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SECURE SYNOPSIS

MAINS 2020

GS - I

OCTOBER 2019



NOTE: Please remember that following 'answers' are NOT 'model answers'. They are NOT synopsis too if we go by definition of the term. What we are providing is content that both meets demand of the question and at the same time gives you extra points in the form of background information.



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Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.

Festivals of India often are demonstrations of living personification of environment. Do you agree? Discuss with suitable examples.(250 words)

Art and culture by Nitin Singhania

Why this question:

The question revolves around the significant connection of festivals in India with mother nature.

Key demand of the question:

The answer should discuss the significant appraisal of environment by the culture engrained in the festivals that are celebrated in the country.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief highlight the significance of festival in Indian culture.

Body:

Bring out the fact that religious practices prevalent in Indian culture have always incorporated worshiping of sun, wind, land, trees, plants and water all of which are very base of human survival. Quote examples – Rivers are considered sacred since Vedic period as it is around them civilizations grew. Ex:Pushkaram festival dedicated to worshiping of rivers. Dip in rivers is believed to erase all sins.

Harvest festivals are celebrated as thanksgiving to nature for the blessing of food grains to survive.

Ex: Lohri festival in Punjab, Makar Sankramana in Karnataka, Bihu in Assam.

Conclusion:

Conclude with importance of culture and its inherent link with environment.

Introduction:

The veneration of nature is an age-old practice in India. Such age-old practices of veneration of nature in India are based on the understanding that nature is the source of our lives and our well-being. Indians have always believed in the concept of 'Nature as a nurturer' and have acknowledged the sacredness of Earth and other life forms around them. They were all considered sacred and worshipped through number of festivals.

Body:

Following are few festivals which are living embodiment of reverence towards environment.

• Worship of Nature:

- The Banyan tree is considered a sacred tree and is given a special mention in the ancient Hindu scriptures.
- Chhat puja is celebrated in Bihar worshipping sun.
- Rivers are considered sacred since vedic period as it is around them civilizations grew. Ex:Pushkaram festival dedicated to worshiping of rivers. Dip in rivers is believed to erase all sins.
- Practices like Vat vriksha puja around Banyan tree, Tulsi puja have become very part of everyday life.



- Sacred groves are venerated even today by many tribals and forest dwellers.
- **Seasonal in nature**
 - Most of the festivals specific to the Hindus are seasonal in nature. They announce the go in season and mark the harvesting seasons.
 - All the seasonal festivals are celebrated during two harvesting seasons kharif ('August-October) and rabi (March- April). Besides, spring season is another period of seasonal festivities.
- **Seasonal Festivals are Agro-based**
 - The base of all seasonal festivals is 'Agriculture.' Festivals are observed because either the new crop is sown or crop is harvested.
 - In Punjab, from Lohri onwards peasants start cutting their winter crop. Pongal, Bihu and Onam celebrations mark the harvesting of paddy crop.
 - On the day of Pongal with the new crop Shankarai Pongal' (rice cooked in milk and jaggery) is prepared and distributed as Prasadam.' Sugarcane, which is another crop harvested at this time is also distributed as part of Trasadam.'
- **Worship of Animals:**
 - Since agriculture is the base of all these seasonal festivals, its closely related component is cattle-worship.
 - Pongal in South or Bihu in North-East, cattle are worshipped. The first day of Bohag Bihu (mid-April) called Goru Bihus is in fact the day of cattle festival.
 - Third day of Pongal called Mattu Pongal is dedicated to cattle (matu) worship. Their horns are polished and flowers hung around their necks.
 - Celebration of Naga Panchami, Hornbill festival, cows as kamadhenu have element of protecting wildlife.
- **Worship of Fire:**
 - Fire worship is another important feature of seasonal festivals. We get references of fire worship as early as the Harappan period (at Kalibangan).
 - Magh Bihu (mid- January) celebrations are centred around bhelaghars (specially constructed structures of thatched grass and green bamboos): Men and women spend whole night in these structures. Bonfire is arranged. In the morning these bhelaghars are burnt as symbol of fire worship.

But sadly, people nowadays celebrate such festivals in ways that defeat the whole purpose of the worship of nature. Festivals mentioned above are fundamentally linked to nature and carry the eternal message of protecting and respecting nature. Irrespective of such strong links between nature and various traditions in India, the awareness and enthusiasm amongst most Indians regarding the importance of nature conservation is peculiarly low.

The need of the hour is to raise awareness amongst people regarding the real significance of India's age-old traditions with regard to nature conservation. Interestingly the general outlook of Indian



people and their understanding of various issues are deeply embedded in the cultural and religious context. And such a disposition can be channelled to develop a strong connection with nature.

Conclusion:

Living in harmony with Nature has been an integral part of Indian culture. Many Indian festivals epitomize a deep connection between man, nature and society. If one delves into the significance of the various indigenous festivals of India, it quickly becomes apparent that most of these festivals are celebrations of Mother Nature and her power as well as bountifulness.

Discuss the contributions of Bhakti poets to the literature of the times that not only led to development of Indian literature but also contributed to social upliftment and transformation of the society.(250 words)

Art and culture by Nitin Singhania/ Tamil Nadu NCERT

Why this question:

Contributions of Bhakti poets to the literature have been significant in the past along with the contributions that they made to the social upliftment of the society.

Key demand of the question:

Explain in detail the the contributions of Bhakti poets to literature and the social transformation.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:**Introduction:**

Brief on the genesis of Bhakti culture in India.

Body:

Explain – Bhakti movement began in the 6th century AD in southern India. It emphasized on complete devotion to the God. There was a strong bond that existed between the God and the worshipper. The movement was popularized by poets like Kabir, Tulsidas, Meerabai, Nanak dev, Basavana etc.

Discuss in what way Bhakti movement brought in the change in literary trends – Change of language, Development of new forms of literature, New class of authors(beyond caste boundaries) etc.

Explain in what way they led to social upliftment and transformation.

Conclusion:

Conclude that Bhakti tradition not only introduced literary changes, but also started trends of social transformation. It represented a break from the rites and ritual based devotion and focused on taking the spirituality to the common man.

Introduction:

Bhakti was accepted as a means to attain moksha along with jnana and karma. The Bhakti Movement originated in the seventh-century in Tamil, South India (now parts of Tamil Nadu and Kerala), and spread northwards. It swept over east and north India from the 15th century onwards, reached its peak between the 15th and 17th century CE. The Bhakti Saints moved against the austerities propagated by the Buddhist and Jain schools and professed that ultimate devotion to god was the means to salvation.

Body:

Empowerment of lower treads of Indian Society:

- The Bhakti movement in many ways broke barriers of gender, class and caste.



- At the same time, it shattered stereotypes associated with the perception of spiritualism; denounced orthodoxy and the rigid ritualistic practices of worship, and established a more personal and informal connection between the devotee and the divine.
- During the Bhakti movement, the lower classes rose to a position of great importance.
- The Bhakti movement gave equal importance to men and women which gave way to the importance of women in society.
- The Alvars and Nayanars initiated a movement of protest against the caste system and the dominance of Brahmanas or at least attempted to reform the system. This is supported by the fact that bhaktas or disciples hailed from diverse social backgrounds ranging from Brahmanas to artisans and cultivators and even from castes considered “untouchable”
- Ramananda opposed the caste system and chose his disciples from all sections of society irrespective of caste. His disciples included Kabir, a weaver; Raidasa, he was a cobbler; Sena, he was a barber; thus, emphasizing the equality among people of all occupations and caste.
- Saint Kabir aided the common people to shed age-old superstitions and attain salvation through Bhakti or pure devotion. He criticized all forms of worship of idols.
- Guru Nanak condemned caste difference and rituals like bathing in holy rivers. His idea of religion was highly practical and strictly moral.
- Nathpanthis, Siddhars and Yogis condemned the ritual and other aspects of orthodox religion and the social order, using simple, logical arguments. These groups became particularly popular among “low” castes.

Impetus for growth of vernacular literature:

- The Bhakti reformers adopted the common language of the people and preached in it instead of preaching either in Sanskrit or in Persian. In this way a great impetus was given to the development of the vernaculars.
- **Tamil:** the poetry of the Bhakti movement some of the first being the Nalayira Divya Prabandham (4,000 songs) of the Alwars (Vaishnavite) and the Twelve Thirumurais (comprising 18,426 songs) of the Saivite saints have as their main theme religion and god.
- **Kannada:** Veerashaivism greatly contributed. Ex: Basavanna and Akka Mahadevi wrote several Vachanas in Kannada language. The Vira-Saivas contributed the most for the development of Kannada literature. Showing a predominant preference for the prose medium, this sect had over two hundred writers.
- **Telugu:** Vaishnavism and Shaivism were the major movements in Telugu literature from the 12th to 15th century. Mallikajurna Pandit's Siva-Tattva-Saram is an important exposition of this faith. Similarly, Pallukari Somantha wrote important Saiva texts such as the Panditaradhyacharita and Dvipada Basava Purana.
- **Marathi:** Gnaneshwar who wrote “Gnaneshwari”, a book on Marathi grammar. Jnanadeva's literary skills and philosophical depth are aptly reflected in his Bhavartha-Dipika, popularly known as Jnaneshvari, and the Amritanubhava. The poetic compositions of other saints Eknath and Tukarama reached to common people in their own language and left deep imprint onto their thoughts and minds.



- **Assamese and Bengali:** Amongst the eastern group of languages. Bengali was used by Chaitanya and by the poet Chandidas, who wrote extensively on the theme of the love of Radha and Krishna. Ballads on events of contemporary interest composed by wandering ministers were equally popular. The whole of Assam passed under the sway of the strong Vaishnava movement during the fifteenth and sixteenth century A.D. Sankaradeva and Madhavadeva were the key architects of the Assamese Vaishnava movement. They made rich contributions to the development of the Assamese literature. The Kirtana-Ghosha of Sankaradeva is known as the Bible of the Assamese Vaishnava literature.
- **Hindi:**
- The phase (1318-1643), namely the Bhaktikala, witnessed wholesome composition of Hindi verses on religious, moral and mystical themes on the lines of two dominant schools of Bhakti saints, viz., the Nirguna and Saguna schools.
- The Hindi literature during the Bhakti Kala had saint poets of both Nirguna and Saguna schools and Sufi mystics. They composed their verses on religious, mystical and social themes. Kabir composed a number of songs and Verses (Sakhis), which are noted for their literary excellence.
- Tulsidasa's Ramacharita Manasa is an epitome of the medieval Hindu culture. Of the Krishna worshipping Saguna group, Surdasa was the most prominent saint poet, whose Sura-Sagra is one of the masterpieces of medieval Hindi literature.
- Vidyapati, Nandadasa, Hita Harivansa, Mirabai and Rasakhana etc., were some of the other prominent saint poets of this school, whose poetic compositions also made rich contributions to the contemporary Hindi literature.

Conclusion:

Bhakti cult was out-of-the-box thoughts on religion. It was mainly against the common religious views, and most importantly, it was strongly against the caste system.

Discuss in detail the cultural contributions of Chalukyan dynasty.(250 words)

The hindu

Why this question:

Inscriptions found on an ancient temple at Huligemmana Kolla near Pattadakalu in Karnataka have indicated that the place may have once been the royal burial site of the Chalukya dynasty.

Key demand of the question:

Bring out the cultural contributions of Chalukyan dynasty.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In short explain the origin, expanse and general contributions of Chalukyas.

Body:

Explain who Chalukyas were.

Discuss their contributions to art and culture.

More specifically to the temple architecture, literature, society and religion.

Describe using examples of their contributions and highlight significance.

Conclusion:



Conclude by reasserting significance of such cultural epitomes.

Introduction:

The Chalukya dynasty was a Classical Indian royal dynasty that ruled large parts of southern and central India between the 6th and the 12th centuries. During this period, they ruled as three related yet individual dynasties. The earliest dynasty, known as the “Badami Chalukyas”, ruled from Vatapi (modern Badami) from the middle of the 6th century.

Body:

Art and Architecture:

- The Chalukyas were great patrons of art.
- They developed the **vesara style** in the building of structural temples. However, the vesara style reached its culmination only under the Rashtrakutas and the Hoysalas.
- The **structural temples** of the Chalukyas exist at Aihole, Badami and Pattadakal. Cave temple architecture was also famous under the Chalukyas.
- Their **cave temples** are found in Ajanta, Ellora and Nasik. The best specimens of Chalukya paintings can be seen in the Badami cave temple and in the Ajanta caves. The reception given to a Persian embassy by Pulakesin II is depicted in a painting at Ajantha.
- The Chalukya temples may be divided into two stages.
- **The first stage** is represented by the temples at Aihole and Badami. Among the seventy temples found at Aihole, four are important.
 - Ladh Khan temple is a low, flat-roofed structure consisting of a pillared hall.
 - Durga temple resembles a Buddha Chaitya.
 - Huchimalligudi temple.
 - The Jain temple at Meguti.
- Among the temples at Badami, the Muktheeswara temple and the Melagutti Sivalaya are notable for their architectural beauty.
- A group of four rock-cut temples at Badami are marked by high workmanship. The walls and pillared halls are adorned by beautiful images of gods and human beings.
- **The second stage** is represented by the temples at Pattadakal. There are ten temples here, four in the northern style and the remaining six in the Dravidian style.
- The **Papanatha temple** is the most notable in the northern style. The Sangamesvara temple and the **Virupaksha temple** are famous for their Dravidian style. The Virupaksha temple is built on the model of the Kailasanatha temple at Kanchipuram.

Literature:

- The Aihole inscription of Pulakeshin II (634) written by his court poet Ravikirti in Sanskrit language and Kannada script is considered as a classical piece of poetry.



- A few verses of a poet named Vijayanaka who describes herself as the “dark Sarasvati” have been preserved.
- Famous writers in Sanskrit from the Western Chalukya period are Vijnaneshwara who achieved fame by writing Mitakshara, a book on Hindu law, and King Someshvara III, a noted scholar, who compiled an encyclopedia of all arts and sciences called Manasollasa.
- From the period of the Badami Chalukyas, references are made to the existence of Kannada literature, though not much has survived.
- The **Kappe Arabhatta** record of c. 700 in tripadi (three line) metre is the earliest available work in Kannada poetics.
- **Karnateshwara Katha**, which was quoted later by **Jayakirti**, is believed to be a eulogy of Pulakeshin II and to have belonged to this period.
- Other probable Kannada writers, whose works are not extant now but titles of which are known from independent references are **Syamakundacharya**, who is said to have authored the **Prabhrita**, and **Srivaradhadeva**, the possible author of the **Chudamani** (“Crest Jewel”), a lengthy commentary on logic.
- The rule of the Western and Eastern Chalukyas, however, is a major event in the history of Kannada and Telugu literatures respectively.
- By the 9th–10th centuries, Kannada language had already seen some of its most notable writers. The “**three gems**” of Kannada literature, **Adikavi Pampa**, **Sri Ponna** and **Ranna** belonged to this period.
- In the 11th century, Telugu literature was born under the patronage of the Eastern Chalukyas with Nannaya Bhatta as its first writer.

Conclusion:

The rule of the Chalukyas marks an important milestone in the history of South India and a golden age in the history of Karnataka. The rise of this empire saw the birth of efficient administration, overseas trade and commerce and the development of new style of architecture called “Chalukyan architecture”.

Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present- significant events, personalities, issues.

Discuss the salient features of Self-Respect Movement. Also evaluate how far could the movement achieve a society where backward castes were given equal human rights.(250 words)

Modern history by Spectrum publications

Why this question:

The question is from the static portions of GS paper I.

Key demand of the question:

One must explain in detail the key features of Self-Respect Movement and its impact on the social setup of the society.

Directive:



Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Introduce the answer by giving the nature, purpose or significance of the movement.

Body:

Explain briefly the objectives of the movement.

Discuss the achievements of the movement along with criticism.

Explain that the Self-Respect Movement played a significant role in the political, social and religious life of the people of South India. It brought the message of the Tamil Nationalism to the masses

Discuss the challenges and how the movement dissipated towards the end.

Conclusion:

Conclude with the significance the movement holds even as of today.

Introduction:

The Self-Respect Movement was dedicated to the goal of giving non-Brahmins a sense of pride based on their Dravidian past which also meant denial of the superiority of the Brahmins whom he described as representative of the Aryans.

Body:

Salient features:

- The Self-Respect Movement was dedicated to the goal of giving non-Brahmins a sense of pride based on their Dravidian past which also meant denial of the superiority of the Brahmins whom he described as representative of the Aryans.
- Its aim as to achieve a society where backward castes have equal human rights, and encouraging backward castes to have self-respect in the context of a caste-based society that considered them to be a lower end of the hierarchy.
- Revitalization of the “Dravidian Languages” (that include Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, and Tamil).
- Social reform by the abolition of existing caste systems, religious practices for which he advocated inter-caste self-respect marriages without the need for Brahmin priest.
- Glorifying the Tamil history and language by appealing to people to give up the caste suffix in their names, and to not mention caste.
- Recasting women’s equal position in the society by empowerment to take their own decisions.

Outcomes of Dravidian Movement:

Successes:

- **Anti-Brahminism and Self-respect Marriages** were two important aspects of Self-respect Movement.
- The movement encouraged inter-caste and inter-religious marriages, along with that it also encouraged marriage ceremonies without Brahmin priest.



- Post independence, Tamilnadu passed a law and become the first state to legalize Hindu marriage without Brahmin priest.
- The monopoly of power and influence enjoyed by the Brahmins was slowly lost due to E.V.R.'s unceasing propaganda against orthodoxy. It filled with the sense of self-respect and above all self-confidence, to fight against social injustice perpetrated by the Brahmins of the day.
- The practice of having separate dining places for Brahmins in every hotel or earmarking separate eating places in public feasts was slowly given up owing to the agitation of the volunteers of the movement.
- Owing to its influence, several people gave up their titles and took pride in publishing their names in Kudi Arasu.
- It was largely responsible for making an effective change in the social life of the vast majority of people through its ceaseless propaganda against superstitious beliefs, based upon religious traditions.
- It was instrumental in non-Brahmin communities of Tamil Nadu to create awareness amongst themselves, as one community. The Self-Respect movement brought the message of the Tamil Nationalism to the masses.
- Gender relationships were actively divorced from Brahminical patriarchy and women's rights over their physical, sexual and reproductive choices were celebrated.
- Self-Respect Movement was not a mere social reformist movement. It aimed at destroying the existing Hindu social order in its totality and creating a new, rational society without caste, religion and God.
- The movement was extremely influential not just in Tamil Nadu, but also overseas in countries with large Tamil populations, such as Malaysia and Singapore.

Limitations:

- The Dravidian movement failed to liberate women as well as lower caste. It could not ensure equal rights for them.
- The ambit of movement was confined only to Tamilnadu.
- The Dravidian movement may have succeeded in reducing the dominance of the upper castes in administration, however, it has strengthened the middle castes which are the backbone of the rural economy.
- Without proper land reforms middle-class control rural economy which has kept the lower castes in a continued state of suppression.

Conclusion:

The Dravidian Movement played a seminal role in shaping the history of Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu today presents a complex relationship, which intertwines a balance of power expressed through caste, populist mobilisation based on Tamil identity, and a penchant for welfarism in policymaking. The contribution of Ramaswamy Naicker (Periyar) in introducing social reforms has been enormous and his legacy is still alive today in India.



The kind of politics Mahatma Gandhi introduced Indians to, during Indian freedom struggle were not entirely new. Analyse. (250 words)

Modern history by Spectrum

Why this question:

The question intends to evaluate the Gandhian methods and the kind of politics he introduced to Indians that were not totally new to the countrymen but were result of his experiments in the past.

Key demand of the question:

One must discuss how the kind of politics Mahatma Gandhi introduced Indians to, during Indian freedom struggle were not entirely new.

Directive:

Analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Briefly explain the significance of Gandhian contribution to the politics that evolved during freedom struggle.

Body:

Major portion of the answer should explain how political methods of Gandhi were not entirely new – His boycott programs during Non-Cooperation movement were effectively utilized by the Swadeshi and Boycott movement of 1905.

Involvement of masses – this too had started during the Swadeshi movement due to the efforts of the extremists.

His idea of Swaraj or self-government was effectively demonstrated by the Home Rule League Movement of Tilak and Besant.

However Gandhi's techniques were novel in respect that they were strictly based on non-violence, demonstrated Hindu Muslim unity, etc.

Explain the relevance of his political tenets even today.

Conclusion:

Conclude by reasserting significance of Gandhian methods of politics.

Introduction:

The Gandhian strategy is the combination of truth, sacrifice, non-violence, selfless service and cooperation. Although the political means like boycott, self-reliance, the aim of self-rule and solidarity to an extent were seen in the earlier movements, the above ideals of Gandhiji was not seen or ingrained in them.

Body:

Gandhian elements of the freedom struggle transformed the Congress from a mere platform struggling for political reforms to a movement of masses, making it a multi-dimensional movement not involving only political struggle but socio-economic aspects of removing the evils of society such as untouchability, communal discontent.

However this transformation was not a sporadic moment or a radical one in the Indian history, its development in phases can be located in various forms even before the arrival of Gandhi.

- Gandhi's method of active phase (Boycott, picketing, processions) and passive phase (constructive program) incorporated in Non-cooperation movement finds resonance during the Swadeshi movement of 1905.



- The self-reliance or atmashakthi during the Swadeshi movement led to development of many Indian industries, villages working towards production of their own goods and making themselves a ‘self-sufficient’ units.
- Fight against the social evils of the society was confronted at several stages during national movement from Raja Ram Mohan Roy to Satyendra Nath Bose and others.
- Gandhi’s economic critique was well developed by the Pherozshah Mehta and Dadabhai Naoroji, broadening the scope of struggle.
- Hindu – Muslim unity was a significant feature of the earlier movements before advent of Gandhiji.
- Idea of self government or Swaraj was echoed in the Home rule league movement of Tilak and Annie Besant. This was pursued later with idea of democratic decentralization which Gandhiji advocated for.

The Gandhian phase of Indian national movement changed the nature and ideals of the struggle, it marked a significant departure from the erstwhile Moderates constitutional and extremists way of struggle for India independence. Historian Bipin Chandra has called it as **one of the most spectacular mass movements ever witnessed in the modern society**.

Gandhiji's characteristic traits in Indian freedom struggle:

- Gandhiji also gave his own ideals of non-violence and truth which formed the basis of all his mass struggles.
- His method of political protest which he called satyagraha, which literally means ‘truth force’ or ‘the struggle for truth’.
- Gandhi described it as ‘a force which is born of truth and love or non-violence’. For him, it was the end of a quest for a moral equivalent of war.
- Satyagraha was not passive resistance, but active opposition to any form of injustice.
- The abrupt withdrawal of non-cooperation movement soon after Chauri Chaura massacre is an example of following above ideals.
- Gandhiji was also in favour of reform of the caste system by abolishing the discriminatory practices which was in opposition to few leaders who wanted complete annihilation of caste system.
- His ideas of making a small and common thing the base of a struggle was unique. E.g.: Salt in the case of Salt Satyagraha.
- He understood the pulse of the people by travelling the length and breadth of country and made the freedom struggle more inclusive by involving all sections of people from women to children to tribals.

Conclusion:

Arrival of Gandhi and his techniques merged these different forms of struggle emanating from various platforms into one national movement based on mass struggle. The Indian national movement became an inclusive, and welfarist embodying the idea of egalitarian nationalism.



The Anglo-French Rivalry in India was a part of their global rivalry aiming supremacy. Trace the course of their wars in India and also, examine the reasons for French failure.(250 words)

Modern Indian history by spectrum publications

Why this question:

The question is from the static portions of Modern Indian history.

Key demand of the question:

The question is to trace the wars between English and French in India. So one has to explain Carnatic Wars and their result in detail and the entire struggle of the French to establish their supremacy.

Directive:

Examine – When asked to ‘Examine’, we must look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

The Anglo French Rivalry in India reflected the traditional rivalry throughout their history.

Body:

Explain first how it all started – It started with the outbreak of Austria war of Succession and ended with the conclusion of Seven years’ war.

Discuss the factors that led to victory of the British like –

Less governmental control over English company helped them in taking instant decisions unlike French

Superiority of English Navy to the French counterpart.

Strategic locations like Calcutta, Madras and Bombay occupied by English while French had just Pondicherry.

French subordinated their commercial interest to territorial ambition which made them short of funds.

Brilliant commanders like Rovert Clive, Eyre Coote in British camp while French had just Dupleix.

Explain the effect of it on rest of the dynamics around the period.

Conclusion:

The end of Seven years of war finally decided that English and not French were to become masters of India.

Introduction:

The Anglo-French struggle lasted in India for nearly 20 years and this ultimately gave way to the establishment of British power in India. In the Carnatic region and Bengal, the Anglo-French rivalry was much evident. In Bengal, their hostility had been contained by the effective intervention of Alivardi Khan. But in the south, the French position was reinforced due to the arrival of a fleet from Mauritius and this resulted in an attack by French on the English position in Madras.

Body:

Anglo-French struggle in India was a part of their global rivalry:

- After Nadir Shah’s attack in 1739 Mughal hold had weakened. Therefore, both English and French tried to strengthen their positions which led to frequent conflicts among them.
- The outbreak of the Austrian Succession War in Europe in 1740 was the immediate cause for the political conflict between the two European rivals in India (As in that war England and France were in the opposite camps).



- The trading rivalry of the companies further climaxed due to expansionary policies of Dupleix as he tried to strengthen the French Positions.

Anglo-French wars in India:**• First Carnatic War (1746-1748)**

- English navy under Barnett captured some French ships. The French governor of Pondicherry, Dupleix attacked the English in retaliation in 1746 and this led to the beginning of first Carnatic War.
- English appealed to the Nawab of Carnatic for protection.
- Battle of St. Thome was fought between the French and Mahfuz Khan, commander of Anwar-Uddin (the Nawab of Carnatic). In this battle, French emerged as winners.
- Treaty of Aix-La-Chappelle brought an end to the first round of Anglo-French conflicts in India as well. The English possessions in India were returned, while the French got back their North American possessions. (Madras was returned back to the English East India company in exchange of Louisburg in North America to France.)
- The First Carnatic war also demonstrated the importance of Naval Power.

• Second Carnatic War (1749-1754)

- Anglo-French rivalry, continued in India although it had ended in Europe.
- In 1748, Nizam of Hyderabad Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah died, which resulted in a war of succession. Muzaffar Jang, who aspired to become the Nizam of Hyderabad and Chanda Sahib, a candidate for the throne of Arcot was supported by French Governor
- After Victory in Battle of Ambur in 1749, Muzaffar Jung became the Nizam and Chanda Sahib the Nawab of Muhammad Ali, (son of Anwar Uddin) who was supported by British escaped to Tiruchirappalli.
- In 1751 the British commander Robert Clive captured Arcot, i.e. the capital of the Carnatic.
- Chanda Sahib was treacherously murdered by the Raja of Tanjore. Later, Duplex was recalled.
- The war concluded by the Treaty of Pondicherry in 1755. According to this treaty each party was left in possession of the territories that it occupied at the time of the treaty.

• Third Carnatic War (1758-1763)

- The outbreak of the Seven Years War (1756-1763) in Europe was the cause of the Third Carnatic War (1758-1763).
- The British General Sir Eyre Coote defeated, Count de Lally (the commander of the French troops) at Wandiwash in 1760. Battle of Wandiwash ended almost a century



of conflict over supremacy in India and availed the British East India company a far superior position in India compared to the other European traders.

- The Seven Years War concluded by the Treaty of Paris in 1763 and this also led to the ending of Third Carnatic War. The French got Pondicherry, Karaikkal, Mahe and Yenam but condition applied was these were to be never fortified.

Reasons for the French failure in India:

- The English East India Company was the wealthier of the two due to its superiority in trade.
- EIC possessed superior naval strength. They could bring in soldiers from Europe and also provide supplies from Bengal. The French did not have any such avenue to replenish resources.
- Its possessions in India had been held longer and were better fortified and more prosperous.
- The French Company was heavily dependent on the French Government.
- English had three important ports i.e. Calcutta, Bombay and Madras which provided them superiority in almost every angle be it trade or Naval Power, but French had only one port i.e. Pondicherry.
- The victory at the Battle of Plassey opened up the British to a rich area, namely Bengal.
- The British had many capable and able soldiers like Robert Clive, Stringer Lawrence and Sir Eyre Coote.

Conclusion:

With the treaty of Paris, Chandernagar and Pondicherry were returned to France but they were barred from fortifying them or having troops in them. They could only have trading activities. French hopes of building an empire in India were completely dashed. The French agreed to support British client governments making the British a dominant foreign power in India.

The first two decades of the twentieth century created conditions for the emergence of socialism in Indian setting. How did the socialist ideas sway the national movement from within Congress and outside it? Discuss. (250 words)

Why this question:

The question is to analyse the effect of socialist ideas on the Indian national movement.

Key demand of the question:

There are two parts in the questions. First part of the Question deals with origin of socialism in Indian scenario in early twentieth century. The second part its influences on national movement from socialist leaders within Congress and outside it.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Begin with the origins of socialism in Indian scenario and new dimensions it gave to the Indian national movement.

Body:



The introduction to transition into body speaking about the causes which led to the emergence of socialism in India.

The next part of body should address how socialism impacted the national movement within Congress. It should cover the new orientation to Congress, new leadership, new demands and new socio-economic dimensions I brought to Indian National Congress. This should be backed with particular examples like Congress sessions of Karachi and Faizpur etc., Economic Policies of Congress, peasant and working class in Congress and prominent socialist leaders like Nehru and Bose. Its impact must clearly outline and stressed upon.

The next part of the body must deal with Gandhian Socialism and how it impacted Indian National movement very briefly.

Last part of answer must deal Socialism outside Congress. Comment on Radical Socialism (Communism) as well and its leaders like M.N Roy. Kisan Sabhas and their contribution. Trade Unions and their contributions.

Conclusion:

Conclude the answer with orientation how the above mentioned impact shaped India towards a socialist state and a mixed economy in post independent India.

Introduction:

Socialism is a range of economic and social systems characterised by social ownership and democratic control of the means of production as well as the political theories and movements associated with them.

Body:

Emergence of Socialism in India:

- The socialist movement began to develop in India with the Russian Revolution in 1917.
- However, in 1871 a group in Calcutta had contacted Karl Marx with the purpose of organizing an Indian section of the First International.
- Marxism made a major impact in Indian media at the time of the Russian Revolution.
- Of particular interest to many Indian papers and magazines was the Bolshevik policy of right to self-determination of all nations.
- Bipin Chandra Pal and Bal Gangadhar Tilak were amongst the prominent Indians who expressed their admiration of Lenin and the new rulers in Russia.
- The Russian Revolution also affected émigré Indian revolutionaries, such as the **Ghadar Party** in North America.
- The **Khilafat movement** contributed to the emergence of early Indian communism. Many Indian Muslims left India to join the defence of the Caliphate. Several of them became communists whilst visiting Soviet territory. Some Hindus also joined the Muslim muhajirs in the travels to the Soviet areas
- The **First World War** was accompanied with a rapid increase of industries in India, resulting in a growth of an industrial proletariat. At the same time prices of essential commodities increased. These were factors that contributed to the buildup of the Indian trade union movement. Unions were formed in the urban centres across India, and strikes were organised.
- In 1920, the **All India Trade Union Congress** was founded.



- The **Communist Party of India** was founded in Tashkent on 17 October 1920, soon after the **Second Congress of the Communist International** by M.N.Roy, Abani Mukherji and others.

Economic condition during 1920s- 1930s:

- The decade of 1930s witnessed the rapid growth of socialist ideas within and outside the Congress.
- In 1929, there was a great economic slump or depression in the United States, which gradually spread to the rest of the world resulting in economic distress and unemployment on a large scale (across the world). But the economic situation in the Soviet Union was just the opposite.
- There was not only no slump, but the years between 1929 and 1936 witnessed the successful completion of the first two Five Year Plans, which increased the Soviet industrial production by more than four times.
- The world depression, thus, brought the capitalist system into disrepute and drew attention towards Marxism, socialism, and economic planning.
- Consequently, socialist ideas began to attract more and more people, especially the young, the workers, and the peasants.

Impact of Socialist Ideas on national movement:

- Inside Congress:**
 - Congress Socialist party**
 - It was a socialist group within the INC founded in 1934 by JP Narayan and Acharya Narendra Dev.
 - They believed in Marxist Ideas, Gandhian ideals, Liberal and Social democracy of the west.
 - Nationalism and Independence was their goal.
 - 1936 Faizpur session of INC:**
 - The objectives of the session included reducing land revenue, abolition of feudal levies and dues, cooperative farming, creation of peasant unions etc.
 - Civic rights:**
 - The National Congress supported the states' people's struggle and urged the princes to introduce democratic representative government and to grant fundamental civil rights.
 - In 1938, when the Congress defined its goal of independence it included the independence of the princely states.
 - In 1939, Jawaharlal Nehru became the President of the All India States' People's Conference. The States' people's movement awakened the national consciousness among the people of the states. It also spread a new consciousness of unity all over India.



- **Safeguarding of interests of workers:**
 - In 1936, INC asked the Congress ministries in provinces to work for safeguarding and promoting the interests of workers.

- **Outside Congress:**
 - **Peasants and Workers Unions:**
 - The economic depression also worsened the conditions of the peasants and workers in India. The prices of agricultural products dropped by over 50 per cent by the end of 1932.
 - The employers tried to reduce wages. The peasants all over the country began to demand land reforms, reduction of land revenue and rent, and relief from indebtedness.
 - Workers in the factories and plantations increasingly demanded better conditions of work and recognition of their trade union rights. Consequently, there was rapid growth of trade unions in the cities and the Kisan Sabhas (peasants' unions) in many areas, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and Punjab.
 - The first all-India peasant organization, the **All-India Kisan Sabha** was formed in 1936. The peasants also began to take a more active part in the national movement.
 - In his presidential address to the Lucknow Congress in 1936, Nehru urged the Congress to accept socialism as its goal and to bring itself closer to the peasantry and the working class.
 - **Global affairs:**
 - During the period of 1935-1939, Congress actively participated for the development of world affairs. It had gradually developed a foreign policy based on opposition to the spread of imperialism.
 - In February 1927, Jawaharlal Nehru on behalf of the National Congress attended the Congress of oppressed nationalities at Brussels organized by political exiles and revolutionaries from the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, suffering from economic or political imperialism.
 - In 1927, the Madras session of the National Congress warned the Government that the people of India would not support Britain in any war undertaken with its imperialist aims

Conclusion:

After India's independence in 1947, the Indian government under prime ministers Nehru and Indira Gandhi oversaw land reform and the nationalisation of major industries and the banking sector. However, when a global recession began in the late 1970s, economic stagnation, chronic shortages and state inefficiency left many disillusioned with state socialism. In the late 1980s and



1990s, India's government began to systematically liberalise the Indian economy by pursuing privatisation, aiming to attract foreign investment. Nevertheless, the Congress party continues to espouse some socialist causes, and other major parties such as the Communists, Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party and several others openly espouse socialism.

Famines were not new to India but the apathy of colonial rulers made it worse. Critically analyse the colonial response to famines in India. (250 words)

Why this question:

The question is based on the topic of famines in the historical past of India.

Key demand of the question:

The question demands the response of colonial response to various major famines in India which made the famine situation worse than what it is.

Directive:

Critically analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary. When 'critically' is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgment.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Start with first statement saying that famines have been recurring in India since ancient and medieval days. Cite examples of famines in Ancient age like Arthashastra mentioning famines, Famines during sultanate and mughal period etc.

Body:

Transition into body by saying how lack of response from British rule made the already grave situation worse, resulting in heavy casualties.

The answer must be addressed in two parts. Firstly, the famines under East India company's rule and Famines under Crown's rule. Under Company's rule, how various major famines were dealt in India must be explained including the measures taken. The apathy of company by not granting adequate relief measures and in some instances raising prices to make more profits must be highlighted. Facts and figures of the number of casualties must be provided.

Under crown's rule, the responses such as various committees and their recommendations must be mentioned with an emphasis on the lack of implementation. The famines on twenties especially the ones during the world wars which again were due to the resources being rerouted for war efforts must be highlighted among other things.

Conclusion:

The conclusion should summarize the overall famine situation in colonial India and the responses to it being inadequate to deal with the situation. A link must be developed to post independent India where famines came to halt due to the efforts of the independent government

Introduction:

During the 18th and 19th centuries, the people of India were ravaged by a series of cataclysmic famines, precipitated less by failures of nature and more by colonial policies, such as of rack-renting, both legal and illegal, neglect of agriculture, "free-trade" policies and additional levies for wars. The famine codes of British had main objective to save lives at minimal cost to the colonial exchequer.

There were 31 famines in 120 years of British Raj, the last one killed 4 million people in 1943.

Body:

Famines during pre-British era:

Famine in Indian sub-continent is a chronic feature. Agriculture in India is heavily dependent on a suitable climate. A summer monsoon is a must for the irrigation of crops. **Lack of rainfall and**



droughts had led to several famines in India between 11th and 17th centuries severely. Draughts cause extreme scarcity of water and thus results in crop failure. On the other hand, floods and earthquakes can destroy the crops or food storage places. These all result in food scarcity and eventually famines. E.g.: Deccan Famine of 1630

Famines during colonial era:

India was hit by recurrent famine from 1760 AD to till 1943 AD. As per British sources, there were more than 85 million Indians died in these famines which were in reality genocides done by the British Raj. E.g.: Doji Bara famine or Skull famine of 1788–94 killed around 11 million people. Bengal famine of 1943 killed more than 3 million people.

Apathy of British rulers was evident in their policies:

- The famines were a product both of uneven rainfall and British economic and administrative policies.
- **Colonial policies:**
 - Colonial policies implicated include **rack-renting, levies for war, free trade policies, the expansion of export agriculture, and neglect of agricultural investment.**
 - During the Bengal famine of 1770, East India Company raised taxes disastrously and exacerbated it, even if the famine was not caused by the British colonial government.
 - Indian exports of opium, rice, wheat, indigo, jute, and cotton were a key component of the economy of the British empire, generating vital foreign currency, primarily from China, and **stabilising low prices in the British grain market.**
 - Policy lapses such as prioritising distribution of vital supplies to the military, civil services and others as well as stopping rice imports
- **Policy of laissez faire:**
 - The **government's policy of laissez faire** in the trade of grain. For example, two of the worst famine-afflicted areas in the Madras Presidency, the districts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam, continued to export grains throughout the famine.
 - **Export crops** displaced millions of acres that could have been used for domestic subsistence, and increased the vulnerability of Indians to food crises.
 - Others dispute that **exports** were a major cause of the famine, pointing out that trade did have a stabilising influence on India's food consumption, albeit a small one.
 - The large-scale loss of life due to the series of famines between 1860 and 1877 was the cause of **political controversy**.
- **Attitude of Viceroys:**
 - Curzon stated that such philanthropy would be criticised, but not doing so would be a crime. He also cut back rations that he characterised as "dangerously high," and stiffened relief eligibility by reinstating the Temple tests.[79] Between 1.25 and 10 million people died in the famine.



- **Infrastructure:**
 - The failure to provide food to the millions who were hungry during the famines of the 1870s has been blamed both on the **absence of adequate rail infrastructure** and the **incorporation of grain into the world market through rail and telegraph**.
- **Famine codes:**
 - British Codes were explicit in casting a duty on public officials to spend the minimum that was necessary, only to prevent the loss of lives, and nothing beyond that.
 - The Famine Codes of the past recognised that non-farm rural poor persons, like artisans and weavers, may be very hard hit by famine, but did little to address their food needs, although they were not equipped physically and culturally to participate in the kind of manual labour that is required in public relief works.
 - Those who are most vulnerable in times of food scarcity are old people, single women, disabled people and children. Colonial Codes contained niggardly provisions for them of “gratuitous relief”

The above conditions were worsened by rapidly growing population, increasing household debt, stagnant agricultural productivity, increased social stratification, and alienation of the peasant class from their landholdings. The natural disasters like cyclone, floods and droughts wreaked havoc at times.

Conclusion:

During episodes of food scarcity caused by drought and failure of the rains of the kind that looms over large parts of India today, district authorities in India are still substantially guided by updated versions of Famine Codes that were initially developed by colonial administrators.

The Freedom Struggle – its various stages and important contributors /contributions from different parts of the country.

Noakhali presented for Gandhi the first field demonstration of two-nation theory in its intense and most frightening form, Analyse the role played by Gandhi in the situation. (250 words)

Hindustantimes

Why this question:

The article examines the role played by Mahatma Gandhi's in Noakhali, where widespread communal riots had broken out after Partition.

Key demand of the question:

Narrate the situation of two nation theory that was put forth in Noakhali during the partition and the role that Mahatma Gandhi played in resolving the situation.

Directive:

Analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

First explain what the Noakhali incident was.

Body:



Communal violence had broken out on October 10, 1946, and rapidly swept the district of Noakhali; poor Hindu families slaughtered, women raped and murdered and forcible conversions. Then explain in what way Noakhali presented for Gandhi the first field demonstration of two-nation theory in its intense and most frightening form.

Brief on the role played by Gandhi to resolve the situation.

Conclusion:

Conclude with significance of the outcome of the Noakhali incidence in the history of modern India even as of today.

Introduction:

The Noakhali riots were a series of semi-organized massacres, rapes, abductions and forced conversions of Hindus to Muslim and looting and arson of Hindu properties organized by the All India Muslim League and perpetrated by the Muslim community in the districts of Noakhali in the Chittagong Division of Bengal (now in Bangladesh) in October–November 1946.

Body:

Role of Gandhi in diffusing the Noakhali riots:

- Gandhi's peace missions had **three broad aims: To stop the violence, stem the deluge of Hindus fleeing to Calcutta and stitch back the social fabric.**
- Gandhi was 77 when he set out for Muslim-majority Noakhali from what was then Calcutta on November 6, 1946. Communal violence had broken out on October 10, 1946, and rapidly swept the district.
- Reports poured in of poor Hindu families slaughtered, women raped and murdered and forcible conversions.
- The state ministry, under the Muslim League at the time, was accused of doing nothing as perpetrators rampaged across the delta and flatlands.
- The violence was seen to be a continuation of conflagrations in Calcutta in August that year — where a large section of victims were Muslims — after Direct Action Day was announced by the league to cement support for the creation of Pakistan.
- Gandhi spent four months in Noakhali, choosing to stay in the half-burnt hut of a weaver and conducting **peace marches and prayer meetings** through villages.
- He walked barefoot, halved his already frugal food intake and walked at least 10 kilometres each day.
- His associates describe his mind in turmoil as he tried to devise a **remedy to the communal riots**, even as the rest of India hurtled rapidly towards independence.
- By January 1947, local resentment against Gandhi was mounting. Dirt was thrown on the road before his marches, local Muslim league leaders wanted him to leave and many boycotted his prayer meetings.

Views of scholars:



- Scholars remain divided on why Gandhi chose Noakhali, despite calls to go to Bihar, where Muslims were being attacked, and why his mission was not as successful as previous movements.
- Gandhi's pilgrimage to Noakhali was summed up well by **Nirmal Kumar Bose**.
- He recounts how in a speech on January 4, Gandhi said, "he had not come to talk to the people of politics, nor to weaken the influence of the Muslim League and increase that of the Congress, but in order to talk to them of the little things in their daily life."
- According to **Rakesh Batabyal** wrote in the 1997 book, '**Communalism, the Noakhali riot and Gandhi**', Noakhali presented for Gandhi the first field demonstration of two-nation theory in its intense and most frightening form.
- Gandhi's visit to Noakhali, therefore, had a combating element to it as he tried to counter the ideological underpinnings of the riot.

Causes for shortcomings and resumption of violence:

- An overwhelming majority of the victims from the Hindu population in Noakhali comprised the Namashudra community, who now form a bulk of the scheduled castes in West Bengal.
- Many Namashudras were organised into the Matua cult, which has its distinct rituals that stem from an aversion to caste practices. This is different from Hindu faith, and had no representation in Gandhi's interfaith prayers.
- Matua was unfamiliar to Gandhi but the most important local faith. He could never penetrate into the masses because of the strong hold of Matuas.
- Some leaders of the Congress and Hindu Mahasabha, who did relief work, focused on the upper-caste Bhadralok even though many Namashudras were part of Gandhi's prayer meetings.
- Gandhi's intervention, which did not appear to have the full backing of the Congress machinery.
- The problem Gandhi faced was that the communal divide and hatred had gone to an extent that it was impossible for one person to stop it.

Conclusion:

The riots put Gandhiji's idea and practice of non-violence to its ultimate test. Gandhi knew that the large scale violence in Noakhali was meant to help the Muslim League's case for Partition. The communal riots presented a serious challenge not only to the idea of a unified Indian nation, but also to Gandhi's lifelong efforts to establish communal harmony.

"What the reforms of 1909 gave to people of country were merely a shadow rather than substance." Elucidate.(250 words)

Modern history of India – spectrum publications

Why this question:

The question is based on the theme of Morley Minto Reforms.

Key demand of the question:

One as to discuss that the Reforms of 1909, commonly known as the Morley Minto Reforms were introduced to placate the moderates and driving them away from the extremists. It was a part of the



three pronged approach of repression-conciliation -suppression. However, it failed to satisfy moderates.

Directive:

Elucidate – Give a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Body:

Explain the following aspects:

Discuss what the demands of the moderates were – like expansion of legislative council, responsible government etc.

How these reforms were just shadow of what was actually demanded. For example – Indians were allowed to participate in the election of various legislative council but on the basis of class and community

Numbers of elected members in legislative councils were increased but overall non official majority was introduced in provincial councils.

Separate electorate for Muslims was introduced

Conclusion:

Conclude that the reforms of 1909 instead of solving the political problems of the country created more chaos.

Introduction:

The Morley-Minto reforms named after the **Secretary of State for Indian Affairs Lord John Morley and the Viceroy Lord Minto** was the alternative name given to **Indian Councils Act 1909**. It introduced for the first time the method of election, an attempt to widen the scope of legislative councils, placate the demands of moderates in Indian National Congress and to increase the participation of Indians in the governance. The Act amended the Indian Councils Acts of 1861 and 1892.

Body:

Background of the Act

- In October 1906, a group of Muslim elites called the **Shimla Deputation**, led by the **Agha Khan**, met Lord Minto and demanded separate electorates for the Muslims and representation in excess of their numerical strength in view of '**the value of the contribution**' Muslims were making '**to the defence of the empire**'.
- The same group quickly took over the Muslim League, initially floated by Nawab Salimullah of Dacca along with Nawabs Mohsin-ul- Mulk and Waqar-ul-Mulk in December 1906.
- **The Muslim League** intended to preach loyalty to the empire and to keep the Muslim intelligentsia away from the Congress.
- **John Morley**, the Liberal Secretary of State for India, and the Conservative Viceroy of India, **Minto**, believed that **cracking down on uprising in Bengal was necessary** but not sufficient for restoring stability to the British Raj after Lord Curzon's partitioning of Bengal.
- They believed that a **dramatic step was required to put heart into loyal elements** of the Indian upper classes and the growing Westernised section of the population.

Features of the Act



- It considerably **increased the size of the legislative councils**, both Central and provincial. The number of members in the Central Legislative Council was raised from 16 to 60. The number of members in the provincial legislative councils was not uniform.
- It **retained official majority in the Central Legislative Council** but allowed the provincial legislative councils to have non-official majority.
- The elected members were to be indirectly elected. The local bodies were to elect an electoral college, which in turn would elect members of provincial legislatures, who in turn would elect members of the central legislature.
- It **enlarged the deliberative functions of the legislative councils** at both the levels. For example, members were allowed to ask supplementary questions, move resolutions on the budget, and so on.
- It provided (for the first time) for the **association of Indians with the executive Councils of the Viceroy and Governors**. **Satyendra Prasad Sinha** became the first Indian to join the Viceroy's Executive Council. He was appointed as the law member. Two Indians were nominated to the Council of the Secretary of State for Indian Affairs.
- It introduced a **system of communal representation for Muslims** by accepting the concept of 'separate electorate'. Under this, the Muslim members were to be elected only by Muslim voters. Thus, the Act '**legalised communalism**' and Lord Minto came to be known as the **Father of Communal Electorate**.
- It also provided for the **separate representation of presidency corporations, chambers of commerce, universities and zamindars**.

Evaluation of the Reforms:

- The reforms of 1909 afforded no answer and could afford no answer to the Indian political problem. Lord Morley made it clear that **colonial self-government (as demanded by the Congress) was not suitable for India**, and he was **against introduction of parliamentary or responsible government in India**.
- The 'constitutional' reforms were, in fact, aimed at dividing the nationalist ranks by confusing the Moderates and at checking the growth of unity among Indians through the obnoxious instrument of separate electorates.
- The Government aimed at **rallying the Moderates and the Muslims against the rising tide of nationalism**.
- The officials and the Muslim leaders often talked of the entire community when they talked of the separate electorates, but in reality it meant the appeasement of a small section of the Muslim elite only.
- Congress considered **separate electorate to be undemocratic and hindering the development of a shared Hindu-Muslim Indian national feeling**.
- Besides, **system of election was too indirect** and it gave the impression of infiltration of legislators through a number of sieves.
- And, while parliamentary forms were introduced, no responsibility was conceded, which sometimes led to thoughtless and irresponsible criticism of the Government.



- Only some members like Gokhale put to constructive use the opportunity to debate in the councils by demanding universal primary education, attacking repressive policies and drawing attention to the plight of indentured labour and Indian workers in South Africa.
- The position of the Governor-General remained unchanged and his veto power remained undiluted and the Act was successfully maintained relentless constitutional autocracy.
- The reforms of 1909 gave to the people of the country a **shadow rather than substance**.

The Act of 1909 was **important for the following reasons:**

- It effectively allowed the election of Indians to the various legislative councils** in India for the first time, though previously some Indians had been appointed to legislative councils.
- The introduction of the electoral principle laid the groundwork for a parliamentary system** even though this was contrary to the intent of Morley.
- It also gave recognition to the elective principle as the basis of the composition of legislative council for the first time.
- It gave some further avenues to Indians to ventilate their grievances. They also got opportunity to criticise the executives and make suggestions for better administration
- After Jinnah's death in September 1948, Pakistan lurches towards Islamic orthodoxy and Dalits faced mounting attacks.

Conclusion:

Indian Council Act of 1909 was instituted to **placate the moderates and appeasement to the disseminate Muslims from National Movement** by granting them separate electorate. The people had demanded self-government but what they were given was '**benevolent despotism**'.

"Tribal movements under British rule were the most frequent, militant and violent of all freedom movements". Explain.(250 words)

Modern history of India – spectrum publications

Why this question:

The question is about discussing the role of tribals in the Indian national movement.

Key demand of the question:

Such questions can be best explained through plethora of examples reasoned with suitable justifications.

Directive:

Explain – Clarify the topic by giving a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

First discuss the causative factors that led to tribal uprisings in the modern history of India.

Body:

Mention the role played by tribals in national movement. Like increasing political consciousness of the tribal people, depriving British from moral authority to rule, checking the onslaught of the Mention Santhal Parganas Act, role of Zeliangrong movement and Rani Gaidinliu etc.

Conclusion:

Conclude by reasserting their significance to Indian freedom struggle.



Introduction:

The Tribal population, being conservative, was interested in retaining the existing salient features of their society. Tribal movements were inspired by **revolutionary tendencies**. They wanted to make use of the situation to fight and eliminate evils and ill-tendencies that existed in the contemporary tribal society. Before British influence, tribals had depended on the forest for food, fuel and fodder. They practiced shifting cultivation (jhum, podu, etc.), taking recourse to fresh forest lands when their existing lands showed signs of exhaustion. The colonial government changed all this.

Body:

The causes for the tribal uprisings included

- Imposition of Land revenue Settlement.
- Work of Christian Missionaries.
- British policies and acts like The establishment of the Forest department in 1864, Government Forest Act (1865) and Indian Forest Act in
- Extension of settled agriculture
- New excise regulations.
- Exploitation by low country traders and money
- Restrictions on shifting cultivation in forest
- Introduction of the notion of private property.

Nature of tribal uprisings:

With the onset of colonialism they were often reduced to being agricultural labourers on their own land and increasingly recruited as coolies to work in distant mines, plantation and factories.

Tribal movement in colonial India were distinguished from the movements of other communities in that they were the most militant, most isolated and most frequent. The tribal uprisings were marked by immense courage on the part of the tribals, and their butchery by the official machinery of suppression.

Tribals' community consciousness is strong. Tribal movements were not only agrarian but also forest-based. Some revolts were ethnic in nature as these were directed against zamindars, moneylenders and petty government officials who were not only their exploiters but aliens too.

Frequency of tribal uprisings:

The revolts among the indigenous population became a routine occurrence during colonialism, especially in the nineteenth century. For instance, in 1855 the Santhals rebelled; in 1868 the Naikdas; in 1873 the Kolis; and in 1895 the Birsas. This is only a small smattering of the total number of conflicts. Guha has documented over 110 different colonial-era peasant revolts, 17 and Gough records at least 77 since the advent of British rule.

Colonial administrators, however, only directly governed three-quarters of the population of India; the remainder lived in semi-autonomous princely states. These areas did not experience nearly the same level of tribal discontent or conflict. Despite having a reputation as feudal autocrats, many



princes pursued liberal policies towards the same tribal groups that rebelled in British India. In Rajputana, for example, both the Bhil and Mina tribes were incorporated into the structure of the princely government because Rajput leaders recognized them as the original inhabitants of the land.

Participation and Mobilization:

Some features of the peasant and tribal protest movements demonstrate a certain level of political and social consciousness. For example, it has been pointed out that the rebels against Debi Sinha in 1783 attacked Kacharis in a definite recognition of where the political source of the peasant's oppression lay. Similarly the Kols in 1832 did not attack the tribal population in a clear recognition of who their allies were.

Conclusion:

A critical examination of the pre-1857 tribal uprisings reveal that they did not emerge in a 'full blown form'. It is because the consciousness of the insurgency and rebellion was limited in perspective and mostly it was shaped by their vision of the past and what they have forgone by the annexation of the British.

The regional spread of rebellions of tribal communities was influenced, if not determined, by that community's perception of the region they belonged to, the geographical boundaries within which that community lived and worked as also the ties of ethnicity.

The Indian National Congress consisted of various ideas and ideologies, often contradictory to each other; do you think it was a mark of pluralism? How did it shape India? Discuss. (250 words)

Freedom struggle of India by Bipin Chandra

Why this question:

The question is centered on heterogeneous ideas within Congress. The answer has to visit all the different ideologies within Congress to show whether it was pluralistic or not. Then it has to show how these different ideologies impacted the modern India.

Key demand of the question:

One must elucidate upon the various ideas and ideologies of INC and discuss the pluralistic tendencies and in what way it shaped India.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Mention the diverse composition of Congress and the ideas and ideologies they stood for.

Body:

Start by clearly outlining various ideologies and groups within Congress.

It should highlight how these individuals/groups were in contradiction to each other. Examples such as moderates vs. extremists, pro changers vs no changers, landlords vs. peasants' right wing, capitalists, Socialists etc must be included with examples. Even individual ideological clashes like Gandhi vs Bose will add value to answer.

Then one should provide justification that it was a mark of pluralism. Examples should be provided as how Congress was pluralistic.

Final part of body should be how these diverse ideas have impacted India. Links should be developed to current affairs to make answer holistic.

Conclusion:

Conclude by emphasizing pluralism of Indian National Congress clearly.



Introduction:

Indian National Congress, byname Congress Party, broadly based political party of India. Formed in 1885, the Indian National Congress dominated the Indian movement for independence from Great Britain. INC was indeed a mark of pluralism as seen through the shift in its ideas and ideologies over years from its inception to Indian independence.

Body:

The basic objectives of the early nationalist leaders were to lay the foundations of a secular and democratic national movement, to politicize and politically educate the people, to form the headquarters of the movement that is to form an all-India leadership group, and to develop and propagate an anti-colonial nationalist ideology.

In the **first stage of its existence (1885-1905)**, the vision of the Indian National Congress was dim, vague and confused. It may be referred as the period of Moderate politics. The movement was confined to a handful of the educated middle class intelligentsia who drew inspirations from western Liberal and Radical Thought.

The second state (1905-18) witnessed the emergence of a new and younger group within the Indian National Congress which was sharply critical of the ideology and methods of the old leadership. They advocated the adoption of Swaraj as the goal of the Congress to be achieved by more self-reliant and independent methods.

The differences between the Moderates & the Extremists:

- The moderates were against the idea of boycott as a general political weapon, though they welcomed swadeshi.
- **K. Gokhale** recommended the use of the word swadeshi to describe the anti partition movement.
- These differences centred round two main points, namely the political goal and the method to achieve it.
- As regards the goal, **Tilak** summed up his idea in one sentence 'Swaraj is my birth right and I will have it'.
- The Extremists interpreted Swaraj to mean complete autonomy without any dependence on the British rule.
- But G.K. Gokhale, did not expect that. He said that there was no alternative to British rule, for a long time to come

Gandhian Phase (1918-1947): Mahatma Gandhi's entry and meteoric rise in the Indian political scenario following his return from South Africa in 1918, has been variously equated with the emergence of a guiding light to a breath of fresh air. In the 1920s and '30s the Congress Party, led by Gandhi, began advocating nonviolent noncooperation. They were conducted on the lines of Satyagraha, Gandhi's personal mode of non-violent resistance.

Ideological differences during Gandhian Phase:



- The Home Rule movement under Tilak and Annie Besant were far from successful, and Gandhi knew that no mode of armed revolution could make India free from the clutches of the British rule.
- There was rise of socialism and communism which was seen in the form of Congress Socialist Party started by JP Narayan.
- The power vacuum led to formation of no-changers and pro-changers group. The latter fought elections and used the legislative way to fight the British.
- The former-students from Britain became prominent within the party such as Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhas Chandra Bose.
- Congress was transformed from an assembly dominated by Western-educated elites to a mass organization that appealed to diverse sections of the Indian public in these decades.
- Representatives of Congress met with British politicians in the 1930s and 1940s to negotiate the terms of independence, often at odds with the British.
- They also found it hard to appease their many constituents and their rivals, the Muslim League.

The ideological differences helped in

- Promoting the diversity of India
- Presence of various ideologies which are in use even today.
- The image of the modern Indian nation and the values that shape and continue inform it today, were cast in the crucible of our struggle for independence from colonial rule.
- Much of the gain from the movement is enshrined in our Constitution and continues to enlighten the political and judicial discourse in India

Conclusion:

Our national movement was more than a struggle for independence – it was an exercise in building a nation. It was not just a movement to replace a colonial regime and deliver political power to Indians but was aimed at using that power to secure social and economic justice, and dignity, for every Indian, he pointed out. The movement is perhaps one of the best examples of the creation of an extremely wide movement with a common aim in which diverse political and ideological currents could co-exist and work, and simultaneously continue to contend for overall ideological and political hegemony over it

Examine how the introduction of railways played a part in both integration as well as obliteration of rural economy .(250 words)

Modern history by Spectrum publications

Why this question:

The question is based on the introduction of Railways to India and its impact on integration of rural economy to rest of the country.

Key demand of the question:

In this question, you need to answer how railways played a part in integration of isolated rural Indian economy with national economy but the integration had negative impact resulting in further destruction of rural economy.

Directive:



Examine – When asked to ‘Examine’, we must look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

The introduction should develop a link between how introduction of railways impacted rural economy in both positive and negative terms.

Body:

The first part of the body should explore the integration of rural economy with the national economy. The rural economy before the introduction of railways must be explained in a sentence or two. Then the integration into national economy and its transition must be explained using suitable examples and arguments. The advantages due such integration the rural India obtained should be highlighted. The next part of the body must clearly explain using facts and figures as to how the railways resulted in destruction of rural economy. A proper sequence of events and how the various events are linked must be developed. For ex, Railways with Commercialization of agriculture, Railways with lack of resources for Indian Artisans etc. A flow chart may be used to clearly explain the above links and convey information in fewer words.

Conclusion:

outline the summary that Railways were more harmful than beneficial in the short run but in the longer run they were beneficial not just for the economy but for national movement as a whole.

Introduction:

The construction of railways in India was a colonial initiative of the mid-19th century and represents the marriage of the regenerative and destructive dimensions of the colonial state. The first railway passenger train was opened in 1853 under the aegis of Lord Dalhousie. Striding forward, India’s railway system expanded rapidly to become, by 1910, the fourth largest in the world.

Body:

Integration of rural economy:

- Regional specialisation began to occur and trade (both domestic and foreign) flourished.
- India became a nation with its local centres linked by rail to each other and to the world.
- Railways made possible the establishment of a well-knit market.
- Railways, by establishing these links, had an impact throughout the economy.
- Railways gave strong stimulus to internal trade. In doing so, railways were instrumental in transforming the structure of prices in India. The more direct effect of railways extension was the levelling of prices between different regions.
- Karl Marx observed that the railway system in India would become “truly the forerunner of modern industry”.

Obliteration of rural economy:

- Nationalists lambasted against this official claim and pinpointed that it was the railway which was responsible for the eclipse of some important industries of India.
- Despite massive investment in the nature of a ‘big push’ in railways rather than irrigation, ‘take off’ stage was hard-to come by.



- Railways transformed the very nature of Indian agriculture by commercializing it. Railways made India's agriculture internationally competitive and, as a result, a floodgate of exports of agricultural products such as wheat, rice, jute oilseeds, and cotton was opened up.
- For instance, before the construction of railways, India exported no wheat at all, but, by 1886, she was supplying 23 p.c. of Britain's imports of wheat.
- In real terms, the value of exports rose phenomenally by 230 p.c. between 1862 and 1929. The value of imports of mainly manufactured items such as cotton textiles, yarn, and capital goods rose by 350 p.c. as against exports of 230 p.c. during the same time period.
- Commercialisation of agriculture caused mainly by an elaborate transport network broke the self-sufficient age-old isolation of the village economy.
- As railways widened the markets for the agricultural sectors, Indian agriculture became linked to the world trade cycles. Farmers now became price responsive while determining their cropping pattern.

Conclusion:

In the 'limited economic development' that India experienced under British rule, the single biggest event was the railway building. Railways brought about economic specialization in agriculture. Other numerous economic changes took place. Some of these changes, especially unfavourable changes, were really the "inevitable price" of railway expansion. Had the foreign government been more benevolent some of the injurious effects of rail-roadisation could have been minimised. Problem lay not in the railway construction, but the manner in which it was brought about.

Satnamis were one of the few overtly anti-caste movements in South Asian history. Discuss who are Satnamis? Why they revolted against Mughal Empire? Comment on the outcomes and significance of it. (250 words)

Downtoearth

Why this question:

The question is based on Satnamis revolt and significance of it.

Key demand of the question:

One must discuss in details Who are Satnamis? Why they revolted against Mughal Empire? Outcomes and significance.

Directive:

Comment— here we have to express our knowledge and understanding of the issue and form an overall opinion thereupon.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief narrate who are Satnamis.

Body:

Explain the Satnami revolt in detail.

Who were they? Their contributions, causes for the revolt.

What was the outcome of it and why is it significant.

Conclusion:

Conclude with the outcome and significance.

Introduction:



Satnamis were a **militant sect of Hindu Worshippers** founded by a saint named "Birbhan" in 1657 in Narnaul in Haryana. It comprised of lower sections of the society like peasants, artisans and untouchables. The major religious activity of this sect is to chant and meditate the true names (Sat-Nam) of God, specially Rama and Krishna. This sect is thought to be an offshoot of **Ravidas sect**.

Body:**Revolt against Mughal Empire:**

- The high castes continued to inflict the worst atrocities on the peasants, artisans, untouchables who formed the Satnamis.
- Women's status in the society had reduced to "invisibles" in Mughal India. Whether Brahmin, Rajput or Muslim, they were forbidden to be seen by any man other than their own.
- Generally they were pious people. However, they would not tolerate any oppression.
- In 1672, they rebelled against the mighty Mughal Empire.
- The revolt was triggered when a Mughal soldier killed a Satnami. The Satnamis killed the soldier in revenge and in turn Mughal soldiers were sent.
- Satnamis attacked Narnaul, the main township in the area and destroyed the Mughal garrison. They even set up their own administration.
- Next, they marched towards Shahjahanabad (old Delhi), armed with the latest European-designed muskets that their leader had taught them to make.
- The rebellion was crushed when Aurangzeb himself took personal command and sent 10,000 troops with artillery to crush the Satnamis.

Significance:

- The entrenched caste structure of the era forced marginalised groups to join the fold and they protested against the high taxation policies.
- Their rise was seen as a threat by the supporters of the Mughal administration, the upper castes.
- They managed to overcome caste divides and created a small but radical new society which, however, was finally forced to take up arms against the authorities.
- Most other rebellions during Aurangzeb's time were led by zamindars and local landlords, wanting high positions in the empire or independent kingdoms.
- But the Satnami rebellion was led by people who were considered nobodies and whose aim was to create a more rational and just society.

Outcomes:

- The Satnamis were massacred indiscriminately.
- The rebellion was crushed but the people began to hate the rule and looked forward for an opportunity to get rid of the oppressive rule of the Mughals.
- The remaining Satnamis fled in all directions and for a long time remained disorganized.



- Remnants of that sect may have contributed to the formation of another, known as Sadhs (i.e., sadhu, "good"), in the early 19th century, who also designated their deity as satnam.

Conclusion:

Though the rebellion was crushed, its memory endures to this day. That a group of marginalized people fought the systemic oppression in society, established a new community and defended it. Given that caste remains at the heart of all the problems of South Asian society even today, the Satnami rebellion is a reminder against the increased oppression of lower castes and need to create a just and rational society.

Analyse the causes for the failure of Revolt of 1857. (250 words)

Modern history by Spectrum publications

Why this question:

The question is straightforward and is based on the theme of revolt of 1857.

Key demand of the question:

One must elaborately explain the causative factors that led to revolt of 1857.

Directive:

Analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief bring out the significance of the historic 1857 revolt.

Body:

Explain the administrative, military and ideological causes separately under different sub-heads covering the causes in detail like – Lack of Planning and Co-ordination, Weak Leadership, Superior British Army, Limited Supplies and Lack of Modern Communication, Lack of Societal Alternative etc. Also list down the impact that the revolt left on the Indian nationalists.

Conclusion:

Conclude by reasserting the significance of the revolt.

Introduction:

The British, under the East India Company's rule disrupted the whole economic order of India by draining Indian wealth, disrupting the traditional land system they destroyed the relationship between sectors of the Indian economy. The all-destructive British policy produced a broad popular rebellion against its rule.

The Revolt of 1857 has been hailed as the **watershed** in the colonial history of British India.

Body:

Although the revolt of 1857 was an extraordinary event in the history of India, it had very little chance of success against an organised and powerful enemy. It was suppressed within a year of its outbreak. There were many causes which led to the collapse of this mighty rebellion.

- **Narrow territorial base:** The revolt of 1857 had limited territorial spread. It was not widespread and remained confined to North and Central India only. Even in the north, Kashmir, Punjab, Sind and Rajputana kept away from the rebels. The British managed to get the loyalty of the Madras and Bombay regiments and the Sikh states. Afghans and Gurkhas also supported the British. The eastern, western and southern parts of India were more or less unaffected by the uprising.



- **Lack of leadership:** No national leader emerged to coordinate the movement and give it purpose and direction. Rani Lakshmi Bai, Tantya Tope and Nana Saheb were courageous but were not good military generals. The rebels were lacking in discipline and a central command and they could not win against a powerful and determined enemy who planned its strategy skillfully.
- **Inights:** Their leaders were suspicious and jealous of each other and often indulged in petty quarrels. The Begam of Awadh, for example, quarrelled with Maulvi Ahmadullah, and the Mughal princes with the sepoy-generals. Thus, **selfishness and narrow perspective of the leaders** suppressed the strength of the revolt and prevented its consolidation.
- **Self-Interest:** The rebel leaders were no match for the British soldiers. Most of its leaders thought only of their own interest. They were motivated by narrow personal gains. They fought to liberate only their own territories.
- **No concept of Modern nationalism:** There were diverse elements among the rebels with different ideology, plan and motive. Most of the leaders of the revolt were fighting for personal gains and lack a coherent idea for modern India. Modern nationalism had not yet evolved in India. In fact, it was a concept unknown to the people.
- **Lack of unified vision and ideology:** The rebellion swept off the British system of government and administration in India but the rebels did not know what to create in its place. They had no forward-looking plan in mind. The prominent leaders of rebellion like Nana Saheb, Begum of Awadh, Rani of Jhansi, etc., did not possess any unified programme. For example, the sepoys of Bengal wanted to revive the ancient glories of the Mughals while Nana Saheb and Tantya Tope tried to re-establish the Maratha power. Rani Lakshmi Bai fought to regain Jhansi, which she had lost as a result of the British policy of Doctrine of lapse.
- **Lack of unity:** No broad-based unity emerged among the Indian people during the revolt. While sepoys of the Bengal army were revolting, some soldiers in Punjab fought on the side of the British to crush these rebellions. Adhesion of the Mughal emperor, turned the Sikhs of Punjab away from the rebellion, as they did not want to return to Islamic rule, having fought many wars against the Mughal rulers.
- **Fissures in the society:** The modern educated Indians also did not support the revolt because, in their view, the revolt was backwards-looking. They believed mistakenly that the British would lead the country towards modernisation.
- **Poor organization:** Another major factor contributing to the failure of the revolt was the weak leadership of the movement. Indian leaders lacked organisation and planning. The rebels were poorly organised. The uprisings in different parts of the country were uncoordinated. Often the sepoys behaved in an uncontrolled manner.
- **Lack of proper arms and equipment:** The rebels were short of weapons and finances. Whatever few weapons existed, were old and outdated. In many areas, rebels fought with swords and spears which were no match for the sophisticated and modern weapons of the British. The telegraphic system and postal communication helped the British to speed up their operation. The English mastery of the sea enabled them to get timely help from England and crush the revolt ruthlessly.

Conclusion:



By the end of 1859, the revolt was suppressed and the British authority over India was firmly re-established. The revolt had finally failed. However, the revolt is remembered for the valour and the courage of its rebels. Even though they failed to achieve their objective they succeeded in sowing the seeds of nationalism among the Indians and paved the way for the future struggle for independence.

Evaluate the contributions of V. D. Savarkar in India's freedom struggle. In the light of his contributions also discuss the relevance of his ideas in Indian society today.(250 words)

Economictimes

Introduction:

Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (Veer Savarkar) occupies a unique place in the history of Indian freedom struggle. His name evokes controversy. While some consider him as one of the greatest revolutionaries in the Indian freedom struggle, others consider him a communalist and right-wing leader.

Body:

Contributions made by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar:

- In Pune, Savarkar founded the “**Abhinav Bharat Society**”. He was also involved in the Swadeshi movement and later joined Tilak’s Swaraj Party. His instigating patriotic speeches and activities incensed the British Government. As a result, the British Government withdrew his B.A. degree.
- In June 1906, Veer Savarkar, left for London to become Barrister. However, once in London, he united and inflamed the Indian students in England against British rule in India. He founded the Free India Society.
- The Society celebrated important dates on the Indian calendar including festivals, freedom movement landmarks, and was dedicated to furthering discussion about Indian freedom. He believed and advocated the use of arms to free India from the British and created a network of Indians in England, equipped with weapons.
- In 1908, brought out an authentic informative researched work on The Great Indian Revolt, which the British termed as “Sepoy Mutiny” of 1857. The book was called “The Indian War of Independence 1857”.
- The British government immediately enforced a ban on the publication in both Britain and India. Later, it was published by Madame Bhikaji Cama in Holland, and was smuggled into India to reach revolutionaries working across the country against British rule.
- When the then British Collector of Nasik, A.M.T. Jackson was shot by a youth, Veer Savarkar finally fell under the net of the British authorities. He was implicated in the murder citing his connections with India House. Savarkar was arrested in London on March 13, 1910 and sent to India.
- In 1920, many prominent freedom fighters including Vithalbhai Patel, Mahatma Gandhi and Bal Gangadhar Tilak demanded the release of Savarkar. On May 2, 1921, Savarkar was moved to Ratnagiri jail, and from there to the Yeravada jail. In Ratnagiri jail Savarkar wrote the book ‘**Hindutva: who is hindu?**’.



- Savarkar began describing a “Hindu” as a patriotic inhabitant of Bharatavarsha, venturing beyond a religious identity. While emphasising the need for patriotic and social unity of all Hindu communities, he described Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism and Buddhism as one and the same.
- He outlined his vision of a “**Hindu Rashtra**” (**Hindu Nation**) as “**Akhand Bharat**” (**United India**), purportedly stretching across the entire Indian subcontinent. He defined Hindus as being neither Aryan nor Dravidian but as “People who live as children of a common motherland, adoring a common holy land.”
- Although staunch anti-British in his early years, he supported British efforts in India seeking military efforts to Hindus during World War 2 and opposed the Quit India Movement.
- Hindu Mahasabha activists protested Gandhi’s initiative to hold talks with Jinnah in 1944, which Savarkar denounced as “appeasement.” He assailed the British proposals for transfer of power, attacking both the Congress and the British for making concessions to Muslim separatists.
- Vinayak Savarkar was a president of Hindu Mahasabha from 1937 to 1943. When congress ministries offered resignation on 22nd Oct 1939, Hindu mahasabha under his leadership cooperated with Muslim league to form government in provinces like Sindh, Bengal and NWFP.
- His strong views on Hindutva though secular in broader outlook, led to rise in radicalism among his followers. This also led to rise in tension between two communities.

Relevance of his ideas in Indian society today:

- Savarkar was a modernist, a rationalist and a strong supporter of social reform.
- According to Savarkar, our movies should focus on the positives of the country, keep aside the negatives and have pride in its victories. Our youth should be inspired by movies that focus on the positive side of things.
- In his presidential address to the annual session of the Hindu Mahasabha held in Calcutta in 1939, Savarkar spoke about how Hindus and Muslims could bury their historical differences in a common Hindustani constitutional state.
- Savarkar often called on his supporters to welcome the age of the modern machine.
- In an essay published in the magazine **Kirloskar**, and republished in a book of his essays on the scientific approach, he argued that India would continue to lag behind Europe as long as its leaders believed in superstition rather than science.
- He argued that any social reformer who seeks to root out harmful social practices or preach new truths has first of all to compromise his popularity. E.g.: Jesus was killed. Buddha had to face a murderous attack. Mohammad had to flee, was injured in battle, was condemned as a traitor.
- A true social or religious reformer should only be driven by the desire to do good.
- Savarkar was a **strong opponent of the caste system**. He repeatedly argued that what the religious books say about untouchability is irrelevant. The social practice was unfit for a modern society.



Conclusion:

Many of Savarkar's ideas on social and religious reforms, embrace of science, and building a stronger state continue to be relevant for India. His controversial position on Hindutva also continues to inform current political debates. It is time that a wider set of scholars began to engage with Savarkar's ideas—including controversial ones.

Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.

Post- Independence, integration and unification of India demonstrated to be a long process plagued with challenges. Examine.(250 words)

Post- independence India by Bipin Chandra

Why this question:

The question must discuss the challenges that were faced by

Key demand of the question:

One must bring out, violence and displacement followed by the partition, integration of the princely states and redrawing of internal boundaries based on languages were immediate challenges faced by India post-independence. Explain them in detail.

Directive:

Examine – When asked to 'Examine', we must look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief discuss the background of the question.

Body:

Explain the challenges to integration and unification of India after independence.

Briefly state the steps taken by the government to resolve these challenges.

Explain its significance in contemporary times.

Conclude by stating the possible steps that can be taken to maintain the unity and integrity of the country.

Conclusion:

Conclude with need to overcome these challenges.

Introduction:

The post-independence period was marred with violence and displacement followed by the partition, the issue of integration of the princely states and re-drawing of internal boundaries based on languages were some of the immediate challenges faced by India post-independence. To maintain the democratic aspirations of the newly formed nation state, the government took several steps.

Body:

Challenges to the unification and integration of India:

- **Accommodating the diversity of Indian society** by taking into account the regional aspirations of the people, balancing between the rights of different regions and linguistic groups to retain their own culture.
- **Formation of the states** was not just a matter of administrative divisions. The boundaries had to be drawn in a way so that the linguistic and cultural plurality of the country could be



reflected without affecting the unity of the nation. E.g.- the Vishalandhra movement caused great unrest and violence in the Telugu-speaking region.

- **Ethnic tension in North Eastern states:** Over 635 tribal groups in the region with distinct language and culture along with its relative isolation from the rest of the mainland, resulted into social-political disturbances and unrest for a few years.
- The isolation of the region, its complex social character and its backwardness compared to other parts of the country have all resulted in the complicated set of demands from different states of the North-East.
- The vast international border and weak communication between the North-East and the rest of India further added to the delicate nature of politics there. First Nagaland and then Mizoram witnessed strong movements demanding separation from India.
- **Developing democratic practices** in accordance with the Constitution by ensuring the development and wellbeing of the entire society and not only of some sections.
- Partition had deepened the communal tension in the country and it was important to assure the minority communities of their equal protection of rights to avoid further communal divisions within the nation.
- The discontent among these communities could destabilise the newly formed political system.
- **Integration of as many as 565 Princely states** after independence. These states became legally independent and were free to join either India or Pakistan or remain independent. However, this decision was left not to the people but to the princely rulers of these states.
- The integration of these states was important for the unification of the country.

Measures taken:

- Under the **State Reorganisation Act 1956**, states were divided based on the linguistic and cultural differences between them. This ensured the united social life without losing the distinctiveness of the numerous cultures that constituted it.
- The **cooperative federalism** enshrined in the constitution (Schedule VII) empowered the regional identity, aspirations and provided autonomy to the states to solve their specific regional problems.
- At different points of time the Central Government created Meghalaya, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh out of Assam. Tripura and Manipur were upgraded into States too.
- Autonomous Councils were created to satisfy the smaller groups within the states without breaking the states down.
- **Constitutional safeguards for marginalised and minorities:** The adoption of the constitution of India highlighted the country's strong beliefs in equality, liberty and secularism (reflected especially in the Fundamental Rights), assuring the marginalised sections of equality and justice.
- **Articles 29 and 30** specifically protect the cultural and linguistic rights of the minorities.



- The leaders of independent India, especially Sardar Patel, negotiated with the rulers of princely states firmly but diplomatically bringing most of them into the Indian Union through the instrument of accession.

Conclusion:

The newly formed democracy in India came to terms with differences in society on several different lines and accepted the plurality of ideas and diverse ways of life. The challenges are still posed by the differences in the contemporary socio-political system of the country. These are reflected in continuing communal tension and intolerance towards the minorities and marginalised and also imperative in statehood demands.

History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawal of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization.

Trade wars are wars of mutual abrasion and do not always have the intended consequences. Examine how the flaws in the Napoleonic Continental System became reasons for his downfall. (250 words)

Why this question:

The question aims to ascertain the causes and consequences of Trade wars.

Key demand of the question:

The question seeks to know the impact that continental system type trade wars had on the Napoleonic Empires downfall.

Directive:

Examine – When asked to ‘Examine’, we must look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Start by defining trade wars and in brief about continental system of Napoleon.

Body:

First part of the body should write about how trade wars are skirmishes of mutual attrition and in what all ways they impact the country even if the aggressor.

The next part should briefly address the objectives of the Napoleonic continental system as a tool for economic imperialism. Then the flaws in its design and implementation must be addressed in detail.

The how these flaws resulted in the downfall of Napoleon must be linked. This will make the answer holistic.

Conclusion:

Conclusion should address how the continental system designed to choke England ended up in choking Napoleon himself.

Introduction:

During the Napoleonic Wars, **the Continental System** was an attempt by French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte to cripple Britain. By creating a blockade, he had planned to destroy their trade, economy, and democracy. Because British and allied navies had impeded trade ships from exporting to France, the Continental System was also an attempt to reshape the French export market and economy.

Body:



The Continental System had **some success** in hurting British trade and economic interests. By some estimates, British trade declined by as much as fifty percent. It also benefited the some parts of the French manufacturing sector by acting essentially as a protective tariff, making British imports unavailable or unaffordable in France and its territories. This stimulated the growth of some local manufacturing and many French capitalists and industrialists made large profits as a result of the embargo on British goods. However it also killed off many trade based industries and deeply hurt the economies of major French ports such as Marseilles. Moreover, the Continental System could not be strictly enforced.

The flaws of the continental system:

- The Continental System represents one of Napoleon's first great miscalculations.
- Economically, he damaged those areas of France and his allies which relied on trade with Britain for only a small increase in production in some areas of France.
- It was an impossible scheme. Every country was not expected to bear the innumerable stresses by following this scheme.
- He also alienated swathes of conquered territory which suffered under his rules.
- Britain had the dominant navy and was more effective in blockading France than the French were in trying to cripple Britain.
- As time passed, Napoleon's efforts to enforce the blockade bought more war, including an attempt to stop Portugal trading with Britain that led to a French invasion and the draining Peninsular War, and it was a factor in the disastrous French decision to attack Russia.
- Portugal and Spain also did not join this scheme and extended their cooperation to England.
- Most of the European countries including France depended British goods and they could not possibly live without these goods. But after the supply of these articles was stopped, people had to face great difficulties and they began to oppose this scheme vehemently.
- In 1807 Napoleon himself purchased fifty thousand overcoats from Great Britain through Holland at the time of the battle of Eyleau
- It is possible that Britain would have been harmed by a Continental System that was properly and fully implemented, but as it was, it harmed Napoleon far more than it harmed his enemy.
- Napoleon lost the sympathy of people. They began to hate for his selfish and tyrannical rule. Napoleon failed to cope with the rising tide of public opinion.

Conclusion:

Napoleon's ambition to implement the continental system dragged him to the peninsular war which he called "an ulcer that destroyed me". The Portuguese and Spaniards turned and united against him at the battle of Trafalgar. This defeat proved to the world that Napoleon could be defeated, over 20,000 of his soldiers surrendered and it also weakened Napoleon's military strength. This led to the downfall of Napoleon in 1815.



The seeds of World War-II were sown in the peace of World War-I. Critically Analyse.(250 words)

Why this question:

The question is based on the theme of the factors that led to world War-II.

Key demand of the question:

The question seeks the link between the Paris Peace Treaty and start of the world War-II.

Directive:

analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Introduction should encompass the drawbacks of The Paris peace conference that had potential fault lines for occurrence of second World War.

Body:

The body should analyze the treaty of Versailles. The Treaty vis-a-vis German treatment and its reaction in aftermath of it must be clearly stated.

The treatment of Italy by the 'Big 3' and the reactions for it building up for second war must be stated.

Elements of impracticality in the treaty and the humiliation faced by the defeated states outlined.

Conclusion:

The conclusion must present that Paris Peace though harsh and humiliating wasn't the sole reason for outbreak of World War-II. It was outcome of lot many geopolitical and economic factors acting in tandem

Introduction:

Many of the seeds of World War II in Europe were sown by the Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I. In its final form, the treaty placed full blame for the war on Germany and Austria-Hungary, as well as exacted harsh financial reparations and led to territorial dismemberment. For the German people, who had believed that the armistice had been agreed to based on US President **Woodrow Wilson's lenient Fourteen Points**, the treaty caused resentment and a deep mistrust of their new government, the **Weimar Republic**. The need to pay war reparations, coupled with the instability of the government, contributed to massive hyperinflation which crippled the German economy. This situation was made worse by the onset of the Great Depression.

Body:

The First World War came to an end in 1919 with the defeat of Germany, Austria Hungary, Italy to the England-France-Russia-USA alliance. A post war treaty called the Treaty of Versailles was signed in the palace at Versailles near Paris.

The **treaty of Versailles** was basically an unfair treaty. It fixed the sole responsibility for the First World War on Germany. It was basically the intention of France and England to punish Germany to such an extent that it would never cause trouble again.

The treaty consisted of harsh conditions like:

- Demilitarisation of Rhineland
- Loss of resource rich Alsace Lorraine to France
- Loss of territories in the east to Russia
- Loss of Germany's African colonies to the League of Nations



- Germany was not supposed to build any more war ships
- Germany's military strength is to be confined to 100000
- Huge war indemnity of 6600 million pounds was imposed on Germany
- Germany should not impose compulsory military training upon its citizens

It cannot be said only the failure of peace treaty of Versailles was the major reason for the Second World War. **The other reasons involve:**

- **Growth of Fascism and Nazism:**
 - Mussolini (Italy) and Hitler (Germany) strongly glorified war and violence.
 - While West was fighting communism, Germany and Italy started massive militarization.
- **Rise of Japan:**
 - Rome-Berlin-Tokyo axis (1936).
- **Neglect of minority interests:**
 - New countries like Poland, Czechoslovakia and Austria were formed after the First World War. While drawing boundaries the interests of minority groups in each of these countries were neglected.
- **Military Alliances:**
 - Allies – Britain, France, USA, USSR and China vs Axis Powers – Germany, Italy and Japan
 - Leaders – Churchill (Britain), Roosevelt (USA), Stalin (USSR)
- **Germany's attack on Czechoslovakia:**
 - In-spite of the Munich Pact between Germany and Britain (1938), Germany re-attacked and sized Czechoslovakia.

Conclusion:

As such, the Treaty of Versailles may be seen as leading to many of the causes of World War II in Europe. As Foch had feared, the treaty simply served as a twenty-year armistice with World War II beginning in 1939.

**Italy was united by the heart of Mazzini, the sword of Garibaldi and brain of Cavour.
Elucidate.(250 words)**

Reference

World history by Norman Lowe

Why this question:

The question wants to link the three major personalities behind the Unification of Italy.

Key demand of the question:

One must.

Directive:



Elucidate – Give a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context.
You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Introduce with the how Italy was fragment across various principalities and the need for unification.

Body:

The first body should elaborate on Mazzini and his contribution in kindling Italian Nationalism.

Young Italy as an organization and spread of nationalism must be explored.

Cavour as Brain. His works a PM of Piedmont-Sardinia, his politics, Plombeirs pact, agreement with Bismarck must be touched upon.

The contributions of Garibaldi and his red shirts must also be added and also the disagreement between Cavour and Garibaldi.

Conclusion:

The conclusion touch upon how others such as King Victor Emmanuel also played a part in Unification process but the above mentioned three were its heart, brain and sword.

Introduction:

In March 1861 Emmanuel II proclaimed the Italian nation with himself as king and Camillo Cavour as prime minister. Three of the key figures in the unification of Italy were **Mazzini, Garibaldi and Cavour**, who although all having different aims, ultimately contributed to the unification of Italy. In 1815, after the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte at Waterloo, the great powers of Europe; Russia, Prussia, Austria and Great Britain met in Vienna and regarded the changes that had been made to the Italian peninsula during French rule.

Body:

The Contributions of Mazzini, Garibaldi and Cavour in the Unification of Italy were as follows:

Mazzini:

- At a young age of 24 in 1831, he was exiled for attempting a revolution in Liguria.
- To further spread the revolutionary ideas, he founded two more underground societies- 'Young Italy' in Marseilles and 'Young Europe' in Berne, whose members were like-minded young men from Poland, France, Italy and the German states.
- Following his example, secret societies were set up in Germany, France, Switzerland and Poland. Mazzini's opposition to monarchy and his vision of democratic republics scared the conservatives. Metternich described him as 'the most dangerous enemy of our social order'.
- He wanted unification through a democratic revolution but his lofty ideals were not supported by the peasants and middle classes. As a result, he failed in his efforts but prepared the ground for others.
- Mazzini believed that God had created nations to be the natural units of mankind. Thus, Italy cannot remain divided into various kingdoms. It has to be a single unified republic.
- Many of his writings became classics in the literature of nationalism. Mazzini made two proposals: **Without international support unification of Italy is difficult and Austria is a big hurdle in Italian unification.**



- In 1848, revolts were breaking out all over the North Italy. Mazzini took the advantage of the circumstances. So, he came to Rome and drove out the Pope. And established Republic in Rome.
- Then he formed a committee of three- Triumvirs. Mazzini was one of these Triumvirs. But this young Republic was attacked on all sides: by the Austrians, Neapolitans and the French.

Garibaldi:

- He was a member of the **Young Italy movement**. He was skilled in guerrilla warfare and deserves credit for uniting Southern Italian states under the leadership of Piedmont.
- He organized a revolutionary force called Red Shirts, and succeeded in liberating Sicily and Naples and uniting them under the control of the King of Sardinia.
- All the three major powers surrounded and attacked the Roman Republic.
- The chief fighter on the side of the Roman Republic was He held the Austrians and defeated the Neapolitan armies. He even stopped the French. All this was done with the help of volunteers
- Garibaldi's leadership gave strength to the young volunteers. Volunteers poured in and they marched enthusiastically. They often marched singing Garibaldi's hymn.
- Garibaldi and Mazzini both were fiercely devoted to Italian unification. The third player in this game was Cavour.

Cavour:

- Cavour was clear that Italy required international support.
- He strongly believed that only through diplomacy and policy of war (similar to Bismarck's policy of 'blood and iron') could Italian unification be achieved.
- He united Italy under the leadership of Sardinia. Lombardy, Tuscany, Parma and Papal States also united with Sardinia.
- In this circumstances, the Crimean war of 1854 broke out. In this war, Cavour sent Italian forces to assist Britain and France against Russia. Due to the contribution of troops sent by Cavour Britain and France won. So Cavour got the reward of it. This was a diplomatic victory of Cavour.
- Finally, in 1871, Rome was liberated from French control and Italy was united, with the King of Sardinia, Victor Emmanuel II, becoming the King of Italy with Rome as the Capital.

Conclusion:

Mazzini's efforts would have run to waste in a questionable insurrections and Garibaldi's feat of arms must have added one chapter more to the history of unproductive patriotism." In short, we can say with confidence that of all the political and national leaders of Italy, Cavour contributed most to the unification of Italy.

Explain how conflicting geographical differences between the northern and southern states of America led to outbreak of American Civil War. (250 words)

World history by Norman Lowe

**Why this question:**

The question is based on the theme of American Civil War.

Key demand of the question:

The question seeks to ascertain the geographical causes of the American Civil War in detail.

Directive:

Explain – Clarify the topic by giving a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer:**Introduction:**

Briefly introduce the contrast between geography of northern American and Southern American (Confederate) states.

Body:

First brief a little on the context of the question, explain the American civil war.

Explain in detail the various geographical factors that led to the War.

Interlink the aspects of geography to economy, socio-cultural advancement, political philosophy etc.

Conclusion:

Conclude by saying how the election of Abraham Lincoln lit the spark of Civil War with secession of southern states

Introduction:

The American Civil War was a civil war fought in the United States from 1861 to 1865, between the North (the Union) and the South (the Confederacy). The Civil War began primarily as a result of the long-standing controversy over the enslavement of black people. Karl Marx defined it as a struggle between two historical epochs – the feudal and the capitalist. The victory of the latter made possible the eventual recognition of the human dignity and the civil rights of African-Americans.

Body:**Conflicting geographical differences led to the outbreak of American Civil war:**

- In the mid-19th century, while the United States was experiencing an era of tremendous growth, a fundamental economic difference existed between the country's northern and southern regions.
- In the North, manufacturing and industry was well established, and agriculture was mostly limited to small-scale farms, while the South's economy was based on a system of large-scale farming that depended on the labor of black slaves to grow certain crops, especially cotton and tobacco.
- Between 1815 and 1861 the economy of the Northern states was rapidly modernizing and diversifying. Although agriculture—mostly smaller farms that relied on free labour—remained the dominant sector in the North, industrialization had taken root there.
- Moreover, Northerners had invested heavily in an expansive and varied transportation system that included canals, roads, steamboats, and railroads; in financial industries such as banking and insurance; and in a large communications network that featured inexpensive, widely available newspapers, magazines, and books, along with the telegraph.
- By contrast, the Southern economy was based principally on large farms (plantations) that produced commercial crops such as cotton and that relied on slaves as the main labour force.



- Rather than invest in factories or railroads as Northerners had done, Southerners invested their money in slaves—even more than in land; by 1860, 84 percent of the capital invested in manufacturing was invested in the free (non-slaveholding) states.
- The price of cotton, the South's defining crop, had skyrocketed in the 1850s, and the value of slaves—who were, after all, property—rose commensurately.
- By 1860 the per capita wealth of Southern whites was twice that of Northerners, and three-fifths of the wealthiest individuals in the country were Southerners.

Conclusion:

The other factors that led to the outbreak of the civil war include The Collapse of the Two-Party System between Democrats and Whigs, Slavery in the territories, secession of the states like South Carolina, the elections of 1860 where there was a lack of a candidate with national appeal.

Discuss the factors due to which the Communists led by Mao-Tse-Tung emerged victorious in the Chinese Civil War. How did Mao's victory impact South Asian politics?(250 words)

World history by Norman Lowe

Key demand of the question:

This question seeks reasons for the victory of Chinese Communist Party over KMT regime in the Chinese Civil War and its impact upon South Asian Politics.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Briefly introduced the Chinese Civil War and how the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) emerged victorious despite the odds.

Body:

Discuss the following aspects in the answer body:

Political: The administration of both parties, Sino-Japanese War, Long march etc.

Socio-economic: The peasant and workers, the reforms of CCP, the communism effect etc.

Comparative Leadership: Mao Tse Tung vs Chiang Kai Shek, the revolutionary spirit of CCP etc.

The next part of body must outline the effect of Chinese Revolution in the South Asian Region. The Tibet issue, Sino-Indian war, Taiwan and One China Policy etc. must be written.

Conclusion:

Conclusion must summarize the above mentioned points which changed the fate of China and trace the emerging of the present day assertive China to this civil war.

Introduction:

Few people in history deserve sole credit for changing the fate of an entire nation. One of them is Mao Tse-tung, the man who rose from the peasantry to become the pre-eminent revolutionary theorist, political leader and statesman of Communist China. Mao's influence endured more than 40 years from the Long March of the 1930s, through the Red Army's victory in 1949, until his death in 1976 at age 83. He remained chairman of the party to the end. The grip that Maoism — Mao's philosophy of socialism — had on decision-making and opinion-moulding loosened after 1976.

Body:



Mao Zedong and communist party of china were successful in liberating china. The factors that led to this are:

- The Chinese emperor was deposed in 1911 and a republic was established in its place by the Kuomintang (KMT)
- The KMT in the subsequent years under the leadership of Sun Yat Sen went on to consolidate the Chinese state which was under the grip of provincial 'war lords'
- Sun Yat Sen was able to garner the support of the communists in China who were under the leadership of Mao. However, the relations between Mao and the KMT started to strain after Sun Yat Sen's demise in 1925
- The Communists were gradually purged by Chiang Kai Shek who came to head KMT after Sun Yat Sen
- Civil War broke out in China once again and the Communists under the leadership of Mao had to take refuge in the cold desert region of China. It was Mao's leadership and determination which ensured that the communists despite the heavy odds failed to cow down
- The Communists were instrumental in raising the banner of revolt in wake of the Japanese invasion. Joining forces with their sworn enemy, the KMT they were able to put a strong opposition against the Imperial Japanese Army
- After the end of WW-II, the Western Powers wanted to back pro-capitalist Chiang Kai Shek to acquire power. However, civil war erupted once again and Mao and his comrades were able to wrest power from the KMT and had them take refuge in the island of Formosa leading to the establishment of the People's Republic of China

Mao and his role in building China

- Unlike the traditional Marxist idea of revolution of the workers, Mao Zedong brought a revolution based on peasantry.
- Unlike the dictatorship of proletariat of Soviet Union he established new democracy in China, where all social classes were considered equal.
- Emphasised on central control over key areas of economy and private enterprise and private ownership were gradually abolished.
- To galvanise industrial development, the great leap forward movement was launched in which households were encouraged to build furnaces in their backyard.
- Agriculture was organised in the form of communes. This raised the productivity.
- Emphasis was placed in ideology and cultural revolution was brought under which students and professionals were sent to the countryside to learn.

Conclusion:

In short, The Chinese communist revolution of 1949 inspired the communists elsewhere and added to the strength of the newly independent nations. On the other hand, the Revolution led the United States of America to tighten the noose on the communist bloc to help prevent the spread of communism.



Discuss how the process of Liberation of Latin America resulted in problems which are the root of contemporary issues in the region today. (250 words)

World history by Norman Lowe

Key demand of the question:

This question asks to trace the link of contemporary issues of Latin America with the Liberation of Latin America.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Give a brief introduction about how the Liberation of Latin America resulted in political instability in those regions.

Body:

Firstly divide the Latin American contemporary issues country wise. Use a table to save words. Then develop how these have root in the liberation war. Issues like Venezuelan crisis, Under development, Cuba, Narcotics, Communisms, and Autocracy etc. should all be addressed. Later below the table, briefly offer explanation for the same linking to Liberation wars.

Another way of answering these questions is dividing in to issue wise and addressing it country wise. Drawing a simple representation of Latin American map and pointing out important countries/issues used in the answer will enrich your answer.

Since the issues/countries are many, keep the answer very specific.

Conclusion:

The conclusion must offer a way forward how the conditions in the present area taking the positives from the past.

Introduction:

The term ‘Latin America’ is used to refer to the states which are situated to the south of the United States. Brazil is the only Portuguese speaking state in Latin America. All others speak Spanish.

Body:

Contemporary issues in Latin America today:

- **Inequality** is the key issue in Latin America, along with education. It seems that the rich in Latin America don't feel the need to pitch in, and assist development.
- **Venezuela plunges deeper into crisis**
 - Hundreds of thousands of people fled Venezuela's deepening economic crisis last year, while widespread shortages of food and medicine made daily life a struggle for those who remained.
 - With the IMF predicting an inflation rate of 10,000,000 percent in 2019 and President Nicolas Maduro continuing to blame the economic crisis on an “imperialist conspiracy”, the situation is likely to deteriorate even further in the next 12 months.
- **Securing peace in Colombia:**
 - With a fiscal deficit and the potential of a decrease in international cooperation, Colombia must develop innovative ways to finance the process.



- Disarmament, reintegration of ex-combatants, collective reparation processes, the Special Jurisdiction for Peace, and many other pieces of the puzzle will need adequate funding.
- The risks are enormous. We could see massacres of left-wing leaders and activists, a return to illicit economies, land grabbing, displacement, deforestation.
- **Latin America is far from peaceful:**
 - One thing virtually all countries and cities share is unacceptably high levels of violence.
 - There are virtually no areas and populations untouched, and the burden falls disproportionately on the poor.
 - The problem is getting worse – we are going to see a continued rise to 35 murders per 100,000 people if nothing is done.
 - A key factor in this has to be drug decriminalisation and regulation.
 - The evidence is glaring that the war on drugs has failed, and several Latin American presidents and social leaders have stepped up and changed the tone of the conversation.
- **Migration strains relations**
 - The US enters 2019 locked into a government shutdown centred on funding for President Donald Trump's wall on the border with Mexico.
 - Migration has taken centre stage in US politics in recent months as Trump sought to sow fear over the thousands of Central American migrants and refugees who made their way to the border to apply for asylum.
 - The question of where the migrants will wait out the asylum process has placed a strain on the US's relationship with Mexico
- **Argentina's economic crisis:**
 - The Argentine peso lost a third of its value in 2018, prompting protests against austerity measures and a staggering \$57bn bailout package from the IMF – the largest ever given by the international body.
- **The impact of climate change:**
 - The effects of climate change on our coast lands as well as farming capacities is a huge challenge.
 - Additionally, what reductions in yields can do to our rural populations and economies, internal migration patterns.
 - Most of our countries offset carbon from the rest of the world (such as Amazonia).
- **The growing intolerance with corruption:**
 - The fight against corruption is probably one of the region's most significant innovations in recent years.



- Latin America has long had the reputation of corruption and its cousin “informality”. But action has been sporadic, episodic and half-hearted.
- **Women’s voices are suppressed:**
 - Latin American countries continue to live in a region highly unequal for women, especially those from ethnic minorities and living in rural areas.
 - We cannot progress when women’s voices remain at the margins of public policy discussions.

Reasons for the contemporary issues:

- **Post-Colonial Violence:**
 - As the empires collapsed, so too did the imperial defence against external intervention and the imperial deterrent against internal strife.
 - The newly independent Latin American countries did not possess internationally or even domestically recognized boundaries. Border wars, especially in Central America,
- **Lost Decades and Violence:**
 - In post-colonial Latin America, high levels of violence, political instability, economic balkanization, and anti-trade policies all sabotaged economic growth and reduced state capacities below the already low levels that had characterized the colonial regimes.
- **Lost Decades, Balkanization and Anti-Market Policy:**
 - Latin America suffered from economic balkanization which stemmed from fiscal, currency and market fragmentation.
 - in 1820, the two biggest Spanish American economies had an average market size (GDP) only about one-quarter that of the average European core (OECD) country.
 - The same was true of Brazil. In 1870, the figure for Argentina, Chile and Mexico combined was one-seventh of the average European core country.
 - If scale economies and internal trade mattered as much as economists think, Latin America lost a lot after independence since the combined market size of the former Spanish Americas was at least three-quarters the size of the average European core country, or more
- **Violence and the Drift to Liberalism:**
 - Post-independence violence and economic decline in Latin America reduced state capacities and thus undermined economic strategies that required strong, centralized national governments – conservatism in most of Latin America.
 - Violence undermined many key institutions of colonial rule in Latin America: caste systems, slavery, state monopolies, internal customs, trade regulations, taxes and fees that burdened urban consumption, state collection and enforcement of the tithe, and archaic property rights in land

**Conclusion:**

Many of the challenges facing Latin America in the 21st Century are ones with which it has dealt since independence from Spain 200 years ago. The dependence on fragile trade relationships and primary products, the incessant violence, and inequality practically defined the region in the 19th Century. Meeting the challenge implies that countries will need stronger states, not only for implementing specific policies, but more importantly for developing new ways to regularly deal with the increasing risks their populations are facing.

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Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.

"In India's developmental journey, tribals have been left behind". Critically analyse. (250 words)

Downtoearth

Why this question:

The question seeks to study the impact of development process on the tribal communities in India.

Key demand of the question:

One has to critically present in what way tribal communities have been on the rear end of receiving benefits of the development strategy.

Directive:

Critically analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary. When 'critically' is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgment.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Start introduction by giving some data justifying the statement. Like, overall poverty in India is 21.9%, whereas for tribal population it stands at 46%.

You may even start by briefly describing the distribution of tribal population in India, supported by data.

Body:

Start by explaining how development has had negative impact on tribals overall socio economic development. For eg. Forced migration, loss of livelihood, displacement, acculturation issues, etc.

Refer report by Virginius Xaxa committee.

Add case study and maps to support your discussions above. For eg. Niyamgiri hills-Vedanta group case, Sardar sarovar dam case, Can also add data on development indicators like MMR, IMR, Literacy rate ,etc .of the tribal populations on mineral rich regions.

Have a discussion on the positive impacts of development on tribal population. For eg. Under khanij kshetra kalyan yojana 60% funds of District mineral funds will be spent on areas like health, sanitation etc.

In way forward show the different measures and recent schemes by Govt. for tribal development such as FRA, PESA, Tribal sub plan approach, Van bandhu scheme, Eklavya scheme,etc.

Conclusion:

Conclude with way ahead.

Introduction:

Tribal people constitute 8.6% of the nation's total population, over 104 million people according to the 2011 census. The forest occupies a central position in tribal culture and economy. The tribal way of life is very much dictated by the forest right from birth to death. Despite protection given to the tribal population by the constitution of India, tribals still remain the most backward ethnic group in India. Globalization has various dimensions which sometimes affect tribal communities positively and sometimes negatively.

Body:

Negative impacts of the India's developmental journey on the tribes:

- **Resource exploitation:**
 - The policy of liberalization and the new state perceptions of utilization of resources are diametrically opposed to the adivasi worldview of resource exploitation and this



divide has only widened further with the intrusion of globalization's market oriented philosophy of development.

- The recent rapid technological advancement and unrivalled economic and political strength of world capitalism have created favourable conditions for the evasion and extraction of natural resources from the ecologically fragile territories of tribal people.
- All available laws those relating to lands, forests, minor forest produce, water resources, etc. restrain people from using forests.
- Primary resources such as fuel, fodder and minor forest produce which were available free to villagers are today either non-existent or have to be brought commercially.
- For the Tribals, globalization is associated with rising prices, loss of job security and lack of health care.
- **Displacement:**
 - Since the emergence of liberalization, privatization and globalization (LPG), the areas inhabited by tribal population have been subject to various protests due to involuntary displacement.
 - Thus, forced evictions of tribals make way for mammoth capital-intensive development projects have become a distressing routine and ever-increasing phenomenon.
- **Vested interests:**
 - In the name of upgradation of lifestyle of poor indigenous tribal people, the market forces have created wealth for their interests at the cost of livelihood and security of these tribes in the areas.
- **Unemployment:**
 - There is a heavy concentration of industrial and mining activities in the central belt. Despite intense industrial activity in the central Indian tribal belt, the tribal employment in modern enterprises is negligible.
 - Apart from the provisions of Apprenticeship Act, there is no stipulation for private or joint sector enterprises to recruit certain percentage of dispossessed tribal workforce.
 - They are forced onto the ever-expanding low paid, insecure, transient and destitute labour market.
 - About 40 per cent of the tribals of central India supplement their income by participating in this distorted and over exploitative capitalist sector.
- **Affecting social life:**
 - Many more are slowly crushed into oblivion in their homeland or in urban slums. Their economic and cultural survival is at stake.



- The globalization behemoth has added new dimensions to the vulnerability of India's downtrodden by exacerbating their social exclusion, and making large segments of tribal groups also vulnerable and excluded.
- **Leading to subnational movements:**
 - Inadequate social and economic infrastructure in areas that have insufficient resources for participation in mainstream development also has been at the root of various "sub-national movements" such as the Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and Bodoland.
- **Tribal women:**
 - Tribal forest economy is primarily a women's economy, and it is women who are most directly affected by the corporate exploitation of their traditional lands.
 - In poverty stricken tribal areas large scale migration has revealed the increasing movement of young women towards urban centres in search of work.
 - Their living conditions are unhygienic, the salary is poor and tribal women are vulnerable to
 - exploitation by unscrupulous agents.
 - They have become the prime targets of sexual violation by managers, supervisors and even fellow male workers in the plantation industrial sectors.
- **Informal jobs:**
 - Construction sites, such as mines and quarries, and industrial complexes spelt doom for the local adivasi communities with the influx of immigrant labourers.
- **Cultural Defacement:**
 - Tribals are being forcefully integrated in to the society leading to them losing their unique cultural features and their habitat threatened.

Way forward:

- The High-Level Committee (Virginius Xaxa committee) has made numerous recommendations such as exclusive mining rights for tribals, greater freedom for tribals to make decisions on land acquisition and other common property resources and, strict implementation of the new land law, Forest Rights Act and strengthening of the PESA.
- It has also proposed a complete overhaul of the legal constitutional regime by recommending that laws and policies enacted by the Parliament and state legislatures shouldn't be applied automatically in the Fifth Schedule areas.
- State government should be made to obtain permissions from owners and occupiers of land for major minerals, and consult with **gram Sabha** in 5th and 6th schedule areas for minor minerals.
- It should be mandated that all clearances (forest and environment) under forest conservation act and wildlife protection act should be taken before a lease was given.



- Tribal cooperatives should be made eligible for grant of license of minor minerals in 5th and 6th schedule areas.

Conclusion:

Although, these recommendations are progressive, the lack of political will to implement them, especially in the wake of greater push for industrialization by the present government, may become a major stumbling block. The government should ensure the distorted and over-exploitative capitalist sector doesn't end up in committing ethnocide by putting their economic and cultural survival at stake.

Do you think that effectiveness of the existing affirmative actions and social programmes has improved the socio-economic status of the marginalized groups in India? Critically analyse.(250 words)

Livemint

Why this question:

The article covers a deeper analysis on the extent of economic mobility in India.

Key demand of the question:

One must bring out the effectiveness of the existing affirmative actions and social programmes have improved the socio-economic status of the marginalized groups in India.

Directive:

Critically analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary. When ‘critically’ is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgment.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Start by stating that there has been a phenomenal rise in economic inequality in India, especially in the post-1991 liberalization period.

Body:

One should start answers to such questions using suitable statistical data to justify the context of the question.

Define what economic mobility is.

Explain that given this dramatic rise in inequality, it is imperative to accurately measure the extent of economic mobility in India, which reflects the number of people moving up and down the economic ladder over time.

Conclusion:

Conclude with way ahead.

Introduction:

The dramatic rise in inequality in India has made it imperative to accurately measure the extent of economic mobility in India, which reflects the number of people moving up and down the economic ladder over time. Despite various strategies to alleviate poverty, hunger, malnourishment, illiteracy and lack of basic amenities continue to be a common feature in many parts of India.

Body:

Rising inequality in India:

- There has been a phenomenal rise in economic inequality in India, especially in the post-1991 liberalization period.
- A 2018 Oxfam study reports a significant increase in the consumption Gini index (a statistical measure of inequality) in both rural and urban areas from 1993-94 to 2011-12.



- According to the Global Wealth Report (GWR) 2017, put out by the Credit Suisse Research Institute, between 2002 and 2012, the share of the bottom 50% of the population in total wealth declined from 8.1% to only 4.2%.
- In contrast, over the same time period, the share of the top 1% in total wealth increased from 15.7% to 25.7%.
- Among the countries for which the GWR gives the share of wealth held by the top 1%, only Indonesia and the US have higher shares than India.

Various affirmative actions and social programmes in India since Independence:

- Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP):** It was introduced in 1978-79 and universalized from 2nd October, 1980, aimed at providing assistance to the rural poor in the form of subsidy and bank credit for productive employment opportunities through successive plan periods.
- Jawahar Rozgar Yojana/Jawahar Gram Samriddhi Yojana:** The JRY was meant to generate meaningful employment opportunities for the unemployed and underemployed in rural areas through the creation of economic infrastructure and community and social assets.
- Rural Housing – Indira Awaas Yojana:** The Indira Awaas Yojana (LAY) programme aims at providing free housing to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in rural areas and main targets would be the households of SC/STs.
- Food for Work Programme:** It aims at enhancing food security through wage employment. Food grains are supplied to states free of cost, however, the supply of food grains from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns has been slow.
- National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS):** This pension is given by the central government. The job of implementation of this scheme in states and union territories is given to panchayats and municipalities. The state's contribution may vary depending on the state. The amount of old age pension is ₹200 per month for applicants aged 60–79. For applicants aged above 80 years, the amount has been revised to ₹500 a month according to the 2011–2012 Budget. It is a successful venture.
- Annapurna:** This scheme was started by the government in 1999–2000 to provide food to senior citizens who cannot take care of themselves and are not under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), and who have no one to take care of them in their village. This scheme would provide 10 kg of free food grains a month for the eligible senior citizens. They mostly target groups of 'poorest of the poor' and 'indigent senior citizens'.
- Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY):** The main objective of the scheme continues to be the generation of wage employment, creation of durable economic infrastructure in rural areas and provision of food and nutrition security for the poor.
- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) 2005:** The Act provides 100 days assured employment every year to every rural household. One-third of the proposed jobs would be reserved for women. The central government will also establish National Employment Guarantee Funds. Similarly, state governments will establish State Employment Guarantee Funds for implementation of the scheme. Under the programme, if an applicant is not provided employment within 15 days s/he will be entitled to a daily unemployment allowance.



- **National Rural Livelihood Mission: Ajeevika (2011):** It evolves out the need to diversify the needs of the rural poor and provide them jobs with regular income on monthly basis. Self Help groups are formed at the village level to help the needy.
- **National Urban Livelihood Mission:** The NULM focuses on organizing urban poor in Self Help Groups, creating opportunities for skill development leading to market-based employment and helping them to set up self-employment ventures by ensuring easy access to credit.
- **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana:** It will focus on fresh entrant to the labour market, especially labour market and class X and XII dropouts.
- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana:** It aimed at direct benefit transfer of subsidy, pension, insurance etc. and attained the target of opening 1.5 crore bank accounts. The scheme particularly targets the unbanked poor.

Assessment:

- However, none resulted in any radical change in the ownership of assets, process of production and improvement of basic amenities to the needy.
- Scholars, while assessing these programmes, state three major areas of concern which prevent their successful implementation. Due to unequal distribution of land and other assets, the benefits from direct poverty alleviation programmes have been appropriated by the non-poor.
- Compared to the magnitude of poverty, the amount of resources allocated for these programmes is not sufficient. Moreover, these programmes depend mainly on government and bank officials for their implementation.
- Since such officials are ill motivated, inadequately trained, corruption prone and vulnerable to pressure from a variety of local elites, the resources are inefficiently used and wasted. There is also non-participation of local level institutions in programme implementation.
- Government policies have also failed to address the vast majority of vulnerable people who are living on or just above the poverty line. It also reveals that high growth alone is not sufficient to reduce poverty.
- Without the active participation of the poor, successful implementation of any programme is not possible

Way forward:

- Sustainable attack on mass poverty should be focused on job creation in the modern sectors of the economy rather than redistribution through fiscal spending.
- Indian government first needs to set up strong agriculture-friendly policies that benefit both small farmers and landless workers, in order to curb distressed migration from rural areas.
- Urban growth has to be based on labour-intensive industrialization, so that enough jobs exist for both people who leave rural areas and the millions working in the informal sector.
- Moderating income inequality will be essential for closing gaps in education, health and nutrition outcomes.



- Tackling prejudice and social exclusion will require other fundamental interventions like strengthening the agency, voice and political participation of such groups so that they can be empowered to shape their environment, and the decision making processes that matter for their well-being.
- Inclusive growth can be promoted through three principal routes:
 - By changing the patterns of economic growth such that the incomes of low-income households grow more than the average
 - Through redistributive measures that contribute to growth while reducing inequality
 - By expanding opportunities for low-income households and disadvantaged groups to access employment and income generation options.
- **Small and Medium Enterprise Promotion:**
- To help small and medium enterprises adopt new technologies and access new markets, governments can act as facilitators of information on topics such as improved production methods, products and markets, technical support services and vocational training.
- Governments can also strengthen business links between small and medium enterprises, large enterprises and government by providing incentives for contracting with small and medium enterprises.
- **Labour market policies:**
 - In addition to employment creation, there is growing recognition that fostering inclusive growth requires stronger labour market institutions.
 - While action to tackle inequality must be taken at country level, it should be emphasized that decisive progress will be possible only in the presence of conducive international policy frameworks.
- **Community-based programmes and social spending:**
 - Interventions that support participatory, community-based programmes focused on improving outcomes in education, health and nutrition can also have an important impact in closing gaps in well-being.
 - Study from 150 countries show that overall, investment in public services and social protection can tackle inequality.

Discuss the change on Indian family structure post the effect of Industrialization and urbanization. (250 words)

Indian society NCERT class XI and XII

Why this question:

The question expects discussion on changing nature of Indian families brought by industrialization and urbanization or primarily by change in economic structure of society.

Key demand of the question:

One has to bring out the change on Indian family structure post the effect of Industrialization and urbanization.

Directive:



Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Provide introductory lines on earlier Indian societies which were mostly joint or extended.

Body:

Give reasons why Indian families were joint or extended earlier.

Explain why and how industrialization and urbanization changing family structure.

Mention negative changes also mention positive changes brought by it like effect of it on women in family.

Conclusion:

Provide for a balanced conclusion and prescribe innovative way to preserve Indian family set up.

Introduction:

Indian family system has undergone drastic change in response to development in terms of industrialization, education and urbanization. Industrialization and urbanization, leading to accelerated rate of rural-urban migration, diversification of gainful economic activities and individual-friendly property laws, have had consequential impact in terms of drastic reduction in the size of family in the country.

Body:

In India, the old traditional joint family system no longer continues. It was patriarchal in nature, its size was large, status of women in the family was very low, members of family had no individual identity, and the decision-making power lied exclusively with the eldest male member of the family.

Structural changes in Indian family:

L.P. Desai studied urban families (in Mahuwa in Gujarat) in 1955 and found that:

- Nuclearity is increasing and jointness is decreasing;
- Spirit of individualism is not growing, as about half of the households are joint with other households; and
- The radius of kinship relations within the circle of jointness is becoming smaller.
- The joint relations are mostly confined to parents-children, siblings, and uncles-nephews, i.e., lineal relationship is found between father, son and grandson, and the collateral relationship is found between a man and his brothers and uncles.

Kapadia studied rural and urban families (18% urban and 82% rural) in Gujarat (Navasari town and its 15 surrounding villages) in 1955. His main conclusions were:

- In the rural community, the proportion of joint families is almost the same as that of the nuclear families.
- Viewed in terms of castes, in villages, higher castes have predominantly joint family while lower castes show a greater incidence of nuclear family.
- In the urban community, there are more joint families than nuclear families.



- In the 'impact' villages (i.e., villages within the radius of 7 to 8 km from a town), the family pattern closely resembles the rural pattern and has no correspondence with the urban pattern.
- Taking all areas (rural, urban and impact) together, it may be held that joint family structure is not being nuclearised.
- The difference in the rural and the urban family patterns is the result of modification of the caste pattern by economic factors.

Ross studied only Hindu families in an urban setting (Bangalore in Karnataka state) in 1957, She found that:

- The trend of family form is towards a breakaway from the traditional joint family form into nuclear family units.
- The small joint family is now the most typical form of family life.
- A growing number of people now spend at least part of their lives in single family units.
- Living in several types of family during life-time seems so widespread that we can talk of a cycle of family types as being the normal sequence for city-dwellers.
- Distant relatives are less important to the present generation than they were to their parents and grand-parents.
- City-dweller son has become more spatially separated from all relatives.

Taking the above studies on structural changes in family together, we conclude:

- The number of fissioned families is increasing but even living separately, they fulfil their traditional obligations towards their parental families.
- There is more jointness in traditional (rural) communities and more nuclearity in communities exposed to forces of industrialisation, urbanisation and westernisation.
- The size of the (traditional) joint family has become smaller.
- So long the old cultural values persist among people, the functional type of joint family will be sustained in our society.
- Changes from 'traditional' to 'transitional' family include trends toward new-local residence, functional jointness, equality of individuals, equal status for women, increasing opportunity to individual members to achieve their aspirations and the weakening of family norms.

Conclusion:

Despite the continuous and growing impact of urbanization and westernization, the traditional joint household, both in ideal and in practice, remains the primary social force among Indians and joint family- an ancient Indian institution is the most widely desired residential unit. But it has undergone some change in the late twentieth century due to variety of reasons, including the need for some members to move from village to city, or from one city to another for employment opportunities.

As the Indian family and their mind set up is not well prepared to fast growing and ever changing present competitive and challenging world, this change in societal norms and lifestyle are becoming



a threatening to Indian family structures with increase in several socio-psychological problems. Therefore, it becomes imperative for the government and decision makers to pay attention towards the impact of this societal change in family structures and its probable consequences.

Role of women and women's organization

What do you understand by 'Sarpanch Pati' in the context of Indian society? Examine the causative factors and impact of such culture. (150 words)

Reference

Why this question:

Panchayati Raj institutions are a watershed in India's democratic history as they not only percolated democratic decentralization to the grassroots level but also made a giant leap in women empowerment by granting them 33% reservation. This decentralization model has its own blend of realism and tokenism. The question critically analyses Role of Women in Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Key demand of the question:

One must bring out the drawbacks of the phenomena of Sarpanch pati, discuss the challenges it poses and one should suggest solutions to such a concern.

Directive:

Examine – When asked to 'Examine', we must look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Briefly introduce the phenomenon of Sarpanch pati.

Body:

Explain first the reasons behind emergence of this phenomenon – Poor social status of women, lack of education, social barriers placed by the traditional orthodox and parochial society, absence of recognition of women and their contributions etc.

Discuss the impact of it.

Conclusion:

Conclude by suggesting what needs to be done and how can such a situation be overcome.

Introduction:

The **73rd constitutional amendment** constitutionalized the local self-government with reservation of one third seats in Panchayats for women. A number of states raised the quantum of reserved seats to fifty percent. This was aimed at empowering women and ensuring their participation in political process and decision making at grass root level.

However, due to poor socio-economic status of women and prevailing patriarchal set-up, the intended benefit of emergence of women leadership at Panchayat level was not fully realized. The effective political power and decision making is wielded by husbands of elected women representatives. This phenomenon is referred to as '**sarpanch-pati**'.

Body:

Prime Minister called for an end to the practice of "husbands of women sarpanches" or "sarpanch pati" exercising undue influence on the work of their wives elected to power.

Causative factors:

- **Poor socio-economic status of women:** Women in general have poor access to education, they are restricted to domestic spaces, they lack economic independence, they are not allowed participation in decision making at family level. This situation of lower social status results in



them being mere 'titular heads' and hampers their ability to challenge their husbands. In most cases, such "takeovers" have happened without the wife's consent.

- The lack of information and knowledge about government programs especially for both women and child development poses problems. However, again limited exposure to formal education breeds information gap and dependency on second-hand knowledge. In fact, consequently, political lineage determines the distribution of benefits of the different schemes.
- **Socio-Cultural barriers due to traditional society:** Indian society in villages is still traditional and conservative e.g. in rural areas tradition of parda or veil is very strong especially North Indian states, women are discouraged in public spaces, even government officials at local level avoid talking to women due to conservative outlook. The veil, when imposed on women, severely hinders their public participation. This gives de facto control to Husbands in day to day activities of panchayats. Even in Gram Sabha meetings Husbands of elected representative take charge.
- **Absence of government initiative:** Despite this widespread phenomenon, government failed to act against the practice, either through a strong deterrence through law or through public awareness.
- **Dual responsibility:** Women traditionally burdened with domestic workers face difficulties in balancing the official work with their home.
- The communication problem hinders performance as most of the correspondences, rules and also the regulations are in English.
- Due to the lack of exposure and experience women, members face difficulty in asserting themselves. And the fact that the majority of women enter politics through reservation and kinship arrangement only accentuates this problem.

Impacts of Sarpanch-pati system:

- Disempowerment of women: This phenomenon hinders the intended empowerment of women which was one of the aims of 73rd constitutional amendments through reservation of seats. In terms of social status of women, the status-quo is maintained.
- Poor implementation of law: This phenomenon effectively manipulates the law effectively preventing its implementation in letter and spirit. The rule of law in such situation is casualty to social prejudices against women.
- Lack of opportunity in decision making: this phenomenon reduces women's ability to participate in decision making at village level.

Conclusion:

Reservation of seats in Panchayats was revolutionary step for the empowerment of women. However, for this to be effective government should address the phenomenon of 'sarpanch pati' through an effective law by outlawing such practice. capacity building of women in matters of governance, raising society's awareness about women rights and sensitizing bureaucracy about importance of women participation at panchayat level.

"It was a strong belief of Mahatma Gandhi that in the non-violent struggle of Swaraj, the women of India can leave behind men by a mile." Comment. (250 words)

Why this question:



For Mahatma Gandhi, Swaraj was not just liberation from foreign rule. It was a multi-dimensional concept. The question aims to ascertain the role of women in Swaraj.

Key demand of the question:

Explain the significant role women played in attaining Swaraj for India.

Directive:

Comment – here we have to express our knowledge and understanding of the issue and form an overall opinion thereupon.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Introduce by explaining the Gandhian concept of Swaraj.

Body:

Explain first the idea of women empowerment as suggested by Mahatma Gandhi – According to Gandhiji, traits like perseverance and peaceful resistance of authority should be the ideals of women in India. They are the symbol of moral power.

Gandhian movements helped women shed their deep-rooted sense of inferiority and rise to dignity and self-esteem.

Gandhiji was against evil socio-religious practices like child marriage, purdah system, dowry system, etc.

Quote some women leaders during the period of struggle for Swaraj and highlight their significant role.

Conclusion:

Conclude that Women's entry into national politics through non-violent methods brought miraculous results. On one hand, women became aware of their inner strength, and on the other, the process brought human and moral elements into politics.

Introduction:

Gandhiji was an ardent believer in equality and relentlessly spoke of women empowerment.

Gandhiji said that '*Women is the companion of man, gifted with equal mental capacity*'.

Body:

Gandhiji's perception of women:

- There was a marked departure of Gandhi's perception of women from that of other reformers. The stance taken by other social reformers and leaders, prior to Gandhi created a helpless image of the Indian women.
- With the emergence of Gandhi, a new conception of women gradually gained currency. For Gandhi, women were not mere toys in the hands of men, neither their competitors.
- Men and women are essentially endowed with the same spirit and therefore have similar problems. Women are at par with men, one complementing the other.
- According to Gandhi, education for women was the need of the time that would ensure their moral development and make them capable of occupying the same platform as that of men.
- In Gandhi's views, women can never be considered to be the weaker sex.
- In fact, women for Gandhi were embodiments of virtues like knowledge, humility, tolerance, sacrifice and faith.
- These qualities were essential prerequisites for imbibing the virtue of satyagraha.



- The capability of enduring endless suffering can be witnessed only in the women, according to the Mahatma.
- The doctrine of ahimsa as preached by Gandhi incorporates the virtue of suffering as is evident in the women.
- Therefore, Gandhi envisaged a critical role for women in establishing non-violence. Gandhi invoked the instances of ancient role models who were epitomes of Indian womanhood, like Draupadi, Savitri, Sita and Damayanti, to show that Indian women could never be feeble.
- Women have equal mental abilities as that of men an equal right to freedom.
- To sum up in Gandhi's words; "The wife is not the husband's slave but his companion and his help-mate and an equal partner in all his joys and sorrows - as free as the husband to choose her own path."

Role of Women as Envisaged by Gandhi:

- According to Gandhi, the role of women in the political, economic and social emancipation of the country was of overriding importance.
- Gandhi had immense faith in the capability of women to carry on a nonviolent crusade. Under his guidance and leadership, women shouldered critical responsibilities in India's struggle for freedom.
- Women held public meetings, organized picketing of shops selling foreign alcohol and articles, sold Khadi and actively participated in National Movements.
- They bravely faced the baton of the police and even went behind the bars.
- Gandhi's urge to women to join India's struggle for independence was instrumental in transforming the outlook of women.
- Swaraj uprooted age old taboos and restrictive customs. Through their participation in Indian struggle for freedom, women of India broke down the shackles of oppression that had relegated them to a secondary position from time immemorial.
- As far as the economic emancipation of women was concerned, Gandhi felt that men and women had different spheres of work.
- In his opinion, women could take to economic activities to supplement the income of her families like spinning, which he believed to be a good option available to the women.
- In the social realm, Gandhi envisaged a critical role for women in doing away with the forces of communalism, caste system and untouchability.

Conclusion:

It can be said without an iota of doubt that Mahatma Gandhi was indeed one of the greatest advocates of women's liberty and all throughout his life toiled relentlessly to improve the status of women in his country. His faith in their immense capabilities found expression in his decisions to bestow leadership to them in various nationalistic endeavours.



Population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues.

With India's double whammy of under nutrition co-existing with equally high and increasing rates of over nutrition, there is a pressing need for reshaping India's nutrition policy with a focus on diet-related diseases. Discuss. (250 words)

The hindu

Why this question:

Data from the first-ever national nutrition survey conducted by the Centre, yet to be made public, shows that obesity and under nutrition coexist in India, among children. Health experts have raised concerns over the delay in release of the survey.

Key demand of the question:

One has to explain the prevalence of the double whammy facing the country and the causes leading to it along with solutions to overcome the situation.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief discuss the Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey and its findings.

Body:

Bring out the key findings of the survey such as – Out of the children in the age group of 5-9 years and adolescents in the age group of 10-19 years are

10% are pre-diabetic

5% are overweight

5% suffer from blood pressure.

The study found prevalence of indicators of non-communicable diseases alongside indicators of under nutrition shown by various NFHS surveys such as stunting, wasting and underweight.

The survey provides for the first time hard evidence of the coexistence of obesity and under nutrition, among school-going children.

Discuss the key role that India's nutrition policy has to play to address the concerns.

Conclusion:

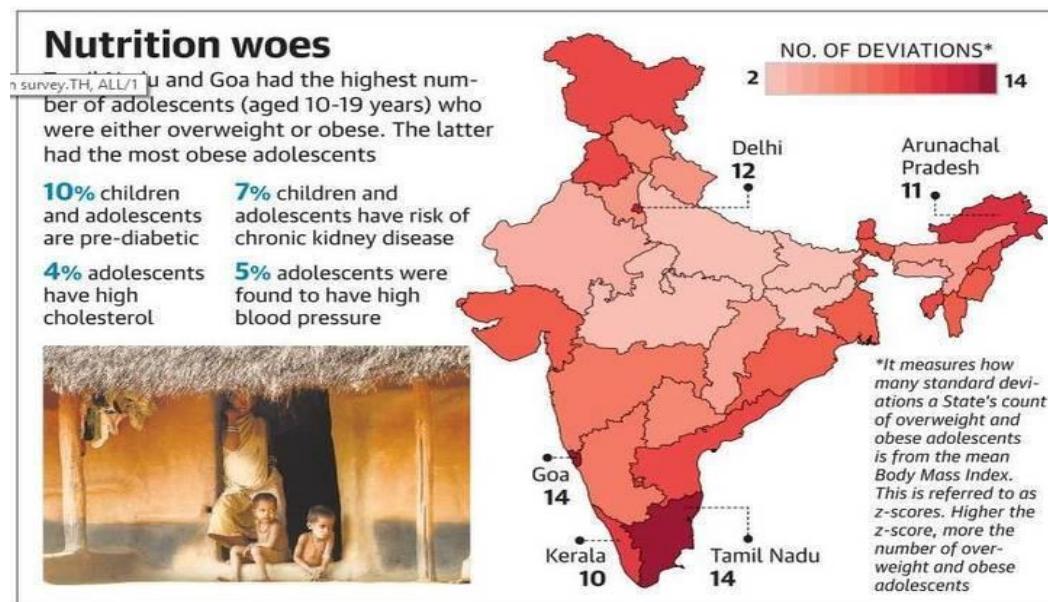
Conclude with need for revamping national nutrition policy in addressing the issues.

Introduction:

The key findings of the first-ever national nutrition survey conducted by the Centre, yet to be made public, providing for the first time hard evidence of the coexistence of obesity and undernutrition, among school going children. The survey recorded malnutrition that included micronutrient deficiencies and details of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, cholesterol and kidney function in children and adolescents.

Body:

Key findings of the survey:



The **National Nutrition Policy in 1993**, with Women and Child Development (WCD) ministry as the nodal department, was designed as a multi-sectoral strategy for eradicating malnutrition and achieving appropriate nutritional status for all. Alas, **targets for 2000 AD could not be achieved** as there is general consensus that among nearly **40% of under-five children deaths**, malnutrition is a major contributor.

Key features of the National Nutrition Strategy include:

- The Strategy aims to reduce all forms of malnutrition by 2030, with a focus on the most vulnerable and critical age groups. The Strategy also aims to assist in achieving the targets identified as part of the Sustainable Development Goals related to nutrition and health.
- The Strategy aims to launch a National Nutrition Mission, similar to the National Health Mission. This is to enable integration of nutrition-related interventions cutting across sectors like women and child development, health, food and public distribution, sanitation, drinking water, and rural development.
- A decentralised approach will be promoted with greater flexibility and decision making at the state, district and local levels.
- Further, the Strategy aims to strengthen the ownership of Panchayati Raj institutions and urban local bodies over nutrition initiatives
- The Strategy proposes to launch interventions with a focus on improving healthcare and nutrition among children as well as mothers.
- Governance reforms envisaged in the Strategy include: (i) convergence of state and district implementation plans for ICDS, NHM and Swachh Bharat, (ii) focus on the most vulnerable communities in districts with the highest levels of child malnutrition, and (iii) service delivery models based on evidence of impact.

Measures needed:

The following steps must be taken in policy action across 6 key areas viz.

- creating sustainable, resilient food systems for healthy diets;



- providing social protection and nutrition-related education for all;
- aligning health systems to nutrition needs, and providing universal coverage of essential nutrition interventions;
- ensuring that trade and investment policies improve nutrition;
- building safe and supportive environments for nutrition at all ages; and
- Strengthening and promoting nutrition governance and accountability, everywhere.

Conclusion:

According to M S Swaminathan, to promote nutrient value food production, a **multi-pronged strategy involving academic institutions, government, scientists and farmers** should be evolved. Boosting nutrition levels as well as tackling obesity across the country is one of the biggest low hanging fruit in the Indian public policy sphere.

Do you think insistence on two-child norm for government jobs is a fair stand-in for investments in health, education, nutrition? Critically analyse in the light of such policies adopted by some of the Indian state governments.(250 words)

Indianexpress

Why this question:

Recently, the Assam government announced that people with more than two children will not be eligible for government jobs from January 2021. Assam will become the fourth state after Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan to have a two-child norm in place for government jobs.

Key demand of the question:

The answer must analyse the consequences of such a policy. One should analyse the pros and cons with suitable justifications and form a fair and balanced opinion.

Directive:

Critically analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary. When ‘critically’ is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgment.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Explain two –child policy and its genesis in Indian setup.

Body:

Explain that there is now compelling evidence that measures such as debarring people from holding government office amount to penalising weaker sections of the population, including women, whose reproductive choices are often subject to a variety of constraints. It is unfortunate, therefore, that the Assam government has chosen to ignore the discriminatory nature of the two-child policy.

Almost all surveys indicate that India’s population growth rate has slowed substantially in the last decade. According to the latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4), at 2.2, India’s total fertility rate (TFR) is very close to the desired replacement level of 2.1.

In spite of the fall in TFR, India’s population has continued to grow because nearly 50 per cent of the people are in the age group of 15-49. This means that the absolute population will continue to rise even though couples have less children.

Thus analyse in detail using suitable facts and conclude with critical analysis of such a policy.

Conclusion:

Conclude that the right to seek a government job or contest elections is citizens’ rights. State governments will do well to rethink throttling such rights to enforce population control.

Introduction:



India's Two-Child Policy refers to the family planning laws which restricts the number of children to two for a given couple. Recently, the Assam government announced that people with more than two children will not be eligible for government jobs from January 2021.

Body:**Instances in other states:**

- Assam will become the fourth state after Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan to have a two-child norm in place for government jobs.
- In Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the 1994 Panchayat Raj Act disqualifies a person with more than two children from contesting election. Those who already had more than three could, however, contest these polls.
- In Maharashtra, people having more than two children are barred from contesting gram panchayat and municipal elections.
- Also, the Maharashtra Civil Services (Declaration of Small Family) Rules of 2005 disqualify a person having more than two children from holding a post in the state government. Women are not allowed PDS (public distribution system) benefits if she has more than two children in Maharashtra.
- Rajasthan is more like Assam in declaring candidates with more than two children ineligible for government jobs. The Rajasthan Panchayat Raj Act 1994 makes a person disqualified from contesting panchayat election with a relaxation if one of the two children is a disabled child.
- The Odisha Zilla Parishad Act bars those individuals with more than two children from contesting.

The insistence on two-child policy is criticised due to the following:

- India is a country with a booming technology industry, one that relies on young people. There is fear that, by restricting the number of children that can be born, there will not be enough educated young people in the next generation to carry on India's technological revolution.
- Critics also argue that the population growth of India will slow down naturally as the country grows richer and becomes more educated.
- There are already well-documented problems with China's one-child policy, namely the gender imbalance resulting from a strong preference for boys and millions of undocumented children who were born to parents that already had their one child. These problems risk being replicated in India with the implementation of their two-child policy.
- By interfering with the birth rate, India faces a future with severe negative population growth, a serious problem that most developed countries are trying to reverse. With negative population growth, the number of old people receiving social services is larger than the young tax base that is paying for the social services. In this case, taxes must be increased and young people risk contributing way more than they will receive in the future.
- The law related may also be anti-women. Human rights activists argue that, not only does the law discriminate against women right from birth (through abortion or infanticide of



female foetuses and babies), but divorce and familial abandonment are at risk of increasing if a man with a large family wants to run for political office. In addition, women in India are, by and large, uneducated and illiterate and, as such, are often unaware of the two-child policy.

- A legal restriction to two children could force couples to go for **sex-selective abortions** as there are only two 'attempts'. A significant proportion of such women, especially those from lower socio-economic strata, would be forced to go for unsafe abortions because of issues of access and affordability. Besides being inhumane, this is bound to create gender imbalances.

There is **no need for urgent and aggressive steps to control population** required for India due to:

- It is indeed a fact that population of India is growing and will continue to grow for the next couple of decades. This is because, as compared to the past, there is a higher proportion of people in the marriageable age group who will produce children, and people are now living longer.
- However, the fertility rates are also declining. The average number of children that a woman is expected to bear in her lifetime is called the total fertility rate (TFR). A TFR of about 2.1 is considered as replacement-level fertility – if achieved, it will lead the population to stabilise in the long run.
- As per National Family Health Survey data, the country-level TFR in India is 2.23, which is not hugely above the desired level of 2.1.
- Twenty states/UTs have achieved the replacement-level TFR, another five have got it below 2.2, with the remaining 11 states (including Bihar, UP, MP, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh) having a higher rate. Though these 11 states/UTs account for 42% of country's population, they are already showing a fall in their TFRs.

Conclusion:

The right to seek a government job or contest elections are citizens' rights. State governments will do well to rethink throttling such rights to enforce population control.

The focus of the whole population debate in India has mostly always been on women from sterilisation to reproductive health workers. Critically analyse the causes and suggest way forward.(250 words)

Hindustantimes

Why this question:

The question aims to ascertain the gender angle associated with population control policies.

Key demand of the question:

The article highlights in detail the causes of prejudicial population policies prevalent in country and why they have always been centered on women.

Directive:

Critically analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary. When 'critically' is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgment.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Highlight in general the population policies of India.

Body:



The article highlights in what way instead of punishing people with the two-child policy, the policy must give them information and tools to make a choice.

Discuss why the policies have always focused on controlling population through women despite the fact that the reproductive rights mostly have remained with Men.

Conclusion:

Conclude with what should be the way forward.

Introduction:

India is forecast to become the world's most populous country in 2030, up from 1.25 billion today to nearly 1.5 billion. India has one of the world's highest rates of female sterilisations, with about 37% of women having the operations, compared with 29% in China, according to the UN. About 4.6 million Indian women were sterilised in 2011 and 2012, according to the government.

Body:

Causes for increased focus on women for sterilization:

- Women continue to bear the burden of family planning in India, with female sterilisation constituting 75% of modern contraceptive methods used.
- The share of condoms is approximately 12% and male sterilisation 0.6%.
- Prevailing myths and social norms pose a huge barrier to men sharing the responsibility for planned families.
- Only a tiny fraction of men choose to have vasectomies. Male sterilisation is viewed as culturally unacceptable in India's conservative society, experts say.
- National Family Health Survey data shows that investing in the education of girls has led to a reduction in fertility rates. Women who have no schooling had the highest Total Fertility Rate of 3.06, while women with 12 or more years of education reported a fertility rate of 1.71.
- Sterilisation camps for women seen as cheaper option than contraceptives in remote villages
- Teaching poorly educated women in remote communities how to use pills or contraceptives is more expensive than the mass sterilisation campaigns.
- Despite successive years of economic growth, governments have systematically chosen the cheaper option.
- Incentives vary, however in the central Indian state of Chhattisgarh – where 14 women have died recently and more 20 are in intensive care after surgery at two government-run sterilisation camps – women were supposed to get about 1,400 rupees (£14), for having the operation, equivalent to nearly two weeks' wages for a manual labourer.
- health advocates worry that paying women is dangerous. The payment is a form of coercion, especially when you are dealing with marginalised communities.
- Local officials in Chhattisgarh say they were set a target by central government of 220,000 sterilisations a year, including 15,000 in Bilaspur, the district where the botched surgeries took place



- One further problem is a gender imbalance, arising from selective abortion of girls or their murder immediately after birth.
- In some communities there are fewer than eight women for every 10 men, with the ratio skewed even further among younger people.

However, female sterilization is not the only way to control population:

- The state authorities assert that state's sterilisation programme is voluntary.
- health officials in Delhi said no such targets for sterilising women had been set since 1998.
- Experts point out that the population control strategy is linked to a series of other problems relating to discrimination against women and marginalised communities.
- In Indian states where female literacy is higher the fertility rates are lower.

Measures needed:

- Rather than enforcing punitive policies, we need empowering actions that give girls and women the ability to exercise their rights – as Government aims to do through the “Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao” campaign.
- higher public investments, more appropriate spending and increased focus on the requirements of young people, so that every couple is able to plan their families as per their desire and needs.
- Sexual education and sanitation and hygiene should be promoted for the sexual health well-being of the women.

Conclusion:

When women lack control over their own fertility decisions, they become collateral damage in the event of a coercive population policy. That is a very heavy price to pay, especially with our adverse sex ratio.

Urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

Urbanization is considered as an agent of socio-economic growth. Do you think Indian Urbanization has helped in India's socio economic growth? Discuss.(250 words)

Reference

Why this question:

The question is based on the theme of urbanization and its impact on socio-economic growth.

Key demand of the question:

The answer must discuss in detail the effect of urbanization as an agent of socio-economic growth.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Quote – Urbanization in India increased from 28.53% in 2001 census, to 31.16% as per 2011 census. In 2017, the numbers increased to 34%, according to The World Bank.

Body:



Discuss the following aspects:

Discuss why urbanization is considered as an agent of growth. Like increase in employment opportunities, poverty reduction, women empowerment, access to better basic amenities, modernization, etc.

In next part, discuss in Indian context benefit of urbanization on socio economic growth. For eg. Poverty reduction, etc.

Discuss the challenges Indian urbanization is facing and that it has not led to the intended benefits. Can mention World banks report on urbanization. For eg. Messy and hidden urbanization(Messy urbanization is reflected in the almost 65.5 million Indians who, according to the country's 2011 Census, live in urban slums, as well as the 13.7 percent of the urban population that lived below the national poverty line in 2011), unplanned and haphazard urbanization leading to problems like water shortage, environmental problems, hazards(eg. Chennai floods), concretization, heat island effect, poor policy for migrants, etc.

Conclusion:

Conclude by mentioning the steps taken by the government to deal with the same. Or conclude by mentioning strategies that should be put in place to leverage the benefit of urbanization and deal with the challenges.

Introduction:

Since historic times cities are engines of economic growth and innovation. It is said that, cities, not nation-states, are the main players in macroeconomics. According to The Economic Survey, from 1991 to 2011, the percentage of India's population that lives in cities and towns has increased from a quarter to a third and this segment produces more than three-fifths of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). India will be the third-largest economy by 2025 (HSBC 2018). Powering that growth is the country's urbanisation, which is accelerating rapidly in absolute numbers, although not as fast if considering decadal growth rates. Urbanization acts as a two-edged sword, as it brings prosperity but also new challenges along with it.

Body:

Urbanization and Socio-Economic Growth:

- Over the last two decades, cities have emerged as the world's economic platforms for production, innovation and trade.
- The rapid economic growth usually associated with urbanisation can be partially attributed to **structural transformation**, as labour moves from the agricultural sector to industry and services.
- Urban areas offer significant opportunities for both formal and informal employment, generating a sizeable share of new private sector jobs.
- Urbanization has helped millions escape poverty through increased productivity, employment opportunities, improved quality of life and large-scale investment in infrastructure and services.
- The transformative power of urbanization has in part, been facilitated by the rapid deployment of Information and Communications Technology.
- It can also be attributed to agglomeration and scale economies, as proximity and density reduce the per capita costs of providing infrastructure and service.
- Urbanization helps in creating knowledge spill-overs and specialisation that hugely enhance the productivity of urban residents.



On the other hand, Urbanization has also posed many Socio-Economic challenges:

- The sheer magnitude of the urban population, haphazard and unplanned growth of urban areas, and a desperate lack of infrastructure are the main causes of such a situation.
- **Poverty, unemployment and under employment among the rural immigrants, beggary, thefts, dacoities, burglaries and other social evils** are on rampage.
- Urban sprawl is rapidly encroaching the precious agricultural land.
- **Overcrowding:** The urban population of India had already crossed the 285 million mark by 2001. By 2030, more than 50 per cent of India's population is expected to live in urban areas.
- **Migration:** Migration will continue as urban areas act as a center of economic growth. Problem of slums is about to increase and thus leading to health challenges for public health system.
- **Unemployment:** The problem of unemployment is no less serious than the problem of housing mentioned above. Urban unemployment in India is estimated at 15 to 25 per cent of the labour force. This percentage is even higher among the educated people.
- **Poverty:** Urban poverty has a very peculiar character. Street vendors and people in other informal sector, women, children and old age population will suffer most from the deteriorating urban ecology.
- The rapid growth of urban population both natural and through migration, has put heavy pressure on public utilities like housing, sanitation, transport, water, electricity, health, education and so on.
- **Housing:** It has been already observed now the cost of living is too high in metropolitan areas. Crumbling infrastructure in public services has to be managed on far footings.
- **Slums and Squatter Settlements:** The natural sequel of unchecked, unplanned and haphazard growth of urban areas is the growth and spread of slums and squatter settlements which present a striking feature in the ecological structure of Indian cities, especially of metropolitan centres.
- **Urban Crime:** Growing materialism, consumerism, competition in everyday life, selfishness, lavishness, appalling socio-economic disparities and rising unemployment and feeling of loneliness in the crowd are some of the primary causes responsible for alarming trends in urban crime.
- Not only the poor, deprived and slum dwellers take to crime; youngsters from well-to-do families also resort to crime in order to make fast buck and for meeting requirements of a lavish life. Occasional failures in life also drag youngsters to crime.
- **Environmental challenges:** growth in man-made and natural disasters is another challenge because of unplanned cities. Urban island effects have already been observed in urban setup. Ex: Chennai flood in 2015.
- **Urban Pollution:** With rapid pace of urbanisation, industries and transport systems grow rather out of proportion. These developments are primarily responsible for pollution of environment, particularly the urban environment.



- **Service delivery:** Urban local government will have to do a gigantic task of timely service delivery as there is paradigm shift in public administration towards new public management.
- **Planning:** The new challenge today is management of rural urban fringe as the expansion of urban fringes is taking place at rapid pace. There is need of immediate long term planning for sustainable development of areas in fringes.
- **Solid waste management:** In case of waste management issue, nuclear, cyber and plastic waste will create a big challenge for clean and pollution free urban environment.
- **Transport and communication:** The future challenge will be linked with the urban transport facilities. Roads are congested; rail and metro network is inadequate resulting into movement within the city being slow and tiring.

Measures needed:

- The first and foremost importance has to be given to the providing human face to urban development. Playgrounds, green belts, open spaces, footpaths, public gardens have to be deliberately created in order to create an environment of sustainability.
- Digital India program and Information technology solutions must be made available at affordable cost to all segments of society. Bridging the existing digital divide is priority for true democratic setup of urban areas. Harnessing the power of ICT, NeGP, NOFN etc.
- The recent policy proposal by government to focus on fringe areas is a welcoming step.
- Waste management has to be addressed at point of generation only. The case of Pune can provide some guideline in this case as it has a unique model of contractual system for efficient and segregation of urban waste.
- Infrastructure has to follow the green norms. Revival of tradition water structure can provide best solutions for water need of urban areas.
- The flagship schemes like the Smart Cities, AMRUT, Housing for All, HRIDAY and Swachh Bharat are aimed at not only addressing various deficits to provide better urban governance, but also seek to make Indian cities and towns hubs of growth and sustainable development.
- A series of reforms through incentives and disincentives have been put in place to achieve these goals. Incentives for universal housing, giving infrastructure status to affordable housing, allowing FDI and providing income tax exemption are among the important measures taken.
- Also, the government is promoting innovative measures like waste-to-energy, waste-to-compost and the reuse of construction and demolition waste as part of sustainable urbanisation.

Way forward:

- ‘Housing for All’ policy should be pursued with a vigorous annual review that ranks States on the basis of performance. The Centre should also take its own National Urban Transport Policy on developing cities around mobility networks seriously.



- Urban governance policies, although mainly in the domain of the States, must be aligned with national commitments on reduction of carbon emissions under the Paris Agreement, and to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 11.
- There is a need for a plan of action to achieve sustainable human settlements. It should ensure adequate shelter, water, energy, sanitation and solid waste management, along with other elements.
- There is a need for proper planning and various deficits relating to infrastructure, housing, slum upgradation, reduce pollution, employment, education and health in urban areas need to be through public and private participation.

Conclusion:

Cities are living ecosystems. They need to be managed accordingly. Rather than going by populist measures or sticking to the original master plans, local solutions to local problems, innovative, in situ and tailor made solutions should be evolved, adapted and adhered to. Authorities need to be willing to learn, evolve and discard if necessary.

Effects of globalization on Indian society

Trace the impact of Globalisation on the Indian economy from past to present.(250 words)

Reference

Why this question:

The question is from the static portions of Paper-I and is straightforward.

Key demand of the question:

The answer must trace the timeline with impact of Globalisation on the Indian economy from past to present discussing the benefits it brought in.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief define what globalisation is – Globalization is the free movement of people, goods, and services across boundaries.

Body:

Start by quoting some facts that imply upon the effects of globalisation on the Indian society. After 1991, the rise in GDP that dropped to 13% in 1991 -92 extended momentum in the following five years (1992-2001). Moreover, the annual average rate of growth in GDP was recorded to be 6.1%.

Furthermore, export growth skyrocketed to 20% in 1993-94. For 1994-95, the figures were recorded to be 18.4 per cent. Export growth statistics in recent years have been very impressive.

Explain the benefits of globalisation and way forward for Indian set up.

Conclusion:

Conclude with the impact of it.

Introduction:

Globalization can be defined simply as an expansion of economic activities across political boundaries of nation states. More importantly it refers to a process of deepening economic integration, increasing economic openness and growing economic interdependence between countries in the world economy. It is associated not only with a phenomenal spread and volume of cross-border economic transactions but also with an organization of economic activities which



straddle national boundaries of the world. Globalization in India is generally taken as integrating the economy of the country with the rest of the world.

Body:**Globalization as a Boon:**

- The growth rate of GDP of India has been on the increase from 5.6 percent during 1980-90 to 7 percent in the period of 1993-2001. In the last fifteen years except two or three years, rate of GDP growth was more than 7 percent. It was 9.2 percent in 2006-07. At present in 2016 GDP is growing at 7.4 percent shown by union budget 2016-17.
- The foreign exchange reserves were \$39 billion (2000-01), \$107 billion (2003-04), \$145 billion (2005-06), and \$180 billion in 2007. According to reserve bank of India, India's foreign exchange reserves are \$351.83 billion as on 19 Feb, 2016.
- The cumulative FDI inflows from 1991 onwards has seen constant upward trends. The sectors attracting highest FDI inflows are electrical equipment including computer software (18 percent), Service Sector (13 percent), Telecommunications (10 percent), and Transportation industry (9 percent) etc.
- India's rank was fourth in market capitalization in 2005, it was preceded by USA, Germany and China. But at present its rank is ninth, it means it is now preceded by eight countries and India's position has worsened but India was able to join trillion-dollar market by going through all ups and downs. India's market capital is \$1.6 trillion and it is 2.5 percent of world's capital market.
- As per the Forbes list 2015, India has 100 billionaires. There were only 40 billionaires in India as per Forbes 2007 list. The assets of these 100 billionaires are more than cumulative investment in the 91 public sector undertakings by the central government of India.
- There is an International market for companies and for consumers there is a wider range of products to choose from.
- Increase in flow of investments from developed countries to developing countries, which can be used for economic reconstruction.
- Greater and faster flow of information between countries and greater cultural interaction has helped to overcome cultural barriers.
- Technological development has resulted in reverse brain drain in developing countries.

Globalization as a Curse:

- India is home to the largest number of child labourers in the world. The census found an increase in the child labourers from 11.28 million in 1991 to 12.59 million in 2001. M.V. foundation in Andhra Pradesh found nearly 40,0000 lakh children mostly girls between 7 and 14 years of age, toiling for 14-16 hours a day in cottonseed production across the country of which 90 percent are employed in Andhra Pradesh.
- Poverty and lack of security are main causes of child labour.



- Post reform period has witnessed drastic increase in child labour because due to LPG policy the role of public sector was reduced. Therefore, corporates are working for profit motive only.
- Agriculture sector is the backbone of the Indian economy. Above 50 percent people are working in agriculture sector. This sector has been neglected by government in post reform period and share of agriculture has decelerated continuously.
- At the time of independence, agriculture was contributing nearly half of the GDP but now its share is only 14 percent in total GDP of country. Reasons for backwardness of agriculture are lack of public investment, indebtedness of farmers and presence of intermediaries between sellers (farmers) and buyers.
- **Job and social insecurity:** globalization has generated problems like job and social insecurity. Public sector provides jobs along with social as well as job security and other benefits also. But in the modern era a person can get a job but neither he would get a neither secure job nor social security. Therefore, increasing insecurity in society is perpetuating other social evils like dowry system, crimes, unemployment etc.
- **Poverty and unemployment:** as per the Forbes list 2015, India's number of billionaires has crossed 100 and the wealth they possess is more than the investment in public sector undertakings by central government.
- This has led to wide range of inequalities of wealth among Indian people. Some people are such who dying from starvation and some are dying due to consumption of excessive food in our country.
- Consequently, Malnutrition, child labour, and crimes are on the rise. Still a large proportion of people in India living below poverty line even India has been unable to achieve millennium development goals in case of many indicators.
- Whether India's present generation is education but Indian youth is suffering from unemployment and they have to survive on subsistence wages. Seasonal, underemployment and structural unemployment are found in India

Conclusion:

Thus, our performances during the reform years are a mixed bag. The country over the last 25 years has seen both quantitative and qualitative changes. Economic growth rate in a market-led economy is surely worth emulating. India is considered as one of the great economic powers of the world. It is hoped that she would sooner be a prospective international power. In spite of this development, the economy has not been able to adjust with a human face. We see some adverse, inadequate and counterproductive results which may be attributed to economic reforms / globalization. It is the nation which can reap the benefits from globalization if it prepares and implement pro-people policies to attract foreign direct investment.

Do you think the impact of globalization hasn't been uniform? Give your opinion while suggesting benefits and disadvantages of the same on the Indian society.(250 words)

Why this question:

The question expects us to examine how far globalisation and the resultant impact on economy and society have helped us in dealing with the problem of poverty, whether globalisation has helped in mitigating the issue or accentuating it.



Key demand of the question:

One has to clearly explain why and how impact of globalization hasn't been uniform. And list down the advantages and disadvantages of it.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Body:

Mention that India was main mover of globalization. The government of India made major modifications in its economic policy in 1991 by which it allowed direct foreign investments in the country. As a result of this, globalization of the Indian Industry occurred at large scale.

Discuss how globalisation resulted in reduction of poverty – Creation of jobs through growth in services sector, due to the liberalization policies, India has become a consumer oriented market where the changes are brought by the demand and supply forces. Due to the high demand and the supply chains, there has been significant growth in the market. As such, more and more job opportunities are being created in different sectors. This has increased the per capita income considerably which has improved the poverty level to a great extent, technological changes taking place due to globalisation, gender equality in access to working opportunities which has positively impacted females etc.

Discuss issues which have led to worsening of poverty – issues such as MSP under dispute at WTO, the problem of jobless growth, greater incorporation of technology which was ill suited for Indian labour market etc.

Conclusion:

Conclude by listing down the pros and cons of globalisation on the Indian society.

Introduction:

Globalization is an international platform for maintaining evenness in the living mode of the people all over the world. Globalization is the resultant of the interchange of worldly views, opinions and the various aspects of the culture everywhere around the world. The impact of globalization on Indian and rural life has a tremendous influence which is both positive as well as negative. The Indian urban and rural life is viewed as the two faces of the same coin. They are mutually interdependent and both have a greater impact of globalization.

Body:

Impact of globalization on Indian rural society

- **Positives:**

- **Commercialization of agriculture:** There is an increased trend of commercialization from sustenance farming. This has been successful only with farmers having large tracts of lands.
- **Expansion of agro-industries:** Increased crop yield has led to development of agro-processing industries which help in adding value to the products and increasing their shelf life. E.g.; Tomato Ketchup, Potato chips etc.
- **Wider use of information, communication and technologies:** Agricultural extension techniques like Kisan TV, sms about weather conditions has helped farmers plan better. Initiatives like e-Nam have helped farmers get better prices in certain areas.



- **Increased Mechanization, better inputs:** Mechanization like use of tractors, harvesters, tillers has eased the job. High yield variety seeds, fertilizers have given better yield as seen during Green Revolution
- **Socio-economic development:** With telemedicine and teleeducation, people are able to access the health and education facilities at the remotest areas. Adult literacy has helped in fighting for their rights.
- **MSMEs:** There has been a rise of MSMEs with women entrepreneurs heading it.
- **Negatives:**
 - **Changes in Land-Use patterns**
 - **Internal labour migration:** Labour migration to cities from rural areas in search of employment was a common phenomenon. This was for various reasons especially for luxurious life, handsome salary and for numerous job opportunities
 - **Increasing privatization of resources:** Rural population is still suffering from unemployment as rural labour is mostly uneducated and unskilled. Machines and latest technologies have reduced the number of manpower a lot
 - **Loss of jobs and Displacement:** due to mechanization, women are the worst sufferers. When big-ticket projects like Dams, Roads, and Mining come up, people are displaced making them internal refugees.
 - **Increased inequality:** Regional and sectional disparity due to only a few reaping the benefits.
 - **No Behavioural changes:** Open defecation still present, caste discriminations are still prevalent.

Impact of globalization on Indian urban society

Positives:

- **Increased Urbanization:** It has been estimated that by 2050 more than 50% of India's population will live in cities. The boom of services sector and city centric job creation has led to increasing rural to urban migration.
- **Increased job opportunities:** due to inflow of MNCs, FDIs, people have a wide choice of job opportunities provided they have the requisite skills. Startups like Ola, Swiggy etc. have revolutionized the Gig-Economy. Development of Industries have also provided with jobs.
- **Higher Per capita income:** employees are paid well albeit lesser than the global pay levels.
- **Enhanced lifestyle:** due to higher PCI and wide array of facilities available from which the consumer can choose. It has raised the quality of life of many.
- **Better infrastructure:** In terms of education, health, transport available to people. This has in turn enhanced the agglomeration of economies leading to industrial belts, IT parks, SEZ, CEZ etc.



- **Rapid Digitization:** for faster and ease of connectivity, most of the services are digitized. This also increases the awareness of citizens in terms of rights, happenings around world etc. On the Governmental side, there is more accountability and transparency and faster delivery of services.

Negatives:

- **Family Structure:** The increasing migration coupled with financial independence has led to the breaking of joint families into nuclear ones. The western influence of individualism has led to an aspirational generation of youth. Concepts of national identity, family, job and tradition are changing rapidly and significantly.
- **Marriage Values:** Similarly, marriages have also lost their values. It is very much evident from the increasing number of divorce cases and the extra-marital affairs reported every now and then.
- **McDonaldization:** A term denoting the increasing rationalization of the routine tasks of everyday life. It becomes manifested when a culture adopts the characteristics of a fast-food restaurant. McDonaldization is a reconceptualization of rationalization, or moving from traditional to rational modes of thought, and scientific management.
- **Walmartization:** A term referring to profound transformations in regional and global economies through the sheer size, influence, and power of the big-box department store WalMart. It can be seen with the rise of big businesses which have nearly killed the small traditional businesses in our society.
- **Rise in Lifestyle diseases:** due to reduced physical activity, increased habits of liquor and smoking etc.
- **Urban Sprawl:** Increasing slums, unplanned urbanizations are on the rise which is a ticking time-bomb.

Conclusion:

It is difficult to say that the impact of globalization has been totally positive or totally negative. It has been both. Each impact mentioned above can be seen as both positive as well as negative. However, it becomes a point of concern when, an overwhelming impact of globalization can be observed on the Indian rural and urban society.

Do you think Smart televisions took the 'idiot box' from a luxury to a necessity?

Comment and also explain in what way the methods of consumption of television have greatly evolved over the past few years.(250 words)

Livemint

Why this question:

The question is based on the context of coming of Smart televisions that have replaced the way televisions have been seen as idiot boxes in the past.

Key demand of the question:

One has to explain the transformations of televisions.

Directive:

Comment – here we have to express our knowledge and understanding of the issue and form an overall opinion thereupon.



Explain – Clarify the topic by giving a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Start by suggesting the way we consume television has greatly evolved over the past few years.

Body:

Discussion should first bring out a comparison between the past and present trends.

Explain in terms of content that is and was being hosted. Draw the set of differences between the two.in terms of technological improvements.

Conclusion:

Conclude with way forward.

Introduction:

TV today is in the midst of a massive evolution with unprecedented changes occurring in the way we consume television content. Rapid proliferation of the internet is all set to bolster the demand for smart TVs in India.

Body:

Smart TVs have become a necessity today due to following reasons:

- The evolution of smart TVs doesn't only restrict itself to the end consumer but also offers myriad **opportunities to marketers and brands** to reach out to their audiences.
- The measures taken by the government such as **bringing TV's above 32 inches in the 18% GST slab as well as the decision to remove BCD** (basic custom duty) on open cells will provide the necessary impetus to the segment in India.
- **Emerging technologies like Internet of Things (IoT) and artificial intelligence (AI)** drive digital transformation, a connected ecosystem is necessary with the new Industrial wave (IR 4.0).
- Rapid changes in video advertising, companies will be able to create campaigns across different channels, establish various touchpoints and communicate specific offerings to the consumers.
- With advancements in quality content driven by OTT platforms, there is immense opportunity for marketers to adapt their creative strategies to include the digital audience that will chose to view content on demand.
- traditional metrics such television rating points (TRP) will eventually be replaced by more advanced ways of measuring outreach like we do today with mobile marketing and social networks

The ways in which methods of consumption of television has evolved:

- The way we consume television has greatly evolved over the past few years.
- We are no longer bound to a strict TV schedule to watch our favourite shows.
- We have the option of watching them on demand and as per our own convenience.
- Technology has truly transformed the television into an ideal multi-device experience.



- The gamut has widened, with viewers increasingly opting to view television by connecting their devices such as smartphones and tablets to the TV screen.
- Content is king today, and with advancements in technology, there is a burgeoning market in India for people who chose to view over the top (OTT) platforms and YouTube on their TV screens.
- TV networks, while catering to a specific audience through its programming, are also investing in OTT platforms to lure the millennial audience.
- The Indian smart TV market is estimated to touch \$20.4 billion by 2024, growing at a CAGR of 4.7% over the forecast period (2017-2025), according to a report by Goldstein Research.

Conclusion:

The television has stood the test of time and has come a long way from black and white and CRTVs with long picture tubes to smart devices. As smart TVs continue to evolve with new technologies coming to the fore, the device has truly evolved from an 'idiot box' into a device for the ages.

Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.

Differentiate between religiousness and communalism while explaining how the former transformed into latter in the post -independent India. (250 words)

Class XI and XII NCERT – Indian society

Why this question:

The question is from the static portions of GS paper I.

Key demand of the question:

The question aims to ascertain the difference between the religiousness and communalism and in what way one transformed into another.

Directive:

Explain – Clarify the topic by giving a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief define what religiousness is and what communalism is.

Body:

Present the differences between the two; Religiosity is as old as the religion and civilization itself. Communalism is a newer phenomenon compared to religiosity. It was born during the colonial times, when the British used religious contrasts among different communities to rule over them. Religiosity is concerned with the worship of God. Communalism is a belief system and a social phenomenon wherein, history is interpreted for mobilization of people. Etc.

Then explain how religiousness transformed into communalism in Free-India?

Illustrate with suitable examples.

Conclusion:

Conclude that transformation of religiosity into communalism creates serious obstacles to good governance, economic development and social harmony of our country. Therefore, both the state and the society must prevent any individual, organization or event that encourages such process.

Introduction:

Religiousness or Religiosity is the feeling of devoutness or reverence to a particular deity. Such faith often provides the people not only with a religious identity, but shapes their personal identity, social



behavior and world view. **Communalism** as a political philosophy has its roots in the religious and cultural diversity of India. It has been used as a political propaganda tool to create divide, differences and tensions between the communities on the basis of religious and ethnic identity leading to communal hatred and violence.

Body:

Religiosity is concerned with the worship of God. Religiosity is often accompanied by prayers i.e. petition direct at a supernatural power and rituals i.e. symbolic series of actions to appear the aid supernatural power. Religiosity by default is not associated with violence, unless the religious tenants themselves require human or animal sacrifice.

Communalism is a belief system and a social phenomenon wherein, history is interpreted for mobilization of people. It involves the use of sacred symbols, religious leaders, emotional appeal and plain fear in order to bring the followers of one religion together in the political arena. Secularism and egalitarianism are portrayed as abnormal. People belonging to other faith and religion are portrayed as antagonists.

Religiosity has certainly transformed into communalism in independent India:

- The communalism before independence was rooted in the ‘divide and rule’ policy of the British. They had fostered communalism to weaken the nationalist movement by forcing religious rather than national allegiance.
- After partition, the class divisions of our society and the backwardness of our economy resulted in uneven development.
- As a result, some sections and individuals developed a sense of rivalry vis-à-vis their counterparts in other communities.
- Such leaders began encouraging communal feelings to strengthen their political support.
- When ordinary Indians feel insecure because of some adverse circumstances, they often tend to rely on religion, which make them vulnerable to political manipulation to inflame communal passions.
- With economic problems becoming important, leaders began to convert economic insecurities like poverty unemployment, price rise etc. into caste and communal ones.

Example: secessionist movement & the communalization of Sikhs in Punjab. The demolition of Babri Masjid.

Conclusion:

Transformation of religiosity into communalism creates serious obstacles to good governance, economic development and social harmony of our country. Therefore, both the state and the society must prevent any individual, organization or event that encourages such process.

Discuss with suitable examples how regional assertiveness can prove to be a peril to National Unity. (250 words)

Class XI and XII NCERT – Indian society



Why this question:

The question again is from GS paper I. Aims to discuss the role of regional attitudes on the national unity of the country.

Key demand of the question:

One has to explain with suitable examples the effect of regional attitudes on the national unity of the country.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Start by discussing the concept of regionalism.

Body:

Explain that regionalism is the expression of a common sense of identity and purpose by people within a specific geographical region, united by its unique language, culture, language, etc.

Discuss – Emergence of regional political parties as a result of secessionist tendencies. This trend is polarizing citizens of the country on regional lines. Example, Telugu Desam Party of Andhra Pradesh, DMK and AIADMK of Tamil Nadu.

Regionalism reached that stage where it is equivalent to be an internal security threat to the country. It is causing friction among states.

Conclusion:

Conclude with suggestions to overcome such attitudes.

Introduction:

Regionalism is a feeling or an ideology among a section of people residing in a particular geographical space characterized by unique language, culture etc., that they are the sons of the soil and every opportunity in their land must be given to them first but not to the outsiders. It is a sort of Parochialism. In most of the cases it is raised for expedient political gains but not necessarily.

Body:

Regional assertiveness can prove to be a peril to national unity:

- Regionalism puts the regional priority above the national priority. Therefore, it may impair the national development.
- It breeds hatred among the region. Example violence against Bihari workers in North East by ULFA
- It impacts the integrity of nation. Over motivated regionalism sometime turns into secessionist movement. example Khalistan movement.
- Violence is a very common character of regionalism. To protect regional identity people may take violent means. Example Nellie massacre during Assam movement.
- It discourages the cultural exchange and often breeds intolerance towards other region. E.g.: The anti-migrant or anti-Bihari stance of the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) which opposes the employment and residence of non-Maharashtrian people in the state of Maharashtra is a prime example of negative regionalism.



- It discourages migration. Due to hostility towards people from other region workers reference from moving out and settling there
- 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 job and contract only for local people son of the soil
- It also impacts the International relationship example West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is obstructing Teesta deal between India and Bangladesh only to quench her regional thirst.
- Regionalism beyond a point can lead to secessionism, such as strong regionalism in Punjab ultimately resulted in the growth of Khalistani terrorism.
- Regionalism often promotes Vote- Bank politics, thereby weakens the national integration.
- Regionalism can weaken the time tested fabric of ‘Unity in Diversity’, if promoted in an ultra-manner.

Measures needed to quell the extreme regionalist perspectives:

- Unity in Diversity ethos needs to be preserved for the pluralistic character of the Indian nation state.
- The accommodation of multiple aspirations of a diverse population is necessary.
- Formation of the NITI Aayog has been a positive step to enhance co-operative federalism by fostering the involvement of the State Governments of India in the economic policy-making process using a bottom-up approach.
- While a number of steps such as the launch of centrally sponsored schemes, incentives to private players for development in backward states have been taken by the government for inclusive development, there is a greater need for their effective implementation.
- There is a need to increase the level of social expenditure by the states on education, health, and sanitation which are the core for human resource development.
- Introducing a system of national education that would help people to overcome regional feelings and develop an attachment towards the nation can act as a long-term solution to the problem of sub-nationalism.
- While the National Integration Council was set up in 1961, there is a need to utilise its potential more effectively.
- Schemes like “Ek Bharat-Shreshtha Bharat” have been launched by the GOI to celebrate unity in diversity culture of the nation and to strengthen sentiment for National Unity between the citizens of states, is a welcomed step.
- National unity is not impaired if the people of a region have genuine pride in their language and culture.

Conclusion:

The need of the hour is to develop each region of India, through devolution of power to local governments and empowering people for their participation in decision-making. The governments at



State level need to find out the alternative resources of energy, source of employment for local people, use of technology in governance, planning and for agriculture development.

Religious and linguistic diversity are integral to the growth and development of our society. Elucidate. (250 words)

Hindustantimes

Why this question:

The article explains how religious and linguistic diversity are integral to the growth and development of our society. And in what way we must preserve them.

Key demand of the question:

The question aims to bring out the essence and need for having religious and linguistic diversity.

Directive:

Elucidate – Give a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In first, explain what religiosity and linguistic diversity mean in Indian context.

Body:

One has to explain in detail that the majority principle militates against federalism. After all, to deny states and its people their own language is tantamount to erasing their cultural identity. Then move on to explain how majoritarianism cannot replace diversity in terms of religion and language, later, examine the hypothesis that the indiscriminate use of the majoritarian principle leads to domination and prejudice.

Conclusion:

Conclude with significance of diversity and need to recognize it against the concept of Majoritarianism.

Introduction:

Plurality and multiplicity characterize Indian society and culture. India has accommodated and assimilated various outside elements into its growing culture. However, it has never been a ‘melting pot’ in which all differences got dissolved and a uniform identity was created. India is a shining example of a ‘salad bowl’ in which different elements retain their individual identities and yet, together, they form a distinct recipe.

Body:

Religious diversity:

Indian society is multi-religious. While the state is secular, the people of India belong to different religions. Apart from the tribal societies, many of whom still live in the pre-religious state of animism and magic, the Indian population consists of the Hindus (82.41%), Muslims (11.6%), Christians (2.32%), Sikhs (1.99%), Buddhists (0.77%) and Jains (0.41%). The Hindus themselves are divided into several sects; in fact, Jainism, Sikhism, and Buddhism are all offshoots of the same root. Hinduism is also said to have incorporated many practices and beliefs of the local communities.

Articles 25 to 28 of the Constitution state that every citizen has the right to practice and promote their religions peacefully. And yet, we have witnessed religious riots in the country on several occasions.

Linguistic diversity:



India is rightly described as a **polyglot country** – a country of many languages. Linguistic research suggests that when means of transportation were less developed, there was little mobility of people. Therefore, communities confined to small areas spoke their own dialects. And these were spoken in a radius of 7-8 kms. That is why even today there are 1,572 languages and dialects that are each spoken by less than 1,00,000 speakers, besides the 18 Scheduled languages. Until recently, the Census of India collected only mother tongue statistics, which gave the wrong impression about the actual number of speakers of any language.

Religious and linguistic diversity are integral to the growth and development of our society:

- In India, everyone is a minority depending upon the context. Hindus are the minority in Kashmir, Brahmins in Tamil Nadu, non-Christians in Nagaland, Mizoram and Meghalaya and of course, Muslims, Christians and Parsis in the whole of India.
- If we look beyond India, in South Asia, Muslims are a minority in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bhutan, but they are majority in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Maldives.
- Likewise, Buddhists are minority in all South Asian countries but are a majority in Sri Lanka.
- If we take other signifiers such as language and ethnicity, there will be a different majority-minority dichotomy.

Factors that have supported the Unity in Diversity:

- Religious Unity: People of different religions practice their religion without any fear and also respect one another's religion.
- Geographical unity: The physical features of India have cut us from the rest of the world and made us feel one naturally.
- Linguistic unity: Each state has its own language and literature. In some states, more than two languages are spoken. In India, the dialect changes every twenty kilometres. People of one language respect people speaking other languages thereby fostering unity.
- Cultural unity: Different people from different regions look differently. They dress differently. They have different eating habits, customs, castes, creed, traditions, practices, etc. but still all of them are united since all of them are Indians. Thus, amidst diversity, there is unity among the Indians.
- Political unity: The fact that all twenty-nine states come under one constitution and follow its rule shows that there's political unity.

Conclusion:

India has served as an exemplar of multicultural democracy. It is in that sense that India is a unity in diversity, guided by the principle of tolerance (Sahishnuta) and mutual respect. Hence, majoritarianism should be replaced by pluralism which promotes peaceful coexistence of diversities through the spirit of accommodation as well as solidarity.

**Analyse “Beti Bachao Beti padhao scheme” from the prism of social empowerment.
(250 words)**

Reference

Why this question:



The question is straightforward and aims to evaluate the aspects of social empowerment benefits of the Beti Bachao Beti padhao scheme.

Key demand of the question:

One must bring out the social aspects of the Beti Bachao Beti padhao scheme and highlight in what way the scheme not only empowers women as a gender but empowers whole of the Indian society.

Directive:

Analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief highlight the key features of the scheme.

Body:

The overall goal of the scheme is to celebrate the Girl Child & Enable her Education.

The objectives of the Scheme are as under:

To prevent gender biased sex selective elimination

To ensure survival and protection of the girl child

To ensure education and participation of the girl child.

Explain in what way improving these factors will lead to a better society.

Discuss the interconnectedness of empowering women with other aspects of life.

Conclusion:

Conclude with significance of the scheme.

Introduction:

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme was launched in January, 2015. The scheme is aimed at promoting gender equality and the significance of educating girls. The Scheme is targeted at **improving the Child Sex Ratio** through multi sectoral interventions including prevention of gender biased sex selection and promoting girls' education and her holistic empowerment. It is a tri-ministerial effort of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health & Family Welfare and Human Resource Development.

Body:

Child Sex Ratio is defined as number of girls per 1000 of boys between 0-6 years of age. Hence, a decline in the CSR is a major indicator of women disempowerment. The ratio reflects both, pre-birth discrimination manifested through gender biased sex selection and post birth discrimination against girls.

Significance and the need for scheme:

- It aims at making girls independent, both monetarily and socially.
- Through BBBP, the government aims to generate awareness towards women issues.
- The government also wishes to improve the efficiency of delivery of welfare services meant for women.
- The government has launched 'Sukanya Samridhi Yojana' for the benefit of Girl child. This scheme carries the highest interest, 8.1% interest rate per annum. Parents of girl child aged between 2-10 years can open this account in the Post Office, with the maximum deposit limit being Rs. 1.50 lakhs per annum.
- The impact of BBBP scheme is visible in only 2 years from its launch date. However, the sex ratio has reportedly crossed up to 950 females per 1000 males.



- The number of women police officers has also increased from 6% to 8.5%.
- A large number of women are now free to join fields and careers of their own choices. These careers ranging from armed forces, science, journalism, sports, wrestling, engineering among others.
- The government is continually stressing on quality education for girls and encouraging parents to send their girl child to school.
- The key elements of the scheme include Enforcement of PC & PNDT Act, nation-wide awareness and advocacy campaign and multi-sectoral action in select 100 districts (low on CSR) in the first phase.
- There is a strong emphasis on mindset change through training, sensitization, awareness raising and community mobilization on ground.
- The social construct discrimination against girls on one hand, easy availability, affordability and subsequent misuse of diagnostic tools on the other hand, have been critical in increasing Sex Selective Elimination of girls leading to low Child Sex Ratio.
- Some major impacts are-
 - Balancing sex ratios
 - Bringing girl child rights into focus
 - Achieving girl-child access to education

Challenges faced:

- However, the initiative though good has been largely criticized by many people.
- The budgetary allowance is very less to the tune of Rs. 100 Crore. It is not enough to allot funds and schemes.
- Social abuses and orthodox rituals like female foeticide, Sati, child marriage and domestic abuse obstruct the due execution of this scheme.
- The government machinery and the police are, however, to get the magnitude of women atrocities seriously. This also weakens the effective implementation of the BBBP scheme.
- The mind-set of people remains conservative besides the numerous campaigns spreading awareness among people.
- The scheme needs civic body support to achieve the objectives of the scheme.
- The Dowry system is the main obstacles in the successful implementation and impact of BBBP scheme
- More importantly we need to rearrange and amend the laws and punish those vigorously who interfere with the peaceful existence of the girls in the society.
- The money allotment is never the solution, it's high time we see to it the law is punishing the culprits very severely.

Measures needed:



- Gender respect should be taught at the school level more so from the home level by the parents.
- We need to address the associated problems in bringing up the girl child, her marriage expenses and discrimination in the society.
- There also is a need to launch more dedicated efforts than just allocating monetary incentives
- We need to have a strong law meant to punish those engaged in the practice of sex determination and sex selective abortion- Pre Conception and Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act.
- The government has to ensure that they talk tough so that doctors do not indulge in this malpractice.
- there is a need to connect with the communities first, right from the gram panchayat level to ensure gender equality.
- provide an enabling environment for our girls and educate and inform person's right at the grass root level that there should be no gender bias

Conclusion:

The BBBP initiative under the scheme have started giving fruit at small levels as the level of awareness among the people is increasing. Therefore, people now have a serious impact to work for girl child upliftment in society. The success of this scheme will add tremendously to the economic growth of the country. This is due to the fact that India cannot afford to have a large part of its population remain neglected.

Salient features of world's physical geography.

"Swachh Bharat Mission campaign has become the global benchmark for participatory and transformative development." Elucidate. (250 words)

Indianexpress***Why this question:***

The author explains how in last five years, Swachh Bharat mission has captured people's imagination, they have owned the change. Thus making it important for us to analyse in what way SBM has set a benchmark for participatory and transformative development.

Key demand of the question:

One must explain the significance of SBM and the modus operandi of it that made it successful than ever before.

Directive:

Elucidate – Give a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer:***Introduction:***

Explain the importance of SBM, briefly state what it has achieved.

Body:

One can start by highlighting the fact that Mahatma Gandhi dreamt of an India where no one had to suffer the indignity of open defecation. There cannot be a better tribute to him than the transformation



of the country, in the last five years, from being the highest contributor to global open defecation to torch-bearer for global sanitation.

Discuss the achievements made so far, explain what factors were involved and have led to such a great success that has transformed the behavior of the society.

Conclusion:

Conclude with way forward that India has achieved what was unimaginable a few years ago, but the show must go on.

Introduction:

Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) is perhaps the largest behaviour change campaign ever, aims to make India a clean nation. The mission will cover all rural and urban areas. The **World Health Organization (WHO)** believes that SBM could prevent about 300,000 deaths due to water borne diseases assuming we achieve 100 per cent coverage by October 2019.

Body:

The domestic impact of SBM so far:

- **Five hundred and eighty four districts**, 5,840 blocks, 244,687 gram panchayats and 541,433 villages are open defecation free (ODF).
- As of September 2018, the sanitation coverage of India is **upwards of 93 per cent and over 465,000 villages** have been declared ODF.
- Towards the end of 2017, an independent verification agency (IVA) conducted the **National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey (NARSS)**, and found that **4 per cent** people who had toilets, **used them regularly**. NARSS also re- confirmed the ODF status of 95.6 per cent of the villages that had been verified ODF by the state governments.
- Since October 2014, 91.5 million toilets have been constructed and 154.3 million rural households have toilets now.
- **IHHL (individual household latrine application)** coverage in all states is in excess of 95 per cent, except Goa and Odisha.
- Over the last four years, a cadre of **500,000 swachhagrahis** has been created who have triggered lakhs of villages to become ODF.
- The foot-soldiers have helped in **geo-tagging toilets, verifying household behaviour, converting old toilets and retro-fitting them, engaging in other forms of cleanliness**.
- Bal Swatchata mission that was launched to inculcate cleanliness values and personal hygiene amongst children. This would go a long way in.
- The SBM has transformed into a **massive 'Jan Andolan'** created on the ground using information, education, and communication, aiming to bring behaviour change.
- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 6.1 and 6.2** deals with water and sanitation respectively in which SBM is playing a massive role.

The multi-faceted approach of SBM has made it a global benchmark:



- **Political leadership:**
 - Leaders at all levels are prime catalysts for large-scale transformations
 - The biggest game-changer for the SBM, was the prime minister investing his personal political capital in the mission.
 - Inspired by his leadership and commitment, various chief ministers took up the cause, creating a domino-like effect, cascading leadership to the chief secretary and in turn to collectors, all the way down to sarpanchs at the grassroots level.
- **Public financing:**
- Over Rs 1 lakh crore was committed to ensuring universal access to sanitation, thereby backing the political will with budgetary support.
- About 90 per cent of the 10 crore households which received toilets were from socially and economically weaker sections of society and they received financial incentives to build and use toilets.
- **Community participation:**
 - Ensuring appropriate participation of the beneficiary/communities, financially or otherwise, in the setting up of the toilets to promote ownership and sustained use.
 - A large-scale transformation can be truly successful if it captures the imagination of the people, and becomes a people's movement or a jan andolan.
- **Flexibility in Choice:**
 - SBM offers flexibility by building in a menu of options so that the poor/disadvantaged families can subsequently upgrade their toilets depending upon their requirements and their financial position.
- **Capacity Building:**
 - SBM augments the institutional capacity of district to change behaviour at the grassroots level and strengthen the capacities of implementing agencies so that the programme could be rolled in a time-bound manner and collective outcomes could be measured.
- **Instil Behavior change:**
 - Incentivizing the performance of State-level institutions to implement activities for behavioural change among communities.
- **Broad-based Engagement:**
 - SBM set up the Swachh Bharat Kosh to encourage Corporate Social Responsibility and accept contributions from private organizations, individuals and philanthropists.
- **Use of Technology:**



- Information technology and social media is imperative to this program as it allows citizens to keep a check on the availability of toilets for every rural household in India.
- Nearly 95 per cent of all SBM toilets have already been geo-tagged. Many mobile applications have been launched by not only the government but also by few citizens, which direct the municipal corporations' attention towards unclear areas.
- Under SBM, an incentive of Rs 12,000 is provided for construction of individual Household Latrines (IHHL) to eligible beneficiaries in rural areas and covers for provision of water storage.
- **Partnerships:**
 - The SBM (G) partnered with implementors and influencers alike — national and international development agencies, media houses, civil society, celebrities, as well as all departments/ministries of the government of India, who pledged an additional \$6 billion for sanitation in their respective sectors.
 - This “all hands on deck” approach, making sanitation everyone’s business, helped to mainstream it into the national consciousness

Way forward:

- Focus on the forward-looking 10-year sanitation strategy to move from ODF to ODF Plus.
- Focusing on sustaining the SBM-G gains.
- Ensuring that no one is left behind.
- Ensuring access to solid and liquid waste management for all villages.
- Ensure piped water supply to all households by 2024.

Conclusion:

Mahatma Gandhi dreamt of an India where no one had to suffer the indignity of open defecation. There cannot be a better tribute to him than the transformation of the country, in the last five years, from being the highest contributor to global open defecation to torch-bearer for global sanitation.

What do you understand by Intrusive volcanic landforms? Discuss briefly the different types of intrusive landforms. (250 words)

Physical Geography by G C Leong

Why this question:

The question is straight forward and is based on the static portions of GS paper I.

Key demand of the question:

One must explain the concept of Intrusive landforms with suitable diagrams and discuss them in detail.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:**Introduction:**

In short define what landforms are.

**Body:**

Explain the following in the answer body-

Volcanic eruptions result in the formation of landforms and here we are going to discuss volcanic landforms.

Intrusive Forms – The lava that is discharged during volcanic eruptions on cooling develops into igneous rocks.

The cooling may take place either on arriving on the surface or also while the lava is still in the crustal portion.

According to the location of the cooling of the lava, igneous rocks are categorized as plutonic rocks and volcanic rocks.

The lava that cools inside the crustal portions takes diverse forms. These forms are called intrusive forms.

Conclusion:

Conclude with importance of these landforms.

Introduction:

A volcano is a rupture in the crust of a planetary-mass object, such as Earth, that allows hot lava, volcanic ash, and gases to escape from a magma chamber below the surface. The process is called Volcanism and has been ongoing on Earth since the initial stages of its evolution over 4 billion years ago.

Body:

Volcanic landforms are divided into extrusive and intrusive landforms based on whether magma cools within the crust or above the crust. Rocks formed by either **plutonic** (cooling of magma within the crust) or **volcanic** (cooling of lava above the surface) are called '**Igneous rocks**'.

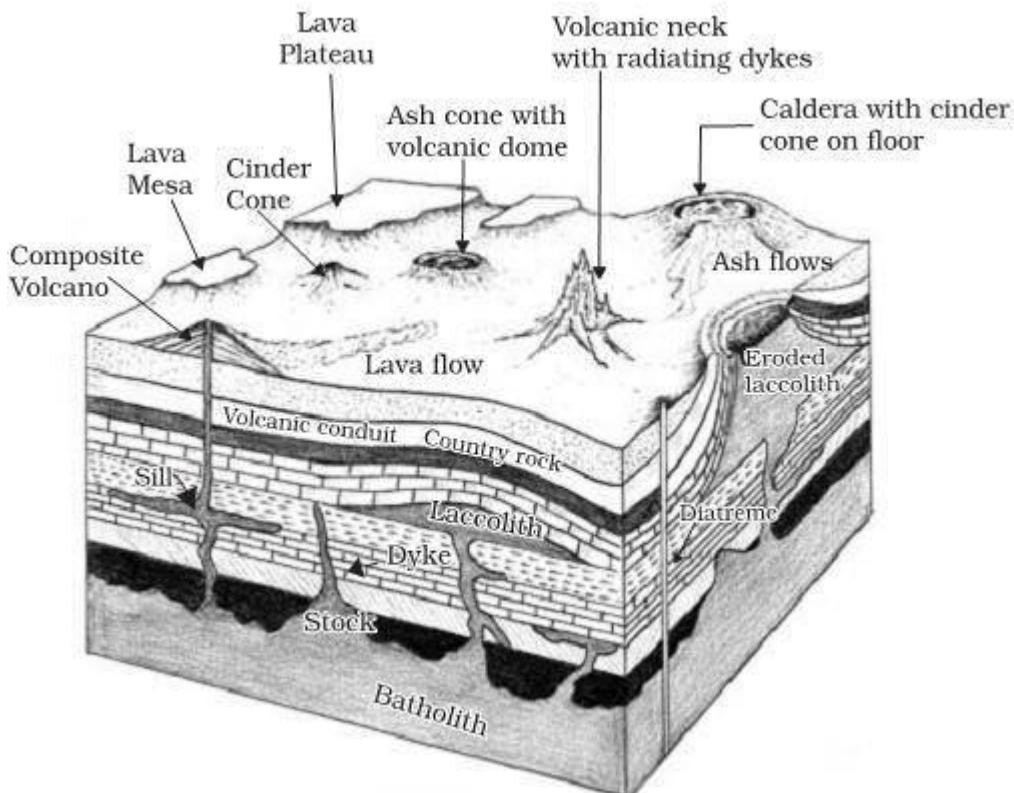
Intrusive Volcanic Landforms: Intrusive landforms are formed when magma cools within the crust. The intrusive activity of volcanoes gives rise to various forms.

- **Batholiths:**

- These are huge masses of igneous rocks, usually of granite.
- These rock masses form due to cooling down and solidification of hot magma inside the earth.
- They appear on the surface only after the denudation processes remove the overlying materials and may be exposed on the surface after erosion.
- Example: Wicklow mountains of Ireland; the uplands of Brittany, France.

- **Laccoliths:**

- These are large dome-shaped intrusive bodies connected by a pipe-like conduit from below.
- These are basically intrusive counterparts of an exposed domelike batholith.
- **Example:** The laccoliths of Henry mountains in the Utah, USA.



- **Lopolith:**

- As and when the lava moves upwards, a portion of the same may tend to move in a horizontal direction wherever it finds a weak plane.
- In case it develops into a saucer shape, concave to the sky body, it is called Lopolith.
- **Example:** The Bushveld lopolith of Transvaal, South Africa.

- **Phacolith:**

- A wavy mass of intrusive rocks, at times, is found at the base of synclines or at the top of anticline in folded igneous country.
- Such wavy materials have a definite conduit to source beneath in the form of magma chambers (subsequently developed as batholiths). These are called the Phacoliths.
- **Example:** Corndon hill in Shropshire, England.

- **Sills:**

- These are solidified horizontal lava layers inside the earth.
- The near horizontal bodies of the intrusive igneous rocks are called sill or sheet, depending on the thickness of the material.
- The thinner ones are called sheets while the thick horizontal deposits are called sills.
- **Example:** Great whin sill of NE England

- **Dykes:**



- When the lava makes its way through cracks and the fissures developed in the land, it solidifies almost perpendicular to the ground.
- It gets cooled in the same position to develop a wall-like structure. Such structures are called dykes.
- These are the most commonly found intrusive forms in the western Maharashtra area. These are considered the feeders for the eruptions that led to the development of the Deccan traps. Cleveland Dyke of Yorkshire, England.

Conclusion:

Volcanic activities have a profound influence on earth's landforms. Solid, liquid or gaseous materials may find their way to the surface from some deep-seated reservoir beneath.

Explain in detail the processes through which the earth-atmosphere system maintains heat balance. (250 words)

Physical geography NCERT class XI

Why this question:

The question is based on the concept of Earth's heat budget.

Key demand of the question:

One has to explain the concept in detail with necessary diagrams.

Directive:

Explain – Clarify the topic by giving a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Define the concept of heat budget in brief.

Body:

The sun is the ultimate energy source for the entire universe. Though the sun is continuously radiating energy, the earth as a whole does not accumulate or lose heat. It maintains its temperature. This is popularly known as heat budget or heat balance of the earth.

This can happen only if the amount of heat received in the form of insulation is equal to the amount lost by the earth in the form of terrestrial radiation.

Briefly explain the different ways of heating and cooling of the atmosphere.

Conclusion:

Conclude by highlighting the application of the concept in day to day life on Earth.

Introduction:

The sun is the primary source of energy for the earth. The sun radiates its energy in all directions into space in short wavelengths, which is known as solar radiation. The earth receives a certain amount of Insolation (short waves) and gives back heat into space by terrestrial radiation (longwave radiation). Through this give and take, or the heat budget, the earth maintains a constant temperature.

Body:

The sun is the ultimate source of atmospheric heat and energy. There are different ways of heating and cooling of the atmosphere.

- **Terrestrial Radiation**



- Before discussing terrestrial radiation, the following facts about radiation are worth noting.
- All objects whether hot or cold emit radiant energy continuously.
- Hotter objects emit more energy per unit area than colder objects.
- The temperature of an object determines the wavelength of radiation. Temperature and wavelength are inversely proportional. Hotter the object, shorter is the length of the wave.
- So, when the earth's surface after being heated up by the insolation (in the form of short waves), it becomes a radiating body.
- The earth's surface starts to radiate energy to the atmosphere in the form of long waves.
- This is what we call as terrestrial radiation. This energy heats up the atmosphere from bottom to top.
- It should be noted that the atmosphere is transparent to short waves and opaque to long waves.
- The long-wave radiation is absorbed by the atmospheric gases particularly by carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Thus, the atmosphere is indirectly heated by the terrestrial radiation.
- The atmosphere, in turn, radiates and transmits heat to space. Finally, the amount of heat received from the sun is returned to space, thereby maintaining a constant temperature at the earth's surface and in the atmosphere.
- **Conduction (transfer of heat by contact)**
 - Conduction is the process of heat transfer from a warmer object to a cooler object when they come in contact with each other.
 - The flow of heat energy continues till the temperature of both the objects become equal or the contact is broken.
 - The conduction in the atmosphere occurs at the zone of contact between the atmosphere and the earth's surface.
 - Conduction is important in heating the lower layers of the atmosphere.
- **Convection (vertical transfer of heat)**
 - Transfer of heat by the movement of a mass or substance from one place to another, generally vertical, is called convection.
 - The air of the lower layers of the atmosphere gets heated either by the earth's radiation or by conduction. The heating of the air leads to its expansion. Its density decreases and it moves upwards.
 - The continuous ascent of heated air creates a vacuum in the lower layers of the atmosphere. As a consequence, cooler air comes down to fill the vacuum, leading to convection.



- The cyclic movement associated with the convectional process in the atmosphere transfer heat from the lower layer to the upper layer and heats up the atmosphere.
- The convection transfer of energy is confined only to the troposphere.
- **Advection (horizontal transfer of heat)**
 - The transfer of heat through horizontal movement of air (wind) is called advection.
 - Winds carry the temperature of one place to another. The temperature of a place will rise if it lies in the path of winds coming from warmer regions. The temperature will fall if the place lies in the path of the winds blowing from cold regions.
 - Horizontal movement of the air is relatively more important than the vertical movement. In the middle latitudes, most of diurnal (day and night) variations in daily weather are caused by advection alone.
 - In tropical regions particularly in northern India during the summer season, local winds called 'Loo' is the outcome of advection process.

Conclusion:

The atmosphere is essential for the survival of plant and animal life. They also require the optimum temperature to keep themselves warm and grow. However, the effect of this variation is masked by some other factors like the distribution of land and sea and the atmospheric circulation. Hence the variation does not have a greater effect on daily weather changes on the surface of the earth.

Discuss the landforms of wind erosion in general while explaining the salient features of Ayers Rock with special focus.(250 words)

Indianexpress

Why this question:

From October 26, 2019, climbing Uluru, Australia's famous desert rock, considered sacred by the local Anangu people, has been banned.

Key demand of the question:

The question is straightforward and aims to discuss Aeolian landforms in detail with special focus on Ayers rock as an example.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In short define what Aeolian landforms are.

Body:

Explain the salient features of landforms created by wind.

Discuss separately with diagrams different landforms such as pedeplain, deflated hollows, Mushroom tables etc.

Discuss specifically the features of Ayer's rock and its significance.

Conclusion:

Conclude with significance of wind driven landform formations in physiography.

Introduction:



The wind is the main geomorphic agent in the hot deserts. Winds in hot deserts have greater speed which causes erosional and depositional activities in the desert. The landforms which are created by erosional and depositional activities of wind are called as **Aeolian Landforms**. The wind or Aeolian erosion takes place in the following ways, viz. **deflation, abrasion, and attrition**. This process is not unique to the Earth, and it has been observed and studied on other planets, including Mars.

Body:

Erosional Landforms due to Wind:

- **Pediplains:**
 - When the high relief structures in deserts are reduced to low featureless plains by the activities of wind, they are called as Pediplains.
- **Deflation Basins:**
 - Deflation is the removal of loose particles from the ground by the action of wind.
 - When deflation causes a shallow depression by persistent movements of wind, they are called as deflation hollows.
- **Inselbergs:**
 - A monadnock or inselberg is an isolated hill, knob, ridge, outcrop, or small mountain that rises abruptly from a gently sloping or virtually level surrounding plain.
- **Mushroom Rocks:**
 - Ventifacts are rocks that have been abraded, pitted, etched, grooved, or polished by wind-driven sand or ice crystals.
 - These geomorphic features are most typically found in arid environments where there is little vegetation to interfere with Aeolian particle transport, where there are frequently strong winds, and where there is a steady but not overwhelming supply of sand.
 - Mushroom Tables / Mushroom rocks are Ventifacts in the shape of a mushroom.
 - In deserts, a greater amount of sand and rock particles are transported close to the ground by the winds which cause more bottom erosion in overlying rocks than the top.
 - This result in the formation of rock pillars shaped like a mushroom with narrow pillars with broad top surfaces.
- **Demoiselles:**
 - These are rock pillars which stand as resistant rocks above soft rocks as a result of differential erosion of hard and soft rocks.
- **Zeugen:**
 - A table-shaped area of rock found in arid and semi-arid areas formed when more resistant rock is reduced at a slower rate than softer rocks around it.



- **Yardangs:**
 - Ridge of rock, formed by the action of the wind, usually parallel to the prevailing wind direction.
- **Wind bridges and windows:**
 - Powerful wind continuously abrades stone lattices, creating holes. Sometimes the holes are gradually widened to reach the other end of the rocks to create the effect of a window—thus forming a wind window. Window bridges, are formed when the holes are further widened to form an arch-like feature.

Salient features of Ayers Rock:

- **Uluru** also known as **Ayers Rock** is a large sandstone rock formation in the southern part of the Northern Territory in central Australia. Uluru is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- **Formation**
 - Scientists have estimated that Uluru is around 500 million years old, forming a similar time to when the Australian continent first developed. This all began when a large majority of Australia was underwater.
 - The rock first began once the land masses began to separate and move, causing two fans, one made of sand, and the other made of conglomerate rock, to be pushed together with force.
 - Eventually, the pressure was so great the two fans condensing into one rock, to what we know today as Uluru.
- **Southern Side**
 - The southern side of Uluru features a series of steep valleys with large pot-holes and plunge pools. This is all due to the continued water erosion on the arkose rock.
 - From centuries of rainfall slowly cutting into the deep sections of Uluru until they eventually fell away with the stream, forming the large holes we see today.
- **North-West Side**
 - Featured on Uluru's north-west side is parallel ridges outlining the sedimentary layers of the rock. This is also caused by erosion, with large winds and rainfall cutting away segments.
- **Uluru's Smooth Surface**
 - The smooth sections of the red are all due to humans, with millions of feet travelling across the same section of rock every day.
- **Uluru's Flaky Surface**
 - The flaky exterior of Uluru is due to the chemical decay of the minerals present. Normally, the arkose rock is a greyish colour, however, the oxidation of the iron mineral present in the rock exposes a rusty flaky residue, causing the rust red colour Uluru is famous for.


Conclusion:

Thus, wind and water act as major erosional factors leading to formation of various landforms.

Discuss the features and process of formation of a tropical cyclone. How are they different from temperate cyclones? (250 words)

The hindu
Why this question:

The Super cyclone 'Kyarr' in the Arabian Sea has moved westwards and away from India's coast, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

It is "very likely" to move west-northwestwards till October 30 to recurve west-south-westwards thereafter and move towards the Gulf of Aden off south Oman-Yemen coasts in the next three days.

Key demand of the question:

Explain in detail the concept of tropical cyclones and compare them with the temperate cyclones.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction:

Explain what tropical and temperate cyclones are.

Body:

The question expects us to give similarities and differences in the nature, origin, physical traits etc. of temperate cyclone vis a vis tropical cyclones.

Discuss origin, latitude, presence of a frontal system, formation, season, size, shape etc. in your answer.

Conclusion:

Conclude with the recent examples witnessed in Arabian sea.

Introduction:

Tropical Cyclone is any large system of winds that circulates about a centre of low atmospheric pressure in a counter-clockwise direction north of the Equator and in a clockwise direction to the south. Cyclonic winds move across nearly all regions of the Earth except the equatorial belt and are generally associated with rain or snow.

Body:
Process and conditions favourable for Cyclone Formation:

- Large sea surface with temperature higher than 27° C
- Presence of the Coriolis force enough to create a cyclonic vortex:
 - The Coriolis force is zero at the equator (no cyclones at equator because of zero Coriolis Force) but it increases with latitude. Coriolis force at 5° latitude is significant enough to create a storm [cyclonic vortex].
 - About 65 per cent of cyclonic activity occurs between 10° and 20° latitude.
 - Small variations in the vertical wind speed
 - A pre-existing weak low-pressure area or low-level-cyclonic circulation
- Humidity Factor:



- High humidity (around 50 to 60 per cent) is required in the mid-troposphere, since the presence of moist air leads to the formation of cumulonimbus cloud.
- Such conditions exist over the equatorial doldrums, especially in western margins of oceans (this is because of east to west movement of ocean currents), which have great moisture, carrying capacity because the trade winds continuously replace the saturated air.
- **Upper divergence above the sea level system:**
 - A well – developed divergence in the upper layers of the atmosphere is necessary so that the rising air currents within the cyclone continue to be pumped out and a low pressure maintained at the center.
- **Low-level Disturbances:**
 - Low-level disturbance in the form of easterly wave disturbances in the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) should pre-exist.
- **Temperature contrast between air masses:**
 - Trade winds from both the hemispheres meet along inter-tropical front. Temperature contrasts between these air masses must exist when the ITCZ is farthest, from the equator.
 - Thus, the convergence of these air masses of different temperatures and the resulting instability are the prerequisites for the origin and growth of violent tropical storms.
- **Wind Shear:**
 - It is the differences between wind speeds at different heights
 - Tropical cyclones develop when the wind is uniform.
 - Because of weak vertical wind shear, cyclone formation processes are limited to latitude equator ward of the subtropical jet stream.
 - In the temperate regions, wind shear is high due to westerlies and this inhibits convective cyclone formation.

Non tropical cyclone and differences between tropical and non-tropical cyclones

- A non-tropical (or cold core) storm has the coldest temperatures in the center of the storm. Temperatures cool as you move higher in the atmosphere and there is a trough at the highest levels.
- **Winds:**
 - Unlike tropical (warm core) storms, winds are not as concentrated near the center of the storm, but can spread out for hundreds of miles from it.
- **Precipitation:**
 - It is in a cold core (non-tropical cyclone) can also spread far away from the center of the storm. Most mid-latitude storms are cold core including nor'easters.



- The precipitation is more intense in tropical cyclone than non-tropical cyclone. Also, precipitation in tropical cyclones are localised while in case of non-tropical cyclone the precipitation is widespread.
- **Shape:**
 - Tropical cyclones are nearly symmetric in shape and are without fronts. Mid-latitude (cold core) cyclones are comma shaped and have fronts associated with them.
- **Transition:**
 - Hurricanes and tropical storms often transition to cold core cyclones, meaning that it has technically lost many of its tropical characteristics and is more closely related to a mid-latitude (non-tropical) storm.
 - The transition often occurs when a tropical cyclone moves to higher latitudes and interacts with atmospheric features that are more common there.
- **Troughs:**
 - Tropical cyclones don't form troughs whereas non-tropical cyclones form troughs in upper level of atmosphere.

Conclusion:

Despite the differences both these cyclones are destructive in nature and cause irreparable damage to life and property.

Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent); factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India)

What is the sub-terranean twin river system? Discuss with reference to the Amazon-Hamza twin river system. (250 words)

The hindu

Why this question:

The question is from the static portions of GS paper I.

Key demand of the question:

One should explain the concept of sub-terranean twin river system in detail and highlight the significance of Amazon-Hamza twin river system.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Define twin river system – Two rivers flowing at different levels in the same region, i.e., on the ground surface and below the ground surface but following the same direction and the gradient is called the twin river system.

Body:



Start by explaining the fact that it is an unusual geological happening. Such a river system has been discovered in 2011 in Brazil, called the Amazon-Hamza river system. Hamza river is a subterranean river, which is flowing below the Amazon River.

Then move on to discuss key features of Amazon-Hamza twin river system.

Explain How Amazon and Hamza are two different rivers?

Conclusion:

Conclude that due to differences in flow, level and source of water these two rivers have been considered different and have been named as a subterranean twin river system.

Introduction:

Two rivers flowing at different levels in the same region i.e., on the ground surface and below the ground surface but following the same direction and gradient may be called **twin-river system**. Such river system is an example of geological unusual instance. Such twin-river system formed by the Amazon River and subterranean river just below the Amazon, named the Hamza River, has been recently discovered in the year 2011 in Brazil.

Body:

The river ‘Hamza,’ named after the discoverer, an Indian-born scientist Valiya Mannathal Hamza who is working with the National Observatory at Rio, makes it the first and geologically unusual instance of a twin-river system flowing at different levels of the earth’s crust in Brazil.

The following are the characteristic features of the Hamza and the Amazon twin-river system:

- Several geological factors have played a vital role in the formation and existence of these subterranean water bodies.
- The underground ocean, discovered in 2007, has been formed when the plate carrying the Pacific Ocean bottom gets dragged and ends up under the continental plate.
- the porous and permeable sedimentary rocks behave as conduits for the water to sink to greater depths.
- **East-west trending faults and the karst topography** present along the northern border of the Amazon basin may have some role in supplying water to the “river”.
- If the impermeable rocks stop the vertical flow, the west to east gradient of the topography directs it to flow towards the Atlantic Ocean.
- The subterranean Hamza river flows for a total distance of 6000 km at a depth of about 4 km from the bed of the Amazon River and follows the same flow direction of the Amazon.
- The Hamza river runs all the way from the foot hills region of the Andes Mountain to the Atlantic Ocean in a west-east direction. It drains into the Atlantic Ocean as does the Amazon River but at different levels.
- The primary source of water of the Hamza river is infiltration of surface water through permeable sedimentary rocks. In fact, there are west-east trending faults which act as conduits for water to sink to greater depth and form subterranean stream (Hamza).
- In other words, west to east topographic gradient directs the water of the Amazon and the Hamza river just below the Amazon to adopt Atlantic-bound flow path.



- It may be mentioned that except for flow direction the Amazon and the Hamza rivers greatly vary in terms of their width, flow velocity etc. as follows:
- The width of the Amazon ranges from 1 km (1000m) to 100 km at different locations but the width of the Hamza River varies from 200 km to 400 km. It means the Hamza is much wider than the Amazon.
 - The average speed of water in the surface river Amazon is 5 m/s whereas it is less than one milli-meter per second in the subterranean Hamza river. Thus, the Hamza is exceedingly sluggish in flow velocity.

Conclusion:

Unlike the Hamza, the **153 km-long underground river in Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula** and the **8.2 km-long Cabayugan River in the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park in the Philippines** have come into being thanks to the karst topography. Water in these places has dissolved the carbonate rock to form extensive underground river systems.

Discuss the key features of glacial landforms? Also, explain their significance and threats glaciers are facing.(250 words)

Why this question:

Glaciers exist in the areas where the accumulation of snow exceeds its ablation over a long period of time. The question aims to ascertain the key features of such landforms and the threats they are facing.

Key demand of the question:

The question is straight forward; explain the key features and the threats faced by the glaciers.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Define glacial landforms in brief.

Body:

Explain the key features of the glacial landforms with suitable diagrams where ever necessary.

Discuss their significance of the glaciers with respect to the resources they offer.

Explain the challenges they face and what needs to be done to overcome such threats.

Conclusion:

Conclude with way forward.

Introduction:

A glacier is a large mass of ice that is persistently moving under its own weight over the land or as linear flows down the slopes of mountains in broad trough-like valleys. Glaciers are formed in the areas where the accumulation of snow exceeds its ablation (melting and sublimation) over many years, often centuries. Glaciers move under the influence of the force of gravity.

Glaciation generally gives rise to **erosional features in the highlands and depositional features on the lowlands**, though these processes are not mutually exclusive because a **glacier plays a combined role of erosion, transportation and deposition** throughout its course. It erodes its valley by two processes viz. plucking & abrasion.



- **Plucking** → Glacier freezes the joints & beds of underlying rocks, tears out individual blocks & drags them away.
- **Abrasion** → Glacier scratches, scrapes, polishes & scours the valley floor with the debris frozen into it.

Body:

Key features of glacial landforms:

Erosional Landforms:

- **Cirque:**
 - Cirques are horseshoe shaped, deep, long and wide troughs or basins with very steep to vertically dropping high walls at its head as well as sides.
 - Cirques are often found along the head of Glacial Valley
 - The accumulated ice cuts these cirques while moving down the mountain tops.
 - After the glacier melts, water fills these cirques, and they are known as cirque lake.
- **Horns:**
 - Horns form through head-ward erosion of the cirque walls.
 - If three or more radiating glaciers cut headward until their cirques meet, high, sharp pointed and steep-sided peaks called horns form.
- **Aretes:**
 - Arete is a narrow ridge of rock which separates two valleys.
 - Aretes are typically formed when two glacial cirques erode head-wards towards one another
 - The divides between Cirque side walls or head walls get narrow because of progressive erosion and turn into serrated or saw-toothed ridges referred to as aretes with very sharp crest and a zig-zag outline.
- **Glacial Valleys:**
 - Glaciated valleys are trough-like and U-shaped with wide, flat floors and relatively smooth, and steep sides.
 - When the glacier disappears, and water fills the deep narrow sections of the valley, a ribbon lake is formed.
- **Fjords/Fiords:**
 - A fjord or fiord is a long, narrow and steep-sided inlet created by a glacier
 - They are formed where the lower end of a very deep glacial trough is filled with sea water
 - Fjords are common in Norway, Chile, and New Zealand etc.



- **Hanging Valleys:**

- A hanging valley is a tributary valley that is higher than the main valley. Hanging valleys are common along glaciated fjords and U-shaped valleys.
- The main valley is eroded much more rapidly than the tributary valleys as it contains a much larger glacier
- After the ice has melted tributary valley, therefore, hangs above the main valley
- The faces of divides or spurs of such hanging valleys opening into main glacial valleys are quite often truncated to give them an appearance like triangular facets.
- Often, waterfalls form at or near the outlet of the upper valley
- Thus, the hanging valley may form a natural head of water for generating hydroelectric power

Depositional Landforms:

- **Outwash plains:**

- An outwash plain is a plain at the foot of the glacial mountain
- They are made up of fluvioglacial sediments, washed out from the terminal moraines by the streams and channels of the stagnant ice mass.
- As it flows, the glacier grinds the underlying rock surface and carries the debris along.

- **Moraines:**

- The unassorted coarse and fine debris dropped by the melting glaciers is called glacial till.
- The long ridges of deposits of these glacial till is called as Moraines
- Depending on its position, moraines are classified into be **ground, lateral, medial and terminal moraine.**

- **Eskers:**

- An esker is a long, winding sinuous ridge of stratified sand and gravel
- Eskers are frequently several kilometres long and, because of their peculiar uniform shape, are somewhat like railway embankments
- When glaciers melt in summer, the water flows on the surface of the ice or seeps down along the margins or even moves through holes in the ice.
- These waters accumulate beneath the glacier and flow like streams in a channel beneath the ice.
- Such streams flow over the ground with ice forming its banks.

- **Drumlins:**



- Drumlins are smooth oval shaped ridge-like features composed mainly of glacial till with some masses of gravel and sand.
- The drumlins form due to the dumping of rock debris beneath heavily loaded ice through fissures in the glacier.
- The long axes of drumlins are parallel to the direction of ice movement.
- They may measure up to 1000m in length and 30-35 m or so in height.
- One end of the drumlins facing the glacier called the stoss

Significance of Glaciers:

- **Glaciers and Thermo (heat) Haline (salt) Circulation:**
 - The melting fresh water from glaciers alters the ocean, not only by directly contributing to the global sea level rise, but also because it pushes down the heavier salt water, thereby changing the currents in the ocean.
- **Glaciers and winds:**
 - As the planet's air conditioner, the polar ice caps impact weather and climate dynamics, such as the jet stream.
- **Glaciers and climate change:**
 - Glaciers are also early indicators of climate changes that will have a somewhat more delayed impact on other parts of the Earth system. Glaciers are sentinels of climate change.
- **Glaciers provide drinking water:**
 - People living in arid climates near mountains often rely on glacial melt for their water for part of the year. e.g.: Ganges, Yangtze
- **Glaciers irrigate crops:**
 - In Switzerland's Rhone Valley, farmers have irrigated their crops for hundreds of years by channelling meltwater from glaciers to their fields.
- **Glaciers help generate hydroelectric power:**
 - Scientists and engineers in Norway, central Europe, Canada, New Zealand, and South America have worked together to tap into glacial resources, using electricity that has been generated in part by damming glacial meltwater.

Threats faced:

- The processes that remove snow, ice, and moraine from a glacier or ice sheet are called **ablation**. Ablation includes melting, evaporation, erosion, and calving.
- Glaciers melt when ice melts more quickly than firn can accumulate. Earth's average temperature has been increasing dramatically for more than a century.
- Glaciers are important indicators of global warming and climate change in several ways.



- Melting ice sheets contribute to rising sea levels. As ice sheets in Antarctica and Greenland melt, they raise the level of the ocean. Tons of fresh water are added to the ocean every day.
- Large additions of fresh water also change the ocean ecosystem. Organisms, such as many types of corals, depend on salt water for survival. Some corals may not be able to adjust to a more freshwater habitat.
- The loss of glacial ice also reduces the amount of fresh water available for plants and animals that need fresh water to survive. Glaciers near the Equator, such as those on the tropical island of Papua or in South America, are especially at risk.
- Less precipitation also affects some glaciers. In 1912, the glaciers on Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro covered 12 square kilometers (4.6 square miles). In 2009, Kilimanjaro's alpine glaciers had shrunk to two square kilometers (0.8 square miles). This reduction is the result of few heavy snowfalls.

Conclusion:

Glaciers are one of the most visible icons of the “**cryosphere**”, the cold parts of the world where temperatures fall below the freezing point of water, a natural tipping point that profoundly changes the environment. From the Andes to the Himalayas, the loss of mountain glaciers is a real concern.

Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc.

Discuss the phenomena of retreating monsoon in India. Why is retreating monsoon, if delayed a cause of concern? Analyse. (250 words)

[Indianexpress](#)

Introduction:

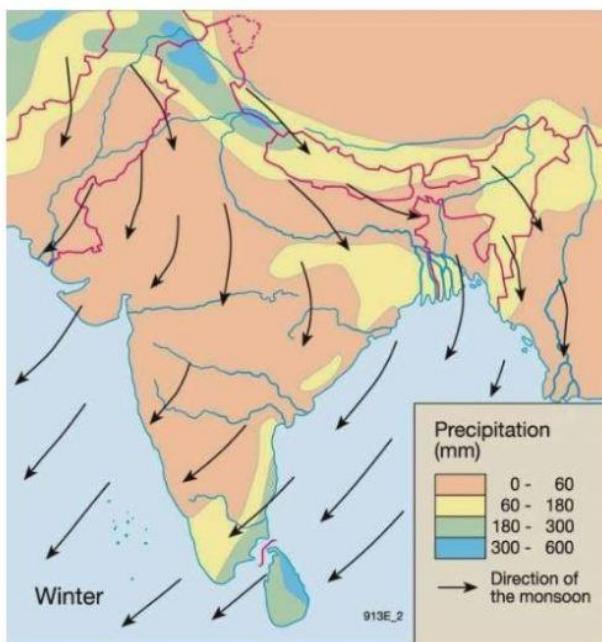
Retreating monsoon season commences with the beginning of the withdrawal of the south-west monsoon [mid-September – November] and lasts till early January. It is a 3-month long process where it starts from the peninsula in October and from the extreme south-eastern tip by December. The south-west monsoons withdraw from the Coromandel coast in mid-December. In Punjab, the south-west monsoons withdraw from there in the second week of September. Unlike the sudden burst of the advancing monsoons, the withdrawal is rather gradual and takes about three months.

Body:**Phenomenon:**

- The retreat takes place due to the weakening of the low-pressure area over the north-western parts of India (and thus a gradual transition of ITCZ towards the south).
- This is due to the apparent shift of sun towards the equator and Reduction in temperature due to widespread rains.
- With retreat of the monsoons, the clouds disappear and the sky becomes clear. The day temperature starts falling steeply.



- Monsoon rains weakens all over India except few south eastern states.
- Monsoon trough weakens and gradually shifts south wards
- Most severe and devastating tropical cyclones originate in the Indian seas especially in the Bay of Bengal due to retreating monsoons.
- Direction of winds is from North west to south east and Winds blow from surface to sea there by carrying no moisture.



Importance of retreating monsoon:

- The northeast monsoon season brings rainfall to just five of the 36 meteorological divisions in the country — Tamil Nadu (which includes Puducherry), Kerala, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema and South Interior Karnataka.
- The northeast monsoon is particularly important for Tamil Nadu, which receives almost half its annual rainfall (438 mm of the annual 914.4 mm) during this season. The southwest monsoon contributes just 35 per cent to Tamil Nadu's annual rainfall.
- Unlike the rest of the country, which receives rain in the southwest monsoon season between June and September, the northeast monsoon is crucial for farming and water security in the south.
- It is important for the Rabi crops in the south-eastern region of India.
- The retreating southwest monsoon season is marked by clear skies and rise in temperature.
- The land is still moist. Owing to the conditions of high temperature and humidity, the weather becomes rather oppressive. This is commonly known as the 'October heat'. The delay in retreating monsoon could further aggravate the heat.
- Low pressure trough shifts to Bay of Bengal. They give rise to cyclonic depressions which cause havoc on the eastern coasts—especially the coasts of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu with



very strong storms and rains. The delay could lead to increased incidences of cyclones and depressions.

Conclusion:

Monsoon is the **lifeline of Indian economy** as 2/3rd of it depends on farm income and rain is the only source of irrigation for over 40% of the country's cropped area. A good monsoon increases crop productivity, raises farm income and drives the economy while, a weak monsoon inflates food prices and harms the economy. Thus, the retreating monsoon plays a vital role in the water security of the south-eastern region of India.



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