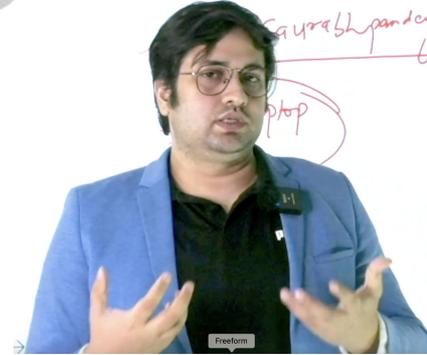


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- Anoles and Their Ecosystem in Puerto Rico
- Climate Change and Kimchi: The Napa Cabbage Crisis
- CSS Initiatives in Health Infrastructure
- Cauvery Water Dispute
- Infrastructure Development in Great Nicobar
- Impact of India's Shift to Corn-Based Ethanol
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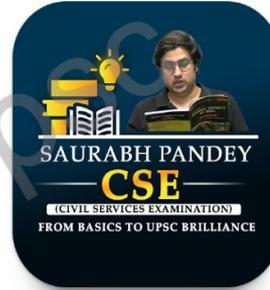
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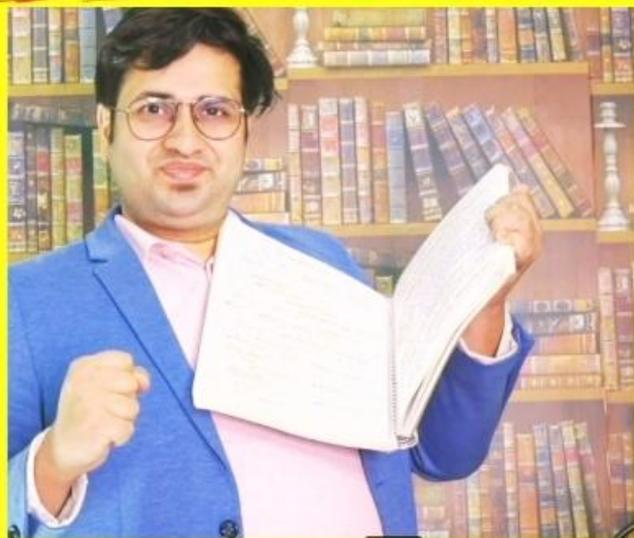
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Topic- Peace Agreement

Overview

Memorandum of Settlement signed between:

Government of India 

Government of Tripura 

National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) 

All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) 

Objective: More than 328 armed cadres to join mainstream society 

Key Points:

Peace and Development:

Building a developed Tripura

Contributing to a developed India

Government Efforts:

Wholehearted efforts for implementation

Addressing local sensitivities

Eliminating reasons for insurgency

Topic- Anoles and Their Ecosystem in Puerto Rico

Overview of Anoles



Distinctive Features

- Ability to change skin colour
- Presence of a dewlap (throat fan)
- Adhesive toe pads for climbing



Habitat

- Common in the Americas
- Found in tropical and subtropical regions



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Ecosystem of Puerto Rico

Diverse Ecosystems

Tropical rainforests (e.g., El Yunque)

Dry forests

Biodiversity

Unique flora and fauna

Home to endangered species



Topic- Climate Change and Kimchi: The Napa Cabbage Crisis

Overview

South Korea's kimchi industry faces challenges due to climate change 🌡️

Napa cabbage quality and quantity are declining due to rising temperatures 🚫🥬

Key Points:

Napa cabbage thrives in cooler climates

Impact of climate change on agricultural practices

Economic implications due to imports from China



Kimchi

Overview of Kimchi



Definition: Fermented Korean dish made primarily from vegetables and seasonings.

Ingredients: Cabbage, radishes, garlic, ginger, chili pepper, fish sauce.

Key Points

Cultural Significance: Staple in Korean cuisine, symbolizes national identity.

Health Benefits: Rich in probiotics, vitamins, and antioxidants.

— **Variations:** Different regional styles and recipes. —

Topic-CSS Initiatives in Health Infrastructure



Overview of Initiatives

Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM)

Aim: Build health and wellness centers (AB-HWCs)

Develop block-level public health units (BPHUs)

Establish integrated district public health laboratories (IDPHLs)

Create critical care hospital blocks (CCHBs)

Goal: Improve preparedness for future emergencies (pandemics)

Human Resources for Health and Medical Education (HRHME)

Scale up medical personnel

Establish new medical, nursing, paramedical colleges

Increase seats in existing colleges

Strengthen district hospitals, attach them to new medical colleges



Budget Utilization Challenges

PM-ABHIM

2022-23: 29% of Budget Estimate utilized

2023-24: Expected to be lower than Revised Estimate of 50%

HRHME

Utilization around 25% of Budget estimates in both 2022-23 and 2023-24

Factors Behind Low Utilization

Funding Sources

60% of resources sourced from health grants by the 15th Finance Commission

Integration Issues

Need for extensive reorganization of existing structures

Coordination challenges among various vertical programs

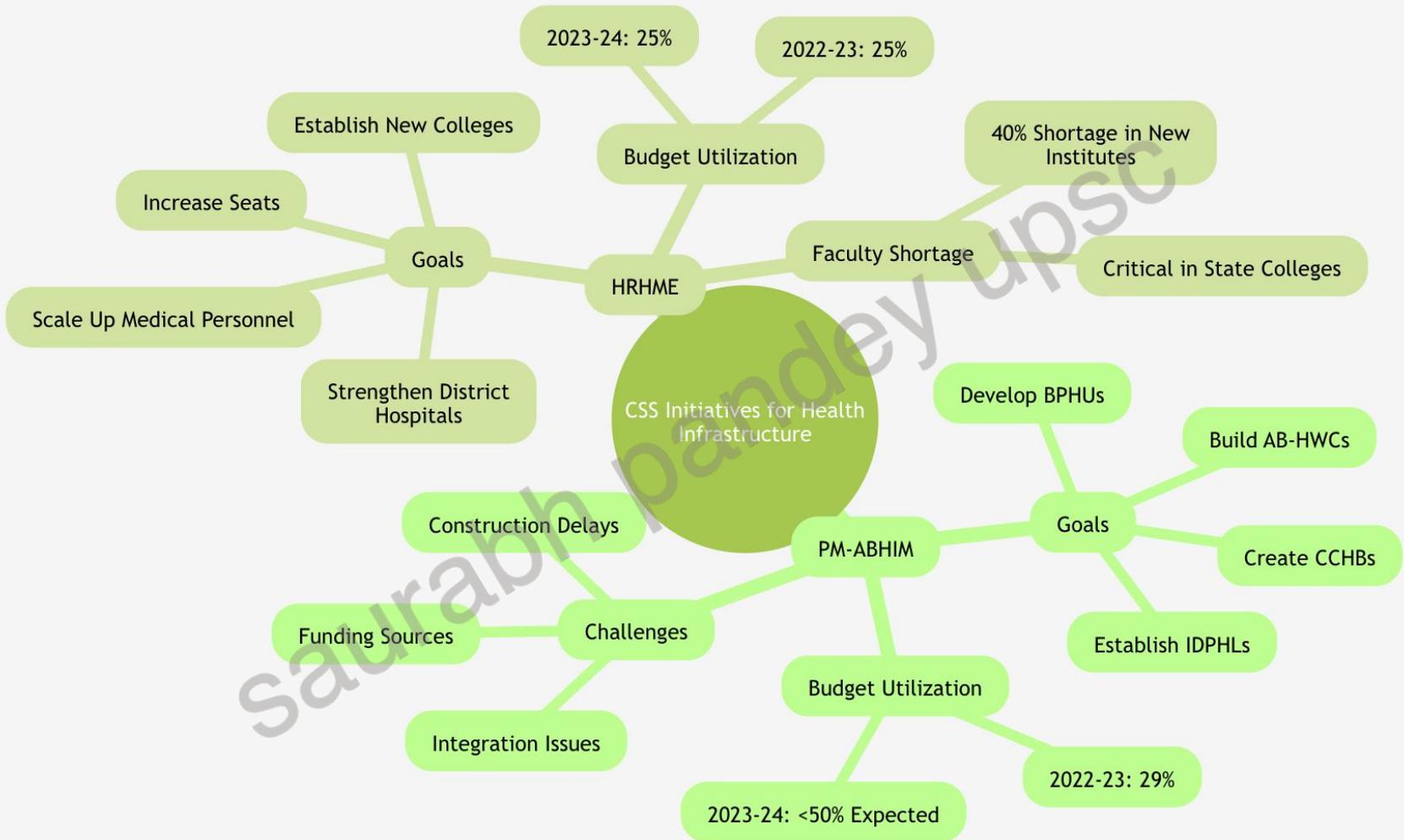
Construction Delays

Rigid procedures causing delays in fund absorption
Overlap of funding sources complicating implementation

Faculty Shortage in HRHME

- **Shortage of over 40% in teaching faculty positions in newly created All India Institutes of Medical Sciences**
- **Critical shortage in State government medical colleges in Empowered Action Group States**

•



High Vacancy Rates

30% faculty vacancies in Uttar Pradesh

Shortage of specialists affecting college setups

Impact on Healthcare Facilities

Challenges in upgrading district hospitals

CCHBs under PM-ABHIM facing staffing shortages

Rural Health Statistics

Over a third of specialist positions vacant in urban CHCs

Two-thirds vacant in rural CHCs

Fiscal Considerations for State Governments

Recurring Costs

Maintenance of infrastructure from PM-ABHIM
and HRHME

Need for additional financial commitments

Support Duration

Union government support only till 2025-26

Importance of planning for expenses beyond
2026

Key Factors for Effective Expenditure

Fiscal Capacity

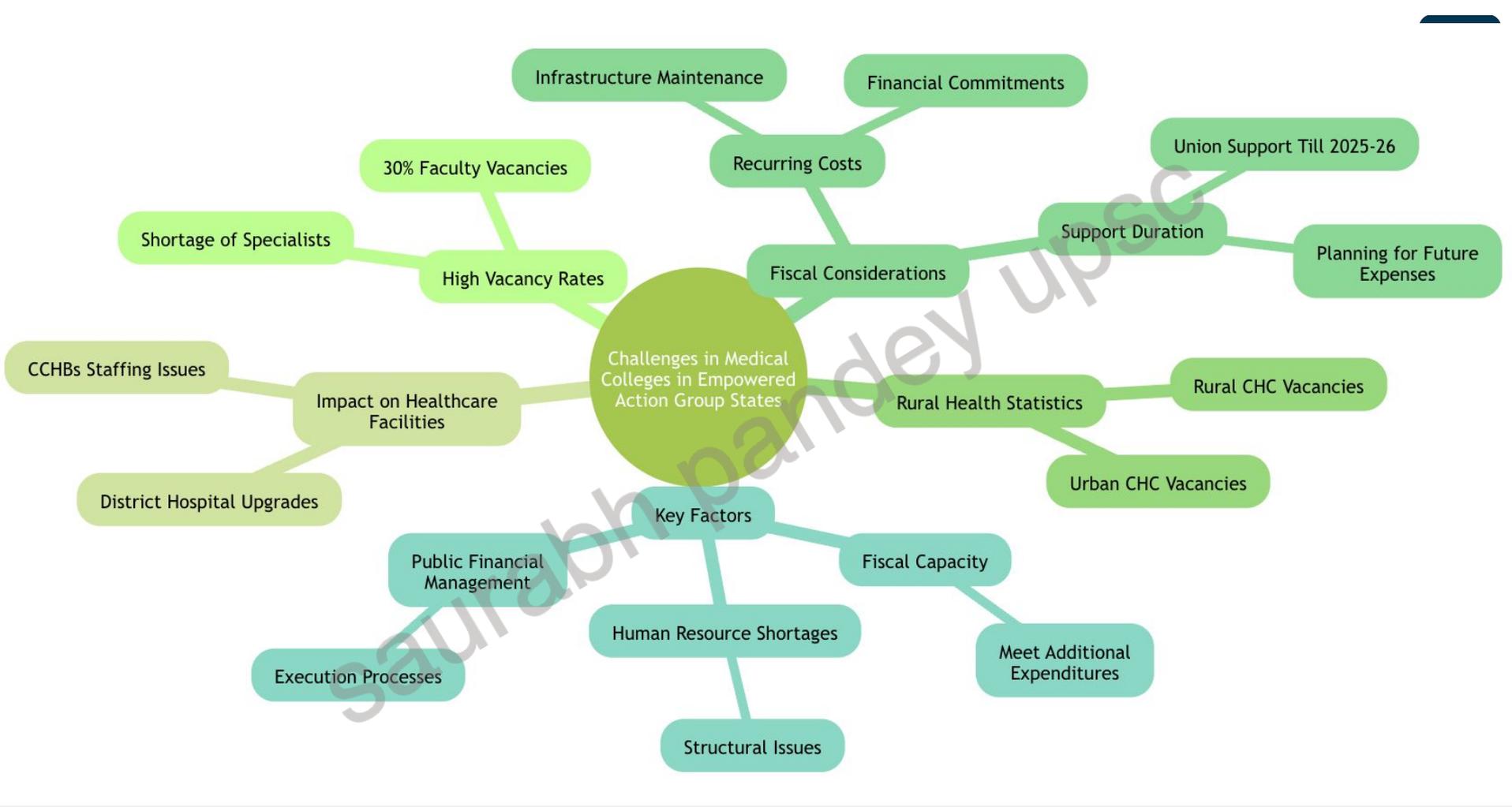
States must meet additional recurring expenditures

Human Resource Shortages

Addressing structural causes of shortages

Public Financial Management

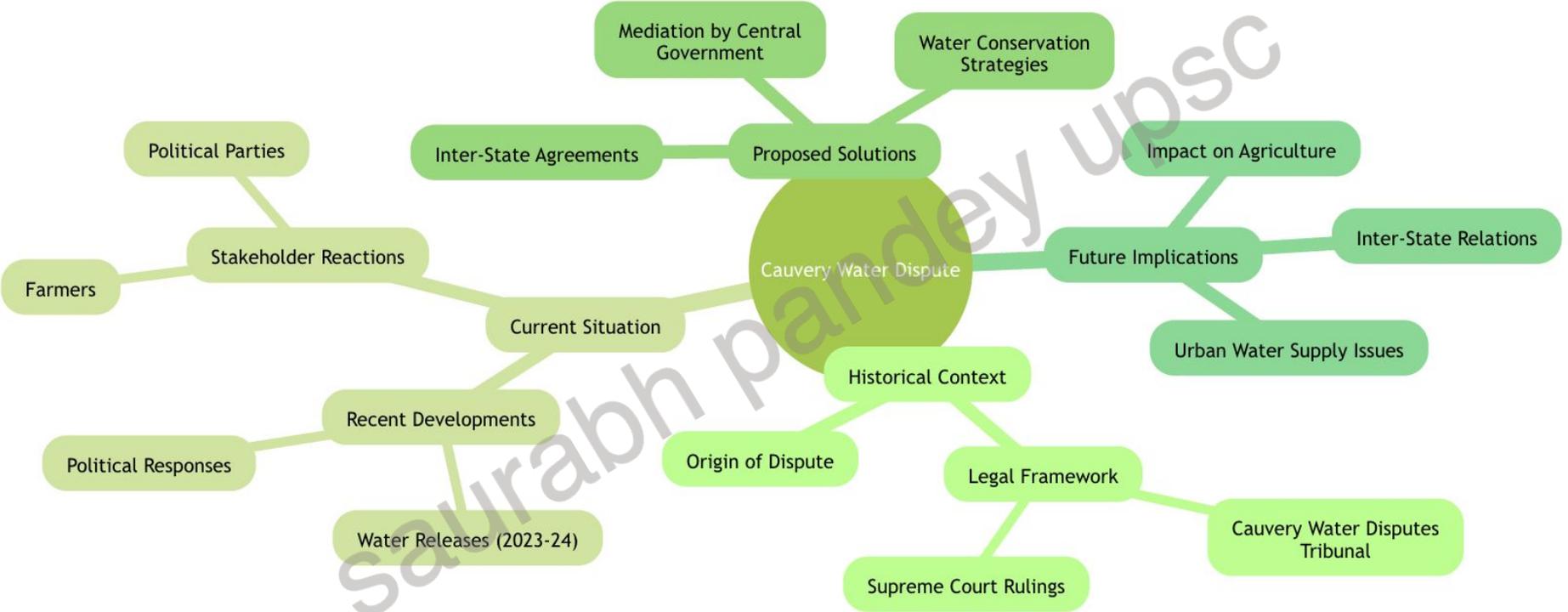
Improving processes for executing schemes and grants



Topic- Cauvery Water Dispute

Overview of the Dispute

- Ongoing conflict between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu over water sharing from the Cauvery River.
 - Historical context dating back over 50 years.
 - Key players include state governments, farmers, and the Supreme Court.
-



Topic- Infrastructure Development in Great Nicobar

Overview

Project: ₹72,000 crore mega infrastructure project

Proponent: Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation (ANIIDCO)

Location: Great Nicobar, southernmost island in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago

Trans-shipment Port: Major shipping hub

Greenfield Airport: Enhancing connectivity

Tourism and Township Project: Promoting sustainable tourism

Power Plant: Solar and gas-based energy supply

ANIIDCO: Background and Concerns

Incorporation: June 28, 1988

Objective: Develop and exploit natural resources sustainably

Average Annual Turnover: ₹370 crore

Profit: ₹35 crore

Concerns:

Lack of environmental policy

Insufficient human resources

High-risk project management

Environment Policy: Initially absent

Recruitment for Expertise: Urban planners, environmental specialists, etc.

Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC): Oversight and compliance questions

Environmental and Social Implications

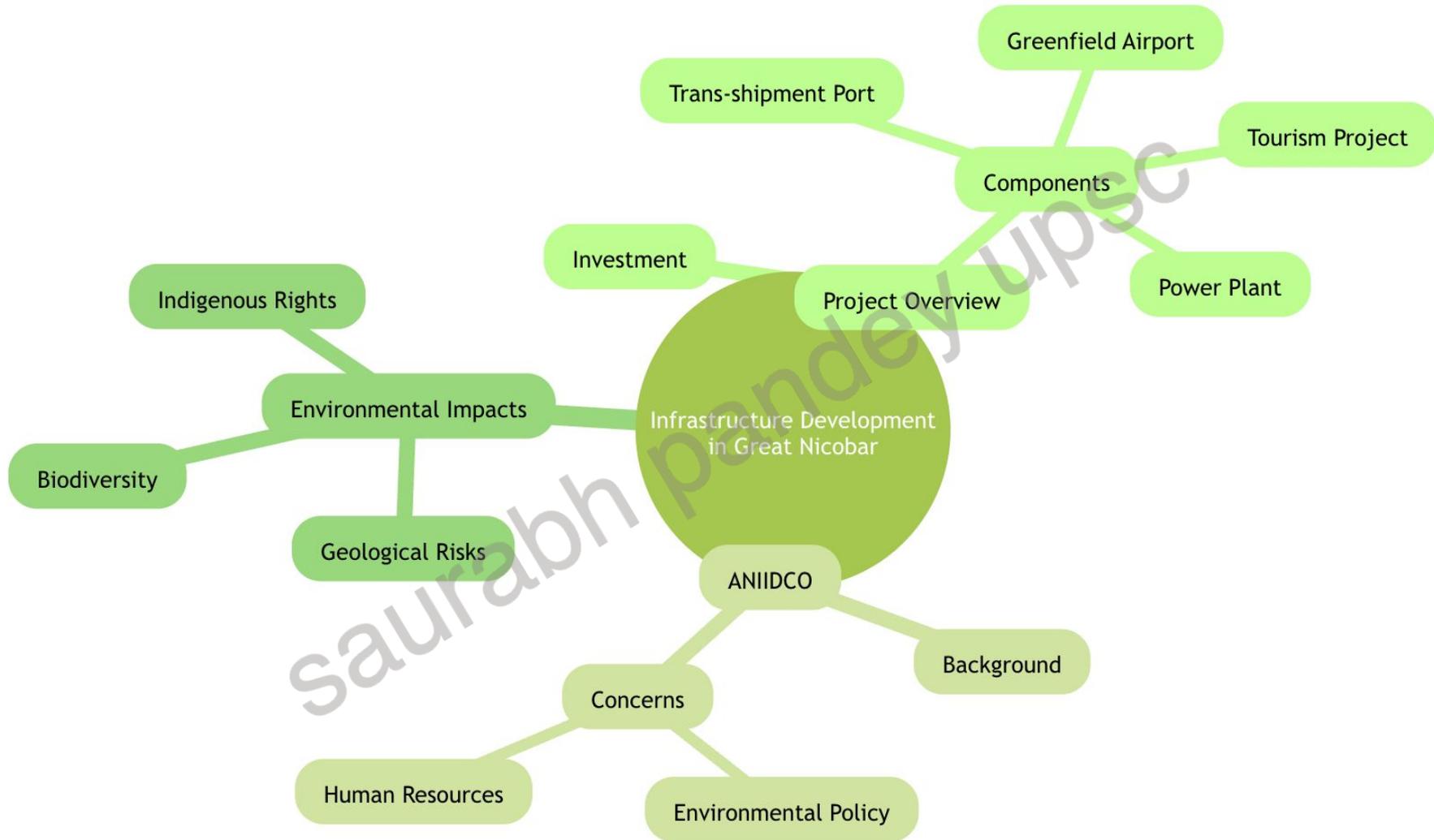
Biodiversity Hotspot: Ecological significance

Indigenous Communities: Rights and concerns

Tectonic Activity: Geographical risks

Environmental Clearance: Granted despite initial lapses

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Topic- Impact of India's Shift to Corn-Based Ethanol

Overview

India, once Asia's top corn exporter, is shifting to become a net importer.

The government is promoting corn-based ethanol to reduce carbon emissions and support sugar supply.

Ethanol Policy Shift: Increased procurement price for corn-based ethanol.

Net Importer Status: First time in decades, impacting local poultry and global supply chains.

Demand Surge: Ethanol distilleries increasing corn usage, leading to a shortfall.



Crisis: Rising corn prices are severely affecting the poultry industry.

Production Costs: Feed accounts for 75% of production costs.

Current Prices: Farm gate price of broilers is ₹75, production costs have surged to ₹90.

Industry's Plea: Demand for duty-free corn imports to mitigate losses.

Key Stakeholders

Uddhav Ahire: Chairman of Anand Agro Group

AIPBA: All India Poultry Breeders Association

CLFMA: Compound Livestock Feed Manufacturers Association

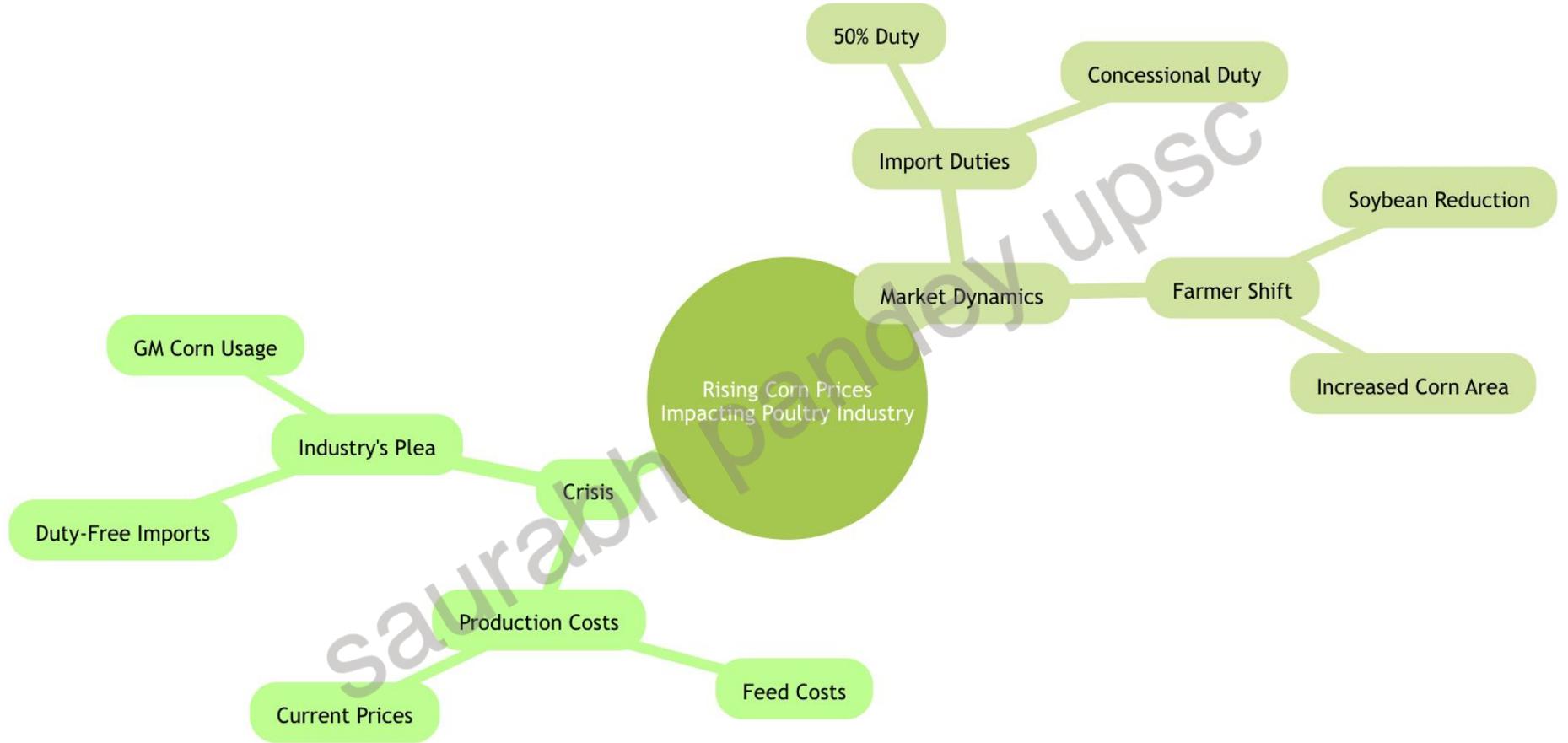
Call to Action

- **Import Demand:** Request for 5 million tons of duty-free corn imports.
- **Government Action:** Allow for GM corn for feed purposes to ease supply issues.

Market Dynamics

Import Duties: Corn imports attract a 50% duty; India allowed 500,000 tons at 15% concessional duty.

Farmer Shift: Farmers are reducing soybean planting to increase corn acreage due to high returns.



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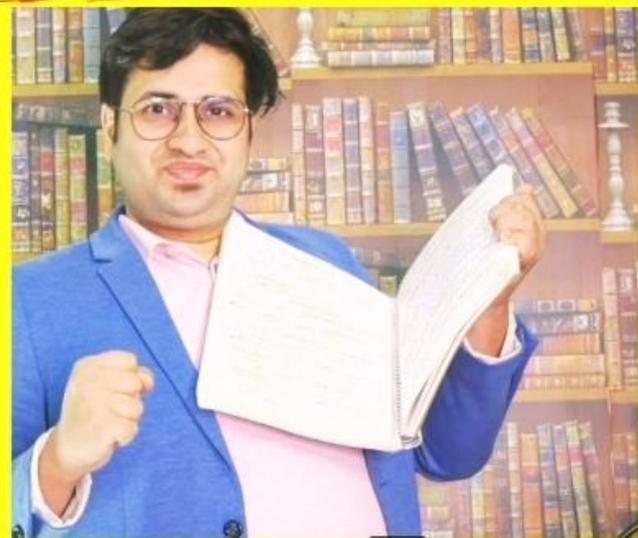
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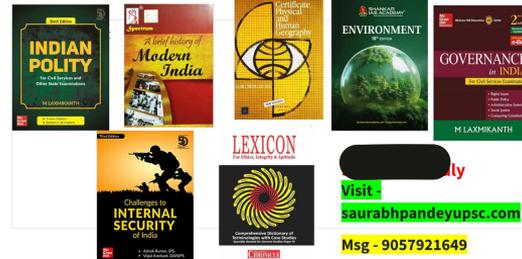
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