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LIVE SMART Write

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Society



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WRITE SMART COURSE

SOCIETY

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Salient Features of Indian Society

1. **Traditionalism with modernity:** Western food is equally popular as Indian food. Indo-western fusion has been a popular theme in performing arts as well.
2. **Multi ethnic and multi lingual society.** India is home to a wide variety of ethnic groups that include almost all racial profiles. The Indian society is characteristic of people speaking thousands of languages including varied dialects and scripts. More than 1600 languages are spoken in India.
3. **Dynamic and syncretic:** Our society promotes accommodation as well as assimilation.
4. **Cultural syncretism** is when distinct aspects of different cultures blend together to make something new and unique for eg: Urdu comes from both Arabic and Hindavi.
5. **Society is dynamic** as it is changing every day. For example, Many ethnic tribes like the Naga are struggling to protect their culture from the outside world.
6. **Unity in Diversity:** Values of co-existence that had developed as a result of historical fusion and accommodation encourage unity among the Indian people belonging to diverse religious and ethnic groups.
7. **Patriarchy:** A society where actual power is with men. In this system, **men make all decisions in both society and their family unit**, hold all positions of power and authority and are considered superior. **Women are treated as second-class citizens** in a patriarchal society.
 - Moreover, **Male child preference** is also one such example that shows the patriarchal mindset.
8. **Class And Caste Divide:** Caste system is a peculiar feature of Indian society. The modern caste system is the result of the age-old Varna system. Economic reforms have led to class based stratification as well. However, social mobility among class is more

common. Co-existence through inter-caste marriages and endogamy are examples of this.

9. Tribes : Tribes have been classified as a group of home-grown people with a little background who were entitled to have a common name, language, and territory, tied by strong kinship bonds, practising endogamy, distinct customs, rituals and beliefs, simple social rank, and political organization, common ownership of resources and technology. There are about 705 Scheduled tribes in the country and constitute 6 per cent of the population of the country

10. Family : In some way or the other, a family is a universal group. It exists in tribal, rural, and urban communities and among the followers of all religions and cultures. Joint family system of Indian society is one of its characteristic features. However, Indian society is now witnessing various new forms of family such as nuclear families, extended families, patrilocal families, neo local families etc.

11. Balance between Individualism and collectivism : Indian society shows a beautiful blend of individualism and collectivism as people here are moving towards individual tendencies where they take their own decisions but at the same time they do not forget their roots and work in tandem with the community they belong to and follow the spirit of brotherhood.

12. Presence of Spirituality and Materialism : In Indian society both features of spirituality and materialism are present. Spiritualism is concerned with the human soul and it is a principle that aims to alleviate the human soul. It is a way to od. India is known as the centre of spirituality in the world.

- On the other hand, Materialism values worldly goods and services. This philosophy advocates valuing the materialistic things of the world. This advocate accommodating luxury items.

13. **Tolerance And Mutual Respect:** Accommodative values of tolerance and mutual respect that have existed from the early times. Buddhism and Jainism promoted these values through ancient texts. Also, the principle of “Sarva-dharma-sam-bhava” represents such secular values.

14. **Society is largely agrarian and rural :** Still majority of population (68%) lives In rural areas.

Diversity of India

1. **Religious diversity:** Diversity exists in names, style of worship, public behaviour and religious beliefs.
2. **Linguistic diversity:** Officially there are 122 languages. However, there are more than 1600 languages spoken in India.
3. **Geographical diversity.** Diversity of geographic terrain is visible in the vast landscape of our country.
4. **Cultural diversity –** Different cultures coexisting in the country as a whole and even at the state level. Ex: Marathi and Gujrati culture in Maharashtra.
5. **Ethnic and Racial Diversity.**
6. **Caste and class diversity-** various castes, classes in the society. Ex: Jats, Ahirs , etc.

Cultural Assimilation

1. Centralising all power to forums where the dominant group constitutes a majority, and eliminating the autonomy of local or minority groups.

2. Imposing a unified legal and judicial system based on the dominant group's traditions and abolishing alternative systems used by other groups.
3. Adopting the dominant group's language, culture etc. and making it the official language of use.
4. Celebrating the dominant group's history, heroes and culture, reflected in such things as choice of national holidays or naming of streets etc
5. Seizure of lands, forests and fisheries from minority groups and indigenous people and declaring them national resources.

Cultural Integration

Used in India's tribal policy (Nehru's tribal Panchsheel)

1. The tribals should **develop along the lines of their own genus**. There should be no imposition or compulsion from outside.
2. **Tribal rights in land and forests** should be respected and no outsider should be able to take possession of tribal lands.
3. Encourage the **tribal languages** which must be given all possible support and the conditions in which they can flourish must be safeguarded.
4. Reliance should be placed on the tribals themselves, and **administrators should be recruited from amongst them and trained**.
5. The governors of the states in which tribal areas were situated were given **special responsibility to protect tribal interests**, including the power to modify central and state laws in their application to tribal areas, and to frame regulations for the protection of tribals' right to land and also their protection from moneylenders.

Has diversity strengthened India? Or Sources of unity in diversity ?

1. Yes

- **Geography as a source of Unity:** India as a single geographical entity despite various features within it.
- **Ideology as a source of unity:** An accommodative philosophical tradition talking about tolerance, righteousness, love, recognition of differences, through notions like **Vasudeva Kutumbakam**.
- **Religion as a source of unity:** Every religion when interpreted in liberal form preaches religious pluralism and tolerance, love and compassion.
- **Language as a source of unity:** Although different languages, English acts as a unifier.
- **Polity as a source of unity:** Constitutional ideals through words, like secularism, socialism, liberty, equality, justice gave India a sense of political and administrative unity.
- **Inter-State mobility:** – The Constitution guarantees freedom to move throughout the territory of India under 19 (1) (d), which promotes a sense of unity and brotherhood among the masses.
- **Fairs and festivals:** – India is noted as the land of festivals, and Indians too enjoy every festival with much zeal and fervour. Due to the varied culture and heritage of India, there are various religious as well as social festivals that are confined to specific regions of the country. Festival celebrations help in strengthening unity among the Indians.
 - **For eg:** Festivals like Diwali, Eid, and Christmas are enjoyed by all with the same spirit and fervour.
- **Sports and Cinema:** These are followed by millions in the country, thus, acting as a binding force across the length and breadth of India.

2. No

- **Geography as a source of conflict:** Regionalism based conflicts. Eg: Sons of soil movement in Maharashtra. Also, The **North-East that is geographically isolated** from the rest of the country, i.e., the Siliguri corridor (Chicken's neck) acts as a source of disintegration and conflict.
- **Ideology as a source of conflict:** Intolerance to others' ideology is the real source of conflict. Ex: Communalism
- **Religion as a source of conflict:** Some religious doctrines promote dogma and intolerance towards other religions. Religious exclusivism, fundamentalism. Communal antagonism has posed a serious challenge to national integration in India.
- **Language as a source of conflict:** Dispute over official language. Linguistic reorganisation of states.
- **Caste system.**
- **Racism:** Discrimination against people leading to division. Eg: discrimination against people of North east.
- **Divisive politics** – Political manipulation has projected one religion against the other, which results in communal riots, mutual distrust, and disintegration of Indian society and country. **Acriptive identities** such as caste, religion, etc. are evoked by politicians to garner votes.
- **Development deficit** – Inadequate economic policies and consequent economic disparities can lead to the backwardness of a region, further threatening the unity of the nation.
- **Separatist movements:** The on-going separatist movements in J&K and North-East along with Naxalism have for long and continue to pose significant risks to India's unity.

The problem is not of diversity per se, but the handling of diversity in India society. The problems of regionalism, communalism, ethnic conflicts etc. have arisen because the fruits of development haven't been distributed equally or the cultures of some groups haven't been accorded due recognition

MODELS OF ACCOMMODATION FOR DIVERSITY

1. Salad Bowl model:

- In the salad bowl model, **different cultures are brought together** – like salad ingredients – **but do not form together into a single homogeneous culture**; each culture keeps its distinct qualities
- This model of racial integration can be described as a **salad bowl**, with people of different cultures living in harmony, like lettuce, tomatoes, and carrots in a salad.
- In this type of model, **cultures do not mix at all**.
- For example, **UK Model**, where regions like Scotland, Northern Ireland are different, and **intermingling is less** between people of these regions.

2. Melting Pot Model:

- A **melting pot** is for a society where **many different types of people blend as one**.
- For example, **America** is often called a **melting pot** because, with time, generations of immigrants have melted together: they have abandoned their cultures to become **assimilated into American society**.

3. Mosaic Model of society:

- Mosaic is a form of art where **different rocks of different colors are joined together and forms an image.**
- This model is the **mix of ethnic groups, languages, and cultures that coexist** within society.
- The idea of a **cultural mosaic** is intended to suggest a form of **multiculturalism**.
- This model emphasizes **integration with isolation**.
- Here new identity is created, but the original identity is not lost.
- For example: **In India**, different cultures like Bengali, Kashmiri, Punjabi coexist with their original identity of being Indian

Conclusion

- The Unity in Diversity is disturbed in Indian society due to some communal forces with a vested interest. But India has the strength to overcome communal violence and religious threats.
- Every Indian must lift oneself up above the challenges and work towards national unity and integrity.
- The **common values** of democracy, equality, and justice as defined in the constitution that we share and cherish as a part of the value system of Indian Society, is India's strength.

Social Empowerment

- **Social empowerment** means all sections of the society having **equal control over their lives and the opportunity to take important decisions**. A nation can never have a good growth trajectory without empowering all the sections of society equally.
- **Amartya Sen** defines empowerment as consisting of 3 aspects-
 1. **Power to** – Productive or **generative potential of power** that can be used to fulfil one's potential.
 2. **Power with**- Power with is **shared power that grows out of collaboration** and relationships.
 3. **Power within**- **Sense of self-worth** and self-knowledge; it includes an ability to recognize individual differences while respecting others.

Need for Social Empowerment

- **Capacity building-** Hence reducing the incidence of unemployment and under-employment.
- **Social empowerment** – Helps in **decreasing social violence** engineered against the deprived section of the society. If one is empowered socially, they **know the rights** they enjoy and the **duties they serve**.
- **Reducing inequalities-** When people are empowered, they tend to use the knowledge in the right direction and somehow reduce their poverty which is so important for national growth also.
- **Inclusive development of society.**
- **Gender and caste justice-** Empowering women and backward sections of the society helps in achieving gender and caste justice.

Socially Disadvantaged Groups

- Scheduled Tribes
- Women
- Senior Citizens
- Persons with Disabilities

Tribes in India

- The tribal population of the country, as per the 2011 census constitutes 8.6% of the total population (43 crores). However, 89.97% of them live in rural areas and 10.03% in urban areas. Of these, 1.57 per cent (about 1.32 million) belong to Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs).
- **Characteristics of Tribes in India-**
 - **Sense of unity:** The very existence of a tribe depends upon the tribal' sense of unity during the times of peace and war.
 - **Endogamous group:** Tribal people generally do not marry outside their tribe and marriage within the tribe is highly appreciated and much applauded.
 - **Common dialect:** Members of a tribe exchange their views in a common dialect.
 - **Ties of blood-relationship:** Blood relation is the greatest bond of unity.
 - **Egalitarian values:** There are no institutionalized inequalities like the caste system or sex based inequalities. ST sex ratio is 990 females per 1000 males.
 - **Political organization:** Every tribe has its own distinct political organisation which looks after the interests of tribal people, with a tribal chief at its head.

PVTGs and their characteristics

- Pre-agriculture level of technology
- Mostly homogenous

- Stagnant or declining population
- relatively physically isolated
- Extremely low literacy
- Slower rate of change
- Subsistence level of economy

Changes Coming in a Tribal Society

1. **Changing social stratification from tribe to class:** The differences in material possessions create sharply **differing patterns of consumption** and also parallel differences in the level of education, religious orientation and preferences in political life.
2. **Depeasantisation:** Tribal people moving out of their traditional occupations and taking up different jobs. This **taking up of non-agricultural occupations** is called de-peasantisation.
3. **New ethnic dimensions:** The **indigenous tribal religion** has split into several reform movements. Ex: **Khasi tribe** of Meghalaya becoming majorly Catholic.
4. **Political socialisation:** Universal right for **voting, party functioning, and social activism** have all initiated a strong process of political socialization among the tribals.
5. **Diversified economy:** The tribal subsistence economy now has become diversified.

Tribal policy in India: Nehru's Tribal Panchsheel

1. **Development along their own Genus-** Tribals should develop along the lines of their own genus. There should be no imposition or compulsion from outside.
2. **Tribal rights** in land and forests should be respected and no outsider should be able to take possession of tribal lands. The incursion of the market economy into tribal areas had to be strictly controlled and regulated.

3. **Necessary to encourage the tribal languages-** Which must be given all possible support and the conditions in which they can flourish must be safeguarded.
4. **Self-governance-** Reliance should be placed on the tribals themselves, and administrators should be recruited from amongst them and trained.
5. **Protecting tribal interests-** The governors of the states in which tribal areas were situated were given special responsibility to protect tribal interests, including the power to modify central and state laws in their application to tribal areas, and to frame regulations for the protection of tribals' right to land and also their protection from moneylenders.

Issues faced by tribals in India

- **Poverty and exploitation** – The tribals are often exploited and are **pushed to a spiral of poverty**. In India, **52% of the STs belong to the category of Below Poverty Line (BPL)** and **54% of them have no access to economic assets** such as communication and transport (World Bank, 2011).
- **Tribal assets- Jal, Jangal and Zameen** that are considered to be traditional assets of the tribals are being encroached upon and taken away by government as well as private efforts.
- **Health Issues** – PVTGs suffer from **many health problems** like anaemia, malaria; gastro-intestinal disorders; micronutrient deficiency and skin diseases **due to poverty, lack of safe drinking water, bad sanitation, lack of health services, superstition and deforestation**.
- **Agricultural model-** Shifting agriculture being practiced by tribals is becoming harmful for the environment and also productivity is decreasing.

- **High Dependency on MFP** – Minor Forest Produce (MFP) is a **major source of livelihood** for tribals living in forest areas. Most of the trade-related to the MFPs **remained unorganized** in nature, which has led to low returns to the gatherers and **high wastages due to limited value addition**.
- **Losing their identity** – Tribals are **being culturally assimilated** into the mainstream castes and groups. Ex: Efforts at Hinduization of scheduled tribes in North India.
- **Outdated List** -The Anthropological Survey of India observes that the list of PVTGs is **overlapping and repetitive**. Also lack of regular updation of the list is an issue. Ex: **Mankidia and Birhor** in Odisha taken as different tribes when they are one and the same.
- **Lack of modernization**- Modern ideas, technology not getting penetrated to the tribals.
- **High vulnerability**- Ecological, social, linguistic and cultural vulnerabilities. Ex: **People's Linguistic Survey of India in 2010, found that 600 of the tribal languages were dying**; Tribes of Andaman and Nicobar are vulnerable to ecological extinction.
- **Isolation vs Integration debate**- Whether isolation of the tribals should be accepted or it should be tried to integrate them into the mainstream is a major dilemma.

Reasons for poor performance of tribal policy

1. **Weak execution** of even well intended measures.
2. Often the **funds allocated for tribal welfare** are not spent or are spent without corresponding results and sometimes funds are even misappropriated.
3. **Tribal Advisory Council** - The watch dog of tribal interests has not functioned effectively over the years.
4. **Poor justice system**- A major handicap from which tribals suffer is **denial of justice**, often because of their unfamiliarity with the laws and the legal system.

5. **Lack of vertical penetration of welfare measures-** The major gains of whatever development takes place in the fields of education, employment in administration, economy and political patronage are reaped by the small segment of the **tribal elites**.
6. **Administrative loopholes-** Violation of strict land transfer laws for tribals, leading to alienation of land and eviction of tribals. Rapid extension of mines and industries has worsened their conditions in many areas.

Government Efforts for Tribals

1. **Reservation in government services and education**
2. **Tribal advisory council-** Under the 5th schedule. The duty of these Councils is **to advise the Government** on such matters **concerning the welfare of scheduled tribes and the development of scheduled areas**.
3. **Tribal and Harijan Research Institutes** were set up in MP, Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, and Rajasthan. They study the tribal lifestyle, art, and customs for that protection and documentation.
4. **The Stand Up India scheme** The aim is **to promote entrepreneurship** among tribals by providing a loan between 10 lakh and 1 crore to them.
5. **Xaxa committee-** mandated to examine the socio-economic, educational and health status of tribal communities and **recommend appropriate interventional measures** to improve the same.
6. **Van Dhan scheme- 10 Self Help Groups of 30 Tribal gatherers** (Van Dhan Vikas Samuh) will be constituted. Tribal people will be **provided working capital** to add value to the products collected from the jungle. Also value addition service in form of Van Dhan vikas kendras will be provided.

Constitutional provisions for Tribals:

Article 29	Protects the interests of the minorities by making a provision that any citizen/section of citizens having a distinct language, script, for culture have the right to conserve the same.
Article 46	Under the DPSP provides that, the state shall promote, with special care, the educational and economic interests of weaker sections of the people, and in particular, of the scheduled caste and scheduled tribes.
Article 275 (I)	Provides Grants in-Aids to states (having scheduled tribes) covered under the fifth and six schedules of the constitution.
Article 350A	States that the state shall provide adequate facilities for instruction in mother-tongue at the primary stage of education.
Fifth Schedule Art. 244(I)	Article 244 (I) of the Indian Constitution defines Scheduled Areas as the areas defined so by the President of India and are mentioned in the fifth schedule of the Constitution. In India, there are 10 states having scheduled areas .
Sixth Schedule Art. 244	The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration of the tribal areas in the four north-eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram as per Article 244 .

Legislative provisions for Tribals

1. **The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA)** has a special section regarding the **75 PVTGs** and the Act recognises forest and habitat rights of PVTGs.
2. **The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA):** It extends Scheduled Areas of India under the purview of the national framework of Panchayat. However, this act is not applicable to Jammu and Kashmir, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Mizoram and certain other areas including scheduled and tribal areas.
3. **The Andaman and Nicobar (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956** – The Sentinelese and other aboriginal tribes of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands are protected under this act.
4. **Foreigners (Restricted Areas) Order, 1963** – the Andaman & Nicobar Islands are a "Restricted Area" in which foreigners with a restricted area permit (RAP) can stay.
5. **Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956** – The habitats of the PVTGs of Andaman and Nicobar Island has protected **Tribal Reserve**.
6. In August 2018, in a **bid to promote tourism and encourage investment**, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) decided to **exclude 30 islands from Andaman and Nicobar from the RAP or Restricted Area Permit regime notified under the Foreigners (Restricted Areas) Order, 1963**. North Sentinelese island was among the 30 islands

Women

- Women empowerment became a subject matter all around the world in the past few decades. Many international organizations and agencies including the United Nations **emphasized gender equality as an important issue**.
- **Women constitute 48.37%** of India's total population (According to the 2011 Census).
- **BR Ambedkar**- "I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved."

Problems faced by women

1. **Domestic Violence And Dowry Deaths** –Women continue to **face the utmost risks from their families**. Among all registered cases of serious crimes against women, the **largest share 36% of all cases were under “cruelty by husband and relatives”**.
 - o UN Women calling violence against women during the COVID pandemic led lockdown as **Shadow pandemic**.
2. **Pink colorization of jobs** – Women deemed fit for “pink-collar jobs” only, such as teachers, nurses, receptionists, babysitter, lecturer, etc. which have been stereotyped for women. This denies them opportunities in other fields.
3. **Early marriage** –Reduces opportunities for growth, education, entrepreneurship etc., denying them the chance to get empowered.
4. **Nutrition and health deficiencies**- Leading to **malnutrition** and **anaemia** among Indian girls which is one of the highest in the world.
5. **Education – it is denied**, and even if allowed in some cases, the girl couldn't attend classes due to time constraints as a result of household work. Ex: Census 2011, While the overall literacy rate works out to be 64.8 %, the male literacy rate is **75.3%** and that for females is **53.7%**.
6. **Glass ceiling** – Women facing artificial barriers like stereotypes, media-related issues, informal boundaries, which prevent them from advancing upward in their organization into management-level positions.
7. **Sticky floor**—"sticky floor" refers to women who **occupy low-paying, low-mobility positions such as clerical and administrative assistants**, mental health-care and child-care workers, and service and maintenance employees.
8. **Lack of political participation of women** – 14% women MPs in 17th Lok Sabha which is the highest ever in India, still India ranks 109th in political participation in the world.

9. **Patriarchal society and gender discrimination-** A patriarchal society means a **male-dominated society**, and gender discrimination is when **one Sex is given preferential concern over the others.**
10. **Feminization of poverty-** Majority of population under poverty, unemployment consisting of women.
11. **Feminization of Migration-** Women constitute majority of migrants . This may be due to search for unskilled work, marriages and relocation, etc.
12. **Feminization of agriculture-** Men of the house migrating to cities in search of work and women left behind to do the agriculture work.
13. **A gap in digital literacy** – Digital gender gap in India is huge, as less than a third of India's total internet users are female i.e. 29 %.
14. **Cybercrimes** – Women facing cybercrimes and cyber harassment . Ex: Harassment on social media, via emails; cyber stalking, dissemination of obscene material.
15. **Crimes against women-** Safety concerns being faced by women in cities, villages etc. Ex: Stalking, rape and murder, Sexual harassment at workplace etc.
16. **Period poverty-** ‘Period poverty’ is the term used when there is a lack of sanitary products, and other essentials like toilets with clean water due to financial constraints in the region.
- o Statistics say that in India, **60% of adolescent girls missed school on account of menstruation** and about 80% still use home-made pads.
17. **Gender pay gap** – Men and women are paid differently even when both do the same type and amount of work. Ex: Gender pay gap in male and female actors.

Government initiatives to tackle women related issues

- **Project Stree Swabhiman** – Ministry of Electronics and Information technology (MeITY) announced a project which aims to create a **sustainable model for providing adolescent girls and women access to affordable sanitary products in rural areas.**
- **Nari Portal** – It is a Mission Mode Project under the **National E-Governance Plan** (It is designed and developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology).
- **E-samvaad Portal** – It is an initiative of the **Ministry of Women and Child Development** to provide a platform for NGOs and civil society to interact with the Ministry on relevant subjects.
- **She-Box- Ministry of WCD** launched an online complaint management system titled Sexual Harassment electronic-Box (**SHe-Box**) for the effective implementation of the SH Act, 2013 which will enable a monitorable and transparent system of grievance redressal under the Act.
- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojna** is a maternity Benefit Programme being implemented in all the districts of the country in accordance with the provision of the **National Food Security Act, 2013**.
- **Weekly Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation Programme** to meet the challenge of high prevalence and incidence of anaemia amongst adolescent girls and boys.

Senior Citizens

- Senior citizens constitute the **people over the age of 60 years**. According to census 2011, India has around 8 million senior citizens which is expected to increase as India transitions into an ageing society by the middle of 21st century.

Challenges faced by senior citizens-

1. **Digital illiteracy:** Inability to access the digital services, communication and other tools which make them dependent on the younger generation. According to data, **only 7% elderly in India have access to smartphones.**
2. **Ruralisation of the Elderly:** According to the **2011 Census, 71% of the elderly live in rural India.** There are more problems such as **Income insecurity, lack of adequate access to quality health care and isolation** in rural elderly than the urban elderly.
3. **Migration and its Impact:** Due to the migration of the younger people, the elderly are **left living alone or only with their spouse** and they face **social isolation, poverty, and distress.**
4. **Lack of social security-** Elderly population in India has **limited access to the social security schemes** and programmes due to their **difficulties with mobility, general awareness and also digital access.**
5. **Lack of care services-** **Care homes and services** seen as a taboo in India thus people do not opt for such services . Elderly people are dependent on their family members and thus do not get proper care required.

COVID related challenges-

1. **Vulnerability to the virus-** Elderly population is on a higher risk of contracting the virus due to **low immunity and presence of prior medical conditions.** This also increases mortality risk in them.
2. **Difficulty in accessing healthcare-** Due to COVID-19 lockdown and social distancing guidelines, the elderly population had issues in accessing healthcare.
3. **Social distancing in families-** Majority of the elderly population lives in joint families along with their children. This puts them at a greater risk of contracting the disease.

4. **Digital illiteracy**- According to data, only 7% elderly in India have access to smartphones. Thus, **accessing digital services such as online food delivery, groceries delivery, cabs etc. is not possible for them.**
5. **Mental health concerns**- **Lack of access to healthcare, social isolation, physical distancing** and no one to talk to, all these combining affects the **mental health of elderly population** and this social disconnectedness causes depression and anxiety.
6. **Increased suicide rate**- Fear of getting infected, loneliness and fear of passing the infection to their younger family members pushes elderly people on the brink of suicide.

What needs to be done?

1. A **comprehensive law** for the social security of senior citizens must be enacted.
2. **Care homes**- Expansion of **old age homes and geriatric healthcare**. Promote both government as well as private care homes which provide good facilities at a price.
3. **Norms and guidelines for care homes**: Standardised norms and guidelines must be formulated for old age homes, especially related to the design of buildings and expertise required to manage these homes.
4. **Implementation of present policies**- **National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP), 1999** which envisages State support to ensure financial and food security, health care, shelter and other needs of older persons, protection against abuse and exploitation, and availability of services to improve the quality of their lives.
5. **Social security schemes**- Schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Health Insurance for Senior Citizens, Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana 2017, Scheme for providing Aids and Assisted Living Devices to Senior Citizens below Poverty Line, Senior Citizens Welfare Fund, etc.

6. **Family interventions-** The **younger family members should take care of the elderly** and along with physical support provide psychological support as well.
7. **Improving digital literacy-** Elderly people **should be taught how to use a smartphone, how to access digital services** etc. PMGDISHA programme can have a vertical for training the elderly people.
8. **E-health services-** **Tele-health services, doctor-on-call, e-pharmacies and mobile home-based health care check-ups** should be arranged for the elderly.
9. **Support groups-NGOs and civil society** support groups for psychological, emotional support and counselling.

Persons with Disabilities

- As per Census, 2011, there are **68 crore persons** with disabilities and they constitute **2.21 percent** of the total population of the country, but **according to the World Health Organisation, 15% of the world's population faces some form of disability.**
- India is a **signatory of** the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (**UNCRPD**).
- The **Constitution of India** ensures equality, freedom, justice, and dignity of all individuals, and implicitly mandates an **inclusive society for all** including persons with disabilities. Therefore, the primary responsibility to empower persons with disabilities rests with the State Governments also.
- **Article 41** of the Indian Constitution **mandates the state** to make effective provisions for securing the right to education, work, and public assistance for people affected by disability within the constraints of its economic capacity and level of development

Challenges faced by Persons with Disabilities-

1. **Social stigmatization and isolation**- Society **stigmatizes** the PwDs **as someone not normal, thus they remain isolated** from the society throughout their life.
2. **Discrimination**- Some employers are **reluctant to take on or promote disabled people**; some landlords refuse to give the land on rent to them; and courts sometimes deprive them of basic rights, including custody of their children.
3. **Accessible infrastructure**- Public spaces and infrastructure is not made keeping in mind the accessibility for PwDs. It **becomes difficult for such people to access public spaces**. Ex: Lack of disabled friendly toilets in government buildings.
4. **Access to public services**- Due to **lack of awareness** or even such **services being inaccessible**, it becomes difficult for the PwDs to access them. Ex: Hospitals, public parks etc.
5. **Policy limitations**- The benefits of government policies and programmes not reaching the PwDs properly.
6. **Access to education**- The persons with disabilities have limited access to education due to limited number of schools and colleges, trained staff, disabilities friendly modules and methods such as Braille textbooks , pedagogical challenges etc.
7. **COVID and PwDs**- PwDs faced problems due to lockdown, no access to support groups, vulnerability to the virus, lack of social security, lack of jobs etc.

Steps taken by the Government

1. Right of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 – Provisions of the Act:

- This act **defines disability** in line with the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

- The **types of disabilities** have been increased from **7 to 21**. In addition, the Government has been authorized to notify any other category of specified disability.
- Persons with “**benchmark disabilities**” are defined as those certified to have **at least 40 percent** of the disabilities mentioned in the Act.
- Every **child with benchmark disability** between the age group of 6 and 18 years shall have the right to free education.
- **Reservation in vacancies in government establishments** has been increased from **3% to 4%** for certain persons or class of persons with benchmark disability.
- **Special Courts** will be designated in each district to handle cases concerning violation of rights of PwDs.
- **Implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.**
- **Prime Minister's Accessible India Campaign**, stress has been given to ensure accessibility in public buildings (**both Government and private**) in a prescribed time-frame.

2. **Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS).**

3. Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of Aids/appliances (**ADIP Scheme**).
4. Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (**SIPDA**).

5. **Accessible India campaign-**

- a. To make a barrier-free and conducive environment for Divyangjans all over the country. Based on principles of the **Social Model of Disability**, that disability is caused by the way society is organized, and not the person's limitations and

impairments.

What needs to be done?

1. **Institutional reforms**- Important to strengthen the **institutional framework at all levels** to have a stronger and more direct role for PwDs. The number of schemes administered by the DEPwD should be rationalized.
2. **Capacity building of government** - There is a **need to strengthen the financial and human resource capacity** of the Central and State Commissioners' offices so that they are able to perform their functions more effectively.
3. **Improving Access to Aids/Assistive technologies for PwDs**- Distribution of aids to senior citizens who live below the poverty line should be prioritized.
4. **Strengthening education**- Proper implementation of RTE. An NCERT study found that disabled children in schools across states still face serious infrastructure and pedagogy handicaps. Therefore, the government has to ensure that schools should have at least one section of each class accessible under the Universal Design Guidelines.
5. **Access to public services**- Improved access to public services by making these services more Pwd friendly and easily accessible. Ex: E-health , doorstep delivery of ration etc.
6. **Economic opportunities**- Providing proper economic opportunities so that the PwDs can lead a dignified life working and participate socially.

Secularism

Some key points:

- Secularism is the principle that determines the **relationship between the state and the religion**.
- The term “**Secular**” means being "separate" from religion, or having no religious basis.
- A secular person is one who does not owe his moral values to any religion. His values are the product of his rational and scientific thinking.
 - It emphasized **dissociation of the state from religion and full freedom to all religions as well as tolerance of all religions.**
- Secularism means separation of religion from political, economic, social and cultural aspects of life, religion being treated as a purely personal matter.
- In India , the word secularism was introduced to the constitution through the 42nd amendment act 1976 , which added ‘secularism’ to the preamble. However, the guiding spirit of the Constitution of India has always been secular.
- Indian secularism is **not an end in itself but a means to address religious plurality** and sought to achieve peaceful coexistence of different religions.

Western model of secularism – The negative model

1. **Complete separation of religion and state-** The State and religion has their **own separate spheres** and **one must not intrude in other's sphere.**
2. **No room for religious reforms-** There can be **no religious reforms** as the **state cannot digress into religious sphere.**
3. **No minority institutions-** State cannot give support in form of financial aid etc. to the education institutions of religious minorities.

4. **Religion as a private matter-** Religion is limited to the private life and thus **cannot be reflected in one's public life.**
5. **No faith in policies-** Policymakers cannot make any policy that promotes or diminishes the interests of a religion. Thus, there is less faith in government policies.

Indian model of secularism- The positive model

Over the years, India has developed its own unique concept of secularism that is fundamentally different from the parallel western concept of secularism in the following ways:

1. **Principle of Harmony than separation:** Focus on **harmony among all religions than tight separation** between state and religion.
2. **State sponsored religious reforms:** Indian model **allows state intervention** to help reform various evils and superstition. Ex: **Judicial orders on triple talaq, Sabrimala temple entry, Abolition of Sati.**
3. **Both Individual and community rights:** By **accepting community-based rights for religious minorities**, state can protect rights of Indian citizens.
4. **Religious Tolerance:** By **acceptance of all religions** rather than tight separation it reflects tolerant attitude of state and its people.
5. **Liberal and Egalitarian:** Indian secularism help liberal and egalitarian principles by reforming illiberal practices through state intervention. Ex: **Women entry in religious places.**
6. **Humanism at its core-** Indian secularism **is humane and is not affected by spiritual beliefs or values** of any particular religions.

Secularism in the History of India

- Secular traditions are very deep rooted in the history of India. Indian culture is based on the **blending of various spiritual traditions and social movements.**
 1. In ancient India, **the Sanatan Dharma (Hinduism)** was basically allowed to develop as a holistic religion by welcoming different spiritual traditions and trying to integrate them into a common mainstream.
 2. **Emperor Ashoka** announced, as early as 3rd century B.C. that, **the state would not prosecute any religious sect.**
 3. **In his 12th Rock Edict, Ashoka made an appeal not only for the toleration of all religion sects but also to develop a spirit of great respect toward them.**
 4. **Even after the advent of Jainism, Buddhism and later Islam and Christianity** on the Indian soil, **the quest for religious toleration and coexistence of different faiths continued.**
 5. In **medieval India**, the **Sufi and Bhakti movements** bond the people of various communities together with love and peace.
 6. In medieval India, religious toleration and freedom of worship marked the State under Akbar. He had a number of Hindus as his ministers, forbade forcible conversions and abolished Jizya. He even sponsored a series of religious debates which were held in the ‘Ibadat Khana’ of the Hall of Worship, and the participants in these debates included theologians from amongst Brahmins, Jains and Zoroastrians
 7. The spirit of secularism was **strengthened and enriched through the Indian freedom movement too**, though the British have pursued the policy of divide and rule.

8. In the initial part of the Indian freedom movement, the liberals like Sir Feroz Shah Mehta, Govind Ranade, Gopal Krishna Gokhale by and large pursued a secular approach to politics.
9. The **constitution drafted by Pandit Moti Lal Nehru as the chairman of the historic Nehru Committee** in 1928, had many **provision on secularism** as: 'There shall be no state religion for the commonwealth of India or for any province in the commonwealth, nor shall the state, either directly or indirectly, endow any religion any preference or impose any disability on account of religious beliefs or religious status'.
10. **Gandhiji's secularism** was based on a commitment to the brotherhood of religious communities.

Elements of Indian Model of Secularism-

1. **Sarva-Dharma-Sambhava**- "All paths lead to the same destination". In political sense it means equal respect to all religions.
2. **Sarva-Dharma-Sadbhava** – Peaceful co-existence and a sense of fraternity amongst all religions.
3. **Principled Distance approach**- State can intervene in a principled manner for religious reforms or to protect, preserve and propagate the identity. Ex: Art 29,30.
4. **Dharma Nirpekshta**- Indifference of state to religion. State doesn't discriminate on the basis of religions. But it can promote all the religions equally. Ex: Hajj subsidy alongwith state sponsored Char Dham yatras.

Secularism and Indian Constitution-

1. The term 'Secular' was added to the preamble by the **forty-second constitution Amendment Act of 1976**, (India is a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic, republic).

2. **Article 14**- Equality before the law and equal protection of the laws to all, **Article 15** enlarges the concept of secularism by prohibiting discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.
3. **Article 16 (1)**- Equality of opportunity to all citizens in matters of public employment and reiterates that there would be no discrimination on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth and residence.
4. **Article 25** - ‘Freedom of Conscience’, that is, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practise and propagate religion.
5. **Article 26**- Every religious group or individual has the right to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes and to manage its own affairs in matters of religion.
6. **Article 27**- The state shall not compel any citizen to pay any taxes for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion or religious institution.
7. **Article 28**- Allows educational institutions maintained by different religious groups to impart religious instruction.
8. **Article 29** and **Article 30** provides cultural and educational rights to the minorities.
9. **Article 51A**- Fundamental Duties obliges all the citizens to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood and to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture.

Gandhian Model of Secularism

- **Sarva Dharma Sama bhava** – Regarded all religions equal and as different paths to reach the same destination.
- **Religious reforms**- Gandhiji did not accept all the practices of Hinduism blindfolded rather he looked at it in the **prism of liberal thoughts and**

modernism so that the secular value of Indian culture would be sustained. Ex: abolishing untouchability.

- **Vision of a secular state-** Gandhi's vision of the secular state is a place where religious values and discourse are cherished and respected in all spheres of life, the public as well as the private, but in which no single religion is allowed to dominate the others.
- **Religion as a private and public affair both-** Gandhiji considered religion as a set of moral principles that lead men on the right path of living. Thus it is applicable in both private and public life.

“I do not expect any dreams to develop one religion i.e. to be wholly Hindu or wholly Christian or wholly Mussalman, but I want it to be wholly tolerant, with its religions working side by side with one another” – **Mahatma Gandhi**.

“Politics bereft of religion is a crime” - **Mahatma Gandhi**

Nehruvian Secularism

- **Scientific humanism-** Development of a rational and scientific temperament which will develop India into a progressive society from which both the Nation and Religion will benefit.
- **Principled Distance approach-** Equal protection by state to all religions, principled interventions in case of religious reforms. A secular state to be one that “protects all religions but does not favour one at the expense of others and does not itself adopt any religion as the state religion.”

Challenges and threats to Indian Secularism

- **Communal politics-** Politicization of religion and the politicians using it as a tool to gather vote bank and mobilize people against one another. Ex: Ramjanmabhoomi movement and demolition of babri masjid.
- **Religious fundamentalism-** Rise in religious fundamentalism and its amplification through social media etc. Ex: Fringe elements in Hindutva movement, Islamic Fundamentalism.
- **Forced conversions-** Allegations Forced conversions of people from lower strata of Hinduism to Christianity and Islam. As a reaction, the Ghar wapsi movement was launched by the Hindutva right wing.
- **Constitutional contradiction-** There are certain secular principles that are **mutually exclusive**. Ex: **Article 48** bans cow slaughter for respecting the religious sentiment of Hindu but such actions are approved of as a part of other faiths as well as tribal tradition.
- **Rise in Majoritarianism-** Majority religious group rising as the sole representative of the Indian ethos and society , thus trying to integrate the minority cultures into the mainstream.
- **Exclusion of minorities-** The overall participation of religious minorities in the political sphere continues to occupy a tiny space. **Sachar Committee reported** “while Muslims **constitute 14 percent** of the Indian population, they comprise **only 2.5 percent** of the Indian bureaucracy”
- **Discriminative state intervention-** To retain **vote banks**, governments show bias in regulating the religious customs and practices. Ex: CAA-NRC’s exclusion of certain minorities leading to the allegation of it being anti minority.

- **International influences**- International events and their influence on Indian secular ethos and the society. Ex: Israel-Palestine issue, attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh, Afghanistan issue.

Ways to Promote Secularism

- **Religious freedom**- Best approach to nurture secularism is to expand religious freedom rather than strictly practicing state neutrality.
- **Role modelling**- Ideas of religious harmony and universal brotherhood spread through the thoughts of great leaders such as Mahatma Gandhi.
- **Education** – The most potent tool to inculcate ideas of secularism, fraternity, religious tolerance, peaceful co-existence.
- **Acceptance of social reforms**- The society must become welcoming to social reforms and keep a rational outlook while practicing religion thus keeping away from dogmatism.
- **Legislative reforms**- Reforms such as Uniform civil code are much needed to make the society come out of religious norms and laws.
- **Political sensitivity**- Politicians and leaders must adhere to constitutional norms and must become sensitive to the feelings of the people.
- **Promoting cultural ideas** – Ideas such as “Ekam Sat Vipraha Bahuda Vadanti” i.e. “there’s only one truth and the wise call it as many”, or Anekantavada of Jainism that talks about plurality of thought.
- **Religious pluralism and a heterogeneous society**- Promoting Indian credentials as a pluralist and heterogeneous society.
- **Periodical convention of the National Integration Council** with the true spirit of secularism.

- Consider the suggestions of 2nd ARC (4th report-Ethics in Governance, 5th report-Public Order) to offer secular governance and handle communal clashes effectively and promptly.

Contemporary Issues

1. Uniform Civil Code

Article 44 (DPSP) of the Constitution states that “the State shall endeavour to secure for citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.” It essentially means a **common set of laws governing personal matters for all citizens of the country**, irrespective of religion.

a) Positives of UCC

1. **Uniform laws-** For all Indians with regard to marriage, inheritance, divorce, etc.
2. **Divest religion from social relations and personal laws-** Ensure equality in terms of justice to both men and women regardless of the faith they practice.
3. **Improving the condition of women-** Indian society is mostly patriarchal whereby old religious rules continue to govern the family life and subjugate women. These religious laws are usually patriarchal in nature thus subjecting women to a secondary status.
4. **Informal bodies -** like caste panchayats give judgments based on traditional laws. UCC will ensure that legal laws are followed rather than traditional laws.
5. **Reducing instances of vote bank politics-** Same laws for all leading to politicians having limited leverage to give to their vote bank.

6. Integration of India- Will help reduce religious animosities and help bring a level playing field for all.

b) Negatives of UCC

1. **Might interfere with the principle of secularism-** particularly with **the provisions of Articles 25 and 26**, which guarantee freedom relating to religious practices.
2. **Consultative approach-** difficult for the government to come up with a uniform law that is accepted by all religious communities
3. **Drafting of UCC is another obstacle.** There is no consensus regarding whether it should be a blend of personal laws or should be a new law adhering to the constitutional mandate.

2. Entry Movements to places of Religious Worship by Women Organizations

- Movements for entry into temples such as Sabrimala temple, Shani-Shignapur temple and dargahs and mosques such as the Haji-Ali Dargah.
 - Fundamental rights of women- Not allowing entry of women goes against the Fundamental rights of women. Art 14,15,19,21,25 are clearly violated.
 - Gender Justice- Equal access to God and faith to women and men. Discrimination on this ground cannot be acceptable.
- **Judicial Pronouncements**
 - Sabrimala temple entry case- SC allowed temple entry of women and denounced the practice as not an “Essential religious practice.” Further the case is subjudice and sent to a 9 judge bench.
 - Bombay HC in Haji Ali Dargah case- Trust could not enforce a ban “contrary to the fundamental rights”

3. CAA-NRC

- Issue arises out of inclusion-exclusion of certain communities from the law and the contentious issue that whether citizenship can be provided or denied on the grounds of religion. Also, without any comprehensive refugee law in India, this issue becomes contentious.

Role of Women and Women's Organizations

“It is impossible to think about the welfare of the world unless the condition of women is improved. It is impossible for a bird to fly on only one wing.” — Swami Vivekananda.

“I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress women have achieved.” –

BR Ambedkar

“Human rights are women’s rights and women’s rights are human rights, once and for all.” –

Hillary Clinton

Introduction:

The status of women in Indian society has gradually evolved over the ages .With women **participating in sabhas and samitis during Vedic age to their participation in nationalist movements, to being pushed into the domestic household space, to their resurgence as super-women today, women in our country have seen it all.**

The status of women might have risen under the law, but in practice they continue to suffer from discrimination, harassment and humiliation.

Though Mother Nature has made women with an equally important role as men in the society, the latter have made them subordinate in many ways.

POSITION OF WOMEN IN HISTORY:

Early Vedic Age (1500 BC – 1000 BC):

During this period women were accorded high level of respect and dignity. They enjoyed complete freedom in every sphere and were placed as **central to creation of all lives** in the universe.

Later Vedic period (1000 – 500 BC):

During this period a need for large army in turn **gave more role and stature to men**

Women were considered as **inferior and subordinate to men** with denied political rights.

Medieval Period:

During the **era of Muslim kings, the existing social evils became more prominent** like female infanticide, no education to girls, child marriage etc.

However, with the **rise of bhakti movement and Sufism**, the status of women improved significantly across India.

Various popular figures like **Shankaracharya, Ramanuja, Guru Nanak vociferously voiced** against ill treatment and suppression of women irrespective of caste and religion.

During Colonial times:

During the British rule, various measures aiming at amelioration of women's conditions were enacted, including **Bengal Sati Regulation, 1829, Hindu Widows' Remarriage Act, 1856, Female Infanticide Prevention Act, 1870, and Age of Consent Act, 1891.**

Present Situation of Women in India

1. Political Situation

- a. **Women participation** - 14% women MPs in 17th Lok Sabha which is the highest ever in India, still **India ranks 109th in political participation in the world.** Around 49% of the electorate consists of women, still **representation is just 14%.**
- b. **Panchayats and Sarpanch Patis**- 1/3rd reservation for women at panchayat level is a welcome step. However, the incidents of Men using women as proxies to yield actual power in their own hands (the issue of Sarpanch patis) is problematic.

2. Economic Situation

- a. **Female labour force participation rate**- Although there has been significant economic progress in India, the female labour force participation rate is still low. **According to PLFS data, FLFPR fell from 35% in 1990s to 23% in 2017-18.** 80% of Indian women still work in the informal workforce.
- b. **Christian Lagarde**(ECB president) – Escalating women participation in labour force to the same level as men can boost India's GDP by 27%.

Reasons for low FLFPR

- **Increase in household income** – As men in the family start earning more income, women tend to cut back their work in the formal economy to concentrate more on care activities.
- **Caste factor** –Family and societal pressures because of women of certain castes working outside their homes to drop out if the men in the household are earning enough to foot the bills.

- **Safety issues & Harassment at the workplace** – Women are more vulnerable to exploitation and harassment at work in developing countries like India.
- **Economic Growth and female friendly sectors**- The benefits of economic growth have not swept through the female friendly sectors which can absorb women workforce.
- **Double burden of work and family**- Makes women drop out of economic activities to focus on family work. Ex: During COVID, disproportionate burden of housework over the women of the household.
- **Maternity aspect**- Women in the workforce are not usually able to join the workforce again after having a child. Non availability of quality day cares, maternity leaves .
- **Policy ill-effects**- Ex: **Maternity benefits act 2016** and its stringent provisions make companies avoid hiring women as this creates extra cost for them.

Gender Wage Gap

Women and men working in the same positions, doing the same amount of work but still there prevails a wage gap which reflects gender injustice.

Reasons for Gender Wage Gap

- **Sticky floor and glass ceiling**- Women unable to breach a certain level in their career which men can do easily. Ex: Women CEOs of companies are less in numbers as compared to men.
- **Pink collarization of workforce**- Women deemed suitable for certain form of work , thus when they enter workforce where men dominate , their contribution is conceived as something less than men.

- **Career breaks** – Women have to take career breaks because of maternity , care activities and personal health as well. This break is justified by companies as a reason for wage gap.
- **Feminization of Agriculture-**
 - According to the data of **Economic Survey (2017-18)**, with growing rural to urban migration by men, there is '**feminization' of agriculture sector**, with increasing number of women in agriculture in multiple roles as cultivators, entrepreneurs, and labourers.
 - As per the **10th Agriculture Census (2015-16)**, the percentage of female operational holdings in the country have increased from about **13% percent during 2010-11 to around 14% during 2015-16**.
 - Agrarian distress, male migration and poverty are prominent reasons for increasing feminization of agriculture.

3. **Social Situation**

- The social and cultural Empowerment is the **fundamental and the foundation block** for the development of women empowerment. It includes a range of constituents such as **discriminatory patriarchal norms** against women, **access to health and education services, caste and class and religious divides**

A. **Status of Health**

- a. **Poor maternal health** leading to high Maternal mortality rate and also poor nutritional outcomes for the children and high Infant mortality rate as well.

- b. High prevalence of **Anaemia and undernourishment** amongst women. **42% of total children are malnourished out of which 70% are girls.**
- c. Unequal access to institutional healthcare services, delivery services, health insurance etc.
- d. **Reproductive rights of women-** Women are **not aware about their reproductive rights**, which leads to **unwanted pregnancies**, early marriages and poor maternal health, uninformed decision making.
- e. **Period poverty-** Women not having access to menstrual hygiene products and awareness.

B. Status of Literacy

- a. Today the female **literacy rate is 65.46% where the male literacy rate is over 80%.**
- b. Wide gender disparity when it comes to literacy.
- c. High dropout ratio for women in India because of double burden of education and housework.
- d. Also **poor sanitation and menstrual access** leads to women dropping out after an age.
- e. Priority to male education and women's education being secondary in a household makes them drop out early.
- f. **Poor nutritional outcomes** and high prevalence of malnourishment leads to women dropping out.

C. Socio-Cultural Status

- a. **Patriarchal Society** - Social system in **which men hold primary power**, predominate in the roles of political leadership, moral authority, special privilege and control of the property. They also hold power in the domain of the family, as fatherly figures.
- b. Women are a **victim of male domination in the respective sphere of life**; especially in **economic life**, over **decision making on resources**, on **the utilization of her earnings and her body**.
- c. Thus women become subjected to gender violence, Injustices and deprivations which is justified through a patriarchal outlook.
- d. **Marriages**- Though the status **of women in their husbands' home** is improved a lot, women still face **domestic violence** for dowry or love marriage or inter caste marriage. They are regarded as dependent beings which underline the **preference for child marriage**, especially among rural and backward communities.
- e. Also, domestic violence, dowry violence happens in a closed system thus societal interference is shunned by considering it as a marital problem which doesn't need outside interference.
- f. **Family system**- In **nuclear households**, Women **enjoy greater decision-making power, greater freedom of movement** outside the house premises and greater participation in jobs.
- g. **Women's autonomy is differentiated by economic status, caste and household location.** Women in richer joint households have more autonomy in intra-household decision-making but less freedom of movement outside the home. **Women in poorer joint households**,

women's have **greater freedom of movement outside** the home but **less autonomy** in **intra-household decision-making.**

- h. Division of labour based on sex, women have to do all the domestic work and the care work whereas the male member will go out and earn money.

Women's movement in India

- **Before Independence phase**

- **Nineteenth century social reformers** - Primarily concerned with issues that affected urban upper caste women such as **purdah, sati, education, age of marriage and widow remarriage**. They did not question the traditional role of mother and wife. They argued that women could bring a special knowledge of the household.
- **Later Women's movements** – They advocated for women education, abolition of sati, ending polygamy and encouraged widow remarriage.
- **Takeover by women**- By the end of the nineteenth century, a **few women emerged from within the reformed families who formed organisations of their own**. For Ex: **Swarnakumari Devi** who formed Ladies Society in Calcutta in 1882 for educating and imparting skills to widows and other poor women to make them economically self-reliant.
- **Political role**- National Conference was formed at the third session of the Indian National Congress in 1887 to provide a forum for the discussion of social issues. It focused on abolition of child marriage, condition of widows, dowry and other evil customs.
- **Influence of organisations**- The early women's organisations had been confined to a locality or city. In 1910, Sarala Devi Chaudarani formed the Bharat

Stree Mandal with the object of bringing together women of all castes, creeds, classes and parties.

- **Women suffrage-** For the first time in 1917, the demand for women's right to vote was raised. A deputation of women including Sarojini Naidu and Margaret Cousins met the viceroy to put forward the demand for female franchise. This led to formation of Women's India Association (WIA).
- **The All India Women's Conference (AIWC)-** Established in 1927 at the initiative of Margaret Cousins to take up the problem of women's education. AIWC's initial concern was with education but it realised that girls did not go to school because of purdah, child marriage, and other social customs. It therefore took up these issues. It waged a vigorous campaign for raising the age of marriage which led to the passing of the Sarda Act in 1929. AIWC took up the cause of reform of personal law. As there was some opposition to a common civil law, it demanded reform of Hindu laws to prohibit bigamy, provide the right to divorce and for women to inherit property.
- **Women in workers movements-** In 1917 Anasuya Sarabhai had led Ahmedabad textile workers strike and in 1920 under her leadership the Majdoor Mahajana sangha , the Ahmedabad textile mill workers union was established. By the late 1920s, the presence of women in the workers movement was noticeable.
- **Gandhian phase-** Gandhiji took interest in collective mobilisation of women to fight for political freedom as well as for their social and political rights. He felt that **women were most suited for Satyagraha** as they have great qualities appropriate for non-violent struggle. It did generate in them a sense of self confidence and a realisation of their own strength. It helped in breaking several of the old barriers of tradition and custom.

- **Social injustice- Women's organisations** side by side raised their voices for removal of social injustice meted to them, which resulted in passing of the resolution on Fundamental Right of equal rights for both the sexes at the Karachi session of the Indian National Congress in 1930.
- **Post-Independence Phase-**
 - **Constitution** - provided **universal adult franchise** and by the mid-fifties India had **fairly liberal laws** concerning women. Most of the demands of the women's movement had been met and there seemed few issues left to organize around.
 - **Peasant struggle**- In tebhaga peasant movement, women had organised themselves on a separate platform of the **Nari Bahini and they ran shelters and maintained lines of communication**. In Telangana movement, women's participation was also significant, and the leadership did pay attention to women's issues such as wife-beating.
 - **Modern phase**- In the 1970s, the emphasis started being based on modern issues such as the rape of women in police custody (Mathura rape case, which saw changes in Indian rape law), dowry murders, the representation of women in popular media, and the consequences of unequal development.
 - **Legal reforms**- Legal battle against restrictions on entry into Shani Shiganapur temple, Haji Ali Dargah and abolition of Triple Talaq. Movement for grant of reservation to women in legislatures, which resulted into draft women reservation bill in 2008.
 - **Anti-Alcohol agitation**- There was an anti-alcohol agitation (Anti-Arrack movement in AP in 1970s) as men used to get drunk and beat their wives. Women went round villages breaking pots in liquor dens.

- **Skill development-** SEWA organisation was formed for providing training, technical aids and collective bargaining to women.
- **Anti-price rise movement of 1973–75** - by Communist and Socialist women in the urban areas of Maharashtra, saw thousands of housewives joining public rallies and those who could not leave their houses joined by beating thalis.
- **Tribal movement-** In Chattisgarh in Madhya Pradesh, women participated in the Chattisgarh Mines Shramik Sangh which was set up in 1977 in the tribal belt to protest against the Bhilai steel plant's policy of mechanisation.
- **Environmental movements-** The Chipko movement got its name from the Hindi word 'chipko' which means to cling. This clinging to trees was a particular action people used to save trees, which were crucial to their lives, from being felled.
- **Gender justice-** As we enter the twenty first century, new sites of gender injustice are emerging. The sharp fall in the child sex ratio and the implicit social bias against the girl child represents one of the new challenges of gender inequality.

4. **Miscellaneous Issues**

a. **Women and COVID**

- i. COVID led lockdown had a **disproportionate impact on women** and their mental and physical wellbeing.
- ii. With families at home, **increased pressure of housework and care work.**
- iii. Along with work from home, it was **difficult for women to handle both the pressures** from household work as well as professional work.

- iv. Also, with the rise in gender crimes such as domestic violence, strained relationships and no place to escape this , women experienced emotional trauma.
- v. Also, **80% of women work in the unorganized sector**, thus they lost their jobs due to COVID lockdown and had to become dependent on families for support.

b. Temple Entry Movement

- i. **Banning entry was derogatory for women** – Morality must not be viewed narrowly from the perspective of an individual, a section or religious sect.
- ii. **Right to worship is equally available to men and women** – Woman's right to pray was not dependent on any law but it is a constitutional right.
- iii. **Patriarchy in religion cannot trump** the freedom to practice religion.
- iv. Prohibition was **not an essential practice of religion under Article 25** of the Constitution thus it was not covered under the right to freedom of religion.
- v. The Fundamental Rights guaranteed under **Part III of the Constitution recognizes the individuals as a basic unit.**

DATA

Role of women and women's organization

- **Feminism definition** – Feminism is the belief in **social, economic, and political equality** of the sexes.

- **Constitutional article - Art 14**(right to equality) , **Art 19**(Freedom of speech and expression) , Art 21(Right to life and liberty).

Terms associated with Feminism and women related issues

- **Pink collarisation**, Care economy, Double burden – work and family.
- **Stick floor and glass ceiling**, Breaking the glass barriers.
- Missing women, son meta preference and unwanted girls.
- Gender sensitization, gender neutral, gender positive, gender budgeting, gender roles, Gender gap, Gender stereotyping, Gender cleavages, Gender divide, Digital gender divide, Gender equality.
- **Agency to women**- economic agency, social agency, political agency.
- **Feminization of poverty, feminization of agriculture, feminization of migration (Female face of migration), Feminization of ageing.**
- **Second sex** – Simone de Beauvoir.
- Women's Suffrage.
- Professional bias, social bias, economic bias, political bias.
- Interrupted careers of women
- Biased socialization
- **Period poverty** – Scotland in 2020 became the 1st country to end period poverty by making mensuration products universally accessible. (In India only 36% women have access to mensuration products.)
- **4th wave feminism**- use of internet and ICT tools for women empowerment and addressing women related issues. Ex: MeToo movement.
- **Gender equality** – double dividend- women wellbeing and child wellbeing.
- **Shadow pandemic** - women related problems during COVID lockdown.

Thinkers associated with women's movements

- **Simone de Beauvoir**- Book “The second sex”.
 - Quotes- “One is not born, but rather one becomes a woman.”
“...her wings are cut and then she is blamed for not knowing how to fly.”
- **Sylvia Plath** – Book – “The Bell Jar”
 - Quotes – “Just being a woman is an act of courage.”
- **BR Ambedkar** –
 - Quotes – “I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved.”
- **Malala Yousufzai**-
 - Quotes – “We all cannot succeed when half of us are held back”
- **Swami Vivekananda**-
 - Quote – “The nation which doesn't respect women can never become great.”
- **Oxfam**-
 - Quote- “In India, inequality has a female face.”

Data associated with women Issues

- **Female labour force participation rate(FLFPR)**
 - According to PLFS data , FLFPR fell from 35% in 1990s to 23% in 2017-18.
 - According to ILO, 80% of Indian women work in the informal economy.

- o Niti Aayog's Strategy for new india@75- Raising FLFPR to atleast 30% by 2030.
- o **Christian Lagarde**(ECB president) – Rising women participation in labour force to the same level as men can boost India's GDP by 27%.

- **Gender Violence**

- o Acc to UNFPA, COVID pandemic could reduce world progress against gender based violence by 1/3rd.
- o Acc to NFHS-4 data, 30% of women in India in age group 15-49 have experienced physical violence.

- **Feminization of Poverty**

- o **Richard Gobins** in his book “Global problems and culture of capitalism”- “Women do 2/3rd of world’s work, receive 1/10th of world’s income and own 1% of means of production.”
- o **Missing girls** - UNFPA – India accounts for 46 millions of world’s 142 million girls missing at birth.
- o **NFHS-5 data**- Women constitute 47.5% of total population. Only 12% girls are in higher education. 42% of total children are malnourished out of which 70% are girls.
- o **Women participation**- 14% women MPs in 17th Lok Sabha which is the highest ever in India, still India ranks 109th in political participation in the world.
- o **Feminization of migration**- women constitute more than 50% of total internal migration.
- o **Feminization of poverty** – Women largest beneficiaries of MGNREGA. 2/3rd of adult poor are women.

- o **Sex ratio**- SRS report 2018 – decline from 906 in 2011 to 899 in 2018.
- o **Beijing plan of action** – eradicate all forms of extreme poverty for women.
- o **Digital gender gap**- Only 30% of India's total internet users are women.
- o **Care economy**- WEF – Indian care economy is 3% of GDP.
- o **Child marriages**- NFHS data- India has over 24 mill child brides(40% of world's total)

REGIONALISM

What is a Region?

- Region is generally defined as "**a homogeneous area with physical and cultural characteristics distinct from those of neighbouring areas**". Region provides the basis for the emergence of regional identity. It results in loyalty towards the region and ultimately takes the shape and form of regionalism.

What is Regionalism?

- **Regionalism is an ideology that seeks to advance the interests of a region.** India is a land of diversity be it cultural, linguistic, geographical etc. These **identity markers** in particular regions, and **fuelled by a sense of regional deprivation** lead to regionalism.
- In a negative **sense**, regionalism is excessive attachment to one's region in preference to country or state. It can **threaten nation-building efforts** such as, the demand for Khalistan in Punjab which is giving rise to terrorism and violence within and outside Punjab.
- In a positive **sense**, regionalism means **people's love for their region**, culture, language etc., with a view to maintain their independent identity. Eg: Creation of state of Jharkhand.

What regionalism is not?

- **Local patriotism and loyalty to a locality** or region or state do not constitute regionalism nor are they disruptive for the nation.
- **To have pride in one's region or state** is also not regionalism. A person can be a proud Gujarati and a proud Indian at once.
- A certain **inter-regional rivalry around the achievement of positive goals** such as aspiring to remove poverty etc. would be quite healthy.
- **Federal demands** such as devolution of power, self-governance etc. are not regionalist.

Factors leading to Regionalism

1. **Geographical:** Post-independence integration of Princely States resulted in the merger of small states into new big states. The **loyalties of citizens** were torn between old territorial boundaries and new territorial structures.
2. **Historical:** History supported regionalism with cultural heritage, folklore, myths and symbolism with which people identified themselves as one.
3. **Language:** Language expresses the shared life, thought structure and value patterns of people. This can lead to tendencies of regionalism.
4. **Caste and religion:** Tamil regionalism gained ground as a result of non-Brahmin movement against the Brahmins who held power before. Religion with linguistic homogeneity as in Punjab or fed on a sense of religious orthodoxy and economic deprivation as in Jammu and Kashmir.
5. **Economic Bases:** Economic policies have led to regional imbalances and wide economic disparities. The resources are limited while the demand for resources for the development of various regions is unlimited. Movements for a separate Uttarakhand state in the hill districts of UP, a Jharkhand state carved out of parts of Bihar etc.

6. **Politico-administrative Bases:** Politics as such does not create regionalism. It only accentuates regionalism. Ex: Sons of soil movement in Maharashtra.

Forms of Regionalism

- **Demand for State Autonomy:** Demand of people in certain states or regions to secede from the Indian Union and become independent sovereign states.
 - Example: Khalistan movement.
- **Supra-State Regionalism:** In this type of regionalism, the group of states come together for their mutual interest vis-a-vis another group of states or at times against the union.
 - For Example, North Eastern states in India may be said to have possessed the supra-state regionalism.
- **Inter-state Regionalism:** It is related with **state boundaries** and involves **overlapping of one or more state identities**, which threaten their interests.
 - River water disputes, in general, and other issues like the Maharashtra-Karnataka border dispute in particular can be cited as examples.
- **Sub-regionalism:** This refers to regionalism, which exists within a state of the Indian Union. It embodies the desire of a part of a state for the identity and self-development.
 - Example: Vidarbha in Maharashtra, Saurashtra in Gujarat, etc.
- **Son of the Soil theory:** It ties people to their **place of birth** and confers some **benefits, rights, roles and responsibilities** on them, which may not apply to others.
 - It is accentuated by factors such as competition for resources, jobs, economic disparities etc.

Manifestations of Regionalism in India

1. **Dravidian movement:** It was also known as **self-respect movement** and focused on **empowering Dalits, non-Brahmins, and poor people**. Later it stood against imposition of Hindi as sole official language on non-Hindi speaking areas. But it was the demand of carving out their own **Dravida Nadu**, which made it a **secessionist movement**.
2. **Linguistic reorganisation of states:** Started with Potti Sriramulu movement in AP and spread to all parts of the country, a violent, ethnic mobilization of people. Culminated in formation of SRC and linguistic division of States.
3. **North-east Movement:** In 1970s and 1980s, the main focus of reorganisation was India's North-east. The basis of reorganisation was **tribal insurgency for separation and statehood** leading to North-eastern States Reorganisation Act, 1971.
4. **Khalistan movement and other secessionist movements:** It was during 1980s that Khalistan movement with its aim to create a Sikh homeland cropped up in the Punjab.
5. **Creation of new States in 2000:** In the creation of three new states in 2000, namely Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal and Jharkhand, a combination of ethnicity based on tribal identity, language, regional deprivation and ecology provided the basis for intense regionalism resulting in statehood.
6. **Telangana Movement:** The movement for creation of Telangana and linguistic reorganization of Telugu speaking areas led to creation of Telangana state in 2014.

Causes of regionalism

1. **Politicization of issues-** Rise of regional political parties which became very vocal for **regional needs**. For Ex: MNS in Maharashtra advocating against migrants taking local jobs.

2. **Federal structure** - Indian federal system helping to maintain their sub-cultural regions and greater degree of self-government has promoted regionalism and given rise to demand for greater autonomy.
3. **Developmental deficit** - Continuous neglect of regions politically as well economically resulted in separate statehood demands. Ex: Telangana. Low rate of economic growth in certain regions although endowed with natural resources.
4. **Poor performance in reforms**- The states have been unable to do the adequate land reforms and the feudal mentality still persists.
5. **Secessionist Movements** - Violent groups such as NSCN which want secession from India.
6. **Fears of assimilation** - States of the South began to resist the imposition of Hindi as an official language as they feared this would lead to dominance of the North.
7. **Interstate disputes** - Regionalism in India has found expression in the form of interstate disputes. Ex: Haryana-Punjab Sutlej water dispute.

Sons of the soil doctrine

- It states that the state constitutes the **exclusive homeland** of its main language speakers, who are the **sons of the soil or local residents**.
- **Competition for jobs** between migrant and local educated middle class youth in cities where **outsiders get opportunity** for education, jobs etc. Ex: Haryana Government passing a bill in 2020 for reservation of jobs for locals.
- **Majority becoming minority**- In Bombay, in 1961, the Marathi speakers constituted 42.8 percent of the population, due to economic development and migration.

How to combat it?

- **Balancing regional development** - Government at centre and states can give incentives to private players to develop in backward states to fulfil the regional economic aspirations.
- **Cooperative federalism** - The Central Government must not interfere in the affairs of the State unless it is unavoidable for national interest.
- **Sensitize politics** - Politicians must not misuse the issue of regional demands in order to create a vote bank.
- **Social development**- Regular public investment by central government on development of rural infrastructure and poverty eradication, education, health, family planning, etc. Ex: MGNREGA, etc.
- **Promote unity in diversity**- Patriotic feelings towards the Nation along with acceptance of regional aspirations.
- **Financial inclusion** - Making mandatory for banks to open rural branches are few other steps for **inclusive development** and balanced regional development.

Constitutional provisions

- **Indian federalism**- It provides a mechanism for addressing regionalism and reconciling of regional identities within the democratic framework.
 - **Example:** 73rd and 74th amendment providing powers for democratic decentralization.
- **5th and 6th Schedule**- States enjoy certain autonomy which give them scope to maintain their own culture and develop according to their own need.
- **PESA Act, 1996**- It is a step towards bringing reconciliation with the regional aspirations.

- **Art. 371** - It has special provisions that are helpful in addressing concerns of some states.

Positive Impact of Regionalism

- **Source of identity:** Given the increasing uncertainty in the contemporary globalized world, regionalism has become a source of identity among people. The accommodation of such identities is healthy for maintaining the socio-cultural fabric of India.
 - For Example, the Naga movement was to preserve the distinct character of their proposed Nagalim.
- **Development :** It further helps in the economic development of backward regions.
 - For Example, demand for Vidarbha in Maharashtra solely to deal with Economic distress present in the region.
- **Focus shifted to regional issues :** It has brought imbalanced regional development and regional issues to focus on and the opportunity to solve them.
 - For instance, the creation of new states like Uttarakhand had resulted in the fast growth of the state.
- **Inter-group solidarity :** It can lead to inter-group solidarity in a specific region. People belonging to a region may feel the need to come together to protect their vested interests, setting aside their differences.
 - For eg. **Tripura Tribal Autonomous District Council** that was formed in 1985 has served to protect an otherwise endangered tribal identity in the state by providing a democratic platform for former separatists and has reduced the bases of political extremism in the state.

Negative Impact of Regionalism

- It gives **internal security challenges** by the insurgent groups, who propagate the feelings of regionalism against the mainstream politico-administrative setup of the country.
- **Violence** is a very popular character of regionalism. To protect regional identity, people may take violent means – Example Nellie massacre during the Assam movement.
- It **impacts the ease of doing business**. Due to regional aspiration, local people pass difficulties for private investors to hire freely as per their own requirement private companies are often forced to reserve jobs and contract only for local people son of the soil.
- Regionalism **impacts politics** as these days, coalition government and alliances are taking place. Regional demands become national demands, policies are launched to satisfy local demands.
- It can give a **leeway to external factors** (E.g. terrorist groups, extremist groups) to get involved in regional issues and **create disruption** by inciting the masses
- It can be exploited and used for **political leverage** in order to garner votes.

Conclusion

- It is vital to develop each region of India through the devolution of power to local governments and empowering people for their participation in decision-making.
- The state governments need to find out the alternative resources of energy, source of employment for local people, use of technology in governance, planning, and agriculture development.

- If religious, communal, cultural, and linguistic differences threaten the unity of India, they present, as well, a challenge to the social Union. For ‘unity in diversity’ is at once a threat and a promise”.

POVERTY

- According to World Bank, Poverty is **pronounced deprivation in well-being**, and comprises many dimensions such as **low incomes and the inability to acquire the basic goods and services** necessary for survival with dignity, **low levels of health and education, poor access to clean water and sanitation, inadequate physical security**, lack of voice, and insufficient capacity and opportunity to better one's life.
- Thus poverty is a **multidimensional phenomenon** which talks about relative deprivation of a community or a person with respect to various dimensions.
- In India, **21.9%** of the population lived below the national poverty line in **2011**.
- **Two-thirds of people in India live in poverty:** 68.8% of the Indian population lives on less than \$2 a day. Over 30% even have less than \$1.25 per day available - they are considered extremely poor.

TYPES OF POVERTY:

1. Absolute Poverty

- It refers to a condition where a **person does not have the minimum amount of income needed to meet the minimum requirements** for one or more basic living needs over an extended period of time.
- It may be calculated in monetary terms, nutrition attainment or calories terms.
- For example: Homeless people living on the streets, families that cannot afford to buy food to feed themselves and their children are also examples of absolute poverty.

2. Relative Poverty

- Relative poverty is the condition in which **people lack the minimum amount of income needed in order to maintain the average standard of living in the society in which they live.**
- Relative poverty is **defined relative to the members of a society** and, therefore, **differs across countries**. People are said to be impoverished if they cannot keep up with the standard of living as determined by society.
- For example: For example, in the **UK relative poverty** is defined as income 50% less than average incomes or **someone living in a rich society may have a steady income and all the necessities for living, but because they do not have as many luxuries as others living in the society, they are said to be in relative poverty.**

Estimation of poverty

- Broadly, the poverty of a given society is expressed in terms of malnutrition, low consumption expenditure, low income, chronic illness or poor health, illiteracy, unemployment, unsanitary housing conditions, poor resources, high disparity income distribution.

Pre-independence poverty estimates:

1. Dada Bhai Naoroji (Book – Poverty and Un-British rule in India)
 - **Initially it was Dada Bhai Naoroji who estimated poverty in the second-half of 19th century.**
 - He concluded the **base line in 1867-68 price** which was based on the cost of a **subsistence diet consisting of ‘rice or flour, daal, mutton, vegetables, ghee, vegetable oil and salt’**

2. 1938

- Subhash Chandra Bose set up the National Planning Committee (NPC) with Jawaharlal Nehru as the Chairman. The Committee regarded the **irreducible minimum income between Rs. 15 and Rs. 25 per capita per month** at pre-war prices.

3. The Bombay Plan (1944)

- The proponents of this plan had suggested a poverty line of Rs.75 per capita per year.

Post-independence poverty estimates:

1. Planning Commission 1962

- The expert panel of Planning Commission formulated **the separate poverty lines for rural and urban areas** (Rs.20 and Rs.25 per capita per year respectively).

2. Y. K. Alagh Committee (1979)

- By the late 1970s, It was certain that **poverty should be measured precisely based on starvation**. Committee was constituted which gave its recommendation as **the people consuming less than 2,100 calories in the urban areas or less than 2,400 calories in the rural areas are poor.**

3. Lakdawala Committee (1993)

• **It suggested:**

- Consumption expenditure should be calculated based on calorie consumption as earlier; **State specific poverty lines should be constructed** and these

should be updated using the Consumer Price Index of Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) in urban areas and Consumer Price Index of Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL) in rural areas; and

4. Suresh Tendulkar Committee (2005)

- The current estimations of poverty are based upon the recommendations of this committee. It recommended to **shift away from the calorie-based model** and **made the poverty line somewhat broad based by considering monthly spending** on education, health, electricity and transport.
- It **supported nutritional intake rather than caloric intake**. The committee also drew a line based on cost of living. The Tendulkar panel **stipulated a benchmark daily per capita expenditure of Rs. 27 and Rs. 33 in rural and urban areas, respectively**.

5. Rangarajan Committee (2012-14)

- The committee **raised the cost of living per day to Rs. 32 and Rs. 47 for rural and urban areas**, respectively. Hence, the poverty percentage of India worked closely to 30% and in absolute terms close to 40 crores poor.

6. Arvind Panagariya Task Force (2015)

- The task force suggested setting up of **committee to identify people “Below Poverty Line (BPL)”** It also **suggested participation of states**.
- Four options for tracking the poor were suggested:
 - **continue with the Tendulkar poverty line.**
 - **switch to the Rangarajan or other higher rural and urban poverty lines.**

- **bottom 30% of the population tracking over time**
- **tracking the bottom 30% on specific components, such as housing, sanitation, electricity, nutritional intake, etc.**

7. NITI Aayog Task Force

- **NITI Aayog favoured the Tendulkar line (21.9%)**
 - To remove any criticism that many poor would be left behind if poverty line as per Tendulkar committee is adopted, NITI Aayog has underlined that it will only be used to track progress in combating poverty rather than identifying the poor for entitlements.
 - **SECC data** as suggested by Saxena and Hashim committee will be used for entitlements.
 - **Dr. N.C. Saxena Committee** was set up by the Ministry of Rural Development **to advise it on the suitable methodology for BPL Census and not for estimation of poverty.**

What are the causes of Poverty

1. Historical

- The land policies of the British resulted into fragmentation of land and impoverishment of farmers. This led to **de-industrialization of Indian society** and **rise in agricultural labourers** which carried on after the Independence.

2. Economic

- **Lack of adequate economic growth:** Economic development has been low in India especially in the first 40 years of independence before the LPG reforms in 1991

- **Sluggish agricultural growth-** Agriculture growth has been stagnant at 15-16% per year since the last 3 decades.
- **Inequitable access to land-** Failure of land reforms and policies to distribute land properly to the landless labourers has aggravated poverty.
- **Deprivation of Resources:** Alienation of tribals and forest dwellers from the forests pushed them towards poverty.

3. Social causes

- **Caste system:** Lower caste people are shunned from the society and pushed towards poverty. They are not allowed to venture into the general employment opportunities and are forced to do menial jobs.
 - Ex: Scoopwhoop documentary about how a **Dalit PHD scholar had to do manual scavenging** because of the caste boundaries.
- **Social exclusion- Being unable to participate completely** in society because of lack of resources that are normally available to the general population.
 - Ex: **Low representation** of weaker sections in government jobs.
- **Low literacy rates:** Illiteracy is another major cause of poverty. Uneducated people are unable to tap their complete potential and hence their earning sources get limited. Thus a rise in unskilled labour workforce is observed.
- **Overpopulated places:** Over population in any place increases competition in the employment sector. As a result, **poverty creeps in**, in any overpopulated place since competition increases and opportunities decrease.
- **Feminisation of Poverty: Women becoming more vulnerable** to poverty because of lack of resources, education and skill development, proper sanitation and health, and over dependency on the male members of the family.

4. Geographical Factors

- **Uneven distribution of fertile land:** Fertile lands provide agricultural employment to the local people and they do not have to strive for job opportunities to earn a living but these lands are not accessible to all. .
- **Differential rural and urban poverty:** The difference in rural and urban lifestyle has different effects in their poverty scenario. For example: Survival of the poor is more sustainable in rural areas than in urban areas due to high cost of living in the latter scenario.

5. Environmental and climatic factors

- **Natural calamities:** Natural calamities like floods can completely destroy farmlands and adversely affect the agricultural produce. Long spells of drought harms farmlands and the overall agricultural output. Droughts are a permanent cause of poverty in most nations.
- **Lack of seasonal rainfall:** Agricultural produce gets disturbed due to the absence of the predicted rainfall and hence causes inflation related poverty.
- **Climate of India-** The hot and humid climate of India decreases productivity of people thus making them more vulnerable to poverty.

6. Administrative Causes

- **Lack of proper education:** Education is obviously essential for a growing economy, but **relevant education is even more important**. This will help them land technical jobs easily and abolish poverty among the masses.
- **Increasing competition:** A society that has **higher education standards** faces increased competition in the **job acquisition front**. This also leads to increased

competition and **resultant poverty even among the educated population**, especially in cities.

- **More demand and less supply:** The demand-supply relationship has to be balanced to achieve a poverty-free nation. The key to a balanced demand-supply state is population control.
- **Mass migration to cities:** If the government can develop the rural areas sufficiently and provide good employment as well as educational opportunities to the rural population, they will remain content and stay put in their villages. **This will reduce the urban poverty index** and keep the population of cities in control as well.

7. Demographic factors

- **Population growth-** The **growth of population exceeds the rate of growth in national income**. The burden of this **reduction in per capita income** is borne heavily by the poor people.
- **Increase in family size-** Larger the family size, lower the per capita income and lower the standard of living.

8. Political factors

- **Vote bank politics-** various political leaders find it convenient to exclude huge chunk of the population from the poverty census after getting elected. **Minority ethnic communities, tribal groups and the Dalits are often not included in the list of beneficiaries**
- **Development planning-** Various development plans made are guided by political interests which leads to lopsided development and targeting.

Effects of Poverty

- **Health and life expectancy** - Poor are more likely to have multiple health problems, including infant mortality, earlier adulthood mortality and mental illness, and they are **also more likely to receive inadequate medical care, discrimination and unfair treatment.**
 - a. **Privatization of tertiary healthcare** in India leads to **exclusion of poor** from quality healthcare services thus creating a social inequality.
 - b. **Differential prices** under National List of Essential Medicines (**NLEM**) and non **NLEM category** creates **ambiguity and widens margin** for private hospitals to exploit patients.
 - c. **Low insurance penetration** amongst the poor, leading to **high out of pocket expenditure** and a **food budget squeeze** as all their money goes to treatment .
- **Social capital- Poverty erodes social capital** as it **creates social inequalities which further lead to social tensions**. Also, lack of adequate housing, urban homelessness etc. have a negative effect on their potential thus reducing their contribution to the society and economy.

Children and Youth

- a) **Poor infrastructures, unemployment, lack of basic services and income** reflect on their lack of education, malnutrition, violence at home and outside, child labor, diseases of all kinds, transmitted by the family or through the environment.
 - **It weakens their ability to do well in school and stable employment as adults**, thus making it difficult to ensure **social mobility** for them.
 - **WEF's Global social mobility report 2020** highlighted that Indians born in low-income family would take seven generations to even approach the country's mean income.

b) Education and skill development

- **Privatization of education** and inaccessibility of poor to these quality schools. Poor children go to the badly maintained schools with poor pedagogical systems and poor educational outcomes.
- **High dropout rate** in schools- The poor families cannot afford education and also need an extra hand at work. Thus, children dropout of schools to help the parents in work and thus cannot develop their potential .
- Their lack of education in **turn restricts them and makes their own children to suffer from poverty**, once again helping to ensure a **vicious cycle** of sadly continuing poverty across generations.

c) Economy

- **Rise In unorganized sector** as the poor usually work as unskilled labourers thus the transition from unorganized to organized sector economy becomes difficult.
- **Lower employment rates** , as the organized sector is largely out of reach of unskilled, uneducated poor. Also, over dependency on schemes such as MGNREGA is an indication of this.
 - i. Ex: During COVID, the demand of MGNREGA rose thus indicating an unemployment scenario.
- This leads to **overburdened agriculture** sector, **rise in migrant labourers**, de-industrialization, rise in inequalities etc.

Effect on Women- Feminization of Poverty

- Feminization of poverty means that women have a **higher incidence of poverty than men, that their poverty is more severe than that of men and that poverty among women is on the increase**. Women in a patriarchal society have limited access to

education, health services, nutrition, decent employment opportunities, social protection etc.

- Also, with disproportionate family burden over them, women become restricted to their households and due to this their potential is lost
- The feminization of poverty may be **caused by changes in Family composition, Family organization, Inequality in the access to public services** or in social protection.
- Inequality has '**female face**' in India, women's unpaid work is worth 3.1% of GDP.

Strategies to Alleviate Poverty

1. Capability approach of Amartya Sen

- According to Sen, we must focus on **building actual capabilities** of people so that they can utilize their potential for their own well-being.
- For ex: **Provide quality education and healthcare services**, equal opportunities for productive employment to the poor children and thus building their capabilities for their own well-being.

2. Economic growth as a driver

- Develop the **manufacturing sector and the capital intensive industries** to provide decent quality jobs and social protection to all.
- Benefits of **economic growth will “trickle down” to the poor** in the form of more employment opportunities, greater productivity and higher wages.
 - Ex:** After the economic liberalization in 1991, around 138 million people were lifted out of poverty in India.

3. Agriculture reforms and de-peasantization

- a. **Moving away from the prevalent labour intensive agriculture** to more mechanized and productive form of agriculture.
- b. **Turning agriculture into a viable business** which is not dependent on government inputs such as cereal procurement, subsidies etc. Rather it is a trader led, farmer controlled business .
- c. To ensure **marked decline in rural poverty** through agricultural growth, rate of agricultural growth should be accelerated by increasing **public investment in irrigation** and other infrastructure.

4. Access to Social security

- a. **Social security schemes** such as PM Ayushman Bharat providing health insurance becomes important as high burden of health and education **expenditure leads to high out of pocket expenditure** which further reduces the capacity of poor people to spend this money on capacity building.
- b. **Insurance penetration** in India should be improved as right now it is only about 30%.

5. Infrastructure development

- a. Infrastructure such as **rural roads, hospitals and schools**, etc should be improved to improve connectivity and easy access to these services by the people.
- b. **Transport and connectivity** further helps in economic growth and development.

6. Affordable Housing

- a. The biggest determinant of urban poor is **lack of affordable and quality housing** leading to rise in urban slums and squalors.
- b. Affordable housing **helps in providing sanitary conditions, a dignified life and also capacity building** of the poor.
 - i. **Ex: PM Awas yojana.**

7. Public Distribution System

- a. An effective way of raising rural incomes and ensuring food security to the poor households is **an assured supply of adequate quantity of food-grains and other essential commodities at subsidised prices**, that is, at prices which are lower than the market prices.

8. Affirmative Actions-

- a. **Affirmative actions provided in the form of reservations** become an important tool to bring the sections which have been historically disadvantaged out of the fangs of poverty and assimilate them into the mainstream.
- b. **John Rawls's concept of justice** provides a case for affirmative actions and how it is important to undo the historical wrongs done to such groups.
- c. **Specially in India**, historically, poverty and caste have gone hand in hand, thus providing some push to the backward castes becomes important.

9. Entrepreneurship and access to institutional credit

- a) **Informal credit** through moneylenders, zamindars is another reason for poverty as non-repayment of the same makes them vulnerable to exploitation or even bonded labour.

- b) **Helping the poor and disadvantaged sections become self-reliant** through skill development, and also **job creators instead of job seekers** through entrepreneurship opportunities.
- c) **Ex:** DDU Grameen Kaushal Vikas Yojana , Stand up India, Skill India etc.

10. Role of Micro Finance institutions and Self Help Groups-

- a) The Microfinance institutions provide **credit to the poor at concessional rates** and it makes access to institutional credit easy and risk free.
- b) **SHG model of poverty alleviation** has been proved successful in countries like Bangladesh where SHGs and MFIs were the drivers of economic growth after independence.
- c) **Success stories in India- Kerela's Kudumbashree model.**

How SHGs and MFIs help

- **Financial inclusion- credit facility to poor is increased.**
- Opportunities for **self-employment** through setting of micro-enterprise.
- **Skill development program** undertaken by SHGs improves employability of members involved.
- **Increased jobs** -there is also a rise in income which **enhances access to food, health services and overall rise in living standards.**
- More **women participation** and their enhanced status **address issues such as nutrition poverty and low literacy rate**
- It is also observed that the percentage of BPL population is less in the states where there is a large number of SHGs. Ex: Kerala.

1. Role of financial inclusion in poverty reduction

- a. **Reduced dependence on informal sources** like moneylenders in times of need, making the poor enter into vicious cycle of indebtedness.
- b. **Empowering women** who, with a credit line, could undertake labour activities unthinkable without economic aid.
- c. **Increase consumption and investment**, and thus grow revenues; and increase spending on other social aspects, such as preventive health.
- d. Financial inclusion **boosts confidence of poor** as it brings them the feeling of being part of mainstream. The risk-taking ability also increases. This overall promotes entrepreneurship.

2. Human development and poverty

- a. Human development constitutes three aspects i.e. **standard of living, health and education.**
- b. **Poor cannot live a life or get employed as per their choice** as they must work even in life threatening conditions to sustain their family e.g. **Death of miners in Talcher coal mine, who were working because of no alternative.**
- c. **Poverty reduces the time to gain knowledge** and thus impacts the awareness and decision making like **voting on rational basis.**
- d. It **reduces access** to education, healthcare facilities etc.
- e. **Lack of nutrition and healthcare** results in high mortality among poor.

Thus, **focusing on the aspects of human development** leads to capacity building, awareness generation and better standard of living which further helps in poverty reduction.

3. Universal Basic Income and poverty

- a. One of the major criticisms of poverty alleviation programmes is **significant leakages. UBI is seen as a more efficient alternative.**
- b. **UBI strengthens economic liberty at an individual level.** People can choose what kind of work they want to do, how they want to spend the money etc.
- c. UBI could **promote greater productivity.** Ex: agriculture labourers who own small patch of land and earlier used to work in others' farm for low wages, can now undertake farming on their own land.
- d. Financial Inclusion- Transferring basic income directly into bank accounts will increase the demand for financial services.

Why government schemes lack in poverty alleviation

- **Inadequate resource allocation-** For instance, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) **does not provide the guaranteed 100 days of work** in many states.
- **Inclusion-exclusion errors-** There is **no method to ensure that programmes reach everybody they are meant for.**
- **Lack of awareness** of these schemes amongst the masses given their illiteracy and ignorance.
- **Implementation lags-** Programmes are not properly implemented and deserving beneficiaries are often left out. Ex: PDS distribution and Urban beggars with no documentation.
- Need of an **independent ‘social audit’** of these schemes **for fixing accountability** and also for plugging leakages, improving delivery.
- **Absence of any monitoring mechanism** for the efficacy of such schemes or to know the end result.

- **Poor data collection-** no systematic attempt to identify people who are in poverty, determine their needs, address them and enable them to move above the poverty line.

Population Policy

- **The current population of India is at 138 crores (as of 2020) and is the second-highest in the world.** Also, our population is what contributes to our socio-economic structure and the diverse cultural scenario.
- A **population policy** is aimed at achieving an optimal level of count of people. India was one of the first countries in the world to have a national population policy.
- According to '**The World Population Prospects 2019**' by **UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs**, India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country **by 2027**. Thus India needs a robust population control policy.
- **India is expected to add 273 million people by the year 2050. According to the report** released in 2019, India has an estimated population of 1.37 billion and China, 1.43 billion and by the year 2027, India's population is projected to surpass China's, making India the most populous nation in the world.
- However the population distribution in India is non-uniform with big states like UP having a large population and states like Goa and Sikkim having smaller populations.
- **SDG 3 (3.7)** – By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes.

Factors affecting population distribution

1. Geographical Factors

- a. **Terrain** – population in plains is higher than that in mountains due to easy accessibility, favourability to agriculture etc.
- b. **Access to water**- Historically civilizations have come up near water sources because of availability of water is a necessity to sustain life.
- c. **Climate**- Areas with extreme climatic conditions have less population density as compared to areas with more stable climate.
- d. **Fertile soils**- Fertile soil becomes important factor for agriculture which gives food to humans and sustains us.

2. **Socio-Economic factors**

- a. **Economic activity** – High population in areas where economic activity is high.
Ex: Industrial towns and regions such as Mumbai, Delhi.
- b. **Industrialization**- providing job opportunities for people to settle there.
- c. **Social organization and close knit communities**- People settle down in regions where social organization is familiar to them.
- d. **Cultural affinity**- Ex: Gujrati people would want to live in regions where there is some cultural affinity.

3. **Demographic factors**

- a. **Migration**- Both push and pull factors leading to people moving to new places to settle down.
- b. **Natural increase**- Net outcome of fertility and mortality in a region.

4. **Political factors**

- a. **Political stability**- Population increases in regions of comparative political stability and absence of conflicts. Ex: People migrating to USA because of political stability.

- b. **Discrimination and political opposition-** Ex: Anti migrant policies of a country will lead to population decrease as migrants will move out.
- c. **Policies-** Population control policies, incentives and disincentives .Ex: China's one child policy led to a shrinking population.

Population policy development in India

1. India was one of the first countries to adopt a population policy as early as 1952.
2. **In 1956, a Central Family Planning Board (CFPB) was created which emphasized sterilization.** The policy framed in 1951-52 was ad hoc in nature, flexible, and a rigid policy was not adopted till 1960s.
3. The family planning program concerned itself primarily **with birth control** but in the 5th 5 year plan '**maternal and child health and nutrition services**' were also included as an integral part of the family planning program.
4. **In 1961-71**, the population growth rate was **25 percent** which was highest in any decade after independence leading to '**Population Explosion**'. At present (2001-2011), the population growth rate has **declined to 1.50 percent**.
5. **In April 1976, the First National Population Policy** was framed which suggested a wide spectrum of programs including raising the statutory age of marriage, introducing monetary incentives, paying special attention to improving female literacy, etc.
6. Welfaristic approach towards the **population control program** and it would continue purely on a voluntary basis as an integral part of a comprehensive policy package **covering education, health, maternity and childcare, and women's rights and nutrition, including an anti-poverty program.**
7. The **National population policy of 2000** proposed that **the age of marriage is to be raised for women from 18 to 20 years.**

8. As a part of family welfare and population control, the government has revised the **PNDT Act in 2003, which was enacted in 1994. The main aim of the Act is to check female (embryo) infanticide.**

Changing Population dynamics- The Lancet study of 2020

1. India's population is forecasted to peak around **1.6 billion in 2048** from 1.38 billion in 2017. It will be followed by a **32% decline to around 1.09 billion in 2100**.
2. **India in 2100** will be the **world's most populous country**.
3. The number of **working-age adults** aged 20-64 in India is **projected to fall** from around 762 million in 2017 to around 578 million in 2100. Still India is projected to have the largest working age population by 2100.
4. From 2017 to 2100, India is **projected to rise up the rankings** of countries with the largest total **Gross Domestic Product** (GDP) globally from 7th to 3rd, in terms of nominal GDP.
5. The country's **Total Fertility Rate** (TFR) declined to below 2.1 in 2019 (data taken from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017) and is projected to have a **continued steep fertility decline** until about 2040, reaching a TFR of 1.29 in 2100. India's TFR has seen a steady decline since 1980s.
6. India is also forecasted to have the **second-largest net immigration in 2100**, with an estimated half a million more people immigrating to India in 2100 than emigrating out.

Determinants of Population Change

1. **Fertility** – India's **total fertility rate (TFR) is declining**. It is now 2.2 per woman, nearing the replacement rate of 2.1, according to the Sample Registration System (SRS) compiled by the Registrar General of India (RGI) for 2017. The replacement level

is the number of children needed to replace the parents, after accounting for fatalities, skewed sex ratio, infant mortality, etc.

Reasons for decrease in TFR

- **Factors-** Higher education, increased mobility, late marriage, financially independent women and overall prosperity.
 - i. **Education**- It goes below 2 in both urban and rural areas, where girls complete schooling and reduce further as they pass college. **Bihar, with the highest TFR of 3.2**, had the maximum percentage of illiterate women at 26.8%, while Kerala, where the literacy rate among women is 99.3%, had among the lowest fertility rates.
 - ii. **Urbanization**- As more cities come up, people move for jobs and employment tenure gets shorter, TFR may reduce further.
 - iii. **Employment opportunities**- Working people in urban areas want better pay, implying that they have to reduce the number of children so as to increase the time they spend at their workplace.
 - iv. **Reproductive health awareness**- Educated Women are more aware about their reproductive health and are taking steps to plan the pregnancies.

Mortality

- Rate at which people die is more than the rate at which birth occurs, the number of people (population) will decrease and the reverse will occur if the death rate is lower than the birth rate.
 - a. As per the government data, **India has reduced its infant mortality rate (IMR) by 42% over 11 years—from 57 per 1,000 live births in 2006 to 33 in 2017**. Still India has the highest burden of under 5 deaths in the world.

- b. SDG target for India is to attain Under 5 Mortality Rate of **25/1000 live births by 2030.**
- c. Maternal death is the **death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy.** MMR in India is 167 per 100,000 live births in the country.

Migration

- Migration refers to **movement of people from one place to another due to economic, social, family, or other reasons.**
- A migrant is a person residing in a place other than his/her place of birth or one who has changed his/her usual place of residence to another place.
- **Economic survey 2017**- 139 million seasonal or circular migrants in India.
- **Census 2011**- 450 million internal migrants in India.
- **SDG 10**- Safe, orderly, responsible migration.

Population Stabilisation Measures

1. **Raising the minimum age of marriage** – Demands to raise minimum age of women to 21 thus bringing parity in male-female marriageable age.
2. **Improving the status of women** - Impetus on women empowerment by strengthening their socio-economic and educational status, which ultimately translates into better family planning practices.
3. **Contraception and family planning**- Mass awareness programmes to debunk the myth around the same. Also home delivery of contraceptives by ASHAs at doorstep of beneficiaries.

4. **Delimitation**- Freeze on the state-wise allocation of seats in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha thus, enabling state governments to fearlessly and effectively pursue the agenda for population stabilisation.
5. **Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh** (National Population Stabilization Fund) to undertake activities aimed at achieving population stabilization.
6. **Family planning outreach**- ASHAs are being utilised for counselling of newly married couples to ensure delay of 2 years in birth after marriage and spacing of 3 years after the birth of 1st child.
7. **Pregnancy testing kits** have been made an integral part of ASHA kit and are being used to diagnose pregnancy early.
8. **Social security**- Covering people under social security schemes. So that they do not depend upon others in the event of old age, sickness, unemployment, etc. with these facilities they will have no desire for more children.
9. **Employment opportunities**- Generating employment opportunities in rural areas to arrest outmigration and stabilize the Urban population. Ex: Footloose Industries in rural areas.
10. **Standard of living**- **Improved standard of living acts as a deterrent to the large family norms.** In order to maintain their higher standard of living people prefer to have a small family.

Does India need a coercive population control law ?

- Recent UP government's "Population policy", titled the **Uttar Pradesh Population (Control, Stabilisation and Welfare) Bill, 2021**, seeks to provide a series of incentives to families that adhere to a two-child norm.
- The Bill also intends on **disentitling families** that breach the norm **from benefits and subsidies.** The draft Bill also contains a list of punishments.

Pros

- Legal framework to follow up- A legal framework will be set up according to which population control can be done in a streamlined manner.
- Control in absolute numbers- Although TFR is declining, the absolute numbers in population is very high, thus this will help to control that.
- Data gathering- A framework will ensure that population data is gathered properly.
- Onus on the people- To adhere to population control norms and thus making the systems such as forced sterilization redundant.

Cons

- Counter-productive measure- International experience has shown that coercive population control doesn't prove to be useful in the long term. Ex: China's experience with one child norm and rapidly ageing population.
- Against reproductive freedom- Coercive actions go against reproductive freedom as it curtails the freedom of the individual. Focus can be led on awareness generation rather than coercive actions. In **Suchita Srivastava & Anr vs Chandigarh Administration (2009)**, the Court found that a woman's freedom to make reproductive decisions is an integral facet of the right to personal liberty guaranteed by **Article 21**. SC in the Puttuswamy judgement reiterated this stand.
- Against international obligations- India is committed to its obligations under international law, including the principles contained in the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action, 1994 which also talks about reproductive freedom.
- Sex-Selective practices – There is a fear that a strict two child norm will lead to rise in sex selective practices as people still have a son meta preference and for the same

they might go for female foeticide etc. Imposing a two child norm will add to the burden on women, by way of sex selective practices and forced sterilizations.

- **Goes against the National population policy 2000-** The National Population Policy, 2000 had “voluntary and informed choice and consent of citizens while availing reproductive health care services, and continuation of the target-free approach in administering family planning services”.
- **Impact on poor and marginalized-** Disincentives through denial of benefits under subsidized food grains through the PDS will impact the poorest and most marginalized sections of the population and worsen their impoverishment.
- **Disproportionate impact on women-** Women being on the forefront for sterilization, abortions etc. which leaves a heavy toll on the physical and mental state of women.
- **India's experience-** Data clearly shows that TFR in India is decreasing steadily and with access to education, health services, productive employment it comes down. So the focus must be on these aspects rather than a coercive policy.

Globalisation

- Globalization is a process of growing ***interdependence, interconnectedness and integration*** of the world- its ***economies and societies***, to such an extent that an event in one part of the globe affects people in other parts of world.
- It includes the free movement of goods, services, technology, capital and even people across the countries. It is a process ***driven by international trade and investment and aided by information technology***. Globalisation ***envisages a borderless world*** or seeks the world as a global village.

Factors leading to Globalization

1. ***Technology:*** The past few decades have seen tremendous improvements in technology especially in the field of transportation and connectivity such as aeroplanes, hi-speed trains etc which has facilitated ***mobility*** across the globe. Also, the stage of technology in a particular field gives rise to import or export of products or services from or to the country.
2. ***Historical:*** The trade routes were made over the years so that goods from one kingdom or country moved to another. The well-known silk-route from east to west is an example of historical factor.
3. ***Economy:*** The cost of goods and values to the end user determine the movement of goods and value addition. The overall economics of a particular industry or trade is an important factor in globalisation.

4. **Resources and Markets:** The natural resources like minerals, coal, oil, gas, **human resources**, water, etc. make an important contribution in globalisation.
5. **Production Issues:** Utilisation of built up capacities of production, **sluggishness in domestic market** and over production makes a manufacturing company look outward and go global.
6. **Political:** The political issues of a country make globalisation channelized as per political leaders. The **regional trade understandings or agreements, tax regimes etc** determine the scope of globalization.

For eg: Removal of tax barriers and liberalisation of Indian economy lead to its greater integration with the rest of the world.

7. **Industrial Organisation:** The technological development in the areas of production, product mix and firms are helping organisations to expand their operations. The **hiring of services and procurement of sub-assemblies** and components have a strong influence in the globalisation process.
8. **Rise of the service sector-** MNCs have played a major role in spreading out production and provision of services across countries.
9. **Demand for human capital-** Developed countries faced shortage of labour in their own countries, leading to **eased out immigration norms** and allowing people from the third world countries to migrate to and settle in their country.

Impact of globalization in general

- The effect of globalization is **far reaching**. It affects us all but affects us differently. Thus, while for some it may mean new opportunities, for others the loss of livelihood.

A) Positive Impact

1. Local economic growth- MNCs have increased their investments and **created new jobs** for the local population.
2. Industrial growth- Globalisation has enabled some large Indian companies to emerge as multinationals themselves. Ex: Tata Motors, Infosys.
3. Voice at multilateral forums- With big Indian MNCs contributing to world trade, India can raise its **voice for fairer trade rules** at WTO.
4. Rise in Consumer choices- Consumers have an option to choose from a wide range of products and services available across the globe.
5. FDI and Technology transfer: Globalization attracts an entry of foreign capital along with **foreign updated technology** which improves the quality of production.
6. Favourable trade: Globalization usually restructure **production and trade pattern favoring labor-intensive goods and labor-intensive techniques** as well as the expansion of trade in services.
7. Education exposure - Foreign universities collaborating with different Indian universities. So, access to better and quality **educational and medical services**
8. Banking and Insurance - Globalization enhances the efficiency of the banking insurance and financial sectors with the opening up to those areas to foreign capital, foreign banks, and insurance companies.

9. Inclusive growth - Extension of internet facilities even to remotest rural areas and infrastructure development in rural areas leads to inclusive growth and brings rural to main stream economy.
10. Plural integrated society - Globalisation brings **people from backward to the mainstream** of society by adopting the policy of integration.
11. Changing role of a state - The model of state and its functioning also evolves as a result of the **free flow of political ideas**. The government takes **policy initiatives in the field of health, education and technology** which are the direct result of globalization.
12. Cultural interaction- Globalisation leads to interaction and integration of the world cultures which encourages active humanism and promotes an ethical religion based upon rationality. Eg: adoption of Yoga in west.
13. Agricultural sphere- Globalization promotes contract farming which increases the earning capacities of farmers.
14. Status of women – Access to global thoughts, ideas and opportunities for women helping in improving their status.

B) Negative Impact

1. Trade deficit (as in case of India) – **more imports than exports**
2. Drugs, arms and human trafficking has been enabled to a larger extent by the forces of globalization
3. Globalization has **also let loose the forces of “uncivil society”** and **accelerated the transnational flows of terrorism.**
4. Spread of communicable diseases like bird flu, swine flu, COVID-19.

5. Job losses- Outsourcing of jobs from developed countries to developing countries creates winners and losers.
6. Economic Fragility- As the economies are interlinked any financial crisis in one country, will result in a slowdown in other economies. Eg: Global financial crisis of 2007.
7. Lopsided benefits- Agriculture sector did not improve as much as services and manufacturing sectors.
8. Neo-Colonization- New form of colonization which is not based on hard power but soft power. Ex: China's Belt and Road initiative.
9. Powerful MNCs- MNCs ruling the globe and exercising a great political control all over the world.
10. Not sustainable growth- Development on growing negligence of environment, forests, wildlife etc thus threatening the survival of biodiversity.
11. Destruction of traditional service providers- For example, old restaurants, parathas and lassi are replaced by Mc. Donald's, Chinese restaurants, etc.
12. Materialistic society- More inflow of money and rising materialism has aggravated deep rooted problem of corruption.
13. Cultural imperialism - Cultural hegemony which is observed as the dominant culture being seen as modern and traditional cultures as backward. Eg: English as the language of elite in India.
14. Advent of a consumer credit society- **Buy now pay later culture** . Credit cards have given enormous boost to consumerism.

Impact on Health and Nutrition

1. Changing lifestyle- Major health issues such as **stress, anxiety and depression** due to change in life style patterns.

2. Changing food habits- **Fast food culture**, which is an **import from the west**, is leading to obesity, diabetes, heart diseases etc.
3. Spread of communicable diseases such as AIDS, Swine flu, SARS, COVID-19 and due to frequent travels by citizens abroad.
4. New dietary options-New options such as fibre rich oats, avocados etc. are imports from western countries.
5. Medical science- Major advances in the fields of medicine and Diagnosis such as Nano technology in medicine, MRI scanner, Laser therapy, bio-technology etc. Ex: Global efforts for vaccine development for COVID-19.

Impact on Women

A) **Positive**

1. Career diversity- With new jobs for women, there are opportunities that are equally available for men and women. Ex: doctors, scientists, soldiers etc.
2. Access to Education for women which has added benefits towards politico-social milieu of the country.
3. Better skilling opportunities: Different non-profit organizations have been brought to India from around the globe. These organizations have given women the skills they need to advance, such as literacy and vocational skills.
4. Gender equality: Globalization has indeed promoted ideas and norms of equality for women that have brought about awareness and acted as a catalyst in their struggle for equitable rights and opportunities such as pay parity.
5. Independence: It has led to a rise in the independence of women, especially in urban areas. This has been manifested through inter-caste marriages, single mothers, live-in relationships

6. Social changes- Patriarchal norms are now being challenged and society is becoming more liberal.
7. Change in Attitude : Changes in the attitude of **women-more acceptance of western clothes, dating has become common in urban areas, increased use of contraception in rural as well as urban areas.**

B) Negative

1. Work-life balance- The intense competition and uncertainties in jobs cause mental tension, strained social relationships, psychological problems and chronic fatigue. A situation of double burden exists for working women.
2. Women exploitation – Gender pay gap, exploitation of women workers, in application of labour laws etc.
3. Commodification of women- The persistence of the patriarchal mindset of Indians even in today's global era has led to problems for women like the **commodification of women**, the use of **social media** to harass women, increase in **violence** against women.
4. Traditional work loss- Globalisation has led to technological advances which resulted in loss of jobs in various industries. Ex: Handloom sector, Mechanised Agriculture etc
5. Women safety- Night shifts, unhealthy work atmosphere, transportation facilities etc. these have increased vulnerability of women towards sexual exploitation.
6. Sexual harassment of women – Women being harassed at workplaces and other places of public connection. Ex: MeToo movement.
7. Partial benefits of trade regime : Women's weaker property rights and limited access to productive inputs also constrain their capacity to benefit from trade openness.
8. Skewed access to technology- Gender norms for mobility and women's role in the economic sphere can disproportionately affect Women's access to technology.

Impact on elderly

- Globalization along with industrialisation, urbanization and technological changes has affected all sections of population including aged persons everywhere.

A) Positive Impact on elderly:

1. Healthcare :

- Healthcare has become more efficient with the advancement in technology facilitated by global interconnectedness. The treatments are now available at doorstep for many ailments.
- The technological advancements have given shape to **many devices which** can help the aged people who are little aware gauge their own body condition.
- Average life expectancy and health has also increased

2. Communication

- Old age is reduced to a mere number if one is surrounded by loved ones and is financially independent.
- The rapid growth in communication technologies has made the world a small place. Elderly people who are away from their children due to job pressures of the young, can now easily interact with them at click of a button.

3. Technology

- It is now possible for people residing in foreign lands to send money back home to their old parents in fraction of seconds.
- This monetary assistance not only helps them to carry their expenses with grace but also foster love.
- This also provides them a feeling of being **important and wanted** amongst the old who otherwise find themselves deprived and secluded.

4. Food

- The opening of shops by many international supermarkets and brands in India has also introduced **amazing and highly beneficial food and medicines for the geriatric population.**

5. Economy

- On a positive note, the people now have become **more economically prosperous** because of better employment opportunities across the world; and due to this they are able to save more for their old age.

B) Negative Impacts

1. Isolation and loneliness

- The ever increasing pace of globalization, industrialization and urbanization have imparted irreversible change into the structure of families in India such as **disintegration of joint families**
- With more and more nuclear families, **young people leave their aged parents** in distant places in search of employment opportunities and better living standards.
- This has resulted in **isolation, rejection and loneliness** of aged people leading to psychological distress; and the crimes against older people.
- The result of disintegration of the joint families and ever increasing influence of modernization is that **care of the elderly has emerged as an important issue** in the country.

2. Loss of authority and clear roles

- Ageing marks change transition of role of the person from one to another.
- In earlier times when there was farm based economy, the **expertise and experience of the older people** was utilized when children followed parents' occupation.
- With improved education, rapid technological changes and modernization driven by globalization among other factors, have rendered their **knowledge obsolete**.

- With this, once they are at the verge of retirement, they **are unable to find clear role and this realization leads to loss of status, loneliness and worthlessness.**
- Problem is aggravated when parents are economically dependent on children.

Impact on Family System

- Changing family structures**- Declining joint families and rise in Nuclear families due increasing mobility of younger generation for work and education.
- New forms of family** are emerging such as Single parenting, live-in relationship, living with friends under one roof etc.
- Losing bonds**- The family bonding and ties are reducing. It has affected the notion of 'family' as the caring and nurturing unit for children, the sick and elderly.
- Changing role of women**- With more women joining the workforce system, the role of women as caretakers is reducing and new norms like househusbands is coming to scene.
- Marriages**- Family involvement in finding a groom/bride is decreasing. Love marriages and internet marriage sites like Shadi.com are playing a role in match making.
- Power dynamics within family**- Traditional authority structure has changed. The head of the family-father/grandfather have started losing their authority to the bread winner of the family. Also, rise in nuclear families lead to breaking down of this structure.
- Gender roles**- Men and women working together equally in homes as well as outside homes, facilitating more equality.

Impact on Marriage

A) Positive

- Due to Globalisation, the concept of **love marriages** is increasing and elders have started to accept and appreciate it in the same way.
- **Inter caste and inter-religious marriages** have become more common
- Parents are **turning to the web** to search for brides and grooms, they prefer NRI for their westernized outlook, lifestyles, and higher disposable incomes.
- More acceptance to new forms of marriage like same-sex marriages, sologamy etc.

B) Negative

- The importance of marriage as an institution is decreasing, there has been an increase in divorce, an increase in live-in relationships, and single parenting is increasing.
- Marriage used to be considered as bonding of the souls, but today marriage is becoming professional and contractual.
- Other issues like **serial monogamy, live-in relationships** are viewed against the culture of India.
- However, despite the change in forms of marriage, it has not declined as an institution as In India, it is still considered as necessary.

Impact on Caste System

- The rise in globalization has brought changes to the caste system both in positive as well as a negative way:

A) Positive

- The rigid caste system is gradually giving its way to **relaxed norms in the form of inter-caste marriages, intermingling, and socializing.**

- Due to globalization, there has been an **expansion of economic opportunities**, education, and liberal thoughts, which has resulted in the weakening of the caste system.
- The **traditional division of labor was breaking down** due to industrialization; this was given a boost by globalization.
- **The rise in professionalism, improvement in education, etc.** have provided employment opportunities and thus improving the conditions of the vulnerable.

B) Negative

- However, despite changes, the caste system has shown immense resilience and still continues to exist as one of the significant features of Indian society.
- Due to a lack of skills, globalization has forced vulnerable caste towards the informal sector doing menial jobs.
- Despite globalization practice of untouchability is still prevalent, though the forms have changed.

Impact on Religion

1. Commercialization of festivals- In the name of gods and goddesses all kinds of concessions are offered to attract people. Ex: ***Christmas sales and gifting culture on Diwali.***
2. Role of media- New TV channels catering to the ***spiritual needs*** of the people and marketing ends of MNCs. Ex: Astha channel, Sanskar channel.
3. Commercial spiritualism- Some MNCs are liberally funding godmen and women. So, globalization proliferates the vendors of commercial spiritualism. Ex: Evangelical church in America.

4. Use of technology- Computers are being used to prepare horoscope and astrology, thus promoting **pseudo-science**.
5. Religious conversions- Western churches funding for religious conversions in countries of Africa.

Impact on Environment

1. Overconsumption- Globalization has led to an increase in the consumption of products, which has impacted the ecological cycle.
2. Monoculture- It has reduced genetic diversity in agriculture . Ex: Indonesian rainforests being replaced by oil palm plantations.
3. Exotic species- Spread of exotic species due to increasing world trade.
4. Increased fuel consumption due to its enhanced usage in transportation, power generation etc, has led to an exponential rise in pollution.
5. Dumping of industrial waste- in oceans and in soil. Oil spills from oil tankers threat pose threat to marine environment.
6. Rapid Urbanization- Forests, hills, countryside are being replaced by concrete jungles for catering to global demands for resources.
7. Ecological vulnerability- Globalization increases the vulnerability of ecosystems and societies, and the least resilient ecosystems.
8. Climate change – UN Secretary General calls it a '**Problem without passport**'.

Ways in Which Environment Affects Globalization

1. Natural resource **scarcity or/and abundance are drivers of globalization**, as they stimulate supply and demand forces in global markets.
2. The need for **environmental amelioration** can extract costs from economy and **siphon away resources** from development goals.

3. ***Environmental stress can trigger alternative technological paths***, e.g., dematerialization, alternative energy, etc., which may not have otherwise emerged.
4. ***Environmental standards influence patterns of trade*** and investment nationally and internationally.

The current debate on globalization has become de-linked from its environmental roots and contexts. These links between environment and globalization need to be re-examined and recognized. To ignore these links is to misunderstand the full extent and nature of globalization and to miss out on critical opportunities to address some of the most pressing environmental challenges faced by humanity.

Impact on culture

A central contention is that all cultures will become similar, that is homogeneous. Others argue that there is an increasing tendency towards glocalization of culture.

1. **Globalization leading to homogenization-**

- a) **Arguments for-**
 - i) **Homogenisation of language:** The usage of English language has replaced traditional, local languages spoken all over the world.
 - ii) **Homogenisation of food:** Globalisation has led to imposing of western and modern food items in India. Ex: Avocados, Peanut Butter, Corn flakes becoming common. Due to opening up of food joints like McDonalds, KFC across the country, there has been a homogenization of food available across the country,
 - iii) **Homogenisation of dressing:** Convenience and comfort of western dresses have pulled people, especially young generation to move away from traditional outfits to modern dresses like T- Shirt, jeans, and shorts.

- iv) Homogenisation of Art and culture: Indians are getting attracted to foreign dance forms like Salsa, Hip hop. In the field of Music, there is a rise of Pop music. Classical music and dance becoming unpopular.
- v) Value system – increasing **homogeneity of world values** like rationalization, free market competition, commodification and democratic or human rights and above all a global culture.

b) **Arguments Against-**

- i) Common language- Internet enables the homogenizing force of English as the world's common language. Other languages can be translated to English.
- ii) New cuisines- The same globalization allows for cuisines of various nations to be explored by people across the world. Ex: Chicken tikka masala being the most famous dish in England.
- iii) Ideological variety- A connected world also allows one to explore different religions and spiritual paths. Ex: Martin Luther king jr. being a Gandhian follower.

c) **Other arguments:**

- i) Others argue that there is an increasing tendency towards glocalisation of culture rather than homogenization.

Glocalisation

- **Glocalisation** refers to the **mixing of the global with the local**. It is not entirely spontaneous. Nor is it entirely delinked from the commercial interests of globalization.

It is a **strategy** often adopted by foreign firms while dealing with local traditions in order to **enhance their marketability**.

- For example:
 1. Entertainment: In India, we find that all the foreign television channels like Star, MTV, Channel V and Cartoon Network use Indian languages.
 2. Food: Even McDonald sells only vegetarian and chicken products in India and not its beef products, which are popular abroad. ***McDonald's goes vegetarian during the Navaratri festival.***
 3. Music: In the field of music, one can see the ***growth of popularity of Bhangra pop***, “Indi pop”, fusion music and even remixes.
 4. Movies: Popularity of foreign movies has increased, ***Hollywood, Chinese, French and Korean movies*** are quite popular among the urban youth. Along with this, ***dubbing of these in foreign movies local languages*** is testimony of increased glocalization.
 5. Festivals: celebrations of Valentines' day, Friendship day are examples of change in cultural values related to festival. However, along with these new days, traditional festivals are celebrated with equal enthusiasm.

Indian society is subdivided in communities which enjoy ‘enormous cultural autonomy’. This provides colossal cultural resilience to communities in India to filter out the effects of globalization through smart adaptation. The core values remain the same.

Revival of Culture

- i. Revival of Yoga in the country as well as in the international level. This can be seen in the popularity of the ‘Art of Living’ course by Ravi Shankar, or the celebration of International Yoga day on June 21, across the world

- ii. There has been a revival of Ayurvedic and other traditional medicine system in the country as well as outside it.
- iii. Due to increasing uncertainty by inter-linkage with the outside world, there has been **religious revivalism**. This can be manifested in the use of religion to attract voters, or mobilizing people on the basis of religion.
- iv. Increasing demand for local handicraft products in global market: such as Chikankari or bandhani.
- v. Due to increasing global tourism, locals are making efforts to preserve their diversity and revive their traditions.

We can see that the western culture is influencing the Indian culture, but it is not replacing it, rather there is a mixture of both cultures.

Impact on economy

A) From social inequalities to economic inequalities-

- a) **Economic policies**- The national governments have had to restructure their economies which demands more thrust on free trade and less spending on social sector.
- b) **Growing inequalities**- Concentration of wealth in the hands of few. Growing economic inequality is positively correlated with the social inequalities
- c) **Feminization of economic inequality**- Women losing jobs in traditional industry due to arrival of MNCs. Feminisation of agriculture due to male-specific migration.
- d) **Gig-work culture**- Casualisation or informalisation of work force leading to low wages for labourers and less job security.
- e) **Social support**- Reduction in pensions and other forms of social support for the elderly.

f) **Income gaps**- Huge gaps between the incomes of the dominant racial groups and the minority racial groups/immigrants particularly in western countries.

B) **Impact on the Informal sector**

- a) Rise in skilled labourers, in general, and more significantly growth of labour force in the unorganized sector has led to productivity enhancement in both organized and unorganized sectors
- b) Globalization tends to benefit large companies which can move quickly and easily across borders but possess disadvantage to labour, especially lower-skilled workers that cannot migrate easily or at all.
- c) As more and more men enter the informal economy, **women tend to be pushed to the lowest income end of the informal economy.**
- d) However, globalization can also lead to new opportunities for those who work in the informal economy in the form of new jobs for wageworkers or new markets for the self-employed

COVID-19 and Globalization

- **Closing down of borders** – To tackle the COVID-19 crisis, countries shut down their borders which led to a stop in international travel and exchanges.
- **Shift in work dynamics**- With offices and public spaces closed, a shift to online working and remote working was observed.
- **Role of internet** - With people locked in their homes, internet became an important medium for communication, education, businesses, governance etc.

- Inequalities- COVID-19 led to changes such as internet workforce, businesses etc. also came with some inequalities such as digital haves and have-nots, labour market polarization (unskilled workforce remaining unemployed) and disproportionate burden on women.
- Shift in Supply chains- Rather than having a scattered supply chain, countries focusing on a consolidated supply chain including production, assembly and packaging.
- Inflow of global ideas- Through online media such as YouTube, Netflix etc. ideas are being spread globally which can help create an aware generation.
- Changes in migration- With remote working and online education becoming the norm, people settling down in their home countries and working for MNCs.

Globalization 4.0

- Globalization 4.0 is latest stage of globalization which involves cutting-edge new technologies like artificial intelligence that powers forward with the explosion of information technology. These technologies shrink distances, open up borders and minds and bring people all across the globe closer together.

Characteristics

1. **Major turbulence for Service Sector:** Highly disruptive because of changing human-technology relations and also replacing human jobs with AI.
2. **Closely integrated with Industry 4.0:** New models of participation such as AI, machine learning, Big data and integrating it with industrial processes.
3. **Newer modes of Migration:** Changing nature of work such as work from home, gig work etc.

Challenges

1. **Political crisis and Global level conflict:** Mixed results of globalization. Even though countries are globally connected political crisis and global level conflict have also increased.
2. **Economic exclusion:** Economic opportunities will be uncertain, many may not have the skills needed for the jobs of the future.
3. **Income Inequality:** Negative effects of globalization have a disproportionate impact on already marginalized populations.
4. **Human Resource:** Reskilling workforce according to the job needs of globalization 4.0 to utilize demographic dividend.
5. **Unintended consequences:** World is vastly unprepared for the ethical, legal, environmental concerns that are yet to be seen for which no framework has been laid out.
6. **Infrastructural challenges:** Apart from skilling, India also needs to set up required infrastructure and technology to harness the advantages of globalization 4.0.

De- Globalization

- **De globalization** is the process of **reducing interdependence and integration between nations** around the world.
- It is characterized by **decline in economic trade and investment** between countries, **protectionism** and **unilateral withdrawal** from international organizations and agreements.
- This **decline reflects that economies become less integrated with the rest of the world** economies.

A) Factors responsible

- **Tariff wars** are one aspect of de-globalisation policies.
- Right wing ideology

- Outbreak and transboundary spread of diseases and pandemics – E.g. COVID19
- Sub-prime crisis of 2008
- Stricter IPR regime, sanitary and phytosanitary measures.
- Emergence of Emerging Market Economies
- Inward looking mentality and attitude.
- **Political rivalry** – Russia and USA, USA and Iran, South Korea etc.
- **Brexit** is another facet that can cost countries too. Britain's divorce with the EU is estimated to cost companies on both sides \$80 billion a year without a trade deal.
- **Trade:** With weakening global demand, many nations are erecting import barriers, trade is slumping.
- The **decrease in migration** is another aspect. Despite the flood of refugees into Europe, **net migration from poor to rich countries decreased to 12 million** between 2011 and 2015, down by four million from the previous five years.
- **Refugee crisis** – Climate induced and political factors E.g. Rohingya crisis.
- The **flow of capital** – mainly bank loans – is retreating even faster. **Frozen by the financial crisis** and squeezed afterward by new regulations, capital flows had decreased to just under 2 percent of G.D.P. from a peak of 16 percent in 2007.

B) Impact on Advanced Economies (AEs)

- **Labour Market Loss:** The major hurdle faced by the Advanced Economies is the death of relatively low skilled sectors like textile and the support economies that grew around it.

- **Technology:** Advanced Economies have largely depended on technological change for per capita income growth. There is **deceleration in technological change**, during the last decade, partly due to low investment in innovation and partly due to fading additional gains from the internet computer revolution.
- **Consumer Credit:** As a bid to keep spending alive, Advanced Economies focused on the consumer credit in the early 2000s. This precipitated into the Great Financial Crisis of 2008.

C) Impact on Emerging Markets (EMs)

- **Trade:** The increase in tariff barriers by the Advanced Economies have led to the **shrinking of exports** in EMs which is destroying their job intensive manufacturing sector.
- **Migration:** Advanced Economies are the hot destination of high skilled labour from EMs. The **increased protective measure** by Advanced Economies for **free movement of high skilled labour is threatening** their productive growth and job opportunities.

D) Impact on India

- **Social impact:** It leads to a **decrease in standards of living** as it will impact exports and economic growth impacting welfare of the poor, vulnerable sections and their standard of life.

- **Political impact:** It would affect polity leading to instability in the political framework of countries due to increase in prices and cost of living may lead to civil Uprisings.
- **Impact on technology:** These tendencies limit technological advancement of the world as whole and of developing countries in particular. The **limited knowledge sharing, lack of flow of technology to developing countries** limit advancement in science.
- **Impact on women employment:** It would impact women empowerment efforts as it will impact women movements across the globe. The lack of cooperation among nations will reduce opportunities for women across the world.

E) Way Forward

- Promotion of **new forms of international and regional integration** that preserve and allow the multiple dimensions of life to flourish.
- **More and more Cooperation** is needed for hours to make the world economy more predictable, to mitigate vulnerabilities and to strengthen the free trade system.
- **More focus should be on creating organizations/coalition** like International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure that contribute to global sustainable development along with promoting coordination among nations.
- The **culture of tolerance and understanding** must be promoted which provides space for **positive dialogue**

Additional Info

Globalization

Definition

- IMF defines globalization as the increasing integration of economies around the world, particularly through the movement of goods, services, and capital across borders.
- Globalization is the process of interaction and integration among people, companies, and governments worldwide.

Terms associated with globalization

- Multilateralism
- Consumerism
- MNCs- Drivers of globalization
- Global value chains, global supply chains
- Local going global
- Netizens- no physical or national over cyber space.
- Global citizens
- Cosmopolitan
- Cultural relativism, Cultural interaction – when many cultures interact and intermingle.
- Global humanism
- Vasudaiva kutumbakam- “the world is one family”
- Global ideas and movements
- Interlinking of economies, domino effect (as seen during COVID)
- Protectionism, expansionism.
- Cultural imperialism- Showing how one culture is supreme. Ex: showing American culture as modern and Indian as outdated.

- Free flow of ideas, technologies, human capital etc.
- Social dynamism- changing society in face of new ideas.
- Problems without passport- not restricted to one country or region- Kofi Annan (Former UN sec Gen) – Climate change, pandemics, economic crisis all are problems without passport.

Thinkers of globalization

1. **Rabindranath Tagore** – Book “Nationalism” – Promotes a global village, cosmopolitan society.
 - a. Quotes- “At every land there are my kith and kin, to reckon whom, keen I have been”.
2. **Emmanuel Macron**- “Globalization can be a great opportunity”
3. **Kofi Annan** –“ It has been said that arguing against globalization is like arguing against the laws of gravity.”
4. **Tony Blair**- “Globalization is a fact, not a choice , and it's here to stay.”
5. **Noam Chomsky**- “Globalization begets inequalities.”
6. **Amartya Sen**- Globalization has enriched the world scientifically and culturally and benefited many people economically as well.

Our Result Speaks For Ourselves

UPSC CSE 2022

Final Result is Out

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*Final Selections
from EdSarrthi!*



15 in TOP 100



Mayur Hazarika
AIR 05
UPSC CSE 2022



Ishita Rathi
AIR 08
UPSC CSE 2021



Anirudh Yadav
AIR 08
UPSC CSE 2022



Apala Mishra
AIR 09
UPSC CSE 2020



Shubhankar Pathak
AIR 11
UPSC CSE 2021



Anshu Priya
AIR 16
UPSC CSE 2021



Siddharth Shukla
AIR 18
UPSC CSE 2022



Pourush Sood
AIR 29
UPSC CSE 2022



Dikshita Joshi
AIR 58
UPSC CSE 2022



Maliye Sri Pranav
AIR 60
UPSC CSE 2022

And many more..

- Final Selections Over The Years**

2020



2021



2022



132
Final Selections
2022

147

Selections in UPSC
Mains 2022

45

Final Selections in
UPSC CSE 2021

09

Selections in Top 100
in UPSC CSE 2021

358

Selections in UPSC
Prelims 2022