.

3. Nudging to pulses based diet  
→ Shree Anna scheme4. Millet food law

(eg) Karnataka High Court.

5. Telangana and Chattisgarh  
Millet Food processing units.

6. awareness programme (eg) Eat Right  
and Fit-India.



Pulses and oil seed thus,  
can be source of food and nutritional  
security. The challenge need to be  
addressed via multi-pronged approach  
of university - KVKs - govt - market

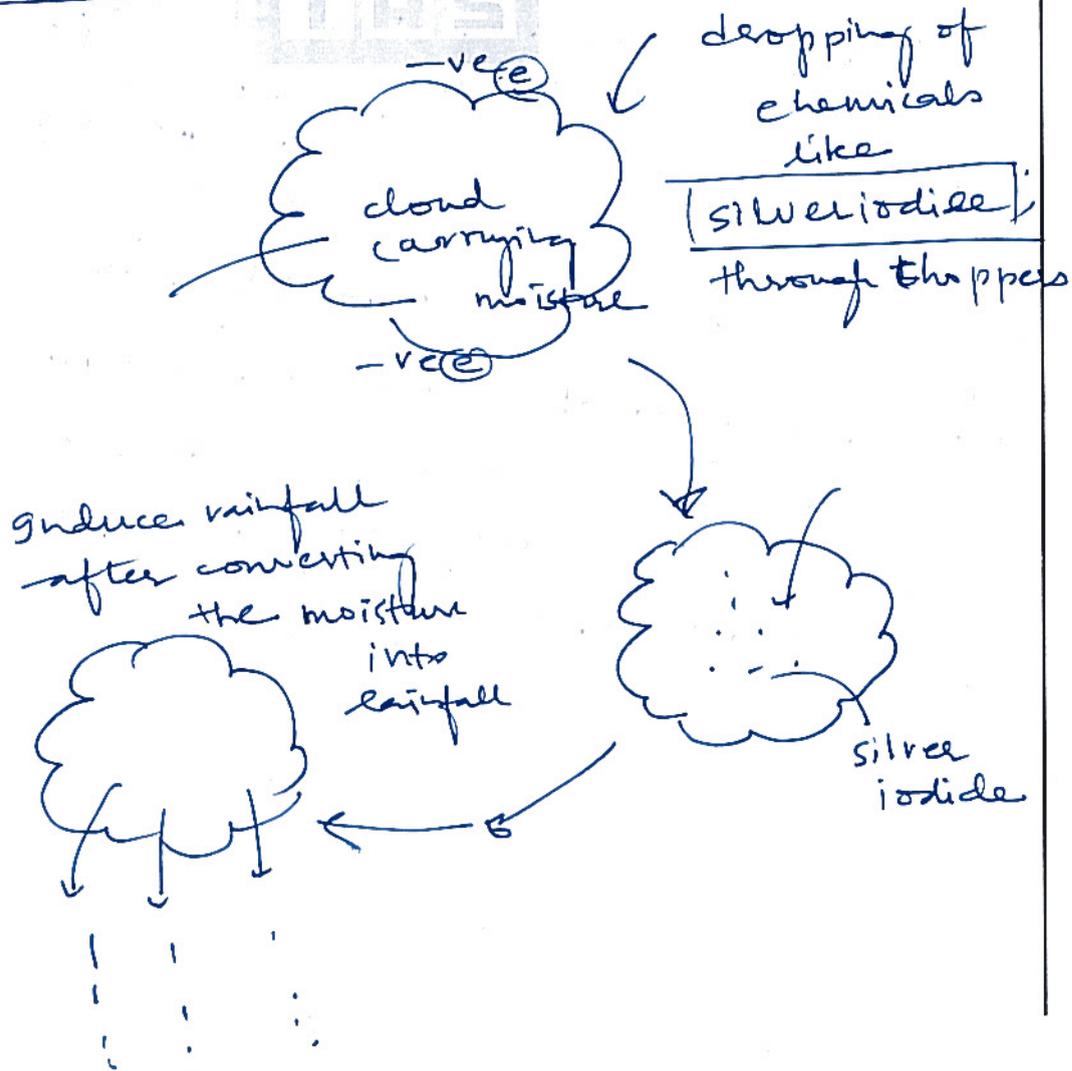
15. मेघ बीजन के पीछे के वैज्ञानिक सिद्धांतों की व्याख्या कीजिए। वायु प्रदूषण और वैश्विक तापन के उपशमन में इसकी भूमिका पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इसकी संभावित सीमाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Explain the scientific principles behind cloud seeding. Highlighting its role in alleviating air pollution and global warming, discuss its potential limitations.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

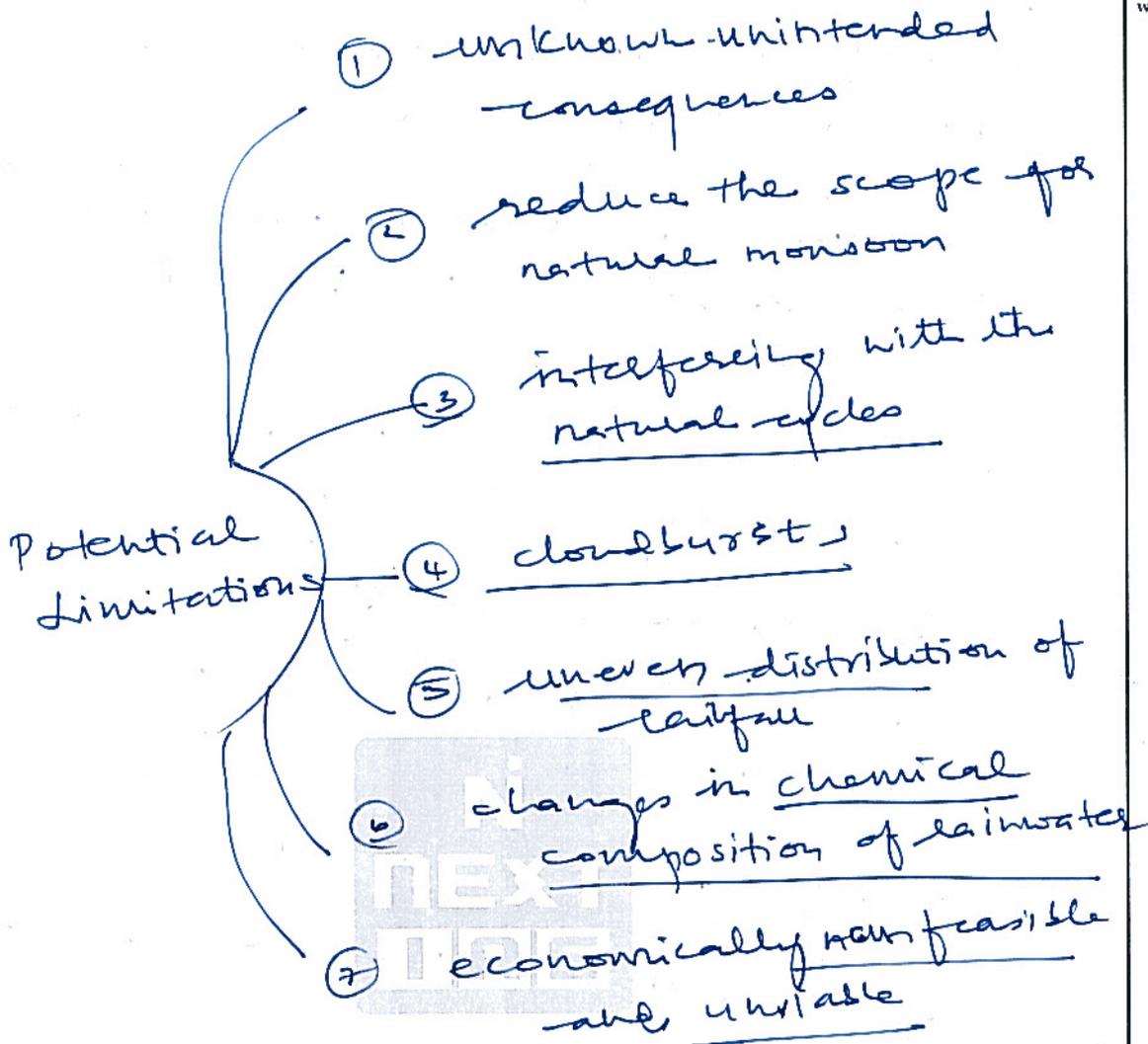
Delhi government recently announced use of cloud seeding to address two things: → 1) Rainfall deficit  
2) Air pollution

Scientific principles behind it



## Role in alleviating Air pollution and Global Warming

- 1) address the temperature inversion caused pollutant stability in the atmosphere.
- 2) It helps in reducing the temperature caused to heatwave ↓
- 3) creation of aerosols  
→ which help in reflecting the incoming radiation  
→ thereby decrease temperature
- 4) overturn the heat bulb (or) high pressure dome  
→ creating low pressure  
→ temperature ↓ ↓.



Thus, artificial rainfall via cloud seeding is not a process. It is just a short cut mimicking the natural process. However, it should therefore be use sparingly.

16. भारत के त्रि-चरणीय परमाणु ऊर्जा कार्यक्रम के क्रमिक विकास का विवरण दीजिए। थोरियम-आधारित तृतीय चरण को साकार करने के क्या लाभ और रणनीतिक अनिवार्यताएँ हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Give an account of the evolution of India's 3-Stage Nuclear Power Programme. What are the advantages and strategic imperatives of realising the thorium-based third stage?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Homij. Bhabha indigenised  
the 3-stage Nuclear power programme  
to address the paradox of immense  
thorium reserves and limited uranium  
deposits to address the India's Energy  
demand.

### EVOLUTION OF 3-Stage Nuclear programme

Stage 1: Pressurised heavy water  
 reactor. (PHWR)  
 $U-238 \rightarrow Pt\ 239$ .

Stage 2: Advanced heavy water  
 Reactor (AHWR)  
 $Pt\ 239 \rightarrow$  Thorium 233

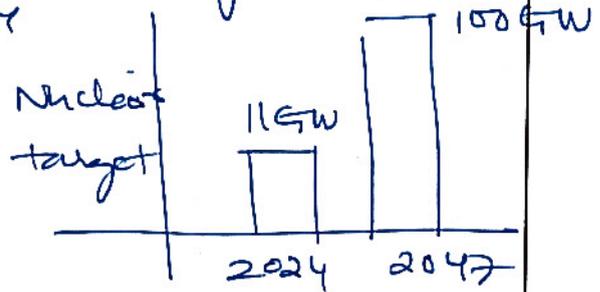
Stage 3: Using the thorium  
 to power the third  
 stage.

2. While the first two stages are in operation, the third stage remains to be operationalised next.

Strategic Imperatives and Advantages of Realising third stage

1. Strategic Autonomy - to be able to create nuclear energy without external support.
2. From having nuclear apartheid to an nuclear powerhouse
3. Indigenisation  
- use of thorium based nuclear power generation  
- very few in the world.
4. can be a quising partner to Global South
5. Energy security  
- 3As achieved  
  - availability
  - accessibility
  - affordability

6. India's target of achieving 10x growth in Nuclear energy



7. Panchsmit Pledge

— to decarbonise the economy

— renewable energy target

NET ZERO by 2070

8. Global leader in Nuclear powered Renewable energy

9. add feather to India's Nuclear exports. → economic growth.

- challenge remain
- ① lack of scalability
  - ② technological support — fragmented.
  - ③ unintended consequences unknown.

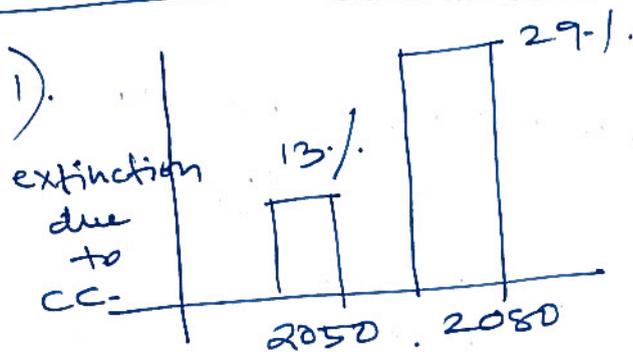
Nuclear programme created by HOMI BHABHA is a blueprint for self-sufficiency in energy requirement

17. हाल ही के अध्ययनों से संकेत मिलता है कि 2014-2024 का दशक अब तक का सबसे गर्म दशक और 2024 अब तक का सबसे गर्म वर्ष रहा है। तेजी से बढ़ते वैश्विक तापन के आलोक में, जलवायु परिवर्तन का जैव-विविधता पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा? पारिस्थितिक समुत्थानशीलता और प्रजाति विविधता के संरक्षण को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए आवश्यक उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Recent studies indicate that the 2014-2024 decade is the warmest decade and 2024 is the warmest year on record. In the light of rapid global warming, what are the impacts of climate change on biodiversity? Discuss the measures needed to ensure ecological resilience and conservation of species diversity. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

According to IPCC AR6 (Sixth assessment Report) - with business as usual approach, the world will heat by 1.5-2.5°C by 2100.

Impact of climate change on biodiversity



2) increasing marine heatwaves (MHW)  
 (eg) according to WMO, more than 280 days of the year were under MHWs

3) stratification of oceanic layers  
 → leading to lack of intermixing of nutrients → affecting biodiversity

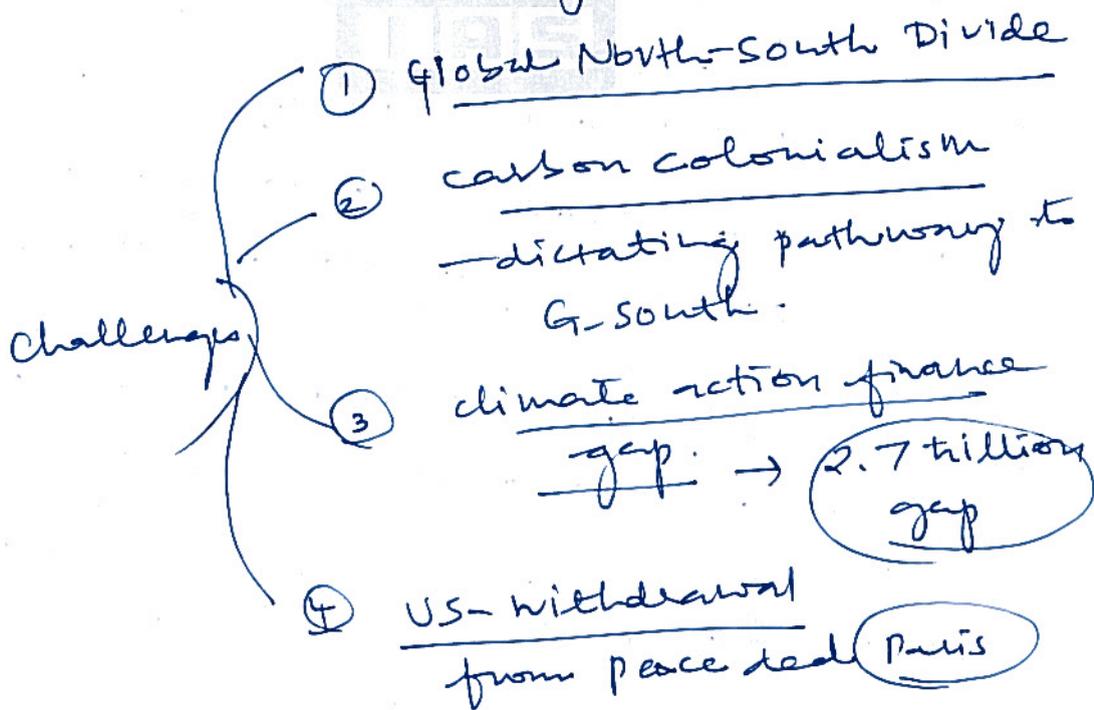
- 4) reef collapse and coral mass bleaching
- (eg) The Great Barrier Reef - 2025 had the worst mass bleaching
- 5) changes in physiological characters of marine life - affecting its population growth and reproduction cycle.

- 6) increasing forest fires →  
 (eg) Australian wildfires (2021)  
 California wildfire (2024)
- 7) decreasing productivity of crop yields.
- 8) decreasing fish population
- 9) increasing breakdown of AMOC  
 → global thermohaline cycle.

Measures needed to ensure ecological resilience and conservation

1. exogenic gene preservation.
2. promote seed sovereignty
3. include indigenous people and local communities (IPLC) based plans into conservation scheme

4. rapid afforestation / reforestation  
and arrest the land use change
5. global collaboration  
on conservation of biodiversity  
(eg) Kunming - Montreal framework
6. Nature based solutions (NBS)  
(eg) mangrove, urban forestry
7. coastal resilience  
→ as 3.3-3.5 billion people are  
most severely affected → UNEP



Greater coordination and collaboration is needed to address this & problems without passport →

18. भारत में वनाग्नि की आवृत्ति और तीव्रता में वृद्धि हो रही है, जिससे गंभीर पारिस्थितिक और आर्थिक चुनौतियाँ उत्पन्न हो रही हैं। वनाग्नि के विभिन्न कारणों का वर्णन कीजिए। भारत में वनाग्नि की रोकथाम और प्रबंधन के लिए क्या उपाय किए जाते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

Forest fires in India are increasing in frequency and intensity, posing severe ecological and economic challenges. Describe the various causes of forest fires. What measures are followed to prevent and manage forest fires in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

The recent Los Angeles forest fires, Australian Bushfire and Uttarakhand forest fires are a threatening reminder of increasing frequency and intensity of it.

According to MoEFCC - the threat of forest fires has increased by 50% in the last decade

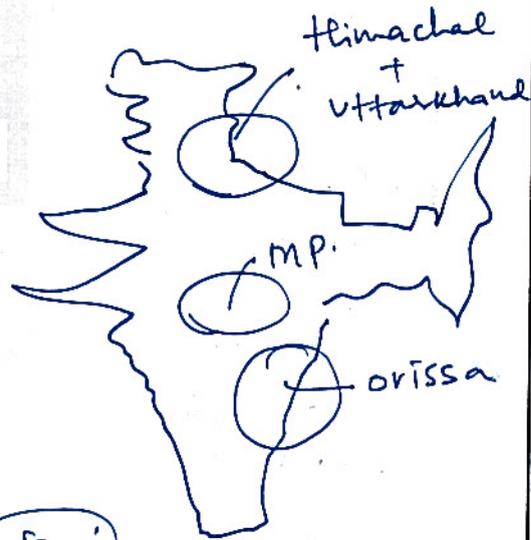


fig: potential areas of forest fires.

Ecological & economic challenges

1. burning of crucial biodiversity (flora and fauna)
2. diversion of limited funds to addressing it

3. increasing lives and livelihood loss

4. tourism attraction decreases

(eg) Uttarakhand sees a dip in (2024-25)

5. changes in nutritional composition of soil.



Anthropogenic

1. miscreants

- smoking, vaping.

2. clear and burn type agriculture

3. MFP

- minor forest produce  
- fires while carrying it.

4. Tribal customs involving fire

5. camp fires  
- tourism.

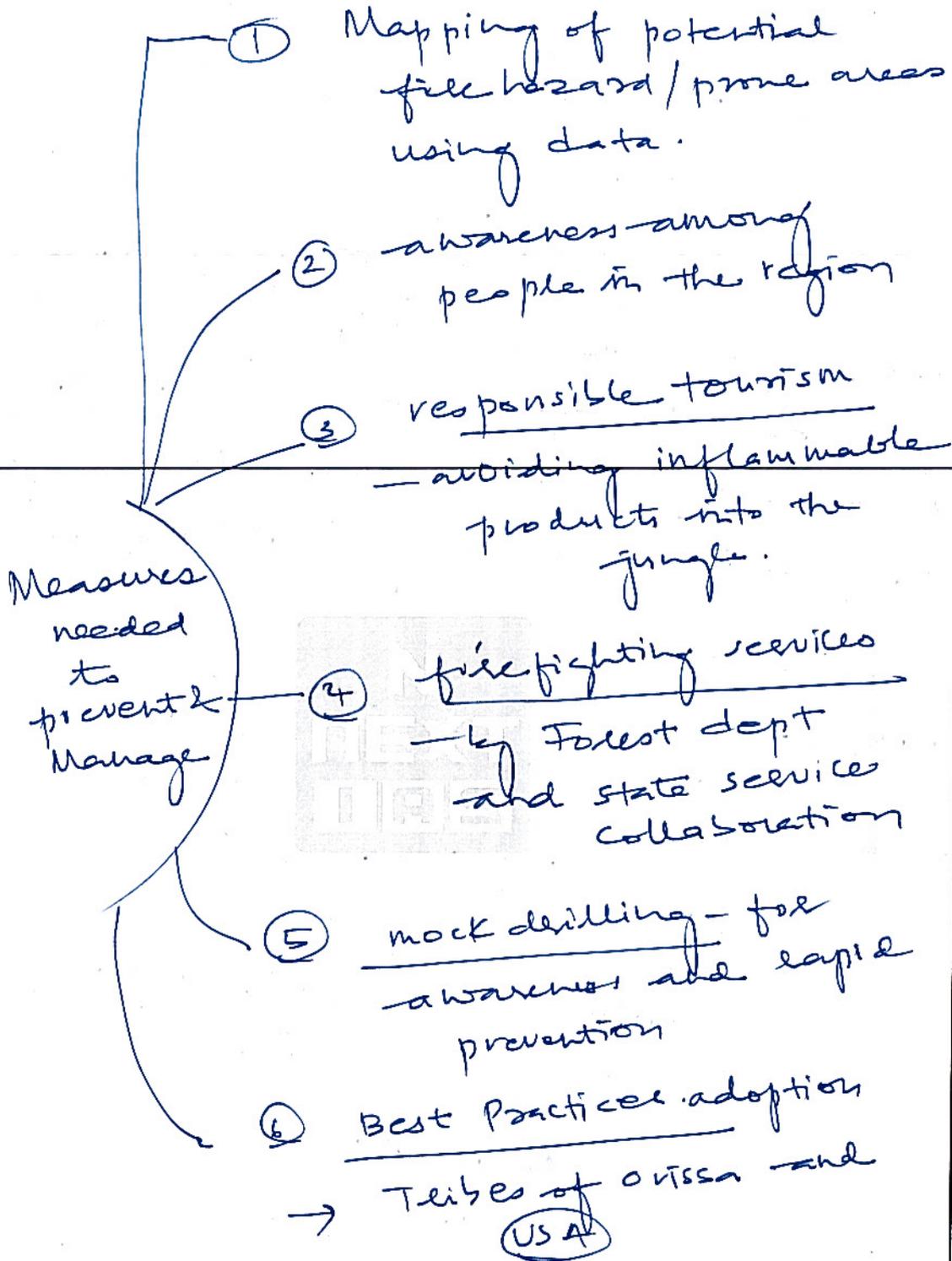
Natural

Nature's way of maintaining ecological equilibrium

2. increasing warming  
- 1.1°C temperature

3. aided by dry winds.

4. friction between trees



Forest fires aren't just burning of the forest, but of life of man on earth.

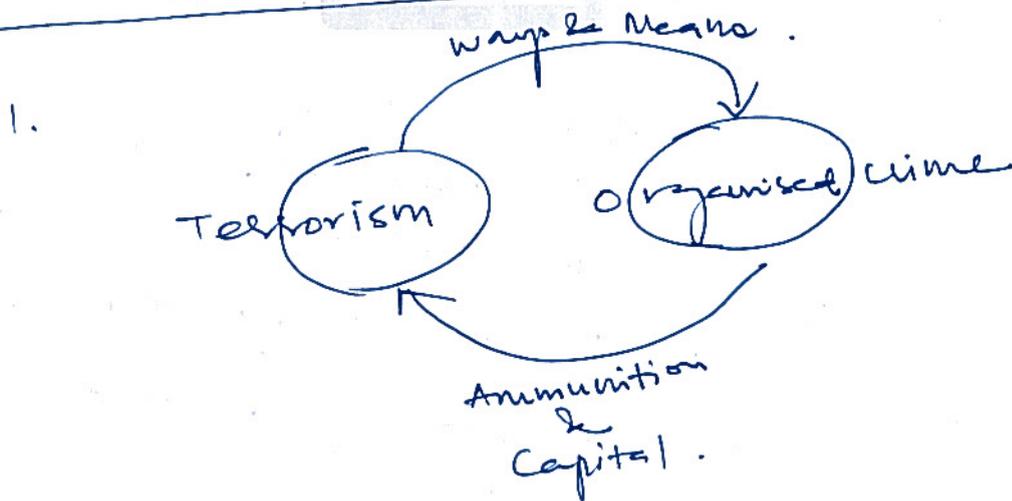
19. संगठित अपराध क्या हैं? संगठित अपराध और आतंकवाद के बीच संबंधों पर चर्चा कीजिए। ये संबंध भारत के लिए आंतरिक सुरक्षा संबंधी चुनौतियाँ कैसे उत्पन्न करते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

What are organized crimes? Discuss the linkages between organized crime and terrorism. How do such linkages pose internal security challenges to India?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

The UNTOC defines organised crimes as those that thrive on the proceeds of crimes like arms smuggling, drugs trade, human and animal trafficking and illegal wildlife trade

Linkage between organised crime and Terrorism



2. crimes like organised money laundering - helps in transferring money to the terror financing

3. Arms and ammunition can be brought by terror groups via organised crime like Drug trafficking  
 (eg) TALIBAN opium trade.

4. organised crime like use of dark web - help in propagation of secret messages

→ fundamentalism and ideology

5. helps finance recruitment drives by terror groups via social media  
 → and later for training

(eg) The Resistant Front and JEM.

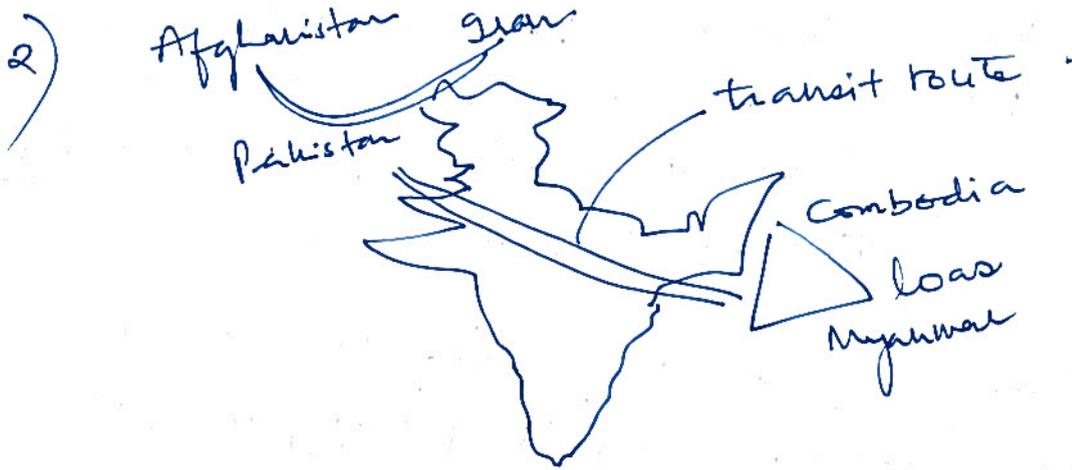
6. use of NGOs as frontal bodies for availing donations

(eg) PFI in India.

7. hiring and training (eg) Bhatkal Brothers.

How such linkage pose security challenge to India

1. India is sandwiched between GOLDEN triangle and golden crescent

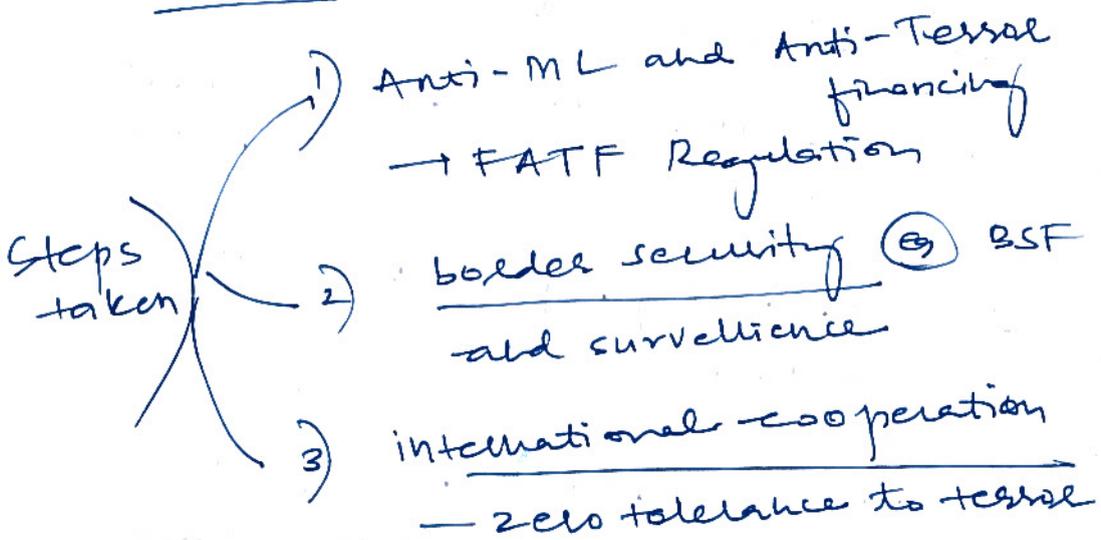


3) India shares porous boundaries with Bangladesh and Myanmar

4) arms and animal smuggling  
 (eg) Bangladesh

5) support the insurgent groups.  
 (eg) ULFA by Myanmar & China

6) aid terror plans by Non-state actors. (NSA) (eg) Pakalgaon.



India's unique position makes it vulnerable to organised crime and terror attacks. INDIA needs a strong whole of govt approach to address it

20. भारत का उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र विवादास्पद मुद्दों और सुरक्षा चुनौतियों से परिपूर्ण है। इस क्षेत्र में वर्तमान में व्याप्त विभिन्न सुरक्षा चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों से निपटने हेतु किए जाने वाले उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए) 15 अंक

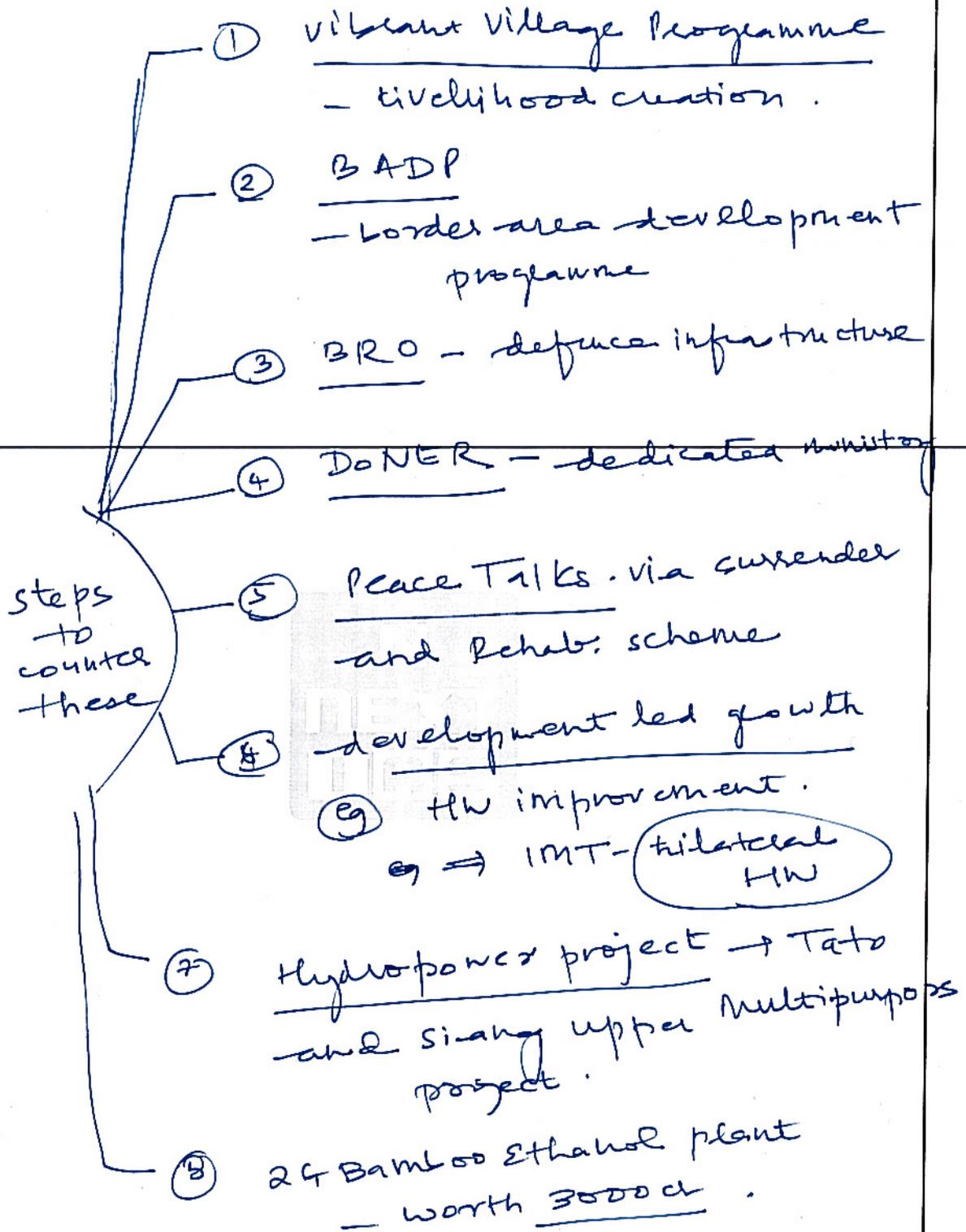
India's north-eastern region is fraught with contentious issues and security challenges. Examine the various security challenges currently prevailing in the region. Discuss the steps to counter these challenges. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Recently, PM Modi called  
North eastern states as the Ashtalaxmi.  
However, the reality is North-east region  
(NER) has remained fraught with  
continuous issues.

Various security challenges and  
contentious issues

1. Manipur Conflict  
- ethnic conflict between Kuki 20  
and Meitios.
2. Inter-ethnic conflicts-  
- (eg) ULFA → wants separation  
vs. other Assam groups support  
peacetalks.
3. issue of demographic change  
(eg) Triपुरa - Bhoj Reang conflict  
and language issues-  
Assamese vs. Bengali.

4. <sup>Cartographic</sup> warfare like "MAPFARE" and  
by China in Arunachal  
⇒ Xio kang villages by china.  
⇒ renaming of villages to assert  
sovereignty.
5. Lack of economic support/growth  
(eg) 1% contribution to GDP by  
8 states.
6. support by states like Myanmar  
and Bangladesh to insurgent  
groups (eg) ULFA, NCSN.
7. separatism and secession  
- Greater Nagalim.
8. Illegal Immigration  
- from Bangladesh, leading to  
increased competition to  
resources
9. porous borders and hilly terrain  
- makes investments difficult  
(eg) Chicken Neck Corridor.  
Mr. Yunes comment linking  
NE to Chinese growth plan



NE States - should change from frontier to frontline states and indeed be the prosperous Ashtalaxmi to India's Growth story

# **NEXT IAS**

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*Space for Rough Work*

# **NEXT IAS**

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*Space for Rough Work*

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# NEXT IAS

## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

CANDIDATES SHOULD READ THE UNDERMENTIONED INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE INSTRUCTIONS MAY LEAD TO PENALTY.

### **DONT'S**

1. Do not write your name or registration no. anywhere inside this Question-cum-Answer Booklet.
2. Do not write anything other than the actual answers to the questions anywhere inside your QCA Booklet.
3. Do not tear off any pages from your QCA Booklet, if you find any page missing do not fail to notify the supervisor/invigator.
4. Do not leave behind your QCA Booklet on your table unattended, it should be handed over to the invigilator after conclusion of the exam.

### **DO'S**

1. Read the Instructions on the cover page and strictly follow them.
2. Write your registration number and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover of QCA Booklet.
3. Write legibly and neatly. Do not write in bad/illegible handwritings.
4. For rough notes or calculation, the last two blank pages of this booklet should be used. The rough notes should be crossed through afterwards.
5. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it or write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be evaluated.
6. Handover your QCA Booklet personally to the invigilator before leaving the examination hall.

## SPECIAL REQUEST FOR CANDIDATE AVAILING ONLINE FACILITY

1. Scan the QCA booklet properly. We suggest the uses of the app CAM scanner (Scan QR code in page 2) based on our previous experiences.
2. Please scan the QCA booklet in ample light. Copies scanned under moderate light can hamper evaluation quality.
3. Any page/pdf having shadow needs to be rescanned. Please make sure that the pdf that you upload is as clean as possible.
4. **Candidates not using the QCA booklet** must mention their details on the front page. And leave the next page blank for the macro comments. It must be understood that the answer should start from Page no. 3 in of the scanned pdf.
5. Candidates not using the QCA booklet must follow the sequence of the answer as per the question paper.
6. Please check the sequence of the answer and total number of pages in the scanned version. Make sure it is in consonance with the physical version of the same.

## NEXT IAS

<b>महत्वपूर्ण निर्देश</b>	
अभ्यर्थियों को निम्नलिखित निर्देशों को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ना चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर दण्डित किया जा सकता है।	
<b>क्या न करें-</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें।</li> <li>2. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें।</li> <li>3. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका से कोई भी पृष्ठ न फाड़ें, यदि आपको कोई पृष्ठ गायब लगे, तो पर्यवेक्षक/निरीक्षक को सूचित करना न भूलें।</li> <li>4. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका को अपनी टेबल पर न छोड़ें, परीक्षा समाप्त होने के पश्चात इसे निरीक्षक को सौंप देना चाहिए।</li> </ol>	<b>क्या करें-</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए निर्देशों को ध्यान पूर्वक पढ़ें और उनका सख्ती से पालन करें।</li> <li>2. QCA पुस्तिका के कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर अपना पंजीकरण नंबर और अन्य विवरण लिखें।</li> <li>3. स्पष्ट और पठनीय तरीके से लिखें। खराब/अपठनीय लिखावट में न लिखें।</li> <li>4. रफ नोट्स या गणना के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंतिम दो खाली पृष्ठों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। रफ नोट्स को बाद में क्रॉस कर देना चाहिए।</li> <li>5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना पेन चलाएं या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।</li> <li>6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी QCA पुस्तिका व्यक्तिगत रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।</li> </ol>

<b>ऑनलाइन सुविधा का लाभ उठाने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के लिए विशेष अनुरोध</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. QCA पुस्तिका को ठीक से स्कैन करें। हम चाहेंगे कि आप स्कैनिंग के लिए कैमस्कैनर ऐप (CAM SCANNER) का प्रयोग करें। (यह कोई प्रमोशन नहीं है)।</li> <li>2. कृपया QCA पुस्तिका को पर्याप्त रोशनी में स्कैन करें। कम रोशनी में स्कैन की गई पुस्तिकाएं, उनके मूल्यांकन की गुणवत्ता को बाधित कर सकती हैं।</li> <li>3. स्कैन के दौरान छाया वाले किसी भी पृष्ठ/पीडीएफ को फिर से स्कैन किया जाना चाहिए। कृपया सुनिश्चित करें कि आपके द्वारा अपलोड की गई पीडीएफ यथा संभव स्पष्ट हो ।</li> <li>4. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को अपना विवरण पहले पृष्ठ पर देना चाहिए और मैक्रो टिप्पणियों के लिए अगला पृष्ठ खाली छोड़ दें। यह समझना चाहिए कि उत्तर स्कैन की गई पीडीएफ में पृष्ठ नंबर 3 से शुरू होना चाहिए।</li> <li>5. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को प्रश्नपत्र के अनुसार उत्तर के अनुक्रम का पालन करना चाहिए।</li> <li>6. कृपया स्कैन किए गए संस्करण में उत्तर के अनुक्रम और कुल पृष्ठों की संख्या की जाँच करें। सुनिश्चित करें कि यह उसी के भौतिक संस्करण के अनुरूप है।</li> </ol>

