

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space.) (कृपया इस स्थान पर प्रश्न संख्या के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें।)	NAME - <u>MAINA</u> Specimen Booklet	DATE - <u>23/08/2025</u> <h1 style="text-align: center;">UPSC</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">Candidates must adhere to the word limit specified in the question. Any page or portion of the page left blank must be clearly struck off.</p>	Candidates must not write on this margin अभ्यर्थियों को इस मार्जिन पर नहीं लिखना चाहिए
		<p>Q. The U.S. hike in H-1B visa fees exposes India's dependence on foreign job markets. Analyse its implications and suggest measures for India to reduce this reliance.</p> <p><u>Ans</u> The recent hike in US H-1B visa fees to \$100,000 will increase costs for Indian IT firms, potentially squeezing profits and accelerating offshoring.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Introduction:</p> <p>Good – Crisp opening directly linking H-1B fee hike to Indian IT sector and offshoring.          Improve – Could briefly mention India's dependence on US job market (share of visas, remittances) to strengthen context.</p> <p>① Increased Costs for Indian Firms - Major Body:</p> <p>Good – Well-structured points: cost to firms, talent flow disruption, local hiring, remote work, and boost to domestic market. Balanced coverage with both challenges and opportunities.          Improve – Geopolitical angle (Indo-US relations, diplomacy) is missing. A small data/stat example (e.g., % of H-1B holders from India) would add weight.</p> <p>② Accelerated offshoring and Local Hiring - Conclusion:</p> <p>Good – Mentions need for diplomacy and transparent immigration policies while highlighting mutual benefits.          Improve – Could be sharper with one strong punchline on "self-reliant innovation and diversified job markets."</p> <p>locations or increase local hiring in the US.</p> <p>③ Disruption of Talent Flow - The hike may hinder the flow of skilled Indian talent into the US, potentially slowing innovation in the US tech sector &amp; limiting career growth.</p> <p>④ Shift in Talent Models - The policy could accelerate adoption of remote work models.</p> <p>⑤ Boost for Domestic Market and Innovation - It could potentially boost domestic tech industry &amp; foster greater local innovation.</p>	
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## Measures to Reduce Reliance on the US Market

- ① Focus on Domestic Skill Development - Invest in upskilling & reskilling the workforce, creating a robust local talent pool.
  - ② Promote local Job Creation - Incentivize the creation of new tech jobs and roles within India, reducing need for emigration.
  - ③ Diversify into Non-IT Sectors - Encourage growth & investment in other sectors, like rural development, agriculture & advanced manufacturing to create balanced economy.
  - ④ Strengthen Research & Development - Foster innovation & intellectual property creation within India to develop indigenous technologies.
  - ⑤ Embrace and Promote Remote Work - Leverage technology to create global remote work opportunities.
  - ⑥ Strengthen Global Partnerships - Reduce dependence on a single foreign market for talent placement & revenue.
- Conclusion - There is a need for diplomatic channels to advocate for fair & transparent immigration policies in US, highlighting mutual benefits of skilled migration.