



IAS Edge

GS Mentoring (Mains)

Name:- [REDACTED]	Email ID:- [REDACTED]
Contact No.:- [REDACTED]	Date:- [REDACTED]

Important Instructions

Candidates should read the under mentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the instructions may lead to penalty.

DO'S:

1. Read the instructions on the cover page and the specific instructions to this Question Paper mentioned on the next page of this Booklet carefully and strictly follow them.
2. Write your Name and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover page of the Question-Cum-Answer-Booklet.
3. Write legibly and neatly in ink. Pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
4. For rough work, blank pages provided at the end of this booklet should be used. The rough work should be crossed through afterwards.
5. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it or write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.
6. Hand over your Question-Cum-Answer-Booklet personally to the supervisor/invigilator.

(To be filled by Examiners only)

Questions No.	Starting Page No.	Marks	Section Total	Signature of Examiner
1	2	5.5		<i>Good effort</i> <i>Keep it up</i> <i>Overall good</i>
2	5	6		
3	8	5.5		
4	11	6.5		
5	14	5.5		
6	17	6.5		
7	20	6		
8	23	6.5		
9	26	6		
10	29	5.5		
11	32	7		
12	35	6.5		
13	38	5.5		
14	41	6.5		
15	44	6.5		
Grand Total			91.5 187.5	

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

1. Commercialisation of agriculture has led to perpetual indebtedness of farmers. Comment.

Commercialisation of agriculture is a phenomenon when cultivation done is over and above subsistence level and exclusively for Market and exporting. It began as early as 19th century in India, when agriculture began to be seen as a BUSINESS ENTERPRISE to feed the markets of Britain.

- ① Tendency to choose certain High value or CASH CROPS like cashew nuts, tea, coffee, rubber, tobacco, sugar etc.
- ② These crops offer HIGH REMUNERATION compared to the average horticultural crops and cereals.
- ③ High and enhanced incomes and greater Marketability due to Great demand.

However, in recent decades, it has been observed that the costs of commercialisation have a significant role in Rural Indebtedness. The reasons being →

→ High cost of seeds (High yield variety, hybrid varieties)

→ Unproductive Economies of scale.

(According to AGRICULTURE CENSUS 2015, more than 86% of Farmers are SMALL and MARGINAL with lands less than 2 hectares)

This acts as a hindrance to increasing agricultural productivity and capacity since large equipments require larger pieces of lands (Economies of Scale)

→ High costs of Farming Equipment
most farmers take equipment on lease.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

↳ Challenges to Financial Inclusion

(Despite several recommendations by Raghuram Rajan committee, Nachiket More committee, Formal banking has only about 79% of access, while 21% of lending continues through Money lenders

- challenges to Financial Inclusion
- lack of fixed / predetermined income
 - lack of equivalent collateral
 - Inability to pay due to bad harvest, crop failure, fragility of monsoons.
 - lack of coverage of insurance to farmers despite efforts under PM Fasal Bima Yojana.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

monsoon failure
market failure

↳ Hesitancy to adopt newer techniques due to high risks.

Eg. Torrefaction (cleaner technology) can be used to solve the stubble burning issues. But the technology is new and expensive

These factors have contributed to a VICIOUS cycle of DEBT and subsequent Debt Trap from which farmers seldom recover. According to NCRB data, in 2019 alone more than 42,000 farmers committed suicide (amounting to 7.4% of all suicides).

Doing away with the problems that lead to indebtedness would be the real way ahead. This could be through post-harvest government support such as ₹ 1.5 lakh crore under Amanushar Bharat and ensuring greater Financial inclusion so that farmers can receive government

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

reliefs such as 3% interest subvention and easier access to credit. Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) can take a lead role in increasing size of scale so that Farmers can be empowered and fulfil their goal of doubling incomes.

- Investment in agriculture - both public & private

- Measures to address - market e.g. (insurance schemes - crop, price stabilisation fund (PSIF) failures / crop failures)

- Recommendations of Achok Deora Committee

- Promotion of institutional lending

5.5/12.5

Good

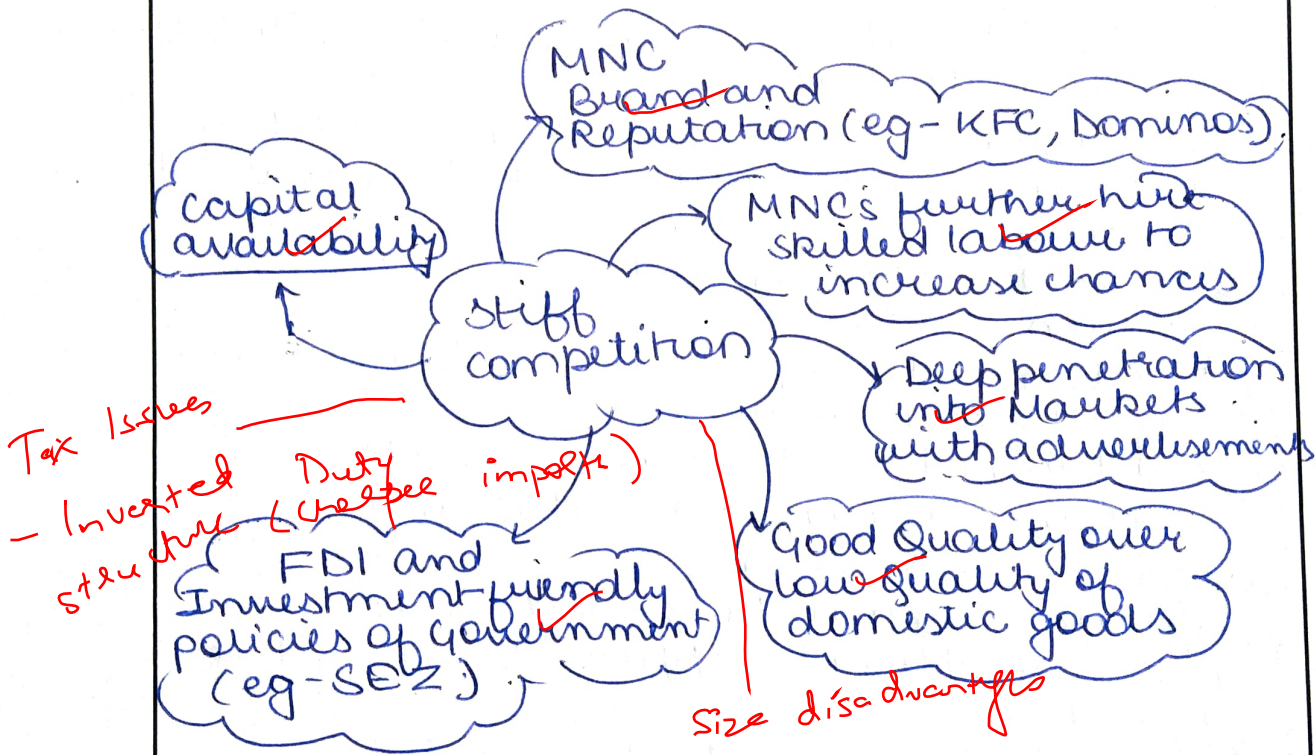
(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

2. MNCs are dominating the Indian Industrial sector and are offering stiff competition to the small scale industry. How do you compare this situation with the one under the British rule when the handicrafts were exposed to stiff competition from machine made products of Britain?

(Please don't write anything in this space)

The process of Globalisation resulted in MultiNational corporations venturing out to the developing and underdeveloped countries out of domestic stagnation and search for cheaper labour as well as Newer market. This put a STIFF COMPETITION to the domestic small scale industries in the following ways.



The small scale industries such as MSMEs despite employing around 120 million people and running over 45 lakh businesses stay out of competition due to the following reasons →

① Nature of Business is too Risky (high capital but uncertain profit)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

- ② Lack of access to credit and challenges in FINANCIAL inclusion
- ③ Almost 9000 crore worth debt of MSMEs is 'Debt stressed' and a Non-performing Asset (according to Economic Survey 2019-20).
- ④ Inflexible labour laws and Trade Unionism.

The situation is very similar to the colonial period where British Mercantilist and colonialist policies had SYSTEMATICALLY DEINDUSTRIALISED the traditional handloom and handicraft textiles industries.

- ① Flooding of British Manufactured by Machine goods into the Indian market cheaper than the domestic production
- ② Market capturing and high taxes on Indian goods.
- ③ British actively encouraged presence of Middlemen who IMPOVERISHED the traditional craftsmen (eg- silk weavers and carpet makers of Bihar and Bengal).
- ④ As a result, Indian artisans turned towards agriculture and India became a 'raw material supplier' to the industries of Britain.
- ⑤ For eg - Britain relied heavily on Maharashtra (Bombay and Deccan produced) cotton to feed industries of Manchester and Lancashire during American Civil War of 1865.
- ⑥ Dadabhai Naoroji in his 'Poverty and Un-British Rule in India' described this

(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

as 'Drain of Wealth?

Thus, in historical parallels, it is essential for us to protect our domestic industries. Atmanubhava exclusively projects the idea of 'VOCAL for LOCAL' to boost demand of small businesses. Under UK Sinha committee recommendations, the structure and definition of MSMEs have been redefined to improve economies of scale based on turnover.

Good Attempt

6/12.5

(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

3. Do you find the concept of market forces in contradiction with the concept of comprehensive planning in India? Write your opinion with a logical reasoning.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

The intersection of the Market forces of Demand and supply at an equilibrium point is usually profit driven and suits the tastes of suppliers and businesses more than that of consumers. It often ends up being contradictory to the interests of the Government as a 'Welfare provider' and 'comprehensive planning' in general.

CONTRADICTIONS

1) For instance, during the 1950s-60s it was observed that private banks were offering loans only to the 'haves' and the 'have nots' (often women, poor, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes) were being left out. Hence, in 1969, the Government stepped in Nationalised 14 Banks

2) Most Banks are hesitant to offer loans to businesses that do not appear 'profitable'. So, the government has to step in to provide the handholding of CREDIT GUARANTEE of 75% to 100% to the Banks in case the loan turns bad.

3) During supply shortage, chances of black marketing and hoarding increase resulting in inflation and food insecurity. Thus, the government has a safeguard to prohibit stock hoarding through Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

4) In years of Bumper production, there is MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE as a mechanism of PRICE FLOORING.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

5) EPFO (Employer Provident Fund contribution) by the government on behalf of the employees and employers to prevent labourers dropping out of workforce.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

6) Labour Unions act as a collective Bargaining power to prevent 'Easy Hire and Fire' by the whims of the employer to maximise profits.

But, the relationship between Demand and supply is not always contradictory to planning.

- ① Good for Businesses, fulfils the budgetary desires of growth and modernisation.
- ② Domestic business plays a crucial role in self Reliance.
- ③ With more prices, investors are encouraged to set up more storage infra-structure, provide for logistics.
- ④ Essential commodities Act for example deregulated stocking of cereals, oilseeds, onions, potatoes etc. to encourage private investment.
- ⑤ Job creation especially in leather and textiles industries and other MSME.
- ⑥ The Budget and planning strategies such as NITI Aayog's Strategy for India@15 aims to accelerate economic growth to 9-10 % by 2022-23 by capitalising on the power of its labour and skill into a labour intensive Manufacturing Economy, one that is driven by Inclusive growth and good governance as well as

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

MACROECONOMIC STABILITY for when India reaches its 75th year of independence

(Please don't write anything in this space)

— Post 1991 — Indicative
planning emerged which
seeks collaboration players
with private players
with bottom up approach

5.5 / 12.5

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

4. Disinvestment is a compulsion for the government even when the public sector enterprises are efficiently operating. Comment.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

The sale or liquidation of government held assets at the central level as well as the state level in the form of enterprises, projects or fixed assets is known as disinvestment. Usually, it is done to get off the burden of carrying sick and inefficient public sector undertakings (PSUs) who come to have a parasitical existence on the public money.

However, the recent disinvestment of profit making and efficient PSUs such as BHARAT PETROLEUM CORPORATION LIMITED, HINDALCO, TEHRI Hydro Development Corporation show that 'Strategic Disinvestment' has now become a compulsion.

- ① Times have changed and now the government is not alone and has NEWER ENGINES OF GROWTH that is the private sector.
- ② The initial Necessary role of kickstarting and Handholding should now be transformed into 'Regulating and Facilitating' way for other players.
- ③ Removing inefficiency and making PSUs more competitive.
- ④ Government should withdraw from consumer goods industry such as hotels (IRCTC, ITC), tourism, automobile and focus more on public goods expenditure.
- ⑤ Infusion of capital and Technology upgradation.
Eg - Hindustan Zinc, after being privatised.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

in 2002 is earning more than 100 times after Vedanta took over

⑥ Fund growth and Development programme as proceeds get deposited into National Infrastructure and Investment Fund

⑦ Government needs to Depoliticise Non-essential services

⑧ Better environment for Investors and Removal of hurdles

⑨ Improve competitiveness of PSU's when exposed to cut throat business strategies and ways of working (eg - Air India's losses)

Concerns and Challenges

① Government should continue public expenditure in health and education for equity, inclusion and preventing Divide widening between rich and poor, Urban and rural etcetera

② Ensuring level playing fields and well defined rules to prevent cronyism and monopoly like situation

③ Disinvestment should not merely be Right pocket to left pocket transfers

④ Ensure social security and transfer of labour to alternative sectors

⑤ National security Assets such as Defence, Atomic Energy, Oil Reserves should be left untouched

⑥ Disinvestment proceed spending on social infrastructure rather than immediate fiscal requirements

(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

(Please don't write anything in this space)

Thus, the approach towards disinvestment though necessary, must be with full caution. Public sector enterprises should no longer stand in the way of multiple players and distort the competitive dynamics for the private and foreign companies. At the same time, it should not be an easy way out to bridge revenue shortfall due to inefficient tax collection and policy measures.

$$\frac{6.5}{12.5}$$

Good analysis (relevant to current approach)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

5. A modest transformation in occupational structure of India only points to its modest achievement in the area of growth and development. Do you agree?

(Please don't write anything in this space)

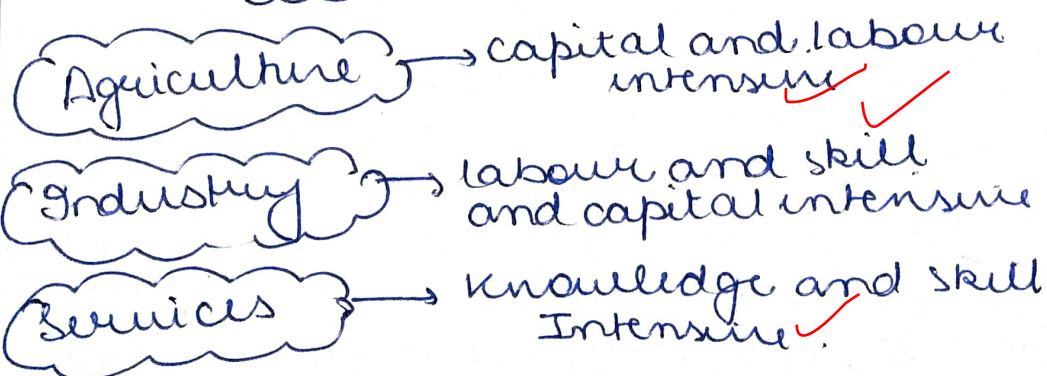
From the time of independence till the present day, the OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE has not gone a drastic change and has only seen a MODEST TRANSFORMATION but the rate of growth and development in certain sectors is not modest. Some sectors such as the Tertiary sector have seen tremendous growth, while others such as Agriculture continues to grow marginally.

	Agriculture	Industry	Service
1950-51	55% ✓	15% ✓	29% ✓
2019-20 (Economic Survey 19-20)	16-17% ✓	29% ✓	53% ✓
	50-55% ✓	24% ✓	26% ✓

Contribution of sectors to GDP

Employment

Today Agriculture continues to employ 55% of our population but with declining productivity. Whereas service sector with its high growth rate is the least labour absorbing leading to a phenomenon called 'JOBLESS GROWTH'.



(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

Reasons for skewed Nature of growth and employment

- ① Rigidity in formal manufacturing labour market, rigid labour laws
- ② MSME definition constraints limited economies of scale. This was recently changed in 2020 under Atmanushar Bharat
- ③ Employment protection legislations
- ④ Skill and knowledge labour migration also known as Brain drain
- ⑤ Lack of focus on employment generating sectors. According to Economic Survey 2014-15 → Steel industry has the capacity to generate 1 job per investment. Automobile (3 jobs), leather industry (80 jobs) while textiles could generate 240 jobs including 80 for women.

MSMEs employ almost 120 million people and can contribute more.

- ① Focus on Make in India and 'Assemble in India' to make India a manufacturing and Assembling hub like China.
- ② Speed up export sector to boost job creation. Government in Economic Survey of 2020 aims to create 10 million export related jobs and contribution of 6% to GDP by 2030.
- ③ Diversification of small scale industries and Specialisation through STARTUP INDIA
- ④ Higher market penetration and becoming part of Global Value chain

(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

Through various labour intensive industries like textile, footwear, clothing, toys. India could expand its domestic production and rectify the anomaly and gap between the sectoral contribution of sectors and the population they engage with. Skill upgradation through PM Kaustubh Vikas Yojana and subsequent employment through National Urban Livelihoods Mission and Ayushman will go along with these.

- Add more points

5.5/12-5

Good Attempt

use smaller sentences

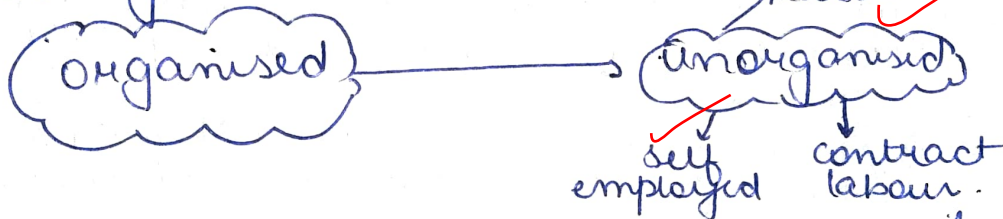
(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

6. Explain the casualisation of work-force? How has it impacted the Indian economy?

(Please don't write anything in this space)

Casualisation of workforce is the process by which the employment structure shifts from organised formal sector to fragmented and fragile casual works of the unorganised sector. An oxfam Report called 'Mind the Gap' on state of India's Employment noted that casual labour comprise around 60% of India's workforce with almost 50% being in the contractual form of working.



Casualisation of workforce has primarily happened because of the following reasons

- ① Labour laws rigidity (makes layoff difficult)
- ② Automation and Technology upgradation
- ③ Need to skill and Reskill workers in order to maintain productivity, thus companies hire readily available labour for a temporary basis
- ④ Liberalisation, Globalisation have increased the demand for skilled and semi skilled labours/ employees and thus MNCs venture out into the third world looking for cheap, temporary labour.

Growth of
Contractual system

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

IMPACT OF CASUALISATION ON THE INDIAN ECONOMY

(Please don't write anything in this space)

- Casualisation results in lack of proper wages and wage inequality for the same amount of work
- Less savings rate, inability to get credit
- less savings also result in deficient demand
- lack of social security such as Healthcare insurance, education, housing.
- out of pocket expenditure on health. Mortality rates and Morbidity will increase
- Rise of communicable and Noncommunicable diseases (such as typhoid, cholera and epidemics)
- Casual workforce prefers survival over contributing to productivity
- lack of financial literacy and formal access to credit
- large presence of unskilled labour
- Informal sector is usually cash based and are pitheles of black money and tax evasion

6.5/12.5

Good

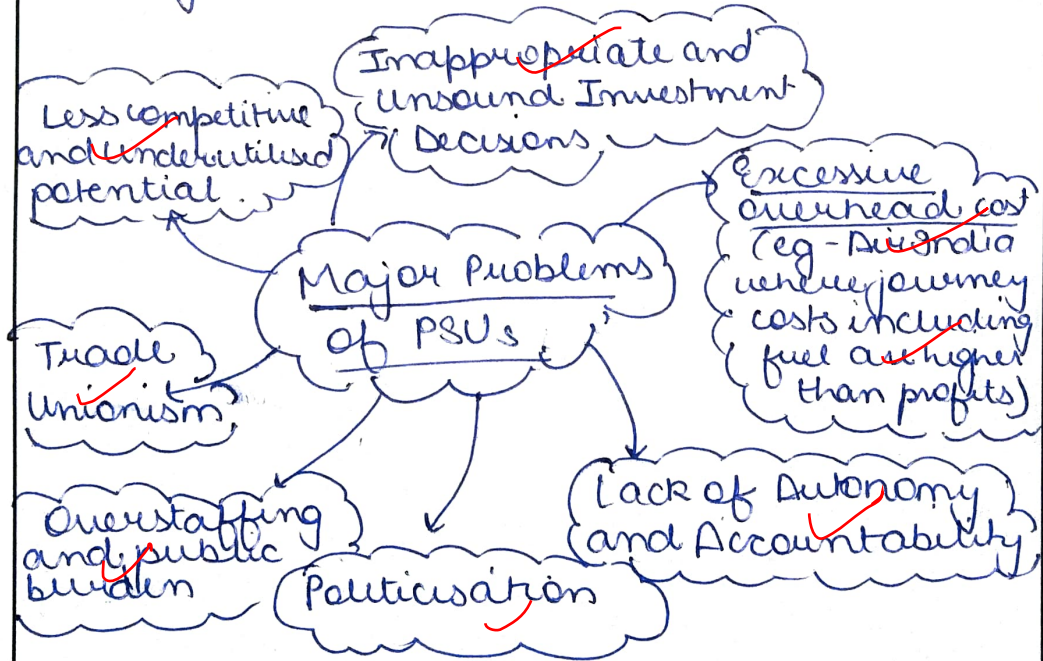
with India at the borders of a demographic transition and where almost 1 million workers enter the labourforce every month, there is a very important need to create formal jobs. The rich Demographic Dividend has to be stopped from turning into a Demographic Disaster.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

7. Though Public Sector is very essential for Industries, many Public Sector Undertakings incur huge losses and are a drain on the economy's resources. Discuss the usefulness of Public Sector Undertakings in the light of this fact.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

Public sector undertakings are a major part of our economy and comprise of government owned projects and enterprises that provide services to benefit the entire society. The initial idea of Public sector Kickstarting India's industrial journey came to be seen hindered with multiple challenges. These sick PSUs incurred huge losses and became a drain on economy's resources and public money.



Despite these hurdles, Public sector undertakings are immensely useful for the economy in the following way:

- 1) Creating employment for the masses with social as well as economic security.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

(Please don't write anything in this space)

2) Capital Formation and development of basic infrastructure. (eg - BHEL, SAIL etc)

3) Bridging Regional Imbalance in Development
 Establishment of major industrial units and offering of services even in the remote corners of our countries. For eg - Air India and Indian Railways run convoys and trains in areas like mountains, or the North East India where private sector may never enter.

4) Research and Development.

PSUs like Indian Oil Corporation are working in foreign countries like Vladivostok (Russia) and Sakhalin oil fields. They also are investing in advanced technology, automated equipments and instruments

5) Promoting Exports and Reduce Imports.

6) Provide resources to the government.

The government has initiated several reforms to improve efficiency of Public sector undertakings. These include disinvestment and privatisation of loss making PSUs. Recently 10 public sector banks were merged into 4 to improve governance, Accountability and facilitate effective monitoring. The leverage held by the PSUs to meet socio-economic objectives and nation building must be set in the right direction.

$$\frac{6}{12.5}$$

- New era of strategic disinvestment

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

8. Inclusive growth is still a distant dream. Write your views on the need for inclusive growth for India. Is inclusive growth achievable for a developing economy like India when exposed to the process of Privatisation and Globalisation?

(Please don't write anything in this space)

Inclusive growth is an approach to development which is equitable, distributive, sustainable and empowering for the people. It means that people have 'equality of opportunity' towards employment, essential services like health, education and its benefits are distributed fairly across society.

On the previous INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT INDEX by World Economic Forum, India ranked 62/74, making it one of the least-inclusive countries out of 7-20. This shows that Inclusive growth in India is still a distant dream.

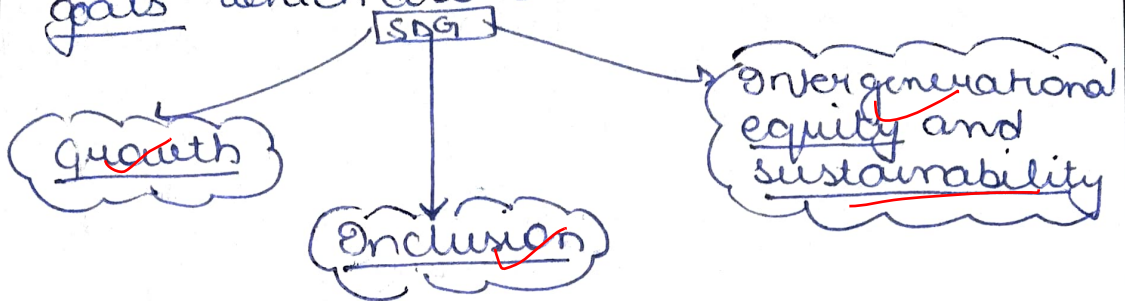
NEED FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH

- 1) To reduce inequality, increase social expenditure and provide employment. If India reaches \$5 trillion economy status by 2024-25, there is a need to ensure that all sections benefit from this growth.
- 2) Social development and empowerment of the marginalised population like women, SC/ST/OBC, transgenders.
- 3) Better health outcomes, reduced maternal mortality rates and Infant Mortality Rates.
- 4) Extend health services to remote areas.
- 5) Improve literacy and skill upgradation and reduce dropout as well as increase enrolment as highlighted under

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

National Education Policy (NEP)

6) To meet our Sustainable Development Goals which are based on:



7) Reduce regional, social, gender disparities
8) Financial Inclusion

TWIN CHALLENGE OF PRIVATISATION and GLOBALISATION

As the world is swiftly pacing towards borderlessness and market freedom there are both opportunities and challenges to Inclusive growth in India.

- ① Liberalisation of Markets and global access to the domestic markets and vice versa.
- ② Increased exports and benefits from increased earnings.
- ③ Increase in production, investment in land, technology growth. - Increased competition, innovation & productivity.
- ④ Creation of an INFORMATION society. (improvement in quality of life. Human Rights violations no longer go unnoticed due to Print media, social media and electronic media. Eg - Black Lives Matter protest.
- ⑤ Migration of people to newer areas for more economic opportunities.
- ⑥ Competition has enhanced operational efficiency.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

Challenges

- ① Human turning into products and agents of further production.
- ② Foreign subsidy based goods dumping (eg- Chinese steel and electronic dumping)
- ③ Decreasing subsidies and incentives due to WTO's rules based order.
- ④ Consumerism and Rising Inequalities
- ⑤ Short term gain based intensive activities resulting in exploitation of land, resources, mines
- ⑥ Impoverishment of lower strata.

Thus, liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation have come as a MIXED BAGGAGE for the prospects of inclusive growth. India must tread cautiously, so as to reap benefits holistically. The recent refusal to join RCEP despite trade prospects to protect our farmers and small scale industries from flooding of cheap imports is a step in the right direction. India must join when the time is right.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

6.5 / 12.5

Good Analy. 1/2

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

9. Illustrate the difference between rural and urban poverty. Is it correct to say that poverty has shifted from rural to urban areas? Use the trends in poverty ratio to support your answer.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

Poverty is a situation of deprivation of basic necessities that are essential for survival. It also encompasses deprivation in the form of access to better opportunities, and right to participate effectively in a society.

Difference between Rural and Urban Poverty.

Rural Poverty

Main economic activity is agriculture, fishing, livestock rearing (primary sector).

Characterised by landlessness.

Rural dwellings or 'Kaccha houses'.

High caloric (2400 cal) Needs due to intense physical activity.

Community or caste based access to Resources.

Poverty in urban areas has increased due to migration of Rural poor in the search of better income, opportunity and need for better life.

Urban Poverty

Main economic activity is non-agriculture such as industrial labourer, casual wage workers, domestic workers.

Characterised by no access to housing.

'slum based ghettos in the corners of the city'.

Relatively less caloric needs (2100 cal).

In urban areas, individual or family based access and ownership of resources.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

(Please don't write anything in this space)

This is visible through 2 specific study groups on Poverty:

a) Tendulkar Committee (2005):

It used a combined weightage of expenditure of on Food and Non food items over 30 days (Uniform period) and 365 days (Mixed Recall period)

Rural Poverty	→ 41%	Total
Urban Poverty	→ 27.5%	37.2%
		<hr/>

b) Rangarajan Committee (2012)

It used the baskets of Food and Non-food items expenditure along with Nutritional requirements of proteins and fats

Rural poverty	→ 30%
Urban Poverty	→ 26.4%

These show that while Rural poverty reduced, there is hardly any change in urban poverty. This is because of the mass absorption of the rural poor migrating out of an overemployed primary sector.

— pauperisation of urban society
 (recent phenomenon) due to migration

$\frac{6}{12.5}$

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

10. Brain-drain is a serious bottleneck/constraint in human capital formation on the growth process in India. Comment.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

Brain drain the process of migration of highly skilled and knowledgeable workers outside in search of a better standard of living and quality of life, higher salaries, access to advanced technologies and stable political environment.

The rising exodus of Indian professionals from India to developed countries like UK, Canada, Australia, USA is no doubt beneficial to us in terms of Remittances, but they are becoming ~~to~~ a major bottleneck to India's human capital formation.

- ① Loss of Major Skilled Manpower that the country invested its time and resources to. According to International Organisation on Migration, around 19 lakh people migrate annually making the Indian diaspora one of the largest in the world.
- ② Reluctance of migrant diaspora to return home due to higher quality of life and convince others peers to move out.
- ③ Our education system is textbook centric and emphasis on rote learning rather than analytical thinking and skill development.
- ④ Huge gap between Academic products and Industrial Requirements. According to India Skill Report, not even 50% of Indian graduates are employable.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

- ⑤ Multi-disciplinary approach to education needed whereas Indian education emphasises on stream specificity and 'discipline purity'
- ⑥ Difficulties in business environment, setting up start ups. Economic survey pointed out that it takes around 45 days to open a restaurant in India, whereas only 4-5 days in New Zealand.
- ⑦ The remaining skilled labour is mediocre in their capacity and are unable to achieve breakthroughs and innovation.
- ⑧ India has to rely on technology transfer rather than technology indigenisation.

India thus has to put its best chances to curb brain drain by promoting highly focused and industry relevant courses, skill development through National Skill Development Mission. The streamlining of training would strengthen our human capital. With better human capital, India will reach to a new level of inclusive growth and meet its sustainable Development Goals (2030).

5.5/12.5

(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

11. Amid pandemic, India's economic and health response has been somewhat different than that of other countries in terms of sequencing and ~~emphasis of various measures~~, Suggest the ways to manage the crisis on both health and economic grounds. Do you think that "The Barbell Strategy", opted by government of India is a viable measure?

(Please don't write anything in this space)

WAYS TO MANAGE CRISIS OF THE PANDEMIC

a) Health

- ① Following the Bhilwara Model or Kerala Model of Aggressive containment of clusters and hot spots
- ② Mapping of clusters and Geo tagging through Google or Arogya setu app.
- ③ Automated or No point of contact delivery of essential services. (Eg-china used drone based delivery)
- ④ serological surveys to check community transmission.
- ⑤ Ensuring priority based vaccination and check Vaccine Nationalism
- ⑥ curfew only when required

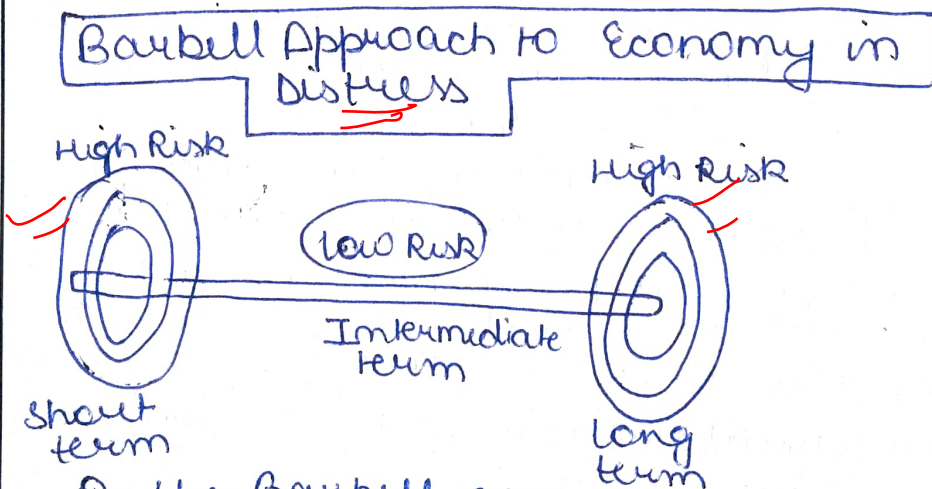
b) Economy

- ① loan moratorium on Non repayment

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

- ② Liquidity infusion into NBFCs, Housing Finance corporations, to start the cycle of growth especially in steel, cement, real estate sector.
- ③ Ensuring Digital inclusion through state support to businesses (eg- MSME Sampark, MSME Sambandh), education (SHAGUN portal for online education, P m e-Vidya for digital telecast educational content) and Health (National Digital Health Mission, COVID-19 National Teleconsultation centre).
- ④ Promote India's generic medicine market and make India a pharmaceutical hub of the world and a big centre for virtual Medical Tourism.
- ⑤ Self Reliance or Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

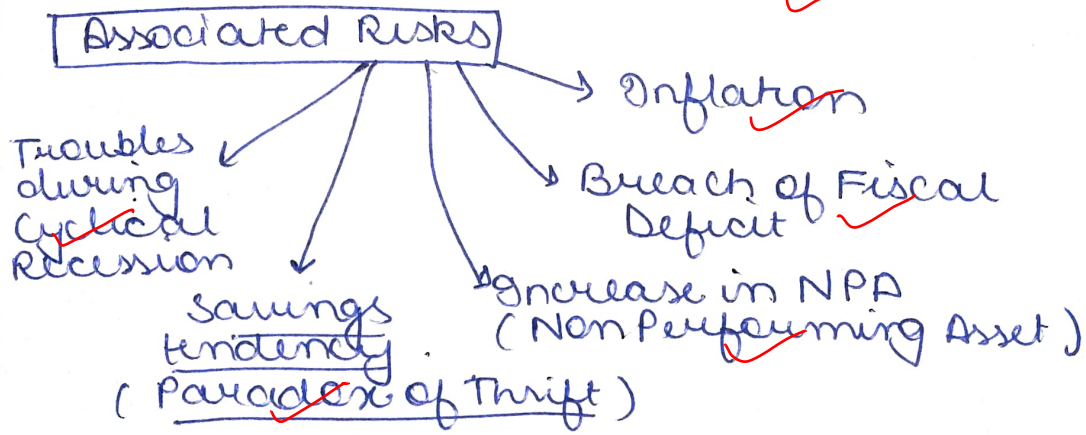


On the Barbell approach to Investment, one usually focuses on a HIGH RISK-HIGH YIELD approach of either short term and long term. The Middle ground is not adopted. These may take the following forms →

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

(Please don't write anything in this space)

- ① Heavy capital Infusion to Multiple sectors (such as Atmanirbhar Bharat's 20 lakh crore package to various sectors like Banks, NBFCs, MSMEs, Agriculture, Defence, Industries etc.)
- ② Printing Money to boost or revive deficient demand in India and foreign FISCAL CONSERVATISM
- ③ Cash transfers and food grain transfers to the Rural and urban poor as well as unemployed.
- ④ Health Insurance under COVID-19 to all



The very nature of reform and recovery is risky. There might be discomfort in the short term but the situation may take a better turn in the long run. But, a stronger economy with an increasing consumer demand will boost the investments, expecting / this kickstarting a virtuous cycle of growth.

Good

7/1205

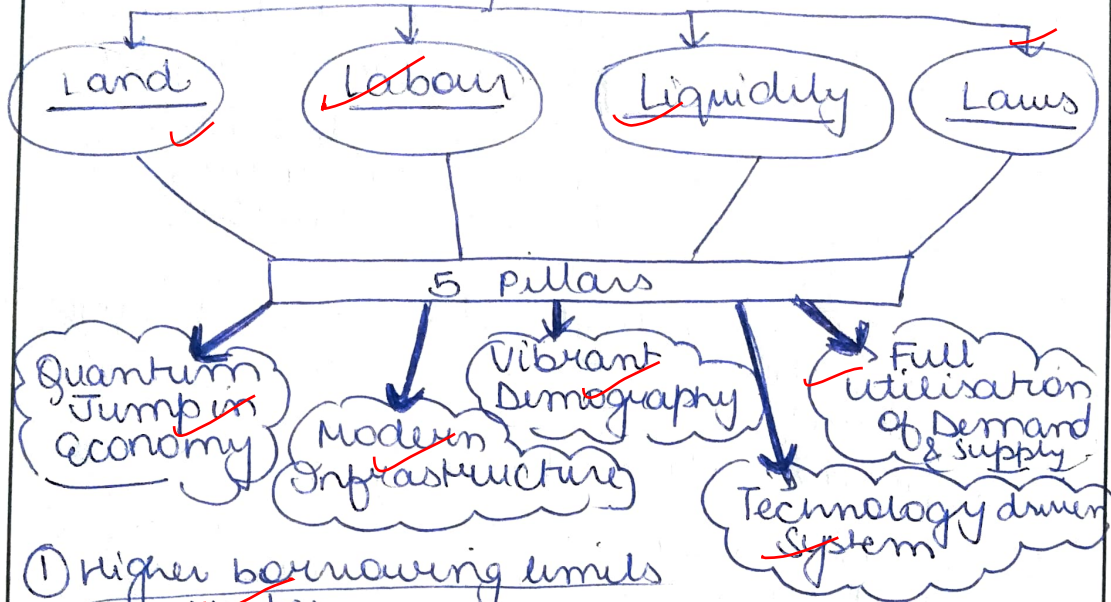
(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

12. Critically analyse The AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan or Self-Reliant India Movement as a measure to rebuild economic capabilities and capacities.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

The AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan or Self-Reliant India Movement was introduced as a Fiscal and Financial stimulus package to revive the contracting Indian economy due to the pandemic of COVID-19 and its subsequent induced lockdowns.

Some of the main features



- ① Higher borrowing limits for states.
- ② Special liquidity schemes for NBFCs, Housing Finance Corporations, Microfinance institutions, MSME Redefinition
- ③ 1 lakh crore investment in agriculture and 1.5 lakh crore investment for post-harvest infrastructure
- ④ Social Welfare - One Nation One Ration Card, credit for street vendors (SVANIDHI) Increase in MGNREGA allocation (by 40 thousand crore)
- ⑤ FDI increased in Defence (49 to 74%) PPP Model in Airports, Atomic Research, Space Research and development

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

Challenges and criticism

- 1) Direct infusion of government is hardly around 2 lakh crore, rest are indirect through credit.
- 2) Liquidity alone cannot revive economic activity. There is a need to boost demand, consumption, investment
- 3) Privatisation in defence and assets of National strategic importance is a risky move.
- 4) Defence indigenisation is needed more than technology transfer or import
- 5) Economists have highlighted that Atmanirbhar Bharat was more 'Reform oriented' than 'stimulus oriented'.
- 6) Fast tracking Industrial Reforms through Non-parliamentary routes is not democratic
- 7) Implementation challenges
- 8) Concerns over Privatisation and exploitation of the poor farmers, mine workers (due to removal of difference between captive and non-captive mining)

Nevertheless, Atmanirbhar Bharat is a well come reform that has the potential to boost social infrastructure increase production by MSME and small cottage industries and fulfil the vision of 21st century being India's century

6.5 / 12.5

(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

13. Discuss the Svmitva Scheme to bring financial stability to the citizens in rural India.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

SVAMITVA or Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas is a central sector scheme implemented by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

Aim

- Survey Rural properties through GIS Maps.
- Provide 'Property cards' to Property Owners in Rural areas
- 'Acknowledgement of Property Rights of those possessing land, houses, estates (SAMPATI PATRAK)

Role of Svmitva in bringing Financial stability to Rural residents

- ① Help residents and property owners in using their property as collateral and seek loans and other financial benefits.
- ② enable efficient tax collection by the officials through verified land records and Reduce corruption at local levels.
- ③ Owners will be able to monitor the rise and fall of property rates and make suitable investment decisions.
- ④ Help increase the liquidity of land (well defined and demarcated)
- ⑤ Property Dispute settlement within families. Earlier, people would secretly change / manipulate borders to suit their claims

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

⑥ Enable community level village planning and help panchayats to initiate new schemes or small scale projects for village welfare.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

The potential of SVAMITVA can truly be realised when there is whole hearted cooperation between Rural residents, local authorities and state governments. It will bring financial empowerment at the local level and help realise the dream of devolution and decentralised governance envisioned in the 73rd Constitutional amendment, 1992.

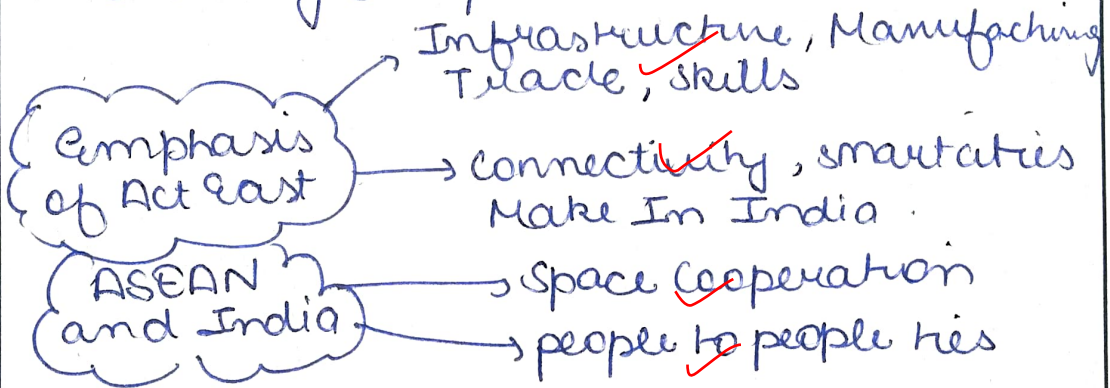
23 (5.7/12.5)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

14. "Look-east has been upgraded to Act-east under which ties with ASEAN countries are being strengthened". In the light of above statement, discuss the geo-strategic importance of north-eastern states to India.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

Look East policy was initiated in 1991 by India to have better economic and strategic relations with Southeast Asia as an effective counterweight to China. Look East was upgraded to Act East which goes beyond Southeast Asia into the Asia Pacific encompassing a whole new dimensions of political, military, cultural and strategic cooperation.



The Northeastern states thus become a gateway for our continuous bilateral, regional and multilateral dialogue with the ASEAN members.



(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

The Northeastern states with their 85% indigenously diverse population share boundary with 5 countries (Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and China)

- ① Lack of physical infrastructure, boundary disputes, ethnic conflict and insurgency have left a vast scope for development both in terms of physical and social infrastructure (eg India-Myanmar Thailand highway)
- ② Scope for Public and private investments in connectivity eg- Dhubri phulbani bridge over Brahmaputra river ✓
- ③ The 22 km wide siliguri corridor acts as a 'chicken's neck' to accessing North East and thus increases time and cost of transport.
- ④ It is due to these, India is closely working on a number of ports in Myanmar for a quicker access to North East (eg - KALADAN Multimodal Project from Kolkata to Sittoung (Myanmar) to Mizoram using River Kaladan..)
- ⑤ Cooperation with ASEAN is also crucial to counter China's Belt and Road Initiative and its imperialistic designs
- ⑥ Northeast with its vast resources can become a major economic hub and cater to almost 30% of the world's population
- ⑦ Hydroelectricity power potential along Brahmaputra river can provide environment friendly energy of about

(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

57,000 MW (according to Central Electricity Authority)

- ⑧ Food processing and Exports (Bamboo, pickle, organic farming, handicrafts)
- ⑨ Cooperation to tackle Golden Triangle

Through revolutionary economic development of Northeast with the help of mobilised investments from ASEAN states, India could truly realise the potential of 'Act East Policy' and meet its own goal of 'Sabka Saath Sabka Uthwas, Sabka Vikas'.

Good

6.5 / 12.5

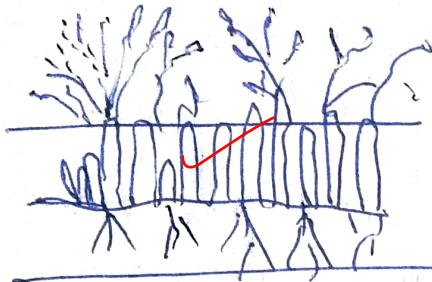
(Please don't write anything in this space)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

15. Stubble burning is a major concern and a cause behind the alarming pollution levels in nearby Delhi-NCR region. Discuss the ways through which this crisis can become an opportunity with efficient policy regulations.

(Please don't write anything in this space)

Stubble is the stand residue left out of fields of paddy or wheat post harvest since they are deeply rooted to the ground, it is a labourious task to physically remove them. Hence, most farmers resort to burning of stubble.



line of reach of Traditional Harvesters

Concerns from Stubble burning

- ① Major Residue left behind is polluting for air → particulate pollution that may be settle in the lungs of humans and animals
- ② Particulate Matter combine with toxins and moisture to form a deadly smog leading to eye irritation, dry skin, skin allergies, chronic cough and breathlessness.
- ③ combine the prevailing westerly wind and further spreading across the INDO-GANGETIC plains (UP, Bihar)
- ④ Particles of greater depth can absorb or block sunlight leading to below than normal temperatures.

WAYS TO OVERCOME THE CRISIS

In 2019 and 2020, State of Delhi and Environment Pollution Control Authority

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

declared a 'public health emergency' when most places ~~the~~ showed Air Quality Index of ~~near~~ 999 (maximum)

- ① Launching National Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) and putting end to construction activities temporarily
- ② Odd-even vehicle scheme
- ③ PUSA decomposer by Indian Agricultural Research Institute to convert stubble into compost
- ④ Torrefaction (swedish technology) → stubble to biomass based pellets
- ⑤ Wind Augmentation Purifying Unit: To absorb smog and purify air
- ⑥ Happy Seeder Machine → gives 50% subsidy to individuals and 80% subsidy to groups.
- ⑦ Straw chopper Machine that finely cuts stubble and distributes them evenly on the ground.

The right to clean air and healthy environment of citizens must be balanced with the right to livelihood of the farmers. The right amount of encouragement and incentives for the adoption of new technology will go a long way in curbing the menace of air pollution. coordination among various state and central Agencies towards an 'ANTI-DUST CAMPAIGN' is the way ahead.

$\frac{6.5}{12.5}$

Good

(Please don't write anything in this space)