

Date:

Question No.

UPSC

Topic

Remarks

Que The US 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. (150 words/10M)

The US-H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows US companies to employ foreign workers upto 6 years in speciality occupations. In contrast, the US President

Introduction:

Good – Defines H-1B visa and gives context of US President's decision to hike fees. Sets the stage clearly.
Improve – Could briefly highlight India's large share ($\approx 70\%$) of H-1B recipients to strengthen context in the intro

application fee to 10000\$ for H-1B visa

Body:

Good – Well-structured under implications: bilateral relations, impact on professionals, increased costs for IT firms, remittances, and reduced mobility. Use of diagrams/tables adds value.

Improve – Could include a more explicit social impact (like effect on families or migration patterns). Also, diplomatic strain could be elaborated a bit more.

(i) Impact on bilateral relations :- As

Conclusion / Measures:

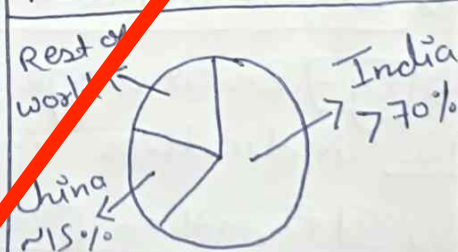
Good – Measures are specific: diversifying job markets, promoting entrepreneurship, boosting tech ecosystem, and strengthening trade blocs (ASEAN, Japan, EU). Conclusion frames the hike as a "wake-up call" for India.

Improve – Stronger punchline possible, e.g. "India must transform external shocks into opportunities for innovation and Atmanirbhar Bharat."

(ii) Impact on Indians

↳ Higher application fee could affect opportunities for Indian professional in the USA.

TOP COUNTRIES
FOR H-1B VISAS



Immigration Services

Table - 1

(iii) Cost Increases for companies :- Higher

fees might lead to increased operational costs for Indian IT firms with US operations.

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(iv) Economic Impact :- The hike could affect remittances from Indian workers in the U.S, impacting Indias Economy (Fig-2)

%	Annual Salary \$
15%	75000 - 100K
25%	100000 - 150K
5%	150000 - above

(v) Reduced Mobility of Indian professionals

↳ May discourage companies to sponsoring new H-1B visas

MEASURES FOR INDIA -

(i) Diversify International Job basket :-

↳ [Eg-] Japan, Europe, Africa or other regions with less restrictive policies

(ii) Promote Entrepreneurship :-

Encourage innovation in India to create more job opportunities.

(iii) Boost Domestic Tech Ecosystem :-

↳ [Eg-] Encourage IT, tech, software, AI industries in India.

(iv) Strengthen Existing Trans-Market :-

↳ [Eg-] ASEAN, Korea, Japan, EU, Germany for easier professionalism.

Thus, this turn of event should not be viewed as a disaster but as a wake-up call to utilise the full strength of domestic youth and professionals.