



INSIGHTSIAS

SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

- IAS SELF STUDY GUIDE -

SECURE SYNOPSIS

MAINS 2019

GS-I

NOVEMBER 2018

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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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General Studies Paper - I

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

Q) The Pallava era witnesses a transition from rock cut to free-standing temples. Comment. (250 words)

The hindu

Why this question

The article discusses the news that Mamallapuram stone sculpture got the GI tag. Tamil Nadu in its application stated that sculptures from Mamallapuram are known to be carved in stone with characteristics of intricate designing chiselled finely, keeping with the spirit of the surrounding Pallava art and architecture, which brings the focus on Pallava art and architecture, and hence this question.

Key demand of the question

The question expects us to discuss the transformation in Pallava architecture from rock cut to stone built temples. We need to highlight how the two were different from each other along with examples.

Directive word

Comment – When you are asked to comment, you have to pick main points and give your ‘opinion’ on them based on evidences or arguments stemming from your wide reading. Your opinion may be for or against, but you must back your argument with evidences.

Structure of the answer

Introduction – Mention that the Pallavas introduced the art of excavating temples from the rock. In fact, the Dravidian style of temple architecture began with the Pallava rule.

Body

Discuss about the four stages of temple development and explain how they evolved from rock cut structure to stone built temples.

Explain the main points of differences between the two architectural styles under pallava dynasty such as the evolution of the pillars that were used etc

Conclusion – Comment on how the temple architecture evolved during the Pallava rule and how the design and construction became more elaborate.

Background:-

- The Pallava dynasty existed between the 3rd and 9th centuries CE, ruling a portion of what is today Andhra Pradesh (early Pallavas) and Tamil Nadu (later Pallavas). **The tradition of direct patronization of the temples began with the Pallavas.**
- Starting with rock cut temples, Pallava sculptors later graduated to free-standing structural shrines which inspired Chola temples of a later age.

Architecture of pallavas:-

- Pallava architecture can be now sub-divided into two phases – the rock cut phase and the structural phase.
- **Rock cut phase:-**
 - The rock cut phase lasted from the 610 to 668 AD and consisted of two groups of monuments – **the Mahendra group and the Mamalla group.**
 - The **Mahendra group** is the name given to monuments constructed during the reign of Mahendravarman I
 - **Characteristics:-**
 - The monuments of this group are invariably pillared halls hewn out of mountain faces. These pillared halls or mandapas follow the prototype of Jain temples of the period.
 - The best examples of Mahendra group of monuments are the cave temples at Mandagapattu, Pallavaram and Mamandur.



- The second group of rock cut monuments belong to the **Mamalla group** .
 - During this period free-standing monolithic shrines called *rathas* were constructed alongside pillared halls.
 - Some of the best examples of this style are the Pancha Rathas and Arjuna's Penance at Mahabalipuram.
- **Free standing temples:-**
 - **The second phase of Pallava architecture is the structural phase when free-standing shrines were constructed with stone and mortar brought in for the purpose.**
 - Monuments of this phase are of two groups – the Rajasimha group and the Nandivarman group
 - The Rajasimha group encompasses the early structural temples of the Pallavas when a lot of experimentation was carried out.
 - The best examples of this period are the Shore Temple at Mahabalipuram and the Kanchi Kailasanathar Temple at Kanchipuram both constructed by Narasimhavarman II who was known as Rajasimha.
 - The best example of the Nandivarman group of monuments is the Vaikunta Perumal Temple at Kanchipuram.
 - During this period, Pallava architecture attained full maturity and provided the models upon which the massive Brihadeeswarar Temple of the Cholas at Thanjavur and Gangaikonda Cholapuram and various other architectural works of note were constructed.

Q) The onset of Kambala in Karnataka will once again bring alive the debate between animal rights and celebration of customs. Discuss. (250 words)

The hindu

Why this question

From Saturday onwards, the Kambala season will be here which is basically a customary sport in Karnataka involving racing bulls. In the backdrop of jallikattu protest, the issue of animal rights vs celebration of customs will again come to light and hence this question.

Key demand of the question

The question expects us to first explain about Kambala and the debate that it gives rise to. Thereafter, we need to present both side of the debate and give a fair and balanced conclusion along with way forward.

Directive word

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 about Kambala.

Body

Explain the background to the issue – Karnataka government had promulgated Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Karnataka Amendment) Ordinance, 2017 on July 20 last year. The President gave his assent to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Karnataka Amendment) Bill making Kambala a legal rural sport in Karnataka. The Bill seeks to exempt kambala and bullock-cart racing from the ambit of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960.

Highlight that the debate arises because activists claim that the buffaloes run in the race due to fear of being beaten, which the organizers dismiss, saying no violence is involved and that several modifications had been made to ensure that it is an animal friendly event.

Discuss both sides of the debate

Conclusion – Give your fair and balanced opinion on the matter and discuss way forward.



Background:-

- Kambala is traditional slush track buffalo race that is held annually in coastal districts of Karnataka to entertain rural people of the area.
- Slushy/marshy paddy field track is used for Kambala. The sports season generally starts in November and lasts till March. The contest generally takes place between two pairs of buffaloes, each pair race in two separate wet rice fields tracks, controlled by a whip-lashing farmer.

Kambala issue:-

- The Karnataka HC had stayed these traditional sports in view of Supreme Court's ban on jallikattu, a traditional bull taming sport of Tamil Nadu.
- The Supreme Court has refused to pass an interim order to stay Ordinance allowing kambala, the traditional buffalo slush track race in Karnataka.
- Karnataka Assembly had passed an ordinance Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2017 in 2017 to allow Kambala to circumvent ban imposed by Karnataka High Court.
- The ordinance had received Central Government (Ministry of Law and Justice) and Presidential assent.

Why are activists opposing Kambala:-

- Authorities contend that beating buffaloes also violated provisions of the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act**, claiming that buffaloes run because of the fear of being beaten.
- PETA has opposed the upcoming Kambala festival on **grounds of cruelty** to animals.
- Animal rights activists have opposed the sport saying that tying the noses of the buffaloes with a rope and using a whip amounts to cruelty. Sometimes accidents happen which can threaten life of these animals and even people who participate in such events.
- Experts also stated that unlike horses, bull are not naturally suitable for running.

However many are favouring it as well :-

- **Traditional customs:-**
 - The common underlying factor is the fact that most of these are rooted in celebrating and **honouring agriculture**: as a festival of expressing gratitude to the various forces of nature that give us food.
 - Some agriculturists race their buffaloes as a means to thank god for protecting their animals from disease.
 - A village spends almost an entire year planning such events, and the animals are carefully fed, tended, and the rest. The actual race is only a small part of an overall whole of a culture built upon nurturing and preserving cattle.
- **Economical:-**
 - The event is also a massive fair with plenty of options for shopping, food, etc, which immensely boosts the local economies. For instance, a good Kambala event is attended by 20,000 or more people during the season.
- **Community relationships:-**
 - At the most fundamental level of humanity, sports like these are great outlets for channelising energy, which is expressed in promoting competitive spirit and forging and strengthening community relationships.
- **Animal friendly:-**
 - The organisers said violence on animals is not practised in the region and so many modifications have taken place in the recent past to make the event animal friendly.

Conclusion:-

- Proper amendments need to be made to the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act** so that the views of multiple stakeholders are considered.

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

Q) Discuss the contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy towards the Indian society. (250 words)

[The hindu Reference](#)

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.



Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail about the contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy towards the Indian society. We have to be as exhaustive as possible, within the prescribed word limit.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– write a few introductory lines about Raja Ram Mohan Roy- his birth and mention that he is considered the first modern man of India.

Body-

Discuss the contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy towards Indian society. E.g Raja Ram Mohan Roy is considered as the pioneer of modern Indian Renaissance for the remarkable reforms he brought in the 18th and 19th century India. Among his efforts, the abolition of the brutal and inhuman Sati Pratha was the most prominent. His efforts were also instrumental in eradicating the purdah system and child marriage. In 1828, Ram Mohan Roy formed the Brahmo Samaj, uniting the Brahmos in Calcutta, a group of people, who had no faith in idol-worship and were against the caste restrictions; He advocated the introduction of an English Education System in the country teaching scientific subjects like Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and even Botany. He paved the way to revolutionizing education system in India by establishing Hindu College in 1817 along with David Hare which later went on to become one of the best educational institutions in the country producing some of the best minds in India. His efforts to combine true to the roots theological doctrines along with modern rational lessons saw him establish the Anglo-Vedic School in 1822 followed by the Vedanta College in 1826; Ram Mohan Roy was a staunch supporter of free speech and expression. He fought for the rights of vernacular press. He also brought out a newspaper in Persian called 'Mirat ul Akhbar' (the Mirror of News) and a Bengali weekly called 'Sambad Kaumudi' (the Moon of Intelligence). Etc.

Conclusion– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- Raja Ram Mohan Roy is considered as the pioneer of modern Indian Renaissance for the remarkable reforms he brought in the 18th and 19th century India. The elements of modernity in him and the break with tradition are of help to discover Rammohan Roy's image as the 'Father of Modern India'.

Contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy:-

- **Social reforms:-**
 - The abolition of the brutal and inhuman Sati Pratha was the most prominent.
 - His efforts were also instrumental in eradicating the purdah system and child marriage.
 - Raja Ram Mohan Roy's name is thus etched forever as a true benefactor of women not just for helping abolish the custom of Sati, but also raising his voice against child marriage and polygamy, while demanding equal inheritance rights for women.
 - He was also a great opponent of the rigid caste divisions of his time.
 - He worked for the improvement in the position of women. He advocated widow remarriage and education of women.
- **Educational:-**
 - He paved the way to revolutionizing education system in India by establishing Hindu College in 1817 along with David Hare which later went on to become one of the best educational institutions in the country producing some of the best minds in India.
 - His efforts to combine true to the roots theological doctrines along with modern rational lessons saw him establish the Anglo-Vedic School in 1822 followed by the Vedanta College in 1826.
- **Philosophical:-**
 - In 1828, Ram Mohan Roy formed the Brahmo Samaj, uniting the Bhramos in Calcutta, a group of people, who had no faith in idol-worship and were against the caste restrictions.
 - He looked back to a tradition in search of monotheism, and looked forward to a sort of Protestant reformation within the Hindu milieu.
 - **He implied that every religion has a philosophical core, and as for Hinduism it was Vedanta .The Vedanta provided him with the cultural category** while his interpretation of it as monotheistic yielded a comprehensive, holistic theory, which provided a comprehensive critique of culture, society and ideology.
 - Raja's monotheistic Vedanta provided people with an idea of the paradigms of social change e.., why one paradigm is better than another. It enabled people to consider the comparative adequacy of ways of life



that might claim people's allegiance. In such humanitarian vision lies Raja's lure and his share in India's modernity.

- He stressed on rationalism and modern scientific approach.
- **Journalistic Contributions**
 - Ram Mohan Roy was a staunch supporter of free speech and expression. He fought for the rights of vernacular press.
 - He also brought out a newspaper in Persian called 'Miratul- Akhbar' (the Mirror of News) and a Bengali weekly called 'Sambad Kaumudi' (the Moon of Intelligence).

Conclusion:-

- Raja Ram Mohan Roy and his Brahma Samaj played a vital role in awakening Indian society to the pressing issues plaguing society at that time and also was the forerunner of all social, religious and political movements that happened in the country since.

Q) Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay's works point to different facets of her interest in the people of Asia and Africa. Discuss. (250 words)

The hindu

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail about the Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay and her works and bring out her role in presenting and depicting the Asian and African problems of the time.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay. E.g Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay has long been recognised in India as the person chiefly responsible, after Independence, for the revival of the country's variegated crafts traditions and for drawing critical attention to 'tribal art'.

Body-

Discuss in detail about her works and their relation to Asia and Africa. E.g She is generally viewed as an authority on Indian handicrafts, but Chattopadhyay played no less a role in nurturing craftspersons and shaping the cultural institutions that in independent India would be charged with promoting dance, drama, theatre crafts, music, puppetry, pottery and textiles; At the International Session of the League against Imperialism in Frankfurt, she found a platform to discuss the common problems of subjugated people; it was her abiding interest in creating solidarity among the colonised people which makes her an especially inspirational figure; Chattopadhyay's writings on Asia, Africa and the Global South in the 1940s point to different facets of her interest in the people of Asia and Africa and their histories. 'The Struggle of Vietnam against French Imperialism' (1947, Modern Review) shows her grasp over the history of colonialism in Vietnam. Chattopadhyay was never seduced by the idea that the European Left stood for progressive policies with respect to the question of empire, and her piece is clear in its critique of the failure of the Left in France to ally itself with Vietnamese nationalists agitating for independence. But she was equally unsparing towards the Japanese. 'The Awakening of Asia' (1947, At the Crossroads) warns against Japan's attempts to position itself as the vanguard of pan-Asianism etc.

Conclusion– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- Kamaladevi was an Indian social reformer and freedom fighter. She was most remembered for her contribution to the Indian independence movement for being the driving force behind the renaissance of Indian handicrafts, hand looms, and theater in independent India; and for upliftment of the socio-economic standard of Indian women by pioneering the co-operation.

**Contribution:-**

- **Crafts:-**

- Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay has long been recognised in India as the person chiefly responsible, after Independence, for the **revival of the country's variegated crafts traditions and for drawing critical attention to 'tribal art'**.
- She is generally viewed as an authority on Indian handicrafts, but Chattopadhyay played no less a role in nurturing craftspersons and shaping the cultural institutions that in independent India would be charged with promoting dance, drama, theatre crafts, music, puppetry, pottery and textiles.
- She stressed the significant role which handicrafts and cooperative grassroot movements play in the social and economic upliftment of the Indian people.
- **It was her abiding interest in creating solidarity among the colonised people which makes her an especially inspirational figure.**
 - She continued not only to represent India as an emissary but also offered a prescient articulation of the idea of the Global South.
 - Chattopadhyay's writings on Asia, Africa and the Global South in the 1940s point to different facets of her interest in the people of Asia and Africa and their histories. 'The Struggle of Viet Nam against French Imperialism' shows her grasp over the history of colonialism in Vietnam.
 - Chattopadhyay is clear in its critique of the failure of the Left in France to ally itself with Vietnamese nationalists agitating for independence.
 - She was equally unsparing towards the Japanese. 'The Awakening of Asia' warns against Japan's attempts to position itself as the vanguard of pan-Asianism.

Q) Railway development in India provides an interesting instance of private enterprise at public risk. Comment. (250 words)

Key demand of the question

The question expects us to first explain explain the statement in question which is that risk was unevenly shared between private and public sector in railway construction. It also expects us to comment on the purpose for which railway construction was undertaken and whether railway construction was a part of policy of British to drain India of its wealth by allowing it to be constructed by private enterprise at public risk.

Directive word

Comment – When you are asked to comment, you have to pick main points and give your 'opinion' on them based on evidences or arguments stemming from your wide reading. Your opinion may be for or against, but you must back your argument with evidences.

Structure of the answer

Introduction – Explain that Lord Dalhousie took the decision to construct railways in India.

Body

Explain what it meant by the statement in question

- *Cost borne by Indians and profit reaped by British*
- *5% guaranteed interest on British capital investment*
- *Award of free land with 99 year's lease etc*

Highlight that the railways primarily served British needs through points such as no linkages of Indian markets, freight charges, transfer of technology remained limited to low technology areas etc

Discuss the unintended benefits of railways for India

Conclusion – *Comment on whether the public investment made in railways did benefit the people of India or it benefitted British capitalist and was another form of economic drain.*



Background:-

- With the advent of Industrial Revolution industrial and finance capitalist phase of exploitation started in the India. The colonial government tried to develop India as supplier of raw material and market for its manufactured goods through railways.

Railway development of India as a private enterprise :-

- The railway construction received the first decisive stimulus during Dalhousie's administration. He recommended that railway construction should be entrusted to private companies **under the supervision and control of the Government.**
- He rejected the idea of Government constructing the railways. So **the British came up with the old guarantee system.**
- The system intended to assure a minimum rate of return on the capital to be invested. It was in the form of a system of subsidies. British investors promptly responded and put their capital to the private railway companies

How railways in India was a private enterprise at public risk:-

- Cotton industry:-**
 - British intentions were that larger supply of clean raw cotton could be drawn from India so that the English cotton industry could flourish.
 - This could be strengthened by the development of a railway network and railways were to be floated on a commercial basis.
- Assured returns:-**
 - The private investment in railways was guaranteed an assured return of 5% from the government. Also the capital invested was to be returned after fixed years. Thus the private investment was assured risk free return at public risk.
 - The multiplier effect of railways due to import of steel also benefited the British.
- Adverse impact on Indians:-**
 - Due to focus on railways the agriculture sector saw no investment, which gradually turned unproductive to the point that it led to many famines.
 - The public was continued to be used as labour and also the income and taxes in their name were also used to meet the trade interests.
 - Mobilizing resources such as coal to meet the power requirements for industrial goods through railways only resulted in drain of wealth for India.

However there were certain unintended benefits of railways to the public at large:-

- Connectivity:-**
 - It provided for better connectivity for the masses. Various feeder roads were developed around the railways
 - They **bound the country together.** They allowed fast travel between one end of the country and the other and cemented relationships between the various provinces.
- They **enabled goods to be carried around the country far more cheaply than ever before.**
- They allowed **the development of markets** in foodstuffs and other agricultural produce that increased their availability and, eventually, did make famines less likely.
- They **created an infrastructure** that in India was unprecedented in its sophistication and extent.
- They gave the **opportunity of secure jobs to millions of Indians** and enabled many of them to acquire new skills.
- They helped **the development of the trade union movement.**
- They laid the foundations of the **large Indian middle class.** They brought sophisticated technology to the sub-continent.

Conclusion:-

- The changes brought by the railways did not benefit the basic structure of the economy. Not until Independence when economic development became a conscious and pursued policy did the railways begin to realize their potential for assisting in the transformation of the Indian economy.

Q) Discuss the impact of British rule on India in terms of commercialization of agriculture. (250 words)

Reference



Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail as to how the advent and continuance of British rule impacted commercialization of agriculture in India.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– Write a few introductory lines about the British rule in India. E.g The mass production of goods through machines that we witness today was pioneered through the Industrial Revolution which occurred first in England during the late 18th and the early 19th century. This led to a massive increase in the output of finished products

Body–

Discuss in points the impact of British rule in India in terms of commercialization of agriculture. E.g Different kinds of commercial crops such as tea, coffee, indigo, opium, cotton, jute, sugarcane and oilseed. were introduced with different intentions. Indian opium was used to balance the trade of Chinese tea with Britain in the latter's favor; The market for opium was strictly controlled by British traders which did not leave much scope for Indian producers to reap profit. Indians were forced to produce indigo and sell it on the conditions dictated by the Britishers; Commercialisation of agriculture further enhanced the speed of transfer of ownership of land thereby increasing the number of landless laborers. It also brought in a large number of merchants, traders and middlemen who further exploited the situation; There was an enormous drain of wealth from our country to Britain due to the various economic policies. Additional financial burden was placed on India due to expenditures on salaries, pensions and training of military and civilian staffs employed by the British to rule India; Because the peasants now shifted to commercial crops, food grain production went down. So, less food stock led to famines. It was therefore not surprising that the peasants revolted.

Conclusion– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background :-

- The commercialization of agriculture means that the agricultural crops and goods are produced by the peasants for sale in the market and not for their own consumption. Commercialization of agriculture in India began during the British rule.
- The commercialization of Indian agriculture was done primarily to feed the British industries and achieved only in cases-of those agricultural products which were either needed by the British industries or could fetch cash commercial gain to the British in the European or American market.

Commercialisation of agriculture :-

- **Positives:-**
 - Introduction of a large number of commercial crops such as tea, coffee, indigo, opium, cotton, jute, sugarcane and oilseed.
 - Commercialization of Indian agriculture also partly benefited Indian traders and money lenders who made huge fortunes by working as middlemen for the British
 - It made possible the transformation of Indian economy in to capitalistic form
 - Integration of economy took place which also created for the growth of national economy
 - It also brought regional specialization of crops on efficient bases.
- **Negatives:-**
 - It was **beneficial to the British planters, traders and manufacturers**, who were provided with opportunity to make huge profits by getting commercialized agricultural products at throwaway prices.
 - Indian opium was used to balance the trade of Chinese tea with Britain in the latter's favor. The market for opium was strictly controlled by British traders which did not leave much scope for Indian producers to reap profit.



- Indians were **forced to produce indigo** on 3/20th part of their land and sell it on the conditions dictated by the Britishers. Unfortunately cultivation of Indigo left the land infertile for some years. This made the farmers reluctant to grow it.
- **In the tea plantations** ownership changed hands quite often. The workers on these plantations worked under a lot of hardships.
- It also brought in a **large number of merchants, traders and middlemen who further exploited the situation**. The peasant now depended on them to sell their produce during harvest time.
- It resulted in **reduced area under cultivation of food crops**. Because the peasants now shifted to commercial crops, food grain production went down. So, less food stock led to famines.
- Commercialisation of agriculture further enhanced the speed of transfer of ownership of land thereby increasing the number of **landless labourers**.
 - By making agricultural land a tradable commodity, the peasant lost his security feeling. High land revenue demands forced him to take loan from the money lender at high interest rates. The failure to pay debts in time meant loss of land to the money lender at high interest rates. **It led to land alienation and increase in the number of agricultural labourers**
- Another consequence was **linking of agriculture to world market**. Price movements and business fluctuations in the world markets began to affect the fortunes of the Indian farmer to a degree that it had never done before.
- Also **self sufficiency in village economy was adversely impacted**.

Q) The early years of the 20th century marked important landmarks in the history of the Indian women's movement. Discuss. (250 words)

Reference

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail about the women's movement in India during the 20th century. It wants us to discuss at length about the landmarks witnessed during the early years of the 20th century and bring out their significance.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the women's movements in India. E.g

Body-

Discuss the important landmarks in women's movements that marked the early 20th century India. E.g The early years of the 20th century marked two important landmarks in the history of the Indian women's movement : the birth of nationwide women's organizations and the beginning of women's participation in the national movement. Certain core ideas surface repeatedly in the proceedings of women's organizations such as the All-India Muslim Ladies' Conference (Anjuman) 1914, the Women's India Association (WIA) 1917, the National Council of Women in India (NCWI) 1925, and the All India Women's Conference (AIWC) 1926. A key idea was a belief that advancement of a society hinges on the progress of women; To resist the cultural onslaughts of the West and articulate one's own cultural identity it became all the more important to project an image of womanhood, which would symbolize both the strength and distinctiveness of Indian tradition. This search for unsullied symbols of tradition somewhere rested with purdah, as debates within the Anjuman would indicate, and elsewhere with "deification" of Hindu/Indian womanhood as discussed by the WIA, Hindu militants and Gandhi etc.

Conclusion- based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.



Background:-

- By the end of the 19th century women from the reformed families began to start women's organizations. After 1910, women experienced in organizing and working in local women's associations, and convinced that women should take the leadership into their own hands, started provincial and national women's association.

Important landmarks in the history of Indian women's movement in early 20th century:-

- The early 20th century saw the rise of many women's organizations.
- The birth of nationwide women's organizations:-**
 - The early national women's organizations were confined to specific areas. In 1910, Sarala Devi Chaudhurani established the Bharat Stree Mandal (Great circle of India Women) with the objective of women of all castes, creeds and classes together
 - Annie Besant became the first woman president of INC in 1917. Her associate Margaret Cousins drafted Indian women's voting rights bill and launched **Women's Indian association**. In a sense, WIA is the first all India women's association with the objective of securing voting rights for women
 - In 1916 Begum of Bhopal founded the **All-India Muslim Women's conference**. The conference passed a resolution in 1917 to abolish polygamy which enraged many traditionalists. Awareness created by these reformers made several Muslim women to take part in the freedom struggle and non-cooperation movement against the British.
 - The **National Council of Women in India (NCWI) was formed in 1925, and the All India Women's Conference (AIWC) in 1927**. The AIWC, originally convened only to discuss women's education, became a permanent body. Its emphasis was on unity and women's upliftment through education, and social and legal reform.
 - It also emphasized women's contribution to national development. By 1932, however, the AIWC had become involved with women's political rights and all questions which affected women and children as well as with social problems such as untouchability.
 - Women's organisations like the All India Women's Conference (AIWC) and women within the national movement insisted on greater political and economic participation.
 - A key idea was a belief that advancement of a society hinges on the progress of women.
- The beginning of women's participation in the national movement:-**
 - The Gandhian movement in 1920's incorporated women in large numbers
 - During civil disobedience movement the women volunteers were physically trained to lead marches, boycotts and Prabhat Pheris
 - Women formed patriotic groups within their associations called Desh Sevika Sanghs
- To resist the cultural onslaughts of the West and articulate one's own cultural identity it became all the more important to project an image of womanhood, which would symbolize both the strength and distinctiveness of Indian tradition.

Issues:-

- Though, women's participation in national movement helped to break several old barriers of tradition and custom, these organizations were dominated and run by women from urban middle and upper classes.
- These organizations neither had their influence in rural areas nor did they take into account the problems of poor working class families.

Q) It would have been difficult for the Constituent Assembly to complete its historic task of drafting the Constitution for Independent India in just three years but for the experience gained with the Government of India Act, 1935. Discuss. (250 words)

Key demand of the question

The question basically expects us to debate how great an impact GoIA, 1935 had on the constitution, the similarities as well as the differences. We have to examine whether it was merely the similarities with 1935 Act which fastened the constitution drafting process, or whether there were other sources of inspiration as well. Finally we need to provide a fair and balanced opinion regarding this.

Directive word

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 about the constituent assembly and GoA, 1935.

Body

Discuss the features of the constitution which were borrowed from 1935 Act such as residuary power, Separation of powers by three different lists, Bicameralism, Powers of President. Explain what did the constituent assembly learn from the experiences of GoA Act, 1935

Thereafter, explain that provision related to federalism in GoA, 1935 never got tested because they were not implemented

Discuss the other provisions which got added to Constitution such as fundamental concepts like Equality, Freedom, Adult franchise.

Also explain that the seeds of principles of constitution were also laid down throughout the course of freedom struggle. Give other sources from where the constitution was inspired.

Conclusion – Your conclusion can be on these lines – While we agree that the GOI Act, 1935 reduced the time frames of constitution creation, we should not forget that it was created to manage (or control) the affairs of a colony upon vested commercial interests of The Great Britain. At the same time we need to accept that there were many Indian intellectuals laid a strong foundation well before GOI Act, 1935 for this cause.

Constitutional provisions borrowed from Government of India act 1935 :-

- The majority of the today's constitution has been drawn from this.
- It delivers to the establishment of an All India Federation.
- The previous names transferred and reserved subjects are changed as federal and provincial lists and concurrent list is definitely an addendum.
- It **Abolished diarchy and introduced provincial autonomy**.
- Established the RBI, federal court, Provincial PSUs and Joint PSUs.
- The **federal structure of government, provincial autonomy, a bicameral central legislature** consisting of a federal assembly and a Council of States and the separation of legislative powers between the centre and states are some of the provisions of the Act which are present in the Constitution of India.
- Office of Governor
- Judiciary

However Indian constitution has been amalgamation of experiences from freedom struggle and other sources as well:-

- British Constitution
 - Parliamentary form of government
 - The idea of single citizenship
 - The idea of the Rule of law
 - Institution of Speaker and his role
 - Lawmaking procedure
 - Procedure established by Law
- United States Constitution
 - Preamble
 - Fundamental Rights
 - Federal structure of government
 - Electoral College
 - Independence of the judiciary and separation of powers among the three branches of the government
 - Judicial review
 - President as supreme commander of armed forces
 - Equal Protection under law
- Irish Constitution
 - Directive principles of state policy {Ireland itself borrowed it from Spain}
- Australian Constitution
 - Freedom of trade and commerce within the country and between the states



- Power of the national legislature to make laws for implementing treaties, even on matters outside normal Federal jurisdiction
- Concurrent List
- French Constitution
 - Ideals of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity
- Canadian Constitution
 - A quasi-federal form of government — a federal system with a strong central government
 - Distribution of powers between the central government and state governments
 - Residual powers retained by the central government
- **Constitution of the Soviet Union**
 - Fundamental Duties
- **Other Constitutions**
 - Emergency Provision Under article 356 Weimar Constitution(Germany)
 - Amendment of Constitution, South Africa
 - Due Procedure of Law, Japan
 - Many of the features can be said to have sourced / influenced / borrowed from multiple sources. For example, India has a federal scheme with strong centre. This feature was in GOI Act 1935 and also in Constitution of Canada.
 - Similarly, Fundamental rights were not only influenced from US constitution but also the Universal declaration of Human rights.
 - Further, the Constitution Declares the Indian State to be sovereign, democratic, republic and from 1977 secular and socialist. Each of these concepts is intertwined with the social and political history of civilization, battle of ideas and system of Governance. The American Revolution, The French Revolution, The Russian Revolution and India's own freedom struggle contributed to these concepts.
- **Freedom struggle:-**
 - Due to caste and class differences rooted in religious systems .Indian leaders wanted a constitution which emphasizes on equality
 - To provide equal representation to all including women to alleviate and bring social and political equity and rule by people Leaders focusses on democracy

Q) Discuss the reasons as to why the proposals of the Cripps mission were rejected by the Congress and the Muslim league. (250 words)

Reference

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail about the salient provisions of the Cripps mission and bring out the reasons as to why those proposals were rejected by the Congress and the Muslim league.

Structure of the answer

Introduction- *write a few introductory lines about the Cripps mission. E.g signing of the Atlantic Charter guaranteed the "right of all people to choose the form of Government under which they will live." Stafford Cripps with this aims and directives arrived in India bringing with him a new constitutional scheme approved by the British Cabinet.*

Body-

Discuss the main proposals of the mission. E.g India was promised Dominion Status with the power to secede from the British Commonwealth; it proposed that immediately after the war is stopped, steps would be taken up to set up an elected body charged with the task of making the constitution for India adding that until the formation of the new constitution the British Government would remain responsible for the defence of India; The constitution finally framed by this body would also



be implemented by the British Government but any province of British India would have the right to reject the constitution so made and to retain its existing constitutional position or frame another constitution by agreement with the British Government. The province had the option to accede subsequently to the Indian Dominion if it so desired etc.

Discuss why the Congress rejected the proposals. E.g The Cripps proposals were rejected by the Congress in its meeting 11th April, 1942; The Working Committee expressed its disapproval of the proposed Composition of the Constitution making body and the right of the rulers of the Indian States to decide the future of millions of people living in these states. This was a “negation of both democracy and self determination.” The proposals therefore were rejected by the Congress as Vague and incomplete.

Discuss why the Muslim league rejected the proposals. E.g The Muslim league rejected the proposals because it had given greatest importance and priority to the creation of one Indian Union. The League reaffirmed its conviction that the “only solution of India’s constitutional problem is the partition of India into independent Zones.”

Conclusion- *based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.*

Background:-

- Cripps Mission was sent by the British Government in March 1942 to India with key objective to secure Indian cooperation and support for British War Efforts. Headed by Sir Stafford Cripps, this mission sought to negotiate an agreement with Indian leaders.
- **The proposal of the Cripps mission was that:**
- India would be a dominion associated with the United kingdom.
- It promised that immediately after the war is stopped, steps would be taken up to set up an elected body charged with the task of making the constitution for India and provisions would be made so that the Indian states could participate in the framing of the constitution.
- An Indian Union with a dominion status would be set up. It would be free to decide its relations with the Commonwealth and free to participate in the United Nations and other international bodies.
- After the end of the war, a constituent assembly would be convened to frame a new constitution. Members of this assembly would be partly elected by the provincial assemblies through proportional representation and partly nominated by the princes.
- The British Government would accept the new constitution subject to two conditions.
 - Any province not willing to join the Union could have a separate constitution and form a separate Union
 - The new constitution- making body and the British Government would negotiate a treaty to effect the transfer of power and to safeguard racial and religious minorities.
- In the meantime, defence of India would remain in British hands and the governor-general’s powers would remain intact.
- The making of the constitution was to be solely in Indian hands now
- A concrete plan was provided for the constituent assembly.
- Option was available to any province to have a separate constitution—a blueprint for India’s partition.
- Free India could withdraw from the Commonwealth.
- Indians were allowed a large share in the administration in the interim period.

The Congress objected to:

- The offer of dominion status instead of a provision for complete independence.
- Representation of the states by nominees and not by elected representatives.
- Right to provinces to secede as this went against the principle of national unity.
- Absence of any plan for immediate transfer of power and absence of any real share in defence; the governor-general’s supremacy had been retained, and the demand for governor-general being only the constitutional head had not been accepted.
- The incapacity of Cripps to go beyond the Draft Declaration and the adoption of a rigid “take it or leave it” attitude added to the deadlock.

The Muslim League objected because:-

- Criticised the idea of a single Indian Union.
- Did not like the machinery for the creation of a constituent assembly and the procedure to decide on the accession of provinces to the Union.
- Thought that the proposals denied to the Muslims the right to self-determination and the creation of Pakistan.



Q) Discuss the role of Sri Narayana Guru in social reforms in India. (250 words)

Reference

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail about the role and contribution of Sri Narayana Guru, as a social reformer in India.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the Sri Narayana Guru. e.g Sree Narayana Guru was a great saint, scholar, philosopher, poet, and the forerunner of social renaissance in Kerala. Sree Narayana Guru was born in 1856 in a middle class peasant family of the then untouchable Ezhava caste, in Thiruvananthapuram.

Body

Discuss in points, the role played by Sri Narayana Guru as a social reformer in India. E.g Even as a child he had strong abhorrence toward the caste distinctions and untouchability and he always protested against injustice; he himself consecrated a temple dedicated to Lord Shiva in Aruvippuram in 1888. When questioned by the Brahmins, he replied that he had consecrated a Shiva belonging to his community. The irony of the message was very clear – how could Shiva be owned by any particular community? It was a strong warning to the upper castes and a bold proclamation that everyone irrespective of his caste or religion has the right to realize God; He opened a Sanskrit school at Sivagiri to teach poor students, irrespective of their caste; He believed that other than the freedom from the curse of untouchability, the downtrodden classes needed education and wealth. They needed opportunities to improve like others. He was a real Karma Yogi and his whole life was dedicated for the betterment of the suppressed etc.

Conclusion– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- Narayana Guru is a saint, prophet and social reformer from Kerala. His words and deeds ignited sparks of revolution that led to a remarkable cultural renaissance in the profligate society of Kerala.

Contribution:-

- **Temple entry:-**
 - Aravipuram Movement was launched by Sri Narayana Guru in 1888. On that day, Sri Narayana Guru defied the religious restrictions traditionally placed on the Ezhava community, and consecrated an idol of Shiva at Aravipuram.
 - In 1925 Guru supported the famous Vaikom Satyagraha movement, which demanded entry for lower caste people in the Shiva temple at Vaikom and all temples in Kerala.
- **He redeemed the downtrodden human from the curse of casteism. 'Oneness of Humanity' was his dream.**
 - His famous message "**One Caste, One Religion and One God to Mankind**", which was a clarion call to the mankind to unite, instead of breaking down in the name of caste and religion.
- He believed that other than the freedom from the curse of untouchability, the **downtrodden classes needed education and wealth**. They needed opportunities to improve like others.
 - Sri Narayana Guru articulated a doctrine aimed at improving the Ezhavas' social position. He urged them to abandon the occupation of toddy-tapping and to abstain from liquor.
- **He formed a programme of action known as the Sri Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam**
 - The Yogam took up several issues, including the right of admission to public schools, recruitment to government employment, entry into temples, on roads and political representation.
- Guru **did not approve polygamy and polyandry**. He discouraged some unnecessary traditions in marriage.
- **Religion:-**
 - He considered all religions to be a way for man's goodness and welfare and thus are equal.



- He held that the essence of all religions is one and the same, and advocated the comparative study of all faiths.
- **Literature:-**
 - Sree Narayana Guru had proficiency in Sanskrit, Malayalam and Tamil and had written by way of hymns of prayer to different gods in all three languages, translations, philosophy and teachings.
 - Some of the notable ones are “Atmopadesa Sathakam” and “Darsanamala” which give in condensed way the moral and spiritual principles.
- **Sree Narayana Guru has made a silent revolution**, without any blood shed or hatred, but with evoking respect and cooperation from all concerned.

Topic– The Freedom Struggle – its various stages and important contributors /contributions from different parts of the country.Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.

Q) Discuss the contribution of Acharya J. B. Kripalani towards the Indian society. (250 words)

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[Reference](#)

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail about the contribution of Acharya J. B. Kripalani towards the Indian society- before independence as well as towards the independent India.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the Acharya J. B. Kripalani. E.g J. B. Kripalani Bio As PDF

Acharya J. B. Kripalani was an accomplished politician and socialist, who contributed much towards Indian society, both before and after Indian independence.

Body-

Discuss in points the contribution of Acharya J B Kripalani towards the Indian society. E.g he committed himself to the Non-Cooperation Movement. He worked on the ideology of social reforms and principles of education that Gandhi promoted in his various ashrams; He actively took part in the Salt Satyagraha, Civil Disobedience Movement and Quit India Movement, for which he was arrested and imprisoned a multitude times. His publication of seditious comments against British government also resulted in his incarceration; He took an active role in the interim government of India from 1946 to 1947 and in the Constituent Assembly of India; He spent the decade of 1970s working for the preservation and conservation of natural surroundings; n 1972, he voiced against Indira Gandhi’s authoritarian rule, stating that her governance had transformed from being democratic to dictatorial. He raised non-violent protests against her government throughout the country and even launched a civil disobedience movement against Gandhi’s government. Due to this, he was duly arrested and imprisoned upon the proclamation of Emergency on June 26, 1975 etc.

Conclusion– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- Acharya J. B. Kripalani was an accomplished politician and socialist, who contributed much, both before and after Indian independence. An ardent follower of Gandhi, he was an exponent of the Gandhian philosophy and ideology.

Contribution:-

- While Kripalani contributed much in the freedom struggle and afterwards, he is best known for holding the chair of the President of the Indian National Congress during the turbulent phase of 1947.
- **Non cooperation:-**
 - During the early 1920s, he committed himself to the Non-Cooperation Movement.



- He worked on the ideology of social reforms and principles of education that Gandhi promoted in his various ashrams across Gujarat and Bombay. Later he started teaching and organizing new ashrams dedicated to the Gandhian principles and beliefs in Bihar and United Province.
- **He actively took part in the Salt Satyagraha, Civil Disobedience Movement and Quit India Movement, for which he was arrested and imprisoned a multitude times.** His publication of seditious comments against British government also resulted in his incarceration.
- His active involvement in the national freedom movement helped him rise dramatically upwards towards the higher ranks in the Indian National Congress. For almost a decade, from 1934 to 1945, he served as the **General Secretary of the Indian National Congress**. He steered congress party through the crucial phase of partition and independence.
- He took an **active role in the interim government of India** from 1946 to 1947 and in the Constituent Assembly of India.
- **Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party :-**
 - He resigned as a member of the Congress party and instead became a founding member of a new political party called Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party. It was later that the party merged with the Socialist Party of India to form the Praja Socialist Party.
- **Spirituality:-**
 - Following his defeat in the 1971 parliamentary elections, he eventually ended his parliamentary career and switched to being a spiritual leader.
 - He spent the decade of 1970s working for the preservation and conservation of natural surroundings.

Q) Highlight the differences in the approach of Subhash Chandra Bose and Mahatma Gandhi in the struggle for freedom. (250 words)

Key demand of the question

The question is quite straightforward in its demand. It expects us to elaborate on the difference in approaches of Gandhi and Bose with respect to the national movement.

Structure of the answer

Introduction – Explain the macro difference in their political approach – Subhash Chandra Bose was a supporter of Gandhiji during initial days, the later part of 1930s witnessed a radicalisation of his thought. He was not satisfied with Gandhiji's strategies and unhappy with the lack of momentum in independence movement.

Body

Discuss their difference in thinking over issues such as

- *Moderate vs extremist*
- *Complete independence vs independence in phases*
- *Bose was more international in his outlook and approached Russia, Germany and Japan while Gandhiji relied on indigenous forces like Swadeshi and Satyagraha.*
- *Bose adopted violent means and led Indian National Army while Gandhiji relied on non-violent means. For Gandhiji it was "means justify the end" for Bose it was "end justifies the means. Etc*

Conclusions – Highlight that both made significant contribution to freedom struggle in their own ways.

Background:-

- Both Mahatma Gandhi and Subhash Chandra Bose were stalwarts of Indian freedom struggle. Gandhi and Subhash Chandra Bose differed in their approach and had different understanding of political reality:

Differences:-

- **Violence vs non violence:-**
 - Subhash Chandra Bose adopted **violent means for liberation of India and thus led Indian National Army**. Gandhi on the other hand was a firm believer of non-violence and led peaceful mass protests



- **Ideology:-**
 - Ideologically Gandhi subscribed to socialist pattern of society where fruits of labour were evenly distributed and favoured trusteeship pattern of relation between Capitalist and labourers.
 - Subhash Chandra was a keen follower of **radical leftist ideology** and organized trade unions
- Bose wanted to grab the opportunity provided by second world war for India's freedom, thus approached Germany, Japan while **Gandhi saw facism and Nazism a greater danger to Indian polity and society** thus co-operated with British. Thus they had a different understanding of same event.
- **Religious teachings had great importance in the life of Gandhi** while Subhash Chandra Bose was a leftist and rationalist.
- **Gandhi's idea of freedom was based on self rule and rule over self.** Bose viewed freedom not only in terms of political self rule but also freedom from socio-economic inequalities, casteism, intolerance etc.
- **India's participation in World war II:-**
 - When the Second World War began and Britain got involved in it, Subhash insisted persistently that England's difficulty is India's opportunity and it is the time opportune to launch struggle for freedom.
 - Gandhi at the time was not prepared to oblige Subhash and immediately launch any struggle to achieve India's freedom.
- **Bose sought complete severance from the British empire**, while Gandhi's goal posts vacillated between Spiritual Swaraj, Dominion Status and complete severance.
- **Vision:-**
 - Stated visions of Gandhi and Bose differed substantially with respect to their desired evolution of India and her politics.
 - Gandhi advocated a vision comprising of spinning, khadi and local self-sufficiency at village level while Bose held steadfast to a **vision of large scale industrialisation** and a politics devoid of irrationality and religiosity.
- **Industrialisation:-**
 - Bose had launched the National Planning Committee for drawing up a comprehensive plan of industrialisation and of development .
 - Bose believed that his launching of the National Planning Committee as the Congress President, in 1938, for drawing up a **comprehensive plan of industrialisation and of development caused further annoyance to Mahatma Gandhi who was opposed to industrialization.**
- Bose was acutely conscious of the role the armed forces play in the political growth of a nation.

Similarities between Gandhi and Bose view :- (extra)

- Gandhi and Bose did not differ on their choices between communism and capitalism. **Both were socialists**, as per their stated positions, and disassociated themselves from Communism (Bose certainly did).
- Again, unlike what is commonly believed, Gandhi was not opposed to violence per se as he did not totally oppose violence during Quit India movement.
- Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and Subhash Chandra Bose had the same objective of liberating the country from the yoke of British imperialism.
- Until the political clash at Tripuri they worked more or less together under the common platform of the Indian National Congress for about two decades.
- Gandhi's struggle i.e., averse mindset in the beginning of the Second World War and his uncompromising stance during the Quit India Movement, was in a way a victory of Netaji's strategy.
- Gandhi's tone and temper clearly smacked of a revolutionary strategy quite akin to the soul and spirit of Bose. Ideologically they appeared to come nearer.

Conclusion:-

- Despite the differences both leaders had immense respect for each other and contributed significantly to the national movement and the nation.

Q) Discuss the phases of the working class movements in pre-independent India. (250 words)

Reference

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.



Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail about the working class movements in pre-independent India; their phases and significant events etc.

Structure of the answer

Introduction- write a few introductory lines about the working class in pre-independent India. E.g The modern Indian working class arose in consequence to the development and growth of factory industries in India from the second half of the nineteenth century. It is however about the turn of the twentieth century, it took the shape of working class.

Body-

Discuss the phases of the working class movements in pre-independent India. E.g

- The First phase : 1850s -1918; The actions of the working class in the earliest stage were sporadic and unorganised in nature and hence were mostly ineffective. It is only from the late 19th century in Madras, and from the second decade of the twentieth century in Bombay that serious attempts were made for the formation of associations that could lead organised form of protests; Though the Congress was formed in 1885, it seriously thought of organising the working class only in the early 1920s. The Working class in the country was organising struggles against capital much before the 1920s. In the last decades of the 19th century, Lietaen informs us, there occurred strikes at Bombay, Kurla, Surat, Wardha, Ahmedabad and in other places; The strikes however were only sporadic, spontaneous, localised and short-lived and were caused by factors such as reduction in wages, imposition of fines, dismissal or reprimand of the worker. These actions and militancy, which they showed, helped in the development of class solidarity and consciousness, which was missing earlier. The resistance was mediated by outsiders or outside leaders. Agitations grew and they were not on individual issues but on broader economic questions, thus leading to a gradual improvement later on.
- Second phase- 1918 to independence; The unorganised movement of the workers took an organised form; trade unions were formed on modern lines. In several ways the decade of the 1920s is crucial in this regard. Firstly in the 1920s serious attempts were made by the Congress and the Communists to mobilise the working class and hence from then onwards national movement established a connection with the working class. Secondly, it was in 1920 that the first attempt to form an all India organisation was made; in this decade, India witnessed a large number of strikes; the strikes were prolonged and well participated by the workers. The number of strikes and number of workers involved in these strikes went on increasing in the subsequent decades etc.

Conclusion- based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- The modern Indian working class arose in consequence to the development and growth of factory industries in India from the second half of the nineteenth century. It is however about the turn of the twentieth century, it took the shape of working class

Working class movements in pre independence period:-

- According to the labour historians, the span of working class activities in India is divided into three distinct phases.
- **The first phase spans from 1850 to 1890:-**
 - The actions of the working class in the earliest stage were sporadic and unorganised in nature and hence were mostly ineffective.
 - Some philanthropists in the 1880s sought to improve working conditions by urging the British authorities in India to introduce legislations for improving its condition. S. S. Bengalee in Bombay, Sasipada Banerjee in Bengal and Lokhandya in Maharashtra were prominent among them.
 - In the last decades of the 19th century, there occurred strikes at Bombay, Kurla, Surat, Wardha, Ahmedabad and in other places.
 - The strikes however were only sporadic, spontaneous, localised and short-lived and were caused by factors such as reduction in wages, imposition of fines, dismissal or reprimand of the worker.



- These actions and militancy, which they showed, helped in the development of class solidarity and consciousness, which was missing earlier.
- The resistance was mediated by outsiders or outside leaders. Agitations grew and they were not on individual issues but on broader economic questions, thus leading to a gradual improvement later on.
- **The second phase from 1890 to 1918 :-**
 - It is only from the late 19th century in Madras, and from the second decade of the twentieth century in Bombay that serious attempts were made for the formation of associations that could lead organised form of protests.
 - Between 1915-1922, there was resurgence of workers' movement along with the Home Rule movement and the Non-cooperation movement. The most important development was undoubtedly, the formation of All-India Trade Union Congress under the leadership of Tilak and Lala Lajpat Rai.
- **The third phase from 1918 to 1947 :-**
 - It was after World War I that the working class struggle in the country entered into a different phase. The unorganised movement of the workers took an organised form
 - Trade unions were formed on modern lines.
 - Firstly in the 1920s serious attempts were made by the Congress and the Communists to mobilise the working class and hence from then onwards the national movement established a connection with the working class.
 - Secondly, it was in 1920 that the first attempt to form an all India organisation was made. Tilak, was instrumental in the formation of the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC)
 - Thirdly, in this decade, India witnessed a large number of strikes. The strikes were prolonged and well participated by the workers. The number of strikes and the number of workers involved in these strikes went on increasing in the subsequent decades
 - The clearest policy of the Congress came only in 1936 when it appointed a committee to look after labour matters. Thus it was from the late 1930s that the Congress established deep links with the working class in the country
 - Communists who arrived in the 1920s seriously became interested in working class questions and therefore they sought to mobilise the working class through the Workers and Peasant Parties (WPPs) in which they were active throughout the country.
 - The WPPs were able to organise the working class considerably. 'The WPPs were most successful in Bombay where it organised a strike in 1928 than in other cities of India.
 - There was a radicalisation of working class activity by the end of the 1920s but what is also crucial is that there also grew differences between the Moderates and the Communists; as a result, the AITUC split and the National Trade Union Federation (NTUF) was formed by the moderate leaders
 - The RTUC merged with the AITUC in 1935 and the NTUF affiliated itself with the AITUC in 1938. As a result of this, there was a growth of trade unions and trade union activity throughout the 1930s and the 1940s. The number of strikes went up by the end of the 1930s.
 - The strikes spread to several smaller industrial towns in the country
 - The working class during these struggles were not only defensive but were also offensive in the sense that they demanded among other things restoration of wage cuts, recognition of their union rights and resisted new forms of oppression of labour.
 - It has also been found that increasing number of women workers came to the forefront of the workers struggle
 - On the industrial front, from 1939 onwards the working condition of the workers was affected seriously.
 - There was increase in the working hours, multiple shift systems were introduced, wages were significantly reduced, and workers, on the whole, were subjected to great hardships.
 - As a result, strikes erupted throughout the country and probably the most important demand of the workers was the demand for a Dearness Allowance against rising prices and cost of living.
 - The last years of the colonial rule also saw a remarkable sharp increase in strikes on economic issues all over the country. The all-India strike of the Post and Telegraph Department employees being the most well known among them.

Q) A major weakness of the 19th century peasant movements was the lack of an adequate understanding of colonialism. Discuss. (250 words)

India's struggle for independence by Bipin Chandra Pal- Peasant Movements and uprisings after 1857



Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail about the peasant movements witnessed during the 19th century in India, bring out their salient features and discuss the weakness of those movements in terms of lack of understanding of colonialism.

Structure of the answer

Introduction-

write a few introductory lines about the peasant movements of 19th century India. E.g the Indigo revolt, Pabna revolt and the Deccan revolt.

Body-

Discuss the common features of such revolts and bring out why such movements lacked an adequate understanding of colonialism. E.g the peasants fought only for their own demands, centered almost wholly on economic issues, and against their immediate enemies, foreign planters and indigenous zamindars and moneylenders; They did not make colonialism their target and their objective was not the ending of the system of their subordination and exploitation; they had little territorial reach with no mutual communication or linkages; They also lacked continuity of struggle or long-term organization. As soon as the objectives of a movement were achieved, its organization, as also peasant solidarity built around it dissolved and disappeared; These movements lacked the understanding of the economic structure and the colonial state — and of the social framework of the movements themselves; Most importantly they lacked a positive conception of an alternative society etc.

***Conclusion**– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.*

Background :-

- The peasant movements of the 19th century were an outcome of the economic and political lacunae due to the imposition of an alien rule over the Indian peasants. It emerged as an expression of resentment against the arbitrary and unjust taxes which were excessive in character and led to increasing land alienation and indebtedness. Thus the movement was aimed at addressing the immediate local grievances and lacked a pan India character.
- Some of the peasant movements of 19th century India are the Indigo revolt, Pabna revolt and the Deccan revolt etc.

Weakness was due to lack of understanding of colonialism :-

- **Demands mainly economic:-**
 - Peasants emerged as the main force in agrarian movements, fighting directly for their own demands. However the demands were centred almost wholly on economic issues.
- **Enemies were not British:-**
 - The movements were directed against the immediate enemies of the peasant—foreign planters and indigenous zamindars and moneylenders. Colonialism was not the target of these movements.
- **Limited objectives:-**
 - The struggles were directed towards specific and limited objectives and redressal of particular grievances.
 - It was not the objective of these movements to end the system of subordination or exploitation of the peasants.
 - As soon as the objectives of a movement were achieved, its organization, as also peasant solidarity built around it dissolved and disappeared.
- **Territorial reach was limited.**
- **There was no continuity of struggle or long-term organisation.**
- The 19th-century peasants did not possess a new ideology and a new social, economic and political programme. These struggles, however militant, occurred within the framework of the old societal order lacking a positive conception of an alternative society.



Q) Discuss the reasons behind the decadence of the Swadeshi movement even though it deployed the entire gamut of Gandhian techniques. (250 words)

India's struggle for independence by Bipin Chandra Pal- The Swadeshi Movement- 1903-08

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail as to why the Swadeshi movement failed even though it deployed the entire gamut of Gandhian techniques.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– Write a few introductory lines about the Swadeshi movement. E.g when it started and the extent of its spread, important leaders etc.

Body-

Discuss the Gandhian techniques deployed by the Swadeshi movement. E.g The movement threw up the entire gamut of Gandhian techniques such as passive resistance, non-violent non-cooperation, the call to fill the British jails, social reform, constructive work, etc.

Discuss why the movement fell into decadence even though it employed the entire gamut of Gandhian techniques. E.g It was, however, unable to give these techniques a centralized, disciplined focus, carry- the bulk of political – India, and convert these techniques into actual, practical political practice, as Gandhiji was able to do later; it was not able to garner the support of the mass of Muslims and especially of the Muslim peasantry; Hindus and Muslims were divided along class lines with the former being the landlords and the latter constituting the peasantry. During this period All India Muslim League was set up with the active guidance and support of the Government; the government, seeing the revolutionary potential of the movement, came down with a heavy hand; internal squabbles, and especially the congress split, in 1907 in the Congress weakened the movement; though the Swadeshi Movement had spread outside Bengal, the rest of the country was not as yet fully prepared to adopt the new style and stage of politics; Tilak was sentenced to six years imprisonment, Ajit Singh and Lajpat Rai of Punjab were deported and Chidambaram Pillai was arrested; Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh retired from active politics etc.

Conclusion– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background :-

- The Swadeshi movement launched in the early 20th Century was a direct fallout of the decision of the British India government to partition Bengal. Use of Swadeshi goods and boycott of foreign made goods were the two main objectives of this movement.

Gandhian techniques used during Swadeshi movement :-

- The methods adopted were petitions to the Government, public meetings, adopted were petitions to the Government, public meetings, memoranda, and propaganda through pamphlets and newspapers such as Hitabadi, Sanjibani and Bengalee.
- Their objective was to exert sufficient pressure on the Government through an educated public opinion in India and England to prevent the unjust partition of Bengal from being implemented.
- The movement threw up the entire gamut of Gandhian techniques such as passive resistance, non-violent non-cooperation, the call to fill the British jails, social reform, constructive work, boycott of foreign-made salt or sugar, refusal by priests to ritualize marriages involving exchange of foreign goods, refusal by washermen to wash foreign clothes
- **Crops of volunteers of 'Samitis':**
 - Samitis such as the Swadesh Bandhab Samiti of Ashwini Kumar Dutta (in Barisal) emerged as a very popular and powerful method of mass mobilization.



- **Programme of swadeshi or national education:-**
 - National school and colleges sprang up in various parts of the country.

Reasons behind the decadence of the Swadeshi movement :-

- **Government suppression :-**
 - Realizing the revolutionary potential, the government came down with a heavy hand. Most of the important leaders of the movement were either imprisoned or deported between 1907 and 1908.
 - Any mass movement cannot be sustained endlessly at the same pitch of militancy and self-sacrifice, especially when faced with severe repression.
- **Congress split :-**
 - The internal squabbles, and especially, the split in 1907 in the Congress, the apex all-India organization, weakened the movement.
- **Organisation structure :-**
 - It lacked the effective organization and party structure.
 - The movement failed to create an effective organization or a party structure. It threw up an entire gamut of techniques that came to be associated with Gandhian politics like non-cooperation, passive resistance, filling of British jails, social reform and constructive work but failed to give these techniques a disciplined focus.
- **Reach limited :-**
 - The movement largely remained confined to the upper and middle classes and zamindars, and failed to reach masses especially the peasantry.
 - It was not able to garner the support of the mass of Muslims and especially of the Muslim peasantry. Hindus and Muslims were divided along class lines with the former being the landlords and the latter constituting the peasantry.
 - Though the Swadeshi Movement had spread outside Bengal, the rest of the country was not as yet fully prepared to adopt the new style and stage of politics.
- **Ideas failed:-**
 - The movement aroused the people but did not know how to tap the newly released energy or how to find new forms to give expression to popular resentment.
- **Leadership issues:-**
 - The movement was rendered leaderless with most the leaders either arrested or deported by 1908 and with Aurbindo Ghosh and Bipin Chandra Pal retiring from active politics.
 - Tilak was sentenced to six years imprisonment, Ajit Singh and Lajpat Rai of Punjab were deported and Chidambaram Pillai was arrested.

Q) A revolutionary and a socialist, the contribution of Bhagat Singh to the Independence Movement of India is immense. Discuss. (250 words)

India's struggle for independence by Bipin Chandra Pal

[Reference](#)

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to discuss the contribution of Bhagat Singh towards Indian freedom struggle and describe his revolutionary actions and socialist ideas/ ideals.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the contribution of Bhagat Singh towards Indian freedom struggle E.g Bhagat Singh is considered to be one of the most influential revolutionaries of Indian Nationalist Movement. He became involved with numerous revolutionary organizations and played an important role in the Indian National movement. He died a martyr at the age of just 23 years.



Body-

Discuss the important contributions of Bhagat Singh towards Indian Freedom E.g At Lahore, he organized several study circles with the help of Sukhdev and others and carried on intensive political discussions; helped establish the Punjab Naujawan Bharat Sabha in 1926 (becoming its founding Secretary), as the open wing of the revolutionaries. The Sabha was to carry out open political work among the youth, peasants and workers; organized the Lahore Students Union for open, legal work among the students; broaden the scope and definition of revolution ; a great innovator in two areas of politics. Being fully and consciously secular, he understood, more clearly than many of his contemporaries, the danger that communalism posed to the nation and the national movement; Initially, Bhagat Singh's activities were limited to writing corrosive articles against the British Government, printing and distributing pamphlets outlining principles of a violent uprising, aimed at overthrowing the Government; On April 8 1929, Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt threw a bomb onto the corridors of the assembly, shouted 'Inquilab Zindabad!' and threw pamphlet outlining their missive into the air. Singh believed that something as precious as Independence can only be achieved by a thorough cleansing of the exploitative nature of imperialism. He opined that such change can only be brought forward by means of an armed revolution, in similar lines to the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia. He introduced the slogan "Inquilab Zindabad" which sort of transformed into the war cry of the Indian Independence movement etc.

Conclusion– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- Bhagat Singh is one of the only national heroes, perhaps after Gandhi, who is venerated across India. This could be attributed to his appeal as a martyr, which cuts across political ideologies.

Contribution of Bhagat Singh:-

- **Political ideology:-**
 - His azaadi freedom was not limited to the expelling of the British; instead **he desired azaadi from poverty, azaadi from untouchability, azaadi from communal strife, and azaadi from every form of discrimination and exploitation**
 - The struggle in India would continue so long as a handful of exploiters go on exploiting the labour of the common people for their own ends. **It matters little whether these exploiters are purely British capitalists,** or British and Indians in alliance, or even purely Indians.
 - **Naujawan Bharat Sabha** was a public platform of the revolutionaries founded by Singh, and had a categorical position on the slogans to be used. They raised two slogans: "Inquilab Zindabad" and "Hindustan Zindabad," hailing the revolution and the country.
 - Committed **to inquilab (revolution)**, but not merely a political revolution. He wanted a **social revolution** to break age-old discriminatory practices such as untouchability, communalism and gender discrimination.
 - He was also associated with Hindustan Republican Association, Kirti Kisan Party, Kranti Dal.
 - Bhagat Singh and Sukhdev also organized the Lahore Students Union for open, legal work among the students.
- **Bhagat Singh's nationalism:-**
 - He grew up to appreciate nationalism and crave a British-free independent India. **Extensive reading of European literature propelled him towards forming a socialist outlook strongly desiring a democratic future for India.**
- **Atheism:-**
 - Bhagat Singh veered towards Atheism after witnessing several Hindu-Muslim riots and other religious outbreaks.
- **Armed revolution:-**
 - Singh believed that something as precious as Independence can only be achieved by a thorough **cleansing of the exploitative nature of imperialism.**
 - He opined that such change can only be brought forward by means of an armed revolution, in similar lines to the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia. He introduced the slogan "Inquilab Zindabad" which sort of transformed into the war cry of the Indian Independence movement.



- **Bhagat Singh differed from most other revolutionaries on two important aspects:**
- He had a vision of the Indian society that he envisaged post-independence and could articulate its essential characteristics.
- He found fulfillment through serving humanity and liberating it from sufferings and distress. He equated that cause to that of India's freedom.
- Working towards building an India where poverty, socio-economic disparity and exploitation did not exist, rather than achieving freedom from the British alone, was his goal.
- He even favoured untouchables that they must have their own elected representatives. They must demand greater rights for themselves.
- Bhagat Singh, his intense patriotism coupled with cultivated idealism, made him an ideal icon for the youth of his generation. **Through his written and vocal admonition of the British Imperial Government, he became the voice of his generation.**

Conclusion:-

- Bhagat Singh and his comrades made an abiding contribution to the national freedom movement. Their deep patriotism, courage and determination, and sense of sacrifice stirred the Indian people. They helped spread nationalist consciousness in the land.

Q) The Rajkot Satyagraha brought into clear focus the paradoxical situation that existed in the Princely States. Analyze. (250 words)

India's struggle for independence by Bipin Chandra Pal

Directive word

Analyze- here we 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.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to probe into the Rajkot Satyagraha, discuss its background, its outcomes and how it conspicuously highlighted the paradoxical situation existing in the Princely states.

Structure of the answer

Introduction-

write a few introductory lines about the Rajkot Satyagraha. E.g mention the reasons behind Rajkot Satyagraha- protest against the Raja.

Body-

Discuss the outcome of the Satyagraha. E.g Despite the apparent failure, the Rajkot Satyagraha had a powerful politicizing influence on the people of the States, especially in Western India; It brought clear to the Princes that they survived only because of the British support etc.

Discuss the differences between the British India and the Princely States in terms of civil liberties, political backwardness etc. E.g The ultimate protection provided by the British enabled the rulers of the States to withstand popular pressure; The great differences in the political conditions between British India and the States, and between the different States themselves, the general lack of civil liberties including freedom of association, the comparative political backwardness of the people, and the fact that the Indian States were legally independent entities; the Indian States were legally independent entities, these were understandable restraints imposed in the interest of the movements in the States as well as the movement in British India;

Conclusion— *based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.*

Background:-

- A turning point in the history of western India princely states, the Rajkot Satyagraha of 1938-39 is an event of sub-continental significance.

Rajkot Satyagraha:-

- Most of the princely states were autocratically ruled. The economic burden on the people was heavy with high taxation, education and social services were backward and civil rights were restricted.



- State revenues were expended on the luxurious lifestyles of the rulers and since the British provided immunity from domestic and external aggression, they felt free to ignore the interests of the people.
- The British government expected the states to support them in their imperialistic policies, thereby acting against the development of nationalist sentiments.
- The people under the British provinces were given some political rights and participation in the administration after the acts of 1919 and 1935. The people under the princely states did not have the rights equal to the rights enjoyed by the British provinces.
- The onset of the nationalistic movement in British rule also had an impact on the people of the princely states. Many revolutionary nationalists fleeing British authority came to the princely states in the first and second decades of the 20th century and initiated political activities there.
- Under the national movement the subjects of the princely states established people's organisations.

Significance:-

- It represented the first major attempt to secure constitutional change through mass civil disobedience.
- Rajkot also was the first serious test of the Congress ability to carry the fight against British into princely India and of princely India's readiness to take part in the all India struggle.
- It was a test of the indirect support given by the paramount power to the princes and of the durability of the latter against the nationalists.
- It was a test of the methods of Gandhi in a yet untried political environment.
- Rajkot Satyagraha showed the complexity of situation in princely states with paramount power always ready to interfere in its own favour but ever willing to use legal independence of the rulers as an excuse for non interference.
- Though Rajkot satyagraha was a failure it exercised a tremendous politicising effect on the people of states. It also demonstrated to the rulers of the states the power of popular resistance and encourages many states to integrate with India after independence.
 - In Hyderabad a powerful people's movement built up.
 - In Kashmir people organised themselves
- It made it clear to the Princes that they survived only because of the British support etc.

Criticism:-

- The significant aspect of this event by Gandhi's own admission is a test that failed as he could not change the heart of the ruler and British government took severe repressive action.

Topic- History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.- their forms and effect on the society.

Q) Why did Stalin enforce the collectivization of agriculture in USSR. Also discuss the impact it had on USSR. (250 words)

Mastering World History by Norman Lowe; Communism- Rise and Decline.

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to bring out the reasons as to why Stalin launched collectivization of agriculture in USSR. It also wants us to discuss the impact of this decision on the USSR society and economy of that time.

Structure of the answer

Introduction- write a few introductory lines about the rise of Stalin to power in USSR and mention his decision to collectivize agriculture.

Body-

- *Discuss the reasons behind this decision. E.g The existing system of small farms was inefficient, and seemed unable to satisfy the increasing demand for food, especially in the*



growing industrial cities. However, large farms, under state direction, and using tractors and combine harvesters, would vastly increase grain production, or so the theory went; Stalin wanted to eliminate the class of prosperous peasants (kulaks), which NEP had encouraged, because, he claimed, they were standing in the way of progress etc.

- *Discuss the impact it had on USSR. e.g It proved to be a disaster, and it took Russia at least half a century to recover. There was no problem in collectivizing landless labourers, but all peasants who owned any property at all, whether they were kulaks or not, were hostile to the plan, and had to be forced to join by armies of party members, who urged poorer peasants to seize cattle and machinery from the kulaks to be handed over to the collectives. Kulaks often reacted by slaughtering cattle and burning crops rather than allow the state to take them. Peasants who refused to join collective farms were arrested and taken to labour camps, or shot; it allowed greater mechanization, which did achieve a substantial increase in production in 1937. The amount of grain taken by the state increased impressively and so did grain exports: 1930 and 1931 were excellent years for exports, and although the amounts fell sharply after that, they were still far higher than before collectivization. On the other hand, so many animals had been slaughtered that it was 1953 before livestock production recovered to the 1928 figure, and the cost in human life and suffering was enormous etc.*

Conclusion- *based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given ISSUE.*

Background:-

- In 1927, Stalin declared that the way forward was for people in each village to voluntarily unite their farms into one collective farm. This kolkhoz would be able to afford machinery, be more efficient, and be able to create a surplus to send to the towns
- After two years, when everyone had ignored his idea **and** there had been a famine, Stalin made collectivisation compulsory.

Reasons why Stalin imposed collectivisation of agriculture :-

- **As Stalin wanted to raise revenue to fund industrial revolution** and feed workers in the towns he found that the best way of doing this was by exporting grain abroad which can be achieved through collectivization of agriculture.
- **Maximize the production of grain** by revolutionizing the methods of agriculture.
 - Traditional Russian farming techniques were poor. Small plots of land meant that innovations such as fertilizer and tractors could not be used. Many peasants were still using horse drawn ploughs.
- **Nature of the NEP which contradicted communism:-**
 - The NEP consented to aspects of free enterprise and the privatisation of small organisations and Stalin accordingly believed that this legislation subdued the establishment of a truly communist agrarian society.
 - Since the NEP ,the Kulaks (wealthier peasants) had controlled prices of grain, and had hoarded their surplus to ensure that prices stayed high
 - Stalin needed to ensure that the price of grain was cheap, so workers in the town could afford to buy grain without Stalin having to increase wages. So he needed to destroy the power of the Kulaks to control grain prices.
- **He believed that changing the organisation of agriculture would prodigiously increase the efficiency of farming.**
 - Collectivisation, hence the introduction of collectives, would mean that the mir [peasant strip farms] would be amalgamated and this would enable the sharing of resources .Hence, this would allow for economies of scale due to the lower costs per unit, which would serve as the essence to the increase in agrarian efficiency.
- The collectivisation of farms would enable efficiency for the human resources of Stalin, such that fewer communist officials would be required to handle the collective farms, and there would be **more direct supervision**.
 - This would mean it would be easier to control any opposition and to isolate any illegal activity, such as the hiding of grain.
- **Collectivisation would cause production to be less labour intensive, due to the increased efficiency** and this would therefore enable the superfluity of peasants to obtain jobs in industry.
- The policy would **also allow the government to export grain**. This would act as a source of foreign capital needed to finance the import of technologies, raw materials and human resources, specifically agricultural experts, necessary for heavy industrialisation.



- It would also pay for the Five Year plans and the industrialisation of the Soviet Union.
- They would be able to obtain hard currency which would hence be stable and have low inflation and they could thereby guarantee secure imports and long term investment.
- **Collectivisation also allowed Russia to create allies within Europe** and could serve as an aide in case of a crisis or invasion. This proved helpful for the USSR at the start of the Second World War, where the rise in industry of the country proved to be vital.

Impact :-

- **Negatives:-**
 - **Destruction of Kulaks:-**
 - By 1934, 7 million kulaks were eliminated and the aggregate deaths of kulaks between 1930 and 1937 was 11 million.
 - Another aspect of the antagonism of the kulaks resulted in the **devastation of many estates due to the animosity between Stalin's agents and the kulaks.**
 - **Famines:-**
 - Action Kulaks took was carrying out a scorched earth policy in order to prevent the state from taking their crops. **This was a major contributing factor to the famine between 1932 and 1933, where 7 million were killed and an area which was acutely affected was Ukraine.**
 - The peasants **hated** the idea, so they burned their crops and killed their animals rather than hand them over to the state. There was another famine in 1930.
 - 5 million people starved to death during famines.
 - Countryside was in chaos
 - Anyone who objected was sent to labour camps in Siberia.
- Millions of peasants were forced off the land into industry in the cities. Some 17 million people left the countryside to go to work in the towns.
 - Probably about 10million died of starvation
 - Many died in Kazakhstan and Ukraine, Russia's richest agricultural region.
- So many animals had been slaughtered that it was 1953 before livestock production recovered to the 1928 figure, and the cost in human life and suffering was enormous etc.
- **Positives:-**
 - However in the long term, collectivisation proved to be a success to a certain extent. Grain production rose to nearly 95 million tonnes in 1939. **This was an astonishing improvement and it really improved the worker's health and quality of life.**
 - Russia sold large quantities of grain to other countries.
 - Schools and hospitals were built and peasants could feel proud in the achievement of their kolkhoz.
 - Stalin aim of making Russia modernised was achieved.

Q) Discuss the role of Indian soldiers in the first world war. (250 words)

[The hindu](#)

[Wikipedia](#)

Directive word

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to write in detail about India's response to first world war and the role played by Indian soldiers in thw war.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the first world war- the two opposing sides etc.

Body-

Discuss in detail the role played by Indian soldiers in the first world war. E.g In the early days of the War, troops of the Indian Army, backed by the political bourgeoisie, were enthusiastic in responding



to the British government's call for military support from India. This was because, although the swadeshi movement was underway, the freedom movement was in a fledgling stage. Even Mahatma Gandhi was open to Indians enlisting and learning to defend themselves using arms, as were leaders such as Bal Gangadhar Tilak; The Indian Army during World War I contributed a large number of divisions and independent brigades to the European, Mediterranean and the Middle East theatres of war in World War I. In total at least 74,187 Indian soldiers died during the war; In World War I the Indian Army fought against the German Empire in German East Africa and on the Western Front. At the First Battle of Ypres, Khudadad Khan became the first Indian to be awarded a Victoria Cross; Indian divisions were also sent to Egypt, Gallipoli and nearly 700,000 served in Mesopotamia against the Ottoman Empire.[1] While some divisions were sent overseas others had to remain in India guarding the North West Frontier and on internal security and training duties etc.

Conclusion— based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- The First World War (1914–18) was a momentous event in world history. It also left a deep impact on India, which was then under the British rule.

Contribution of Indian soldiers to world war 1:-

- **Military:-**
 - India contributed with more soldiers than Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa combined. In fact, every sixth soldier fighting for the British Empire was from the Indian subcontinent. Nearly 800,000 combatants took part in the war.
 - **Indian troops of the 15th Cavalry Brigade formed the largest component of allied forces that fought and liberated Palestine from four centuries of despotic Turkish rule.**
 - It was Indian jawans (junior soldiers) who stopped the German advance at Ypres in the autumn of 1914, soon after the war broke out, while the British were still recruiting and training their own forces. At the First Battle of Ypres, Khudadad Khan became the first Indian to be awarded a Victoria Cross.
 - While India remains wary of 'treaty alliances' and steers clear of combat involvement in third-party conflicts, it is the third-largest contributor of military and police personnel to UN peacekeeping missions.
 - Over one million Indian troops served overseas, of whom 62,000 died and another 67,000 were wounded. In total at least 74,187 Indian soldiers died during the war.
 - In World War I the Indian Army fought against the German Empire in German East Africa and on the Western Front.
 - Indian divisions were also sent to Egypt, Gallipoli and nearly 700,000 served in Mesopotamia against the Ottoman Empire.
 - While some divisions were sent overseas others had to remain in India guarding the North West Frontier and on internal security and training duties.
 - In addition to the regular Indian Army, the armies of the Princely States and regiments of the Auxiliary Force (European volunteers) could also be called upon to assist in an emergency.
 - The end of World War I did not see the end of fighting for the Indian Army as they were involved in the Third Afghan War in 1919, and then the Waziristan Campaign in 1919–1920 and again in 1920–1924. Operations against the Afridis in 1930–1931 and finally just before the outbreak of World War II operations in Waziristan again in 1936–1939.
- **Lives lost:-**
 - 53,486 Indian soldiers lost their lives, 64,350 were wounded and 3,762 went missing or were imprisoned
- **Labour:-**
 - Not just combatants, there were 43,737 men who worked in the Indian Labour Corps.

Awards won:-

Indian soldiers won 11 Victoria Cross honours, Britain's highest military honour. Overall 13,000 medals were won by the Indian Corps.

Q) Discuss the impact that World war I had on Indian national movement, its society and economy ? (250 words)

[Livemint](#)



Why this question

Role of India in world war 1 has received widespread news coverage in the past couple of years. While India's role in world war 1 is important, also important is the impact that the war had on India's polity, economy and society. This question would help you to prepare this aspect of world war 1.

Key demand of the question

The question is quite straightforward in its demand. It expects us to discuss the impact that the war had on India's struggle for independence. It also expects us to discuss the impact of the war on the nation's economy and polity and how it impacted the national movement.

Directive word

Discuss – here your discussion should bring out the impact world war 1 had on the freedom movement in India. We also need to highlight the impact of the war on India's society and economy and relate these to the freedom movement.

Structure of the answer

Introduction – Highlight the magnitude of the war and India's contribution to it.

Body

Discuss the view of political parties on support of India during world war 1. Explain that this was done with hope of getting semblance of self governance, what we got in fact was montague Chelmsford reforms.

Discuss the impact on society – rise in literacy, coercion by British for recruitment and resulting anger etc

Discuss the impact on economy – Requisitioning of food supplies, particularly cereals, led to rampant food inflation. Exports of cash crops like jute suffered due to the loss of the European market. Meanwhile, rising military demand for jute products compensated for the decline in civilian demand with jute mills in Bengal establishing monopolies; skewed income distribution grew even more so, shifting from jute farmers to capital. And as Amiya Kumar Bagchi has noted in "Indian Economy and Society during World War One", the drain on the Indian economy in the form of cash, kind and loans to the British government came to about 367 million pounds.

Explain how all of this contributed to the freedom movement

Conclusion – Summarize, in your opinion, the overall impact of war on India.

Background:-

- The First World War (1914–18) was a momentous event in world history. It also left a deep impact on India, which was then under the British rule.

Impact world war 1 had on India:-

- **Economy:-**
 - **Negatives:-**
 - Requisitioning of food supplies, particularly cereals, led to rampant food inflation.
 - Exports of cash crops like jute suffered due to the loss of the European market.
 - Skewed income distribution grew even more so, shifting from jute farmers to capital.
 - Rising military demand for jute products compensated for the decline in civilian demand with jute mills in Bengal establishing monopolies.
 - The British Government raised taxes, custom duties and income taxes in India to finance the war expenditures.
 - There was a rise the prices of food and other essential things.
 - The war operations in Europe sucked huge quantities of basic commodities like wheat, rice, sugar, tea, coffee etc. The accelerated export of the items from India caused scarcity in the domestic market. Prices rose sharply bringing immense distress to the low and middle class consumers.
 - **Positives:-**
 - Domestic manufacturing sectors such as cotton benefited from the decline in British goods that had dominated the pre-war market.



- The steel sector so crucial after independence benefited as well. For instance, the ailing Tata steel mills were handed a lifeline in the form of a contract to supply rails to the Mesopotamian campaign.
- British investment was rerouted to the UK, creating opportunities for Indian capital. In short, **the war economy boosted Indian capitalism in some ways.**
- The conflict caused logistical problems for the British government to maintain the supply lines from Britain to the far-flung war fronts in Africa and elsewhere. This created opportunities for Indian industrialists to set up war goods oriented industries in the country. As a result, a good number of factories sprang up in centres like Bombay. This created employment and benefited the economy.
- **National movement:-**
 - The world war ended the myth of invincibility of British Empire in India as the British faced many humiliating defeats during the war
 - The soldiers that returned after war raised the morale of masses.
 - India supported Britain in world war on its promise of fighting for democracy but serving Indian with Rowlatt act immediately after war shattered Indians. **This led to the rise of national consciousness and soon Non Cooperation movement was launched.**
 - For many Indian troops the war was an experience that broadened their horizons and increased their knowledge of the world – they had been exposed to new geographies, cultures and ideas and this impacted the way they negotiated life in India as well.
 - Formation of USSR also led to the rise of communism in India with the formation of CPI and imparted a socialist tinge to freedom struggle.
- **Society:-**
 - Over 74,000 were killed which is five times more than the combined death toll from every war that India has fought since independence and 80,000 were held prisoners.
 - Villagers and farmers were forcefully recruited in the British army.
 - Large numbers of able-bodied young men from the countryside were recruited into the British army. Such induction of Indians disrupted social life in rural areas. Villages experienced shortage of farm hands, carpenters, blacksmiths and other such artisans.
 - Volunteering in the war offered a chance to break through the caste system, because becoming a soldier paid well and meant becoming part of the ‘warrior’ caste, which gave high status.

TOPIC: Salient features of Indian Society; Effects of globalization on Indian society

Q) A society that fails to internalise the value of gender justice is one that is lacking in self-respect. Comment in the context of the recent Sabarimala judgment and its aftermath. (250 words)

[epw](#)

Directive word

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

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to express our opinion on the given statement- whether a society that fails to internalise the value of gender justice is one that is lacking in self-respect. We have to form our opinion based on a proper discussion and presentation of valid arguments and facts.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– *write a few introductory lines about the recent Sabarimala judgement- the background and the judgement of the SC.*

Body- *Mention that the recent Supreme Court judgment on women’s entry into Sabarimala temple has both supporters as well as opponents. The grounds on which the adversaries of gender justice seem to be opposing the judgment are not only ethically flawed, but constitutionally perilous. Discuss the flaws in the arguments of the opposition to the judgement. E.g the question of equality and justice needs to be seen as existing independent of and prior to any legal intervention; The members of civil society, and more importantly the political parties that operate within the*



formal political sphere, who are supposed to take the lead in terms of orienting the recalcitrant public towards gender equality; Any society aspiring to be decent has to be both sincere and sensitive in making efforts to create the background conditions within which equality and justice can be realised; India needs to treat gender equality and justice as a common good that has to be enjoyed by everyone, irrespective of sex, race, and caste; We have to rationally acknowledge the need to create public opinion against entrenched patriarchy that seeks to deny women the right to temple entry that men themselves have been enjoying for ages. Hence, on moral and ethical grounds, temple entry for women needs to be seen as the primary concern of the society, before it is taken to the legal system for deliberation; creating a regressive public would ultimately aid the entrenched patriarchy to consolidate its hold over the temple establishment, which would not be well disposed towards gender justice etc.

Conclusion– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- The Supreme Court has struck down the ban on the entry of women aged 10-50 at the Sabarimala temple.
- This ban had been given legal sanction under the Rule 3 (b) of the Kerala Hindu Places of Public Worship (Authorisation of Entry) Rules, 1965 as unconstitutional. SC held that exclusion on grounds of biological, physiological features are discriminatory.

How is SC judgement is a triumph of gender justice:-

- Social modernisation, especially with respect to ending discriminatory traditions, is a goal that all societies must aspire for. To that end, the law catalysing change is desirable and the judgment provides that.
- **Religion** cannot be cover to deny women right to worship. To treat women as children of lesser God is to blink at Constitutional morality.
- Activists claim that not allowing women into the temple is violation of women's rights
 - Discrimination based on biological reasons is not permissible going by the constitutional scheme.
 - They maintain that due to the current exclusion, the right of women to worship the deity, Ayyappa, is violated.
- **Exclusion is a form of 'untouchability' since the exclusion is solely based on notions of purity and impurity.** But this argument was resisted on the contention that the prohibition of untouchability was historically intended only to protect the interests of the backward classes. **The claim is that the makers of the Constitution never envisioned including women within the ambit of untouchability.**
- Grounds on which the adversaries of gender justice seem to be opposing the judgment are not only ethically flawed, but constitutionally perilous.
 - The members of civil society, and more importantly the political parties must operate within the formal political sphere and take the lead in terms of orienting the recalcitrant public towards gender equality
 - Any society aspiring to be decent has to be both sincere and sensitive in making efforts to create the background conditions within which equality and justice can be realized
 - India needs to treat gender equality and justice as a common good that has to be enjoyed by everyone, irrespective of sex, race, and caste;
 - On moral and ethical grounds, temple entry for women needs to be seen as the primary concern of the society. Creating a regressive public would ultimately aid the entrenched patriarchy to consolidate its hold over the temple establishment, which would not be well disposed towards gender justice etc.

Negatives:-

- Some activists criticize that the judgment should have considered the sentiments of the devotees.
- While Hinduism is not monolithic, each temple has its own traditions on account of social and historical reasons.
- Since the deity Lord Ayyapan is a celibate, the entry of menstruating women inside the temple cannot be allowed, argues the temple Board.

Conclusion:-

- When political parties and people fail to respect the Constitution, the Supreme Court has to intervene for the protection of universal values such as gender justice.
- It is this failure that makes it imperative for the Court to take initiatives in favour of women. Thus, the Sabarimala judgment is a reflection of the political parties inability to create social consensus on the question of gender justice.



Q) Unfolding of the MeToo Campaign in India recently lays bare the critical failure of our education system. Do you agree. Comment. (250 words)

[The hindu](#)

Why this question

The article examines the role of education in ending sexism and misogyny that the present education system has failed to deliver.

Directive word

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

Key demand of the question.

The question wants us to express our opinion as to whether or not, the unfolding of the MeToo movement in India points out to the failure of our education system. We have to form our opinion based on a proper discussion and presentation of valid arguments and facts.

Structure of the answer

Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the recent MeToo movement which shook the world, including India.

Body-

Discuss how the movement highlights the failure of our education system. E.g The purpose of education is not to only ensure that people secure employment or rise to coveted positions of power alone, it is also to ensure that they learn and practice equality and mutual respect. Many of the accused are qualified, educated men. Their actions compel us to ask whether those years spent in school, college and university have been unsuccessful in instilling basic values. It seems as though rising to top positions and enjoying power have emboldened men to behave in unacceptable ways, and the education system has done nothing to prevent this.

It is not uncommon to hear of incidents of sexual harassment being justified as “casual flirting” or being attributed to the offender’s “glad eye”. Using these terms to explain away or even justify these acts reflects the depth and expanse of the problem; blatant display of inappropriate behaviour, which makes women uncomfortable, shows that men in power enjoy the impunity that accompanies attitudes and acts entrenched in patriarchy.

our education system is failing to teach boys and men to recognise, challenge and refrain from sexist and even unlawful behaviour must be acknowledged and tackled

Conclusion– based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- India is experiencing its second wave of the MeToo movement, in which women across the world some of them public figures have levelled sexual harassment charges against certain men, many of whom occupy powerful positions in media.
- Last year, a list of prominent academicians alleged to have sexually harassed female colleagues/students was put out on social media.

How me too movement highlights failure of India’s education system:-

- **Gender equality is neglected:-**
 - The purpose of education is not to only ensure that people secure employment or rise to coveted positions of power alone, it is also to ensure that children learn and practice equality and mutual respect which is not emphasized much in Indian education system.
- **Position defines power:-**
 - **Many of the accused are qualified, educated men.** Their actions make people question whether education has been unsuccessful in instilling basic values.
 - It seems as though rising to top positions and enjoying power have emboldened men to behave in unacceptable ways.



- **Incidents are considered lightly:-**
 - It is not uncommon to hear of incidents of sexual harassment being justified as casual flirting. Using these terms to explain away or even justify these acts reflects the depth and expanse of the problem.
- **Patriarchal mindset is dominant:-**
 - Men in power enjoy the impunity that accompanies attitudes and acts entrenched in patriarchy.
 - Education system is failing to teach boys and men to recognise, challenge and refrain from sexist and unlawful behaviour
- **Education means success:-**
 - Among other things, education has the basic duty of ensuring that **people become socially aware and sensitive beings** who know how to interact and engage with people of different genders, castes, classes and communities. This is neglected.

Way forward:-

- **Gender curriculum:-**
 - There must be efforts to incorporate a gender curriculum in all school and college classrooms.
- Schools need to establish anti-sexual harassment cells, organise regular awareness programmes on consent across the country, and formulate measures to address incidents of sexual harassment.
 - Schools must teach students that consent is an essential component of any interaction and that decisions, even of refusal, must be respected.
 - Campaigns like Operation Nirbheek, initiated to improve safety and security of girls in schools, have proven to be successful to a large extent. Interventions in educational institutions will be a much-needed start to strengthen voices against sexual harassment and make homes and workplaces safe.
- The police should initiate community engagement drives so that students know how to report sexual harassment.
- Parents need to focus on inculcating values in their children more rather than focusing on the marks their children get.

Q) Discuss the threats and challenges faced by the tribes such as Sentinelese in India and how they need to be protected ? (250 words)

Reference

Why this question

An American national was killed allegedly by the Sentinelese tribe in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands after he illegally entered the protected zone on November 16. This brings into question who are sentinelese and the threats and challenges faced overall by such tribes.

Key demand of the question

The question expects us to first explain who the Sentinelese are. Next we need to bring out the reasons why they are vulnerable, discuss the steps taken by the government to ensure their protection. Thereafter, we need to bring out the lacunae in the government policies and suggest steps which needs to be taken.

Directive word

Discuss – Here in your discussion you need to bring out the reasons such tribes are vulnerable and then explain the steps that have been taken and the lacunae therein for their protection.

Structure of the answer

Introduction – Highlight why this question is in news

Body

Explain who are the Sentinelese – The Sentinelese are a negrito tribe who live on the North Sentinel Island of the Andamans. The inhabitants are connected to the Jarawa on the basis of physical, as well as linguistic similarities. Their numbers are believed to be less than 150 and as low as 40

Explain the reasons why they are vulnerable

- *they have made little to no advancement in the over 60,000 years and still live very primitive lives, surviving mainly on fish and coconuts*



- *vulnerable to germs since they have not had contact with the outside world*
- *Efforts to reach out to them has failed*

Discuss the measures in place for their protection – The Govt. of India issued the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 to declare the traditional areas occupied by the tribes as reserves. It prohibited entry of all persons except those with authorisation. Photographing or filming the tribe members is also an offence. The rules were amended later to enhance penalties.

Explain however that off late restricted area permits were relaxed for some islands. In a major step earlier this year, the Indian government excluded this island and 28 others in the Union Territory from the Restricted Area Permit or RAP regime till 2022. The lifting of RAP means foreigners can go to the island without permission from the government

Conclusion – Give a fair and balanced opinion on the steps that government should take to tackle this situation.

Background:-

- Sentinelese are one of about 100 uncontacted tribes left in the world,
- The Sentinelese, a negrito tribe who live on the North Sentinel Island of the Andamans, have not faced incursions and remain hostile to outsiders.
- Sentinelese tribe is believed to be anything between 50-400 in number and they have been living on the island for more than 55,000 years.

Threats and challenges faced by tribes like sentinelese in India :-

- They have made little to no advancement in the over 60,000 years and still live very primitive lives, surviving mainly on fish and coconuts
- Health:-
 - They are vulnerable to germs since they have not had contact with the outside world
 - The Sentinelese are a highly endogamous group. Because they are endogamous, there is an accumulation of recessive mutations in them.
 - **Infections and infant mortality:-**
 - There are historical records of these tribes falling prey to malaria and recently measles.
- **Isolated:-**
 - Efforts to reach out to them has failed.
- Natural disasters and loss of food

Measures taken:-

- The Government of India issued the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 to declare the traditional areas occupied by the tribes as reserves, and prohibited entry of all persons except those with authorisation.
- Photographing or filming the tribe members is also an offence. The rules were amended later to enhance penalties.
- However that off late restricted area permits were relaxed for some islands.
- The Indian government excluded this island and 28 others in the Union Territory from the Restricted Area Permit or RAP regime till 2022. The lifting of RAP means foreigners can go to the island without permission from the government.
- Also tried to mainstream them into the outside world so that they enjoy the fruits of the development.

How they need to be protected :-

- Currently, there is a one-size-fits-all policy. For instance, the Sentinelese should be left alone.
- The rights and the desires of the Sentinelese need to be respected and nothing is to be achieved by escalating the conflict and tension.

Q) Explain the Tribal Panchsheel policy of Jawaharlal Nehru? Discuss in light of this policy whether Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation has helped in protection of indigenous tribals ? (250 words)

[The hindu](#)



Why this question

Our policy towards the tribal population has been under intense scrutiny in the past few days post the incident of killing a foreign national in sentinel islands. This issue is important for mains as we need to understand our tribal policies and the impact that these policies are having.

Key demand of the question

The question expects us to first explain the tribal panchsheel policy of Nehru. Thereafter, we need to discuss how this policy led to the development of ANPATR and how these regulations has impacted the tribal population. Thereafter, we also need to highlight the changes in these regulations and the impact they have had. Finally, we need to provide a fair and balanced opinion on these changes and discuss the way forward.

Directive word

Discuss –

Structure of the answer

Introduction – *Explain why the Sentinelese are in news*

Body

Explain about the Tribal Panchsheel policy –

- *Non-imposition: People should develop along the lines of their own genius, and the imposition of alien values should be avoided.*
- *Tribal rights in land and forest should be respected.*
- *Teams of tribals should be trained in the work of administration and development. Introducing too many outsiders into tribal territory should be avoided.*
- *Tribal areas should not be over administered or overwhelmed with a multiplicity of schemes.*
- *Results should be judged not by statistics or the amount of money spent, but by the human character that is evolved.*

Explain ANPATR and the impact it has had. Jawaharlal Nehru's Tribal Panchsheel were the guiding principles after Independence to formulate policies for the indigenous communities of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Based on them, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation (ANPATR), 1956 was promulgated by the President. This Regulation protected the tribals from outside interference, specified the limits of reserved areas and said no land in a reserved area shall be allotted for agricultural purposes or sold or mortgaged to outsiders. Those violating the land rights of the tribals were to be imprisoned for one year, fined Rs. 1,000, or both. Despite this, there continued to be constant interactions between the tribals and settlers/ outsiders. Discuss the impact of this policy.

Explain the changes brought about and the impact it had – In 2005, nearly 50 years after it was promulgated, the ANPATR was amended. The term of imprisonment as well as the fine were increased. However, in the years in between, the Andaman Trunk Road had already ensured increased interaction with the tribals. In the case of the Jarawas, this had led to the spread of diseases, sexual exploitation, and begging. Similarly, a policy for protecting the Shompen tribes was released only in 2015. However, in spite of the 2005 amendment, videos of commercial exploitation of the Jarawas in the name of "human safaris" were widely reported in the media. Following this, the government amended the ANPATR yet again in 2012, creating a buffer zone contiguous to the Jarawa tribal reserve where commercial establishments were prohibited, and regulating tourist operators. Despite all these amendments and provisions, there continue to be numerous reports of civilian intrusion into the Jarawa tribal reserve.

Conclusion – *give a fair and balanced opinion in the impact of the changes and the way forward.*

Background:-

- The policy towards the tribal population has been under intense scrutiny in the past few days post the incident of killing a foreign national in sentinel islands.



Tribal panchsheel policy :-

- Jawaharlal Nehru's Tribal Panchsheel were the guiding principles after Independence to formulate policies for the indigenous communities of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
 - He formulated the following five principles for the policy to be pursued vis-a-vis the tribals:
 - People should develop along the lines of their own genius, and the imposition of alien values should be avoided.
 - Tribal rights in land and forest should be respected.
 - Teams of tribals should be trained in the work of administration and development.
 - Tribal areas should not be over administered or overwhelmed with a multiplicity of schemes.
 - Results should be judged not by statistics or the amount of money spent, but by the human character that is evolved.

Andaman and Nicobar islands regulation :-

- Based on the above principles, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation (ANPATR), 1956 was promulgated by the President.
- This Regulation protected the tribals from outside interference, specified the limits of reserved areas and said no land in a reserved area shall be allotted for agricultural purposes or sold or mortgaged to outsiders.
- Those violating the land rights of the tribals were to be imprisoned for one year, fined Rs.1,000, or both. **Despite this, there continued to be constant interactions between the tribals and settlers/ outsiders.**

How Andaman and Nicobar islands regulation has helped in the protection of indigenous tribals :-

- In 2005, nearly 50 years after it was promulgated, the ANPATR was amended.
- The term of imprisonment as well as the fine were increased.
 - However, in the years in between, the Andaman Trunk Road had already ensured increased interaction with the tribals.
 - In the case of the Jarawas, this had led to the spread of diseases, sexual exploitation, and begging.
- Similarly, a policy for protecting the Shompen tribes was released only in 2015.
- However, in **spite of the 2005 amendment, videos of commercial exploitation of the Jarawas in the name of "human safaris" were widely reported in the media.**
- Following this, the government amended the ANPATR yet again in 2012, creating a buffer zone contiguous to the Jarawa tribal reserve where commercial establishments were prohibited, and regulating tourist operators.
 - Despite all these amendments and provisions, **there continue to be numerous reports of civilian intrusion into the Jarawa tribal reserve.**

Way forward:-

- Recently the government relaxed the restricted area permit (RAP) for 29 islands in the Andaman and Nicobar, including North Sentinel Island. **If the government has decided to ease the restrictions in a phased manner, this could adversely affect the indigenous population in the long run. Such commercialisation of tribal spaces could lead to encroachment of land.** This needs to be avoided.
- Considering the significance of the indigenous tribes of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the **government needs to reorient its priorities towards protecting them from outside influence.**
- India needs to **sign the 1989 convention of the ILO**, and implement its various policies to protect the rights of the indigenous population.
- It should also make efforts to **sensitise settlers and outsiders about them.**

TOPIC: Role of women and women's organization. Gender Issues etc;

Q) The recent Sabarimala controversy is a fight between socio-religious political entrepreneur and the social reformers. Comment. (250 words)

[Indian express](#)

Why this question

The article examines the recent Sabarimala controversy from a sociocultural perspective and links it with India's freedom struggle where the same strategy worked against the British.

Directive word

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



Structure of the answer

Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the recent Sabarimala controversy. E.g briefly discuss the SC judgement on Sabarimala temple, one of the most important Hindu pilgrimage centre etc.

Body-

Discuss how the controversy reflects the fight between between socio-religious political entrepreneur and the social reformers. E.g Mention the two sides of the controversy- Political parties who are politicizing the issue trying to garner voter support in their favour and the women reformers, activists trying to enforce the SC judgement; Mention that reformers have always had to face opposition when they stood against socio-religious traditions. Rammohan Roy, the first Indian reformer of the modern era, had to fight conservatives for abolishing Sati. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, who fought for the remarriage of Hindu widows ; It would be wrong to assume that the people's opposition is spontaneous, while it largely results from the instrumentalisation of traditions by ideologues; mention how the political parties have rallied behind the religious sentiments of people and mixed them with political tones in order to have selfish political gains etc.

You can also take an opposing stand and accordingly frame your answer. The purpose of the article is to refresh the knowledge of some critical ills in India's polity.

Conclusion- based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Background:-

- Sabarimala is considered to be one of the holiest temples in Hinduism, with one of the largest annual pilgrimages in the world. The faithful believe that the deity's powers derive from his asceticism, and in particular from his being celibate. Women between the ages of 10 and 50 are barred from participating in the rituals.
- The exclusion was given legal sanction by Rule 3(b) of the Kerala Hindu Places of Public Worship (Authorisation of Entry) Rules, 1965.

Judicial interpretation which led to controversy :-

- The validity of the rule and other provisions restricting the entry of women was decided by the Supreme Court last month. The Court, by a majority of 4:1, held that the exclusion of women between these ages was violative of the Constitution.
- The practice of excluding women did not constitute an essential religious practice. Crucially, the judges also relied on Section 3 of the Act which stipulates that places of public worship must be open to all sections and classes of Hindus, notwithstanding any custom or usage to the contrary. **It was held that Rule 3(b) prohibiting the entry of women was directly contrary to this.**
- Right of women to enter Sabarimala was guaranteed under Article 25(1). This provision states that all persons are equally entitled to practise religion. According to SC, Rule 3 prohibiting the entry of women, was violative of Article 15(1) of the Constitution.

How the controversy reflects the fight between socio-religious political entrepreneur and the social reformers:-

- **Reformers stand:-**
 - Reformers have always had to face opposition when they stood against socio-religious traditions. Mahatma Gandhi had to put moral pressure on the members of his own ashram, even of his own family, to persuade them to fight untouchability.
 - Reforms claim that **religion** cannot be cover to deny women right to worship. To treat women as children of lesser God is to blink at Constitutional morality. Activists claim that not allowing women into the temple is violation of women's rights. Discrimination based on biological reasons is not permissible going by the constitutional scheme.
- **Socio-political entrepreneurs stand :-**
 - Political parties have rallied behind the religious sentiments of people and mixed them with political tones and trying to garner voter support in their favour.
 - Even during freedom struggle Tilak stated that religious thoughts and devotion may be possible even in solitude, yet **demonstration is essential to the awakening of the masses**. Through this nationalist appeal, the worship of Ganapati spread from the family circles to the public square
 - Also people see the judicial verdict as an encroachment on their customs, traditions and religion.

**Conclusion:-**

- Progressive judgments take time to be accepted by the society be it laws against sati, child marriage, section 377 etc. India being a multicultural society respects views of all people and political parties need to work in public interest and look towards greater objective of building tolerance which is the cornerstone of Indian society rather than igniting insecurity amongst people.

Q) Explain the objectives and significance of she-box ? (250 words)

[pib](#)

Why this question

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has linked SHe-Box, the online portal to report complaints of Sexual Harassment at Workplace, to all the Central Ministries, Departments and 653 districts across 33 States/Union Territories. Since women safety and sexual harassment at workplace have become important issues and a part of public conscience since metoo movement, details of this initiative should be prepared.

Key demand of the question

The question is quite straightforward in its demand. It expects us to explain what she-box is along with its objectives and significance.

Structure of the answer

Introduction – Explain why this issue is in news – The Ministry of Women and Child Development has linked SHe-Box, the online portal to report complaints of Sexual Harassment at Workplace, to all the Central Ministries, Departments and 653 districts across 33 States/Union Territories.

Body

Explain what she-box is – online complaint management system for registering complaints related to sexual harassment at workplace. It was launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The complaint management system has been developed to ensure the effective implementation of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act (the SH Act), 2013.

Discuss its objective – faster disposal of complaints, putting in place a framework for effective disposal of sexual harassment cases at workplace.

Discuss its significance – portal is an initiative to provide a platform to women working or visiting any office of Central Government (Central Ministries, Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous Bodies and Institutions etc.) to file complaints related to sexual harassment at workplace under the SH Act. Those who had already filed a written complaint with the concerned Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) constituted under the SH Act are also eligible to file their complaint through this portal. It is also an effort to provide speedier remedy to women facing sexual harassment at workplace as envisaged under the SH Act.

Conclusion – Emphasize that women safety is a very pertinent issue and give your view on how far this step would be helpful.

Background:-

- Recently the Ministry of Women and Child Development(MWCD) has linked SHe-Box, the online portal to report complaints of Sexual Harassment at Workplace, to all the Central Ministries, Departments and 653 districts across 33 States/Union Territories.

She box :

- It is a proactive step taken by the WCD Ministry in the wake of the worldwide campaign #MeToo, where women have related their experience of facing sexual harassment and abuse at workplace.
- Objectives:-**
 - This Sexual Harassment electronic Box (SHe-Box) is an **effort to provide a single window access to every woman, irrespective of her work status, whether working in organised or unorganised, private or public sector, to facilitate the registration of complaint related to sexual harassment.**



- Any woman facing sexual harassment at workplace can register their complaint through this portal. Once a complaint is submitted to the 'SHe-Box', it will be directly sent to the concerned authority having jurisdiction to take action into the matter.
- Those who have already filed a written complaint with the concerned Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) or Local Complaint Committee (LCC) constituted under the Sexual Harassment Act are also eligible to file their complaint through this portal.
- It is to **ensure the effective implementation of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act (the SH Act), 2013.**
- The portal also provides information on 112 institutions empaneled by MWCD to conduct training/workshops on the issue of sexual harassment at the workplace.
- It also has the option for resource persons and institutions willing to contribute to training on this subject in various organisations to submit their applications.
 - SHe-Box will provide a platform to these empanelled institutes/organisations to share their capacity building activities with the Ministry which in turn will be able to monitor the activities of these institutes/organizations so empanelled from across the country.

Significance:-

- Till November 2018, as many as 321 complaints have been registered with 'SHe-Box' out of which 120 are related to central ministries/departments, 58 are from state governments and 143 are from private companies.
- SHe-Box portal is an effort to **provide speedy remedy to women facing sexual harassment at workplace.** With the linking of the portal to central and state governments, once a complaint is submitted to the portal, it will be directly sent to the section of the employer concerned. **Through this portal, WCD as well as the complainant, can monitor the progress of the inquiry.**
- **Raising awareness:**
 - It brings about with it an awareness of the topic which is still quite a taboo in India, and will hopefully embolden women to raise their complaints, rather than remain silent. The platform aligns with the EEOC (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission) in the US.
 - SHe-Box will encourage more women to come forward to name perpetrators and seek justice.
- **Ensure fairness and action:**
 - SHe-Box stands over and above the whims of an organisation, as the Internal Committee's/Local Committee's functioning "may" be at the mercy of the organisation. These Committees will be increasingly under pressure to ensure that they execute their responsibility adequately, as they could be monitored.
- **Independent and external assistance:**
 - SHe-Box also provides a forum outside the organization for female employees to complain to. With the complaints being monitored in SHe-Box, organizations will step up their efforts to ensure that they provide a safe workplace to female employees.
- **Data analysis and convenience:**
 - SHe-Box will also help the Indian government track the number of incidents and understand the magnitude of the problem. Finally, a victim could always report to other authorities through a physical document or an email. A portal provides convenience.
 - In addition, the SHe-Box portal is fairly user-friendly.

How SHe-Box can be made more effective

- There are a few shortcomings that should be rectified to make the portal even more effective:
 - **Confidentiality:**
 - However well-intentioned such a system is, unless it ensures utmost confidentiality, female employees will hesitate to utilize it. **Any indication on the portal to confirm confidentiality will be reassuring to a victim raising a complaint.**
 - **Provisioning for whistle-blowers:**
 - The portal only allows a victim to lodge a complaint. If a whistle-blower section was to be added, it could prove to be vital.
 - **Handling unknown or multiple respondents:**
 - Currently, there is no provision to submit a complaint against an unknown respondent, i.e., someone whose identity may be unclear to the victim. Also, a provision to complain against multiple respondents needs to be included for the SHe-Box to be comprehensive.



- **Intimidating for the lower strata:**
 - If the portal allows a written complaint to be scanned and uploaded, it would help.
- **Mandatory Aadhaar number:**
 - It would help if the Aadhaar card number were to be made optional to alleviate the fears of the victim.
- **Clarity of process and scope:**
 - Certain aspects of SHE-Box and its process and coverage are still unclear. For example, when the WCD Ministry forwards the complaint received on the portal to the concerned organisation, who at the organisation receives it is a question.
 - Having a dedicated role or mentioning who is responsible for receiving and following up on the complaint is required.
 - **Also, there needs to be improved scope for consultation and assistance, especially in the unorganised sector.**

Conclusion:-

- SHE-Box is a step in the right direction to challenge the status quo and to finally give the Indian working women the fair representation and support they deserve.

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

Q) Explain how cyclones are formed and what happens after they hit land? Explain what is rare about Cyclone Titli ? (250 words)

The hindu

Why this question

The Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) for Africa and Asia, a 45-nation international organisation on disaster warning, has termed 'Titli', the severe cyclonic storm that devastated Odisha in October, as 'rarest cyclone'. This provides us an opportunity to revisit our concepts related to cyclones and what makes titli such a rare cyclone.

Key demand of the question

The first part of the question is quite straightforward and can be answered using basic concepts of cyclones. The second part can be answered after going through the article.

Structure of the answer

Introduction – Explain what cyclones are

Body – explain how cyclones are formed and what happens after their hit land. Thereafter explain what makes titli a rare cyclone. Titli cyclone is the rarest of rare in terms of its characteristics such as recurvature after landfall and retaining its destructive potential after landfall and recurvature away from the coastal areas for more than two days

Conclusion – mention the need for a detailed risk assessment in light of these facts.

Background :-

- **Cyclone** is any large system of winds that circulates about a centre of low atmospheric pressure in a counterclockwise 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.
- Also occurring in much the same areas are anticyclones, wind systems that rotate about a high-pressure centre.
- Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) for Africa and Asia, a 45-nation international organisation on disaster warning, has termed 'Titli', the severe cyclonic storm that devastated Odisha in October, as 'rarest cyclone'.

Conditions Favourable for Cyclone Formation:-

1. **Large sea surface with temperature higher than 27° C**
2. **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.**
3. **Small variations in the vertical wind speed**



4. **A pre-existing weak low-pressure area or low-level-cyclonic circulation**
5. **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.
6. **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.
7. **Low-level Disturbances**
 - Low-level disturbance in the form of easterly wave disturbances in the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) should pre-exist.
8. **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.
9. **Wind Shear**
 - Wind Shear = 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.

What happens when the cyclones hit land:-

- A cyclone or a hurricane forms over the seas and loses its strength immediately after landfall. The reasons are :-
- **Resistance**
 - Cyclones always form over the sea, in open spaces and that's where they gain strength. The terrain of the sea helps a storm gather its maximum strength whereas on land that strength is immediately cut off due to too much resistance around.
 - The increased friction over land acts as a somewhat obstacle, i.e. in the form of bushes, trees and houses and buildings, thus decreasing the speed of sustained winds. These sustained winds become weaker because of the dampening effect of larger roughness i.e. over land versus a relatively smooth ocean.
- **Moisture**
 - A tropical cyclone over land will begin to weaken rapidly not just because of friction, but also because land lacks the moisture and heat sources that the oceans provide. This depletion of moisture and heat hurts the tropical cyclone's ability to produce thunderstorms near the storm's center.
 - Without this convection, the storm rapidly fills. However, recent studies done by 'Nature' showed that even over a swampy area a hurricane would weaken because of limited heat sources.
- **Sea temperatures**
 - Adequate temperature is the most important factor in the formation and strength of a cyclone. Cyclones usually dissipate over land or over colder regions where the temperature profile varies widely and changes constantly. Land temperatures of 30°C and 20°C (in this case, in south India) at day and night, hinder the sustenance of a storm.
- **Strength:-**
 - Not necessarily will a cyclone lose its intensity over land. There are times when a cyclone loses its strength over the seas itself. This happens because of proximity of the cyclone to the coast for a longer period, making the cyclone weak. The winds coming in from land are usually drier and thus affect the storm.
- Tropical cyclones usually weaken when they hit land, because they are no longer being "fed" by the energy from the warm ocean waters. However, they often move far inland, dumping many inches of rain and causing lots of wind damage before they die out completely.

What is special about cyclone Titli:-

- **Characteristics:-**
 - In terms of its characteristics such as **recurvature after landfall and retaining its destructive potential after landfall and recurvature away from the coastal areas for more than two days.**



- Considering the history of cyclone tracks, no synthetic track projection captures the Titli type of cyclones. The forecast information available lacks actionable early warning information such as no indication of occurrence of secondary hazards, including landslides far away from the coasts.
- **The severe cyclone had changed its path after landfall.**
 - Cyclone Titli made a landfall in the Andhra Pradesh coast, entered Gajapati district of Odisha, made a surprise turn towards adjoining districts and continued as a severe cyclonic storm and deep depression for more than 48 hours.
 - Thus, Titli proved to be an all-dimensional hazard: non-coastal, coastal and marine.
 - It also retained its destructive potential as it moved far away from coasts and towards the interior districts.
- Titli's track is unprecedented in 200 years of the cyclone's record, observes a report of the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Asia and Africa (RIMES) on the post-landfall impacts of Titli.
- Cyclonic storms generally lose strength after landfall. So far, only two cyclones in 200 years of recorded history that struck the Odisha coast retained strength after landfall: the 1999 Super Cyclone and Titli.
- The unexpected track movement of Titli for two days baffled everyone –a pattern meteorologists, disaster managers, and residents never saw before
- Translating impacts into actionable and location-specific early warning information for disaster managers and residents remains a challenge for rare cyclones that cause secondary impacts away from coastal region, such as localized landslides .**The RIMES report states that this gap should be addressed to develop a system for translating cyclone movement and strength into sector and location-specific impacts. This needs a robust system for risk assessment and impact-based early warning.**

Q) IMD says moderate El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) conditions are currently prevalent in the equatorial Pacific Ocean region and the El Nino is likely to develop in the next two months. What do you understand by El Nino and explain its impact on India's climate ? (250 words)

Reference

Why this question

IMD has forecast that El nino like conditions are likely to develop and its impact on India is going to be immense. Hence this question.

Key demand of the question

The question expects us to explain what El Nino is, its formation and impact. Thereafter we need to explain its impact on Indian climate.

Structure of the answer

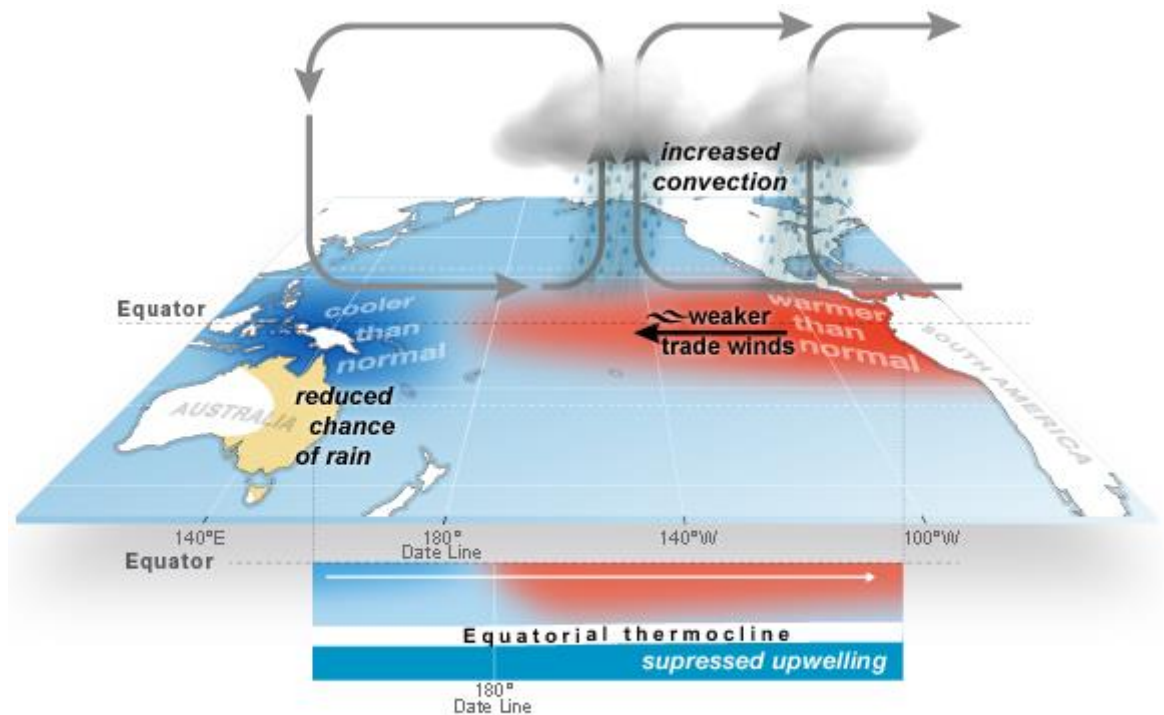
Introduction – Highlight the forecast of IMD.

Body – Explain what El Nino is, you will also have to explain southern oscillation. Draw a schematic for better explanation. Thereafter, discuss how El Nino impacts the climate of India.

Conclusion – You conclude by discussing how we can be prepared to deal with its impacts.

El Nino:-

- El Nino refers to the unusual warming of the central and east-central equatorial Pacific Ocean which affects global weather. The warmer waters of the Pacific Ocean cause the winds in various regions to reverse, like the trade winds that come towards India.
- This change of wind direction leads to warmer winters and summers and a decrease in rainfall during the monsoon. Most of the time, it also leads to drought.



El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO): **El Niño**

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Impact :-

- Warming of the Pacific results in weakening of these winds. Moisture and the heat content thereby, gets limited and results in reduction and uneven distribution of rainfall across the Indian sub-continent.
- In the 135 years between 1880 and 2014, around 90 per cent of all evolving El Niño years have seen below normal rainfall and 65 per cent of them experienced droughts including the recent ones in 2002 and 2009.
- During an El Niño, monsoon never witnesses excess rainfall barring few exceptions.
- If the El Niño continues into the spring and summer seasons, it might bring down the average rainfall during the 2019 monsoon and cause warmer than usual summer temperatures.
- The development of an El Niño might also have been responsible for the unusually low rainfall in September and the post-monsoon months in India. While the country saw a rainfall deficit of 24 per cent in September, in the post monsoon months it has been as high as 49 per cent (October 1–November 21). The situation is the worst in central India which has received 64 per cent less rainfall than normal.
- The east and north-east India and the Southern Peninsula have received 58 per cent and 42 per cent deficient rainfall respectively.

TOPIC: Changes in critical geographical features (including water bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

Q) India's overexploitation of groundwater is leading to the worst water crisis in its history. Examine and suggest measures for improvement. (250 words)

Livemint

Why this question

The question examines the reasons behind groundwater shortage in India and the steps that India needs to take to improve the scenario. The situation is quite critical with none other than Niti Ayog calling it the worst water crisis in India's history and hence this topic needs to be prepared.

Key demand of the question

The question expects us to bring out three things clearly in our answer

- The status of groundwater crisis in the country
- Reasons behind the same



- *Ways in which the current situation can be improved*

Directive word

Examine – When you are asked to examine, you have to probe deeper into the topic, get into details, and find out the causes or implications if any .

Structure of the answer

Introduction – *Explain the situation wrt ground water*

Body

- *Discuss reasons behind the water crisis such as overexploitation of groundwater for agriculture, focus on water intensive crops like rice and wheat in water deficient areas etc*
- *Discuss the ways in which the current situation can be improved through adoption of efficient irrigation techniques like drip irrigation, bottom up approach by empowering local community to become active participants in water management process etc*

Conclusion – *Discuss the gravity of crisis and the way forward.*

Background:-

- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) **World Water Development Report** states that India is the largest extractor of groundwater in the world.
- Fifty-four percent of India's groundwater wells have declined over the past seven years, and 21 major cities are expected to **run out of groundwater by 2020**.

Reasons for ground water exploitation in India:-

- **Groundwater is one of the most important water sources in India** accounting for 63% of all irrigation water and over 80% of the rural and urban domestic water supplies.
- **Subsidies:-**
 - Subsidies on electricity are thought to play a central role in the Indian groundwater crisis. The vast majority of groundwater pumps are unmetered, and if charged, are billed at a flat, non-volumetric, and **highly subsidized tariff** .
- **Water intensive crops:-**
 - Government encourages farmers to produce water-intensive crops like rice and sugarcane through increased minimum support prices (MSP). **This has also led to groundwater depletion, income inequality and unsustainable agriculture.**
 - Farmers are digging more and more borewells, but the sources of the problem are many, **including transition to water-intensive crops and spate of construction activity along catchment areas.**
- **Successive droughts and erratic rainfall have led to excess extraction of groundwater.** That explains 61 per cent decline in groundwater level in wells in India between 2007 and 2017.
- India's **huge groundwater-dependent population, uncertain climate-reliant recharge processes and indiscriminate land use changes with urbanization** are among the many factors that have rendered the Indian groundwater scenario to become a global paradigm for water scarcity, for both quantity and quality.
- **Trans-boundary upstream water sources and archaic irrigation methods for the water shortage.**
- **Government failure:**
 - The government finance for well digging and pump installation with capital subsidies, massive rural electrification and pervasive energy subsidies **all have enabled this process to aggravate.**
 - In the north western parts of India and southern peninsula, the early and rapid rural electrification, free or subsidised power to the farm sector, large productive farmers and attractive procurement prices for major cereals led to intensive use of groundwater.
 - **Zero marginal cost of pumping and lack of restriction on volume of water resulted in inefficient and unsustainable use of the resource.**
- **Lack of adequate planning, crumbling infrastructure, indiscriminate drilling of borewells, large-scale consumption of water, and a false sense of entitlement in using water carelessly are causing water shortages.**

Measures needed for alleviating this situation are :-

- **Reducing electricity subsidies:-**
 - An analysis of panel data across 370 districts in India found that a reduction in electricity subsidy was correlated with a **decrease in groundwater extraction** .



- Most empirical studies are in **favour of pricing electricity on the basis of actual consumption**. They show that the energy prices at which the farmers start responding to tariff changes in terms of reducing the demand for water and electricity would be socio-economically viable.
- **Micro-irrigation:-**
 - Encouraging farmers to adopt micro-irrigation techniques such as drip irrigation and micro-sprinklers.
 - According to the CWMI report, adopting micro-irrigation techniques can save roughly 20% of the groundwater used annually on irrigation in India.
- **Creating awareness:-**
 - Creating sustainable change would require a bottom-up approach by empowering the local community to become active participants in managing groundwater.
- **Proper implementation of initiatives:-**
 - 12th five-year plan proposed a policy of participatory groundwater management (PGM), which involves a **collaborative approach among government departments, researchers, NGOs and community members**. The plan involves training community workers to carry out aquifer mapping and implement innovative ways to use groundwater conservatively with the local community.
 - **Government has come up with a Rs. 6,000-crore World Bank-aided Atal Bhujal Yojana** with community participation to ensure sustained groundwater management in overexploited and ground water-stressed areas in seven States.
 - **World Bank's Water Scarce Cities Initiative** seeks to promote an integrated approach to managing water resources and service delivery in water-scarce cities as the basis for building resilience against climate change.
- **Crisis can be tackled by restoring and enhancing groundwater recharge areas, stopping polluted water from recharging groundwater, rainwater and roof top harvesting and the restoration of ponds, lakes and other river systems.**
- **Growing less water-intensive crops in the dry season** and transitioning away from irrigation-intensive systems where there is little water.
- **India needs better policies** that directly help small-holders and labourers to adapt and adjust to risks associated with groundwater depletion and a more variable future climate.
- In urban areas **putting in place an efficient piped supply system** has to be top on the agenda of policymakers and planners.
- **Conscious efforts need to be made at the household level and by communities, institutions and local bodies to supplement the efforts of governments and non-governmental bodies in promoting water conservation.**
- Sustained measures should be taken to prevent pollution of water bodies, contamination of groundwater and ensure proper treatment of domestic and industrial waste water.