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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1024)

Name of Candidate	Rahul Bhat.		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English.	Registration Number	25459
Center	RN	Date	10/9/2017

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	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
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

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

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. 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

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. The idea of Universal Basic income has gained appeal in recent months. Enumerating the challenges in its implementation, discuss whether it can be a potent tool to reduce leakages in the system and address inequality in the economy.

   सार्वभौमिक बुनियादी आय के विचार ने हाल ही के महीनों में ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। इसके कार्यान्वयन में आने वाली चुनौतियों को सूचीबद्ध करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या यह तंत्र (व्यवस्था) में विद्यमान कमियों को कम करने एवं अर्थव्यवस्था में असमानता को संबोधित करने का एक प्रभावी साधन बन सकती है।

Universal Basic Income is the unconditional cash transfer to the accounts of all citizens in the country, irrespective of their economic status.

Challenges in implementation:

(1) Mobilisation of Resources. is a big challenge.

(2) Fiscal stress: Adhering to FRBM principles is the need of hour.

(3) Bank account holders : Lack of bank penetration. in India. Last mile connectivity suffers.

(4) Who will fund the scheme : Centre or states. Hence issue of cooperative federalism.

Pros of UBI. :

(1) In kind transfers like PDS, MGNREGA are corruption prone. Cash transfers shall reduce this leakage.

(2) Direct transfers - leading to financial inclusion.

(3) Savings and desired utilisation of money for various purposes. Elimination

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of nanny state.

(4) Freedom to be a part of labour force. Women empowerment and economic decision making.

Cons.:

(1) Moral hazard: Dependency on cash transfers and diversion to sin goods usage. e.g. tobacco, alcohol

(2) Inflation shall rise leading to more inequalities.

(3) Rich will get the benefits of UBI. Not desirable.

UBI is still a debatable topic whose time in near future can be welcomed provided our economy becomes sound enough and banking system becomes robust enough to implement this scheme.

Targeted minimum Income is a better alternative.

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2. A peculiar combination of factors explain India's poor export performance in recent times. Comment. How can the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) help in improving India's share in global trade?

हाल के दिनों में कुछ खास कारणों का एक संयोजन वस्तुतः भारत के दयनीय निर्यात प्रदर्शन की व्याख्या करता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। विदेश व्यापार नीति (2015-20) वैश्विक व्यापार में भारत की हिस्सेदारी में सुधार करने में किस प्रकार सहायता कर सकती है?

For India to grow at 8% GDP, its exports need to grow at 15% every year. Factors responsible for India's poor export performance are:-

(1) Less competetive products; Cost of production more. Tough competetion in apparel and leather market by South East Asian nations.

(2) Trade deficit with FTA countries.

(3) Non-comprehensive policy framework.

(4) Taxation burden in even SEZs. e.g MAT

(5) Larger import duties imposed on Indian products. e.g. Non tariff Barriers by China, customs by EU for various arbitrary labour standards, environmental norms, IPR norms etc.

(6) Lack of diversification of market. Impeded progress in FTAs e.g. BTIA with Britain, EU etc.

(7) Lack of tax incentives to MSMEs, land acquisition hurdles etc.

(8) Impeded manufacturing growth inspite of initiatives like Make in India

FTP (2015-2020) can be potent to increase India's foreign trade in following ways:-

(1) Initiatives under it like Niryat Bandhu scheme will help train businesses in improving skills and competetive standards.

(2) Invest India., will facilitate ease of Doing business for FDI firms. e.g. in Make in India.

(3) It will collaborate diplomatically with nations to boost our knowledge economy sector. SEZs growth is also important

(4) SEIS, MEIS are incentive schemes, taxation rebates to software as well as manufacturing hubs in order to rake up their export potential.

These initiatives under FTP (2015-2020) has given a vision to India's foreign trade policy.

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3. What are Advance Pricing Agreements and how are they related to Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS)? Discuss their relevance for India.

एडवांस प्राइसिंग अग्रीमेंट (अग्रिम मूल्य निर्धारण समझौते) क्या हैं और वे बेस इरोजन एंड प्रॉफिट शिफ्टिंग (BEPS) (आधार क्षरण और लाभ का स्थानांतरण) से किस प्रकार संबंधित हैं? भारत के लिए इनकी प्रासंगिकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

BEPS refers to MNCs. diverting their profits, revenues or income to a third country, especially tax haven nation in order to evade tax..

It is a method of tax evasion.

Advance Pricing Agreement is related to BEPS as it is a tool to aid tax evasion.

Relevance for India:

(1) By being a part of OECD's BEPS regime, India will check tax evasion.

(2) Reviewed General Anti Avoidance Rules (GAAR) will lead to better regulation over MNC's balance sheets.

(3) It shall help in buoying revenue potential for India.

(4) More transparency and accountability of corporate sector.

(5) Treaty shopping and Round tripping will be eliminated.

(6) Parallel economy and Prevention of Money laundering activities will help India check corruption and other untracked transactions.

(7) It shall give more teeth to

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regulatory regime like SEBI, RBI.

Challenges:

1. FDI may recede due to more regulatory burden.
2. Inspectorate Raj. impeding Ease of Doing business. in India, stifling initiatives like Make in India..
3. Issue of crony capitalism, collusive bidding etc. still remains.

APAs, BEPS regime etc. are important tools to raise India's tax to GDP ratio to 25%., which at present hovers only around 16.4%, much lesser than OECD economies

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4. What is meant by public debt? Highlight the objectives of public debt management. Explain why it is considered prudent to disaggregate debt management from monetary policy and take it out of the realm of central bank.

सार्वजनिक ऋण से क्या तात्पर्य है? सार्वजनिक ऋण प्रबंधन के उद्देश्यों पर प्रकाश डालिए। व्याख्या कीजिए कि ऋण प्रबंधन को मौद्रिक नीति से पृथक करना एवं केन्द्रीय बैंक की परिधि से बाहर ले जाना विवेकपूर्ण क्यों माना जाता है।

Public debt· is the borrowing of Central or state government from the RBI, financial institutions or raising bonds, debentures, treasury bills etc. for carrying out various welfare measures for public spending or infrastructure etc. It is used to finance fiscal deficit.

Objectives of Public debt management:-

(1) Reduce it to 60% of GDP by 2022. (FRBM objective also) [Debt to GDP ratio)

(2) Ensure fiscal soundity. and ability to have coverage ratio. to pay interests timely.

(3) Reduce borrowing and enhance self sufficiency for resource, fund. mobilisation. Reduction of fiscal stress.

It is prudent to separate monetary policy from debt management functions and take it out of the realm of RBI due to following reasons:-

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(1) Monetary policy is a tool to ensure financial stability, banking transactions etc. Fiscal policy, debt management policy shall lead to conflict of interest because government borrows from RBI and RBI manages debt of public sector.

(2) This shall lead to political interference, overlapped jurisdictions

An independent body which shall get a statute backing soon is envisaged to ensure smooth transition towards management of public debt (Public debt Management Agency.)

5. There is an urgent need for India to get infrastructure financing, however, the current investment model of PPPs is poorly designed and needs restructuring. Discuss the issues plaguing the success of PPPs with respect to stalled projects, risk management, governance & institutional capacity.

भारत को अवसंरचना वित्तपोषण प्राप्त करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है, लेकिन सार्वजनिक निजी भागीदारी (PPPs) का वर्तमान निवेश मॉडल असंतोषजनक रूप से डिजाईन (अभिकल्पित) किया गया है और इसे पुनर्संरचित करने की आवश्यकता है। अवरुद्ध परियोजनाओं, जोखिम प्रबंधन, गवर्नेंस (शासन) एवं संस्थागत क्षमता के संबंध में PPPs की सफलता में बाधक बने मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Indian urbanisation rate (30%) is bound to grow rapidly. It requires construction of roads, housing, railway, transport, communication and public utility services to evolve a liveable space for all. This mamutous task needs huge infrastructure financing. However, present PPPs are plagued with many structural, functional and institutional gaps, which impede the completion of

(NPA) projects timely. In this light, it needs overhauling for becoming sustainable and profitable to ensure public welfare and private enterprise both.

Issues plaguing :-

(1) Stalled projects :- Long term infrastructure financing is lacking. Twin Balance sheet syndrome is leading to NPAs because of stalled projects.

(2) No clear cut model of risk sharing, revenue sharing leading to huge burden on private financial capacity, without any tangible returns.

(3) Governance :- Bureaucratic red tapism,

leads to roadblocks in completion of PPP projects timely. Cronyism, corruption, regulatory overburdening leads to lack of enthusiasm among private sector to invest.

(4) Lack of strong oversight mechanism to track progress. is still an institutional gap. which needs to be filled.

Way forward:-

(1) Pension and Insurance funds, AIIB funds, Green bonds, Masala bonds.

(2) Better annuity models like Hybrid Annuity Model. for road projects, Hydrocarbon Exploration Licency Policy.

(3) Least physical interface for project approvals.

(4) PRAGATI (Pro Active Governance for Timely Implementation) is a strong institutional mechanism.

6. What are the reasons behind a low tax base in India? Discuss the issues associated with it and the steps required to widen the tax base.

भारत में निम्नस्तरीय कर आधार के क्या कारण हैं? इससे संबद्ध मुद्दों एवं कर आधार को विस्तारित करने के लिए आवश्यक क़दमों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

India's tax to GDP ratio is 16.4%, much less than OECD and other emerging economies.

Reasons and Issues associated.

(1) Complex tax filing mechanism.
(2) taxmen inspectorate. - harrassment
(3) Ambiguous tax laws - Presence of retrospective taxation.
(4) tax terrorism.
(5) Greed in people to accumulate wealth.
(6) No transparent tax departmental institutional capacity to carry out task honestly with minimum intrusion in people's lives.

(7) Lack of data about formal and informal sector and of the total labour force of India.

(8) Lack of strong regulatory agencies like SEBI, PFRDA, IRDA and mutual conflict leading to MNCs to exploit grey areas and evade tax (BEPS).

(9) Money laundering, treaty shopping, round tripping, P-Notes check the broadened tax base in India.

(10) Weak laws and their enforcement.

(11) Lack of strong foreign treaties like FATCA.

Issues:-

(1) Checks the economic growth.

(2) Favours terror financing, subversive

activities.

(3) leads to Parallel economies.

(4) Cronyism accentuates due to lobbying.

(5) Public welfare schemes suffer. Poverty and inequalities rise.

(6) Fiscal burden and more Public debt

Steps to widen tax base;

(1) Project Insight. by IT department.

(2) Joining BEPS regime (OECD) and FATCA with USA.

(3) Lower tax rates and slabs to encourage people to pay taxes.

(4) tax friendly regime – revenue department. Elimination of tax terrorism, retrospective taxation.

(5) Implementation of GST and digital (GSTN) network has lead to widened tax base recently.

7. Even though the construction sector has significant multiplier effect on the economy, in recent years, it has been showing signs of stress. What are the causes for such a state of affairs? In this context, also highlight the steps taken by the government.

यद्यपि निर्माण क्षेत्रक का अर्थव्यवस्था पर महत्वपूर्ण गुणक प्रभाव होता है, लेकिन हाल के वर्षों में यह दबाव के लक्षण दर्शाता रहा है। इस प्रकार की स्थिति के लिए कौन-से कारण जिम्मेदार हैं? इस संदर्भ में, सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

Construction sector also called Real estate sector has multiplier effects on economy as follows:-

(1) More production of cement, iron, steel and other eight core industries. It leads to higher IIP. (economic activity).

(2) More job generation leading to more wages and better purchasing capacity, boosting consumption..

(3) Raises GDP. of country.

(4) Socio-economic development by

providing housing, roads, hospitals, schools etc.

Signs of stress in recent years:

(1) Low demand but huge inventory leading to stress in construction segment.

(2) Twin balance sheet syndrome.
leading to lack of adequate production levels. (IIP low)

(3) Demonetisation leading to low sale and growth.

(4) Jobless growth and issues of contractual labour, lack of skilled workforce.

Causes for this:

(1) Non-comprehensive policy framework

(2) Cronyism and bureaucratic roadblocks

(3) Construction permits, electricity, water scarcity etc. impeding ease of doing business.

(4) NPAs for banks leading to low credit growth. on construction sector.

Steps by government:-

(1) 'Infrastructure status' to sports, housing, public utility like water

(2) Low Interest Rates for affordable housing real estate segment.

(3) Housing for All, PPP collaboration.

(4) Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for skilled construction workers.

(5) Credit facility to LIGs, EWS. to afford housing under Credit Linked subsidy Scheme.

(6) Imposing Anti-dumping duty on Chinese steel to protect domestic steel, cement industries

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8. The worsening road safety situation in India is further complicated by an increasing population and proliferation of vehicles on the road. Discuss. Also, highlight the steps that are being taken by the government to address the issue of road safety and reduce the associated fatalities.

भारत में सड़क सुरक्षा की बिगड़ती स्थिति, बढ़ती जनसंख्या और सड़क पर वाहनों की संख्या में बढ़ोत्तरी के कारण और अधिक जटिल हो जाती है। चर्चा कीजिए। सरकार द्वारा सड़क सुरक्षा के मुद्दों से निपटने एवं इनसे संबद्ध मृत्यु की घटनाओं को कम करने हेतु उठाए जा रहे कदमों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

India is getting urbanised at a rapid rate (30%) → 2011 census. Rural urban migration leads to concentrated population density in urban and peri-urban areas like Delhi, Gurgaon etc. More consumption patterns, commutation needs and daily mobility is leading to proliferation of vehicles on road.

Issues related :-

(i) More traffic leads to road rage incidents, leading to fatalities

(2) Collisions, are frequent due to heavy traffic jams.

(3) Higher air pollution leads to smog in winters leading to low visibility leading to road accidents.

(4) Unmanned rail crossings on roads, district roads etc. is an issue.

(5) Proper, mindful town planning and inadequate architecture of roads, poor road design - e.g. Death zones, Blind turns etc.

(6) No suitable integrated multi-modal transportation. Lack of intelligent mode of transport.

(7) Lax law enforcement and weak laws.

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Steps by government :-

(1) Amending the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. strict law enforcement.

(2) Smart City Scheme envisaging intelligent transportation network. e.g. Kochi Multi modal metro network, metrino etc.

(3) Alcohol ban on state and national highways

(4) Green highways. to reduce glaring.

(5) Proper demarcation of lines, zebra crossings and enough space for cyclists and pedestrians

(6) Good Samaritan Policy to help accident victims without any fear.

(7) Awareness about advantages of using public transportation.

9. Briefly highlight the parameters used by the government to determine the extent of poverty in India. Examine the relationship of economic growth and poverty alleviation in the post-reforms era.

सरकार द्वारा भारत में निर्धनता की सीमा का निर्धारण करने हेतु उपयोग किए जाने वाले मानदंडों (पैरामीटर) पर संक्षेप में प्रकाश डालिए। आर्थिक सुधारों के बाद के युग में आर्थिक संवृद्धि और निर्धनता उन्मूलन के बीच संबंध का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Poverty has been defined on various parameters in India.

(1) Absolute Poverty.

(2) Relative Poverty.

One is based on sugar consumption (caloric intake), others based on Amartya Sen's deprivation indicators.

Various committees have defined poverty lines in India - e.g.

Tendulkar Committee.

Rangarajan Committee.

Parameters used are Below Poverty

Line, Above Poverty line.
Accordingly, India has around 30% living below poverty line.

Relationship between economic growth and poverty alleviation in post reforms era:-

(1) Post liberalisation, state's role on welfare spending reduced. Hence education, health spending is meagre. It has pushed people into poverty and misery due to proliferation of private hospitals, schools leading to huge out of pocket expenditure (68%)

(2) It has led to widening gulf between

haves and have-nots, raised inequalities. which has led to more poverty.

(3) Although PDS etc. has continued and calorie consumption has increased but hidden hunger has increased, leading to more malnutrition rates

(4) Capitalism has led to more job generation leading to poverty allevication but social security has reduced and informalisation has increased leading to cyclical poverty, seasonal unemployment ~~etc~~.

Hence, state responsibility on crucial social sectors needs to be increased ~~to~~ augur well the benefits of ~~pol~~ reforms in an equitable, inclusive manner

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें।)

10. Explain why the government has adopted the HELP in place of the NELP that was existing for almost a decade. Also discuss how HELP has the potential to transform India's E&P activities with special emphasis on non-conventional sources of energy.

व्याख्या कीजिए कि सरकार ने लगभग एक दशक से विद्यमान NELP के स्थान पर HELP को क्यों अपनाया है? साथ ही, ऊर्जा के गैर-परम्परागत स्रोतों पर विशेष जोर देते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि HELP में भारत की E&P (अन्वेषण एवं उत्पादन) गतिविधियों को रूपांतरित करने की क्षमता किस प्रकार विद्यमान है।

New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) has been replaced by HELP. (Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy).

Reasons:-

1. To improve ease of Doing business
2. To make India energy secured
3. to generate revenues, self-sufficiency in hydrocarbon production.
4. to reduce regulatory overburdening.
5. to facilitate Exploration and production and become economies of scale quickly

(6) NELP has too many approval requirements and political interference.
(7) HELP will raise private sector participation and FDI in exploration sector. (PPP projects will gain impetus)
HELP shall transform E and P sector:
(1) Freedom of marketing prices.
(2) Unified licensing required for all hydrocarbons. e.g. oil, crude, shale, CBM etc.
(3) Revenue sharing model. and risk sharing model leading to collaboration between government and private sector.
(4) Open acreage policy. to explore, map non-conventional sources before formal

bidding takes place.

This will help Indian like ONGC Videsh etc to leverage their capacities, boost economic activity, lead to energy security, reduce dependency on Middle East, reduce CAD. and lead to self-sustainability and environmental security also.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. Successive governments have resorted to disinvestment of sick and loss-making PSUs. What, according to you, are the targets which the government seek to meet from this exercise? Also explain why the disinvestment targets have not been met in the past.

क्रमागत सरकारों ने बीमार और घाटे में चल रहे PSUs के विनिवेश का सहारा लिया है। आपके अनुसार, इस कार्यकरण से सरकार कौन-से लक्ष्य प्राप्त करना चाहती है? साथ ही, व्याख्या कीजिए कि विगत वर्षों में विनिवेश के लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त क्यों नहीं किया गया है।

Disinvestment refers to sale of public owned shares in a PSU to private sector. Types are:- Strategic sale, privatisation. etc.

Targets of Disinvestment are:-

1. Raise revenues.
2. Reduce fiscal stress.
3. Improve managemt of PSU.
4. Make it competetive
5. Improve professionalism.
6. Easy way to mobilise resources for public welfare schemes.

Reasons for unmet disinvestment targets :

(1) Politicisation : Example is long delayed disinvestment of Air India.

(2) No easy exit policy.

(3) Conflict of Interest : e.g. various PSUs have political candidates as chairperson. e.g United Bank of India - suffering from huge NPAs and corporate governance issues.

(4) Lack of private interest in acquiring shares of a loss making PSU.

(5) NO fruitful and economic plan of how disinvestment will take place - ambiguities about ownership, professional management and independence etc.

Here, it is important to economically think in public welfare interest. and for making industries competetive. that ~~political~~ finance ministry (Revenue, expenditure, DIPAM etc) should take proactive steps to disinvest shares to achieve desired targets early on / ~~to~~ without any political considerations

12. What is hydroponics? Discuss its relevance in light of limited land availability while ensuring food security.

हाइड्रोपोनिक्स (hydroponics) क्या है? सीमित भूमि उपलब्धता की दृष्टि से खाद्य सुरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु इसकी प्रासंगिकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Growing rice and certain other millets and crops in water without any soil is hydroponics.

Relevance :

(1) It will lead to alternative farming avenue. It shall raise employment opportunities.

It shall build skilled workforce

(2) as it requires scientific and technical management.

(3) It is a move towards sustainable and scientific agricultural model.

(4) It will give room to rising urbanisation and industrialisation.

(5) GM food also can be grown using this technique. It will lead to more productivity under controlled conditions and hence lead to food security.

Challenges :-

(1) It will lead to reckless exploitation of land as urbanisation, industrialisation will happen indiscriminately.

(2) Cropping pattern (mixing one) will suffer and become skewed.

(3) Water scarcity will impede its growth and sustainability

(4) Its scientific management is costly.

(5) traditional farming is mattural.
(6) Know how, tools to know this will lead to issues among illeterate farmers.

While climate smart agriculture is the need of now, it has to be proceeded after a well prepared, foolproof action plan. Nascent technological advancements must be explored further to gauge their long term sustainability.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. It is argued by many that there is an urgent need for states to reform land laws and, in particular, tenancy laws. What are the factors cited for the need of such reforms? Identify the impediments in the way of such reforms and highlight the benefits that would accrue from them.

कई लोगों द्वारा यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि राज्यों को भूमि कानूनों, विशेष रूप से काश्तकारी (tenancy) कानूनों में सुधार करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है। इस प्रकार के सुधारों की आवश्यकता के लिए कौन-से कारकों को उद्धृत किया जाता है? ऐसे सुधारों के मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं की पहचान कीजिए एवं इनसे प्राप्त होने वाले लाभों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Land Reforms have been a continuous process in India. since freedom.

Factors cited for need of such reforms like land laws, tenancy laws are:-

1. to reduce poverty.
2. redistribution of land among landless peasants, labourers.
3. to raise productivity. on unused land, fallow land or cultivable wasteland.
4. to improve per capita incomes and

provide security to tenants as well as the landholders.

(5) to raise supplementary income and profits for landholders.

(6) Optimum utilisation of limited land available.

(7) Digitisation shall lead to record keeping and shall avert Benami Property.

Hence, states are required to pass various land lease laws, APMC Acts, digitised land laws etc. to fructify land reforms completely.

Impediments :-

(1) Land is a state subject. Cooperative federalism is required.
(2) Big farmers are insecure to lose their lands
(3) Uniformity accross states is a challenge.
(4) Lack of technology mechanisms to have digitised records.

Benefits:
(1) Socio-economic development.
(2) Food security.
(3) security to tenants.
(4) Abolition of forced labour, bonded labour
(5) Security to land owner.
(6) Agricultural growth and more share in GDP.
(7) Contract farming will increase.
(8) Farmers income will double.

(9) Land rights will enhance

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें।)

14. Discuss the potential of horticulture sector in realizing the government's vision of doubling the farm income. Also, highlight the challenges which are needed to be addressed for realizing full potential of this sector.

कृषि आय को दोगुना करने की सरकार की परिकल्पना को साकार करने में बागवानी (हॉर्टिकल्चर) क्षेत्रक की क्षमता पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस क्षेत्रक की सम्पूर्ण क्षमता को वास्तविकता में परिणत करने के लिए उन चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए जिनसे निपटना आवश्यक है।

Horticulture sector refers to the allied agricultural segment which keeps in the growth of vegetables, fruits, spices, ornamental flowers and vegetation. e.g. coconut, rubber plant etc.

Potential :-

1. Alternative source of employment. Lucrative business potential.
2. Fruitful for export earnings. e.g. spices, rubber, coconut on international market.
3. Enterprising agriculture. leading to

start ups in this sector. Rural agricultural scientists can invest in R and D to evolve hybrid varieties of flowers etc.

(4) Contract farming in horticulture segment

(5) Linkage with Food processing sector leading to reduction in food wastage. eg. tomatoes for ketchups.

(6) It shall increase farmgate incomes and shall lead to farm welfare by connecting him directly to market.

Challenges:

(1) It requires big estates. Hence land acquisition is a challenge

(2) Suitable policy framework.

(3) Technological know how

(4) Supply chain management, roads, transportation and logistical network.

(5) Export capping is an impediment

(6) Foreign competition

Measures :-

(1) National Horticulture Mission, National bamboo mission.

(2) Recent Bamboo summit by Assam government to raise private investment in this sector.

(3) Krishi Vigyan Kendra. to provide Agri-extension services

(4) Ease of Doing business for Contract farmers, Food processors and various state laws like APMC, e-NAM, Model land lease laws to be enacted immediately

15. Not only does the yield (measured in tonnes/ha.) of a crop but a number of other factors determine the choice of crops that a farmer cultivates. Elaborate with special focus on cropping pattern in India.

एक किसान द्वारा उपजाई जाने वाली फसलों के चयन को न केवल फसल की उपज (टन/हेक्टेयर में मापी गयी) अपितु कई अन्य कारक भी निर्धारित करते हैं। भारत में प्रचलित फसल प्रतिरूपों (पैटर्न) पर विशेष ध्यान केन्द्रित करते हुए विस्तारपूर्वक व्याख्या कीजिए।

Cropping pattern. refers to the temporal and spatial growth of crops at a time over a specified area of land.

Factors responsible for the choice of crops:-

① Soil type:- Black soil : cotton.
Laterite :- Cashew, areca.
Alluvial :- Rice, paddy

② Rainfall :- Amount of Rainfall determines the crops grown.
e.g. Millets like jowar, bajra, ragi

grown in dryland farming areas of West Rajasthan.

(3) Urban needs :- e.g. Vidarbha inspite of having dry tracts grown sugarcane to meet the sugar needs of urban Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune, Nashik etc.

(4) MSP policy :- It is a huge factor in Punjab to grow rice and wheat only. Low prices for pulses lead to ignorance about these crops.

Limitations of this choice making.

(1) It leads to skewed cropping pattern. leads to drought and farm distress in Vidarbha.

(2) Leads to water scarcity, groundwater exploitation, depleting water tables. e.g. Punjab.

(3) Leads to desertification.

(4) salinity in soil → low soil fertility

Way Ahead:

(1) Mindful cropping pattern.

(2) Better MSP rates for pulses, millets.

(3) Climate smart agriculture.

(4) GM crop growth for better yield.

(5) Elimination of water guzzling crops like sugarcane in Maharashtra. and revival of millets, pulses there.

This way, India will have food sufficiency and sustainable agricultural pattern.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. Discuss the significance of food processing industry in the economic development of the country and the challenges which need to be tackled for sustained growth of the industry. Also elaborate on the the salient features of National Mission on Food Processing.

देश के आर्थिक विकास में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग के महत्व के साथ-साथ उन चुनौतियों की भी चर्चा कीजिए जिनसे निपटना इस उद्योग के संधारणीय विकास हेतु आवश्यक है। राष्ट्रीय खाद्य प्रसंस्करण मिशन की प्रमुख विशेषताओं की विस्तारपूर्वक व्याख्या कीजिए।

Food processing is a sunrise industry in India which has a great potential in the wake of growing urbanisation in India.

Significance;

(1) Contract farming.

(2) Better farmgate prices.

(3) Double farmer's income by 2022.

(4) Reduces food wastage.

(5) Caters to the needs of urban economy.

(6) Job generation due to more food parks.

(7) Better supply chain management.
(8) Demographic dividend.
(9) Food security, nutrition fulfilment.
(10) Export potential - exchange earnings.
(11) More GDP growth and economic activity

Challenges:-

(1) Land acquisition
(2) Skilled workforce
(3) Forward and Backward Linkage constraints.
(4) technological constraints. e.g. no better abattoirs
(5) APMC Acts, no land lease laws
(6) Foreign FDI competetion

Salient features of NMFP:-

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(1) Develop food parks near agricultural zones
(2) Rake up employment opportunities.
(3) taxation rebates, incentives to augur FDI and private investment.
(4) Align it with 'Make in India'
(5) FSSAI regulation to ensure quality food products.
(6) Policy framework to boost export earnings.
(7) Subsidised tools and technological equipments.

Government Measures :-
(1) SAMPADA Scheme
(2) Mega Food Park Scheme
(3) Integrated Cold Chain and Supply Management Scheme

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. Financial support to farmers through various instruments has been a crucial aspect of agricultural policy of the government. Examine whether the proposal of moving towards direct transfer of benefits and universal crop insurance would alleviate the existing concerns in the current scenario.

विभिन्न साधनों के माध्यम से किसानों को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करना सरकार की कृषि नीति का एक महत्वपूर्ण पहलू रहा है। परीक्षण कीजिए कि क्या प्रत्यक्ष लाभ अंतरण और सार्वभौमिक फसल बीमा की ओर कदम बढ़ाने का प्रस्ताव वर्तमान परिदृश्य में विद्यमान चिंताओं को कम कर पाएगा?

Financial support to farmers :-

(1) MSP.
(2) Energy and Irrigation subsidies.
(3) FCI procurement.
(4) Fuel and diesel subsidies.
(5) Agricultural income non-taxable.

Reasons:- to support farmers and peasants, reduce input costs, alleviate poverty and protect him from market forces of volatility.

Significance of DBT :-

(1) Shall reduce leakages.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(2) Financial inclusion
(3) Savings.
(4) Elimination of middlemen
(5) Better profits and farm gate prices.
(6) transparency and accountability.

Significance of Universal Crop Insurance

(1) shock absorber in case of floods, droughts and crop loss
(2) Compensation timely through Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
(3) Social security to farmers against the vagaries of nature and market

But more is needed to alleviate existing concerns;
(1) Last mile connectivity. Bank account penetration thru JAM. should

increase.

(2) Effective bureaucratic implementation is required for PM FBY. (Fasal Bima)

(3) Proper MSP policy for millets, pulses. (50% + input cost)

(4) Addressal of ecological and economical challenges is important.

(5) e-NAM, changes in land lease laws and enactment of Model APMC Acts will lead to complete elimination of middlemen.

These steps will increase farm incomes and alleviate farm distress, without need to resort to farm loan waivers.

18. Buffer stocking of food grains is seen as a vehicle to deliver strategic food and agricultural domestic support policies, however, there is a growing consensus that the programme has been not just costly but also imprudently wasteful. Critically evaluate.

खाद्यानों के सुरक्षित भंडारण (बफर स्टॉकिंग) को खाद्य एवं कृषि संबंधी रणनीतिक घरेलू समर्थन नीतियाँ प्रदान करने के साधन के रूप में देखा गया है, लेकिन इस संबंध में यह मतैक्य बनता जा रहा है कि यह कार्यक्रम न केवल महँगा बल्कि अविवेकपूर्ण रूप से अपव्ययी भी रहा है। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Buffer stock by FCI godowns was engaged to procure food grains from farmers at MSP and store that food in godowns of FCI to redistribute it through PDS for public welfare measures and poverty allevication. It was to ensure food security and self-sufficiency along with farm welfare and consumer welfare

Challenges:

(1) FCI godowns are far away from rural agrizones - this leads to food wastage in transportation.

(2) Poor storage facility leads to proliferation of rodents like cockroaches, rats.

(3) Logistical costs have made food costly. Hoarding, black marketing has led to inflation (artificial inflation)

(4) No use of technology and e-governance has led to mismanagement of food grains

(5) Middlemen's and political interference has led to corruption.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Way Ahead:-
1. Effective implementation of NFSA, 2013
2. Auditing mechanism
3. Oversight mechanism and e-governance
4. FCI godowns to be scientifically managed.
5. They should be nearby agricultural lands to reduce grain wastage
6. Proper infrastructure to protect grains from vagaries of nature.

This shall help in transfer of food from farm to fork in a sustainable manner.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. Discuss the lacunae in implementation of Minimum Wages Act in ensuring the welfare of agricultural labour. Also, suggest some other measures to improve the situation of agricultural labourers in the country.

कृषि श्रमिकों के कल्याण को सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन में विद्यमान कमियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, देश में कृषि मजदूरों की स्थिति सुधारने हेतु कुछ अन्य उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Lacunae in implementation of MWA.

(1) Varies accross states.

(2) Labour mobility not factored in.

(3) Low wages not amounting to living wages.

(4) No strong penal provisions leading to existence of bonded labour.

(5) Bureaucratic regulation.

(6) Social benefits ignored and social security measures sidelined.

Other measures :-

(1) Enactment of Land Lease Laws.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(2) Security of tenant

(5) Digitisation of land records.

(4) Skilled workforce to enable agri-labour to avail better opportunities.

(3) Labour Code to be implemented soon ensuring him his social security benefits.

(6) Insurance measures, renewed land reforms and education to children.

(7) Affordable housing and shelter needs to be met.

(8) Women labourers to be protected. Feminisation of labour to be taken into account

(9) Idea of Universal Basic Income

this shall lead to better working conditions for farm labourers bereft of any kind of exploitation like bonded labour.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें।)

20. In spite of having the world's largest livestock population in India, the potential of animal rearing remains underutilized. In this context, discuss the challenges faced by the meat and poultry sector and suggest measures for accelerated and sustained growth for this sector.

भारत में विश्व की सर्वाधिक पशुधन संख्या होने के बावजूद भी पशुपालन क्षमता का पूर्ण दोहन नहीं किया जा सका है। इस संदर्भ में मांस तथा कुक्कुट क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों की चर्चा कीजिए एवं इस क्षेत्रक की त्वरित एवं संधारणीय वृद्धि के लिए उपाय सुझाइए।

Challenges faced by meat and poultry sector

(1) Intolerance ÷ Livestock rules, 2017 prohibiting sale of livestock for slaughter purposes.

(2) Land acquisition

(3) Technologically advanced abbatoirs are lacking.

(4) Lack of know-how and lack of skills.

(5) Lack of tax incentives.

(6) No logistical network and lack

of infrastructure like cold chain storage facility for meat industry, chillers.

(7) Lack of roads, transport etc.

Measures:-

(1) National Livestock Mission to be followed.

(2) Policy framework to evolve and no intolerance to meat industry.

(3) Pink Revolution to be promoted

(4) Subsidized technological equipments.

(5) Mixed farming to be promoted.

(6) Skill India - Sector Skill Councils to provide skills to livestock rearers and ranchers

(7) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana – taking up infrastructure transport to make market integrated to rural hinterlands

Livestock as an allied agriculture sector whose potential should be exploited for supplementary farm income and for export foreign exchange potential