

Q6

Oman is India's gateway to West Asia. Analyse this in the context of the recent Development (150 words).

18/12/23.

Monday.

The Sultan of Oman is on the state visit to India recently.

Significance of Oman:

1. Gateway to Gulf countries
2. Entry to West Asia
3. Exposure to Natural resources like natural gas.
4. Crude Oil countries. Hence significant in Energy security.

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5. Accessibility to Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Aden, Persian Gulf, which are important trade routes.

Recent Developments:

- 1) In sector of trade, security. Defence there are several agreements
- 2) For Maritime Security
- 3) India is the 2nd largest market to Oman's crude oil
- 4) IMEEC - India - middle - east europe corridor, Oman is important.
- 5) RuPay Debit Card in Oman → Digital public infrastructure
- 6) Invitation to Oman in presidency of G20 India
- 7) South Asia Gas Enterprise (SAGE)

Challenges:

- 1) Instability in the neighbouring countries of Oman.
- 2) Islamic Radicalisation around Oman, making it unpredictable.
- 3) Ongoing Israel - Hamas War.

Way forward:

- 1) People to people connection enhancement
- 2) Inviting more Oman companies to India for their services
- 3) Regional and International Grouping engagement is important.

Hence, Oman is considered to be always a 'Island of Peace'. And India and Oman have a lot of convergence interests which make both an important relationship. And also India is seeking deeper interest in West Asia, for which Oman is an important pillar.

Q. Do you agree with the view that a shift from exotic and crossbred cattle to indigenous breeds will help the dairy sector to stay profitable and sustainable. Justify your stand (150 words)?

India is the world leader in milk production. But from past few years the productivity of dairy sector is declining. Because of the cattle are falling sick, heat stress, inadequate infrastructure facilities and also because of the shift from exotic and crossbred cattle to indigenous breeds.

Why there is drop in dairy sector?

1. Exotic and crossbred cattle are not familiar with the climatic conditions of India.
2. Breeding Exotic and indigenous breeds together, further make indigenous cattle also vulnerable to diseases and climate of India.
3. And with the heat stress, warming world

the exotic Breeds are struggling with the warm, humid climate.

4. Indigenous Cattle are more tolerate to extreme conditions, Disease Resistant according to the region.

5. Because of some physical features also Exotic Breeds are not capable to climate of India.

Why Indigenous cattle :

- 1) Investment in Indigenous Cattle will surely reduce the import Bill.
- 2) It will be more sustainable and profitable
- 3) Helps in reducing GHG emissions
- 4) Helps farmers economically.
- 5) Quality of milk will be very high. Hence they are more Diseases Resistant.
- 6) Out of pocket expenditure for Cattle will reduce.
- 7) Can divert that expenditure in Infrastructural projects and in Research & Development.

Hence, Establishing milk-cooperatives to promote desi cow milk could improve demand and also the awareness among consumers to reap the benefits of economy of scale and sell at premium rates.