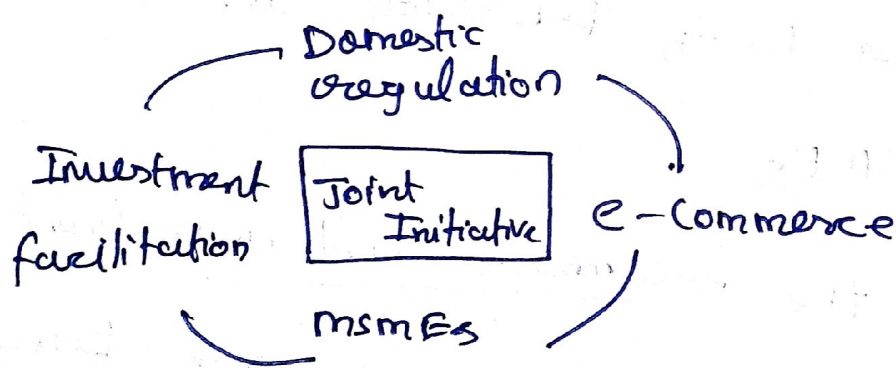


The fragmentation of WTO rule making  $\hat{A}$  via joint initiatives is a real threat to the long term continuity of WTO. Discuss

The highest decision-making body - the ministerial conference - 12 (MC-12) is scheduled to take place this year end. The joint Initiative negotiations are bound to take place.



### Fragmentation of rule

The components of joint initiatives are dealt under ongoing Bilateral treaties, FTAs and PTAs between countries.

The inclusion of these parameters would impact participating countries, and non-participating too. exclusion influence

of the countries.

The domestic regulations of services could be negotiated on an MFN basis and this could help countries.

Regarding MSMEs, the Trade 4 MSMEs platform created information of small businesses. But there exists a dichotomy in defining MSMEs between countries. This could be both beneficial and catastrophic to the MSMEs.

On the e-commerce and investment facilitation front the rules are being explored and yet to finalise.

Way forward

India must lead developing countries at WTO, for rules based and multi-lateralism oriented trade order.