

NEXT IAS

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(To be filled by candidate)

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Roll No. : PTP220308

Registration Number : _____ Date of Examination : 28/07/23

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☐ Bhopal ☐ Online ☒

Test - 2

Code : TC072

MTS IGP Batch 2023

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This Question-cum Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 56 pages. Immediately on receipt of the booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.

Candidates must read the instructions on this page and the following pages carefully before attempting the paper.

Candidates should attempt the questions strictly in accordance with the instructions specified in the question paper and in the space prescribed under each question in the booklet. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.

Question paper will be provided separately and can be taken by the candidates after conclusion of the exam.

SUBJECT/PAPER
GENERAL STUDIES

Invigilator's Sign. : _____

(For filling by Examiners only)

Evaluator Code :

Q.No	Pg No.	Maximum Marks	Marks	Total
1	1			
2	3			
3	5			
4	7			
5	9			
6	11			
7	13			
8	15			
9	17			
10	19			
11	21			
12	24			
13	27			
14	30			
15	33			
16	36			
17	39			
18	42			
19	45			
20	48			
Grand Total				

Signature

MACRO COMMENTS



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1)

Windfall tax are the extra taxes that are imposed on the profit of the company which surge due to unexpected global or domestic condition.

Eg:- Price on crude oil prices after Russian-Ukraine war

Importance of windfall tax

- Provide alternate source of revenue to the government
- Curb the rising inequality in the society
 - ↳ As fund can be utilized for socio-economic welfare of the citizen.
- Help in redistribution of wealth from the corporates to the stakeholders of the country.

Other measures Required to promote moderate wealth and greater economic equality

- 1.) Imposition of wealth tax on transfer of inheritance property.
- 2.) Promotion of health, education and infrastructural development in the nation.
- 3.) Imposition of progressive taxation system where high salaried / income will pay more.
- 4.) Strengthening of digital public infrastructure for better and equitable development.

Elimination of Inequality (Gini Coefficient > 0.8) is a moral responsibility and essential for fulfilling SDGs:
Reduced inequalities.

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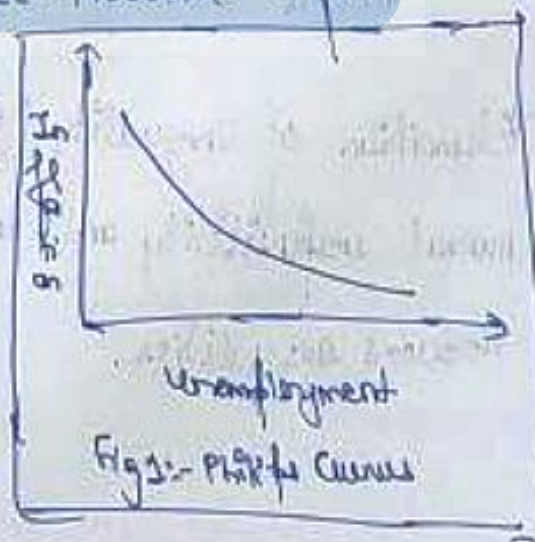
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2) Monetary Policy Committee is a 6 member committee constituted under the RBI Act, 1934 to decide the policy repo rate and future trends to guide the country in controlling and managing inflation.

→ MPC decide the Repo rate (rate at which it lend money to bank) on the Consumer Price Index - All India Average (CPI - AI)

Success of Inflation targeting

1) Based on the Philips curve, moderate inflation is necessary for ensuring economic activities and generate employment opportunities.



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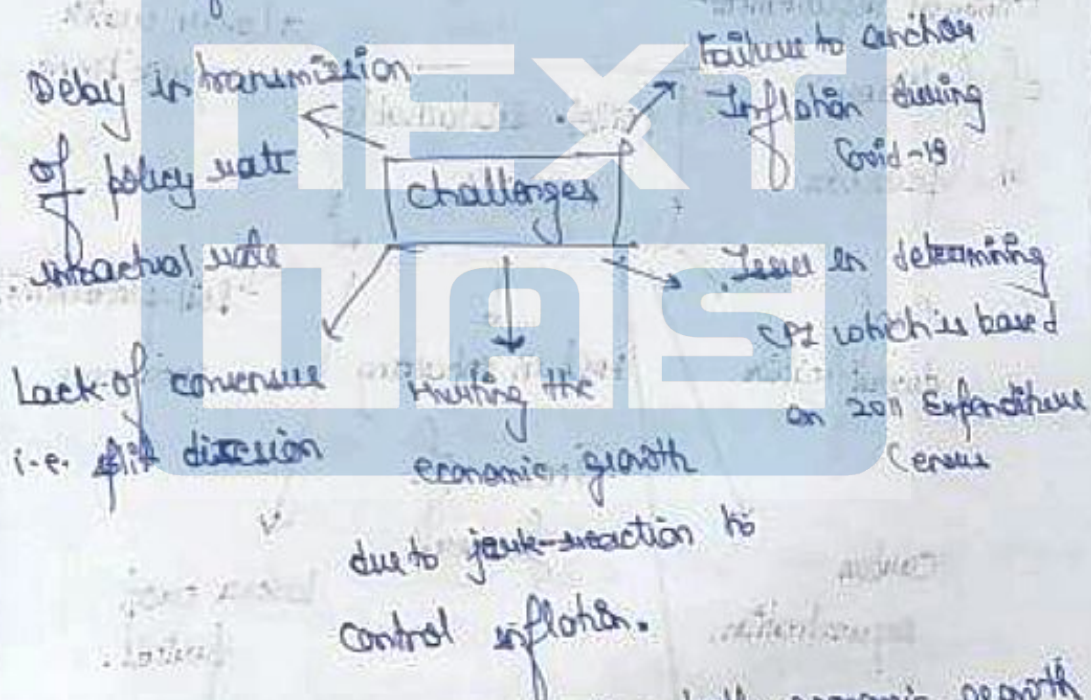
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2) It help in better targeting of credit rate.

→ As bank pegged their loans at repo rate.

3) India Economic growth is continuously one of the highest in the world.

4) Inflation remain moderated within the limit of 4.2% for maximum time.



RBI and its MPC are ensuring both economic growth and inflation control. But it requires more robustness and transparency in its function.

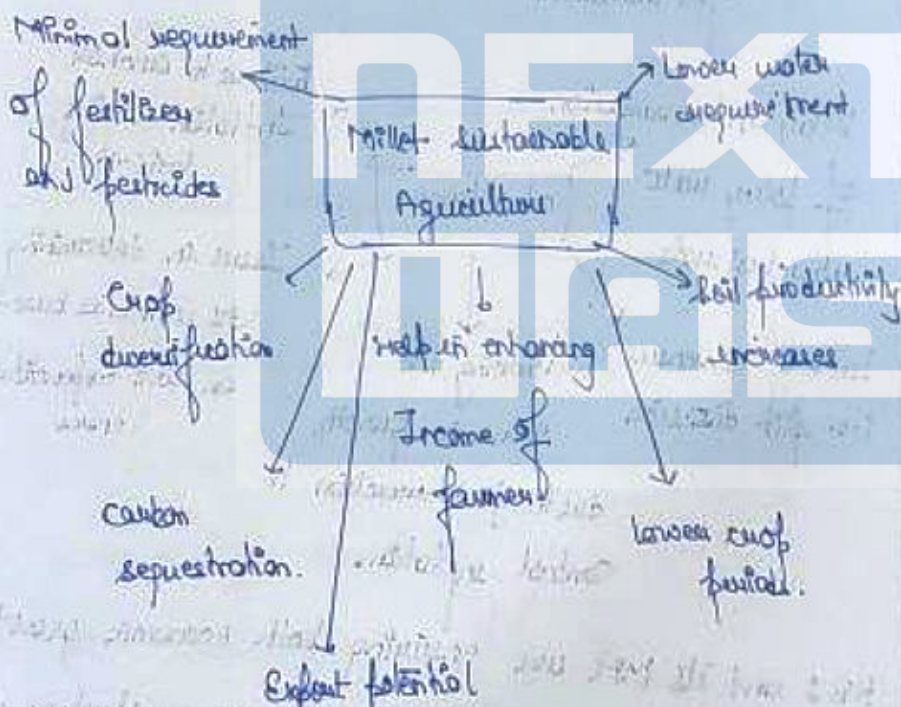
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- 3) Millets are defined as the small grasses that are rich in nutrient and can be used for human consumption and as a fodder for livestock.

Eg:- Bajra etc.



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Millet - Improving food security

- 1) Increasing availability of multiple grains within the country itself.
- 2) Reducing reliance on traditional crop - Rice and wheat.
- 3) They are available at lower cost thus can be affordable by poor.
- 4) They are rich in fibres - Nutritional security.
- 5) Help in reducing various ailments like diabetes etc.

Millet are known as the "Miracle crop" or "crop of the future".

They can act as a vital cog in agricultural sustainability provided with better policies, farmer incentives and market linkages.

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4.) Jal Jeevan Mission is the flagship central sponsored scheme to ensure availability of 55 L per day of water with functional tap connection to every household.

It is implemented by

JJM-Rural by Ministry of Rural development ;

JJM-Urban :- Ministry of housing and Urban affairs

Significance of JJM

- 1.) Ensure availability of clean, drinkable water to households.
- 2.) Reduces the health mortality due to water related diseases.
- 3.) Women empowerment :- >25% of the rural women and girls spent 50 minutes a day in fetching water.
- 4.) Reduces regional disparity by ensuring homogeneous development.

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Impediments in achieving JFM objectives

- 1) Laying of extensive pipelines and connecting it with various household.
- 2) Involvement of multiple departments at various centre and state.
↳ Jal board, municipality, Panchayat etc.
- 3) Ensuring operationalization and continuous usage of water tap.
- 4) Quality of water to be supplied.
- 5) ~~Focus on~~ ^{Focus on} ~~major~~ ^{major} allocation of fund.

Way forward

- ↳ Focusing on integrated water management
- ↳ Involvement of community leaders and member
- ↳ Regular social audit of the scheme.

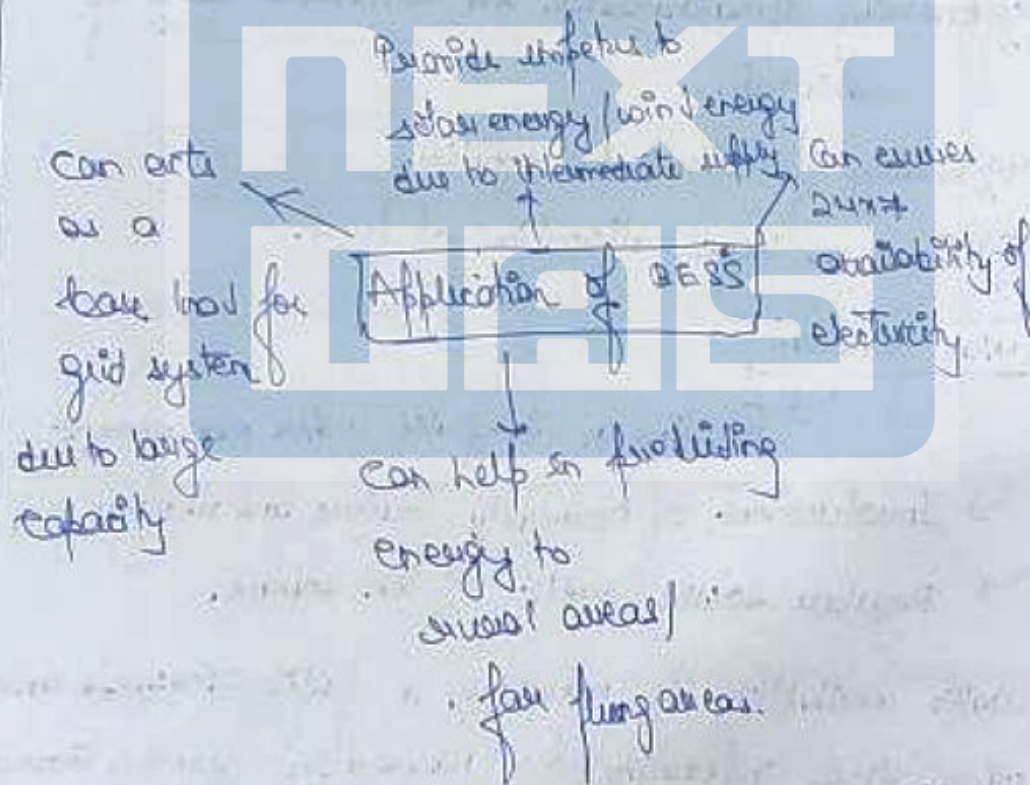
Water availability is necessary to fulfil SDGs 2, 6 and others. It is imperative for homogenous growth. Focusing on Rainwater harvesting, efficiency in water can aid in achieving its objectives.

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5) Battery Energy storage system means a massive and interconnected battery framework which can store excessive energy during production and can release it during shortage of energy.
eg:- Li-ion batteries used in mobiles.

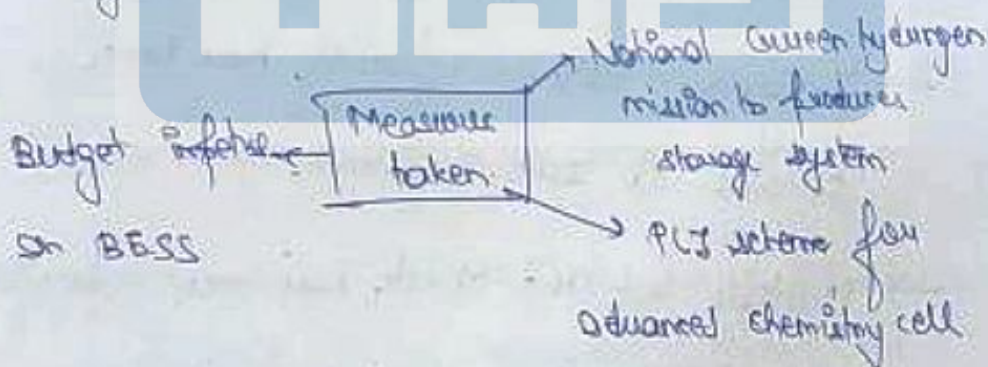


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BESS:- Revolutionize the Energy Storage

- Provide fuel to the India renewable energy sector
- Strengthening of its adoption will lead to reduction in cost of renewable electricity.
- R&D sector will be boosted
- Energy security can be ensured
- Essential for interconnected international grid system under SDG.



BESS can help in fulfilling India commitment under Paris goal to generate >500GW of renewable energy and making India self-reliant in energy security.

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2

Gaganyaan Mission is a futuristic mission of ISRO to launch a 5 day human spacecraft in earth lowest orbit and enhancing capability of ISRO research and development.

Developments in the Gaganyaan Mission

- India is ready for the plan in later 2024
- Orbital and module of the spacecraft are in final stage.
- Selection of astronaut has been done and their training in France and Russia was completed.
- Indigenous testing facility has been created @ ISRO, Bengaluru.
- Multiple test and check has been performed and design of spacecraft is final.

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this marginChallenges in the Gaganyaan mission.

- 1) Lack of indigenous capability in doing human led spacecrafts.
- 2) Multiple disruption due to Covid-19, Russia-Ukraine war.
- 3) Testing facilities are taking time to get set up.

Possible benefits

- 1) Better understanding of micro-gravity.
- 2) It will act as a precursor to the India space station.
- 3) Providing indigenous capability to experiment with human presence in lower earth orbit.

Gaganyaan mission will strengthen space capabilities, open new frontiers of the ISRO and will boost the market in space.

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7)

Green hydrogen are those hydrogen which are produced by electrolysis of water with the help of sustainable energy (like solar, wind) etc.

Green hydrogen is silver bullet for climate change and pollution

→ Reduces the consumption of fossil fuel
↳ Less air pollution

↳ Less mining - water usage ↓

→ No release of harmful gases during the burning of hydrogen.

↳ Reduce emission of NO_x , SO_x , CH_4

↳ No air pollution.

→ Transition toward renewable energy

↳ Currently 100% of India hydrogen produced from fossil fuel but green hydrogen will reduce its usage.

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Issue with Green hydrogen

- 1) Large number of e-waste, energy consumption during the production of ~~energy~~ components.
- 2) Lack of adequate storage facilities, new infrastructure needed to be create.

India's National Green hydrogen mission.

- 1) Production of ~~summit~~ green hydrogen by 2030.
- 2) Acting as a net exporter of green hydrogen.
- 3) Focusing on R&D, electrolyser production in India.

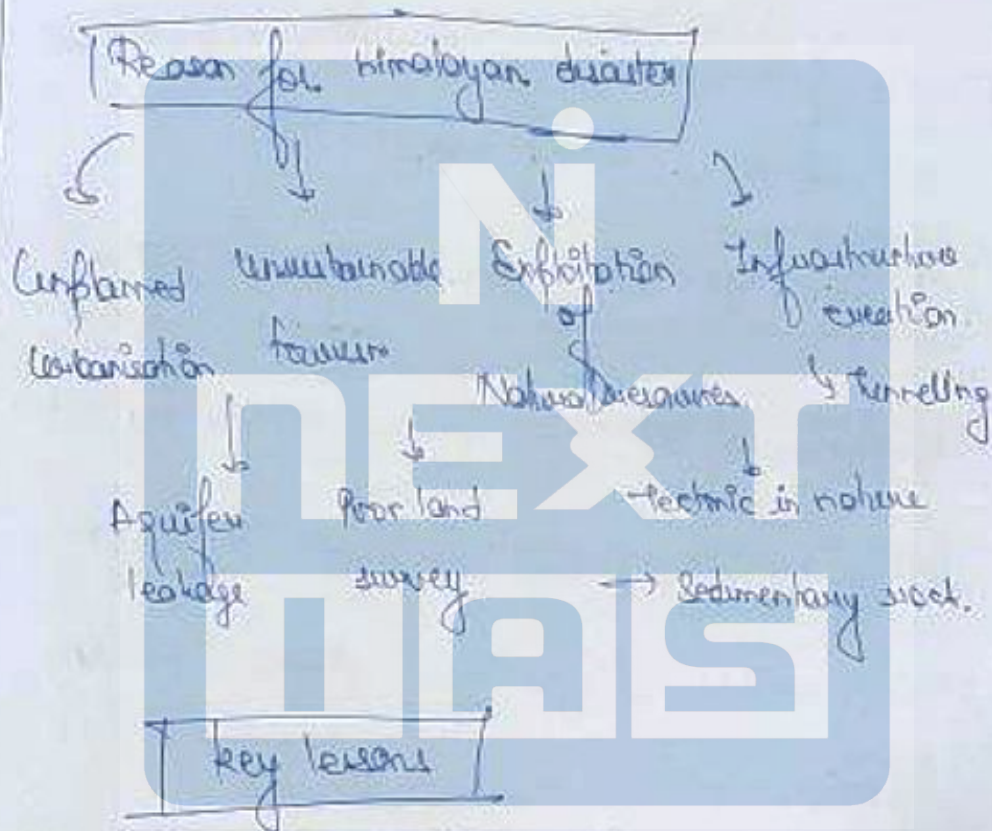
Green hydrogen can act as a ~~change~~ gamechanger in India's renewable energy sector, widely decarbonizing the transportation sector and helping achieving net neutrality by 2070.

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- 2) The recent land subsidence in Jammu, Uttarakhand shows the fragility of Himalayan ecosystem and the associated disaster with it.



Disaster Management

- 1) Preparation of local volunteer who can help in crisis.
- 2) Focus on climate smart infrastructure creation which can mitigate disaster impact.

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3) Quick mitigation with response to disaster
are necessary to save life.

Environmental Conservation

- Focus on sustainable tourism by limited number of tourist.
- Planned urbanisation with proper mapping of natural resources.
- Focus on conservation of natural ecosystem, promoting afforestation activities.
- Use of local available material for construction to improve resilience.

Young mountains are fragile in nature, focus on sustainability should be the goal for preserving nature with development of infrastructure.

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- 3.) The resurgence of Khalistan issue and radicalisation, fundamentalism spreading by movements shows the fragile security condition in Punjab and deteriorating law & order situation.

Recent Development in Punjab and outside

- 1) Use of holy scriptures for personal gains.
- 2) Use of arms and ammunition in public rally.
- 3) Spreading of false news through online media.
- 4) Outside influence by developing toolkit.
- 5) Taking control over religious institution.
- 6) International support in the form of money and material.

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1.) International :- Landoisation at Indian Embassy in USA, Canada and UK by Bio-khalistani supporters.

Measures to tackle it

- 1.) Tackling of fake news, hate speech by strengthening cyber security cell.
- 2.) Generation of awareness among youth regarding the false propaganda.
- 3.) Attraction measures like employment opportunities for disarmed youth.
- 4.) International Collaboration to curb spreading of Bio-khalistani measures.
- 5.) Community reach programmes.

Radicalisation of youth is a serious threat to the sovereignty of the nation. Strong action needs to be taken to curb such issue.

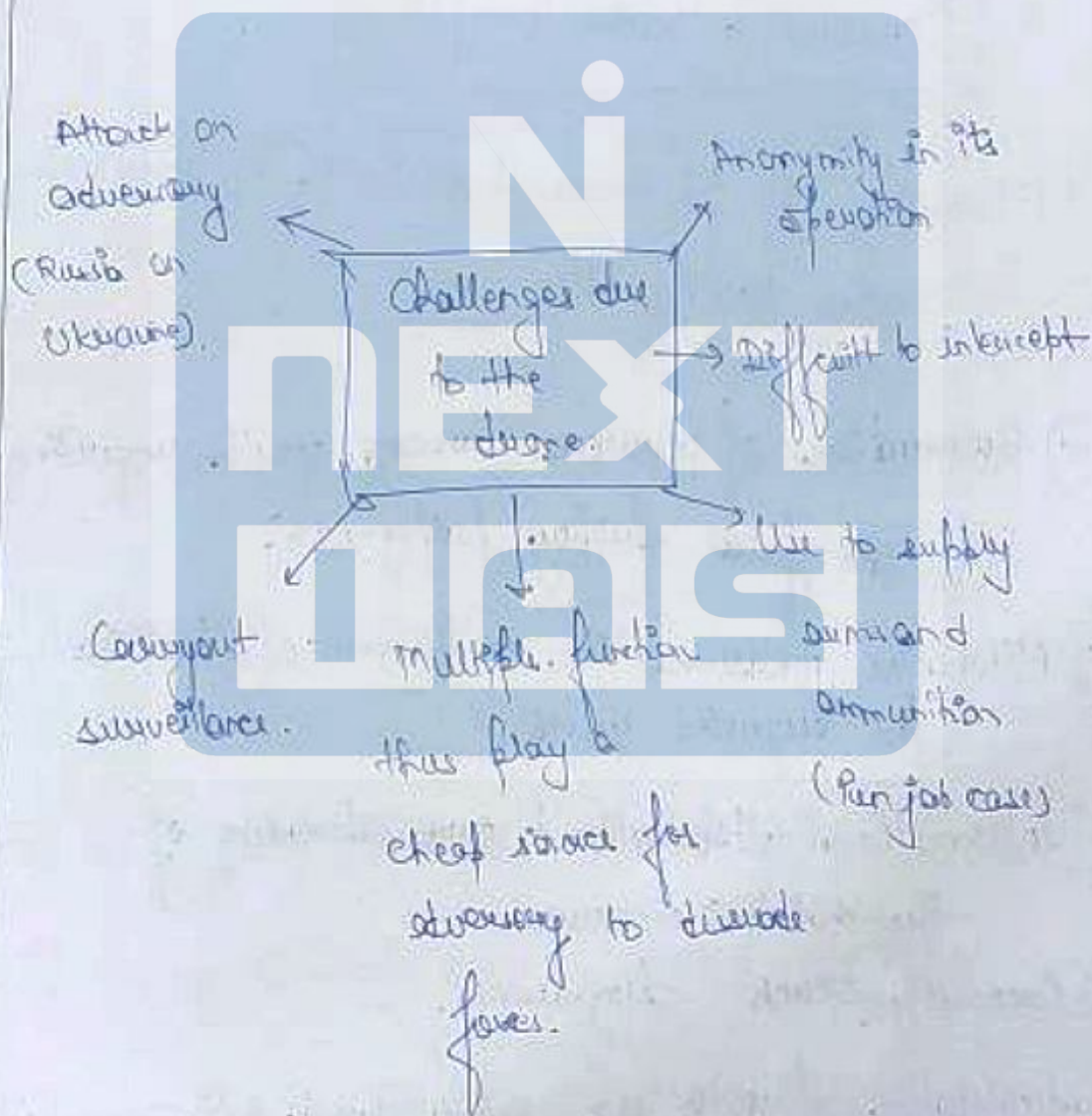
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b.)

Drones are the flying objects which are operated by a far distance remote control and can be used to supply material, carryout surveillance etc.



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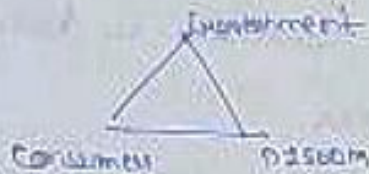
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Measures

- 1) Hard kill approach :- To destroy the Drone (Drono Lokshya)
- 2) Soft kill approach :- To intercept and jamming the signal.
- 3) To strengthen the capability of radar to detect low-flying object.
- 4) Developing Anti-drone guns.
- 5) Involvement of local community during drone operation.

Drones can act a new weapon during warfare. It is required to developed both offensive and defensive approach to tackle drone related security menace.

- 11) Electricity Amendment Bill, 2022 is ensuring that all the stakeholders gets adequate share of benefits with boosting of electricity production and its reach.



Advantages for Consumer

- 1) Empowering power increased :- Now consumer can switch to different supplier as per their requirement.
- 2) Better quality :- It will ensure 24x7 supply of electricity to consumer.
- 3) Better management of electricity consumption :-
As emphasis on giving use of renewable energy.

Advantages to DISCOMS

- 1) Private sector participation thus bring efficiency in operation, brings capital infusion, newer technology

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and enhance focus on R&D.

- 2) Reduce monopoly of state government led DISCOMs thus curbing losses of them.
- 3) Subsidy regime to be uniform thus no discrimination between government and private entities.

Advantages for Environment

- 1) Enhanced focus on production of energy from sustainable sources.
- 2) Bring better efficiency in consumption as subsidies water can be rationalised.

Showering of the art

- 1) No measures for strengthening the viability of state DISCOMs.
- 2) Private sector will look for lucrative market thus leaving the unviable segment for state DISCOMs.
- 3) Delay in subsidy to bank accounts and large

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number of individual don't have bank account.

4) Lack of proper regulatory measures to solve any dispute between entities.

Reform required

1) Surplus of zones :- A profit area can be clubbed with loss making area to enhance viability.

2) Strengthening of allied infrastructure :- Grids, networking, human resources efficiency.

3) Subsidies to poor households need to be continues to reduces burden on them.

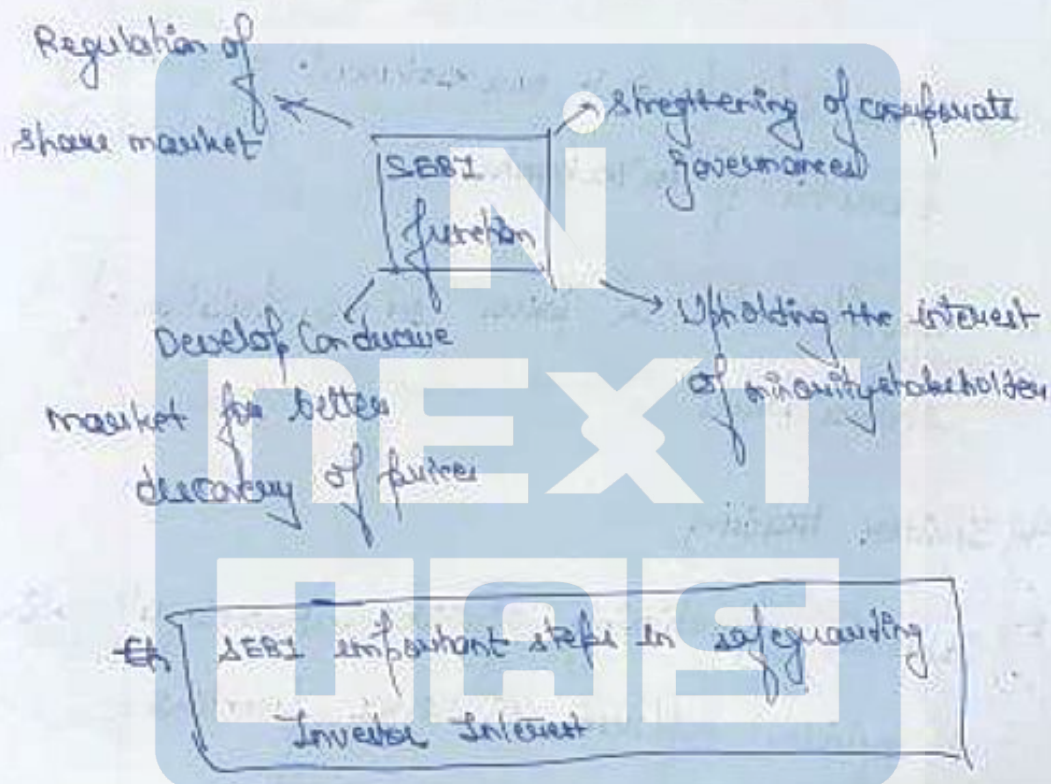
Electricity amendment bill 2022 is a slight steps to

revolutionize electricity distribution and reducing monopoly of states's DISCOM while upholding the interest of consumer supreme.

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12) Securities and Exchange board of India is a statutory body which is established to act as a regulator of Indian share market.



- 1) Dematerialization of shares - Digital copies only.
- 2) T+1 settlement :- To ensure availability of liquidity
- 3) Reducing fund and deeping of its roots :- 25 million Indian are investing in mutual funds.

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Challenges faced by the SEBI

- 1) Rising instances of failure of corporate governance
↳ IFS, Adani-incidents.
- 2) Misuse of funds:- Embezzlement of fund by promoters of NBFCs.
- 3) High fluctuation in prices or manipulation of share prices
- 4) Insider trading
- 5) Issue in functioning of SEBI:- Recent allegation of outsider influence in SEBI functioning.
- 6) Lack of adequate manpower.

Reform required

- 1) Strengthening of human power and human skill employed by SEBI.

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- 2) Strengthening of clause related to better and detailed disclosure to reduce fraud allegation.
- 3) Improving of corporate governance by bringing people from diverse sector
- 4) Fixing of accountability of independent director and their responsibility towards stakeholders.
- 5) Strengthening of its surveillance to reduce incident of data leakage, insider trading etc.

SEBI is mandating to ensure regulatory-based share market, to provide space for IPO and investor to investment. It has done commendable job in last 30 years to maintain integrity of Indian market.

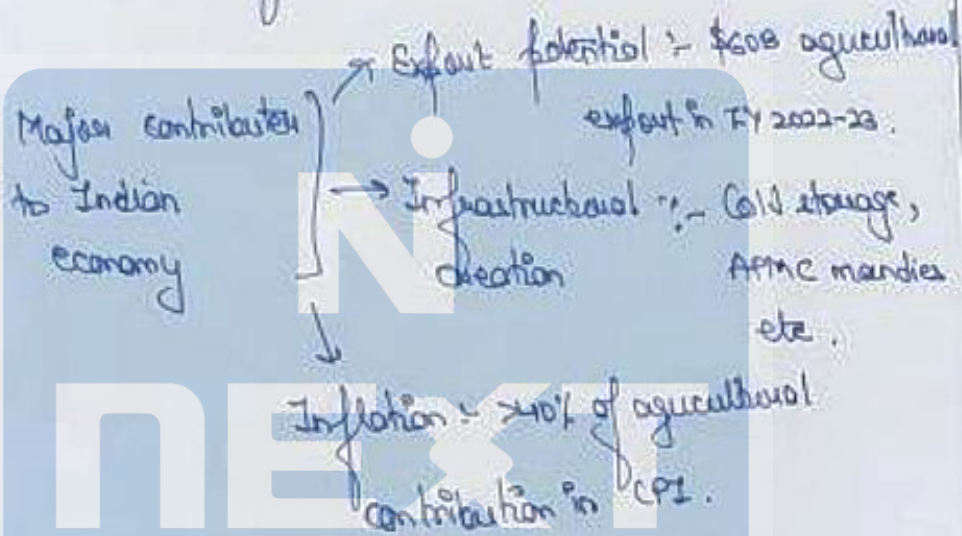
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13)

Agricultural sector contributes to 16-18% of the India GDP and employed 45% of the labour workforce.



Agricultural Sector :- Constraints

- 1) Lack of availability of adequate credit.
 - ↳ 20% of Agricultural farmer depends on non-institutional lending.
- 2) Poor Agricultural extension services.
- 3) Lower R&D expenditure on agricultural sector.

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4) Small landholding :- >85% of farmers are small and marginal in nature (Agriculture 2015-16)

5) Feminization of Agriculture :- 71% of female are employed in agriculture (AFS-2019-20)

6) Higher cost of machinery

7) Infrastructure lagging :- 40% of the fruits and 30% of the vegetables becomes wastes due to non-availability of cold storage.

8) Global cycle :- Cyclicity of Inflation dampens the prosperity of farmers.

Role of Technology

1) Small scale machines :- Eg:- Happy Seeder can help in removing straw easily.

2) Drones :- Can be used to monitor the soil and crop.

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- 3) Satellites :- Can provide input & regarding precipitation, sunshine etc.
- 4) Artificial Intelligence :- Can predict the pest attack based on past data.
- 5) Biotechnology :- Help in improving yield of crop
Eg:- GM-Cotton.
- 6) Nanotechnology :- Reduces the consumption of inputs.
Eg:- Nanolurea of IFFCO.
- 7) Robotics :- Can be used for spraying seeds, monitoring of crops.
- 8) Internet technology :- Access to better market condition, strengthen agricultural extension services.

Adopting of technology with agriculture can help in solving persistent slow growth of agriculture but required to ensure its availability to all.

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24)

Irrigation is the process of application of water to the field soil for ensuring adequate growth of agricultural crop.

Impact of Agriculture on:-

1) Environment

- ↳ Water pollution due to flooding of excessive water.
- ↳ Soil pollution due to leaching of heavy minerals.
 - ↳ salt pan formation in Punjab and Haryana.
- ↳ Depletion of ground water level.
 - ↳ >63% Decline in GWT in Punjab during 2005-16
- ↳ Dampening of temperature
 - ↳ Providing breeding ground for diseases.

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2) Natural resources

↳ Exploitation of water

↳ 25% of the global GWT is exploited by India and Agriculture contribute to 80% of it.

↳ Decreasing productivity of the soil

↳ Splash Erosion, sheet Erosion.

Measures to ensure the sustainability of Irrigation practices

1) Focus on less water guzzling crop like millets

2) Shifting toward better machines and ways.

↳ Drip irrigation consume 40% less water than conventional irrigation

3) Promotion of HYV seeds with R&D to reduce water.

4) Practices like System of Rice Intensification, Direct Seeded Rice will reduce requirement.

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To ensure equity in irrigation

- 1) Provide subsidy to lower down the price of irrigation practices
→ Micro-irrigation fund
- 2) Provide facilities to ensure availability of water.
→ PM-KISAN for solar powered well

Way forward

- Generation of awareness
- Integrated water management with one water approach
- R&D to reduce water requirement

Government steps like Soil Health Card, PM-Peudap
famine crop can act as better step to make agricultural
sector sustainable and water efficient.

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15)

Dr. Homi Jahangir Bhabha and Dr. Vikram Sarabhai
are the gem of India atomic and space frontier
and laid the foundation stone of AEC, Mumbai and
ISRO, Bengaluru respectively

Contribution of

Dr. Homi Jahangir Bhabha

- 1) Institutionalize the three
stage India atomic plan
to make India self-reliant
and energy security in long



term.

- 2) Started the ~~the~~ Atomic research centre @ Mumbai
- 3) Act as a advisor to the government of India
in all related to atomic energy
- 4) Strengthening the use of India's available
Thorium, monazite (Kerala beach) in atomic program

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Dr. Vikram Sarabhai

- 1) Started the institution of Indian space research organization.
- 2) Instrumental in India 1st space satellite Aryabhata.
- 3) Nurture the young scientist and develop positive work culture.
Eg:- A.R.J. Abdul Kalam work under his supervision.
- 4) Leadership skills displayed during his tenure.
- 5) Instrumental in creating long term vision for space activities.

The Contribution of Vikram Sarabhai and Dr. Homi Jethangra Bhabha led to current India a major power in both space based activities and nuclear energy respectively.

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16) Generative AI is defined as the potential of the software to generate creative videos, audios, music, data sets based on the existing big data.

Eg:- Chat GPT 2.0

Generative AI

1) Potential

- ↳ Bringing creativity in pictures, music.
- ↳ Generation of better data for judicial cases.
 - ↳ Reducing burden on judiciary.
- ↳ Help in creating the missing part of album.
- ↳ Can be useful tool for social services.
 - ↳ Education - Modelling, creative arts
 - ↳ Health - 3D - Views, Hand on experience.

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- Can revolutionize the supply chain infrastructure.
- Can provide better insight and 360° assistance during loan sanction.
- Agricultural productivity - Real time surveillance, disease attack etc.

Challenges

- 1) Proliferation of files, research papers.
- 2) Violation of IPR regime or use of voices of singers.
- 3) Difficult to fix accountability in case of spreading of fake news.
- 4) Racial profiling as it is based on big data.
- 5) Student creativity and mental capabilities will be reduced - Instances of use of ChatGPT for homework.

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G 6) Loss of employment at entry level, low skill level.

7) Violation of privacy of individuals.

Measures Required

- 1) Digital media code of ethics should excludes AI.
- 2) Shifting from Ex-post regulation to Ex-Ante regulation.
- 3) Generation of awareness among citizens.
- 4) Providing guidelines for its use and its operation.

Global community is required to act together to ensure restrictive use of generative AI for the well being of human society.

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14)

COP27, 2022 concluded in Egypt has adopted "Mangrove Alliance for Climate" to highlight the ^{of environment} importance of mangrove in conservation and tackling of climate change.

Purpose of "Mangrove Alliance for Climate"

- 1) To bring a community action in preserving the mangroves.
- 2) To bring out the importance of mangroves on the international forum.
- 3) Transfer of knowledge, technology for preservation of mangroves.
- 4) Flow of funds specially for conservation of mangroves.

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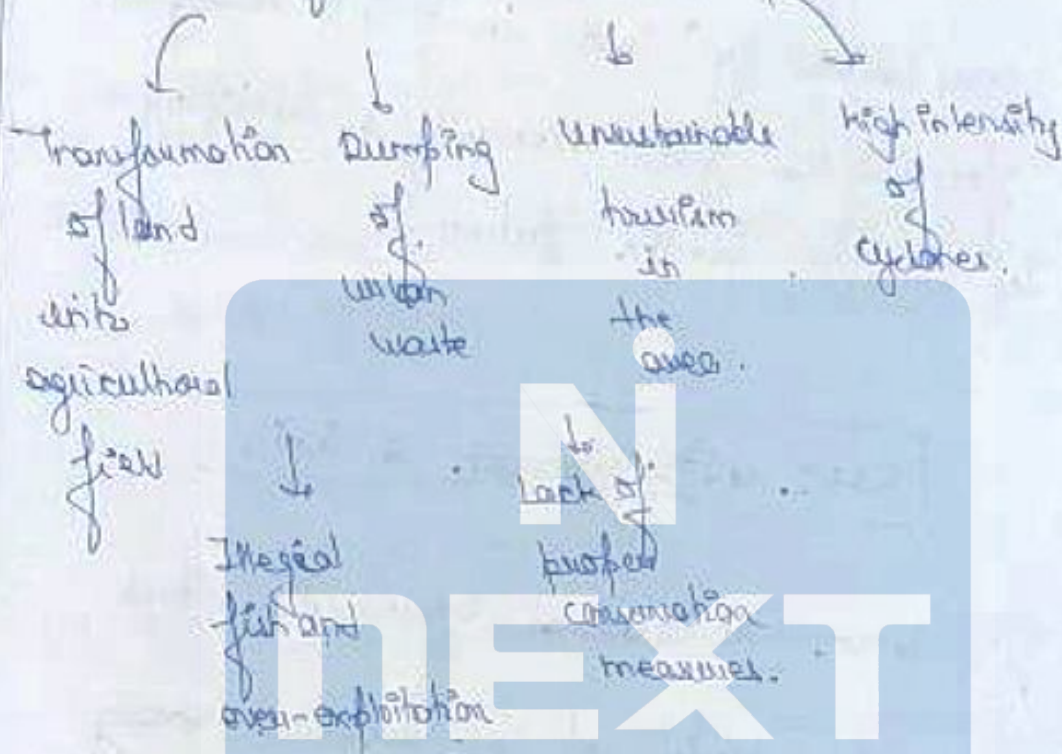
Importance of mangrove

- 1.) Act as a source of carbon sink on the land.
- 2.) Providing the livelihood opportunities to the coastal communities.
- 3.) Promote the active relationship between fishing community and fishing.
- 4.) Filtration of groundwater.
- 5.) Potential source of tourism.
- 6.) Acts as a shock absorber during cyclones.
- 7.) Prevent soil erosion on the coastal area.

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Issue faced by Mangroves



Way forward

→ Bringing community approach in conserving mangroves.

→ Promote eco-tourism

→ Promote "Environment in development" approach - EIA

Recently, Government in Budget 2023-24 announced "Mishra" for conserving mangroves. It required collaborative effort in tackling climate change and mangroves are one of these steps.

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18)

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) was launched by India in 2019 to bring focus of the global community in developing Infrastructure for the future.

CDRI and its approach in India

- 1.) It is an international organisation thus ensuring sharing of best practices among the countries.
- 2.) It will provide technical advice to the least developed countries (LDC), small Island developing countries in strengthening their Infrastructure.
- 3.) Better human capital can be developed for futuristic plan.

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4.) Focus on climate centric approach in infrastructure so that it help in adaptation in current generation and mitigation for the future generation.

5.) Maximization of the input resources to the better efficiency.

Need of new strategy

1.) To shift from reactive based approach to proactive based approach to tackle climate change issues.

2.) To make the country infrastructure resilient against any future disaster.

3.) To reduce the losses to the environment, government and human due to disaster in term of hard losses like (life loss) and soft loss (Economy loss).

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4) To develop a collaborative partnership with international community.

5) To strengthen the use of indigenous knowledge in tackling crisis.

OR can act as a supplementary to Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction and National Disaster Management authority to ensure holistic tackling of issues related to disaster.

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19.)

Ransomware is a cyber attack, in which hacker with the use of vulnerability hack the computer, steal all the information and a virtual lock is imposed on the computer. It demand a ransom for unlocking of device and destruction of information.

Eg:- Ransomware attack on Aarogya, Delhi

Rise in Ransomware attack

- 1) Became important part of state sponsored cyber attack policy to disrupt the critical infrastructure.
- 2) It act as a tool to exploit the vulnerability of system and utilize it for personal gains.
- 3) Cross-border in nature thus difficult to identify and enforce accountability.
- 4) Ransom demand via cryptocurrency thus leaving no traces for future.

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Impact of these attacks on various sector

- 1) Health sector:- Millions of citizen health records stored informed are available.
 ↳ Must for biological warfare.
- 2) Critical infrastructure like oil refinery can be targeted thus disrupting oil supply.
 ↳ Attack on Oil India Ltd.
- 3) Supply chain Infrastructure:- Disruption the movement of important commodities.
- 4) Government Institution:- Citizen personal information can be leaked.
 ↳ Leaked of Aadhar data.
- 5) Privacy issue:- Access to someone personal information videos, photos which can be misused.
 ↳ Technology assisted sexual violence.

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6) Crippling of security infrastructure :- Can have a detrimental effect on security architecture during the time of crisis.

7) R & D sector :- Important, no information can be leaked in the market.

8) Satellite infrastructure :- Since, currently most of the communication data are dependent on satellite based server, thus attack on it can be considered as effective.

Way forward :-
→ Conducting mock drills at regular interval
→ Focus on "Never trust, but verify" approach during installation of electronic equipment.
Focus on "Detect, Order, Destroy and document" i.e. 4-D strategy.

Implementation of cyber committee (Gadgil Committee) recommendation to ensure India cyber space is safe and secure is important for VIT-IR.

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20.)

India border management can be done by multiple agencies like CAPF, Armed forces and state police. But recent issue of intrusion, supply of arms, smuggling highlighted the lack of coordination and cooperation between various agencies.



Fig 1:- Depicting India Border guarding forces.

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Issues

- 1) Lack of coordination between various security agencies.
- 2) Duplication of efforts in controlling crime.
- 3) Lack of sharing of intelligence information.
- 4) Creation of multiple infrastructure due to poor synergy.

Cooperation and Coordination to be
Improved

Reason :- To reduce the incidence of cross-border smuggling
 → To reduce duplication of effort.
 → To fulfil their respective mandate

Measures

- Digitalisation of information sharing mechanism
- Focus on a Integration post having officials of all branches.

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- Customing of officers from entry level to ensure their better communication skills.
- Strengthening of inter force coordination, deputation measures to curb inconsistency and coordination issue.
- One point communication system between the force with hub & spoke model.
- Strengthening of cooperation and coordination between security agencies will help in better management of both coastal and terrestrial borders.