

G|SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

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JAIN JAINOM MAHENDRAKUMAR

**AIR -103
(CSE 2022)**

GENERAL STUDIES



8448496262



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GENERAL STUDIES - PAPER - III

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Q.	Marks	<i>Instructions to Candidate</i>
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1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

Name Jainom, M. JainRoll No. GSMOA20190038

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature Jmjt5
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REMARKS

GS SCORE
MOCK TEST SERIES 2019

Section - A

- Q1. When technological progress takes place, it calls for new type of skills to handle new technologies effectively. But when the rate of new skill formation lacks in keeping pace with new technologies, it results in surplus of labour specialized in older skills. To what extent will this impinge upon Industry 4.0's success? Analyse. (10 Marks)

→ Recently, WEF launched centre for 4th Industrial Revolution in Maharashtra.

However, the success of such initiative

Do not use nos, will depend on skills.

use bullets/arrows.

Lack of skills → affecting Industry 4.0

① New set of technologies : Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence etc require new skills to deal with them.

② Redundant labour force : If labour is not provided with new skills, the 4th industrial revolution will not pick up.

③ Increase burden : Instead of reducing burden by incorporating new technolo

Remarks Also discuss the status and causes of low skills in new tech.

gy, it will increase burden of unemployed people

- ④ Improving efficiency & effectiveness of 4th Industrial revolutions would also require higher skills.

Thus; adoption of 4th IR without increasing skill set will render a large labour force redundant

Way Forward:

- ① Invest in STEM (science, Engineering, Technology & Mathematics)
- ② Improve involvement of women in STEM.
- ③ NITI Aayog's "Strategy paper on AI" highlight importance of skilling the workforce

skilling the workforce will be necessary to achieve 4th industrial revolution.

Remarks

Also mention
ATLS
SWAYAM
platform

35

- Q2. Majority of the Indian states financial position appears to be somewhat stretched. Both the fiscal deficit and the debt to GDP ratio of the states look problematic. Analyse the stand taken by 15th Finance Commission and critically evaluate its potential operational effectiveness. (10 Marks)

→ As per Economic Survey 2018-19, ^{& debt to GDP ratio}
fiscal deficit of state have increased & remain well above FRBM Target

Stand Taken by 15th Finance Commission:

- ① Will lower the devolution of funds to State which couldn't fulfill its targets based under FRBM Act
- ② Demand creation of independent fiscal council to work after fiscal stability of state
- ③ called on states to achieve its debt to GDP target sooner possible
- ④ Operational effectiveness:
- ⑤ Help ~~states~~ increase compliance of state to its fiscal targets

Remarks

States have to present a Credible Action Plan to bring down the fiscal deficit and debt

good points

- ② reduce unnecessary spending & rationalise expenditure
- ③ Independent fiscal council will effectively reduce populist measures

Limitations:

① Schemes like UDAY, Ajushman Bharat etc have increased state deficit - which is unlikely to reduce in coming years.

② State → low revenue, high expenditure
 → Pay commission burden
way forward:
 There is a need to increase financial devolution of funds from centre to states to achieve state's fiscal deficit targets

Also States have to focus on generating their own revenues from 3rd tier

3.5

Remarks

- Q3. Has Anti-India sentiments in Nepal and Bangladesh provided a fertile ground for non-state actors to wage a proxy war against India, utilizing these two land frontiers? How should India attempt to eliminate this peril? (10 Marks)

Anti-India sentiments in Nepal & discuss
Bangladesh can have potential impacts
on security of India
Also anti-India feelings
provided fertile ground to wage a proxy
war:

- ① Money Safe Havens: in Bangladesh & Nepal, eg- NSCN(k), ULFA etc.
- ② Funding - Increased funding to discussed separatist groups in India - with this using counterfeit currency, money laundering, etc.
- ③ Utilized geographical barriers. eg- Nepal Mountains, shifting course of river with Bangladesh
- ④ Ideological support have also been provided to the groups.

Remarks

Discuss India's support to Madhesi minority in Nepal, NRC in Assam, Rohingya issue etc.

However,

① Improving relations with Bangladesh

Nepal name helped tackle safe

havens. eg. India - Bangladesh - Sampriti Exercises

② Countries are supporting India to eliminate terrorist groups by providing intelligence support.

good points, further Measures required :-

① Utilising platforms like BBIN, BIMSTEC, etc

② Improving Border security
eg using BOLD-AT

③ Use of space technology to tackle movement of terrorist groups

④ Investing in development in the areas building soft power.

Internal security challenges

both countries from Bangladesh & Nepal have to be dealt with measures as mentioned above

Remarks

Goyal Doctrine to be followed

(4)

- Q4. India has banned bottom trawling in few areas while Sri Lanka has banned it completely. Critically analyse the impact of bottom trawling and deep sea mining on the aquatic ecosystem. (10 Marks)

⇒ Bottom trawling refers to extraction of fishes in deep sea, whereas deep sea mining refers to mining of minerals located in deep ocean basins.

Impact :-

- ① Affect coral reefs - lead to bleaching
- ② Sound pollution due to mining will affect marine species
- ③ Increase water pollution - affect demand marine species
- ④ Affect deep ocean ecosystem
- ⑤ Bottom trawling may also lead to capture of young fishes yet to grow

Remarks

~~Ways~~

Measures to reduce impact:

- ① Improve efficiency of technology in extraction
- ② International co-operation for technology transfer to reduce impact on aquatic ecosystem.
- ③ Impact studies to be conducted to understand impact of such processes sustainable fishing and deep mining methods to be adopted to reduce impact of deep sea mining & bottom trawling. is one of the goal under SDG14 & hence must be achieved fast.

Remarks

Q5. What do you understand by 5G technology? What are the advantages/applications and challenges to adapt 5G in India? (10 Marks)

→ Recently, Department of telecom has called on for beginning of 5G trials in India, which brings into light simply importance of 5G technology.

5G Technology

① Also called 5th Generation technology
which is an improvement over 4G — which wireless increase speed in upto which data is transferred 20 Gbps

② Use radio waves to transmit information

Advantages / Application

① Ultra low latency : reduces time to transfer data. (1 millisecond) discussed

② Faster speeds : About 10 Gbps (4G-1 Gbps)

③ Create 22 million jobs by 2035 in India (Niti Aayog)

Remarks

- (1) ↑ adoption rate of IoT, AI, etc
- (2) Potential to increase output from Agriculture, Manufacturing & Service Sector (WEP)

Challenges:

① High spectrum rates in India — About 10 times higher than other countries

② Import of telecom equipment:
About 90% imported

③ High debt of telecom players:
Rs 4.2 lakh crore
Also data safety issues
way forward:

① A.J. Pawaraj Committee & Steering Committee recommendations needs to be adopted

② Build backbone infrastructure for faster adoption of 5G

5G technology will be essential to achieve target of 95% digital economy by 2025

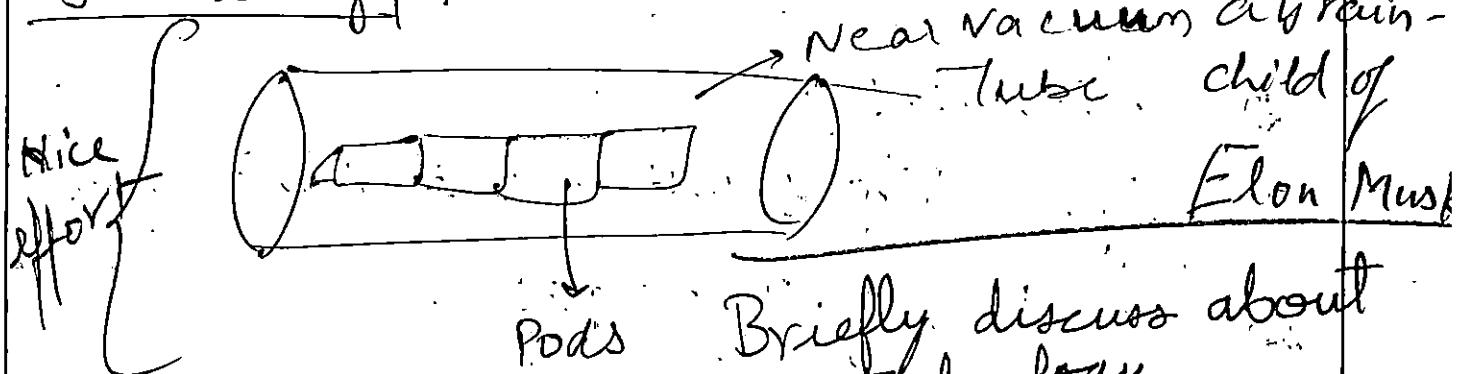
Remarks

4.5

- Q6. US-based Hyperloop Transportation Technologies (HTT) is in talks with five Indian states to build a high-speed travel network. Highlight the technology behind hyperloop and discuss its significance for India. (10 Marks)

Hyperloop Transportation Technology will change the transportation scenario in India.

Technology



Briefly discuss about the technology

- ① Ultra fast speed can be achieved by reducing air resistance, by running pods in near vacuum tube up to 800 mph
- ② Speeds will be higher than the rail or air transportation
- ③ Underground tubes will be laid underground

Discuss other tech aspects also like passive magnetic levitation

Remarks

"More burden shifted to small towns surrounding main city"

Significance for India:-

- ① Increased Safety : reduce accidents
- ② reduce travel time : as it takes larger time to travel due to suburban rail connectivity.
- ③ Cost will reduce with time

Limitations :-

- ① High initial cost : But India have fiscal deficit targets
- ② Expenditure on such technology will be questioned - as India have high rates of poverty (malnutrition)

HTT aims to change the transportation scenario in India. But, it will be long time before India adopts such technology in full force.

with conclusion

(4)

Remarks

- Q7. Owing to growing dependence on space resources, it is important for India to protect its critical space assets and infrastructure from possible security threats. In this context, examine the need for a Space Security Policy in India. (10 Marks)

→ Recently, India tested Anti-Satellite Missile, which have brought into good light need for protections of space assets.

Growing dependence on space resources

① For ^{military} communications: eg - GSAT 7, GSAT 7A

② For ~~reducing~~ reducing digital divide
eg GSAT 29

③ For remote sensing : eg, Cartosat

④ for navigation : IRNSS

Need for Space security policy:

① Space infrastructure - critically important infrastructure - any damage to such may bring economic life to standstill

Remarks

- good points
- ② Be more important for border management
 - ③ Many countries have developed capability to ~~view down a missile~~
 - ④ Space security Policy will help deal with threats proactively rather than being reactive

Way forward:

- ① Faster conclusion of PAROS treaty negotiated as UN platform
- ② Space security Policy must clearly indicate non-aggressive posture of India - to avoid space war
Given its high dependence on space infrastructure, India needs to consider a space security policy.

Remarks

4½

- Q8. There is an urgent need to rethink disaster management in India. The responses to disasters must be proactive, not just reactive. Comment. (10 Marks)

→ According to IMF, disaster have cost India about Rs 4 lakh crore since 2000. This calls for a proactive approach to deal with same.

Not just reactive (ie not just believing and responding to resilience & recovery) disaster prone

as:

current climate change risky

- ① It may exacerbate cost of disaster
- ② Makes handling of disaster difficult good points
eg - ~~Ka~~ kutch Earthquake
- ③ Increases miscommunication - affecting disaster management.

Proactive:

- ↳ Belief in preparation for disaster (pre-disaster preparedness)

Remarks

Benefits -

A slight elaboration required

- ① Reduces cost of disaster
- ② Avoid harmful after effects.
e.g. diseases during ~~disaster~~
- ③ Enhances resources use & help in building back better

How can it be made proactive

- ① Early warning system
- ② Disaster resilient infrastructure
- ③ Vulnerability maps

Proactive steps in disaster management can help reduce exacerbating cost of disaster

3

Remarks

- Q9. If we have to double the income of our farmers, we need to focus equally on animal rearing apart from traditional crop farming. Examine the steps taken by government in this regard in the last five years. (10 Marks)

→ Doubling farmers' income by 2022 requires diversification away from agriculture which can potentially done using focus on animal rearing as nicely

- ① Supplements income of farmers introduced
- ② Additional nutritional sources
- ③ Avoid farm distress e.g. - subsidies

→ Steps taken by Government:

- ① National Livestock Mission
- ② Rashtriya Arogya Mission
- ③ Dairy Development Board discuss feature of each very briefly
- ④ Dairy Infrastructure & Development Board Fund
- ⑤ Veterinary facilities

Remarks

Discuss the importance of animal rearing

⑥ Recently interest subventions have been provided under Budget 2018-19.

Efficacy :

① Increased production from these present sectors

② Reduced dependency on agriculture

③ Still large population dependent on agriculture.

④ Lack of awareness of benefits of animal rearing.

way forward :

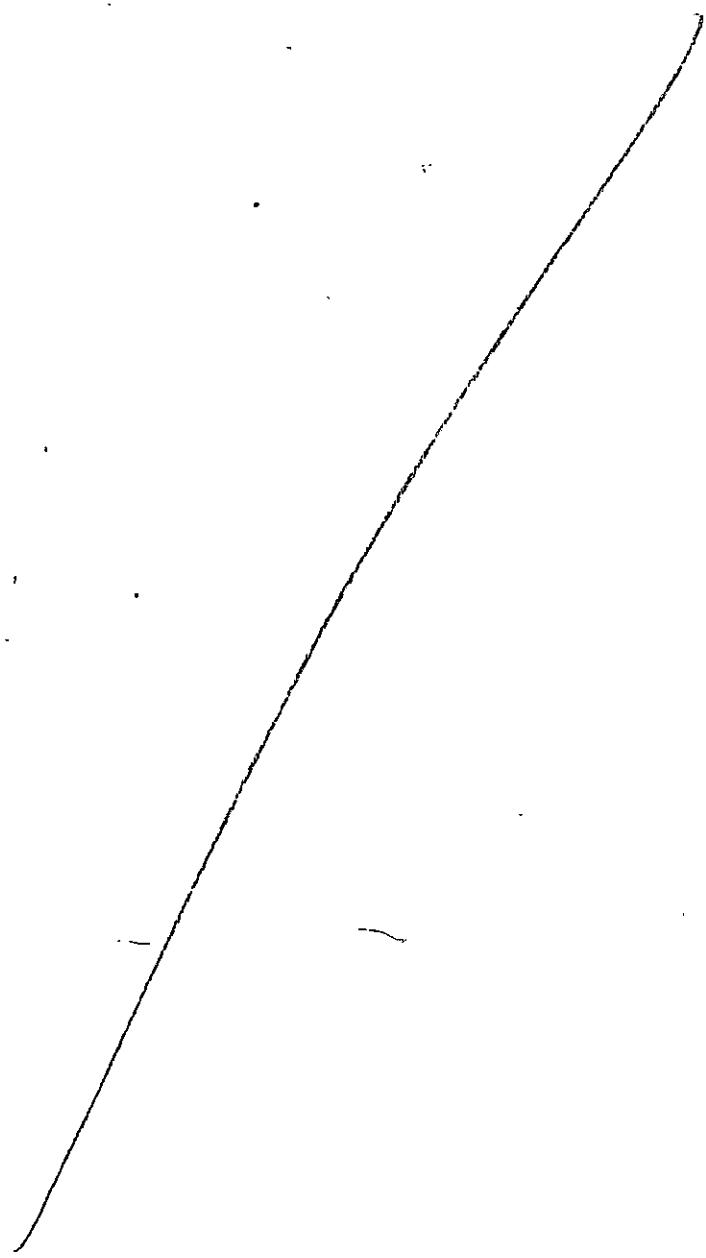
Effective measures are needed to diversify population away from agriculture to harness true benefit of animal rearing.

3.5

Remarks

Q10. Meghalaya Mining Disaster is a shocking reminder that in a fast-growing economy such as India, life of people matters the least. Critically Examine. (10 Marks)

Remarks



Remarks

Section - B

- Q11. The diagnosis of worsening Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) reveals five different causes. Analyse these causes and suggest fiscal stimulus and reformatory measures to clean up the underlying reasons of drought in the credit mechanism. (15 Marks)

→ According to Economic Survey, 2018-19, NPAs in India are about 10.1% of the total assets. Alongwith discuss issues with NPA

Causes of NPA :-

- ① Lack of prudential lending : Multiple loans forwarded on same assets, lack of awareness on credit capacity of individual, etc.
 - ② Infrastructural projects stalled : major reason for default by private players
 - ③ Wilful default : eg. Vijay Mallya
 - ④ Scandals : eg- Mehul Choksi PNB Scam - have increased NPA's of Bank
- discussed points

Remarks

 covered under
malfeasance

Impact of judicial decisions

Not a major cause of rising NPAs

⑤ NPAs in Agricultural sector :- Due to erratic nature of monsoon.

⑥ Excessive lending in boom phase :- caused increased in NPAs as it was followed by Recession in 2008-09.

Measures to handle NPAs & increase credit lending:

Measures by Government & RBI:

- ① Recognition : eg- Asset Quality Review
- ② Resolution/Recovery : eg Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code & Inter Creditor Agreement.
- ③ Recapitalisation : ₹ 2.11 cr recapitalisation by Government
- ④ Reforms : Mississ Inderdhanus, Bank Consolidation (eg- Vijaya Bank, Dena Bank, Bank of Baroda)

well addressed

Remarks

Measures further required:

- ① Need for Public Asset Rehabilitation Agency ('Bad Bank') as suggested by Economic Survey 2017-18.
- ② Partial credit enhancement of Corporate bonds to increase lending to the private players.
- ③ Improve implementation of new RBI strategy to improve situations of banks

NPAs are reducing & are expected to further reduce as highlighted by RBI's financial stability report. However, we cannot be complacent & hence easier as credit lending capacity of bank is decreasing. Above measures are needed to fast change this situation.

Remarks

(6½)

Also reviewing the ownership structure of banks
holistic conclusion

- Q12. The WTO and the Doha Development Agenda has remained a white elephant which India and other developing nations have been trying hard to move around. What do you make out of this statement? What options are available to India in shaping the effectiveness of WTO? (15 Marks)

Also discussed in brief
major bones of contention are still not being adopted, which have widened the crisis of WTO, pushing it towards an imminent collapse.

WTO & DDA - White elephant:

- ① DDA as adopted in 2001 - is still not being implemented due to conflict between developed & developing countries
- ② The WTO summits that have followed have not come to an agreement yet with these targets, e.g. Marrakesh Summit (2017) was complete failure
- ③ WTO's effectiveness is reducing, as it couldn't control subsidies

Remarks

US & EU, not willing to give up their agriculture subsidies

provided by developed countries.

- ④ Further, trade war America first has widened the crisis in WTO.
- ⑤ Dispute settlement mechanism : have frequently been resorted by developed countries - eg- US against India's solar panels good points discussed
- ⑥ Conflicting objectives : eg- US - want e-commerce, India - service sector liberalisation.

Options available to India :-

- ① Work with like minded countries that have stakes in preservation of WTO, eg EU, G-77, TBSA, etc
- ② Plurilateral agreements : Agreement among nations which accept certain provisions.

Remarks

~~Also mention~~ accomodating extra-time for the 'peace clause', for buffer stocks

- ③ Push for qualified voting instead of consensus.
- ④ Address some of the demands of developed countries.
- ⑤ Give away the principle of single undertaking as adopted in DDA.

WTO control 98% of world trade & also have been benefited for India, any downfall of WTO would affect India's interest. Thus, India must fast come with options to protect WTO & ensure implementation of DDA.

- Q13. As start-ups turn out to be a major source of revenue and employment. Governments from across the world have been going out of their way to facilitate the entrepreneurial dream. Discuss the role played by angel investors and government support in facilitating the Start-up growth story. (15 Marks)

→ Start-ups are seen as employment generator & storehouse of innovation, well with potential to boost economic growth & hence are being promoted world wide.

Role played by angel investors:

- ① Provide funding support to newly emerging startups.
- ② May provide technological support, managerial expertise, etc
- ③ Start-ups require incubators - which is well played by angel investors.

Role played by Government:

- ① Right policy environment, eg-

Start UP India, Make in India etc

Remarks

A short para on the basic requirements of start-ups.

^{now} sales upto ₹ 100 Cr (earlier ₹ 25 Cr.)
^{exempted} from Angel Tax

- ② Tax incentives to new players
- ③ Start-up innovation hubs
- ④ clusters - for start ups
- ⑤ Schemes like Atal Innovation Mission, ASPIRE to boost innovation
- ⑥ Schemes like MUDRA to provide for financial needs of start ups
- ⑦ Allowing collaborations of start ups with foreign players
- ⑧ Start ups are also being invited to spend in defence 'make it' sectors

Challenges that remain :-

- ① Dwarfs : Many MSMEs turning into dwarfs = not able to grow. (Economic Survey 2018-19)

<sup>good
points
discussed
also
mention
easily
exit
norms
helping
failed
start-ups to wind up easily</sup>
Remarks

② Increasing competition from
foreign players

③ Difficult to ^{find} get angel investors
 which can act as incubators

④ Many start-ups turning economically
unviable after the incentive period
is over

Way Forward:

- * Startups like Ola, Uber, foodpanda, etc are increasingly finding their presence. Government must further boost potential of these start ups by providing correct environment for their growth.

✓ nice conclusion

6.5

Discussed
 still missing
 policy support

Remarks

- Q14. The word 'media' is derived from the word medium, signifying mode or carrier. Media is intended to reach and address a large target group or audience. Analytically discuss the extent to which the paid news and media biasness has jeopardized the overall credibility framework. Analyse. (15 Marks)

bring "Media plays a role in reaching a large section of population". However, recently the credibility of media has come under questioning due to biased news misuse of media.

Paid news & media biasness & credibility

① Voting behaviour : e.g. social media

can change the voting behaviour by influencing the voters

② Favouring a political party : Some media houses seem to favour a political party.

③ Industrial houses' monopoly : have led to increasing biasness which questions credibility

Remarks

Support Left or Right
bloc of politics

④ Reducing people's trust in media:

eg - A recent survey conducted shows that 80% people didn't believe in messages received on ~~social~~ media.

⑤ Biased opinions: Affect credibility of good media houses.

⑥ Mob lynchings & communal violence, etc have further questioned the credibility

Way Forward :

① Model code of conduct / Voluntary code of Ethics must be adopted by media houses.

② Check monopoly of industrial houses on media.

adopt political neutrality

Remarks

Media is 4th pillar of India's democracy & hence must overcome the menace of ^{news} paid & biasness

5.5

Remarks

Q15. The World Wide Web and Web 2.0 technologies have given rise to electronic media where everyone can express views through social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, blogs and website posts. Critically analyse the communication revolution that these platforms have created.

Simply define (15 Marks)

→ World Wide Web (Web 2.0) have ushered in communications revolution by negating providing a platform to ~~new~~ social media players like Facebook, Twitter, ~~Google~~ etc

Also
of
social
media
in brief

Communication revolution created :-

① Video teleconferencing : increasing social reach

② Platform to present one's opinion to the world, eg. Jallikattu Ban. Show saw intense debate on such platform

③ Platform to spread information about disasters : eg. During super storm Sandy in US, people used

Remarks

A short para on communication Revolution

these platforms to spread information about disaster.

(4) Reduced cost of communications with internet telephony

(5) Platform to increase outreach of one's product: reduced advertising cost

* Limitations,

(1) Misuse of data: eg Cambridge Analytica involved in data leaks

(2) ↑ frauds : eg- Delhi girl was duped by her social media friend

(3) Outreach limited to those with internet connections

(4) Fanning violence: eg whatsapp used to spread misinformation - leading

Remarks

good points discussed by well-cited examples

to sponsored child mob lynchings.

- ⑤ Influence voters : eg- US presidential elections.
- ⑥ Unregulated communication : used by terrorist groups eg- ISIS

Way Forward :-

- ① Recent adoption of voluntary code of ethics by social media players must be implemented in letter & forward spirit.

- ② Improving controls with adoption of 5G will revolutionize the communication scenario.

World wide web & Web 2.0 have ushered in communication revolution. However, further steps are needed to harness true benefit of these initiatives.

6.5

Remarks

A nice beginning
with the current debate on climate change.

Q16. "Nearly 30% perennial springs in the Himalayan region have dried up causing water scarcity in the Himalayan region". Discuss the issue in light of the Shimla Water Crisis and suggest the need to implement structural and non-structural solutions.

(15 Marks)

climate change have started showing

its impact - one of them being drying up of perennial springs in Himalayas region

Water Scarcity in Himalayan Region

consider Shimla water crisis

- this only a) ① Result of increasing impacts of a context climate change - rising temperatures, reducing rainfall, etc.
- ② Lack of rain water harvesting structure has further exacerbated the problem

- ③ Increasing water pollution also have widened compounded the problem

Good discussion on the current situation

④ Perennial springs drying up.

Remarks Also discuss the importance of perennial springs of Himalayas

Structural solutions :

① Need for rainwater harvesting from structures like Bhandaras in Maharashtra zone.

② Controlling water pollution of rivers flowing through Shimla, e.g. through a programme similar to Namami Gange Programme.

③ Effective & efficient irrigation e.g. Micro irrigation techniques.

Non-structural Solution :

① Reducing impacts of climate change
e.g. adhering to goal of 1.5°C as suggested by IPCC

② Increasing awareness among people - need for wise use of water

Suggest more workable solutions

Remarks

Need for structural & non-structural

Solutions:

(1) The problem in Shimla is exacerbating unless these methods are employed, it would further underline the crisis

(2) About 60% of people are to face water crisis in Shimla by 2050, if no measures are taken

There is a need to fast adopt measures to control water crisis in Shimla, before it turns into water crisis like Cape Town.

Nice Conclusion describing the gravity of the situation

6

good
points

Remarks

Q17. Unregulated growth of urban areas without the necessary infrastructural services for proper collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of solid wastes has resulted in increased pollution and health hazards from these wastes. In light of the given statement, assess the efficacy of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) (15 Marks)



Urban areas have seen increasing problems with accumulation of solid waste.

In light of these, SBM was launched to handle the problem.

SBM : Discuss the sorry state of municipal waste management

Targets :

① To eliminate open defecation

② To achieve scientific disposal of solid waste

③ Reduce diseases from solid waste

④ Cleaning rivers

Efficiency :

① Reduction in diseases, WHO

Report - 50000 deaths averted

② Toilet construction : 98% of

Remarks

Write a short para on pollution & health hazards

Also^{as} discuss -

the behaviour of villages have toilet facilities & 95% aspect of 60 people who have access to using toilets

toilet facilities use then (Union Budget 2018-19)

③ Open Defecation free : About 45,000 villages declared open defecation

free

④ Clean cities : eg- Indore have been cleaned in light of SBM

⑤ Waste disposal : A number of sewage treatment plants have come up

⑥ Women empowerment : with increased access to nutrition - due to toilet facilities.

⑦ Behavioural change : promoted by SBM have reduced waste disposal & improved waste segregation

good points discussed

Remarks

Limitations: Also lack of water

- ① Repairing toilets is required to achieve true utilisation of these purpose toilets.
- ② Requires improved waste disposal techniques to reduce pollution: eg- construction of waste to energy plant in Noida have not implemented yet. SBM can change the waste collection, disposal & treatment scenario if handled & implemented well. It can help achieve targets of SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 5, etc.

6

Remarks

Q18. With the view of regulating the use of drones in India, the Ministry of Civil Aviation recently announced guidelines on drones. In this regard, mention the key features of the "Drone Regulation 1.0". Also, highlight the various non-military applications of drones. (15 Marks)

Ministry of Civil Aviations have come up with guidelines on use of drones, as drones market is expected to rise in coming years.

Drone Regulation 1.0 :

① Unmanned Aircraft Operator Permit: requires

to fly a drone

② Digital Sky Platform for drones

③ Education requirement: studied 10th class in english, to fly a drone

④ Age: Only those with age 18 & above

Remarks

- ⑤ No fly zones: ~~5 km~~ from military installations
- ⑥ Should be operated only in time of Smit
- Discuss few more features like
various non-military applications of UAOOP
Need of -UIN etc
- ① Traffic control: Drones can be used to manage traffic
- Discuss benefits
- ② Delivery: eg- Amazon, Zomato are along with delivery application
- ③ Crowd management: eg- During kumbh mela.
- good points,
also use
- ④ Crop Monitoring: eg- SENS Agri during disaster management
- ⑤ Limitations:
- ① Use by terrorist organisations

Remarks

- ② Can affect privacy of an individual
- ③ collisions with aircraft, etc
- ④ Traffic management of drones will become a complex task.

Drones are essential to handle variety of problems & ^{also} have variety of applications. However, the problems with respect to drones are needed to be handled ~~well~~ well concluded.

5.5

Remarks

Q19. The phrase "digital divide" refers to the unequal and disproportionate pace of development in societies having access to digital infrastructure and services. Analyze the extent and prevalence of digital divide in India. List the measures taken to bridge this divide. (15 Marks)

→ Digital divide have increased with many people lacking access to basic digital infrastructure services ~~niche definition~~

Extent of digital divide in India:

① According to report of standing committee only 18.3% in rural areas have access to computer, whereas about 40% have it in urban areas.

② Digital literacy is way too low in rural areas - only 20% know how to use computers / access internet

③ Low number of bank accounts, etc also highlight digital divide. ^{payment} Good points

Remarks also discuss digital divide prevalence at gender and income levels.

Measures taken to bridge :

- ① Digital Saksharta Abhiyan : A digital literacy.
- ② Digital India mission : with aim to increase access of internet to rural areas.
- ③ Digital communication policy : also aims to improve access by Gramnet, Bharat net
- ④ Digitala STC channels - involved in well discussed education
- ⑤ PMG-DISHA : Aim to provide literacy to atleast one member of household in villages

Remarks

Success of these measures:-

- ① Digital divide is decreasing with increasing number of villages getting connected to broadband services.
- ② Common Service Centres have increased access to various digital services of government.
- ③ Digital Literacy Mission is increasing digital literacy.

However, still the digital divide is huge & hence further measures must be taken to ensure "Inclusive India" nicely concluded

6.5

Remarks

- Q20. Analyze the role of rural tourism in facilitating community development, poverty alleviation, boosting cultural heritage, and conservation. Also explain the steps taken by the government to augment this sector. (15 Marks)

→ Rural tourism brings infinite benefits & can transform the rural areas.

Role in :

(a) Community Development :-

- ① Increase development of infrastructure in rural areas
- ② Can help in achieving social harmony by increasing economic growth

(b) Poverty Alleviation :-

- ① Provide employment opportunities which can increase income
- ② Increase government focus on these areas - which can lead to benefits to rural population like serving home-cooked meal to tourists

Remarks

① Protecting cultural heritage:

- ① By ~~area~~ organising cultural festivals
- ② By enhancing pride of people in one's culture
- ③ By sharing cultural practices with tourists

② Steps to conservation:

- ① Rural knowledge can be used to harmonise tourism with environment
- ② Rural people are best protectors of environment

Government steps:

① Rural circuit theme under Swadesh Darshan scheme

② Suganya Basad Missionary Rural Missions: To boost infra

Remarks

in rural areas

- ① Basad Scheme : To promote pilgrimage to holy areas — most of which are in rural India.
- ④ Adopt a Heritage Scheme to protect heritage sites.

As per Economic Survey 2018-19 only 10 mn tourists arrive in India which is less than Singapore. Harnessing rural tourism potential can potentially change this scenario.

- also mention
- overall rural cleanliness under SBM rural
 - roadside amenity development
 - monuments in construction

Remarks

5.5