

[Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management]

1. Notification of the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Rules, 2025 marks a milestone in India's journey toward digital sovereignty. Critically examine the key technological challenges in the implementation of these Rules. **(150 words)** **(10)**
2. The phenomenon of Urban Heat Island (UHI) is no longer a seasonal anomaly but a systemic challenge to India's urban resilience. Discuss the causes of UHI and suggest measures for mitigating this challenge. **(150 words)** **(10)**
3. The New Delhi Declaration, adopted at the AI Impact Summit 2026, underscored the need for ethical, inclusive, and human-centric artificial intelligence. Critically assess how this declaration advances India's digital sovereignty and strengthens its role in shaping global AI governance. **(150 words)** **(10)**
4. What is Disaster Risk Management (DRM)? Critically analyse how space technology enhances the effectiveness of DRM in reducing vulnerability and strengthening resilience against disasters. **(150 Words)** **(10)**
5. India's Nuclear Energy Mission and the SHANTI Act, 2025, together aim to transform the country's nuclear energy landscape. Discuss their technological significance while critically analyzing the challenges they pose to safety and liability. **(150 words)** **(10)**
6. Pax Silica, launched in 2025, has been described as a new economic security consensus for the 21st century. Discuss how this initiative reshapes global technology supply chains and evaluate its implications for India's semiconductor and AI ecosystem. **(150 words)** **(10)**
7. Analyze how fiscal policy in India is used as an instrument for economic stabilization, growth, and social justice in recent years. **(150 words)** **(10)**
8. Discuss the role of digitization of land records to improve the land governance. **(150 words)** **(10)**
9. Critically analyze the major challenges and policy limitations in achieving inclusive growth in India. **(150 words)** **(10)**
10. Discuss the scope and significance of the Food Processing Industry in India. Analyze its upstream and downstream linkages, locational factors, and the role of supply chain management in reducing post-harvest losses. **(150 words)** **(10)**
11. India is emerging as a potential data-centre powerhouse in the Asia-Pacific region. Identify the key drivers behind this growth and critically examine the opportunities and challenges India must address to establish itself as a global data-centre hub. **(250 words)** **(15)**

12. Afforestation and reforestation are often projected as key strategies in India's efforts to combat desertification and land degradation. Critically evaluate their role in this context and assess the effectiveness of current policy frameworks and programmes. **(250 words)**
(15)
13. The Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules-2026 represent a decisive shift from 'disposal-centric' to a 'circular economy' framework in India. Critically examine how the newly introduced mechanisms address the systemic failures of the 2016 regime. **(250 words)**
(15)
14. Discuss the strategic importance of critical minerals for India's energy transition and digital economy. What are the objectives and likely impact of the National Critical Minerals Mission? Evaluate the challenges India must overcome to secure sustainable and resilient supply chains. **(250 words)**
(15)
15. Social networking sites have shifted India's internal security paradigm from physical borders to virtual battlefields. Evaluate, with suitable examples, how these platforms have become tools for 'cognitive hacking' and radicalization. What countermeasures can India adopt to address these challenges? **(250 words)**
(15)
16. India's transition from the Planning Commission to NITI Aayog reflects a shift in development strategy. Critically examine how this transition has changed the nature of the economic planning in India. **(250 words)**
(15)
17. Analyze the regional patterns of the major crops and cropping systems in India. Discuss the role of irrigation systems, storage, transportation, and marketing infrastructure in addressing agricultural constraints. **(250 words)**
(15)
18. Critically analyze the impact of the climate change on the livelihoods of the transhumance and nomadic communities and suggest appropriate mitigating measures with the examples from the UT of Jammu and Kashmir. **(250 words)**
(15)
19. Evaluate the impact of economic liberalization on India's industrial sector. Discuss the major changes in the industrial policy since 1991 and their implications for industrial growth and employment. **(250 words)**
(15)
20. Infrastructure development is considered a key driver of economic growth. Critically assess India's infrastructure development in energy and transport, and the role of the investment models such as PPPs in the growth of these sectors. **(250 words)**
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