1. India has come a long way in terms of economic performance and reforms. But there is still a journey ahead to achieve both dynamism and social justice. Comment.

Approach
- The question can be divided into 3 parts
- In the introduction, elaborate how India has come a long way in terms of economic reforms
- How social justice has lagged behind?
- As conclusion, what can be done going forward?

Introduction
25 years since the sweeping economic reforms of 1991, India has come a long way. From a fixed 'Hindu growth rate' of 3%, Indian economy grew at a rapid rate of 6-7% during this period. The GDP increased from $300 billion to $2 trillion (2016). The poverty rate declined from 37% (1991) to 21.9% in 2011.

This tremendous growth has been an outcome of sustained reforms over the period. These can categorized as follows:

First generation reforms: 1991 liberalization, end of license raj, privatization
Second generation reforms: FEMA 1999, FRBM Act 2003, relaxation in FDI norms etc.
Third generation reforms: GST, recent labour reforms, ease of doing business etc. (all ongoing)
However, the rapid economic growth failed to trickle down to the bottom rungs of the Indian society. As a result, the constitutional mandate of achieving social justice has fallen behind as evidenced by the following:

Lacking in Social Justice
- Rising inequality – 1% own 22% wealth
- 3rd largest economy by rank in Human Development Index – 131
- Prevalence of caste and religion based violence
- Underdevelopment of tribal areas – low literacy compared to overall numbers
- Increasing crimes again women + poor sex ratio in states like Haryana and Rajasthan
- Little rights and opportunities for differently-abled, marginalized sections such as transgenders
- Widening rural – urban divide leading distress migration and problem of slums

How to Attain Social Justice
- Protective + supportive laws for weaker sections with strict implementation – SC/STs, tribals, transgenders etc. Schemes like USTAD, Nayi Roshni.
- Increased focus on old age population – appropriate provision of social security
- Increased public expenditure on social indicators – education and health
- Skill Development + entrepreneurship
- Generation of formal jobs – 10 million every year
- Women empowerment – increase female labour force participation like China
- Progressive taxation – such as done in GST

- Good governance – transparency, accountability, grievance redressal mechanism
- Energizing judiciary to protect the interest of weaker sections
- Rural development – farm to fork, double farmer income, e-NAM, infrastructure etc.
- Use of Digital India to bridge the rural-urban inequality

Conclusion

Development is an inclusive concept. Economic growth without commensurate social development will lead to increase in inequality and regional imbalance. In a country like India it can even have an impact on national integrity and unity. Thus it is high time that India's development journey combines economic growth with social justice.

Best Answer: Hobbes

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2. In Indian economy, where huge labour force is available, importance of an employment oriented growth is observable. Comment. Are current policies oriented in that direction? Examine.

Introduction:

India is the fastest growing large economy, posting a growth rate of over 7 per cent, yet jobs are not growing as fast as GDP. What needs to be done to address the problem of jobless growth which, if not addressed, has the potential to turn India's demographic dividend where around 65% of the population is in the bracket of youth into demographic disaster?

Importance of employment oriented growth:

The number one priority of the Indian government must be much faster generation of more, and better jobs, as they have following problems:

- The Indian economy's growth, in terms of GDP, is the highest in the world at present.
- However, it is one of the slowest in the world in creating jobs. The employment elasticity of the Indian economy i.e., the rate of jobs growth in relation to GDP growth has been less than the global average from 2000 to 2010.
- The average employment elasticity of the global economy was 0.3 in this period, while India's was only 0.2.
- Making capital artificially cheaper promotes its sub-optimal use in a labour abundant economy like India.
- It may induce adoption of labour-saving production technologies especially if labour laws are not business friendly; so does raising minimum wages without commensurate rise in productivity. That kills jobs.

Current govt policies towards job creation:

While the Indian government is pressing on the accelerator to induce more job growth, with its Make in India, Skill India and Startup India campaigns, technological advances may be throwing a spanner in the works, as they might face the following problems, like:

- Rapid advances in digital technologies and automation are displacing people from work in all sectors of the economy—in manufacturing, in services, and even in knowledge industries.
- Studies in the US and Australia estimate that by 2035, 35% of all work in their economies will be automated and this can impact over 50% of present employment.
- The International Labour Organization says, in its Future of Work Report, **"The unfurling technological revolution is so far-reaching in its labour-replacing potential that it is inherently different from what has been experienced in the past."**

Some of the following programs govt has come up with to create jobs:

- **Promotion of Entrepreneurship:** Job-makers are been promoted from school level through schemes like Atal Innovation Labs, Stand up India and Start up India
- **Manufacturing Industries:** They hold the key to large employment levels. Make in India is right step in the direction.
- **Impetus to MSME:** Credit issue for MSMEs has been eased by setting up of MUDRA Banks.
- **Skill Development Programmes:** NSDC and STRIVE, SANKALP schemes are providing the necessary skills to compete in the industry.
- **Infrastructural Projects:** Recent initiatives like Bharatmala, Sagarmala provides a huge opportunity in employment level for many years due to the nature of projects.
- Ensuring proper implementation of GST for ease of small industries and MSMEs will help increase their growth. Relaxation of labor laws will encourage in increased hiring by firms.

Conclusion:

The solution to India's need to create more jobs faster is to urgently apply a more effective process to develop a good, synergistic policy-matrix.

Best Answer: Jean grey

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3. Have demonetisation and GST adversely affected the growth rate? Critically examine.

Approach:
- Introduction- A brief on what demonetisation and GST is.
- Adverse effects- of both the reforms.

- Critical comment part- Benefits too.
- Way forward.
- Conclusion – Adverse effects on short term but in long run has scope to benefit the economy.

Introduction:
Post the LPG reforms of 1991, the GST and demonetisation are rightly heralded as one of the biggest reforms having scope of structurally transforming the Indian economy, the way it functions.

Demonetization refers to an economic policy where a certain currency unit ceases to be recognized or used as a form of legal tender. Rs 500 and Rs 1000 notes were demonetised in India in November, 2016.

Goods and Services Tax (GST) is an indirect tax reform which aims to remove tax barriers between states and create a single market.

Adverse effects:

Demonetisation:
- Given heavy dependence on cash demonetisation hit trade and consumption hard.
- The unorganised sector was hit hard, as day to day transactions in cash matters a lot.
- Many lost their jobs due to the sudden cash crunch for the businesses.
- Loss of effective working days. As people had to spent many hours tanding in queues outside ATMs

GST:
- GST in current form is very complex for most of the small and medium scale businesses to understand.
- Most of the firms in unorganised sector find it difficult to comply with.

Benefits:

Demonetisation:
- It is expected that increased digitalisation, more formalisation of the economy etc. will compensate for the temporary slip in the long run.
- Less of corruption as seen in dropping of real estate prices.
- Will help tackle black money as transactions now digitally can be tracked easily.

GST:
- A unified market and increasing the ease of doing business.
- Less number of taxes means easy to comply with.
- Overall taxes on many commodities especially for middle and poor class reduced, therby benefit the lower rungs of the society.
- Tax to GDP ratio wil improve in long run.

Way forward:

- The government needs to ensure that the rollout of GST is smooth. The concerns like high tax rates, anti-profiteering etc should be adequately addressed to keep the confidence of market intact.
- Action against suspicious deposits under demonetisation be taken.
- Digital literacy should be provided to increase digitalisation.
- Facilities like POS machines, ATM machines must be deployed in every corner of the country.

Conclusion:

Overall, GST and demonetisation, as shown by various reports, did lead to slowdown of economy. But this should be seen only as short-term effect. In long term both the reforms are surely going to benefit us.

Best answer: NIDHI

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4. Serious consideration must be given to the idea of a universal basic income as a more effective way of achieving Mahatma Gandhi's objectives of "wiping every tear from every eye." Comment.

Approach
- This question can be answered in 3 parts
- In the introduction, start with why there is still need for government support?
- How existing mechanisms have fared?
- How UBI may be a better?
- Lastly, the pitfalls in the idea of UBI?

Introduction

The Indian Constitution created India as a welfare state. Starting from the first five year plan, the government introduced many welfare schemes in the area of poverty eradication, public health, education etc. Though great results were achieved, however these schemes such as the PDS system were beset with problems like corruption, leakages, poor targeting etc.

As a result, even after 70 years of independence, 22% of the population is still below poverty line. India's ranking on UNDP's HDI is a poor 131. After the 1991 reforms, income inequality has further widened as welfare schemes are usurped by the rich more than the poor. E.g. LPG subsidy.

In this light, Economic Survey 2016-17 explores the idea of universal basic income as an alternative to present framework of sectorial welfare schemes.

What is UBI?

- According to the Basic Income Earth Network, a universal basic income is a "form of social security in which all citizens or residents of a country regularly receive an unconditional sum of money".
- A universal income would mean the government moving away from service delivery and instead simply providing people with the money to access those services.

Arguments in favour of UBI

- Promote social justice – reduce inequality through income re-distribution
- Better targeting – plug leakages and avoid exclusion / inclusion errors for beneficiaries
- Thrust to financial inclusion – as more people will use banking facilities to access monthly UBI deposits
- Administrative efficiency – cutting through multiple layers of bureaucracy thus reducing red tape and corruption
- Freedom of choice – for beneficiaries to spend. It treats people as active agents
- Insurance – act as a safety net for shock expenditures such as health related

However, the idea of UBI is faced with serious challenges such as:

Arguments against UBI

- Fiscal burden on limited government resources
- Vulnerable to political opportunism and vote-bank tactics
- May create artificial inflation and demand shortages
- Men may incur wasteful expenditures on abuses such as alcohol
- The assurance of a basic income may make the labour force lazy and inefficient

Conclusion

Although it is the prerogative of the government to wipe "every tear from every eye", however the idea of UBI goes against the Gandhian principle of "lending hands to someone is better than giving a dole". Instead the government should rationalize subsidies, plug leakages and de-duplication using the JAM framework.

UBI is a good idea in principle, but its cost of implementation (~5% of GDP) for a large country like India makes it economy unviable. The amount could be better spent to enhance India's health and education system, invest in infrastructure to create formal employment. Doing so would create more sustainable and long term benefits. UBI can be first experimented as a pilot project on a select section of the society such as BPL households.

5. The operational framework of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act (FRBMA) designed in 2003 needs to be modified to reflect the India of today, and even more importantly the India of tomorrow. Discuss.

Introduction:

Recently India's finance minister, in his budget speech, announced that a committee would be set up to review the implementation of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget

Management Act and suggest modifications for the future. The FRBM Act, 2003, has many flaws, which needs to reflect on the present issues and produce a truly modern act.

Body:
- The FRBM Act succeeded in disciplining the states, because the states cannot borrow without the permission of the centre, but it was spectacularly ineffective in disciplining the centre.
- The centre's deficit declined initially from 3.9% of GDP in 2004-05 to 3.1% in 2007-08 including unpaid subsidy bills, but in 2008-09, it exploded to 6% of GDP i.e., 8%, if unpaid subsidy bills are included.
- Fiscal expansion was justified initially on the grounds that it was necessary to counter the impact of the global financial crisis, and, indeed, all G20 countries did something similar. However, it was not reversed in time, and the FRBM targets were just suspended.

What should be done?
The N K Singh Committee has suggested a new FRBM Act to replace the old one. It has many eminently sensible proposals. Its most obvious shortcoming is that its recommendations have no teeth, and rely on good sense and fiscal rules that can easily be broken as often happened in the past.

The politics of sound finance in a globalized financial environment is well understood. The FRBM Act has the potential of ensuring macro-economic stability provided it is revised to needs of Indian economy. Further, there are some other approaches which can help:

- The possibility of adopting a target range rather than a specific number which would give the necessary policy space to deal with dynamic and volatile situations such as the one India currently faces
- Aligning the monetary and fiscal economies so that if bank credit growth falls, fiscal deficit may need to go up.
- An autonomous Fiscal Management Review Committee (FMRC) which would conduct an annual independent and public review of FRBM compliance.
- Move the annual numerical targets from FRBM rules which are framed and amended by central Government at whim by gazette notification to the FRBM act itself.
- Do away with the ambiguous concept of the Effective Revenue Deficit which is nothing but a jugglery to rewrite revenue expenditure as capital expenditure.

Conclusion:
Although the government has initiated several reforms, those attempts to improve the fiscal responsibility were not sufficient and have been piecemeal.

Best answer: Gargantuan

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6. Critically examine the efficacy of financial inclusion as a tool to ensure inclusive growth.

Approach:
- Introduction- Define what financial inclusion exactly is.
- Efficacy of FI as a tool to promote inclusive growth needs to be discussed. Given multiple points, writing in point format is desired.
- Critically examining- Explain how FI alone isn't enough.
- Way forward to promote inclusive growth.
- Conclusion

Introduction:
Inclusive growth is the biggest challenge that the nation faces and it is important to ensure that while the Indian economy grows rapidly, all segments of society are part of this growth process, preventing any regional disparities from derailing such growth.

Financial inclusion refers to delivery of financial services, including banking services and credit, at an affordable cost to the vast sections of disadvantaged and low-income groups who tend to be excluding.

Efficacy of FI as a tool to promote inclusive growth:
- A well spread out financial system engenders economic activity by mobilizing savings into the formal financial system. This boosts overall GDP, thereby helping increase government's expenditure on social welfare.
- FI provides an avenue to urban workers to remit money to their families in villages. Thereby allwo to move freely according to the availability of job opportunities.
- It helps poor clutches of usurious moneylenders.
- Ensuring that the poor have access to a variety of social security products, like micro-savings, micro-credit, micro-insurance, and micro-pension products. Through schemes like Atal Pension Yojana.
- Financial Inclusion provides an avenue to the poor for bringing their savings into the formal financial system. Thereby promoting the habit of savings which overtime may help in capital formation for the poor.
- With government promoting DBT through JAM trinity, FI can help poor in availing benefits of various schemes like MUDRA yojana directly.

FI alone isn't enough:
- While Jan Dhan yojana led to creation of record-break accounts, the usage of these accounts for financial transaction is very low.
- Financial products in present scenario is not much of the use of poor as they don't address their needs directly.
- FI without social empowerment is not enough.

Way forward:
- Promoting digital and financial literacy is foremost. Schemes like Digital India will surley help in long run.

- Bank personnel need to be sensitized while dealing with the poor and less literate people.
- Products like micro-pension created specifically to address the needs of the poor must be developed.
- Providing opportunities for growth. Creation of jobs and at the same time ensuring skill based vocational training is important.
- Protection of rights for all and ensuring justice.

Conclusion:

Financial access can surely improve the financial condition and living standard of the poor and the deprived section. It is probably the only sector that has the ability to act as a facilitator and multiplier for overall economic growth and stability. However, as argued by Amartya Sen (2000) poverty is not merely insufficient income, but rather the absence of wide range of capabilities, including security and ability to participate in economic and political systems.

Best answer: ramanuj shukla

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7. What are the critical issues due to which the contribution of industrial sector to GDP is low in India? Examine.

Approach:
- Introduction: Mention what is the current percentage of contribution to GDP and a line or two about problems caused by that.
- Body: There are two parts here. First part is what the reasons for such low contribution are and second part is what can be the measures/suggestions to improve the performance are.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion about how government is trying to help improve the contribution.

Introduction:

Presently Industrial sector contribute around 25% to GDP of country which is very low compared to other developing countries like China which can severely affect employment opportunities to growing population.

Body:

Reason for Industrial contribution being low:

- Political Issues: Pre-Liberalization era restriction like license raj, Entry exit issues, Stability of government policies.

- Legal Issues: Land acquisitions, environmental clearances, Local clearance issues, permission for certain category of industries, Delay in license, labour reforms.
- Financial issues: Availability of cheap and affordable finance, FDI regulations, foreign investment restrictions.
- Infrastructure Issues: Availability of easy access to all forms of transportation, facilities like Raw material supply, power supply, sewage, roads, office spaces etc.
- Research and Development: Lack of investment in R&D.
- Technology: Lack of innovation, upgradation, import restriction, local availability of technologies.
- Informal: Around 40% of industries fall under MSME and majority among them lack proper accounting standards in asserting their value.
- Human Resources: Lack of skilled labor pool, cheap availability of labor compared to other neighboring countries etc.

Measures to increase the contribution:

- Industrial policy: Robust policies regarding import export, SEZ's, Labour reforms, Export control units etc.
- Legal Issues: Easier norms for environmental clearance, land acquisitions etc.
- Finance: Cheaper finance, removal of restrictions in FDI, Joint ventures etc.
- R&D: Increasing fund flow for R&D. Opening up of national laboratories for industrial investment.
- Education Policy: Change in education policy and increasing vocational courses as required from time to time.

Note: A total to 8-10 points are required. You can also add relevant points missed out here.

Conclusion:
Government is also coming up with reforms in sector like Make in India, Ease of Doing business. Bringing up schemes to provide affordable funds like Mudra Yojana, Start-up and Stand up India schemes. But more needs to be done in order to protect and utilize demographic dividend of growing population.

Connecting the dots:
- Reforms in Industrial sector.
- Schemes related to ease of doing business.

Best Answer: Rinki

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8. FDI policy in India requires a review to ensure that it facilitates greater technology transfer, leverages strategic linkages and innovation. Comment.

Approach
- Divide this question into two parts
- Why current FDI policy suffers?
- What can be done to ensure <what is demanded in the question>?

Body

Ever since the 1991 economic reforms, liberalization of FDI has been a cornerstone of India's industrial policies. Presently, most of the sectors have 100% FDI under automatic route, include critical areas such as defence. With over $60 billion FDI in 2016, India become the top recipient of FDI in the world. However, despite the progress made, the FDI policy has underperformed because of the following reasons:

1. Inadequate infrastructure: Lack of quality industrial infrastructure has resulted in high logistics cost and has in turn affected cost competitiveness of Indian goods in global markets.
2. Restrictive labour laws: It has led entrepreneurs choosing to stay away from labour intensive sectors and opt for highly capital or skilled-labour intensive technologies sectors.
3. Complicated business environment: India suffers from a complex multi-layered tax system, which with its high compliance costs and its cascading effects adversely affects competitiveness of manufacturing.
4. Slow technology adoption: India's FDI policy has failed to bring in latest technologies from advanced countries. Inefficient technologies led to low productivity and higher costs adding to the disadvantage of Indian products in international markets.
5. Low Innovation: Workers in India are overwhelmingly employed in low productivity and low wage activities as most FDI has been invested in such sectors.
6. Inadequate expenditure on R&D and Innovation: FDI in India has focused on setting up back-end offices for R & D centres in developed countries.

Conclusion

The FDI policies so far have focused on increasing the net investment inwards. However, the saying "quality over quantity" cannot be truer in case of India. There is a need to shift focus on the quality of FDI in terms of technology transfer and innovative elements. Few suggestions:

- Focus on sunrise sectors such as renewable energy, food processing and aim to become global leaders with strong R & D
- Leverage strategic relations with advanced countries like Israel and Germany to strengthen the India MSME sector in terms of efficiency, innovation and value addition
- Plug Indian manufacturing sector in the global value chain by adopting the best practices

9. What is industrial competitiveness? Why do Indian manufacturing firms lack industrial competitiveness? What are its fallouts? Discuss.

Introduction:

Industrial competitiveness defined competitiveness as the sustained ability of firms and industry to capture market share and grow the market through productivity improvements. This measures productivity by the value of goods and services produced per unit of inputs. It assesses jobs on the quantity and on the employment characteristics that affect workers' well-being.

Present scenario:

The 2016-17 Global Competitiveness Report ranks India 39th among 138 nations, a 16-place jump from year-ago levels. The report assesses the competitiveness of a nation based on its macroeconomic environment, strategies employed to promote growth such as institutions and policies, and the ability of enterprises to create and sustain value. The nature of the economy and growth measures influence enterprise competency to compete and, in turn, enhance national productivity and prosperity.

Reasons and fallouts:

- The Indian state has still not built the required physical infrastructure, has not simplified accounting/taxation/business setup process, land acquisition has issues and not much spare land and the Indian state does not artificially control prices or force labor laws to ensure cheap labor.
- India has traditionally had an edge in high-end manufacturing with lower volumes relative to China and design-intensiveness.
- Despite presence of huge labours force, availability of skilled labor is still a problem, considering the low level of literacy, vocational education and human resource development.
- Corruption, Poor Infrastructure, excessive red tape, bad governance etc. are other factors that have restricted the manufacturing sector from achieving its true potential.

Industry competitiveness can be enhanced through several different approaches including economy wide, industry specific, or a mix of economy wide with industry specific. The evaluation focuses on industry specific support and on four industries – agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, and information and communication technology.

Manufacturing assets and workforce skills will give India the foundation to compete globally on a wide range of products. However, to be distinguished as a leader, India must transform from low-skilled commoditized production to designing and marketing sophisticated, proprietary technologies it must evolve as an innovation-driven economy.

A strong, innovative and technology-savvy manufacturing base leads to long-term economic prosperity and growth

Conclusion:

So, is India globally competitive? The short answer is: It is a work in progress. Evidence suggests that India seems to be on the right track.

Best Answer: Anand

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10. Examine the significance of the Sagarmala Programme for India's external and internal trade.

Approach:
- Introduction: Mention what is Sagarmala project.
- Body: Split the body into two parts. One for External and another for Internal trade and then mention relevant points for each part.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction:
To harness India's 7,500 km long coastline, 14,500 km of potentially navigable waterways and strategic location on key international maritime trade routes, the Government of India has embarked on the ambitious Sagarmala Programme which aims to promote port-led development in the country.

Body:
Significance of Sagarmala project:

External Trade:
- Transit facility: India can become a transit hub overtaking Singapore and Srilanka. Even the location plays to its advantage.
- Logistics Channel: A new channel can be created to fasten logistics facility from passenger facility to fasten transportation.
- Port of call: For container and ships heading for far off places can dock for repairs and maintenance leading to extra revenue.
- Costs: Reduce cost of transportation especially for export oriented industries as they can locate facilities near ports and coasts.
- Efficiency: It will help to reduce organizational and operational delays leading to efficiency.
- FDI: It will also help in attracting foreign container companies to set up their facilities.
- Maritime economy: It will help in India's maritime economy and achievement of its dream of Blue Economy vision.
- Export competitiveness: It will help the country and industrial to gain competitive advantage compared to its neighbors.

Internal Trade:

- Multi-modal Connectivity: It will help to create transport corridor by involving all modes of transport to connect ports like Roadways, Railways, and Internal water ways.
- Faster movement: Of goods to and from ports which will enhance usage of waterways than other ways which cause environmental damages. Ex: Emission from goods vehicles, Aircrafts etc.
- Cost reduction: Waterways is meant to be the cheapest means of transportation compared to others.
- Development: It will lead to development of river transport facility in turn leading to maintenance of health of river, flow of water which is double benefit to country.
- Shift of Industrial facility: It will help in shifting of Industrial units towards ports and coastal areas there by reducing delays, usage of non-renewable resources and aid in sustainable development.

Additional Info:

Components of Sagarmala Programme are:

- Port Modernization & New Port Development: De-bottlenecking and capacity expansion of existing ports and development of new greenfield ports
- Port Connectivity Enhancement: Enhancing the connectivity of the ports to the hinterland, optimizing cost and time of cargo movement through multi-modal logistics solutions including domestic waterways (inland water transport and coastal shipping)
- Port-linked Industrialization: Developing port-proximate industrial clusters and Coastal Economic Zones to reduce logistics cost and time of EXIM and domestic cargo
- Coastal Community Development: Promoting sustainable development of coastal communities through skill development & livelihood generation activities, fisheries development, coastal tourism etc.

Conclusion:
Sagarmala project not only helps in port led development and trade but it will also enhance employment opportunity, increase foreign exchange earnings for country. The Britain ruled the world due to its Maritime power, India aiming for superpower status can utilize this opportunity to project its might among world countries.

Connecting the dots:
- Blue Economy.
- Blue Revolution.
- Multi-modal transport model.

Best Answer: Mindovermatter28

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11. The UDAY (Ujjwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana) scheme can be a game changer for India's ailing power sector. Do you agree? Substantiate.

Approach
- In such question, use your introduction to define the problems. In this case the problems in the power sector
- Then, answer how UDAY can be the solution (game changer).

Body
Years of populist tariff schemes, mounting AT&C losses and operational inefficiencies have adversely affected the financial health of State Discoms which are currently plagued with humongous out-standing debts. In this regard, the recently introduced UDAY scheme can be a game changer in the following way:

- UDAY aims to improve efficiency of distribution by minimizing technical loss which originate from transformers and power cables and commercial losses from power theft by installing smart metering system will reduce AT and C losses from 22% to under 15%
- There is provision for distribution of energy efficient LEDs, pump motors and fans to conserve power to be used for deficit-areas
- States accepting UDAY and performing as per operational milestones will be given additional / priority funding through Deendayal Upadhayay Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY), Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS), Power Sector Development Fund (PSDF) or other such schemes of Ministry of Power and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- Financial Discipline for DISCOMs in future – they will have to comply with the Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPO) with Ministry of Power
- Coal price rationalization to be done to lower fuel cost for power manufacturers

Conclusion
UDAY is a shining example of the utilization of the best principles of cooperative and competitive federalism and has been evolved through discussions at the highest levels with multiple States. The scheme covers the entire value chain in the power sector from fuel, to generation, transmission, renewables, distribution and consumers. It has a very vast canvas determined through a bottom-up approach. With the planning in place, good execution of scheme can definitely make it a game changer for India's power sector.

Extra: Salient Features of UDAY Scheme
 States shall take over 75% of DISCOM debt as on 30 September 2015 over two years – 50% of DISCOM debt shall be taken over in 2015-16 and 25% in 2016-17.

- Government of India will not include the debt taken over by the States as per the above scheme in the calculation of fiscal deficit of respective States in the financial years 2015-16 and 2016-17.
- States will issue non-SLR including SDL bonds in the market or directly to the respective banks / Financial Institutions (FIs) holding the DISCOM debt to the appropriate extent.
- DISCOM debt not taken over by the State shall be converted by the Banks / FIs into loans or bonds with interest rate not more than the bank's base rate plus 0.1%. Alternately, this debt may be fully or partly issued by the DISCOM as State guaranteed DISCOM bonds at the prevailing market rates which shall be equal to or less than bank base rate plus 0.1%.
- State DISCOMs will comply with the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) outstanding since 1st April, 2012, within a period to be decided in consultation with Ministry of Power.
- States accepting UDAY and performing as per operational milestones will be given additional / priority funding through Deendayal Upadhayay Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY), Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS), Power Sector Development Fund (PSDF) or other such schemes of Ministry of Power and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- Such States shall also be supported with additional coal at notified prices and, in case of availability through higher capacity utilization, low cost power from NTPC and other Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs).
- States not meeting operational milestones will be liable to forfeit their claim on IPDS and DDUGJY grants.
- UDAY is optional for all States. However, States are encouraged to take the benefit at the earliest as benefits are dependent on the performance

12. Waterways has been the most neglected mode for inland transportation in India. Examine. Discuss the challenges associated with waterways in India. How can their potential be tapped?

Body:
India is blessed with 7,551km of coastline and about 14,500km of navigable inland waterways. Yet this sector has remained neglected despite universal acceptance that transportation through waterways, both coastal and inland, is fuel efficient, environment friendly and more economical than rail and road.

Challenges associated with waterways in India:
India has about 14500 km of inland water navigational length. But it was never utilized fully. India's current transport modal mix is overwhelmingly dominated by rail and road which contributes about 94% while the rest 6% is accounted by IWT, India's Waterways has been a neglected sector due to lack of focus and policy measures. India is in the last position in the world in this sector. The prime causes of underutilization are:

- Lack of Public Funds: The financing requirement for NWs is huge and open-ended. Heavy investment will be needed to procure equipment, including dredgers, shipping vessels, and barges of different sizes.
- Disinterest by Private Players: Even after liberalisation and economic reforms, there has been very less active participation from private players in this sector.
- Lost Competitive Edge: Its needless to say that other modes of transport such as rail and road received huge investment as well as policy support which caused IWT lose its competitive edge despite being a very cheap mode of transport and cargo, freight handling.
- Many of the rivers generally remain dry. There is a need to develop water reservoirs for conservation of rain water to feed such rivers.
- Higher water salinity, especially in the coastal regions and estuaries, and constant inflow of silt in the rivers can be problematic.
- The cost savings from NW would never be realized unless vessels are able to load to their full tonnage. This is possible only if the rivers are deepened between 2.5 and 4.5 meters and if return cargo is made available for the vessel to avoid wasteful return trips.
- The right of the state governments to develop additional irrigation projects would also be impaired. Hence, specific provisions to protect the rights of the state government over the waterway even after its declaration as an NW may be provided for.
- These NWs will also require river ports with their support infrastructure- road and rail connectivity, warehouses and other services.

Ways to tap the potential of waterways:
These waterways can be developed as environment-friendly modes of transport. This will decrease the huge logistics cost in India significantly, the following steps can tap the potential of waterways.

- The Government will have to figure out innovative ways of financing as they would be requiring about Rs. 70,000 cr to develop these river stretches into navigable transport ways. Government will explore multiple sources of finance, including market borrowings and tapping the National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) and the Central Roads Fund (CRF).
- With the enactment of the National Waterways Act, 2016, the total number of national waterways is now 111. But providing infrastructure such as jetties, terminals, and navigational channels continues to pose a challenge.
- Central Road Fund Act, 2000 Act regulates the Central Road Fund (CRF) that is credited with the cess collected on high speed diesel oil and petrol. This collected amount is then released to National Highways Authority of India, and to the state/union territory governments for the development of national and state highways.
- Once enacted, Central Road Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2017 will give a big boost to our waterways as cargo transportation through water is a much cheaper and cleaner way of transportation. It will bring down logistics cost that is very high.

Conclusion:

National waterways provide a cost-effective, logistically efficient and environment-friendly mode of transport, whose development as a supplementary mode would enable diversion of traffic from over-congested roads and railways. Hence, the waterways project deserves better regulation and development across the country.

Best answer: Akshath

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13. Examine the potential of horticulture as a source of sustainable livelihood. Also discuss the objectives and features of the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).

Approach:
- Introduction- What horticulture is, Its share in agricultural GDP etc.
- Potential of horticultural sector to provide sustainable livelihood to farmers.
- Challenges
- Objectives and features of MIDH.
- Conclusion

Potential of horticultural sector in providing sustainable livelihood to farmers:
- High export value
- High per unit area yield.
- Higher margins on sell of produce.
- Provision of raw materials for industries. Value addition is possible in agro-processing sector.
- Better use of undulating lands- thus beneficial for farmers in hilly areas.
- Best utilization of wasteland.
- Stabilization of women's empowerment by providing employment opportunities through processing, floriculture, seed production, mushroom cultivation, nursery preparation, etc.
- Nutritional security- fruits, vegetables are highly rich in micro-nutrients and amino acids.
- Less resource input- pesticides, water etc are required in little amount when it comes to horticultural crops.

Challenges:
- Assured irrigation is required. While water requirement is less, timely supply is must.
- Huge wastage while storing, because of absence of cold storage system and loss during transportation.
- Without any skilling, it becomes difficult for the farmers to get maximum possible output.

Objectives and Features of MIDH:

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of MIDH has been launched for the holistic development of horticulture in the country during XII plan.

- Promote holistic growth of horticulture sector, including bamboo and coconut through area based regionally differentiated strategies, which includes research, technology promotion, extension, post-harvest management, processing and marketing, in consonance with comparative advantage of each State/region and its diverse agro-climatic features;
- Encourage aggregation of farmers into farmer groups like FIGs/FPOs and FPCs to bring economy of scale and scope.
- Enhance horticulture production, augment farmers, income and strengthen nutritional security;
- Improve productivity by way of quality germplasm, planting material and water use efficiency through Micro Irrigation.
- Support skill development and create employment generation opportunities for rural youth in horticulture and post-harvest management, especially in the cold chain sector.

Conclusion:

The potential of horticultural sector is huge not only in helping meet the objective of doubling farmers' income but also in ensuring much required diversification in agricultural sector and providing nutritional security to millions of Indian suffering from 'hidden hunger'. In this light the MIDH scheme if implemented in effective manner can be a game-changer.

Best answer: MH22

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14. Ensuring physical access to water on farm, enhancing on farm water use efficiency and adopting water conservation practices are the most important focus areas for agricultural water management. Comment. Also examine the role of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) in addressing these focus areas.

Approach

- Introduction: Give a small intro about why agricultural water management is required and what it is.
- Body: In body, the answer should contain explanation for those three areas mentioned in first part of question. Then in 2nd part mention how PMKSY is addressing these issues.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction
Agriculture water management refer to using of water in such a way that provides crops and animals the amount of water they need, enhances productivity and conserves natural resource for the benefit of downstream users and ecosystem services.

Body
The important focus areas of Agricultural Water Management are:

Ensuring Physical access to water on Farm:
- Rain fed: Majority of Indian agriculture is rain fed.
- Monsoon: 90% of rainfall occurs only during monsoon.
- Irrigation

Enhancing on farm water use efficiency:
- Exploitation: Ground water leading to decrease in water table.
- Micro irrigation: Drip and Sprinkler irrigation.
- Rational usage: Ground water and preventing weeds growth.

Adopting water conservation practices:
- Rain water harvesting: Tankas, Kunds, Wells etc.
- Channelizing water used for washing cattle's and cleaning to crops.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) was launched with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices, etc.

How PMKSY helps in above three focus areas:

- Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP)
- Per Drop More Crop
- Watershed development.

Note: Just a view of what should contain in explanation is given, based on that u need to explain each point for a line or two.

Conclusion
PMKSY is a pioneering scheme which has clubbed many other schemes into it to concentrate on Agricultural water management. If properly implemented then it will reduce the dependence on rain for agriculture and also help in recharging ground water table, limit water wastage and help in sustainable development.

Connecting the dots:
- Irrigational types around the world.
- Water conservation practices in ancient India and around the world.

Best Answer: Maximus

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15. Examine the challenges associated with agricultural marketing in India. What is e-NAM? Discuss its features. Can it address these challenges? Examine.

Approach
- Introduction: Give small intro about what is agricultural marketing and need for same.
- Body: In body, the answer should contain challenges in 1st part, then define what is E-NAM, then discuss its featured. Then how it can address the challenges of marketing.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction
Agricultural marketing refers to process which involves moving the agricultural produce from place of origin to that of consumers. There are many challenges regarding this due to which farm income is low and farmers are always under debt.

Body
Challenges associated with agricultural marketing:

- State APMC act.
- Trade restriction limited to local mandi or APMC yards only.
- Middle-men mafia.
- Political issues and High commissions.
- Transportation and storage facility.
- Low price and distance from farm to market.

E-NAM is an online inter-connectivity of e-mandis, aimed at ushering in much needed agriculture marketing reforms to enable farmers to get better price of their produce.
Features:

- A national e-market platform for transparent sale transactions and price discovery initially in regulated markets. Willing States to accordingly enact suitable provisions in their APMC Act for promotion of e-trading by their State Agricultural Marketing Board/APMC.
- Liberal licensing of traders / buyers and commission agents by State authorities without any pre-condition of physical presence or possession of shop /premises in the market yard.

- One license for a trader valid across all markets in the State.
- Harmonisation of quality standards of agricultural produce and provision for assaying (quality testing) infrastructure in every market to enable informed bidding by buyers. Common tradable parameters have so far been developed for 69 commodities.
- Single point levy of market fees, i.e on the first wholesale purchase from the farmer.
- Provision of Soil Testing Laboratories in/ or near the selected mandi to facilitate visiting farmers to access this facility in the mandi itself. M/s. Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. is the Strategic Partner (SP) who is responsible for development, operation and maintenance of the platform. The broad role of the Strategic Partner is comprehensive and includes writing of the software, customizing it to meet the specific requirements of the mandis in the States willing to integrate with NAM and running the platform

NAM addresses these challenges by creating a unified market through online trading platform, both, at State and National level and promotes uniformity, streamlining of procedures across the integrated markets, removes information asymmetry between buyers and sellers and promotes real time price discovery, based on actual demand and supply, promotes transparency in auction process, and access to a nationwide market for the farmer, with prices commensurate with quality of his produce and online payment and availability of better quality produce and at more reasonable prices to the consumer.

Note: Explanations are required to each point. 8-10 points are enough in exam.

Conclusion
E-NAM can be considered as boon to farmers which addresses the problems faced by creating Pan-India market, transparency in price by auction among others. If implemented with due care it can help in achieving the dream of our prime minister by helping in doubling of farmers income.

Connecting the dots:
- Farming practices.
- Food processing Industries.

Best Answer: Akash

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16. Critically examine the potential of Aadhar based Direct Benefit Transfer of agricultural subsidies in India?

Approach:

- Introduction
- Potential of Aadhar based Direct Benefit Transfer of agricultural subsidies
- What more needs to be done?
- Conclusion

Introduction:

Aadhar based direct benefit transfer(DBT) of agricultural subsidies is direct transfer of benefits in monetary term to beneficiaries' account.

Potential:

- More inclusive, better targeting- DBT results into less of leakages as it reduces corruption.
- Transparency
- Judicious use of resources- Providing subsidised fertilizers, seeds etc resulted into its misuse of these scarce resources, thereby resulting into sustainable agriculture.
- Effective implementation of schemes like PMFBY.
- Price deficiency payment- Gap between announced MSP and actual price of agricultural produce can be covered by transferring the amount through DBT.
- Bringing rich farmers into tax net would be possible with DBT.
- Rationalising of government expenditure- the reduced leakages in the system means spending of

Way ahead:

Given its potential, effective implementation of DBT can be assured by taking following steps-

- Avoiding authentication errors- Reports of biometric system not working, duplicity of aadhaar etc must be sorted out.
- Financial inclusion yet to be achieved- while PMJDY has resulted into record-break opening of accounts, actual usage of these accounts for financial transaction remains poor.
- Taking into account inflation.

Conclusion:

The introduction of DBT based transfer of subsidies through usgae of JAM trinity can be transformational for agricutural sector if the system is made robust.

Best answer: Shiv

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17. High minimum support prices (MSPs) induce distortions, some of which ultimately hurt the poor. Examine.

Approach

- Introduction: Define what MSP is and presently how many items are included under it.
- Body: In body, the answer should contain possible effect of High MSP and also how it might affect poor. Also include recommendations.
- Conclusion: 2-3 lines conclusion.

Introduction

Minimum Support Price criticized by world body as form of market intervention is a scheme by government of India where government procures crops from farmers at a price irrespective of market price. It is very important part of India's agricultural policy. Presently 26 crops are covered under it.

Additional Info:

- Cereals (7) – paddy, wheat, barley, jowar, bajra, maize and ragi
- Pulses (5) – gram, arhar/tur, moong, urad and lentil
- Oilseeds (8) – groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, toria, soyabean, sunflower seed, sesamum, safflower seed and nigerseed
- Copra
- De-husked coconut
- Raw cotton
- Raw jute
- Sugarcane (Fair and remunerative price)
- Virginia flu cured (VFC) tobacco

Body

How High MSP induces distortions and it will hurt poor:

- Inflation: Sudden increase or decrease ultimately hurt poor.
- Nonfood crop: High MSP for nonfood crop might decrease growth of food crop which will lead to shortage of supply which will in turn lead to high prices.
- Micro-nutrition/mal-nutrition: Wheat and Rice are given much concentration leading to less supply of other crops like pulses, millets etc. which leads to micro-nutrition deficiencies which leads to problem for poor.
- Spoilage: High MSP leads to high procurement as government as to procure irrespective of storage capacity leading to spoilage which leads to short supply.
- Awareness: Only 33%of farmers are aware of MSP and rest depend on local APMC yards where returns on investment is low.
- Against local conditions: Due to MSP, crops are grown which are not suitable for local climatic conditions leading to disturbance of habitat, inefficient harvest all leading to excess input and less output.
- High Input: To achieve high output excess amount of fertilizers and other inputs are used leading to increase in input cost but returns turn out to be less than average.

Recommendation:

- Swaminathan committee report implementation.
- Shanta kumar committee report implementation.
- DBT: Replace MSP with DBT of difference amount directly to farmers.
- Subsidy: Removal of subsidy to Fertilizers Company.
- Awareness: of MSP.
- Insurance

Note: Questions asks about poor not poor farmers. So include about both. For better understanding some points are explained in detail. But in exam just a line or two is enough for all points.

Conclusion
International institutes are critical about India's market intervention schemes like MSP, Subsidies to agriculture among others. In order to encourage competitiveness of Indian agricultural product and farming community, we should move away from subsidy regime to capacity building programs.

Connecting the dots:
- Shanta kumar committee report.
- Swaminathan committee report.

Best Answer: Akash

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18.Livestock wealth is central to rural economy In India. Discuss the importance of livestock as a means of sustainable rural development. Also discuss the salient features of the National Livestock Mission.

Approach
- Introduction: Give small intro about livestock and its relation to rural economy
- Body: In body, the answer should contain importance of livestock in sustainable rural development and salient features of National Livestock mission.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction
Livestock refers to farm animals like cattle's and poultry which are considered as asset that substitutes along with agricultural activity for sustainable rural economy.

Body
They are considered very important due to following reasons:

- Alternative source of income: Sales.
- Alternate food options: Meat.
- Cheap proteins: Milk and Egg.
- Fiber: In case of sheep and goats.
- Manure: Cheap manure for agriculture.
- Field works: Tiling.
- Travel: Carts.
- Entertainment: Races, fights etc.
- Protection: Dogs.
- Credit: By pledging.

Salient features of National Livestock mission:

- Sustainable growth and development of livestock sector, including poultry
- Increasing availability of fodder and feed to substantially reduce the demand – supply gap through measures which include more area coverage under quality fodder seeds, technology promotion, extension, post–harvest management and processing in consonance with diverse agro -climatic condition.
- Accelerating production of quality fodder and fodder seeds through effective seed production chain (Nucleus – Breeder –Foundation – Certified-Truthfully labelled, etc.) with active involvement of farmers and in collaboration with the dairy / farmers cooperatives, seed corporations, and private sector enterprises.
- Establishing convergence and synergy among ongoing Plan programmes and stakeholders for sustainable livestock development.
- Promoting applied research in prioritized areas of concern in animal nutrition and livestock production.
- Capacity building of state functionaries and livestock owners through strengthened extension machinery to provide quality extension service to farmers.
- Promoting skill based training and dissemination of technologies for reducing cost of production, and improving production of livestock sector
- Promoting initiatives for conservation and genetic upgradation of indigenous breeds of livestock (except bovines which are being covered under another scheme of the Ministry) in collaboration with farmers / farmers' groups / cooperatives, etc.
- Encouraging formation of groups of farmers and cooperatives / producers' companies of small and marginal farmers / livestock owners.
- Promoting innovative pilot projects and mainstreaming of successful pilots relating to livestock sector.
- Providing infrastructure and linkage for marketing, processing and value addition, as forward linkage for the farmer's enterprises.
- Promoting risk management measures including livestock insurance for farmers.

- Promoting activities to control and prevent animal diseases, environmental pollution, promoting efforts towards food safety and quality, and supply of quality hides and skins through timely recovery of carcasses.
- Encouraging community participation on sustainable practices related to animal husbandry, involvement of community in breed conservation and creation of resource map for the states.

Note: Explanations are required to each point. 8-10 points are enough in exam.

Conclusion
As Indian agriculture is dependable on monsoon which is very erratic due to various geographical phenomena 'National Livestock mission' along with other four sub missions help in sustainable rural growth and development.

Connecting the dots:
- National action plan on climate change.
- Sustainable development.

Best Answer: Ali

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19. Examine the potential of food processing industry in creating employment. take examples of at least two regions from the country to substantiate your response.

Body:
The food processing industry is a key contributor to employment generation in India. By 2024, food processing sector is expected to employ 9 million people in India and expected to generate about 8,000 direct and 80,000 indirect jobs in the state, the ASSOCHAM-Grant Thornton joint study on 'Food Retail: Investment: Infrastructure' noted.
As the consumers in the country are becoming more health- conscious, the demand for nutritious food is growing proportionately. In addition, rising number of working women and nuclear families is resulting in high demand for ready-to- eat and frozen food. Thus, overall India's food value chain is poised to create multiple opportunities for investment and employment in storage infrastructure, farming, retail and quality control.

- It is estimated that Indian food processing industry is pegged close to US$ 121 billion to US$ 130 billion.
- With the second largest arable land in the world, it is the largest producer of milk, pulses, sugarcane and tea in the world and the second largest producer of wheat, rice, fruits and vegetables.

- Despite the massive production, the degree of processing is low and ranges between 2-35% for different produce.
- India is one of the top rankers in the production of bananas, guavas, ginger, papaya etc., although processing levels in the country remain limited, which indicates an extensive opportunity in the food processing sector.
- Indian food and retail market is projected to touch US$ 482 billion by FY 2020 from the current level of US$ 258 billion in 2015

Though India ranks first in production of milk, pulses and tea and second in production of fruits and vegetables, its share in the world food trade is less than two per cent. Thus the policymakers have identified food processing as a key sector in encouraging labor movement from agriculture to manufacturing.

To reduce post-harvest losses of fruits and vegetables, Government plans to set up 500 cold chain projects in the country. Moreover, 42 sanctioned mega food parks in the country are likely to become operational by 2018.

Food processing industry in India regional wise:

India's coastal zone:
- India is the third largest producer of fish and the second largest producer of "fresh water" fish. The 8,000 km coastline from both inland and marine resources, 3 million hectares of reservoirs, 1.4 million hectares of brackish water, 50,600 sq. km of continental shelf area and 2.2 million sq. km of exclusive economic zone supplement India's vast potential for fishes.
- Marine exports account for around 3% of the total exports of the country and nearly 20% of the agricultural exports.
- The major fish producing centers as well as processing, freezing and storage facilities in the country are concentrated in the states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Kerala and Odisha.

There is a huge scope for investments in packaged marine processing plants, operations in preservation, processing and export of coastal fish. There is also scope for developing technology for value addition and infrastructure for exports in the form of marine products based food parks through public private partnership. Besides, there is an increased demand for processed and ready-to-eat marine products in the domestic market.

Andhra Pradesh food processing industry:

AP is developing parks which will have cold storage, warehouse, power, water etc. The entrepreneurs will get 25-50 per cent incentives if they start a unit in food processing sector. The park developers will get Rs 20-50 crore grant to start the park with certain conditions.

The region produces 8 lakh tonnes of papaya, 15 lakh tonnes of ground nut and 9 lakh tonnes of mango per year. Pomegranate production is also increasing. Millets production has also increased many folds, along with that meat and many other products which will help state to become sunrise state of food processing industry.

Conclusion:

The Food Processing industry is critical to India's growth and the government is focused on providing adequate impetus to the sector. A well-developed Food Processing sector will help facilitate crop diversification and generate employment opportunities. The introduction of modern processing techniques for food will result in improved shelf-life of the agricultural produce and ensure steady revenue to farmers

Best Answer: kanishka

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20. What is backward and forward integration? What are its advantages and drawbacks? Examine its potential for the food processing sector in India.

Approach:
- Introduction- What is backward and forward integration
- Advantages and drawback
- Potential for food processing sector.
- Conclusion

Introduction:

Backward integration is owning the source of raw materials such as land for cultivation, leather tannery, oil mills, husbandry etc.
Examples:
- Amul sets up dairy farmers' cooperative in villages to collect milk.
- Starbucks (chain of coffee bars) buys coffee plantations in Central America.
- For continuity of raw material supply PepsiCo entered into contract farming with farmers of West Bengal.

Forward integration includes the processing and selling point (retail outlets).
Examples:
- Amul has its own pizza outlets and ice cream parlors.
- Nike, Adidas, Apple have their own retail outlets in big cities.

Forward and backward integration also called vertical integration

Advantages:
- Forward and backward integration provide an edge to the company. Because it reduces production cost and help manage inventory/demand better. Gives a competitive edge to company.
- Elimination of middleman ensuring steady supply.

Drawbacks:
- Risk of monopoly.
- Vertical integration requires huge investment.

Potential for food processing sector:

- It will in plugging the gaps in supply chain in terms of availability of raw material and linkages with the market, thereby, reducing the wastage of agricultural produce.
- More profit to farmers as middlemen is eliminated.
- Productivity will improve as investment will be made into best techniques of growing.
- Overall boost to food processing sector- assured input, better market reach, potential for export.

Conclusion:
Food processing sector is rightly considered as sunrise sector of the economy. For this vertical integration can be a game changer. However, to overcome the drawbacks its necessary that the process is well regulated by the government so that there is no monopolization to the disadvantage of the farmers.

Best answer: Jyoti Singh

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21. Examine the case to strengthen food supply chain management in India. Also suggest measures to address the associated challenges.

- Introduction: Give small intro Food supply chain management.
- Body: In body, the answer should contain two parts, one about how you will strengthen food supply chain management and second what are the challenges for the same.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction
Food supply chain management refers to managing a series of links for delivery of food items starting from farms to consumers' plate. There is an urgent need to strengthen this supply chain to address various issues plaguing the agriculture sector.

Body
Need to strengthen Food supply chain Management:
- Post-harvest Losses.
- Food security.
- High produce but less supply: Spoilage during storing.
- Nutrition deficiencies and mal nutrition: Inspite of bumper production majority suffer from access.
- Increasing demand.
- Inflation.
- Doubling farmers' income.

- Sustainable growth and development: Conservation of water, soil etc.

Measure for Challenges:
- Restrictive Laws: APMC acts of respective states, Land acquisition etc.
- Infrastructure: storage facility, Transportation etc.
- Investment: In the sector.
- Government control: Reduce public sector and government control.
- Politicization: Remove restriction on FDI in agriculture, Private sector participation.
- Technology: Increase awareness to technology.

Note: A line or two explanations are required for all points. Here just what is required in explanation is highlighted. 8-10 points are enough.

Conclusion
Government is also coming up with many policies and initiatives like E-Nam, Food processing parks, Model tenancy act, SAMPADA scheme, Bio-fortified foods etc. But still various reforms and initiatives are needed to address the challenges to minimize the bottlenecks for food supply chain management.

Connecting the dots:
- Backward and forward linkage of food processing.
- Shanta Kumar committee report.

Best Answer: Maximus.

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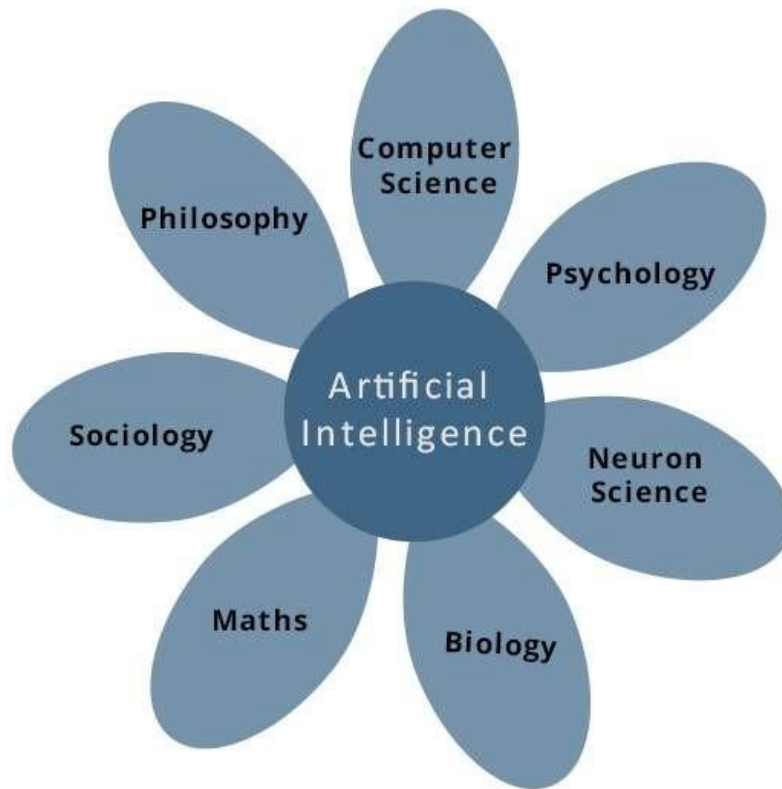https://uploads.disquscdn.com/images/2dd78c5acad24fdcdca005baafa4b1ba4918510a3cf5cce739600619cc836576.jpg

22. what is Artificial Intelligence (AI)? What are its applications? Is it a potential threat to humanity? Examine.

Body:

Artificial Intelligence:
Artificial intelligence (AI) makes it possible for machines to learn from experience, adjust to new inputs and perform human-like tasks. Most AI examples that you hear about today – from chess-playing computers to self-driving cars – rely heavily on deep learning and natural language processing. Using these technologies, computers can be trained to accomplish specific tasks by processing large amounts of data and recognizing patterns in the data.

AI applications:

- AI automates repetitive learning and discovery through data. But AI is different from hardware-driven, robotic automation. Instead of automating manual tasks, AI performs frequent, high-volume, computerized tasks reliably and without fatigue.
- AI adds intelligence to existing products. In most cases, AI will not be sold as an individual application. Rather, products you already use will be improved with AI capabilities, much like Siri was added as a feature to a new generation of Apple products.
- AI adapts through progressive learning algorithms to let the data do the programming. AI finds structure and regularities in data so that the algorithm acquires a skill: The algorithm becomes a classifier or a predicator.
- AI achieves incredible accuracy though deep neural networks – which was previously impossible. For example, your interactions with Alexa, Google Search and Google Photos are all based on deep learning – and they keep getting more accurate the more we use them.
- AI gets the most out of data. When algorithms are self-learning, the data itself can become intellectual property. The answers are in the data; you just have to apply AI to get them out.
- Health Care: AI applications can provide personalized medicine and X-ray readings. Personal health care assistants can act as life coaches, reminding you to take your pills, exercise or eat healthier.
- Manufacturing: AI can analyze factory IoT data as it streams from connected equipment to forecast expected load and demand using recurrent networks, a specific type of deep learning network used with sequence data.

Its potential threat to humanity:

There is a lot of uncertainty about the kind of AI we may one day reach that would achieve human-level intelligence or possibly more.

- In the near term AI serves as a tool that can magnify the amount of power an individual has. For example, someone could buy thousands of cheap drones, attach a gun to each of them, and develop AI software to send them around shooting people. If the software was good enough this could result in far more destruction than a normal terrorist attack.
- In the short term, there is a threat being posed too many job markets in the form of automation, and for many automation problems.
- Gap between developed and developing countries to increase-due to skill difference.

Conclusion:
The power of artificial intelligence that unintentionally causes destruction and damage cannot be ignored. What will help us control it better is research and in-depth study of the importance of artificial intelligence. Research alone can control the potentially harmful consequences of AI and help us enjoy the fruit of this innovation.

Best Answer: Abhishek Naik
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23. What is Big Data? Examine its role in facilitating governance.

Approach:
- Introduction- Definition
- Importance for government
- Challenges
- Way forward
- Conclusion

Introduction:
Big data is the term for a collection of data sets so large and complex that it becomes difficult to process using on-hand database management tools or traditional data processing applications. It exceeds the processing ability of conventional data systems and requires us to use an alternate way to process it so as to gain value from the data.
The data could be from social networks, web server logs, traffic flow sensors, satellite imagery, banking transactions, the content of web pages, scans of government documents, GPS trails, financial market data and so on.

Role in facilitating government:
Big Data and associated analytics are beneficial in various areas, such as

- The possible benefits of Big Data analytics in government could range from transforming government programmes and empowering citizens to improving transparency and enabling the participation of all stakeholders.

- Big Data can enhance the government's ability to serve its citizens and address major national challenges.
- Benefits can range from- Solving traffic problems in cities, targeting healthcare delivery, efficient supply chain management, providing a personalized educational experience for students, enabling security to individuals and society at large.
- Helping predict natural phenomenon like monsoon, natural disasters etc.
- Strengthening economy by checking tax evasion, for businesses to produce customized products.

Overall it would help in informed policymaking and evidence-based decision making.

Challenges:
- Any breach of confidentiality regarding data that is collected and processed by the government could have serious ramifications.
- Sharing data between departments and across ministries is a challenge, given the jurisdictional boundaries that exist.
- Authenticity of data is another challenge.

Way forward:
- A change in mindset and effective training is required to make data-driven decisions.
- A comprehensive Big Data programme across Central and state government ministries/departments with help from industry, academic and research institutions should be formulated.

Best answer: Kanishka

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24. What is Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer (SCNT)? Discuss its technology and potential applications.

- Introduction: Define Somatic cell nuclear transfer.
- Body: In body, the answer should contain two parts, one about its technology and second part potential applications.
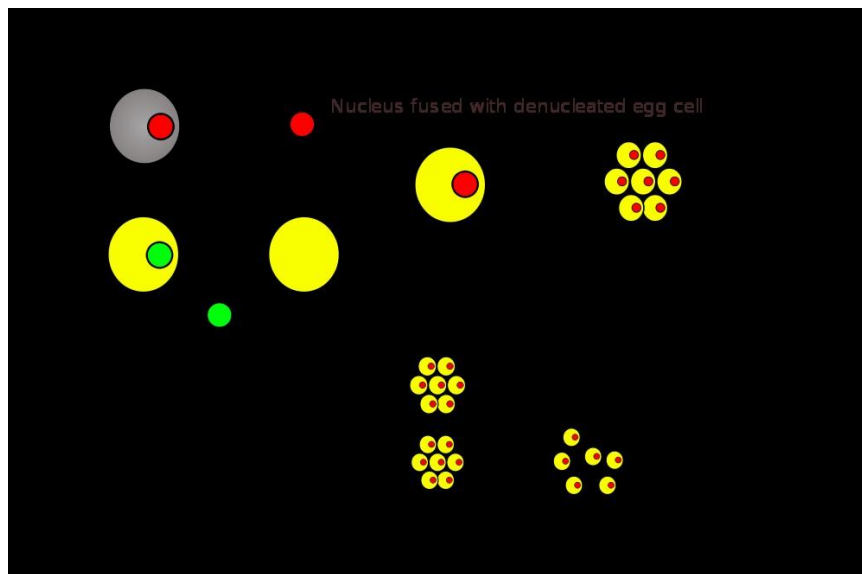- Conclusion: 2-3 lines conclusion.

Introduction
In genetics and developmental biology, somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT) is a laboratory technique for cloning for creating an ovum with a donor nucleus.

Body
Technology:

- In SCNT the nucleus, which contains the organism's DNA, of a somatic cell (a body cell other than a sperm or egg cell) is removed and the rest of the cell discarded.
- At the same time, the nucleus of an egg cell is removed.
- The nucleus of the somatic cell is then inserted into the enucleated egg cell.
- After being inserted into the egg, the somatic cell nucleus is reprogrammed by the host cell.
- The egg, now containing the nucleus of a somatic cell, is stimulated with a shock and will begin to divide.
- After many mitotic divisions in culture, this single cell forms a blastocyst (an early stage embryo with about 100 cells) with almost identical DNA to the original organism.

Potential Application:

- Studies, Research and Development.
- Embryonic stem cell research.
- Regenerative medicine also known as Therapeutic cloning
- Reproductive cloning.
- Preservation: Extent and endangered species.

Note: Explanation is needed for all points in 2nd part for a line or two.

Conclusion
It can be both boon and bane. It might help in many ways but it also has its share of effects which might include reduction of gene diversity, Nature's rule like survival of fittest, ethical and moral issues. If got into wrong hands (Terrorists, crime syndicate) it might prove to be a disaster in waiting.

Connecting the dots:
- Ethical and Moral issues in cloning.

Best Answer: Jupiter.

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25. What are the objectives of India's IPR Policy? Does it ensure a balance between promoting innovation and protecting the interests of the underprivileged? Critically examine.

Body:
The National IPR Policy is a vision document that aims to create and exploit synergies between all forms of intellectual property (IP), concerned statutes and agencies. It sets in place an institutional mechanism for implementation, monitoring and review. It aims to incorporate and adapt global best practices to the Indian scenario.

Objectives:
The Policy lays down the following seven objectives:
- IPR Awareness: Outreach and Promotion – To create public awareness about the economic, social and cultural benefits of IPRs among all sections of society.
- Generation of IPRs: To stimulate the generation of IPRs.
- Legal and Legislative Framework: To have strong and effective IPR laws, which balance the interests of rights owners with larger public interest.
- Administration and Management: To modernize and strengthen service-oriented IPR administration.
- Commercialization of IPRs: Get value for IPRs through commercialization.
- Enforcement and Adjudication: To strengthen the enforcement and adjudicatory mechanisms for combating IPR infringements.
- Human Capital Development: To strengthen and expand human resources, institutions and capacities for teaching, training, research and skill building in IPRs.

IPR policy ensuring a balance between innovation and public interest:
All the developed countries, including the US, have raised concerns over India issuing the CL and also section 3(d).
- As per the WTO norms, a CL can be invoked by a government allowing a company to produce a patented product without the consent of the patent owner in public interest.
- Under the Indian Patents Act, a CL can be issued for a drug if the medicine is deemed unaffordable, among other conditions, and the government grants permission to qualified generic drug makers to manufacture it.
- India will continue to utilise the legislative space and flexibilities available in international treaties and the TRIPS Agreement.

- These flexibilities include the sovereign right of countries to use provisions such as Section 3(d) and CLs for ensuring the availability of essential and life-saving drugs at affordable prices.
- The policy left the country's patent laws intact and specifically did not open up Section 3(d) of the Patents Act, which sets the standard for what is considered an invention in India, for reinterpretation.
- Policy is to create an effective loan guarantee scheme to encourage start-ups.
- The Policy also seeks to facilitate domestic IPR filings, for the entire value chain from IPR generation to commercialization. It aims to promote research and development through tax benefits.
- The IPR policy favoured the government considering financial support for a limited period on sale and export of products based on IPRs generated from public-funded research.
- Special thrust on awareness generation and effective enforcement of IPRs, besides encouragement of IP commercialisation through various incentives.

Conclusion:
The Policy which is in compliance with WTO's agreement on TRIPS, aims to sustain entrepreneurship and boost Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious scheme 'Make in India.'

Best Answer: Akash
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26. Identify at least three sectors where indigenisation of technology is a strategic necessity. Have efforts been made in this direction? Examine.

Approach:
- Introduction
- Three sectors which requires indigenisation and efforts made for each
- Conclusion

Introduction:
Indigenisation denotes to substituting an imported item with one that is manufactured within the country. For a fast-growing economy like India, self-reliance is not only important but a necessity in strategic terms.

Three sectors where indigenisation of technology is a strategic necessity are:
Energy Sector:
More than 70% of India's energy demands are based on imports. This not only results into huge expenditure but also makes us dependent for our energy needs. Given the geopolitical conflicts, turbulence in Middle East, a secured supply is not ensured. In this light being energy supply would help boost economy.

Efforts made in this direction:

- Thrust for renewable energy- With the ambitious plan of having 175 gigawatts of operational renewable energy capacity by March 2022, India is moving in right direction.
- Further the new National Mineral Energy Policy facilitates exploration of reserves.
- The government is also planning to build its own strategic petroleum reserves.

Defence Sector:

Self-reliance in defence technology and production is a pre-requisite for any nation that aspires to become a great power and have an enviable standing in the comity of nations. Currently our defence acquisitions have more than 2/3rd of import content, which is alarming.

Efforts made in this direction:

- Defence Procurement Procedure, 2016 has been launched to simplify defence procurement procedure to give a boost to "Make in India". A new category of procurement 'Buy {Indian-IDDM (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured)}' has been introduced in Defence Procurement Procedure-2016 and the same has been accorded top most priority for procurement of capital equipment.

ICT:

in India, very few electronic components are manufactured and therefore, all the ICs and other electronic components are imported from foreign country. Further with ongoing digitisation, its scale, efforts being made towards e-governance etc the issue of cyber security has become much more challenging.

Efforts made in this direction:

The Cyber Security Policy suggests building a robust cyber security architecture. Further India is making strides in technological field with having ts own GPS-aided system(GAGAN), NAVIC etc.

Conclusion:

The above three sectors require indigenisation. The efforts being made are in right direction. The implementation part should thus be focused upon.

Best answer: Lone Wolf

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27. What is 'digital signature'? What are its applications in governance? Discuss.

- Introduction: Define digital signature in about two-three lines.

- Body: In body, the answer should contain applications of digital signature in governance.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction
Digital signature is digital code that is generated and authenticated by public key encryption which can be attached to any electronically transmitted document to verify its contents and the sender's identity.

Body
Digital signature has significant application in governance due to its security and authenticity features:
- Income tax: filings, Notices and certificates.
- Municipalities: Birth and Death certificate.
- Public sector companies: Shares, bonds, debentures, appointment orders.
- Procurement: Auctions, tendering etc.
- Banks and RBI: Account statements, proofs, license.
- Panchayat level: Records keeping, certificates.
- District level: Certificates like caste certificate, bill approvals, warrants, pensions etc.
- Secretariats: orders, approvals etc.
- Service providers: Railways, Power distribution companies etc.

Note: Explanation is needed for all points. Only important keywords which should be used in explanation is given.

Conclusion
Digital Certificate has immensely helped government servants to focus on their core functions by freeing them up in routine operations like revenue collection, issuing of certificate etc. which therefore helps in enhancing overall productivity of administrative machinery.

Connecting the dots:
- NeGP.
- Digital India.

Best Answer: Lone wolf.

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28. Is development deficit the only factor behind the spread of extremism? Critically examine.

Approach
- Since the keyword has "critically", you have to cater to both sides of the argument
- First, discuss how development is a factor behind extremism
- Then move onto other factors and conclude accordingly

Body

Extremism is holding very strong socio-political or religious views contrary to the status quo. This rise of extremism in India dates back to the Naxalbari movement in West Bengal in the 1960s. Other prominent extremist movements include the North East insurgency, Kashmir militancy etc.

Extremism needs a fertile ground to breed. Lack of development is one of the main providers of the fertile ground. It fosters poverty and unemployment which makes the population disillusioned with the state. For e.g. the Naxalbari movement started due to the botched up land reforms which were anti-poor and exploitative. Similarly, the north eastern regions have fallen behind the development race, as a result of which the insurgency movement persists.

However, lack of development alone cannot be sole reason for rise of extremist activities.
- These movements need an **ideological foundation** which is anti-state and it precedes any development deficit. For e.g. the north east insurgency is as much based on ethnic and cultural differentiation from Indian mainland as it is due to slow development
- **Certain movements are rooted in history**. For e.g. the Kashmir militancy which is a legacy of the haphazard partition combined with the proxy war waged by Pakistan through terrorism. Infact, lack of development in Kashmir is more an outcome than cause of Kashmir militancy.
- **Social Exclusion** and exploitation of marginalized sections such as scheduled tribes etc. These communities have been forced to evict and disproportionately pay the price for national development
- **Poor governance, law and order** in such areas also contributes to the rise of extremist elements. Instances of human rights violation by public personnel, poor social infrastructure, and government apathy are common. For e.g. in 2015, 22 tribal women died in Chhattisgarh due to improper sterilization.

Conclusion

Given India's huge socio-cultural and geographic diversity, extremist movements in India owe their origin to multiple factors. Lack of development is as much an outcome as it a cause for such movements. They way going forward is a regionally balanced and inclusive growth process along with decentralized governance which empowers the affected people.

Best Answer: SST

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29. HOW IS THE ROHINGYA CRISIS A CHALLENGE FOR INDIA'S INTERNAL SECURITY? EXAMINE. ALSO SUGGEST MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE EFFECTIVELY.

Body:
India is home to the largest number of refugees in South Asia yet it does not have a specific legal framework to deal with the problem. UNHCR stated that about 1,68,000 Rohingyas' had fled Myanmar since 2012, when clashes with Buddhists erupted in the trouble-torn Arakan region. Over 40,000 of those Rohingyas', who fled Myanmar, have entered India illegally, according to government's estimate.

THE ROHINGYA CRISIS A CHALLENGE FOR INDIA'S INTERNAL SECURITY:
The government is concerned over Rohingyas' stay in India for security regions.
- In its affidavit to the Supreme Court, the government said that some of the Rohingyas with militant background were found to be very active in Jammu, Delhi, Hyderabad and Mewat.
- They have been identified as having a very serious and potential threat to the internal and national security of India, the Centre told the Supreme Court.
- Government stated categorically that the government is looking for ways to deport over 40,000 Rohingyas living in the country illegally.
- The government is worried about the suspected infiltration of terror outfits among the displaced people living in various camps.
- India considers the issue as an internal affair of Myanmar. Indian believes that ASEAN has an undeniable responsibility to resolve this crisis.
- India does not want a conflict of interests with the new regime in Myanmar- Myanmar has a key role in India's Look East Policy.
- India already has several issues like poverty, unemployment etc. for her own people.

Measures taken by the government:
- Refusing to bow under international pressure over Rohingya crisis, India made it clear that it would not compromise with the security concerns of the country.
- However, the government decided to extend help to Bangladesh in providing all amenities to the fleeing Rohingyas, who are being relocated in camps there. India also asked Myanmar to end persecution of Rohingyas.

Suggestions:
The statelessness of the Rohingyas and the lack of empathy towards the plight of the Rohingyas have contributed to the adoption of extremist methods by them. If not addressed pragmatically, the Rohingya crisis will only cause more violence, leading to more refugees and chronic instability in the region. ASEAN, India and Bangladesh need to discuss the Rohingya crisis together to work for an optimum solution to the problem. The first step would be to convince the present government in Myanmar about the benefits of well-coordinated cooperation between ASEAN members, India and Bangladesh to tackle the

issue. Along with that use all platforms to convince present regime through regional and international platforms about the need to resolve the crisis.

Best Answer: Maximus

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30. The Pakistani territory has become a training ground for terrorists and militants posing a severe threat to India's internal security. In this regard, examine the steps taken by the government to curb the menace of Pakistan sponsored and trained terrorism and militancy in India.

Introduction:
Terrorism has become an institution in Pakistan. The government in connivance with the army and intelligent service agencies have been accused of making Pakistan a breeding ground for non-state actors. This has posed a major threat for India's internal security.

Step taken by the government:
- Diplomatic efforts- UN resolutions, though vetoed by China, has been taken up by the government to recognize Pakistan-sponsored terrorists like Hafiz Saeed as international terrorists.
- India has been trying to garner enough support for at United Nations for passage of Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. This would make sponsor of terrorism a difficult affair.
- India has many a times raised the issue at international platforms like UNGA, directly indicting Pakistani government of promoting militancy against India in recent.
- Isolation of Pakistan. Boycott of SAARC grouping and active engagement with groupings like BIMSTEC.
- Direct/Surgical strikes
- Limiting infiltration- Fencing along India-Pakistan border.
- Demarginalization of Indian residing near India-Pakistan border. UDAAN scheme for youths of Jammu & Kashmir is one example.

What more needs to be done?
- Focusing on economic cooperation, strengthening cross-border trade. A well strategized economic diplomacy can lead Pakistani government mend its ways.
- Continuing bilateral talks.
- Diplomatic endeavors in garnering support against Pakistan must be strengthened. Improving relations with China would help as China in recent times has been a major roadblock in India's actions against Pakistan at international platform.

Conclusion:
Thus, overall India has adopted a two-fold strategy- By force and through talks, to handle the risk posed by Pakistan. Still to tackle the threat, international cooperation will be required and thus India must continue to pursue in this direction.

31. A digitally empowered India must also be digitally secure. Examine in the light of the emerging threats to the digital ecosystem.

Approach

- It is a simple 1 part question
- Using current examples discuss the various threats to India's digital dream. Conclude accordingly

Body

Good governance is defined by transparency, responsiveness and efficiency. In this regard, the Indian government envisioned a digitally empowered India when it launched the Digital India Mission in 2014. Benefits of a digitally run India are many – governance becomes more accountable, economic growth becomes inclusive as access to services is widened.

For e.g. the Aadhaar linked Jan Dhan accounts receiving direct subsidies without any leakage or misappropriation of funds.

However, the success of creating a digitally empowered India critically depends on the security and stability of the digital ecosystem which faces many emerging threats such as:

- **Increasing cyber-attacks** – India received the 3rd largest number of cyber-attacks after the US and China. Such attacks pose an eminent threat to India large digital data. For e.g. the Aadhaar database
- **Threats of cyberwarfare** – from neighbouring countries such as China and Pakistan as direct confrontation is increasingly becoming difficult. There have been reports of Chinese companies spying on Indian consumers through Chinese mobile phones and apps.
- **The dream of a less-cash economy** driven by digital transactions require a robust and secure digital infrastructure to gain people's trust
- **India's digital literacy** levels are abysmally low (less than 10%) making the population highly vulnerable to online scams and frauds such as debit card theft.

Conclusion

Furthermore, the **digital infrastructure** in India is far from adequate. 2/3rd of rural India is yet to be connected via high speed broadband. The quality of infrastructure is highly uneven. The nodal agency for cyber security – **CERT-In** – is highly understaffed as it is unable to attract the brightest minds in the country. The IT Act 2000 lacks a detailed framework for data protection.

A digitally empowered India is a great India with obvious benefits for all. However, without a robust security infrastructure in place, it can fast turn into a digital catastrophe.

Best Answer: Ashutosh Tripathi

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32. What is the 'fake news' phenomenon? Does it pose a security threat to the country? Examine.

Body:
Fake news, or hoax news, refers to false information or propaganda published under the guise of being authentic news. Fake news websites and channels push their fake news content in an attempt to mislead consumers of the content and spread misinformation via social networks and word-of-mouth. "Fake news is made-up stuff, masterfully manipulated to look like credible journalistic reports that are easily spread online to large audiences willing to believe the fictions and spread the word." And this phenomenon has been trending from long time, but in different forms.

Fake News Industry which pose a security threat to the country:
The advent of social media has spurred the proliferation of fake news. Print media is careful about the source of news but that depends on the credibility of publications; the same principles do not apply across the board. A short and indiscrete news report may be ignored by readers but if the same is circulated via social media, it is easily consumed.
In a conflict zone, especially the one involving proxies and hybrid conditions, spread of antipathy among people against the army is a well-established strategy. It is not difficult to incite passion as certain issues like alleged human rights violations are kept alive through disinformation campaigns.
The video format is popular for the dissemination of fake news on social media. With diverse platforms available, one does not have to even depend on YouTube, as embedded short clips can be easily circulated on WhatsApp, seemingly a villain among social media sites. The proliferation of WhatsApp groups whets the voyeuristic appetite of people.

Examples of such fake news:
A recent example of fake news, as part of Pakistan's strategy of 'bleed by a thousand cuts' against India, includes a two-minute video which tries to impinge on the minds of Indian Muslims that before the Indo-Pak conflict of 1965, there existed a Muslim Regiment in the Indian Army which refused to fight the Pakistanis. It further claims that this regiment was disbanded, and thereafter, no Muslim was ever allowed to fight on the border.
The fake video supplements this with a 2010 article from Pakistani media which tries to question why Muslim representation in the Indian Army remains low and how statistics are never available to counter such notion. With people likely being gullible on this subject, such WhatsApp messages-cum-slanderous news will be absorbed instantly.

Conclusion:

It is now clear that so-called fake news can have real-world consequences and it might pose a security threat to the countries. This is not about politics or partisanship. Lives are at risk lives of ordinary people just trying to go about their days and do their jobs, contribute to their communities. It is a danger that must be addressed and addressed quickly. It is imperative that leaders in both the private and public sector step up to protect our democracy and innocent lives.

Best Answer: kanishka

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33. What are the threats associated with the unregulated growth of Social Media? Examine. Also discuss the ways in which Social Media should be regulated to thwart the security challenges posed by its burgeoning growth in India.

Approach:
- Introduction- What is social media, its growth etc.
- Threats associated with social media.
- Regulating social media.
- Conclusion.

Introduction:

Social Media in recent times has become synonymous with Social Networking sites such as Facebook or Micro Blogging sites such as Twitter. Since 2004, there has been a widespread growth of the social media. It unites millions of people across the globe on a single platform. But there are two sides of a coin. The social media also possess a serious threat to the national security of a nation.

Threats associated with social media:

Threat to internal security:
- Cyber terrorism – The biggest challenge for internal security of nation through social networking site is cyber terrorism. Around 90% of the organized terrorism on the Internet takes place through the social media. For example, the terrorist group of ISIS spreads their messages and activities through the social media.
- Communal Violence – Rumours spread on the social media had resulted in violence and tense situation in different parts of the country. Example- Violence against people form Northeast India in Bangalore.

Threat to economy:
- The rapid spread of false information through social media could "wreak havoc" for businesses and global markets, the World Economic Forum has warned.

Misinformation has the potential to spark panic selling of shares, or panic evacuations.
- Hacking of bank acccounts, fraudulent schemes.

Ways to regulate social media in India:
- Enacting a data protection law based on seven pillars proposed by Srikrishna committee.
- India must learn the lessons of regulators in other territories such as the European Union (EU) in order to find solutions to its own particular challenges as outlined in this article.
- Finalizing a social-media policy to help intelligence agencies and security forces to effectively deal with any propaganda.
- Making technological needs to monitor social media more systematic. Cyber security personnel must be trained to keep an eye on any misue of social media.

Conclusion:
There should be regulation social media, at the same time avoiding censorship. Draconian laws like Section 66A of IT Act, which was struck down by Supreme court must be avoided.

Best answer: gargantuan

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34. Much of India's post-Independence conservation efforts have excluded forest dwellers, completely overlooking the important role they play. Naturally, the word "conservation" now comes to haunt the forest dwellers. Elucidate.

- Introduction: Give small introduction about forest dwellers
- Body: In body, mention how they conserved forests, how in name of conservation they are harassed and steps taken by government recently to protect them.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction
Forest dwellers were those communities who traditionally lived in and around forests from generations and depended wholly on the resources of forest and helped greatly in conservation.

Body

Role played by forest dwellers in conversation since ancient times:
- Sacred groves and nature worship: Trees, rivers, rain etc.

- Protection of flora and fauna: In name of culture, for medicinal purpose etc. Ex: Bishnoi tribes etc.

How they are harassed in name of conservation:
- British policies: Eviction, restriction felling of trees, cess on products.
- Biosphere reserve: Gadgil report, Kasturirangan report. Western Ghats.
- Forest Acts: Forest conservation act 1980, wildlife protection act 1972, National Tiger authority.
- Reserve forests: Non entry to core area, rules for buffer zones etc.
- Projects: Public and private.

After long struggle by environmentalists and forest dwellers government has come up with certain regulations to protect their interest like:
- Recognition of Sacred groves.
- Minor forest products.
- Deregulating certain products: Bamboo, tendu leaves etc.
- Gram sabha: Power to gram sabha to grant permission for mining etc.

Note: Explanation is needed for all points. Important points that are required in body are given. 8-10 points are enough.

Conclusion

It is high time government recognizes the efforts of forest dwellers in conservation from ancient times and provides them necessary protection and also more importantly involve them in all effort involving forests.

Connecting the dots:
- Multipurpose projects.
- Narmada andolan.

Best Answer: Bagath

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35. Why haven't the efforts to clean the polluted rivers in India succeeded so far? Examine by taking the case study of the river Ganga.

Approach
- It is a one part question
- Describe the reasons for past failure. Use bullet format
- Although not explicitly asked, but do suggest solutions in your conclusion.

Body

India has one of largest river networks. Indian rivers are the lifelines of their respective regions, providing water for agriculture, domestic use, industries etc. However, the same has left them extremely polluted. River Ganga is a case in point. Despite multiple initiatives taken by various governments over the years, starting from the Ganga Action Plan in 1985, they have failed to translate into clean rivers. Following are the reasons:

- The policies so far **lacked a multidimensional approach**. It focused solely on cleaning of river water without making plans for rural development, making villages on the banks open defecation free, checking the discharge of pollutants such as fertilizers into the river, afforestation etc.
- The policies **did not address the source of pollution** – for e.g. in urban centres like Kanpur, state governments failed to control pollution from industries like tanneries
- **Poor implementation and monitoring** – lack of coordination between centre and state governments, rampant corruption, delays have rendered the efforts ineffective
- **Lack of participation** from citizen group – policy makers failed to tap into the rich knowledge of local communities wrt river cleaning
- **Low political will** – as the river Ganga is home to religiously important places such as Varanasi, Allahabad. The activities in these places result in polluting of river Ganga. However, politicians turn a blind eye for the fear of losing their vote bank.

Conclusion / Way Forward

India's march to economic development cannot come at the cost of environmental degradation such as polluting of its rivers. There is a need to take lessons from the past policy failure to design a more comprehensive and sustainable framework for river cleaning in India. It should include not just the cleaning part, but also supporting initiative like afforestation, industrial affluent management, and local participation.

Polluter pays Principle should be adopted in letter and spirit to deter various stakeholders from polluting our rivers in the future. The Namami Gange Program holds much promise in this regard.

Best Answer: Lone Wolf

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36. Conservation efforts directed towards increasing the population without addressing the problem of habitat loss have led to increase in man-animal conflicts. Comment.

Body:

Animal habitats are disappearing at alarming rates, making habitat loss the biggest threat to animals' existence. Deforestation and degradation from logging, animal agriculture, and the

palm oil industry have leveled massive amounts of rainforests and other types of forest lands in India, forcing animals into ever-shrinking habitats and destroying villages.

As the global human population grows, forests and grasslands around the world are cleared to build roads, housing, and shopping centers. Even rural areas are impacted as small towns and villages encroach on land that was once inhabited by wildlife. If we don't address this problem of increasing population, the directions towards the conservation of efforts and the problem of habitat loss will lead to man-animal conflicts.

- As two worlds continue to collide, the sharing of habitats creates a dangerous situation for animals as well as humans.
- Animals viewed as a nuisance or threat are placed in danger of being trapped or killed, threatening the existence of many species that are already vulnerable as a result of poaching and the illegal wildlife trade.
- In India, a growing human population is causing conflict with elephants and tigers, with one person being killed each day — leading to over 1,000 deaths over the past three years, according to an article by The Washington Post.
- The deaths often occur as people are attempting to scare the animals away from villages, or as villagers enter animal territories while searching for land and resources.

Human lives are also placed at risk when they encounter elephants, tigers, bears, or other large species that feel threatened and attack in an effort to protect their territory or their young. It's an issue that's present around the world, and with massive human population growth placing further strain on limited land resources, it's a problem that will only continue to get worse.

Working to Reduce Conflict and Protect Wildlife by addressing habitat loss:

Habitat destruction is the first casualty of development. All across India, hundreds of projects are being cleared every year in and around protected areas for mining, dams, hydroelectric projects, highways, engineering colleges, ashrams and a plethora of other purposes.

Wildlife organizations are working to protect animals and their habitats, but in addition to prevention, we also need to work on resolutions for existing issues. Many have turned to hunting or culling populations, but there are more humane alternatives that, with some extra work, can be effective.

Some ranchers and farmers in Africa and India have tried to resolve the issue by installing electric fencing, while others are using creative methods like planting chili plants, burning chili pepper bricks, or having beehives along the perimeter of their crops to deter wild animals. Organizations are also providing farmers with compensation for lost crops or livestock and helping them grow elephant-resistant crops that are less prone to damage. Training and assistance programs to protect farms and ranches can also help reduce tensions by relieving the burden of financial loss.

Conclusion:

Rising population of both animals and humans have created stress on existing land resources and in such case National Parks and Sanctuary may not be enough for their habitats. Therefore a cooperative approach of Politicians, policy makers, civil society, media and mind set for sustainable development by addressing habitat loss would we warranted in long run.

Best Answer: gargantuan

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37. What is bioremediation? How does it work? How can it address pollution? Discuss.

- Introduction: Define bioremediation in Introduction.
- Body: In body, mention how they work and 2nd part how they address pollution. Diagram or flow chart can be added for 1st
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction
Bioremediation is a waste management process of treating pollution through use of naturally occurring or artificially introducing certain microorganisms to consume and break down the pollutants.

Body

Working:

- Microorganisms are introduced in the area which has to be treated.
- The process can be either aerobic or anaerobic.
- These microorganisms feed on the pollutants, break them down and give out less toxic by converting them into water and other gases.
- The process is repeated until desired results are achieved.

How it can address pollution:

- Phytoremediation.
- Bioventing.
- Bioleaching.
- Land farming.
- Bioreactor.
- Composting.
- Bio augmentation.
- Rhizofiltration.
- Bio stimulation.

Note: Explanation is needed for all points. Important points that are required in body are given. 8-10 points are enough.

Conclusion

Bioremediation can be a boon for addressing environmental pollution problem and help in sustainable development. But this technique has its limitation; it can be used only on bio-degradable pollutants and not on heavy metals and radioactive substances. Scientists need to come up with solution for them too at the earliest.

Connecting the dots:

* Bio-plastics.

Best Answer: Deadpool.

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38. Discuss the principles of environmental impact assessment (EIA)? Also examine the need of EIA to address the 'development versus conservation' dilemma.

Approach

* **It is a two part question**
* **First discuss the concept of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)**
* **Then describe the need / benefit of EIA**

Body

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a tool that links the environment with developmental activities. It is an assessment of the impact of social development on environmental health. It is a participatory tool for informed decision making. It ensures that the development of a project is environmentally sound and sustainable. The Ministry of Environment and Forest under the Environmental Protection Act of 1986, initiated the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in 1994. It was reengineered in 2006. The core values of EIA:

* **Integrity:** it ensures that the project is in agreement with standard and good principles.
* **Utility:** a balanced approach and a credible information for decision making process
* **Sustainability:** an environmentally sound development with a regenerative capacity of the resources.

Steps Involved in the EIA Process:

* **Screening:** it takes into account whether a project requires environmental clearance as per the statutory requirements or not.

- **Scoping:** it is the preliminary assessment. It scans the Ministry's guidelines to see which significant issues are to be addressed in the EIA study.
- **Baseline Data:** it monitors the existing data and the environmental status of the area under study. It learns it and supplements it with secondary data.
- **Impact prediction:** it is the most important analysis. It involves assessment of impacts of projects.
- **Mitigation measures and EIA report:** it involves the possible alternatives and comparison of the environmental attributes.
- **Public Hearing Law:** the public has to be informed and consulted on any development after the completion of EIA report through local associations, environmental groups, etc.
- **Decision Making:** it involves the consultation between the project proponent and the impact assessment authority.
- **Monitoring as per the clearance conditions:** it has to be done during both construction and operation phases of the project.
- **Risk assessment:** it mainly involves the hazard identifications including any probability of natural hazards.

Need for Environmental Impact Assessment
- It provides a cost effective method to eliminate or minimize the adverse impact of developmental projects.
- It enables the decision makers to analyses the effect of developmental activities on the environment well before the developmental project is implemented.
- It encourages the adaptation of mitigation strategies in the developmental plan.
- It makes sure that the developmental plan is environmentally sound and within limits of the capacity of assimilation and regeneration of the ecosystem.
- Lastly, it links environment with development. The goal is to ensure environmentally safe and sustainable development.

39. The Indo-Gangetic plains witness devastating floods each year while on the other hand peninsular states suffer from severe droughts. Can interlinking of rivers address this problem? Critically examine.

Body:
The idea of interlinking of rivers in the Indian subcontinent is at least 150 years old. During the British Raj in India, Sir Arthur Cotton, a British general and irrigation engineer, first suggested linking the Ganga and the Cauvery for navigational purposes.

Why there is a need for inter-linking of rivers:
India is a land of monsoons of which the South-West Monsoon is a wet monsoon while the North-East Monsoon is a dry one. Yet the rainfall produced by them is not uniformly distributed either in space or in time which therefore leads to the occurrence of floods and droughts in different parts of the country from time to time. While floods are confined to restricted areas based on the distribution of the major river systems, droughts are only on account of rainfall failures following late onset or early withdrawal or both of the monsoons.

How interlinking of rivers can solve the problem:

- India receives maximum of its rain during monsoon season from June to September, most of it falls in northern and eastern part of India, the amount of rainfall in southern and western part are comparatively low. It will be these places which will have shortage of water. Interlinking of rivers will help these areas to have water throughout the year.
- Interlinking of rivers will also have commercial importance on a longer run. This can be used as inland waterways and which helps in faster movement of goods from one place to other.
- Interlinking creates a new occupation for people living in and around these canals and it can be the main areas of fishing in India.
- It will reduce the poverty and floods & distribute water equally.

Issues with interlinking of rivers:

- Interlinking of rivers will cause enormous amount of alteration in the existing environment. In order to create canals and reservoirs, there will be mass deforestation. This will have impact on rains and in turn affect the whole cycle of life.
- Usually rivers change their course and direction in about 100 years and if this happens after interlinking, then the project will not be feasible for a longer run.
- Due to interlinking of rivers, there will be decrease in the amount of fresh water entering seas and this will cause a serious threat to the marine life system and will be a major ecological disaster.

Conclusion:

The River Linking project is a great challenge and an opportunity to address the water issues arising out of climate change. The long-term solution to water scarcity lies in making the River Linking project work by building a network of dams and canals across the length and breadth of the country. However, interlinking has to take place after a detailed study so that it does not cause any problem to the environment and society.

Best Answer: Acharya
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40. More than history, it's the geography of India that aggravates the security challenges in the border regions. Analyse.

Approach

- Introduction: Give a small Introduction of 3-4 lines about India's border security.
- Body: In body, mention geographical factors have made it difficult to guard the borders and provide fool proof security.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction

As per Chanakya, neighboring countries can never be friends. It is true especially in perspective of India. So, proper arrangements have to be made to guard its borders from any untoward incidents but due to geographical locations it is causing challenges.

Body

How more than History, geography is a challenge in border security:

India-Pakistan:
- Sir creek: Change in course over years.
- Desert.
- POK.

India-China:
- Himalayas.
- Rugged terrain.
- Ladakh and Aksai Chin: Border posts, no proper demarcation through fencing due to difficulties.
- Weather due to elevation.

India-Bangladesh:
- River flow: Changing level depending on seasons.
- Deltas and wetlands: Sundarbans.
- Water bodies.

India-Myanmar:
- Rugged mountains:
- Inaccessible remote places.
- Cultural relations between tribes.
- Ever-green forest Covers.

India-Nepal:
- Open borders.
- River flows.
- Mighty Himalayas.
- Socio-cultural links.

India-Bhutan:
- Open borders.
- River flow.
- Assam Himalayas.

Measures:
- Laser fencing.
- Satellite.

- Radar technology.
- Heat signature technology.
- Drones.
- Local population help.

Note: Explanation is needed for all points. 8-10 points are enough.

Conclusion
Along with geographical and Historical reasons, with growth in competition and power struggle the challenges in border management have increased manifolds. So, human and cultural connections have to be increase to de-escalate the matter or it might lead to serious issues in near future.

Best Answer: Maximus.

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41. Illegal arms trade, inflow of counterfeit currency and influx of illegal migrants through India's porous boundaries pose grave security challenges to the hinterland. Illustrate.

Approach
- The keyword here is illustration – so use multiple examples
- Use figures to make your answer stand out more (not drawn in the synopsis, but you should)

Body
A hostile neighbourhood combined with porous borders pose many internal security concerns in terms of illegal arms trade, counterfeit currency and influx of illegal migrants. These are illustrated as follows:

Illegal Arms Trade
The Intelligence Bureau reports that the **Indo-China and Indo-Myanmar** border is used by China to provide illegal arms to insurgent groups in North-East India and even Naxalite areas deep in the hinterland. Similar problem is faced in the **Kashmir Valley** where Pakistan trained and operated militant cross over the border with arms supply to carry out terrorist attacks such as the recent ones in Uri and Pathankot army base.

Counterfeit Currency
Fake currency poses a serious threat not only to the national economy, but is also serious internal security concern. Fake currency is used to fund terrorist activities in the country. **India-Nepal border** being an open border is highly vulnerable to the passage of counterfeit currency. Furthermore, the sea trade lines between the western side and the

'underworld' network based out of the Middle-East are also susceptible to illegal trade and transfer of fake currencies.

Illegal Migration

Illegal migration from countries like **Bangladesh** has caused serious ethnic clashes in the north-eastern states of Assam, Tripura, and Manipur etc. There are also reports of radicalized elements crossing over giving rise to threats of terrorist attacks. The recent case of illegal Rohingya migrants in India is a case in point. Illegal migration from Nepal is a major cause for human trafficking and prostitution in India.

Conclusion / Way Forward

A robust internal security framework is critical for India's rapid economic development. In this regard there is a need for a comprehensive policy which integrates various threat elements (as discussed above) and creates measures and mechanisms which are multidimensional, leveraging the latest technology and innovation.

Best Answer: Nidhi

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42. Terrorist organisations and organised crime cartels have not only appropriated each other's methodologies but have also developed a symbiotic relationship. Do you agree? Illustrate.

Body:

Many observers hold that terrorist groups and transnational criminal networks share many of the same characteristics, methods and tactics. There are many examples cited to demonstrate these observations are not coincidental, but indicative of a trend: a trend that is a growing threat to the security interests of many nations. The dual terrorist and organized crime designations demonstrate that a symbiosis is developing between organized crime and terrorist organizations. The link has been observed around the world.

Changing scenarios post 9/11:

Decreasing state sponsorship for terrorism in the post-9/11 environment has pressed terrorist groups to find alternative sources of financial support. Some groups have formed their own "in-house" criminal capabilities, for example FARC, the LTTE, and Al Qaeda. Several political analyst have argued that this "mutation" in organizational form may lead terrorist groups to ally with organized crime cartels, whereas others have suggested that distinct organizational and ideological differences between the two will prohibit cooperation.

What is terrorism: Terrorism is an act that appears to be intended to terrorise or force a civilian population to influence policy of a government by extortion or to affect the conduct of the government by assassination or abduction.

What is organized crime cartels: Organized crime cartels is described as any group having a corporate structure whose main aim is to obtain money through unlawful activities often surviving on fear and corruption.

We can see this nexus between terrorism and organized crime through many examples from all around the world:

- We can see from the Pakistani Taliban, as they have engaged in a variety of local criminal activities such as extortion, kidnapping and trafficking in cigarettes to finance their activities including terror.
- Sharfuddin Memon, director of a Karachi citizens' crime watch group, described the motivations behind this activity: "The world thinks this is about religion, but that's a mistake. It's about money and power. Faith has nothing to do with it."
- In Italy, Prosecutor Luigi Orsi acknowledged that after September 11, a number of high-profile cases against Arab businessmen and Islamic charities faded after initial fanfare.
- In the U.S., police authorities have observed for years how local crime has helped finance terrorist activities. For example, both the 1993 attack on the World Trade Center and the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City were financed in part by local crime.

Conclusion:

The Union of organized crime and terrorism is major threat for international security and harmony. These crimes are increasing at rapid rate. It can be concluded from reviewing most important facts of these crimes that Organized crime is a rising as international phenomenon and, as it intersects with terrorism, an increasingly dangerous force.

Best Answer: gargantuan
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43. Discuss the mandate of the National Investigation Agency (NIA). What are the impediments in its effective functioning? How can those be addressed? Discuss.

- Introduction: Define what NIA is and how it was formed.
- Body: In body, mention mandates in the first part. Then mention the impediments and how to address them.
- Conclusion: 2-3 line conclusion.

Introduction

After 26/11 Mumbai attack, government of India enacted NIA act on 31st December 2008 which gave birth to national Investigation agency which is presently functioning as premier central counter terrorism law enforcement agency in India.

Body

Mandates:

- In-depth professional investigation of scheduled offences using the latest scientific methods of investigation and setting up such standards as to ensure that all cases entrusted to the NIA are detected.
- Ensuring effective and speedy trial.
- Developing into a thoroughly professional, result oriented organization, upholding the constitution of India and Laws of the Land giving prime importance to the protection of Human Rights and dignity of the individual.
- Developing a professional work force through regular training and exposure to the best practices and procedures.
- Displaying scientific temper and progressive spirit while discharging the duties assigned.
- Inducting modern methods and latest technology in every sphere of activities of the agency.
- Maintaining professional and cordial relations with the governments of States and Union Territories and other law enforcement agencies in compliance of the legal provisions of the NIA Act.
- Assist all States and other investigating agencies in investigation of terrorist cases.
- Build a data base on all terrorist related information and share the data base available with the States and other agencies.
- Study and analyze laws relating to terrorism in other countries and regularly evaluate the adequacy of existing laws in India and propose changes as and when necessary.
- To win the confidence of the citizens of India through selfless and fearless endeavors.

Impediments:

- Human resource: The personnel are taken from IPS, IRS, Central armed police force etc. on deputation and do not have their own personals.
- Finance: Depends on Budgetary allocation without sufficient funds.
- Technology: Lack of advanced technology to tackle.
- Expertise: Lack of experts and specialists.
- Federal spirit: Law and Order is state subject and it is accused as encroaching on state subject.

How to address these issues:

- Recruitment: Direct recruitment.
- Budget: Increases allocation or maybe charged on consolidated fund.
- Lists: Separate lists on issues which directly come under them than taking over from state police or central order.
- Training: Special training and international exposure.

Note: The above mandates are taken from NIA website. Go through this and in exam even if 4-5 is produced it is enough. In total 10-12 points are needed for whole answer.

Conclusion

After 26/11, there has not been any incident except small attacks in Kashmir region. But government should not wait for another attack to empower the NIA. Rather steps should be taken to provide them with adequate resource in all sphere and make them competent enough on line of western countries.

Best Answer: Maximus.

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44. What is NATGRID? How can it be developed as an effective tool to strengthen India's intelligence apparatus? Discuss.

Approach

- It is a two part question
- In the introduction discuss how the idea of NATGRID came up and then discuss its main provisions
- After that, mention how it strengthen India's intelligence network
- Even though not asked, do discuss some of the related concerns (see extra)

Body

The National Investigation of India had found intelligence failure as one of the prime reason behind the 26/11 attacks in Mumbai 2008. This attack exposed several weaknesses of Indian intelligence gathering and action networks. Therefore, in the aftermath, the idea of NATGRID was proposed.

The **National Intelligence Grid** or **NATGRID** is the integrated intelligence grid connecting databases of core security agencies of the Government of India. It collects comprehensive patterns of intelligence that can be readily accessed by intelligence agencies.

Role of NATGRID

It is a counter terrorism measure involved in collecting and collating a host of information from government databases including credit card transactions, tax details, bank account details, visa, immigration records and itineraries of air and rail travel.

The combined data shall be accessible by the central agencies namely the Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence, Central Board of Excise and Customs, Narcotics Control Bureau, Enforcement Directorate, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence , Central Board of Direct Taxes, Financial intelligence unit, Central Bureau of Investigation, the Intelligence Bureau and the Research and Analysis Wing.

How it is different?

Unlike the central organizations like NCTC and the NIA, the NATGRID is necessarily a tool that enables security agencies to detect and collect relevant information on terror suspects

from database pooled from various different organizations and services in the country. It will help in identification, capture and prosecution of terrorists and help preempt terrorist plots.

NATGRID also helps the police and the Intelligence Bureau keep a tab on persons with suspicious backgrounds. The police would have access to all the data related to that person and any movement by this person would also be tracked with the help of the data base. A pattern search and recognition system helps in reducing human rights violations while extracting information.

Extra: Concerns Related to NATGRID
- There is fear of violation of individual privacy and misuse of information by enforcement agencies. For e.g. WikiLeaks revealed misuse by state agencies in the US
- **Against federalism** – state agencies such as the police have been kept out of the loop
- **Data Protection** – the capability to protect such as massive repository of data is being questioned itself.

45. Examine the role played by paramilitary forces in India's internal security. What reforms can be introduced to make their functioning more coordinated and effective? Discuss.

Body:

Paramilitary forces and internal security: India has undertaken one of the fastest expansions of paramilitary internal security forces in the world. However estimates vary, India's paramilitary strength is widely believed to be over 1 million, representing some 50 percent of the country's total armed forces, making India's the second-largest paramilitary force in the world, which helps India to maintain peace from internal and external threat.

The role played by paramilitary forces in India's internal security:
All armed forces have both domestic and international responsibilities and it plays a major role in the internal security, as we have witnessed many times. Especially paramilitary forces have played a PARAMOUNT ROLE in upholding peace and stability in India post-independence, from political problems, destabilization, terrorism, communal riots, Maoism to internal disturbances.

Problems faced by paramilitary forces:
- Unregulated expansion,
- Infrastructural deficiencies,
- Shortages of transport and arms and ammunition,
- Poor personnel management,
- Ineffective coordination between the state police and the CAPF leadership,
- Absence of a robust in-house grievance redressal mechanism,
- Lack of promotional prospects for the constabulary and the direct recruit officers,

- The structural and psychological disconnect between the cutting edge constabulary and
- The ones who are at the top of the pyramid, inordinate delays in procurement of combat-ready equipment and inadequate medical facilities.

These problems need to be addressed for better functioning of paramilitary forces in India and its internal security, by addressing these problems we can make paramilitary forces functioning more effective and coordination can be improved by many folds.

Reforms needed to make their functioning more coordinated and effective:
- Better coordination among intelligence agency with security agencies, by using the technology and also access to NATGRID can be handy for coordination.
- Equip CRPF modern weaponry and training and cutting edge technology for intelligence.
- Increase recruitment of local tribals and local citizens in state police service, as it has helped CRPF's to combat Maoism in the internal parts of the red-corridor.
- Deploy more women officers in Maoist hit areas, as they will deal with more humane manner and it leads to less human rights violation cases on government as well as it will enhance the coordination with the locals.
- When forces are operating in the same situations like Jammu and Kashmir, they should be given same pay on the lines of army and also they should be provided allowances and perks on the lines of army like canteen facilities etc., which government has already done this.
- More common platforms of operation between state police and forces to operate as one and together need to be created.
- Exchange of intelligence and resources between the police and forces need to be made more seamless and quick.
- It is too important a responsibility to be left to the IPS alone, government should give equal importance to paramilitary officers to hold higher position, for better understanding their problems and to produce solutions for the same.

Conclusion:
While these reforms should be brought to make the paramilitary forces achieve their full potential, it is to be noted that our law makers' envisioned only a transitory role for the paramilitary forces and ultimately, the state police have to be strengthened and trained and their capabilities improved to uphold total peace in the hinterland of the country.

Best Answer: jayantii

https://iasbaba.com/2018/02/3-examine-role-played-paramilitary-forces-indias-internal-security-reforms-can-introduced-make-functioning-coordinated-effective-discuss/