

PERFECT 7

WEEKLY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

December : 2019/ Issue- 5

JUNK FOOD CONSUMPTION IN INDIA

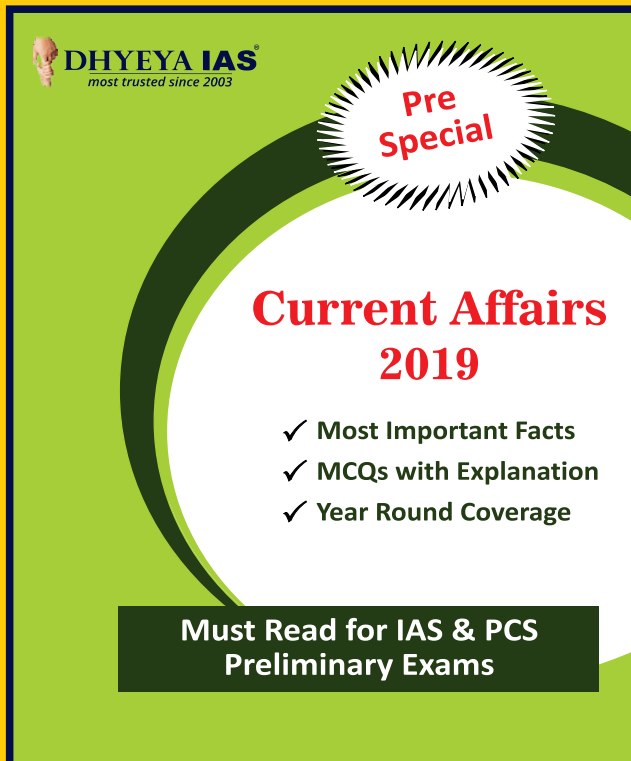
Growing Concern

- Protest, Violence and Laws in India : An Overview
- India-Malaysia Relations : Need Better Understanding
- Education in Madrasas : Is Reform Required
- National Broadband Mission : Internet Access to All Villages
- Special Economic Zones in India : An Analysis
- Kitchen Garden : A Tool to Combat Climate Change

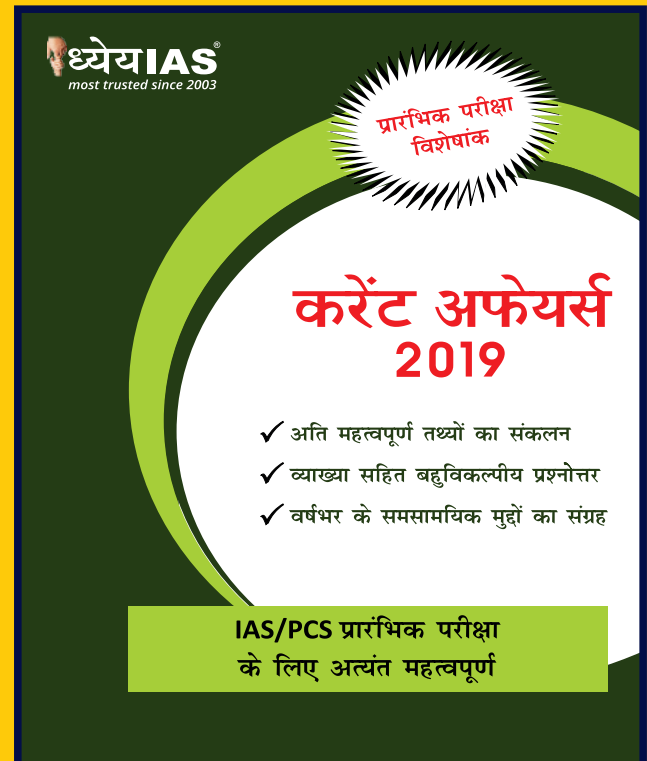


DHYEYA IAS
most trusted since 2003

Special Books for Pre Exams



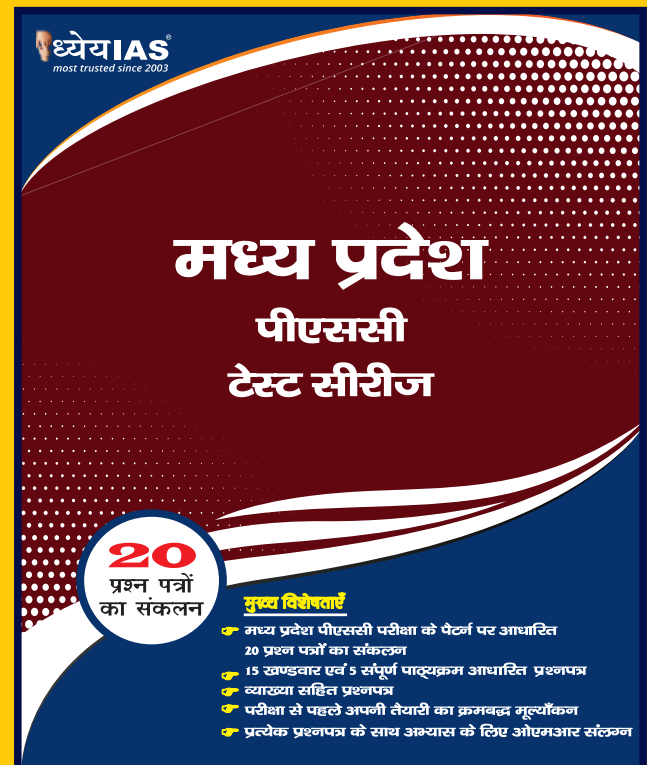
Available at All Book Stores



Available at All Book Stores



Available at All Book Stores



Coming Soon

DHYEYA IAS : AN INTRODUCTION



The guiding philosophy of the institute, throughout, has been creation of knowledge base. Dhyeya IAS inculcates human values and professional ethics in the students, which help them make decisions and create path that are good not only for them, but also for the society, for the nation, and for the world as whole. To fulfill its mission in new and powerful ways, each student is motivated to strive towards achieving excellence in every endeavor. It is done by making continuous improvements in curricula and pedagogical tools.

The rigorous syllabi not only instills in them, a passion for knowledge but also attempts to teach them how to apply that knowledge in real-life situations. The programmes lay emphasis on well-rounded personality development of the students and also in inculcating the values of honesty and integrity in them.

Vinay Kumar Singh
CEO and Founder
Dhyeya IAS



Dhyeya IAS is an institution that aims at the complete development of the student. Our faculty are hand-picked and highly qualified to ensure that the students are given every possible support in all their academic endeavors. It is a multi-disciplinary institution which ensures that the students have ready access to a wide range of academic material.

Our brand of education has broad horizons as we believe in exposure. Our students are encouraged to widen their knowledge base and study beyond the confinements of the syllabus. We aim to lend a gentle guiding hand to make our students recognize their inner potential and grow on their own accord into stalwarts of tomorrow's society.

Q H Khan
Managing Director
Dhyeya IAS

PERFECT 7 : AN INTRODUCTION



With immense pleasure and gratitude I want to inform you that the new version of 'Perfect-7', from the Dhyeya IAS, is coming with more information in a very attractive manner. Heartily congratulations to the editorial team. The 'Perfect-7' invites a wider readership in the Institute. The name and fame of an institute depends on the caliber and achievements of the students and teachers. The role of the teacher is to nurture the skills and talents of the students as a facilitator. This magazine is going to showcase the strength of our Institute. Let this be a forum to exhibit the potential of faculties, eminent writers, authors and students with their literary skills and innovative ideas.

Qurban Ali

Chief Editor

Dhyeya IAS

(Ex Editor- Rajya Sabha TV)



We have not only given the name 'Perfect 7' to our magazine, but also left no stone unturned to keep it 'near to perfect'. We all know that beginning of a task is most challenging as well as most important thing. So we met the same fate.

Publishing 'Perfect 7' provided us various challenges because from the beginning itself we kept our bar too high to ensure the quality. Right from the very first issue we had a daunting task to save aspirants from the 'overdose of information'. Focusing on civil services exams 'Perfect 7' embodies in itself rightful friend and guide in your preparation. This weapon is built to be precise yet comprehensive. It is not about bombardment of mindless facts rather an analysis of various facets of the issues, selected in a systematic manner. We adopted the 'Multi Filter' and 'Six Sigma' approach, in which a subject or an issue is selected after diligent discussion on various levels so that the questions in the examination could be covered with high probability.

Being a weekly magazine there is a constant challenge to provide qualitative study material in a time bound approach. It is our humble achievement that we feel proud to make delivered our promise of quality consistently without missing any issue since its inception.

The new 'avatar' of 'Perfect 7' is a result of your love and affection. We feel inspired to continue our efforts to deliver effective and valuable content in interesting manner. Our promise of quality has reached you in previous issues and more are yet to come.

Ashutosh Singh

Managing Editor

Dhyeya IAS

Send us your suggestions, comments, views and feedback for guiding us towards continuous improvement & enhancement of 'Perfect 7' on

 **9990772422**



PREFACE

Dhyeya family feels honoured to present you 'Perfect 7' - a panacea for Current Affairs. 'Perfect7' is an outstanding compilation of current affairs topics as per the new pattern of Civil Service examination (CSE). It presents weekly analysis of information and issues (national and international) in the form of articles, news analysis, brain boosters, PIB highlights and graphical information, which helps to understand and retain the information comprehensively. Hence, 'Perfect 7' will build in-depth understanding of various issues in different facets.

'Perfect7' is our genuine effort to provide correct, concise and concrete information, which helps students to crack the civil service examination. This magazine is the result of the efforts of the eminent scholars and the experts from different fields.

'Perfect 7' is surely a force multiplier in your effort and plugs the loopholes in the preparation.

We believe in environment of continuous improvement and learning. Your constructive suggestions and comments are always welcome, which could guide us in further revision of this magazine.

Omveer Singh Chaudhary
Editor
Dhyeya IAS

Perfect 7

The Weekly Issue

Perfect 7

An Initiative of Dhyeya IAS (for Civil Services Examination)

December 2019 | Issue: 05

Founder & CEO

Vinay Kumar Singh

Managing Director

Q.H.Khan

Chief Editor

Qurban Ali

Managing Editor

Ashutosh Singh

Editors

Omveer Singh Chaudhary,
Rajat Jhingan, Jeet Singh, Avaneesh Pandey,

Editorial Support

Prof. R. Kumar

Lead Authors

Rama Shankar Nishad, Ajay Singh, Ahamad Ali,
Dharmendra Mishra

Authors

Sanjan Gotam, Ashraf Ali, Vivek Shukla,
Swati Yadav, Ranjeet Singh, Anshu Chaudhary,
Giriraj Singh, Saumya Upadhyay

Chief Reviewers

Prerit Kant, Anuj Patel, Rajhans Singh

Design & Development

Sanjeev Kumar Jha, Punish Jain

Promotion & Advertisement

Gufran Khan, Rahul Kumar

Layout & Graphics

Vipin Singh, Krishna Kumar,
Nikhil Kumar, Ramesh Kumar

Computer Operators

Krishna Kant Mandal

Articles Support

Mrityunjay Tripathi, Priya Singh,
Rajni Singh, Lokesh Shukla,
Preeti Mishra, Ravi Ranjan, Prabhat

Office Assistants

Hari Ram, Sandeep, Rajeev Kumar

Content Office

DHYEYA IAS
302, A-10/11, Bhandari House,
Near Chawla Restaurants,
Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009



Contents

Seven Important Issues & Subjective Questions Based on Them.....1-23

- Junk Food Consumption in India : Growing Concern
- Protest, Violence and Laws in India : An Overview
- India-Malaysia Relations : Need Better Understanding
- Education in Madrasas : Is Reform Required
- National Broadband Mission : Internet Access to All Villages
- Special Economic Zones in India : An Analysis
- Kitchen Garden : A Tool to Combat Climate Change

Seven Brain Boosters & MCQ's Based on Them 24-32

Seven Important Facts for Prelims 33

Seven Practice Questions for Mains Exam 34

Seven Important News35-37

Seven Important Highlights from PIB38-40

Seven Important Concepts through Graphics.....41-44

Our other initiative



Hindi & English
Current Affairs
Monthly
News Paper



DHYEYA TV
Current Affairs Programmes hosted
by Mr. Qurban Ali
(Ex. Editor Rajya Sabha, TV) & by Team Dhyeya IAS
(Broadcasted on YouTube & Dhyeya-TV)

SEVEN IMPORTANT ISSUES

1. JUNK FOOD CONSUMPTION IN INDIA : GROWING CONCERN

Why in News?

The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has unveiled a new study, which showed that salt and fat in an array of 'junk food' was well above proposed regulatory thresholds. The packaged and fast foods analysed were chips, savouries, pizzas and burgers that are widely available in restaurants and other commercial outlets. This is not the first time that the CSE has conducted such research. However, the findings are significant as the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is yet to make into law draft regulations on setting limits, and publicising information, about nutrients in fast and packaged foods.

The CSE is a Delhi-based research and advocacy non-profit organisation.

Key Findings of the Study

The Environment Monitoring Laboratory of CSE tested salts, fat, trans-fat and carbohydrates in 33 foods using 14 samples of chips, savouries, instant noodles and instant soup. There were also 19 samples of burger, fries, fried chicken, pizza, sandwiches and wraps, sourced from grocery stores and fast food outlets in New Delhi. The pizza, burgers, chips and snacks to be tested were stored in laboratory conditions and ground to a powder or paste. Then they were chemically analysed to determine the salt, fat, trans-fat and carbohydrate levels.

The aim was to find out the levels of these products in actual servings/packets of the foods. To calculate this, the organisation relied on the concept of the recommended dietary allowance (RDA), a daily ceiling on the amount of salt, fat, carbohydrate and trans-fat. The RDA is based on scientific consensus and has been agreed upon by expert bodies such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Hyderabad (in India). It says that, ideally, an adult should consume no more than 5g of salt, 60g of fat, 300g carbohydrate and 2.2 g of trans-fat every day. Further, the RDA from breakfast, lunch and dinner should not be more than 25% and that from snacks (assumed to be those munched between meals), must be no more than 10%. Thus, a snack should ideally have no more than 0.5g of salt and 6g of fat.

The test results of have unmasked two anomalies: First, food manufacturers blatantly sell products that have unhealthy levels of nutrients. Second, a nexus between the industry and regulating agencies backs this brazen act. India, therefore, urgently needs a robust law on labelling and disclosure of nutritional information on food packs.

What is Junk Food?

In India, there is no official definition of "junk food" till now and the term "HFSS food" (Foods High in Fat, Salt and Sugar) is commonly used in place of junk food.

"HFSS foods" may be defined as foods (any food or drink, packaged or non-packaged) which contain low amounts of proteins, vitamins, phytochemicals, minerals and dietary fibre but are rich in fat (saturated fatty acids), salt and sugar and high in energy (calories) that are known to have negative impact on health if consumed regularly or in high amounts.

Harmful Impact

Junk food has little or no nutrition and is high in sugar, fat and salt. Sugar is added to everything, even to salty food. Junk food is considered as one of the leading causes of health problems.

According to a recent survey, conducted by the Government of India along with UNICEF, 10% of all school kids were found to be pre-diabetic. Also, all risk factors for Non- Communicable Diseases, like hypertension, chronic kidney diseases were found with these children. Junk food also affects the cognitive development of children.

Further, experts have also been suggested that eating junk food affects the brain in the same way as consuming addictive drugs. An addiction to junk food may even result in rejection of healthier food options like fruits, vegetables, salads etc. leading to further lack of nourishment.

Related Laws in India

Current Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 only require companies to

disclose energy (kilo calories), protein, carbohydrates, total fat, trans-fat and saturated fat contained per 100g or per millilitre or per serve. It is not intuitively easy, without some mental math, to figure out how much is actually contained in your serving. There are also no disclosures on high salt content and added sugar, and no compulsion on companies to disclose nutritional information on the front of the pack.

In 2013, the FSSAI had set up a committee to regulate packaged snacks. This committee, which consisted of doctors, nutrition experts, public policy activists and the CSE itself, recommended in 2014 that information on calories, sugar, fat, saturated fat and salt be displayed upfront. In 2018, the FSSAI came up with a draft law, the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2018. The draft recommended that a packet should have clear information on how much each nutrient, such as salt, sugar, contributed to the RDA. The draft said salt must be declared as sodium chloride for instance, and that those ingredients which breached the RDA should be marked in 'red'. Food companies had reservations mainly because they felt 'red' signified danger, fearing that this would give consumers the impression that they were consuming toxic food.

The draft regulations never became law. Instead, a third committee was formed, headed by B. Sesikaran, a former director of the NIN. Based on this committee's recommendations, a new draft (Draft Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2019) was prepared. This replaced sodium chloride with salt, total fat with saturated fat and total sugar with added sugar, which CSE says, dilutes information on the health harm posed by packaged

foods. According to the proposed draft Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, packaged food companies will need to declare nutritional information such as calories (energy), saturated fat, trans-fat, added sugar and sodium per serve on the front of the pack. The food labels are also required to declare, per serve percentage contribution to RDA on the front of the pack.

Red Octagon

The CSE took the values prescribed in the drafts for their calculations and concluded that all of the popular snacks and fast foods ought to be displaying a 'Red Octagon'. The Red Octagon, which should be printed on the front of the pack, has a number and the name of the food component within that indicates how widely off the RDA a particular ingredient is. Thus a Red "3.1, Salt" on a pack of Lay's India's Magic Masala by PepsiCo indicates that the salt it contains is 3.1 times the RDA for snacks.

This diluted version, which has seriously compromised public health, is still not acceptable, presumably to the powerful food industry. It is still not notified. After a draft is released for public comments, it should not take more than two months to be notified. But five months have gone by.

Recent Developments

Recently, FSSAI has announced that, it will finalise its proposed regulations to ban sale as well as advertisements of junk foods in school canteens and within 50 metres of school campuses within the next two months. The FSSAI had in November issued draft 'Food Safety and Standards (Safe Food and healthy diets for School Children) Regulations, 2019'. It had sought comments from stakeholders in 30 days.

The Ten-point Charter of FSSAI

- I. Schools, food business operators (FBOs) contracted by school authority for selling or catering school meals and FBOs contracted by Department of School Education for operation of the Mid-Day Meal scheme would be required to obtain a registration or licence that complies with the mandated sanitary and hygiene requirements under schedule 4 of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) regulations, 2011.
- II. Blanket ban on selling on foods high in fat, salt and sugar or HFSS (includes junk foods like colas, chips, instant noodles and other packed foods) in schools or to school children inside school canteens/ mess premises/ hostel kitchens or within 50 meters of the school campus.
- III. Adopting a comprehensive program to encourage healthy eating habits and safe food and healthy diets amongst school children. The draft also proposed converting school campuses into 'Eat Right School' which focusses on safe, local, seasonal foods and emphasize on no food wastage.
- IV. A school to be encourages promoting consumption of a balanced diet in schools as per National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) guidelines.
- V. Schools would also be required to check that the vendors supplying prepared means are doing so basis the general guidelines set by FSSAI or the Commissioners of Food safety.
- VI. Schools to periodically engage nutritionists, dieticians to assist in the preparation of menu for the children.
- VII. HFSS foods are also barred from advertising such products to school children within school premises or 50 meters from school campus.
- VIII. Ban on support or marketing (including through logos, brand names, posters, textbook covers etc) or giving away free samples of foods which are low in nutrition anywhere on school campus.
- IX. FSSAI also proposed regular inspection of premises to ensure safe, healthy and hygienic food is being served to students.
- X. A sub-committee is proposed to be created by the State Level Advisory Committee to monitor the implementation of the above said rules and regulations.

Concerns from Industry

Other than the red labels, the industry says the norms are unscientific and that packaged food is made to cater to the “taste” of people. Moreover, the packaged industry argues, immense quantities of junk food — think samosas or fried food sold on unregulated pushcarts — are consumed in the country with no check on their nutritional status and there is an inherent unfairness in regulating one section alone. Because nutritional information only guides consumers on how to regulate their intake, the industry feels people should be advised on what makes a healthy diet, the role of exercise and consuming appropriate amounts of food. They claim the current regulations only contribute to fear-mongering.

Further, the proposed labelling regulations publish too many numbers and an assortment of colour codes. This could potentially confuse people particularly because India has a vast non-English speaking population. To brand packaged food in different colours sends out the message that they are unsafe or “toxic”; this would be counterproductive to the larger aim of having a regulated but viable packaged food industry and people being educated about their food choices.

Global Practices

Chile has a system where a black hexagon in a white border appears on the front of a package. In the hexagon is a phrase that says a product is “high in salt” or “high in trans-fat.” The more the hexagons the less desirable the product becomes for the consumer; surveys suggest that even children are becoming more conscious about the health impact of their favourite snacks and often influencing parents’ buying choices. Surveys undertaken by the WHO show that a vast majority of European countries have some form of front-of-pack labelling, but fewer countries have interpretive systems which explain the health factor of foods.

As early as 1948, Finland became the first country in the world to ensure that primary schools serve students a daily hot meals and this remains the case even today. The meals served to the students are balanced, locally sourced and mostly vegetarian. For dessert, fresh fruits like berries are served.

The Netherlands ranked at the top of a 2014 study for serving nutritious and healthy food out of 125 countries. The Dutch model of families eating meals together has demonstrated health benefits for children. Notably, Dutch children are known to have the lowest obesity rates in the world.

Way Forward

Apart from the finalisation of the proposed resolution as soon as possible, there is still considerable work to be done on establishing appropriate “thresholds” (for salt, fat, etc.) for India. The regulation is “inevitable” and there would be more scrutiny of nutrient levels but in a way that would give packaged food companies time to adapt to stricter norms. The guidelines focus on ensuring healthy future for children. All stakeholders have to make concerted and coordinated effort to ensure these guidelines are followed so as to reap the demographic dividend.

Further, from the global experiences, it is time for India to consider similar steps in the interest of protecting the health of the public and ensuring that the expenditure and decline in health of consumers does not continue to fatten the wallets of those who are in the production of junk foods, the range and scale of which is perhaps reaching epidemic proportions.

General Studies Paper- II

Topic: Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/ Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.



2. PROTEST, VIOLENCE AND LAWS IN INDIA : AN OVERVIEW

Why in News?

India’s contentious Citizenship Amendment Act, which was cleared by parliament on December 11, 2019, has sparked violent protests across the country, for more than one reason. While there is anger that the legislation is discriminatory against Muslims, there are also fears of an influx of settlers.

Introduction

The protest against the Citizenship Amendment Act, the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019, the abrogation of Article 370 through the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019 and the Ram Mandir judgement pronounced on 9 November 2019 by

the Supreme Court became widespread in the country. Irrespective of the narrative or the spin you want to give these changes, they have been enacted or turned into law democratically, through democratic institutions. In the case of the citizenship law, the Muslim women law, and the Jammu and Kashmir order, the institutional

structure has been Parliament. In the case of Ram Mandir, it has been the Supreme Court.

And like in every democracy the world over, not all constituents will agree, there will be some that will protest. All democracies, not merely 'including' India but 'notably' India, provide spaces for protests. But for a long time, the grammar of protests in India has been attempting to destroy India's institutional Parliament-Executive-Judiciary grid. The vandalism involved in the protest led to the stern government action against the protesters and the way is handling the protesters is also put under question. It is in this light that we explore various aspects of the protests against government policies and laws in the following section.

Violent Civil Protests in India

Article 19 of the Indian Constitution protects freedom of speech, allowing citizens, for one, the right "to assemble peaceably and without arms." This includes the right to form associations, hold meetings, and come out in processions. The Constitutional right to assembly is, however, subject to certain regulations contained in a number of laws, such as the Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, and the Police Act of 1861. These laws empower the government to impose certain "reasonable restrictions" on the right to assemble, if such assembly is likely to lead to a disturbance in public peace and order or if it poses a threat to national sovereignty. With this, the Constitution seeks a balance between the freedom of speech guaranteed in Article 19 (1) (b) and social order as defined in Article 19 (3).

The police also have the duty to control and regulate crowds while providing citizens the space and peace to exercise their right to assembly. However, there are times when the protest takes a violent turn, either

among the protesters or between them and the police. The risk of a protest turning violent has increased in recent times. A political decision in Delhi can trigger a reaction in a part of the country, which in turn can cause another reaction somewhere else. Social media and instant messaging have made it possible for information (and misinformation) to spread like wildfire, causing havoc for civilians and posing problems for law enforcement officials.

Article 246 of the Constitution places 'public order' and 'police' under the jurisdiction of the state. This gives each state government full legislative and administrative powers over the police. Each state's police force has two components: the civil police and the armed police. While the civil police control crime, the armed police are specialised police units that deal with extraordinary law and order situations. They are organised in the form of battalions which are used as striking reserves to deal with emergency situations arising in the state. Although matters of the police are a state subject, the Constitution empowers the central government to intervene in certain police matters in order to protect the state in times of emergency. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) can deploy Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) to the state to assist the state civil police and armed forces.

Problems Faced by Police and Security Forces

Strategy

When troops are deployed suddenly after violence has escalated or the state government forces have been overpowered, there are delays in understanding and formulating a proper strategy to deal with protesters due to confusion over specific roles, or planning and preparation on the part of civilian authorities. Non-local

forces may also discover that their efforts to secure peace are being hampered by improper coordination, liaison and cooperation with local police. It is therefore important for civil authorities that have sought the assistance of outside forces to clearly delineate duties and responsibilities. There also may be problems arising out of command structures; this can be addressed by improving communication and liaison channels.

Legal and Political Constraints

Adding more complexity is the politicisation of the Indian police forces. Local police often have their own political biases and affiliations which interfere in their ability to monitor and control civil unrest. The main features of the police system that exist today are based on the colonial legacy of the British and the Police Act of 1861. Although since independence a number of states have passed their own legislation that introduced changes in the state police forces, the lack of public accountability in the police structure remains largely unchanged. The fact that the country's internal security apparatus rests on the police force that is, in turn, managed by the political executive explains to a significant degree the inefficiencies that hobble its proper functioning.

Shortage of Trained Personnel

It is important that both at the central and state levels, the training of police in methods of crowd control is given adequate attention. This includes theoretical teaching about the nature of different types of protests, lessons from past experiences in dealing with such protests, as well as regular updated information about the ground realities in different areas that may be prone to unrest. This must be accompanied by field or outdoor training in which police and security forces study and apply classroom knowledge on the

tactical principles in crowd control. These would depend on the type, size and militancy of the crowd.

The proper training of police and security forces is also important due to the shortage of personnel in the country. According to BPR&D's 2016 annual report, there are 549,025 vacancies in the police force in the country, including both the civil and armed police. The total number of CAPFs' strength is at 971,262, with the CRPF having the maximum number of personnel at 294,496. While there are a large number of vacancies in the police force, this is due to institutional problems of hiring. During a civil unrest situation, therefore, the numbers of police forces deployed are usually inadequate compared to the number of gathered protesters. This often leads to the situation getting out of hand, as security forces are often compelled to use force to protect themselves given that they are outnumbered.

Need of Special Forces

The allocation of appropriate task forces and special forces is equally important. The CRPF is one of the most overused forces armed forces in the country. It is essential to the government to formulate and earmark specific task forces for different places and situations. Just as there cannot be an overarching strategy to deal with all forms of civilian violence, there cannot be singular task force, namely the CRPF, that is called in to deal with every kind of law-and-order situation.

Use of Force by Security Officials

There are times when police and security forces may have to use force in situations of public disorder. The Indian Constitution provides for this under Section 129 of the Criminal Penal Code which gives the power to disperse an unlawful assembly by force to any Executive Magistrate or officer in charge of a police station.

The list of equipment and weapons for crowd control recommended by the BPR&D include water cannons, teargas shells, stinger and dye-marker grenades, tasers (stun guns) and lasers, net guns, and stink bombs. All of these are described as "non-lethal" weapons that are effective in crowd control. Interestingly, the list also includes 'plastic bullets for mob dispersal'.

India's tactics of controlling a violent crowd has been criticised in case of Kashmir where security personnel used pellet guns. In the case of controlling the protests against CAA and NRC in Delhi and other parts of the country bullets were not fired, only lathi charge and tear gas were used. Also while being careful in dealing with its own citizens, the authorities must also keep in mind the security of the persons involved in controlling the violent protesters.

Right of Citizens to Protest

In the case of Ramlila Maidan Incident, the Supreme Court had stated, "Citizens have a fundamental right to assembly and peaceful protest which cannot be taken away by an arbitrary executive or legislative action." It was in Maneka Gandhi vs. Union of India that Justice Bhagwati had said, "If democracy means government of the people by the people, it is obvious that every citizen must be entitled to participate in the democratic process and in order to enable him to intelligently exercise his rights of making a choice, free & general discussion of public matters is absolutely essential."

It is critical to remember that all protests are legal only if they are non-violent and carried out with appropriate permissions. Fundamental duties that are enshrined in the constitution require that the rule of law is followed and that public property is not destroyed.

The right to protest peacefully is enshrined in the Indian Constitution—

Article 19(1)(a) guarantees the freedom of speech and expression; Article 19(1)(b) assures citizens the right to assemble peaceably and without arms.

Now in the case of protests against CAA and NRC, a significant amount of public property is reported to have been destroyed. This only questions the legitimacy of the protesters and weakens their cause.

Permissions Needed to Hold a Protest

Since 'Law and Order' is a State subject, the permissions to organise a protest will vary from state to state. So, to protest in any area local laws are to be adhered to. In case of the recent protests against CAA and NRC, the authority is Delhi Police which works under Central Government. Still following are some guidelines to be followed by any protester.

- ◆ Any protesting group or individual has to ensure the police permit and a No-Objection Certificate (NOC) from the police. In case the police feel that the protest rally or demonstration will lead to unrest and go against public order, permission can be denied.
- ◆ All the details of the protest are to be mentioned in the petition submitted to the police.
 - ◆ These must include the reason for the protest, its date and duration, the number of people expected to participate, and the route that the protestors will undertake.
- ◆ Also the protesting group or individual has to include its name, address, and other contact details.
- ◆ The documents that must be furnished include proof of identity, proof of residence, a photograph, and an affidavit.

Article 19(1)(3) says this right is subject to "reasonable restrictions"

in the interest of public order. These reasonable restrictions are:

- ◆ If the security of the state is in jeopardy;
- ◆ If the friendly relationship we share with a neighbouring country is at stake;
- ◆ If public order is disturbed;
- ◆ If there is contempt of court;
- ◆ If the sovereignty and integrity of India are threatened.

So, by all means, individual and groups can exercise their constitutional rights, but they must remember to fulfill the duties as well.

Legal Aspects: Section 144

Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) prohibits public gathering. It gives the Executive Magistrate of a state or territory the right to send forth an order, preempting any gathering of four, five or more persons. Once imposed, even a peaceful assembly of people who had taken prior permission can be termed "unlawful."

The Case of Internet Shutdown

Violent protests against the Citizenship

Amendment Act (CAA) have led to statewide imposition of prohibitory orders under Section 144, heavy deployment of forces and shutdown of internet in several areas of UP and other parts of the country.

Apart from the telecommunication and internet enabled mobile app services of the people, basic banking such as cash disbursement by ATMs, digital banking transactions, OTP-related services including electronic KYC (know your customer) verification, remittance transfers and UPI (Unified Payments Interface) and AEPS (Aadhaar-Enabled Payment System) were impacted due to the Internet shutdown.

The debate over Internet shutdown does not only extend to civil liberties. There is also an enormous economic cost to shutdowns. According to Forbes India, India has lost an estimated Rs 21,000 cr over five years because of internet shutdowns; that's Rs 2.45 cr down the drain per hour.

Conclusion

The citizens are expected to exercise their right to protest within the legal

boundaries and it is expected that protesters be informed about what they are protesting against. Citizens also have various options like a letters, debates, writings etc. to register their objection to particular government policy or law. At the same time state or the authority is also expected to keep in mind that it is dealing with its own subjects and be moderate in its treatment even if it has to control them using force.

General Studies Paper- II

Topic: Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary; Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the Polity.

Topic: Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

○○○

3. INDIA-MALAYSIA RELATIONS : NEED BETTER UNDERSTANDING

Why in News?

Recently, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad has also criticised India's Citizenship Amendment Act, (CAA) which he finds to be discriminatory against Muslims and has sparked deadly protests across the South Asian country. Speaking on the sidelines of the Kuala Lumpur Summit 2019, Mahathir questioned the "necessity" of the CAA, when Indians have "lived together for 70 years".

Background

Earlier, Malaysia raised the Kashmir issue at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), with its Prime

Minister Mahathir Mohammad accusing India of "invading and occupying the country" of Jammu and Kashmir.

In his address to the 74th UNGA, Mohammad said: "Now, despite the UN resolution on Jammu and Kashmir, the country has been invaded and occupied." The Malaysian Prime Minister observes that there may be reasons for this action but it is still wrong. The problem must be solved by peaceful means. India should work with Pakistan to resolve this problem. Ignoring the UN would lead to other forms of disregard for the UN and the Rule of Law."

India established diplomatic relations with the Federation of Malaya (predecessor state of Malaysia) in 1957 immediately on Malaysia's independence. The two countries enjoyed a strong relationship in the 1960s as a result of the personal friendship between Prime Ministers Nehru and Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra. The relations continued on an upward trajectory.

India-Malaysia Relations

Geopolitics

In the face of unprecedented uncertainties in the Indo-Pacific, mostly driven by China's rise, India's

outreach efforts to Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) has accelerated. The effort has included an increased number of security consultations, political dialogues, and joint military exercises with Southeast Asian countries.

All 10 ASEAN leaders were in India for the 69th Republic Day celebrations, a first. The usual pattern has been to invite one foreign leader for these celebrations. The invitation was indicative of the importance India attaches to the strategic engagement with the ASEAN countries.

Malaysia and India, for one, have emphasized their commitment to maintaining open seas and freedom of navigation, on the basis of the principles enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The two countries have also reiterated their call to all claimant parties to avoid using unilateral measures and find peaceful solutions to disputes involving sovereignty and territorial integrity. As China becomes increasingly active in India's backyard in South Asia, New Delhi can be expected to focus equally on China's backyard in Southeast Asia.

Defense

The two sides have had a history of military cooperation, and became strategic partners in 2010. In the defense arena, the two sides have engaged in exchange of information on training, maintenance and technical support for Su-30 fighter aircraft, in addition to the establishment of a "Systems School" for the fighters at the Gong Kedak airbase. The Indian Air Force had also stationed a team in Malaysia between 2008 and 2010 as Malaysia was inducting and starting the operation of the Su-30 MKM fighter aircraft, which they had just procured.

Bilateral naval cooperation has also remained strong, and the Indian

Navy regularly participates along with other external partners in the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition in Malaysia. India is holding another iteration of a large joint military exercise with Malaysia. The military exercise, titled "Harimau Shakti," was being held in Malaysia in April-May, last year. The joint combat exercise is meant to create greater synergy and interoperability between the two armed forces.

Port visits by Indian Navy and Coast Guard ships are also of significance especially in the context of the increasing Chinese naval footprint in the Indian Ocean. India and Malaysia have also established a mechanism for information sharing for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) and white shipping.

Economy

When India's 'Look East Policy' was announced in the early 1990s, India's focus was limited mostly to economic and trade issues, and Singapore was the focal point within ASEAN. The economy continuing to be important, India's ties with Malaysia improved significantly in the years to follow. It was Malaysia that felt that it had not tapped into realizing "the full potential of the bilateral relationship" so it had belatedly shown interest in the Indian economy to some extent."

Bilateral trade between the two nations stands at around a whopping \$12 billion, with imports from Malaysia to India being on a rising trend over the past few years. The free trade agreement signed between the two governments in 2011 had also given a massive push to the bilateral trade.

Recent Turbulence and Its Repercussions

Radical stance on the two sides can potentially put all this into peril which might not have significant bilateral consequence but it will surely influence

the regional political dynamics and India's efforts in South East Asian region.

The two countries engage on range of fronts like defense, tourism and trade so the impacts will also be multipronged. These are briefly discussed here:

Impact on Trade

- ◆ Custom duty on more than 1200 products has been reduced or removed completely. As of today, Palm oil is one of the major products exported by Malaysia to India and is a significant portion of the bilateral trade between the two nations; however given the aggressive nature of Malaysian PM at the UNGA any move by India to revise its import policies regarding Palm oil will significantly impact the related industry in Malaysia. India had recently increased the import duty on Palm oil by 5% and any further increase would once and for all cripple Malaysian palm oil exports to India.
- ◆ Besides, various reports have also suggested that palm oil is dangerous for health and consuming it can make people prone to more cardiovascular diseases. Being cheap also makes palm oil ideally suited for adulterating other oils, from mustard and groundnut to sesame. It is a neutral oil, with no aroma of its own and can easily mingle with other oils.
- ◆ Thousands of Indians working in Malaysia also contribute massively to its economy. According to the , Malay Human Resources Ministry, in the year 2011 Malaysian government had decided to recruit 45,000 Indian workers in a bid to overcome the shortfall of employees in various businesses in Malaysia. Now in such scenario, any move by Indian administration

to discourage Indian nationals to work in Malaysia will have severe consequences on Malaysian industries.

- ♦ Malaysian industries have also been working closely with India in critical fields of Information Technology and defence. India and Malaysia had also signed three important agreements for cooperation in the field of cyber-security, cultural exchange and administration with a view to further deepening defence, economic and cultural relations and now considering the current geo-political developments any hindrance to transfer of these technologies to Malaysia would be highly detrimental to Malaysian companies and their employees.

Impacts on the Political Relations

The pro-Pakistani comments by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohammad are surely not in line to keep the relation between the two nations cordial and going by the reports it certainly has not gone down well with the government. Consequently, Malaysia is not only poised to be economically impacted but might also have to pay a higher price for toeing the line of radicals. It seems that the current government of India is a hard-taskmaster and prefers to respond decisively to whosoever tries to malign India and its image through fake speech and rhetoric.

On the question of India loosing in South East Asia in political game because of the tensed bilateral relations with Malaysia it seems that Malaysia may be too small a state to shift the geopolitical needle. But at the same time this must also be considered that ASEAN is neither too small nor less influential. ASEAN stands as proof that small states in the right

circumstances are great influencers.

So, how does this statement of Malaysian Prime Minister against India's interests and India's firm response on the same, affects the larger geopolitical scenario in the region, is yet to be seen as the new political situation develops further from here.

Impact on Tourism

Tourism which forms a major part of the Malaysian economy has been contributed heavily by Indian tourists who visit the south-east Asian nation in lakhs every year.

Only in 2019, around 6.8 lakh, Indian tourists are expected to visit Malaysia, the number which pitched around 4.37 lakhs between January and September of 2018. India is one of the top 10 source markets for Malaysia. In this scenario change in tourist patterns from India can severely impact the Malaysian economy.

Way Forward

The third largest ethnic group in Malaysia after the Chinese and the Malays are the Malaysian Indians. Despite the fact that the Indians constitute about 8% of the country's population of 22 million they own less than 2% of its national wealth. Government of India must also be careful in dealing with Malaysia given the huge number of Indians in the Country.

Over the years, New Delhi has worked to deepen its ties with Malaysia under its 'Look East Policy'. Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh



signed a strategic partnership with Malaysia in 2010, which PM Narendra Modi upgraded into an 'Enhanced Strategic Partnership' in 2015.

In 2018, Najib Razak, the then Malaysian PM, was among the ASEAN heads of state and government who were chief guests at the Republic Day parade. In a goodwill gesture, Modi also took a detour to drop by in Malaysia on May 31 last year just to felicitate the then newly elected PM Mahathir Mohammad.

While India is not going to be much affected by stain on its bilateral trade relations with Malaysia but it will surely be affected if it's strategic interests are targeted in the South East Asian region in the event of development of a grouping of Malaysia's likeminded neighbours in the region. So the need of the hour in that for the wider geo-political and geo-economic interests both countries should try to resolve their differences, as convergences are more with respect to divergences.

General Studies Paper- II

Topic: Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.

Topic: Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.



4. EDUCATION IN MADRASAS : IS REFORM REQUIRED

Context

Since the 9/11 attacks, madrasas abroad have been facing stigma and suspicion globally. Back home, they are seen as a springboard of radicalisation, deficient in feelings of nationalism and in urgent need for reform. In the seminal text 'Madrasas in the Age of Islamophobia', authors Ziya Us Salam and Dr M Aslam Parvaiz point out how madrasas, the cradle of Islamic learning in India are going through challenging times and desperately need reforms and modernization.

Introduction

The Indian State's fraught history of ensuring primary education for marginalized communities has made madrasas viable substitutes for government schools in many localities. At 68 per cent, the 150 million Muslims living in India present a much lower literacy rate when compared to the country average of 74 per cent. And while their population across states may vary, some like Haryana have rates as low as 53 per cent.

Indian madrasas have long been centres of education and literacy, as well as safe spaces to preserve Islamic culture. Especially for Muslim communities living in poor urban areas, madrasas are the only option for a child's education. However, the education that madrasas impart has often been insufficient in equipping their students with skills to break into the mainstream job market.

Madrasa: A Chronological Account

What is Madrasa?

The word 'madrasa' is derived from the Arabic word 'd-r-s', which means to study; so 'madrasa' means

a 'place to study'. In modern Arabic sense, 'madrasa' generically means any educational institute, including the secular, modern ones.

In South Asia, madrasas are institutions of higher Islamic learning, equivalent to seminaries where students are trained in Islamic law and theology. As acquiring knowledge is one of the most important tenets of Islam, madrasas focus on learning from the life of Prophet Mohammad and from reading Quran.

How Madrasas came to India and What Changed their Character from Secular to Religious?

It is no surprise that madrasas in India came with the advent of Muslim rule in the subcontinent. The madrasas were central to the eco-cultural life of the Muslim society and their role in the times of medieval India was about providing manpower to the government of the day and helping in its vast machinery.

In those times, there was a chain of madrasas that were instrumental in imparting education to the masses. One of the major characteristics was that they were secular in nature and attracted children even from the non-Muslim community that was in majority. The secular traditions continued till late 19th century. One would be surprised to know that luminaries like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Dr Rajendra Prasad and Dr Sachdanand Sinha acquired their elementary education from madrasas.

Coming to the second part of the question, the changes started happening in the 19th century. In 1844, madrasa graduates were barred from government employment. The Muslim community faced a blow and lost their hegemony as the huge task of consolidation of English Empire started

happening. The community was caught in a dilemma as the Englishmen broke the spine of the traditional education system and divided education system into two categories: religious and non-religious.

The ulamas (a body of Muslim scholars having specialist knowledge of Islamic sacred law and theology) then responded by opening a series of madrasas starting with Uttar Pradesh. Madrasas marked the apolitical movement for preserving the heritage of knowledge and oppose this Macaulay syndrome that aimed to bring out a generation, "which is Indian in birth and English in thought." The madrasas then started catering to the religious needs of the Muslim community, especially to the lower classes or *ajlaf*, who lagged behind.

Essential Features of Madrasas

The important characteristics of the madrasas that were established to counter Macaulay were: they ran on the funds from the public through donations. Education was provided to all students for free.

The madrasas turned out to be village phenomenon and not upward and urban to bridge the knowledge gap that existed between the rich and the poor. Autonomy is very dear to madrasas and they prefer to run through donations. But funds are important. As a result, in India, there are two kinds of madrasas when it comes to their financing — autonomous madrasas that are run by public donations and government-affiliated madrasas that are financed by the state governments.

Problematic Areas in Madrasa Education

Muslims, until the 12th century were in the forefront of scientific scholarship, discoveries and inventions

producing many great philosophers, mathematicians, doctors and historians who relied on experimental method, which is integral to modern science even today. In contrast, most madrasas in India do not provide their students any access to computers or the internet.

Madrasas' traditional mode of education has isolated students from mainstream occupations and higher education opportunities. Not all who graduate can be absorbed into mosques and other religious professions, leaving them with little choice in competitive job markets.

Another major problem most Indian madrasas are facing relates to funds. Most Islamic seminaries are dependent upon charity money. In most residential schools, the students sleep on the floor in both the harshness of summers and winters. In most classes, over 40 students sat crouched over the sacred book while two fans with twin blades providing them relief from temperatures exceeding 40 degrees Celsius. In winters, the students are asked to stir-clean a worn-out rug and spread it across the room. At night, the boys lie down, one after the other, on the same rug. There is no sense of private space in their residential area. A majority of madrasa students hail from poor families. Most madrasas run without registration, even those with proper documentation and enviable history seem to be at the crossroads.

Education, as we understand, is an evolutionary process. However, in Indian madrasas, time stands still. Many seminaries still consult 14th-century work of Ibn Kathir while looking for commentary of Quran. In the timeless world of Indian madrasas the students are supposed to read and memorize the Quran. It is not unusual to find a hafiz-e-Quran who does not know the meaning of a single surah of the Quran.

Curriculum of most madrasas in 2019 or 2020 could be easily replaced with the syllabus of a madrasa in 1920, or even 1870. There is a timelessness to the whole affair which defies the message of the Quran. The Holy book asks mankind to think, explore and introspect. The madrasas ask the students to concentrate on memorizing the Quran and ask no questions. Any attempt to ask questions is met with a rebuke; a student is supposed to toe the line.

Apart from lack of centralisation, which is one of the major shortcomings of Indians madrasas, the other problems are pertaining to pedagogy—make it student-centric rather than book-centric, focus on knowledge over parroting. In some madrasas, students are discouraged from reading newspapers or reading what other Muslim scholars write.

Most madrasas teach Hanafi doctrine leaving out Islamic interpretation by other notable schools of thought such as Shafi'i, Maliki or Hanbali. Almost all Sunni madrasas follow Dars-e-Nizami framed some 300 years ago. Very few modern-day additions have been made. Some Shia ones do the same too. But hardly any have space for Shia pattern of teaching with increasing emphasis on the so-called material subjects. Thus in effect, most madrasas do not teach about Islam and teach only one interpretation of Islam to youngsters. It is just assumed that a person will not need knowledge of these sects simply because they are in a small minority in India. Or that it is their interpretation of Islam is the only correct one, rest are all misguided. This is contrary to Quranic directive that prohibits running down other faiths.

Government Initiatives

An NSSO survey found that Muslims are the poorest religious group in the country, with a per capita spending of

Types of Madrasa in South Asian Region

The modern South Asian madrasa networks can largely be divided into four groups or franchises:

- Deobandi Madrasas are in large numbers and its Darul Uloom Deoband constitutes one of the biggest madaris.
- Barelwis Madrasa, which are Sufi-oriented and make for a sizeable portion. Their notable establishments are Al Jamiatul Ashrafia, Mubarakpur, Jamia Nizamudina New Delhi, Jamia Nayeemia Muradabad etc.
- Ahle-Hadith Madrasas, the first Ahle Hadith madrasa was Al-Ahmadiyya established in 1880 by Ibrahim Al-Arvi in the town of Arrah in the Bhojpur district of Bihar.
- Shia Madrasas, the first Shia madrasa was Jama-I Sultaniyya or Shahi Madrasa in 1843 in Lucknow.

In India, the majority of these schools follow the Hanafi school of thought.

Rs. 32.66, compared to the 37.50 for Hindus and 51.43 for Christians. Some marginalized Muslim communities have voiced the need for reform. A recent survey in Mewat reported that 70% of the households with children attending madrasas favoured a change in syllabus and recognised the importance of proper English education and scientific knowledge.

The HRD Ministry's Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madrasas (SPQEM) scheme facilitates madrasa affiliation with recognised boards like the CBSE, State Boards and the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). The first structured scheme to "modernise" madrasas was the Area Intensive Madrasa Modernization Programme in 1994, followed up by the currently active SPQEM. Started with aplomb in 2009, the program came with high expectations. According to a 2013 evaluation report, although most stakeholders unanimously agree that the scheme has had an overall positive impact, actual implementation left much to be desired. Intervention is mostly at the elementary education

level, and many madrasa officials weren't aware of the assistance provided for NIOS accreditation in the higher levels.

The SPQEM lacked a specific curriculum to integrate formal subjects. Madrasas were asked to blindly follow the state curriculum, over 20,000 teachers appointed in Uttar Pradesh received irregular salaries and schools suffered from badly maintained computer equipment. The same issues appeared in the 2018 evaluation report, indicating that the lessons weren't easily learnt. However, the scheme has been extended up to 2019-2020, with new revisions.

What more Government can do?

Government needs to do two things: one, it must order a detailed study of educational infrastructure in areas where poor Muslims have access to no school that offers non-religious curriculum. It must seek the support of the private sector for building more schools in areas where quality education can be provided at low or no cost to poor Muslim families. Poor or low income Muslim families should have a choice to admit their children to such schools, and not be dependent on a local maulvi for basic education.

Two, the government must extend the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) online registration requirement to non-state-funded madrasas, to ensure that funding from countries like Saudi Arabia get checked and tracked.

State governments have to be sensitised and co-opted and attempts



must be made against allowing the discussion to get reduced to 'secular versus non-secular' and 'pro-Hindu versus anti-Muslim' debates.

The government's role and intervention is crucial, as bulk of madrasa graduates cannot find jobs other than starting a new madrasa or taking up role of a mosque imam or muezzin [one who calls the faithful to prayer five times a day]. If teachers, books, internet and computer are made available, madrasas could become modern and mainstream.

Way Forward

The government must be cautious not to threaten the religious freedom of madrasas. 'Modernisation' cannot be served in a one-size-fits-all plate. In several parts of the country, it is prudent for children to attend conventional schools during the day and madrasas before or after school. Overall, the largest hurdle faced by state-led initiatives is the callous implementation and operationalisation of reform. Formal subjects can only be integrated in a way that complements existing religious pedagogy, trains teachers and acquires funds for infrastructure and affiliation.

As bodies like Kalam Foundation's work has shown, autonomous institutions must lead the movement for reform in madrasas. Since the institution itself has great penetration and holds cultural importance for Indian Muslims, it is an already established route to educating economically backwards Muslims and other minorities. Regularised and adequate funds must find their way to reach approximately 40,000 madrasas in the country and ensure that the students have a fair chance to secure jobs later on. Modernising madrasas has already increased enrolment

rates across the country. If reformed, they have the potential to improve literacy rates amongst one of the most neglected communities in India. After all, access to quality education has to be the first step in realising an inclusive ethos of development in the future.

Minority Rights in India

Constitution of India extends following rights to minorities:

- Article 29 protects the interests of the minorities by making a provision that any citizen / section of citizens having a distinct language, script or culture have the right to conserve the same. Article 29 mandates that no discrimination would be done on the ground of religion, race, caste, language or any of them.
- Article 30(1) gives the linguistic or religious minorities the following two rights: (a) The right to establish, and (b) The right to administer educational institutions of their choice.
- Article 30(2) bars the state, while granting aid to educational institutions, from discriminating against any educational institution on the ground that it is under the management of a linguistic or a religious minority.

Similarly, National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004 was passed in year 2004 for giving more teeth to minority education in India. This act allows direct affiliation of minority educational institutes to central universities. This act was enacted in order to provide quality education in minority institutes.

General Studies Paper- II

Topic: Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and Bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.

Topic: Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/ Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.



5. NATIONAL BROADBAND MISSION: INTERNET ACCESS TO ALL VILLAGES

Why in News?

The government has launched a 'National Broadband Mission' that aims to connect 600,000 villages across India at an estimated outlay of Rs 7 lakh crore including a 10% contribution from the state reserve over a period of next 3-4 years.

Introduction

The Digital Era has opened up exciting possibilities for India. We have long been be devilled by various divides: between rich and poor, city and village, literate and illiterate, besides larger socio-cultural ones. Much has been written about the digital divide: a new societal schism between those who possess digital devices and have the capability of using them and, on the other hand, those who do not. In fact, one can use the technology to serve as a digital bridge, an enabler that not only obviates any digital divide, but helps to reduce many of the other disparities in society.

Access to high speed broadband is a key infrastructure for socio-economic development of any country in the modern age. Its democratizing influence has the power to reshape the marginalized sections of the economy. Affordable and accessible broadband is a vital development enabler for building inclusive and sustainable knowledge societies. It enhances productivity and national competitiveness, acts as a crucible for innovation in social and economic sectors and enables better governance.

Imagine, for example, a young student in a remote village being able to hear, see and interact with the best teacher; the learning enhanced by animation, slow-motion or real-life video footage. Think of super-specialists studying, online, a villager's

Indian Rural Population – 2001-2020				
Population Statistics	1991	2001	2011 (Estimated)	2021 (Estimated)
All India (Mn)	846	1027	1175	1331
15-59 population- All India (Mn)	NA	604	747	882
Rural population (India)	75%	72%	NA	60%
Agricultural employment	67%	58%	NA	45%
Rural unemployment	5.6%			
(93-94)	7.2%			
(99-00)	NA	NA		

health parameters and providing advice to the patient located in a remote corner of the country. Or a farmer getting up-to-date information on crop prices and weather, and agricultural advice in real time. Visualise skills training being provided in-situ to youth anywhere in the country, or of rural craftspeople being able to sell their creations to customers anywhere in the globe through their website and e-commerce platforms. Imagine reaching institutions and individuals in every Gram Panchayat in the country (and, by extension, every village and villager) with high-speed connectivity.

These dreams, and much more, can become reality with the aid of a nation-wide broadband network. We must create a network that can be used - and that is used - by each and every citizen, in every part of the country.

National Broadband Mission (NBM)

The vision of the NBM is to fast track growth of digital communications infrastructure, bridge the digital divide, facilitate digital empowerment and inclusion and provide affordable and universal access of broadband for all. The NBM is part of the National Digital Communications Policy, 2018. Some of the objectives of the Mission which is structured with strong emphasis on

the three principles of universality, affordability and quality are:

- ◆ Broadband access to all villages by 2022.
- ◆ Facilitate universal and equitable access to broadband services for across the country and especially in rural and remote areas.
- ◆ Laying of incremental 30 lakhs route km of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) and increase in tower density from 0.42 to 1.0 tower per thousand of population by 2024.
- ◆ Significantly improve quality of services for mobile and internet.
- ◆ Develop innovative implementation models for Right of Way (RoW) and to work with States/UTs for having consistent policies pertaining to expansion of digital infrastructure including for RoW approvals required for laying of OFC.

The RoW rules are considered as a key enabler for expediting the deployment of underground (optical fibre) and over ground (mobile towers) infrastructure in India. The rules aim to rationalise administrative expenses across the country to a maximum of Rs 1000 per km for fibre, and a maximum of Rs 10 000 per application for overhead towers.

- ◆ Develop a Broadband Readiness Index (BRI) to measure the availability of digital communications infrastructure and

conducive policy ecosystem within a State/UT.

- ◆ The BRI consists of two parts. While, Part I will focus on infrastructure development. Part II consists of demand side parameters which will be captured through primary surveys.
- ◆ Creation of a digital fiber map of the digital communications network and infrastructure, including Optical Fiber Cables and towers, across the country.
- ◆ Investment from stakeholders of USD 100 billion (Rs 7 Lakh Crore) including Rs 70,000 crore from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).
- ◆ Address policy and regulatory changes required to accelerate the expansion and creation of digital infrastructure and services.
- ◆ Work with all stakeholders including the concerned Ministries / Departments/ Agencies, and Ministry of Finance, for enabling investments for the Mission.

Importance of National Broadband Mission

- ◆ **Stimulation of Rural Economic Growth:** Access to telecommunication and information services, provides crucial knowledge inputs into productive activities of rural and poor households. It would stem urban migration by generating greater income and employment potential in rural areas and by bringing the market to the people rather than forcing them to leave in search of the same.
- ◆ **Rural BPOs/KPOs:** With the spread of ICT to rural areas, Rural Business Process Outsourcing (BPOs) and Knowledge Process Outsourcing (KPOs) will become possible on a wide scale.

- ◆ **Positive Externalities:** In purely economic terms, connecting more and more areas and people in a country to the telecom network, leads to a more intensive use of the telecom infrastructure, generating positive externalities.
- ◆ **Social Development:** Connectivity fosters social development, including improved education, health and increased citizen participation in civil society.
- ◆ **Government Services:** Increases the reach and delivery of government and social services.
- ◆ **Mainstreaming Rural India:** Access to ICT would allow Indians in rural and remote areas to participate in the decision making process and would decrease their sense of isolation.

Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)

Apart from the higher capital cost of providing telecom services in rural and remote areas, these areas also generate lower revenue due to lower population density, low income and lack of commercial activity. Thus normal market forces alone would not direct the telecom sector to adequately serve backward and rural areas. Keeping in mind the inadequacy of the market mechanism to serve rural and inaccessible areas on one hand and the importance of providing vital telecom connectivity on the other, most countries of the world have put in place policies to provide Universal Access and Universal Service to ICT.

The New Telecom Policy - 1999 (NTP'99) provided that the resources for meeting the Universal Service Obligation (USO) would be raised through a 'Universal Access Levy (UAL)', which would be a percentage of the revenue earned by the operators under various licenses. The Universal Service Support Policy came into effect in 2002. The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2003 provide statutory status to the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). As per the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 (as amended in 2003, 2006 and 2008), the Fund is to be utilized exclusively for meeting the Universal Service Obligation.

Narrowing these access gaps and removing barriers to information dissemination and access to knowledge is therefore a priority for promoting equitable, sustainable development and alleviating poverty, besides promoting political and social cohesion.

Challenges

While costs and revenue can be debated, the real issue is that quality broadband to every citizen is essential infrastructure. The main challenge is getting it done through a sustainable framework. Some other challenges are discussed below:

- ◆ **Regulatory Hurdles:** Over the last decade since the advent of broadband, the regulatory authority in India missed several opportunities to formulate a proactive broadband strategy that could help address the digital divide and boost the country's economic growth. World Bank estimates that a 10% increase in broadband penetration accelerates economic growth by 1.38% in developing countries.
- ◆ **Lack of Fibre Infrastructure:** The poor quality of service (QoS) and call drop issues are primarily attributed to the country's low investment in fibre and backhaul infrastructure. It is a well understood fact that fibre networks are the most viable medium to deliver increased data capacity and improve the quality of voice calling. The fact that less than 20% of the towers in India are backhauled compared with an average of 80% in countries like the US, China, and Korea emphasizes the need for an effective policy that gives due importance to fibre deployments. Further, the disparity in broadband penetration between urban and rural India continues to haunt Indian economy.

- ◆ **Right of Way Issues:** India's telecom sector was plagued with Right of Way (RoW) issues since the beginning creating roadblocks for the development of the country's backhaul infrastructure. Currently RoW charges vary from a few lakhs to Rs 1.5 crore per km across different states. With different states having different RoW policies, telcos are losing out significant amount of their infrastructure investment to municipal bodies across different states.
- ◆ **Digital Divide:** The digital divide needs to be addressed through last mile connectivity in remote rural areas, as currently, over 55,000 villages remain deprived of mobile connectivity. This is largely due to the fact that providing mobile connectivity in such locations is not commercially viable for service providers.
- ◆ **Poor Connectivity:** For digital technology to be accessible to every citizen, significant efforts are needed to customise apps and services to cater to local needs. Finding vendors who can provide such applications has become a challenge.
- ◆ **Labour Constraints:** Constraints on timely availability of labour and contractors for trenching and cable laying in different parts of the country given the high volume of work of NOFN at rates within reasonable limits of estimated rates" were among the reasons behind delay.

Government Initiatives

Digital India Program

On July 1, 2015, India embarked on a master-plan named 'Digital

India' to transform itself to "digitally empowered society and knowledge economy," with three things in focus. These were – digital infrastructure, digital governance and services and digital empowerment of citizens. Various policy and investment measures have been undertaken with notable accomplishments.

The 'Digital India' program aims to transform India into a knowledge-based economy and digitally empowered society by ensuring digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide. Under 'Digital India' program, MeitY has effectively utilised digital technologies with some initiatives like Digi-Locker, E-Aadhaar, BHIM-UPI, Jeevan Pramaan, Digitize India, MyGov. in etc. to transform the lives of people while ensuring digital inclusion of all the segments. The government is committed to provide governance and services to our citizens in an affordable and efficient manner within the shortest span of time.

The National Digital Communications Policy, 2018

The National Digital Communications Policy, 2018 seeks to unlock the transformative power of digital communications networks - to achieve the goal of digital empowerment and improved well-being of the people of India; and towards this end, attempts to outline a set of goals, initiatives, strategies and intended policy outcomes. It aims to accomplish the following Strategic Objectives by 2022:

- ◆ Provisioning of broadband for all.
- ◆ Creating 4 Million additional jobs in the digital communications sector.
- ◆ Enhancing the contribution of the digital communications sector to 8% of India's GDP from ~ 6% in 2017.

- ◆ Propelling India to the top 50 nations in the ICT Development Index of ITU from 134 in 2017.
- ◆ Enhancing India's contribution to global value chains.
- ◆ Ensuring Digital Sovereignty

Way Forward

Recognising the potential of ubiquitous broadband service in growth of GDP and enhancement in quality of life through societal applications including tele-education, tele-medicine, e-governance, entertainment as well as employment generation by way of high speed access to information and web-based communication, government should give thrust to increasing rural connectivity/ penetration by addressing hurdles by facilitating various policies and improvement investment climate through fast tracking reforms. Unlike other scheme, the country's broadband dreams, however, still remain rooted to the ground—in the simple tech of optic fibre. And the success or failure of those dreams will be written by how fast the fibre network expands.

General Studies Paper- II

Topic: Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance-applications, models, successes, limitations and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.

General Studies Paper- III

Topic: Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.

○○○

6. SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES IN INDIA : AN ANALYSIS

Why in News?

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has notified the setting up of the first ever Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Tripura. The SEZ is being set-up at Paschim Jalefa, Sabroom, South Tripura District, which is 130 km away from Agartala. It will be a sector specific economic zone for agro-based food processing.

Brief Background

The idea of export processing zones (EPZs) was carried by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization from a peripheral area of Europe, Ireland, to the world's economic periphery, the Third World, in the 1960s and 1970s. In Asian economies, Chinese government has made use of what seems to be a similar method for promoting its socialist modernization program, although with a much higher rate of state intervention and participation.

The SEZs—insulated from the rest of the economy—offered a convenient vehicle for testing export-led strategies and incentives to produce for the global market. By the 1960s, the concept of zones for processing exports was already in the air and evidence was accumulating from a few trials. With the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) a body formed to initiate trade negotiations and improve prospects for international trade, several East Asian economies jumped on the trade bandwagon and established export processing zones (EPZs). The early mover advantages attracted the attention of other developing economies. By the 1970s, zones of various kinds were multiplying, but with mixed results. Nevertheless, their popularity increased over the years with the “miracle of Shenzhen”

serving as beacon. They have become a development policy fixture even as import-substitution fell out of favour with most of the economies adopting market and trade liberalization.

Tripura Special Economic Zone

- The estimated investment in the project will be around 1550 Crore. The developer of the SEZ will be Tripura Industrial Development Corporation (TIDC) Ltd.
- The SEZ is estimated to generate 12,000 skilled jobs. Rubber based industries, textile and Apparel Industries, bamboo and Agri-food Processing Industries will be set-up in the SEZ.
- Setting up of the SEZ in Sabroom will open up new avenues to attract private investment considering the proximity of the Chittagong Port and construction of the bridge across Feni River in South Tripura which is underway.
- After it is set up, 100 percent Income Tax exemption will be provided on export income for SEZ units under Section 10AA of the Income Tax Act for the first 5 years.
- Also 50 percent exemption will be provided for the next 5 years and 50 percent of the ploughed back export profit for another 5 years.

What is a Special Economic Zone?

It is a geographical region that has economic laws that are more liberal than a country's typical economic laws. An SEZ is a trade capacity development tool, with the goal to promote rapid economic growth by using tax and business incentives to attract foreign investment and technology. SEZ is a specifically delineated duty-free enclave and shall be deemed to be foreign territory for the purposes of trade operations and duties and tariffs. In order words, SEZ is a geographical region that has economic laws different

from a country's typical economic laws. Usually the goal is to increase foreign investments. SEZs have been established in several countries, including China, India, Jordan, Poland, Kazakhstan, Philippines and Russia. North Korea has also attempted this to a degree. Special Economic zones are broadly divided into more specific zone types and they are:

- ◆ **Export Processing Zones (EPZ):** It refers to an area that allows aggressive economic activity in the form of tax cuts, fiscal incentives, and other benefits to revive weakening export business.
- ◆ **Free Zones (FZ):** It is an area where immigration, visa, customs and taxation are relaxed.
- ◆ **Free Trade Zones (FTZ):** It refers to a particular area within a country where normal trade requirements such as taxes, tariffs, and quotas are either reduced or relaxed to attract investment.
- ◆ **Industrial Parks or Industrial Estates (IE):** Also known as trading estate, it is an area planned for industrial development. A lighter version of industrial park is the business park or the office park, where there are lighter industries such as offices. These areas are located away from the city's main residential area but close to transport facilities such as highways, airports, railroads and ports.
- ◆ **Free Ports:** It refers to a special customs area with relaxed customs regulations or no customs duties or controls for transshipment.
- ◆ **Urban Enterprise Zones:** It refers to an area free of certain local, state and federal taxes and restrictions. Located in the industrial or

commercial areas of a city, the sales tax rate within this zone would be half compared to other parts and the incentives would be much higher. This is done to revive the business climate of a city that has been shattered by economic problems.

Special Economic Zones in India

India was one of the first in Asia to recognize the effectiveness of the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) model in promoting exports, with Asia's first EPZ set up in Kandla in 1965. With a view to overcome the shortcomings experienced on account of the multiplicity of controls and clearances; absence of world-class infrastructure, an unstable fiscal regime and with a view to attract larger foreign investments in India, the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Policy was announced in April 2000.

At present, as per the data of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, 230 out of the 373 SEZs in India are operational and have provided employment to as many as 20 lakh people. As many as 239 (64 per cent) SEZs are located in five States including Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Employment generation through all SEZs across India was 15,91,381 in 2015 -16. Calculated on a cumulative basis, employment through SEZs is 19,96,610 in 2018-2019. Exports in the manufacturing sector from SEZs during the last four years is over Rs. 8 lakh crore. In addition to 7 Central Government SEZs and 11 State/Private Sector SEZs set-up prior to the enactment of the SEZs Act, 2005, approvals have been accorded to 420 proposals for setting up of SEZs, of which 355 have been notified.

The Government had constituted a committee under the Chairmanship

of Baba Kalyani, to study the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Policy of India. The key recommendations of the committee are as follows:

- ◆ Framework shift from export growth to broad-based Employment and Economic Growth (Employment and Economic Enclaves-3Es).
- ◆ Formulation of separate rules and procedures for manufacturing and service SEZs.
- ◆ Shift from supply driven to demand driven approach for 3Es development to improve efficiency of investment-based on certain industries, current level of existing inventory in the region.
- ◆ Enabling framework for Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) in 3Es in sync with State EoDB initiatives. One integrated online portal for new investments, operational requirements and exits related matters.
- ◆ Enhance competitiveness by enabling ecosystem development by funding high speed multi modal connectivity, business services and utility infrastructure. Critical to provide support to create high quality infrastructure either within or linked to the zones eg. High Speed Rail, Express roadways, Passenger/Cargo airports, shipping ports, warehouses etc.
- ◆ Promote integrated industrial and urban development- walk to work zones, States and center to coordinate on the frame work development to bring linkages between all initiatives.
- ◆ Procedural relaxations for developers and tenants to improve operational and exit issues.
- ◆ Extension of Sunset Clause and retaining tax or duty benefits.
- ◆ Broad-banding definition of services/allowing multiple services to come together.

- ◆ Promote MSME participation in 3Es and enable manufacturing enabling service players to locate in 3E.
- ◆ Dispute resolution through arbitration and commercial courts.

Recently, the government of India has announced reforms to the existing SEZ legal framework whereby provisions for minimum land area and sector specific and multi-product SEZs have been amended. Henceforth, all existing and new SEZs would become multi-sector SEZs thereby enabling coexistence of a SEZ unit from any sector along with any other SEZ unit. Further, the provisions governing the minimum land area requirement for setting up of SEZs have also been relaxed and simplified.

The Special Economic Zones Act, 2005

The SEZ Act, 2005 envisages key role for the state governments in export promotion and creation of related infrastructure. The salient features of the SEZ scheme are:

- A designated duty free enclave to be treated as a territory outside the customs territory of India for the purpose of authorised operations in the SEZ;
- No licence required for import;
- Manufacturing or service activities allowed;
- The Unit shall achieve Positive Net Foreign Exchange to be calculated cumulatively for a period of five years from the commencement of production;
- Domestic sales subject to full customs duty and import policy in force;
- SEZ units will have freedom for subcontracting;
- No routine examination by customs authorities of export/import cargo;
- SEZ Developers /Co-Developers and Units enjoy Direct Tax and Indirect Tax benefits as prescribed in the SEZs Act, 2005.

SEZs in India: An Analysis

In India, SEZs were set up to provide a hassle-free environment for exports

and to replicate China's success in using SEZs to boost manufacturing and employment. But the policy has backfired. Far from turning India into a powerhouse of manufacturing exports, the control-free industrial enclaves have become centres of corruption and scams. This begs the question—why has the same policy generated such disparate results for China and India? The answer lies in the failure of local Indian politicians to select SEZ

sites that offer maximum development potential. Site selection for SEZs has been guided by self-serving agendas rather than considerations of growth and development. Local politicians often influence bureaucrats at state-owned industrial development corporations to secure land for personal gains. As such, sites for SEZs are selected based on real estate speculation rather than the economic potential of a region.

If not for profit through land deals, local politicians also use site selection of SEZs to target specific ethnic and caste groups to create vote banks. State governments in India, Alkon argues, suffer from an 'incumbency disadvantage', where they hold office for shorter durations, which discourages them from pursuing long-term development of their region. In contrast, China's local leaders, who may be as corrupt as their Indian counterparts, have a greater incentive to develop more productive SEZs. Promotions of local leaders in China are often based on parameters such as GDP (gross domestic product) growth in their jurisdictions, which means they are more motivated to pursue local development.

Firing up SEZs

Govt eyes revamp of SEZ

- ▶ **It will** liberalise the policy
- ▶ **Open up** zones for tourism; multimedia
- ▶ **Permit** easy exits for zones
- ▶ **Relax** procedures and bring uniformity
- ▶ **Set up** integrated portal to process requests



SEZ exports (₹ lakh cr)



Total SEZs: **232** | Of this, **25** are multi-product

As things stand, many of India's SEZs now lie vacant, hurting not just economic growth but also equity. As real estate businesses have thrived under the guise of SEZs, rich fertile lands have been diverted away from farmers without any real development.

Last year, Comptroller and Auditor General also stated in its report on SEZs: "Considering the significant shortfalls in achievement of the intended socio-economic objectives by all the sectors of SEZs, there is an urgent need for the government to review the factors hindering the growth of non-operational and under-performing zones."

Further, SEZs policy in our country with respect to frequent changes in the policy environment is one of the major reasons of slackening the confidence of investors to continue and make fresh investments in SEZs. Therefore to build a strong confidence amongst the potential/existing investors, it is imperative to frame a stable, favorable and highly transparent SEZs policy with long term perspectives. In addition, policy instruments must be flexible enough to adjust to the evolving needs of the country. In addition, SEZs should remain a viable tool for developing economies, especially when reform

initiatives are ex ante part of the overall strategy.

Conclusion

The SEZs could drastically improve the economic activity in the country, make the country's export competitive and globally noticeable, be net foreign exchange earner and provide immense employment opportunity. But this should not be done at the cost of bringing down the agricultural activities, land grabbing and real estate mafia should be properly regulated so that the common man is not the net sufferer to get the net foreign exchange earner up and running. As compared to china where majority of the SEZ's were setup by the government, similar should be adopted in India, if not fully it should be a public-private partnership and regulatory bodies should be properly managed to weed out fallacies.

General Studies Paper- III

Topic: Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment.

Topic: Investment models.



7. KITCHEN GARDEN : A TOOL TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Context

Growing fruits and vegetables in the garden is already seen as environmentally friendly, but it could also be a weapon in the fight against climate change.

Introduction

Food security and nutritional diversity is one of the key areas that a developing country like India should address. With varying local opportunities and challenges, the kitchen garden forms a panacea that can address food insecurity and climate change and bring in self-reliance, sovereignty and dignity. Continuously increasing food prices of basic kitchen items, fruits and vegetables, the poor and fixed income groups are suffering from the decreasing real incomes and purchasing power. The marginal increase in the income of the poor people to enable them to gain access to food and improve their nutrition is the need of the present time. In cities and urban areas where there is shortage of land for farming and over-population, areas of land around the house that tend to be useless, overgrown by weeds and turned to refuse dump could be means of ensuring household food security and nutrition if properly harnessed.

Kitchen gardens can be grown in the empty space available at the backyard of the house or a group of women can come together, identify a common place or land and grow desired vegetables, fruits, cereals etc. that can benefit the women and community as a whole. There are many social benefits that have emerged from kitchen gardening practices; better health and nutrition, increased income, employment, food security within the household and community social life. Households and small communities take advantage of vacant land and

contribute not only to their household food needs but also the needs of their resident city.

In addition to supplying the food needs, the kitchen gardens help in biodiversity conservation as well as a platform of socializing the younger generation into the communities' norms as they interact with the older people while tending the gardens. While it may not directly supply the cereals need for the family, the savings achieved from not buying fruits and vegetables would be used to fulfill other basic amenities apart from fulfilling nutritional security.

A kitchen garden is where herbs and vegetables are grown around the house for household use. Since early times a small plot near to the house has been used for growing a variety of vegetables according to the season. Local varieties such as radish, broad leaf mustard, chilli, beans, pumpkins etc. are all grown in the kitchen garden.

Advantages

- ◆ Malnutrition is a serious public health issue in urban households as well urban children are suffering from obesity, stunted growth, overweight, sight problems, vitamin A deficiency. Besides these children are suffering from ill effects of urban pollution and urban contamination. Hence kitchen garden will address the malnutrition and impoverishment among children.
- ◆ There is also support for expanding economic base through production, processing, packaging and marketing, this also enhances their entrepreneurial activities and creates small jobs. Urban families tend to save money through small scale farming in kitchen gardens by reducing increased expenditure on food consumables. The organic

quality of the vegetables grown always is health supportive hence the expenditure on illness and doctor counseling is also saved.

- ◆ The farming also serves as an answer to chronic food insecurity among poor.
- ◆ There are several social benefits as well. It enhances the social and emotional wellbeing among urban households. Families come to embrace food security, increased nutrition, increased income, and increased diet awareness. , This supports them together in a community of wellness and good feeling.
- ◆ It conserves the soil, protects the environment and works the nature rather than against it. It is a method of growing food that relies on the Earth's natural resources, such as land, sun, air, rainfall, plants, animals and people. It uses natural method to keep the soil fertile and healthy and to control insects, pests and diseases. Organic methods can help keep our water resources clean and free of chemicals.

Challenges

Even though there are several advantages the kitchen farming is also filled with several challenges. Some of the challenges are discussed below:

- ◆ Issues of Space -In urban areas space is very scarce it is very difficult to make room for living and finding space for gardening is very difficult. Besides, most of the urban living is through sky scrapper apartments and tiny pocket sized houses. Using the space where whole community has ownership is very difficult.
- ◆ Individual houses are very less in metro cities hence the community farming becomes a distant dream.

- ◆ Issues of Untreated Water- The utilization of untreated waste water may cause water borne diseases.
- ◆ Issues of Pollution and Contamination- Because of contamination of air, water, land, etc. and pollution, the farming catches the insects and pesticides more easily. Besides, the soil, the waste water and the automobile pollution around decreases fertility of the farm products grown. This again decreases taste, flavor and savor of the products which becomes almost rejected by consumers. Besides the nutrients in the products grown suspiciously becomes fewer and less. Air pollution is so strong that the agricultural yields also decrease and hence people who start the kitchen garden often lose interest in continuing them.

Kitchen Gardens and Climate Change

Plants, trees, vegetable and fruits play an important role in reducing the harmful effects of climate change. Deforestation is one of the major reasons why the quality of air has degraded to an all-time low. The loss of trees and other vegetation can cause climate change, desertification, soil erosion, fewer crops, flooding, increased greenhouse gases in the atmosphere etc.

According to scientists, planting of trees, vegetable and fruits is the biggest and cheapest way to tackle the climate crisis. As trees grow, they absorb and store the carbon dioxide emissions that are driving global heating. Planting of new trees can help mitigate against climate change by removing CO₂ from the atmosphere. Combined with the sun's energy, the captured carbon is converted into trunks, branches, roots and leaves via the process of photosynthesis. It is stored in this "biomass" until being

returned back into the atmosphere, whether through natural processes or human interference, thus completing the carbon cycle.

Kitchen Garden (KG) can cope with climate change and variability in three ways, viz: guarding against food security, efficient use of domestic waste water and use of locally available materials which are environmental friendly.

Providing Food Security: KGs can provide critical sources of energy and protein especially for weaning age children and HIV/AIDS patients. Year-round, readily available and continuously harvested garden production is also a source of nutritious and pesticide free vegetables and fruits for the poorest families who may otherwise have no access to them. The most popular vegetable species grown in the study area include: tomatoes, spinach, amaranths, nightshade, Hycinth, eggplant, and Chinese cabbage. Vitamin A deficiency contributes not only to xerophthalmia and blindness, but to high mortality rates as well. Lasting long-term solutions to Vitamin A deficiency rests on increasing availability of Vitamin A rich foods to the most vulnerable groups. Therefore, scaling up KGs at local and District level is of paramount importance.

Efficient Use of Domestic Waste Water: As efficient users of soil, water, sunlight and household waste to realize high and sustained yields, KGs exemplify the off-noticed relationship between intensification of land use and higher yield. In semi-arid areas where low and erratic rainfall has made the introduction of vegetables into existing farms a difficult task, water conserving garden systems that recycle water used in the home can achieve substantial production. Furthermore, the compost manure currently used in KG has the potential to conserve water for a

relatively longer period compared to KG without compost manure.

Use of Locally Available Resources: KGs can be a very efficient way of using locally available resources without competing with staple crop production or other productive activities. Labour inputs effectively utilize small amounts of space and time of family members, especially women, children and the elderly, and can be conveniently combined with child care and other domestic tasks.

Indian Scenario

In India, one of the consequences of the green revolution was that it brought in mono-cropping leading to a drastic reduction of crop diversity of farm lands. This shift in agriculture focusing on a market-driven economy where cash crops took precedent had its toll; household needs for a range of cereals, pulses and vegetables were not met from the farm but purchased from the market. This food insecure group needs to face the current environmental and health challenges by identifying ways to better align aesthetics, ecology and health. A kitchen garden can be a part of the solution to this problem.

India is ranked 102 in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) out of 117 qualified countries. Hunger is defined by caloric deprivation; protein hunger; hidden hunger by deficiency of micronutrients. Nearly 47 million or four out of 10 children in India do not meet their potential because of chronic under nutrition or stunting. This leads to diminished learning capacity, increased chronic diseases and low birth-weight infants from malnourished parents.

The higher demand for food should be met by practical innovations like kitchen gardening which not only improves availability but also answers the question of diversity required for a healthy community. A kitchen garden involves the very people who are the greatest resource for development in a

view to improve their own livelihoods and empowerment as envisaged in the rural university concept. It is perhaps the only available ecological space available to the poor to meet their economic needs especially so in India, where the poor tends to rely more on natural resource base for their livelihood. Gardening benefits both individuals and neighborhoods and thus contributes to overall community health. The benefits of food production transcend the physical, mental and emotional health of the individual to leave lasting change on others and on the physical and social space of the community.

Government Initiatives

The Ministry of Human Resources Development has brought out school 'nutrition (kitchen) garden' guidelines encouraging eco-club students to identify fruits and vegetables best suited to topography, soil and climate. These gardens can give students lifelong social, numerical and presentation skills, care for living organisms and team work, besides being used in the

noon-meal scheme. Students also learn to cultivate fruits and vegetables in their homes and this could address micronutrient deficiencies. The main objectives of nutrition (kitchen) garden are as follows:

- ◆ To help in addressing malnutrition and micro-nutrient deficiencies by consumption of freshly grown vegetables.
- ◆ To give children first-hand experience with nature and gardening.
- ◆ To enhance knowledge of children regarding nutritional aspects of vegetables and harmful effects of junk food.

Conclusion

Economic analysis revealed that kitchen gardens can be a panacea to the vulnerable households in providing a form of food security and nutritional diversity. Disposal of organic waste, which is a big headache, can also be eased, as the organic waste would be used to fertilize the organic kitchen gardens. In addition, it can also play

a important role in reducing the harmful effects of climate change. However, there are certain constraints in successful adoption of kitchen gardening. Further, governments need to encourage the concept of kitchen garden via new schemes such as Government of India's 'school nutrition (kitchen) garden' and providing proper facilities.

Overall, the impact of kitchen gardening is very positive as it gave healthy and nutritious food to the household members and also helped in reducing financial burden and keep them healthy and active. As it is a fruitful activity to get fresh and nutritious vegetables so people must adopt it to harness the immense benefits.

General Studies Paper- III

Topic: Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment



SEVEN SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS WITH MODEL ANSWERS

1. Junk Food Consumption in India : Growing Concern

Q. What is junk food? Evaluate the harmful impact of junk food on human health.

Hints:

- ◆ In India, there is no official definition of “junk food” till now and the term “HFSS food” (Foods High in Fat, Salt and Sugar) is commonly used in place of junk food.
- ◆ Junk food has little or no nutrition and is high in sugar, fat and salt. Sugar is added to everything, even to salty food. Junk food is considered as one of the leading causes of health problems.
- ◆ According to a recent survey, conducted by the Government of India along with UNICEF, 10% of all school kids were found to be pre-diabetic. Also, all risk factors for Non- Communicable Diseases, like hypertension, chronic kidney diseases were found with these children. Junk food also affects the cognitive development of children.
- ◆ Further, experts have also been suggested that eating junk food affects the brain in the same way as consuming addictive drugs. An addiction to junk food may even result in rejection of healthier food options like fruits, vegetables, salads etc. leading to further lack of nourishment.

2. Protest, Violence and Laws in India : An Overview

Q. The grammar of protests in India has been attempting to destroy India’s institutional Parliament-Executive-Judiciary grid. Discuss.

Hints:

- ◆ Like in every democracy the world over, not all constituents will agree, there will be some that will protest. All democracies, not merely ‘including’ India but ‘notably’ India, provide spaces for protests. But for a long time, the grammar of protests in India has been attempting to destroy India’s institutional Parliament-Executive-Judiciary grid.

- ◆ The protest against the Citizenship Amendment Act, the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019, the abrogation of Article 370 through the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019 and the Ram Mandir judgement pronounced on 9 November 2019 by the Supreme Court became widespread in the country.
- ◆ Article 19 of the Indian Constitution protects freedom of speech, allowing citizens, for one, the right “to assemble peaceably and without arms.” This includes the right to form associations, hold meetings, and come out in processions. The Constitutional right to assembly is, however, subject to certain regulations contained in a number of laws, such as the Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, and the Police Act of 1861.
- ◆ A political decision in Delhi can trigger a reaction in a part of the country, which in turn can cause another reaction somewhere else. Social media and instant messaging have made it possible for information (and misinformation) to spread like wildfire, causing havoc for civilians and posing problems for law enforcement officials.
- ◆ The citizens are expected to exercise their right to protest within the legal boundaries and it is expected that protesters be informed about what they are protesting against. Citizens also have various options like a letters, debates, writings etc. to register their objection to particular government policy or law. At the same time state or the authority is also expected to keep in mind that it is dealing with its own subjects and be moderate in its treatment even if it has to control them using force.

3. India-Malaysia Relations : Need Better Understanding

Q. The statement of Malaysian Prime Minister and India’s firm response on the same will affect the larger geopolitical scenario in the region. Comment.

Hints:

- ◆ Recently, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad has also criticised India's Citizenship

Amendment Act, (CAA) which he finds to be discriminatory against Muslims and has sparked deadly protests across the South Asian country. Earlier, Malaysia raised the Kashmir issue at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), with its Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad accusing India of "invading and occupying the country" of Jammu and Kashmir.

- ◆ As of today, Palm oil is one of the major products exported by Malaysia to India and is a significant portion of the bilateral trade between the two nations; however given the aggressive nature of Malaysian PM at the UNGA any move by India to revise its import policies regarding Palm oil will significantly impact the related industry in Malaysia.
- ◆ The pro-Pakistani comments by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohammad are surely not in line to keep the relation between the two nations cordial and going by the reports it certainly has not gone down well with the government. Consequently, Malaysia is not only poised to be economically impacted but might also have to pay a higher price for toeing the line of radicals. It seems that the current government of India is a hard-taskmaster and prefers to respond decisively to whosoever tries to malign India and its image through fake speech and rhetoric.
- ◆ While India is not going to be much affected by stain on its bilateral trade relations with Malaysia but it will surely be affected if it's strategic interests are targeted in the South East Asian region in the event of development of a grouping of Malaysia's likeminded neighbours in the region.

4. Education in Madrasas : Is Reform Required

Q. Madrasas, the cradle of Islamic learning in India are going through challenging times and desperately need reforms and modernization. Do you agree? Give reasons.

Hints:

- ◆ Indian madrasas have long been centres of education and literacy, as well as safe spaces to preserve Islamic culture. Especially for Muslim communities living in poor urban areas, madrasas are the only option for a child's education. However, the education that madrasas impart has often been insufficient in equipping their students with skills to break into the mainstream job market.
- ◆ Madrasas' traditional mode of education has isolated students from mainstream occupations and higher

education opportunities. Not all who graduate can be absorbed into mosques and other religious professions, leaving them with little choice in competitive job markets.

- ◆ Curriculum of most madrasas in 2019 or 2020 could be easily replaced with the syllabus of a madrasa in 1920, or even 1870. There is a timelessness to the whole affair which defies the message of the Quran. The Holy book asks mankind to think, explore and introspect. The madrasas ask the students to concentrate on memorizing the Quran and ask no questions. Any attempt to ask questions is met with a rebuke; a student is supposed to toe the line.
- ◆ Apart from lack of centralisation, which is one of the major shortcomings of Indians madrasas, the other problems are pertaining to pedagogy —make it student-centric rather than book-centric, focus on knowledge over parroting. In some madrasas, students are discouraged from reading newspapers or reading what other Muslim scholars write.

5. National Broadband Mission: Internet Access to All Villages

Q. Access to high speed broadband is a key infrastructure for socio-economic development of any country in the modern age. Discuss it in context of rural India connectivity.

Hints:

- ◆ The government has launched a 'National Broadband Mission' that aims to connect 600,000 villages across India at an estimated outlay of Rs 7 lakh crore including a 10% contribution from the state reserve over a period of next 3-4 years.
- ◆ Access to high speed broadband is a key infrastructure for socio-economic development of any country in the modern age. Its democratizing influence has the power to reshape the marginalized sections of the economy. Affordable and accessible broadband is a vital development enabler for building inclusive and sustainable knowledge societies. It enhances productivity and national competitiveness, acts as a crucible for innovation in social and economic sectors and enables better governance.
- ◆ Access to tele-communication and information services, provides crucial knowledge inputs into productive activities of rural and poor households. It would stem urban migration by generating greater income and employment potential in rural areas and by bringing the market to the people rather than forcing them to leave in search of the same.

- ◆ Recognising the potential of ubiquitous broadband service in growth of GDP and enhancement in quality of life through societal applications including tele-education, tele-medicine, e-governance, entertainment as well as employment generation by way of high speed access to information and web-based communication, government should give thrust to increasing rural connectivity/penetration by addressing hurdles by facilitating various policies and improvement investment climate through fast tracking reforms.

6. Special Economic Zones in India : An Analysis

Q. Critically evaluate the performance of Special Economic Zones in India.

Hints:

- ◆ At present, as per the data of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, 230 out of the 373 SEZs in India are operational and have provided employment to as many as 20 lakh people. As many as 239 (64 per cent) SEZs are located in five States including Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- ◆ In India, SEZs were set up to provide a hassle-free environment for exports and to replicate China's success in using SEZs to boost manufacturing and employment. But the policy has backfired. Far from turning India into a powerhouse of manufacturing exports, the control-free industrial enclaves have become centres of corruption and scams.
- ◆ Many of India's SEZs now lie vacant, hurting not just economic growth but also equity. As real estate businesses have thrived under the guise of SEZs, rich fertile lands have been diverted away from farmers without any real development.
- ◆ Further, SEZs policy in our country with respect to frequent changes in the policy environment is one of the major reasons of slackening the confidence of investors to continue and make fresh investments in SEZs. Therefore to build a strong confidence amongst the potential/existing investors, it is imperative to frame a stable, favorable and highly transparent SEZs policy with long term perspectives. In addition, policy

instruments must be flexible enough to adjust to the evolving needs of the country. In addition, SEZs should remain a viable tool for developing economies, especially when reform initiatives are ex ante part of the overall strategy.

7. Kitchen Garden : A Tool to Combat Climate Change

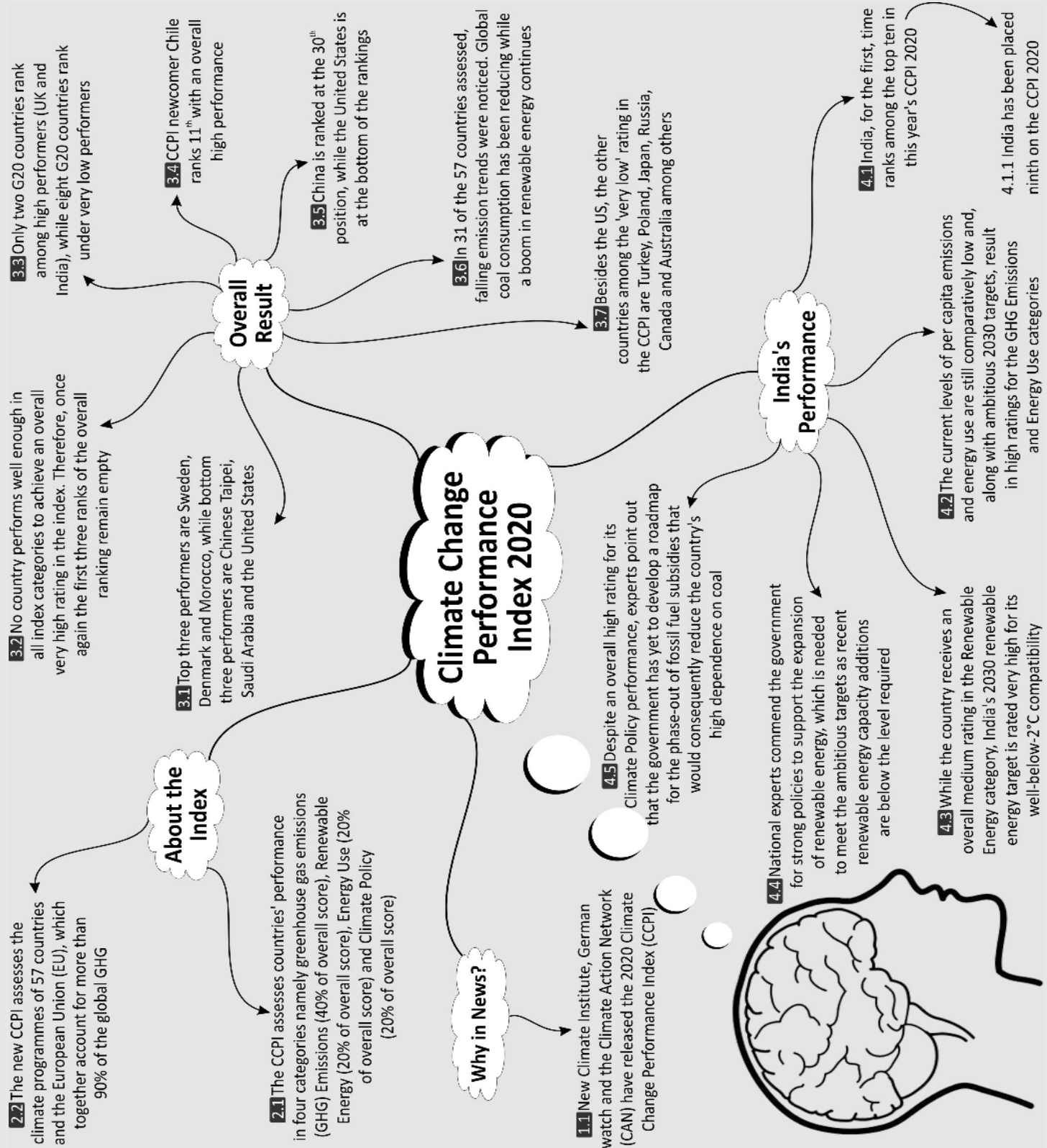
Q. Can 'kitchen garden' be a panacea in providing food and climate security?

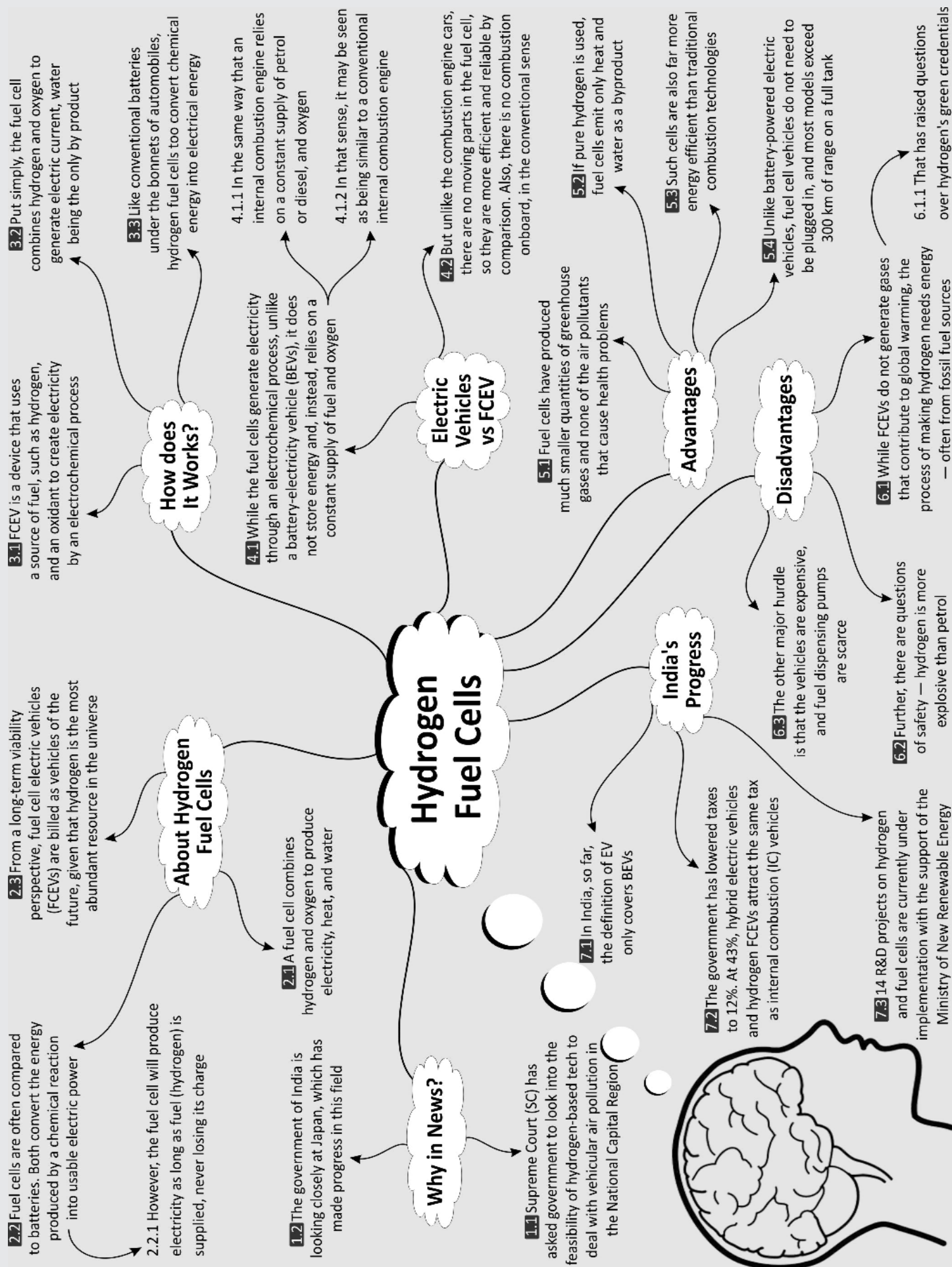
Hints:

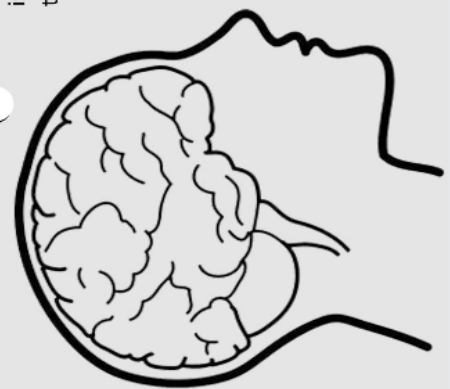
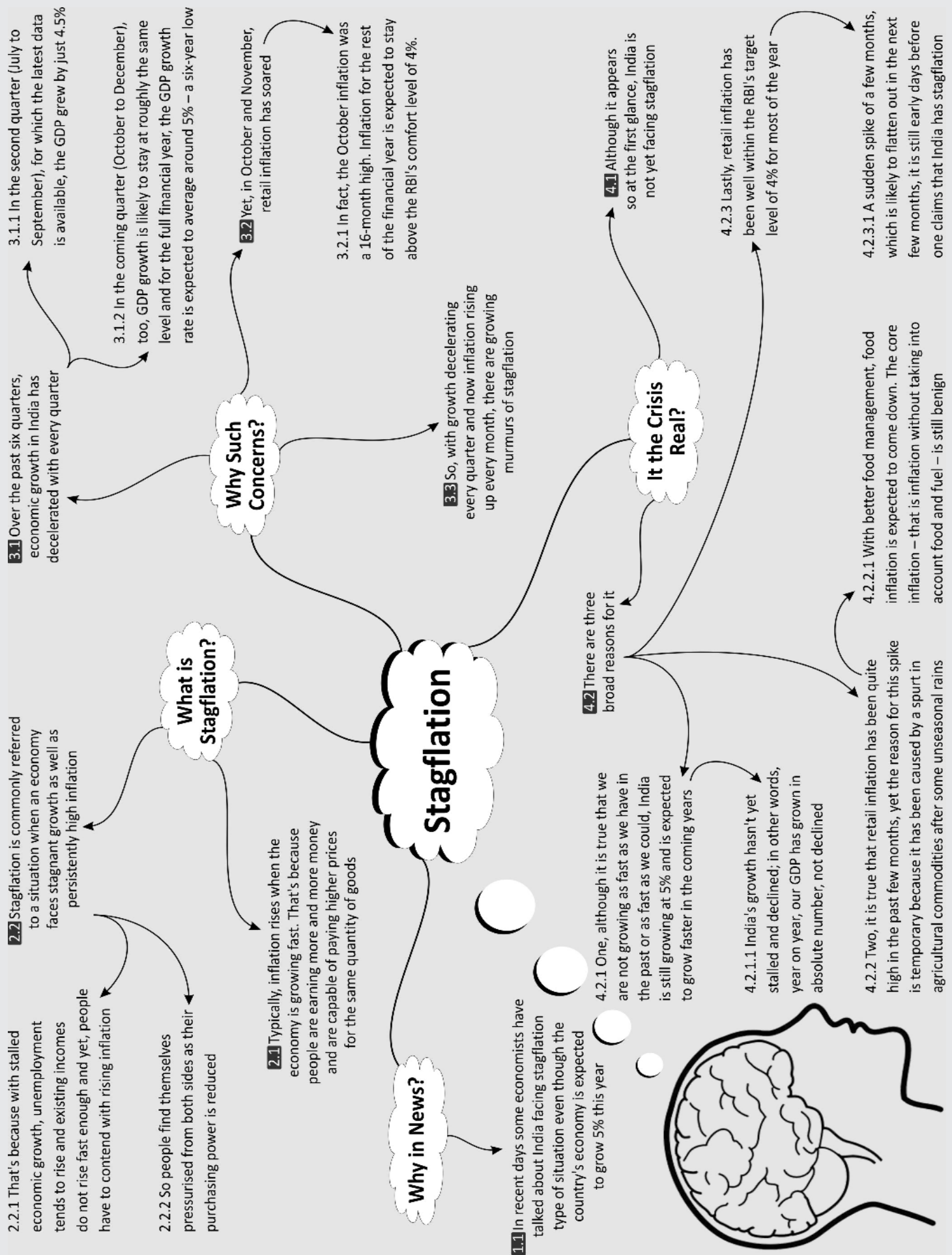
- ◆ A kitchen garden is where herbs and vegetables are grown around the house for household use. Since early times a small plot near to the house has been used for growing a variety of vegetables according to the season. Local varieties such as radish, broad leaf mustard, chilli, beans, pumpkins etc. are all grown in the kitchen garden.
- ◆ Malnutrition is a serious public health issue in urban households as well urban children are suffering from obesity, stunted growth, overweight, sight problems, vitamin A deficiency. Besides these children are suffering from ill effects of urban pollution and urban contamination. Hence kitchen garden will address the malnutrition and impoverishment among children.
- ◆ According to scientists, planting of trees, vegetable and fruits is the biggest and cheapest way to tackle the climate crisis. As trees grow, they absorb and store the carbon dioxide emissions that are driving global heating. Planting of new trees can help mitigate against climate change by removing CO₂ from the atmosphere. Combined with the sun's energy, the captured carbon is converted into trunks, branches, roots and leaves via the process of photosynthesis. It is stored in this "biomass" until being returned back into the atmosphere, whether through natural processes or human interference, thus completing the carbon cycle.
- ◆ Overall, the impact of kitchen gardening is very positive as it gave healthy and nutritious food to the household members and also helped in reducing financial burden and keep them healthy and active. As it is a fruitful activity to get fresh and nutritious vegetables so people must adopt it to harness the immense benefits.

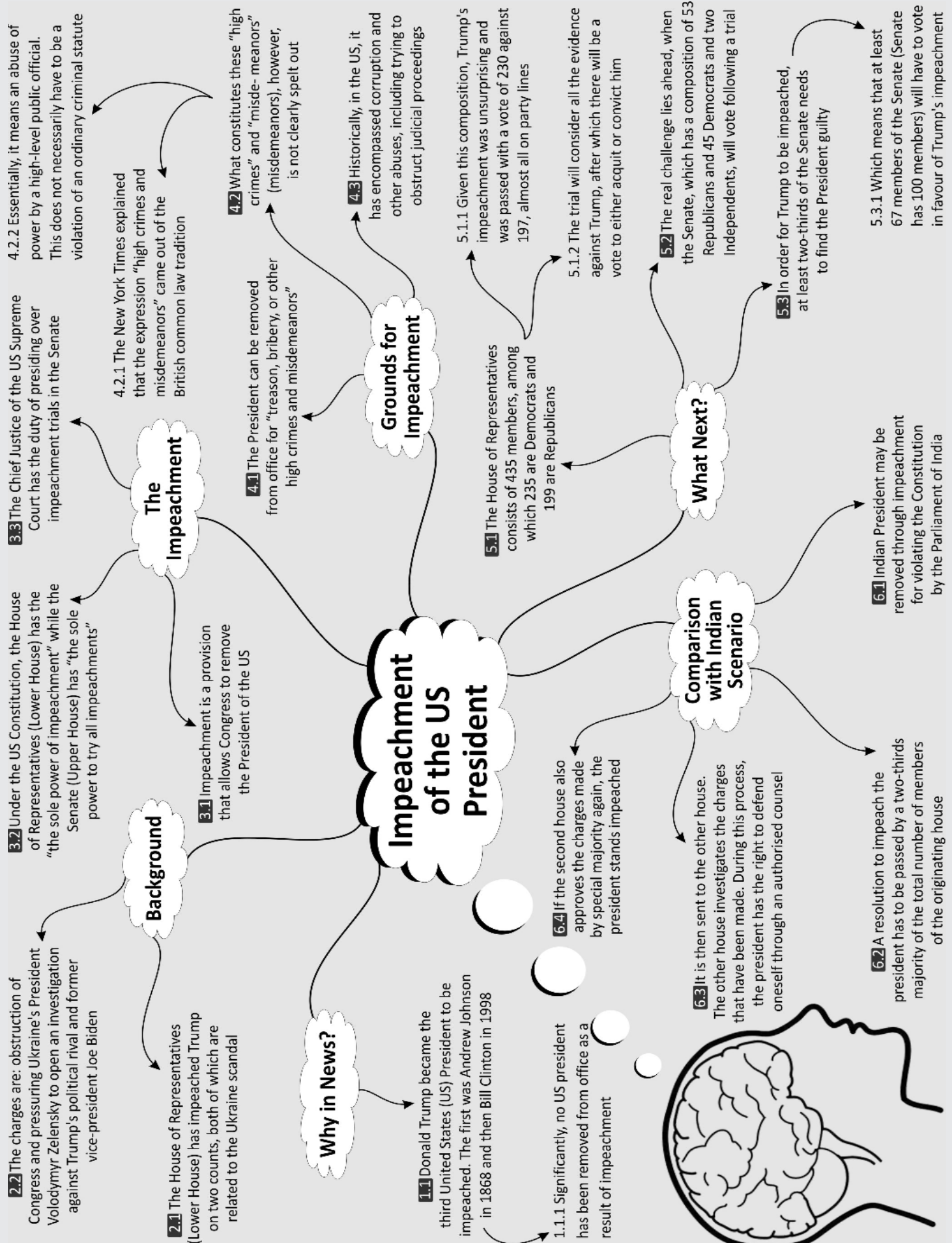


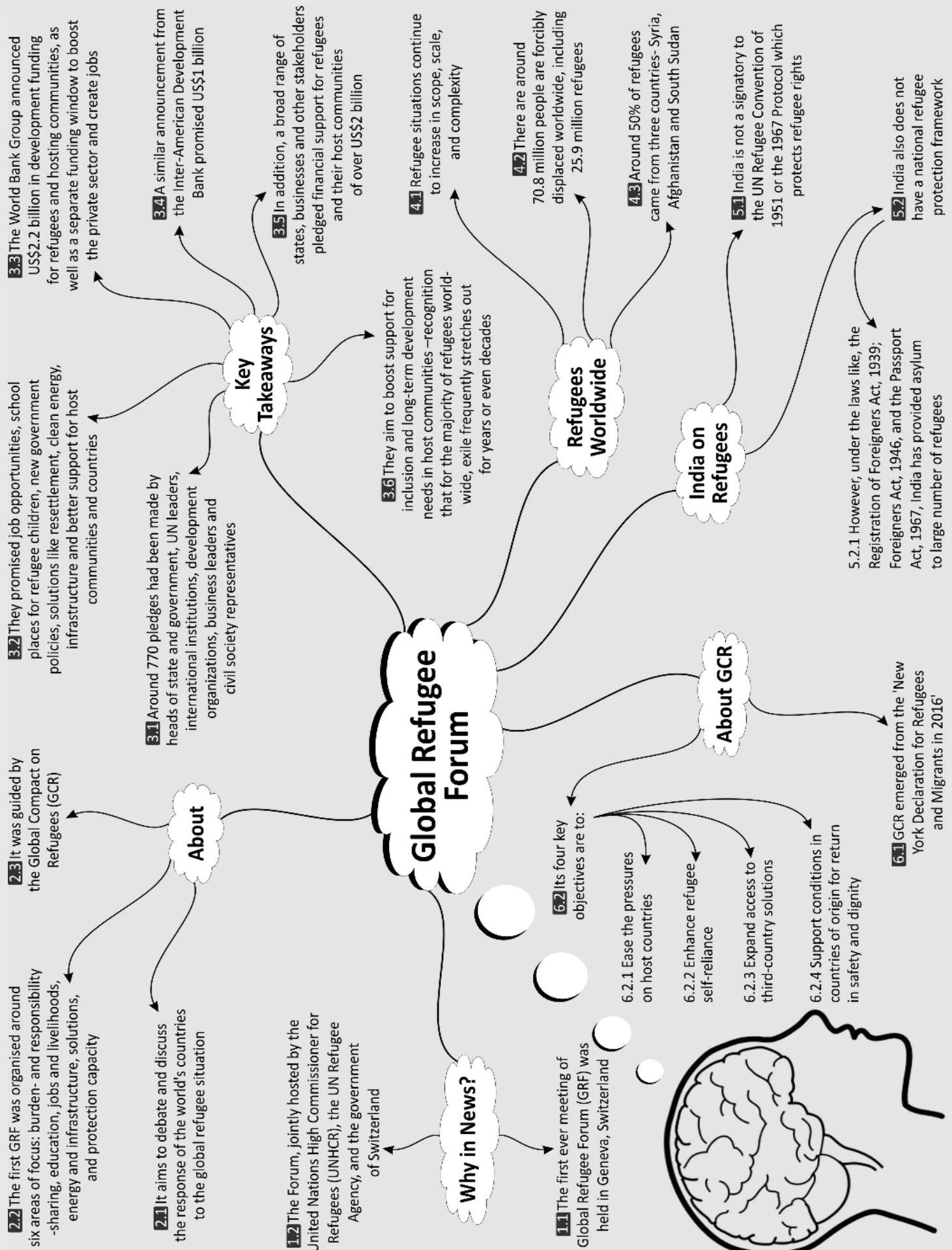
SEVEN BRAIN BOOSTERS

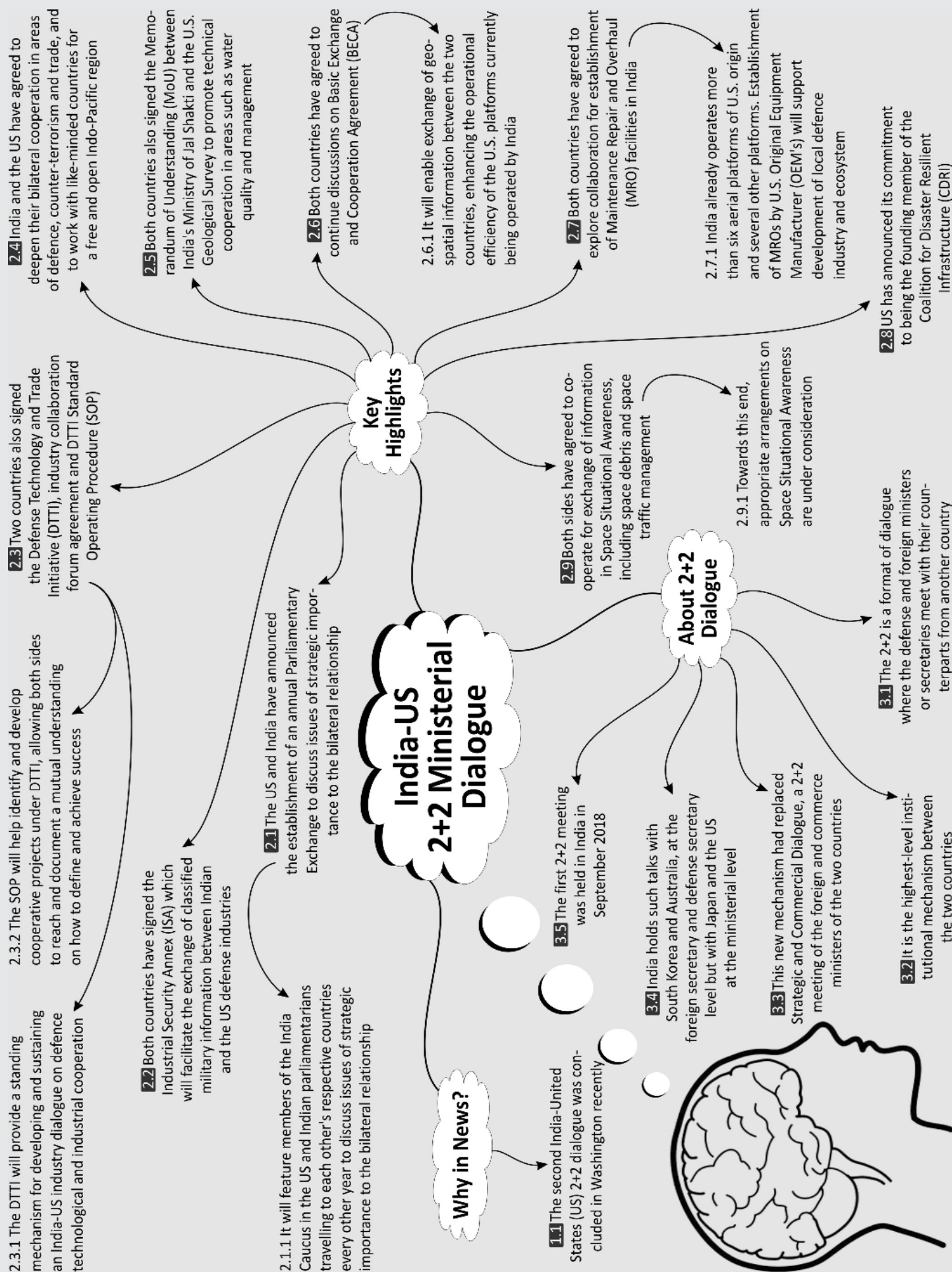


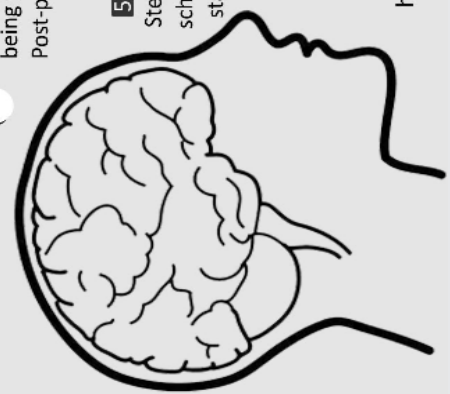
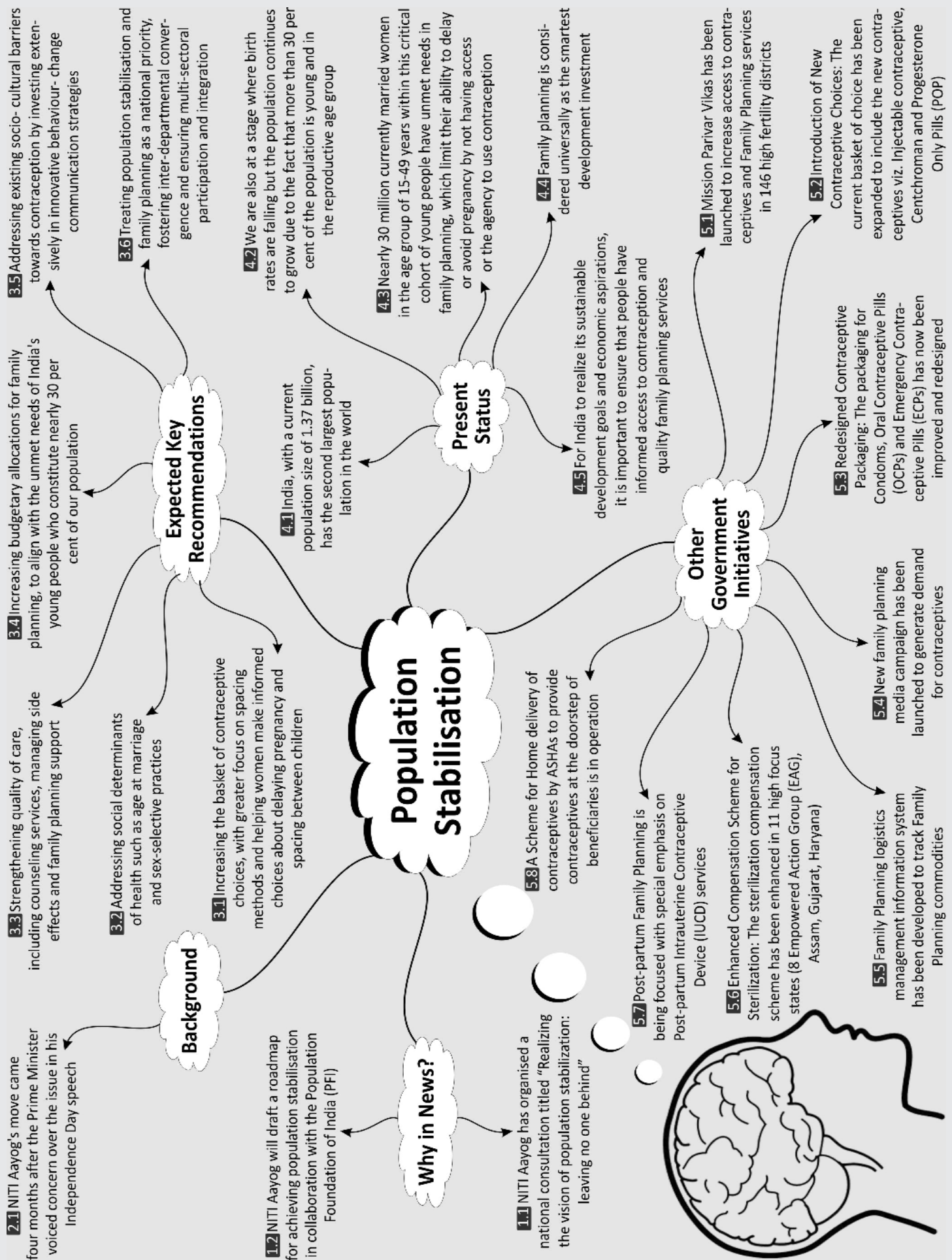












SEVEN MCQ's WITH EXPLANATORY ANSWERS

(Based on Brain Boosters)

1. Climate Change Performance Index 2020

Q. Consider the following statements with respect of 'Climate Change Performance Index 2020':

1. It has been released by United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
2. India has been placed ninth on the CCPI 2020.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (b)

Explanation: Statement 1 is not correct. New Climate Institute, Germanwatch and the Climate Action Network (CAN) have released the 2020 Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI).

Statement 2 is correct. India, for the first, time ranks among the top ten in this year's CCPI 2020. India has been placed ninth on the CCPI 2020.

2. Hydrogen Fuel Cells

Q. In the context of 'hydrogen fuel cells', consider the following statements:

1. The fuel cell combines hydrogen and oxygen to generate electric current, water being the only byproduct.
2. Like a battery electricity vehicle (BEVs), it store energy and relies on it for a constant supply of fuel.
3. In India, so far, the definition of electric vehicles only covers BEVs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct. FCEV is a device that uses a source of fuel, such as hydrogen, and an oxidant

to create electricity by an electrochemical process. Put simply, the fuel cell combines hydrogen and oxygen to generate electric current, water being the only byproduct.

Statement 2 is not correct. While the fuel cells generate electricity through an electrochemical process, unlike a battery-electricity vehicle (BEVs), it does not store energy and, instead, relies on a constant supply of fuel and oxygen.

Statement 3 is correct. In India, so far, the definition of electric vehicles only covers BEVs.

3. Stagflation

Q. The word 'Stagflation' is recently mentioned in news. Consider the following statements with this regard:

1. Stagflation is commonly referred to a situation when an economy faces stagnant growth as well as persistently high inflation.
2. With stalled economic growth, unemployment tends to rise and existing incomes do not rise fast enough.
3. Typically, inflation rises when the economy is growing fast.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

Explanation: All statements are correct. Stagflation is commonly referred to a situation when an economy faces stagnant growth as well as persistently high inflation. That's because with stalled economic growth, unemployment tends to rise and existing incomes do not rise fast enough and yet, people have to contend with rising inflation. So people find themselves pressurised from both sides as their purchasing power is reduced.

Typically, inflation rises when the economy is growing fast. That's because people are earning more and more money and are capable of paying higher prices for the same quantity of goods.

4. Impeachment of the US President

Q. With reference to the impeachment process of US President, consider the following statements:

1. Under the US Constitution, the House of Representatives (Lower House) has the “the sole power of impeachment” while the Senate (Upper House) has “the sole power to try all impeachments”
2. The Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court has the duty of presiding over impeachment trials in the Senate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Both statements are correct.

Impeachment is a provision that allows Congress to remove the President of the US. Under the US Constitution, the House of Representatives (Lower House) has the “the sole power of impeachment” while the Senate (Upper House) has “the sole power to try all impeachments”. The Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court has the duty of presiding over impeachment trials in the Senate.

5. Global Refugee Forum

Q. Consider the following statements with respect of ‘Global Refugee Forum’:

1. The aim of the first meeting of Global Refugee Forum was to form an international convention regarding resettlement of the global refugees by 2020.
2. India will be first country from South Asia region to sign this convention.
3. India is also a signatory to the UN Refugee Convention of 1951 or the 1967 Protocol which protects refugee rights.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 only d) None of the Above

Answer: (d)

Explanation: All statements are incorrect. The first ever meeting of Global Refugee Forum (GRF) was held in Geneva, Switzerland. The Forum, jointly hosted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Refugee Agency, and the government of Switzerland.

It aims to debate and discuss the response of the world’s countries to the global refugee situation.

India is not a signatory to the UN Refugee Convention of 1951 or the 1967 Protocol which protects refugee rights.

6. India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue

Q. Consider the following statements with respect to the ‘second India-US 2+2 dialogue’:

1. Both countries have signed the Industrial Security Annex (ISA).
2. It will facilitate the exchange of classified military information between Indian and the US defense industries.
3. It is the highest-level institutional mechanism between the two countries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

Explanation: All statements are correct. Both countries have signed the Industrial Security Annex (ISA) which will facilitate the exchange of classified military information between Indian and the US defense industries.

The 2+2 is a format of dialogue where the defense and foreign ministers or secretaries meet with their counterparts from another country. It is the highest-level institutional mechanism between the two countries.

7. Population Stabilisation

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. NITI Aayog has drafted a roadmap for achieving population stabilisation in collaboration with the Population Foundation of India (PFI) by 2030.
2. NITI Aayog will be key nodal agency for implementing this new law.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (d)

Explanation: Both statements are incorrect. NITI Aayog has organised a national consultation titled “Realizing the vision of population stabilization: leaving no one behind”. NITI Aayog will draft a roadmap for achieving population stabilisation in collaboration with the Population Foundation of India (PFI).



SEVEN IMPORTANT FACTS FOR PRELIMS

1. What is the name of common currency recently announced by West African countries?

–ECO

2. Which nation has announced 'Gandhi Citizenship Education Prize'?

–Portugal

3. What is 'Ursids' that was recently mentioned in the news?

–Meteor Shower

4. Which country will host '36th International Geological Congress in March 2020'?

–India

5. Where is the Multi-faceted 'Bharat Vandana Park' being constructed?

–New Delhi

6. Who won the 49kg category gold medal at '6th Qatar International Cup' in Doha?

– Mirabai Chanu

7. Which state government has launched 'Mission Shat Pratishat' to achieve 100% result in classes 5, 8, 10, and 12 of government schools.?

–Punjab

○○○

SEVEN PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS EXAM

1. "Politics of exclusion and disenfranchisement always hurt investment and cooperative spirit of any country". Comment.
2. Does India needs to remove growing negative perceptions of its domestic policies in the Muslim world? Do you agree? Give your views.
3. Achieving public order by suspending freedoms is unacceptable. Discuss it in context of recently held protests in India.
4. What is a 'core catcher'? Why it was installed at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant?
5. "Non-performance of duty by a public servant is a form of corruption". Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer.
6. What is 'Operation Twist'? Discuss the reason behind the Reserve Bank of India's decision to conduct 'Operation Twist'.
7. Discuss the factors responsible for localisation of agro-based food processing industries of North-West India.



SEVEN IMPORTANT NEWS

1. Silver Line Project

The Ministry of Railways has granted in-principle approval for the 'Silver Line' project, a proposal of the Kerala government that involves laying the third and fourth railway lines from Kasaragod in the North to Kochuveli (Thiruvananthapuram) in the South for the movement of semi high-speed trains.

Key Highlights

The Kerala Rail Development Corporation (K-Rail), a joint venture between the Ministry of Railways and the Kerala government to execute projects on a cost-sharing basis, will be the nodal agency. The 532-km corridor is projected to be built at a cost of Rs

56,443 crore. Trains would complete the journey at four hours instead of 12, with a maximum speed of 200 km/h.

The corridor will be built away from the existing line between Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur. But in the Thrissur-Kasaragod section, it will run parallel to the existing tracks. The semi high-speed trains will traverse through 11 of the state's 14 districts, Alappuzha, Wayanad and Idukki being the exceptions. There are also plans to connect the corridor with the international airports at Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram. The project is scheduled to be commissioned by 2024.

Need

Kerala's road networks are clogged and experience dense traffic during peak hours. According to data shared by experts, less than 10% of the state's roads handle nearly 80% of the traffic. This also gives rise to accidents and casualties; in 2018, Kerala recorded 4,259 deaths and 31,687 grievous injuries.

Experts have been demanding faster transportation options including railways and waterways. However, the current railway network is congested with a large number of trains, level crossings and sharp curves. The fastest train, plying between Thiruvananthapuram and Kasaragod, takes nearly 12 hours to cover 532 km. ■

2. Operation Twist of RBI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to conduct its version of 'Operation Twist' through simultaneous purchase and sale of government securities under Open Market Operations (OMOs) for Rs 10,000 crore. 'Operation Twist' is the name given to a US Federal Reserve monetary policy operation, which involves the purchase and sale of government securities to boost the economy by bringing down long-term interest rates.

The central bank has decided to purchase Rs 10,000 crore worth of one security — the 6.45 per cent GS 2029. This is a long term 10-year bond. On the sell side, it has proposed to sell four securities for a total of Rs 10,000 crore — 6.65 per cent GS 2020, 7.80 per cent GS 2020, 8.27 per cent GS 2020 and 8.12 per

cent GS 2020. All these four securities are short term, and maturing in 2020. When the RBI purchased 6.45 per cent bond demand is expected to rise, leading to lower long-term yield. On the other hand, sale of short-term securities will push up the short-term rate.

Why 'Operation Twist'?

The RBI slashed key interest rate — repo rate — by 135 points to 5.15 per cent this year but banks passed on only part of it. The one-year median marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) has declined only 49 basis points (bps). 'Operation Twist' normally leads to lower longer-term yields, which will help boost the economy by making loans less expensive for those looking to buy homes, cars and finance projects, while saving becomes

less desirable because it doesn't pay as much interest. The RBI said that the decision follows "a review of the current liquidity and market situation and an assessment of the evolving financial conditions". The central bank is keen that long-term rates are brought down to kickstart investment and revive the economy. The idea is that business investment and housing demand were primarily determined by longer-term interest rates.

About OMOs

The RBI manages and controls the liquidity, rupee strength and monetary management through purchase and sale of government securities (G-Secs) in a monetary tool called Open market Operations. ■

3. Future Skills PRIME

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has approved Rs 436 crore over a period of three years for 'Future Skills PRIME'.

Key Highlights

The programme will be jointly rolled out by the Ministry of Information Technology and industry body National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) and will seek to position the initiative as India stack for digital talent.

The programme, the next level of the Future Skills platform, seeks to skill 412,000 professionals in new technology such as artificial

intelligence, virtual reality, Internet of Things, Big Data, cybersecurity, social and mobile and so on.

It is also open to professionals from outside the IT industry as well, who want to skill themselves in ten emerging technologies.

Significance

India is upping the ante in digital skilling at a time when it is poised to see over 90 million people joining the overall workforce by 2030. Indian IT giants have been investing over Rs 1,000 crore per year to address the reskilling and upskilling requirements of their employees, given the magnitude of

the challenge. The programme will increase employability and add digital value to country's talent pool.

Background

Last year, NASSCOM and the government, in a joint initiative announced the Future Skills portal for member companies in the IT-ITeS industry to reskill across nine emerging technologies. Of the 4.5 million people employed in the industry today, 1.5 - 2 million are expected to require reskilling in the next 4-5 years.

As many as 200,000 professionals have been trained on the platform so far. ■

4. Houbara Bustard

The government of Pakistan has issued special permits to the Emir of Qatar and nine other members of the royal family to hunt the houbara bustard, an internationally protected bird species. The permits are issued every year to members of the royal families of Gulf countries, despite growing criticism in Pakistan against the move.

In the wake of its dwindling population, the migratory bird is not only protected under various international nature conservation treaties, its hunting is also banned under local wildlife protection laws. Pakistanis are not allowed to hunt this bird. However, the hunting of houbara bustard is used as a foreign policy tool by the Pakistan government, which allows influential nationals of the

Arabian Gulf nations to hunt the bird for a price tag of \$100,000.

About Houbara Bustard

Bustards are large, terrestrial birds that belong to several species, including some of the largest flying birds. The houbara bustard, which lives in arid climates, comes in two distinct species as recognised by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, one residing in North Africa (*Chlamydotis undulata*) and the other in Asia (*Chlamydotis macqueenii*). IUCN has categorised the species in 'vulnerable' category.

The population of the Asian houbara bustards extends from northeast Asia, across central Asia, the Middle East, and the Arabian Peninsula

to reach the Sinai desert. According to the International Fund for Houbara Conservation (IFHC), roughly 33,000 Asian houbara bustards and over 22,000 of the North African houbara bustards remain today.

After breeding in the spring, the Asian bustards migrate South to spend the winter in Pakistan, the Arabian Peninsula and nearby Southwest Asia. Some Asian houbara bustards live and breed in the southern part of their ranges including parts of Iran, Pakistan and Turkmenistan.

According to IFHC, the main reasons for the houbara's decline are poaching, unregulated hunting, along with degradation of its natural habitat. ■

5. Integrated Battle Groups by Indian Army

In the wake of changing character of warfare across the world, the Indian Army has decided to ready more than a dozen Integrated Battle Groups (IBGs) by 2020.

Background

IBGs were first proposed in one of the four studies regarding the reorganising of the Army, which was commissioned

last year by Army chief General Bipin Rawat. The proposal to establish the IBGs has already gone to the government and the Army is waiting for approval.

Key Highlights

The four each of the IBGs will come up facing China and Pakistan, while the Mountain Strike Corps will also be converted into IBGs. The Mountain Strike Corps “has become too huge, a bit of an elephant” and will be “divided into five to six IBGs”. There will be four IBGs in Sikkim and another four in the Jammu-Sialkot sector facing Pakistan. The IBGs will have the capacity to 10-15 km deep into enemy territory without requiring support.

In modern warfare, attacking a significant city can lead to a severe-counter attack, leading to a pyrrhic victory. The source said that either army can go deep into the enemy’s territory or army can capture a similar territory linearly along the border. Rather than going deeper, to capture the same territory linearly the forces may not require Strike Corps and can be done by the IBGs. But army do not want to not have the capacity to go deeper, that this was why the army needs to retain the Strike Corps as well.

What are IBGs?

IBGs are self-contained, agile, brigade-sized fighting units. The IBGs are to perform both offensive roles, involving cross-border operations, and defensive roles to withstand an enemy attack. Each IBG will be headed by a major general. The integrated units for the border will be all-encompassing, with artillery, armoured, combat engineers and signal units.

6. First Biosimilar Medicine for Breast Cancer : WHO

The World Health Organization (WHO) has prequalified its first biosimilar medicine – trastuzumab – in a move that could make this expensive, life-saving treatment more affordable and available to women globally. Trastuzumab – a monoclonal antibody – was included in the WHO Essential Medicines List in 2015 as an essential treatment for about 20% of breast cancers. It has shown high efficacy in curing early stage breast cancer and in some cases more advanced forms of the disease.

Need

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women. 2.1 million women contracted breast cancer in 2018. 630

000 of them died from the disease, many because of late diagnosis and lack of access to affordable treatment.

What are Biosimilars?

According to the WHO, a biotherapeutic product which is similar in terms of quality, safety and efficacy to an already licensed reference biotherapeutic product. Biotherapeutic medicines, which are produced from biological sources such as cells rather than synthesized chemicals, are important treatments for some cancers and other non-communicable diseases. Like generic medicines, biosimilars can be much less expensive versions of innovator biotherapeutics while keeping the same effectiveness. They

are usually manufactured by other companies once the patent on the original product has expired.

Biosimilar drugs are often confused with generic drugs. Both are marketed as cheaper versions of costly name-brand drugs. But biosimilar drugs and generic drugs are very different, mainly because while generic drugs are identical to the original in chemical composition, biosimilar drugs are “highly similar,” but close enough in duplication to accomplish the same therapeutic and clinical result. Another key difference is that generics are copies of synthetic drugs, while biosimilars are modeled after drugs that use living organisms as important ingredients.

7. Core Catcher device at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant

The Moscow-based Rosatom State Corporation Engineering Division said that it had installed a core melt localisation device (CMLD) or “core catcher” at Unit 3 of Tamil Nadu’s Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP). The device is designed to localise and cool the molten core material in case of a meltdown accident. Unit 1 and Unit 2 of the KKNPP are operational, and were connected to the power grid in 2013 and 2016, respectively. The civil work for Units 3 and 4 began in June 2017. The device has improved seismic resistance, hydro-dynamic and shock strength as well as equipped with flood

protection and simplified installation and assembly technology.

About Core Catcher

The core catcher device is installed at the bottom of the nuclear station’s protective shell, and is designed to save the latter as well as exude radioactive emission in the environment in case of a serious accident. It is a cone shaped metal structure that weighs about 800 tonnes. The structure is double walled, with the gap between the two walls filled with FAOG (ferric and aluminium oxide granules). The core catcher is filled with a ceramic mixture also

including ferric oxide and aluminium oxide, called ‘sacrificial material’. The sacrificial material prevents the corium from trickling through and also acts as a cooling mechanism. Molten core material, or corium, is lava-like material that gets formed in the core of a nuclear reactor in the event of a meltdown accident. Such an accident occurs when the nuclear fission reaction taking place inside a reactor is not sufficiently cooled, and the buildup of heat causes fuel rods to melt down. The corium so formed can remain radioactive for several decades, even centuries.

SEVEN IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS FROM PIB

1. Afghanistan First Country to recognised Indian Pharmacopoeia

The Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) has been recognised formally by the National Department of Regulation of Medicines and Health Products of the Ministry of Public Health of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Key Highlights

IP is an officially recognized book of standards as per the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules, 1945 thereunder. The IP specifies the standards of drugs manufactured and marketed in India in terms of their identity, purity and strength.

The quality, efficacy and safety of the medicines are important from healthcare perspective. In order to ensure the quality of medicinal

products, the legal and scientific standards are provided by Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) in the form of Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP). As per, the Second Schedule of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, IP is designated as the official book of standards for drugs imported and/or manufactured for sale, stock or exhibition for sale or distribution in India.

It will be used based on the requirement as reputable pharmacopoeia in the laboratory of medicines and health products quality. With this, a new beginning has been made and Afghanistan has become the first country to recognize IP pursuant to the efforts of Department of

Commerce and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Background

The IP Commission's mission is to promote public and animal health in India by bringing out authoritative and officially accepted standards for quality of drugs including active pharmaceutical ingredients, excipients and dosage forms, used by health professionals, patients and consumers. This is achieved by developing the standards for medicines and supporting their implementation. Standards prescribed in the IP are authoritative in nature and are enforced by the regulatory authorities for quality control of medicines in India.

2. Third Party Verification of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban

According to the third party verification, Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) has achieved its target of creating urban India open defecation free (ODF). Urban areas of 35 states / UTs have become ODF. In all, 4,320 cities (out of 4,372) have declared themselves ODF, of which 4,167 cities have been certified through. This has been achieved by the construction of nearly 65.81 lakh individual household toilets against mission target of 59 lakhs and 5.89 lakh seats of community / public toilets against mission target of 5.08 lakh seats under the mission.

Key Highlights

Till date, 819 cities have been certified ODF+, and 312 cities have been certified ODF++. Ministry of Housing and Urban

Affairs (MoHUA) has launched the ODF+ and ODF++ protocols, with a focus on sustaining ODF outcomes and achieving holistic sanitation. While ODF+ protocol focuses on O&M of community / public toilets by ensuring functionality and proper maintenance of CT/PTs for their continued usage, ODF++ focuses on addressing safe management of faecal sludge from toilets and ensuring that no untreated sludge is discharged into open drains, water bodies or in the open.

Recently, MoHUA has introduced the Water + protocol, designed to ensure that no untreated waste water is discharged into the open environment or water bodies.

MoHUA has partnered with Google to map all public toilets on Google

maps, thereby improving ease of access of sanitation facilities to citizens. Date, 2,300 cities have uploaded more than 57, 000 PTs mapped on Google maps, covering more than 50% of India's urban population.

MoHUA also launched the Star rating protocol for Garbage free cities which is based on 12 parameters follows a SMART framework – Single metric, Measurable, Achievable, Rigorous verification mechanism and Targeted towards outcomes – and has been devised in a holistic manner including components such as cleanliness of drains & water bodies, plastic waste management, managing construction & demolition waste, etc. which are critical drivers for achieving garbage free cities.

3. Nagpur Resolution: A Holistic Approach for Empowering Citizens

The 'Nagpur Resolution- A holistic approach for empowering citizens' was adopted during the valedictory session of the two-day regional conference on 'Improving Public Service Delivery – Role of Governments', in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The conference was organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Government of India, in collaboration with the Government of Maharashtra and the Maharashtra State Commission for Right to Public Services.

Key Highlights

- ◆ To empower the citizens by policy interventions for better service delivery through timely updation of citizens charters, implementation of enactments and benchmarking standards for continuous improvement;
- ◆ To empower citizens by adopting a bottom-up approach to bring massive improvements in quality of grievance redressal and reduction in timelines of grievance redressal;
- ◆ To adopt a holistic approach of systemic public grievance reforms through improved mapping, formulation of monitoring matrix, data collection and evaluation in quality of grievance redressal;
- ◆ To provide an enabling environment for states and ministries/ departments of the government of India for creating web portals and to adopt a holistic approach for improved service delivery through digital platforms;
- ◆ To focus on dynamic policy making and strategic decisions, monitoring of implementation, appointment of key personnel, coordination and evaluation;
- ◆ To achieve a sense of common identity by exchange of technical expertise in the areas of improved service delivery between the paired states under the 'Ek Bharat – Shresht Bharat Program';
- ◆ To work towards long-term engagements in the areas of improved service delivery for empowering citizens through greater cooperation between the DARPG and the participating states and,
- ◆ To ensure timely publication of Good Governance Index to identify the quality of governance in 10 sectors especially those pertaining to welfare and infrastructure at the Union, State and District levels.

4. EChO Network

The government of India has launched EChO Network, a national program to provide a template for cross-disciplinary leadership in India with the specific focus of increasing research, knowledge, and awareness of Indian ecology and the environment.

Key Highlights

- EChO Network would develop a national network to catalyse a new generation of Indians who can synthesize interdisciplinary concepts and tackle real-world problems in medicine, agriculture, ecology, and technology. With no precedent for such a network anywhere in the world, EChO Network establishes a new platform to change how science is embedded in our modern society. India has recently embarked on a number of national-level efforts to promote ecological and environmental research on the subcontinent; however, there remains a lacuna of trained scientists with interdisciplinary skills and collaborative mindset. Hence, there is a need to train a new generation of educators and students who can identify and solve problems in an interdisciplinary manner and who can listen to our natural world and tackle real-world problems in medicine, agriculture, ecology, and technology.
- The Network will identify gaps in knowledge regarding selected topics in human and environmental ecosystems. The program will then train postdoctoral leaders in research and outreach on these topics, while also incorporating current public and private efforts into a national network. It would then go on to establishing nation-wide awareness in these issues through public discourse and education for citizens, industry, and government with information exchange at all educational levels.
- Over time EChO Network intends to create an international distributed institute comprising individuals housed within industry, government, private, and academic sectors, combining their expertise and resources collectively to tackle large scale problems.

5. Exercise Apharan

The Indian Navy, in collaboration with Indian Coast Guard, Cochin Port Trust and all other concerned stake holders,

conducted first time such a large scale anti hijacking exercise namely exercise Apharan off the Port of Kochi.

Key Highlights

The Exercise 'Apharan' was aimed at streamlining the response mechanism/

preparedness to thwart any attempt by anti-national elements to hijack a merchant vessel or attempt forced entry of a rogue/commandeered merchant vessel into Kochi harbour. Within the ambit of coastal security architecture, hijacking of a merchant vessel is one of the challenging scenarios, response to which requires synergy of resources, assets and efforts of all stake holders

including the state government.

The Exercise saw participation of multiple agencies, including more than 12 ships and helicopters of the Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard and Cochin Port Trust. As part of the scenario, interdiction of a 'rogue' vessel outside Kochi port and insertion of Marine Commandos onto the rogue/hijacked vessel through boarding operations,

as well as slithering down onto its deck from a Sea King helicopter, were exercised.

The exercise provided an opportunity to all stakeholders to assess the preparedness of their respective organisations, identify gaps to address them on priority as well as to formulate an integrated Crisis Management Plan for Kochi Port.

6. ADB and India Signed \$250 million Loan to Expand Energy Efficiency

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India have signed a \$250 million loan to Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) to expand energy efficiency investments in India that will benefit agricultural, residential and institutional consumers. In addition, \$46 million financing will be provided from the Clean Technology Fund (CTF), to be administered by ADB.

Key Highlights

The project is expected to contribute to the mission of government of India to promote energy efficiency and meet government's commitments to reduce energy intensity of the economy.

Further, introduction of energy-efficient technologies in eligible states including smart meters, distributed solar photovoltaic systems and electric vehicles will help reduce electricity network losses and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

This is one of the few ADB projects specially focused on demand-side energy efficiency targeting upstream efficiency opportunities and business models that can be scaled up in India and other ADB developing member countries. The project's smart metering component will help address billing and collection inefficiencies.

Promoting awareness of the benefits of using energy efficient technologies is another feature of the project. Awareness campaigns will engage local organisations in knowledge-sharing and training, with a focus on women electricity consumers. Capacity building for electricity distribution, regulatory agencies, and other government bodies will also be carried out.

EESL will also explore business models to generate greater public demand for e-vehicles to support India's current push for electric vehicles.

7. Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile

Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile (QRSAM) system developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was successfully flight-tested from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the Odisha coast. The missile was flight-tested with full configuration in deployment mode intercepting the target mid-air, meeting the mission objectives. The entire event was monitored by Ground Telemetry Systems, Range Radar Systems, Electro Optical Tracking System etc.

About QRSAM

The QRSAM weapon system, which operates on the move, comprises of fully automated Command and Control System, Active Array Battery Surveillance Radar, Active Array Battery Multifunction Radar and Launcher. Both radars are four-walled having 360-degree coverage with search on move and track on move capability.

The system is compact with minimum number of vehicles for a

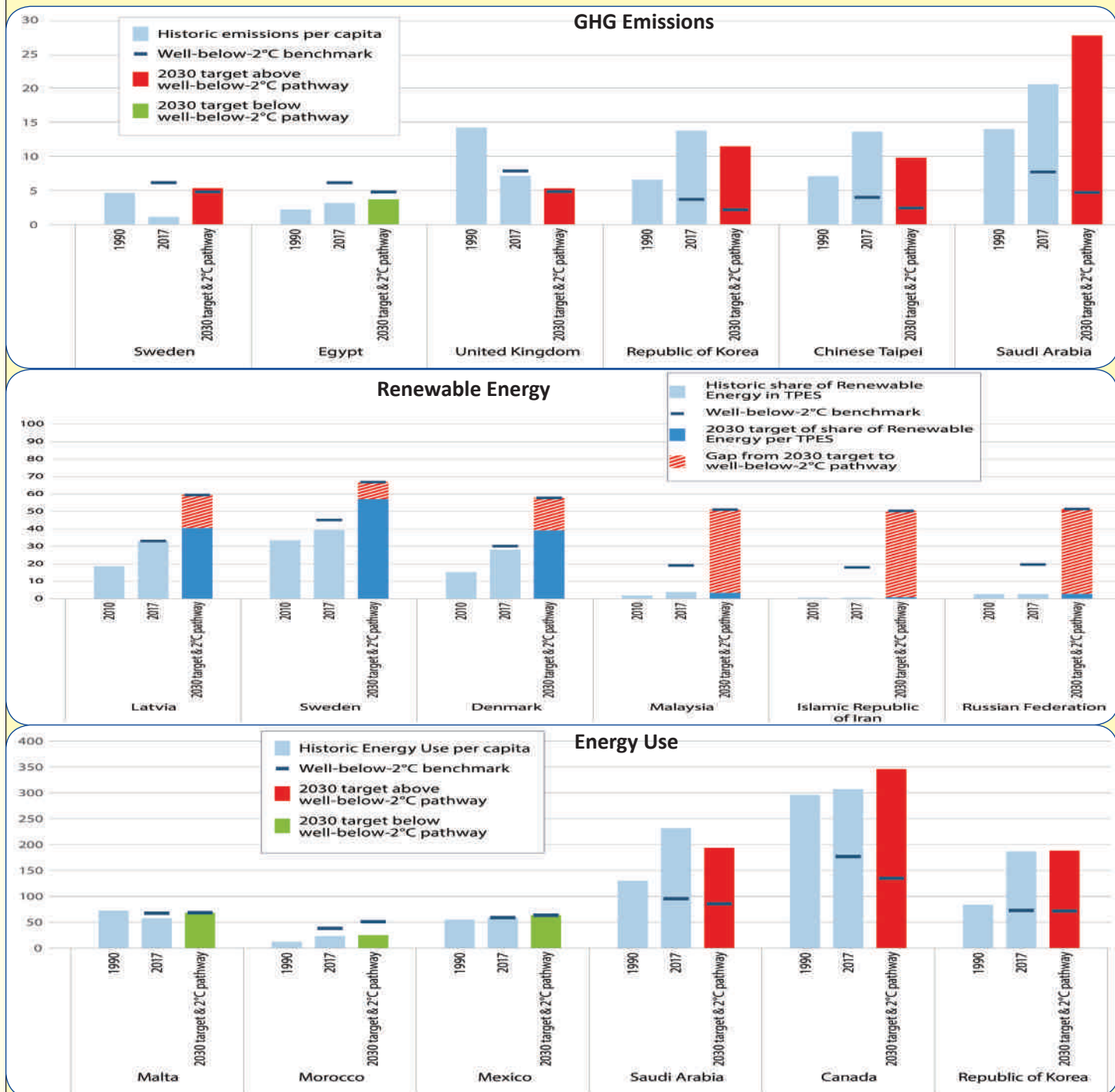
firing unit. Single stage solid propelled missile has midcourse inertial navigation system with two-way data link and terminal active seeker developed indigenously by DRDO. The missile successfully engaged the aerial target establishing its capability. With this mission, the developmental trials of the weapon system are successfully completed and the weapon system is expected to be ready for induction by 2021.



SEVEN IMPORTANT CONCEPTS THROUGH GRAPHICS

Climate Change Performance Index - 2020

1. GHG Emissions, Renewable Energy and Energy Use: Historic values, targets and 2°C Compatible Benchmarks



40% GHG Emissions

20% Climate Policy

20% Energy Use

20% Renewable Energy

10% International Climate Policy

10% National Climate Policy

5% TPES/Capita 2030 Target compared to a well-below-2°C compatible pathway

5% Current Level of TPES/Capita compared to a well-below-2°C compatible pathway

5% Past Trend of TPES/Capita

5% Current Level of Energy Use (TPES/Capita)

5% Renewable Energy 2030 Target compared to a well-below-2°C compatible pathway

5% Current Share of Renewables per TPES compared to a well-below-2°C compatible pathway

5% Development of Energy Supply from Renewable Energy Sources

10% Current Level of GHG Emissions per Capita

10% Past Trend of GHG Emissions per Capita

10% Current Level of GHG Emissions per Capita compared to a well-below-2°C compatible pathway

10% GHG Emissions Reduction 2030 Target compared to a well-below-2°C compatible pathway

Current Share of Renewables per TPES

GHG = Greenhouse Gases | TPES = Total Primary Energy Supply

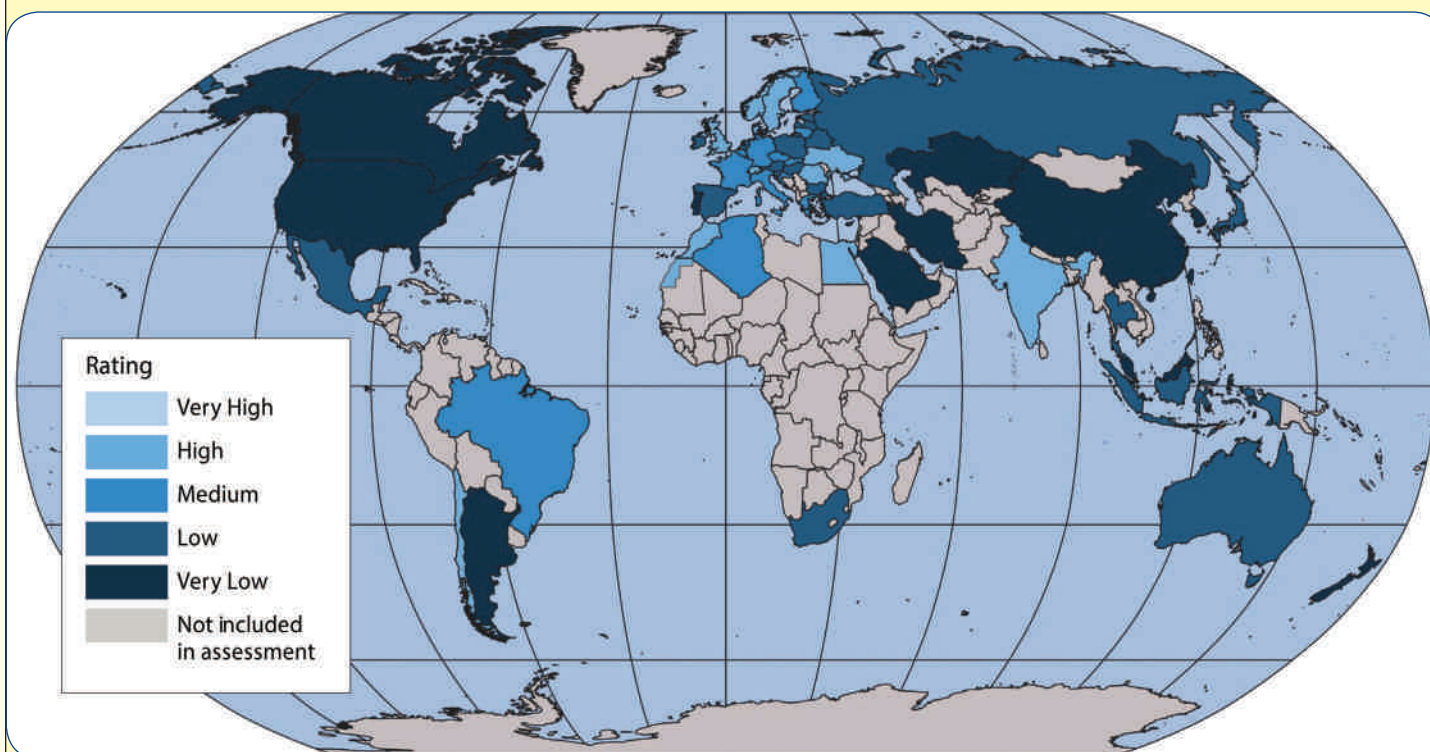
- The CCPI assesses countries' performance in four categories: "GHG Emissions" (40% of overall score), "Renewable Energy" (20% of overall score), "Energy Use" (20% of overall score) and "Climate Policy" (20% of overall score).

Rating

- Very High
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very Low
- Not included in assessment

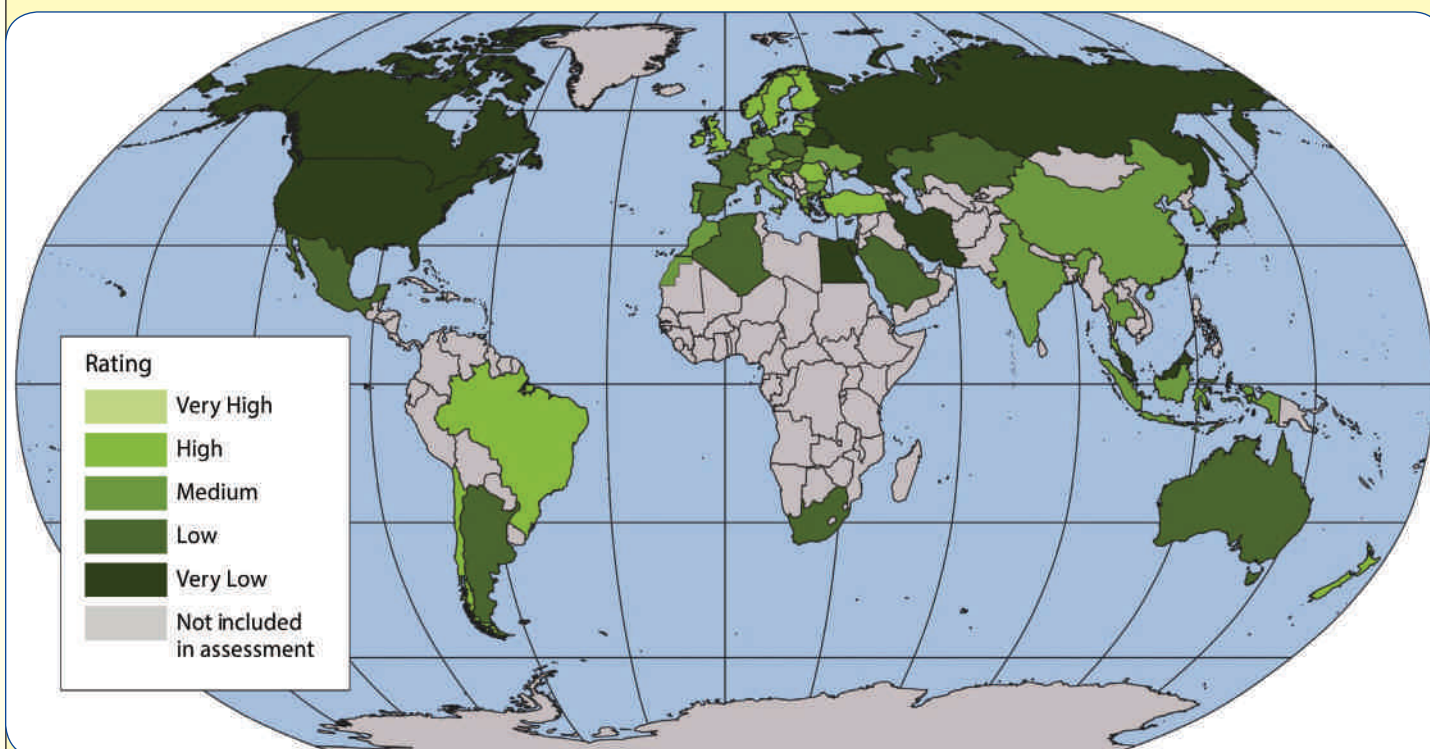
- **Top three performers:** Sweden, Denmark and Morocco
- **Bottom three performers:** Chinese Taipei, Saudi Arabia and the United States

4. Category Results – GHG Emissions



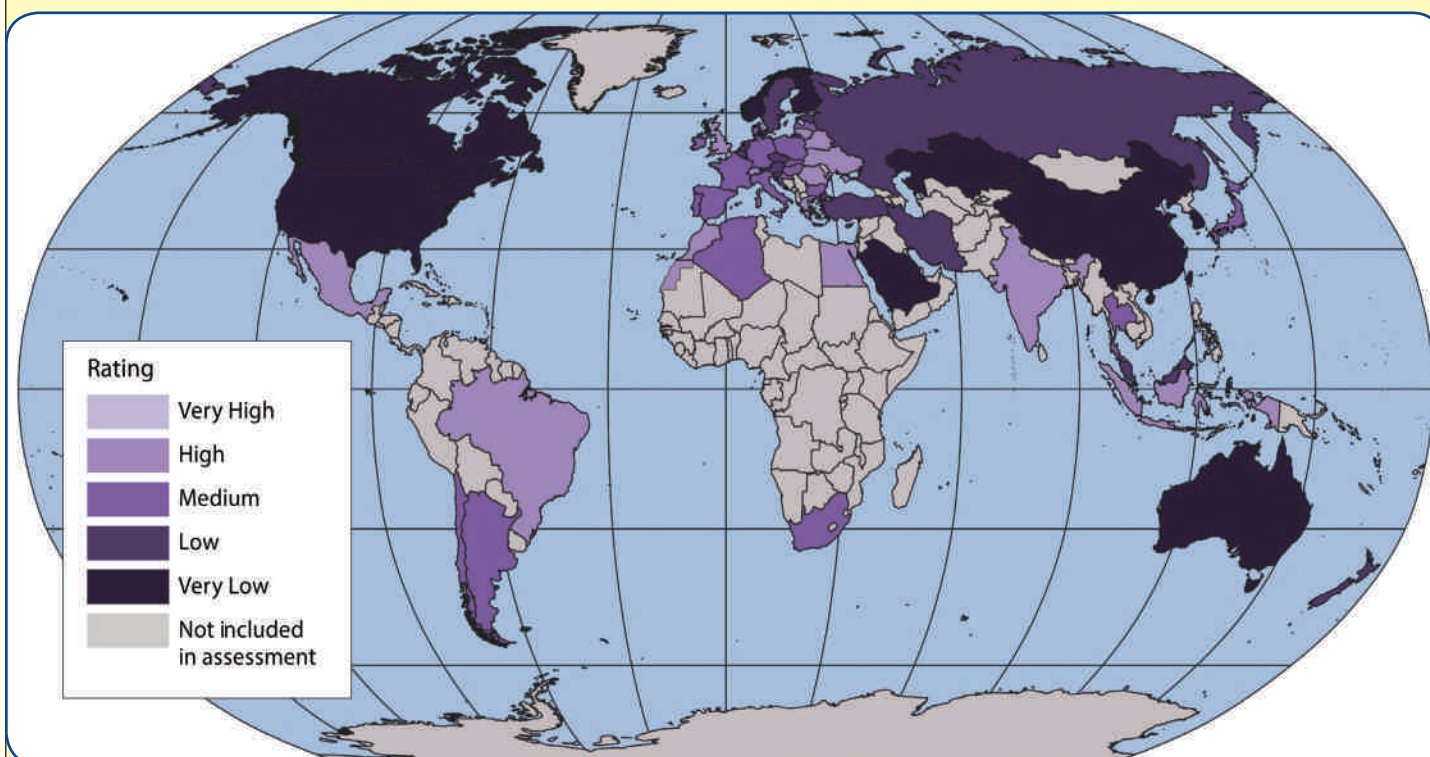
- **Top three performers:** Sweden, Egypt and the United Kingdom
- **Bottom three performers:** Republic of Korea, Chinese Taipei and Saudi Arabia

5. Category Results – Renewable Energy



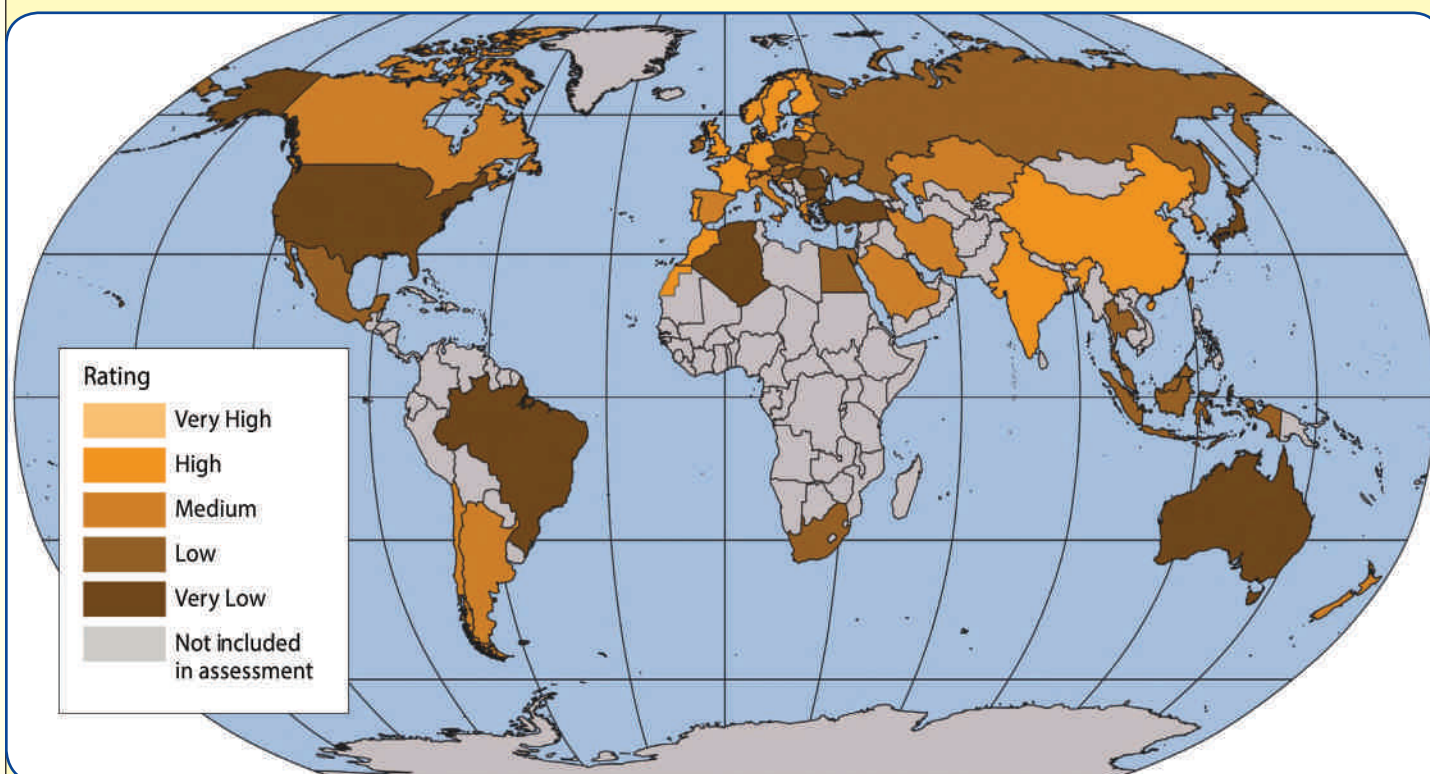
- **Top three performers:** Latvia, Sweden and Denmark
- **Bottom three performers:** Malaysia, Iran and Russia

6. Category Results – Energy Use



- **Top three performers:** Malta, Morocco and Mexico
- **Bottom three performers:** Saudi Arabia, Canada and Republic of Korea

7. Category Results – Climate Policy



- **Top three performers:** Portugal, Finland and Morocco
- **Bottom three performers:** Turkey, the United States and Australia

COMPREHENSIVE ALL INDIA PRELIMS TEST SERIES (CAIPTS)

TARGET 2020

OFFLINE & ONLINE

Key features of CAIPTS

- The CAIPTS will contain a total of 28 tests (Fully applied and based on UPSC Pattern)
28 Tests = 13 Applied Tests (including 1 Revision Test and 1 UPSC-CSE Prelims Previous Year Paper based) + 10 Full Length GS Tests (including 2 UPSC-CSE Prelims Previous Year Paper based) + 5 CSAT Tests (including 2 UPSC-CSE Prelims Previous Year Paper based)
- Applied level tests will be based on standard references which will enhance the analytical ability of the aspirants.
- 8 full length and 2 Previous Year based papers will cover the entire syllabus and match the level of UPSC-CSE prelims examination. It will further enable the aspirants for their better evaluation of learning outcome.
- In addition to this, the unique feature of DHYEYA IAS CAIPTS, is, **four full length tests based on UPSC CSE prelims question papers of past 25 years**. These tests will drive the aspirants' motives to go through the previous years question papers which is one of the important aspects of CSE preparation. It will also assist them to understand the changing nature of the questions asked in the examination.

Total 28 Tests

13 Applied Tests (including 1 Revision Test and 1 UPSC-CSE Prelims Previous Year Paper based)	10 Full Length GS Tests (including 2 UPSC-CSE Prelims Previous Year Paper based)	5 CSAT Tests (including 2 UPSC-CSE Prelims Previous Year Paper based)
---	---	---

635, Ground Floor, Main Road Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009 | Call: 011-49274400, 9205274741

For more details visit: www.dhyeyaias.com

AN INTRODUCTION

Dhyeya IAS, a decade old institution, was founded by Mr. Vinay Singh and Mr. Q.H. Khan. Ever since its emergence it has unparalleled track record of success. Today, it stands tall among the reputed institutes providing coaching for Civil Services Examination (CSE). The institute has been very successful in making potential realize their dreams which is evidents from success stories of the previous years.

Quite a large number of students desirous of building a career for themselves are absolutely less equipped for the fairly tough competitive tests they have to appear in. Several others, who have a brilliant academic career, do not know that competitive exams are vartly different from academic examination and call for a systematic and scientifically planned guidance by a team of experts. Here one single move my invariably put one ahead of many others who lag behind. Dhyeya IAS is manned with qualified & experierenced faculties besides especially designed study material that helps the students in achieving the desired goal.

Civil Services Exam requires knowledge base of specified subjects. These subjects though taught in schools and colleges are not necessarily oriented towards the exam approach. Coaching classes at Dhyeya IAS are different from classes conducted in schools and colleges with respect to their orientation. Classes are targeted towards the particular exam. classroom guidance at Dhyeya IAS is about improving the individuals capacity to focus, learn and innovate as we are comfortably aware of the fact that you can't teach a person anything you can only help him find it within himself.

DSDL Prepare yourself from distance

Distance learning Programme, DSDL, primarily caters the need for those who are unable to come to metros fro economic or family reason but have ardent desire to become a civil servant. Simultaneously, it also suits to the need of working professionals, who are unable to join regular classes due to increase in work load or places of their posting. The principal characteristic of our distance learning is that the student does not need to be present in a classroom in order to participate in the instruction. It aims to create and provide access to learning when the source of information and the learners are separated by time and distance. Realizing the difficulties faced by aspirants of distant areas, especially working candidates, in making use of the institute's classroom guidance programme, distance learning system is being provided in General Studies. The distance learning material is comprehensive, concise and examoriented in nature. Its aim is to make available almost all the relevant material on a subject at one place. Materials on all topics of General Studies have been prepared in such a way that, not even a single point will be missing. In other words, you will get all points, which are otherwise to be taken from 6-10 books available in the market / library. That means, DSDL study material is undoubtedly the most comprehensive and that will definitely give you added advantage in your Preliminary as well as Main Examination. These materials are not available in any book store or library. These materials have been prepared exclusively for the use of our students. We believe in our quality and commitment towards making these notes indispensable for any student preparing for Civil Services Examination. We adhere all pillars of Distance education.

Face to Face Centres

DELHI (MUKHERJEE NAGAR) : 011-49274400 | 9205274741, **DELHI (RAJENDRA NAGAR)** : 011-41251555 | 9205274743, **DELHI (LAXMI NAGAR)** : 011-43012556 | 9205212500, **ALLAHABAD** : 0532-2260189 | 8853467068, **LUCKNOW (ALIGANJ)** 9506256789 | 7570009014, **LUCKNOW (GOMTI NAGAR)** 7234000501 | 7234000502, **GREATER NOIDA RESIDENTIAL ACADEMY** : 9205336037 | 9205336038, **BHUBANESWAR** : 8599071555, **SRINAGAR (J&K)** : 9205962002 | 9988085811

Live Streaming Centres

BIHAR: PATNA – 6204373873, 9334100961 | **CHANDIGARH** – 9216776076, 8591818500 | **DELHI & NCR** : FARIDABAD – 9711394350, 1294054621 | **GUJARAT**: AHMEDABAD - 9879113469 | **HARYANA**: HISAR – 9996887708, 9991887708, KURUKSHETRA – 8950728524, 8607221300 | **MADHYA PRADESH**: GWALIOR -9993135886, 9893481642, JABALPUR- 8982082023, 8982082030, REWA–9926207755, 7662408099 | **MAHARASHTRA**: MUMBAI -9324012585 | **PUNJAB**: PATIALA - 9041030070, LUDHIANA – 9876218943, 9888178344 | **RAJASTHAN**: JODHPUR - 9928965998 | **UTTARAKHAND**: HALDWANI-7060172525 | **UTTAR PRADESH**: ALIGARH – 9837877879, 9412175550, AZAMGARH - 7617077051, BAHRAICH - 7275758422, BAREILLY - 9917500098, GORAKHPUR - 7080847474, 7704884118, KANPUR - 7275613962, LUCKNOW (ALAMBAGH) - 7518573333, 7518373333, MORADABAD - 9927622221, VARANASI - 7408098888



dhyeyaias.com



STUDENT PORTAL

Dhyeya IAS Now on Telegram

We're Now on Telegram



Join Dhyeya IAS Telegram Channel from the link given below

["https://t.me/dhyeya_ias_study_material"](https://t.me/dhyeya_ias_study_material)

You can also join Telegram Channel through Search on Telegram
"Dhyeya IAS Study Material"

Join Dhyeya IAS Telegram Channel from link the given below

https://t.me/dhyeya_ias_study_material

नोट : पहले अपने फ़ोन में टेलीग्राम App Play Store से Install कर ले उसके बाद लिंक में क्लिक करें जिससे सीधे आप हमारे चैनल में पहुँच जायेंगे।

You can also join Telegram Channel through our website

www.dhyeyaias.com

www.dhyeyaias.in



Address: 635, Ground Floor, Main Road, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi 110009
Phone No: 011-47354625/ 26 , 9205274741/42, 011-49274400

Subscribe Dhyeya IAS Email Newsletter

(ध्येय IAS ई-मेल न्यूजलेटर सब्सक्राइब करें)

जो विद्यार्थी ध्येय IAS के व्हाट्सएप ग्रुप (Whatsapp Group) से जुड़े हुये हैं और उनको दैनिक अध्ययन सामग्री प्राप्त होने में समस्या हो रही है | तो आप हमारे ईमेल लिंक Subscribe कर ले इससे आपको प्रतिदिन अध्ययन सामग्री का लिंक मेल में प्राप्त होता रहेगा | **ईमेल से Subscribe करने के बाद मेल में प्राप्त लिंक को क्लिक करके पुष्टि (Verify) जरूर करें** अन्यथा आपको प्रतिदिन मेल में अध्ययन सामग्री प्राप्त नहीं होगी |

नोट (Note): अगर आपको हिंदी और अंग्रेजी दोनों माध्यम में अध्ययन सामग्री प्राप्त करनी है, तो आपको दोनों में अपनी ईमेल से **Subscribe** करना पड़ेगा | आप दोनों माध्यम के लिए एक ही ईमेल से जुड़ सकते हैं |

Join Dhyeya IAS Whatsapp Group by Sending "Hi Dhyeya IAS" Message on 9205336039.

Subscribe Dhyeya IAS Email Newsletter

Step by Step guidance for Subscription:

- **1st Step:** Fill Your Email address in form below. you will get a confirmation email within 2 min.
- **2nd Step:** Verify your email by clicking on the link in the email. (Check Inbox and Spam folders)
- **3rd Step:** Done! you will receive alerts & Daily Free Study Material regularly on your email.

Subscribe



Address: 635, Ground Floor, Main Road, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi 110009
Phone No: 011-47354625/ 26 , 9205274741/42, 011-49274400