VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 843)

Name of Candidate	CHANDRIMA		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	25538
Center	DELHI	Date	5/11/16

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	
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 HINDI and ENGLISH.
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं तथा हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों 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।

75, 3rd Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar Market, Near Axis Bank, New Delhi – 110060

103, 1st Floor, B/1-2, Ansal Building, Behind UCO Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi – 110009

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

VISION IAS™

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

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 (कंसोलिडेशन) 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?

Fiscal consolidation is crucial for the growth and sustainability of an economy. Fiscal deficit is an important parameter to measure the growth trajectory of a country.

We set targets for ourselves by fixing the fiscal deficit. To achieve the optimum level, policies and actions are formulated by the government. This is important because —

(i) Streamlining the activities of various departments.

(ii) Targets can make implementation effective as goals give us a sense

of direction.

(iii) fixing of fiscal deficit also makes us assess our present realities as there is an object to compare with.

India has seen the face of risky, high fiscal deficit in the past which has threatened the stability of our economy. The passing of FRBM Act, 2003 was to address such a situation.

This Act has solidified our resolve towards favourable fiscal deficit and has contributed towards effective policy making and has also delivered results.

VISION IAS™

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

To move forward with these gains requires changes in direction as the subject of fiscal consolidation is very dynamic.

To cater to the changes in global scenario and adjust the newly-emerging forces, FRBM act should be relooked so that it continues to guide our policies in the right direction.

VISION IAS™

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

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 देबरॉय समिति की प्रासंगिक अनुशंसाएं बताईए?

For a large economy like India, Railways signify an important organ of development. Due to the huge resource base and vast reach of it, railways can have multiplier effect for the economy.

This dream would be possible if immediate changes are brought in the sector. Various problems that have tormented this sector are :—

(i) Inefficiency - Despite having a separate budget, most resources allocated are not seen at the ground.

VISION IAS™

(ii) Management – The management of this sector has been very unorderly and no heed is paid to the good business practices.

(iii) Corruption – This is one of the major ills plaguing the sector today.

(iv) Poor maintenance of infrastructure

Against all these major problems and many others, Bibek Debroy committee recommendations comes as a respite as it ties to breath fresh life into the system.

The most important solution that it envisages is incorporating business management and corporate governance in the sector.

VISION IAS™

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

This will throw out the inefficiency and old practices that have halted the growth since decades. It is the most welcome step and will be a boon for people and the country which see railways as a panacea for their economy.

VISION IAS™

Don't wri anything margin (कृपया हाशि कुछ ना लि

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 फर्में सर्वाधिक रोजगार पैदा करती हैं। जबकि तथ्य यह है कि वही छोटी फर्में 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 is a land of contradictions. We see small firms in villages and big MNCs in cities. But the ratio of their numbers is stark. Most firms get thrown out of business before they can expand. This leads to unemployment and distress.

Various factors that have prevented their expansion are —

(i) Intense competition — While competition is good for expansion as it motivates firms to improve their quality but competition between unequals lead to the opposite:

VISION IAS™

(ii) Crony Capitalism - Big firms have strong lobbies and small firms lose out on this. This also creates unfavourable environment for small firms to grow as they do not have such connections.

(iii) Lack of credit - Small firms in villages face difficulty while getting institutional credit.

Indian government has takes a lot of measures to address this problem. Jan Dhan Yojana for financial inclusion, Make in India which will help small firms to supply material, MSME reforms etc. are steps in the right direction.

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything this margin

India, with a vast market, has no reason to lose out on such bright opportunity.

We can take steps that will help us in achieving these goals. Awareness is very important for small firms so organising investor summits takes an eminent position. Small firms need to be actively supported by the government so that they become harbingers of development for the country.

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything th margin (कुछ भाग छ कृपया ना लिखे

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।

Public sector banks have the objective of lending funds to priority sectors as well as nationally important projects. This is unlike private banks which are solely guided by profits. Hence, NPAs are more in PSBs as they cannot say 'no' to a borrower even if ~~the has a~~ there is a chance to default.

High NPAs in an economy are very risky and unstable. It can lead to crashing of banking structure and the 'bubble' can burst anytime. High NPAs cause loss of money in the country.

Don't write anything this margin

To address this problem, govt has taken the following measures —

(i) Infusion of Capital - Banks are given capital so that they can come out of the losses.

(ii) Asset Reconstruction - NPAs are sent to asset reconstruction companies under the SARFAESI act to convert them into valuable products.

(iii) Sectoral changes - Sectors like infrastructure are high on the list of NPAs and as such govt is trying to reduce delays and improve cost efficiency.

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything this margin (कृपया हाशिये के बाहर न लिखें)

NPAs pose a major problem to our country and our economy. It leads to wastage of money which could have been utilised for better things. Hence, active steps should be taken immediately and banking reforms should be undertaken as soon as possible.

VISION IAS™

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

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 सुधार(इम्प्रूवमेंट) है?

Infrastructure sector of our economy is currently diseased with - a) NPAs

b) Delays

c) Loss-making projects

(d) Lack of investment owing to above reasons.

To reinvigorate this sector, private investment is needed desperately.

For that, Hybrid Annuity Model has been proposed. This operates via BOT which is "build, operate & transfer"

VISION IAS™

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

model.

→ This is an improvement over EPC model as government now (govt will) provide half the year's money before the starting of the project. This will lessen the burden over private investor or partner.

→ The private partner gets time to arrange for funds and govt's infusion keeps the project viable.

Infrastructure sector especially the highways projects need to be completed fast as they are of immense usage to the

VISION IAS™

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

citizens and working of the economy.

VISION IAS™

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

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?

WTO signified a major change in trade practices of the world. It institutionalised the process and made it more multilateral. But when it come to free Trade agreements, the benefit to countries especially India has been immense.

This has led to increase in overall trade with growth of indian companies domestically. Diversification of products has been another positive. Less tariffs and quotas removal has benefitted both consumers and traders.

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything this margin

Agreements like TPP signify another development in terms of regional trade. India, not being a member of TPP, stands to lose out in some ways.

The countries constituting TPP form a large part of world trade and various negatives accruing from this could be —

(i) Countries like Vietnam, Singapore used to be important importers of indian products. Now with TPP, they will prefer other country's products given low import duties and hence low prices.

(ii) India's Act east policy would be affected as the South asian countries would look

VISION IAS™

up to america as their big brother.

(iii) Impact on Indian economy –
The reduced trade will impact domestic producers as the choice of markets available would narrow down.

Govt, keeping the possible fallouts, should use both prudent politics and good economics to bring back India's vast market into prominence.

VISION IAS™

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

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?

Cashless economy is the new trend given the benefits and ease of transactions. With advent of technology such as near field communications, every transaction could just remain a 'swap' away. Given this emerging global trend, India should not be left behind. But challenges remain as far as some issues are concerned —

(i) Financial inclusion - & Not just that people are not aware,

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything this margin (कृपया हाशिये पर कुछ न लिखें)

biggest problem is lack of facilities and infrastructure.

(ii) Internet education – The use of such cashless transactions depend on some basic knowledge regarding internet. Given the vast illiteracy, this remains a challenge.

(iii) Attitude of the people – People are less trustful of such methods and regard 'cash' as the most convenient way. This also stems from lack of awareness.

(iv) To overcome these challenges, government needs to step in. By limiting the quantity of cash that can be withdrawn,

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything this margin (कृपया मार्जन में कुछ ना लिखें)

it can be ensured that 'big sum' transactions operate cashlessly.

By making people know about the benefits and the security of such a process, can motivate people to switch over.

This transformation would reduce the occurrence of fraud, thefts and other crimes and will make transactions fast, secure and efficient.

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything this margin (इस क्षेत्र में कुछ न लिखें)

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।

India is suffering from a "skilling problem" which is ironic because despite educated youth possess knowledge but no skills.

Factors responsible for such a grave situation are —

(i) Lacunae in education system —

This can be gauged from the fact that many engineers of our country do not even possess a little practical knowledge about their subject

VISION IAS™

(ii) Lack of developed industrial base – The economic transition of our country has not benefitted our industrial sector to a great extent. This has affected the skilling sector too as both are inter-related.

(iii) Lack of innovativeness – This is another roadblock as we see dearth of R & D sector in our country.

Skilling can be acquired by doing things, experimenting and applying knowledge. If no platform caters to such practices whether it is school, college, industries, how will skills be inculcated?

Govt has taken various measures recently such as PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana which involves opening up of skill centres. This comes under the banner of "SKILL INDIA" mission which has been launched recently.

These are steps in right direction but more needs to be done like reforming college education especially in technical subjects, improving R&D, industry co-ordination etc. This will take the mission forward.

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything this margin (इस हाशिये में कुछ भी लिखें)

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 has been panacea for people who have no skills are seeking employment. It provides 100 days of work and has contributed towards local development like water harvesting structures. The "wage work" has benefitted millions in the villages.

Apart from the benefits, the criticism has been of implementation. Wages are delayed sometimes and the work done is sometimes not what the area needs. It is said to be

Don't write anything this margin (कृपया हाशिये में कुछ न लिखें)

just symbolic of work. But this is not the true picture. MGNREGA has changed the face of the villages of our country. Now, manual labourer gets different opportunities to work and as a result the burden on the agriculture has also reduced.

→ In the current scenario, when skilling is regarded as important, MGNREGA can successfully let the transition happen from manual to skill.

→ It has the capacity to revive the traditional industries which will be a boost to

VISION IAS™

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

the MSME sector.

→ MGNREGA can be reformed by incorporating better wages and diversification of work that will lead to improvement in standard of living.

It is a great tool if used according to present needs and is truly a panacea for rural ills.

VISION IAS™

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

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?

बिजली 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?

Power sector in our country, is still plagued by power outages and low production. This is accompanied with transmission & distribution losses.

Power sector reforms, have never truly attacked the root cause of problems. Some of these problems are —

(1) Subsidy burden — While it is true that subsidies are very important for farmers but it also leads to wastage by them

as they no longer feel the value. Rationalising the subsidies can go a long way.

(ii) Power discoms – Power discoms are suffering from losses and government needs to address that.

(iii) Renewable – Over-dependence on coal and hydro has depleted the capacity and to reach geographical remote areas, renewables have to be used.

UDAY scheme tries to tackle one of the root causes and that is health of discoms. If companies are infused with the

Don't write anything th margin

capital, it can lead to reformation of the entire value chain from production to distribution to transmission.

This will indirectly reduce burden on consumers and will lead to more investment.

Power sector, being one of the most important sector of any economy, needs to be taken care of.

VISION IAS™

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।

Two ills of indian agriculture have, rightly, been "weather dependence" and "market volatility". The recent rise in prices of pulses can be attributed to such two factors. The fact of normal or deficient rain can decide the fate of life of a farmer in India.

→ Govt has tried to reduce weather dependence by investing in irigation but the result has been very unequal in different areas.

VISION IAS™

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

Similarly, to address market volatility, MSP and other price stabilisation measures are regularly taken by government.

The recent scheme of "PM Fasal Bima Yojana" seeks to ensure —

(i) compensation to farmers in case of crop loss owing to factors such as weather, including hailstorm etc.

(ii) It also includes provisions like weather forecasting and crop estimation.

This document is personalised for CHANDRIMA ATTRI (chandrima.attri24@gmail.com)

VISION IAS™

These provisions are definitely likely to reduce the burden on farmers but until and unless the whole agricultural system is reformed, this can only be a ~~burden~~ 'compensation' and not complete medicine.

VISION IAS™

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

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?

Hydrocarbons like oil, petroleum are crucial for the growth of an economy. India is a net importer of oil from Arab countries and hence HELP can go a long way in exploring new options.

→ As technology required for such explorations especially scaled exploration is expensive, investment in this regard is highly needed.

VISION IAS™

→ India with a long coastline has huge unexplored resources and this policy will help in uncovering these valuable resources.
New sources like shale gas can also be explored.

→ Deep sea mining is another area where such policy will help.

→ Due to the strategic importance of this sector, licensing system has been designed.

→ As the world acknowledges the limited reserves of fossil fuels and the environmental damage,

VISION IAS™

presence of new technology, new sources and new processes is very crucial.

HELP which is an improvement over NELP will guide us through to achieve our aims in the hydrocarbon sector and improve our fiscal deficit owing to reduced imports.

VISION IAS™

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

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 प्राय: अनदेखी की जाती रही है। चर्चा कीजिए। महिलाओं के लिए भूमि अधिकार सुनिश्चित करने हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

Land is seen as a source of power. Since ancient times, woman and the land, alike, were considered properties of men. This led to subjugation of women.

In this scenario, equal land ownership rights for women acquire great symbolic and economic significance.

Empowerment of women can happen if they have access to the source of wealth i.e land independently and in their own capacity. This will give them confidence

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything th margin (कुछ भी न लिखें)

and they will feel at par with men. But this area has often been overlooked as this aspect is more prominent in traditional landed societies like Haryana & Punjab.

To address this, government has tried to reform personal laws of communities as land is covered under them.

(i) Hindu Succession Act, 1956 has reformed this and now daughters are having equal right as sons when it comes to ownership.

(ii) Muslim women had rights to own land since time immemorial but this is not

VISION IAS™

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

equal to that of men.

Acknowledging the difficulty faced by govt in amending personal laws, there are other areas where govt can contribute significantly

→ Electronic land records - Sometimes, land owned by women are shown in the name of their son in records which poses a legal problem. This can be addressed.

Women empowerment can take place only when the issue is seen holistically.

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything in margin

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 acrue 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।

The scheme of "Per drop, more crop" denotes the importance of micro-irigation in indian agriculture.

Micro-irigation is of different types including drip irigation using bamboos and sprinkler irrigation using fountains.

→ These methods can lead to increase in productivity as now with same amount of water, more crop can be grown.

→ This also leads to better utilisation of land when it comes to "point irrigation" where water is

VISION IAS™

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

directly specifically to roots.

→ This is also a water conservation technique as tubewells are banned now disused. PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana also takes into account ecological irrigation techniques.

The problem with the implementation is that Indian agriculture is highly biased towards certain crops like rice, sugarcane etc. These crops, being water intensive have led to lowering of water tables. Adoption of such techniques will require incentives from government to make the farmers diversify their production.

VISION IAS™

Don't writ anything th margin

This practice can be a panacea for areas like deserts and hills.

With coming of technology like rice intensification which uses less water can augment the usage of such practices.

Government needs to take in local government for the awareness of people and only with mass participation and realisation can such practices be adopted.

VISION IAS™

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

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 समस्यायें 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 has led to indiscriminate use of certain fertilisers at the cost of others.

→ This scheme was intended so to make available fertilisers containing essential nutrients like N, P, K to farmers at reasonable rates.

→ The example of urea can be given to best explain the problem. Urea use has been increased to dangerous levels owing to cheap prices and easy availability.

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

The effect of urea subsidy has been destructive to land, crops and health of the consumers as well as farmers.

The fertilizer subsidy policy of India needs to be relooked given the ~~stat~~ people at stake —

(i) Paving the way for organic fertilisers — The fertiliser subsidy should be rationalised in such a way so that more people prefer organic ones.

(ii) The middlemen involved in the distribution should be regulated so that they don't eat up the subsidy targeted for the poor.

VISION IAS™

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

(iii) The hoarding and blackmarketing practices need to be stopped as soon as possible.

Fertilisers play a very important part in agricultural production and subsidy is one way to lessen the burden on farmers. But subsidies are mostly taken advantage of by rich farmers while poor are fooled by middlemen. This "drain of money" needs to be checked for efficient management of public money.

VISION IAS™

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

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 क्षेत्रक (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 क्षेत्रक की क्षमताओं एवं उसके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही, सरकार द्वारा हाल के वर्षों में इस क्षेत्रक की क्षमता का लाभ प्राप्त करने हेतु उठाए गए कदमों को गिनाइए।

Livestock sector, when linked with agriculture, can uplift the rural economy and economic status of poor. "Operation flood" has highlighted the potential of this sector.

→ The agricultural produce can efficiently be used as fodder for animals and cow dung can be used as a manure. This inter-dependence needs to be highlighted.

* But the sector is not without its challenges —

(i) Low technological inputs - The conditions in which animals are reared are very underdeloped as compared to other countries. This leads to diseases owing to unhygienic premises.

(ii) Low output - Animals are not able to give maximum output as care is not taken. Medical experts should be consulted and proper food be given.

(iii) Marketing - Villagers do not possess marketing skills and they are unable to reach big markets. The success of "Amul" was in part owing to the marketing via advertisements and songs.

VISION IAS™

Government has come up with various measures which will increase the possibility of value addition and hence increase the income.

→ The food processing sector can come to the rescue by providing investment and technology. Food Technology parks can help in development of this sector.

But we need to continue supporting farmers in their initiatives by credit support & other facilities to make rural economy developed.

VISION IAS™

Don't write anything this margin (कृपया हाशिये में कुछ न लिखें)

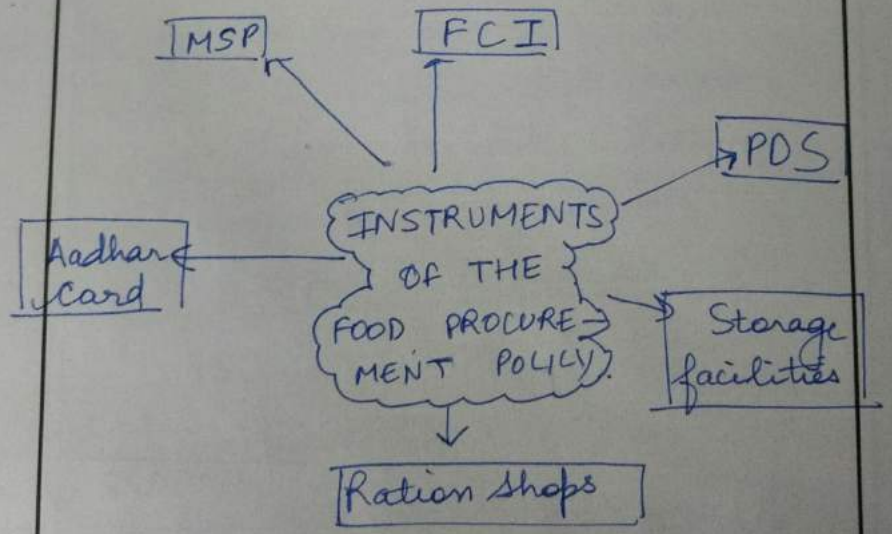
17. What are the twin objectives of government food procurement policy in India? Discuss the instruments of this policy. Do you think there is an urgent need for rationalization of MSP policy in India?

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?

The twin objectives of government food procurement policy are —

(i) Making available buffer stock for unfavourable times.

(ii) Supporting the farmers when price in market falls below MSP.



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

The food procurement policy of India has been subjected to various criticisms but the most important one has been regarding minimum support price :-

(i) Only for certain crops - Over-production of rice & wheat and less space to other protein rich crops like pulses.

(ii) Benefit to rich farmers - Poor farmers are often not able to get the benefit due to middleman & corruption.

(iii) PRE-SOWING announcement of MSP - This leads to sowing of rice & wheat only as MSP declared is of very high rate.

(iv) Filter through middlemen, hardly any benefit to farmer

All these factors necessitate ~~that~~ MSP policy should seriously be reformed for better targeting and results.

VISION IAS™

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

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 क्षेत्रक को अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर प्रतिस्पर्धी बनाने एवं उच्च विकास प्राप्त करने हेतु दूर किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

As agriculture is heavily burdened with people, often leading to "DISGUISED UNEMPLOYMENT", food processing industry can divert the people to this value-addition industry.

This will be achieved due to the following factors —

(i) Linked with agriculture so easy to setup - Agricultural products like sugarcane can be easily converted into jaggery.

(ii) Development of transport - Food processing industry will lead to development of other ancillary services like transportation,

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

storage etc. Hence, leading to more employment.

(iii) Development of Cottage industries
Village industries like those of making earthern pots will also expand as food, processed, needs containers to reach markets. This will give aesthetic village touch to the product.

Befor the food processing sector can become highly competitive, it needs to expand its resource base and technological resource.

→ This can be done by investment and so setting up food technology parks is a step in right direction.

VISION IAS™

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

→ It needs to be innovative and unique and geographical indications can play an important part. This will fetch buyers who are interested in traditional & exotic products.

→ Awareness & market exposure should take place gradually.

This sector has the potential to become great if proper direction & support is given.

VISION IAS™

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 ?

Most such farmers will be seen to be harvesting only one crop for the entire year; either it will be water-intensive or highly fertilisir dependent.

But poor farmers cannot afford such expensive inputs. They then adopt mixed farming which allows them to harvest the crop according to money available and weather changes.

But this forced option is a great tool for ecological agriculture and nutrient diversification.

...enrolled for CHANDRIMA ATTRI(chandrima.attri2@gmail.com)

VISION IAS™

To help farmers realise its potential

(i) Awareness about the soil benefits - Legumes are often grown after a cycle of 6 months as they help restore the nitrogen from the atmosphere. This dispenses the need of fertilisers.

(ii) Tackling malnutrition - As most agriculture is also subsistence, govt. needs to highlight the benefits of eating a diverse diet which is possible only if mixed farming takes place.

(ii) Money saved on pesticides - Crops grown are natural pesticides and weedicides.

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com
Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

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

Government can also incentivise by providing better rates and rationalising MSP policy.

Mixed farming is the way forward given the rise of environmental ethics & diet changes from grain-based to fruits.

VISION IAS™

anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

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 in India is guided by weather changes and government policies.

In North India, seasons which are the most important are Kharif, Rabi and Zaid. Different crops are sown in each of them.

(*) Cropping pattern is nothing but the way in which crops are sown and it includes —

(i) what kind of crops are sown?

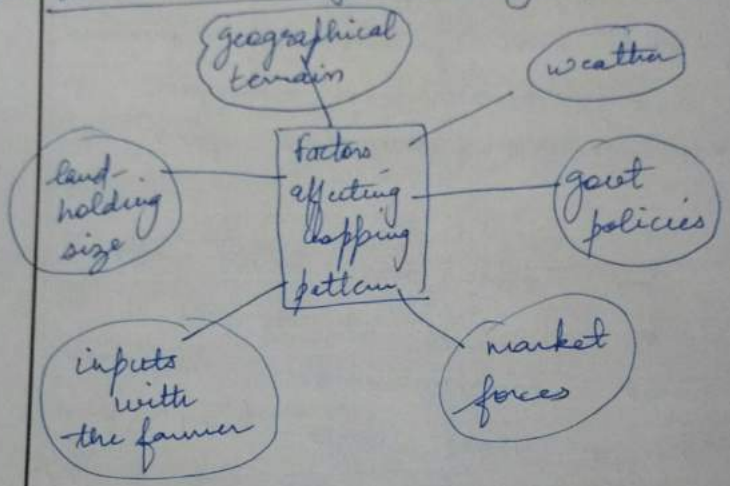
(ii) In how much quantity?

(iii) Is a single crop sown at one

Don't write anything this margin (कुछ भाग में खुला आ किसी)

time or multiple crops ?

(iv) What is the year-long pattern ?



Owing to the agro-ecological concerns, cropping patterns need to be changed in the country.

(i) Mixed farming should be promoted.

(ii) Diversification of agriculture should take place.

VISION IAS™

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

(iii) Less water-intensive crops need to be alternated with water-intensive ones to conserve water.

(iv) ~~Or~~ Natural weedicides, herbicides & pestisides need to be grown alongwith crops.

Our aim should be ~~to~~ move towards organic agriculture and take example from our north-eastern state 'Sikkim' in this regard.

document is personalised for CHANDRIMA ATTRI(chandrima.attri2@gmail.com)