

6STY-20

VAJIRAM & RAVI
MAIN EXAM TEST SERIES (Oct 2021)
GENERAL STUDIES
Test - 4 (GS Paper III)
Economy and International Relations

Time allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

ADMIN. NO.:

4700147

NAME:

SAKSHAM GOEL

[Redacted]

(compulsory)

@

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	6 /10	Q8	4 /10	Q15	6 /15
Q2	6 /10	Q9	4 /10	Q16	5 /15
Q3	4 /10	Q10	5 /10	Q17	5.5 /15
Q4	4 /10	Q11	7 /15	Q18	5.5 /15
Q5	5 /10	Q12	5.5 /15	Q19	5 /15
Q6	3.5 /10	Q13	7 /15	Q20	8 /15
Q7	4.5 /10	Q14	6.5 /15	Total	112

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 96672-73133 between 11:00 am to 5:00 pm to fix your mentoring slot.
3. Please follow the mentoring appointment timings properly.

VAJIRAM & RAVI
IAS STUDY CENTRE LLP

10 DEC 2021

FOR EVALUATION

ARJ-15

VAJIRAM & RAVI
IAS STUDY CENTRE LLP

12 DEC 2021

REVIEWED

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

Dear Saksham,

I hope that you have finished the paper on time within 3 hrs.

→ Your structure is good. You have addressed intro-body-conclusion separately & your presentation is also good.

→ You have excessively quoted personalities which most of the time has gone out of context. Ex-Q12, Q11, Q9 etc. Try to link the quotes with the context.

→ Your introduction should be based on the context of the question, and should not be in the pointer. Ex-Q4, Q2 etc.

→ In few question^{all}, demand of the question is not met and out of context discussion is done. Q15, Q16, etc.

→ In body, you just not have to mention the pointer but also those pointer needs articulation Q20, Q15, etc.

→ You have good conceptual clarity & you also have enough content. But context of the question should be understood & then required content should be given.

→ Overall your score is good.

All the Best.

1 Enumerate the major challenges hindering the realisation of inclusive growth in India (10M, 150W)

UNDP has defined inclusive growth as "the process and the outcome where all groups of people have participation in growth and have benefited equitably from it."

well defined inclusive growth

MAJOR CHALLENGES TO INCLUSIVE GROWTH

- ① Poverty & lack of access to basic necessities of life leading to under-utilisation of capabilities (Amartya Sen)
- ② Inequality: leading to unequal opportunities → vicious cycle
- ③ Extractive political and economic institutions (Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson).

aimed at excluding the majority of society
You need to articulate this point

MANIFESTATION OF THESE CHALLENGES IN THE LIVED REALITY OF INDIA

- ① Digital divide in education (also visible in employment trends)
- ② Marginalisation of oppressed communities like Dalit, minorities etc

Here
value addition

- ③ The rural-urban divide
- ④ Regional disparity in growth
- ⑤ Inter- and intra-generational inequality
- ⑥ WOMEN DIS-EMPOWERMENT
- ⑦ Dis-enfranchisement due to migration
- ⑧ Unequal burden of Climate Change on the poor and vulnerable

MEASURES FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH

- ① Welfare State based on Socialist and Gandhian principles as envisaged in Directive Principles of State Policy
- ② Following Gandhian Talisman / Rawls' theory of justice / Sen's capability approach
- ③ Realising the full potential of Article 21 - rights of livelihood, healthcare, ~~to~~ clean environment and so on.

A society - especially a democracy - is judged by how it treats the most vulnerable - the last man in the queue.

Intro - 1

Body - 4

Conclusion - 1

Total - 6

→ could have mentioned India's position of global Hunger Indeq.

→ Maternal mortality rate

→ Infant mortality rate.

etc

well mentioned points

U.P.S.C.

प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

इस भाग में कुछ
न लिखें
(Don't write anything
in this part)

2. With the increase in adoption of digital technology and emerging startup atmosphere in India, there is a trend of growing gig economy. In this context, explain the pros and cons of gig economy and suggest ways to improve it. (10M, 150W)

Gig economy is based on the idea of each ~~work~~ ^{piece} of work or gig is to be seen as independent task i.e. "pay per piece/gig"

Characteristic feature of gig economy

- (a) pay per gig
- (b) ~~free~~ ^{flexible} lane work
- (c) on demand
- (d) task based
- (e) platform economy
- (f) low skill, low wage

These pointers
could have
added in
the introduct
itself!

Gig Economy in India

- (a) According to Global Gig Economy Index, India is among top 10 gig economies.
- (b) An ~~estimated~~ 50% of all new jobs in India are generated by gig economy.
- (c) Has potential for 9 crore jobs and 1.25% GDP increase over long term.

Not necessarily

like
freelancers
high skill
works
are
also
there

Sustainable Development Goals SDG values

- (a) ~~SDG~~ 8 - Decent work and economic growth
- (b) ~~SDG~~ 10 - reducing inequality

Arguments in favour of gig economy

- (a) Job creation ✓
- (b) ~~flexible~~ employment - especially during cyclical unemployment and frictional unemployment
- (c) Consumer benefits (lower prices)
- (d) ~~Young~~ demography of India.

Challenges faced

- (a) Digital divide ✓
- (b) ~~low~~ social protection and labour rights
- (c) ~~no~~ proper regulation ✓
- (d) mostly urban → neglect rural areas.
- (e) low skilled, low wage jobs.

Way Forward

- (a) Adopt best practices like California's ~~giving~~ employee status to gig workers
- (b) Implement labour laws.

Gig economy is a rising sector with huge potential but proper regulations are also a must for equitable growth.

Wood
you
are
covered
it
multi-
dimensionally

But
the
points
also
need
articulation.

Introduction - 1
Body - 2.5
Conclusion - 1
Total - 6

3. Fiscal consolidation should not be linked with a fixed target rather it shld follow for flexibility as per the circumstances.
(10m, 100w)
Comment.

In his 2019 book 'Of Counsel', Arvind Subramanian discussed the 2 views in N.K. Singh Committee for fiscal consolidation — fixed targets (majority view) and flexibility as per circumstances (dissenting view).

ADVANTAGES OF FIXED TARGET

- ① Measurable and targets
- ② "Excuse of circumstances" won't be exercised
- ③ Definite path of fiscal variable
- ④ This leads to "conditioning of economic expectations" and therefore better policy making

ARGUMENTS FOR FLEXIBILITY

- ① Whereas all variables are ^{co}-related, they don't have causal relations
eg under certain cases to keep inflation under control, other variable targets may have to be compromised

You also
need
to
explain
fiscal
consolidation
in
brief.

Relevant
points
are
added

- ② Too many variables outside control of government - both internal and external
- ③ Deficits are good so long as the IRGD (Interest rate - growth differential) is negative - Economic Survey 2021-22
Thus, targets are meaningless without the context of economy
- ④ Similarly, deficits in situations like infrastructure-led growth (National Infrastructure Pipeline) and COVID-19 lockdown - targets become meaningless.

Good mentioning of economic survey.

could have mentioned NIK Singh recommended "escape clause"

End with suggestive way of fiscal consolidation

→ DBT
→ rationalisation of subsidy etc.

Perhaps, given the economic crunch, especially due to the "once in a century pandemic", the flexibility path is a more prudent way.

Intro - 0.5
Body - 3
Conclusion - 0.5
Total - 4

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4. Discuss the major reasons for slow growth of MSME sector in India. What steps can be taken in order to help the sector grow and realise its true potential? (10M)

"MSME is the backbone of Indian economy"
- Minister Gadkari (2021)

Importance of MSMEs

- 30% contribution to GDP
- 45% contribution to manufacturing GDP
- 40% of Exports
- 6.34 crore MSMEs employ 11 crore workers

Reasons for slow growth of MSMEs

- ① Lack of access to finance and credit
- ② Limited capital and machinery
- ③ Limited knowledge and technological know-how
- ④ Limited skilled labour
- ⑤ Lack of modernisation
- ⑥ Inefficient marketing and lack of branding

Measures taken by government

- ① Vocal for Local

avoid
point
format
for
introduction

your
points
are
relevant
All
few
important
point
Problems
of
Missing
idea

you
introduce
should
be
in
paragraph

Need to
articulate
your
points
Ex- lack of
access
to
finance
due to
raising
NPA's

② Atma Nirbhar Bharat

- ₹ 3 Lakh crore collateral free loans
- ₹ 30,000 crore liquidity relief to NBFCs, HFCs, etc.
- ₹ 50,000 crore infusion (Fund of Funds)
- MSME payment in 45 days
- Change in definition to be expand

③ Udyog Aadhar Number

④ ~~Ad~~ A SPire Scheme

⑤ Champions Portal

⑥ PM Mudra Yojana

⑦ T.ReDS

⑧ MSME (Development) Act 2006.

you could have explained any of these scheme in brief. (1-2 lines)

Suggestions

(A) ~~UK~~ Sinha Committee → long term proposals

(B) Economic Survey 2019 → sunset clause
→ finance for young MSMEs
→ focus sectors like tourism

MSME is key to inclusive, sustainable, resilient, robust and equitable growth.

Intro - 0.5
Body - 3
Conclusion - 0.5
Total - 4

you are giving too much information without articulation

your answer is mostly in point format. For better structure point-para be used.

5. Explain with suitable example what do you understand by Devt Financial Institutions? What are the prime objectives of DFI's in India. (10m)

A Development Financial Institution is an institution promoted or assisted by government mainly to provide development finance to one or more sector or sub-sector (s) of the economy.

→ mainly to long term period projects

Role of DFI

Identify gaps in institutions and markets in country's financial sector and fill gaps for development — important for financial inclusion.

→ like example

HABARD
SIDBI
etc

Approach

(a) Project approach i.e. viability of the project (not collateral approach).

(b) Partner nature (not mere financier) i.e. they also upgrade managerial and operational pre-requisites of the projects.

you need to discuss more points on objectives. Or objective is the main demand of

the question
→ Ex economic development
→ refinancing
→ technical support etc,

DFIs in India

(1st DFI) 1948: Industrial Financial Corporation
of India.

1951: State Financial Corporations

1960s/70s - ICICI, LIC, IDBI, NABARD, ARDC,
UTI, IDBI, HUDCO, GLC, etc

Recent example - NaBFID (Budget 2021-22)

- a) Shareholding → corporate body
→ authorised share = ₹1 Lakh crore.
- b) Source of funds: loans, budgeted, debenture,
multilateral funding, borrowing.

Challenges

- a) Bureaucratic red-tapism and over-
regulation
- b) legacy issues of inefficiencies in DFIs
- c) Sourcing of funds.
- d) Politicisation and mis-appropriation
of funds

DFIs are fundamentally development-

oriented and the recent NaBFID is

critical for both inclusive growth as
well as infrastructure led growth model
for a \$5 Trillion economy.

Introduction - 1
Body - 3
Conclusion - 1
= 5

6. Discuss the areas of agriculture sector that can be potentially benefitted due to growing AgriTech Startups and mention challenges that these startups might face in their functioning (10M, 15W)

AgriTech Startups are startups that seek to bring in technological and innovative solutions (eg. use of GIS/GPS, weather data, etc.) to agriculture sector for (production as well as processing).

Areas of potential Benefit

- ① Use biotechnology and nanotechnology for higher yield, better nutrient profile including biofertilisation and GMOs.
- ② Ashok Gulati suggests "Uberisation of Tractors" for cheaper production — can be extended to other machines.
- ③ Pulapre Balakrishnan acknowledges lack of public investment in agri-capital post 1980s due to subsidies — a gap that can be filled by AgriTech Companies
- ④ Global & best practices.
- ⑤ Lack of trust and fear of the "company"

→ give example of tools

They also use AI, Big DATA etc

give examples too
Ninjacart
otipy
etc

very gen'l
Potato
you need to discuss the area of potential where agri-Tech startup can benefit

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(Don't write anything
in this part)

This is
not a
potential
area

Discuss

→ farm
insurance

→ agro-
metereology

→ etc.

you are
just
peripherally
touching
the demand
of the
question

Discuss challenges
of
AgriTech
startup

→ lack of
initial
capital
→ scalability &
profitability
etc.

in the minds of the farmers and the
① Lack of proper regulations can eventually
② Risk be reduced as Agri Startups

Collaborate with grassroots NGOs.

CHALLENGES

challenges of what? Give
proper
heading.

- ① Most technologies are patented and expensive
- ② Lack of literacy/education of farmers
- ③ Lack of diversification of crops → how is it a challenge to agriTech startup?
- ④ Lack of access to finance
- ⑤ Lack of interest of urban tech-wizards to leave urban centres.
- ⑥ Lack Trust deficit for the "companies"
- ⑦ Lack of proper regulation and contract farming not being evolved enough.

As India aspires to double farmers' incomes, technology is the only way to go (like the Green Revolution) but government needs to ensure proper legal framework to protect farmers' interest. The newly created Ministry of Cooperation can play a significant role.

Introduction - 0.5
Body - 2.5
Conclusion - 0.5

Total - 3.5

7. "India's focus on active involvement with multilateral grouping is putting under scanner its neighbourhood first policy". Explain with suitable examples. (10M)

The resurgence of Quad and Malabar Exercise, the UNSC membership and other developments have demonstrated India's "NORMS approach" of active involvement with multilateral groupings.

Cause of such active involvement

- ① Economic rise of India
- ② The China factor - for the Western world
- ③ C. Raja Mohan argues that Indo-Pacific has become the central geopolitical construct of modern global "great game"

Arguments that this involvement is eating up diplomatic space for neighbourhood

- ① Shiv Shankar in his 2021 book "India and Asian geopolitics" argues that obsession with great politics must not cost neighbourhood first policy
- ② India's Afghanistan response calculus also included US- and China- angle
- ③ The larger tone of India leading the Global South has dampened.

well-introduced
the demand of
quest

you need
to discuss
this
with
example.

quoting
statement
is
a
good
move
but
excessive
quoting
or
quoting
more
than
one in
10-marks
question
should
be avoided.

Complementarity between multilateral engagements and neighbourhood policy

- ① Multi-lateral agenda also centres around Indo-Pacific and South Asia
- ② Bodies like BBIN, BIMSTEC, SAARC are multilateral bodies for regional integration
- ③ C. Raja Mohan notes the ASEAN-centrality and role of BIMSTEC-BBIN in larger Indo-Pacific strategy
- ④ India's growth demands expansion of foreign policy interests
- ⑤ Haresh V. Pant notes opines that India's engagement in multilateral institutions signal confidence in India's capabilities to its neighbours.

Thus, one might argue that the ~~mult~~ expansion of India's foreign policy is essentially complementary to its neighbourhood policy.

Introduction - 1

Body - 2.5

Conclusion - 1

Total - 4.5

Here you could have discussed strain in India-Nepal relationship

You have quoted Personalities statements 4 times in a single question in the body part.

Need to articulate the point substantiate with examples & facts

U.P.S.C.

प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

इस भाग में कुछ
न लिखें
(Don't write anything
in this part)

8. Do you think India's foreign policy is becoming more China centric with the challenges of rising CHN? Comment (1000)

"Today, India's strategic autonomy is about coping with Beijing's challenge to its territorial integrity and sovereignty"
- CRaja Mohan

Causes and evidences of Indian foreign policy becoming China centric

① According to Harsh Pant, Pakistan policy which was the centre of diplomatic-capital-expenditure has become a "subset of India's China policy"

② The economic rise of China
③ The wolf warrior diplomacy of China especially BRI (CPEC component)

④ The hyphenation of all bilateral relations (especially in neighbourhood) with China.

⑤ India leveraging the China factor to "re-generate" multilateral institutions like Quad.

⑥ The centrality of Indo-Pacific geo in geopolitics of the world politics.

① challenges of rising China

- Two front war threat
- engagement with south asia - neighbour is concern.

Please read the question multiple times

Demand of the question is

challenges of rising China

How India's policy is China centric

Engagement against it.

you are exceeding the word limit

Evidence and arguments that India's foreign policy is far more diverse

- ① India's vaccine for diplomacy has widened the diplomatic net.
- ② India's recent decisive shift ^{to} non-involvement in Nepali politics.
- ③ China-challenge is proving an opportunity to find convergences with US, Japan, Australia, France and other like minded countries.
- ④ The new draft Arctic Policy is a widening of India's ambition.
- ⑤ India's economic rise itself is being noticed eg. the talk of expanding G.7

Certainly the discourse with respect to China policy has been the centre on Delhi's diplomatic circles due to recent events. But this is simply a nuancing process for Indian foreign policy evolution to prevent being "boxed up in South Asia".

Introduction - 1
Body - 2.5
Conclusion - 0.5

Total 4

Arguments
points
are covered

Such
styling
does not
add value to your
conclusion

Discuss
India maintain
"strategic"
autonomy

U.P.S.C.

प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

इस भाग में कुछ
न लिखें
(Don't write anything
in this part)

9. What can be the potential role of India in Afghanistan, with the changing political scenario in the country? Explain. (10M)

"India must wait and not pronounce doom"
Harsh V. Pant.

Debate around Forward Policy v. Masterly In-Activity

Forward Policy

India must take proactive role in containing the Taliban influence, Pakistani control and Chinese sphere of influence

view supported by Shiv & Shankar Menon in his recent book (2021), H. Jacob.

Masterly inactivity

India must bid its time, have patience and let see how Taliban rule evolves and

supported by Harsh V. Pant, C. Raja Mohan.

Potential Role other than direct political involvement:

① Direct talks with Taliban: "Engagement does not imply endorsement" - Vivek Katsu.

② Developmental agenda: Taliban has, in effect requested Indian continuation in developmental projects. It's important

You first need to discuss the changing political scenario in Afghanistan, which you have not, cost you

Avoid such a way of starting the answer.

Instead of quoting person's name, you could have defined the content of the question in the introduction.

without discussing the changing political scenario

Fall of Kabul, withdrawal of US, coming to power of Taliban

seems like you are just quoting the personality without understanding the context

to maintain India's goodwill in Afghanistan

③ Cricket Diplomacy: BCCI was first to invest in Afghan cricket team - something even Taliban is proud of. This can be a common point of convergence

④ Water and energy projects in Afghanistan - the Central Asian link.

⑤ International role for India

① India is chairing the Sanctions Committee on Al Qaeda, Taliban and ISIS of the UNSC - getting leverage to steer the discourse in its favour

② Building pressure for human rights issues, women rights, anti-terror measures, etc.

Here you have added relevant points

Here you could have discussed India's stands on Afghan and Afghan-led. Said

The Afghan situation is evolving fluid. But, as Minister Jaishankar said, "Afghanistan's future cannot be its past."

Introduction - 0.5
Body - 3
Conclusion - 0.5

In 150 words, you have quoted personalities 4 times, which itself has cost you 40 to 50 words. Now where is your point of view.

In rest 100 words, would you able to

10. India's image as a soft power has helped it garner trust in the developing world. Examine the statement in the context of vaccine diplomacy (100)

According to Joseph Nye, soft power is the ability of a country to influence the behaviour of another country by use of culture and propaganda.

Vaccine Diplomacy

"We cannot end the pandemic anywhere unless we end it everywhere" — EAM Jaishankar

India's ^{"vaccine mission"} manufactured and dispatched millions of vaccines to global South even as US and UK restricted exports, China left out the logistical support and all others simply gouged the prices.

Merits of Vaccine Diplomacy in Soft Power

- ① Global solidarity - leader against fight against pandemic
- ② As the "placema of the world"
- ③ Opposing "vaccine nationalism" and "vaccine inequality"
- ④ Spearheading "One World One Health" approach.

It is not an optional paper that you have to quote thinker or personality everytime.
Try writing a 45 Answer

new relevant points are added!

Challenges to India's Vaccine Diplomacy

- ① Domestic requirement versus exports of vaccine.
- ② Availability of raw material (API)
- ③ Vaccine nationalism in the West
- ④ TRIPS Patent rules (need for IPR waiver)
- ⑤ China catching up.
- ⑥ Recent allegation of "vaccine corruption" in Brazil with respect to Kizilbaks.

⑦ Soft Power in the Global South is a legacy capital that India built up throughout the period of de-colonisation.

Given its rise in global world

order, vaccine diplomacy proved that

India is willing and able to hold

on to that legacy, even as its foreign

policy frontiers expand to great global

politics.

Refer to
points
and
add
but
you
are
clearly
expecting
the
world
limit.

Introduction - 1
Body - 3
Conclusion - 1
Total - 5

11. Do you think that the period of high growth in Indian economy has mostly coincided with increasing inequality? Also, highlight some of the measures that can be taken to break this nexus of growth and inequality (15M)

"GDP growth is a means and not an end"
— Abhijeet Banerjee
(Nobel Laureate)

Phases of economic development in India

- 1950s-60s : establishing fundamentals of Economy
↓
1970s-80s : low growth; high inflation; no increase in inequality
↓
1990s-2000s : high growth; jobless growth; rapid rise in inequality
↓
Last 2 decades : focus on sustainable and INCLUSIVE GROWTH.

Arguments of high growth coinciding with rising inequality period

- ① 1990s was a period of jobless growths
- ② Rising rural-urban divide in face of urbanisation
- ③ In market economy (post 1991 reform), money begets money
- ④ Green revolution — high rate of agri-growth but increasing regional disparity
- ⑤ Obsession with growth in GDP, at the cost of larger idea of development.

Context of the question

is high growth & inequality. You need to link it to the context.

the whole evolution of economic development is out of context of the question.

Please read the question multiple times.

quoting the personality

don't be only one person thinking it to the context is another

Now you could have quoted any report

Counter-view

- ① Economic Survey 2020-21 opines that given Kuznets curve, the focus should be on poverty alleviation and not inequality.
- ② Economic Survey 2018's idea of precious growth model.

Measures taken to address issue of inclusive growth

- ① The JAM trinity as enabling framework for leakage-free delivery of "products of good governance" like food rations using technological solutions.
- ② PM Ayushman Bharat for healthcare for all.
- ③ MGNREGA for unemployment shock-absorber.
- ④ Mid Day Meal Scheme to provide nutritional basic requirements.
- ⑤ Right to Education to ensure that minimum equality of opportunity is ensured.

There are
several
points

There are
as per
demand
of the
question

Further Steps worth considering

- ① Universal Basic Income (UBI) to ensure decent standard of living (eg. the Daron Acemoglu model).
- ② A "super-rich tax" (as is becoming increasingly popular in USA)
- ③ Subsidising further higher education for the marginalised section.

These
are
the
relevant
points

Growth-inequality paradox can be solved by replacing the two with the ~~to~~ more holistic idea of ~~deve~~ sustainable and inclusive development.

Suggestion

- Stick to the demand, unnecessarily discussing any part will cost you in the real exam.
- Avoid exceeding word limit
- It is not possible to complete the paper with such huge content in every question.

Introduction - 1

Body - 4.5

Conclusion - 1.5

Total - 7

You could have done better, if in the starting, you had stuck to the

12. India is one of the highest net exporter of ground water due to very high water intensity of our crops. What are the steps that have been taken by the govt for increasing the water efficiency in our agri sector? Also highlight the challenges in this process. (15M)

"Whiskey is for drinking
Water is for fighting" - Mark Twain.

In India, 1 kg of paddy cultivation requires more than 15,000 litres of water. Mention the same of this day

India as high net exporter of ground water

- ① Water guzzling crops like paddy and sugarcane
- ② Regulatory and custom loophole
- ③ Falling water tables in states like Punjab

Steps taken by government to increase water efficiency in agri-sector

- ① Encouraging Agri-Tech Start ups
- ② Encouraging millet production -
 - (a) National Year of Millet Production 2018
 - (b) International Year for Millets - 2023.

How is it relevant here.
question is not about agri.
We want to ask not what you know.

- ③ Per drop more crop
 - ④ ~~Traditional~~ methods of farming like Zero Budget Farming.
 - ⑤ Diversification of crops beyond the rice-wheat system towards jowar, bajra, ragi etc - drought resistant crops
 - ⑥ ~~National~~ Honey Bee Keeping Mission
 - ⑦ Promotion of aquaculture, agriculture allied activities, poultry, etc
 - ⑧ Regulatory - custom fixes to limit export of water guzzling crops.
 - ⑨ ~~SRI~~ ~~rice~~ intensification techniques
- Challenges in the process

- ① ~~the~~ Techniques like SRI are cost-prohibitive and need government support
- ② Rice-wheat system is a politically sensitive issue and diversification needs to be nudged sensitively
- ③ Traditional methods may prove uneconomical.

→ Marks are not only for content but articulation, presentation, structure also matter.

→ Rather than giving 9 points. Discuss any 3-4 points briefly. It seems you are naming schemes.

→ You are only using points. Use-paragraph & points for effective structure.

- ④ The 'depleting water tables
- ⑤ The National Mission on Edible Oil-
Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) ~~is~~ Palm oil is
a water guzzling crop.

Suggestions

- ① State - incentivisation and nudges
through investment in Capital
- ② Ashok Gulati's idea of Uberisation
of services
- ③ Strengthen cooperative movement
- ④ Involve private sector
- ⑤ Plug regulatory loopholes
- ⑥ Introduce cutting edge technology
- ⑦ Promote ~~the~~ ancillary activities.

Water is ~~the~~ a potent source
of regional dispute and agrarian
crisis but also a place for innovative
policy making, experimentation
and technological solutions.

Introduction - 1

Body - 4.5

Conclusion - 0.5

Total

your points
are relevant
but you are
missing on
articulation.

Discuss
only
2,3
points
but
briefly.
You are
just
floundering
with
content.

question is
not
about
dispute
of water.

- 17 Discuss the situation of millet production in India. Also throw light on challenges that this sector is facing along with the measures taken by government to improve it. (15m)

question
is
may
about
water
crisis

As India and the world braces for potent water crises, millets is being seen in India as part of the solution.

you
need
to
work
on
the
starting,

Situation of Millet production in India

- ① India is the largest producer of millets in the world
- ② India's share in total global millet market is 41%.
- ③ Maximum area under Millet cultivation is in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Karnataka.

could
have
discussed
few
factors
regarding
millets

- ④ Mainly Kharif → Pearl Millet / bajra,
finger millet / ragi
jowar.

→ drought
resistant
→ Nutri-
cereal
etc

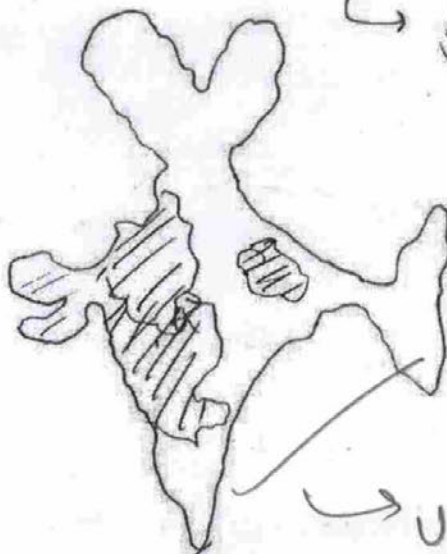


Fig:
Main areas of
Millet production
in India.

→ to take
wider
hunger,
etc

Use of
diagram is
appropriate.

Challenges faced by the sector

- ① Rice-wheat system of MSP-APMC which systematically disincentivises the productionⁿ/diversification to other crops.
- ② Millet being seen as inferior or giffen goods i.e. "the food of the poor"
- ③ Declining area under millets
- ④ Low productivity
- ⑤ Low investment
- ⑥ Lower or near absence of policy support.

Government Steps taken

- ① Declared 2018 as National Year of Millets.
- ② Minimum Support Prices for millets.

Points are relevant but few points need articulation

these 2 words sentences needs proper articulation

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प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

इस भाग में कुछ
न लिखें
(Don't write anything
in this part)

③ Inclusion in Mid day Meal Scheme

④ ~~INSIMP~~ Initiative for Nutritional
Security through Intensive Millet
Production

⑤ Recently, the UN General Assembly
adopted a India-sponsored resolution
to declare 2023 as the International
Year of Millet Production.

Relevant
steps
are
covered

As water get scarce, protein
requirement grew and the need
for drought- and flood-resistant food
crops arise, millet ~~to~~ could
prove a gamechanger in the strategy
to ensure National food Security.

Suggestion

seems like you are trying
to impress the evaluator
in the introduction, but
it is not working.

Things that you are
quoting is going out
of context.

If you are quoting anything

Introduction - 1

Body - 4.5

Conclusion - 1.5

Total - 7

While on the one hand food subsidies are a major drain on government resources, on the other hand they ensure accessibility and affordability of food to millions of people. Do you think there is a need to balance both the interests? If (yes), suggest some measures that can be taken in this regard. (15M)

→ Mention the same of this part

Food subsidies in 2020-21 was ₹ 4,20,000 crore (approx) and is expected to be around ₹ 2,30,000 crore in 2021-22

Arguments in favour of food subsidies

- ① Ensure National Food Security
- ② Article 21 Right to life and liberty includes right to a healthy life
- ③ Right Healthy and nutritional physical existence is essential to fully realise capability approach to development (Amartya Sen)
- ④ India already among the bottom 10 countries in Global Hunger Index 2021
- ⑤ NHFS-5 shows a marked decline in nutritional status, especially in children
- ⑥ Need for inclusive growth

Improve
your
structure.
Avoid
jumping
from
introduction
directly
to
points.
Use
paragraph
&
point
form

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- ① The pandemic induced ^{lockdown} has further ~~exacerbated~~ increased the need as mid-day meal became ineffective when schools were shut down.

Point - all relevant do mention that subsidy also provide income security to farmers.

Arguments ~~in~~ raising concerns

- ① Food subsidies are a major drain on government resources
- ② The schemes like mid-day schemes are ~~hidden~~ with loopholes
- ③ Same resources could be used in alternative schemes like Universal Basic Income.

Diagram about corruption in FCS
Need population is only 40% by NITI Aayog etc

Balancing the two interests and suggestions

- ① Linking food subsidies with e-RUPI and JAM trinity for better targeting
- ② ~~and~~ offering more flexibility in dietary choices eg more proteins.
- ② Biofortification of crops to reduce the costs of ~~production~~ of same level of nutrients.

few important aspect Diagram
wastage needs to be controlled etc

→ wants
human
committee
recommend

③ Investing in Research and Development
in agriculture technology

④ The faster implementation of One
Nation One Ration Card

⑤ Consider a Universal Basic Income
~~and~~

Repetition
of point

Food is a human right and lack
of policy support may cause "food
budget squeeze" which is overall
bad for the ideal of reaping
demographic dividend of India.
The need of the hour is to better
target the food subsidies and
adopt newer technologies to reduce
costs.

Food is
not
human
right.

Availability
of
food may
be.

could have
linked with
SDG-
zero hunger

→ you are lacking of articulation
→ structure is in only point format
→ Rather than quotes, use

Introduction - 1
Body - 4.5
Conclusion - 1

committee, reports, etc
in 45

Answer

Total - 6.5

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न लिखें
(Don't write anything
in this part)

प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

15. Despite the presence of a large working age population along with huge demand of products, improving situation of banks and greater infrastructure availability, the manufacturing sector in India has not been able to improve its share in GDP. Explain (15M)

India underwent pre-mature de-industrialisation in 1990s due to the precocious growth model (Economic Survey 2018) i.e. moving from agriculture to service sector (bypassing manufacturing sector-led stage). (Lewis model)

Present - Agriculture contributes maximum to employment but minimum to GDP. Services contribute maximum to GDP, but minimal to employment.

Manufacturing can contribute to both employment as well as GDP but is faced with various challenges.

According to a recent World Bank report, manufacturing sector faces following challenges:-

① GDP

(a) Corruption

(b) Electricity access is limited

This is
out of
the
context
of
discussion

Depth
if you
would
have
discussed
current
situation
of
Manufacturing
sector,
which
is
actual
demand.

- (c) ~~Complex tax compliance system~~
- (d) Informal sector
- (e) Access to finance

② Employment

- (a) ~~Mostly low paying jobs~~
- (b) Dominance of unorganised and small firm
- (c) Organised manufacturing - stagnant wages
- (d) Machines and Automation

③ Other reasons

- (a) Less than enthusiastic support to EPZ / SEZ
- (b) Policy Uncertainty (Economic Survey 2019)
- (c) ~~Retrospective taxation~~
- (d) ~~Disincentive for MSMEs to grow~~
- (e) Stringent labour laws.

~~There~~
are
just
points
also
then
points
need
articulation.

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(Government Steps)

Pre-COVID

- ~~New Industrial and Manufacturing Policy 2011~~
- National Investment and Manufacturing Zones
- Make in India
- Make in India 2.0
- Standup/Start up
- PM Mudra
- EPZ/SEZ ✓

Post-COVID

- MSME reforms
- Vocal for Local
- ~~Production~~ ✓
- ~~Linked~~ ✓
- Incentives (PLI) Scheme
- Decision for asset monetisation ✓

There is
no
such
distinction
asked
in the
question

Points
are
relevant
but

such
distinction
are
not
required.

Moving ahead, for 'growth with jobs' - manufacturing is the way to go. SEZ model and larger manufacturing-led growth model of China can serve as a good model example.

Introduction - 1
Body - 3.5
Conclusion - 1.5

Total - 6

16. Examine the potential of public private partnerships to ramp up the health infrastructure in India, especially among States having the worst health infrastructure (15M)

India's public health expenditure was 1.29% of GDP (total expenditure being 3.6% of GDP). 12 states spend less than 1% of their GSDP on healthcare.

Need for PPPs in Healthcare

- ① Cost efficiency
- ② Paltry Budgetary allocation
- ③ Widening gap in service
- ④ Low Private Investment
- ⑤ Social inclusion and sustainability

Models for PPP in Health

① Traditional Model

- (a) Private Player → develop, improve facilities and provide service
- (b) Selection based on lowest bid.
- (c) Like a private hospital on public land with some conditions

② 2016 - Government of India created a Model Concessional Agreement for PPP in health

correct
factors
are
mentioned

could
have
included
private
sector
contribution
too
in
brief.

This is
not the
demand
of
the
question

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प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

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न लिखें
(Don't write anything
in this part)

- (a) Central institution = district hospital
(b) Focus → non-communicable diseases in Tier-II, -III cities.

Add content

③ 4 models suggested by NITI-Aayog and World Bank

- (a) Management of Contract
(b) Purchasing of health Services
(c) BOT Model
(d) Co-location Model

1) Discuss rural-urban divide in healthcare can be minimised.

④ 15th Finance Commission Recommendations

(a) Public Health care — focus on primary care private sector → for specialty care

(b) Focus on poorer states

(c) Create Indian Medical Services

(d) Greater role of paramedics and frontline healthcare workers

(e) Need working relationship between Government of India and private players
shifting from "emergency-based" relationship to "holistic relationship"

2) 75% of health infrastructure is located in urban area for 31% of population.

you are just peripherally touching the demand of the question

→ Demand of the question

(No where Model for PPP in health is asked)

- (i) Potential of PPP in health.
(ii) challenges
(iii) solution / way forward

Issues with PPP in health care]

- ① Delayed regulatory clearances
- ② Underdeveloped corporate bond market
- ③ NPA and banking crisis
- ④ Weak governance
- ⑤ Scam of huge capitation fees in connected private medical colleges
- ⑥ Non-sharing of data in name of business secrecy
- ⑦ Lack of proper working conditions for contractual workers employed by private player

All these point need to be linked with welfare & requiring articulation otherwise they are just generic point.

As noted by Economic Survey²⁰²⁰, information asymmetry and imperfect market conditions can be remedied only by innovative partnership between the state and the private sector

Please discuss related to the context. could have mentioned the success of PPP model in Ayushman Bharat scheme. etc

Introduction - 1.5
Body - 3
Conclusion - 1

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17. India has an important role to play in security and sustainable development of the Indo-Pacific. In this context, appraise the role of BIMSTEC as an institution to facilitate greater role to India in the region. (15M)

Indo-Pacific as a geopolitical construct has become the centre of gravity of ^{the} diplomatic re-jig going on in the "new Cold War".

As most countries and EU are coming up with their geo-strategies regarding the Indo-Pacific, India is re-assessing the role of BIMSTEC because:-

- ① As SAARC has effectively been relegated to the "dustbin of history", India is focussing on Bay of Bengal - BIMSTEC and BBIN for the much needed regional integration.
- ② BIMSTEC is a gateway to look East Policy which becomes critical given the concept of ASEAN-centrality in Indo-Pacific.
- ③ BIMSTEC also can serve the requirements of connectivity in Indo-Pacific.

A well written introduction as per the context of the question

These points are relevant

③ According to Haresh V. Pant, USA is moving from its Atlantic identity to its Pacific identity and India is moving ^{expanding from} South Asian identity to also focus on Bay of Bengal

④ The economic rise of Bangladesh, and the historical rise of Asian tigers

⑤ The classic Mahan v. McKinder dilemma on maritime security

⑥ The string of Pearls v. Necklace of Diamonds — BIMSTEC becomes critical

⑦ BIMSTEC also gains prominence as a building block of SCRI (Supply Chain Resilience Initiative) as India opted out of the RCEP deal.

⑧ BIMSTEC-BBIN provides a platform for further cooperation on the

All the points are relevant

But you have missed the other aspect of the question

You also need to discuss the challenges that BIMSTEC is facing.

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South China Sea & issue, Malacca dilemma

- ⑨ All member-countries are votaries and advocates for a free, open, inclusive and rules-based Indo-Pacific

- ⑩ There is a soft power angle of culture in term of Buddhism ~~and~~ connect which can also be utilised.

- ⑪ BIMSTEC can also be seen as a gateway to Japan and South Korea.

Thus, BIMSTEC-BRII, with its expanding profile is a key component of India's Indo-Pacific strategy.

Mentioning 11 points on one aspect and missing on other aspect, will not fetch you marks.

Introduction - 1.5

Body - 3

Conclusion - 1

Total - 5.5

Challenges

① - Lack of resources and coordination

among Nations

could have formed about balance of power in Indo-Pacific

18. "The India-US relationship has been a source of strength in the midst of a global pandemic"
Elaborate (15M)

"New American consensus appears to be in sync with India's turn towards decoupling from China" — C. Raja Mohan

The India-US relationship during the pandemic

① Signing of BECA (completion of 4 basic defence agreement)

② Bipartisan support in US for better relationships with India

③ Cooperation in medical field:-

(a) India exported medical equipment to USA

(b) USA provided APTI (albert late) to India.

(c) Later, during 2nd wave, USA supplied medical equipments and vaccines.

④ Better multilateral coordination

(a) Rejuvenation of Quad and Malabar Exercises.

you need to discuss the question in context of pandemic. Not writing. writing could be on aspect.

These are relevant points covered multi-dimensionally

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(b) Combined emphasis on free, open, inclusive and rules based world order

(c) US beginning discourse on India's membership of the G-7

(d) 1st meeting of the new US President was (virtually) with Quad Heads of Governments.

Question is mainly about India-US relationship

As a source of strength for like-minded countries

① Quad and Malabar Exercise shows a resurging acknowledgement of interest convergences between Japan, Australia, India and USA

to be as relevant could have discussed common interest like democratic values

② The relationship provides a good and "trap-less" alternative to the South Asian neighbourhood.

③ The relation of the oldest and largest democracies, in the context of Casbi Bay Declaration, Built Back Better World Agenda and Democracy Summit of the White House.

against terrorism + climate change

four points are mainly related to geopolitics, medical, etc

other factors too.

As a source of strength for the liberal
of world order

- ① Prevent smaller nations from falling into
Wolf warrior diplomacy of China
- ② ~~Rules~~ Open, inclusive ~~rules~~ based Indo-Pacific
- ③ Safeguarding open and freedom of
navigation through sea lanes of
communication
- ④ Promoting democracy, rule of law
and human rights.
- ⑤ ~~Ensure~~ Preventing

Thus, India-US bilateral relations
are a source of strength of the two
countries, for their like-minded
countries and the world order.

You need to read the question
multiple times.

Introduction - 1
Body - 3.5
Conclusion - 1

Total - 5.5

of content should
fully meet
the demands)

You have
missed one
aspect.
You
also
need
to discuss
the
challenges
the
India-US
relationship
faces

↳ S-400
↳ C-17 issue
etc

19. India depends heavily on the Middle East for its energy needs and is against any escalation of tension in the region. How can India play a greater role in the region amid rising tensions? (15M)

Middle East or West Asia is a region ridden with conflicts arising out of cold war between Iran and Saudi Arabia, Arab-Israel conflict, US involvement and issues of terrorism proliferation.

India depends heavily on imported fuels / petroleum for its energy needs - primarily from the Middle East and Central Asian republics.

But recent developments including Qatar crisis, Yemeni crisis, resurgence of ISIS, the falling apart of CAA TSA deal, the \$500 Billion deal between Iran and China have increased risks.

On the other hand, events like normalisation of Saudi-Qatar relations at GCC Summit, normalisation of Israel's relations with Bahrain and UAE,

Good
Introduction

could
have
mentioned
that
60% of
energy
needs
fulfills from
the middle
East.

Points
mentioned
are
relevant

re-starting process to re-establish the Iran deal are also moves for greater regional stability.

These though have led to newer conflicts like the rise of Iran-Turkey-Pakistan against Saudi Arabia-VAE backed by China and Russia and the USA respectively.

West Asia is India's extended neighbourhood and as is evident plays key role in its energy security.

For the easing of tensions in the region, India can utilise its membership of the UNSC to bring together all players on the table.

India has great credibility as it has been able to walk the tight rope of maintaining good relations with Arabs and Israelis, Saudis and Iranians, US and Russia.

For better structure you need to discuss it in paragraphs & point format

you need to discuss
Diplomatic efforts
use of Platforms
IIIC
(IOFA)
Indian Ocean Rim Association
etc

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Negotiations and mediation, the lines of VK Krishna Menon's strategy in Korean crisis can prove to be fruitful.

Further, people-to-people relations, multi-track diplomacy, energy security diplomacy, vaccine diplomacy, transfer of technology and cooperation at multi-lateral and plurilateral fora can go a long way.

Finally, the role of Indian diaspora in the east geopolitical calculus is also key to the situation.

Energy security is at the heart of geo-economic rise of India and India's middle east strategy is at the heart of its geo-economic rise. energy security.

Your structure could be better.

Introduction - 1

Body - 3

Conclusion - 1

Total - 5

Use - heading, pointer, etc.

Points mentioned are relevant but in the conclusion you can discuss the need for a coherent west policy which is Non-Interventionist.

20. The Indian diaspora has played a critical role in strengthening the ties with many countries of the developed world. Enumerate the noted achievements that Indian diaspora has helped in? Also, highlight the steps taken by India to reach out to its diaspora worldwide. (15M)

As per World Migration Report 2020 India is the leading country of origin of international migration with 17.5 Million diaspora.

The remittances in 2018 amounted to \$ 79 Billion (maximum in the world).

Role of Indian Diaspora

- ① Strengthen 'Brand India'
 - (a) Goodwill for Indians
 - (b) Soft Power → Indian cuisine, yoga, Indian songs, Bollywood.
- ② Secure Investment flows.
- ③ Indians in every country prove to be law-abiding residents / citizens contributing to the economy.

well
introduced
answer
with
mentioning
of
report.

Here
relevant
points
added.

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- ④ Prominent examples include:-
- (a) Sanjay Gupta: CNN correspondent for medical issues
 - (b) Hasan Minhaj: Prominent anchor ^{comedian}
 - (c) Kamala Harris: Vice President, USA
 - (d) Rishi Sunak: Finance Minister, UK
 - (e) Indira Nooyi, Sundar Pichai, etc (in business) as CEOs of ~~MNCs~~
 - (f) Abhijeet Banerjee (in academia)

A well explained examples related to the context

Government efforts

- ① Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Convention)
- ② Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards
- ③ Global Pravasi Rashtra Portal
- ④ VAIBHAV Summit (Vaishwik Bharatiya Vaigyanik)
- ⑤ Know India Programme of Ministry of External Affairs
- ⑥ PM ~~VAY~~ Pravasi Kaushal Vikas Yojana
- ⑦ Community Welfare Funds.

These are just pointers you need to articulate these in brief.

Protecting Interests of Indians

- ① Indian efforts in safeguarding Indians from Iraq-Syria crisis
- ② Indian efforts to bring back Indians during COVID crisis
- ③ Further diplomatic outreach by the ministry itself.

Concerns and challenges

- ① Regulatory burden
- ② limited interaction — limited to diaspora in USA, UK, — not including South Africa, South East Asia, etc.

Indian Diaspora is the largest soft power asset with India in its pursuit of multi-track diplomacy.

Introduction — 1.5

body — 5

Conclusion — 1.5

Total — 8

Points are relevant
But you also need to discuss the need of greater engagement with Diaspora.

Ex - NRI voting etc