

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.

Ans

The recent U.S. hike in H-1B visa fees highlights India's over-dependence on foreign job markets, especially in IT and services, where Indian professionals form a major share of U.S. visa holders.

Introduction:

Good - Clear introduction highlighting India's overdependence on foreign job markets, especially IT.

Improve - Could be sharper by adding data (e.g., 70% of H-1B visas held by Indians).

Implications for India:

Body (Implications):

Good - Covers economic impact, brain drain challenge, employment concerns, and service export risk. Well-

structured.

Improve - Misses out on diplomatic/political angle (US-India relations, remittances impact). Explanation could be

slightly more analytical with examples (like Infosys/TCS).

face higher costs, reducing global

Conclusion / Measures:

Good - Suggests boosting domestic jobs, skilling, innovation, diversifying markets. Well-aligned with Atmanirbhar

Competitiveness.

Bharat vision.

Improve - Conclusion is abrupt; should tie back to reducing vulnerability and achieving long-term resilience.

1) Brain drain challenge - skilled workforce becomes vulnerable to restrictive immigration policies.

2) Employment concerns - Fewer opportunities abroad may strain India's job market.

3) Service exports risk - Dependence on overseas project makes IT revenues

uncertain

5) Geopolitical leverage - visa policies become tools of bargaining in trade negotiations.

Measures to reduce reliance -

1) Boost domestic job creation - in IT, manufacturing and startups.

2) Strengthen skilling initiatives under Skill India and Digital India.

3) Promote innovation and R & D to retain talent.

4) Diversify markets: by tapping EU, ASEAN, and Africa.

India need to shift from export-led manpower dependence to innovation-driven domestic opportunities, ensuring sustainable growth and resilience.