



SMARTWORK LABS
IAS ACADEMY

MAINS COACH
PROGRAM - 23

Answer Writing Skill Development for
CIVIL SERVICES MAINS
2023

GENERAL STUDIES TEST 3

Name of the Candidate	MANISHA JANCHU	TEST 2315 Economy & Agriculture
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UPSC 2023 Roll Number	6316998	

Date - 2nd Aug 2023

Time Allowed – 3 Hours

4 AUG 2023

Maximum Marks – 250

Table of Marks			Instructions Set		
QUESTION	MAXIMUM MARKS	MARKS OBTAINED	<p><i>Please Read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.All questions are compulsory.The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.Answers must be written in English and 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 a medium that the authorized one.Use on black/blue pen ink to write answers. Do not use pencil other than for drawing diagrams/sketches.Answers to Questions no. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions no. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.Keep the word limit indicated in the question in mind.Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet must be clearly struck off.		
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Email ID for Test Submission - testsubmission@smartworklabs.in Email ID for any Grievance - grievances@smartworklabs.in Email ID for other queries - info@smartworklabs.in			SPECIAL REQUEST WITH REGARDS TO EVALUATION -		

MACRO FEEDBACK

CSM JUA P

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Q.1

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) play a vital role in boosting the economic growth engine. In this context highlight the various constraints faced by MSMEs and steps taken by the government to strengthen it. (150 words, 10 marks)

उम्मीदवासी का इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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The Micro, small & medium industries (MSME) contribute 33% to the GDP. and has the potential of CAGR = 11.5%.

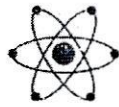
Boost ECONOMIC GROWTH

Ref ⁿ	Mfg	Services
Micro	1 cr	5 cr
Small	5 cr	25 cr
Med	20 cr	250 cr

- Employment = 12 cr people (CMIE)
- Economic opportunity to poor :- 11% of MSME are Micro (NSSO data)
- Inclusive growth -> women led MSME are 8.6 lakhs (Udyam portal data)
- Exports = 45% to total exports.

CONSTRAINTS FACED by MSME

- Lack of institutionalized credit :- More than 90% MSME lack institutional credit
(NACHIKET MOR COMMITTEE REPORT)
- Hurdles in getting registration and clearances.



3. Infrastructural gaps: due to lack of last mile connectivity → less profitable.
4. Competition from big MNCs.

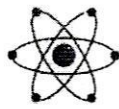
STEPS BY GOVERNMENT

1. Emergency credit line guarantee scheme (ECLGS) of ₹5000 Cr for MSME. (UNION BUDGET 2022-23)
2. Compulsory procurement of 25% by PSUs.
3. Credit linked subsidy scheme = 15%.
4. SAMADHAN Scheme.
5. Improving logistics.
6. ASPIRE Scheme.
7. PMKVY (PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana) for skill development.

MSME as per World Bank can contribute to 50% of India's GDP. By 2030 & generate 50% of employment which can help India soon become a \$5 trillion economy.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Q.2

Growth cannot be achieved without inclusion and only growth can ensure real inclusion. Discuss. Highlight the steps taken by the government, in recent times, to promote inclusive development in the country. (150 words, 10 marks)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Growth refers to the increase in production levels of an economy.

(Eg) GDP is a measure of growth.

Inclusion refers to equitable and sustainable growth.

RELATIONSHIP of GROWTH AND INCLUSION



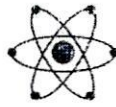
1) Eco growth will provide more fiscal resources to work for the poor.

(Eg) Govt. policies for poor.

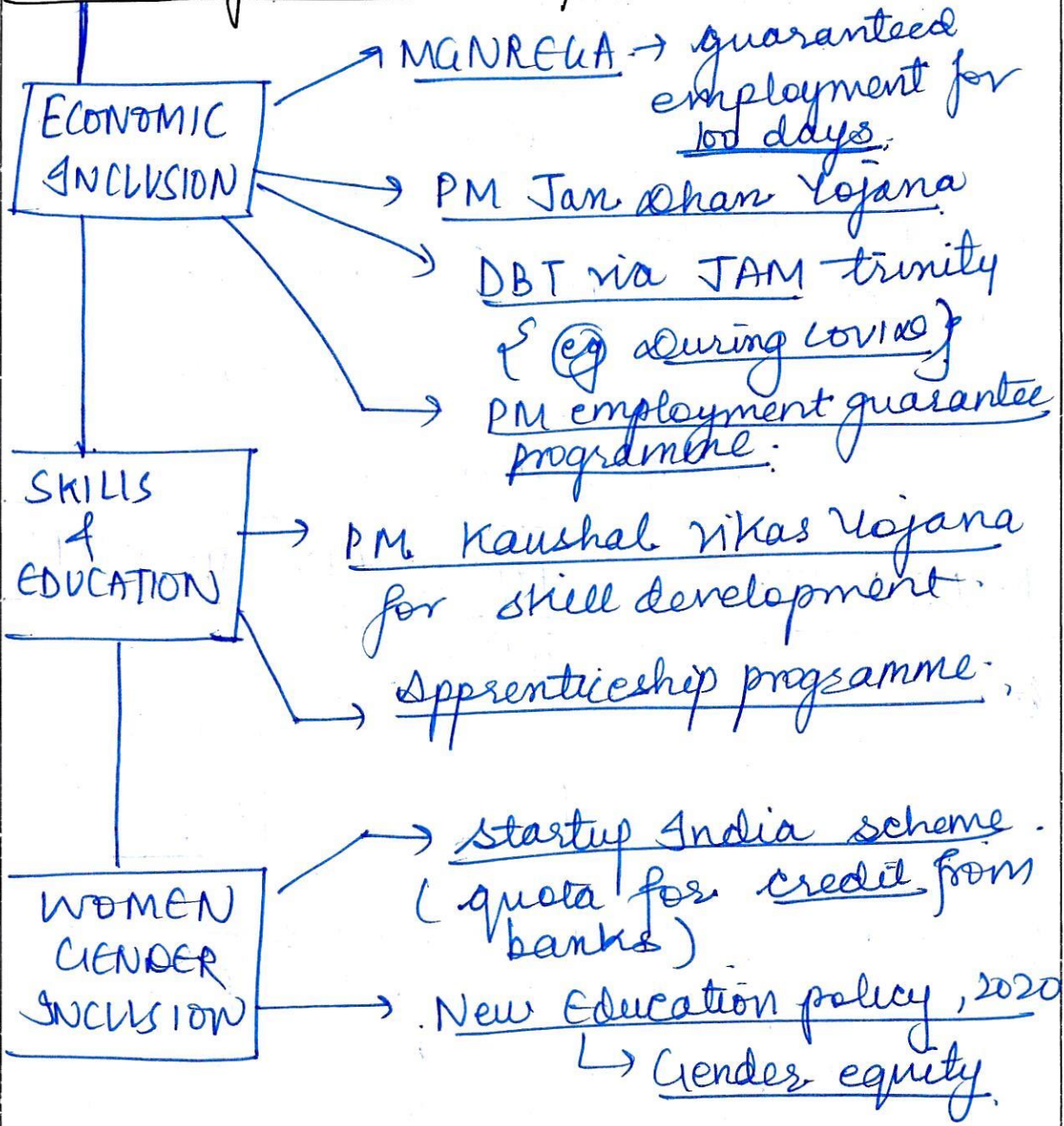
2) Increased govt. revenue will help in more capital investments on health & education promoting inclusion.

3) Inclusion of sections like women can further improve growth.

(Eg) ILO Report → women in workforce can increase India's GDP by 27%.

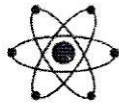


STEPS By GOVERNMENT for INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT



उम्मीदवारी को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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~~and~~ Economic growth can help India become a superpower. or a \$ 5 trillion economy, but only inclusive growth can help sustain it.



Q.3

Indian Railway needs high speed trains but before that it needs structural overhauling with focus on decongestion of tracks, last mile connectivity and sustainability of passenger services. Examine. (150 words, 10 marks)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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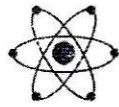
The recent Balasore (Odisha) train accident took 485 lives and over 1000 injured. It raises serious questions over need for Indian railways.

NEED of high speed trains

- 1) Promoting faster travel.
- 2) Less accidents { almost 0 fatality } (world report)
- 3) More affordable for people.
- 4) can carry more passenger traffic.
{ double of normal railway }

However, ISSUES :-

1. Rail accidents :- NCRB data : 1.6 lakh people have lost their lives in rail accidents in past 10 years.
2. Poor Infrastructure → poor hygiene & catering services.
3. Cross-subsidisation of freight fee
4. Lack of technology for transparency & efficiency.



STRUCTURAL OVERHAULING.

1. Kakodhare Committee

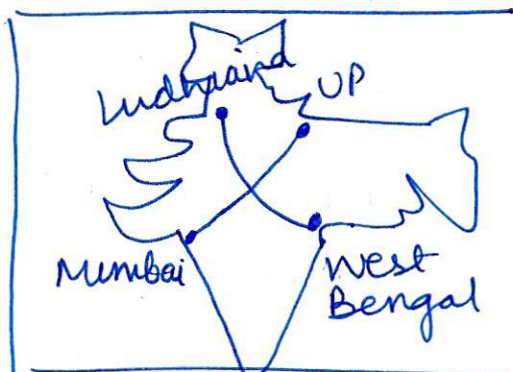
- 1.1) formation of statutory railway authority.
- 1.2) Efficient audit system.
- 1.3) Gradual PPR introduction for last mile connectivity.

2. Bibek Debroy Committee

- 2.1) classification of passenger & cross-subsidisation fare → sustainability of passenger services.
- 2.2) Promote Electronic Ticket Machinery (ETM) and Automatic Train system (ATM)

3. Improve more rail lines by decongesting & upgrading existing corridors

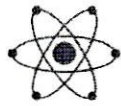
Thus, Indian railway is the "lifeline" of our nation for its growth & prosperity.



Dedicated freight corridor

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्गिष में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Q.4

Digitization can transform small and medium businesses into unstoppable forces in the Indian economy. In this context discuss how ONDC can be a game-changer in India. (150 words, 10 marks)

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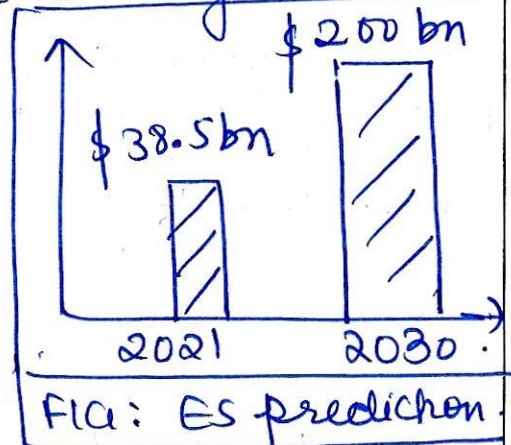
India has the 2nd highest base of Internet users and shoppers after China. Thus, digitization of small & medium business can usher in growth of Indian economy in following ways:-

DIGITIZATION & S&M BUSINESSES.

① E-commerce has the potential to grow at CAGR = 27.2% which should be tapped.

② Economic growth due to digital small & medium businesses

③ It can boost India's exports (750% of existing)



④ Inclusive growth as small & medium businesses → transparency and accountability.



OPEN NETWORK for DIGITAL COMMERCE (ONDC)

ONDC is a ~~not~~ private, non-profit Sec 8 company formed by DPIIT (Min. of Commerce) to achieve :-

1. Transparency in e-commerce
2. Reduce monopoly for small businesses
3. Increase choice & independence for consumers.

उम्मीद वारी को इस हाथ में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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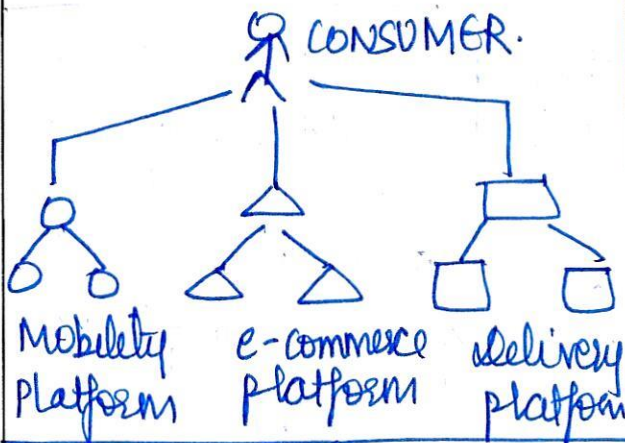


FIG: Existing Model.

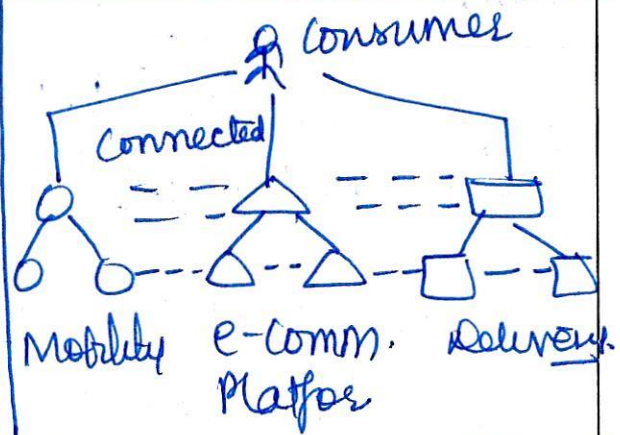
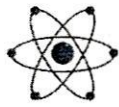


FIG: ONDC.

Thus, ONDC can promote transparency and reduce monopoly & cartelization at all stages of seller processing, vendor addition, price discovery and thus, product purchasing.



Q.6

The new National Logistics policy is a comprehensive effort for integrated development of the logistics ecosystem to ensure seamless movement of goods and enhancing the competitiveness of the industry. Analyse. (150 words, 10 marks)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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In the Logistics performance Index (LPI) of World Bank, India is ranked 44th out of 160 countries

Logistics Issues

① Logistics time taken for movement of goods is 4-5 days in India while its 1-2 day for USA.

② Logistics cost to GDP is high

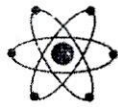
INDIA	14-15%	FIA: GDP on Logistics.
CHINA USA	8-9%	

③ Lack of infrastructure

④ Technological gaps

NATIONAL LOGISTICS POLICY, 2022

① Integrated digital logistics system for promoting efficient movement of goods.



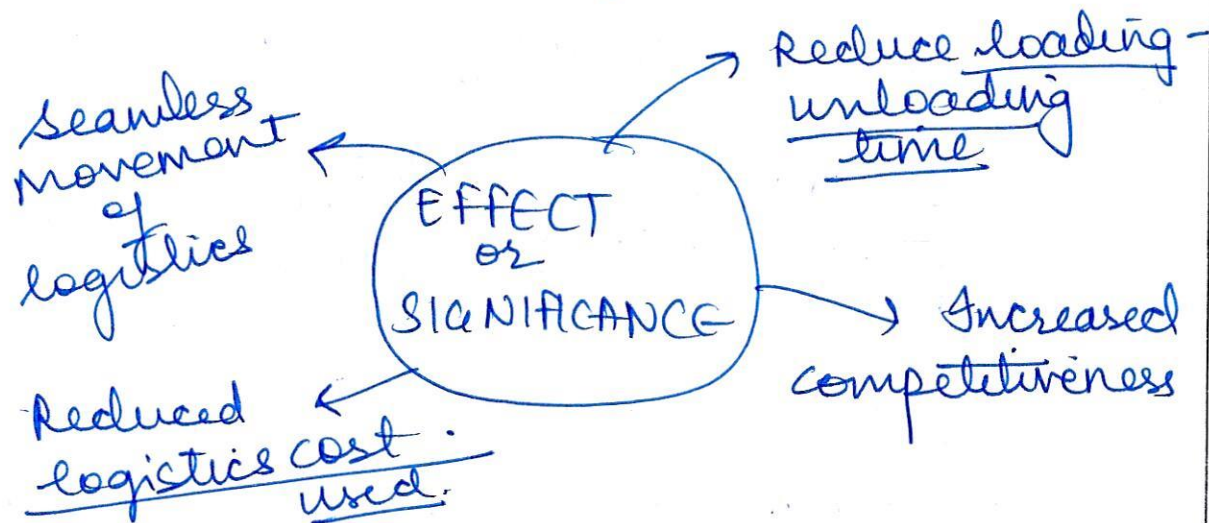
② Benchmarking of service quality standards for quality improvement.

③ Development and capacity building of logistics human resource.

④ EXIM logistics (Export-Import) logistics efficiency promotion.

⑤ Development of logistics parks.

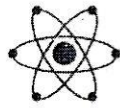
⑥ Engagement with states → for decentralised logistics.



Thus, Niti Aayog's Index like logistics performance Index for states' efforts is a step in right direction.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Q.5

The workforce in India is becoming increasingly male-dominated. What are the factors driving this trend? How can we achieve a more gender equal workforce in India? (150 words, 10 marks)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Acc. to PLFS-5, the LFPR (Labour force participation rate) for men is 66% while it is 28% for women.

FACTORS behind male-dominated workforce

① Division of labour :- Men generally work outside and women do the household chores.

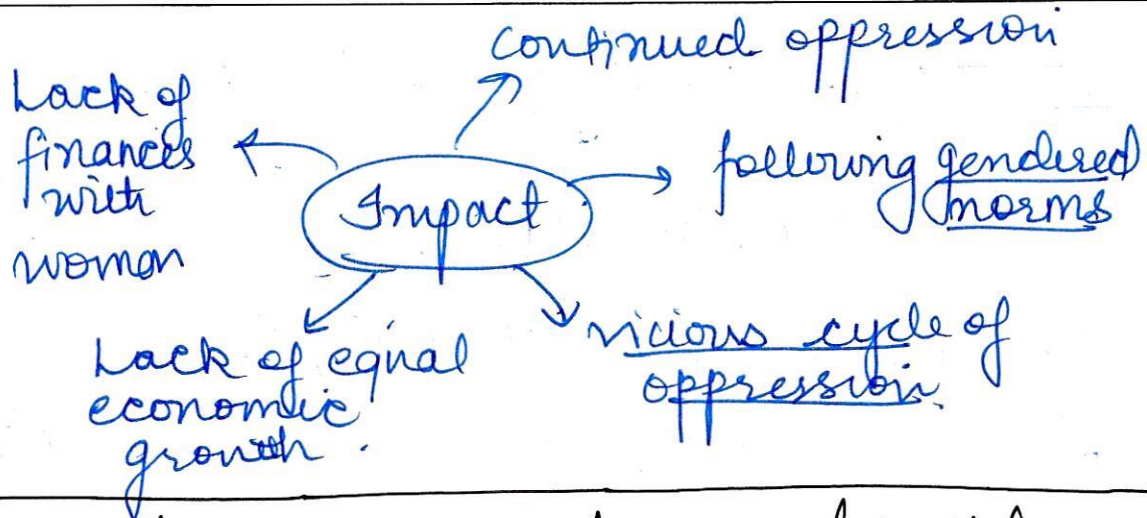
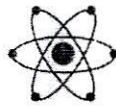
② Increased household income has direct relationship with low women participation in work outside.

③ Patriarchy promotes gendered work for men & women.

④ More women engaging in higher education = low LFPR.

{ LFPR (urban areas) < LFPR (Rural areas) }

⑤ lack of safety, security discourages women from working.



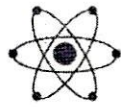
उम्मीद वारीं को
इस हाशिए में
नहीं लिखना
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Towards a More gender equal workforce

- ① Change societal attitudes → Awareness
- ② Provide social security benefits like Maternity benefit leaves.
- ③ Safe work environment → Internal Complaints committee (ICC).
- ④ Equal pay for equal work should be ensured - { Art 39(d) of DPSP }.
- ⑤ Promoting Education & skill development of women { NEP 2020 }.

Acc- to ILO, if women's LFR comes at equal with men, India's GDP can increase by 27%.



Q.7

"With wrong farming methods, we turn fertile land into desert. Unless we go back to organic farming and save the soil, there is no future." In this context, explain the importance of organic farming for India in the coming future.

(150 words, 10 marks)

उम्मीदवासे को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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According to IMO, 27% of India's land is getting converting into deserts due to wrong farming methods.

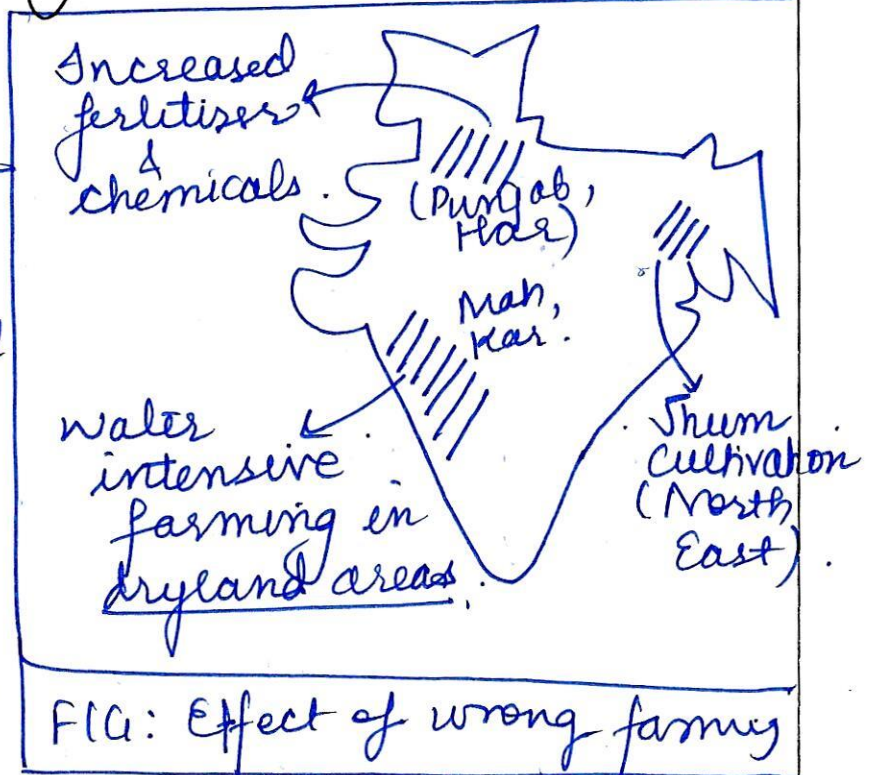
Wrong farming Methods.

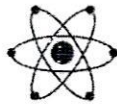
① Soil Degradation and Soil Erosion
↳ 1mm top soil layer gets eroded every year.

② Increased Fertiliser use
↓
Acidic soil

③ Crop burning → lose soil fertility

④ Increased irrigation in dryland areas
↳ soil salinity.

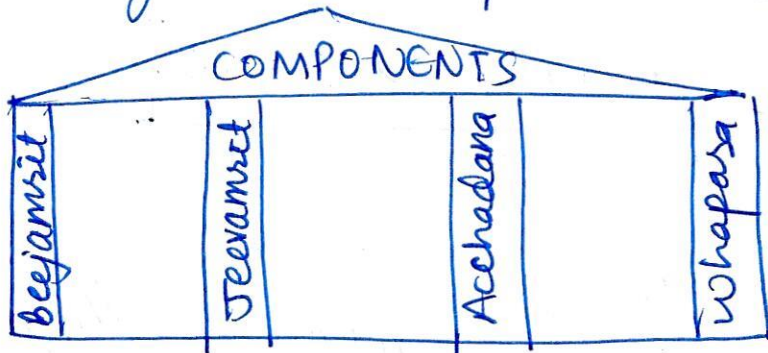




IMPORTANCE of ORGANIC FARMING

① use of natural resources and reduced use of chemicals in the farming method.

② It includes components of zero budget Natural farming & thereby use natural processes for seed production, etc



③ It advocates reduced tillage, thereby less environmental emissions.

④ It maintains soil health by reducing chemical fertilizers.

Thus, organic farming is the way towards sustainable

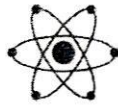
and climate resilient agriculture

(SDG 13)

INDIA - Max. number of organic farmers in the world

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Q.8

There is a need for improving productivity of small and marginal farmers through development and implementation of technologies to achieve growth in farmers income and agricultural sustainability. Comment. (150 words, 10 marks)

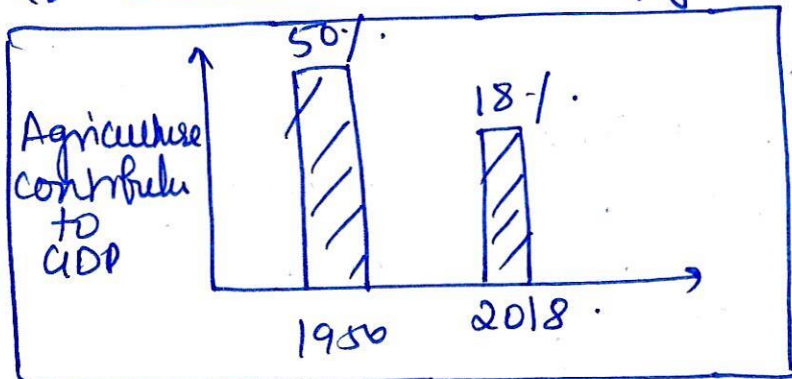
उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Acc. to Agriculture Census, 78% of India's farmers are under small farmer's category (> 2 hectares landholding).

EXISTING PRODUCTIVITY

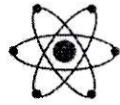
- Low yields. due to land fragmentation.
Average = 1.08 ha.
- Outdated technology = stagnant output.



- Low farmer income: Average farming household income = Rs. 8945 / month.

Use of technology to improve

- Soil Assessment & Mapping can help improve productivity.
- Use of balanced fertilizers on basis



of scientific assessment.
{ N:P:K → Present }
{ 4:2:1 8:3.2:2 }

3.) Promote farm mechanization

{ MP → 50% subsidy → improve household incomes }
(Madhya Pradesh)

4.) Scientific seeds usage → improve yield.

5.) Technology at harvest stage
{ cold storage, transportation }

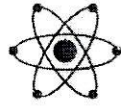
Cont. Steps

- 1) Soil health cards for scientific technology based assessment.
- 2) use of AIS and drones in sprinkling fertilizers
- 3) Precision farming and agro-forestry.

The farmers of Green revolution belt have reaped benefits of investing in technology in agriculture. Now, it should be promoted to all over India.

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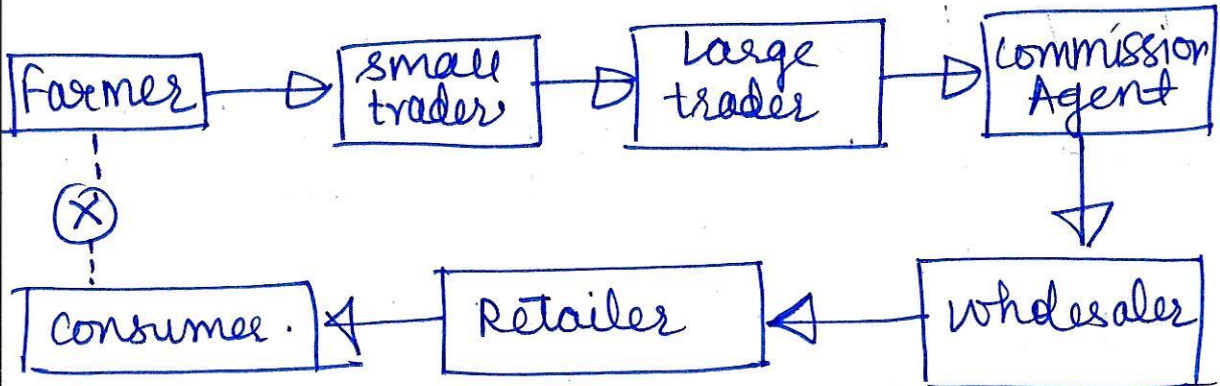


Q.9 Analyse the problems faced by agricultural marketing in India and suggest remedial measures to overcome these challenges. (150 words, 10 marks)

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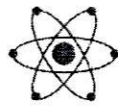
Agricultural Marketing is the most important step when the agr. produce comes to market and farmer's derive their income from it.



steps in Agriculture Marketing Chain.

PROBLEMS

- ① Lack of income to farmers :- Acc. to NSSO survey :- farmers get 15-30% of what is paid by consumers.
- ② Increased numbers of intermediaries
↳ Cartelization.
- ③ Low number of Agricultural produce marketing committees.



At present = 1 APMC / 482 sq km.
Rangrajan Committee = 1/5 sq km.

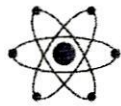
shortage of 42,000 APMC.

④ lack of direct farmer to consumer contact.

MEASURES.

- ① Model Agricultural produce & Marketing Act, 2002.
- ② National Agriculture and livestock marketing Act.
- ③ e-NAM → unified market for farmers pan India.
- ④ PM KISAN SAMPADANA → for Mega food parks.
- ⑤ Promotion of FPO (Farmer producer organisations) → Niti Aayog → 1,000 more.

Agricultural marketing should be made more transparent for inclusive agriculture.



Q.10

For the first time, more than half of India's cultivated land now has access to assured irrigation. What steps taken by the government has led to this accomplishment and how it will benefit agriculture in India? (150 words, 10 marks)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Acc. to _____ data,
India has 56% of its cultivated land under assured irrigation in (2021-22) as compared to 42% in 2016;

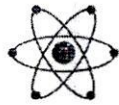
Tube well (60%)	>	canal (30%)	>	Sprinkler Drip.
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Benefits of Irrigation

1. Increased farm productivity and yield.
2. Increased agricultural income.
3. Reduces farmer's dependence on monsoon.
4. Reduce farmer's suicide. (Eg) (Vidharbha region)

Steps by Govt.

- ① PM Krishi sinchai Yojana for promoting sustainable irrigation.



- ② Per drop more crop component.
- ③ Rainwater harvesting → "Catch the rain water when it falls where it falls".
- ④ Har Khet ko paani.
- ⑤ Power subsidy for using tubewell irrigation.

However challenges.

1. Over-irrigation → soil depletion
& soil acidification.

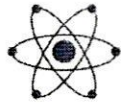
{ eg Punjab, Haryana }

2. Regional disparity → Rajasthan, Maharashtra.

Thus, steps need to be taken to promote ~~no~~ equitable irrigation to all → can increase crop yield by 10-15% - (NSO data)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Q.11 To what extent does persistent inflation pose a significant challenge to India's economic growth? Evaluate the effectiveness of monetary and fiscal policies employed by the Indian government in controlling inflation. (250 words, 15 marks)

उम्मीदवारी को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Inflation refers to the general rise in prices of commodities.

$$\text{Inflation} \propto \frac{1}{\text{purchasing power}}$$

Challenge to economic growth.

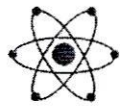
① make things costlier, and therefore does exclusion

(Eg) food inflation → poor can't purchase.

② Reduces purchasing power → same quantity of product comes in more money.

③ Decreased investment as uncertainty posed by inflation.

④ Reduced foreign exchange. due to inflation.



- ⑤ Boosts imports viz-a-viz exports.
- ⑥ Restabilise macro-economic stability
↳ can cause bank-run type situation.

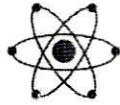
EFFECTIVENESS of MONETARY POLICY

Employed by RBI to achieve 4±2% inflation targets

- ① **CRR** :- (Cash reserve ratio) :- RBI increase CRR to reduce money supply in market. (CRR = 4%)
- ② **OMO** (open Market operations)
RBI ∇ sells govt. securities to absorb excess liquidity in market & thereby, reduces inflation
- ③ **SLR** (Statutory liquidity ratio)
$$\boxed{\text{SLR} \propto \frac{1}{\text{Money supply}}}$$
 (SLR = 18%)
- ④ **Bank rate increase** → costly loan
↳ less inflation

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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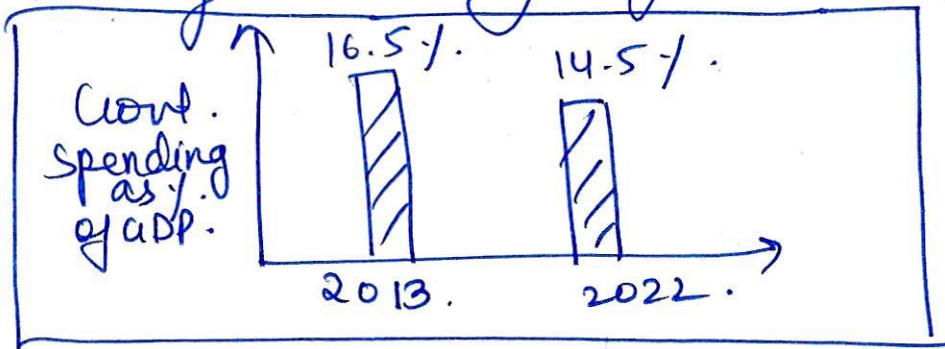


FISCAL POLICY → employed by govt. to influence demand & supply of money in market

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

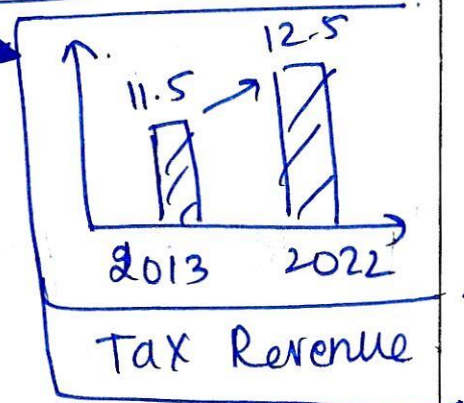
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① Decreased capital expenditure to reduce money supply in market & thereby, reducing inflation

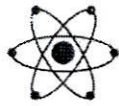


② Tax revenue increased to curb money with public

③ Increased savings in public by giving incentives



Thus, above measures help India achieve its inflation target from 9.5% (2013) to 6.7% (2022 June). More steps to achieve (4 ± 2%)



Q.12

"All renewable energy sources are not green energy sources". Examine the negative impacts of unguided quest for renewable energy and suggest measures for sustainable energy management practice in India. (250 words, 15 marks)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Renewable energy sources refers to those sources which can be replenished.

Green energy sources are those which donot create negative environmental impact.

<u>WOOD</u> Renewable source as we can grow <u>trees</u>	But Not a <u>Green source</u> as it creates <u>emissions</u> .
---	--

NEGATIVE impact of unguided quest for Renewable energy

① SOLAR ENERGY

1.1. The solar photovoltaic modules need rare earth metals in its formation
→ Mining → Environment pollution

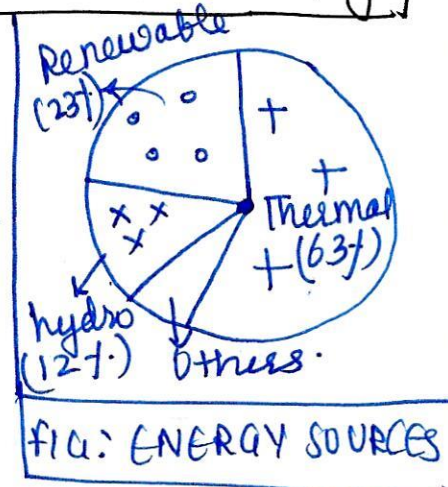
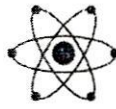


FIG: ENERGY SOURCES



12. Manufacturing of photovoltaic nodules sometimes cause leakages into environment → soil pollution.

② WIND ENERGY

- 2.1. Large blades of wind plants → chop-off birds
- 2.2. Impacts biodiversity due to displacement.

③ HYDRO ENERGY

3.1. Mega hydro-projects distort the geology of that region & cause land-use change.

(eg) Ⓢ Jashimath land-subsidence

3.2. Can aggravate natural disasters like earthquakes, landslides.

3.3. Displacement due to mega plants

(eg) Narmada bachao Andolan.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हार्जिए में
नहीं लिखना
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4. Biogas plants.

4.1 leakage of bio-material \rightarrow can cause water contamination.

(eg) fluoride contamination

Measures for Sustainable Energy Management.

- 1.) Building small hydro projects over large hydro.
- 2.) do environmental impact assessment before renewable projects also.
- 3.) Promote more audits & transparency to prevent negative effects.
- 4.) Promote indigenisation of photo voltaic cells.
- 5.) Promote more renewable energy to achieve target of 50% renewable energy by 2030.

Renewable energy will help India achieve sustainably in power & net 0 by 2070 (COP27 commitments)

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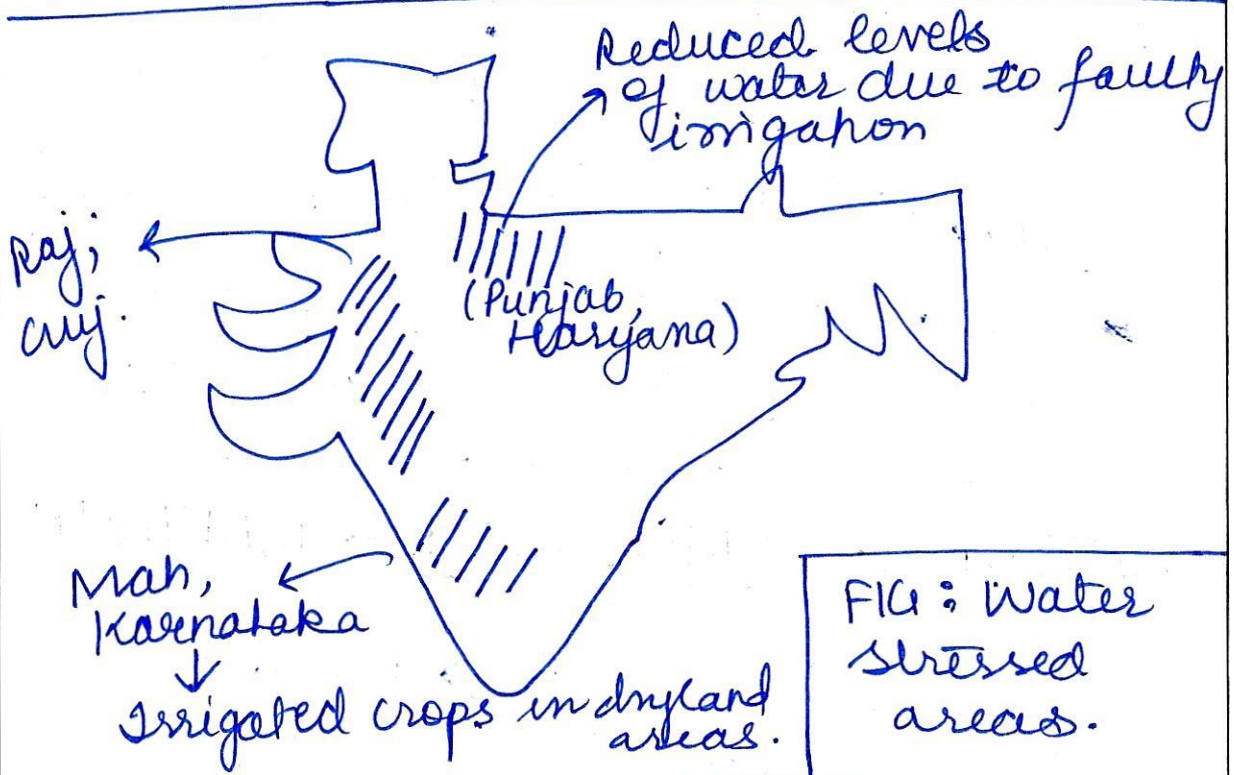
Q.13

"A large number of Indians face high to extreme water stress." In this regard, equitable water resources management can ensure an adequate amount of water availability for all. Explain. (250 words, 15 marks)

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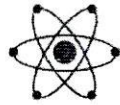
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Around 29% of India's area is under extreme water stress, as per IMO.



REASONS for EXTREME WATER STRESS

- ① Climate Change :- As per WMO, climate change will impact around 70% of India's districts.
- ② Discharge of pollutants in water



direct sewage effluents discharge
(eg) Yamuna froath formation.

③ Rampant Urbanization and Concretization → encroachment over river areas & banks.

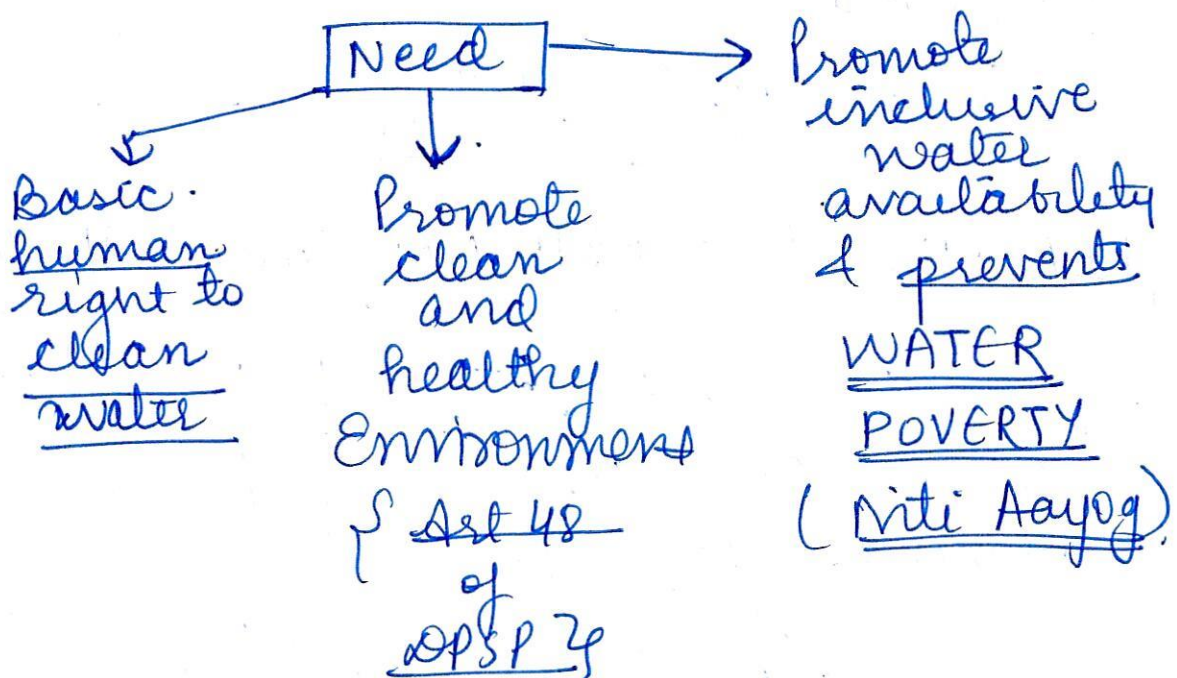
④ Wastage of water: due to lack of water bill → freely available.

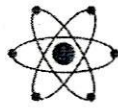
⑤ Unscientific cropping patterns.
→ Irrigation intensive crops in drylands like Maharashtra.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्मिंग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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EQUITABLE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT





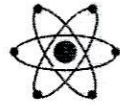
1. Strengthen multi-level governance for providing water to all.

2. Interlinking of rivers project needs to be improved (eg) Ken-Betwa link water to deficient regions of Bundelkhand & Baghelkhand.

3. Use of AI in water resource management → real-time monitoring of canals, automatic leak detection.

4. Effective implementation of plans like penalties on sewage discharging industries.

The govt. steps in form of Jal Jeevan Mission to provide water to all households will promote sustainable water resource affordability & accessibility.



Q.14

What are the effects of tourism on natural environment of the hilly regions in India? Analyze the factors driving this trend and suggest measures that can be implemented to promote sustainable tourism in these regions.

(250 words, 15 marks)

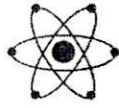
उम्मीदवारी को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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The recent Joshimath land subsidence is a classic example of unsustainable tourism & its repercussions.

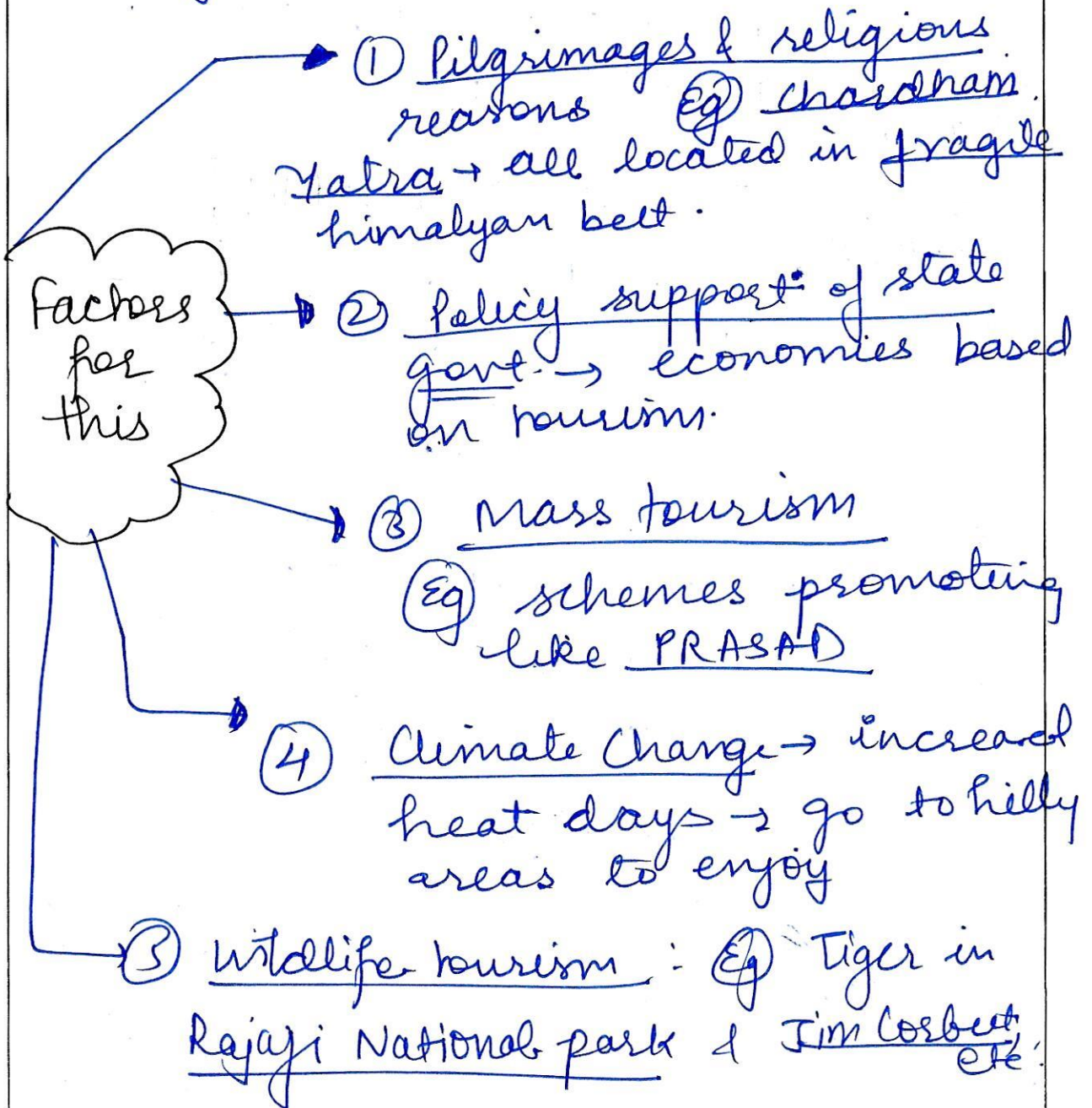
EFFECTS of TOURISM

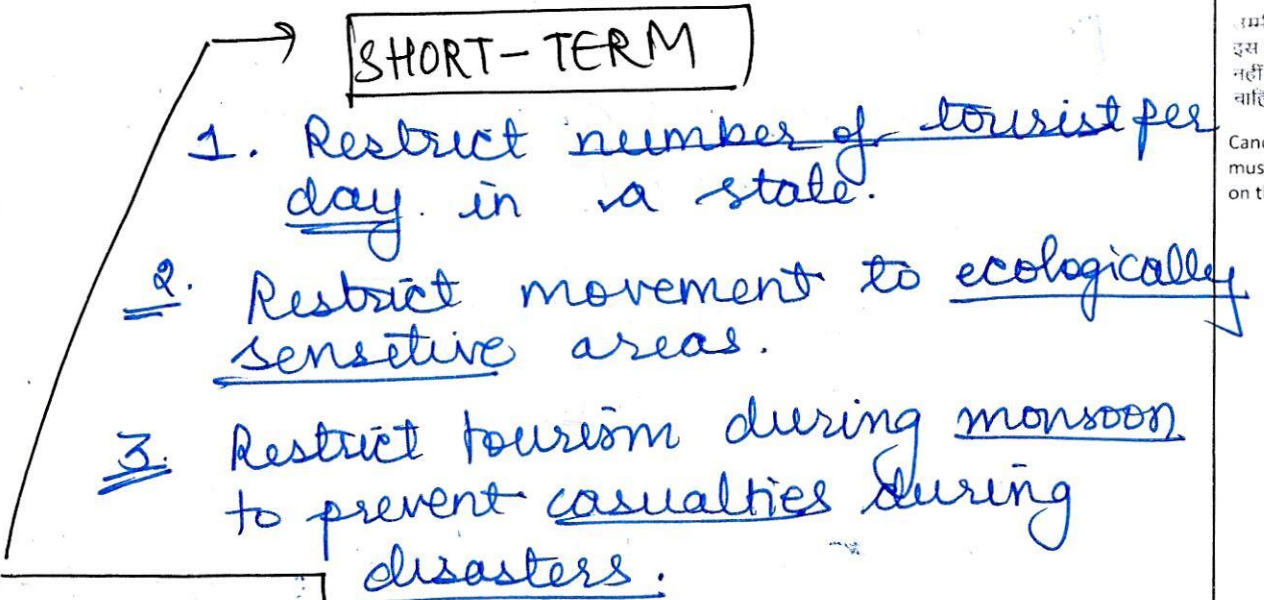
- ① Increased pollution in hilly areas are due to unsustainable tourism.
- ② Increased deforestation for the development for increased tourism-led economies of hilly states.
- ③ Impact on wildlife → Biodiversity destruction and increased man-Animal conflicts.
- ④ Increased pressure of local resources.



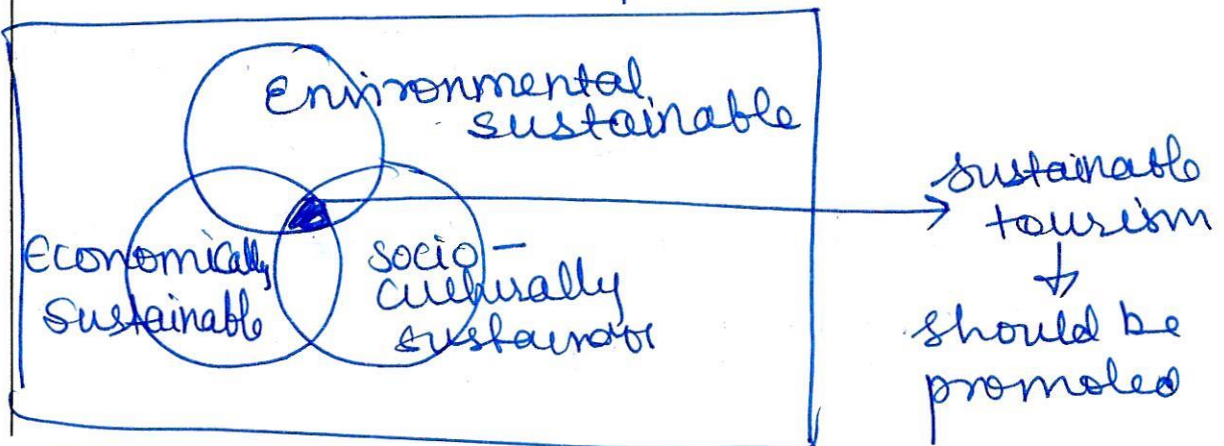
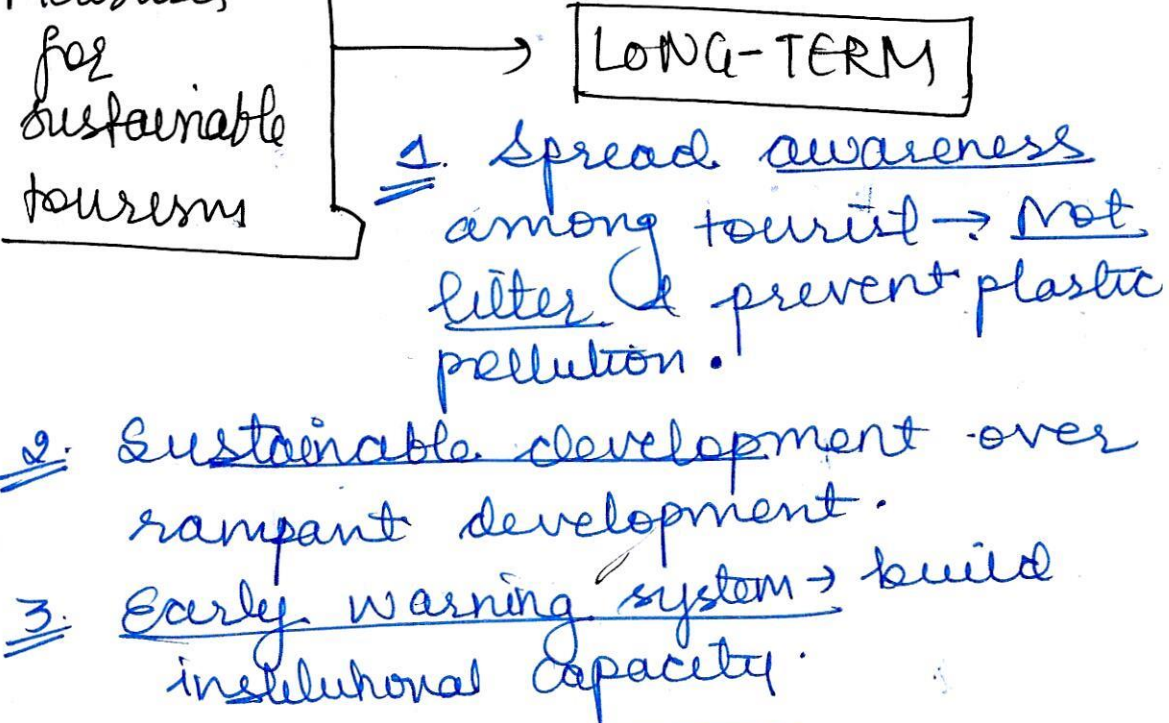
⑤ Aggravating natural disasters like earthquake and landslides, etc.
(Eg) Chamoli floods.

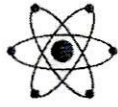
⑥ Changing land use pattern
(Eg) Jashmath.





Measures for sustainable tourism





Q.15

"Energy security is the single most crucial factor in sustaining India's growth rate." In context of this statement explain the challenges faced by India to become energy secure nation. Also suggest measures to tackle these challenges.

(250 words, 15 marks)

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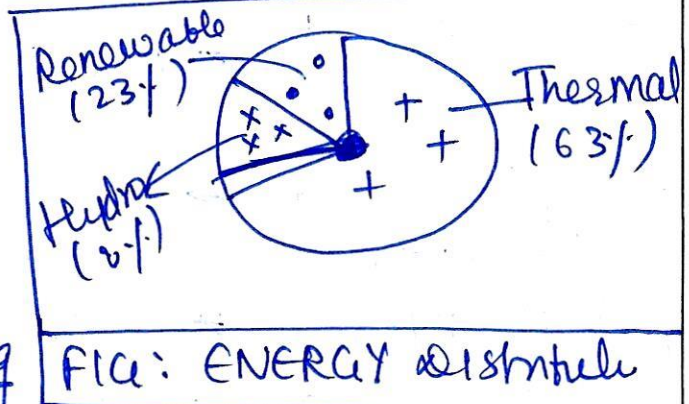
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"wheels of progress moves with the flow of energy"

ENERGY security for GROWTH RATE

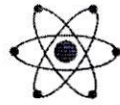
① unsustainable energy sources :- Thermal power plant \rightarrow (more than 63%) are renewable.

② boost to Agriculture and Manufacturing sectors \rightarrow need electricity.



③ Needed for making India a self sufficient nation. (increased import dependency)

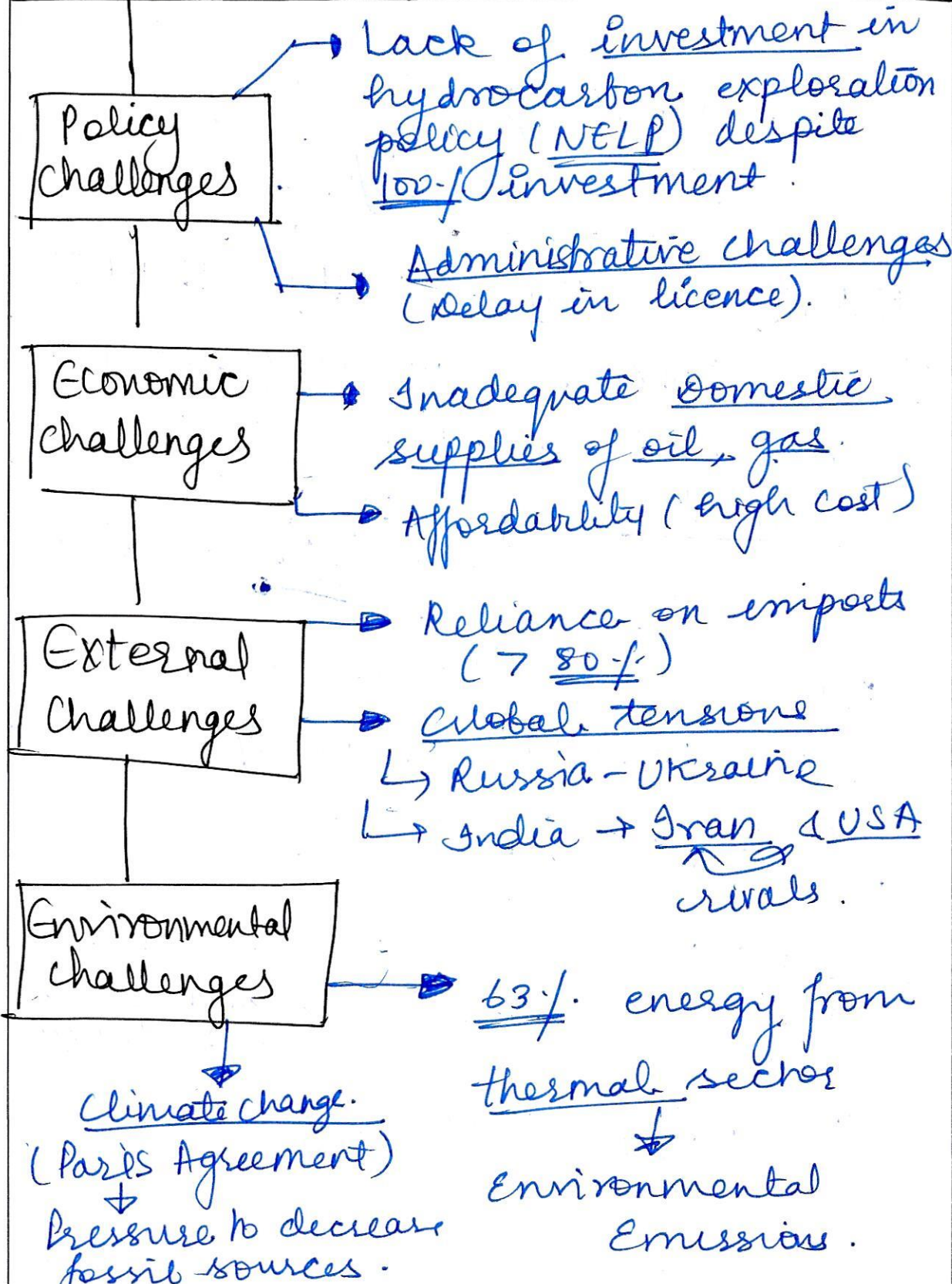
④ More import & costly processing.

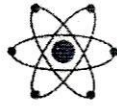


Challenges in becoming energy secure nation

उम्मीदवारी को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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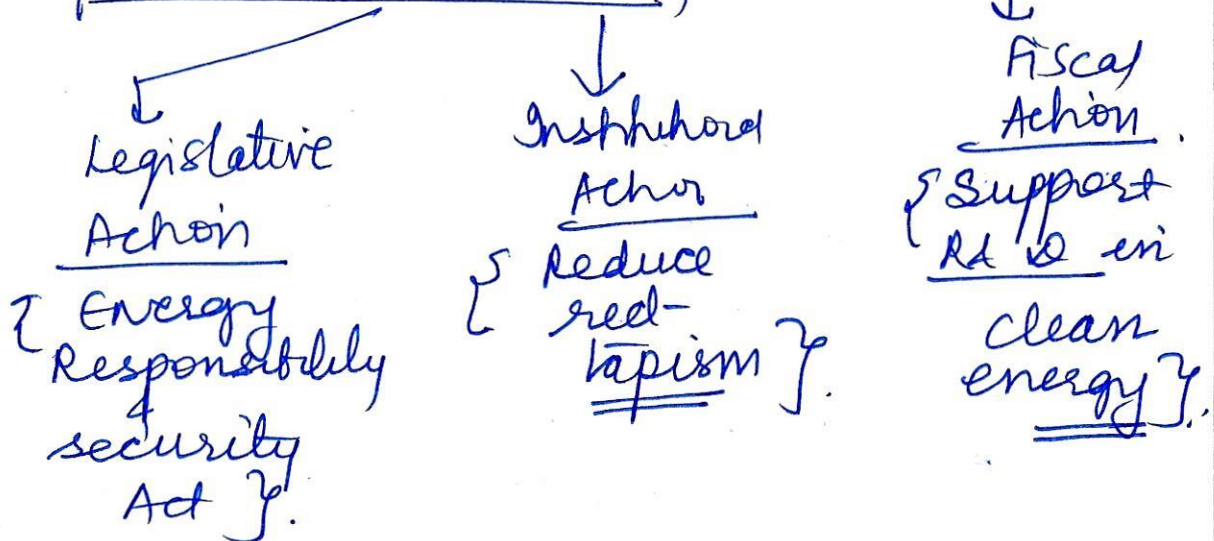




MEASURES

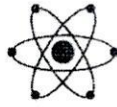
1. Diversify import sources - vs, Russia, Canada, etc.
2. Expand domestic energy resources
3. Increase renewable energy generation { from existing ^{23%} only }.
4. Tapping shale gas potential.
5. Building strategic reserves for energy.
6. Increase domestic coal production
7. Building infrastructure.

WAY FORWARD



उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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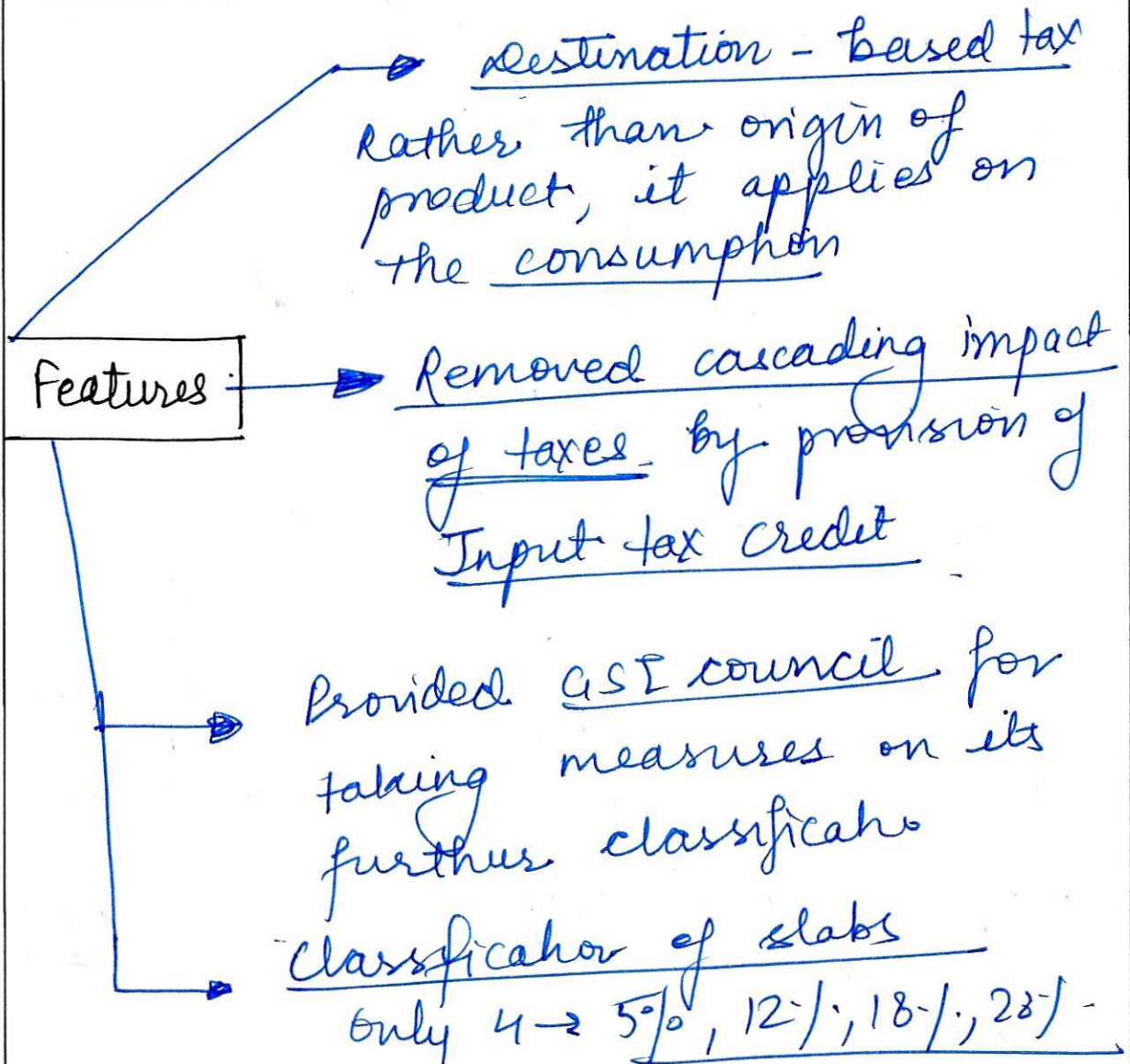
Q.16

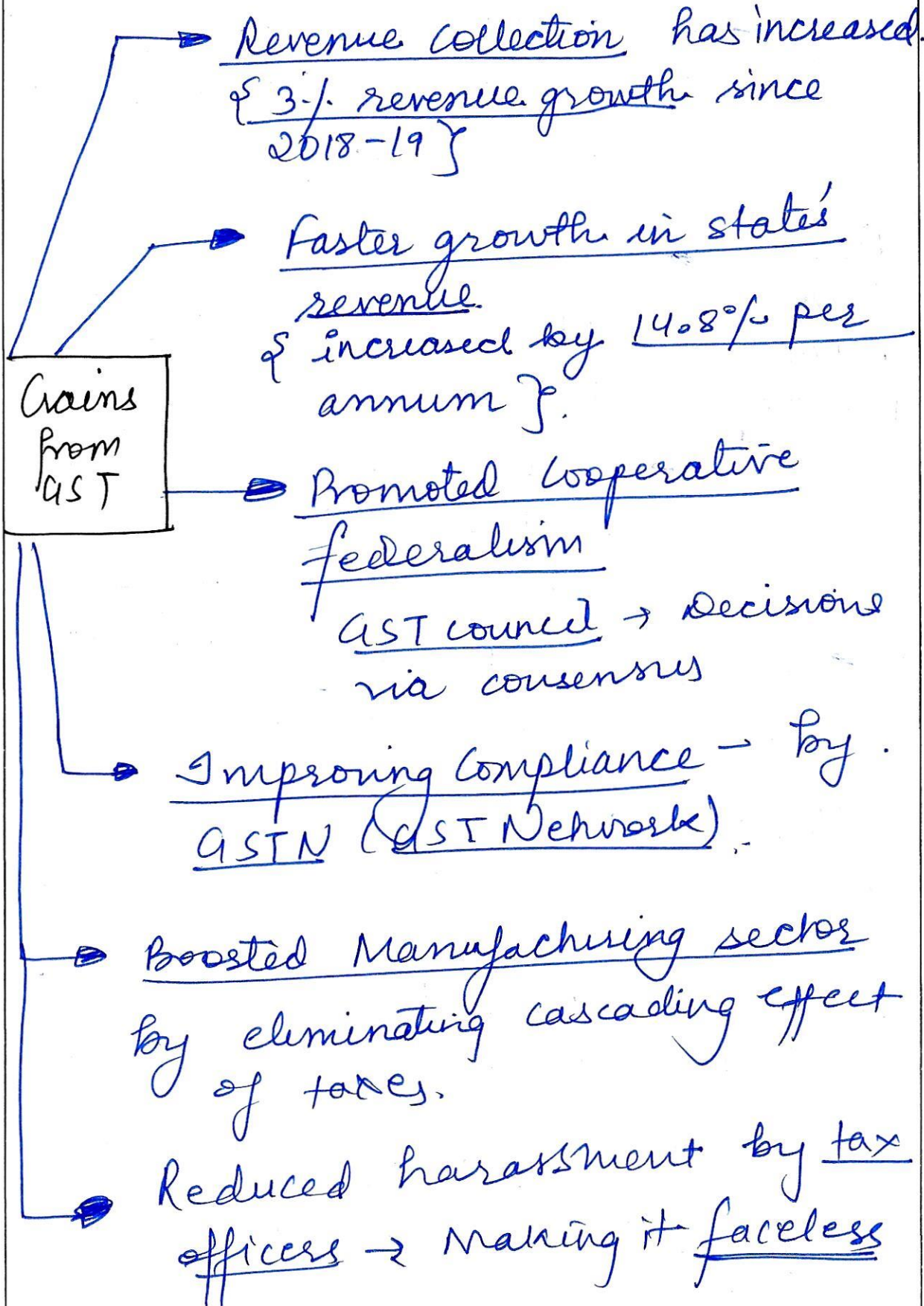
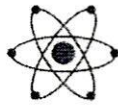
"Despite rise in revenues, GST is far from being perfect even after 6 years." Examine along with mentioning what India has gained through GST. (250 words, 15 marks)

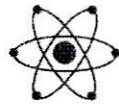
उम्मीदवारी को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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GST has completed 6 years in 2023. It was a historic step towards 'ONE NATION - ONE TAX'.







Cases of fake input voice taxes ₹ 32 cr. fraud done by 22 years old student in Gujarat.

Far from being perfect

→ still not having GST Appellate Tribunal in place.

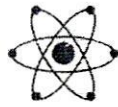
→ Compliance & administrative process is still difficult for small businesses

→ skewed GST payer base :- some states → more contribution.

WAY FORWARD

1. Include petroleum & turbine fuel under GST
2. Increasing compliance.
3. Improving GSTN Network.

The above steps will make GST a truly good and simple tax



- * CAA, 2023
- 1) Defn of combination = include transactions with a value above 2000 Cr.
- 2) Reduction in time limit for approval from 210 to 150d
- 3) Expansion of scope of Carotel to include 'Hub & Spoke'

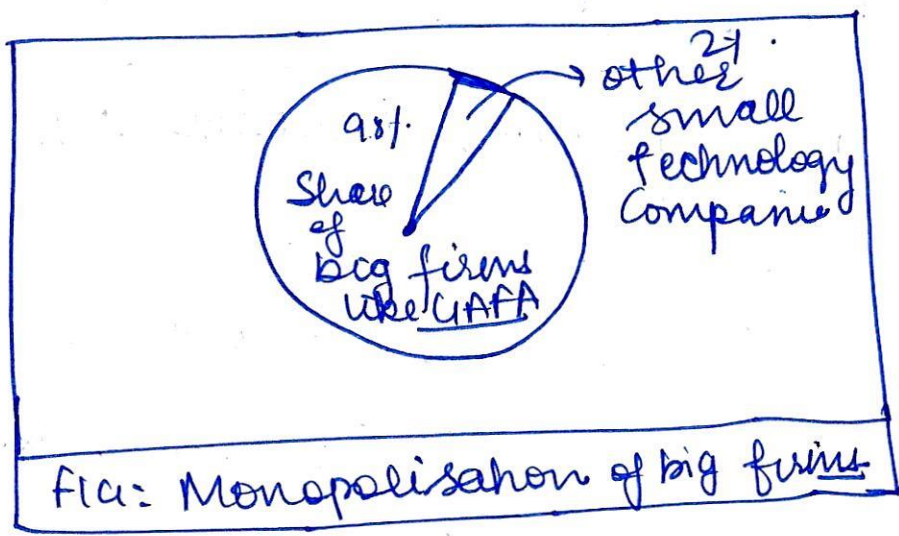
Q.17

Big technology firms like Apple and Meta are recently alleged to have engaged in anti-competitive practices. Do you think the new Competition Amendment Act 2023 is sufficient to tackle this problem? Also discuss the need for a new Digital Competition Law?

(250 words, 15 marks)

Anti-Competitive practices refers

to actions employed by companies to restrict or eliminate competition in the market.



Anti-Competitive Practices

- 1) Monopolisation and Abuse of Dominant position
- 2) Price fixing and collusion → Predatory pricing.

उम्मीदवासी को नही लिखना चाहिए

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4) Ltd. period of 3 years for filing information

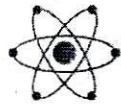
5) Increased penalty for false statements from 1 Cr to 5 Cr

6) Penalty for anti-competitive practices will be based on global turnover derived from all pds & services by such person or an enterprise

7) Decriminalisation of certain offences as nature of punishment changes from imposition of fines to penalties.

8) Power to CCI to initiate proceedings against enterprises on grounds of entering into anti-competitive agreements.

9) Appointment of Director General (DG) by CCI with prior approval of central govt. as against erstwhile power vested in CCI



③ Market division amongst themselves only.

④ Intellectual property Abuse like patents

⑤ Twitter sued Meta over unlawful use of twitter trade secrets.

⑤ FORCED MERGERS & acquisitions

New Competition Amendment Act, 2023

1. Deal value threshold → deal over ₹2000 Cr → need to inform.

2. Inform commission before execution of a competition.

3. Stringent measures against the cartelization and monopolisation.

4. Anti-competitive agreements to prevent cartels.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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• PSC on Finance report e "Anti-Competitive practices by Bigtech Companies" and urged for a digital Competition Act and code of conduct for tech companies.

Digital Competⁿ Act should:  **SMARTWORK LABS**

1) Define & identify a small HAS.ACADEMY systematically imp. digital intermediaries (SIBIs) / digital gatekeepers that can -vely influence competition.

2) Impose ex-ante competitive restraints on SIBIs in India to regulate competition in digital markets.

Issues

1. Didnot address industry-specific challenges.
2. Didnot have international law compliancy.
3. hinders ease of doing business.

3) Global harmonization of digital regulations to reduce the regulatory burden for companies & help Indian companies compete globally.

Need for New Digital Competition Law

4) Harmonize competition law with consumer protection Act 2020 & e-commerce rules under it.

1. To provide level-playing field to small companies.
2. Anti-competitive practices should be curbed.
3. Data privacy & protection.
4. Law in international harmonization.
5. Consumer protection → diverse choices

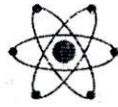
5) Mechanism to ensure fair competition compensation to consumers.

Thus, New digital competition law is needed for digital sovereignty and security.

6) Revamping CCI & strengthening it.

7) Prescribe a code of conduct with specific measures for SIBIs to prevent them from abusing their market power to stifle competition.

उम्मीदवारी को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Q.18

"Agriculture sector in India seems to be more dependent on subsidies, but subsidy-driven agriculture systems are not sustainable". Explain this statement and also discuss the need for rationalising these subsidies in India. (250 words, 15 marks)

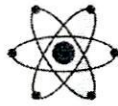
उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Farm subsidies constitute
2% of India's GDP (Agricultural census)

Dependence on subsidies

1. Poor farmers → need input subsidies
2. Direct & Indirect subsidies
(C&BT) → Irrigation subsidy.
→ Power subsidy.
3. To ensure food security in the country.
4. To adopt modern technologies and farm mechanization promotion.
5. Make Indian exports more competitive

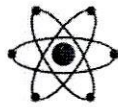


Unsustainability of subsidies.

- ① Financial Burden on state. (2013)
₹ ₹ :- subsidy increased from ₹ 1.4 l Cr
to ₹ 3.2 l Cr (2021-22)
→ fiscal deficit increased.
- ② Distorted use → over-use of power
subsidy → excess water-use.
- (Eg) over-use of fertilizer → N:P:K
Required Ratio → 4:2:1
Present → 8:3.6:2
- ③ Distorts markets. Both domestic
& International.
- ④ Not Internationally complaint
by WTO (Eg) Australia's complaint
Against Indian agricultural
subsidies.
- ⑤ Dependency syndrome in farmers.
→ prevents self-reliance.

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हाथिए में
नहीं लिखना
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Need for rationalizing these subsidies

1. Kelkar Committee

1.1. Convert subsidies into capital investments. and gradually phase them out.

1.2. decrease subsidy load to reduce budget deficit.

2. Environmental sustainability → Prevent over-use.

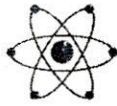
3. Macro-economic stability of the economy.

4. Better human resource generation on skill development of farmers.

Initiatives like DBT can be used to move from unsustainable subsidies to rationalised ones.

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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Q.19

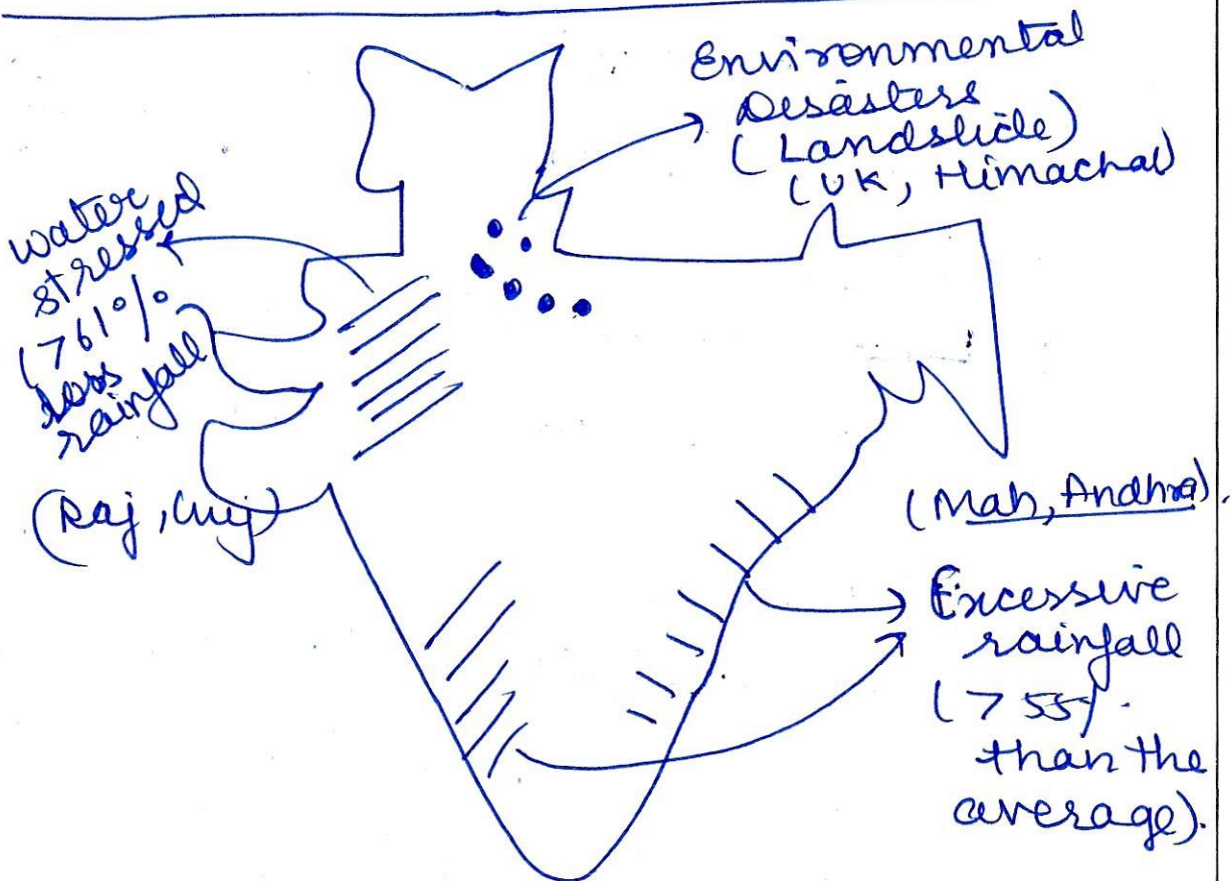
"What do you understand by climate-smart agriculture (CSA)? Do you think that this approach will mitigate the impact of climate change on agriculture while sustaining food production in the long run?" (250 words, 15 marks)

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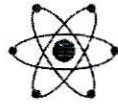
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Climate-smart agriculture (CSA)

refers to the agricultural practices which are in line with natural climatic patterns.



Ans: Effect of Climate change on agricult

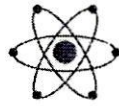


CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE

- ① Use of climate resilient seeds
(Eg) Millet production in dryland areas.
- ② Early preparedness and prevention
against climate shocks.
(Eg) IMD assessment ATLAS
- ③ Decreased agricultural emissions
to make the agriculture climatically sustainable.
(Eg) ~~But~~ Crop slashing by machine
instead of crop residue burning.
- ④ During excess rainfall, water
should be stored via rainwater
harvesting → used during water
scarce years (Eg) La-Nina times)

उम्मीदवारी को
इस हाशिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए

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STEPS to promote it

By Farmers

use inputs in proportional amounts & prevent over-use.
(eg) Using fertilisers judiciously

scientific farming on basis of real time data.
(eg) Soil health cards.

BY government

Enhanced use of GIS and drones like technology for precision farming

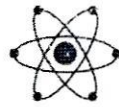
Prevent agriculture-distorting subsidies

Promote environmentally sustainable practices

The above steps will transform Indian agriculture into climate smart agriculture (SDG 13) & help India achieve its Nationally Determined Contributions & Paris Agreement.

उम्मीदवारी को इस हाथ में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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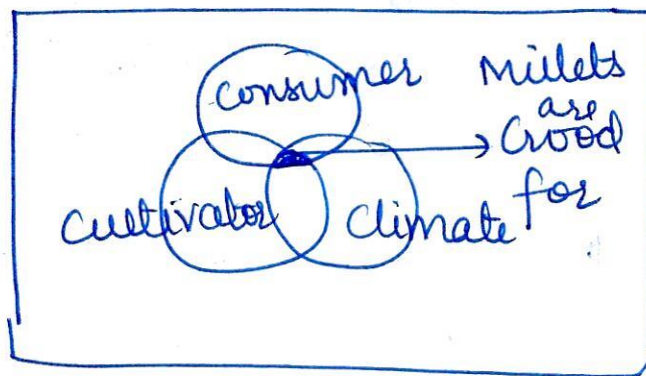
Q.20

Millets can provide the solution for India's water and food crisis. Do you agree? Also discuss how can we promote millets production in India to address the issue of distorted cropping pattern? (250 words, 15 marks)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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'Millets' are called the food of the new century for sustainability



How can it avert India's WATER CRISIS

- ① Need less water
(70% less water than other crops).
- ② Drought tolerance
is high
- ③ Efficiency in water
use is more.
- ④ Adaptable to
climate change.

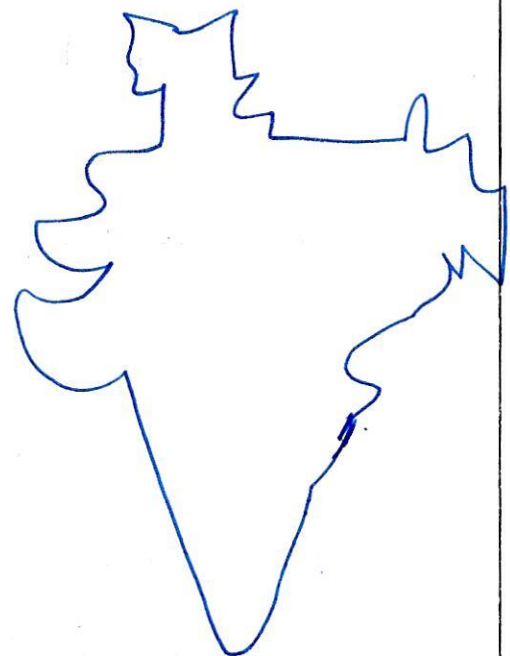
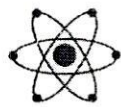


Fig: Millets in India



~~ENSURE~~ ✓ FOOD CRISIS.
AVERT

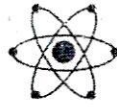
- ① Nutritional security → Rich in vitamin
protein.
(Eg) Promoted in Mid-day-Meals to
prevent malnourishment;
- ② Prevents obesity → gluten free, anti-
oxidants.
- ③ More yield and need less time to
grow (Eg) Less than half time as
wheat.

DISTORTED CROPPING PATTERN in INDIA.

- ① Rice-Wheat Monocropping. (Eg) Punjab,
Haryana.
- ② Water-Intensive crops in water-
scarce regions (Eg) Maharashtra
Marathwada
Sugarcane region
- ③ More focus on cash crops. over
nutritional crops. → hinders
food
security

उम्मीदवारों को
इस हाशिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए

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must not write
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- ④ Neglect of dryland agriculture - due to focus on irrigation agriculture.

How millets can be promoted

- ① Policy support by govt: (Eg) Odisha Millet Mission (OMM) → Increased nutrition at household levels & yields of farmers by promoting millets.
- ② Millet Mission and declared Nutri cereals in 2013.
- ③ Generating awareness among consumers about its benefits.
- ④ Promote value-added millet products and their export using APEDA.
- ⑤ Include millets as compulsory under NFSA to improve nutritional security.

UN has declared 2023 as 'international year for millets' and above steps will boost its production.

उम्मीदवारों का इस हार्शिंग में नहीं लिखना चाहिए

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