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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 843)

Name of Candidate	VARNIT NEGI		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	21647
Center	ORN	Date	08/11/16

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
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12	12.5	
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14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
- There are TWENTY questions printed in HINDI and ENGLISH.
इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं तथा हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।
- All questions are compulsory.
सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
- Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
- Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

All the questions are compulsory and carry 12.5 marks each.

1. Discuss the need for adhering to the road map for fiscal consolidation by fixing the fiscal deficit. Has the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003 served the purpose for which it was envisaged?

राजकोषीय घाटा के निर्धारण के माध्यम से राजकोषीय समेकन (कंमोलिडेशन) के लिए एक रोड मैप का पालन करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। क्या राजकोषीय उत्तरदायित्व एवं बजट प्रबंधन (एफ.आर.बी.एम) अधिनियम, 2003 ने अपनी परिकल्पना के उद्देश्य की पूर्ति की है?

India is a mixed economy where economic health of the country is monitored and regulated by the government but allows the free and liberal policies for the private sector.

Fiscal consolidation basically means to reduce budget deficit, mainly fiscal deficit and Revenue deficit.

Need for fiscal consolidation:

- 1> To maintaining good economic health.
- 2> To maintain a balance between welfare and development.
- 3> Contained CAD will ensure better ratings and higher investments.
- 4> To allow government to limit the illegitimate effects of succession.
- 5> To avoid crowding out of private sector.

FRBM Act 2003 partially failed to realize the goal of fiscal consolidation because—

- 1) Due to recession during 2007-2009 government was forced to foil the CAD aim. In order to boost investment government resorted to higher spending.
- 2) Repeated failure to attain the yearly FRBM targets.
- 3) Postponement of targets year after year to allow populist policies in the wake of election.

FRBM envisaged 3% fiscal deficit and 0% revenue deficit in 2009.

FD is at 2.9% even in 2016-17.

RD is also far from 0% today.

But, FRBM has been successful in reducing the FD and RD from 6% and 3% in 2003 respectively.

2. Public investment in railways has a multiplier effect for the larger economy. Elaborate. What factors have held back the railways despite having a separate budget and considerable resources? In this context, enumerate the relevant recommendations of Bibek Debroy committee?

रेलवे में किए गए सार्वजनिक निवेश का, वृहद् अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए गुणक (मल्टीप्लायर) प्रभाव होता है। विस्तार पूर्वक बताईए। अलग बजट और यथेष्ट संसाधनों के बावजूद कौन से कारकों ने रेलवे को पीछे रखा है? इस संदर्भ में, बिबेक देब्रॉय समिति की प्रासंगिक अनुशंसाएं बताईए?

Multiplier effect of Railway investment—

- Railway serves all sectors — services, manufacturing, agriculture, construction etc.
- Any investment in railways would mean better and cheap and efficient communication logistics for other sectors too.
- Production cost will be reduced and hence consumers will also benefit.
- Improved production and economic activity will lead to better revenues of governments.

Factors that held back railways—

- Populist policies of political executive.
- Unsound economic decisions.
- Unjustified fares and new projects based on political agenda instead of economic rationale.

- Lethargy in administration.
- Trade Unionism
- Nepotism and widespread corruption.
- Subsidization of sub-urban railways and passenger freight.

Recommendation of Birek Debroy committee-

1. Merge Railway budget with the annual budget of government.
2. Reduce politicization of economic decisions
3. Independent Railway fair Regulatory authority to fix passenger and freight fares.
4. Privatization of some services of railways.
5. Involvement of private sector through PPP.

3. "There is a myth that small firms create the most jobs in an economy. The fact is that small firms that grow big create the jobs". In context of the Indian economy what are the factors that prevent firms that start small from growing bigger. What progress has India made in this respect and what other measures are required?

"ऐसा मिथक है कि किसी अर्थव्यवस्था में छोटी फर्मों सर्वाधिक रोजगार पैदा करती हैं। जबकि तथ्य यह है कि वही छोटी फर्म जो बड़ी फर्मों के रूप में विकसित होती हैं, रोजगार पैदा करती हैं। भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था के संदर्भ में, छोटी फर्मों को बड़ी फर्मों के रूप में विकसित होने से रोकने वाले कारक कौन-से हैं? इस संदर्भ में भारत ने क्या प्रगति की है और कौन-से अन्य उपाय आवश्यक हैं?"

India has 90% of labour workforce working in un-organized sectors. Majority of these are small firms with less than 10 employees.

Factors that prevent small firms from growing —

1) Government policies —

- Advantage of being in MSME sector
- Avoid giving facilities to employees
 - pension, EPF, health care, minimum wage
- Stringent labour laws.
- Tax benefit
- Low cost electricity etc

2) Economic reasons :

- Lack of resources — such as land for extension.
- Lack of ready credit.
- Lack of will at the part of owners.
- Lack of tax incentive.
- Lack of skilled labour and available cheap technology.

Progress made :

- ① Skill development — Skill India programme, standardization and industry sector specific training and certification.
- ② IPR and technology — New policy announced for affordable and incentivizing patent regime.
- ③ FDI reforms to boost investment.
- ④ MUDRA, SIDBI, NABARD to boost credit availability.
- ⑤ Funds — EDF, TADF, TDF, NIIIF etc. Stand-up and Start-up India.

4. Enumerate the reasons why problem of NPAs is more pronounced in the public sector banks as compared to the private sector. Discuss the implications of having high NPAs in an economy. Also list the measures which the government has taken in order to address them.

निजी क्षेत्र की तुलना में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंकों में एन.पी.ए. की समस्या अधिक गंभीर होने के कारण बताएं। किसी अर्थव्यवस्था में उच्च एन.पी.ए. के निहितार्थ पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस समस्या से निपटने हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाये गए कदमों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Reasons for pronounced NPA problem in public sector banks —

1) Effective control at the hands of political executive

- Appointment to board level
- Promotions at higher level
- RBI control over banks.
- Answerability to political bosses.
- Incentivization for allegiance

2) Attitude of pushing the problems on other court has led to non-acknowledgement of NPA problems

3) Short tenure of executive head — less incentivized to deliver

4) Populist and susignification of policies of banks

5) Stalled projects funded by them

Implication of NPA :

- 1) Bad balance sheet
- 2) Reduction in availability of credit.
- 3) Reduction in investment.
- 4) Bad credit ratings of economy
- 5) Non transfer of reduced interest rates to consumers.
- 6) All these can lead to sustained recession and lack of trust.

Measures taken by government -

- 1) Schemes such as S4A and 5:25 to boost investment and restructure stressed assets.
- 2) 100% FDI automatic route in Asset reconstruction companies. (ARCs)
- 3) Unlocking credit to banks.
- 5) Mission Indradhanush to tackle NPA
- 6) UDAY scheme to restructure DIBs loans.
- 7) Forcing banks to acknowledge the problem.

5. Mention the salient features of the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) proposed by the government to reinvigorate private investment in infrastructure sector. How is it an improvement over the EPC model?

अवसंरचना क्षेत्र में निजी निवेश को पुनर्जीवित करने हेतु सरकार द्वारा प्रस्तावित हाइब्रिड एन्युटी मॉडल (एच.ए.एम.) की मुख्य विशेषताओं का उल्लेख कीजिए। कैसे यह ई.पी.सी. मॉडल से बेहतर मुधार (इम्प्रूवमेंट) है?

Hybrid Annuity model (HAM) is an investment model under PPP. following are the features —

- 1) Government will invest upto 40% in the project.
- 2) Rest 60% to be financed by private sector.
- 3) After completion of project, it will be handed over to government.
- 4) Government will run the project and maintain it.
- 5) Government will pay fixed revenue or annuity to the private entity for next 10-15 years.

As compared to EPC model, HAM has following benefits —

- 1) In EPC government had no role to play in pre-commissioning.

While in HAM govt will fund 40%.

2) In EPC, delays were due to difficulty in clearances and land acquisition.

Since, government itself will invest 40% it will ensure speedy clearances.

3) Pre and post commissioning risk will be boread by government in HAM.

4) In HAM, private player is ensured fixed annuity irrespective of profitability of project.

5) HAM model is psychologically and economically sound for private players.

6. Even within the multilateral format of WTO the FTA route has served India well. Comment. How can India effectively deal with the challenges posed by the new mega regional agreements such as TPP?

यहां तक कि डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. के बहुपक्षीय प्रारूप (multilateral format) के अंतर्गत भी भारत को एफ.टी.ए. मार्ग (FTA route) का अच्छा साथ मिला है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। भारत टी.पी.पी. जैसे नये मेगा क्षेत्रीय समझौतों द्वारा प्रस्तुत चुनौतियों से किस प्रकार प्रभावी ढंग से निपट सकता है?

India is a member of WTO since inception. WTO although a multilateral organizational setup allows its members to have a FTA regime with other members.

India has FTA regimes with many countries of West and South Asia. These FTA although bilateral and regional have served heavily to Indian trade interests. Except for China, India enjoys healthy positive BOT with other countries. It has helped India grow at a high pace of 7% even during recessions.

India can deal with the new challenges posed by mega regional agreements such as TPP etc by following measures -

- 1) Make in India — to boost manufacturing and export. capital as well as finished goods.
- 2) Skill development — to supplement Make in India and digital India.
- 3) Become a regional player in South Asia.
- 4) Service the other economies in ITo
- 6) FTA with major players such as ASEAN, SAARC, US and EU.
- 7) RCEP can open door to TPP for Indo countries.
- 8) Better innovation and IPR regime
- 9) Defend and grow sectors such as — IT, Agriculture, BPO, Generic medicines.
- 10) Improved quality and standardization of exports.

7. Cashless economy is a global trend now. What are the challenges of achieving a cashless economy in the case of India? How can these challenges be overcome?

नकदीरहित (कैशलेस) अर्थव्यवस्था अब वैश्विक प्रवृत्ति बन गई है। भारत के प्रकरण में नकदीरहित अर्थव्यवस्था प्राप्त करने के समक्ष उत्पन्न होने वाली चुनौतियां क्या हैं? इन चुनौतियों का समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है?

Challenges in ~~the~~ cashless economy in India

1) Inadequate financial inclusion

- Lack of banking infrastructure in rural areas
- Lack of mobile and data penetration
- Lack of acceptance and awareness

2) Inadequate education — low literacy hampers operability of cashless economy

3) Technology

- Unreliable Internet infrastructure
- Link failures.
- Low penetration of wired internet.

4) Threats

- Inadequate cyber security.
- Black money circulation.
- Tax avoidance attitude of traders.

Suggestions to overcome these challenges—

- 1) Financial inclusion — Jan Dhan Yojna has to be sustained with adequate measures to enhance Banking infrastructure and ATM in rural areas.
- 2) Mobile and internet penetration — UPI can be an important tool for financial inclusion if 100% mobile and internet penetration is achieved.
- 3) Literacy will enhance acceptability.
- 4) Reliable and unhindered Internet.
- 5) Trust worthy cyber security
- 6) Change in attitude of people

8. Abysmal level of formally skilled workers in Indian economy, as indicated by the Labour Bureau Report 2014, is a cause of concern. What are the factors responsible for such a scenario? Also, examine the measures taken by the government in recent years to address the relevant concerns.

श्रम ब्यूरो रिपोर्ट 2014 द्वारा यथा इंगित, भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में औपचारिक रूप से कुशल श्रमिकों का अति निम्न (Abysmal) स्तर, चिंता का कारण है। ऐसे परिदृश्य के लिए उत्तरदायी कारक कौन-से हैं? साथ ही, प्रासंगिक चिंताओं को दूर करने हेतु हाल के वर्षों में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Technology has always changed the requirements of skills and those who fail to keep a pace with it lose jobs —

Factors responsible for abysmal level of skilled workers —

- 1) New technology developments render old skills redundant for employability
- 2) Growing workforce makes skills competitive
- 3) Old skills have become unremunerative.
- 4) Although skilled but uncertified leads to lower employability.
- 5) Changing demand and supply mechanism
- 6) Automation of assembly lines
- 7) Factory made goods better than hand made or cottage made thus lower value.

Measures taken by government—

1) Skill India

- Standardization — NSSF
- Industry involvement in all processes
- Ensure employability.
- Certification
- Targeted approach

2) MoU with UK for standardization of skill requirements — will ensure acceptance in GCC countries

3) Schemes of Apprenticeship such as USTAAD, SURYA MITRA.

~~Context:~~

5) Regular assessment and reform in the standards and syllabus of the skill development course to meet industry requirements.

6) Adequate monitoring of progress and concerns.

9. In the 10 years of its existence MGNREGA has won laurels as well as attracted criticism. Comment. What changes are required for the scheme to be relevant in the current scenario.

अपने अस्तित्व के 10 वर्षों में मनरेगा ने ख्याति अर्जन के साथ ही आलोचनाएं भी झेली है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। वर्तमान परिदृश्य में योजना को प्रासंगिक बनाने के लिए कौन से परिवर्तनों की आवश्यकता है?

MGNREGA was enacted into a law in 2005. with an aim to guarantee employment of 100 days to poor and bring them out of poverty. It also aimed to build worthy assets for rural development.

Benefits.

- 1) Ensured 100 day minimum wage to poor BPL families.
- 2) Reduced poverty substantially.
- 3) Cyclic migration in off season by tribal communities was reduced.
- 4) Tangible assets such as roads, farm ponds, deepening of ponds, nallas and other farm and water management activities.
- 5) Other benefits of schemes of NFSA PDS etc could be better implemented due to reduction in migration.
- 6) Ensured higher education enrollment and attendance due to reduction in migration.

Criticism :

- 1) Exclusion and inclusion errors while identifying beneficiaries
- 2) Delays in payments of wages led to erosion of trust and enrollment.
- 3) Assets made were not substantial and were destroyed in one monsoon season
- 4) 29.2% people still below poverty line
- 5) Promised minimum wages were not paid fully.
- 6) Wide spread leakage and corruption
- 7) Inadequate funds transferred and allocated by Centre.
- 8) Inadequate monitoring of projects.

10. Power sector reforms, crucial as they are, have remained elusive. Discuss the reasons for their failure. How far can the UDAY scheme address the issues concerning DISCOMS and improve the entire power sector value chain?

विजली क्षेत्र में सुधार अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण होने के बावजूद दुष्प्राप्य बने हुए हैं। इनकी विफलता के कारणों पर चर्चा कीजिए। उदय (UDAY) योजना डिस्कॉम (DISCOMS) से संबंधित समस्याओं को किस सीमा तक समाधान कर सकती है और समस्त विद्युत क्षेत्रक मूल्य श्रृंखला (power sector value chain) में कैसे सुधार ला सकती है?

Electricity is the life line of the Economy.
But power sector reforms have remained elusive because —

- 1) High Transmission and Distribution losses.
- 2) Politicization of administration and policies.
- 3) Inadequate private sector involvement.
- 4) Theft and stealing of power.
- 5) Unfair price fixing.
- 6) Lethargy and nepotism in officials.
- 7) 'One solution fits all' reform strategy.

UDAY scheme can address these problems by—

- 1) Debt ridden Discoms will have more money to invest in better and clean technology.
- 2) Reduce Transmission and Distribution losses (Presently 25%).

- 3) Will encourage private investment and involvement if discom business can be made profitable.
- 4) Allow banks to restore credit availability to the discoms.

But, resolving economical aspect of the Discom problem is one aspect only and other aspects such as political interference, non-payment of dues, theft and stealing, unfair fair fixation and subsidization ~~only~~ need to be addressed in totality to ensure overall reform in power sector value chain. PPP and private involvement has to be the key reform in Power Sector.

11. Market volatility and vulnerability to weather are the major issues facing Indian agriculture. Elaborate. In this regard, critically examine the importance of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana vis-a-vis earlier insurance schemes in addressing the problems of Indian agriculture.

बाजार की अस्थिरता और मौसम के प्रति सुभेद्यता (vulnerability to weather) भारतीय कृषि के समक्ष बड़ी समस्याएं हैं। वर्णन कीजिए। इस संबंध में भारतीय कृषि की समस्याओं का समाधान करने के संदर्भ में पूर्व की बीमा योजनाओं की तुलना में प्रधानमंत्री फसल बीमा योजना के महत्व का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

India is an agriculture economy with 17% of GDP and 57% employability agriculture serves the economy as a backbone. But, there are many impediments —

1) Market volatility — Prices of pulses, onions, potatoes have surged and reduced and thus, farmers are moving towards rice and wheat to be safe from market fluctuations.

2) Weather — 80% of agricultural activity is rainfed and depends on monsoons for rain. Thus, El-Nino and allied change in monsoon pattern destroys the agricultural activity. Last 2 years, India saw a sustained dry period with deficit rainfall in monsoon seasons.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna :

- 1) Uniformity in premium — 1.5% Kharif and 2% for Rabi and 5% for Horticulture. This will ensure better coverage.
- 2) Seasonal variations — hailstorms and cloudburst also covered in insurance.
- 3) Post harvest activities are also covered in the new scheme.
- 4) Farm-level monitoring to ensure better benefit delivery.
- 5) Technology aided delivery of services will ensure free and fair benefits and also check corruption.

But, it has following limitations —

- 1) Majority of cultivators are tenants without adequate documentation and thus out of the purview of PMFBY.
- 2) Animal and other sources of farm destruction are not adequately covered.
- 3) Coverage and awareness is still a retardant.
- 4) Administrative reasons have not been addressed.

12. The Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) is a step forward from the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). Compare the two policies and elaborate how HELP can encourage investment in the hydrocarbon sector as well as curtail India's export dependence?

हाइड्रोकार्बन एक्सप्लोरेशन (अन्वेषण) लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी (नीति) [HELP], न्यू एक्सप्लोरेशन लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी (NELP) से एक कदम आगे है। दोनों नीतियों की तुलना कीजिए और वर्णन कीजिए कि हाइड्रोकार्बन क्षेत्र में निवेश को प्रोत्साहित करने के साथ ही आयात पर भारत की निर्भरता कम करने में HELP किस प्रकार सहायता प्रदान सकता है?

HELP	NELP
- Uniform and single licence for all Hydrocarbons. - Period of exploration has been standardized (10-12 Years) - Revenue based profit sharing	- Different licence required for different HC. - Non uniform period of exploration - Profit based sharing of benefits.

India's BOT is negative primarily due to huge imports of Oil and Gas and Coal. HELP can curtail import dependence by

- 1) Due to uniform, single licence, private players incentivized.
- 2) Reduced corruption and red tapism due to reduced requirement of monitoring.

- 3) Linear exploration regime to allow private players to move in.
- 4) Reduced chances of conflict over profit sharing due to new Revenue based profit sharing.
- 5) More autonomy to private players in their operations.
- 6) Better trust buildup.
- 7) India will be able to realize more of its vast oil and gas reserves in Bay of Bengal and area of Rutch.

Thus, India's dependence on oil and gas imports will reduce substantially once oil and gas production picks up.

13. Although equal land ownership rights are essential for the economic empowerment of women, these rights are often overlooked. Discuss. What steps have been taken by the government to ensure land rights for women?

यद्यपि समान भूमि स्वामित्व अधिकार महिलाओं के आर्थिक सशक्तिकरण के लिए आवश्यक हैं परन्तु इन अधिकारों की प्रायः अनदेखी की जाती रही है। चर्चा कीजिए। महिलाओं के लिए भूमि अधिकार सुनिश्चित करने हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

India once an egalitarian civilization in Early Vedic Period, disoriented its attitude towards women in later centuries. Property and ownership rights were curtailed overlooking Manusmriti which propagates 'Shri-Dhona' philosophy.

Empowerment of Women has many dimensions — political, social and economic. Thus, empowerment of women is impossible without economic reforms.

Generally economic empowerment is taken to be only focused on employability of the women. Once earning power is generated property and ownership rights cannot be ignored and property rights with women will also mean better treatment of women in society.

Steps taken by government —

- 1) All land and housing schemes such as Indira Gandhi Awas Yojna have registered the property in the name of women.
- 2) FRA, 2006 — Titles to be given jointly in the name of husband and wife.
- 3) HUF and tax benefits associated with it.

14. Micro irrigation methods would not only lead to increased productivity but also conservation of water. Enumerating the different methods of micro irrigation, identify the bottlenecks in their implementation and benefits that can accrue once they are implemented.

सूक्ष्म सिंचाई पद्धतियों से न केवल उत्पादकता बढ़ेगी बल्कि जल संरक्षण भी होगा। सूक्ष्म सिंचाई की विभिन्न पद्धतियों को गिनाते हुए उनके कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली बाधाओं एवं उनके कार्यान्वयन से प्राप्त हो सकने वाले लाभों की पहचान कीजिए।

Different methods of micro-irrigation are —

- 1) Sprinkler irrigation — intermittent sprinkler to spray water and avoid water logging
- 2) Drip irrigation — It can achieve 70-90% reduction in water requirement. It directly irrigates the roots and soil near the roots.

Bottlenecks in their implementation —

1. Small farm size — 0.59 Ha/household on an average.
2. Drip irrigation cannot be used for all crops.
3. They reduce ~~the~~ the ability to use mechanized tools for harvest.
4. High cost investment initially.

5. High tenancy and hence low regard for land
6. Low credit availability

Benefits of micro irrigation:

1. Reduction in use of water
2. Reduction in water loss to seepage and evaporation
3. Reduced requirement of fertilizer and pesticides
4. Ground Water pollution is reduced
5. Enhanced productivity
6. Cost of production reduces over time
7. No water logging
8. Reduced soil erosion

15. It has been argued that the Nutrient based subsidy (NBS) scheme launched in 2010 has created more problems than it intended to solve. Examine. What measures are required to address concerns arising out of the fertilizer subsidy policy in India?

ऐसी दलीलें दी जाती रही हैं कि वर्ष 2010 में आरंभ की गई पोषक तत्व आधारित सब्सिडी (एन.बी.एस.) योजना ने समस्याओं के समाधान के बजाए कहीं अधिक समस्याएँ उत्पन्न की हैं। परीक्षण कीजिए। भारत में उर्वरक सब्सिडी नीति से उत्पन्न चिन्ताओं का समाधान करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

Nutrient Based Subsidy was launched in 2010 for P & K fertilizers. It was envisaged to enhance P & K fertilizer production and thus reduce N-fertilizer usage. But it did not achieve the aim because —

1. Mis use of government subsidy over time by the fertilizer manufacturers reduced bank.
2. Price of P & K fertilizers were artificially fixed to ensure maximum profit to manufacturer.
3. High subsidy demands led to concentration of licenses and subsidies of few industries leading to shortages of fertilizers.
4. Urea was kept outside and this

led to a differential treatment between the N and P-K fertilizers.

5) Urea based fertilizer became much cheap and consumption increased over time.

6) It led to even more distorted nutrient ratio of 50:8:1 in some places (N:P:K)

7) DS hurt and disinvestment led to closure of many production units.

Measures required to remedy it are—

1. Uniform subsidy regime for all nutrients.
2. Awareness among farmers about soil health.
3. Farm wise issuance of soil health card.
4. Reduce regulation and administrative control of governments.
5. Market based price regulation.

16. The success of "Operation Flood" proves that thoughtful intervention in the livestock sector has the potential of acting as a growth engine for the agriculture sector and rural economy. In light of this, examine the potential of the livestock sector and the challenges it faces. Also enumerate the steps taken by the government in recent years to leverage the potential of this sector.

"ऑपरेशन फ्लड" की सफलता से सिद्ध होता है कि पशुधन क्षेत्र (लाइवस्टॉक सेक्टर) के लिए उठाए जाने वाले विचारशील कदमों में कृषि क्षेत्र एवं ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था हेतु विकास इंजन के रूप में कार्य करने की क्षमता है। इस तथ्य के आलोक में, पशुधन क्षेत्र की क्षमताओं एवं उसके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही, सरकार द्वारा हाल के वर्षों में इस क्षेत्र की क्षमता का लाभ प्राप्त करने हेतु उठाए गए कदमों को गिनाइए।

17. What are the two objectives of government food procurement policy in India? Discuss the instruments of this policy. Do you think there is an urgent need for rationalization of MSP policy in India?

भारत में सरकारी खाद्य खरीद (अधिप्राप्ति) नीति के दोहरे उद्देश्य क्या हैं? इस नीति के साधनों पर चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आप यह मानते हैं कि भारत में न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (एम.एस.पी.) नीति को तत्काल युक्तिसंगत बनाये जाने की आवश्यकता है?

Two objectives of government food procurement policy in India -

1. Ensure fair, non-volatile and remunerative prices for farmers.
2. Ensure food security under NFSA for 60% of the population at fair and reasonable prices.

Instruments of this policy are :

1. Procurement : This is to be done at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by various state agencies and FCI.
2. Storage : This will be done by the FCI in its godowns.
3. Disbursements : This will be done by PDS system by various state agencies at free or subsidized prices.

MSP has following impacts —

- ① It incentivized the crop production.
- ② It ensures fair-remunerative price
- ③ It determines market pricing of the crop to some extent.
- ④ Over 'stocking' can lead to shortage of crop in market and hence increase market prices.

Hence, rationalization of MSP is needed to make —

- ① Crop diversification — pulses etc
- ② De-incentivize water guzzling crops in dry areas

18. Discuss the potential of Food Processing Industry with regards to employment generation in India. What are the key impediments which need to be overcome before the sector can become internationally competitive and achieve high growth?

भारत में रोजगार सृजन करने के संबंध में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग की संभावनाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए। वे प्रमुख बाधाएँ कौन-सी हैं जिन्हें इस क्षेत्र को अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर प्रतिस्पर्धी बनाने एवं उच्च विकास प्राप्त करने हेतु दूर किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

Potential of food Processing Industry

- ① It involves mainly manual labour in India in all major processes.
- ② The amount and volume of agricultural production is huge and thus requires huge manpower to handle it.
- ③ Food processing industry is located mainly in rural areas and thus can serve the rural employment needs.

Key impediments —

- ① Too much reliability on manpower
- ② High losses during transport and storage
- ③ Lack of credit for new technology for cold-storage.

- ④ Lack of mechanisms to ensure Temperature and moisture standards
- ⑤ Lack of government measures to ensure better standards.
- ⑥ Better packaging to make them marketable

19. Mixed farming for the resource poor farmer is mostly a poverty induced option. Comment. What role can the government play to help farmers realise the potential from mixed farming.

संसाधनहीन निर्धन किसानों के लिए मिश्रित कृषि मुख्य रूप से निर्धनता प्रेरित विकल्प है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। मिश्रित कृषि की संभावनाओं को साकार करने हेतु, सरकार किसानों का सहयोग करने में क्या भूमिका निभा सकती है ?

Mixed farming is a mode of farming where a farmer produces agri products mainly at subsistence level by utilizing local available manure and tools from their pets. Mixed cropping may also be done within mixed farming.

Generally poverty laden farmer does it —

1. Due to lack of resources
2. Poor awareness and education
3. Manure and compost is easily available for free from animals while fertilizer is costly
4. Lack of institutionalized credit.

Role played by government to realize potential of mixed farming —

1. Create awareness about options available

- 2) Credit availability should be ensured
- 3) Administration and scientific support to the farmer
- 4) Soil Health Card, Kisan Vigyan Kendra
- 5) Organize SHG and Cooperatives for poultry produce. Eg AMUL
- 6) Involve NGO in creating awareness
- 7) Ensure migration to the farm
- 8) DBT for farm subsidies to help poor farmers

20. What do you understand by cropping pattern? What are the factors that influence the cropping pattern in India? Is there a need to change the cropping pattern in the country keeping the agro-ecological concerns in mind?

फसल प्रतिरूप (क्रॉपिंग पैटर्न) से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत में फसल प्रतिरूप को प्रभावित करने वाले कारक कौन से हैं? कृषि-पारिस्थितिकी चिंताओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या देश में फसल प्रतिरूप को परिवर्तित करने की आवश्यकता है?

Cropping pattern is the sequence of crops cultivated in the given piece of land season after season.

Factors that influence cropping pattern

- ① Monsoon / Rainfall — It decides the sowing and the nature of crop.
- ② Availability of irrigation — Pongal cultivate in all seasons.
- ③ Temperature and Climate — Pohn, Khari, Gmbar
- ④ Government policies — MSP, FRP subsidies,
- ⑤ Industry location nearby — Maranawada — Sugar cane

Yes, there is a need to change the cropping pattern in India because—

- 1) Soil Health is degrading due to ~~#~~ fertiliser and pesticide usage
- 2) Crop diversification is needed to ensure over all nutritional requirement fulfilled.
- 3) Dependency on monsoon and single crop pattern may lead to poor or high risk situation.
- 4) India needs to increase the productivity to ensure food security to its growing population

