

CHAHAL ACADEMY

QUESTION NO.

IAS - IPS - UPSC

23-Sept-2025

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Ques:- 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 hike in H-1B visa fees by

Introduction

Strong introduction—student directly mentions the U.S. H-1B visa fee hike, its link to India's IT sector, and possible disruption of business models. Very relevant and focused. Could be improved by adding a quick statistic (like India's share in H-1B visas).

for India's IT sector, which heavily relies on

Body

these visas for skilled professionals. The \$100,000 Annual fee could lead to increased operational

Strengths:

Identifies implications like increased costs, project delays, reduced competitiveness, remittance impact, and possible shift to other destinations.

Covers economic and business angles well.

Areas to Improve:

Humanitarian/social angle (Impact on families, skilled workers' aspirations) is missing. Geopolitical implications (India-US ties, global workforce dynamics) could be added. Some repetition in phrasing ("increased costs" is mentioned multiple times).

disrupting their business models.

Measures/Way Forward

Very good section—covers diversification, domestic reforms, innovation, diplomacy, and leveraging talent ecosystem. Measures are practical and policy-linked. Could be more concise and avoid too much descriptive length.

Implications to reduce this reliance:

1) Increased costs := Indian IT firms may struggle

Conclusion

The answer ends with broad suggestions but lacks a sharp concluding line. It should close with a statement like "India must use this challenge as an opportunity to strengthen domestic job markets and reduce overdependence on foreign visas."

Impacting their competitiveness and profitability.

2) Delays and Project Cancellations := Higher costs might lead to delayed or canceled projects affecting India's remittances and economic growth.

3) Shift to alternative destination := Indian professionals might consider alternative destinations like Canada,

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Europe or Asia for job opportunities

Measures to reduce reliance :-

⇒ Diversification :- Expand India's IT Sector into new markets, such as The EU, ASEAN and Africa, to reduce dependence on The US Market

⇒ Domestic Reforms :- Invest in higher education and Innovation clusters to enhance India's global competitiveness and attract foreign investment.

⇒ Product Innovation :- Encourage Indian multinationals to move beyond cost-based services to product innovation, reducing reliance on labor-arbitrage models.

⇒ Diplomatic Efforts :- Engage with the US government to push for H-1B fee rollbacks or Moderation through sustained diplomatic channels.

⇒ India must leverage this by fostering domestic innovation, creating a better work environment and strengthening its own talent ecosystem to retain and attract skilled professionals while maintaining diplomatic dialogue with the US.