



INSIGHTSIAS
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION



OFFLINE TEST CENTRE NOW IN **DELHI**



InsightsIAS,

57/12, 3rd floor, Above Kumar Book Centre, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi - 60

📞 7483163074 | 7303318519

✉️ support@insightsias.com

**UPSC CSE MAINS 2019
GENERAL STUDIES
PAPER I**

- 1. Highlight the Central Asian and Greco Bactrian elements in the Gandhara art. (Answer in 150 words) 10**

Gandhara style of art was an amalgamation of Greek- Roman, Central Asian and indigenous art. The Gandhara style of art developed and spread in Afghanistan, Central Asia and north western part of India from the 1st Century BCE to the 4th Century CE. The subject matter of Gandhara art was the depiction of various Buddhist concepts. Political, socio-economic and cultural structure of Gandhara has been studied in its Buddhist Art.

In Gandhara art, a number of compositional traits were adapted from Roman mortuary art, while the divine attributes and decorative elements from Greek, Central Asian and Iranian roots due to control of this region by Greco bactrians, Mauryans, Sakas to Kushanas at different times

Central Asian elements in the Gandhara art:

- **Architectural elements:**
 - Drapery of Buddha statues similar to Parthian (modern Iran) drapery in Hellenistic cultures.
 - Curly hair of Buddha statue also resembles similarity with parthian style.
 - Disc shaped halo around Buddha head similar to Persian culture of reverence to sun.
- **Script:** Kharosti letters are found in Buddhist inscription in Gandhara.
- **Music:** A number of miniature terracotta monkey figures from Yotkan, of the 4th-5th centuries CE, are found playing various musical instruments like flute, harp, syrinx, flute, cymbals, drums and so on.

Greco Bactrian elements in the Gandhara art:

- **Sensuous description of Hellenistic art along with Natural and Artistic beauty :**
 - The Greek artisans of the Bactrian Kingdom brought about an artistic renaissance that led to the creation of Greco-Buddhist art.
 - Statues and other depictions of the Buddha at the time show him wearing a **Greek-style toga and having curly Mediterranean hair.**
 - Decorative motifs such as fruit garland, scrolls, images of Buddha in Gandhara resembles to Greek tradition
- The Buddha also appears in a multitude of Greek Corinthian-style columns that have been found in the area, some of which have the Buddha standing alongside traditional Greek mythological characters such as Heracles.
- The first representations of the Buddha in **human form like** other Greek gods.

Thus the innovative anthropomorphic Buddha image immediately reached a very high level of sculptural sophistication, naturally inspired by the sculptural styles of Hellenistic Greek and Central Asian style.

2. **The 1857 uprising was the culmination of the recurrent, big and small local rebellions that had occurred in the preceding hundred years of British rule. Elucidate.** (Answer in 150 words)10

Introduction

The Revolt of 1857 was the result of imperialist and capitalistic nature of the EIC rule. The high rate of land revenues, subjugation of the grievances of the locals, involvement in the cultural traditions, impact of Christian missionaries and mistreatment of the tribals by outsiders.

Body

The following 'People's resistance and rebellion' culminated in 1857 Uprising, which can be categorized into three broad forms:

Civil Rebellion and Peasant Movement

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sanyasi Revolt (1763-1800)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Harsh Economic order and Disastrous famine of 1770 inspired the group of Sanyasis in Eastern India to fight British• Peasants, joined by dispossessed Zamindars, Soldiers raided company factories and treasuries• The characteristic feature of this revolt, was the equal participation of Hindus and Muslims
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revolt of Raja of Vizianagaram (1794)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The treaty between Ruler of Vizianagaram and the English, to oust the French, resulted in the British demanding a tribute from the rulers• This angered the Raja and rose up in revolt
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poligars' Revolt (1795-1805)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 1781, the Nawab of Arcot gave management and control of Carnatic provinces to the East India Company causing resentment among Poligars.• The Poligars revolted against British for their taxation rules
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paika Rebellion (1817)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Paiks of Odisha were the traditional landed militia and enjoyed rent free land

	<p>tenures for their military service and policing functions on a hereditary basis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The extortionist Land revenue policy led Paikas to force the company to retreat.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moplah Uprisings 	<p>Hike in revenue demand and reduction of field size, coupled with the oppression of officials, resulted in widespread peasant unrest among the Moplahs of Malabar</p>

Tribal Uprisings

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pahariyas' Rebellion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caused by the British Expansion of the territory of Pahariyas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chuar Uprising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Famine, enhanced land revenue demands and economic distress caused the aboriginal tribesman to take up arms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ho and Munda Uprisings (1820-1837) 	<p>This organized rebellion was against the newly introduced farming revenue policy</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Santhal Rebellion (1855-56) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The oppression of the Santhals, who were agricultural people, had fled to settle in the plains of the Rajmahal hills (Bihar) led to the Santhal rebellion against the zamindars
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ramosi Risings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ramosis, the hill tribes of the Western Ghats resented British Policy of Annexation They rose and plundered country around Satara
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Khasi Uprising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Khasis, Garos, Khamptis and the Singphos organized themselves under Tirath Singh to drive away the strangers from the plains

Military revolts

- Vellore Mutiny 1806
 - Sepoys protested against interference by the British in their social and religious practices
- Other important Sepoy mutinies were:
 - The mutiny of the sepoy in Bengal in 1764
 - The mutiny of the sepoy of the 47th Native Infantry Unit in 1824

Conclusion

All the localized movements, inspired by local grievances gave way for a major 'National impulse', in 1857, which is called as the 'First War of Independence', that shook the foundation of British rule in India.

3. Examine the linkages between the nineteenth century's 'Indian Renaissance' and the emergence of national identity. (Answer in 150 words)10

Introduction

National Identity is related to the sense of belongingness shared by Individuals to a Nation, represented as cohesion of tradition, culture, language and Politics. Various factors like religious and social ills, depressing position of women, segregation and hierarchy in caste system and awareness among the enlightened Indians led to renaissance.

Body

Linking the Indian Renaissance movements and National Identity emergence:

- The Renaissance movements' ideological unity was centered around **Rationalism, Religious Universalism and Humanism**. These ideologies evaluated the contemporary socio-religious practices from standpoint of **social utility**, which was important to repose faith among Indians, in the way of **National identity**
 - Examples: **Swami Vivekananda's** legacy reflected the ideal of '**Vasudaiva Kutumbakam**' - meaning the whole world is one single family' left a deep imprint of unity among Indians
 - **Raja Rammohun Roy's** consideration of different religions as national embodiments of **Universal theism**, was a uniting factor among different religions in India
- The movements carried a new **Humanitarian morality**, which included the notion that Humanity can progress, with a special emphasis on **Individual rights**; These Humanistic ideals made people realize the equal worth of all individuals
 - This movements linked to social ills like **untouchability** and **gender-based inequality** derived legitimacy in the Humanitarian direction
 - Measures taken in the direction of **Gender equality** include :
 - Efforts to **Abolish Sati by RR Roy**
 - Preventing Female Infanticide
 - Measures in favour of **Untouchables**
 - The Brahmo Samaj, Prarthana Samaj, Arya Samaj, Ramakrishna Mission, the Theosophists, the Social Conference and individuals worked to spread education among the untouchables and remove restrictions imposed on them from entering temples or using ponds, tanks, etc.
 - In Maharashtra, **Jyotiba Phule**, born in a low caste Mali family, led a movement against the brahminical domination of Hindu society, through **Satyashodhak samaj**

- The Renaissance process focused on **worldly existence** and issues of **Salvation/other worldliness**; This was needed at a time to take Indians away from the grips of ill social practices and to further undertake social actions, in direction of Social Integrity
 - This was evident in the way the **Brahmo Samaj**, **discarded faith in Divine Avatars** and also denying that any scripture could enjoy the status of ultimate authority transcending human reason and conscience
- The movements took into consideration evolution of an **alternative cultural-ideological system** and the **regeneration of traditional institutions**, to arouse a sense of common belongingness in the flourishing past
 - These manifested in form of attempts to construct traditional knowledge, the use and development of vernacular languages, creation of an alternative system of education, defence of religion, efforts to regenerate Indian art and literature, the emphasis on Indian dress and food, attempts to revitalize the Indian systems of medicine and to research the pre-colonial technology for its potential
- The later Socio-Religious movements penetrated the lower strata of society to revolutionise and reconstruct social sphere; This was in the way of an effort to bridge the gap between different communities to fight for a common cause
- Renaissance also strived to **bring together Indians to fight against common enemy**, thereby imparting National Identity to them
 - This was seen in efforts of '**The Servants of India Society**', by **Gopal Krishna Gokhale** which aimed to train national missionaries for the service of India

Conclusion

These movements carried the **common good for all**, which brought different sections of people together in way of fighting common National Opposition. The rise of Renaissance can be attributed to the **Intellectual and Cultural efflorescence**, as it marked a period of transition in values, transformation in social sensibilities and rebirth in cultural creativity. These Social and Religious struggles, preceded the political struggles, which have been considered the **necessary precursors** to the coming of Nationalism. Hence, **Nationalism** is conceptualized as **natural outcome of the renaissance**.

4. Assess the impact of global warming on the coral life system with examples.

(Answer in 150 words) 10

Introduction:

Global warming is a gradual increase in the overall temperature of the earth's atmosphere generally attributed to the greenhouse effect caused by increased levels of carbon dioxide, CFCs, and other pollutants. Climate change is the greatest global threat to coral reef ecosystems, which are symbiotic association between coral polyps and algae.

Body:

Impacts of global warming on coral life system:

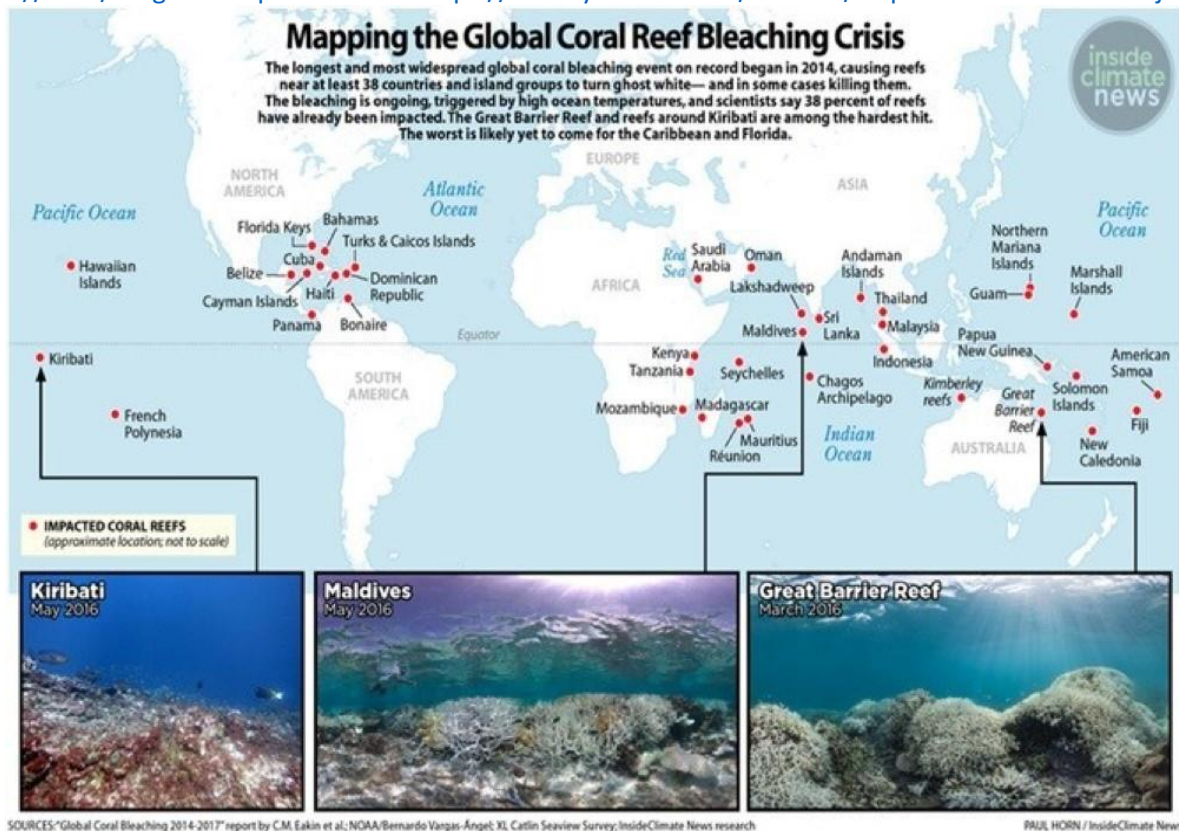
- As temperature rises, mass coral bleaching events occurs leading to more frequent infectious disease outbreaks.
- Ocean acidification: carbon dioxide absorbed into the ocean from the atmosphere has already begun to reduce calcification rates in coral reef-building and reef-associated organisms by altering seawater chemistry through decrease in pH.
- Due to global warming there are increasing changes to the frequency and intensity of tropical storms, which adversely affect coral reef.
- Rapid dilution of reef waters from storm-generated precipitation and runoff has been demonstrated to cause coral reef bleaching.
- Global warming and rise of El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events lead to increase in bleaching.
- Coral bleaching events occur during sudden temperature drops accompanying intense upwelling episodes.

Instances of coral bleaching:

- According to UNESCO, the coral reefs in all 29 reef-containing World Heritage sites would cease to exist by the end of this century if we continue to emit greenhouse gases under a business-as-usual scenario. (Clive Wilkinson report).
- Nearly all of the world's major coral reef regions (Caribbean/ western Atlantic, eastern Pacific, central and western Pacific, Indian Ocean, Arabian Gulf, Red Sea) experienced coral bleaching and mortality.
- The bleaching of the Great Barrier Reef in 2016 and 2017, for instance, killed around 50% of its corals.

Conclusion:

As Coral reefs harbour the highest biodiversity and support over 500 million people worldwide, mostly in poor countries. Its bleaching would also have adverse effect on them. Alliances and organizations like Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI), are involved in preventing damage to healthy reefs and restoring damaged ones through assessment, conservation and restoration programs world-wide involving local communities should push forward for conserving the corals.



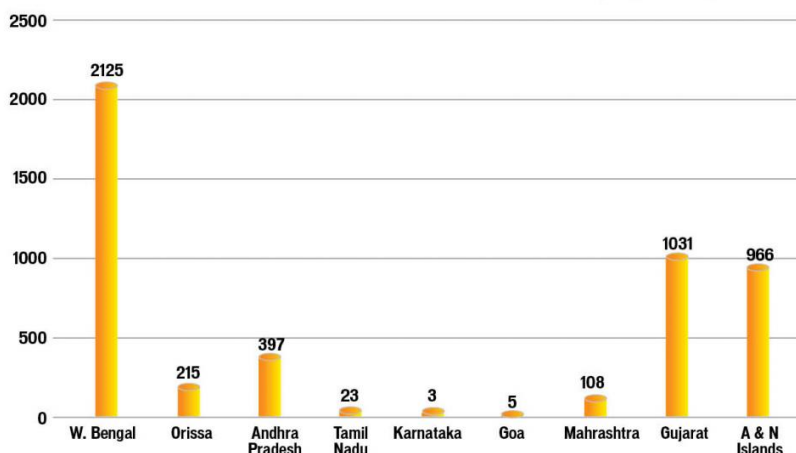
5. Discuss the causes of depletion of mangroves and explain their importance in maintaining coastal ecology. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Introduction:

Mangroves are salt tolerant trees, also called **halophytes**, which survive high salinity, tidal regimes, strong wind velocity, high temperature and muddy anaerobic soil – a combination of conditions hostile for other plants. The mangrove ecosystems constitute a symbiotic link or bridge between terrestrial and marine ecosystems. They are found in the inter-tidal zones of sheltered shore, estuaries, creeks, backwaters, lagoons, marshes and mud-flats.

Body:

DISTRIBUTION OF MANGROVES IN INDIA (Sq. Km)



Causes of depletion of mangroves

A scientific study reported that 100 per cent of mangrove species, 92 per cent of mangrove associates, 60.8 per cent of algae, 23.8 per cent of invertebrates and 21.1 per cent of fish are under threat.

Natural forces due to climate change:

- **Sea-level rise:** Mangrove systems do not keep pace with changing sea-level rise and fall.
- **Extreme high water events:** affect the position and health including through altered sediment elevation and sulphide soil toxicity
- **Storms:** increase damage to mangroves through defoliation and tree mortality and they collapse
- **Precipitation:** decreased rainfall and increased evaporation will increase salinity, decreasing net primary productivity, growth
- **Temperature:** Changing species composition, Changing phenological patterns (e.g., timing of flowering and fruiting)
- **Ocean circulation patterns:** affect mangrove propagule dispersal and the genetic structure of mangrove populations, with concomitant effects on mangrove community structure.

Anthropogenic activities:

- Mangroves are being destroyed and facing severe threats due to urbanisation, industrialization, and discharge of domestic sewage, industrial effluents and pesticides.
- Saltpans and aquaculture also pose major threat to the mangroves.
- 40 per cent of mangrove forests in West Coast of India have been converted into farmlands and housing colonies over the last three decades.
- Some of the mangrove species like *Bruguiera cylindrica* and *Sonneratia acida* are at the verge of extinction.
- Due to shrimp farming, about 35,000 ha of mangroves have been lost in India.

Importance in coastal ecology

- Mangrove plants have (additional) special roots such as prop roots, pneumatophores which help to impede water flow and thereby enhance the deposition of sediment in areas (where it is already occurring), stabilize the coastal shores, provide breeding ground for fishes.
- Mangroves moderate monsoonal tidal floods and reduce inundation of coastal lowlands.
- They prevent coastal soil erosion.
- They protect coastal lands from tsunamis, hurricanes and floods.
- Mangroves enhance natural recycling of nutrients.
- Mangrove supports numerous flora, avifauna and wild life.
- Provide a safe and favourable environment for breeding, spawning, rearing of several fishes.
- They supply timber, fire wood, medicinal plants and edible plants to local people.
- They provide numerous employment opportunities to local communities and augment their livelihood.

Conclusion:

- The impact of environmental and human interference on marine flora and fauna needs to be assessed.
- The traditional rights of coastal communities to use the natural resources in their surrounding natural habitats for their livelihood should also be recognized on priority basis.
- initiatives like Ramsar convention, marine protected areas, CRZ under EPA, 1986 etc must be implemented to conserve mangroves.



INSIGHTSIAS
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

ADMISSIONS OPEN

VISIT OUR CENTERS FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION

- Nanda Ashirwad Complex, 3rd Floor, Above Village Hyper Market,
Chandra Layout Main Rd, 2nd Block, Dwaraka Nagar, Bengaluru - 560040
- 1134, 1, Service Rd, Hampi Nagar, Near Attiguppe Metro Station, Bengaluru - 560104



2018 UPSC TOPPERS FROM INSIGHTS IAS



INTEGRATED CLASSROOM COACHING FOR FRESHERS

- Nearly 500 Hours of classroom teaching for freshers
- Special CSAT classes every week.
- Special Current Affairs classes every week
- Special Sessions on Essay and Mains answer writing
- 58 Full Length Prelims Mocks as part of OGP-2020 aligned with CLASSROOM TEACHING
- 12 Full Length Mains Tests
- Mentorship Program – Mentor for every 40 Students
- Individual attention – Guaranteed!
- Separate Mains test series after Prelims
- Interview guidance Program
- Unparalleled Guidance throughout your preparation

PRELIMS TEST SERIES

- Hit rate of 80% of Questions in UPSC CSE Prelims - 2019
- Tests strictly based on UPSC pattern
- Packages available for freshers & veterans



INTEGRATED PRELIMS CUM MAINS TEST SERIES

- Single Timetable for Prelims & Mains Preparation
- Concept of EBS for Mains (Essential, Breakthrough and Simulation Tests)
- Elementary approach will lay more emphasis on building the basics, especially static component of the syllabus
- Breakthrough tests – will test your ability to link Facts and Concepts with current affairs.
- Simulation tests will give real exam like feeling to help you consolidate and finally put to test effectiveness of Mains preparation.
- 46 Mains Tests (Sectional 20, Full Length 16 and Essay 10)
- 51 Prelims Tests (General Studies 41, CSAT – 10)
- Value Addition Material will be provided for important topics
- Video Discussions will be uploaded for Mains tests
- Detailed, well researched synopsis will be made available for all mains tests
- A mentor will be assigned to clarify your doubts from October 2019
- Tests timings are flexible.

CALL: +91-94492 59488 | +91-74831 63074

www.insightsonindia.com | www.insightsactivelearn.com

6. Can the strategy of regional resource-based manufacturing help in promoting employment in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Introduction:

India is a land of rich natural resources and diversely so. However, while some regions are ahead in their resources and development, other regions lag behind. For example, states like Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh, are blessed with minerals and metal ores. However, they **largely lack proper infrastructure and urban resources.**

Body:

The development of natural resources has played a significant role in the expansion of many regional economies around the world. Despite this important role, research on the relationship between regional resources and regional development has been identified as the neglected area in economic geography.

In such cases, we need to consider resource planning at national, state, regional and even local levels. **Regional Resource planning** involves Identifying and documenting the available resources, Designing a structured plan and matching the resources and development plans with those of the nation.

Advantages of regional resource based manufacturing:

- Bottom Up Approach
- Efficient Use of Local resource
- Balanced Development (Reduces Regional Imbalance)
- Helps Sustainable migration
- Centre-State coordination
- Product and Service specialization in diverse areas.

Note: You can mention one of the examples

Potential for Regional resource based manufacturing:

1. Hugli Basin : Jute growing regions: Jute mills

Potential Factors: Proximity to jute producing areas , inexpensive water transport, supported by a good network of railways, roadways and waterways to facilitate movement of raw materials to the mills, abundant water for processing raw jute, cheap labour from West Bengal, and adjoining states of Bihar, Orissa, and UP.

Potential for Employment: India is the largest producer of jute goods and this sector supports 40 lack farm families and provides direct and indirect employment to 4 lakh workers.

2. Ahmedabad- Mumbai region: Cotton growing regions: Cotton Textile mills

Potential Factors: Availability of raw cotton, market, transport including accessible port facilities, labor, moist climate, etc. contributed towards its localization.

Potential for Employment: Textile sector provides employment to 45 million persons in India alone. Textile is one of India's oldest industries and has a formidable presence in the national economy as it contributes to about 14 percent of manufacturing value-addition, accounts for around one-third of our gross export earnings and provides gainful employment to millions of people.

3. Darjeeling – Tea industry

Potential Factors: Climate:

- A temperature over 21°C during the growing season of not less than 8 months
- Highland Conditions: Highlands or hill slopes where the natural drainage is good
- Most suitable soils are slightly acidic and without calcium
- Presence of iron in the subsoil is desirable
- Tea shrubs grow better when shielded from strong sunlight or violent winds.

Potential for Employment: Tea cultivation and processing are labour intensive. Permanent labour force working for generations and cheap Labour is available from other districts of West Bengal, Bihar, etc.



4. Chotanagpur Plateau – Availability of Iron ore and Coal – Iron and steel Industries.

Potential Factors: It is the most important centre where coal- Jharia, Giridh, Dhanbad, Hazaribagh. Iron-ore is found in abundance and it occurs with coal in close proximity which favors the installment of iron and steel industry in this region. Iron and steel industry uses large quantities of **heavy and weight losing raw materials** and its localization is primarily controlled by the **availability of raw materials**. Other supplement minerals e.g. manganese, bauxite and limestone are found in this part of the plateau in abundance. Water, which is required, is provided by Damodar river and its tributaries, which is a perineal source of water. Cheap and sturdy labor from the tribes of Chotanagpur and from neighbouring mining areas is available.

Potential for Employment: Iron and steel industry is the “key” of “basic” industry of India. Rapid industrialization of the country requires rapid development of iron and steel industries. The steel industry is providing direct employment to about 2.5 lakh workers.

Conclusion:

Hence Regional resource based Manufacturing help in promoting employment in India provided the government(Both Centre and State) announces fiscal incentives **for labour intensive industries**, provides cheaper infrastructure(Power, water), and access to wider market.

7. Discuss the factors for localisation of agro-based food processing industries of North-West India. **(Answer in 150 words) 10**

Introduction:

Agro-based food processing industry use plant and animal based products as raw materials. Hence their location is in vicinity to raw materials produced generally due to its perishability and bulkiness. Similarly considering the factors for localization of agro based food processing industry in North West India are mainly related to transportation, raw material, labour, power, capital and government policies.

Body:

Major food processing industry lies in the following:

- Food Grains: Paddy, Wheat,
- Fruits: Guava, Citrus Fruits, Musk Melon, Peach, Pear
- Vegetables: Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Onion, Peas, Potato
- Plantation: Sugarcane
- Livestock: Milk , Honey

Factors:

▪ **Climate and relief:**

- A good amount of rainfall from the Monsoon winds and basin topography of the region due to flow of major river system of Indus and its tributaries lead to good availability of water.
- This region has access to **high quality, fertile soil** and therefore enjoys high levels of production in wheat, cotton, paddy, citrus fruits etc.
- Mix of **Agro climate regions** help in flourishing the food processing industry in this region.

▪ **Raw materials:**

- NW INDIA (Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, part of west UP) is known as the “Food Bowl of India”, contributing the largest share of **wheat and paddy** to the central pool in India.
- Punjab is one of the highest producer of wheat and rice, Rajasthan is an important area for millet, Haryana for milk and livestock.
- It is one of the largest producers of a number of fruits & **some vegetables** in India- peach, pear, kinnow, musk melon, peas, radish.
- the high quality fodder availability and white revolution phase makes dairy industry flourish here

▪ **Infrastructure:**

- Availability of cold chain projects approved by Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure.

- Stable adequate and cheap energy. Most NW states are energy surplus
- Punjab has close to 30 agro processing clusters.
- Multiple APMC (Agricultural Produce Market Committees) in the region - mega agro processing projects -availability of multiple warehouses.

▪ **Government policies:**

- High production was evident since first green revolution i.e. Availability was raw material and capital were the prime factors for localization of these industries in this region. Some of the prominent locations are Amritsar, Jalandhar, Gurdaspur, Patiala etc.
- Prompt MSP procurement in these areas encourage rice Mills.
- Support to FPIs in form to tax incentives and subsidies

Conclusion:

Thus, agro based industries have huge potential to make use of the surplus produce as well as generate employment for a large number of youth (thereby reducing disguised unemployment) to reap our demographic dividend.

8. What makes the Indian society unique in sustaining its culture? Discuss.

(Answer in 150 words) 10

According to Ginsberg – “A society is a collection of individuals united by certain relations or modes of behaviour which mark them off from other who do not enter into these relations or who differ from them in behaviour.”

Indian society and its unique culture has by far earned a lot of respect worldwide. Our society is a diversified one, still we have unity in our presentation and outlook.

Unique ways in which India sustains its culture

- **Festivals:** with elaborate traditions keep alive many cultural aspects. E.g.: Holi, Diwali, Eid, Christmas etc
- **Religion:** Particular rituals which ensures cultural propagation through generations. E.g.: Adi, antya samskaras, wedding ceremonies, etc
- **Collectivism:** It makes people respect the family, society more than the individual. E.g.: children in the family are taught to respect age old cultural practices than
- People building an identity based on culture rather than material possessions unlike the west. E.g.: Yoga, linguistic identity in Tamil Nadu etc
- Joint families, extended families act as propagators of culture. E.g.: Joint celebration of birth in the family, organic link between grandparents and children
- Indian women acting as a repository of culture where cultural practices are transferred from generation to generation. E.g.: Cuisines, traditional knowledge of child rearing etc
- Tribes in India maintain their identity and culture due to geographical isolation and linguistic distance. E.g.: Todas, Maldharis

There are some unconventional ways also which have led to maintenance of culture

- **power distance and authority worship:** This has led to young generation becoming agents of cultural reproduction rather than cultural revolution
- **Ghettoisation and gated communities of upper classes and castes:** relative homogeneity in dwelling places reinforces the same cultural practices
- **Concept of purity and pollution:** leading to social division of labour that reinforces certain cultural practices
- **Jajmani system and social interdependence:** As society, culture and economy of the Indian village were inextricably intertwined, it was very difficult to change the culture without affecting the other two and vice versa.
- Lack of exposure to modern ideas and practices due to rural predominance until very recently in India has also been responsible for India maintaining its cultural integrity.

Conclusion:

Culture in any society must grow organically and change accordingly. However, essence of culture must not be lost and we must ensure that neither total rejection nor blind acceptance of cultural practices are to happen. Conscious social change on one hand and conscious preservation of culture on the other must be stressed.

9. "Empowering women is the key to control population growth." Discuss.

(Answer in 150 words) 10

Introduction:

In just eight years, **India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country.** According to estimates in a new United Nations report released on Monday, **India is also expected to add 273 million people by 2050** and will remain the most populated until the end of the century.

Body:

Empowerment of Women is key to control population because

- Education of women will lead to smaller and healthier families as they understand that poverty cannot be solved by more hands, instead is exacerbated by more children.
- **Agency:** Women making their own reproductive choices lead to smaller families and thus reduce population.
- Improving health by educated and assertive women leads to reduction in Infant Mortality Rate and Child Mortality Rate helping the society transition into fourth stage of demographic transition
- Son preference and son meta preference can be addressed by true empowerment of women by addressing entrenched patriarchy. If we can stop women from preferring male children, this will automatically reduce son meta preference and this population growth.

- Social capital of women can be used as a tool in population policy to improve its success rate.
- For instance, in a **study conducted by Michigan university in Jaipur**, it was observed that wherever women were deliberately involved, success rate of the scheme was much higher as women brought their friends and relatives also on board.
- Empowered and educated women who are participating in labor force(**current female labor force participation being only 26% as per Deloitte report**) leads to increased age of marriage and thus reduced overall fertility
- Empowered women have better awareness and usage of contraceptives which leads to reduced accidental pregnancies

To empower women with regard to family size, Focus must be on

- Ensuring awareness about family planning
- Educating women about contraceptives
- Ensuring women are aware of their rights
- Promoting PCPNDT act and national population policy with women as major instruments

Conclusion:

As the recent speech by PM on Independence Day has suggested, population control is important to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development in India. This has to happen with women on board.

10. What are the challenges to our cultural practices in the name of secularism?

(Answer in 150 words)

Introduction:

In India, Secularism defines the relationship between state and religion in a different manner compared to the west. While in the west secularism means complete separation between state and religion, in India it only means that state treats all religions equally. It ensures that there is no inter-religious domination, no domination of some over the other and State does not enforce any particular religion nor take away the religious freedom of individuals. There is equal intervention or non-intervention in all religions i.e. principled distance.

Body:

Challenges to cultural practices in the name of secularism are:

- Secularism tries to **impose uniformity** on a diverse nation. The one size fits all approach impinges on the cultural diversity which is a feature of Indian society. E.g.: Uniform Civil

Code may impose majoritarian values like same type of marriage and divorce rules on other cultural and religious groups

- It is also criticized for **being Interventionist**, which means that secularism is coercive and it interferes excessively with the religious freedom of communities. E.g.: Banning of triple talaq was seen as state intervention by religious groups.
- Different laws for minority schools and Institutions where cultural practices of students from other religion are negated. E.g.: students not allowed to wear bangles, using bindi or flowers.
- Women's temple entry in Sabarimala shows that some cultural practices that are based on faith have been threatened by progressive policies imposed by secularism
- Decisions on food practices and preferences and Court rulings like fixed timings for bursting crackers in the name of secularism
- In India, religion holds a strong and central place since centuries. It may not be possible to divorce religion completely from secular aspects of people's lives.
- However, secularism as a concept tries to do exactly that. Constitutional morality as a guide to modern life undermines this religious orientation.

However,

- Indian secularism is a positive concept, taking along and encouraging all the cultural practices while instilling a scientific temper against superstitions and harmful practices
- Secularism as a challenge to our cultural practices instead an enabler in addition to secularism we should also evolve to level of pluralism.
- We must never forget that secularism ensured ban on child marriage and sati which everyone considers as social evils today.
- Our constitution has provisions to abolish untouchability (article 17) which has discriminated against the scheduled castes.
- It is tempting to take the health of social and cultural practices and institutions for granted, however they are not always so.
- For instance, banning of Triple talaq and women's entry to religious places ensures and helps uphold the dignity of women.
- Prohibiting inhuman, self-harming, contextually irrelevant, orthodox practices. E.g.: Genital mutilation, animal sacrifice etc.
- Secularism ensures the dynamism in culture with state taking a role of a reformer.
- This is necessary in eastern societies in which social reform is slow and cumbersome as most individuals are agents of cultural reproduction rather than cultural change.

Conclusion:

Although there is a seeming threat to culture from secularism, it is not real. The focus is on progressive ideals and reforming particular religious practices that may be anachronistic. In fact, secularism is a part of Indian culture and ensures its robustness and progress over a period of time. Culture is not a stagnant entity. It is living and continually progressing based on developments in each generation.

11. Many voices had strengthened and enriched the nationalist movement during the Gandhian phase. Elaborate.
(Answer in 250 words)15

Introduction

The **Final Phase** of Nationalist Movement (**1917-1947**) is known as Gandhian Phase in India's Nationalist struggle. Gandhi returned to India in 1915, after introducing his ways of struggle through his efforts in South Africa.

Body

The Voices that strengthened and enriched Nationalist movement during Gandhian Phase were:

- The **First Civil Disobedience Movement(1917)**, was the result of request of Rajkumar Shukla to look into the problems of the farmers in context of indigo planters of **Champaran in Bihar**; Gandhi here got support from other leaders like Rajendra Prasad, Mazharul-Haq, Mahadeo Desai, Narhari Parekh, and J.B. Kripalani
- The Workers of **Ahmedabad Mill** first turned to **Anasuya Sarabhai**, for help in fighting Justice. She then requested Gandhi to intervene and help resolve the issues, that eventually caused the **First hunger strike**
- The Political leadership to the **Kheda Satyagraha-First Non-Cooperation** was also provided by **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** and a group of other devoted Gandhians, namely, Narahari Parikh, Mohanlal Pandya and Ravi Shankar Vyas, who went around the villages, organised the villagers and telling them what to do
- Gandhi giving up the title of Kaiser-i-Hind, in reaction to Jallianwala Bagh Massacre(1919), was complimented by **Rabindranath Tagore's renouncing of Knighthood**
- The ground for Country-wide agitation was prepared by Gandhi uniting Hindus and Muslims, with the Khilafat Committee under the leadership of the Ali Brothers(**Shaukat Ali and Muhammad Ali**), **Maulana Azad, Ajmal Khan and Hasrat Mohani**, to force the British government to change its attitude towards Turkey
- The **Congress-Khilafat Swarajya Party** under the leadership of **CR Das** and **Motilal Nehru**, filled up the Political Vacuum, at a time when Gandhi had called off Non-cooperation movement because of Chauri Chaura Incident(1922)
 - Their work in the councils kept the struggle going as they opposed bills in councils, did work for Hindu-Muslim Unity, set up National schools and colleges
- A new wave of energy set in during third decade of 20th Century, with the spread of Marxist and Socialist ideas, which resulted in left wing within Congress, represented by Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhash Chandra Bose
 - This activated the Indian Youths, caused Peasant Agitations and led to growth of Trade Unionism in direction of National struggle

- The inspiration from Russian Revolution, Marxism and the belief in Self-Sacrifice added a new ferment to India Nationalist struggle, with the coming of Revolutionary activities such as
 - Formation of **Hindustan Socialist Republican Association**, by **Ramprasad Bismil**, **Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee** and Sachin Sanyal in 1928
 - **Saunders Murder** by **Bhagat Singh**, **Azad** and **Rajguru** (1927)
 - Chittagong Armory raid by **Surya Sen**(1930)
- As an answer to Lord Birkenhead's challenge, India's first major attempt at drafting a Constitution was led by **Motilal Nehru**
- **Nehru** later popularized the concept of **Purna swaraj**, which found relevance until India gained Independence
- Gandhi picking up Salt theme for **Civil Disobedience Movement** in **1930**, was enriched when:
 - **C. Rajagopalachari** organised a march from Thiruchirapali to Vedaranniyam on the Tanjore (or Thanjavur) coast to break the salt law
 - **K. Kelappan**, a Nair Congress leader famed for the Vaikom Satyagraha, organised salt marches
- It was with the efforts of **BR Ambedkar**, that the idea of separate electorates for the depressed classes were abandoned and seats reserved for the depressed classes were increased; This move prevented the attack on Indian Unity by the British
- The failure of August Offer in 1940, made Gandhi to take up to **Individual Satyagraha**, with **Vinoba Bhave** becoming the first to offer the satyagraha and **Nehru**, the second
- The taste of what Freedom would feel like was shown by the Nationalist's entry into councils after 1934, who fought in Civil liberties, Agrarian reforms, Labour reforms, Socio-Welfare reforms
- In the time of repression by British, when call for Quit India was given in 1942, many Nationalists went underground and took to subversive activities, among whom were **RammanoharLohia**, **Jayaprakash Narayan**, **Aruna Asaf Ali**, **Usha Mehta**
- The progressive sharpening of the anti-imperialist struggle in India, was enhanced by **Subhas Chandra Bose**, with his show of Militant streak and his eagerness to supplement India from outside, with his participation in **Indian National Army(1942)**, along with **Mohan Singh and Rashbehari Bose**
- To accommodate the Objections of Muslim League, **C.Rajagopalachari** ,**Bhulabhai Desai** and **Liaqat Ali Khan** came up with negotiation formula to ease India's way for Independence
- Among all these Phases, the voices of Masses namely **students, peasants, farmers, Princes** should be accounted

Conclusion

Mahatma Gandhi's undisputed lead to the National Movement, with his principles of Non-Violence and Satyagraha, were augmented/strengthened/aided by efforts of other Nationalists.

12. Assess the role of British imperial power in complicating the process of transfer of power during the 1940s. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Introduction

The British even after demand from Indians for Poorna Swaraj and Constitution, remained reluctant to transfer power to Indians, until a series of events making them not to take up responsibility led to ultimate transfer of power to Indians.

Body

The British further vitiated the already strained relations between INC and Muslim league, the main political parties to ensure their well-being. The second world-war's expenses, reducing clout of the British and rising nationalism in India led to many offers made by British to the Indians which complicated the process of transfer of power.

- **August Offer (1940)**
 - The Goodwill of Indian leaders made them not to take advantage of Britain's position during Second World War, and rather wanted to compromise with British Government to form an Interim Government
 - But the stated offer of '**Dominion status**', widened the Gulf between Nationalists and British rulers, making things more complex
- **Cripps Mission (1942)**
 - Indian support seemed crucial now as Britain suffered reverses in South East Asia and the threat of Japanese to Invade India, and also pressure from Allied powers to seek Indian Cooperation
 - The Mission's provisions giving right to provinces to secede went against National Unity & Security, it gave rise to Regional aspirations of power
 - The Adoption of a rigid "**Take it or leave it**" attitude of British added to the **deadlock**
 - No Clarity as to who would implement and interpret the treaty effecting transfer of power was provided for
 - On top of this, British Government headed by Churchill consistently **torpedoed Cripps' efforts**
- **Wavell Plan (1945)**
 - The Conservative government in Britain led by Churchill was keen to reach a solution on the constitutional question in India
 - This plan attempted at reducing Congress to the status of purely **caste Hindu party**
 - Wavell announcing to break talks, gave Muslim league **Virtual Veto** and strengthened their position
 - All these **exposed real character** of the British Government
- **Change in Governmental Attitude now**
 - The more sympathetic Labour Party Government in Britain, announced that a Constituent assembly would be convened after Elections
 - The British had to retreat now as there was shift in Balance of power after World war 2, and because of the tumultuous Indian crowd impatient to do something.

▪ **The Cabinet Mission (1946)**

- The British withdrawal seemed imminent now as they realized that a settlement was necessary for burying the ghost of mass movement and for good future Indo-British relations
- The mission provided for **Grouping of assemblies into three sections**, which led to **different interpretation** by the Congress and Muslim league, which again caused deadlock in assembly
- As a result of all this, the Muslim League gave a call for 'Direct Action' to achieve Pakistan' led to **Communal Riots** on an unprecedented scale.
- the Muslim league took up an **Obstructionist Approach with Ulterior motives**

▪ **Attlee's statement, February 1947**

- The British seeing the trouble all around, declared their intention of leaving the Indian Subcontinent
- The British did not want to solve the crisis created by them, and shouldered no responsibility for the prevailing conditions; Instead the British **Fixed a deadline of June 30, 1948** for transfer of power
- The statement also contained **clear hints of Partition** along with **Balkanization of the country** into numerous states

▪ **Mountbatten Plan, June 3, 1947**

- freedom-with-partition formula was coming to be accepted
- The plan allowed for referendum along the border provinces of India-Pakistan, and the immediate results announced by the British led to confusions and large scale migration of people along borders
- The plan provided for power transfer through Dominion status to two entities, to resolve constitutional deadlock
 - This way of power Transfer would allow the British to **escape the responsibility** for the **communal situation**
- The Boundary Commissions were set up to demarcate boundaries between two countries' provinces

Conclusion

Thus, a series of tortuous failed negotiations between the British and Indians, led to sudden fall of events with grave consequences for both notions, whose effects are seen to the present day.



INSIGHTSIAS
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

SCAN THIS CODE FOR
UPSC CSE MAINS 2019 SYNOPSIS

Or visit : <https://bit.ly/2m6yKFm>



***80% of Questions from INSIGHTSIAS PRELIMS TEST SERIES in CSP - 2019**

***70% of MAINS QUESTIONS from INSIGHTSIAS MAINS
TEST SERIES & SECURE INITIATIVE in CSM - 2019**

INTEGRATED PRELIMS CUM MAINS TEST SERIES 2020

- A disruptive methodology in preparation to UPSC CSE Examination 2020 with Single Timetable for both Prelims and Mains Preparation.
- Concept of EBS for Mains (Essential, Breakthrough and Simulation Tests) with a progressive increase in difficulty of question.
- Essential approach will lay more emphasis on building the basics, especially static component of the syllabus
- Breakthrough tests will test your ability to link Facts and Concepts with current affairs
- Simulation tests will give real exam like feeling to help you consolidate and finally put to test effectiveness of Mains preparation.
- Conquer the uncertainty of selection in prelims with 51 high quality Prelims Tests (General Studies 41, CSAT - 10) and a sure shot in MAINS 2020 with 46 Mains Tests (Sectional 20, Full Length 16 and Essay 10)

INSIGHTSIAS AUTUMN MAINS (IAM) TEST SERIES (3.5 Month Mains test series) from 14th October

- INSIGHTSIAS AUTUMN MAINS (IAM) TEST SERIES caters to student's need of MAINS preparedness much before the prelims and also the demand for dedicated time for prelims preparation.
- Comprehensive coverage of SYLLABUS with 20 High quality MAINS Tests (Essay, GS I, II, III, IV).
- Comprehensive coverage of SYLLABUS with 20 High quality MAINS Tests (Essay, GS I, II, III, IV).

EXCLUSIVE FEATURES OF MAINS TEST SERIES

- Flexible schedule & Holistic evaluation is ensured within 10 WORKING DAYS.
- Personalized mentorship for better clarification of doubts and supplementary question.
- **Additional Take Aways:** Video discussion, Value Additional material, detailed synopsis of tests

PRELIMS TEST SERIES

- Hit rate of 80% of Questions from INSIGHTSIAS PRELIMS TEST SERIES in 2019
 - Designed for both freshers and veterans
 - Strictly based on UPSC pattern

*** All test series are available in online as well as offline mode at Delhi, Hyderabad and Bangalore Centres**

13. Explain how the foundations of the modern world were laid by the American and French Revolutions. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Introduction

The French Revolution was a complex conflict with numerous trigger and causes, and the American Revolution set the stage for an effective uprising. American Revolution was a colonial revolt between 1765 and 1783, where Americans defeated the British and established the United States of America. French revolution was a period of socio-Political uprising in France and its colonies starting from 1789, which overthrew the Monarchy and established Republic.

Body

Many experts believe that the same ideologies that sparked the American Revolution had long percolated through French culture. The Historians observe similar causes for both Revolutions:

- **Economic struggles:** Both countries faced a discriminating and unfair taxation system
- **Monarchy:** Although the colonists had lived in a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system, they revolted against the royal powers of King George III just like the French rose up against Louis XVI
- **Unequal rights:** Like the American colonists, the French felt that specific rights were only granted to certain segments of society, namely the elite and aristocrats

Lessons from **America Revolution** that has laid foundations of modern world:

- **Bill of Rights, and Constitution**
 - The Founding father of America claim these to the products of Enlightenment
 - The same Enlightenment has been the foundation for many democracies in world today
- **Republicanism**
 - A republican government is a limited government, in which elected representatives make laws in the people's interest while respecting the constitutional rights of citizens
 - The American society has its roots in Republicanism, which was borrowed from the Romans
- **Egalitarianism**
 - Republics are more egalitarian in their social structure than monarchies
 - The society that emerged from the American Revolution was a society without noble titles
 - It gave the World the idea of "treating all Equally"
- **Religious Freedom**
 - After the Revolution, nearly all states disestablished their tax-supported state churches
 - This is enabled many countries to provide religious rights in their constitutions
- **Agrarianism**

- As Europe experienced the Industrial Revolution, many of the Founding Fathers glorified agriculture as a virtuous profession that was necessary for the support of a republican form of government
- To present day, agrarian culture is necessary for human survival

Legacies of **French Revolution**, that laid foundation for the World:

- **The Declaration of the Rights of Man**
 - This document is based on American Constitution
 - The document is about how people should live together in society, and it has had an impact on people all over the world
 - The key principles of it were:
 - equality of the law
 - Freedom of expression and religion
 - All people are presumed innocent until proven guilty
 - The equality principle led to removing of distinctions between the rich and poor
 - The Liberty principle meant that the welfare of the people was to be the duty of rulers
 - These principles have led to beginning of National Movements in different countries
- **Abolition of Feudal System**
 - This inspired the Germans, Italians and Austrians to overthrow their oppressive regimes
 - It also inspired the struggling nations of Asia and Africa who were groaning under the oppression of European colonialism
- The Revolution makes firm the idea that Sovereignty comes from people and not from rulers
- **Active participation of Women**
 - This inspired later Women movements across the World

Conclusion

A lot many values when traced back from present day democracies find their inception in these revolutions. The values of the revolutions are imbibed in the Indian constitution too in Fundamental rights and DPSPs. The organic nature of our constitution has further helped to derive the hidden meanings of rights (E.g. Right to privacy under Right to life) for the citizens to achieve their true political and socio-economic rights.

14. What is water stress? How and why does it differ regionally in India?

(Answer in 250 words) 15

Introduction:

Water stress is a situation in which the water resources in a region or country are insufficient for its needs. 18 percent of the world's population which resides in India only has access to 4 percent of usable water sources. India's availability of water at present is 1700 cubic ft per person, which was 5000 cubic ft per person once upon a time. NITIAayog in its report

'Composite Water Management Index' have listed Delhi and other 21 cities in India which would run out of groundwater by 2020.

Body:

Spatial distribution of water stress areas and reasons:

India receives 4000 bcm rainfall every year. Out of this, 1869 bcm is left after evaporation and the actual availability is 1137 bcm. There is a lot of temporal and spatial variation in the availability of this water. There are water surplus states and water scarce states like Maharashtra (Vidarbha, Beed), Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, parts of Gujarat, Punjab and Haryana

▪ **North West India:**

- In Rajasthan due to scanty precipitation
- In Punjab Haryana due to high exploitation of ground water and ground water contamination.
- Falling ground water table due to aggressive use and unsustainable agriculture practices.

▪ **South India:**

- In rain shadow zone of western Ghats
- Water Conflicts: Severe water shortages have already led to a growing number of conflicts across the country.
- Encroachment on forest areas and deforestation along western Ghats leads to lack of ability to recharge groundwater

▪ **West India:**

- In Maharashtra especially in Marathwada due to less precipitation aided by incorrect agriculture practices
- Along coastal cities due to high urbanization and inefficient utilization of water

▪ **Other Areas:**

- Heavily polluted river courses especially along Yamuna and Ganga makes water unfit for use
- Pollution of river water due to industrialization. Example- due to leather and tanning industry especially near Kanpur, heavily polluted river stretches due to iron and steel industry areas.
- Delay in monsoon and change in pattern.
- Imbalances between availability and demand because of population growth.
- Degradation of groundwater and surface water quality.

Measures needed:

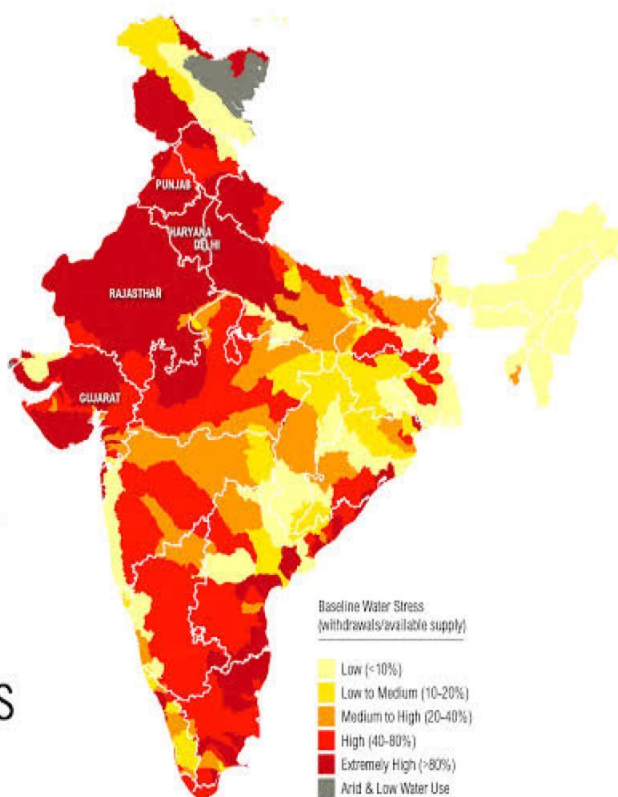
- Atal Bhujal Yojana for ground water recharge
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana for sustainable use of water
- Changing the cropping pattern, crop diversification and encouraging water use efficiency in agriculture by moving towards food crops from cash crops.

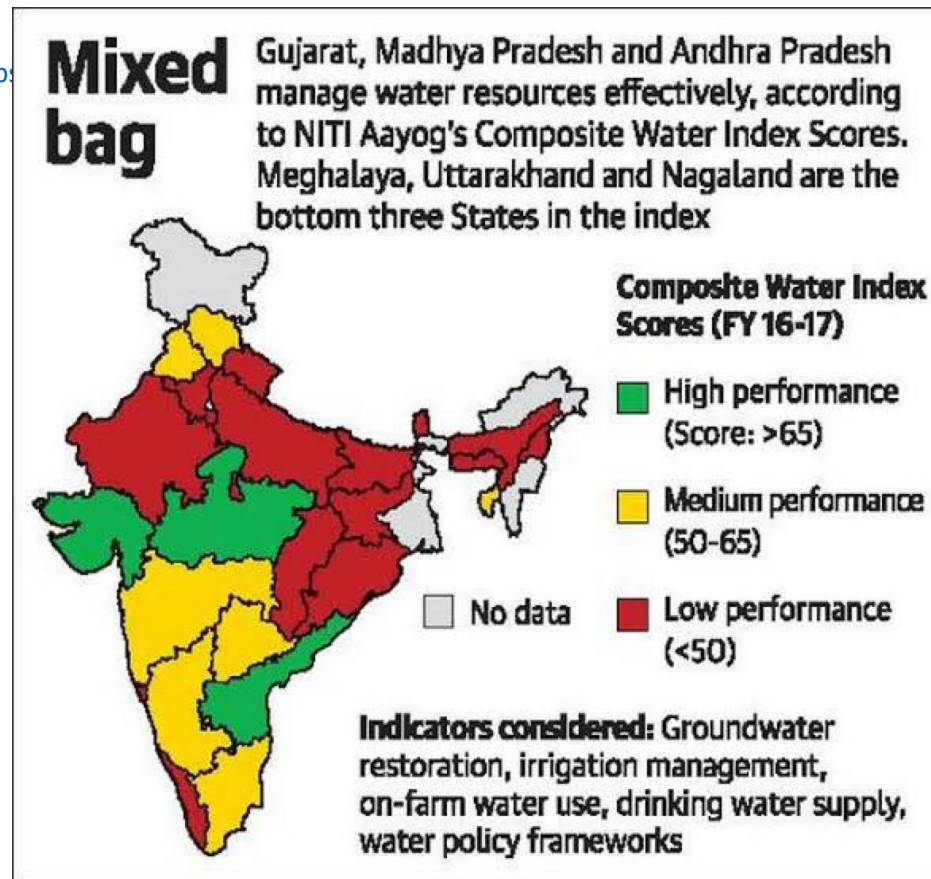
- Encouraging rain water harvesting, check dams, run of the river electricity generation projects.
- There is an urgent need for coordination among users for aquifers. There should be laws and contracts for sharing of aquifers.
- Groundwater mapping has started recently in India.
- There should be a River Basin Authority for sharing information among states as most of the rivers in India pass through different states focusing on conservation.
- Water rationing: Charging money for efficient use of water. For example- Water ATMS at Marathwada provide water @25 paisa per liter a day.

Conclusion:

Primarily water is not valued in India. “People think it is free”. In order to meet the future water challenges, there needs to be a shift in the way we manage urban water systems. An **Integrated Water Management approach** must be adopted which involves managing freshwater, wastewater, and storm water.

54%
of India
Faces
**High to
Extremely
High**
Water Stress





15. How can the mountain ecosystem be restored from the negative impact of development initiatives and tourism? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Introduction:

Montane ecosystems refer to any ecosystem found in mountains. These ecosystems are strongly affected by climate, which gets colder as elevation increases. They are stratified according to elevation. Dense forests are common at moderate elevations. However, as the elevation increases, the climate becomes harsher, and the plant community transitions to grasslands or tundra.

Body:

Mountain ecosystems are significant since they cover 24% of the Earth's land surface. They are home to 12% of the world's population. They provide vital goods and services - particularly freshwater - to a significant proportion of humanity. Mountains are key centers of biological and cultural diversity as well as important sites of traditional ecological knowledge, and influence the climate at many scales.

Negative impacts faced:

Mountain ecosystems are particularly fragile, subject to both natural and anthropogenic drivers of change. These range from volcanic and seismic events and flooding to global climate

change and the loss of vegetation and soils because of inappropriate agricultural and forestry practices, tourism and various developmental initiatives.

Some measures for restoration of mountain ecosystem are:

Structural measures:

- Afforestation and Social forestry for landslide, floods and avalanche control
- Environment impact assessment before developmental projects are undertaken
- Slope management using support structures like retention walls.
- Preparing Hazard and vulnerability maps using GIS.
- Using alternative routes for travel by managing traffic especially during vacation and festival seasons. E.g.: Sabarimala during Pongal festival.
- Reducing monoculture which affects the true biodiversity of the region.
- National mission for sustainable Himalayan ecosystem.
- Moving beyond frontiers, the conservation of cross-border areas and the international effort to protect shared ecosystems are measures, used increasingly in recent years, which have played a significant part in drawing attention to certain conservation areas.

Non-structural measures:

- Eco Tourism and sustainable tourism as taken up in many places like Thenmalai, Nilgiris etc.
- Conservation of agri-biodiversity and improved farming system
- Enhance natural regeneration of forest
- Initiate species recovery and habitat restoration programme
- Establishment of protected areas like Biosphere reserves, national parks and ecological corridors.
- Protection from wild fires using satellite information and tracking vulnerable spots.
- Involvement of the local community, voluntary organizations (Participatory resource management) in conservation as well as spreading awareness among the

Note: Since spatially reasons vary for the degradation of mountain ecosystem the measures should also be henceforth be region based. Example- Jhum cultivation in North east India leads to mountain degradation, hence forth control of deforestation and terrace cultivation, contour bunding should be emphasized.

Conclusion:

Mountain ecosystems provide multiple ecosystem services across our planet. The fragile situation calls for countries in the region and donor governments and the private sector to step up financial commitments for conservation. **Greater regional cooperation** is a must to take up to safeguard mountain ecosystems with great bio-diversity and cultural diversity.

16. How is efficient and affordable urban mass transport key to the rapid economic development in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Introduction:

India's public transport needs are likely to grow rapidly as the country urbanizes at a fast clip. As per Census 2011 (the population of India is 1.21 billion), India is about 31 per cent urbanized and cities contribute almost 66 per cent to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country. It is expected that by 2030, 40 per cent of population will call cities home and are also expected to contribute to 75.01 per cent of the GDP. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs estimates that INR 39,20,000 crore (USD 600 billion) needs to be invested during the period 2011-31 out of which 44 per cent is to be allocated to urban roads and 11.5 per cent to mass transit systems.

Body:

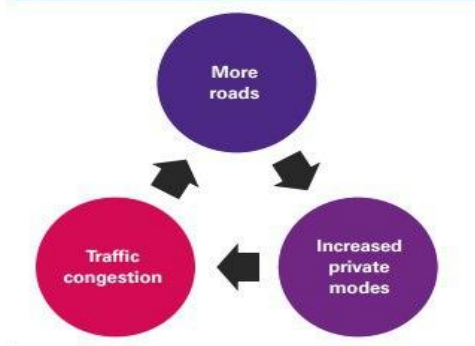
Efficient and affordable urban mass transport key to rapid economic development of India

- **Releases under-utilized urban lands:** The major reasons for urban sprawl and shortage of urban land are the fact that urban lands are not exploited to their optimal potential.
- **Ensures sustainable urban growth:** TOD curtails urban sprawl and hence reduces the strain on existing infrastructure. This helps in achieving compact and controlled developments within the cities, and reduces the average travel time and household spends on transportation.
- **Increased modal shift towards Non-Motorized Transport (NMT):** creates a balanced mix of land use through concentrated residential development at a walking distance of 500 to 800m along the transit corridor, or from the transit station.
- This increases 'walkability', encourages public transport use and also makes 'last-mile' options such as cycle sharing systems much more viable.
- **Increased financial viability of transit investments:** Increase in the modal shift increases the ridership (the number of passengers using a particular form of public transport) by improving access to transit stations through seamless connectivity. This enhances the economic and financial viability of transit investments. It also helps in better channeling of peak hour traffic along both directions, improving the efficiency of existing vehicle fleets.
- **Improved quality of life:** Shorter commutes result in more leisure hours, reduced pollution, more reliable and safer public transport systems, mixed-use development, and efficient and shared open spaces. All these add up to a significantly improved quality of life.
- **Efficient management of infrastructure spending:** In a city, most infrastructure investments are often planned for fringe areas owing to the urban sprawl and lack of infrastructure facilities. Infrastructure spends also need to be concentrated to benefit the core cities; it costs less to build roads/ expressways and other physical infrastructure for the urban sprawl. Also, transit options are first developed within city limits and later scaled to outer areas. Effectively optimizing these spends within the city limits is critically important, and is the perfect solution.
- **Stable property prices and improved municipal revenues.**

- **Increased availability of EWS housing.**
- **Public safety:** Many Indian cities are now working on improving general public safety and particularly reducing crimes against women. Commercial activity (hawkers, shops) at street levels on major walkways and other commuting paths create safer neighborhoods by facilitating more 'eyes on the street'.

Further, as a majority of investment (44⁰³ per cent) is allocated to roads, it inevitably leads to an unending cycle as depicted in Figure 2:

Figure 2: Consequences of investment in roads



In order to circumvent this challenge/impending problem, there needs to be a paradigm change in the approach to urban and transport planning which effectively translates into adopting the Avoid Shift-Improve (ASI) framework:

Avoid - need for motorised travel which is possible by integrated land use transport planning and measures like tele commuting, work from home, etc.

Shift from personal modes of transport to public transport and non-motorised transport

Improve - Make improvements in technology, cleaner fuels and vehicles, etc.

This ASI framework needs to be at the heart of a public transit system that needs to be customised to the needs of the area due to the large variance in India urban agglomerations.

Conclusion:

Traditional vehicle-based strategies foster sprawl due to the needs for larger roads and expanses of parking between buildings. As cities expand horizontally, to accommodate road and parking infrastructure needs, public transport becomes increasingly inefficient as does non-motorized transport, due to longer urban trips. New roads induce more vehicle travel, and progressively longer urban trips, in a vicious cycle. Sustainable transport solutions are therefore crucial for urban planning and design in order to increase accessibility without increasing travel times, pollution, and environmental risks.

Extra information: Need For Affordability of Urban Mass Transport

- *Complementary walking and cycling infrastructures are comparatively easy and inexpensive for local authorities to develop. These can immediately reduce injury risks for a very large proportion of urban dwellers.*
- *For instance, in Nairobi it is estimated that some 40% of daily trips are on foot and another 40% of travel is via informal and poorly organized “matatus,” or shared taxi systems – while only about 9% of travel is by private vehicles*
- *Among the most significant developments in urban mobility in recent years has been the rise of ride-hailing services like Uber and Ola, which also let users share rides.*
- *With more than a third of our population already living in urban areas — developed States like Tamil Nadu are more than 50 per cent urbanized — affordable public transport becomes a fundamental necessity, rather than a welfare indulgence.*
- *One of the greatest drivers of efficiency is the technology-enabled sharing economy and peer-to-peer networks that can enable real time alignment of demand and supply, thereby eliminating expensive underutilization of assets and inventory of time.*

Case Study

Nearly 80 per cent of trips (4.24 million) in Singapore are performed on Public Transport comprising of bus, MRT, LRT, Taxis. The supply of public transport per capita is one of the highest in the world, due to which there is high usage of public transport, which coupled with travel demand restraint measures, like area licensing system, vehicle quota system, congestion pricing etc. has resulted in decreasing registration of private cars.

17. How do ocean currents and water masses differ in their impacts on marine life and coastal environment? Give suitable examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

An **ocean current** is a continuous, directed movement of sea water generated by a number of forces acting upon the water, including wind, the Coriolis effect and temperature and salinity differences. An ocean current flows for great distances which play a dominant role in determining the climate of many of Earth's regions.

Water mass, a body of ocean water with a distinctive narrow range of temperature and salinity and a particular density resulting from these two parameters. Water masses are formed as the result of climatic effects in specific regions i.e. water mass is a body of water which has physical properties distinct from surrounding water.

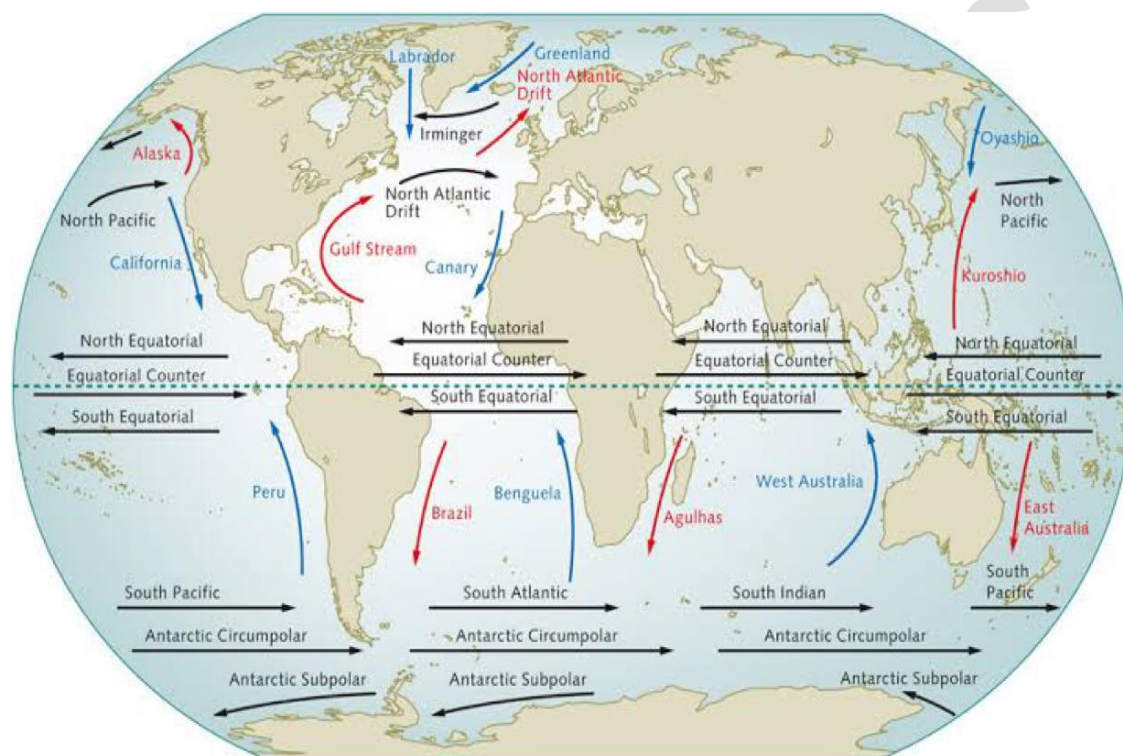
Impact on marine life and coastal environments

- Warm currents traveling along temperate coasts increase the temperature of the area. Perhaps the most striking example is the Gulf Stream, which makes northwest Europe much more temperate than any other region at the same latitude.
- Cold ocean currents have a direct effect on desert formation in west coast regions of the tropical and subtropical continents. Example- Peru (Humboldt), Canary Current
- Warm ocean currents bring rain to coastal areas on the east coasts of the continents in tropical and subtropical latitudes. This results in warm and rainy climates.
- Mixing of cold and warm ocean currents bear richest fishing grounds in the world. Example: Grand Banks around Newfoundland, Canada and North-Eastern Coast of Japan.
- The mixing of warm and cold currents help to replenish the oxygen and favor the growth of planktons, the primary food for fish population. The best fishing grounds of the world exist mainly in these mixing zones.
- The cold currents from Arctic bring large ice mass from polar region which act as hindrance to the ship navigation.
- Also the fog formation in the region of mixing of warm and cold water current hinders navigation.
- The gyre circulation help in maintaining the latitudinal heat balance.
- Antarctic bottom water is an important water mass that forms on the Antarctic continental shelf as a cold, dense residual brine during the formation of sea ice. Its salinity of 34.62 parts per thousand and temperature of -1.9°C result in a high density of 1.027 grams per

cubic centimetre, causing it to sink and flow northward along the bottom into the southern oceans.

- Mediterranean water is another example of a water mass. Excessive evaporation, low rainfall, and high temperatures continually generate large volumes of warm, salty (36.5 parts per thousand) water. Its high density causes it to sink to the bottom of the Mediterranean and overflow across the submarine sill at the Strait of Gibraltar, from this place it sinks and spreads at a depth of about 1,000 metres in the Atlantic.

Note: You need to substantiate these points with the respective diagrams.





FREE INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

- One on one sessions for each Student with valuable feedback
- Mock interviews with real Interview experience

UPCOMING CLASSROOM COURSES IN BANGALORE

INTEGRATED CLASSROOM COACHING FOR FRESHERS - NEW BATCH

- Nearly 500 Hours of classroom teaching for freshers
- Special CSAT classes every week.
- Special Current Affairs classes every week
- Special Sessions on Essay and Mains answer writing
- 58 Full Length Prelims Mocks as part of OGP-2020 aligned with CLASSROOM TEACHING 12 Full Length Mains Tests
- Mentorship Program - Mentor for every 40 Students
- Individual attention - Guaranteed!
- Separate Mains test series after Prelims
- Interview guidance Program
- Unparalleled Guidance throughout your preparation

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS AVAILABLE

- Public Administration classes and Test Series
 - Anthropology Classes and Test Series
- Kannada Literature Classes & Test Series

BANGALORE ADDRESS

📍 INSIGHTSIAS, NANDA ASHIRWAD COMPLEX,
3rd floor, Above Village Hyper Market,
Chandralayout Main Road, Attiguppe,
Bangalore - 560072 📞 Ph. No: 7483163074

DELHI ADDRESS

📍 INSIGHTSIAS, 57/12, 3rd floor,
Above kumar Book Centre, Old rajinder Nagar,
New Delhi - 60 📞 Ph No: 7303318519

18. Do we have cultural pockets of small India all over the nation? Elaborate with examples.

(Answer in 250 words) 15

Introduction:

“Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilization.” Mahatma Gandhi

India is a plural society both in letter and spirit. It is rightly characterized by its unity and diversity. A grand synthesis of cultures, religions and languages of the people belonging to different castes and communities has upheld its unity and cohesiveness despite multiple foreign invasions.

India has the cultural pockets of small India all over the nation:

When we say that India is a nation of great cultural diversity, we mean that there are many different types of social groups and communities living here. These are communities defined by cultural markers such as language, religion, sect, race or caste.

- **Linguistic diversity:** *Languages spoken in India belong to several language families, the major ones being the Indo-languages spoken by 75% of Indians and the Dravidian languages spoken by 20% of Indians.*
- **Racial diversity:** 1931 census classified India's racial diversity in the following groups- *The Negrito, the Proto-Australoid, the Mongoloid, the Mediterranean, the Western Brachycephals and the Nordic.* Representatives of all the three major races of the world, namely Caucasoid, Mongoloid, and Negroid, are found in the country.
- **Caste diversity:** India is a country of castes. The term caste has been used to refer to both Varna as well as jati. Varna is the four-fold division of society according to functional differentiation. Thus, *the four varnas include Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras and an outcaste group.*
- **Geographical diversity:** Spanning across an area of 3.28 million square kilometer, India is a vast country with great diversity of physical features like *dry deserts, evergreen forests, lofty mountains, perennial and non-perennial river systems, long coasts and fertile plains.*
- **Religious diversity:** India is a land of multiple 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%).*
- **Festivals:** *So many festivals each with its unique identity and history,* no country in the world would be celebrating so many festivals and that too together.
- **Sports and Cinema:** These are followed by millions in the country, thus, acting as a binding force across the length and breadth of India.

Reasons for India having the cultural pockets of small India all over the nation:

- India has seen many kingdoms and Empires in the past. ***These include the Rajputs, Mauryan, Dravidians, Bengalis, Marathas, Mughals and many more.*** Each of those has some culture imbibed in today's India.
- **Intermingling of different religions, their customs, traditions culture** which happened as a result of coming of different invaders to India especially from west Asia.
- **The infusion of different values from the east and the west** which later got impetus from the establishment of British rule in India.
- **The message and different sermons preached by social reformers and messengers of peace** from different religions helped in the development of composite culture in India and the development of a feeling of oneness.

Reasons for pockets

- Ghettoisation in cities has led to geographical isolation of particular communities which practice unique cultures
- Relative isolation of tribes
- Linguistic homogeneity in particular geographical areas ex: Tamil nadu
- Gated communities and large apartment complexes has created caste and class pockets with cultural reinforcement

Conclusion:

Despite the diversity in terms of race, religion, Language, caste and culture India is still a strong nation tied together with integration and unity in both politico-geographic and cultural backgrounds. But concentration of this diversity in pockets may pose a threat as relative homogeneity within creates and strengthens stereotypes. There is a need to address ghettoization and promote diversity in schools and sensitization through government measures like Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat.

19. What are the continued challenges for women in India against time and space?

(Answer in 250 words) 15

Introduction

Women in India have faced discrimination in access to resources from times immemorial. In recent global gender gap index, India ranks 108 out of 149 countries. In 2017-18 maternal mortality per lakh female is 178 (Niti Aayog). Percentage of women in Parliament is 14.5%. This shows that discrimination against women continues to this day in multiple dimensions.

Continued challenges faced by women with Time:

Ancient times:

- Status of women in India Indian society deteriorated early in Indian ancient period especially in Indo Aryan speaking region
- Low participation in democracy. Even today we see the phenomenon of pati panchayats and voting decisions being taken by men on their behalf.
- E.g.: Women allowed to participate in proceedings of Sabha and not a samiti in later Vedic period. Women were also equated with 5th varna

Medieval times:

- Marriage -both polyandry and polygamy tradition among some population in India
- For instance, Fraternal polyandry in some areas of Himachal Pradesh prevalent even today.

Pre independence:

- Child marriage-despite the Sharda act 1950 female child marriage was rampant particularly in northern India.

Post Independence times:

- Even at present, about 50% of all women in India alive today were married as a child according to official sources.
- Despite dowry prohibition Act 1961, conviction rate is very low in India. Hence, Dowry continues to be a serious issue
- The attitude that birth of a Girl child is inauspicious was normalized in Indian culture which is a failure of PCPNDT act.
- Recent news that in 132 villages in Uttarakhand not a single female child has been born in the last three months shows the continued severity of the problem.

Last decade:

- Time poverty (concept given by Jayanta Ghosh) due to care economics -no extracurricular because of time deficiency as a consequence of household chores.
- Double burden of women due to both work and family responsibilities
- Feminization of poverty as high value addition type of jobs is monopolized largely by men due to their higher social status.
- Feminization of old age as women has higher life expectancy than men.

Continued challenges faced by women with Space:-

- **Urban space** – Women have unequal access to the city as in cities sex ratio is skewed towards men and consequently cannot get agglomeration benefits and the opportunities for employment that the city provides. E.g.: Huge number of migrant men travel to cities

and take up gig jobs, contract jobs to have better opportunities with existing skills, but women are not allowed to do the same.

- **Rural space** - Women in rural areas are relegated to agriculture and are prisoners of patriarchal attitudes and mindsets. E.g.: Khap panchayat orders that limit their freedom
- **Northern India** – In the north there is more rigidity towards gender roles compared to the south. This may be due to repeated invasions and family honour being associated with the chastity of women. Nevertheless it has become a hinderance for women empowerment
- **Southern India** – Women are more empowered than the north in general due to cultural factors like matriarchal families in particular castes and states, however, they are still behind the other progressive countries in the world with respect to empowerment of women. E.g.: Nairs of Kerala are matriarchal
- **Tribal areas** – central and North eastern India – In this area, Women's rights are better recognized than the rest of India due to tribal societies being in general more egalitarian. However, with time, there is Sanskritization of tribes and there is evidence to suggest even son preference is creeping in.

Way forward:

There is a need for systematic measures to remove the disadvantages women are facing since ancient times and across the vast geography of India. Some of these measures can be

- Reservation in public employment ex: Karnataka government model
- Reservation in parliament and state legislature
- Specific schemes for economic empowerment of women ex: Stand up India
- Promoting women self help groups and farmer producer organizations
- Support to social movements that address women's issues ex: Ghardoghancheabhiyan, bell bajao campaign to stop domestic violence against women

Conclusion

Women are equal to men in all aspects, however society has created serious disadvantages for women leading to social inequality between men and women. It is important to ensure affirmative action to address this social inequality on one hand and multidimensional empowerment to ensure they achieve their full potential on the other.

20. Are we losing our local identity for the global identity? Discuss.

(Answer in 250 words) 15

Introduction:

Globalization is free movement of goods, services, people and ideas across political borders. As a consequence of it, a global identity has emerged. Global identity is a consciousness which conceives itself as a part of emerging world community. The increased

interaction between societies with rise in the people to people contact both physically and virtually (through ICT) has led to changes in the identity.

Body:

Self and identity are related to the social world in which individuals live and are constructed within social relationships.

Yes, to an extent, we are losing our local identity.

- Loss of traditional modes of entertainment like dramas and puppetry for Netflix and western music
- Tastes in younger generation are changing with respect to cuisines. Ex: Traditional snacks which are being replaced by McDonalds and other such global chains
- Change in value systems from respect to elders to everyone being called by their name in a corporate setting, predominance of individual identity over collective identity lately
- Handlooms and Khadi replaced by Global brands like Reebok and Armani
- The recent resurgence of local and ethnic identities in Europe, particularly in wealthier regions with an interest in gaining more control over their own affairs, parallels the rise in nationalistic sentiment and a common social identity.
- The appeal for a common language and identity aptly forged by the regionalist movement in Catalonia to mobilize regional interests and policies provides a good example

However, there is a strong local identity which is thriving in India

- Jallikattu protests showed that there is assertion of our cultural identity even when the laws are against it.
- Linguistic identity is strong despite the advent of English as lingua franca of the world
- Dressing and food habits have not changed in majority of population, but only in urban affluent pockets

Also, there is a reactionary reassertion of local identity over global identity as seen below

- Glorification of the past achievements like scientific discoveries and mathematical concepts
- Rise of new age gurus who have become extremely popular and billionaires in a short span of time
- Newfound confidence in Indianness abroad linked to rich Indian culture and diversity
- Anti-cow slaughter movement in many states

And then there is a mixture of both global and local identity which is creating a GLOCAL identity

- McAloo-tikki burgers instead of traditional beef burgers
- Dominance of fairness creams in Indian markets by companies which do not sell them in the west
- Barbie dolls with sarees
- Jain special foods by multinationals without onion and garlic

It is not just Indian culture that is being influenced by global culture, but the reverse is also true. For instance

- India's chicken tikka masala has been Britain's favorite food multiple times in a row
- Indian TV serials are very popular in central Asia
- Bollywood movies have influenced many parts of the world including western Europe and USA

Conclusion:

In an era marked by a borderless, interconnected global economy, the result has been a truly integrated and accelerated communication across time and space. Between the force of global economic independence and electronic information this accelerated change makes the world, "a burgeoning hybrid of cultures".

Insights IAS

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION OPTIONAL CLASSES

FEATURES

Test series available online also
Classes will be conducted only at Bengaluru centre

- Will start from basics and move to advanced concepts
- Daily Answer Writing integrated with classes
- Complete coverage of syllabus
- Will cover 30% of GS syllabus also
- 300+ hours of classes
- Individual attention and feedback
- Focus on conceptual understanding and interlinkages
- Continued support until Mains and Interview
- Value Addition Material will be provided
- Integrates concepts with current affairs
- Previous years questions will be discussed
- Test series integrated with classes (Optional to students)

Classes start from 29th september.

FEE DETAILS

- Classes – 28,500/- (Inclusive of taxes)
- Test series – 10,000/- (Inclusive of taxes)
- Test series available as stand-alone (without classes) also
- For any further details Call -- 8884047443

CONTACT

7483163074

support@insightsias.com

Address:

InsightsIAS,

Nanda Ashirwad Complex, 3rd floor, Above Village hyper market,
Chandralayout Mains road, Dwaraka Nagar, Attiguppe
Bangalore – 560072



INSIGHTSIAS
SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM
PREPARATION