

**CSM : 25**

**GENERAL STUDIES - III**

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 250

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**QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS**

*(Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting questions)*

There are twenty (20) questions carrying 12.5 marks each and shall be limited 200 words.

All questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

1. Examine the role of MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) in India's economic growth and employment generation. What are the key challenges confronting the MSME sector? How can they be addressed? **(12.5)**
2. Write a short note on 'jobless growth' and critically analyse the linkages between economic growth, the sectoral mobilization of resources and the unemployment problem in India. **(12.5)**
3. The rise of the gig economy challenges the traditional notions of employment and welfare. In the context of achieving inclusive growth, discuss the structural impediments to providing social security for this emerging workforce. **(12.5)**
4. 'Government budgeting is not merely an accounting exercise but a reflection of political priorities and socio-economic vision.' Discuss. **(12.5)**
5. E-technology is often cited as a panacea for the ills of Indian agriculture. Critically examine the potential of platforms like e-NAM in addressing the constraints of agricultural marketing and ensuring better price realization for farmers. **(12.5)**
6. Discuss the role of Public Distribution System (PDS) in ensuring food security in India. Describe the objectives, functioning, limitations and potential reforms of the PDS. **(12.5)**
7. Evaluate the challenges and opportunities in supply chain management for India's food processing sector. **(12.5)**
8. Trace the evolution of India's land reforms post-independence and how the focus of land policy has changed over time. **(12.5)**
9. Explain how changes in industrial policy have influenced employment patterns in India. **(12.5)**
10. Critically assess the impact of railways on the economy, environment and society. What are the measures that can be taken to improve the efficiency and safety of Indian Railways? **(12.5)**
11. Critically analyse the role of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) as an investment model in India's economic development. **(12.5)**
12. How has digital technology transformed everyday life in the Indian context? **(12.5)**
13. What is meant by the indigenization of technology? Discuss its importance for achieving strategic autonomy with special reference to India's recent achievements in the space and defense sectors. **(12.5)**
14. Describe India's achievement in space science and technology and their socio-economic benefits. **(12.5)**
15. Critically analyse the balance between development and conservation in the Forest Conservation Amendment Act, 2023. **(12.5)**
16. Analyze the different phases of the disaster management cycle. Why is a proactive approach focusing on mitigation and preparedness considered more effective and economical than a reactive, relief-centric one? **(12.5)**
17. Examine the role of external state actors in exacerbating internal security threats in India with reference to the Pahalgam attacks. **(12.5)**

18. The media, including social media, are often termed a 'double-edged sword' in the context of internal security. Elaborate on this statement. **(12.5)**
19. Cross-Border movement of insurgents is only one of the several security challenges facing the policing of the border in North-East India. Examine the various challenges currently emanating across the India-Myanmar border. Discuss the steps to counter the challenges. **(12.5)**
20. The Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) are the two pillars of India's intelligence apparatus. Differentiate their core mandates and operational domains. **(12.5)**

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