

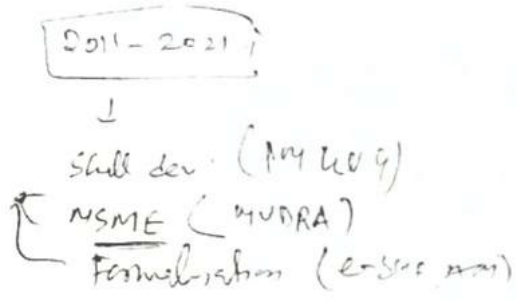
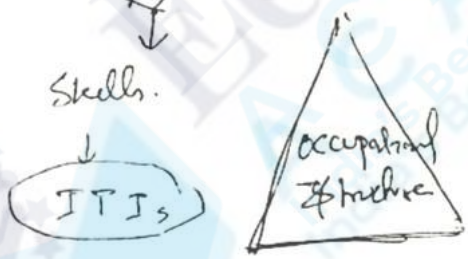
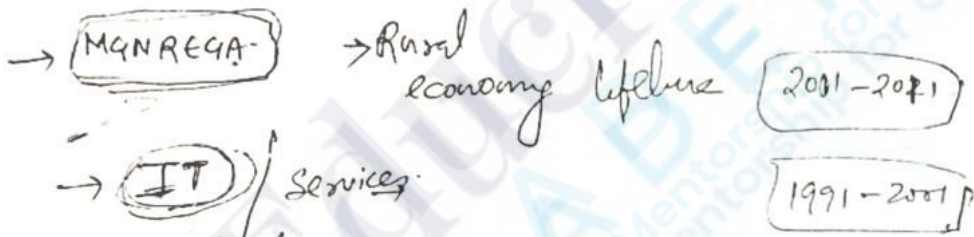
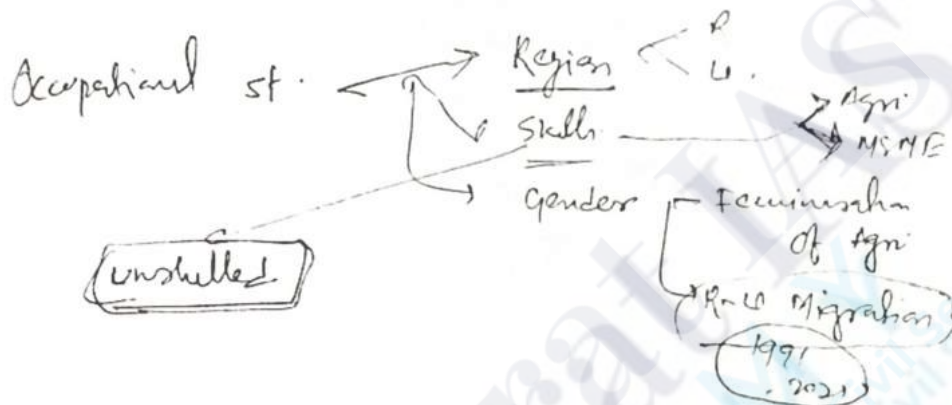
Educrat IAS Academy

Contact Details: 9163228921/8910154148

GENERAL STUDIES

Name of the Candidate		<i>Sahars Kumar</i>	
Email ID	[REDACTED]	Roll No.	001
Mobile No.	[REDACTED]	Date	4/9/22

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q.No.	Max Marks	Marks Obtained		
1			1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No. and Mobile in the answer sheet.	
2			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH, all questions are compulsory.	
3			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.	
4			4. 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.	
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			<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Any specific messages for Educrat IAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write here.</i></p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	
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19			Start Time:	End Time:
20			Medium of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Marks:			ECN CODE:	Evaluation Date:
Remarks: <i>checked</i> <i>Director</i>				





Q.1) Evaluate the impact of economic liberalization of 1991 on the occupational structure in India (10 marks)

The economic liberalization of 1991 was ~~an~~ a major event in India's history. The LPG reforms set India on a growth trajectory which has changed its entire outlook.

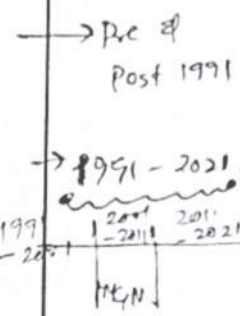
Occupational structure is the division of people / demography on the basis of occupation.

Impact of 1991 reforms on occupational structure

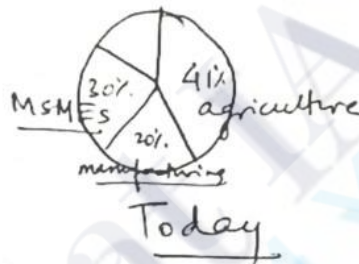
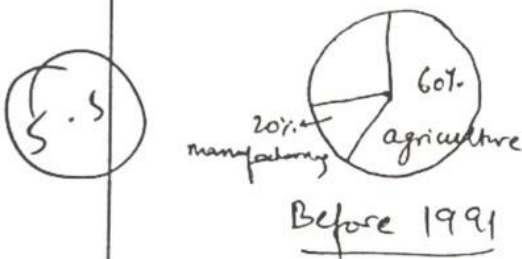
1) Reduced agriculturalists - It reduced disguised unemployment in agriculture.

Today, about 41% of population is involved in agriculture, vis-a-vis >60% before

2) Growth of service industry - Service industry is one of the largest growth factors for India today.



3) MSME's growth - These contribute to about 30% of India's GDP today and are vital for India's manufacturing sector.



Occupational structure of India

mention negative too - now India is shifting from agri to service while neglecting industry.

4) ~~Manufacturing has been mostly~~
 4) Rise in new-age jobs such as tourism industry, hospitality sector, & computer scientists, etc

India is going through demographic dividend and our policies must ensure it does not become demographic disaster.

Agri Service

- ① Formalisation
- ② Brain Drain
- ③ input of HR from etc
- ④ Global Tech disruption in occupational IT
- ⑤ Global demand, local solution

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Q.2) What do you understand by monetary policy transmission? Discuss the impediments to monetary policy transmission in India? (10 marks) ①

Monetary policy transmission can be understood by the transmission of RBI's changes to repo rate, reverse repo rate, etc to the banks and then to the consumers. ✓ good

example: A stronger monetary policy transmission is when RBI decreases repo rate by 1%, which is immediately followed by banks lowering cost of loans to consumers by about 1%. ✓

Impediments to monetary policy transmission in India

- 1) Slow bank action - Banks are skeptical of economic shocks and are less receptive to changes in monetary policy
- 2) Bank profitability due to NPA's often suffer and banks hesitate to pass

① Inflation
Price stability

② Banks do incur operating cost
Staff
Agents
Branches
IT imp

③ Fiscal policy vs. Monetary policy

Page _____ of _____

monetary policy benefits to consumers to recover their previous losses.

competition from mutual funds
→ impact on savings rate etc.

3) Low dependency on RBI's funds
Banks seldom depend on repo rate to receive funds from RBI and instead use deposit funds of consumers

4) RBI's policy of less interference
through direct action, unless extremely necessary

6

Suggested measures

1) Implementation of External Benchmark based lending rate mention MCLR

2) More penetration of loans at flexible rates to allow consumers to benefit

3) Repo rate changes should be collaborated with stakeholders from banks, at least the D-SIBs / huge banks

4) Guidelines to banks on monetary policy transmission. Eg - ~~existing~~ through Banking Regulation Act, 1949

India's banking sector is vital for financial inclusion, and must be citizen-centric and not just profit-motivated

What do you understand by "Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM)" under the WTO?
Comment on its significance for India. (10 marks)

Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM)
under WTO allows developing countries to increase tariffs on imported ^{agri} goods if the imports impact the domestic industry adversely.

These have been provided through the Bali declaration.

Significance of SSM for India

1) Protection of domestic industry

Eg - dairy industry from cheap dairy products from Australia

2) Boosts Indian exports by allowing industrial development. ??

Eg - India's pharma industry has been benefitted by SSM.

3) Allows improved integration of India in the world market. Eg - India is largest exporter of milk in the world now

neoliberal about
- inflation push
- dumping.

4) Considers the necessary global push needed for India's economic development How??

5) Has been instrumental in India's economic growth and ensuring employment.

Way forward

1) The SSM should not be allowed for developed countries like China to allow for more equitable growth not developed

2) Tariffs like on Indian steel applied by USA are discouraged under SSM and should be stopped.

3) Efficacy of SSM should be checked and be made infinitely applicable on countries below certain per capita income

India's meteoric growth has been spurred by its demographic dividend and the world should invest in it for greater returns.

(U.S)

read about
SSM

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Q.4) What are the Keystone species? With suitable examples discuss the importance of conservation of keystone species in India. (10 marks)

Keystone species are those species which are vital for the overall biodiversity of a region. ^{to which ecosystem would be drastically different or near to exist}

Eg - Lions in Gir Forest.

Without Lions in Gir, there is a threat of total collapse of the entire food chain.

Importance of conservation of keystone species in India

1) Maintain food web. Eg - without enough prey, tigers might not survive and lead to collapse of biodiversity and ecosystem.

2) Reduce human-animal conflict -
Eg - loss of prey has led to tigers moving out of their home range.

Today about 30% of tigers of India are found outside protected areas.

Page _____ of _____

3) Extinction - Loss of keystone species might lead to extinction of certain

species. Eg - extinction of Indian Cheetah

Give more examples
- Bees
- sea otters
- fungi

4) Without India's elephant herds, uncontrollable development of vegetation might lead to difficulty in acquiring minor forest produce.

Way forward →

1) India must readily implement its recovery programme for species under Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH)

2) Global collaboration for species conservation

Eg - African cheetah conservation

3) Reducing human-wildlife conflict

4) Checking poachers and hunters by drones, camera sensors, traps, etc

India is one of the 12 mega biodiverse regions of the world and must protect its keystone species

Q.5) Give an account of the growth and development of space science and technology in India. Why is it important for India to develop a cryogenic engine. (10 marks)

India's space sector is currently the 6th largest in the world and is on the way to become a \$50 billion industry by 2024.

Growth and development of space science and technology in India

- a) humble beginnings through Sarabhai and Bhabha's efforts in the establishment of ISRO ✓
- b) IMGDP full form by Kalam to develop India's missile and space capabilities.
- c) Major successes in the 21st century — Chandrayaan Mission ✓
Mangalyaan Mission ✓
> 50 missions by PSLV and development of GSLV, SLSV ✓
— remote sensing capabilities through INSAT, EOS, GSAT series.

write 1 line about each if you feel weak give examples.

- NETRA programme for space
situational awareness

- d) Upcoming launches - Chandrayaan 3
- Shukrayaan
- Gaganyaan
- Aditya L1

what is
if ??

Importance to develop cryogenic engine

- 1) Lesser payload - lower weight of
cryogenic engine ✓
2) More efficiency due to high
fuel capacity of cryogenic engine
3) Longer flight and easier to reach
escape velocity ✓

4) International status Among few
nations with cryogenic engine capacity

India's space sector is a very exciting
phase and failures should not
demotivate us to seek excellence

7
→ delete
add GSLV
here

Q.6) What are the recent changes made to India's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) as part of its pledge to Paris Agreement? Discuss its impact on India's climate goals (10 marks)

India's INDCs were altered during the CDP 26 summit in Glasgow in November 2021, according to the Panchamrit given by the Indian PM.

Previous INDCs → Draw table to show compacation.

1) upto 40% non-fossil fuel energy in power mix ✓

2) 33-35% reduction in emissions intensity of GDP ✓

3) 2.5 to 3 billion tons of carbon sink

New INDCs (Panchamrit) →

1) upto 50% non-fossil fuel energy in power mix installed

2) 500 GW of renewable energy capacity

3) 45% reduction in emissions intensity of GDP ✓

4) 1 billion tons reduction in carbon emissions ✓

5) net zero by 2070 ✓

(5)

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[Impact on India's climate goals]

- 1) More stricter adoption of climate interventions.
- 2) PPP model to achieve



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Q.7) The 5G technology will shape Industry 4.0 and enhance quality of service delivery and innovation by facilitating smarter and developing societies.
Discuss. (10 marks)



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Q.8) What is GDP? Elaborate upon the factors affecting the GDP growth with a special emphasis on role of technological advancement. (10 Marks)



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Q.10) Examine the role played by Foreign Direct Investment in the economy of the developing countries. (10 Marks)



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$$\begin{array}{r|l} \frac{5}{10} \times 10 = 50 & \frac{4}{10} \times 6 = 24 \\ \frac{6}{15} \times 10 = 60 & \frac{7}{15} \times 10 = 46 \\ \hline 110 & \hline 94 & \hline \hline 114 & \end{array}$$

Defn of keystone species - 40 words (1 para)

Example of conservation efforts.

1. Protection Forest
2. _____

Q.11) Fake news and spread of disinformation through social media has far reaching consequences. There needs to be a structured legal regime in order to curb it and hold the guilty accountable. Examine. (15 marks)

Fake news can be understood as misinformation or disinformation spreading through offline/online means that generally foments enmity or hatred among individuals. ^{mod}

India has been a victim of such rumours as well with the 2014 Muzaffarnagar riots being attributed to fake news.

Consequences of fake news and disinformation

1) Communal disharmony - According to NCRB, there has been 96% increase in communal riots in 2020, largely attributed to fake rumours

2) Unproductive utilization of human capital to spread disinformation repetitive

3) It may lead to death and disaster.

Eg - vaccine hesitancy due to fake news during COVID. — decline in media ethics

Page — of —

4) Mobilization of public funds and police forces due to riots generated through fake news.

5) Political agenda behind fake news comes at a cost of stability. Economic losses follow, eg - destruction of public property, strikes, lockouts, etc

Fake news must be dealt with quickly and strictly.

Suggested measures →

1) Legal measures - IT Act, 2000 must be amended to put larger onus on social media intermediaries, as is being considered in USA

2) Guidelines - Digital Media Ethics code

must be strictly implemented

3) RPA, 1951 must ensure political parties do not instigate riots during elections, through Model Code of Conduct regarding fake news.

4) Training and sensitization of police forces for riots

5) Accountability must be assigned to identify generator of fake news.

India needs to put its digital India tools to use to tackle disinformation

6.5

Add
IPC sec
153A

- Awareness
- Adopting or
standardised
definition.

Q.12) Biotechnology can be a means to fight hunger and disease, reduce environmental contaminants, and minimize the ecological footprint. Elaborate. (15 marks)

Biotechnology is an emerging field of scientific research that includes research on technological manipulation of biodiversity for benefits to the world.

} better definition needed.

The field has been gaining much relevance in India, with an average of 3 biotech startups setting up per day in 2020.

Uses of biotechnology →

- 1) Economic benefits → Agricultural production
eg - HYVs of seeds such as Bt-cotton, reduces the effect of pests and increases yield, leading to food security
- 2) Health benefits
↓
Biotechnology has been vital for the development of the Covid vaccines
- 3) Bioremediation is a major method of reducing environmental contamination. eg:

Page ___ of ___

- mention about vth gen
- 4) Biofuels - eg 4th generation biofuels are instrumental in reducing GHG emission and ecological footprint of ~~sci~~ development
- 5) Biotechnology is used in frontier sciences



Way forward → 1) Research must be ethical and with proper regulations. India has 2nd largest number of USFDA-approved manufacturing plants.

2) GEAC should ~~be~~ work in coordination with BIRAC and Dept of Biotechnology to reduce red-tapism in approval.

3) Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and UN-CBD's principles must be followed for fair use and sustainable use of resources.

Biotechnology can be a boon if used well, or a curse if misused.



Q.13) The process of burning farm residue is one of the major causes of air pollution in parts of north India, deteriorating the air quality. Moreover, the inability to convert stubble as fodder leads to economic losses as well. Examine. (15 marks)

Every year in the winter months of October - November, the stubble burning leads to the development of a blanket of fog and pollution in parts of North India, especially Delhi.

Effects of burning farm residue

1) Air pollution - PM2.5 and PM10 levels shoot up and measures like GRAP ^{?? full form} have to be implemented. In India, 1 out of every 8 deaths are due to air pollution due to climate change.

2) Economic losses -

(a) Flight delays, traffic jams leads to inconvenience to people and is costly.

(b) Farmers do not utilize the stubble as fodder for livestock and this adds to their costs as well.

(c) Opportunity cost of selling stubble to biogas plants, to form biomass pellets.

3) Affect on biodiversity - It affects the local

climate and westerlies rain. Stubble burning also kills the helpful nutrients in soil.

4) Indirectly leads to more use of fertilizers, which might lead to agricultural runoff, and affect current account deficit by greater fertilizer import.

Suggested measures →

1) Utilization of stubble - Govt procurement of stubble or in PPP mode allows farmers to earn extra income. This stubble can be utilized in → biofuels (SATAT scheme) ✓
→ biomass pellets for cofiring in thermal plants ✓
→ fodder for livestock ✓

2) Agricultural extension to disseminate information about stubble use to farmers through Kisan Sarathi App. Eg - Nano Urea liquid to dissolve stubble

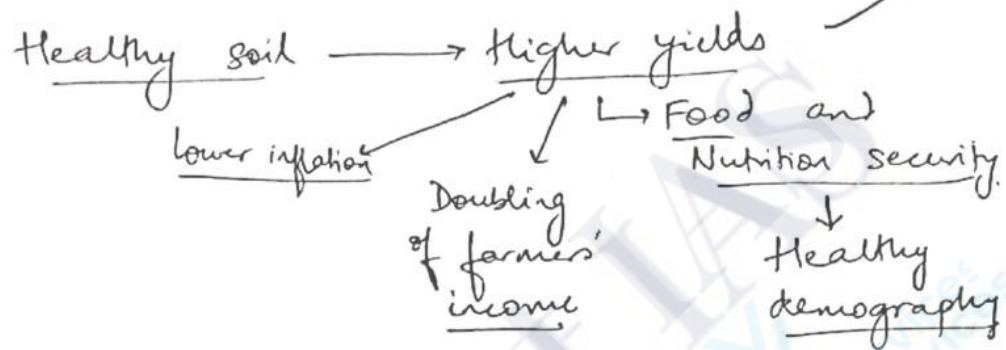
3) Legal measures to penalize stubble burning

4) Enable hiring of tractors, Happy Turbo Seeder through KVKs (Krishi Vigyan Kendras) at low cost.

Stubble burning is an annual phenomenon and it must be stopped to reduce its effect on climate change.

Q.14) Soil Security and Food and Nutrition Security are interconnected. Soil degradation drives food insecurity and sustainable interventions are urgently needed in this regard. Analyse. (15 marks)

Soil security can be understood as ensuring sustainable use of soil to maintain its health.



Impact of soil degradation →

1) According to UNCCD, soil degradation is one of the major reasons for desertification and migration.

2) Lower yields → ↓ in productivity. Higher fertilizer use is required to compensate for lower yield leading to higher fertilizer import, increasing fiscal deficit.

3) Higher commodity prices - Price stabilization measures are costlier to manage inflation.

More people get pushed to BPL and it becomes difficult to procure at MSP.

4) Nutrition security gets threatened. India
↳ How??

already has >50% women suffering from anaemia and worst highest child wasting of 17.3%.

5) Reduction in size of cultivable lands. increases pressure on land and leads to disguised unemployment ✓

Interventions needed →

1) Soil restoration according to the Delhi Declaration principles of UNCCD ✓

2) Crop diversification to move away from water-guzzling paddy and wheat. Eg - Haryana Govt's Mera Pani Meri Virasat scheme ✓

3) Soil Health Card scheme should be properly implemented to advise farmers on proper soil care Kisli Agri Kendras.

4) ICAR must play a more prominent role in disbursing soil health - related advice ✓

5) Urea subsidy must be revisited to reduce urea overuse. ✓

Soil health is vital for food security in India and to achieve SDG 2 of no hunger.

Q.5

Q.15) To give stagnant agricultural growth a boost, the focus should shift from the country's food security to the farmers' income security. In the light of this statement critically evaluate the steps taken by the government to ensure income security of farmers. (15 marks)

Farmers are the feeders of the world and in a country like India, where 41% of the population is involved in agriculture, it is vital to ensure income security.

India has come a long way from independence, when it had to import wheat from USA, to becoming largely food secure and a major exporter of wheat.

Why focus should shift from food security to farmer's income security

1) Major employment source - Although a huge chunk of the population is involved in agriculture, most farmers are BPL and poor

2) Farmer's income security → Higher agricultural investment

Higher food security ← Higher yield ← ✓

3) Increase in farmer suicides due to cycle of loans and trap of moneylenders.

Steps taken by govt to ensure income security of farmers

- 1) Doubling farmers income target of 2022 aims to ~~double~~ provide income security
- 2) Crop diversification through initiatives like CSIR Floriculture Mission, National Saffron Mission, aim to encourage farmers to grow more remunerative crops
- 3) Credit flow - Cheap loans through Kisan Credit Card, formation of FPOs for greater bargaining power and to get cheap loans. PM KISAN scheme gives DBT of Rs 6000/year to all landholding farmers
- 4) Crop insurance schemes such as PM FBY (PM Fasal Bima Yojana) reduce crop losses' cost
- 5) MSP and e-NAM to help farmers realize greater prices on sale of crops

6) PM Kisan Sampada Yojana, Mega Food Parks scheme to allow farmers to benefit from value addition

Way forward → Govt should regulate the middlemen and moneylenders to provide greater benefit to farmers. A collaborative approach with state govt is needed

10
mention
M S
Swaminath
Committee

Q.16) Discuss the causes and consequences of recurrent flood hazards in India. In the light of the guidelines of NDMA (2008) describe the mechanisms for preparedness to reduce the risk during such events. (15 marks)

India faces annual floods and according to the WMO, it will soon become the world's flood capital.

Causes of floods-related hazards →

1) Climate change - According to IMD, India will see a rise of 8-19% in rainfall in coming years. Change in rainfall patterns leads to relatively drier areas becoming flood-prone.

2) Unplanned urbanization → Clogging of drains and lack of storm drains

- Wetland gets cemented ↓ No outlet for flood water
- Urbanization on river banks
- Deforestation reduces soil's capacity to retain water

3) Cloudbursts and GLOFs (Glacial lake Outburst Floods) are increasing due to urban heat island-effect and warming of glacial regions.

Flash & floods are difficult to predict.

4) Siltation of ivers and reservoirs reduces their water-retaining capacity.

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Consequences of flood hazards

- 1) loss of life and livelihood and destruction of property. Eg - 2013 Uttarakhand floods
- 2) Diseases, eg cholera are spread. Malaria-breeding ground is formed at relief camps
- 3) Economic cost of rehabilitation, relief and redevelopment
- 4) Loss of local biodiversity, agriculture land
- 5) Migration - due to recurring floods. India has 5 mn internal migrants due to climate hazards

Mechanisms for preparedness as per NDMA

- 1) Early warning systems through setting up network of Doppler radars
 - 2) Quick relief and mobilization of armed forces, NDMA volunteers, PMNRF Funds,
 - 3) Encouraging NGOs participation, crowdfunding of relief
 - 4) Sensitization of people in flood-prone areas and drills for training.
 - 5) Community participation for development of flood shelters, embankments like tetrapods.
- CDRI guidelines and Sendai framework should be referred to for redevelopment

Q.17) India must take into account concerns regarding ageing dams, and conduct timely safety reviews in order to ensure safety of the structures, and the safety of those who inhabit the areas downstream. Discuss. (15 marks)

India has one of the largest population number of dams in the world, however, by 2025, more than 1000 dams will be greater than 50 years old signalling the aging of dam infrastructure in India

Concerns of dam ageing →

1) Structural integrity of dam gets weakened and it might develop cracks or entirely break during floods, leading to huge disaster in downstream regions

2) Water-retention capacity of dam reservoirs get reduced leading to greater chances of overflowing during floods.

3) Old dams may face technical snags in opening or closing of flood gates making them redundant. Eg - Mullaperiyar dam of Kerala

4) In case of old dams, hydroelectricity

Page _____ of _____

generation is also at risk of getting disrupted by floods.

Old dams are thus a disaster-in-waiting of their own and interventions are necessary.

Suggested measures →

1) Legal provisions - The Dam Safety Act 2021 should be implemented to assign accountability of major dams and conduct routine safety reviews.

2) Guidelines on dam closure or dismantle should be developed

3) Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Program (DRIP) scheme should be implemented throughout India.

4) Downstream villages must do social audit to ensure proper care of dams are being taken

5) Separate EIA (Impact Assessment) of dams above a certain age to assure safety

Dams are called as temples of modern India, as per Nehru. These temples should not become beacons of destruction.

Good attempt

(7)

Q.18) Examine as to why missile defense remains vital for India's effort to maintain its strategic stability. How can India take advantage of ongoing 'missile race' between China and U.S.? (15 marks)

Indian defence maintains a policy of capability-building to ensure its sustainability in an unstable neighbourhood.

This is why about 2.4% of our GDP is spent on defence, to develop missile capabilities.

Importance of Missile Defence for strategic stability

- 1) Instability in northern neighbourhood due to dual threat of China and Pakistan.
- 2) Deterrence - India needs to establish credible deterrence in front of China's and Pakistan's huge missile strength
- 3) An array of missiles, like S-400, is vital to guard India's borders from incoming missiles, aircrafts or drones
- 4) Technological improvements like ICBMs, hypersonic missiles require constant development to maintain capacity for defence
- 5) India aims to be regional security

provider and export missiles, which is not possible without missile development

India is the 3rd largest spender on defence globally and the 2nd largest arms importer due to its focus on defence capacity building.

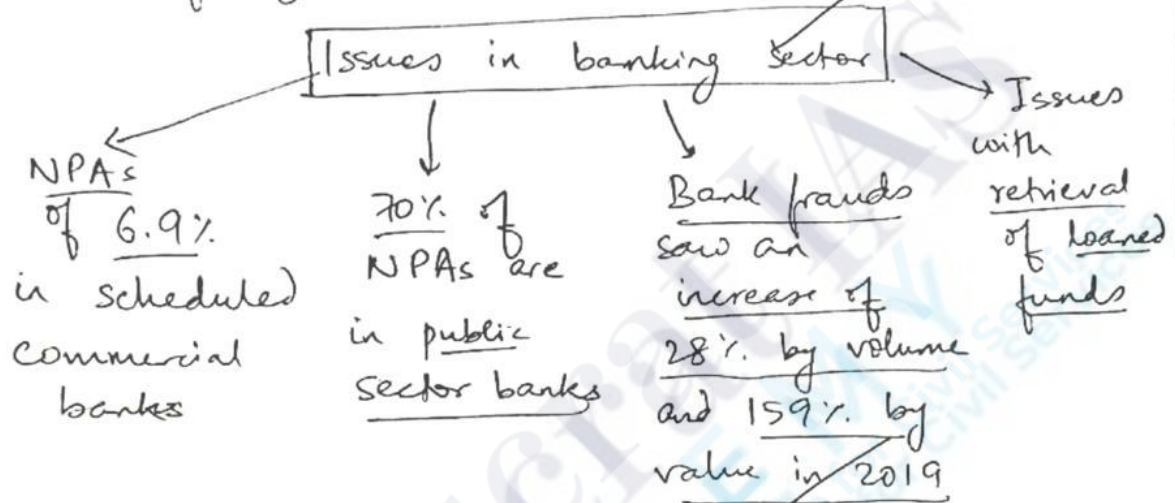
Ways to take advantage of US-China missile race

- 1) Opportunity for India to scale up its defence position due to China to maintain credibility
- 2) Play the role of a balancer and mediator to ensure global peace
- 3) Become net security provider by exporting arms to neighbouring countries so that they can maintain deterrence themselves
- 4) Align with Russia for joint development of defence capabilities. Eg - Brahmes
- 5) Play leadership role in multinational bodies to ensure rules-based international order.

India should try to stop the US-China missile race by pushing global denuclearisation, and disarmament/strategic reduction of missile

Q.19) The banking sector is overburdened with compliance burden. In this context, discuss the role and the areas of focus, of the second Regulatory Review Authority (RRA 2.0). (15 marks)

The banking sector of India is a critical sector for the economy, yet it is fraught with various issues



As such, heavy compliance has been introduced by the RBI in India.

Recently, the 2nd Regulatory Review Authority (RRA 2.0) was formed to check the compliance burden

Role of RRA 2.0 → 1) Check overlapping burdens of compliance

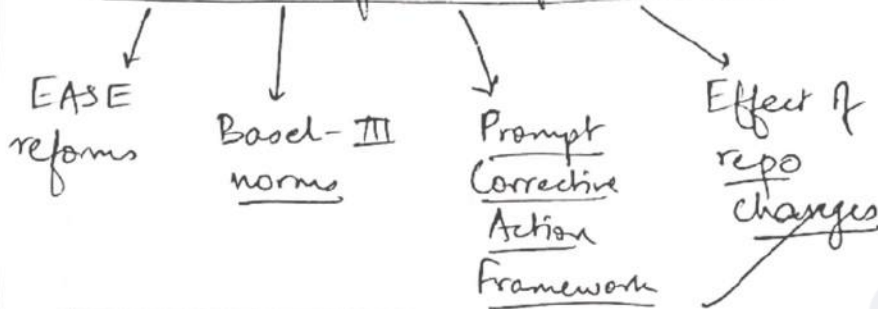
2) Check efficacy of compliance. Eg - PCA frame work,

3) Check for loopholes in compliance.

Eg - loopholes leading to lack of credit checks leading to NPAs

4) Recommend changes in compliances

Areas of focus of RRA 20



Suggested measures →

1) PJ Nayak Committee's recommendation to smoothen banking regulation

2) Sandbox testing of RBI's measures before implementation

3) Collaborative approach to make changes in banking regulation

4) Permanent RRA should be considered to ensure RBI's actions undergo scrutiny

5) PK Mohanty Committee's recommendation to improve functioning of private sector banks must be adhered.

Banking must be easy for consumers as well as banks, while maintaining tight control to stop any leakages or frauds

Q.5
✓

Q.20) Although the Indian pharmaceutical industry has emerged as the third global producer in the generic medicine manufacturing, many regulations are still archaic. Elaborate on the reforms needed in the pharmaceutical industry to meet the present-day needs. (15 marks)

Indian pharma industry is the 3rd largest producer of generic medicines by volume, and the 14th largest by value. India has also emerged as the largest exporter of vaccines globally

Issues with regulations →

1) IPR policy is too stringent as alleged by USTR Section 301 report and reduces innovation

2) Accessibility of OTC antibiotics has been a major reason for increasing anti-microbial resistance in India ✓

3) Logistics issues due to stringent regulations, adds to export costs.

4) Hygiene checks are archaic leading to sanitary and phytosanitary issues at WTO ~~during~~ for exports to EU.

Needed reforms →

- 1) Easy approval for foreign investment and set up of manufacturing plants
- 2) R&D provision in development of APIs in India, as per recommendations of Katoch Committee
- 3) Quick redressal of legal challenges which have positioned India as a difficult investment-country for pharma
- 4) National IPR Policy, 2016 should be amended, along with Patent Rights Act, 1970 to allow room for innovation and reduce threshold for evergreening of patents

India's role as global vaccine manufacturer has been instrumental during the pandemic and the world must assist India in healing the global population, as per SDG 3

8.5

Good