

VAJIRAM & RAVI

SURE SHOT TEST SERIES FLT 2024

GENERAL STUDIES Full Length Test Test - 3 (GS3 CT)

Time allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

ADMIN. NO.:

NAME:

MOBILE NO.:

EMAIL.:

SUBMISSION DATE:

**UPSE CSE 2025
AIR - 929**

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:

*There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**. All the questions are compulsory.*

The number of marks carried by a question/ part is indicated against it. Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks
Q1	/10	Q8	/10	Q15	/15
Q2	/10	Q9	/10	Q16	/15
Q3	/10	Q10	/10	Q17	/15
Q4	/10	Q11	/15	Q18	/15
Q5	/10	Q12	/15	Q19	/15
Q6	/10	Q13	/15	Q20	/15
Q7	/10	Q14	/15	Total	/250

Follow these steps to avail the facility of mentoring –

1. Go through the soft copy of your evaluated answer sheet and analyse all the comments and suggestions given.
2. Call **9717565805** between 11:00 am to 5:00 pm to fix your mentoring slot.
3. Please follow the mentoring appointment timings properly.

Parameters	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Language and Articulation						
Structure and Presentation						
Conceptual clarity and Content						
Number of Attempted questions						

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions

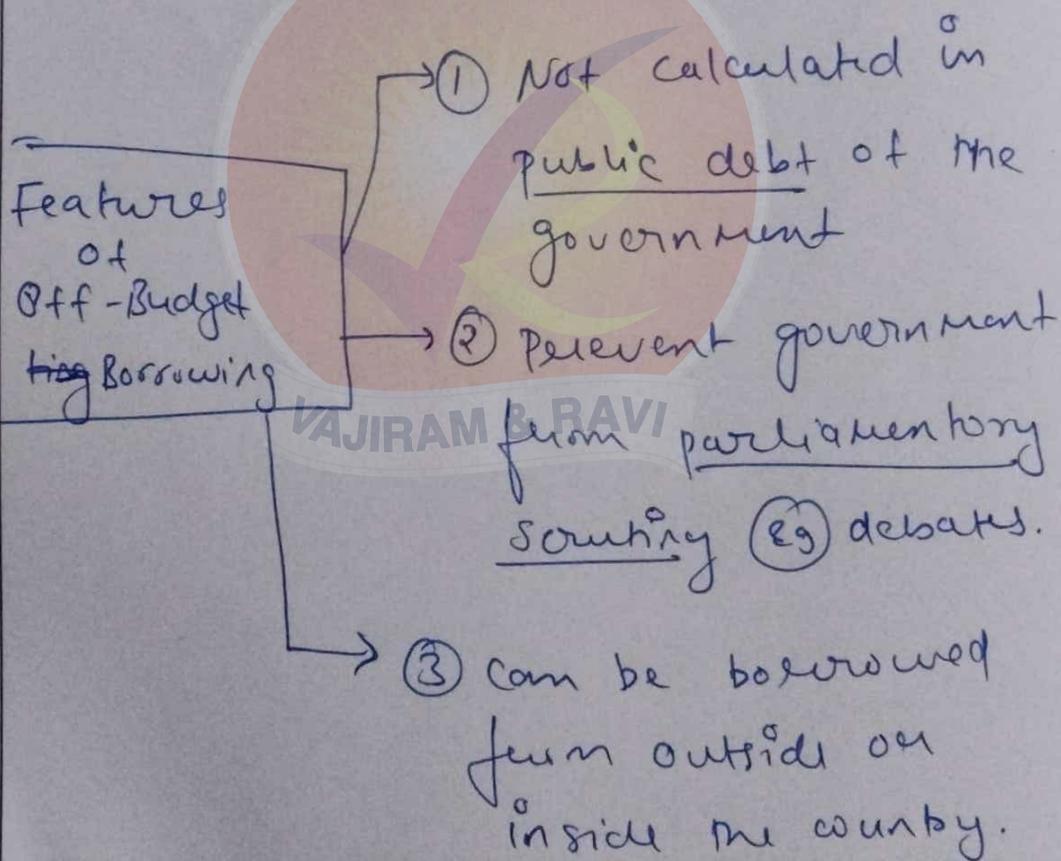




(Answer questions in NOT MORE than the word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length.)

1. What do you mean by off-budget borrowings? Discuss the various issues associated with them. (10 marks, 150 words)

Off-budget borrowing refers to borrowing made by public sector companies in the name of government.



Issue associated with off budget borrowing

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(Don't write anything in this part)

- 1) Undiscriminate borrowing → High interest liability → Burden on citizen through tax or non-tax revenue
- 2) Lack of financial accountability
- 3) Seen as escape by government from eyes of people.
- 4) low investment → due to low investors confidence
- 5) crowding out effect → low private investment → poor GDP growth.

way forward

→ ~~Should~~ Should be include in fiscal deficit calculation

→ public debt should limit to 60% (FROM act)

Off-budget borrowing have its own significance. However its usability should be regulated.

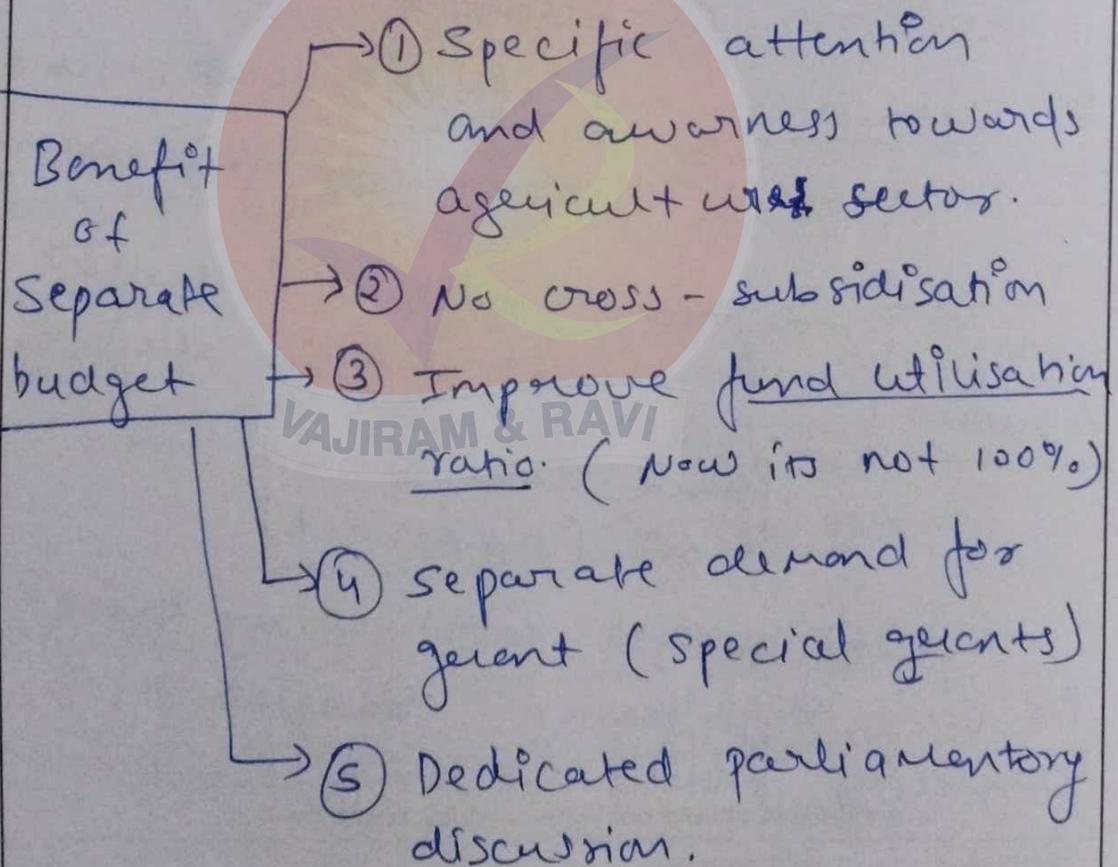
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Introduction
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Suggestions:

2. Do you agree that the agriculture sector in India needs a separate budget for its transformation? Substantiate. (10 marks, 150 words)

Currently, agricultural budget is a part of common central budget of government. Demands for separate budget were raised by farmers organisations.



However, despite separate budget, alternatives should be

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empowered to resolve agricultural issues.

1) Infrastructure → PPP investment
→ contract farming
→ Capex (↑) in agri-sector.

2) Food security → Nutricereal cropping
(eg) millets
↓
Supply chain

3) price realisation → National Market
↓ (eg) e-NAM
MSP rationalisation Private procurement

4) Sustainability → Climate smart agriculture
↓
Natural farming.

India use to have separate budget for railways but that was done away because of low significance. Same mough can be apply to agriculture.

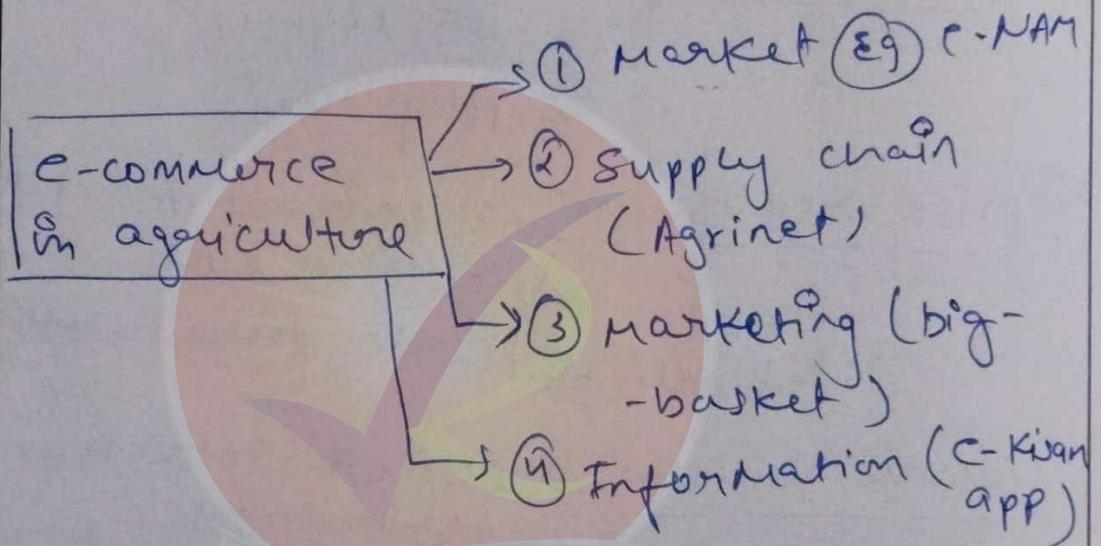
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Suggestions:

3. Growth of e-commerce has huge potential in revolutionizing the agriculture products supply chains. Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

Economic Survey (2023-24) highlighted the significance of e-commerce in agriculture to ensure prosperity of 'Annadata'



Potential of e-commerce in revolutionizing agriculture product supply chain

1) Infrastructure

↳ Better efficiency of existing infrastructure. Like APMC Mandis through e-NAM.

Don't write anything in this part)

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↳ Investment in cold storage, warehouse facilities.

2) real time data → Better price discovery
weather information

3) Boost contract farming → reduce government burden for procurement.

4) Demand-Supply match → ~~do~~ must reduce food inflation.

5) Reduce logistic cost (currently 14%)

Cyber security concern
digital gender divide

Issues

low digital literacy in rural areas.
poor internet penetration

Economic survey emphasizes on e-commerce will ensure doubling farmers income and food security of nation

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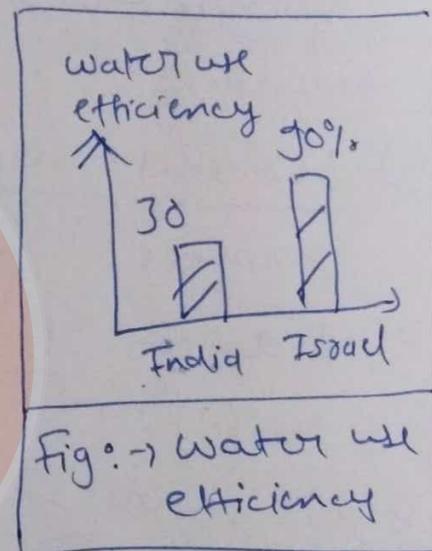
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4. 'Water use efficiency is the keystone in the sustainable development of the Indian agriculture sector.' Examine. (10 marks, 150 words)

According to official reports, around 20% water use efficiency is more in agricultural sector

Water use efficiency is keystone in the sustainable development of agriculture

1) decreasing ground water level → 61% decrease between 2005-15



2) low productivity due to issues like water logging & logging. (Eg) Indira Gandhi canal, Rajasthan.

3) Irrigation cost is high → due to large water requirement. →

4) water use efficiency reduce input cost → Better profit margin

5. Robust economic growth requires a complementation between the public and private investment. Examine the statement with reference to falling private investments in the Indian economy. (10 marks, 150 words)

Private investment in Indian economy is falling amid global uncertainties, high public debt and liquidity crunch.

Reason for falling private investment

1) Global events

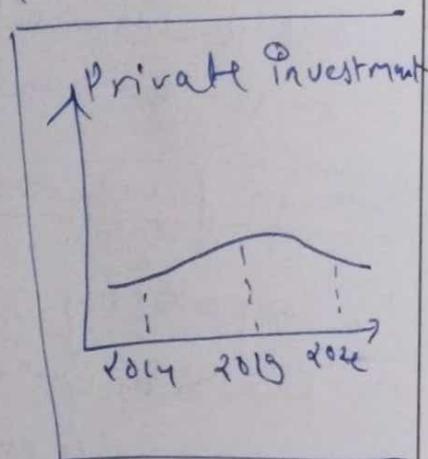
↓ ↓
Israel protectionist
gaza. policies.
war

2) Bureaucratic hurdles → Red tapism
regulatory burden.

3) low economic growth rate (around 8%)

4) easy monetary policy stance by USA economy → Hot money pulled out

5) High NPA, fiscal deficit etc are among other reasons.



Significance of public and private investment for economic growth

- 1) Budget Burden shared (eg) Hybrid annuity model (HAM) → 60:40 funding
- 2) Faster regulatory clearance → reduce cost overrun.
- 3) Increase fixed capital formation ratio. → require for long term growth
- 4) High investors confidence
- 5) Faster land procurement, environmental clearance etc.

Kelkar committee suggest

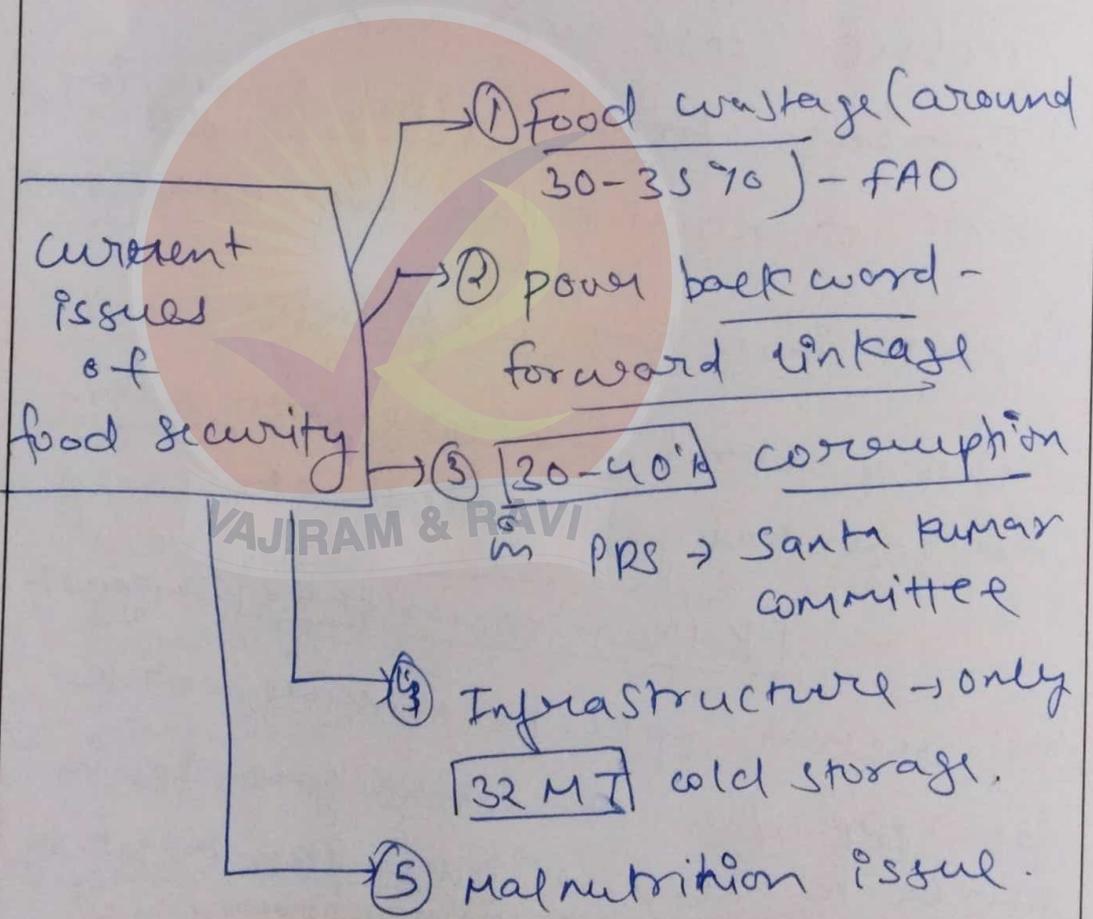
for sector specific framework for PPP for economic growth in order to achieve 'pench pran target by 2047'

Students should not write anything inside the box 2047'

Introduction	Sugges tions:
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6. Discuss several ways in which biotechnology can help in ensuring food security in India. (10 marks, 150 words)

India ranked 71^{th} in recent global hunger Index. To ensure food security, biotechnology can be panacea.



Biotechnology can help in ensuring food security

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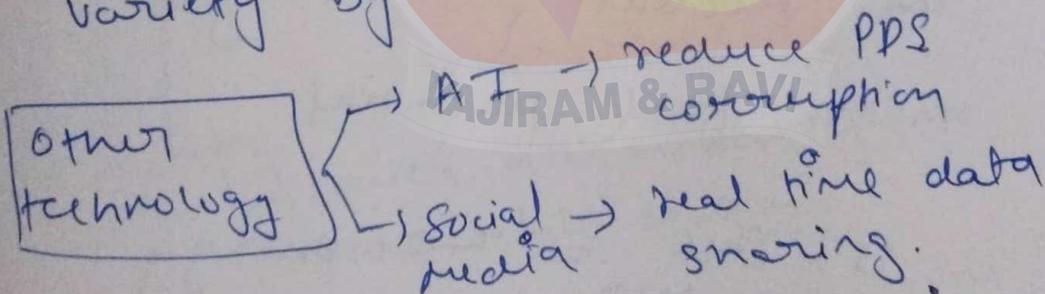
1) Biofertilization → Better nutrition - of quality → reduce malnutrition - (eg) Golden rice

2) Disease resistance variety of ~~crop~~ crop → crop loss due to disease is one of highest in world

3) Micro-irrigation (eg) Fertigation

4) Improve soil quality

5) Improve productivity (eg) wheat variety by ICAR.



Food security (SPN-2) is essential to reap demographic potential to become developed nation.

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Marks:

Suggestions:

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7. Explain the significance of the Fast Breeder Reactor (FBR) in achieving the goals of India's Nuclear energy program. (10 marks, 150 words)

currently India's nuclear capacity produce around 3% of total requirement (around 6,600 MW)

Fast Breeder reactor

1) Fast moving nuclear hit at nuclear fuel to generate more fuel potential

0 + fast nuclear = 0 + 0 + energy

- 2) net positive energy
- 3) higher version ~~of~~ or advance version of nuclear generation
- 4) Require poor moderator

Significance

- ① Energy security (currently only 430 GW produce)
- ② Sustainable energy source
- ③ Reduce import dependency crude oil
- ④ Fullfill India's aim to triple nuclear generation
- ⑤ Lower intermittenacy as renewable energy.

Fast breeder reactors can ensure $\&$ energy security as high-lighted by budget 2023-24

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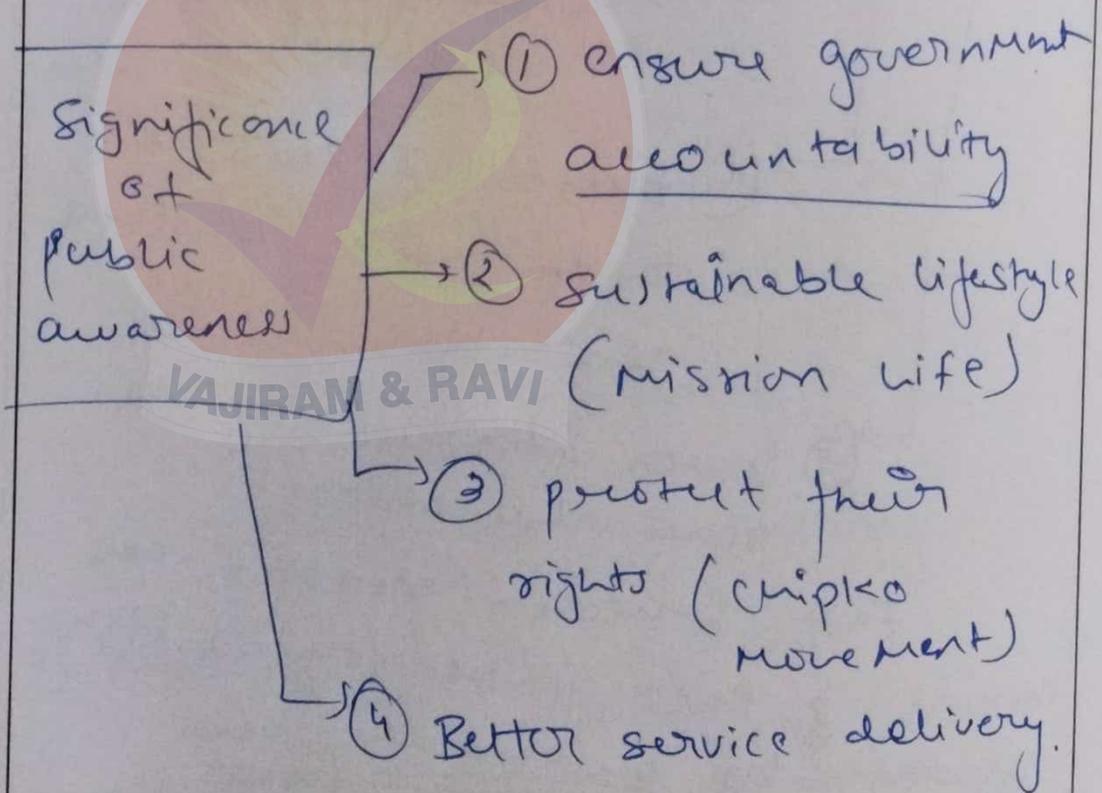
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8. Public awareness is primary in inculcating environmental consciousness. How does the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) promote environmental awareness?

(10 marks, 150 words)

Environmental impact assessment refers to objective evaluation of project and its impact on environment and society.



EIA promote public awareness

1) Public consultation :- → around

~~not~~ 20 days public consultation before report presentation

- 2) aware people about the benefits and issues of project
- 3) Grievance redressal
- 4) modify plan according to public demand.

Case Study → Vedanta project in

Chhattisgarh → stay due to poor public consultation and inadequate EIA.

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Environmental impact

assessment help to resolve dichotomy of development vs. sustainability debate.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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9. Overexploitation strains the quality as well as the quantity of our groundwater resources. Analyze. (10 marks, 150 words)

India exploit 25% of world groundwater extraction which is most by any nation.

Overexploitation related issue

1) $Quality$

1.1) 80% of surface water polluted

1.2) salination of groundwater

1.3) minerals leaching pollute water.

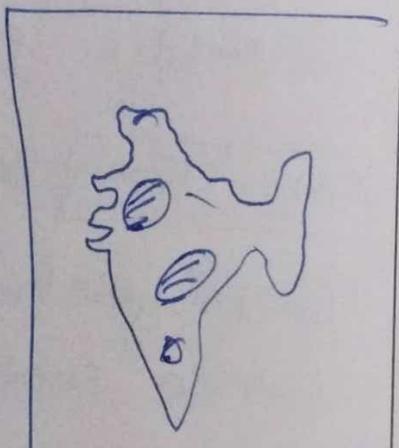
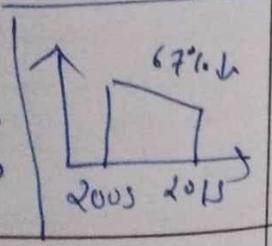


Fig: Groundwater Overexploitation

2) $Quantity$

2.1) 61% reduction in groundwater level \rightarrow



2.2) ground water exploiting
reason experiencing strain
(eg) Punjab agriculture.

Way forward

1) Ministry of Water

1.1) Water rates should be fixed

1.2) Train water professionals

1.3) water budgeting

1.4) Train water harvesting.

1.5) micro-irrigation.

Water will be essential element for future of humanity survival.

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Introduction

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Marks:

Suggestions:

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10. Disinformation has become a serious threat to internal security.' In the light of the statement, mention the role of the State in prevention of fake news.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Fake news over social media grow by more than 100% in past 5 years

Disinformation threat to Internal Security

- 1) social conflict
- 2) violence
- 3) police diversion toward fake incident.

Role of State

- 1) social intermediaries
regulation → IT act 2000
→ IT rules 2021

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- 2) Self regulation push
- 3) Safe harbour provision
by govt.
- 4) Falce check unit

mena hemchara
Committee recommend cyber
security force, & awareness
of people et for safe
cyber space.

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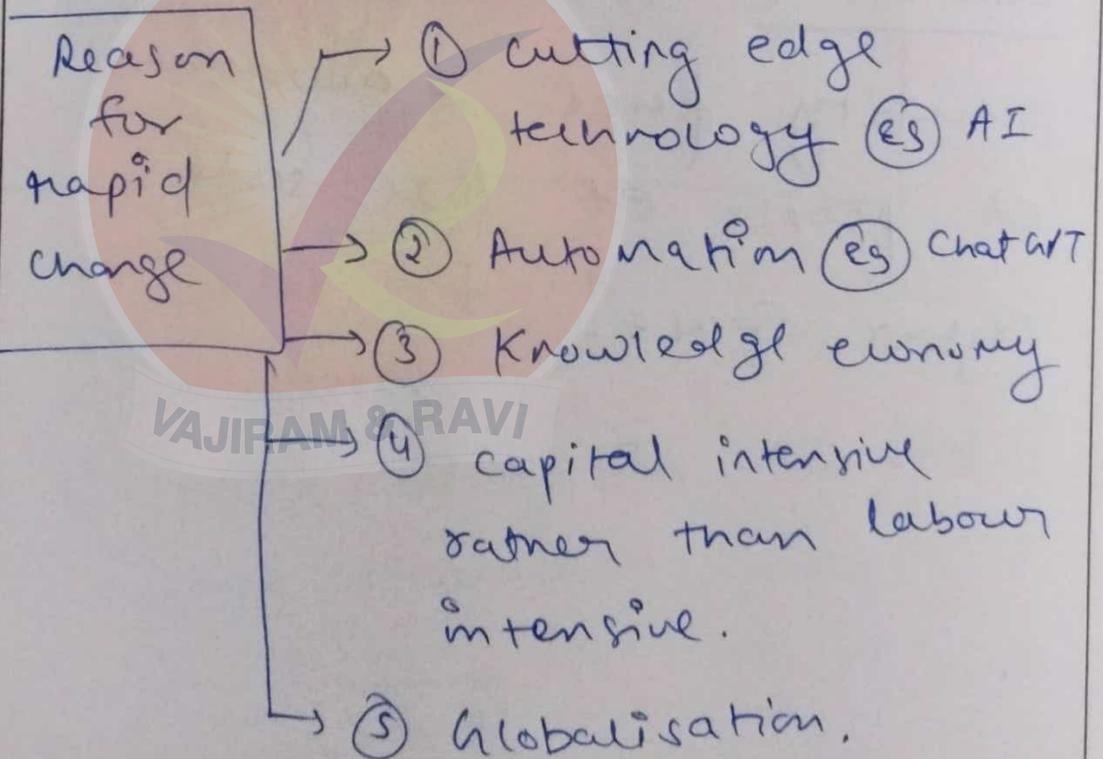
Suggestions:

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11. 'Employment opportunities in India are experiencing a rapid transformation.' In the light of the statement, discuss the preparedness of the Indian labor force to adapt to this transformation. (15 marks, 250 words)

Industrial revolution 4.0 demand new set of skill and expertise which is different from traditional labour market.



Issue associated with rapid transformation.

1) Job loss :-> due to automation

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(Don't write anything in this part)

traditional labour intensive jobs will be reduced

(eg) assembly line workers.

2) Informalisation of workforce

↳ due to competition → companies do not hire → rather have contract contract.

↳ currently more than 85% workforce informal.

3) SKILL requirement will be different (eg) coding experts

4) data driven incentive (eg) gig workers → incentive based on rating.

Indian labour force preparedness

1) new labour code

↳ ensure social security

↳ skill development

↳ protect labour interest.

(Don't write anything in this part)

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- 2) Skill development mission
(Es) Koushal vikas yojana,
- 3) Vocational training → school (NEP 2020)
→ elderly
- 4) Incubation center, Atal tinkering lab for innovation.
- 5) push toward startup culture (formalisation)
- 6) e-sharam portal

In transition from the
atmanirbhar bharat to viksrit
bharat, labour force prepared-
-ness is must in order to
reap demographic dividend

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Marks:

Suggestions:

12. Liberalized Indian economy expanded rapidly at the cost of social equity. Elaborate. Also, suggest measures for promoting inclusive economic growth.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Inclusive growth refers to model of growth in which benefits and burden are shared among all ~~a~~ fairly and equitably

Liberalized economy at cost of social ~~eq~~ equity

1) open competition from world market - small & industries shut down due to low economic capital.

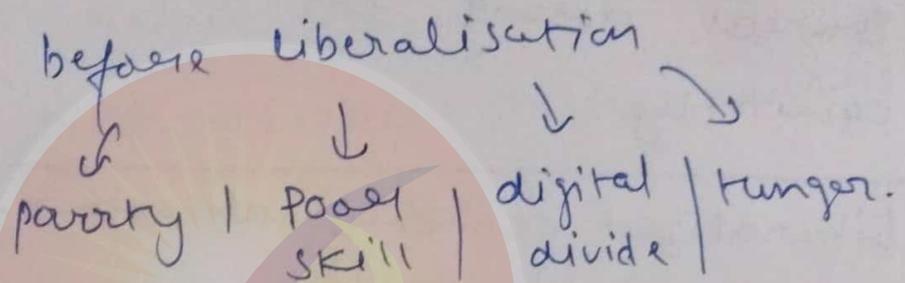
2) lack of affirmative action toward weaker sections.
↓ ↓ ↓
women / elderly / SC/ST

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3) ~~was~~ economic support like taxation relief not reached bottom of hierarchy

(eg) Dalit business man.

4) ~~poor~~ human capital development



Measures for promoting inclusive economic growth

1) level playing field

(eg) stand up India → women
→ ST/SC

2) Skill development

(eg) PM Vishwakarma scheme

3) capital availability

(eg) MUDRA loan.

4) Vocational training (national & education policy)

~~IAO~~ Economic growth without inclusivity is blind and inclusivity without economic growth is unsustainable.

These steps should be taken towards this.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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13. Livestocks play a key role in improving the socio-economic conditions of the rural masses. In this light, discuss the potential opportunities for the livestock farmers in India. (15 marks, 250 words)

Livestock constitute around 30% of agricultural GVA in India, thus have significance.

Role played by livestock in improving socio-economic condition of rural areas.

1) Income :-> around one-third of rural household income come from livestock.

2) employment and source of income round the year.

3) low climate associated risk compare to cropping

4) Nutritional requirement of

rural area fulfilled.

(Eg) egg, meat etc.

5) Social significance of livestock

(Eg) cow from perspective of religion → Holy.

⇓

Social cohesion among communities.

Potential opportunities for livestock farmers

1) India have largest livestock population → highest buffaloes (more than 50%)
↓
poultry, etc.

2) large coastline → huge potential of fisheries.

3) Top quality of milk
→ west → alpha milk (Poor quality)
→ India → Beta milk (good quality)

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4) Traditional Knowledge associated with livestock.

way forward to achieve potential

1) Disease control (eg) ~~Lumpy~~ Lumpy skin disease.

↳ national animal disease control program.

2) Research and development to develop good quality of breed

3) Infrastructure (eg) cold storage.

4) associated services (eg) veterinary doctor.

Santa Kumar committee and Ashok dalwai committee emphasized on livestock sector to double the farmers income.

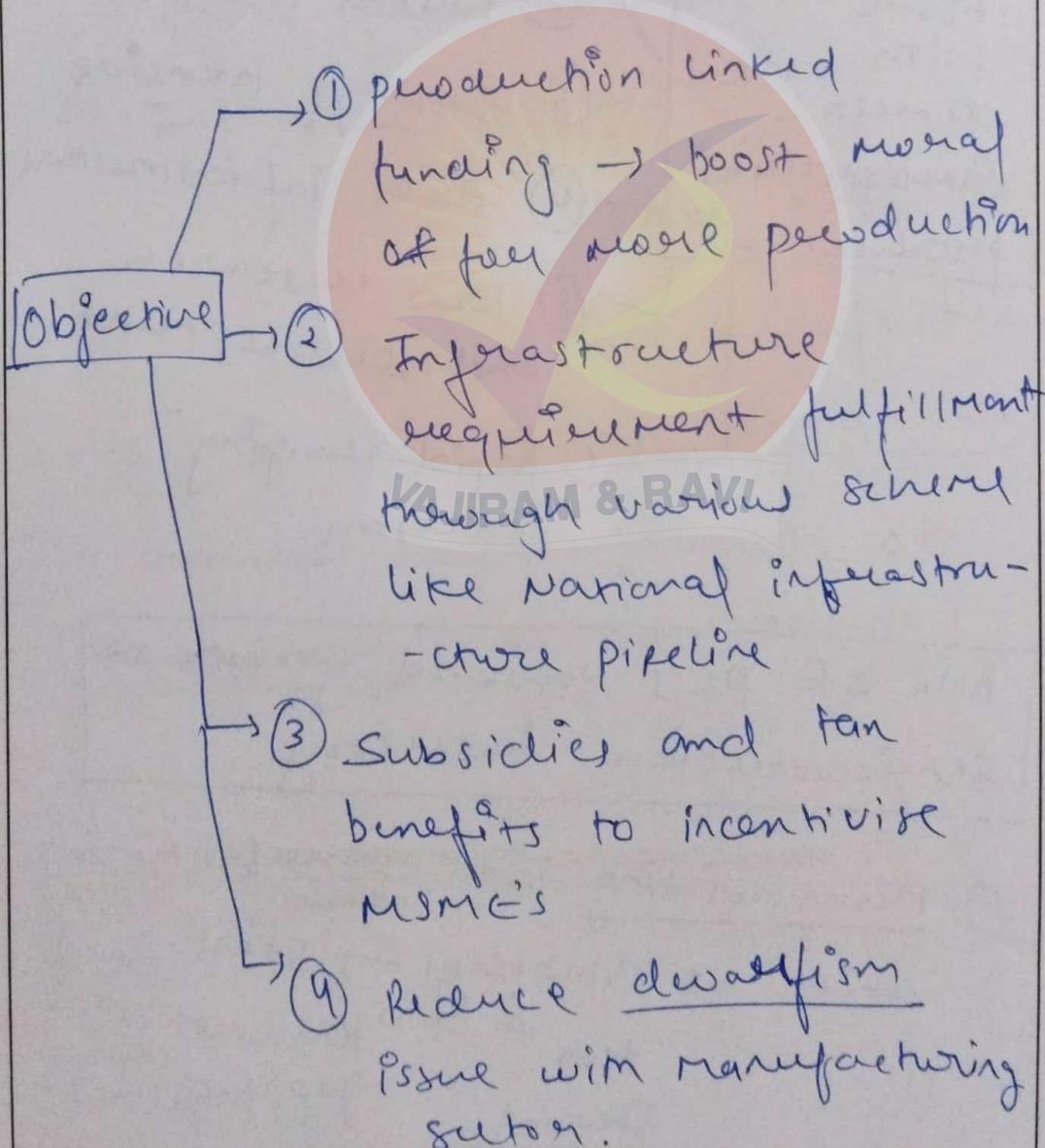
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14. What are the objectives of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme? Analyze its role in the growth of indigenous semiconductor industry.

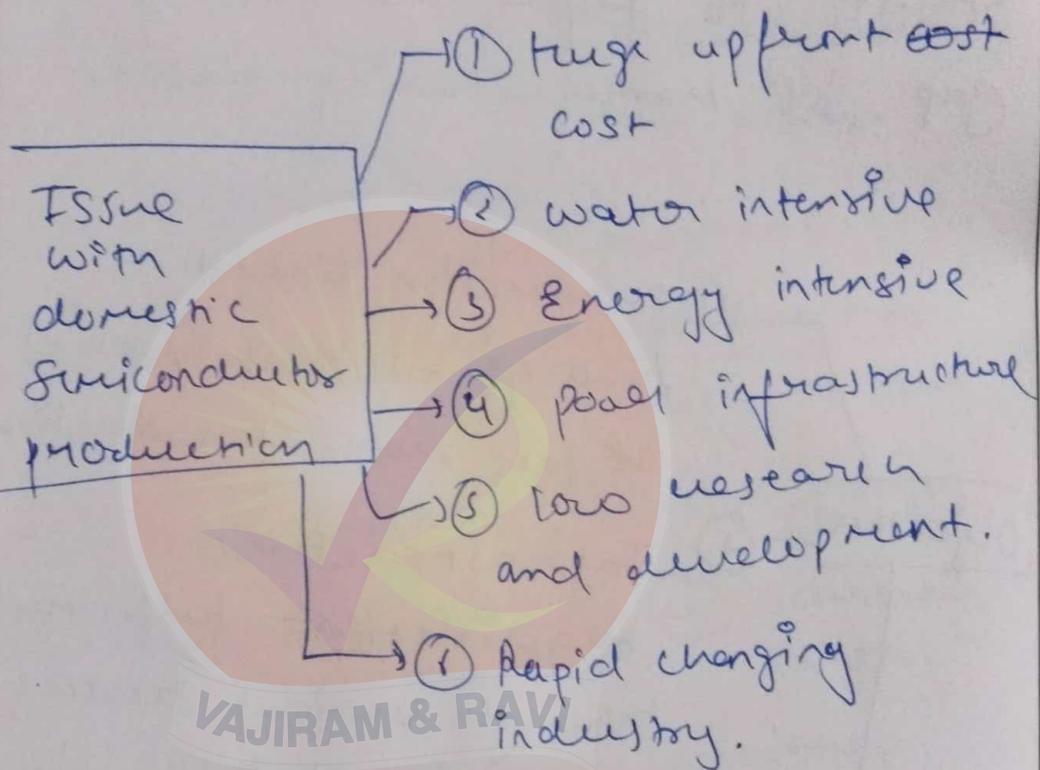
(15 marks, 250 words)

Production linked incentive (PLI) scheme formulated by government to fulfill the missing gap of manufacturing sector.



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India import almost all of its semiconductor requirement through import.



Role of PLI toward growth of semiconductor industry

1) Handholding of manufacturing units at starting → seed fund
tech ↓ → knowledge gap fulfilled.
Sharing.

- 2) Funding to ensure output and efficiency.
- 3) Skill development toward cutting & edge technology.
- 4) Safe guard local industries from global competition.
- 5) Infrastructure → water
→ land
→ road etc.

Semiconductor manufactu-
-ring is need to be atmanirbhar
to ensure rapid growth of
New India @ 75 (Niti aayog)

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15. Delays in infrastructure projects create massive cost overruns. Elaborate the major causes of delays and potential solutions for timely project execution.

(15 marks, 250 words)

The National infrastructure pipeline formulated by government to reduce delay and speedy completion of the projects.

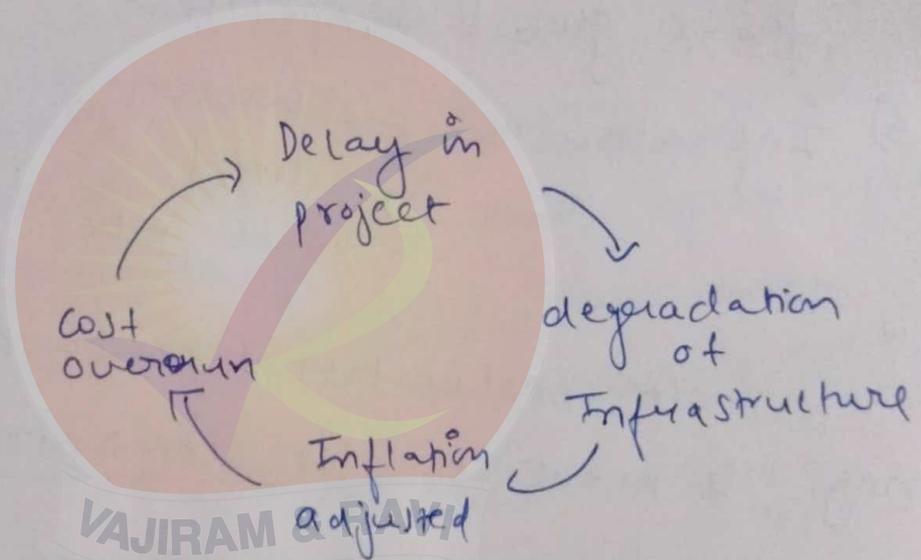


Fig: → vicious cycle

Major cause of delay

- 1) Regulatory hurdles
 - environmental clearance
 - licensing

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(Don't write anything in this part)

2) Judicial stay on the project

(Eg) NAT stay on project
inside CRZ norms.

3) Funding issue → during covid
→ Economic recession
↓
change in priorities

4) Social objection → protest
↓
Human right violation
→ Environmental groups.

5) Corruption in projects

6) Lack of professionalism

Potential solutions for timely project execution

1) Ease of doing business
↓

2) Less regulatory hurdles.

(Eg) Single window clearance.

3) penalty provision for delay in project.

4) No so blanket ban due to judicial intervention

5) Other recommendation by Niti aayog 'New India @ 75'

↳ use of technology

↳ Interoperability among departments

↳ Environmental impact assessment to reduce social obli-
-gation.

PM gati shakti is in

right direction for timely completion of project to ensure transition from 'atmanirbhar' to 'viksit bharat'

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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16. The Indian Space sector exhibits huge growth potential. Analyze the opportunities for the private sector in the Indian space industry. (15 marks, 250 words)

Indian space sector is growing as global leader due to its resource efficiency and technological advancement.

Space sector potential

① satellite launch (success rate of more than 90% in last decade) → Help global south
↓
Regional communication system / a leader.

② Employment generation

③ Manufacturing push
↓ ↓ ↓
Launch vehicle | Control system | Satellite

④ Global cooperation (Eg) LUPEX

(Don't write anything in this part)

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- ⑤ space exploration → Aditya L1
↓ MOM mission
- ⑥ space research and development (Eg) XPO SAT
- ⑦ remote sensing (Eg) ResourcesAT
OceanSAT

Opportunities for private sector

1) Indian space policy 2023

↳ Favours private sector involvement

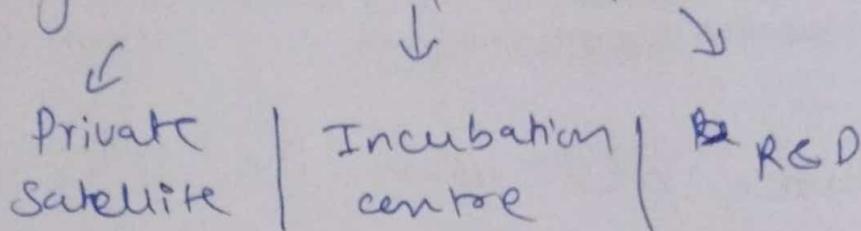
↳ provide information and infrastructural support.

↳ Funding, technology transfer etc.

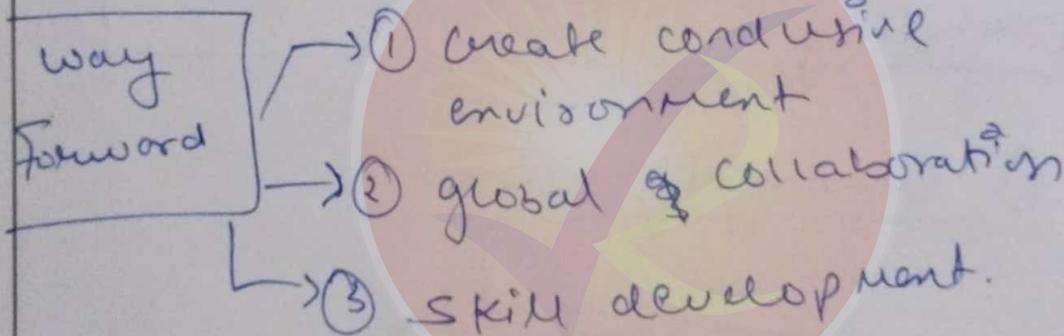
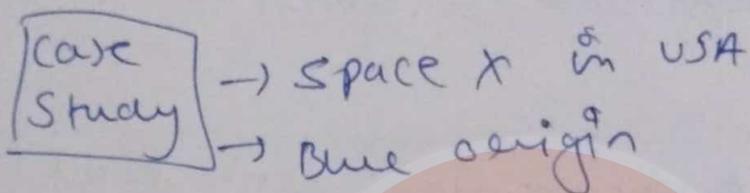
2) ~~INSACE~~ INSAAACE → dedicated body for better coordination with private players.

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3) governmental support



4) startup push in space sector.



Private players will help to reduce burden of ISRO and help it to focus on space research.

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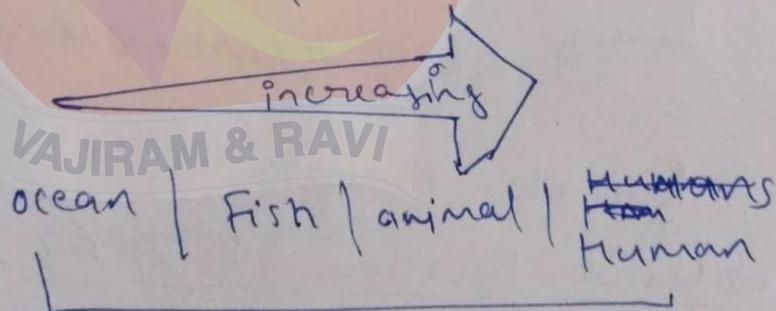
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17. Plastic waste has become near ubiquitous, threatening ecological stability. Explain. Also, discuss various measures taken by the government to contain further environmental degradation by plastic wastes. (15 marks, 250 words)

"Plastic has been the one of worst wonderful discovery of mankind" - ~~the~~ United Nation.

Plastic threatening ecological stability

1) Bio-magnification



Food chain

2) Non-biodegradable nature lead to accumulation of waste → ocean
→ mountains peaks
→ dense forest.

- 3) Disease :-> can lead to various contagious disease.
- 4) lead to coral bleaching
- 5) Death of animal due to indigestion (eg) cow eating plastic
- 6) Soil degradation (30% - ISRO)
- 7) pollute surface water (80% of surface water already polluted).
- 8) carcinogenic in nature -> cause cancer.

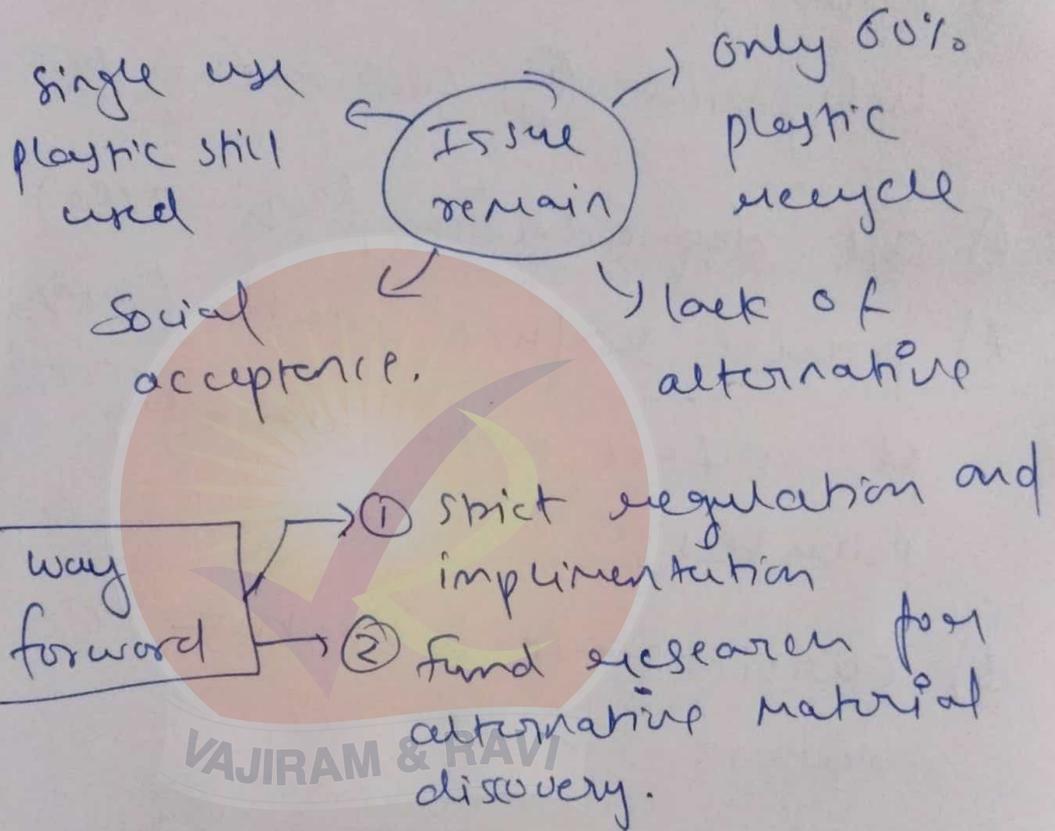
Step taken by government

- 1) plastic waste management rule (2016)
- 2) Extended producer responsibility (EPR)

(Don't write anything in this part)

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- 3) Ban on single use plastic
- 4) plastic pact.
- 5) swachh bharat abhiyan.



Plastic waste need to reduce and eliminate from common eye to fulfill 'panchavati' targets.

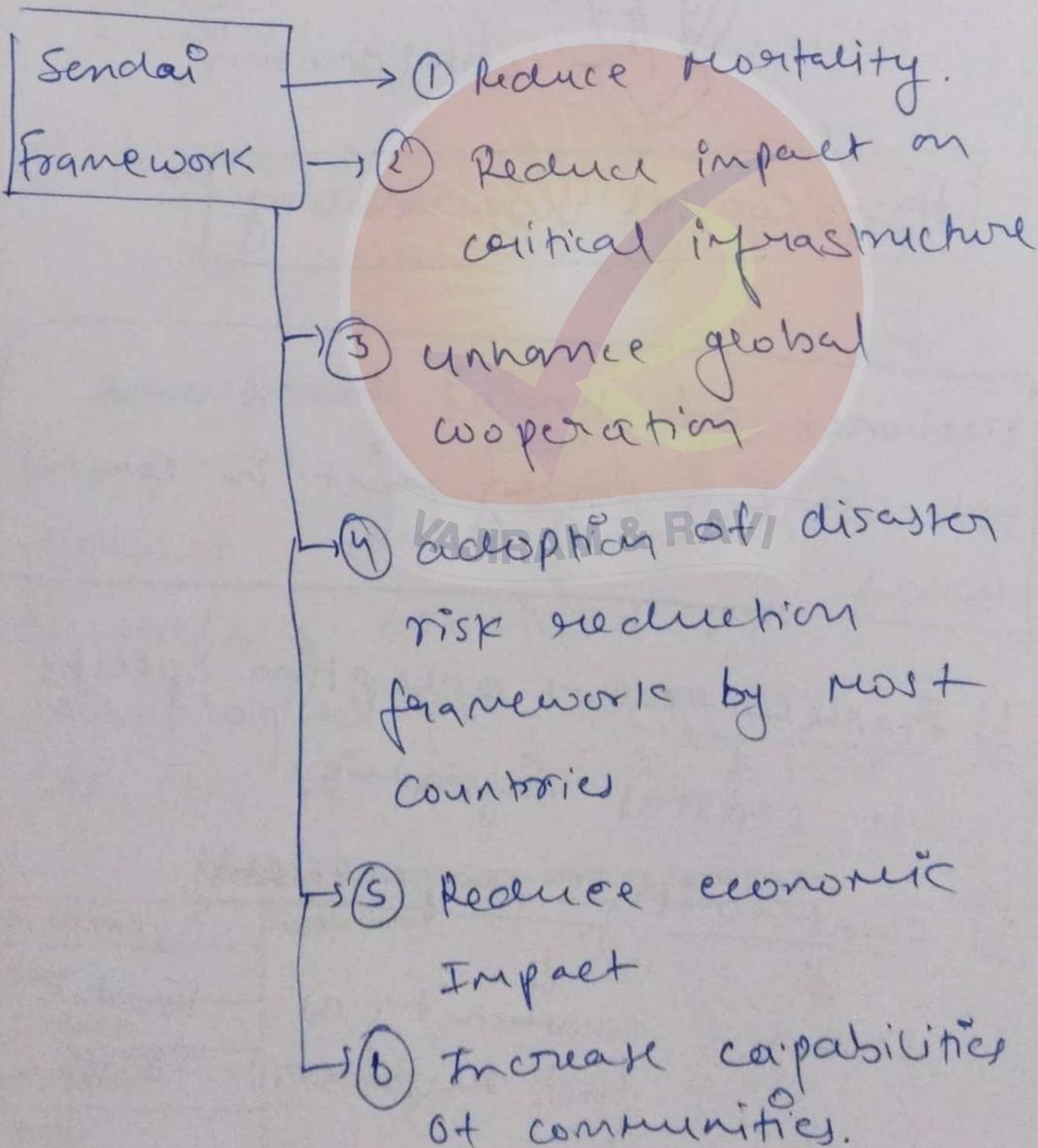
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18. Elaborate the disaster vulnerability of Indian coastal cities with examples. Examine the relevance of Sendai Framework in disaster management of coastal regions.

(15 marks, 250 words)

Sendai framework is global guideline to tackle disaster and ensure risk reduction associate with it.



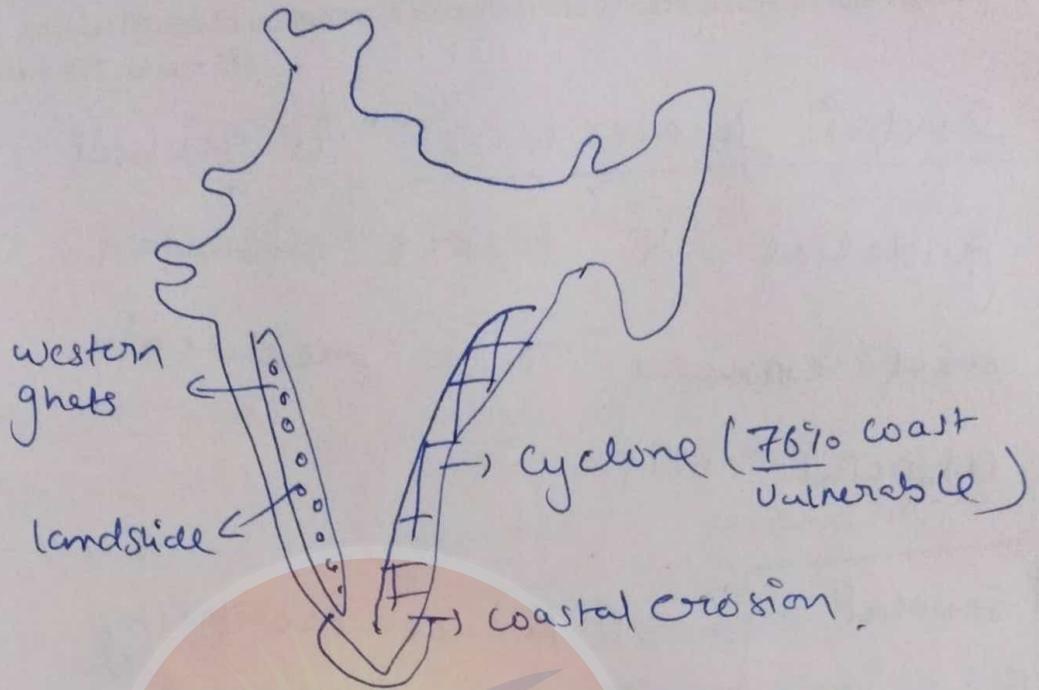


Fig:-> coastal vulnerability

relevance of sendai framework in disaster management in coastal areas

- 1) Framework - adoption specific to coastal dynamics.
- 2) community preparedness
 - ↓ shelter
 - ↓ community as first responder
 - ↓ Food storage.

3) Knowledge sharing globally
 ↳ adopt best practices
 (eg) cyclone in Japan.

4) mortality reduction

Case Study → Super cyclone → 15000 died (1997)
 → phalín → 100 died.

5) Dedicated force toward risk reduction (eg) NORF.

Coastal region in India is prone to many form of disasters. Send a framework help to reduce associated risk. More technological use, early warning etc can be utilise in future.

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19. Alarming rising trend in cyber attacks endangers national security. Explain with examples. Elaborate the need for establishing a dedicated cyber security force to deal with the issue. (15 marks, 250 words)

India is among top 5 country which is most vulnerable due to cyber attacks.

Reason for rise of cyber attack

- 1) Lack of cyber protection policy
- 2) Internet users - 2nd largest in the world.
- 3) Rise in digital payment
- 4) Service economy push due to internet services (eg) startup culture.
↓
without adequate protection.
- 5) Lack of awareness among people.

Need for cyber security force

- 1) Dedicated force to tackle rising threat.
- 2) more secure transition toward industrial revolution 4.0
- 3) ~~It is~~ current police not fully equipped to tackle cyber threat → poor infra
↓
digital illiteracy
↳ cyber monitoring station
- 4) In line with international best practices (eg) USA special force.
- 5) to secure critical infrastructure (eg) nuclear powerplant.
- 6) ~~A~~ specialist service ↗ training
↘ funding

currently there is no dedicated cyber security force in India.

current mechanism to counter cyber threat

- 1) National cyber security policy
- 2) cyber swach bharat.
- 3) Digital shakti shakti abhiyan.

more need to be done

→ ① sign Budapest convention.

→ ② global collaboration

③ FATF.

Cyber domain will increase in upcoming time, thus cyber protection is essential on the part of India to become 'vishwaguru'

Students should not write anything inside the box

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20. Socio-economic functions across the Indian border makes its management more complex. Discuss with suitable examples. (15 marks, 250 words)

Border management is a complex task to achieve due to various socio-economic as well as geographical features.

Border management is a complex task

Social factors

1.1) Diversity in language, culture, religion etc.

1.2) social conflicts

③ Manipuri
 ↓ ↓
Mitic Kuki

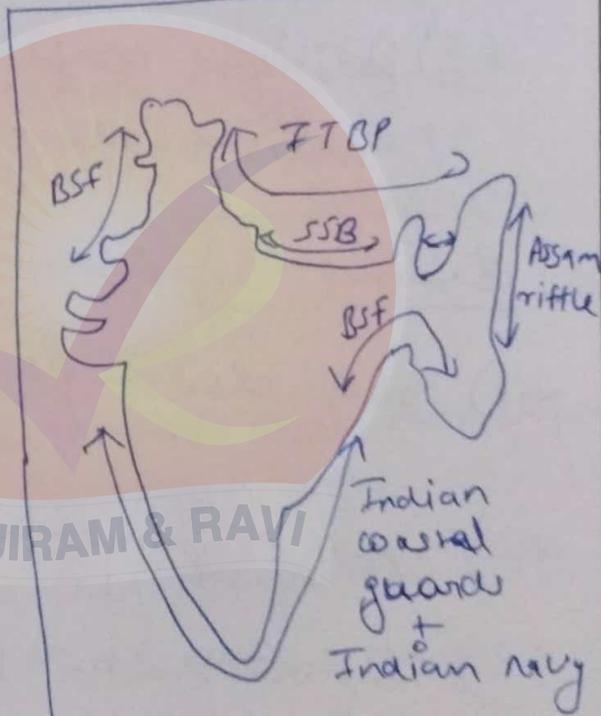


Fig: -> Border management forces

1.3) social alienation of people from mainstream due to
discrimination ← poor governance

1.4) regionalism and secessionist tendencies (eg) great nagalim.

1.5) Religious conflict and communalism along the border.

2) Economic

2.1) Poor development → Infrastructure
→ basic facilities

2.2) low employment opportunities

2.3) Infrastructure (eg) low road density along border compare to china

2.4) Technological use ↔ AI
cyber security threat across borders.

3) other issues) → terrain (eg) mountain
→ lack of coordination between forces

Way forward

1) Madhok committee

1.1) use of technology (eg) BOLT-OIT

1.2) social-economic development along borders (eg) vibrant village program.

1.3) marine ~~force~~ force should be more equipped.

2) minimum government and maximum governance at border.

3) resolve boundary disputes
Border management is essential to secure national interest among its neighbours.

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