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U.P.S.C.

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सिर्फ अभ्यास
के लिए

Question No.
न संख्या

Qn The US hike in H-1B visa fees exposes India's dependence on foreign job markets. Analyse its implications & suggest measures for India to reduce this reliance.

Recently USA imposed new H-1B visa payment to curb immigration of professionals. India is the largest beneficiary of the H-1B visa i.e. 70% of H-1B visas go to Indians.

Introduction:

Good - Clear context given about USA's new H-1B fee and India's high share of beneficiaries (70%).
Improve - Could briefly link this dependence to India's IT sector directly in the intro to sharpen the focus.

Body:

Good - Well-structured with a comparative table, (Implications for USA vs India) covered costs, remittances, employment, innovation, and brain drain. Measures like bilateral engagement, domestic ecosystem, diversification, skilling, and education quality are relevant.

Improve - More emphasis on geopolitical/diplomatic consequences of Indo-US relations would make it stronger.

Conclusion:

Good - Strong finish highlighting self-reliance, skill, R&D, and diversification as the need of the hour.
Improve - Could be crisper; one punchline about reducing India's vulnerability to foreign policy shocks would align more directly with the question.

i) High cost for hiring domestic talent replacing skilled migrants

i) Reduction in remittance inflow - 27% of India's remittances comes from USA (RBI)

ii) Impact on innovation due to diversion of talent.

ii) Disruption in employment rate due to overdependence on IT sector.

iii) Jobs to domestic people may raise GDP of USA

iii) "Reverse brain gain" to India

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| iv) Prevents job losses for American boosting "MAGA". | iv) Expansion of skill capital due to "self-reliance" rather dependency |
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Measures to reduce H-1B dependency

- i) "Bilateral engagement" through sustained dialogues beyond trade.
- ii) Strengthening domestic ecosystem in IT sector ex) "Make in India"
- iii) Diversification of services to ASEAN, Eurasia etc. ex) Japan-India exchange programme.
- iv) Boost to education quality (new NEP) and vocational training to youth (Startup India).
- v) Promote "Global capability centers" for reskilling.

Thus, USA's two front protectionist action i.e. "100% tariffs" and "H-1B hike" demands India to become self-reliant. Boost in symbolic capital, (skill, education), invest in R&D, and diversification are the need of the hour.