

Recorded Social Justice Class 01

1st July, 2024 at 9:00 AM

THE CLASS STARTED (IN CONTINUATION) AT: (09:06 AM):

PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH URBANIZATION: (09:07 AM):

- **1) Socio-Cultural Problem:**
- **Increased incidences of crime due to paucity of resources and feeling of relative deprivation.**
- **Residential segregation is based on the primordial identities which leads to the spatial pattern of communal violence.**
- **Due to globalization changes in values like anonymity, consumerism, and bystander apathy.**
- **Rise in regionalism (son of soil).**
- **Increased burden of non-communicable diseases due to dependence on technology, macdonalization of food habits, sedentary lifestyle, and lack of green space for physical activities, instant gratification.**
- **Increased violence against women because of the following:**
- **a) Increase in nuclear families.**
- **b) Increased FLFP (threatening the male hegemony).**
- **c) Uncertainties of life along with women being treated as a cushion to vent out the frustration.**
- **The proliferation of slums (lack of basic resources den of pathological behavior).**
- **Due to changes in the value system, there are increased vulnerabilities of the marginalized group.**
- **Disintegration of the joint family.**
- **Gentrification: Urban growth has enhanced the infrastructure in the cities which has led to Gentrification, it is defined as the process where wealthy individuals move into an area characterized by low-income residences leading to a change in the socio-economic makeup culture & physical environment.**
- **It involves the redevelopment of properties that increase in value and displacement of low-income families e.g. Hauz Khas village, Shahpur Jat, Lower Parel in Mumbai, and Pak Street in Kolkata.**

- **2) Urban Flooding:**
- It is defined as the inundation of an urban area due to heavy rainfall, inadequate drainage system & poor urban planning.
- **Causes of Urban Flooding:**
- a) **Unplanned urbanization:** Creating more infrastructure to accommodate the growing population has transformed urban areas into jungles of concrete.
- b) **Poor drainage infrastructure** leading to waterlogging and flooding.
- c) **Encroachment of water bodies.**
- d) **Deforestation:** It reduces the natural capacity to absorb water.
- **3) Urban Heat Islands:**
- It refers to the areas that experience warmer temperatures than the surrounding areas due to human activities and infrastructure e.g. urban infrastructure, the material used in the construction, loss of trees, etc.
- **Urbanization of Pandemic:** When the spread and impact of infectious diseases are influenced by the dynamics of urban areas then it is referred to as urbanization of pandemic.
- **Causes:**
- a) **Slum proliferation** which lacks basic services related to WASH.
- b) **Due to the increased density of the population.**
- c) **The problem of pollution** impacted the immunity of individuals.
- d) **Lack of preparedness** among the local authorities w.r.t risk management.
- e) **Increased interaction with the wildlife** increased the zoonotic infections.
- Sometimes urban beautification drives also limit urban access for the poor e.g. Chennai's Marina Beach beautification led to the displacement of the fishermen community.
- **Lack of resilience to environmental shocks** further aggravates the vulnerability of the marginalized e.g. residents of the Yamuna flood plain.

- **Questions:**
- **1) Does urbanization lead to more segregation and/or marginalization of the poor in Indian metropolises? (10 marks/150 words)**
- **2) With a brief background of the quality of urban life in India, introduce the objectives and strategy of the 'Smart City Programme'. (10 marks/150 words)**
- **3) Discuss the social problems which originated due to the speedy process of urbanization in India. (10 marks/150 words).**

PROBLEM RELATED WITH THE INFRASTRUCTURE: (09:46 AM):

- **a) According to the World Air Quality Report 10 out of 50 world's most polluted cities are in India.**
- **b) W.r.t water problem ranges from poor management of water resources, leaky water distribution networks, and a vast volume of untreated waste dumped into the water bodies.**
- **c) W.r.t transportation due to inadequate road infrastructure, problem of capacity overloading, problem of road accidents, etc.**
- **Vision Zero of Sweden w.r.t road accidents can also be adopted in the Indian context i.e. no loss of life or serious injuries in road traffic is acceptable.**
- **d) The problem w.r.t urbanization is also due to poor administration which is the result of 3F i.e. Funds, Functions, and Functionaries.**
- **Way forward:**
- **1) Focus on the development of inclusive urban space i.e. all necessary goods and services should be available and affordable irrespective of socio-economic background.**
- **2) Reform in the urban administration i.e. a separate cadre for city administrators and professional management of urban local bodies.**
- **It will become a political tussle between the ULBs and State machinery, the problem of corruption at the level of implementation.**
- **3) Cascaded planning structure.**
- **4) New Model of Development:**
- **a) Transport Oriented Development:**
- **It is an approach to urban and regional planning that places a strong emphasis on integrated transportation systems with land use planning.**
- **This model is designed to create more sustainable, efficient, and livable communities by prioritizing public transportation, walking, and cycling while minimizing the reliance on private cars.**
- **b) Hub and Spoke Model:**

- It is a regional planning and development approach that revolves around the development of central areas connected to sundry areas.
- c) Sponge City Model:
- This model strengthens the ecological infrastructure and drains network to ensure the proper flood management system.
- It explores the potential of the urban areas such as the availability of trees, parks, and lakes which can absorb the rainwater and prevent flooding.
- Hence, plant-edged sidewalks inner city gardens, etc. can build a sponge around the city that can absorb the water.
- 5) Tapping different sources of funding, increasing the property tax, issuing municipal bonds, etc.

GLOBALIZATION: (10:30 AM):

- **Concept:** Globalization is defined as a process by which regional, national, economies, and societies get globally integrated through people, technology, ideas, etc.
- 1) Homogenization: Development of uniform culutre.
- Obsession with the English language.
- McDonaldization of food habits.
- Corporate culture.
- Walmartization.
- Disintegration of joint family and increased live-in relationships.
- Obsession with Hollywood cinema.
- Celebration of certain days (Valentine's Day, etc.)
- 2) Hybridization: It means localization which means global+local.
- Emergence of Hinglish.
- McDonald's did not sell beef products.
- Jeans with kurta.
- Nuclear families with extended ties.
- Remix music culture.
- Teaching foreign languages along with the regional languages in the schools.
- Different types of marriages (love cum arranged marriages).
- Concept of e-aartis, etc.
- Revival of local culture.

- The emergence of internet slang.
- Celebration of International Yoga Day, religious revivalism, education in the mother tongue, vocal for local initiative, the concept of GI tag, celebration of international year of millets, promoting tribal culture and products.
- Celebration of ethnic days in the corporate sector.
- Demand for Indian fashion products in the global fashion industry such as Bandhini, Chikenkari, etc.
- Traditional cuisine finds a place on the menus of international restaurants.
- Strengthening of cultural identities.
- Questions:
 - 1) Globalization is generally said to promote cultural homogenization but due to this cultural specificity appears to be strengthened in Indian society. Elucidate (10 marks/150 words).
 - 2) Are we losing the local identity for the global identity? (10 marks/150 words).
 - 3) To what extent globalization has influenced the core of cultural diversities? Discuss. (10 marks/150 words).

IMPACT ON THE INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE: (10:50 AM):

- Marriage is defined as a socially acknowledged and legally approved sexual union among two consenting adults.
- Marriage has the following functions:
 - a) Sexual gratification.
 - b) Transmission of culture and socialization of children.
 - c) Fulfillment of economic needs.
- Purpose:
 - a) To maintain the purity of lineage.
 - b) Progeny.
- Nature:
 - Arrange, Love, or Confluent.
- New types of Marriage are emerging e.g.
 - Weekend marriages (to lead a life based on individualism and not compromise on the lifestyle married couple chose to stay together only on weekends).
 - Live-in Apart Together: because of financial reasons, the married couple prefers to be in different locations.
 - It may also be because of their love for their individual space.

- **Empty Shell Marriages:** Lack of emotional connection between the partners however they choose to live together under societal pressure.
- **Open Marriages:** Two people married to each other but open to having sexual and emotional relations with others.
- **Attitude w.r.t Marriage:**
- Neither it is considered universal nor functional any longer.
- Deritualization of marriage, commercialization of marriage, the emergence of conjugal symmetrical relations.
- **Question:**
- **1) Do you think marriage as a sacrament is losing its value in Modern India? (10 marks/150 words).**
- **Impact of Globalisation on the Middle Class:**
- **Middle Class** refers to the section of a society in the middle of the social hierarchy. It is characterized by occupation, education, income & social status.
- It is perceived to be associated with modernity, capitalism, political debates, etc.
- The traditional middle class was characterized as the flagbearer of the culture.
- According to Neera Chandok, the middle class is defined as the cornerstone of Indian democracy due to the following:
 - a) Provides voice to the voiceless.
 - b) It helps in organizing the issues of the vulnerable and draws the attention of the government towards them.
 - c) Due to their educational background they can provide policy inputs to the governments.
 - d) According to Amartya Sen, the middle class scrutinizes public policy, leads public debates, and acts as a think tank.
 - e) The middle class contributes to revenue generation as it is a tax-paying community and helps in running the economy by creating domestic demands for the products.
 - f) The middle class is considered the harbinger of Social Revolutions. It provides leadership in social movements and is the politically mobilized section of society.
- According to Leela Fernandes, Post post-liberalization there is an emergence of a New Middle Class that has the following features:
 - a) English speaking.
 - b) Urban living.
 - c) Working in the private sector.
 - d) Driven by culture and consumerism.

- According to her, instead of being driven by modesty, simple living, saving, etc., they are driven by consumption.
- Question:
- 1) How is the growth of tier 2 cities related to the rise of new middle class? (10 marks/150 words).
- Over-urbanization has compelled us to find alternatives to tier 2 cities.
- More disposable income has increased the income on the standard of living.
- The rise of the service sector, job opportunities, digital revolution, social media, etc. has resulted in a change in consumption habits which gave a boost to tier 2 cities.
- Increased investment in real estate.
- Changes in the value system (consumption, instant gratification, FLFP, etc.) contributed to the growth of these cities.
- Tier 2 cities became the hub of small, medium, and large enterprises.
- Easy access to the financing facilities.
- Government initiatives like Smart City, Start-Up India, etc. have increased urban transformation.
- According to the Commerce and Industry Ministry, 63% of the recognized startups are located in tier 2 and 3 cities.
- This increased consumerism has increased the aspirations and if not met then:
- a) Disruption of families.
- b) Breakdown of marriages.
- c) Domestic abuses.
- d) Mental health issues.
- e) Detachment in interpersonal relations.
- f) Rise in class inequalities, etc.

TOPICS OF THE NEXT CLASS: Poverty, Hunger, etc.