

GENERAL STUDIES

Name of the Candidate	Paviya Purohit		
Email ID	[Redacted]		Roll No.
Mobile No.			Date

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q.No	Max.Marks	Marks Obtained		
1	10	4	1. Please write your Name, Email, UPSC Roll No. and Mobile number in the answer sheet	
2	10	5	2. There are 20 questions printed in English, all questions are compulsory	
3	10	4	3. The number of marks carried by a question or part is indicated against it.	
4	10	4	4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate (English), which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.	
5	10	2.5	5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be struck off.	
6	10	2.5		
7	10	2		
8	10	2		
9	10	2	Any specific message from Educrat IAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Mentor's Remarks:	
10	10	3	
11	15	6	
12	15	6	
13	15	6	
14	15	6.5	
15	15	5	
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17	15	6.5	
18	15	7	
19	15	5	Start Time: 9:30	End Time: 12:30
20	15	7	Mode of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Total Marks		91	TEST CODE:	Medium of Examination:

1. In what ways can land reforms contribute towards holistic development of agriculture? Also, critically analyze the achievements of land reforms in country. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

In a AS per Agriculture (census 2021), 85% of the landowners hold less than 2 hectares of land necessitating land reforms for the development of agriculture.

ways in which land reforms contribute towards holistic development of agriculture:-

- a) Optimum of use of land by giving rights to tenants. Eg West Bengal's Barga operation.
- b) Double the Income of Agriculture
- c) Land, water, ecology can be balanced as it reduces exploitation.
- d) Prevents concentration of surplus and inequality in farm sector.
- e) Collective power of farmers in form of cooperatives, FPO enhance.
↳ leads to increasing bargaining farmers.
- f) Allocation of seeds, fertilizers, irrigation.

Land Reforms: -
As Success

→ Land ownership from 30% to 53% of population.

→ Role of MSP in food security

→ Subsidy for farmers in fertilizers, input cost.

Eg- NPK.

→ Irrigation and Mechanisation drive
Eg. Punjab, Haryana.

→ India's Agri Export is in Surplus post 5+ years.

As a Missed opportunity

→ Marginal farmers
↳ 86% hold 1-2 hec of land.

→ Exploitation due to Green Revolution
Eg. Punjab, Haryana.

→ Quality seeds, Fertilizers yet not spread.

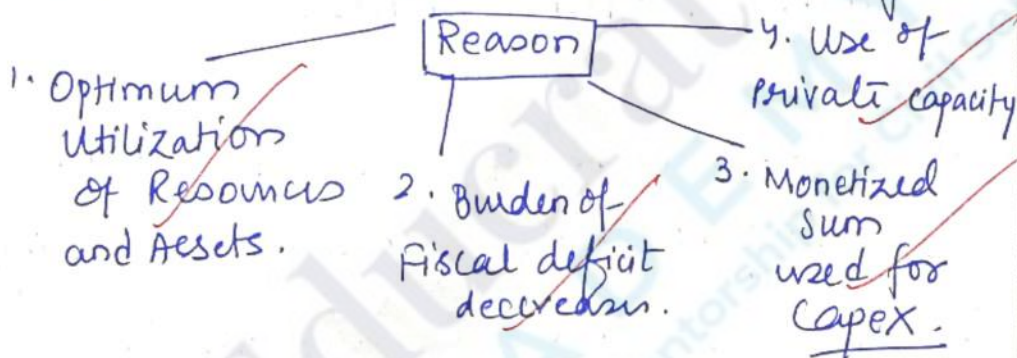
→ High Input cost of farmers

* low farm
* low realization
* low yield

With the aim of doubling the farmers income, success of land reforms becomes the need of the hour.

2. National Monetization Pipeline (NMP) has the potential of providing a positive trigger for the economy by designing a roadmap for realizing the true value of underutilized government assets. In context of the statement, examine the opportunities and challenges involved. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

National Monetization Pipeline was designed to create a disinvestment model and monetize the assets of government.



Potential for positive trigger for Economy:-

- ①. Higher Rate of Returns on Assets Investments by Private players.
- ②. Tax opportunity of PPP model.
Eg. BOT, BOLT in tolls, highways.
- ③. Enable total employment, attract investment. Eg. Tourism Sector.
- ④. Fiscal space can be used for other development projects by Govt.

Opportunities: (a) Economic Activities using the unused asset put to use.

(b) Local Employment in manufacturing
↳ Atmanirbhar Bharat; One District one Product.

(c) enable the talent and agility of private sector. Eg. Airport Models.

Challenges: (a) Possible transfer of Public asset to private. Eg. Loss of Accountability.

(b) Trigger a sale of assets

(c) May lead to skepticism wrt to govt assets Eg. Air India, Railways.

Way Ahead: - (a) Social Auditing of the projects.

(b) Strategic Assets not to be monetized.

(c) collective-Decision making

Public-private partnership. in optimum use of assets is in right direction.

3. How has the Industrial policy in India evolved since independence? Have these policies succeeded in attaining their objectives? Argue your case. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Industrial policy in India is a product of continuous planning from 1930s - from Nehru's Plan to Bombay Plan.
Evolution since independence: -

- a) Prefer to heavy industry and growth of allied sector.
 ↳ 1st and 2nd Five Year Plan - Mahalanobis Plan
 ↳ Result was Bhilai steel, coal, Thermal plants. etc.
- b) Import Substitution in 1960s
- c) Growth of Service Sector and IT industry post LPG Reforms
- d) Mechanisation and automation of industries 2000s.
- e) MSME's based growth
- f) New age focus on AI, ML (IR 4.0)
- h) Reforms in Social, Wages codes (2019).

Describe the Phases

Success of the policies:-

- (i) India's surplus in service sector
eg. \$104 billion + (CAD)
- (ii) Employment shift from agriculture.
around 54% employed in service and
industries.
- (iii) Manufacturing base of government and
industry improved.
eg. Around 12% of GDP.

Challenges still remain!..

- a) Manufacturing base is less than
service with contraction in infrastructure
and construction sector.
- b) Unorganised sector 90%. (ES-19)
- c) Skewed growth i.e. disparity of
north and south states.

with the aim of Industrial Revolution
4.0, Industrial policy of India should meet
demands of this age.

4. Despite a bountiful reserve of coal, its shortage has become systematic and perennial. Highlighting the causes, recommend some corrective measures. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

In 2022, there was a shortage of coal leading to import rise and occasional power cuts.

India has the fourth largest coal reserve.

Causes of coal shortage:-

- a) Delay of Payments by the discoms
- b) Natural causes like heavy rainfall, flood disrupt the supply (2022 case)
- c) Increase in power demand with growing population.
- d) Discrepancies in the coal sector
eg. Allocation of Mines
- e) Lack of continuous funding eg. NPTs by coal sector
- f) Shortage of integrated chain of coal supply.

Above reasons make it a systematic and perennial issue: -

Way Ahead: -

(a) Reforms in Discom Sector with clearances of funds to coal companies.
Eg. Gujarat Model.

(b) Funding of coal sector through bonds

(c) Remove supply chain bottlenecks.
Eg. GATI Shakti, dedicated corridors of Railways.

(d) Use of Advance equipments and measures of safety.
Eg. Avoid Rat Hole model of Meghalaya.

As the aim is towards a greener fuel, coal dependence should reach its peak soon and then use of clean fuel or using Carbon Sequestration system should be way.

* using more safety in railways
* using technology to prevent

5. Evaluate the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) in addressing the challenges of Public Private Partnership (PPP) in the country. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Public private partnership is a product of LPGs and market reforms. where both segments channelize their strengths for optimum use of resources and profit.

Hybrid Annuity Model: Address challenges of

a) Address the funding crunch in private sector, with upfront fund by govt.

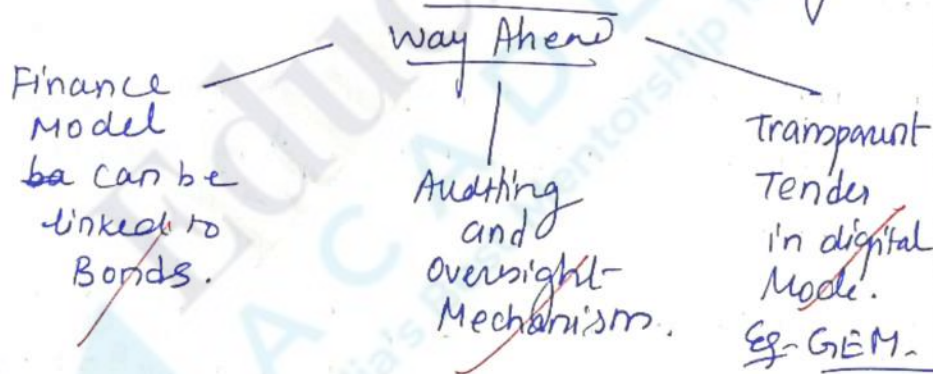
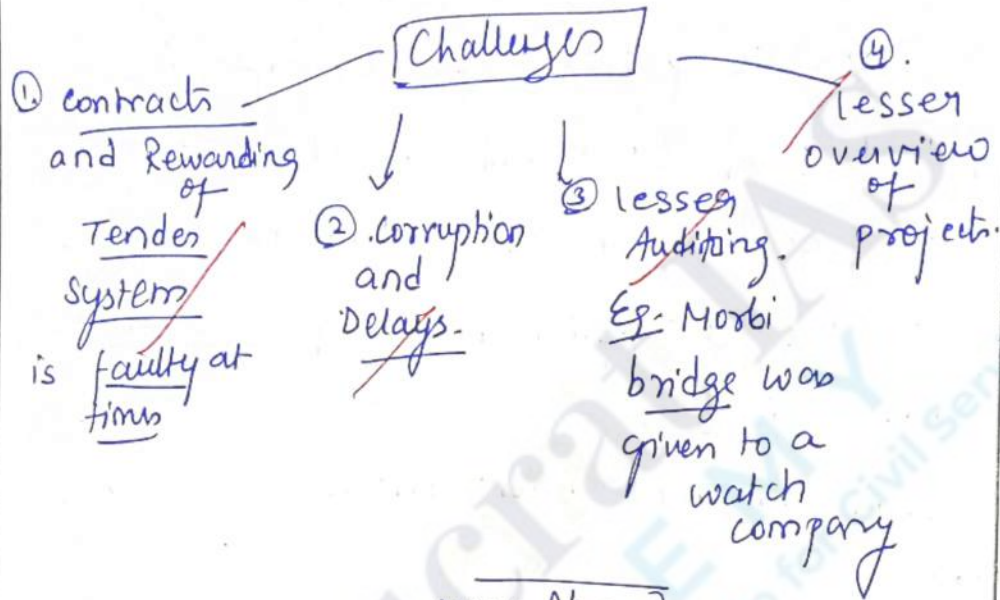
b.) There's no transfer of ownership so the asset be used to public use.

c.) use of private capacity in local recruiting and use of profit model.

Enhances income of govt

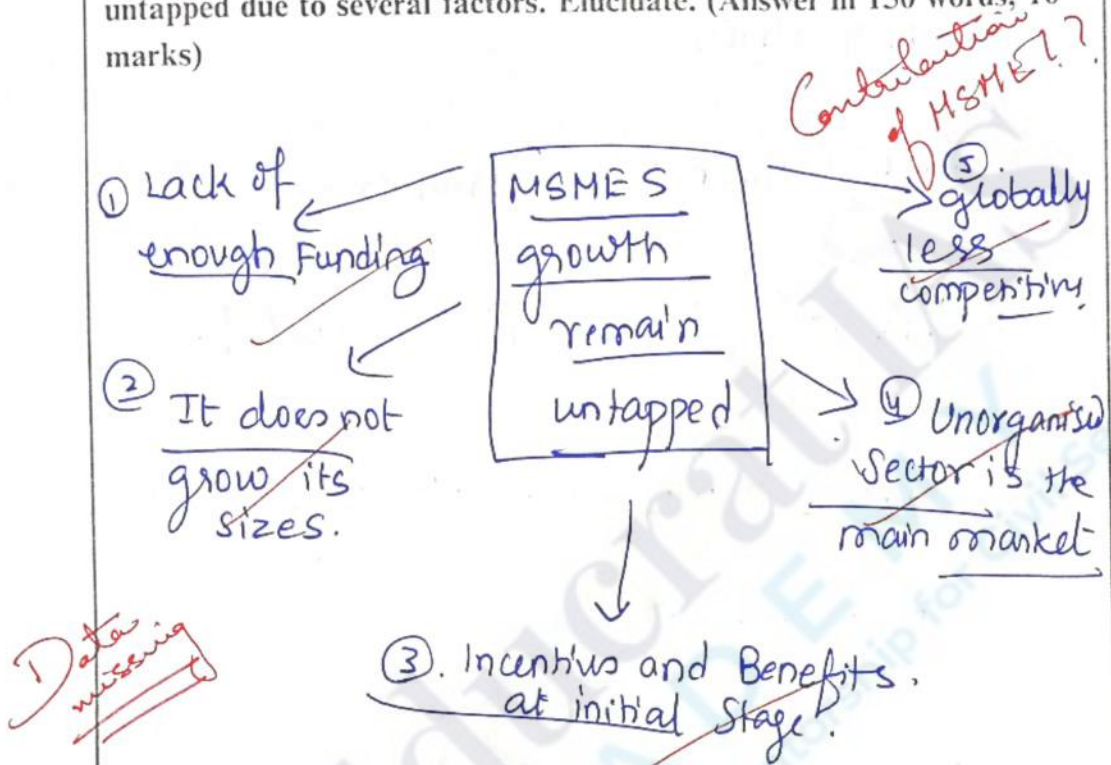
Eg. Highway projects in HAM.

what is the HAM??
BOT + EPC model
Challenges
* beyond capacity
* bidding
* no transfer of ownership
* risk allocation
* no penalty to private sector
* use of private capacity in local recruiting and use of profit model
* enhances income of govt
* Eg. Highway projects in HAM.



PPP has the elements to enhance profit and public motive for better use of assets.

6. The MSME sector is a significant contributor to industrial output, employment generation, and exports; however, its potential remains untapped due to several factors. Elucidate. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)



Way Ahead:-

- a) create a Model of growth for medium enterprises
- b). Funding and allocation of credit.
Eg- Credit Guarantee Schemes
- c) skilling and Training of workforce.

d) Marketing and integrate
supply chain

e) Single Window Clearances -

f). Link it with SEZ model.

g). Support with risk aversion
through insurance

h) Logistics ease.

Conclusion

7. What do you understand from Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation (LPG)? Examine the effects of LPG reforms on different sectors of Indian economy. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

LPG was a reform due to conditionality of IMF on India's bailout in 1990s allowing the market economy and opening the segments for foreign investments.
i.e. reversing centralisation of ownership.

what do you understand by LPG??

Effects

a) Agriculture:—

c). Green Revolution made a ripe situation, post LPG, contract farming ↑. eg. PEPSICO.

b). Mechinisation and infuse of technology, eg. Tractors etc.

(Industry)

a) Manufacturing base of consumer goods

FMCG \uparrow ; McDonalds etc.

b) Investments in Indian stock Market opened for FDI, FI.

(Services)

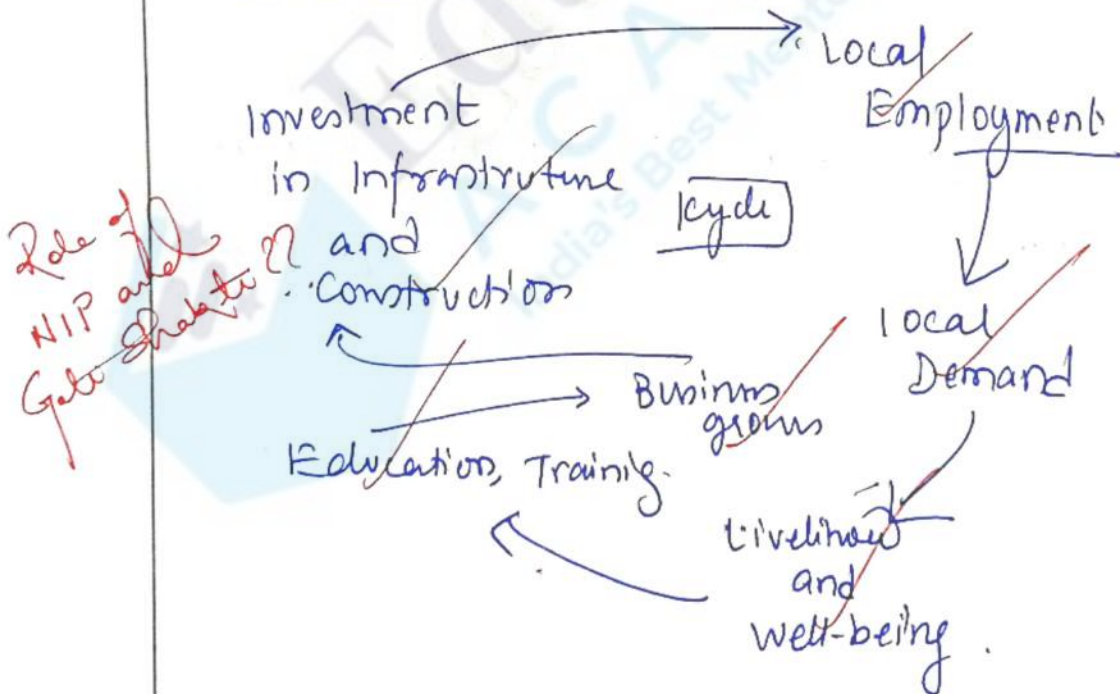
a) Most investment in IT sector registered higher growth

(b) Global Competition

8. A robust infrastructure sector is indispensable for putting the country in a consistent socio-economic growth trajectory. Analyse the statement and evaluate the role of PM-Gatishakti and National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) in infrastructure development of the country? (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

PM - Gati Shakti was a multimodal infrastructure project connecting 13 ministries and improve the logistical chain in country.

Socio - Economic Growth :-



Enablement of growth:

- a) Use of private strength and public resources
- b) Socio-Economic growth.
Eg. MGNREGS.
- c) Allow investment in job-led growth.

This helps to achieve SDG-11
and SDG-8.

←

9. In the financial year 2021-22, Indian merchandise exports have crossed the 400 billion USD mark. Identify the reasons for this spectacular performance of Indian exports and suggest reforms to further boost the exports. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

The aim of merchandise exports have now aimed at \$2 billion by 2030.
→ \$1 trillion

Reasons for performancy:

a) focus on credit creation in cooperatives, MSMEs, local business segment in recent past.

Eg. Credit Guarantee, Mudra Yojna

b) Shifting from import model to local manufacturing by Atmanirbhar

c) supply of labour at low cost

d) Improved mobility and cargo services

How?



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10. Why has Indian Railways been unable to become competitive, fast, and efficient as their counterparts in developed economies? Discuss the need and ways to its holistic overhaul. (Answer in 150 words, 10 marks)

Can write about it in the transporter, largest network

Indian Railways has been known for being less competitive or efficient.

In recent past, few changes made, yet it remains an issue due to —

a) lesser profitability in projects.
Eg. Freight corridors, Super fast Trains like Rajdhani.

more issues present

b) Speed growth rate dismal at less than 2% in past 3 decades.

c) Tracks and Cleanliness of projects delay.

d) Budgetary Allocation is skewed due to high fiscal burden

Operating ratio is very high 92%.

Ways to Improve:

- a) As per ~~Ashtok~~ ^{Vinod} Rai committee, allow PPP projects in Railway. Eg- IRCTC.
 - b) Modernisation and equipments of digital age.
 - c) Advance safety and modern tracks for speed. Eg. Vande Bharat's Kaavach system.
 - d) Greener options like Hydrogen Trains. Eg. Germany Model.
 - e) Dedicated corridors for freight speed. Eg. Japan Model.
 - f) Agility and oversight on speed of passenger trains.
 - g) Tourism through Trains. Eg. Vande Bharat.
- Conclusion
Railways are lifeline of India's growth model.

11. The role of private sector is indispensable in increasing India's share in the global space industry. Highlighting the challenges faced by the private sector, suggest measures for facilitating their greater participation. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

With the recent Space Policy 2023
ISRO has opened the space for
private sector through In-Space

Role of Private Sector: -

(i) Startups Ecosystem - There are
400 space startups, third in global
ranking.

(ii) Advanced research and analysis of
space findings.

(iii) Launch of satellites and commercialisation
of same.

(iv) Increasing role of employment
generation.

(v) Partner with global players.

India's share
in the
global space
industry

challenges!

- a) Not a single window clearance
- b) New sector with ambiguity on data sharing rules.
- c) Financial Viability is an issue for newly s. made segments by traditional banks.
- d) Channels of global partnership not established.
Eg. Startup of India - with China.
- e) Nascent stage of research in commercialisation of high risk projects.
- f) Global competitions like Starlink.

Measures:

- a) Level playing environment for startups through Seed fund, Incubation.
- b) PPP of ISRO and private sector for commercial satellites
- c) Enable single window clearances.
- d) Funding models like Space Bond
- e) Sharing of best practices and research.

India's space Agency is 6th largest

in world, it is time for private sector to grow at par with that of US and China.

12. Why is Public Private Partnership (PPP) required in infrastructural projects? Examine the role of PPP model in the redevelopment of Railway Stations in India. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

PPP required in infrastructural projects using different models like HAM, BOT, BOIT etc.

Reason for its need:

Public Element

Private Element

→ Oversight Mechanism.

→ Profit Motive

→ Auditing and right allocation.

→ Funding gap is filled.

→ Public Trust remain

→ use of resources rightfully

→ Concepts like Charter Helpira

→ Autonomy in employment and not govt employees.

→ Accountability

→ Clearances are fast.

* Helps to leverage Public Sector
* Public Sector constraints
* Risk sharing with Private partners
* Private less innovation and
* community identification
* Promote Creativity

Role of PPP in Railway Stations.

→ Improve the Quality of Safety and Cleanliness

→ Harmonise newer areas like Green Energy

→ Viability of railways through profit

* increase competitiveness
* maximize level use
* develop as a asset

making units Eg. IRCTC

→ Private Investment

→ Beautification and opportunity for Tourism.

→ Allow faster implementations as seen in Airports.

Bibek Debroy
Vijay Kelkar
Committee

Optimum use of projects and assets is needed that can be achieved through PPP. 'Trust' factor should be built.

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13. Is inclusive growth possible under market economy? State the significance of financial inclusion in achieving economic growth in India. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Inclusive growth refers to when pace and pattern of growth are on one track i.e. with higher rate of growth, pattern of distribution, and inclusiveness ^{are} met-too.

Market Economy is the Free-Market model of Adam Smith. with role of private ownership.

Possibility: — (Yes)

- a) Job opportunity through Startups, Gig Economy
- b) With market's trickle-downs leading alienation of poor.
Eg. Positive Effect after L.Pb.

(No)

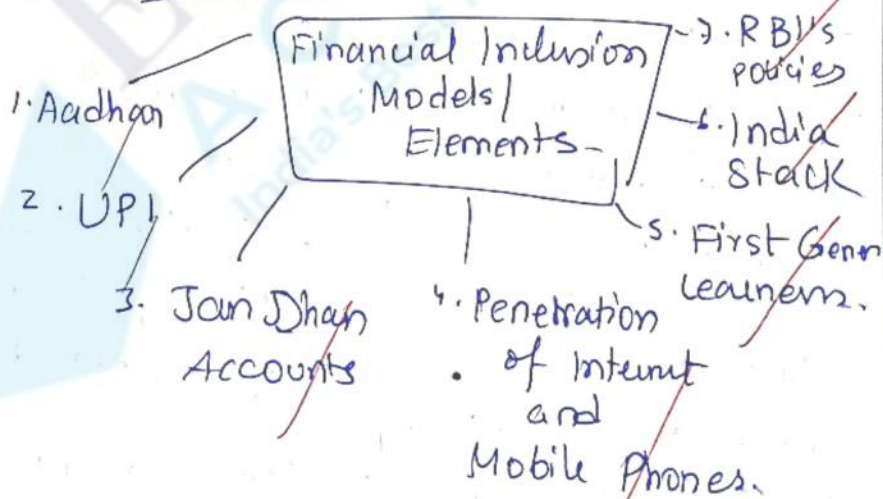
- a) Concentration of Supers.
Eg. Top 10% hold 77% of wealth (Oxfam) in India.
- b) Jobless growth with focus on service Sector.

Still, growth is possible with inclusion in market economy if:-

- (A) Government's handholding remain in PPP model.
- (b) Incentives and Subsidy Model.
- (c) Welfare schemes - deployed

Financial Inclusion:-

As per recent RBI report, 80% of the population has access to bank accounts.



Significance :-

- a) Credit demand and meet supply
Eg. Amazon, UPI etc.
- b) Money multiplier effect increases
as money remains in bank
accounts.
- c) lesser leakage in tax collection with
digital mode.
- d) clean economy with lesser footprint
of carbon.
- e) Job-opportunity and growth of
Service sector.
- f) Credit creation and easy access
to loans.
- g) Cultivate startup-culture
→ Financial Inclusion leads to Digital Bhagidari.

14. What are the major challenges of Public Distribution System (PDS) in India? How can it be made effective and transparent? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Public Distribution System in India is the base of food security and supply of essential (non-food products through fair ration shops.)

Major Challenges:

a). leakage and wastage of food grains in distribution.

more points before

provide dates

b). labour contracts. Eg. SC held that dept labour wages more than President's salary.

c). less efficient storage and infrastructure

d). corruption and lack of auditing.

e). different policies in state-wise.

To make it effective and transparent:

a) Digitalisation of the process
through adhaar enabled.

Eg. Odisha Model, Chhattisgarh Model.

b) Uniform schemes. Eg - One Nation
One Ration Scheme.

c) Optimisation of labour focus in
FCIs and their budget and salary.

d) Independent auditing of off-budget
borrowings in FCIs.

e) Shift of PDS from western states
to Eastern states as priority.

f) Improve role of local administration
↳ Panchayats, Social Audit.

(d) Newer Techniques like tokens

Eg. E-Rupi

(h) Rationalize the number of beneficiaries.

Following the suggestions of
Shanta Kumari Committee, PDS

in India needs a overhaul and
oversight for efficient functioning.

good

15. Elaborate the scope and significance of the food processing industry in India. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Food processing Industry is about to reach a market of \$530 billion in India. as per a World's Bank Report.

scope of food processing:

a) Export opportunities -

Eg. Agri Export Surplus of India in Basmati and non-basmati.

b) Newer ~~groups~~ ^{groups} and categories like

Organic Farming. Eg. Sikkim Model.

MSMEs and space of formalisation of the food processing.

d) Can become part of Cooperatives Societies.

e).

more points
eg. fresh
* Milk production
* vegetables -
production (c.)

Significance:

- a) Income of farmers can grow through horticulture.
- b) Handholding of SHGs:
Eg. Lijjat Papad.
- c) Improvement of upstream and downstream of marketing products
Eg. Pickles, Jam.
- d) Vocal for local and local to global helping in exporting.

Food processing can be turned into a golden chance for Agriculture growth and its transition to Manufacturing enabling female employment.



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16. The increase in life expectancy in the country has led to newer health challenges in the community. What are those challenges and what steps need to be taken to meet them? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Recently India's life expectancy is around 67 years and in a few states more than 72 years.

Globally there has been rise (only break during covid when it dipped) in life expectancy.

Newer Health Challenges due to this:-

(1) Morbidity Issues as newer diseases like AMR, COVID strike.

(2) Increase in non-communicable diseases - hypertension or obesity (13% to women as per NFHS-5).

(3) Life is longer, productivity is shorter, Eg. Nutritional deficiency as malnourishment 35%, 61% Anaemia (NFHS)

provide chart data as per NFHS-5

- (4) Dependence Ratio of old age increases.
- (5) Shortage of beds, doctors
- (6) Climate Change induced pressure on health
Eg. Heat strokes in older age.) Good

Steps taken to meet them:-

- a) Focus on food and nutritional security. Eg. Fortification.
- b) Vaccine for new age diseases.
Eg. COVID
- c) Induce lifestyle practices Eg. Yoga and physical health.
- d) Improve health standards and increase role of clinics and hospitals for elderly.

(e) Research on life expectancy issues at genetic level.

Eg. Genome India Project.

(f) Awareness and Campaigns for mental health and focus on overall well-being, Eg. Social Security.

As the challenges of climate change and newer diseases come, life should not remain standstill for long. SDG targets of 11, 12 (sustainable cities) 13 (Climate change) 8 (Inclusive Growth) should be prioritised.

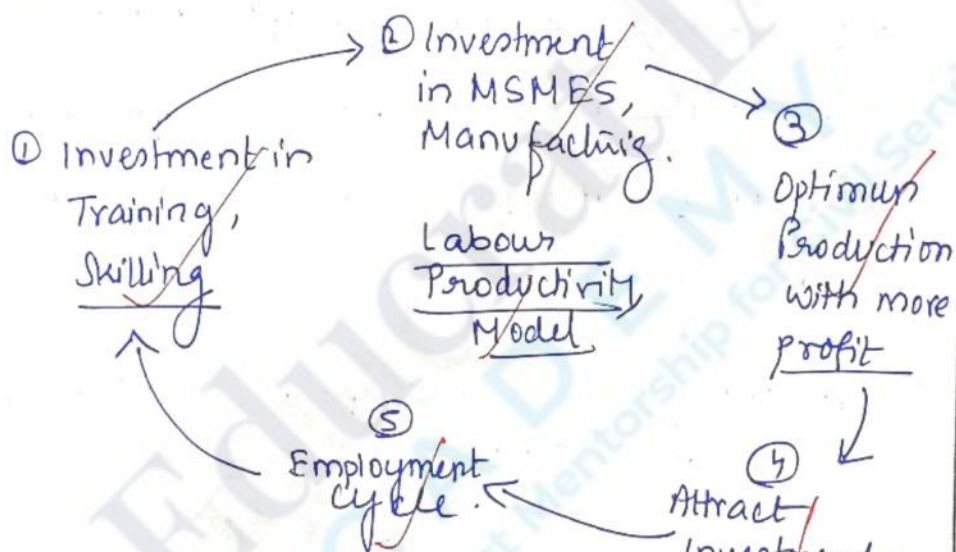
17. Economic growth in the recent past has been led by increase in labour activity." Explain this statement. Suggest the growth pattern that will lead to creation of more jobs without compromising labour productivity. (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Post LPG, Economic Growth in India shifted to Service Sector with lesser growth of employment.

However, in (recent past), employment and labour activity has increased in following ways: -

- a) Growth of MSMEs employing more than 12-1. workforce.
- b) Startup Ecosystem and Ease of Doing Business.
- c) Role of Gig Economy and Unorganised Sector.
- d) Digital Growth and labour activity in service sector.
- e) Role of Infrastructure and Construction - 2008-2010 (10% growth rate)

labour productivity is when the potential of labour/worker is put to optimum use leading to higher growth:-
This can be achieved:-



- ① Investment in Skilling and Training.
Eg. 46% not trained. (Skills India Report)
- ② Investment in MSME and local manufacturing base.
- ③ Vocal for local, One District One Product, zero defect zero effect etc
Such schemes enable.

④ Open Investment channels.

eg. FDI is 100% in Telecom sector

⑤ Focus on new age technologies
like Semiconductors, Chip Making, AI, ML, etc.

⑥ Improve female labours activity (22% PLFS)

As India marches on the path of

\$5 trillion economy, jobless growth

should turn into growth with employment

which will enable inclusive growth

(SDG-8)

18. Do you think India will meet 50 percent of its energy needs from renewable energy by 2030? Justify your answer. How will the shift of subsidies from fossil fuels to renewables help achieve the above objective? Explain (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

At COP26, India's aim was set to meet 50% of its energy needs from ~~renewable~~ renewable energy by 2030 as its Nationally Determined Contribution.

India's target for energy needs:

(a) 45% of current energy needs come from renewable energy

↳ transition is shifting.

(b) Accelerated growth of Renewable Energy

eg. Solar Mission
↳ National Mission on Climate Change.

(c) 2-3% of the carbon emissions, i.e. carbon intensity, down.

Show the potential of India in solar, wind, geothermal, etc.

(d) As per RBI paper, India's Green GDP growth rate faster than GDP, for first time due to progress in Renewable Projects.

So, the track is about to reach but non-completion of target of 175 GW of Solar etc can be bottleneck.

Shift from fossil fuel to Renewable
subsidy will help meet the target!

a) Demand of power can be met through
re renewable source

Eg. PM KUSUM → Solar power on farm.

b) Shift of coal players like NTPC
to Renewable Segment

Eg. Coal Pelletisation to H₂ production
↳ CCU.

c) Investment in Green Technology.

(d) Green Base of Industry.
Eg: Decarbonisation of Steel Sector.

(e) shift in discorns, MSMEs if
subsidy based on Green sources.

India's goal for Panchamrit
is in the direction of meeting the
targets, yet more steps needed for
meeting goal of SDG-13 (Climate
change.)

19. What are the main bottlenecks in upstream and downstream process of marketing of agricultural products in India? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Marketing in agriculture products fills the gap of demand and supply of the supply chain process of agriculture.

Main bottlenecks: —

Upstream
Process

- Supply chain issues for perishable products
eg: Fruits.
- cost of transport and logistics is 14% of GDP.
- wastage and leakage of products.
- lack of cold storage and farm gate facilities of pick up.
- Role of private players less

Downstream
Process

- Lesser investment in storage facilities.
- Focus on sustenance based products
↳ Rice and Wheat
- Inoperations of FPOs and cooperatives.

Way Ahead.

- ① Promotion and establishing of FPOs. Eg. 10,000 FPOs in line
- ② Cooperatives should become multi-state
- ③ Ease in transport of perishable product. Eg. Scheme of Aviation Ministry - UDAN.
- ④ Awareness and Campaigns for the farms in Marketing Camps
- ⑤ Increase & role of APMCs in marketing
- ⑥ Promote other crops like fruits, flowers.
- ⑦ contract farming and role of private players Eg. Agri startups.



⑧ . use of - digital Platforms like
e-NAM .

The objective of 'From Farm to Plate' can be enabled if the stream of marketing is strengthened.

20. What is Integrated Farming System? How is it helpful to small and marginal farmers in India? (Answer in 250 words, 15 marks)

Integrated Farming System refers to a model of farming that includes agriculture and livestock raising where output from one becomes input to others.

It's principle is zero waste of resources.

Eg: cow dung put as fertilizer on soil.

Helpful to Small and Marginal Farms:
(SM)

- (1) As per Agriculture Census 19, 86% farms are SKM, so they can save the input cost in chemical fertilizers.
- (2) Improves health of crops and livestocks.
- (3) Provides food and nutritional security.
- (4) Enable forward linkages of farms as a market of organic products
Eg: Sikkim Model.



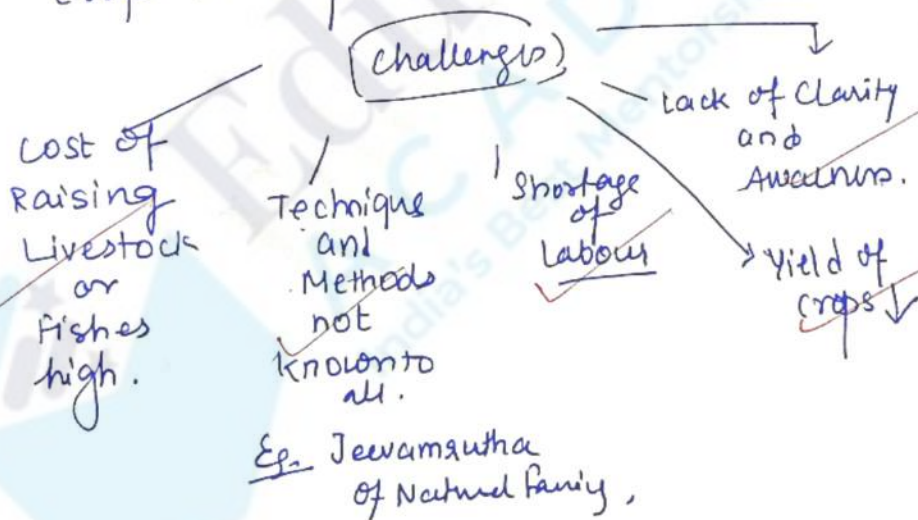
(4) Varied sources of Income

Eg. can use pisciculture, horticulture,

(5) Generates organic seeds and improves the soil quality

(6) (a) Aligned with Govt's policy of Natural Farming

(7) Averse Risk in case of failure of crops in any season.



Way Ahead!

a) following the awareness and campaigns in FPOs, APMCs by local administration

(b) Govt's policy of Natural Farming
should reach by district authorities.

(c) Training and funds through cooperatives

With aim of Jaiwik Kheti and
of doubling farmers income

Integrated farming is a solution.