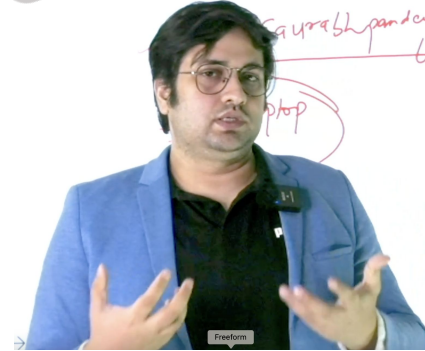


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- PMSHRI Scheme
- Pilocarpine
- Food security act and PDS
- Critical Mineral Mission in Union Budget 2024-25
- Financial Relationship between Union Government and States
- Loss and Damage Fund (LDF) in Kerala
- Mains



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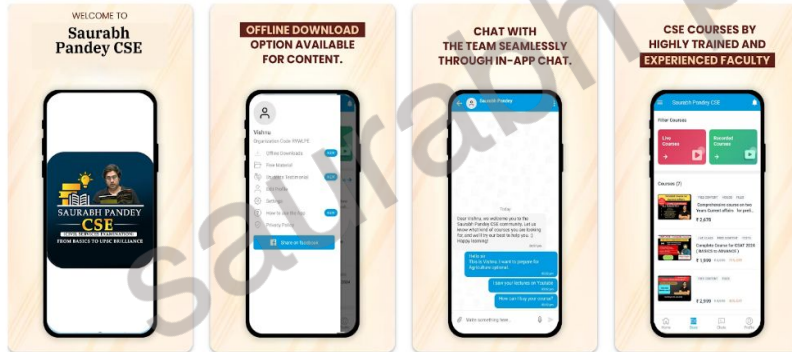
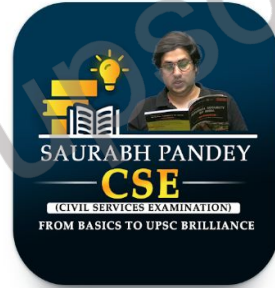
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Topic- PMSHRI Scheme

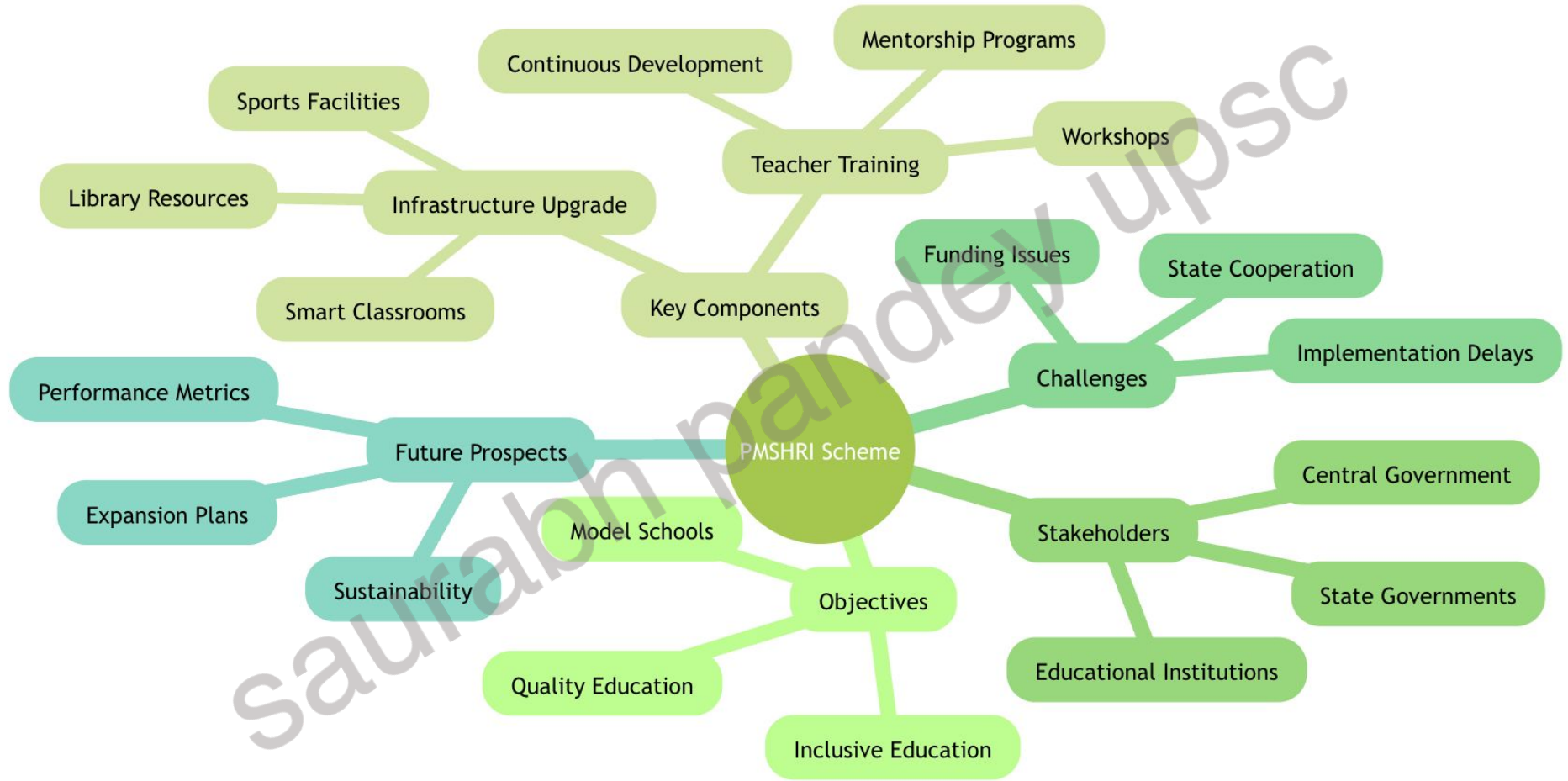
Overview of PMSHRI Scheme

Purpose: To enhance the quality of education in schools.

Focus: Upgrading existing schools into model schools.

Implementation: In collaboration with State Governments.

The PMSHRI (Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India) Scheme is a government initiative aimed at improving the educational infrastructure and quality across India.



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Topic-Pilocarpine

Overview

Definition: Pilocarpine is a medication used to treat various eye conditions and is noted for its potential to replace reading glasses.

Applications:

Eye Drops: FDA approved for presbyopia.

Seizure Studies: Used in research for inducing seizures in animal models.

Key Themes

Medical Uses

Eye Treatment

Neurological Research

Market Launches

Recent FDA approvals

New products in India

Pros and Cons

Benefits vs. limitations of using eye drops over glasses

Presbyopia



Overview

Definition: Age-related condition causing difficulty in seeing close objects.

Symptoms: Blurred vision, eye strain, headache.

Recent Developments

Eye Drops: New treatments being approved.

Entod's PresVu Eye Drops: Approved by DCGI for presbyopia management.

Ocuphire Pharma: Initiated VEGA-3 trial for a new ophthalmic solution.

Market Trends: Growing interest in non-surgical treatments.

Treatment Options

Reading Glasses: Traditional method.

Contact Lenses: Multifocal options available.

Surgical Procedures: LASIK, lens implants.

Eye Drops: Emerging option for treatment.

Challenges

Awareness: Many remain uninformed about presbyopia.

Accessibility: Treatments may not be available in all regions.

Affordability: Cost of new treatments can be high.



Topic Overview of NFSA (national food security act) and PDS

Purpose: Guarantee food security through PDS

Concerns: High leakage rates in PDS

Historical Context:

2011-12: PDS leakages at 41.7%

Improvement in PDS with state reforms

Key Statistics

States with Improvement:

Bihar: Leakages from 91% to 24%

Chhattisgarh: Leakages from 52% to 9%

Odisha: Leakages from 76% to 25%

2022-23 Leakages: Down to 22%

PDS Coverage Impact

Expansion of Coverage: Aimed to reduce exclusion errors

Ration Card Statistics:

2011-12: Less than 50% of households had ration cards

2004-05: Less than 24% accessed PDS

Provisions of Food Security Act 2013

Overview

The Food Security Act aims to ensure food and nutritional security for the population.

It provides legal rights to access adequate food at affordable prices.

Key Provisions:

Coverage: Targeted towards 67% of the population.

Entitlements: Provides subsidized food grains.

Nutritional Support: Special provisions for women and children.

Objectives:

- To provide food security.
- To enhance nutritional standards.
- To promote self-reliance among citizens.

Major Components

Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)

Distribution of food grains through fair price shops.

Nutritional Support

Maternity benefits and supplementary nutrition for children.

Grievance Redressal Mechanism

Establishment of state food commissions.

Special Schemes:



Antyodaya Anna Yojana: Focus on the poorest families.

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana: Additional food during crises.

Implementation Challenges

Inequitable Distribution: Issues in reaching the intended beneficiaries.

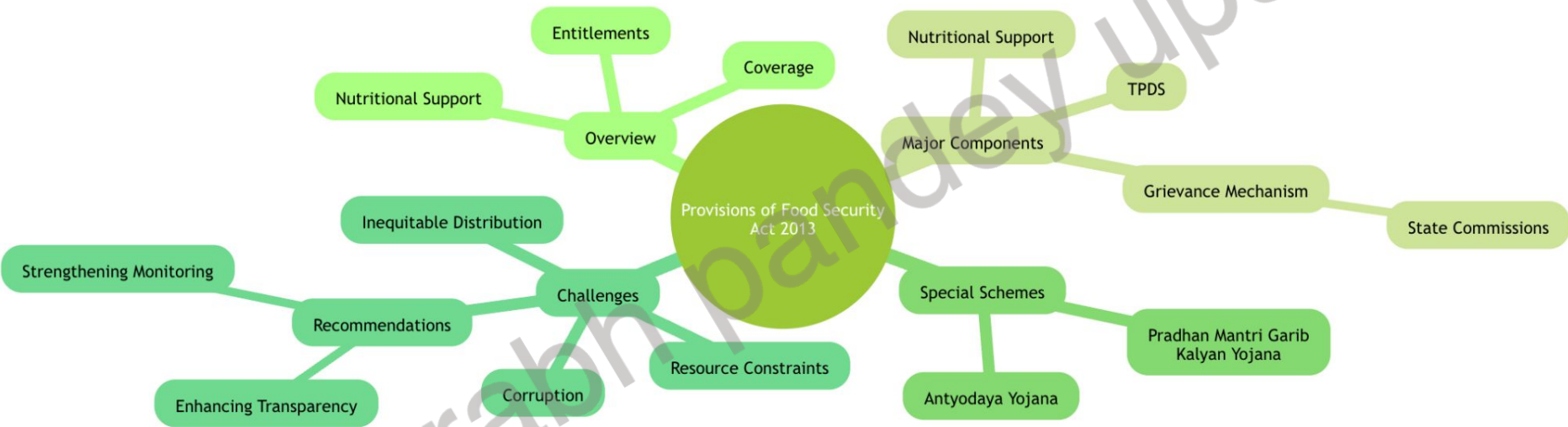
Corruption: Misuse of the system by intermediaries.

Resource Constraints: Financial and logistical challenges in implementation.

Recommendations:

Strengthening monitoring systems.

Enhancing transparency in the distribution process.



Topic-Critical Mineral Mission in Union Budget 2024-25

Overview

Objective: Establish a Critical Mineral Mission

Key Goals:

Expand domestic production

Prioritize recycling of critical minerals

Incentivize overseas acquisition of assets



Related Developments

Amendment to Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957

Formation of Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL) for international collaboration

- 1. Private Sector Involvement: Six minerals removed from the atomic list**
 - 2. International Agreements: Major agreement for lithium exploration in Argentina**
 - 3. Challenges: Lack of manufacturing capacity and skilled labor in India**
-

Key Areas of Focus



Domestic Production:

Increase mining activities

Promote local industries for mineral processing

Recycling:

Develop recycling technologies

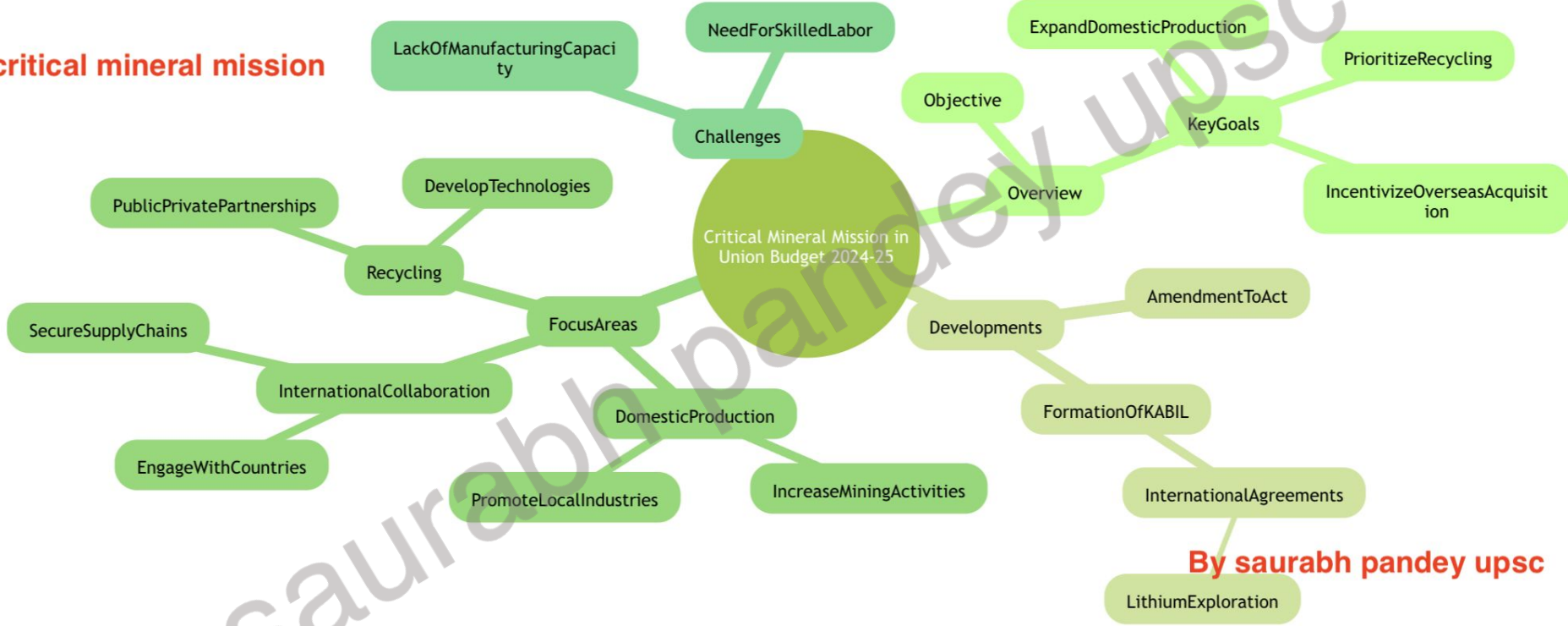
Encourage public-private partnerships for recycling initiatives

International Collaboration:

Engage with mineral-rich countries

Secure supply chains for critical minerals

critical mineral mission



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Overview

Critical Minerals Mission: Successful collaboration between India and Africa is crucial for sourcing critical minerals.

Geographical Familiarity: India has strong political, economic, and historical ties with Africa.

Diaspora Influence: Three million strong Indian diaspora enhancing commercial networks.

Recognizing Africa's role in global priorities, India is expanding its diplomatic missions in the continent.

Key Points

- **Bilateral Trade: \$98 billion total trade; \$43 billion from mining and minerals (2022-23).**
- **Investment: \$75 billion invested in Africa by India, focusing on energy assets.**
- **Energy Imports: 34 million tonnes of oil from Africa, accounting for 15% of India's total demand.**



Figure 10: Africa

Overview

Geopolitical Context

Importance of alternative partnerships

Unique advantages for India

Indian Construction Projects

Projects in 43 African countries

Examples: Transmission lines in Tunisia, Hospitals in Tanzania, Railway lines in Ghana

Critical Minerals Landscape

Strategic projects with host countries

Building mining-adjacent infrastructure

MoUs with African Nations

Agreements with Zambia and Zimbabwe

Focus on geological mapping, mineral deposit modelling, and capacity building

Capacity Building Initiatives

Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation framework

Training 40,000 Africans in 10 years

Role of Indian Start-ups

Innovative mining tools

Minimizing ecological impacts

Beneficiation of mineral ores

Reconnaissance services

Value Addition

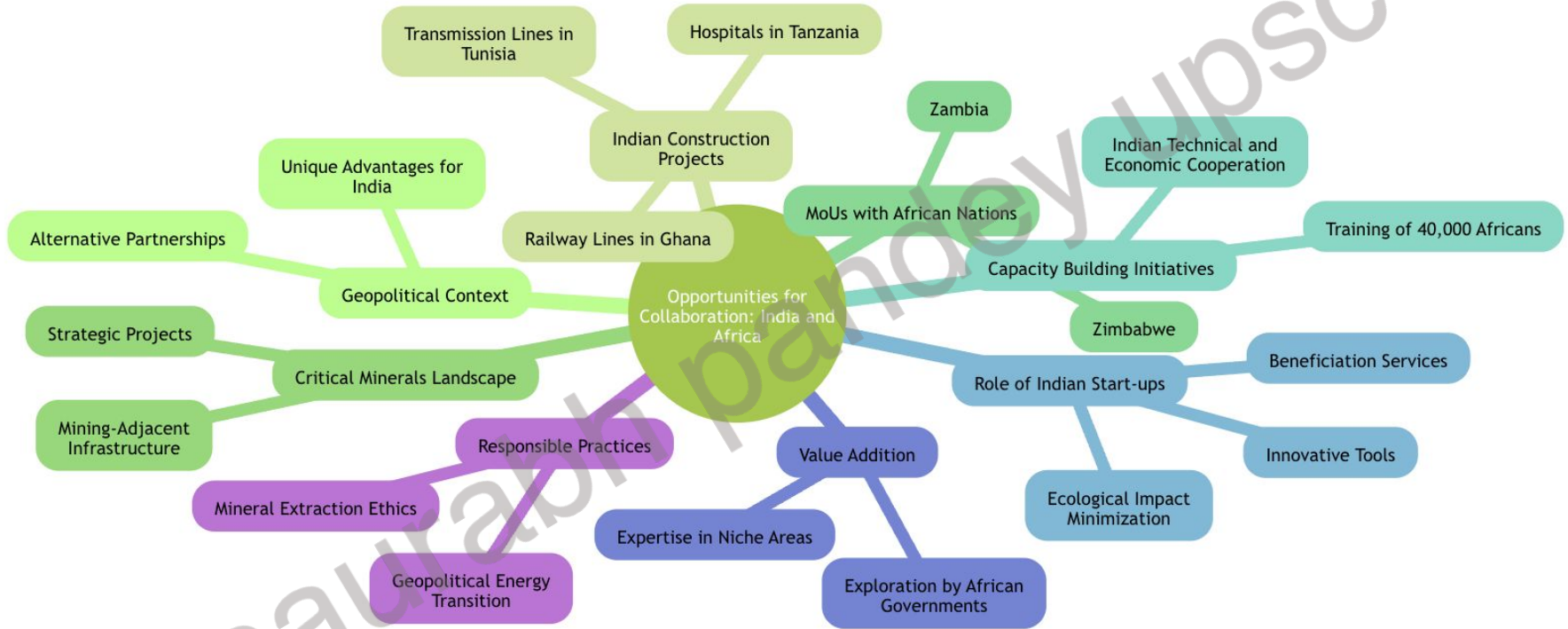
Expertise in niche areas of mining

African governments exploring these options

Responsible Practices

Prioritizing responsible practices in mineral extraction

Addressing geopolitical challenges in energy transitions



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Topic- Financial Relationship between Union Government and States in India



Overview

- The financial relationship in India is asymmetrical.
- States incur 61% of revenue expenditure but collect only 38% of revenue receipts.
- This leads to a Vertical Fiscal Imbalance (VFI), where expenditure decentralization exceeds revenue-raising capabilities.

Importance of Reducing VFI

- Efficiency in Tax Collection: Personal Income Tax and Corporation Tax should be collected by the Union government.
- Efficiency in Spending: Public goods and services should be supplied by the closest tier of government.
- VFI has been exacerbated during crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reasons to Reduce VFI

Constitutional Duties:

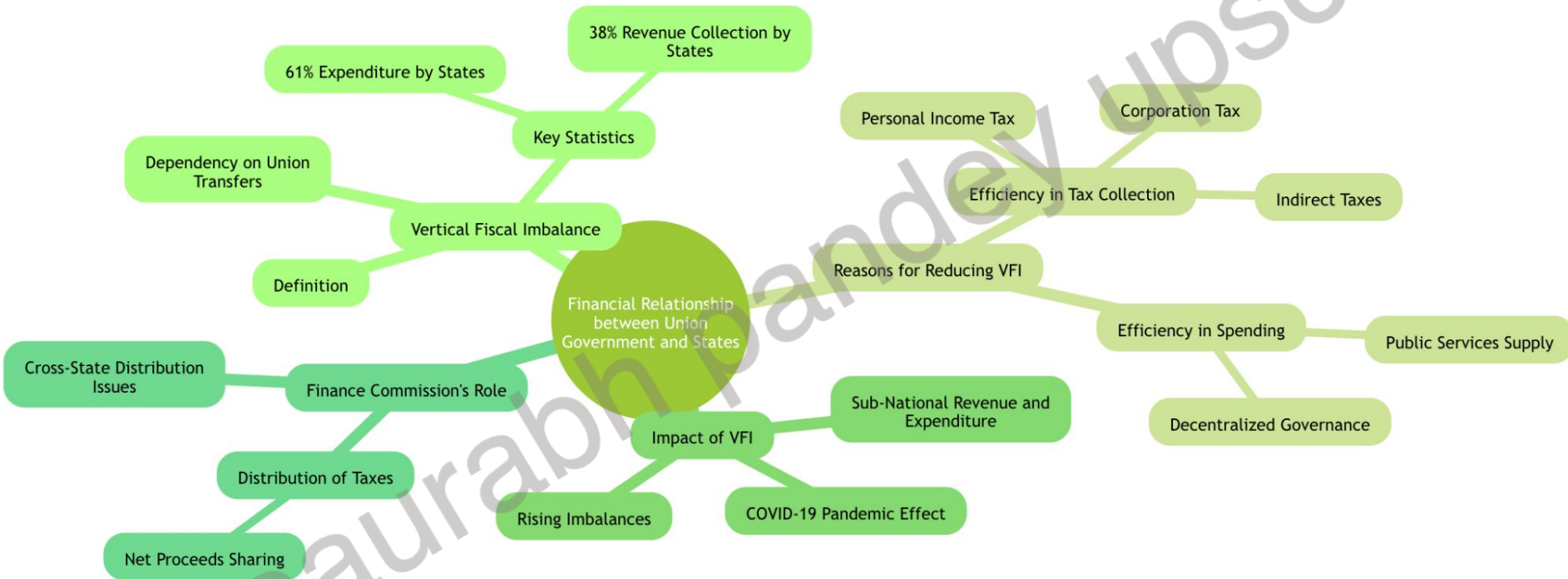
Union government's role in tax collection (e.g., Personal Income Tax, Corporation Tax).
States are better positioned for spending on public goods/services.

Efficiency Maximization:

Close proximity of States to users ensures better delivery of services.

Questions Addressed by Finance Commission

- **Distribution of Taxes:** How to allocate taxes collected by the Union to the States?
 - **Redistribution Across States:** Ensuring fair distribution among states to mitigate VFI.
 - **Vertical Fiscal Imbalance (VFI)** is a significant concern in Indian fiscal federalism, needing urgent attention.
 - The 15th Finance Commission highlighted a growing imbalance compared to other federations.
-





Finance Commission Grants and VFI in India

Overview of Finance Commission

Devolution of Taxes: Transfer of tax proceeds to states.

Grants to States: Assistance under Article 275.

Conditional Grants: Tied transfers with specific purposes.

Articles in Constitution

Article 275: Grants to states in need.

Article 282: Union government expenditures on state subjects.

Types of Transfers

Untied Transfers: Devolution of taxes (unconditional).

Tied Transfers: Grants with conditionalities.

Calculating VFI in India



VFI Definition: Vertical Fiscal Imbalance.

Calculation Method:

Numerator: Own Revenue Receipts (ORR) + Tax Devolution.

Denominator: Own Revenue Expenditure (ORE).

Ratio Implications:

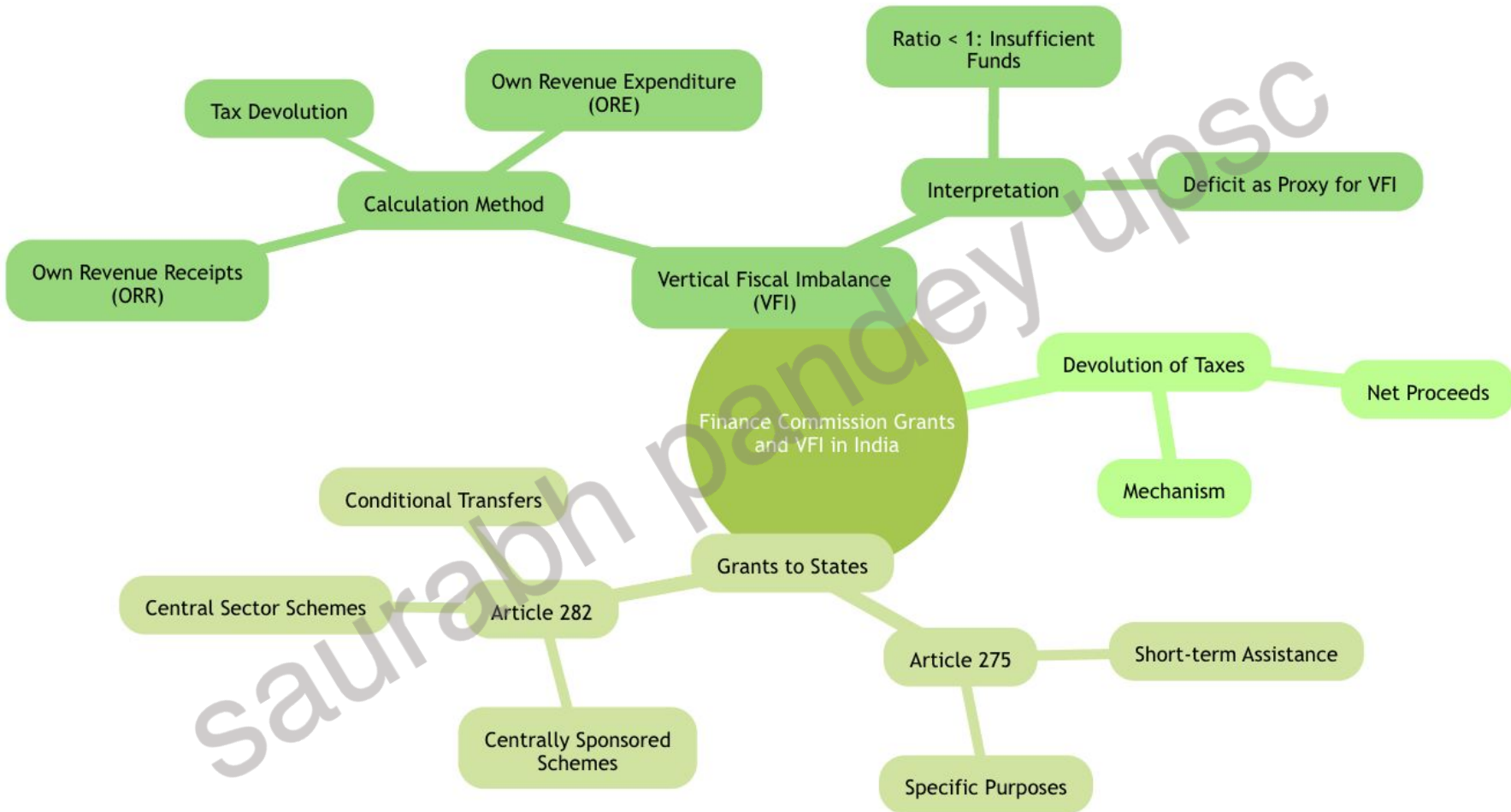
Ratio < 1: Inadequate ORR and tax devolution to meet ORE.

Deficit = 1 - Ratio.

Key Insights

Focus on short-term assistance.

Overall Impact: Evaluating financial health of states post-devolution.



Raising Tax Devolution involves States demanding a fixed share of tax proceeds.

Aim for 50% share from net proceeds by the 16th Finance Commission.

Focus on exclusion of cesses and surcharges affecting net proceeds.

Key Points

Fiscal Responsibilities: States' expenditures adhere to borrowing limits.

Vertical Fiscal Imbalance (VFI): Current devolution is insufficient; needs to rise to 49%.

Implications: More untied resources for States, enhancing expenditure efficiency.

Objectives

- **Equity in Resource Distribution: Ensure fair allocation to all States.**
 - **Cooperative Fiscal Federalism: Foster a system where States can prioritize their needs.**
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TOPIC- Loss and Damage Fund (LDF) in Kerala



Overview

The conversation around seeking compensation for the landslides in Kerala's Wayanad district through the UNFCCC's Loss and Damage Fund (LDF).

Understanding the LDF's purpose and challenges in accessing funds.

Key Points

Landslides in Kerala: Devastating events raising questions on compensation.
Loss and Damage Fund (LDF): Established at COP27 to support regions affected by climate change.

Access Mechanisms: Direct access, small grants, rapid disbursement options.

Concerns: Slow accessibility of funds post-disaster for local communities.

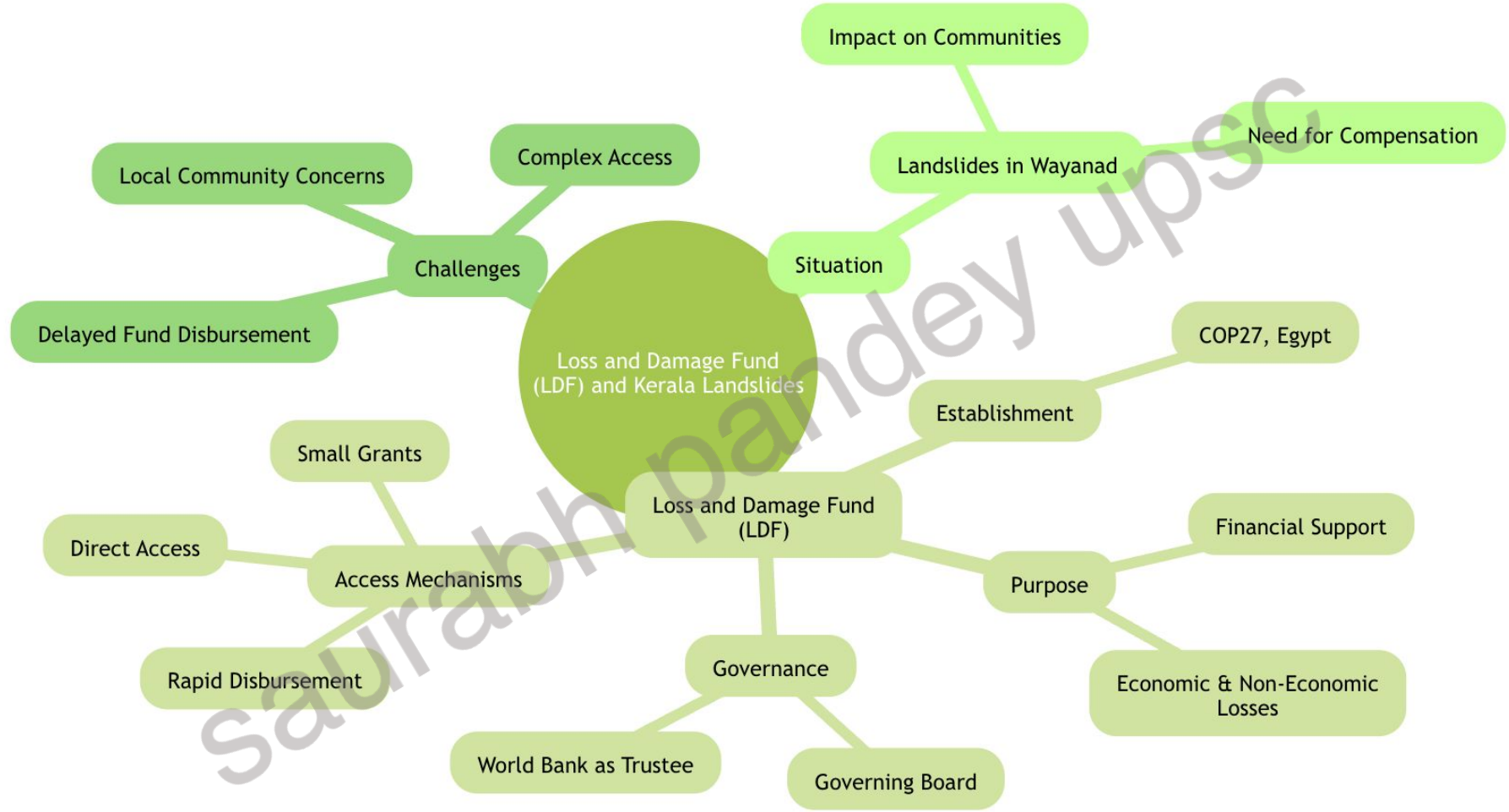


figure 1.2: table

Subnational Entities: Seeking compensation through LDF.

Mechanisms: Direct access, small grants, rapid disbursement.

Challenges: Delays in fund accessibility for local communities.

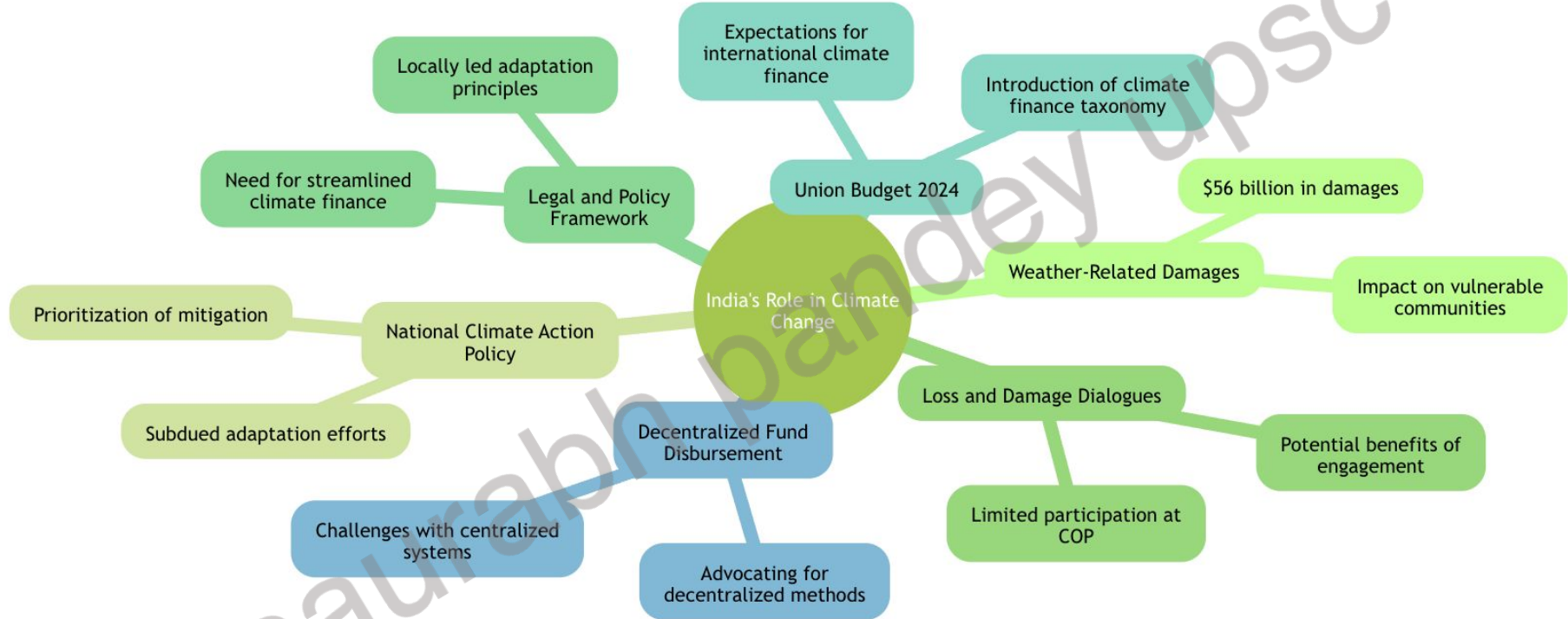
India's Role in Climate Change

Overview

Weather-Related Damages: Over \$56 billion (2019-2023) 💰

Mitigation vs Adaptation: Focus on mitigation in climate policy 📈

Participation in COP: Limited involvement in Loss and Damage dialogues 🌍



-
- **Adaptation and loss and damage needs are more acutely felt at the ground level by State governments.**
 - **Consequently, it is the State governments that often bear most of the financial burden for disaster recovery efforts.**

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