

Daily Answer Writing: 1 July 2025

GS Paper 3 – Economy

Q1.

"Goods and Services Tax (GST) has completed eight years of implementation, yet structural and procedural issues persist."

Critically evaluate the achievements and shortcomings of GST in India. Suggest measures to make it more efficient and inclusive, especially for MSMEs and exporting sectors. (250 words)

Directives to Approach:

- **Introduction:** Define GST and its objectives; mention it was implemented in July 2017.
- **Achievements:** Mention key successes like increased tax base, average monthly collections, automation in IGST refunds, common national market.
- **Shortcomings:** Include refund delays (under GST officers), tech-system gaps, MSME compliance burden, and concerns of states on fiscal autonomy.
- **Way Forward:** Suggest integrating GST-Customs platforms, full automation, simplified MSME compliance, strengthen appellate processes, and GST 2.0 reforms.
- **Conclusion:** Emphasize GST's transformation potential and the need to evolve it into a robust, inclusive system.

GS Paper 3 – Environment & Intellectual Property Rights

Q2.

"Geographical Indication (GI) tags are essential tools for protecting traditional knowledge and local economies, yet they face serious enforcement challenges globally."

Examine the role and limitations of GI tags in the context of recent controversies like Kolhapuri chappals. How can India strengthen global protection for its GI products? (250 words)

Directives to Approach:

- **Introduction:** Define GI tags and cite the Kolhapuri-Prada issue as an example of misuse.
- **Role of GI Tags:** Cultural protection, economic empowerment, global branding, rural livelihoods.



- **Limitations:** Territorial enforcement, weak global laws, lack of producer awareness, no global GI database.
- **Suggestions:** Push for multilateral GI agreements, include GI clauses in FTAs, educate producers, support international registration.
- **Conclusion:** Stress that India must use diplomatic, legal, and institutional tools to preserve its heritage and promote indigenous economies globally.