

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

कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
Content of the Question is more important than length.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

1) Do you think that BIMSTEC group needs to shift its focus to agri food trade policy?
Comment.

↳ BIMSTEC Bay of Bengal Initiative on multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic cooperation. It brings the technological and Economical cooperation among South Asian and South East Asian countries along the coast of the Bay of Bengal.

↳ Trade
↳ The BIMSTEC intraregional trade was \$70 billion in 2011 lower than ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) \$600 billion.

↳ The level of agri food trade among the BIMSTEC countries has been below Potential.

↳ Challenges.

↳ Internal Integration → There is lack of integration, countries adjacent to the Bay of Bengal.

↳ Proliferating Regional trade Arrangements such as Regional comprehensive Economic

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Partnership (RCEP) and Bilateral arrangements like India-Australia free trade agreement.

↳ Value chain The Agri food trade requires countries to settle on specific component of value chain such specialisation is largely missing.

↳ Need of the hour

↳ BIMSTEC countries need to liberalise both import and export restrictions

eg. India's unpredictable trading rules for pulses are barrier for Myanmar which produces pigeon peas almost solely for Export to India.

↳ BIMSTEC needs to be re-calibrated and repurposed to have a greater focus on the Agri-food trade within global value chain framework.

↳ Way Forward

It is essential precondition for BIMSTEC to become an effective platform for successful cooperation among the Bay of Bengal countries.