NOTE: Please remember that following ‘answers’ are NOT ‘model answers’. They are NOT synopsis too if we go by definition of the term. What we are providing is content that both meets demand of the question and at the same time gives you extra points in the form of background information.
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Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.

Discuss any three most popular embroidered arts from India, How can promotion of such art facilitate inclusion of women in the socio-economic aspects of India?(250 words)

Reference

Why this question:
The question is pertaining to art and culture inherently found in India, it is about the link between such a skill of the women members of the society and opportunity it provides them for their inclusion in the society.

Key demand of the question:
The answer must discuss first some of the important and popular art of embroidery in India. Then move on to discuss how the art can act as a catalyst for women empowerment.

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.

Keywords:
Inclusion of women, women empowerment, Phulkari, Lucknowi, chikankari, Zardosi etc.

Structure of the answer

Introduction:
Briefly bring out the significance of art in India.

Body:
First discuss the popular embroidery art forms like – Chikankari, Uttar Pradesh, Shisha or Mirrorwork, Gujarat and Rajasthan, Zardosi, Uttar Pradesh, Kashidakari, Jammu and Kashmir, Phulkari, Punjab, Toda embroidery, Tamil Nadu etc.
Then discuss how and why these art works can play a pivotal role in development of Women.
What should the govt. do to encourage these legacy art forms?
Quote policies that are in place to preserve and encourage such art.

Conclusion –
Reassert the significance of art – Embroidery and its importance for inclusion of women in Indian society.

Introduction:

Indian Arts and Crafts are significant because we integrate culture and customs into these said art and crafts. For instance, music, dance, pottery, wood and metal work, paintings, fabric, to name a few. All of them are spectacular and special in their own ways.

Body:

Popular embroidered arts from India:

www.insightsonindia.com  www.insightsias.com
Chikankari, UP:
- This art form originated from Persia during the time of the Mughals.
- Delicate and complicated, chikankari has 36 types of stitches, depending on the region.
- Before the actual embroidery work takes place, the cloth goes through block printing whereby designs or motifs are printed.
- The motifs and patterns are region and nature influenced. One is mostly to find flower patterns.

Shisha or Mirrorwork, Gujarat and Rajasthan:
- This popular craft is originally from Gujarat and Rajasthan.
- In this type of embroidery, small pieces of mirrors are sewn together in neat patterns and in-between pretty embroidered designs.
- During Navratri, men and women wear these traditional attires, and also on bags and decorative pieces.

Zardozi, UP:
- Also from Persia, Zardozi work involves the use of gold and silver threads along with pearls and precious stones.
- This embroidery was and is fit for kings made of velvet and rich silk fabrics.
- Zardozi lehenga is the number one choice for every Indian bride.

Kashidakari, Jammu and Kashmir:
- Also from Persia, Kashidakari is the popular Kashmiri embroidery.
- The patterns are nature inspired, mostly flora.
- During the harsh Kashmiri winters, the locals depended on this for their livelihood.
- One unique feature of this particular embroidered art form is the use of teapot motif.
- Most of this work on silk and wool and the colourful chain stitches are unmistakable.

Phulkari, Punjab:
- The holy city of Amritsar is home to this beautiful embroidered work of art.
- The name makes it clear—it’s embroidered flower motifs on delicate fabrics.
- Phulkari art is interesting and unique because the stitching is done on the reverse side of the fabric; what you see on the front of the fabric is actually the design that you get from the stitching on the reverse.
- Phulkari mostly uses bright coloured threads on lightly coloured fabric.

The promotion of such art will facilitate inclusion of women in the socio-economic aspects of India by

- **Employment generation**: The artisan sector directly impacts the rural population as it is the second largest employment generating sector in India where a majority of the artisans are women.

- **Financial Inclusion**: The various art forms help them earn money and be financially included.

- **Dignity**: India being a patriarchal society, women are viewed as second grade citizens. With self-sufficiency through financial independence and the self confidence through earning gives them the dignity and promotes gender equality.
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- **Women rights**: Art and creative expression have become an **activist tool and alternative form of advocacy for young women**. These innovative avenues for **making their voices heard** have great power in a context where **women’s mobility and visibility** is often constrained by socio-cultural norms.

- **Co-operatives and SHGs**: The Self help groups and co-operatives are constituted which can help in mobilizing the resources, mass production and marketing the goods to the world.

- **Preserving the Heritage**: Research studies suggest that the number of Indian artisans has been rapidly decreasing, indicating the urgent need to reinvest in India’s artisans to safeguard history and promote culture as an important source of livelihood.

But there are following challenges that are being faced by the women:

- There is lack of awareness amongst the women.
- Finding appropriate market is also one among the toughest challenge for the women.
- Production is done manually no machines are involved in it. So it may take time.
- Lack of organization supporting the art culture.
- There may be some possibility that the interest of the painters gets dwindle.

However these challenges can be overcome by the following measures:

- Commercializing the work of art.
- By providing skill training and development.
- By promoting art at public places.
- Digitalization of network can help to reach widely.
- Schemes like **Hunar Haat, USTAAD, e-MahilaHaat** can help promote the artefacts.

**Conclusion:**

By taking benefit of all the government schemes and by education and awareness women can get empowered and can earn their own livelihood. But some amount of advocacy is needed by the intermediaries to make the women empower even through art culture.

**Case Study**: One of the live examples of empowerment of women through art is the **beautification of Madhubani station**. **Madhubani station was known as one of the dirtiest stations in India** so for the beautification of the station railway came up with the idea of beautification with the Madhubani painting all over the station. For this work, they had started planning and implementation but the implementation process faced the scarcity of manpower, finance, resources, etc.

Indian music not just showcases the diversity of dialect and intellect but also is an evidence of diversity in taste. **Comment** *(250 words)*

**Why this question:**

The question is to examine the **significance Indian Music as to in what way it is just not an art form but an evidence of multilinguals and diversity of taste witnessed in the Indian society.**

**Key demand of the question:**

The answer must discuss in the **significance of Music as an artform and most importantly its role as a multilingual manifestation of our society and an agent signifying taste of the Indian culture.**

**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**
write a few introductory lines about the Music as an artform in India.

Body:
Answers must discuss the following aspects:
Have a discussion on — India, a land of many tongues.
Bring out the diversity of music vis-à-vis India’s linguistic diversity justified by it.
Explain how music and its connection with different dialects signify local culture and taste and thus the diversity therein.
Such questions are best answered with examples.
Conclusion —
Conclude by re-asserting importance of Music and need to preserve it as a cultural heritage of India.

Introduction:
Music has always been an important part of Indian life. The range of musical phenomenon in India extends from simple melodies to what is one of the most well- developed “systems” of classical music in the world. The music of India includes multiple varieties of classical music, folk music, filmy, Indian rock and Indian pop. India’s classical music tradition, including Hindustani music and Carnatic, has a history spanning millennia and developed over several areas. Music in India began as an integral part of socio-religious life.

Body:
India is one of unique countries in the world that has the legacy of diversity of languages. The Constitution of India has recognised 22 official languages. Multilingualism is the way of life in India as people in different parts of the country speak more than one language from their birth and learns additional languages during their life time. Though officially there are 122 languages, Peoples Linguistic Survey of India has identified 780 languages, of which 50 are extinct in past five decades.

Diversity in Indian Music:

- Music has always been an important aspect in the lives of Indian people.
- India’s rich cultural diversity has greatly contributed to various forms of folk music.
- Almost every region in India has its own folk music, which reflects the way of life.
- From the peppy bhangra of Punjab to Garba of Gujarat to Bhavageete of Karnataka, the tradition of folk music in India is indeed great.
- Folk music is closely associated with farming and other such professions and evolved to alleviate the hardship and break the monotony of the routine life.
- Even though folk music lost its popularity with the advent of contemporary music like pop and rap, but no traditional festival or celebration is complete without folk music.
- While the reason behind its origin and the method of usage remains more or less the same throughout India, the style in which it is sung and the way in which it is perceived differs depending upon the culture of different Indian states.
- Many of these folk songs were composed by great poets and writers belonging to different parts of the country.
- For instance, the Rabindra Sangeet or Tagore songs of Bengal are a collection of songs that were originally written by eminent poet Rabindranath Tagore.
- Folk songs also played a crucial role in socio-religious reforms in many parts of South India.
- Religious leaders like Adi Shankaracharya used many such songs to spread his message throughout the country.
- Similarly, folk songs sung by other religious leaders gave identity to the villages they originally came from and gradually, these songs were cherished and celebrated by the people of their respective areas as their own.
• Also, many folk songs are associated with a dance form, which is usually performed while singing these songs. Today, almost every Indian state/region has a folk song of its own and some of them are associated with a dance form as well.

• The great diversity of Indian traditions has given birth to a variety of musical instruments. Some of these instruments are played solo while others are used as accompanying instruments to the soloists and dancers.

• There are instruments that are strictly devotional and ritualistic like the conch and the Khol drum. The evolution of most musical instruments is evident in the ancient cave paintings and sculptures of historic temples.

Conclusion:

Indian music in particular is one of the oldest and finest forms of human expression. The varied human passions like agony, ecstasy, sorrow, hope and desire find expression in the subtle notes of music. Music in India is organic with newer forms evolving from the older one over time.

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

The Congress programme during the first phase (1885-1905) was very modest. 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 moderate phase of the congress between 1885 and 1905. We have to write in detail about the first phase and its modest programme.

Structure of the answer
Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the moderate phase of Indian freedom struggle. E.g The early years (1885-1905) saw the evolution of Indian National Congress. During this period the Congress was dominated by moderate leaders.

Body-
Discuss about the programme of the first phase of the congress and bring out how it was modest in nature. E.g the organisation of the provincial councils,

simultaneous examination for the I.C.S. in India and England,

the abolition or reconstitution of the Indian Council,

the separation of the Judiciary from the executive,

the repeal of the Arms Act,

the appointment of Indians to the commissioned ranks in the Army,

the reduction of military expenditure, and

the introduction of Permanent Settlement to other parts of India.

This phase of the Congress is known as the Moderate phase. During this period the leaders were cautious in their demands. They did not want to annoy the government and incur the risk of suppression of their activities.

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

Introduction:

The setting up of Indian National Congress in 1885 by national leaders like Dadabhai Naoroji, Pherozshah Mehta, D.E. Wacha, W.C. Bonerjea, and S.N. Banerjea heralded a new step in Indian National Movement. The early years (1885-
1905) saw the evolution of Indian National Congress. The **moderates** dominated the Congress policies during this period and were staunch believers in ‘liberalism’ and ‘moderate’ politics.

**Body:**

To achieve the ends, they worked on a two-pronged methodology one, create a strong public opinion to arouse consciousness and national spirit and then educate and unite people on common political questions; and two, persuade the British Government and British public opinion to introduce reforms in India on the lines laid out by the nationalists.

The major demands of the Moderates were:

- Expansion and reform of legislative councils.
- Greater opportunities for Indians in higher posts by holding the ICS examination simultaneously in England and in India.
- Separation of the judiciary from the executive.
- More powers for the local bodies.
- Reduction of land revenue and protection of peasants from unjust landlords.
- Abolition of salt tax and sugar duty
- Freedom of speech and expression and freedom to form associations
- The repeal of the Arms Act
- Reduction of spending on army.
- The introduction of Permanent Settlement to other parts of India

The Congress programme during the first phase was very modest due to the following

- Moderates had **total faith in the British sense of justice and fair-play** and looked to England for inspiration and guidance.
- Moderates used **petitions, resolutions, meetings, leaflets and pamphlets, memorandum and delegations** to present their demands.
- Confined their **political activities to the educated classes only**.
- Drew most of their ideas from western political thinking which further alienated them from the people.
- Their main aim was to **attain political rights and self-government stage by stage**.
- The leaders were cautious in their demands and did not want to annoy the government and incur the risk of suppression of their activities.
- They demanded Indian control over the public purse and raised the slogan that had earlier been raised by the Americans during their War of Independence, ‘No taxation without representation’.
- This phase of the national movement excluded the masses and only the educated elites participated in it.
- They did not demand complete independence from foreign rule.
- They did not understand the power of a mass movement of people unlike Gandhi who used this power.
- The Moderates found themselves in a tight corner with the **emergence of extremist leadership** within the congress. The British authorities also doubted their bonafides.
- They failed to realise that there existed conflicts of interest of the rulers and the ruled.
They failed to keep pace with the yearnings and aspirations of the people.

However, there were successes of Moderates too:

- The British Government was forced to pass the Indian Councils Act of 1892, but the provisions of this Act failed to satisfy the Congress leaders.
- This Act increased the size of the legislative councils and also increased the proportion of non-officials in them.
- They were able to sow the seeds of nationalism in the people and popularised ideals like democracy, liberty and equality.
- Exposure of Economic drain policies of British was one of the major successes.
- They exposed the basically exploitative character of colonial rule, thus undermining its moral foundations.
- They used press as an effective medium to put across their views, petitions and to reach the populace.
- With changing times, the Moderates also began to alter their position. By 1905 Gokhale had started speaking of self-rule as the goal and in 1906 it was Dadabhai Naoroji who mentioned the word Swaraj as the goal of the Congress.
- Leaders like Gopal Krishna Gokhale and M G Ranade were social reformers too and opposed child marriage and imposed widowhood.

Conclusion:

The Moderate leaders believed that political connections with Britain were in India’s interest at that stage of history and that the time was not ripe for a direct challenge to the British rule. In the opinion of M.N. Roy, “It was the golden period of modern Indian history.” Though the immediate gains of the Moderates were insignificant, their contribution towards political and national awakening was of permanent value to India.

The development of the Moderate thought was the culmination of a tradition which can be traced back to Raja Rammohan Roy. Examine, (250 words)

Reference

Directive word
Examine- here we have to probe deeper into the topic, get into details, and find out the causes or implications if any.

Key demand of the question.
The question wants us to development and rise of the nationalist moderate thought and discuss at length as to how it can be traced back to Raja Rammohan Roy.

Structure of the answer
Introduction– write a few introductory lines about the development of moderate thought in India. E.g he Moderates had played an important role at a critical period in the history of Indian nationalism.

Body-
Discuss how development of modern thought can be traced back to the Raja Rammohan Roy. E.g
The flowering of the Moderate thought was the culmination of a tradition which can be traced back to Raja Rammohun Roy, who stood for the rational, liberal tradition of contemporary Europe.
His ideas of reforms ultimately provided the basis for the demands put forward by the early Congress.
As with Rammohun, so with the early Congress leaders, the presence of the British administration was important for continued political progress.
Quite understandably, their language was cautious and their expectation moderate.
But with changing times, the Moderates also began to alter their position.
By 1905 Gokhale had started speaking of self-rule as the goal and in 1906 it was Dadabhai Naoroji who mentioned the word Swaraj as the goal of the Congress etc.

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

The early years (1885-1905) saw the evolution of Indian National Congress. During this period the Congress was dominated by moderate leaders. The Early Nationalists had full faith in the British sense of justice, fair play, honesty, and integrity while they believed that British rule was a boon for India. The Early Nationalists were staunch believers in open-minded and moderate politics.

Body:

Raja Rammohun Roy views on reforming Hindu religion and society earned him many enemies, but he remained true to his conviction that these would be to the benefit of India. The development of modern thought can be traced back to the Raja Rammohun Roy.

Roy in his initial years fought to reform India’s superstition and its religious divisions, both within Hinduism and between Hinduism and other religions by providing evidences from the Hindu texts and treatises.

Paradigm shift:

- In 1823, when the British imposed censorship upon the Calcutta press, Roy, as founder and editor of two of India’s earliest weekly newspapers, organized a protest, arguing in favour of freedom of speech and religion as natural rights.
- That protest marked a turning point in Roy’s life, away from preoccupation with religious polemic and toward social and political action.
- In his newspapers, treatises, and books, Roy tirelessly criticized what he saw as the idolatry and superstition of traditional Hinduism. He denounced the caste system and attacked the custom of Sati. His writings emboldened the British East India Governing Council to act decisively on the matter, leading to the prohibition of Sati in 1829.
- When the Bengal government proposed a more traditional Sanskrit college, in 1823, Roy protested that classical Indian literature would not prepare the youth of Bengal for the demands of modern life. He proposed instead a modern Western curriculum of study.
- Roy also led a protest against the outmoded British legal and revenue administration in India.
- Roy’s importance in modern Indian history rests partly upon the broad scope of his social vision and the striking modernity of his thought.
- Roy wanted the state intervention to protect the property of the individual. His article ‘Essay over the Rights of the Hindus over Ancestral Property was a pointer in this direction. One’s claim over the ancestral property was to be maintained.
- He advocated that the peasants should be protected by the government from the tyranny of the landlords. He was well aware of the dangerous consequences of the permanent settlement of 1793 introduced by Lord Cornwallis.
- Liberty and constitutionalism were the two important aspects upon which Raja Ram Mohan emphasized. He preferred a constitutional form of Government for every nation. Despotism or autocracy, he hated from the core of his heart.

The Moderates:

- Roy’s ideas of reforms ultimately provided the basis for the demands put forward by the early Congress.
- There were a lot of commonalities between the moderates and Roy – Both were England educated, believed in liberalism, use of Newspapers as a medium to reach people and spread their views, Advocation of western education.
• National leaders like Dadabhai Naoroji, Pherozshah Mehta, D.E. Wacha, W.C. Bonnerjee, and S.N. Banerjea, who dominated the Congress policies during this period were also staunch believers in 'liberalism' and 'moderate' politics, which was a continuation of Roy's efforts.

• Their political activity involved **constitutional agitation within the confines of the law**, and showed a slow but orderly political progress. Roy also led protests to make his points heard.

• As with Roy, so with the early Congress leaders, the presence of the British administration was important for continued political progress.

• The flowering of the Moderate thought was the culmination of a tradition which can be traced back to Roy, who stood for the rational, liberal tradition of contemporary Europe.

• As a liberal economic thinker, Roy was deeply concerned with the economic strangulation of the poor in the century. This idea was further carried over by Moderates through their **Economic Drain theory**.

However,

• With changing times, the Moderates also began to alter their position.

• By 1905 Gokhale had started speaking of self-rule as the goal and in 1906 it was Dadabhai Naoroji who mentioned the word Swaraj as the goal of the Congress

**Conclusion:**

In true sense of the term, Raja RamMohan Roy acted as a bridge between the East and West. He was the ‘**Father of Indian Renaissance**’. He was an intellectual of a superb order and still simple and bold. His **ideas and ideals** inspired nationalism in India which acted as a strong foundation for the Moderates to take up the cudgels.

South Africa was “the making of the Mahatma”. Discuss (250 words)

**Ncert 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 Gandhi’s work, role in South Africa and how his stay there shaped his ideology and style of work.

**Structure of the answer**

**Introduction**– write a few introductory lines about MK Gandhi. E.g In January 1915, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi returned to his homeland after two decades of residence abroad.

**Body**–

Discuss how South Africa shaped Gandhi ji. E.g Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (his birth name) arrived in South Africa in 1893 at the relatively tender age of 24 as a newly qualified lawyer on a temporary assignment to act on behalf of a local Indian trader in a commercial dispute. It was in South Africa that Mahatma Gandhi first forged the distinctive techniques of nonviolent protest known as satyagraha, first promoted harmony between religions, and first alerted upper -caste Indians to their discriminatory treatment of low castes and women.

Discuss about some of the famous protests and satyagrahas launched by Gandhi in S. Africa. E.g Gandhi formed the Natal Indian Congress in 1894. This organisation led non-violent protests against the oppressive treatment of the white people towards the native Africans and Indians.

In September 1906, Gandhi organised the first Satyagraha campaign to protest against the Transvaal Asiatic ordinance that was constituted against the local Indians. Again in June 1907, he held Satyagraha against the Black Act.

Discuss about the issues for which Gandhiji fought against the white government in S. Africa etc.

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

**Introduction:**
Gandhiji was the most influential and revered of all the leaders who participated in the freedom struggle, that characterisation is not misplaced. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi returned to his homeland after two decades of residence abroad in January 1915. These years had been spent for the most part in South Africa, where he went as a lawyer, and in time became a leader of the Indian community in that territory.

Body:

South Africa was the crucible that forged Gandhi’s identity as a political activist and was an important prelude to his return to India.

- Gandhiji arrived in South Africa in 1893 at the relatively tender age of 24 as a newly qualified lawyer on a temporary assignment to act on behalf of a local Indian trader in a commercial dispute.
- **Victimized** by incidents of racial discrimination, Gandhi embarked on a crusade against injustice in South Africa that he continued the rest of his life.
- Gandhi formed the **Natal Indian Congress in 1894**. This organisation led **non-violent protests against the oppressive treatment of the white people towards the native Africans and Indians**.
- During the outbreak of the **Boer War in 1899**, Gandhi gathered around 1,100 Indians and organised the **Indian Ambulance Corps** for the British but the ethnic discrimination and torture continued on Indians.
- During his time here, he developed the strategy known as **satyagraha (truth-force)**, in which campaigners went on peaceful marches and presented themselves for arrest in protest against unjust laws.
- English writer John Ruskin’s book **Unto This Last** inspired Gandhi and he set up **Phoenix Farm** near Durban. Gandhi trained his cadres on non-violent Satyagraha or peaceful restraint. Phoenix Farm is considered as the birthplace of Satyagraha.
- However, it was at the **Tolstoy Farm**, Gandhi’s second camp in South Africa, where Satyagraha was moulded into a weapon of protest.
- In September **1906**, Gandhi organised the **first Satyagraha campaign** to protest against the Transvaal Asiatic ordinance that was constituted against the local Indians. Again in June **1907**, he held Satyagraha against the Black Act.
- In **1908**, he was sentenced to jail for organising the non-violent movements. But, after his meeting with General Smuts, a British Commonwealth statesman, he was released. However, he was later attacked for this and was again sentenced to jail against which he organised Satyagraha again.
- In 1909, he was sentenced to a **three-month jail term** in Volksrust and Pretoria. After his release, Gandhi went to England to seek the assistance of the Indian community there.
- He also fought against the nullification of non-Christian marriages in 1913.
- Gandhi organised another **peaceful resistance campaign in Transvaal** against the oppression that Indian minors were suffering from. He led around 2,000 Indians across the Transvaal border.

Major learning in South Africa:

- He promoted harmony between religions, and first alerted upper-caste Indians to their discriminatory treatment of low castes and women.
- His greatest learning in South Africa was perhaps the **unification of the heterogeneous Indian community** that comprised of disgruntled merchants and the bonded labourers.
- The notion of **Non-Co-Operation Movement**, as a civilian weapon to fight governmental tyranny was discussed by Henry David Thoreau, Leo Tolstoy, John Ruskin Bond etc., but it was Gandhi who gave practical shape to the concept.
• His second weapon, **non violence or ahimsa** also evolved in South Africa. This cardinal principle of Gandhian philosophy was imbibed from Jainism and Vaishnavism. Gandhi showed to the world how non violence could be used as an effective political tool to fight the injustices hurled by an oppressive government.

• Gandhi embraced a philosophy that **disapproved of the norms of Western civilization** and conceived of **moral reformation of the Indians**.

India was also under the similar yoke of colonialism and Gandhiji’s prior experience of freedom struggle in Africa helped him quickly adapt to the Indian conditions and take forward the shaky national movement that was in 1916.

**Conclusion:**

As the historian **Chandran Devanesan** has remarked, South Africa was “the making of the Mahatma”. The twenty- one long years that Gandhi lived in South Africa, had a considerable influence on the formation of his political ideologies and the philosophies of his life.

The growth of “Gandhian nationalism” also depended to a very substantial extent on Mahatma Gandhi’s followers. Comment.(250 words)

**Ncert**

**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 knowledge and understanding of the Gandhian phase of nationalism and express our opinion as to what extent was the phase contributed by leaders and freedom fighters other than Gandhi.

**Structure of the answer**

**Introduction**– write a few introductory lines about Mahatma Gandhi and his role. E.g While Mahatma Gandhi’s mass appeal was undoubtedly genuine – and in the context of Indian politics, without precedent – it must also be stressed that his success in broadening the basis of nationalism was based on careful organisation.

**Body**-

Discuss the contribution of leaders and freedom fighters, including Gandhi, in Gandhian nationalism. E.g Between 1917 and 1922, a group of highly talented Indians attached themselves to Gandhiji. They included Mahadev Desai, Vallabh Bhai Patel, J.B. Kripalani, Subhas Chandra Bose, Abul Kalam Azad, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sarojini Naidu, Govind Ballabh Pant and C. Rajagopalachari.

Notably, these close associates of Gandhiji came from different regions as well as different religious traditions. In turn, they inspired countless other Indians to join the Congress and work for it.

Discuss briefly the role of some of the above mentioned freedom fighters etc.

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

**Introduction:**

Gandhiji’s activities in India during the crucial period 1915-1948 can be construed as ‘**Gandhian era**’ in Indian National Movement. His use of hunger strikes, mass demonstrations, deliberate courting of jails were the principal weapons which he added to the nationalist struggle. The period between 1919 to independence is marked by three important struggles – **Non-cooperation movement of 1919, Civil Disobedience movement of 1930**, with its call of complete independence and the famous **Quit Indian Movement of 1942**.

**Body:**

While Mahatma Gandhi’s mass appeal was undoubtedly genuine – and in the context of Indian politics, without precedent – it must also be stressed that his success in broadening the basis of nationalism was based on careful organisation.
Mahatma Gandhi’s leading ascended from grass-root level to the top. He never forced his authority upon the people. Here lies the distinction between Mr. Gandhi and the early leaders of Congress. His idea of Swaraj was that of kingdom of God that worked for the advantage of the masses.

Leaders:

- Between 1917 and 1922, a group of highly talented Indians attached themselves to Gandhiji.
- Notably, these close associates of Gandhiji came from different regions as well as different religious traditions.
- In turn, they inspired countless other Indians to join the Congress and work for it.
- Many recognized leaders like Nehru, Motilal Nehru, Lala Lajpat Rai etc. surrendered their legal practice and supported the

  **Vallabhbhai Patel**
  
  o Patel supported Gandhi’s non-cooperation Movement and toured the state to recruit more than 300,000 members and raise over Rs. 1.5 million in funds.
  o Helping organise bonfires in Ahmedabad in which British goods were burned, Patel threw in all his English-style clothes.
  o Patel also supported Gandhi’s suspension of resistance in the wake of the Chauri Chaura incident.
  o In Gujarat he worked extensively in the following years against alcoholism, untouchability, and caste discrimination, as well as for the empowerment of women.
  o In the Congress, he was a resolute supporter of Gandhi against his Swarajist critics.

- **Sarojini Naidu**
  
  o In 1931, she participated in the second round-table conference with Gandhiji and Madan Mohan Malaviya. She was jailed, along with Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Madan Mohan Malaviya, and others for participating in the Salt March, when 1st Round Table Conference took place in London.
  o The poet Sarojini Naidu drove 2,500 marchers on the Dharasana Salt Works, around 150 miles north of Bombay. A few hundred British-drove Indian police-men met them and violently beat the peaceful
  o She played a leading role in the Civil Disobedience Movement and was jailed along with Gandhi and other leaders. In 1942, she was arrested during period of the “Quit India Movement”

- **J B Kripalani:**
  
  o Kripalani was a Gandhian socialist, environmentalist, mystic and independence activist.
  o He grew close to Gandhi and at one point, he was one of Gandhi’s most ardent disciples.
  o Kripalani was a familiar figure to generations of dissenters, from the Non-Cooperation Movements of the 1920s to the Emergency of the 1970s.

- **SC Bose:**
  
  o In the eventful years of World War II, when Gandhi gave a call of “Do or Die” and Netaji led the Indian National Army to make a fierce assault on the eastern front.
  o Although traversing divergent paths to attain the country’s freedom, legendary figures Subhas Chandra Bose and Mahatma Gandhi were locked in affectionate bonds, with the Mahatma in later years admitting the greatness of his “adventurist son.”
In the North western Frontier Province Khan Abdul Gaffar who came to be known as Frontier Gandhi drove his devotees in a monstrous uprising.

His adherents were referred to as ‘red shirts’ as they wore red coloured kurtas. The association that he had made with workers and small landowners was known as the Khudai Khidmatgar (the servants of God).

Gaffar Khan turned into a committed adherent of Gandhi and leading member of the Congress.

- **Acharya Vinoba Bhave:**
  - An ardent supporter of Gandhi, was chosen by him to start the movement.
  - He even participated in the individual satyagraha. Later, he started off the Bhooelan movement.

**Citizens of India:**

- On Gokhale’s advice, Gandhiji spent a year travelling around British India, getting to know the land and its people.

- The Banaras Hindu University Speech in 1916 was first public announcement of Gandhiji’s own desire to make Indian nationalism more properly representative of the Indian people as a

- By 1922, Gandhiji had transformed Indian nationalism, thereby redeeming the promise he made in his BHU speech of February 1916.  

- During the Non-Cooperation Movement thousands of Indians were put in. Gandhiji himself was arrested in March 1922, and charged with sedition.

- It was no longer a movement of professionals and intellectuals; now, hundreds of thousands of peasants, workers and artisans also participated in

- Many of them venerated Gandhiji, referring to him as their ‘Mahatma’.

- Some of the entrepreneurs, such as G.D. Birla, supported the national movement openly; others did so tacitly. Thus, among Gandhiji’s admirers were both poor peasants and rich industrialists, although the reasons varied.

- The non-cooperation movement was a serious test for the people at all levels especially in terms of their self-reliance and awareness over their political rights

**Conclusion:**

His simple lifestyle and love of working with his hands allowed him to empathise more fully with the labouring poor and for them, in turn, to empathise with him.

Mahatma Gandhi’s stride during the period of 1916 –1920 in accomplishment of the technique of non-violent satyagraha accepted by the nation as a weapon of struggle against the British was unparalleled.

**Elucidate (250 words)**

**Reference**

**Why this question:**

The question expects you to assess the contributions of Mahatma Gandhi during the period of 1916 –1920 with primary focus on the utility of non-violent satyagraha as a powerful weapon against the British rule. You must justify how this approach was different from others’ and in what way it proved to be phenomenal.

**Directive word:**

Elucidate – means to explain and clarify the topic with the aid of examples.

**Key demands of the question:**

The answer should bring out the efforts made by Mahatma Gandhi in the Indian freedom struggle with special emphasis on the initial phase of the of his struggle through nonviolent Satyagraha.
Structure of the answer:
Introduction
You can start by stating how the conditions during this period had provoked Gandhiji and led him to reveal a sense of estrangement from the British Raj and thus taking charge of satyagraha struggle.

Body
Discuss the following aspects –
What was Gandhi’s concept of Satyagraha? What was his strategy?
influence of the works of Leo Tolstoy’s Civil Disobedience and Ruskin’s ‘unto to the last’ on Gandhiji.
Policy of Satyagraha
Causes of the struggle.
significant struggles- Champaran Satyagraha (1917), Ahmadabad Mill Strike (1918), Kheda Satyagraha (1918).
Associated events – Government of India Act, 1919, Rowlatt Act and Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (1919), Khilafat Movement etc.

Keywords: Ahimsa satyagraha, Non-cooperation movement.

Conclusion
Conclude with importance of Gandhiji’s unmatched role in Indian freedom struggle.

Introduction:
Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi returned to his homeland after two decades of residence abroad in January 1915. The third and final phase of the Nationalist Movement [1917-1947] is known as the Gandhian era. His principles of nonviolence and satyagraha were employed against the British Government.

Body:

Gandhian Strategy:
The Gandhian strategy is the combination of truth, sacrifice, non-violence, selfless service and cooperation. Non-violence was a cardinal principle of Gandhian philosophy and was imbibed from Jainism and Vaishnavism. His leading ascended from grass-root level to the top. He never forced his authority upon the people.

Influences:
Gandhiji was greatly influenced by the works of Leo Tolstoy’s Civil Disobedience and Ruskin’s ‘unto to the last’. Tolstoy’s ideal of non-possession was developed by Gandhiji in his concept of ‘trusteeship’. He was also influenced by the life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda. His political Guru Gokhale and Dadabhai Narooji also influenced him. South Africa was the crucible that forged Gandhi’s identity as a political activist and was an important prelude to his return to India.

Policy of Satyagraha:
His non-violent satyagraha involved peaceful violation of specific laws. Gandhi’s system of Satyagraha was based on nonviolence, non co-operation, truth and honesty. He used this to convert the nationalist movement into a mass movement. He resorted to mass courting arrest and occasional hartals and spectacular marches. He had readiness for negotiations and compromise. His struggle against foreign rule is popularly known as ‘struggle-truce-struggle’.

During the course of 1917 and early 1918, Gandhiji was involved in three significant struggles:

- Champaran Satyagraha (1917)
  - Gandhi’s first great experiment in satyagraha came in 1917 in Champaran, a district in Bihar.
  - The peasantry on the indigo plantations in the district was excessively oppressed by the European planters and were compelled to grow indigo on at least 3/20th of their land and so sell it at prices fixed by the planters, a system popularly known as ‘Theen-Kathia system’.

Several peasants of Champaran invited Gandhi to come and help them.
(www.insightsonindia.com)

- Accompanied by Babu Rajendra Prasad, Mazhar-ul-Huq, J.B. Kripalani, Narhari Parekh and Mahadev Desai, Gandhi reached Champaran in 1917 and through his method and efforts, the disabilities from which the peasantry was suffering were reduced and Gandhiji won his first battle of civil disobedience in India.

**Ahmedabad Mill Strike (1918)**
- Gandhiji’s second struggle was at Ahmedabad in 1918 when he had to intervene in a dispute between the workers and the mill-owners.
- He advised the workers to go on strike and to demand a 35 per cent increase in wages.
- He insisted that the workers should not use violence against the employers during the strike.
- He undertook a fast unto death to strengthen the workers’ resolve to continue the strike.
- This put pressure on the mill owners who relented on the fourth day and agreed to give the workers a 35 per cent increase in wages.

**Kheda Satyagraha (1918)**
- The farmers of Kheda district in Gujarat were in distress because of the failure of crops.
- The government refused to remit land revenue and insisted on its full collection.
- As part of the experiment, Mahatma Gandhi advised the peasants to withhold payment of revenue till their demand for its remission was met.
- The struggle was withdrawn when it was learnt that the government had issued instructions that revenue should be recovered only from those peasants who could afford to pay.
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel became the follower of Gandhiji during the Kheda movement.

**Rowlatt Act and Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (1919)**
- The Rowlatt Act was passed in March 1919 by the Central Legislative Council to control the militant nationalist struggles and curtailed the liberty of the people.
- The Bill provided for speedy trial of offences by a special court and had no appeal.
- The provincial government had powers to search a place and arrest a suspected person without warrant. These gave unbridled powers to the government to arrest and imprison suspects without trial for two years maximum.
- It caused a wave of anger in all sections spreading a country-wide agitation by Gandhiji and marked the foundation of the Non-Cooperation Movement. Gandhiji organised the Satyagraha on 14th February, 1919. On 8th April, 1919 Gandhiji was arrested.
- In Punjab, there was an unprecedented support to the Rowlatt Satyagraha. Two prominent leaders of Punjab, Dr Satya Pal and Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew, were arrested in Amritsar.
- On 13th April, the Baisakhi day, a public meeting was organized at the Jallianwala Bagh. Dyer marched in and without any warning opened fire on the crowd killing hundreds of innocent civilians.
- There was a nationwide protest against this massacre and Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood as a protest.
- The Hunter Commission was appointed to enquire into the matter.
- The Jallianwala Bagh massacre gave a tremendous impetus to the freedom struggle and became a turning point in the history of India’s freedom movement.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- The main objective of the Khilafat movement was to force the British government change its attitude towards Turkey and restore the Khalifa to his former position.

- Turkey was defeated in the First World War and the harsh terms of the Treaty of Sevres (1920) was felt by the Muslims as a great insult to them.

- The Muslims in India were upset over the British attitude against Turkey and launched the Khilafat Movement which was jointly led by the Khilafat leaders and the Congress.

- Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, M.A. Ansari, Saifuddin Kitchlew and the Ali brothers were the prominent leaders of this movement.

- In November 1919, a joint conference of the Hindus and the Muslims held under the chairmanship of Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi was particularly interested in bringing the Hindus and the Muslims together to achieve the country’s independence.

- In February 1920, Gandhiji suggested to Khilafat Committee that it adopt a programme of nonviolent non-cooperation to protest the Government’s behavior.

- On 9 June, 1920 the Khilafat Committee at Allahabad unanimously accepted the suggestion of non-cooperation and asked Gandhiji to lead the movement.

- Four stages of non-cooperation were surrender of titles and honorary positions, resignation from civil services under the Government, resignation from Police and Army services and non-payment of taxes

- Subsequently, the Khilafat Movement merged with the Non-Cooperation Movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920.

Conclusion:

While Mahatma Gandhi’s mass appeal was undoubtedly genuine – and in the context of Indian politics, without precedent – it must also be stressed that his success in broadening the basis of nationalism was based on careful organisation. During this period Mahatma Gandhi became the undisputed leader of the National Movement.

The Morley- Minto Reforms did not and could not deliver a rejoinder to the Indian problems. Explain. (250 words)

Bipin Chandra, modern India – NCERT

Why this question:
The question is in the context of Morley- Minto Reforms; critique of its achievements for the betterment of India in the past and present.

demand of the question:
The question expects you to explain in detail the effects of Morley-Minto reforms as to how it could not and didn’t address the Indian problems. The reforms of 1909 could not come up to the expectations of the Indians, what the people of India demanded was that there should be set up a responsible government in the country. But the core of the reforms of 1909 was despotism and it was basically an attempt to create a constitutional autocracy.

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

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Introduce by stating the features of the Morley Minto Act 1909 and the background in which it came into existence.

Body
Discuss in detail the following aspects –
Background of the Act.
Salient Provisions under it.
Details on – Expansion of the Legislative Councils, Communal Representation and other key features.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

Critical Analysis of the Act

Conclusion

conclude with how the act turned to be an eyewash and an indirect effort of the British in establishing constitutional autocracy.

Introduction:

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

Body:

Background of the Act

- In October 1906, a group of Muslim elites called the Shimla Deputation, led by the Agha Khan, met Lord Minto and demanded separate electorates for the Muslims and representation in excess of their numerical strength in view of ‘the value of the contribution’ Muslims were making ‘to the defence of the empire’.

- The same group quickly took over the Muslim League, initially floated by Nawab Salimullah of Dacca along with Nawabs Mohsin-ul- Mulk and Waqar-ul-Mulk in December 1906.

- The Muslim League intended to preach loyalty to the empire and to keep the Muslim intelligentsia away from the Congress.

- John Morley, the Liberal Secretary of State for India, and the Conservative Viceroy of India, Minto, believed that cracking down on uprising in Bengal was necessary but not sufficient for restoring stability to the British Raj after Lord Curzon’s partitioning of Bengal.

- They believed that a dramatic step was required to put heart into loyal elements of the Indian upper classes and the growing Westernised section of the population.

Features of the Act

- It considerably increased the size of the legislative councils, both Central and provincial. The number of members in the Central Legislative Council was raised from 16 to 60. The number of members in the provincial legislative councils was not uniform.

- It retained official majority in the Central Legislative Council but allowed the provincial legislative councils to have non-official majority.

- The elected members were to be indirectly elected. The local bodies were to elect an electoral college, which in turn would elect members of provincial legislatures, who in turn would elect members of the central legislature.

- It enlarged the deliberative functions of the legislative councils at both the levels. For example, members were allowed to ask supplementary questions, move resolutions on the budget, and so on.

- It provided (for the first time) for the association of Indians with the executive Councils of the Viceroy and Governors. Satyendra Prasad Sinha became the first Indian to join the Viceroy’s Executive Council. He was appointed as the law member. Two Indians were nominated to the Council of the Secretary of State for Indian Affairs.

- It introduced a system of communal representation for Muslims by accepting the concept of ‘separate electorate’. Under this, the Muslim members were to be elected only by Muslim voters. Thus, the Act ‘legalised communalism’ and Lord Minto came to be known as the Father of Communal Electorate.
It also provided for the separate representation of presidency corporations, chambers of commerce, universities and zamindars.

Evaluation of the Reforms:

- The reforms of 1909 afforded no answer and could afford no answer to the Indian political problem. Lord Morley made it clear that colonial self-government (as demanded by the Congress) was not suitable for India, and he was against introduction of parliamentary or responsible government in India.
- The ‘constitutional’ reforms were, in fact, aimed at dividing the nationalist ranks by confusing the Moderates and at checking the growth of unity among Indians through the obnoxious instrument of separate electorates.
- The Government aimed at rallying the Moderates and the Muslims against the rising tide of nationalism.
- The officials and the Muslim leaders often talked of the entire community when they talked of the separate electorates, but in reality it meant the appeasement of a small section of the Muslim elite only.
- Congress considered separate electorate to be undemocratic and hindering the development of a shared Hindu-Muslim Indian national feeling.
- Besides, system of election was too indirect and it gave the impression of infiltration of legislators through a number of sieves.
- And, while parliamentary forms were introduced, no responsibility was conceded, which sometimes led to thoughtless and irresponsible criticism of the Government.
- Only some members like Gokhale put to constructive use the opportunity to debate in the councils by demanding universal primary education, attacking repressive policies and drawing attention to the plight of indentured labour and Indian workers in South Africa.
- The position of the Governor-General remained unchanged and his veto power remained undiluted and the Act was successfully maintained relentless constitutional autocracy.
- The reforms of 1909 gave to the people of the country a shadow rather than substance.

The Act of 1909 was important for the following reasons:

- It effectively allowed the election of Indians to the various legislative councils in India for the first time, though previously some Indians had been appointed to legislative councils.
- The introduction of the electoral principle laid the groundwork for a parliamentary system even though this was contrary to the intent of Morley.
- It also gave recognition to the elective principle as the basis of the composition of legislative council for the first time.
- It gave some further avenues to Indians to ventilate their grievances. They also got opportunity to criticise the executives and make suggestions for better administration.

Conclusion:

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

In what way did the Civil Disobedience Movement influence different provinces of India? How did it bring up peasant movement in India? Explain (250 words)

Bipin Chandra, India’s Struggle for Independence
**Why this question:**
The question is in the background of Civil disobedience movement and its impact on the provinces of India viz. Peshawar, Gujarat, Bihar, Bengal and others. One is expected to discuss nuances of how CDM lead to Peasant movement in India.

**Directive word:**
*Explain* – It means to bring out things clearly, by giving a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

**Key demands of the question:**
The answer should spotlight the main causes of the civil disobedience movement, its Spread and Methods, Government Response and End of it briefly and then move towards explaining how it affected the provinces, and most importantly how it gave a new dimension to the peasant movement.

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction**
Testify how Civil Disobedience Movement was started with Gandhi’s defiance of salt law in Dandi and in what way popular indignation gave it a self-sustained momentum throughout India.

**Body**
Discuss the following aspects –
- Cause of the movement, its momentum in brief.
- Its affect on different provinces – Peshawar- Badshah Khan – Khudai Khidmatgar, Sholapur- textile workers- virtual parallel government, Gujarat- no tax movement, Eastern states etc.
- influence on Peasant movements; massive no rent campaign, Prabhat pheris etc.

**Keywords:** defiance of salt law, Khudai Khidmatgar, Cunningham Circular, Manjari Senas, Gandhi-Irwin Pact etc.

**Conclusion**
Conclude with enormity of the movement in the Indian freedom struggle.

**Introduction:**

Gandhi addressed an ultimatum to Viceroy Lord Irwin on 31 January 1930, asking him to remove the evils of the British rule and also informed of his decision to undertake Civil Disobedience Movement. The aim of this movement was a complete disobedience of the orders of the British Government.

There was agitation against land revenue, abolition of salt tax, cutting down military expenditure, levying duty on foreign cloth, among others, throughout India. A very important movement was that of Salt Satyagraha where Gandhi undertook the Dandi march as a protest against the Salt tax.

**Body:**
**Causes** for the civil disobedience movement in brief:
- Formation of the Simon Commission:
- Failure of Demand for Dominion Status:
- Protests against the arrest of social revolutionaries:

It became clear to the nationalist leaders that the British government was not sincere in meeting the demand for Dominion Status. The INC met at an emergency session at Lahore in December 1929 under the Presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru and declared Complete Independence or ‘Purna Swaraj’ as the Congress goal. It also authorized Mahatma Gandhi to launch a comprehensive programme of civil disobedience at a time and place of his choosing.

**Influence of Civil Disobedience Movement on different provinces of India:**

With Gandhi’s symbolic breaking of salt laws at Dandi, defiance of salt laws started all over the country. Every section of society as Students, Women, Tribals, Merchants and Petty Traders, Workers & Peasants took active part in CDM.
The defiance of salt laws took place in different provinces too under leadership of various leaders. In Tamil Nadu, C Rajagopalachari led the Salt Satyagraha; K Kelappan headed in Malabar and in Dharasana Salt Works (Gujarat) by Sarojini Naidu and Manilal Gandhi.

The defiance of salt laws at Dharasana salt works deserves mention due to its sheer magnitude in which a band of 2000 volunteers offered non-violent resistance in the face of a strong police contingent armed with steel-tipped lathis and set upon the non-resisting Satyagrahis (protestors) till they fell down.

Apart from defiance of salt laws, the other forms of non-violent protests included the following:

- Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan raised the band of non-violent revolutionaries, the Khudai Khidmatgars, popularly knowns as the Red Shirts in the Peshawar region in the North West Frontier Province which played a crucial role in the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- Women, young mothers, widowed and unmarried girls, played an important role in the picketing of liquor shops and opium dens and stores selling foreign cloth. They used non-violent and persuasive means to convince the buyers and sellers to change their ways. They were ably supported by the students and youth in the boycott of foreign cloth and liquor.
- In Bihar, anti-Chowkidara tax campaign was initiated where villages refused to pay protection money to the local guards (chowkidars) who supplemented the meagre police forces in the rural areas. Rajendra Prasad took part in the anti-Chowkidara tax campaigns in Bihar.
- In Gujarat, a no-tax movement took place against payment of land revenue. This was most visible in Kheda, Surat and Broach districts. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel led the no-tax campaign in the Kheda district.
- Defiance of forest laws took place on a large scale in Maharashtra, Karnataka and the Central Provinces, especially in areas with large tribal populations.
- In Assam, a powerful agitation led by students was launched against the ‘Cunningham circular’ which forced students and their guardians to furnish assurances of good behaviour.
- In United Provinces, a no-revenue, no-rent campaign was organized against the government which soon turned into a no-rent campaign against the zamindars. Jawaharlal Nehru played an important role in organizing the no-revenue, no-rent campaign and the districts of Agra and Rae Bareli were the important centers of this campaign.
- The movement also popularized a variety of forms of mobilization like Prabhat Pheris, Paktivas, and Magic Lanterns.
- In Manipur and Nagaland, at the young age of thirteen, Rani Gaidinliu of Nagaland raised the banner of revolt against foreign rule. She was captured in 1932 and sentenced to life imprisonment.
- In Chittagong, Surya Sen’s Chittagong Revolt Group carried out a raid on two armouries. It declared the establishment of a provisional government.
- Provisional Governments were established in Ballia in UP by Chittu Pandey, Satara in Maharashtra.
- Significantly, for Indian women, the movement was the most liberating experience to date and the can be said to have marked their entry into public space.

CDM and peasant movements:

- The great depression had affected the price of the produce which was reduced by nearly 50% but other factors like taxes and rent were still the same. This caused lot of stress on the farmer.
- The CDM was launched and the farmers were asked to not pay rent or only pay 50% of it. The government repression was harsh on them. The young militant people were developed here.
- Anti-tax and no rent campaigns were also in full pace. Peasants were enthusiastic due to the recent success of the Bardoli Satyagraha.
- This led to a series of peasant movement in the country. A drive against chowkidara tax was launched in Bengal and Bihar, Kisan sabhas were initiated in Punjab and forest satyagraha was also taken up by the peasants by which they protested unscrupulous use of forest resources for commercial purposes.
- They were influenced by the leftist ideology by Nehru and Bose and the communist, socialist group. After the movement was withdrawn these people were looking for an outlet to their anger. The kisan leaders then formed All India Kisan Sabha as an answer. The kisan manifesto was made and given to the congress.
- Kisan sabhas also pushed for land reforms in the form of abolition of zamindari system in Bengal and Bihar.
- Faizpur session was the first session of INC in a rural area. It was presided over by Jawaharlal Nehru. Sane guruji worked hard to make in a success. The resolutions passed were related to peasant welfare, minimum wage for landless agriculture labour.
- It also led to the rise of the leftist parties in the country, starting with the Congress Socialist party in 1934, which held the motive of introducing radical reforms in the society, with the involvement of peasants and leading the awareness drive in the country.
- Seeing such an uproar in the peasant activities, the government also passed a number of reforms for debt relief, restoration of lands lost due to acquisition and non repayment of revenues during famines, which further encouraged the peasants to push for more reforms.
- the tebhanga agitation was the most popular. The share cropper of Bengal demanded that the share of jotedar of the produce should be reduced from half to one third. Also the cultivators wanted to store the produce in their godown’s and not of the jotedar’s.

Conclusion:

The civil disobedience movement of 1930-31, then marked a critically important stage in the progress of the anti-imperialist struggle. It also gave rise to a host of peasant movements to improve the conditions of peasants in India.

Do you think Mahatma Gandhi’s support to Khilafat Movement had diluted his secular credentials? Give your argument based on the evaluation of events. (250 words)
Bipin Chandra, modern India – NCERT

Why this question:
The question is in the context Gandhiji’s support to Khilafat movement during the Indian freedom struggle. demand of the question:
one is expected to evaluate whether Gandhiji’s secular credentials got diluted with Khilafat; by discussing the critiques and providing for the arguments that prove it otherwise.
Directive word
Evaluate – you must look into close details and establish the key facts and important issues surrounding the topic. You should try and offer reasons as to why the facts and issues you identified are the most important.
Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Introduce by stating the backdrop of Khilafat movement and how Gandhiji came to support the cause of it.
Body
Such questions should be addressed through a narration, the body of the answer should preferably first discuss as to why his support to the Khilafat movement seemed to have unsecular colors to it, why was he criticized by some under this pretext. Then move on to explain though the movement was based on religious issue, for Gandhiji was neither communal nor pro-Muslim nor an opportunistic leader but was a pragmatic statesman who had to make best use of the opportunities and resources available to him to attain independence from the British rule.
Conclusion
conclude with his purity of means, how the Chauri chaura incidence made him call off the movement depicting his only true religion was humanity.

Introduction:
Post World war 1, the allied powers had imposed harsh terms on the Sultan of Turkey who was revered by the Muslims across the world as ‘Khalifa’- the religious head of Islam. Therefore, the Indian Muslims led by Ali brothers launched the khilafat movement. Gandhi ji saw this as an opportune event to forge unity between the Hindus and Muslims who were drifting apart due to a volley of previous events.

Body:
The history of Indian national movement can be studied under three important phases

- 1885-1905: Moderate Nationalism
- 1906-1916: Swadeshi and Home-Rule Movement, Militant Nationalism

Muslims were apprehensive of INC’s freedom struggle:

- During the second phase, the extremists who were members of INC like Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Lala Lajpat Rai started off with Hindu Revivalism events.
- Tilak used Ganesh chathurthi, Shivaji Jayanti festivals as a medium to attract the citizens towards nationalism which estranged the Muslim brothers.
- Lajpat Rai was associated with the Shuddhi movement which involved reforms in the Hindu religion as well as wooing back the Hindus who had converted to Islam and Christianity.
- The setting up of Muslim League in 1906 was a watershed event which lead to partition ultimately.
- The Morley Minto reforms of 1909 provided the separate electorates for Muslims paving the way for strengthened Communalism.
- However, in the Lucknow Pact of 1916, a truce was made between the INC and Muslim league. They took part together in Home rule league movement in 1917. But, this honeymoon period didn’t last long.
- Thus, when Gandhi ji took up the leadership of Indian National movement, he felt a moral responsibility to forge a unity between the Hindus and Muslims.

Central Khilafat Committee in India (1919-1920) started by Muslim leaders like Abdul Bari, Maulana Azad and the Ali Brothers had the objectives of boycotting the titles, civil services, police and army and non-payment of taxes. Gandhi ji's Non-Cooperation Movement also had similar objectives. Hence, he saw an opportunity to merge the movements and approached the leaders. The latter were already impressed by Gandhi ji’s efforts in South Africa and immediately agreed to make Gandhi ji a member of Khilafat committee as his arrival gave a new strength to the agitation. Consequently, they merged the movements.

Yes, Gandhi ji's secular credentials were diluted to an extent due to

- Gandhi ji validated the demand for partition by agreeing to support a religious cause of Khilafat movement.
- According to the Khilafat hardcore members, the NCM was a fight against the Britishers as well as Hindu Landlords. This helped in further vitiating the relation between Muslims and hindus and led to rebellions like Moplah and riots against Hindu Jenmis in Aug 1921.
• The Khilafat movement didn’t succeed for long as the ruler of Turkey, Mustafa Kemal Pasha declared Turkey as a Republic and no more Monarchy in 1923. He further went on to abolish Caliphate in 1924 making Gandhi fight for a lost cause.

No, his secular credentials were intact because

• The seeds of Communalism was already sown in 1909 by granting communal electorates in Morley- Minto reforms and further bolstered in Lucknow Pact of 1916.

• The merging of Khilafat with NCM in 1920 led to strength of mass movement which left the British high and dry, thinking of the future. Thus, it was a net gain of funds and followers for Indian National Movement.

• Gandhi abruptly called off the NCM in 1922 following Chauri-Chaura incident which shows that his ideals of non-violence was more important to him.

• His equal respect for all cultures and religions implied the idea of mutual learning and inter-faith dialogue.

• Gandhi did not privilege any one religion over another, not even Hinduism. Religion for him was a matter of soft spirituality, rather than hard rituals and hard institutions.

• Gandhi knew that independence could not come about by the efforts of the Hindus alone. He, therefore, involved the Indian Muslims in the struggle.

• He never accepted the argument that Hindus and Muslims constituted two separate elements in Indian society. That is why Gandhi’s willingness to go out of his way to win over Muslims to the Congress won him many friends and admirers among the Muslims.

• Gandhi’s deliberate attachment to the Muslims and the Khilafat movement had helped him in reaching broader groups in Indian society and rising as a non-elitist leader in the Congress.

Conclusion:

For Gandhi the power of the nation was vested with the people, rather than religion. Till his last breath, Gandhi fought to keep Hindus and Muslims united. He was neither communal nor pro Muslim but a pragmatic leader. Gandhi was a statesman who made best use of the opportunities and resources available to him to attain independence from the British rule.

How did the movement for the emancipation of women receive a great impetus from the rise and growth of the nationalist movement in India? Elucidate. (250 words)

Bipin Chandra, India’s Struggle for Independence

Why this question:
The question is about how the movement for the liberation of women received a great stimulus from the rise of nationalist movement in the 20th century, the role women played in freedom struggle.

Directive word:
Elucidate – means to explain and clarify the topic with the aid of examples.

Key demands of the question:
The answer should highlight the active role women played in Indian freedom struggle and how this gave a stimulus to liberation of Women in India.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start with importance of women in general during the movement.

Body
Discuss the following aspects –
Factors that helped in arousing women consciousness during the period of struggle.
Role played by women in freedom struggle – one can trace chronologically the exponential rise in their participation.
Name some famous personalities; discuss their contributions.

Conclusion:

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**Conclusion**
with how the image and magnitude of participation of the Indian women within the national movement was drawn from vivid sections of the society.

**Introduction:**
From the first struggle in 1857 to the last struggle in 1942, Women have played an instrumental role in India’s struggle for independence. Women’s consciousness around social and national question grew simultaneously. Both men and women were leading the social reform movements since the 1880s and among various debates ‘Personal is Political’ was the recurring theme.

**Body:**

**Factors which helped in arousing women’s consciousness**

- Women caged in the traditional Indian construction of subordination were drawn into the political arena, motivated by many reasons which are related to both **personal and national requirement** as well.

- **Colonial domination and the traditional hierarchy** equally had played a significant role in bringing out women in the public arena.

- Gandhiji, during the freedom movement in 1920, successfully managed to evolve his discourse on the position of women both within and outside the domain of home.

- Issues such as child marriage and widow remarriage were simultaneously addressed.

- The late 19th century educational reforms produced a new variety of reading and writing public. Educational and political awareness through newspapers influenced the educated. They discussed about radical ideas for women empowerment. Example: In 1908, Rokeya Sekhawat wrote ‘Sultana’s Dream’ in which idea of women’s own governance system was introduced.

- 19th century women’s own organisation mushroomed all over India. Sarala Debi Chaudhurani organised ‘Bharat Stree Mahamandal’ in 1910. She combined Hindu revivalism with political protest

- The revolutionary women of the 20th century were mobilized to take up arms for the nation inspiring from the tradition of **Razia Sultana and Jhansi**

- Evoking of symbols contributing to the mobilization of women is associated with politicizing the domestic sphere. For instance Gandhi politicized the ordinary items like salt which are associated with the daily lives of women. This had contributed to the larger participation of ordinary middle class women.

**Role played by women in freedom struggle:**

- During Swadeshi campaign their activities were limited to boycott of foreign cloth and picketing of liquor shops. A nationalistic **cult around Bharat Mata (mother India)** started to emerge which further necessitated the role of women.

- In the second phase of women participation, idea of Home Rule and constitutionalism became dominant. Some western women played significant role in this. **Annie Besant**, who became the first woman president of Indian National congress, launched Home Rule movement.

- **Margret Cousins** drafted Indian women’s voting rights bill and launched Women’s India Association. Sarojini Naidu emerged as an important national leader who later became the President of INC.

- In third phase, the women’s participation in Non Cooperation movement helped in incorporating women from all over India. Independent bodies of women such as **Rashtriya Stree Sanghas** were fused with District Congress Committees. It also saw inclusion of women from all sections – Hindu/ Muslim, widows, scheduled/marginalised sections.
**SECURE SYNOPSIS**

- **Bi Amma**, the mother of Ali brothers addressed 6000 women to join men in picketing. In Andhra Pradesh, a vibrant Durgabai collected over a thousand devadasis to hear Gandhi’s speech.

- Gandhi’s vision tried to transform widow’s personal renunciation into a political ideology. It was this politicized and idealized Hindu widowhood which was used by Gandhi to motivate public consciousness towards a pacific but consistent struggle.

- The next stage of national movement saw mounted levels of scale and space of women’s participation. In a book called *Mother India*, the writer Katherine Mayo criticised the Hindu men and slave like condition of women within the family. Nationalists and reformers were compelled to focus on families and making the domestic space non violent. Also this criticism bound Indian men and women together to national honour.

- During Civil Disobedience, women volunteers participated in marches boycotts and prabhat pheris. Desh Sevika Sangh, patriotic groups within their association, was formed for passive resistance. Sarojini Naidu, Muthulaxmi Reddy, Margret Cousins were jailed.

- In the event of men’s arrest, the women’s organisation took on the task of carrying on civil disobedience and organising meetings.

- Once the women’s nationalist consciousness was awakened in varying degrees, they began exploring different methodologies of achieving political freedom.

- **Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA)** saw contribution by Durgavati Devi who helped Bhagat Singh in his escape after the Saunders killing. Kalpana Dutta of Indian Republican Army led the armed resistance along with Surya Sen. She was joined with Pritilata Waddedar in 1931 in attacking the European club in Chittagong. Many like Jyotirmoyee Ganguli even left government jobs to boycott the British oppression.

- Be it Sarojini Naidu in Salt March, Vijaya Laxmi in CDM, Kasturba in QIM, Madam Bhikaiji Cama among Indians in UK, Rehana Tyabjee as President of Youth Congress, Captain Laxmi Sahgal in INA or Rani Gaidinliu during Manipur rebellion.

- Matangini Hajra, Durgabai Deshmukh and many others from poor and middle class families Begum Safia Wajid, Rehana Tyabjee and Rajkumari Amrita Kaur and many other from affluent Muslim families and royal lineage came out.

**Conclusion:**

The image and magnitude of participation of the Indian women within the national movement was drawn from the multilayered nations of *Mother India and Victorian morality*. From liberal homes to conservative families, urban centers to rural hamlets, Hindu and Muslim, single and married, young and old, mothers and daughters, wives and sisters- all women came forward to help India attain its independence. The history of women and independence movement is not an end in itself but has roots extended to this day.

Discuss the salient features of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. Also discuss why was it signed and what were its consequences. (250 words)

**Bipin Chandra, modern India – NCERT**

**Why this question:**

The question is in the context Gandhi-Irwin Pact signed on 5th March 1931.

**demand of the question:**

you should discuss the salient features of the pact, the background in which it was signed, the causes and consequences.

**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:**
SECURE SYNOPSIS

One can narrate the background of events briefly that were preceded to the pact.

Body

Discuss the Salient features of the act viz. The Congress would participate in the Round Table Conference, The Congress would discontinue the Civil Disobedience Movement, The Government would withdraw all ordinances issued to curb the Congress etc. Then discuss the pressing congress due to which the pact was signed.

Conclusion

conclude with the outcome and its effect on Freedom struggle.

Introduction:

In 1930, the Salt Satyagraha was conducted and India and Gandhi received worldwide attention. The British government in India was criticised for its unjust treatment of Indians. Gandhi and many other leaders were imprisoned along with thousands of Indians. Lord Irwin wanted the issue to come to an end. So, Gandhi was released from prison in January 1931.

Gandhiji was authorised by the then President of the Congress, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, to negotiate with Lord Irwin. Gandhi-Irwin Pact (Delhi Pact) is the name of a political agreement concluded by Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin, the then Viceroy of India, signed on 5th March 1931.

Body:

The proposed terms of the “Gandhi-Irwin Pact”:

- Gandhiji was impressed with Irwin’s sincerity and on behalf of the Indian National Congress agreed to discontinue the Civil Disobedience movement.
- The INC agreed to join the second Round Table Conference to chalk out constitutional reforms.
- Withdrawal of all ordinances issued by the Government of India imposing curbs on the activities of the Indian National Congress
- Withdrawal of all prosecutions relating to several types of offenses except those involving violence
- Release of prisoners arrested for participating in the Civil disobedience movement.
- Removal of the tax on salt, which allowed the Indians to produce, trade, and sell salt legally and for their own private use

The Government agreed to the following:

- They also agreed to withdraw trials relating to several offences except those involving violence and release of prisoners arrested for participating in the civil disobedience movement.
- It was also agreed that the British would remove the tax on salt, which allowed Indians to produce, trade, and sell salt legally and for their own use.
- Villages that were located along the coast were given the right to make salt for their consumption.
- Confiscated properties of the satyagrahis was to be restored.
- Peaceful picketing of foreign clothes and liquor shops was to be permitted.
- All ordinances were to be withdrawn and prosecutions ended. British would withdraw all orders imposing curbs on the activities of the Indian National Congress.
- It agreed to the lenient treatment of all government servants who had resigned from service in the wake of the civil disobedience movement.
- It agreed to forego fines not yet collected.

However, the pact failed on the following accounts:
• The pact, however, failed to garner major concessions from the British Raj as it was glaringly lacking many terms proposed by Gandhi as the minimum ones required for a peaceful accord.

• A public inquiry into police excesses during its suppression of the movement.

• Commuting the death sentences of Bhagat Singh and his associates to life sentences.

• Many felt unhappy that Gandhi stopped his movement when the people were in high spirit of victory and while the Government stood demoralized. Gandhi gave his logic that the nation had suffered to a great extent and needed an interval to fight the next phase of the struggle with more vigour and vitality.

• The Second Round Table Conference in London which Gandhiji attended with Sarojini Naidu, proved to be futile as the British did not honour their demands.

• Lord Irwin was succeeded by Willington who was unlike Irwin very rigid and ignored many provisions of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact.

Conclusion:

The Gandhi-Irwin Pact had far reaching implications for the Congress as well as India. British acceptance of the Congress as the sole representative of the people of India brought the INC on an equal footing with the British government. Even though the Congress had suspended the Civil Disobedience movement, the status and prestige of the Congress were significantly increased after the signing of the pact.

Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.

Discuss how the approach of Gandhiji and Pandit Nehru to the issue of Socialism as a goal of National Policy was different and also indicate the impact of their views on our Constitution and Government policy. (250 words)

Bipin Chandra, India after Independence

Why this question:
The question is about comparison of the methods of Gandhiji and Pandit Nehru and more so specifically with respect to Socialism as a goal of Nationalism and about how they have left an imprint on our constitution even today.

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.

Key demands of the question:
The answer should highlight the approach of Gandhiji towards socialism as a goal of Nationalism and then Pandit Nehru’s views towards it and his approach. The answer must also bring out how today’s constitution also manifests their contributions towards the idea of socialism, and not only that but even in government policies.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start with importance of socialism as a goal of Nationalism then and today.

Body
Discuss the different approaches of the 2 –
The policy of Nehru was based upon the fact that there must be industrial development at all costs. Nehru wanted a country with Modern Large Scale Industries, while Gandhi, who was in favor of autonomous villages. Gandhi wanted village as an independent unit, while Nehru wanted it as a subordinate unit to a higher organization. Gandhi wanted a cottage based economy etc. then move on to discuss their impact on constitution – the socialist principles of the constitution that are enshrined because of them, and even the government policies of today. A good answer should have examples of both to justify better. For ex. The recent ban of liquor in Bihar was a socialist principle based policy as suggested by Gandhiji.

Conclusion
Conclude with how the image of the two has imprints in our society even today.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

Introduction:

Socialism in India is a political movement founded early in the 20th century, as a part of the broader Indian independence movement against the colonial British Raj. It grew quickly in popularity as it espoused the causes of India’s farmers and labourers against the zamindars, princely class and landed gentry. It shaped the principal economic and social policies of the Indian government after independence until the early 1990s, when India moved towards a more market-based economy. However, it remains a potent influence on Indian politics, with a large number of national and regional political parties espousing democratic socialism.

Body:

Socialism was a global fashion in the first half of the 20th century and was even stronger in the British Commonwealth than in other parts of the world. Though Gandhi and Nehru were both great leaders of the Indian nation toward an independent state, their values and the methods they embraced, and their notions of the term “progress” vastly differed. India chose to embrace a Nehruvian development scheme meant it is vital we analyze the two possibilities that could have been; essentially comparing the ideations of Nehru and Gandhi.

- **Nehruvian Socialism:**
  
  - Nehru pressed for a socialist development in the country with “touch” of capitalism.
  
  - Nehruvian development implied a model following the Soviet and Chinese examples of that time. He believed that the large scale industrial development and the planning based economic growth models they followed was the best method by which to take the Indian Economy forward and onto the global field.
  
  - Newly independent India needed to be delivered from its tattered past marked by colonial and feudalistic exploitation and humiliation.
  
  - For him, socialism and the state were unsurpassed tools of making a tired, exploited and humiliated people into a modern, self-confident, progressive nation.
  
  - Nehru created a mechanism forcing the individuals and businesses to conform to a state determined planning process.
  
  - Nehru used whatever tools his Western education exposed him to—greater role of the state in production and planning. The state would create a fair and prosperous world for all.
  
  - Socialism, whose essence is the removal of poverty and establishment of equal opportunities if not of equality in the strictest sense, has necessarily to suit the conditions of each country, and Nehru’s constant effort was to bring about changes without destroying the fabric of Indian society, even if certain parts of that fabric were to be replaced.

- **Gandhian Socialism:**
  
  - It is largely characterized by its affinity to the principles and objectives of nonviolent humanistic socialism.
  
  - It rejects any form of favouritism or violent class war.
  
  - It also promotes the socio-economic harmony- especially the village economy.
  
  - It emphasises on Decentralization of power, where each village is a self-sufficient unit with utmost autonomy.
  
  - Gandhi’s economic ideas also aim to promote spiritual development and harmony with a rejection of materialism.
  
  - Gandhi’s emphasis on peace, “trusteeship” and co-operation has been touted as an alternative to competition.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Gandhian focus on human development is also seen as an effective emphasis on the eradication of poverty, social conflict and backwardness in developing nations.
- The value of an industry should be gauged less by the dividends it pays to shareholders than by its effect on the bodies, soul and spirits of the people employed in it.

Impact of the Gandhian and Nehruvian Socialism on Constitution and Policies:

- Nehru focused on the development of heavy industries which would produce capital goods, a move intended to create a base of capital stock on which the production of consumer goods could steadily take place.
- Nehru also directed investment towards higher education, setting up institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT), Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) and the National Institute of Design (NID), in a bid to ensure that the human capital levels in India would be high enough to prevent the market from being dominated by just a handful of players.
- Nehru’s unflinching commitment to democracy, his unwavering belief in secularism and his emphasis on scientific research and development.
- Nehru’s vision incorporated a strong state which would help develop a foundation on which a market economy could later flourish.
- In the 42nd amendment, the phrase ‘socialist’ was added to the preamble of Indian Constitution. Therefore, India became a “democratic socialist” country.
- India’s socialist pattern of society will be classless and casteless. Her socialism will be based on noble means, guaranteeing freedom of thought and conscience.
- A comprehensive policy of social reorganization has been taken up in the form of Panchayat Raj, Co-operative Farming and community Development Projects to quicken progress towards Socialism and strengthen parliamentary democracy.
- In Indian framework, the “socialist” gives a positive direction to State activities. They include:
  - Eradicating poverty; increasing production; Modernizing the economy; preventing the growth of monopoly; Reducing disparities and inequalities between different classes, castes and religions.
- It is appraised that socialism in Indian Constitution seeks to establish a welfare State.

Conclusion:

Despite the economic reforms of 1991, India still follows the Socialist principles of both Gandhi and Nehru seen in the forms of Public-Private Partnerships, State support to the weaker sections of society, strengthening the local governments, promotion of MSMEs and village industries etc. A good mix of both Gandhian and Nehruvian socialist ideals has ensured the development fruits to reach all citizens.

In what way did Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel get ahead in avoiding the evil consequences of the doctrine of lapse of paramountcy and in integrating Indian States? Examine. (250 words)

Bipin Chandra, modern India – NCERT

Why this question:
The question is in the context of role lead by Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel in integrating Indian States and dealing with the evils of paramountcy of doctrine of lapse.

demand of the question:
you should discuss how Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel took the charge post-independence and sensed the urgent and imperative need of in integrating Indian States, his tactics, broke the union of separatist Princes and by 15th August 1947, all except Hyderabad, Junagarh and Kashmir acceded to India.

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

Structure of the answer:

Introduction
Narrate the background of events – the declaration of doctrine of lapse of paramountcy by the Britain.

Body
Elaborate on – Sardar Patel’s plan to integrate princely states; Rapid Integration of States, Creating Unions out of States, Using Force at right time- when some states like Junagadh, Hyderabad, Travancore etc. wanted to join Pakistan or stay independent.
And Thus Patel avoided the evil consequences with his patience, quick decision making skills at right time to proceed the rapid integration of states.

Conclusion
conclude with the outcome and its effect on Freedom struggle.

Introduction:

With the enactment of Indian Independence Act, 1947, it declared the lapse of suzerainty (paramountcy) of the Crown. The Indian States regained their position which they had prior to the assumption of suzerainty by the Crown. The ‘iron man of India’, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was valued on one hand for being politically astute and on the other hand for his pragmatic acumen, necessary to bring together the more than 500 bits and pieces of royal territories into the fold of the Indian union.

Body:

The issue of the princely states was not an easy affair to resolve. Unsurprisingly, when the British announced their departure, most of the princes thought it to be the best moment to claim independent statehood. There were many others, who were caught in a tug of war between India and Pakistan.

Patel often invoked the patriotism of the princes in his attempt to convince them to join India. On other occasions he reminded them of the possibility of anarchy and on event of their refusal to join. He also introduced the concept of ‘privy purses’ as a payment to be made to the families of the princes for their agreement to integrate with India.

With great skill and masterful diplomacy & using both persuasion & pressure, Patel succeeded in integrating hundreds of princely states. Most princely states joined Constituent Assembly with wisdom but others like of Junagarh, Kashmir, Manipur and Hyderabad publicly announced their desire to claim an independent status.

- Junagarh
  - A small state on the coast of Saurashtra surrounded by Indian Territory
  - Had no link with Pakistan yet Nawab announced accession to Pak
  - But majority of the people (majorly Hindu), desired to join India
  - This led to a violent movement against Nawab along with Indian troops marching into the state
  - A plebiscite was held which favoured joining India.

- Jammu and Kashmir
  - Hindu ruler Hari Singh tried to negotiate with India & Pak to have an independent status for his state.
  - Since majority population of the state was Muslim, the Pakistan thought Kashmir ‘belonged’ to them.
  - On 15th August Harisingh offered standstill agreement with both countries which allowed the free movement of people & goods.
  - Pakistan signed the agreement but India didn’t.
o Pakistan became impatient & started violating standstill agreement.

o 24th October Hari Singh demanded military assistance from India.

o Mountbatten pointed out that under international law India can send its troops only after state signs a formal instrument of accession

o Thus on 26th Oct Maharaja signed instrument of accession which got ratified in 1954.

o On 27th Oct. morning nearly 100 planes airlifted men and weapons to Srinagar.

o Pakistan army left the main valley region but continue to occupy a large chunk of territory of Gilgit, Baltistan region – Pak occupied Kashmir.

• Hyderabad

o Largest princely state of India which was ruled by Nizam

o Nizam led to tyrannical ways & aspired to set up a Muslim dominion rather than integration with India

o He wanted an independent status for Hyderabad & thus entered into negotiation of standstill agreement with India

o Meanwhile people revolted against Nizam’s rule, particularly the peasants of Telangana due to his worst oppression measures.

o Nizam retaliated on popular movement by unleashing a para-military force

o 150,000 soldiers were mobilized by Nizam to fight against the Indian Union

o They murdered, maimed, raped and looted, targeting particularly the non-Muslims

o In Sep 1948, Indian army under operation Polo invaded Hyderabad state & overthrew its Nizam, annexing the state merged it into the Indian Union.

• Manipur

o Indian government was prepared to be flexible in giving autonomy to some regions.

o Maharaja of Manipur signed the instrument of Accession with the Indian government on the assurance that the internal autonomy of Manipur would be maintained.

o Under the pressure of public view, Maharaja held elections in Manipur in June 1948 & thus state became a constitutional monarchy.

o Manipur was the 1st part of India to hold an election based on universal adult franchise.

o Government of India succeeded in pressurizing the Maharaja into signing a Merger Agreement in September 1949, without consulting the popularly elected Legislative Assembly of Manipur.

o This caused a lot anger and resentment in Manipur, the consequences of which are still being felt.

Sardar Patel had strong will and his decisiveness, taking tough decisions, and his undivided loyalty towards Mahatma Gandhi marks him out among his peers. His skillful combination of diplomatic persuasion of pointing to the larger long term interests of the population and also with a certain amount of arms twisting which made it clear that there would be a price to pay if the rulers did not accept the conditions the Indian government was putting.

Conclusion:

Often referred to as the “Bismarck of India”, Patel was instrumental in bringing India together. Patel laid out the initial framework for persuading the princes to join, it was his secretary, V.P. Menon, who did the actual groundwork of coaxing them. The final touch in the process was applied by the Viceroy Lord Mountbatten.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

Analyze the significance of the Dravidian movement in the post-independence history of India.(250 words)

Bipin Chandra- India after Independence

**Why this question:**
The question is about the Dravidian movement in the post-independence history of India and its significant impact.

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

**Key demands of the question:**
The answer should highlight the genesis of Dravidian movement in India from the peninsular region from – Justice party to Self-respect Movement to formation of Dravidar Kazhagam, into the concept of Anti-North Orientation and later Dravida Nadu getting Split into Dravidar Kazhagam and formation of DMK AIDMK. Thus parallely highlighting the significance of the movement.

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction**
Start by tracing historical genesis of the movement through the formation of Justice party and how the roots of the Dravidian movement lie in Brahmin-non-Brahmin conflict.

**Body**
Discuss what way the Dravidian Movement initiated as a movement against Brahmins, after independence added the dimension of Anti north orientation, Role of Periyar, demand for Independent south Indian nation/ Dravida Nadu or Dravidsthlan, later anti-Hindi protests. Briefly provide for a passing reference for the failures along with the social reforms it brought in.

**Keywords:**
Ideals of self-respect and social empowerment, Brahmin hegemony, leadership of C N Annadurai, Dravida Nadu / Dravistan etc.

**Conclusion**
Conclude that despite limitations, the Dravidian movement was successful in the abolition of Devadasi system, promotion of inter-caste and inter-religious marriages and legalization of marriages without Brahman priest and therefore reducing Brahmanical dominance.

**Introduction:**
The Justice Party was a political party in the Madras Presidency of British India established in 1917 by T. M. Nair and P. Thyagaraya Chetty. It was the first backward class mobilization which created social change and political empowerment. It opposed Brahmins in civil service and politics, and this anti-Brahmin attitude shaped many of its ideas and policies. The root of the Dravidian movement lies here.

**Body:**

The Self-Respect Movement or Dravidian Movement:

It was founded in 1925 by E. V. Ramasamy Naicker or Periyar with the aim of achieving a society where backward sections have equal human rights, and encouraging backward sections to have self-respect. Periyar wrote several articles on women’s rights, on atheism and against the caste system. He represented alternative political traditions in the age when Indian national congress was attempting to establish a unitary ideal of nationalism against colonialism.

The main objectives of Dravidian movement were:

- Dismantling of Brahmin hegemony.
- Revitalization of the “Dravidian Languages” (that include Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, and Tamil).
- Social reform by the abolition of existing caste systems, religious practices
- Equality with stress on economic and social justice to fight the inequalities.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Rejection of domination of north in southern politics.
- Reversion of Tamil culture and ethos as mentioned in the ancient Sangam literature
- Social reform by the abolition of existing caste systems, religious practices for which he advocated inter-caste self-respect marriages without the need for Brahmin priest.
- Glorifying the Tamil history and language by appealing to people to give up the caste suffix in their names, and to not mention caste.
- Recasting women’s equal position in the society by empowerment to take their own decisions.
- He instituted inter-dining with food cooked by Dalits in public conferences in the 1930s.
- He demanded that self-respect should precede Swaraj.
- The justice party was taken over and renamed it as Dravida Kazhagam.

Post Independence Events:

- The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) was formed in 1949 by some of the ambitious followers of Periyar under the leadership of C N Annadurai.
- Unlike Periyar this group had deep seated political ambitions. The DK and DMK movement, started initially as a protest against the domination of the Brahmins in Tamilnadu, was given a new dimension after India’s Independence when the attack was directed against the alleged domination of North India.
- Main demand of the DMK was establishment of a separate Dravida Nadu / Dravidistan consisting of the four southern states.
- After the 16th Constitutional Amendment (popularly known as the Anti-Secessionist Amendment), secessionist tendency was declared illegal and the demand for politically independent nation faded away.
- The party stance changed from the demand for secessionism to greater state autonomy while limiting the powers of center making Indian federalism into a bargaining federalism.
- Efforts by the Indian Government to make Hindi the sole official language after 1965 was not acceptable to many non-Hindi Indian states, who wanted the continued use of English.
- Even after passage of Official Languages in 1963 and an amendment in 1967, the issue of language has not been resolved for example Tamil Nadu passed a resolution in 2006 to make Tamil the official language of Madras high court.

Outcomes of Dravidian Movement:

Limitations:

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

Successes:

- The Dravidian movement was successful in the abolition of Devadasi system
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Promotion of inter-caste and inter-religious marriages
- Legalization of marriages without Brahman priest and therefore reducing brahminical dominance.

Conclusion:

The Dravidian Movement played a seminal role in shaping the history of Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu today presents a complex relationship, which intertwines a balance of power expressed through caste, populist mobilisation based on Tamil identity, and a penchant for welfarism in policymaking.

Discuss the post-independence refugee problem in India. What were the measures taken to deal with refugees and rehabilitate them? How has the approach changed from then, in today’s context?

Comment. (250 words)

Bipin Chandra – India after Independence

Why this question:
The question is in the context of post-independence Refugee crisis that immediately followed the partition of the country in 1947, The question is in general about the crisis and how the government then handled it and until today what changes have been witnessed in terms of Refugee problems and the measures taken to resolve them.

demand of the question:
The question directly is asking you to discuss the measures/steps taken by the Government of India to resolve the issue of Refugees post-independence. Thus one should very briefly discuss the issue and major focus should be on the “Measures”, later part of the answer should bring out the present conditions of refugees in India, how the government of today is handling it.

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
Narrate the background of events India- Pak partition, further division of Pak into East Pakistan and West Pakistan which later on led to the formation of Bangladesh and highlight the problems of Refugees and their rehabilitation.

Body
Pick up the Refugee issue across the borders of the country from past to present mainly – The refugee of Partition, The Bangladeshi refugee, Tibetan refugee Sri Lankan Tamil refugees, Afghan refugees, Rohingya refugees, Chakma and Hejong refugees etc. Discuss problems, measures taken to tackle them (each one had a tailor made approach) etc. and discuss the conditions of today.

Keywords:
Human rights, mass exodus, violence, national security, etc.

Conclusion
conclude how over the years India has received wave after wave refugees from many of its neighbors'. And the government of India has generally followed the principle of non-refoulement, refusing to send refugees back to a place where they face a threat to their life.

Introduction:

A refugee is defined as a person who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country. In the seven decades since it became an independent country, India has seen and largely welcomed waves of migrants fleeing conflict in neighbouring nations

Body:

- The refugee of Partition:
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- People who crossed over the newly formed boundaries between India and Pakistan—by choice or forcibly—didn’t lose their nationalities, they were still forced to live the lives of a refugee.
- Refugee camps across north India served as homes for those who had borne the brunt of Partition.
- The fledgling state was just trying to stand on its feet and struggling to provide these refugees with basic amenities like food, clothing and shelter, the 1948 war with Pakistan broke out.

**Measures:**

- Since these refugees were automatically the citizens of newly independent India, the question of a threat to national security due to their presence was out of the question.
- The rehabilitation of the Partition refugees was carried out due to efforts of activists like Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay.
- The numbers were such that an entire city—Faridabad—had to be built to rehabilitate refugees who were living in appalling conditions in various camps.

**Tibetan refugee Crisis:**

- Almost a decade after Partition, in 1959, the Dalai Lama, along with more than 100,000 followers, fled Tibet and came to India seeking political asylum.
- Granting asylum to them on humanitarian grounds proved costly to India, earning the ire of the Chinese government and led to the 1962 war.
- Sino-Indian relations took a major hit. Border issues between the two countries, and Chinese encroachment on Indian territory, began to crop up with greater frequency

**Measures:**

- Political asylum was granted with Refugee colonies set up in various parts of the country across northern and north-eastern Indian states.
- The seat of the Dalai Lama, the spiritual as well as the political leader of the Tibetan community, was established in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh.
- The Tibetan refugees continue to live harmoniously, largely, with other local Indian groups and as a community they are perceived as ‘peaceful’.

**The Bangladeshi refugee:**

- During Bangladesh’s war of independence in 1971, when millions of refugees migrated from the country to India, fleeing the conflict between the Pakistani army and Bangladeshi forces.
- This led to a sudden spike in population in states bordering Bangladesh, and it became increasingly difficult for the government of India to ensure food security.
- According to some estimates, more than 10 million Bangladeshi refugees escaped in 1971 and took shelter in India.
- Unlike the Tibetan refugees, they are seen as a security threat.
- The constant tussle between the local communities and Bangladeshi refugees today often sparks violence, resulting all too often in deaths.
- The conflict is fiercest in a number of north-eastern states, such as Assam, Tripura and Manipur.

**Measures:**

- The **Supreme Court** ordered and is monitoring the preparation of a **National Registry of Citizens**.

**The Sri Lankan Tamil refugees:**

- The...
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Another sizeable group of refugees in India comprises Sri Lankan Tamils who abandoned the island nation.
- Active discriminatory policies by successive Sri Lankan governments, events like the Black July Riots of 1983, and the bloody Sri Lankan civil war has fuelled the issue.
- More than 1.34 lakh Sri Lankan Tamils crossed the Palk Strait to India between 1983 and 1987 during the first in flow. In three more phases, many more refugees entered India.
- The refugees remain a sensitive issue, which has time and again strained India’s—and Tamil Nadu’s—relations with Sri Lanka.

Measures:

- The war-torn Sri Lankans sought refuge in southern India with more than 60,000 refugees currently staying in 109 camps in Tamil Nadu alone, since it was easier for them, as Tamils, to adjust to life there.
- The Afghan refugees:
  - While not one of the larger refugee groups in the country, a number of Afghans also took shelter in India after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979. Small groups of Afghan refugees kept coming to India in subsequent years.

Measures:

- These refugees are mostly concentrated in and around Delhi, and have largely established spaces for themselves.
- According to the website of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), many of the Hindu and Sikh Afghans who came to India after fleeing fighting in their home country in the early 1990s have been granted citizenship over the past decade.
- Both the World Bank and UNHCR reports suggest that currently India has more than 200,000 Afghan refugees living in its territory.
- The Rohingya refugees:
  - The debate over refugees gained national prominence yet again last year after 40,000 Rohingya Muslims escaped Myanmar to take shelter in India.
  - The office of the UNHCR has issued identity cards to about 16,500 Rohingya in India, which it says helps “prevent harassment, arbitrary arrests, detention and deportation” of refugees.
  - India has categorized the Rohingya as illegal immigrants and a security threat, siding with the Burmese government.

Measures:

- The Indian government has appealed to Myanmar to take back the Rohingya refugees.
- The Chakma and Hajong refugees:
  - Many from the Chakma and Hajong communities—who once lived in the Chittagong hill tracts, most of which are located in Bangladesh—have been living as refugees in India for more than five decades, mostly in the North-East and West Bengal.
  - According to the 2011 census, 47,471 Chakmas live in Arunachal Pradesh alone.

Measures:

- In 2015, the Supreme Court of India had directed the central government to give citizenship to both Chakma and Hajong refugees.
In September 2017, the government of India decided to provide citizenship to these groups, despite opposition from many groups in Arunachal Pradesh, where these refugees are concentrated.

**Indian status on international conventions:**

India is neither a signatory to the 1951 Refugees’ Convention nor the 1967 protocol, which has 140 signatories, the country has still served as a home to the largest refugee population in South Asia.

**Conclusion:**

Over the years India has received wave after wave refugees from many of its neighbours. The government’s statements during the Rohingya crisis notwithstanding, India has generally followed the principle of non-refoulement, refusing to send refugees back to a place where they face a threat to their life. For a country of India’s resources, this is an achievement of no small magnitude.

Was Jawaharlal Nehru right in adopting the principle of non-alignment as the cornerstone of India’s foreign policy? Examine. (250 words)

Bipin Chandra - India after Independence

**Why this question:**
The question is about analyzing the importance of the principle of non-alignment as the cornerstone of India’s foreign policy by Jawaharlal Nehru post-independence.

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

**Key demands of the question:**
The answer should provide for a close examination of India’s foreign policy as adopted by Jawaharlal Nehru post-independence against the backdrop of world war II, and how exactly Nehru took over the nation with the hope of forging amicable relationship with countries of the world.

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction**

Start by pointing out the importance of the policy, how it started – India became the first country to begin a policy that was new in the history of international relations – the policy of Non-Alignment which was founded in 1961 in Belgrade and was ably supported by Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, President Sukarno of Indonesia and Joseph Broz Tito of Yugoslavia.

**Body**

Discuss the following important factors:

Trace the backdrop of the NAM and its origin.

Importance of the policy – Nehru’s pacifism and his strong support of the United Nations. what way he pioneered the policy of non-alignment.

professing neutrality between the rival blocs of nations led by the US and the USSR.

technique to maintain world peace.

Factors responsible for adopting Non alignment.

struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, and all forms of foreign aggression, occupation, domination, interference or hegemony as well as against great power and bloc politics

**Keywords:**

India’s economic backwardness, neutralism, decolonized nation, 1955 Bandung Conference, Lusaka Conference (third conference) 1970, Havana Declaration etc.

**Conclusion**

Conclude with contemporary relevance of the NAM.
secure synopsis

India played an important role in the multilateral movements of colonies and newly independent countries. India’s foreign policy was neither negative nor positive. India became the first country to begin a policy that was new in the history of international relations – the policy of Non-Alignment which was founded in 1961 in Belgrade and was ably supported by Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, President Sukarno of Indonesia and Joseph Broz Tito of Yugoslavia.

Body:

Origin:

- The Non-Aligned Movement was formed during the Cold War as an organization of States that did not seek to formally align themselves with either the United States or the Soviet Union, but sought to remain independent or neutral.
- The movement represented the interests and priorities of developing countries. The Movement has its origin in the Asia-Africa Conference held in Bandung, Indonesia in 1955.

Importance of the policy:

- It identifies the right of independent judgment, the struggle against imperialism and neo-colonialism, and the use of moderation in relations with all big powers as the three basic elements that have influenced its approach.
- The policy of non-alignment was based on the five principles of Panchasheel, which directed international conduct. These principles which were envisaged and formulated in 1954, were mutual respect for each other’s territorial integrity and sovereignty; non-interference in each other’s military and internal affairs; mutual non-aggression; equality and mutual benefit and finally, peaceful coexistence and economic cooperation.
- The policy of non-alignment meant the acceptance of the inevitability of war but on the conviction that it could be avoided.
- The non-aligned movement emerged from India’s initiative for formulating an independent foreign policy.
- This independent foreign policy was based on a solid moral and sound political foundation.
- The non-alignment was a strategy designed to maximise newly independent India’s gains from the world system. Nonalignment did not mean to choose to become a hermit kingdom.

Factors responsible for adopting Non-Alignment:

- During its initial years of independence itself, India played a very active role in peaceful resolution of some complex international issues and persistently lobbied in United Nations for disarmament.
- The core idea was that, the very sense of India, with its history and civilisation attributes, demands the pursuit of an independent foreign policy.
- Decisions relating to India’s vital interests should not be externally determined.
- Maintaining and, if possible, expanding the country’s strategic autonomy is a continuing objective.
- All these made the idea of non-alignment, the initial basic tenet in India’s foreign policy, a mechanism providing link between the coordinated actions of the anti-imperialist and anti-colonial forces.
- It was an assertion of independence in foreign affairs, as a process of weakening of power blocs, as a symbol of defiance against big power domination and as a diplomatic innovation in the phase of politics of confrontation and cold war.
- India’s economic backwardness was a major factor for the adoption of the policy of non-alignment. Foreign aid was an important component for the development of India’s embryonic economy and therefore aid was welcome from all parts of the world – UK, Germany, USA, Japan and USSR. India was tied up with both the east as well as the west for economic development.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Nehru once said that “We should either be strong enough to produce some effect or we should not interfere at all”, which demonstrates a realistic awareness of the limits of India’s ability to influence events.

The critics of Non-alignment say that the biggest failure of the policy was the India’s failure to deal with China in 1962. It was said that India could move closer to US to counter the abject poverty, grim state of economy and problems in foreign trade. However, these were problems of India as a state and not India as a country with independent foreign policy. The failure was not of non-alignment, but of an economy spiralling out of control (the concurrence with the China war/ pushing of India’s Five Year Plans off schedule) and they had become articles of faith than strategies.

Conclusion:

As the first Prime Minister of India, Nehru managed to transcend regional boundaries and emerged as a global statesman. He supervised India’s foreign policy with other countries and created a political incubator for the new country to develop.

NAM should be seen as “Strategic Autonomy” which is much needed in today’s world than in past. However, in today’s context, India needs more engagements with all players as world has become more inter dependent than in the past.

Linguistic diversity post-independence proved to be a source of social and political strife, Discuss. Has the formation of linguistic States strengthened the cause of Indian Unity today?(250 words)

Bipin Chandra – India after Independence

Why this question:
Language created a great problem in post-independent era and continues to be one of the heavy weights on country’s political system. Thus the question measures language as a parameter of social and political strife and in what way formation of linguistic states has strengthened the cause of unity in India.

Demand of the question:
The answer must bring out trace the linguistic diversity as a foundation of social and political conflict in the country. Later one has to analyze in what way the linguistic diversity of the country and reorganization of the nation based on it has strengthened the cause of Indian unity.

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
Narrate the background of events – the country was divided into more than 500 princely territories and the provinces of British India at the time of independence. After accession into the Union, there came the tacky issue of integrating the kingdoms and provinces into feasible administrative units.

Body
Comment on – The way Dhar commission, and then the JVP commission rejected the reorganization of states on linguistic basis despite demand for the same.
Fazl Ali commission or States Reorganization Commission, in 1953, allowed that in principle, while giving primacy to administrative convenience. Then move on to discuss how it strengthened the cause of Indian unity.
Later bring out how the linguistic reorganization also led to several unintended consequences such as regionalism, linguistic chauvinism and foundation of the “Sons of the soil” doctrine. Quote some examples.

Keywords:
Potti Sriramulu, linguistic recognition of the state etc.

Conclusion
conclude – linguistic reorganization also led to several unintended consequences such as regionalism, linguistic chauvinism and foundation of the “Sons of the soil” doctrine. But the political leadership of newly independent India had the foresight to visualize the consequences of not acquiescing to popular aspirations. Their decision to linguistically reorganize the states has therefore removed one important factor that would’ve jeopardized India’s integrity and thus strengthened the cause of Indian unity.
Introduction:

Linguistic diversity created a great problem in post-independent era and continues to be one of the lingering issues on country’s political system. During the days of freedom struggle national leaders always promised the masses that states will be reorganized on the basis of languages, so that each language got full opportunity to develop and grow.

B.N. Rau perhaps rightly said that, “One of the most difficult problems in the framing of India’s new constitution will be to satisfy the demand for linguistic provinces and other demands of a like nature.”

Body:

In independent India there are various commissions and committees to resolve the issue of language in India to make a peaceful transition like Dhar commission, J.V.P. committee and then state reorganization committees have been set up to study this. The Dhar and JVP committees rejected the idea of reorganization of states on linguistic basis despite demand for the same.

With heightened violence and incessant demands in states of Andhra Pradesh leading to death of a Gandhian, Potti Sriramulu, the struggle took a major turn. Fazl Ali commission or States Reorganization Commission, in 1953, allowed that in principle, while giving primacy to administrative convenience.

**Linguistic diversity as a source of Political Strife:**

- Since independence in 1947, linguistic affinity has served as a basis for organizing interest groups; the “language question” itself has become an increasingly sensitive political issue.
- Efforts to reach a consensus on a single national language that transcends the myriad linguistic regions and is acceptable to diverse language communities have been largely unsuccessful.
- One movement that stood out was that for a Dravidian state. Spearheaded largely by middle-class Tamil intellectuals such as Periyar and C.N. Annadurai, its agitations steadily progressed from opposing Brahmanism and unilateral imposition of Hindi across southern Indian states to secession from independent India.
- Political issues as recent as in West Bengal with demands for a separate Gorkhaland shows how it is still persistent.
- Demand for a separate state predominantly reflects the regional aspiration of the people of a geographical region. Example: Bodoland Demand in Assam.
- Politicians have used it as a tool to create a wedge between people of neighbouring states.
- Formation of regional parties like AIADMK, DMK, Trinamool congress etc. gave voice to regional concerns in parliamentary domain.

**Linguistic diversity as source of Social Strife:**

- India has a long history of linguistic unrest, for example creation of Andhra Pradesh post-independence, separation of Maharashtra and Gujarat etc.
- There is a north-south divide on the basis of language and it will stir whenever government thinks to promote official language as such. This causes the regionalism feeling at large.
- **Sons of Soil Doctrine** underlies the view that a state specifically belongs to the main linguistic group inhabiting it or that the state constitutes the exclusive ‘homeland’ of its main language speakers who are the ‘sons of the soil’ or the ‘local residents’. Ex: Shiv Sena and Mumbai; north east India – As an example of understanding how population pressure due to migration creates competition over resources, consider some of the traditional Bodo-inhabited areas in Northwest Assam.
- Masses who speak their language feel discriminated when there is an official language present in the state and they get imposed. For example: tribal languages in the Jharkhand and any other states.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Discrimination of state government and central governments in the employments based on language is bitterly accepted.
- Education is not in the native languages, especially in the tribal languages. This is greatest barrier which further alienates them from the society.
- Erosion of national feeling in the long run.

Linguistic States and Indian Unity:

- The Division of states linguistic basis removed the major discord and disharmony among people. For ex. separation of Andhra from Madras addressed the agitation and protest by Telugu people.
- Creation of state which are homogeneous in nature improved the functioning of the state and govt. has been able to better connect with the masses in the language in which they understand. For ex. creation of Gujarat from Bombay resulted into betterment of people. This brought satisfaction and further caused the Indian Unity.
- It did not affect the federal structure of the India as afraid. Rather it led to creation of state regional parties which can raise their voice in the Parliament. Hence, a more cooperative federalism and participative democracy thrived epitomizing unity in diversity.
- Articles 30 and 347 of Indian Constitution provide constitutional protection to linguistic minorities and hence any fear of minority suppression alleviated upto a large extent.
- It provided opportunity to the states to protect and promote their regional language which brought satisfied cultural aspiration of masses. For ex. recent adoption of Odia language as official language by Odisha.

Conclusion:

Linguistic diversity has been a critical aspect of the multiculturalism that has been the defining characteristic of India through the ages. Diversity is undoubtedly strength of our democracy. The cultural bonds need to be strengthened through enhanced and continuous mutual interaction between people of varied regions. This encourages reciprocity and secures an enriched value system of unity amongst people of different States.

Critically examine the obligations which pressed India to play a pivotal role in the emergence of Bangladesh. (250 words)
Bipin Chandra- India after Independence

Why this question:
The question is in the context of Carving Bangladesh out of Pakistan and the role played by India in it, the causes and consequences.

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

Key demands of the question:
The answer should provide for a close examination of India’s role in the liberation of Bangladesh. Main emphasis however needs to be on what pressure points forced India to take the lead role in this scenario.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start by pointing out the hostile relations in the past between India and Pakistan that added to India’s decision to intervene in Pakistan’s civil war then, and thus how the Indian government decided to support the creation of a separate state for ethnic Bengalis by supporting the Mukti Bahini.

Body
Discuss the following important factors:
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Backdrop of the Bangladesh War of Independence.

India’s involvement in the liberation and the aftermath – most of the answer discussion should focus on this aspect.

Discuss in detail how India played a crucial role in terms of political, social and humanitarian ground.

Keywords: Shimla agreement, Mukti Vahini Sena, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Indira Gandhi etc.

Conclusion

Conclude with contemporary relevance of the NAM.

Introduction:

Pakistan was made of West and East Pakistan after August 14, 1947. The eastern province gained its independence in March 1971 and Bangladesh was born. Bangladesh’s independence has been considered India’s most successful neighbourhood intervention.

Body:

India was compelled to intervene in the Bangladesh War of 1971 due to various strategic, domestic, economic and humanitarian factors.

- **Strategic:**
  - Having a hostile West Pakistan and East Pakistan on both sides of its borders was a strategic concern for India.
  - This was compounded by the strain in Sino-Indian relations which culminated in the war of 1962.
  - Unprovoked military aggression by Pakistan on the North-West India in 1972 needed to be responded in a stringent manner.
  - Therefore, the intervention in 1971 was necessary to safeguard the long term strategic interests.

- **Domestic:**
  - The constant influx of migrants from East Pakistan was creating various problems in the Border States.
  - The resources were limited and there was constant struggle between locals and refugees over the use of these resources.
  - Besides there were various other ethnic and social problems due to this inflow of migrants.

- **Economic:**
  - The country was spending huge resources to absorb these refugees.
  - Being a closed economy, India was not in a position to continue spending resources for long and hence a long term solution to the problem was needed.
  - Beside, having a hostile East Pakistan was hindering the development of north-eastern part of the country due to limited connectivity.

- **Humanitarian:**
  - Lastly the atrocities committed on the people of East Pakistan forced India to intervene in the conflict on humanitarian ground to prevent a large scale crisis.

India’s role in liberation of Bangladesh:

- Indian government allowed Awami League leaders to form government in exile
- Gave military training to Mukti Bahini Sena on Indian soil.
- Provided food, shelter, clothing and medical aid to refugees in spite of tremendous strain on their resources.
In December 1971, Indian armed forces directly undertook the operation for liberation of Bangladesh which led to Indo-Pakistan war of 1971.

India observed international refugee law and allowed refugees regardless of religion or language. It internationalised their tragedy.

Aftermath of War:

Shimla agreement:

- Shimla Agreement was signed between India (Indira Gandhi) and Pakistan (zulfikar Ali Bhutto)
- Main agenda at Shimla was to deal with the aftermath of the 1971 War and usher in durable peace between India and Pakistan.
- The following principles of the agreement also show that it was a peace treaty
  - A mutual commitment to the peaceful resolution of all issues through direct bilateral approaches
  - To build the foundations of a cooperative relationship with special focus on people to people contacts
  - To uphold the inviolability of the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir, which is a most important CBM between India and Pakistan, and a key to durable peace.
- Even though the agreement was in the interests of bringing peace in the relations of both the countries it adversely impacted the future of Kashmir and despite being in a winning position India could not use its diplomacy to the mark.

Conclusion:

India did not target Pakistan, it only worked closely with Bangladesh as per the principle of Non-Alignment to which India holds steadfast. India’s humanitarian intervention in Bangladesh has shaped South Asia, made it a responsible power in the region.

In what way did Nehru’s plan for modernization make rapid tread during the decade 1951 – 61?(250 words)

Bipin Chandra – India after Independence

Why this question:
The question is about how Nehruvian Thought shaped the formative years of India as it emerged from 200 years of British colonialism, his plan of action for modernization for the decade of 1951 -61.

Demand of the question:
The answer must bring out the pivotal role of Nehru in modernization; Nehru as a hostage to the development economics consensus of his times, both in terms of its insights as well as its policies. His role as an economic modernist, his belief of rapid industrialization as the most effective way to win the battle against mass poverty.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Narrate the background of events under Nehru’s years of Indian modernization.

Body
Discuss his methods and ideas;
how he advocated state-sponsored industrialisation, increasing the “wealth-producing capacity” and using atomic energy for civilian use and also the fact that he realised for industrialisation to be viable it needed a supportive agrarian economy and a small-scale industrial base.
His ideas on town planning — going beyond roads and parks to education, recreation, employment and business — were remarkably modern.
He proposed that every village should have a panchayat, a cooperative society, and a school etc.

Keywords:
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principle of non-alignment, first-rate institutions”, models of economic development etc.

Conclusion
conclude with the significance of his contributions in modernization of Indian economy and society.

Introduction:

After independence in 1947, India was among the poorest countries in the world. India’s entire infrastructure, it’s economy, it’s bureaucracy, it was all designed and built solely to serve the needs of British industry and further Britain’s interests. As a final parting gift, the British co-engineered the Partition in 1947, leading to around 14 million refugees and mass killings all over the subcontinent.

Half the population of India now lived below the poverty line, and over 80 percent of the people were illiterate. The country was famine-ridden and life expectancy was around 30 years. The per capita income, the agricultural output, and the food grains output had all been continuously shrinking for the previous three decades. Around 1700, the Mughal Empire produced one-third of the global GDP. For the Indian republic in 1947, this was less than 10 percent.

Body:

Jawaharlal Nehru became responsible for continuing the Mahatma’s legacy and creating the India they together had dreamed of. Nehru’s idea of India’s modern nationhood consisted of four key dimensions: democracy, secularism, socialism, and non-alignment.

Nehruvian Philosophy of development:

- Nehruvian socialism and planning were the centre-pieces of the Congress Party’s economic platform, going as far back as the Karachi Congress of 1931.
- Nehru’s socialism was to be on the basis of democracy and non-violence, leading to the establishment of a cooperative, socialist commonwealth.
- He advocated for the abolition of the zamindari system of feudal landownership, and the rapid acceleration of industrialisation through central planning.
- Combining rapid industrial development with democracy was something none had tried before, and thus Nehru had to tread uncharted territory.
- Unlike Bolshevism, Nehruvian Socialism did not allow for the forced acquisition and collectivisation of land, meaning that the necessary surplus for industrialisation could not be forcibly attained over the backs of the Indian working class and peasantry.
- Unlike with the US or UK, India could also not force surplus out of labour through slavery, or by collecting tribune from colonies.

Modernization plan and action on grounds:

- Industry:
  - The nature of British colonialism meant that India had become completely dependent on the developed world for capital goods, technology, and investments.
  - In 1950, over 90 percent of India’s capital, machinery, and even basic tools, had to be imported from abroad.
  - This type of neo-colonialism forced Nehru to compromise on his non-alignment position, but it also motivated him to adopt a path of industrialisation, based on heavy industry and capital-goods industry.
Planning was another key ingredient of the Nehruvian Socialist economy, and the successive 5-year plans would see India’s GDP growth increase from a paltry 0.72 percent in 1947, to over 4 percent annually in the following years.

The government directed investment primarily into key public sector industries — steel, iron, coal, and power — promoting their development with subsidies and protectionist policies.

The policy of non-alignment during the Cold War meant that Nehru received financial and technical support from both power blocs in building India’s industrial base from scratch. Steel mill complexes were built at Bokaro and Rourkela with assistance from the Soviet Union and West Germany.

Besides cutting ties when it came to imports, India also made sure it would not be dependent on a few industrialised nations for its export.

- **Agriculture:**
  
  - Nehru took upon himself the task of revolutionising agriculture.
  
  - Cooperative and institutional subsidies for farmers had freed them from the stranglehold of landowners and moneylenders.
  
  - Nehru understood that an agricultural revolution could not happen without innovation in its methods — e.g. without electricity, tractors, pumps, chemical fertilisers, etc.
  
  - This combination of public investment and cooperative land reforms saw agriculture grow annually by 3 percent from 1951 to 1965.
  
  - Even the Green Revolution, which for the first time in decades would give India a food surplus, would not have been possible in the ‘70s, had it not been for the groundwork laid by Nehru.

- **Knowledge sector:**
  
  - As with agriculture and industry, it was important that India would develop its own institutions for scientific education and research.
  
  - He oversaw the founding of the prestigious IITs (Indian Institutes of Technology), the CSIR (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research), the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, the National Physical and Chemical Laboratories, the AIIMS (All India Institutes for Medical Sciences), and many other such institutions all over India.
  
  - An atomic reactor was set up in Bombay, which would attain criticality in 1956. The national expenditure on scientific research also increased from Rs 10 million in 1949, to Rs 4.5 billion in 1977.
  
  - India’s scientific and technical manpower would increase from 190,000 to 2.32 million people.
  
  - Nehru had been committed to free, public, and compulsory basic education for everyone. Primary schools were set up all over India, and funding was provided to ensure they were properly staffed.

- **Town-planning:**
  
  - The development of Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and Gandhinagar, between 1949 and 1982, represents a fascinating study of practical politics, personal ambitions of politicians and Western planners, and the high ideals of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.
  
  - The architect-planner Le Corbusier, together with Nehru, provided the new planning model and architectural design that would overshadow imperial New Delhi.

**Conclusion:**

From 1947 to 1964, Nehru was the leading figure of India, and his vision of India would shape the country’s initial development and lay the foundations upon which it still builds today. Having escaped the trap of neo-colonialism many
newly-independent countries fell into, India is now rapidly becoming one of the ruling super powers of the world, only outdone by China and the US.

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

In carving out ‘The magnificent African cake’ no attention was paid to ground realities which led plethora of issues and problems. Comment.(250 words)
World history by Norman Lowe, World history NCERT

Why this question:
The question is in the context of Africa, the term “Scramble for Africa” is often used to describe the period of intense European interest in colonization, occupation and annexation of Africa between the 1880s and 1914. Other terms used for the same phenomena include “Partition of Africa” and “Race for Africa”.

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

Key demands of the question:
The answer should provide for a close examination of the heightened tension between European states in the last quarter of the 19th century, and how the partitioning of Africa may be seen as a way for the Europeans to eliminate the threat of a European-wide war over Africa. Then as to what were the ground realities and issues that were ignored.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction
Start with the pressing causes of the event to happen.

Body
Discuss the following important factors:
The ideas of Charles Darwin and the theory of evolution, the Eugenics movement and Racism, all helped to foster European expansionist policy in Africa.
The vast interior between the gold and diamond-rich Southern Africa and Egypt had key strategic value in securing the flow of overseas trade.
Britain was thus under intense political pressure to secure lucrative markets such as British Raj India, Qing Dynasty China, and Latin America from encroaching rivals.
Discuss the issues and challenges faced.

Conclusion
Conclude with Impact of Imperialism on Africa and highlight its latency as of even today.

Introduction:
Between the 1870s and 1900, Africa faced European imperialist aggression, diplomatic pressures, military invasions, and eventual conquest and colonization. By the early twentieth century, however, much of Africa, except Ethiopia and Liberia, had been colonized by European powers. By 1900 much of Africa had been colonized by seven European powers—Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, and Italy.

Body:
The term “Scramble for Africa” is used to describe the period of intense European interest in colonization, occupation and annexation of Africa between the 1880s and 1914. Other terms used for the same phenomena include “Partition of Africa” and “Race for Africa”.

No European power wanted to be left out of the race to acquire territories in Africa. The competition was so fierce that there was a fear of war between the European countries. To avoid the war, Bismarck called together representatives of major European countries to deal with rival colonial claims. This was called Berlin Conference. However, this Berlin conference is called the starting point for Scramble for Africa.

- **Economic factors:**
  - The imperatives of **capitalist industrialization**—including the demand for assured sources of raw materials, the search for guaranteed markets and profitable investment outlets—spurred the European scramble and the partition and eventual conquest of Africa.
  - Thus the primary motivation for European intrusion was economic.
  - For example Algeria became one of the profitable colonial possession for French goods; resources of Africa, for example Gold and Diamond mines in South Africa, Ivory, rubber, gold, and timber, copper from Congo attracted the colonial powers.
  - Slaves were brought through slave trades for working in the colonies of European powers America, as there was large scale extermination of original inhabitants. The demand of slave trade gradually increased and this led to more expansion by colonial powers in Africa
  - Development of Suez Canal in Egypt by French company in 1869, aroused the interest of colonial powers in the African region and they wanted to safeguard their route to India.
  - Military intervention was done in Egypt on the pretext of protection of Suez canal and this way Egypt came under British control

- **Political factors:**
  - The political impetus derived from the impact of inter-European power struggles and competition for pre-eminence.
The

SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Britain, France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Portugal, and Spain were competing for power within European power politics.
- One way to demonstrate national pre-eminence was through the acquisition of territories around the world, including Africa.
- When slavery started become hindrance for colonial powers to penetrate interiors of Africa. The colonial powers started promising abolition of slave trade and subsequently went to war with local chiefs and kings to expand, their territorial possession.
- Explorers, Christian missionaries saw Africa as a place for spreading message of Christianity and they were supported by European governments by sending troops.

- Social factors:
  - As a result of industrialization, major social problems grew in Europe: unemployment, poverty, homelessness, social displacement from rural areas, and so on.
  - These social problems developed partly because not all people could be absorbed by the new capitalist industries.
  - One way to resolve this problem was to acquire colonies and export this “surplus population.”
  - This led to the establishment of settler-colonies in Algeria, Tunisia, South Africa, Namibia, Angola, Mozambique, and central African areas like Zimbabwe and Zambia.
  - Eventually the overriding economic factors led to the colonization of other parts of Africa.

Impact of Colonization on Africa:

- In the beginning, the Europeans thought that the Africa would prove to be a great market for their products. However, soon they realized that they were. Nevertheless, Africa was rich in mineral resources so it proved to be of great wealth for Europeans.
- Further, the Europeans grew business of cash-crop plantations such as peanuts, palm oil, cocoa, and rubber. These products displaced the food crops grown by farmers to feed their families. This resulted in famines; and Africans started getting starved to death.
- Secondly, the scramble for Africa divided the continent by artificial boundaries (visible on Africa’s current map also as straight lines) that unnaturally divided groups created problems even long after the Europeans left from there. There was a breakdown of African traditional cultures.
- The people were forced to leave the villages to find ways to support themselves and this caused identity problems. Many Africans died of new diseases such as smallpox. Thousands of Africans lost lives in resisting the Europeans.
- However, there were some positive effects also. For a considerable period, the local warfare among African tribes was reduced.
- Humanitarian efforts in some colonies improved sanitation and brought health and education facilities. Literacy and health conditions improved.
- African colonies gained railroads, dams, and telephone and telegraph lines. However, these only benefited European business interests, not Africans’ lives.

Conclusion:

The nineteenth century was a period of profound and even revolutionary changes in the political geography of Africa, characterized by the demise of old African kingdoms and empires and their reconfiguration into different political entities. Some of the old societies were reconstructed and new African societies were founded on different ideological
and social premises. Consequently, African societies were in a state of flux, and many were organizationally weak and politically unstable. They were therefore unable to put up effective resistance against the European invaders.

Define nationalism. Giving reasons for rise of nationalism in 19th century Europe, assess its role in the outbreak world wars.(250 words)
World history by Norman Lowe, World history NCERT

Why this question:
The question is about what is nationalism? Causes and its consequences that led to outbreak of world wars.

demand of the question:
The answer must first define what is nationalism, its causes and then move on to evaluate how it led to world wars. Highlight how the new and aggressive nationalism was different from its predecessors that emerged in Europe at the end of the 19th century.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction
Discuss the coming of idea of Nationalism, its backdrop and rise.

Body
Discuss the following in detail:
Nationalism as an intense form of patriotism. Those with nationalist tendencies celebrated the culture and achievements of their own country and placed its interests above those of other nations. Pre-war nationalism was fuelled by wars, imperial conquests and rivalry, political rhetoric, newspapers and popular culture etc.
British nationalism was fuelled by a century of comparative peace and prosperity. The British Empire had flourished and expanded, its naval strength had grown and Britons had known only colonial wars. German nationalism was a new phenomenon, emerging from the unification of Germany in 1871. It became fascinated with German imperial expansion (securing Germany’s ‘place in the sun’) and resentful of the British and their empire. Rising nationalism was also a factor in the Balkans, where Slavic Serbs and others sought independence and autonomy from the political domination of Austria-Hungary.

Conclusion
conclude with the significance of Nationalism, its role in outbreak of Wars.

Introduction:
Nationalism, a political, social, and economic ideology oriented towards gaining and maintaining self governance and full sovereignty over a territory of historical significance to the group (such as its homeland). Therefore, it seeks to preserve the nation’s culture and often involves a sense of pride in the nation’s achievements.

It accords a lot of importance to a homogenous setup where love for one’s state should come before everything else. It gives lesser importance to ideals of an individual if his stand is not in sync with the ideals of national interest.

Body:

European nationalism, in its modern sense, was born out of the desire of a community to assert its unity and independence. In the 19th century there began a determined struggle to realise nationalist aspirations. The factors responsible for rise of Nationalism in Europe were:

- French Revolution:
  - The French Revolution had inspired people all over Europe. It spread the ideas of liberty, equality and fraternity and generated the spirit of nationalism.
- Napoleon, though he established a monarchy in France, carried forward the revolutionary ideals of equality and nationalism.

- Napoleon’s empire gave to Europe a form of unity, even though it was imposed by him through conquests.

- A new concept emerged which bound people together with a sense of belonging and unity. Nations began to be formed by those who shared a common tradition and common territory.

- **Aristocracy**
  - Socially and politically, a landed aristocracy was the dominant class on the continent.
  - They owned estates in the countryside and also town-houses.
  - They spoke French for purposes of diplomacy and in high society.
  - This powerful aristocracy was, however, numerically a small group. The majority of the population was made up of the peasantry.
  - To the west, the bulk of the land was farmed by tenants and small owners, while in Eastern and Central Europe the pattern of landholding was characterised by vast estates which were cultivated by serfs.

- **New Middle Class**
  - In Western and parts of Central Europe industrial production and trade grew leading to growth of trade.
  - The existence of this new class was based on production for the market. New social groups came into existence.
  - A working class population and a middle class (which was composed of industrialists, businessmen and professionals) made the new social groups.
  - It was this class which shaped the ideas of national unity.

- **Idea of Liberal Nationalism**
  - Ideas of national unity in early-nineteenth-century Europe were closely allied to the ideology of liberalism.
  - For the new middle classes; freedom for the individual and equality of all before the law were the bases of idea of liberalism.
  - From the political perspective, the idea of liberalism emphasized the concept of government by consent and end of autocracy and clerical privileges.
  - Further, it meant the need of a constitution and a representative government. Inviolability of private property was also emphasized by the nineteenth century liberals.

- **Suffrage:**
  - Universal suffrage was yet to become a reality in France.
  - During the earlier period of revolution, only property-owning men had the right to vote.
  - The struggle for voting rights for women and non-propertied men continued throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth century.

- **Liberalisation in Economic Sphere:**
  - Economic liberalization was another hallmark of the Napoleonic Code. The emerging middle class was also in favour of economic liberalization.
In 1834, a customs union or zollverein was formed; at the initiative of Prussia and was joined by most of the German states.

Tariff barriers were abolished and the number of currencies was reduced from thirty to two.

Development of a railways network further enhanced mobility.

This created some sort of economic nationalism which helped in strengthening the national sentiments which were growing at that time

A New Conservatism After 1815

Napoleon was defeated in 1815 by the combined power of Britain, Russia, Prussia and Austria.

After the defeat of Napoleon, European governments wanted to follow conservatism.

They believed in preserving the monarchy, the Church, social hierarchies, property and the family.

But most of them also wanted to retain the modernization which Napoleon carried out in the spheres of administration.

The Treaty of Vienna:

The representatives of the European powers (Britain, Russia, Prussia and Austria) met at Vienna in 1815 to draw up a settlement of Europe.

The conservative regimes which were set up in 1815 were autocratic.

They were intolerant of criticism and dissent. Most of them imposed censorship laws to control the contents in newspaper, books, plays and songs.

Independence of Greece:

The Greek war of independence mobilized the nationalist feelings among the educated elite across Europe.

The struggle for independence among the Greeks began in 1821.

The nationalists in Greece got support from many Greeks who were living in exile.

Moreover, they also got support from many West Europeans who sympathized with the ancient Greek culture.

Finally, the Treaty of Constantinople of 1832 recognized Greece as an independent nation.

Unification by Revolutionaries

As a reaction to the autocratic conservatives, there grew a huge force of revolutionaries who still lived with the spirit of liberalism.

They created underground societies and clubs and wanted a revolution to unite provinces into democratic nation states.

This, along with economic hardship created the perfect background for the unification of states and Germany, Italy, Greece and several other European ultimately became nation-states.

The Romantic Imagination and National Feeling

Romanticism was a cultural movement which sought to develop a particular form of nationalist sentiment.

Romantic artists usually criticized the glorification of reason and science.

They focused on emotions, intuition and mystical feelings.

They tried to create a sense of collective heritage, a common cultural past, as the basis of a nation.
Conclusion:

After the rise of nationalism culminated into the making of nation-states, these countries competing with one another even more and led to the rise of imperialism. Hence, this was a dangerous occurrence as it led to the outbreak of World War 1 in 1914.

Outline the role of Simon Bolivar in the liberation of Latin America. What accounts for the collapse of Simon Bolivar’s project for “greater Colombia”? (250 words)
World history by Norman Lowe, World history NCERT

Why this question:
The question is from the category of decolonization, It is in the context of contributions made by Simon Bolivar in the liberation of Latin America.

Directive word:
Outline- here we have to trace the series of events with respect to the topic in question and conclude with its significance.

Key demands of the question:
The answer should provide for a close examination of the role played by Simon Bolivar in the liberation of Latin America and later quote the reasons that led to the failure of Simon Bolivar’s project for “greater Colombia”. One must trace the events from Spanish colonies in North, Central and South America declaring independence from Spanish rule in the early nineteenth century.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start with the significance of liberation of Latin America.

Body
Discuss the following aspects in the answer:
The causes or inspiration to the revolt.
The injustice of Spanish rule.
Fight for all rights by Simon Bolivar.
Gran Colombia (Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador and Panama) from 1819 to 1830.
Discuss the issues and challenges faced by him due to constant quarrels and rivalries among the leaders of the states.
Failure of Greater Columbia goal – causes and consequences.

Conclusion
Conclude with significance of Simon Bolivar.

Introduction:
Simon Bolivar lived a short but comprehensive life. History records his extraordinary versatility. He was a revolutionary who freed six countries, an intellectual who argued the problems of national liberation, a general who fought a war of unremitting violence. He inspired extremes of devotion and detestation. Bolivar was a product of the Enlightenment.

To liberal historians he was a fighter against tyranny. Marxists interpret him as the leader of a bourgeois revolution. Modern revolutionaries see him as a reformist who secured political change but left the colonial heritage of his continent virtually intact.

Body:

His role in the liberation of Latin America:

- Spanish America’s independence movement started around 1810, when the first official declarations were asserted and battles were fought, the seeds for independence were planted about 20 years prior.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- He envisioned independent countries brought together under a pan-American entity.
- Young Bolívar moved to Spain in 1799 after the deaths of his parents.
- Bólivar returned to Europe in 1803 from Venezuela and kept company with Napoleon.
- Bólivar returned to Venezuela in 1807.
- When Napoleon named Joseph Bonaparte King of Spain and its colonies, which included Venezuela, Bólivar joined the resistance movement.
- The resistance group based in Caracas gained independence in 1810, and Bólivar travelled to Britain on a diplomatic mission.
- The fight for control of Caracas, Venezuela and most of South American continued on back home.
- Finally, Bólivar returned to Venezuela and began a campaign to wrest control of that country from the Spanish.
- He and his followers invaded Venezuela on May 14, 1813; this marked the beginning of his “Campana Admirable” (Admirable Campaign), which resulted in the formation of the Venezuelan Second Republic later that year.
- Bólivar was hailed as El Libertador (The Liberator), though civil war soon erupted in the republic, forcing him to flee to Jamaica and seek foreign aid.
- There he wrote his famous “Letter from Jamaica,” detailing his vision of a South American republic with a parliamentary setup modelled after England and a life-long president.
- His idea of being a nation’s chief who could not be removed from power would be heavily critiqued by other leaders and intellectuals.
- Gaining support from Haiti, Bolivar returned to his home continent and became involved in a number of military battles, eventually able to claim several territories.
- 1821 saw the creation of the Gran Colombia, under Bolívar’s leadership. This federation included much of what is now Venezuela, Colombia, Panama and Ecuador.
- Further manoeuvres saw him named Dictator of Peru in 1824, followed by the creation of Bolivia in 1825.

The reasons for collapse of “greater Columbia” idea:

- In the final years of the region’s independence movement, Bolívar sought to set up regimes in countries that mixed republican principals and authoritarian rule.
- While Bolívar wanted to unite all the freed vicerealties under a common ruler, he strayed away from the U.S. federal model and embraced a system with a strong central leader.
- Bolivar outright rejected the implementation of a pure federal model in the newly freed lands of Spanish America.
- He did not believe that a federal system could withstand the turbulent environment and political factions present in Spanish America.
- He feared that introducing too much liberty to uneducated masses would result in anarchy, thus necessitating a strong central authority.
- This idea of what a government should look like is reflected in the 1826 Constitution of Bolivia.
- This document created four separate branches of government: the executive, the legislative, the judicial and the Electoral College.
- However, the executive office was heavily weighted with power.
• The president would serve for life and be succeeded by the vice president, who would be chosen by the president.

• Furthermore, the president had the power to appoint and remove officials, as well as full control of the armed forces.

• Bolivar’s inability to simultaneously govern all the land he helped become independent can largely be attributed to geography.

• Not only is this an immense surface area, but it is extremely impossible terrain of mountains and rainforest.

• Even with the support of hand-picked vice presidents and other local leaders to rule in his absence, its sheer size and the physical barriers between major metropolitan areas discouraged large-scale governance or even an umbrella alliance.

Conclusion:

Bolivar left his mark on history by leading independence movements in five countries in South America, despite the fact that he did not manage to create a well-established government or any type of pan-American entity. Geography, not Bolívar, ultimately dictated the degree of cohesion between nations.

Propaganda can lead to cult leadership, and propaganda along with cult leadership could be dangerous for peace and stability within the country and for the world. Comment with reference to Nazism in Germany.(250 words)

World history by Norman Lowe, World history NCERT

Why this question:
The question is about the tools of Propaganda and cult leadership as traits that can damage the peace and stability of a nation or the world in a bigger picture. The question is in the context of Nazi rule of Germany that used these tools.

demand of the question:
The answer must address how Nazi propaganda facilitated the rapid rise of the Nazi Party to a position of political prominence and, ultimately, the control of a nation by the Nazi leadership, the focus of the answer should mainly be in explaining clearly the meaning of Propaganda and cult leadership.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction
Briefly define the concept of Propaganda and Cult leadership.

Body
Discuss the following in detail:
Narrate the backdrop of the rise of Nazi culture.
Use of techniques of propaganda—that include strong images and simple messages, discuss how Nazi propaganda idolized Hitler as a gifted statesman who brought stability, created jobs, and restored German greatness.
Discuss the role of Personality cults of political leaders.
Relevance in today’s context.

Conclusion
conclude with what needs to be done with respect to propaganda and cult leadership; how to keep the two in check so as to have a world with peace and harmony.

Introduction:
The propaganda used by the German Nazi Party in the years leading up to and during Adolf Hitler’s leadership of Germany (1933–1945) was a crucial instrument for acquiring and maintaining power, and for the implementation of Nazi policies. The pervasive use of propaganda by the Nazis is largely responsible for the word “propaganda” itself acquiring its present negative connotations.

Body:
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Backdrop of rise of Nazi culture:

- National Socialism was perceived by its originators as a Weltanschauung [world view] and revolutionary movement.
- It claimed that German, “Aryan” people are bonded by their innermost disposition as a organic community, and thus at one with a political party which recognizes the intrinsic value of blood, personality, and soil which identifies them as a race.
- Hitler asserted that the National Socialist world view would stand in opposition to pacifistic international democracy in its effects and consequences.
- Culture, art, technology, productivity in general, and superior talent is race determined and based on racial attributes.
- That endeavour is race determined was claimed by the Nazis, a belief rapidly accepted by a majority of educated as well as formally uneducated Germans.
- In their propagated ideology, Hitler and his cohorts were successful in taking advantage of the people’s frustrated expectations by persuading them to believe that the Great War was lost because they had been stabbed in the back by Jewish exploiters and that now Germany’s existence was threatened by communists and social democrats.
- Further, it was claimed that the people were being ruined economically by war reparations imposed on them by the victorious Allies in the form of the Versailles Treaty, as well as other external, unfair, exploitative demands.

Use of techniques of propaganda:

- The Nazis turned to völkisch thought (a product of nineteenth-century German romanticism) and the notion of Führerprinzip (‘the leadership principle’), to embody their ideas, and Hitler was shown in posters as a mystical figure, guiding the nation’s destiny.
- A veritable industry of paintings and posters showed Hitler in familiar ‘renaissance pose’, alongside the propaganda slogan: Ein Volk, ein Reich, ein Führer (‘One People, One Nation, One Leader’).
- The slogan was used to great effect in 1938, with the Anschluss (‘union’), when Germany joined in union with Austria.
- His fame grew via speeches at rallies, parades, and on the radio.
- Hitler’s publications, Folk and Race and Bolschevismus from Moses to Lenin (by Dietrich Eckart).
- Postal stamps of various denominations bearing Hitler’s image from 1941-44.
- Hitler and leading Nazi cohorts after a war time concert in Berlin, conducted by Maestro Furtwängler.
- Hitler Away from the Work Day – Photographs of Hitler taken by his “court photographer,” Heinrich Hoffmann.

Role of Personality cult of leaders:

- Hitler possessed charismatic appeal and was experienced by multitudes as a captivating orator who gave them hope and they willing submitted to his wishes and dictates.
- The essentially negative anti-parliamentarianism of Nazi propaganda led to the projection of the ‘Führer-myth’, which depicted Hitler as both charismatic superman and man of the people.
- From 1936 until the Munich agreement of 1938, which gave the Sudetenland to Germany, Hitler carried out a series of audacious foreign policy coups, and these won him support from all sections of the community.
- He was now widely acclaimed throughout Germany, enjoying unparalleled popularity and prestige.
• In practical terms, the leadership principle meant that decisions came down from above, instead of being worked out by discussion and choice from below.

• Hitler promised the people employment and the return to socio-economic well-being.

• He presented himself as a prophet and was so portrayed by his paladins and followers.

• He possessed charismatic appeal and was experienced by multitudes as a captivating orator who gave them hope and they willing submitted to his wishes and dictates.

• Joseph Goebbels and other Nazi leaders availed themselves of modern technology to spread Nazi ideological propaganda to reinforce Hitler’s personal power and appeal.

• A personality cult was developed which made the people stand in awe of Hitler.

• Hitler was accepted as supreme leader who could not fail and do no wrong.

Current trends:

Recent bids to endear Xi Jinping to the masses differ from the top-down deification of Mao in the 1960s. Heartfelt ballads, emotive photos, action figurines – these are among an array of tools used by China’s propaganda machinery to promote Chinese President Xi Jinping’s image as a popular leader, a visionary thinker, a people’s man and a loving family man.

A propaganda app that puts China’s powerful President Xi Jinping in anyone’s pockets has become a hit in the country — with a helpful nudge from Communist Party officials.

North Korea has a propaganda department in the government which makes tall claims about the leader Kim Jong-Un.

Conclusion:

The cult of Adolf Hitler was a deliberately cultivated mass phenomenon. Such cult building due to propaganda leads to despotism which backfires on the citizens itself. There needs to be a check on such rhetorics to maintain peace and harmony in the nation as well as across globe.

To what extent Mao-Tse-Tung and his policies during and aftermath of Chinese Civil War are responsible for rise of contemporary China.(250 words)

World history by Norman Lowe, World history NCERT

Why this question:
The question is in the light of Mao- Tse- Tung and his policies around the Chinese civil war that led to rise of Current China.

Key demands of the question:
The answer should provide for a close inspection of the role played by Mao, how he was instrumental in establishing an early form of Chinese communism in the years 1928-34. How He helped to develop it and create the military and political strategy in the Yenan years of 1935-45 that won the civil war in 1949. He then went on to mold communist China and ruled it – in his last years at least in name – until his death in September 1976.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start with the significant role of Mao-Tse-Tung in Chinese revolution.

Body
Discuss the following aspects in the answer:
Briefly – who was Mao, his role in bringing out urban and agrarian reforms —via China’s first five-year plan (1953–57), the Great Leap Forward (1958–60), and the Cultural Revolution (1966–76).
His authoritarian tactics to maintain principal control over the trajectory of his country.
Impact on contemporary China.

Conclusion
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Conclude with significance of Mao-Tse-Tung, his distinct policies and their impact as of even today.

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

Body:
Mao was responsible for the disastrous policies of the ‘Great Leap Forward’ and the ‘Cultural Revolution’.

Background:
- After training as a teacher, he travelled to Beijing where he worked in the University Library. It was during this time that he began to read Marxist literature.
- In 1921, he became a founder member of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and set up a branch in Hunan.
- In 1923, the Kuomintang (KMT) nationalist party had allied with the CCP to defeat the warlords who controlled much of northern China.
- In 1927, the KMT leader Chiang Kai-shek launched an anti-communist purge.
- Mao and other communists retreated to south east China. In 1934, after the KMT surrounded them, Mao led his followers on the ‘Long March’, a 6,000 mile journey to northwest China to establish a new base.
- The Communists and KMT were again temporarily allied during eight years of war with Japan (1937-1945), but shortly after the end of World War Two, civil war broke out between them.

Post Civil War:
- The Communists were victorious, and on 1 October 1949 Mao proclaimed the founding of the People’s Republic of China (PRC).
- Mao and other Communist leaders set out to reshape Chinese society.
- Industry came under state ownership and China’s farmers began to be organised into collectives. All opposition was ruthlessly suppressed.
- The Chinese initially received significant help from the Soviet Union, but relations soon began to cool.
- In 1958, in an attempt to introduce a more ‘Chinese’ form of communism, Mao launched the ‘Great Leap Forward’.
- This aimed at mass mobilisation of labour to improve agricultural and industrial production.
- The result, instead, was a massive decline in agricultural output, which, together with poor harvests, led to famine and the deaths of millions.
- The policy was abandoned and Mao’s position weakened.

Post Great Leap Forward:
- In an attempt to re-assert his authority, Mao launched the ‘Cultural Revolution’ in 1966, aiming to purge the country of ‘impure’ elements and revive the revolutionary spirit.

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SECURE SYNOPSIS

- To encourage the personality cult that sprang up around Mao Zedong during the first phase of the Cultural Revolution, the now-famous “Little Red Book” of Mao’s quotations was printed and distributed by the millions throughout China.

- One-and-a-half million people died and much of the country’s cultural heritage was destroyed. In September 1967, with many cities on the verge of anarchy, Mao sent in the army to restore order.

- The Cultural Revolution’s short-term effects may have been felt mainly in China’s cities, but its long-term effects would impact the entire country for decades to come.

- Mao appeared victorious, but his health was deteriorating.

- His later years saw attempts to build bridges with the United States, Japan and Europe.

Mao’s policies and Contemporary China:

- Even 40 years after his death, the Communist Party of China still feels the need for Mao Zedong to maintain its legitimacy.

- While Mao is still officially venerated by the ruling CPC as the founder of modern China, some fear the party, in a bid to modernize its image, wants to play down his legacy.

- Mao has become a potent symbol for leftists within and without the ruling Communist Party who feel three decades of market-based reform have gone too far, creating social inequalities like poverty and graft.

- In lauding Mao, they sometimes seek to put pressure on the current leadership and its market-oriented policies.

- Xi presents himself as a leader who – in the interests of the Chinese people – is willing to take on the party ruthlessly to cleanse it of corruption.

Conclusion:

A controversial figure, Mao is regarded as one of the most important and influential individuals in modern world history. He is also known as a political intellect, theorist, military strategist, poet, and visionary. Supporters credit him with driving imperialism out of China, modernising the nation and building it into a world power, promoting the status of women, improving education and health care, as well as increasing life expectancy as China’s population grew from around 550 million to over 900 million under his leadership. Conversely, his regime has been called autocratic and totalitarian, and condemned for bringing about mass repression and destroying religious and cultural artefacts and sites.

On one side there was dawn of freedom in America on the other side shackles of bondage were being riveted in India. Critically Examine the impact of American war of independence on India.(250 words)

World history by Norman Lowe, World history NCERT

Why this question:
The question is about the impact of American war of independence on India.

Demand of the question:
The answer must explain in detail the impact of American revolution on Indian war of independence, what were the effects it had? How did it capture the Indian minds? Inspired Indian leaders etc.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Highlight the achievements of American war of independence.

Body
Discuss the following in detail:
Narrate the backdrop of the American war of independence.
Provide for a comparative analysis of the American war of independence and Indian war of independence, how the former influenced the latter.
Role of British in either cases.
Discuss the role of political leaders; how American war influenced them.
Highlight how both the wars were wars of independence through suffering, valour and sacrifice.

Conclusion
conclude with significance of these events in the history.

Introduction:
The British crown had different colonies all over the world – in Asia, Africa, and America. Tensions grew over time between the residents of Great Britain’s 13 North American colonies and the colonial government, which resulted in a full-fledged war by 1775. The American residents fought against the British by making an alliance with France. Americans defeated the British in the American Revolutionary War, thus becoming the United States of America.

Body:
Britain’s defeat in the American War of Independence meant the loss of the American colonies and the end of the ‘first British Empire’.

Steps taken by the British to consolidate its hold over India:

- Britain regarded itself as ‘ruler of the waves’. Many British people at the time thought that they were doing the right thing by taking the British government and Christianity to the rest of the world, ending slavery and barbaric traditions and bringing ‘civilisation’ and an international ‘Pax Britannica’, or ‘British peace’. The British generally felt that the way they lived their lives was the right way.

- Great Britain’s attitude toward how to build its empire changed as well. Britons began to think of colonization more in terms of conquest and annexation and, as a result, it governed its colonies in a more authoritarian manner.

- It led to Pitts India act in 1784, by which British government brought the East India Company’s rule in India under the control of itself. This Act provided for the appointment of a Board of Control, and provided for a joint government of British India by both the Company and the Crown with the government holding the ultimate authority.

- It was done in the wake of fear of losing monopolies and market of India and to prevent Indian people to revolt on the lines on America. The governor general post was established in British India to control the administration under the crown rule directly.

- The new administration expended their military strength and focused on the expansion of the territory by any means. Lord Cornwallis who played in controlling the American Revolution to some extent was transferred to India to use his experience and not to repeat the mistakes which have been done earlier.

- Britain had to find new market for its factory goods and raw material for their factory and to

- Protect its monopoly of trade in India to compensate the loss in America. It initiated differential trade tariff and started building railways to give competitive effect to their goods in indian market and use India as raw material hub.

- It uses both expansionist tactics like subsidiary alliance and friendship to consolidate their control over the administration of country.

- British also took initiative to knock out French from India by annexing Yanam and Pondicherry and also defeated their alliance of Mysore.

On the other hand, Indians were influenced by the valour of the Americans and adopted many ideas in Indian Freedom struggle. The echoes of the American uprising often found themselves penetrating into the writings and speeches of nationalists in the East.
The Bill of Rights which included ideals like Liberty, rationality and humanity influenced social reformers as well as nationalist leaders of moderate, extremist phase.

The influence of bill of rights is further seen in our fundamental rights

Enlightenment stressed the idea of natural rights and equality for all citizens.

Social reformers like Jyothiba Phule, founder of Satyashodhak samaj was inspired by Thomas Paine’s idea of education as a seed to liberty.

The idea of no taxation without representation simmered in the demands of the moderates.

The myth of invincibility of Britain was blown. This helped Indians to gain self confidence.

In his call to Indians to resist British domination, Mahatma Gandhi often referred to and drew inspiration from the American Revolution.

In March 1930, when Gandhi had embarked upon the famous Dandi march to protest against the draconian salt tax imposed by the British authorities, the resonances his movement had with the historic Boston Tea Party are difficult to ignore.

Like the Boston Tea Party, Gandhi’s salt march played the role of awakening the British authorities to take seriously the demands of Indian nationalists.

One of the reason of graceful exit of Britain was to not to repeat defeat like in USA when they chose to fight against colony and were lost.

Conclusion:

Although Great Britain suffered temporarily due to the American Revolution, it eventually became an even more powerful and expansive empire as a result of it. Indian nationalists drew a lot of inspiration and so did many colonized states from the ideals, struggles and valour of American war of Independence.

Compare and contrast Cavour and Bismarck as the architects behind Unification of Italy and unification of Germany respectively. (250 words)

World history by Norman Lowe, World history NCERT

Why this question:
The question is in the context of a comparative analysis of Unification of Italy vs unification of Germany.

Key demands of the question:
The answer should provide for a close review of the role played by either of the leaders – Bismarck and Cavour as architects in the unification of their countries, special emphasis needs to be given on the concept of realpolitik; a political tactic characterized by the employment of practical, even when unethical and unprincipled, diplomatic and warring tactics to attain goals of national interest, such as unification.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction:
Start with the significance of unification for both Germany and Italy.

Body
The body of the answer should narrate the comparison between the role of two leaders: Conte Camillo Cavour; was a minister president in Italy and was the architect and champion of the Italian unification. Otto Von Bismarck; was also a minister president during the unification of Germany and his policy of blood and iron won for Germany states, the independence and union of Germany.

Discuss the events in either cases in chronological and highlight the key differences.

Conclusion
Conclude with importance of their contribution as of even today.

Introduction:
In their efforts to unify Germany and Italy, Bismarck and Cavour mutually employed Realpolitik. This was a political tactic characterized by the employment of practical, even when unethical and unprincipled diplomatic and warring tactics to attain goals of national interest, such as unification.

Body:

Similarities in approach:

- Bismarck and Cavour both use war to gain unification but Bismarck was more inclined to do so with policy of “blood and iron” and realpolitik.
- Both men used diplomacy and military action to attain unification, but they differed in which tactic dominated their unification efforts.
- Both were monarchists, whom worked for a king, and wanted things to stay that way.
- They both worked for another noble.
- They both disliked nationalists who asked for a republic or communism. Bismarck tried to destroy all socialist groups but failed, although he did keep them hidden enough. Whereas Cavour was forced to work with them.

Differences in approach:

Otto Von Bismarck:

- **Policy of “Blood and Iron”**: “Not by speeches and resolutions of majorities are the great questions of the time decided upon – but by blood and iron”.
- **The Danish War (1864)**: excluded Austria from united Germany in which the smaller states of the German confederation proposed an all-German war to halt Denmark from incorporating Schleswig-Holstein. Prussia and Austria defeated Denmark in 1864.
- **Austro-Prussian War (1866)**: Bismarck ordered Prussian forces to be as obnoxious as possible to the Austrians. And on June 1, 1866, Austria fell for it and as a result, Bismarck claimed that it violated the 1864 alliance and the Convention of Gastein. The Seven Weeks’ War, led to the decisive defeat of Austria.
- **Franco-Prussian War (1870-71)**: Built on growing rivalry between France and Prussia concerning new king of Spain. France protested Wilhelm’s relative being king of Spain and thus as a result, this allowed Bismarck to rally all Germans.
- In addition to that, Bismarck rewrote & released in the Ems Dispatch that insulted the French Ambassador. As a result, France declared war with Prussia but was defeated. Napoleon III surrendered and was taken captive.

Count Cavour:

- Believed that if Italians proved themselves to be efficient and economically progressive, the great powers might decide to let Italy govern itself. So in 1850, he joined the Piedmontese Cabinet and worked for free trade, railway construction, expansion of credit, and agricultural improvement.
- In order to capture loyalties of Italians who believed in other varieties of nationalism, he created the Nationalist Society, which established chapters in other Italian states to press for unification under the leadership of Piedmont.
- Used Crimean War to bring Italy into European politics: In 1855, Piedmont joined the conflict on the side of France and Britain and sent 10,000 troops to the front.
- Cavour raised the Italian question at the Paris conference and later gained sympathy of Napoleon III who allied with Italy against Austria in order to acquire Lombardy. Later, he managed to convince Austria to attack Sardinia.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Used military interventions in the Papal States and southern Italy to secure Italian Unification under King Victor Emmanuel II of Piedmont, rather than as a republic that Mazzini and Garibaldi had advocated.

- Cavour used plebiscites, majority opinion, and Garibaldi’s help to unify Italy.

Conclusion:

While Bismarck was not hesitant to engage in direct warfare, Cavour either supported (Crimea) or instigated (France) military action between other nations. Both men had their focus on unification and both put goals and action ahead of ethics and principle, but Bismarck favoured direct engagement in war while Cavour favoured diplomatically manipulating others in their military engagements.

The Russian Revolution and the World War I were intertwined. Both impacted each other. Elucidate. (250 words)

World history by Norman Lowe, World history NCERT

Why this question:
The question is about how Russian revolution influenced world war I and vice versa.

demand of the question:
The answer must explain in what way the Russian revolution is regarded as the turning point in the history of the biggest country in the world, how it predisposed World war I and in return how world war I influenced the revolution in Russia.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Brief upon the two events, provide for an analysis and historiography on the nature of The Russian Revolution; how it is a source-event for a lot of international policies that are in place till this day.

Body
Discuss the following in detail:
Narrate the backdrop of the American war of independence.
Provide for a view of different schools analyzing the interrelation of the two events – Soviet/Western Marxist, Liberal view, Revisionist View.
Narrate the events – starting from The Russian Tsars to the event of Bloody Sunday of 1905, World War I, the February Revolution in the early 1917 etc.

Conclusion
conclude with significance of these events in the history.

Introduction:
In 1913, Tsar Nicholas II celebrated the tercentenary of Romanov rule in Russia. He and his dynasty ruled over a huge empire, stretching from central Europe to the Pacific Ocean and from the Arctic to the borders of Afghanistan.

Just five years after the celebrations, Nicholas and his family would be dead, executed by the Bolsheviks, while his empire would be defeated in the World War and wracked by revolutions, civil wars and foreign interventions.

Body:

Backdrop of the war:

- In 1914, Russia was hardly prepared for war. Just nine years earlier she had been defeated in a war with tiny Japan.

- The Revolution of 1905, when revolts and uprisings had forced the Tsar to conced civil rights and a parliament to the Russian people, had also shaken the empire.

- The subsequent reforms and rebuilding were far from complete, but as workers and land-hungry peasants rallied to the Russian flag and marched off to fight against the Central Powers, the initial auguries for both war and national unity were not bad.
SECURE SYNONYS

- National unity, however, could only be built on victory and, in that regard, Russia’s hopes were dashed early in the Great War.

During the war: 1914-1916

- At Tannenberg and the First Battle of the Masurian Lakes, in 1914, Russia lost two entire armies (over 250,000 men).
- This failed Russian advance into East Prussia did disrupt Germany’s Schlieffen Plan and thus probably prevented the fall of Paris, but it also signalled the beginning of an unrelenting Russian retreat on the northern sector of the Eastern Front.
- By the middle of 1915 all of Russian Poland and Lithuania, and most of Latvia, were overrun by the German army.
- Fortunately for the Russians, they did better in 1916. The supply of rifles and artillery shells to the Eastern Front was vastly improved, and in the Brusilov Offensive of June 1916, Russia achieved significant victories over the Austrians.
- However, the country’s political and economic problems were greatly exacerbated by the war. Many factors – including the militarisation of industry and crises in food supply – threatened disaster on the home front.
- Added to this cocktail were rumours that the tsarina, Alexandra, and her favourite, the infamous Rasputin, were German spies.
- The rumours were unfounded, but by November 1916 influential critics of the regime were asking whether Russia’s misfortunes – including 1,700,000 military dead and 5,000,000 wounded – were a consequence of ‘stupidity or treason’.

1917: From February to October

- Food riots, demonstrations and a mutiny at the Petrograd Garrison in February 1917 forced Nicholas II to abdicate as war still continued.
- A Provisional Government led by liberals and moderate socialists was proclaimed, and its leaders hoped now to pursue the war more effectively.
- Real power in Russia after the February Revolution, however, lay with the socialist leaders of the Petrograd (later All-Russian) Soviet of Workers’ and Soldiers’ Deputies, who were elected by popular mandate (unlike the ministers of the Provisional Government).
- Against this background, the war minister Kerensky of the Provisional Government hoped to strengthen Russia’s hand with a new Russian offensive on the Eastern Front in June.
- Anarchist and Bolshevik agitators played their own part in destroying the Russian Army’s ability to fight.
- Many anti-war radicals, along with the Bolshevik leader, Vladimir Lenin, were ferried home from exile in Switzerland in April 1917, courtesy of the German General Staff.
- The summer offensive was a disaster. Peasant soldiers deserted en masse to join the revolution, and fraternisation with the enemy became common.
- Meanwhile, in an attempt to restore order and resist the German counter-offensive, most of the generals and forces of the political right threw their weight behind a plan for a military coup, under the Russian Army’s commander-in-chief, General Kornilov.
- The coup failed and the generals and the conservatives who had backed Kornilov felt betrayed by Kerensky.
- The only winners were the Bolsheviks, with Lenin at their head, who were able to topple Kerensky and take power in the October Revolution of 1917- without significant resistance from either the government or the army.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

Conclusion:

Thus, we can see that the turn of events for a liberal rule from 1905 got entangled with the Russia’s entry into WW-1. The events in WW-1 in turn aggravated the Russian revolution.

Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.

Critically analyze the Ayodhya dispute and its costs on national harmony. Can mediation talks demonstrate to be a leeway for healing relationships? discuss with respect to doctrine of essentiality.(250 words)

Indiannexpress
The hindu

Why this question:
The article is in the backdrop of the apex court’s order of mediation to settle the long running Ayodhya Ram Mandir-Babri Masjid dispute. The SC has constituted a three-member mediation panel headed by former SC judge Justice F M Kalifullah to resolve the issue. The other members of the panel include spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and Senior Advocate Sriram Panchu.

Key demand of the question
The answer must critically analyze the nuances of the case; What is the case about, historical ill doings from Both Hindus and Muslims in the context, the unity angle, what is doctrine of essentiality, and most importantly the role of Mediation talks.

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

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

Structure of the answer
Introduction: Briefly narrate the background of the issue.

Body:
The answer should cover the following:
Discuss first the dimensions of the issue; what is the issue, its effect on unity of the nation etc
What is Dr M Ismail Faruqui case?
What is ‘doctrine of essentiality’?
Role of supreme court: past to present.
Importance of Mediation

Keywords:
Dr M Ismail Faruqui case, doctrine of essentiality, freedom of religion, Mediation etc

Conclusion: Conclude with significance resolving such issues impartially and unbiased for the betterment of the country’s harmony and peace.

Introduction:
The Supreme Court recently referred the decades-old Ayodhya-Babri Masjid title dispute case for mediation. The five-judge bench headed by CJI Gogoi constituted a three-member mediation panel headed by former SC judge Justice F M Kalifullah to resolve the issue. The other members of the panel include spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and Senior Advocate Sriram Panchu.

Body:
The Ayodhya dispute:
secure synopsis

- At the core of the nearly 70-year-old Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute is the belief that Lord Ram was born 9,00,000 years ago in the Treta Yuga, in a room located under what was the central dome of the Babri Masjid.

- The masjid was built on the orders of Mughal emperor Babur in the 16th century and occupied 1,482.5 square yards before its demolition by kar sevaks on December 6, 1992.

- In 1993, the Centre took over 67 acres around the area and sought the Supreme Court’s opinion on whether there existed a Hindu place of worship before the structure was built.

- After the demolition of the Babri Masjid, the President referred to the Supreme Court the question whether there was a temple to Lord Ram before the mosque was built at the site.

- The court, in a landmark decision in 1994 (Dr M Ismail Faruqui case), declined to go into that question.

- In 1994, the litigation reached the Lucknow Bench. The suits were heard from 1996 till September 2010.

- On September 30, 2010, a three-judge Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court upheld the Hindu belief, reasoning that the “world knows” where Ram’s birthplace is.

- It ordered a partition of the site occupied by the Babri Masjid equally among the U.P. Sunni Central Waqf Board, the Nirmohi Akhara and Ram Lalla, the deity.

- In May 2011, on appeals by the Sunni Waqf Board and other parties, the Supreme Court stayed the judgment, calling it a “leap of faith.”

- The stay ensured status quo, which meant that a lone priest would continue to worship in the makeshift temple built at the site — a custom legitimised in the Ayodhya Act of 1993.

- The ban continued on any mode of activity on the 67 acres acquired by the Centre following the Supreme Court orders of March 13 and 14, 2002.

- The case banks mostly on documents written in languages as varied as Persian and Arabic, dating back to the 16th century.

Ayodhya Dispute’s cost on National harmony:

- The Ramjanmabhoomi movement was more political than religious in nature was evident from its very beginnings in communal frenzy and bigotry.

- The spirit of secularism can be torn apart.

- Communal Riots of a high scale may follow which will deteriorate the peace, unity and integrity of the nation.

- Religion is a very sensitive matter, sentiments of the people are attached so the dispute can create a deep valley between Hindu and Muslims.

- Building up a temple may radicalize the two communities, which will divide India into 2 major groups Hindus and Muslims.

- This will create fear, distrust and suspicion in the minds of the Minority community which will not allow them to integrate with nationhood.

Extra Information:

Dr M Ismail Faruqui case

- Ismail Faruqui case was a ruling on petitions challenging the validity of a Central law that acquired the land on which the Babri Masjid stood.

- Instead of settling the issue in favour of the state by relying on the principle of eminent domain, the court chose Doctrine of essentiality.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Principle of eminent domain means that the government can acquire any land.
- Based upon doctrine of essentiality court went into the question of whether praying in a mosque is an essential practice of Islam.
- The court held that while offering of prayers is an essential practice, the offering of such prayers in the mosque is not, unless the place has a particular religious significance in itself.
- The apex court in this case didn’t look at Islamic sources before deciding the essentiality of the mosque.
- The judgement in this case upheld the Acquisition of Certain Area at Ayodhya Act, 1993.
- Under this act the Centre acquired the disputed land in Ayodhya on which the Babri Masjid had stood.

Doctrine of essentiality

- A seven-judge Bench of the Supreme Court invented the doctrine of “essentiality” in the Shirur Mutt case in 1954.
- The court held that the term “religion” will cover all rituals and practices “integral” to a religion.
- It took upon itself the responsibility of determining the essential and non-essential practices of a religion.
- The essentiality/integrality doctrine has tended to lead the court into an area that is beyond its competence.
- It has also given judges the power to decide purely religious questions.

In 2018, The Supreme Court had by a majority of 2-1 refused to refer for reconsideration by a larger Bench the five-judge Constitution Bench judgment in Dr M Ismail Faruqui and Ors vs Union Of India and Ors (October 24, 1994), which upheld the law under which the Centre acquired the disputed land in Ayodhya on which the Babri Masjid had stood. SC refused to refer some questions of law in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute to a larger seven-judge Bench.

By refusing review, SC refused to examine whether essentiality of any practice of any religion can be decided without examining the religious texts of that religion. It also refused to consider the question of whether the freedom of religion protects only practices of particular significance, and not all religious practices. The question of comparative significance of religious practices also remained untouched.

Mediation process:

- In 2019, SC appointed a 3 member mediation group to resolve the Ayodhya dispute.
- During the hearing, the court observed that the issue is primarily not about the disputed 2.77 acres of the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid site in Ayodhya, but about religious sentiments.
- The bench said it could only decide on the property and what it was looking at was “a possibility of healing relationships.”
- A welcome feature of the court-mandated mediation attempt is that it will not consume much time.
- The confidentiality rule will be helpful as none would want the atmosphere to be vitiated by premature disclosures when the country is in election mode.
- However, it is questionable whether this principle can be applied to all disputes and in all situations, especially given that all such previous attempts have ended in failure.

Conclusion:

Mediation, especially when it is at the instance of a court, is a welcome option for those embroiled in protracted civil disputes. A compromise could indeed be preferable to an order that may leave one side aggrieved. Further, the festering wound on the body politic is to render complete justice not only in the civil case, but also for the criminal act...
of the demolition. The need of the hour is resolving such issues impartially and unbiased for the betterment of the country’s harmony and peace.

Examine the effect of increasing digitization and e-governance on the aged population in India. (250 words)

Hindubuisnessline

Why this question:
In the era of 4.0 Industrial revolution, the article captures a discussion upon the effect of technology on elderly people in India, the factors which have led to some change in the status of elderly, the issues plaguing them and the solutions through ICT in addressing them. UPSC in the past has asked about the effect of globalization on elderly people in India, and thus the question is of great importance.

Key demands of the question:
The question is about analyzing the mixed impact of increasing digitization and effect of carrying out the functions and achieving the results of governance through the utilization of ICT (Information and Communications Technology) on the aged population of India.

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

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
A good start would be with some fact highlighting change in the lives of elderly population due to coming of Digitisation.

Body
The body of the answer should base on examples and convey the following dimensions:
What are the challenges Digitization and increasing e-governance has posed on the elderly: lack of knowledge to use technology owing to illiteracy, lack of access to technology, technology may just corner the aged people even more etc.
Positives – access to services at the click of a mouse or at fingertips with mobile phones; e- living certificates, direct transfer of pensions to accounts, social connectivity sitting at home etc.
Analyse the above pros and cons and convey you overall opinion.

Conclusion
Conclude that digitization and increased technology in Governance has mixed impact on aged population. It has seemingly prolonged life and increased the purpose of life for the old.

Introduction:
e-Governance is basically carrying out the functions and achieving the results of governance through the utilization of ICT (Information and Communications Technology). It ensures government to be transparent in its dealings, accountable for its activities and faster in its responses as part of good governance.

However, with rapid changes in the technology and digitization by the day, many of the aged and senior citizens are finding it challenging to cope up. Elderly people are increasingly getting marginalised due to digital illiteracy, a new survey has revealed.

According to the Agewell Foundation Survey, approximately 85.8 per cent respondents were found to be digitally and computer illiterate, out of which 76.5 per cent were elderly men and 95 per cent were elderly women.

Body:
The challenges increasing Digitization and increasing e-governance has posed on the elderly are:
- Digital Illiteracy:
  - With Digital India as one of the flagship programs of the government, most of the services from online payment of utility bills to pension to PDS to Banking to Insurance has gone digital. Digital illiteracy is a bane to the elderly who find it difficult to use the facilities.
• Digital Divide:
  o It increases the “ever-widening generation gap” between the younger and older generations. This is seen in the form of accessibility, affordability to the digital devices and digi-world.
  o 4 per cent digitally illiterate respondents claimed that they consider themselves as marginalized and under-privileged lot of society in new settings, which is governed by modern IT and internet.

• Poverty:
  o Instances in Jharkhand where elderly couldn’t receive their PDS grains due to failure of Aadhar Verification because of missing finger-prints of senior citizens.
  o Almost 70% of women are part of the unconnected population in the country.
  o The gap between the have and the have-nots is persistent and becoming increasingly problematic.
  o Recent natural disasters have shown that being disconnected has devastating consequences for the elderly and their families.

• Trust Deficit and Fear:
  o Many older persons live in fear. It is doubled in case of using computer and digital devices due to perceived complications, cyber threats, loss of hard-earned money etc.
  o They feel that there is no reason to use the mobile Internet. This is a generation that has not grown with mobile technology and is usually averse to new technical skills.

• Reducing personal ties:
  o A whopping 85 per cent rued lack of communication with younger members of their families, due to their “more demanding lifestyle and inability of older family members to understand the modern digital language of communication
  o A lot of older people feel, in the digital age, that they are not relevant or included.

Positives of Digitization for elderly citizens:

• Participation: It has enabled them to participate in the economy, earn by offering consultations from their life experience and wisdom, which is extremely valuable for us to progress as a society. Perspectives, guidance and mentoring from the elderly we believe, need to be integrated deeply into what’s taught in schools and colleges.

• Connection: Enables them to restore connections to their family members who are separated geographically or have travel constraints.

• Information: Enables them to use the internet, gain information on their body, health conditions, find people who have answers to their questions and start conversations online.

• Inclusion: Can reap the benefits of Government schemes like pension, banking, e-living certificates, direct transfer of pensions to accounts etc.

Way forward:

• Provision of Customer service centers at the rural areas for digital assistance of the aged.

• Digital financial literacy will help in financial inclusion, which is abysmally low among aged women.

• Digital literacy among the elderly would help the population in getting government benefits on financial inclusion schemes, chatting with friends and relatives, internet banking, online payment of utility bills, getting gainful engagement, online entertainment, among others.

• Encouraging digital inclusion is not only about being socially conscious, but it also means being profitable. There is a need for tailor-made products specifically to the needs of the senior citizens
They will have more opportunities to communicate with family, access public services, and receive the latest safety information during a crisis.

We could also have online platforms that encourage seniors to come forward and share their life lessons and insights.

Conclusion:

Helping seniors connect online will allow thousands of people to engage with their communities to plan for extreme conditions, rather than being passive bystanders.

Debate whether the assertion of 10% quota law can act as a step towards classless and casteless society? Critically analyse(250 words)

The hindu

Why this question:
The question is in relevance to the recently proposed quota facility for the economically weaker sections by the government of India. It is important to evaluate the shift in the idea of reservation from socially weaker sections to economically weaker sections.

demand of the question:
The answer must explain why is the paradigm shift. What is that the government claiming and how far is it right? One must weigh the pros and cons of such a policy. The main demand of the question is to analyse if the above reform in reservation system is going to make our Indian society – casteless and classless in reality.

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

Structure of the answer:

Introduction
Brief upon the recent decision of the government on providing the quota for EWS.

Body
Discuss the following in detail:
Discussion should analyse the Supreme Court’s past decision of – “attainment of economic equality as the final and only solution to the besetting problems”.
Discuss – the pros and cons of amendment; to create 10% reservation for the poor in the unreserved category violated the basic structure of the Constitution and breached the 50% ceiling.
Relevance of Article 15(6) and Article 16(6).
Is reservation the only solution to empower the weaker and backward section?

Conclusion
conclude with significance of reservation in Indian history since independence, and how gradually we need to move towards a casteless and classless society that requires no reservation as a tool to bring equality among people.

Introduction:
The President of India has given his assent to the bill providing 10% reservation in jobs and educational institutions to the economically weaker sections in the general category. The legislation will be known as the Constitution (103 Amendment) Act, 2019 and it shall come into force on such date as the Centre notifies.

Body:
Reservation leads to casteless and classless society:

- The 10% quota law is a step towards a classless and casteless society, the Union government has indicated in the Supreme Court.

- The Centre referred to the court’s past decisions that called for the “attainment of economic equality as the final and only solution to the besetting problems” of the country. The Constitution (103rd Amendment) Act, 2019, was meant to benefit the economically weaker sections of society who were not covered by the existing schemes of reservation.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- It said the law was meant to benefit a large section of the population of 135 crore people, who are mostly lower middle class and below the poverty line.

- The government quoted the **2010 report of the Commission for Economically Backward Classes**, chaired by Major General S.R. Sinho (retired), which said 18.2% of the general category came under the below poverty line (BPL).

- The Government took support of the **13-page affidavit quoted from a 1985 Constitution Bench judgment in K.C. Vasanth Kumar vs Karnataka**, which quotes Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi to drive home the point that the economy of a family, and not its caste, should be the determining factor of social and educational backwardness.

- Article 15(6) and Article 16(6) are enabling provisions for advancement of the economically weaker sections and are, in fact, in conformity with the principle of reservation and affirmative action. It argued that a “mere amendment” to an Article would not violate the basic structure of the Constitution.

- Furthermore, the 50% ceiling applied to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. The new provision dealt with the economically weaker sections. “The limit of 50% is only applicable to reservation under Articles 15(4), 15(5) and 16(4) and does not apply to Article 15(6).”

The **pros** of the reservation Act are:

- **Alleviation of Poverty:** It is expected to help the needy among the higher castes.

- **Reduces ghost beneficiaries:** In some cases, it is expected to eliminate the desperation of those who, in the past, would resort to obtaining fake Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) certificates that were used to seek entry into professional courses.

- **Removes Prejudice:** The reservation will prevent these higher castes from holding reservations responsible for national disintegration and perpetuation of castelism, as they widely believe.

- **Reduces Unwanted Adoptions:** The legislation is also expected to keep savarna-caste aspirants from seeking adoption into SC/ST families in order to procure SC/ST certificates.

- **No deceptive self-characterisation:** Ironically, the 10% quota can help these savarnas retain their authentic caste identity. In this way, they can now avoid facing humiliation in courts of law on account of being exposed as fake caste certificate holders.

The **cons** of the reservation are:

- **Discredits the moral foundation of the principle of social justice:**

  - The **principle of social justice** calls for ‘equal treatment of equals’ and ‘affirmative action for less advantage sections’.

  - Constitution outlines special provisions for **only four classes** – SCs, STs, Backward Classes and Anglo Indians in the Articles 330-342 under Part 16.

  - The provision is clearly mentioned as reservation is explicitly for ‘social exclusion and discrimination’. Notably, the “**socially and educationally backward classes**” was the target group in quotas for OBCs.

  - **Unfairness or an element of injustice** is rooted in the practice of **untouchability**, whereas pure economic backwardness is rooted in the systemic inability to provide jobs to the higher castes.

  - The **lack of opportunities is not due to untouchability**, but due to the **inability of the state and the market to provide enough jobs for the qualified and the needy**.

  - The new reservation policy has transformed from a policy meant to provide a level playing field for those **suffering from historical discrimination and those who are weaker sections of the society to a policy meant as a dole for those sections of society who are poor and lack jobs.**
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- The **Indira Sawhney case** had further held that **social backwardness cannot be determined only with reference to an economic criterion.**

- **Violation of DPSP:**

- The **Article 46,** which is a non-justiciable Directive Principle, says that the state shall promote educational and economic interests of “weaker sections”, in particular SCs and STs, and protect them from “social injustices” and “all forms of exploitation”.

- While the **103rd Amendment mentions Article 46 in its statement and objects,** it seems the government overlooked the fact that upper castes neither face social injustice nor are subjected to any form of exploitation.

- Moreover, the Constitution makes provisions for commissions to look into matters relating to implementation of constitutional safeguards for Scheduled Castes (Article 338), Scheduled Tribes (338A) and Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (339), but has not created any commission for the economically backward classes.

- **Violation of Basic Structure Doctrine:**

- The 10% reservation will be in addition to the existing cap of 50% reservation for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes, taking the **total reservation to 60%**.

- This would leave other candidates with just 40% government jobs or seats, amounting to violation of **Article 14 (Right to Equality),** which is a part of **Basic Structure.**

- The 60% reservation will also lead to **“sacrifice of merit”**.

**Conclusion:**

Reservation to the weaker sections is a positive affirmative action needed for their welfare. The 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act though is a beneficial move for the “forward poor”. Similar moves by previous governments have been judicially reviewed and struck down. It is prudent to look at other alternatives to alleviate the conditions of EWS.

India’s female Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) has sharply declined over the last decade, despite being a period of high GDP and employment growth. Discuss why and what needs to be done to improve this condition? (250 words)

**Reference**

**Why this question:**
Female labour force participation is one of the key drivers of growth and development, but however in recent times the FLFP has declined despite growth in other indicators such as high GDP, employment rate etc. Thus it becomes imperative for us to prepare such a topic for GS paper 1.

**Key demands of the question:**
The question must analyse the factors supporting the decline of the already low female labour force participation rate in India, particularly in a period of its rapid economic growth.

**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.

**Keywords:**
Female employment, unpaid work, employability, self-employment and informality, U-shape, occupational segregation, feminization U hypothesis.

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction**
A good start can be made through some fact highlighting the importance of Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) among females in India.

**Body**
The body of the answer address the following dimensions:
- Reasons behind the low level of female LFPR (the structural factors), in comparison with other countries.
- Nature and Trends of female employment in India.
What needs to be done to improve the conditions?

Conclusion
Conclude – unlocking the potential of women definitely requires an increase and shift in the composition of overall employment opportunities as well as questioning of societal strictures. As the country commends itself on world-leading economic growth and aspires towards trillion economy, it becomes necessary to take women along to make this goal a reality.

Introduction:
India’s female labour force participation is among the lowest in the world. The Economic Survey 2017-18 revealed that women comprise only 24% of the Indian workforce. In fact, as India grows economically, the number of women in workplaces is declining steadily, despite enrolment of girls in higher education courses is growing steadily to 46% in 2014 from 39% in 2007.

Body:
More than half of the women who would like a job, particularly those in rural areas, say they do not have the skills required for the work they want to do — for example, leatherwork or textile manufacturing. Further, the opportunities that exist need to be more unbiased.

![Status of Women in India's workforce](image)

India’s workforce:
- Female labour force participation is a driver of growth and therefore, participation rates indicate the potential for a country to grow more rapidly.
- However, the relationship between women engagement in the labour market and broader development outcomes is complex.
- The share of women in India’s workforce has fallen dramatically from about 35% to 25%, since 2004.
- According to the World Economic Forum’s “Global Gender Gap Report 2018”, India is ranked at 108th position out of 149 countries.
- It is much sharper, when one looks at the age group of 15 to 24. As per ILO, India’s female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) fell from 35.8% in 1994 to merely 20.2% in 2012. It has fallen for other age groups as well.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- It declined over time from 36% women being employed in 2005-06 to 24% of women being employed in 2015-16.

Reasons for Declining Participation of Women in Employment:

The reasons are a mix of economic, social and cultural factors.

- **Maternity:** Many women who join the workforce are unable to re-join after having a child.
- The landmark legislation Maternity Benefit Act, 2017, which entitles a woman to 26 weeks of paid maternity leave, is becoming a big hurdle as start-ups and SMEs have become reluctant to hire them.
- The increased cost for companies and this may discourage them from hiring women.
- The share of women workers in the agriculture sector dropped from 42% in 2004-05 to 35.5% in 2011-12. This decrease in FLPR in agriculture can be attributed to increased adoption of technology in agriculture.
- The gender pay gap was 34 per cent in India, that is, women get 34 per cent less compared to men for performing the same job with same qualifications.
- In the organised sector, women professionals even in the highest ranks of labour (legislators, senior officials, and managers) are also paid less compared to their male counterparts. However, these women constitute only one per cent of the total female work force and the gap is lowest as they are aware of their rights.
- **Concerns about safety and Harassment at work site,** both explicit and implicit.
- According to NSSO, urban males accounted for 16% of India’s population, but held 77% of all jobs in computer-related activities in 2011-12. This shows, how gender has become a discriminatory factor for certain white-collar jobs.
- **Higher Education levels of women** also allow them to pursue leisure and other non-work activities, all of which reduce female labour force participation.
- **Insufficient availability of the type of jobs** that women say they would like to do, such as regular part-time jobs that provide steady income and allow women to reconcile household duties with work.
- According to the reports, about 74 per cent in rural areas and about 70 per cent in urban areas preferred ‘part time’ work on a regular basis while 21 per cent in rural areas and 25 per cent in urban areas wanted regular ‘full-time’ work.
- **Marriage is a career stopper** for the majority of Indian women and this cultural abhorrence towards women working is a not-so-subtle way of ensuring that the escape routes out of a marriage are minimised, if not entirely closed
- Social norms about household work are against women’s mobility and participation in paid work. **Childbirth and taking care of elderly parents or in-laws** account for the subsequent points where women drop off the employment pipeline.
- The cultural baggage about women working outside the home is so strong that in most traditional Indian families, quitting work is a necessary precondition to the wedding itself.
- When **increases in family incomes** are there, due to the cultural factors, women leave the work to take care of the family and avoid the stigma of working outside.

Way forward:

- **Non-farm job creation for women:** there is a need to generate education-based jobs in rural areas in the industrial and services sectors
- The state governments should make policies for the participation of rural women in permanent salaried jobs.
• The governments should also **generate awareness to espouse a positive attitude towards women** among the public since it is one of the most important impediments in women’s participation in economic activities.

• Local bodies, with aid from state governments, should open more crèches in towns and cities so that women with children can step out and work. The crèches will open employment opportunities for women.

• **Supply side reforms** to improve infrastructure and address other constraints to job creation could enable more women to enter the labour force.

• **Higher social spending**, including in education, can lead to higher female labour force participation by boosting female stocks of human capital.

• **Skilling the women:**
  
  o Initiatives such as **Skill India, Make in India, and new gender-based quotas from corporate boards to the police force** can spur a positive change. But we need to **invest in skill training and job support**.

  o The private sector could also take active part in training women entrepreneurs. For example: Unilever’s Shakti program, which has trained more than 70,000 rural women in India as micro-entrepreneurs to sell personal-care products as a way of making its brands available in rural India.

• **Equal pay:** The principle of equal remuneration for work of equal value that is protected by Indian law must be put to actual practice. Improved wage-transparency and gender neutral job evaluation is required to achieve this end.

• **Assuring safe access to work:** It is important to improve existing transport and communication networks and provide safe accommodation for women who travel to or has migrated for work.

• A useful and easily implementable idea would be to give **income tax benefits to women**. It would be a bold and effective step to increasing India’s female workforce participation.

• For political empowerment of women, their **representation in Parliament and in decision making roles in public sphere** is one of the key indicators of empowerment.

• **Gig Economy** provides women flexible work options to pursue their career while not missing important milestones in their family lives.

• Drawing more women into the labour force, supplemented by structural reforms that could help create more jobs would be a source of future growth for India. Only then would India be able to reap the benefits of “demographic dividend” from its large and youthful labour force.

**Conclusion:**

With more than 75% women not contributing to the economy, the nation is not only losing on the economic part but also the development of 50% of our population. The numeric consequences of reducing obstacles to women’s full economic participation far exceed the demographic advantages of having a larger pool of young workers. It is thus high time to talk of the gender dividend along with the demographic dividend.

Provide for a critical review of the age of criminal responsibility of juvenile in India vis-a-vis global scenario. (250 words)  

*The hindu*

**Why this question:**

The maximum age of criminal responsibility (MACR) for juveniles was set at 16 years recently, and the Juvenile Justice (Amendment) Bill made juveniles between ages 16 and 18 years who are charged with heinous offences to be tried as adults. Since then a deeper appreciation of children’s rights and understanding of their unique capabilities and experiences has been in question.

**Demand of the question:**

This question seeks to examine the implications of the developments for understanding of age of criminal responsibility of juveniles, and expects one to provide a comparison and contrast between the Indian scenario and the world.
 Directive word: 
Critically review – When asked to review, you have to examine the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary. When „critically” is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgement.

Keywords: 
Juvenile in conflict with law, Juvenile Justice Delivery System, Rights of Child, Protection, Treatment, Development, Rehabilitation etc.

Structure of the answer: 
Introduction
Start by suggesting that many reports have revealed that a significant proportion of juveniles who commit crimes in India come from economically and socially deprived backgrounds.

Body
Discuss the following in detail:
Trace the historical evolution of laws pertaining to Juveniles in India.
Discuss the recent cases such as – Delhi rape case, post which strong changes came into the Juvenile Justice system. Compare the conditions, legislations in India with other countries, take your stand as to whether you agree or disagree.

Conclusion
conclude with significance of robust Juvenile justice system in place to ensure the future of the youth and children in the country.

Introduction:
The involvement and apparent brutality of the juvenile in the 16th December, 2012 gang-rape case sparked a debate on the minimum age requirement for instituting a criminal proceeding against an adult. In the wake of this debate the Women and Children’s Development Minister, introduced a bill in the Lok Sabha that was passed in December 2015.

Body:

The Amendment to juvenile Justice Act meant that children between the ages of sixteen and eighteen involved in heinous crimes to be tried as adults and receive the maximum punishment. While the proponents of the reduction in the age of majority emphasise on the need to try those accused of adult crimes as adults, the anti-amendment groups feel that the commission of crimes by juveniles is grounded in their compelling socio-economic conditions.

Traditional Understanding of Juvenile Justice:

- Firstly, the notion of parens patriae or “parent of the nation” refers to the power of public policy of the State to protect and rehabilitate any minor. This is corroborated by the welfare function discharged by the State that upholds the notion that no child can survive without requisite care, and in exceptional circumstances imposes the duty upon the State to provide this care.

- Secondly there exists an assumption that a child does not have the mental ability for the requisite mens rea to commit a crime.

Contemporary Debates in Society:

- Proponents claim that a harsher punishment will deter juveniles recruited by criminal gangs that exploit legal loopholes to their advantage by ensuring that the juvenile offender escapes criminal liability.

- One needs to view the punitive provisions in light of the fundamental object of the Juvenile Justice Act i.e. to choose reformation over punishment, with the aim of reintegrating the juvenile into society.

- Crimes such as rape by minors is not caused due to an inherent evil but due to the social environment where boys are taught to ill-treat women.

- The United Nation’s Beijing Standard Rules ask States to treat all persons below the age of eighteen as children, and prohibits treating any ‘child’ as an adult in domestic criminal law jurisdictions.
In the United States, twenty state Supreme Courts allow juveniles to be tried and treated as adults, and be sentenced unto life imprisonment. Until 2005 most of these courts mandated capital punishment for juveniles.

In the United Kingdom a person below the age of seventeen can be tried as an adult if accused of serious offences like sexual assault, child sex offences or sexual activity with a child family member.

However, it is very dangerous to blindly adopt laws without understanding the reasons behind the adoption of these laws in their parent country and exploring the possible contextual differences.

Through the end of the twentieth century until now, USA has had the highest juvenile crime rate in the world with 4,000 out of every 100,000 persons below the age of eighteen having been charged with crime. This was seen as a resultant of the economic and psychological conditions of people, attributable to racial segregation and injustice.

Conclusion:

As traditionally understood, juvenile justice aims at providing an alternative system of “justicing” for juveniles in the investigation, pre-trial custody, trial and sentencing stages. Hence the amendment to the Act, that lowered the age of majority for heinous crimes, defied the basic fundamentals of this Act that aims at reformation rather than penalisation.

It is necessary to keep faith in the processes of reform, through counselling and sensitisation, especially in case of juveniles. The State should instead improve juvenile homes and correctional facilities by improving infrastructure, funding research and employing qualified professional services in the field of behavioural correction. There is a growing need to improve the economic conditions that coerce juveniles to commit crimes, especially in areas of high crime rate.

In the backdrop of recently released the National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey 2018-19, critically analyse India’s WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) policies for rural areas. (250 words)

The hindu

Why this question:
The article covers analysis of raw data from the National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey 2018-19, in this context it becomes necessary for us to analyse the WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) policies for rural areas of India.

demand of the question:
This question seeks to examine the implications of policies adopted by India for water, sanitation and management with a key focus on the recently released National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey 2018-19.

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

Keywords:
flagship sanitation scheme Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Wastewater and Faecal Sludge Management, cycle of sanitation, ABC of water etc.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start by suggesting how WASH – Water, Sanitation and hygiene are intrinsically linked to health.

Body
Discuss the following in detail:
Trace the historical evolution of WASH policies in India, analyse the various WASH policies formulated by the Central and State governments.
Bring out the highlights of the report with respect to rural India.
Compare the conditions from the past to the present.
key components of the policy.

Conclusion
Conclude as to how India must review the Wash policies and find the weaker areas to improve the condition.
The National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey (NARSS) 2018-19, conducted by an Independent Verification Agency (IVA) under the World Bank support project to the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM-G), has found that 96.5% of the households in rural India who have access to a toilet use it. The NARSS also reconfirmed the Open Defecation Free (ODF) status of 90.7% of villages which were previously declared and verified as ODF by various districts/States. The survey was conducted between November 2018 and February 2019 and covered 92040 households in 6136 villages across States and UTs of India.

Body:

The key findings of NARSS 2018-19 are as follows:

- 1% of households were found to have access to toilets during the survey period (the corresponding figure as per the SBMG MIS in November 2018 was 96%)
- 5% of the people who had access to toilets used them
- 7% of villages which were previously declared and verified as ODF were confirmed to be ODF. The remaining villages also had sanitation coverage of about 93%
- 4% of the villages surveyed found to have minimal litter and minimal stagnant water

However, there are still many challenges to the WASH in rural India:

- **Solid and Liquid waste management:**
  - Just 6% of rural households use the recommended twin-pit system. The waste from the remainder of rural toilets could create a new sanitation nightmare — harmful to health and the environment, and even pushing a new generation into manual scavenging.
  - For the more than 70% of toilets without twin pits, a **faecal sludge management system** is desperately needed.
  - A 2018 survey of 30 cities and towns in Uttar Pradesh by the Centre for Science and Environment found that 87% of toilet waste is dumped into water bodies and farm lands.
  - In Bihar, some households throw sanitary pads in toilets, burn them or bury them under the ground as they do not have a formal arrangement to dispose solid wastes.
  - Most of the households surveyed in Manipur, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal also do not have any arrangement to dump solid wastes. Ironically, these three states also have more than 80 per cent coverage of household toilets.
  - It is still a challenge for the SBM-G to **manage black and grey water**, especially, in areas near coast and areas having shallow groundwater.
- **Behavioural change failures:**
  - The researchers from the Delhi-based think tank Centre for Science and Environment visited villages near Ganga in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and found that Usage of toilets was very low because of **wrong design of toilets and absence of water connection**.
- **Small Sample size:**
  - The survey covered 92040 households in 6136 villages across states and UTs of India. On an average, only 15 households have been covered per village, which, perhaps, is not enough to have a holistic view of sanitation status.
The SBM agents, who act as motivators for construction and usage of toilets in the states, are underutilized. It also came to pass that in few states there is a long list of vacancies for the post of Swachhagrahis.

Way forward:

- The twin pit has been promoted by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation as well as the World Health Organisation as an in-situ sanitation system which claims to bypass thorny issues such as caste purity, as owners will be dealing with manure, not excreta.
- Governmental Initiatives of Swachhata Pakwada Campaigns should be promoted to raise awareness of sanitation and hygiene. Adequate Budgetary Allocation should be given to construct twin-pit toilets at villages, public toilets etc.
- Teach them young: Children must be taught the importance of Sanitation and hygiene. Initiatives like Bal Swachhata Mission, Swachh Vidyalaya Abhiyan are pushing forward the objective.
- Competition raising initiatives like Swachha Survekshan Abhiyan will help in boosting the spirit of cities and towns to improve the ODF status.
- In places of water scarcity, trains etc. use of bio-toilets can be promoted.
- Technology like mini-jetting machines, robots to clean the clogged pits as done in Hyderabad and Trivandrum should be emulated in other places to curb manual scavenging.
- Swachhata Doots, NGOs and CSOs must be involved at the grassroots level to achieve 100% ODF by October 2nd, 2019.

Conclusion:

The success of the Swachh Bharat Mission is linked to the participation of the people. It depends on people changing their attitudes towards cleanliness, building and using toilets, and maintaining personal hygiene among other things. This means creating a ‘behavioural change’ in an individual is critical to help break old habits and norms.

The recently proposed establishment of the Bhartiya Shiksha Board in order to revitalize Vedic education seem to have more of negative consequences for the caste dynamics in our society than the positives it would bring. Comment (250 words)

**EPW**

Why this question:
The article from EPW provides for an exhaustive analysis of the negative implications of such an education system and studies what are the implications of Vedic education for the total destruction of caste.

Key demands of the question:
The question expects one to critically analyse the ill effects of such an education system that can impact the caste fabric of India. One has to bring out how it helps the old redundant Brahmanical supremacy back into the fora. However one must also highlight the positives associated if any and conclude with what changes are urgently required by such a system to actually fructify.

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

Keywords:
Vedas, Brahmanical practices, Hindu-run educational institutions etc

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
A good start can be with some fact highlighting the importance of a robust education system for India.

Body
The body of the answer address the following dimensions:
What is it about the Vedic education system?
Current dynamics associated with Bhartiya Shiksha Board.
Vedic education also followed Brahmanical practices, thus what will be its impact on caste dynamics of India. In such a case how will it fail to make education system better?

Conclude with how Vedic system should not be made a tool for political agenda and rather valuable inputs from every system in the past that has contributed to the education system must be envisaged with modern and liberal outlook to it that accommodates the needs of the newer eras.

Conclusion
Education system has its own key place in deciding the growth and development of the country, and thus one should not tweak with such systems.

Introduction:

Paving the way for the country’s first national school board for Vedic education, the governing council of the Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Vedavidya Pratishthan (MSRVP) – a fully-funded autonomous body under the HRD Ministry working on promotion of ‘ved vidya’ – has given its in-principle approval to set up a Bhartiya Shiksha Board (BSB).

Body:

Functions:

- The Bhartiya Shiksha Board will be established with the objective of standardising Vedic education.
- Like any school board, it will draft syllabus, conduct examinations and issue certificates.
- Apart from affiliating traditional pathshalas, BSB will also be assigned the responsibility of evolving new kinds of schools that offer a blend of Vedic and modern education.

Positives of such a board:

- The teachers from any caste will be able to teach Vedas and the belief that only the twice-born and the males need to teach will be wiped out enhancing Gender Equality.
- One reason for introducing this proposal seems to be based on the belief that our education system is somehow biased against Hinduism and that a course correction is needed.
- Some of the supporters of this decision feel that this initiative is welcome because it would mitigate the “harm” that the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RtE) Act has done.
- Students and parents are genuinely frustrated by Eurocentric structure of education and the suspicion that it has towards non-Western sources.

Critics fear the challenges posed by BSB:

- The BSB symbolises an escalation of the Centre’s drive to infuse Indian scholarship with deference towards beliefs encoded in the Vedas and other Hindu religious texts.
- This belief reinforces the suspicion that the introduction of Vedic education is another way of introducing Brahminical education.
- Vedic education seems to be primarily targeted towards the non-Hindus of our society in order to show them the greatness of this culture, and, in doing this, “Vedic” is being equated with “Indian” rather surreptitiously.
- The incumbent Government has shown that it is okay with changing history books to portray its discriminatory policies against religious minorities in brighter light.
- It has meddled with school textbooks to this effect, funded questionable research projects not grounded in the scientific method and passively condoned pseudoscientific remarks by those in its ranks – including Prime Minister himself.
- It is a worthwhile aspiration to further legitimise the study of Sanskrit texts, including Vedic ones, in schools, and regularise how those schools are run. But it shouldn’t expose students to bad scholarship.
- It is in light of these actions that the BSB comes across as precarious instead of well-intentioned.
• Students graduating from our already-subpar education system are being forced to buck up by the impending rigour of academic research or of professional standards.

• Young girls in developing economies often take to science, technology, engineering and mathematics because it is a shortcut to individual freedom, an escape from poverty as much as from conservative households. The BSB doesn’t just divert important resources away from helping students fulfil these aspirations.

• BSB extends the duration for which students can choose to insulate themselves from the need to “do better”. It has, after all, been empowered to conduct its own exams and issue its own certificates.

Way forward:

• In this framework, the BSB and its affiliated institutions need to guarantee – more than anything else – that they will not cross-pollinate teaching goals with pseudo-nationalist ambitions or, more generally, unfalsifiable truths with beliefs.

• This is what the students and their families deserve as much as their future employers will need.

• In addition to the guarantee, ideally including periodic audits, the MHRD should also ensure that graduates of the BSB are always employable.

• It means not meddling with textbooks in any educational board, setting up more vigorous ways to evaluate “ancient Indian knowledge”, funding more legitimate research and spending less time talking about doing so.

• Celebrating our history in its appropriate context, chastising government officials who utter nonsense and ensuring those engaged in these tasks get the respect they deserve.

• We need to produce a scholarly and critical approach to frame meaningful syllabuses in Vedic studies too; otherwise we will end up depending too much on the religious leaders themselves for interpreting these religions.

• This initiative is a wake-up call to all of us worried about the content and methods of our education system, which will hopefully find ways to integrate multiple perspectives that are sensitive to the experiences and reason of the non-West.

Conclusion:

Setting up a new system of educational certification is not simply about signing off on paper, setting up rooms, fixing fees and employing teachers. It is about creating a wider economy in which our students reap continuous benefits.

Polarization around religion and caste often drives voters’ choices in India. evaluate.(250 words)

Livemint

Why this question:
Caste-based vote bank politics, rather than economic issues and social policy have determined India’s electoral choices. With Lok Sabha elections round the corner it is becomes necessary for us to analyse this point of view with respect to the context of Indian society angle.

Key demand of the question:
The answer must discuss how identity and religious-ethnic conflicts, rather than economic issues and social policy, determine India’s electoral choices.
You must emphasize on lack correlation between developmental expenditure and support for a political party.

Structure of the answer

Introduction:
Briefly highlight the importance of voter’s choice in a democracy.

Body:
Answers must discuss the following aspects:
Highlight the present rise of religious divisions and the persistence of strong caste-based cleavages, while education, income and occupation are playing a diminishing role (controlling for caste) in determining voters’ choices.
What governs the choice of who to vote for in India? How has it changed over time?
Factors driving voter behaviour.
Vote Banks of Different Parties; discuss other religious and communal issues, such as cow slaughter, the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, and triple talaq, that drive the polarization of the vote base.

Conclusion —
Conclude with what needs to be done and emphasize on overhaul of the Indian voting behaviour and vis-à-vis the political system.

Introduction:

Caste-based vote-bank politics, rather than economic issues and social policy have determined India’s electoral choices. Caste is a social phenomenon of Indian society. By participating in the modern political system, caste is now exposed to divisive influences and a new form of integration resulting from a new scheme of universalist-particularist relationships. Caste has gained an influential position in India politics.

Body:

Many claimed that the 2014 results showed that voters were now driven by an agenda of broad-based and inclusive development rather than caste and religion. A new study by Abhijit Banerjee, Amory Gethin, and Thomas Piketty, published by the Economic and Political Weekly, debunks these claims and shows how identity and religious-ethnic conflicts, rather than economic issues and social policy, determine India’s electoral choices.

- Comparing data from national and state elections between 1962 and 2014 with electoral surveys and social spending data, the authors classify the support base and vote-bank for parties across the ideological spectrum.
- They find that the BJP and other right-wing parties, such as the Shiv Sena and the Shiromani Akali Dal, have drawn their support from the Brahmins and other forward castes.
- On the other hand, the Congress, centre-left and left parties have drawn their support from Muslims and lower caste Hindus.
- These patterns have remained broadly constant over the past five decades, despite a spike in lower caste support for BJP in 2014.
- The authors argue that economic policy had no impact on voters’ choice. The study finds no correlation between developmental expenditure and support for a political party.
- The only social policy issue that drives voting behaviour is reservation in government jobs and educational institutions, the authors find.
- Other religious and communal issues, such as cow slaughter, the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, and triple talaq, drive the polarization of the vote base, the authors argue.
- The formation role of caste associations are also playing an important role in influencing voting pattern. Even political parties are considering caste as a vote bank. This enabled the lower castes to be politically influential on the basis of numerical preponderance.
- In selecting candidates for elections, political parties often giving consideration to the caste composition of constituencies. Sometimes several castes are using politics in their attempt to better their conditions or to achieve their goal.
- Reservation policy is another aspect where we can see that caste system also influence Indian politics.
- Post-Mandal politics has ushered a new era in Indian politics. Identity politics, which was earlier seen only in villages, is now visible in towns and metros too.
- Caste based violence very often finds its way into politics. The traditional differences between the higher and lower castes have acquired a new vigour and have turned, at times, into a violent and fierce struggle for power in society.
Secure Synopsis

Way forward:

- **Supreme Court’s ruling on Sec 123(3) of Representatives of Peoples Act 1951** where it prohibits any candidate, his agent, or any person consented by such candidate or his agent, from soliciting votes, or discouraging voters against voting for a rival candidate, on grounds of religion, race, caste, community or language, by declaring such conduct as a ‘corrupt practice’ should be implemented in letter and spirit.
- Socio-Economic Development leading to removal of poverty is necessary to remove such polarizations.
- Education of the people is another way of keeping elections secular.

Conclusion:

Caste still remains one of the important considerations of voting for Indian voters, and caste-based mobilisation remains an important consideration for political parties. The three organs of our Democracy supported by the media needs to act together to fill in the loopholes in law and make electoral process more secular.

Role of women and women’s organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues.

“Gender equality is a critical component of economic growth”. In the context of recently published World bank’s women, business and the law 2019 report, examine the above statement.(250 words)

Reference

Why this question:
The article is in the context of recently published report of World Bank – “Women, business and the law 2019” that measured gender discrimination in 187 countries. It provides for facts justifying role of women in economic growth of a country.

Key demand of the question
The answer must highlight the interrelationship between Gender equality and the economic growth by appreciating the key findings of the report.

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

Structure of the answer
Introduction:
Start with multidimensionality of gender equality and their correlation with economic growth.

Body:
The answer must address the following aspects –
Start by explaining how Gender equality is a multidimensional term assuming economic, cultural and social dimensions.
Details and assessment of the report.
Indian scenario
Justify by relating Gender equality to economic growth by providing examples of successful countries.

Conclusion:
Conclude with importance of gender equality for better future of the societies.

Introduction:

Gender equality is when women and men enjoy the same rights and opportunities across all sectors of society, including economic participation and decision-making, and when the different behaviours, aspirations and needs of women and men are equally valued and favoured.

The World bank’s Women, business and the law 2019 report, published recently, measured gender discrimination in 187 countries and found only six countries in the world give women and men equal legal work rights.
Gender Equality implies equal enjoyment of rights & opportunities by human beings (be it male or female) in all spheres be it social, economic or political. Women are half of the world’s population and they have their role to play in creating a more prosperous world.

Findings of the Report:

- The index explores how the economic decisions women make are affected by the law.
- The data show there has been great progress towards legal gender equality over the past decade.
- In 131 economies there have been 274 reforms to laws and regulations, leading to an increase in gender equality.
- This includes the 35 economies that implemented laws on workplace sexual harassment, protecting nearly two billion more women than a decade ago.
- The average global score is 74.71, indicating that a typical economy gives women only three-fourths the legal rights of men in the measured areas.
- However, the average score in the Middle East and North Africa is 47.37, meaning the typical economy in that region gives women less than half the legal rights of men in the measured areas.
- Many laws and regulations continue to prevent women from entering the workforce or starting a business.
- Discrimination that can have lasting effects on women’s economic inclusion and labour force participation.
- Economies that failed to implement reforms towards gender equality over the past ten years, for example, saw a smaller increase in the percentage of women working overall and in the percentage of women working relative to men.

Indian Scenario:

- India has a score of 71.25 among the 187 countries.
- Advocacy has also proved critical in India, including in the Supreme Court case of Vishakha v State of Rajasthan where women’s groups filed public interest litigation to enforce the rights of women in the workplace under the Indian constitution.
- India was one of the economies which introduced a legislation – Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act to protect women.
• The recent **Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act 2017** also has helped women to work better during maternity as well as take care of child.

• However, in India, the women labour force participation rate is **about 25%** and most of them are in the unorganized sector where the above legislations don’t apply.

• The lack of decision making and no ownership of economic resources hinder women from economic growth.

• The **World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report 2018** ranked India at 142 out of 149 countries on the economic participation and opportunity gap.

• According to **Global Wage Report 2018-19 published by ILO**, on an average, women are paid 34% less than men in India. Inequality is higher in monthly wages, with a gap of 22%.

• Rather than business regulations, it is often discriminatory provisions in family codes, labour codes, constitutions, property laws, and domestic violence laws that suppress women’s labour force participation.

**Gender equality leads to economic growth**

• Six economies—Belgium, Denmark, France, Latvia, Luxembourg and Sweden—score 100 in the Women, Business and the Law index, meaning they give women and men equal legal rights in the measured

• France had the biggest improvement among the top performers, going from a score of 88 in the index ten years ago to 100 now by implementing a domestic violence law, providing criminal penalties for workplace sexual harassment and introducing paid parental leave.

**Conclusion:**

Economies grow faster when more women work. If governments want to capitalise on this kind of growth, they must not only remove these impediments but also incentivise women’s entry into the workforce. The law influences what happens on the ground. In countries with higher scores, there are more women employees and entrepreneurs, showing us that when societies get to equal, economies become more resilient. There is a need to recognise women’s unique role as drivers of progress and powerful agents of change.

“There is no chance for the welfare of the world unless the condition of women is improved.” Evaluate the statement in the context of Indian scenario. (250 words)

*Livemint*  
*Indianexpress*

**Why this question:**  
The article is on the eve of Women’s day, it provides for a detailed discussion on abilities of women in today’s world and the opportunities they have in our country given the cultural setup and legacy of parochial mindset. The article mainly focuses on why women around the world should recognize their financial worth and acquire the confidence needed to drive financial decisions thus empowering themselves and in turn the societies.

**Key demand of the question**

The answer must center itself around role of women in the growth and development of the country, their empowerment for the welfare of the societies. And one must justify the dire need for improvement in the conditions for women.

**Directive word**

Evaluate – When you are asked to evaluate, you have to pass a sound judgement about the truth of the given statement in the question or the topic based on evidences. You have to appraise the worth of the statement in question. There is scope for forming a personal opinion here.

**Structure of the answer**

**Introduction:**

One can start with importance of women empowerment. Explain the nuances of the statement in question.

**Body:**

Discuss how Gender equality and women’s empowerment are essential for the development and well-being of families, communities and nations. Due to prevalence of patriarchy, women have been discriminated not only in India but in most parts of the world. Violence against women is a part of the system and according to UN, one out of every three women experiences violence. Taking place within the family, it gives pain. Then move on to discuss how empowering
women is a dynamic and political process. The approach needs to be multidimensional and integrative. Quote success stories- women in leading roles.

Conclusion:
Conclude with significance of women empowerment centric to development and welfare.

Introduction:

The issue of gender biasness and gender discrimination has been given the utmost priority even by the United Nations. In India, women are treated badly in every field be it political, social, education, sports and technology and innovation. Thus, it is essential that they are empowered to be independent and stand on their own feet.

Body:

Gender equality is a human right which entitles all persons irrespective of their gender to live with dignity and with freedom. Gender equality is also a precondition for development and reducing of poverty. Gender shouldn’t be an unreasonable determining factor curbing potential candidates from performing where they ought to.

Women empowerment seeks to stimulate the confidence in women by providing to them everything that in their capacity to help them see the skills that they contain and are dormant within them. A proper nurturing, polishing and sharpening of those skills is only made possible through better education, awareness and a space to freely express oneself.

Situation in India:

- **Female participation in the labour market is 27.2 percent** compared to 78.8 for men. India ranks 127 out 160 countries on the Gender Inequality Index.
- India has been ranked 108th in World Economic Forum (WEF) gender gap index. Gender gap was measured across four key pillars — economic opportunity, political empowerment, educational attainment, and health and survival.
- As per Census 2011, the ratio of female youth literacy rate to male youth literacy rate is 0.91 at all India level.
- According to data released by Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU), India ranks 115 in the World for proportion of National Parliament seats held by Women.

Importance of Gender Equality in Women Empowerment:

- **To Rule out under-employment and unemployment**
  - Around 50 per cent of the world population consists of the women population.
  - Unemployment of women and unequal opportunities in the places of work cause great problems around the world, because true potential is left from being harnessed.
- **To reduce scope domestic violence and sexual exploitation:**
  - Violence against women is a part of the system and according to UN, one out of every three women experiences violence. Taking place within the family, it gives pain.
  - Due to prevalence of patriarchy, women have been discriminated not only in India but in most parts of the world.
  - When independence is acquired all sorts of mistreatment can be dodged. Mistreatment includes domestic violence and sexual exploitation even in marriage.
  - It is important that women understand what unacceptable behaviour is, in order to fight against it.
  - This is why education is very important and education is another great key towards women empowerment, and also the result of women empowerment.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- **To eradicate corruption:**
  - Corruption addressed to women or to the society in general, shall be reduced when women are permitted to receive education equal to men.
  - So women empowerment is also necessary, in order to bring about peace and justice to the society with women being equally equipped to fight against the wrongs by perhaps participating in movements, raising their voices single handed or joining groups and civil service jobs to serve their fellow country mates in the same manner as men.

- **To get rid of poverty:**
  - While women empowerment serves in granting economic independence to women, it also serves in contributing to the economic benefits of the household and the society as a whole.
  - Pressure on one individual to earn a family’s living can be too much to bear, which is why it is rightful to share the burden amongst one another to provide for a better living condition to their family members and also to gradually uproot poverty from the country by facilitating proper distribution of wealth per household.

- **To facilitate national development**
  - Women have exhibited potential in the National and even International levels. Women like Sakshi Malik (wrestler), Dipa Karmakar (gymnast) and Manushi Chhillar, (the girl who recently bagged the Miss World crown) have all portrayed extraordinary potential and rose to International recognition even, let aside national.
  - These are the women who inspire and back women empowerment movements even further to purport the talents of women which look forth to be appropriated in the best possible manner.

- **To realise the advantageous prospect of women over men**
  - Certain jobs in fact can’t reach up to their best capacities without the participation of women.
  - It is the very sentiment of nurturing, softness and warmth in some women that is necessary in fields like Non Governmental Organizations, Nursing, teaching and other similar sorts of jobs.
  - Along with the participation of men, female involvement is vital for the smooth functioning of the system in order to achieve the ideals they seek to achieve.

- **A sustainable move:**
  - Empowered women make invaluable contribution to the improvement of health conditions and educational status and productivity of whole families and communities, which in turn improve prospects for the next generation.
  - It has been found in various studies conducted by the World Bank, ADB and other renowned research organisations that, educated female-headed households do much better in the provision of health and education of the children at home.

- **A storehouse of immense talent**
  - Women empowerment is essential today because earlier, women were not allowed to receive higher education, the society was backward and the times were different.
  - But now the times have changed. Women take up the same responsibilities as men and do a wonderful job in showcasing their talents when given an opportunity to.
  - It is necessary that they are given a chance to compete on the same level as men only to be able to benefit the employment and job spheres of our country.
• Women’s empowerment is not and cannot be separate from the empowerment of nature, empowerment of all the marginalized people.

• It is closely linked to peace moments, ecology moments, workers and peasant movements, human rights movements and moments for democratization and decentralization of society.

• It requires changing patriarchal mindset, giving women control over resources (natural, human, intellectual, financial resources) and bring them into decision making roles.

• Women’s concerns, perspectives and visions are necessary on every issue be it militarization, human rights or sustainable development.

• Empowerment of women has to be done at all levels and in all sections if it is to become strong and widespread and make a difference.

• Proactive measures that support gender parity and social inclusion and address historical imbalances are therefore essential for the health of the global economy as well as for the good of society as a whole.

Conclusion:

Gender equality will be achieved only when women and men enjoy the same opportunities, rights and obligations in all spheres of life. This means sharing equally, power and influence, and having equal opportunities in economic and social spheres. Equal claim on education and career prospects will enable women to realize their personal ambitions.

“Strong male patrons are required at every single level to drive the gender inclusivity agenda.” Elucidate in the context of India. (250 words)

**Livemint**

**Why this question:**
The article talks about gender equity; its importance and more importantly the role of Men in bringing gender equity in the societies.

**Key demand of the question:**
The question wants us to write in detail about the existing scenario of gender inequality in India and discuss the role of Men in establishing gender equity, with women as catalyst of change, role of men is as well a game changer in bringing out the relevance of gender equity.

**Directive word:**
Elucidate – means to explain and clarify the topic, make it clear with examples.

**Structure of the answer:**
**Introduction:**
Begin with the importance of the culture of inclusivity that can be institutionalized when it is driven from the top.

**Body:**
The answer should capture the following aspects:
Facts indicating the present condition of Women in India, the demographics etc.
Need for gender friendly policies.
Importance of male sponsors in shaping the careers of women.
Indian scenario aspects of the question.

**Conclusion:**
Conclude with significance of gender inclusive organization with Male catalysts for gender equity.

**Introduction:**

Decades of activism and research on prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) have made clear the imperative to go beyond the symptoms of GBV to address its root cause: gender inequality. When we address the systematic subordination of women within patriarchal power structures, it is critical to acknowledge the role men can—and must—play in creating inclusive environments. The culture of inclusivity can be institutionalized only when it is driven from the top.

**Body:**

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**Status of women in India:**
According to a **2018 World Bank report**, the labour force participation rate (LFPR) among females in India was 26.97 LFPR female in 2018 in India. The world average stood at 48.47 percent in 2018.

In India, the female demographic not just in the corner office but in the whole C-suite is only 5 to 10% (numbers vary depending on the survey).

A whopping 30% of respondents in the **Grant Thornton’s Women in Business 2018** survey reported that they had no women in leadership roles.

India has been ranked **108th in World Economic Forum (WEF) gender gap index**. Gender gap was measured across four key pillars — economic opportunity, political empowerment, educational attainment, and health and survival.

As per Census 2011, the ratio of **female youth literacy rate to male youth literacy rate** is **0.91** at all India level.

According to data released by **Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU)**, India ranks **115** in the World for proportion of National Parliament seats held by Women.

**Need for gender friendly policies:**

**To Rule out under-employment and unemployment**
- Around 50 per cent of the world population consists of the women population.
- Unemployment of women and unequal opportunities in the places of work cause great problems around the world, because true potential is left from being harnessed.

**To realise the advantageous prospect of women over men**
- Certain jobs in fact can’t reach up to their best capacities without the participation of women.
- It is the very sentiment of nurturing, softness and warmth in some women that is necessary in fields like Non Governmental Organizations, Nursing, teaching and other similar sorts of jobs.
- Along with the participation of men, female involvement is vital for the smooth functioning of the system in order to achieve the ideals they seek to achieve.

**A sustainable move:**
- Empowered women make invaluable contribution to the improvement of health conditions and educational status and productivity of whole families and communities, which in turn improve prospects for the next generation.
- It has been found in various studies conducted by the World Bank, ADB and other renowned research organisations that, educated female-headed households do much better in the provision of health and education of the children at home.

**Having a diverse, inclusive culture means creating an environment where people can feel free to be their authentic selves at work**

**A storehouse of immense talent**
- Women empowerment is essential today because earlier, women were not allowed to receive higher education, the society was backward and the times were different.
- But now the times have changed. Women take up the same responsibilities as men and do a wonderful job in showcasing their talents when given an opportunity to.
- It is necessary that they are given a chance to compete on the same level as men only to be able to benefit the employment and job spheres of our country.

**Importance of male sponsors in shaping the careers of women:**
• Strong male sponsors are required at each level to drive the gender inclusivity agenda.

• At every fork in student life and early career, whenever the choice is between the status quo, or a tougher less trodden path, father or brother can urge a female on.

• Leadership positions, strategic selection of academic institutions, career choices, and even the life partner. The baton can be passed on to husband, who can sponsored career and partner all the tough choices one needs to make in the next phase of life.

• A woman can choose someone as a husband, who is both a partner and a sponsor, and champions their career unabashedly.

• Usually the top management layers are packed with men, it is no wonder that smart ambitious women see the impact successful male leaders as sponsors bring.

• In a patriarchal society like India, the resources are mostly with male, thus they become vital sponsors.

Conclusion:

There is inherent strength in a vibrant, diverse and inclusive workforce that challenges traditional structures and embraces new opportunities. There is a need for number of initiatives, programs and educational resources to build the leadership capability of our female leaders. These include mentoring and coaching, leadership development and networking opportunities.

“Old ideas of gendered roles retain their appeal even in today’s world, we need to move beyond reflections about family relationships and motherhood and women’s inalienable duties to society”. In the light of the above statement, Examine Women’s current position in Indian political system. (250 words)

Indianexpress

Why this question:
The article explains in detail the irony Women face in the backdrop of traditional Gendered roles and societal stereotypes. It discusses in detail the Indian context with the background of upcoming Lok Sabha elections and the sorry picture of women participation in Indian political system.

Key demand of the question:
The answer should discuss – role of women in social, economic and political system. The causes and consequences of gendered roles and stereotypes in our country and the need to move beyond reflections about family relationships and motherhood and women’s inalienable duties to society.

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

Structure of the answer
Introduction:
Briefly bring out the role of Women in the society.

Body:
Discussion of the answer should cover:
Significance of Women in the society – social, economic and political.
Why the idea of gendered roles is outdated and should be done away with?
Discuss examples of the prevalence in Indian context.
Can bring in a dimension of care ethics vs Feminist ethics.

Conclusion –
Conclude with what needs to be done, What path should India take to empower women.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

The Economic Survey 2018 called for more representation of women in decision making process in the country, saying their political participation has been low despite them accounting for 49 per cent of the population. An Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and UN Women report — Women in Politics 2017, revealed that 16th Lok Sabha had 65 (12 percent of 545 MPs) and Rajya Sabha 27 (11 per cent of 245 MPs) women MPs. 22 years since the initial proposal, the Women’s Reservation Bill remains out of reach.

Body:

Present situation of women’s political representation in India:

- India ranks 153 out of 190 nations in the percentage of women in the lower house of world parliaments.
- The Economic Survey 2018 said there are developing countries like Rwanda which has more than 60 per cent women representatives in Parliament in 2017.
- In India, between 2010 and 2017 women’s share rose 1 percentage point in its Lower House (Lok Sabha).
- As on October 2016, out of the total 4,118 MLAs across the country, only 9 per cent were women.
- The highest percentage of women legislators come from Bihar, Haryana and Rajasthan (14%), followed by Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal (13%) and Punjab (12%).
- The factors such as domestic responsibilities, prevailing cultural attitudes regarding roles of women in society and lack of support from family were among main reasons that prevented them from entering politics.
- Lack of confidence and finance were the other major deterring factors that prevented women from entering politics.
- Ahead of any election campaign in the country, sexist and derogatory remarks start doing the rounds against women contestants, in some cases forcing them to withdraw their nomination.
- The introduction of the Women’s Reservation Bill in 1996 that would reserve 33 percent of seats in Lok Sabha and the state legislative assemblies for women on a rotational basis, lapsed in 2014 with the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha.
- The constitution allocates total seats to states by population, the resultant women’s representation at 12% is far below the actual population of women. So, on grounds of fairness, this is an anomaly.
Enhancing women participation in parliament would ensure the upliftment of status of women:

- In 1994, India ratified the 73rd and the 74th amendments to the Indian Constitution, granting women 1/3 reservation in rural and urban democratic bodies.

- There are 13.72 lakh elected women representatives (EWRs) in PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions) which constitute 44.2 per cent of total elected representatives (ERs) as on December, 2017.

- Women sarpanchs accounted for 43 per cent of total gram panchayats (GPs) across the country, exhibiting active leadership of women in local government.

- There is documented evidence both at the international level and at the gram panchayat (village) level to suggest that a greater representation of women in elected office balances the process and prioritizations that elected bodies focus on.

- In terms of policy styles, for instance, the inclusion of women adds behind the scenes discussion rather than direct confrontation on the floor of the House.

- In terms of agenda (as measured in Rwanda), a wider range of family issues get tackled.

- Esther Duflo and Raghabendra Chattopadhyay (NBER Working Paper 8615) showed that in a randomised trial in West Bengal, women pradhans (heads of village panchayats) focus on infrastructure that is relevant to the needs of rural women, suggesting that at least at the local level outcomes can be different.
The role model effect also erases the gender disparity in educational attainment of young girls.

A study by IndiaSpend reported **women panchayat leaders** in Tamil Nadu **invested 48 percent more** money than their male counterparts in building roads and improving access.

Another study by the **United Nations** found that **women-led panchayats delivered 62 percent higher drinking water projects** than those led by men.

However, the cons of quota are:

- Reservation as per the Women’s Reservation Bill needs a Constitutional Amendment which is a tedious process.
- Quotas are unethical as it is against the Equality promised by the Constitution.
- Intra-party tussles and splits in parties may increase.
- The **tokenism or Panchayat-Pati system** as seen in Panchayats where women are mere token representatives controlled by men.
- **Party politics, coalition arrangements, seat sharing mechanisms** can lead to reduced choice for a voter.

**Way forward:**

- India should have an **Election Commission-led effort** to push for reservation for women in political parties.
- **Reservation for women in political parties** — a more viable option.
- Quotas for women in Parliament as envisaged in the **Women’s Reservation Bill**.
- **Awareness, education and role modelling** that encourage women towards politics and wipe out **Gender stereotypes** which perceive women as weak representatives.
- Inclusive economic institutions and growth—both necessary for and dependent on social empowerment—require inclusive political institutions.
- **Women’s leadership and communication skills** need to be enhanced by increasing female literacy especially in rural areas. They should be empowered in order to break socio-cultural barriers and improve their status in the society.

**Conclusion:**

B.R. Ambedkar once said that “political power is the key to all social progress”. Ensuring proportional representation to women in parliament is seen by policy makers as a **panacea to the issues surrounding women empowerment**. Recognising the significance of roles of women in decision making process in the society is **critical to strengthen women’s agencies for building a progressive society with equality of opportunities among all citizens**.

Gender wage disparity in India is among the worst in the world. **Discuss the reasons and suggest solutions to this problem.** (250 words)

**Reference**

**Why this question:**  
The question is in the context of rising trends of Gender wage disparity in India. Indian women earn 20% less than men; wage gap rises with experience, this is a sorrow picture of Indian wage scenario.

**Demand of the question:**  
This question seeks to examine the current gender wage gap scenario prevalent in India. One has to address the question by listing out the various associated causes and suggest suitable measures to overcome it.

**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.

**Keywords**:

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occupational segregation, racial bias, disability, access to education etc.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start by highlighting the alarming issue of Gender wage gap and how and why it disfavors the women.

Body
Discuss the following aspects –
What you understand by gender pay gap?
Factors leading to gender gap viz. – The primary industries in the state and the opportunities they create; Demographics such as race/ethnicity, age, and education level; Regional differences in attitudes and beliefs about work and gender; and Differences in the scope and strength of state pay discrimination laws and policies.

Facts and reports suggesting prevalence of it.

Suggest what needs to be done to overcome? – policy actions, government efforts, awareness, education for women, state led facilitation for equal pays etc.

Conclusion
Conclude with importance of gender equity.

Introduction:
India has been ranked at 108 in the annual Global Gender Gap Index, 2018 by the World Economic Forum. Global gender gap index is a part of this which measures gender equality across four pillars— they are economic opportunity, political empowerment, educational attainment and health and survival. Women in India earn less than men even if they have the same educational qualifications, data from a recent government report also supports the finding.

The Economic Survey 2017-18 revealed that women comprise only 24% of the Indian workforce.

Body:
Highlights of the Report:

- The ‘Men and Women in 2017’ report released by the statistics and programme implementation ministry in May 2018 contains data on average daily wages and salaries for men and women aged 15-59 years, arranged by industry and type of work.

- In urban areas, a woman with a graduate degree gets paid Rs 690.68 per day in the transport and storage sector while a man gets 30% more at Rs 902.45.

- In agriculture, an illiterate woman worker in rural India receives Rs 88.2 per day while an illiterate man receives Rs 128.52, which is 45% more.

- However, there are some sectors in which women get paid more than men, although by smaller margins.

- In the construction sector in rural areas, for instance, women (irrespective of the level of education) are paid Rs 322 on average per day while men are paid Rs 279.15, which is Rs 43 or 13% less.

- In urban areas, in the transport and storage sector, women are paid Rs 455 on average per day, irrespective of the level of education, while men are paid Rs 443 per day–Rs 12 or 2.7% less.

- A graduate woman earns 5.8 times more than an illiterate woman in rural areas while graduate men earn 3.6 times more than illiterate men.

- A graduate woman earns nearly four times more than an illiterate woman in urban areas, while graduate men earn nearly three times more than illiterate men.

- Women in top management in India earn 18.8% less than men as per the Global Wage Report 2016-17 published by the International Labour Organization.

Reasons for the Gender Wage Disparity:

- Patriarchal Mindset:
  - Preference for male employees over female employees
  - Preference for promoting male employees to higher positions
In rural areas, women are given lighter work deliberately in agriculture or other sectors thus making them eligible for low payments.

- Lack of Transparency:
  - Due to lack of transparency in salaries in private sector, many women are unaware of salaries which they should actually get. In Government sector jobs, this disparity is much less because people working on same posts are entitled for same compensation.

- Socio-Cultural Reasons:
  - Career breaks taken by women due to socio-cultural issues, marriage or pregnancy and parenthood duties.
  - Higher Education levels of women also allow them to pursue leisure and other non-work activities, all of which reduce female labour force participation.
  - Insufficient availability of the type of jobs that women say they would like to do, such as regular part-time jobs that provide steady income and allow women to reconcile household duties with work.
  - Concerns about safety and Harassment at work site, both explicit and implicit.
  - The cultural baggage about women working outside the home is so strong that in most traditional Indian families, quitting work is a necessary precondition to the wedding itself.
  - When increases in family incomes are there, due to the cultural factors, women leave the work to take care of the family and avoid the stigma of working outside.

Solutions:

- Private companies and corporate sector must have salary audits.
- Enforcement of Equal Wages Act should be done in letter and spirit.
- Adequate intervention from Government to ensure equality of pay to both men and women for the same work. Strong labour market institutions and policies such as collective bargaining and minimum wages lowered the pay gap.
- Digital fluency and a planned career strategy might help women to close the pay gap.
- Non-farm job creation for women: there is a need to generate education-based jobs in rural areas in the industrial and services sectors.
- The state governments should make policies for the participation of rural women in permanent salaried jobs.
- The governments should also generate awareness to espouse a positive attitude towards women among the public since it is one of the most important impediments in women’s participation in economic activities.
- Local bodies, with aid from state governments, should open more crèches in towns and cities so that women with children can step out and work. The crèches will open employment opportunities for women.
- Supply side reforms to improve infrastructure and address other constraints to job creation could enable more women to enter the labour force.
- Higher social spending, including in education, can lead to higher female labour force participation by boosting female stocks of human capital.
- Skilling the women:
  - Initiatives such as Skill India, Make in India, and new gender-based quotas from corporate boards to the police force can spur a positive change. But we need to invest in skill training and job support.
The private sector could also take active part in training women entrepreneurs. For example: Unilever’s Shakti program, which has trained more than 70,000 rural women in India as micro-entrepreneurs to sell personal-care products as a way of making its brands available in rural India.

- **Equal pay:** The principle of equal remuneration for work of equal value that is protected by Indian law must be put to actual practice. Improved wage-transparency and gender neutral job evaluation is required to achieve this end.

- **Assuring safe access to work:** It is important to improve existing transport and communication networks and provide safe accommodation for women who travel to or has migrated for work.

- A useful and easily implementable idea would be to give [income tax benefits to women](https://example.com). It would be a bold and effective step to increasing India’s female workforce participation.

- For political empowerment of women, their [representation in Parliament and in decision making roles in public sphere](https://example.com) is one of the key indicators of empowerment.

- **Gig Economy** provides women flexible work options to pursue their career while not missing important milestones in their family lives.

- Drawing more women into the labour force, supplemented by structural reforms that could help create more jobs would be a source of future growth for India. Only then would India be able to reap the benefits of “demographic dividend” from its large and youthful labour force.

**Conclusion:**

Unlocking the potential of women definitely requires an increase and shift in the composition of overall employment opportunities as well as questioning of societal strictures. As the country commends itself on world-leading economic growth and aspires towards a $20 trillion economy, it becomes necessary to take women along to make this goal a reality. Societal change will be the largest needle mover, but a constant push through the government, organizations and individuals is critical to bend societal norms for the better.

**Evaluate the contribution of contemporary women movement in women empowerment.(250 words)**

*Why this question:*  
The question is in the context of contributions made by the contemporary women for the women movements held in demand for equal rights, equity, economic and social empowerment etc. Thus the question becomes important from the point of view of GS paper I.

*Key demands of the question:*  
The question envisages us to discuss the phenomena of contemporary women led movements and the factors responsible for it. One has to track development of a number of feminist activities in various parts of the country justifying the contribution of contemporary women crusade in women empowerment.

*Directive word*  
Evaluate – When you are asked to evaluate, you have to pass a sound judgement about the truth of the given statement in the question or the topic based on evidences. You have to appraise the worth of the statement in question. There is scope for forming a personal opinion here.

*Structure of the answer:*  
Introduction

Briefly discuss the significance of women empowerment.

Body  
The body of the answer should address the following dimensions:

First explain what exactly constitute women movement?  
Discuss in short how the role of women in Indian society has evolved over the ages.  
Discuss the rise of feminist movement in India in 1970s and how women have been empowered through legislations and societal changes.  
Elaborate on different streams of feminist orientations in India – one on aspects of polity, specific movements for social change in order to effect the revolutionary transformation of society, Radical Feminists, development of feminists etc. Quote case studies from India.

Conclusion  

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Conclude with few of their achievements made in this direction and suggest upon their crucial role.

Introduction:

Women movement can be described as a prolonged and sustained movement which has clear vision, effective leadership, a set of institutionalized roles and organisation for the upliftment of women’s condition in the society. The contemporary women’s movement in India (1975–present) has played an important role in bringing gender issues to the forefront of development planning and defining feminist politics.

Body:

Many women’s organizations like National Federation of Indian Women (1954) the Samajwadi Mahila Sabha (1559) were formed to work for championing the cause of Indian women. By 1970 the political atmosphere began to change in India. Many leading political parties realized the importance of including women in their struggle for realising their objectives. It was partly on compassion and partly for securing their ends that they included women as a vanguard force.

The well-known women’s organisations which were formed during this time are the Stree Mukhi Sangkata, the Stree Sangharsh and Mahila Dakshata in Delhi. Vimochana in Chennai, Baijia in Maharashtra, Pennurumai in Chennai. The Feminist Network in English and Manushi in Hindi were some of the first women’s newsletters and magazines to appear.

The major demands of the contemporary women movements:

- issues such as child marriage, sex-selective abortions and dowry-related violence.
- Equality not merely for justice but for development
- Focus should be on economic empowerment of women
- Child bearing should be shared as a social responsibility
- Recognition of household work as national productivity
- Marriage and motherhood should not be a disability
- Emancipation of women should be linked to social emancipation
- Special temporary measures for de facto equality.

The famous Chipko movement which was basically an ecology movement created not only a11 awareness among middle class and rural women, but also enunciated a new theory that women should be given the right for self-determination. The Chipko movement also pictured women as being an exploited class along with nature, and any violence against nature began to be identified with violence against women.

There were three different streams of feminist orientations:

- The Liberal Stream focuses on demanding reforms in those aspects of the polity which specifically affect women.
- The Leftist Stream situates oppression of women within a holistic analysis of the general structure of oppression and calls for a coming together of specific movements for social change in order to effect the revolutionary transformation of society.
- The Radical Feminists concentrate on defining the development of feminity and masculinity in society as fundamental polarities, and experimented with reclaiming traditional sources of women’s strength, creativity, and so on.

The New Delhi gang rape in 2012 has become a landmark in the fight for women’s rights and feminism in India, leading to legislative changes and moving gender to the center stage of political debates.
Though the Indian women’s movement has achieved much, activists and scholars say that there is still a long way to go. Meanwhile, the women’s movement is grappling with ever-new problems as vast economic and social changes sweep the country while old mindsets steeped in patriarchy still prevail.

In the early 21st century, millennial Indian women launched a radically new kind of feminist politics that had not been seen before. Inspired by a vocabulary of rights and modes of protest used by the youth across the world, such as Occupy Wall Street and the Arab Spring, they initiated a series of social media campaigns against the culture of sexual violence.

The earliest campaigns – the 2003 Blank Noise Project against eve-teasing, the 2009 Pink Chaddi (underwear) movement against moral policing and the 2011 SlutWalk protest against victim-blaming – were limited in their scope but set the tone for this new mode of protest. Campaigns such as the 2011 Why Loiter project on women’s right to public spaces, the 2015 Pinjra Tod (Break the Cage) movement against sexist curfew rules in student halls and the 2017 Bekhau Azadi (Freedom without Fear) March resonated with a much larger number of women, turning this social media-led phenomenon into a true feminist movement.

The challenges that the feminist movement now faces stem from the vast diversities within India. Feminism within India is divided along class, caste, sexuality and disability, and as parts of India develop at a faster rate, increased social and economic inequality is giving rise to new problems like sexual harassment at the workplace and in public transport.

Conclusion:

As it deals with the new problems, Indian feminism is still battling with many of the old problems. The recent #MeToo campaign shows the changing face of women’s movements in India.

Regional disparity lies at the heart of social conflicts in India. Explain. (250 words)

Reference

Why this question:
The question is in the context of rising trends of regional disparity witnessed in India based on social causes. The question is based on the fact that the regional disparities in India are marked by the peculiarity of social conflicts rather than any other cause like economic or political factors, though those factors as well contribute to regional disparity.

Demand of the question:
This question seeks to examine the trends of regional disparity owing to social conflicts, one must thus analyse the factors of societal causes that are aggravating and fuelling regional disparity.

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

Structure of the answer:

Introduction
Start by explaining what you understand by regional disparity in India, list the causes in brief.

Body
Discuss the following aspects –
Causes Responsible for Regional Imbalances – Historical Factors, Geographical Factors and most importantly the factors that often lead to social conflicts.
Substantiate the responsible factors with specific examples.
Suggest what needs to be done to overcome? – policy actions, government efforts, awareness, education, special privileges to backward regions, affirmative action etc.

Conclusion
Conclude with importance of overcoming such regional disparities for the growth and development of the nation.

Introduction:

The states across India do not show a uniform growth trend. The Economic Survey pointed out that while the health trends across states are converging, the income and consumption pattern shows a sharp divergence. The progress of the country depends on the progress of each of its individual states.

Body: www.insightsonindia.com

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Causes Responsible for Regional Imbalances:

- **Natural Resources**
  - India’s different regions are endowed with different natural and human-based resources.
  - Some states such as West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh etc. are endowed with better mineral resources while others such as Punjab and Haryana have better irrigation facilities.

- **Manmade / Historical Reasons**
  - Neglect of some regions and preference of other regions in terms of investments and infrastructure facilities.
  - Historical factors that go back to mughal era and became prominent in British Era, have also contributed to regional inequities.

- **Government Policies**
  - Faulty planning process inherited from colonial rule in the post-independence era.
  - Despite of the pro-backward areas policies and programmes, considerable economic and social inequalities exist among different States.
  - Inter-state disparities in growth of GSDP have increased post economic reforms period.
  - Red tapism, corruption, lack of ease of doing of business environment and political and administrative inefficiency.

- **Geography**
  - Factors like climate, water ways, terrain and soil are important for development.
  - For e.g. coastal states have done well due to their developed ports and waterways for trade in comparison to the inland regions.

- **Social factors**
  - The poor and illiterate sections of less developed regions has high fertility rate thus growing population.
  - Incapacity of the states to harness rich demographic dividend due to less developed job market.

- **Economic factors**
  - High input cost due to inadequate infrastructure and lack of demand driven market.
  - Infrastructure like robust transport system is inefficient in poorer states.

**Regional Disparities and Social Conflicts:**

- In India, the growing threat of left extremism, which has been repeatedly acknowledged as the gravest security threat to Indian state, has its roots in economic deprivation and inequality in access to resources.

- It has also been recognised that growing social inequality corrodes social cohesion and can destabilise states. Some recent research has found that the likelihood of a country remaining mired in poverty or achieving sustainable growth has a strong relation to the average life expectancy of the citizenry. There, it is argued, that a shorter average lifespan leaves less time to reap the returns on investment in human capital.

- Inequality also breeds economic inefficiencies and limits productivity. Research by IMF has shown that income inequality slows growth, causes financial crisis and weakens demand. In a recent report, the Asian Development Bank has similarly argued that if emerging Asia’s income distribution had not worsened over the past 20 years, the region’s rapid growth would have lifted an additional 140 million people out of extreme poverty.
More worrying, rising inequality is seen as a contributing cause for the rise of authoritarian leaders, often with a divisive agenda fuelled by sectarianism, xenophobia and nationalism.

Rising inequality can lead to conflict, both at social and at national level. Research has shown that in contrast to oligarchic regimes; democracies avoid serious political turbulence only so long as they ensure that the relative level of inequality between the rich and the poor does not become excessively large.

Other studies, similarly, indicate that social conflicts are indeed likely to break out in situations where there are large inequalities between different groups. Some studies have concluded that ethnic groups with incomes much lower than a country’s average per capita income are more likely to engage in civil war.

Way forward:

- Union and State Governments should adopt a formula for Block-wise devolution of funds targeted at more backward areas. **Co-operative and Competitive Federalism** must be promoted.
- Governance needs to be particularly strengthened in more backward areas within a State. **Aspirational Districts Program** is a step in the right direction.
- The concept of **Special Category States** was introduced in 1969 (Fifth Finance Commission) for providing special assistance to disadvantaged states with a low resource base, difficult terrain, low population density, inadequate infrastructure and non-viable state finances.
- The Planning Commission also adopted an **area-specific approach** in its planning strategy and introduced multiple centrally sponsored programmes.
- The **Tribal Development Programme, the Hill Area Development Programme, the Western Ghats Development Programme** were initiated, catering to geographically homogeneous and backward regions.
- The mandate and role of the Niti Aayog should be redefined and enhanced to evolve models aimed at balanced regional development.
- **Implementation of GST** will reduce disparities among the state’s leading to more “convergence”.
- **Business friendly environment** in terms of single window clearances, transparency in regulation, tax benefits and providing adequate infrastructure.
- Given the constraints of fiscal space, seeking **greater engagement of multilateral agencies**, both traditional and non-traditional, like the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the New Development Bank as well as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank would be helpful.
- **Special infrastructure programmes** designed for the more backward states will have multiplier benefits.
- Solving problems specific to backward region – **Naxalism; patriarchy; discrimination based on sex and caste**
- By increasing the literacy levels and also providing basic health amenities, to a certain extent the disparities could be reduced.
- **Female literacy** is the best antidote to rising total fertility rate (TFR) and female labour participation an effective way to boost per capita inc
- Scientific and technological developments -Prudent interlinking of rivers; internet access through innovative projects like project loon; prospect of cloud seeding in drought prone areas; e-education; e-health etc
- Skill development – less than 5% of labourers in India have any skill certification; more attention to skill development particularly in less developed states
Urbanization, their problems and their remedies.

“Smart Cities are the incubators of the New Urban India” . Evaluate(250 words)

Pib
Reference

Why this question:
The article provides for an assessment of Multi -Pronged Approach to Urban Transformation in India.

Key demand of the question:
The answer must evaluate the significance of Smart Cities in the development of new urban India. Smart cities are virtue with efficient use of resources; cooperative and competitive federalism; integration, innovation and sustainability; technology and inclusiveness.

Directive word:
Evaluate – When you are asked to evaluate, you have to pass a sound judgement about the truth of the given statement in the question or the topic based on evidences. You have to appraise the worth of the statement in question. There is scope for forming a personal opinion here.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction:
Begin with what are smart cities, the critical components such as livability, economic ability and sustainability.

Body:
Discuss the following:
How smart cities help achieve the objective of promoting cities that provide core infrastructure and give a decent quality of life to its citizens, a clean and sustainable environment and application of ‘Smart’ Solutions”. Discuss the concept of New urban India, link it to the development of Smart cities. what needs to be done to overcome the present challenges.

Conclusion:
Conclude with optimism, that smart cities are stepping stones to New urban India, they would aid to achieve sustainable growth, make cities more livable & safer with clean air, adequate infrastructure, reliable utilities & opportunities for learning .

Introduction:
A smart city is a designation given to a city that incorporates information and communication technologies (ICT) to develop city infrastructure and enhance the quality and performance of urban services such as energy, transportation and utilities in order to reduce resource consumption, wastage and overall costs. The overarching aim of a smart city is to enhance the quality of living for its citizens through smart technology.

Body:
The importance of Smart Cities mission:

- The Smart Cities Mission aimed at promoting cities that provide core infrastructure and give a decent quality of life to its citizens, a clean and sustainable environment and application of ‘Smart’ Solutions.

- citizens are at the core of Smart City Mission and it has the largest level of citizen engagement.

- With 70% of India’s built environment for 2030 yet to take shape, its impending urban transformation also represents significant opportunities for domestic and international investments.

- to achieve sustainable growth, the cities will have to become more liveable and safer with clean air; adequate infrastructure; reliable utilities; and opportunities for learning and employment.

- All 100 Smart Cities have established their SPVs, constituted their City Level Advisory Forum (CLAF) and all cities have appointed PMCs, indicating that all these Smart Cities are in Mission mode

- Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) becoming operational in 15 cities has resulted in enhanced efficiency in governance, management of traffic, law enforcement, improved citizen grievance redressal and reduced criminal incidents on city streets and public spaces.
Smart Cities and AMRUT programmes have opened up avenues for local industry and global players to participate in the development of cities across such sectors as utilities, housing, mobility, telecommunications, information technology, healthcare, education and recreational facilities.

New urban India

- Urbanization in India is happening at a rapid pace. However, it is haphazard and unsustainable.
- Cities in India have become a centre of focus for business and are a means to enhance livelihoods.
- India must rejuvenate its cities promptly to address the increasing aspirations of urban dwellers and attract the investment that will further drive growth and development.
- However, Cities in India face a range of challenges to meet demand and supply gaps in urban regions, in such areas as water, waste management, energy, mobility, the built environment, education, healthcare and safety.
- The high costs involved in increasing urbanization, issues of governance, land acquisition issues, environmental concerns have all added to the woes of New Urban India.

Way ahead:

- The solution lies in inclusive urbanization processes that prioritize quality of life for all, focusing especially on the needs of vulnerable urban groups for employment, housing, sanitation, healthcare and education.
- Planning must incorporate long-term resource sensitivity and community involvement at every step, while benchmarking smart and measurable outcomes for all stakeholders.
- Making cities ‘Data Smart’ is key in realizing the full potential of technology interventions and innovation ecosystems in cities.
- Other parameters for Smart Cities must have efficient use of resources; cooperative and competitive federalism; integration, innovation and sustainability; technology and inclusiveness.
- ICCCs have also reduced traffic violations, improved efficiency in solid/liquid waste management, water and wastewater management as well as air quality management. More such ICCCs should come up.

Conclusion:

The Smart Cities Mission is an innovative initiative by the Government to drive economic growth and improve the quality of life of people by enabling local development and harnessing technology as a means to create smart outcomes for citizens.

The recent reports have suggested that the country’s cities are among the world’s most insufferable in terms of Air pollution. Examine the statement and Discuss measures to tackle the peril of air pollution in Indian cities.(250 words)

Livemint
Why this question:
The article provides highlights of the study made by Switzerland-based IQAir AirVisual and the environmental champion Greenpeace calling for a red-alert response. According to the findings, India is home to seven of the 10 most polluted cities in the world, going by air-quality numbers recorded last year.

Key demand of the question:
The question expects us to bring out why air pollution is a huge challenge for the cities of our country, making them amongst the world’s most insufferable cities one is expected to bring out the economic impacts, societal impacts, health impacts etc. Examine the causes behind air pollution in cities and measures to address the same.

Directive word:
Examine – When asked to ‘Examine’, we have to look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications.
Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction:
Begin with the air pollution conditions in our cities and point in the direction of its severity.
Body:
Discuss the following:
Present some facts from the report, discuss the causes of the present condition.
Impact of air pollution in Indian cities under various heads like Health, economy, society etc.
Provide for a detailed analysis of why have the problems turned into a menace and then move onto suggest measures to tackle the same.
Conclusion:
Conclude with the importance of dealing with the issue and the way forward.

Introduction:
A latest study by Switzerland-based IQAir AirVisual and the environmental champion Greenpeace calls for a red-alert response to India’s worsening Air pollution crisis. According to the findings, India is home to seven of the 10 most polluted cities in the world, going by air-quality numbers recorded last year. Gurugram and Ghaziabad are the most polluted, while Delhi is the worst off among capital cities. ICMR estimates reveal that one in every eight deaths in India is attributable to air pollution, which now contributes to more disease burden than smoking.

Body:
Causes for air pollution:

• The problem of Air Pollution is aggravated by the burning of urban waste, diesel soot, vehicular exhaust, road and construction dust, and power generation.

• According to the Agriculture Ministry, 23 million tonnes of paddy straw is burnt in Punjab, Haryana and UP every year.

• Air pollution was not only confined to urban areas or cities alone, but affected rural regions as well, with rural Indians affected more disproportionately due to the burning of solid fuels.

Impact of the air pollution in Indian cities:

• Health:
  o Air pollution has become a year-round phenomenon particularly in north India which causes health impacts far beyond the seasonal rise of respiratory illnesses.
  o It is now the leading risk factor for chronic obstructive lung disease in India, and a major contributor to pneumonia and lung cancer.
  o In 2017, air pollution accounted for 12.4 lakh deaths in India, which included 6.7 lakh deaths due to outdoor particulate matter air pollution and 4.8 lakh deaths due to household air pollution.
  o Over half of the deaths due to air pollution were in persons less than 70 years of age.

• Economic:
  o According to a report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), India had the highest share of welfare costs (or a loss of income from labour), of about $220 billion (about ₹1.4 trillion), in South and South-East Asia of a combined total of $380 billion from mortality due to air pollution.
  o In addition to human lives lost, there’s an estimated global cost of $225 billion in lost labour, and trillions in medical costs, Greenpeace report says.
Government is keen to ascend the World Bank’s “ease of doing business” chart, but images of people walking around Delhi in safety masks do little to attract investment.

Government efforts in dealing with air pollution:

- The government acknowledged air pollution as a pan–India problem with the drafting of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), which was intended to build and strengthen the institutional capacity to monitor air quality across India, carry out indigenous studies to understand the health impacts of air pollution and create a national emission inventory.
- Banning the use of private vehicles from November 1 onwards in Delhi, although drastic, will definitely not be enough to curb pollution.
- Odd-even schemes and, recently, the allowance by the Supreme Court (SC) for only green or zero-emission firecrackers, are the episodic measures that have been used, and still continue to be, to combat this methodical pollution.
- There have also been instances of ban on construction activities.
- States have got nearly Rs.650 crore to help farmers buy subsidised equipment such as Happy Seeder, Paddy Straw Choppers and Zero Till Drill.
- There is a 50% subsidy to farmers, and a 75% waiver to cooperative societies, agencies that rent out equipment, farmers’ interest groups or gram panchayats to buy such machines.

Way forward:

- Short term measures should be accompanied by measures that increase the forest cover of the land and provide farmers with an alternative to burning the remains of their crops.
- An innovative approach could be to use climate change funds to turn farm residues into a resource, using technological options such as converting them into biofuels and biofertilizers.
- Proactive engagements are necessary to persuade and reassure farmers.
- It is important to find other uses for stubble such as biomass, which may encourage farmers to look for alternative sources of income.
- India should at least now give high importance to the WHO warning about air pollution being the new tobacco.Sharply escalated, deterrent parking fees can be implemented.
- From an urban development perspective, large cities should reorient their investments to prioritise public transport, favouring electric mobility.
- Incentives for adoption of alternate mobility technologies should be promoted.
- The World Bank has said it is keen to enhance its lending portfolio to tackle air pollution, opening a new avenue for this.
- Governments should make the use of personal vehicles in cities less attractive through strict road pricing mechanisms like Congestion tax, Green-house Gas tax
- Need to speed up the journey towards LPG and solar-powered stoves.
- Addressing vehicular emissions is within India’s grasp but requires a multi-pronged approach. It needs to combine the already-proposed tighter emission norms (in form of BS VI), with a push for shared mobility and public transport and adoption of alternate mobility technologies.
- NCAP should take precedence from emerging practices in the country—pollution cess in Delhi on truck entry, big diesel cars, and diesel fuel sales and the coal cess—to generate dedicated funds to finance clean air action plan.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Tackle road dust by mechanised sweeping and water-sprinkling but what would be more beneficial is if the sides of the roads could be paved or covered with grass that holds the soil together and stops the production of the dust in the first place.

- Attention to non-technological aspects such as urban planning, to reduce driving, and to increase cycling, walking, and use of public transport are needed.

What do you understand by Urban Observatories? Discuss the key features of recently launched India Urban Observatory and also explicate how will it augment the data smart cities policy of India?(250 words)

Pib
Why this question:
The question is in the context of recently launched state-of-the-art India Urban Observatory and Video Wall by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
Key demand of the question
The answer must discuss in detail the concept of Urban observatories; significance and also the importance of the recently launched India Urban Observatory, its role in Smart cities policy of India.
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.
Structure of the answer
Introduction:
Briefly define and discuss the concept of urban observatory.
Body:
The answer should cover the following:
- Concept of Urban observatory – initiated at the UN Habitat-II Conference in 1997.
- Indian urban observatory – whereabouts, salient features.
- Importance of smart cities.
- Role of smart cities in development and growth.
- Significance of Data Smart Cities strategy
Conclusion:
Conclude with importance of such initiatives in urbanization.

Introduction:
Urban Observatory is a platform that uses data from different sources to enable analysis and visualization over a geospatial platform. Such platforms churn out interesting analyses and visualizations by collating massive datasets. The concept of Urban Observatories was formally initiated at the UN Habitat-II Conference in 1997 in Istanbul.

Body:
The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has inaugurated India Urban Observatory in New Delhi. The initiative, launched in partnership with Cisco, Quantela Inc, ESRI and AWS. The India Urban Observatory is an important component of the recently launched DataSmart Cities strategy that envisions to create a ‘Culture of Data’ in cities, for intelligent use of data in addressing complex urban challenges.

The key features of India Urban Observatory:

- The India Urban Observatory will collect data from various IoT devices and sensors, the Integrated Command & Control Center (ICCC) and other urban indicators and analyze them to generate insights for all stakeholders and city planners.

- It will leverage data analytics to optimise city operations, improve governance and enhance economic performance of cities across the country.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- It will showcase the insights gained from the Observatory and the various Missions/ offices with the idea to proactively engage with citizens/ visitors in spreading awareness about the various initiatives of the Ministry.
- It would progressively become the chief data analysis and Management Hub of the Ministry.
- It would enable evidence-based policy formulation, capacity building of ecosystem partners on data-driven governance, foster innovation through development of newer and better use cases thereby enabling solutions at scale and speed.
- Observatory recognizes the value of enhancing engagement among all four stakeholders of the ‘quadruple-helix’ model— Government, citizens, academia, and industry, along with improvements in the internal workflow and decision-making processes of city Governments.

Significance of IUO for DataSmart Cities:

- Making cities ‘DataSmart’ is key to realizing the full potential of technology interventions and innovation ecosystems in cities.
- The Data Smart Cities Policy allows cities to open their data to public view, such as number of hospitals, gardens, people, public toilets and other city management.
- It is imperative for the empowerment of communities that cities work on using information available through various sources to improve their functioning, public services, governance systems, achievements and failures in the public domain, thereby, empowering their citizens through the access to information.
- The future of Governance is data-driven and Indian cities are beginning to adopt this change in their functioning.
- Some examples of well-established Urban Observatories are the Global Urban Observatory network, the Dublin Dashboard and the City Dashboard of London.
- Such platforms churn out interesting analyses and visualizations by collating massive datasets.

Conclusion:

The ‘Smart Cities’ programme has been one of the biggest digitisation initiatives launched by any government across the world. About 60% of India’s population is expected to live in cities by 2050. Hence, to achieve sustainable urbanization, cities need to become smarter and more efficient. Cities can be ‘truly smart’ if they can leverage data for intelligent decision-making and the establishment of India Urban Observatory will go a long way in realizing this vision.

“Just and livable cities for all” as an alternative to “smart cities” is the need of hour for India’s urban areas. Discuss. (250 words)

The hindu

Why this question:
There are several challenges arising out of urbanization with basic necessities like water, housing, employment etc.. The problems associated with urbanization and associated solutions are very important discussions to be pondered over from mains point of view.

Key demand of the question:
The question expects us to examine the challenges arising out of urbanization are mainly due to the muddled nature of urbanization itself, thus making urban areas to turn into smart cities doesn’t work out to be an efficient solution for the urban problems across the Indian cities.. We need to discuss the challenges as well and examine the steps taken by government in this regard and convey why it is more important to make cities livable and sustainable rather than aiming them to be smart cities..

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 the concept of urbanization in India.
Body:
Discuss at a broader level, the role smart cities play in a country, give examples of countries which are rapidly developing due to the concept of smart cities. Then move on to discussing some of the key challenges arising out of urbanization in India such as – water shortage, environmental pollution, lack of infrastructure, lack of housing for poor, employment etc. Examine the causes behind it. Then Explain how it becomes important for the Government to rather focus more on making cities livable and sustainable(Take leads from the article). Discuss some of the steps taken by government in this regard and the pros and cons of such steps.

Conclusion:
Explain that urbanization is a big challenge for Indian state with linkages to economy, society etc. and needs to be addressed; give a way forward.

Introduction:
Over 34% of India’s current population lives in urban areas, rising by 3% since 2011. By some estimates, India’s urban population could increase to 814 million by 2050. This highlights the upcoming challenges in urban development for management purpose. In the light of urban renewal and retrofitting program by Government such as smart city mission it becomes very important to understand the inherent problems linked with urbanization process in India. India’s ambitious Smart Cities Mission will earmark an investment of $15 billion (close to Rs 99,457 crore). It involves making nearly 100 cities “smart”, and the “rejuvenation” of 500 more.

Body:
The Centre has seemingly given the project top priority and has envisaged sweeping changes in 11 infrastructure elements of urban life: water and power supply, sanitation, public transport, housing, IT connectivity and digitisation, good governance, sustainable environment, citizens’ safety, health, and education.

However, there is no standard definition of a smart city, so India will have to evolve its own. It is important to specify what we really want out of this mass-scale programme. If there is one aim that the Smart Cities Mission should have, it should be to improve the quality of life of the average urban citizen.

The challenges faced in Urbanization in India are:

- **Disorganised urbanization:**
  - Cities look and feel downtrodden, riven with poverty and poor infrastructure, with little semblance of urban planning.

- **Planning:**
  - The new challenge today is management of rural urban fringe as the expansion of urban fringes is taking place at rapid place.
  - There is need of immediate long term planning for sustainable development of areas in fringes.

- **Transport and communication:**
  - The future challenge will be linked with the urban transport facilities. Roads are congested, rail and metro network is inadequate resulting into movement within the city being slow and tiring.

- **Housing:**
  - It has been already observed now the cost of living is too high in metropolitan areas. Crumbling infrastructure in public services has to be managed on far footings.

- **Migration:**
  - Migration will continue as urban areas act as a center of economic growth. Problem of slums is about to increase and thus leading to health challenges for public health system.

- **Groundwater exploitation:**
Secure Synopsys

- Ground water exploitation for commercial and domestic use in most cities is leading to reduction in ground water level.

- Distribution and water loss issues:
  - Distribution challenges, such as water loss due to theft, pilferage, leaky pipes and faulty meter readings, result in unequal and unregulated distribution of water.
  - About 40% to 50% of water is reportedly lost in distribution system

- Sanitation issues:
  - According to the National Sample Survey, only 47% of urban households have individual water connections
  - As per the 2011 census, only 32.7% of urban Indian households are connected to a piped sewerage system.

- Solid waste management:
  - In case of waste management issue, nuclear, cyber and plastic waste will create a big challenge for clean and pollution free urban

- Poverty:
  - Urban poverty has a very peculiar character. Street vendors and people in other informal sector, women, children and old age population will suffer most from the deteriorating urban ecology.

- Environmental challenges:
  - Growth in man-made and natural disasters is another challenge because of unplanned cities.
  - Urban heat island effects have already been observed in urban setup. Ex: Chennai flood in 2015

- Service delivery:
  - Urban local government will have to do a gigantic task of timely service delivery as there is paradigm shift in public administration towards new public management.

Reforms needed are:

- A National urban policy should offer a clear directive to urban policymakers at all levels of government to bring in a more cohesive approach to urban planning and urban infrastructure investments. This policy should help India achieve the following
  - Identify urban development priorities so that they fit in with national- and state-level goals.
  - Provide guidance on reforming urban planning, urban legislation, and urban governance systems.
  - Provide a cohesive understanding and coordination between national, state, and local urban policymakers.
  - Provide guidance to generate a local urban policy and project action in terms of making private and public investments in urban infrastructure

- Importance has to be given to the providing human face to urban development. Playgrounds, green belts, open spaces, footpaths, public gardens have to be deliberately created in order to create an environment of sustainability.

- Digital India program and Information technology solutions must be made available at affordable cost to all segments of society. Bridging the existing digital divide is priority for true democratic setup of urban areas. Harnessing the power of ICT, NeGP, NOFN etc
• **E-governance and citizen services** — governance measures will ensure that the day-to-day drudgery of dealing with corrupt and inefficient officials is reduced.

• The recent policy proposal by government to focus on fringe areas is a welcoming step.

• **Waste management** has to be addressed at point of generation only. The case of Pune can provide some guideline in this case as it has a unique model of contractual system for efficient and segregation of urban waste.

• Infrastructure has to follow the green norms. Revival of tradition water structure can provide best solutions for water need of urban areas.

• **Include green-house gases emission particulate matter 2.5** in the city planning in the light of their footprint in the municipal functions. It requires special efforts to organise waste management covering reduce, reuse and recycle principles

• The solution to the affordable housing crisis would be focused efforts on land and housing policy reforms, delegation of power to urban local bodies, fostering innovative housing finance, and the reduction in project costs and schedule overruns.

**Conclusion:**

Cities are living ecosystems. They need to be managed accordingly. The Smart Cities Mission should be converted into a Liveable Cities Mission, with focus clearly on quality of life using social and cultural yardsticks rather than a drastic change in merely physical infrastructure. Rather than going by populist measures or sticking to the original master plans, local solutions to local problems, innovative, in situ and tailor made solutions should be evolved, adapted and adhered to.

Municipal Solid Waste Management poses the utmost challenge in Urban planning. Comment. (250 words)

*Times of India*

**Why this question:**

Urban areas have been recognized as “engines of inclusive economic growth”. However managing solid waste is one of the biggest challenges of the urban areas of all sizes, from mega-cities to the small towns and large villages. The quality of waste management services is a good indicator of a city’s governance. Thus it becomes important for us to assess and analyse such a scenario from exam point of view.

**Key demands of the question:**

The question expects us to discuss the specific challenge of Municipal solid waste and how it is one of the biggest challenges concerning the Metropolitan planning in India.

**Directive word**

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

**Keywords:**

Integrated Sustainable Waste Management System, global good practice in waste collection, Waste treatment and disposal, Waste Management and Governance etc.

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction**

Briefly suggest – Solid waste management is a challenge for the cities’ authorities in developing countries mainly due to the increasing generation of waste, the burden posed on the municipal budget as a result of the high costs associated to its management, the lack of understanding over a diversity of factors that affect the different stages of waste management and linkages necessary to enable the entire handling system functioning.

**Body**

The body of the answer address the following dimensions:

Quote facts that justify the menace of solid waste management, like Over 377 million urban people live in 7,935 towns and cities and generate 62 million tonnes of municipal solid waste per annum. Only 43 million tonnes (MT) of the waste is collected, 11.9 MT is treated and 31 MT is dumped in landfill sites.

Point at the flawed system of waste disposal and management.

Then move on to discuss what can be done; concept of common waste treatment facility, technological advancement for processing treatment and disposal of solid waste, long term urban governance strategies with renewed vision.
Conclusion
Conclude with importance of waste management in urban planning.

Introduction:

India alone generates more than 1,00,000 metric tonnes of solid waste every day, which is higher than many countries’ total daily waste generation taken together. Large metropolis such as Mumbai and Delhi generate around 9,000 metric tonnes and 8,300 metric tonnes of waste per day, respectively. India suffers from inefficient and insufficient waste infrastructure and also from increasing rates of solid waste generation per capita. Besides, the infrastructure and technologies, we must also concede that we have not addressed the issue from a systemic perspective.

Body:

Current Situation of MSW in India:

- ULBs are responsible for segregated waste collection, transporting waste in covered vehicle, processing, recyclables, separating domestic hazardous waste and disposing inert material in sanitary landfills
- Various studies reveal that about 90% of MSW is disposed of unscientifically in open dumps and landfills, creating problems to public health and the environment.
- Over 377 million urban people live in 7,935 towns and cities and generate 62 million tonnes of municipal solid waste per annum.
- Only 43 million tonnes (MT) of the waste is collected, 11.9 MT is treated and 31 MT is dumped in landfill sites.
- Most cities have confined themselves to collection and transportation of solid waste. Processing and safe disposal are being attempted only in a few cases.
- The CPCB report also reveals that only 68% of the MSW generated in the country is collected of which, 28% is treated by the municipal authorities. Thus, merely 19% of the total waste generated is currently treated.
- According to a UN report, India’s e-waste from old computers alone will jump 500 per cent by 2020, compared to 2007.
- Disappearance of urban water bodies and wetlands in urban areas can be attributed to illegal dumping of Construction & Demolition waste.

Some of the major issues concerning solid waste management are:

- Absence of segregation of waste at source
- Lack of funds for waste management at ULBs.
- Unwillingness of ULBs to introduce proper collection, segregation, transportation and treatment/ disposal systems.
- Lack of technical expertise and appropriate institutional arrangement
- Lack of infrastructure and technology
- Lack of involvement from the private sector and non-governmental organisations
- Indifference of citizens towards waste management due to lack of awareness
- Lack of community participation towards waste management and hygienic conditions
- Lack of sewage management plan.
- About 70% of the plastic packaging products turn into plastic waste within a short period.
SECURE SYNOPIS

- Unorganized vendors and markets, existence of slum areas and Corruption are other issues plaguing MSWM.

Steps needed:

- State governments should **provide financial support to ULBs** to improve their waste management system under various schemes and programs.
- Initiatives like Smart Cities Mission, AMRUT should provide significant funding to improve civic services infrastructure.
- The key to efficient waste management is to ensure **proper segregation of waste at source** and to ensure that the waste goes through different streams of recycling and resource recovery as stated in the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- **Waste to energy** is a key component of SWM. Installation of waste-to-compost and bio-methanation plants would reduce the load of landfill sites
- There is a need to **encourage research and development** so as to reinvent waste management system in India.
- The focus should be on **recycling and recovering from waste** and not landfill. Further, it is important to encourage recycling of e-waste so that the problem of e-waste
- **Public- Private Partnership models** for waste management should be encouraged.
- Construction and demolition waste should be stored, separately disposed off, as per the Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- **Responsibilities of Generators** have been introduced to segregate waste in to three streams, Wet (Biodegradable), Dry (Plastic, Paper, metal, wood, etc.) and domestic hazardous wastes (diapers, napkins, empty containers of cleaning agents, mosquito repellents, etc.) and handover segregated wastes to authorized rag-pickers or waste collectors or local bodies.
- **Sensitization** of citizens as well as government authorities, community participation, involvement of NGOs. Littering should be prohibited.
- International Best practices should be emulated. South Korea is one of the few countries to separate and recycle food waste. It has also launched landfill recovery projects such as the Nanjido recovery project which have successfully transformed hazardous waste sites into sustainable ecological attractions.

**Conclusion:**

Municipal solid waste management (MSWM) is one of the major environmental problems of Indian cities. The need of the hour is scientific, sustainable and environment friendly management of wastes.

What do you understand by counter- urbanization? Discuss the factors responsible for counter- urbanization. (250 words)

_Timesofindia_

_**Reference**_

_Why this question:_

Counter urbanization is a demographic and social process whereby people move from urban areas to rural areas. It first took place as a reaction to inner-city deprivation and overcrowding. Off- late urbanization process in India is witnessing counter – urbanization in its life cycle. Thus the question is important from the point of view of GS paper I.

_**Key demands of the question:**_

The question expects us to discuss what is the phenomena of counter- urbanization and the factors responsible for it.

_**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.

_**Keywords:**_

quantitative deurbanization , ruralisation, etc.

_**Structure of the answer:**_
SECURE SYNOPSIS

Introduction
Briefly discuss the concept of urbanization vis-à-vis counter urbanization.

Body
The body of the answer should address the following dimensions:
Discuss mainly that counter-urbanization is predominantly used to describe a process of quantitative deurbanization that qualitatively increases urbanism in physically rural areas.
Explain the causes associated like – growth in information technology, increase in car ownership over the last 40 years; more mobility, New business parks on the edge of cities, More people tend to move when they retire etc.
Impact of such phenomena, weigh the pros and cons associated.
Quote case studies from India.

Conclusion
Conclude as although counter urbanization is not without negative effects, a move towards counter urbanization, if not to degrading to rural lifestyles and environments, might be a great boon to overall rural development.

Introduction:
Within the urbanization process, sometimes, and very rarely, there is a sizeable movement of human occupation away from the core of urban habitation towards the peri-urban and rural settlements. This process and phenomenon is termed as counter urbanization or deurbanization and is a rare phenomenon in modern civilization all over the world. It is both a demographic and social process, but has to a lesser extent also involved the movement of some businesses and economic activities.

Body:
The causes of counter-urbanisation are linked to the push and pull factors of migration.

Push Factors:
- Overpopulation or dense populations in urban areas.
- Overcrowding in commutes.
- Rising real estate and residential costs in urban areas.
- Deeply congested and traffic ridden urban areas.
- Industrial meltdowns or shifts.
- **Case Study:** It first took place because of flight from the Inner cities in Britain, often as a result of economic problems in those areas. The collapse of inner city industries resulted in large scale unemployment and a cycle of decline and deprivation in those areas. Newcastle-upon Tyne is no stranger to this process, as its heavy industries of armaments and ship building led to dereliction of inner city communities along the river side. Poor quality housing and low environmental quality can also force people away from the inner city.

Pull factors:
- People want a better quality of life and they want to be able to live in a clean and quiet area.
- An area without air and noise pollution from heavy industries, the crime of urban environments and the lack of opportunities found in some parts of cities.
- They also aspire to having larger houses with more land for cheaper prices compared to the large towns and cities.
- Opportunities for people to work from home.
- Urban amenities being available in these areas such as through online shopping.
- Greater peace and safety in these areas.
- **Case Study:** People want a better quality of life and they want to be able to live in a clean and quiet area. An area without air and noise pollution from heavy industries, the crime of urban environments and the lack of opportunities found in some parts of cities. They also aspire to having larger houses with more land for cheaper
prices compared to the large towns and cities. The Government of the UK also promoted this movement through its green belt and New Towns policy (New Towns Act of 1946). The green belt policy restricted growth within the city boundaries, and forced developers to look just outside of the city boundaries for other villages to develop. These new towns develop into commuter towns or suburbanised villages, also known as dormitory towns as people sleep and live in those towns but work elsewhere. Milton Keynes is a good example next to London, whilst Cramlington and Washington act as new towns for Newcastle upon Tyne.

Situation in India:

The urbanization in India is about 31.1% as per Census 2011. It is expected by 2030 nearly 40% of the population will migrate to the cities. Cities like New Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore are over-populated beyond their carrying capacities. The movement of more and more people into less resilient areas like coastal regions, flood plains and earthquake-prone zones has been cited as one of the factors responsible for more natural disasters. Degradation of natural environment is another reason for increasing calamities. Unplanned expansion and development in disaster-prone areas as another reason for increased disasters and mentions recent flood fury in Uttarakhand in India as an example.

Conclusion:

Several reforms are implemented by the government in India to improve the standard of living of people in rural areas like Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, MNREGA, Rashtriya Kishore Swathya Karyakram(RSKS) etc. Developing cluster of 15-20 villages having about 30 to 40 lakh population into a Rurban cluster. Counter urbanization is not without negative effects, a move towards counter urbanization, if not to degrading to rural lifestyles and environments, might be a great boon to overall rural development.

Effects of globalization on Indian society

“The traditional cultural identities are at loss with the growth of global connectivity.” Explain.(250 words)

Why this question:
Globalization is a dynamic process which impacts differentially on various cultures around the world. It permeates cultural boundaries and in the process results in the spread of Western ideologies and values across the world. This paper investigates the relationship between globalization and cultural identity crisis underlying assumption that globalization is manifested in the intercultural penetration processes which have substantial effects on the cultural identities.

Demand of the question:
This question seeks to examine the implications of Globalization that creates a global culture in which the identity is amalgamated that tends to bring a homogenous culture throughout the world that might assist the local beliefs and cultural values to be universalized rather than to be demolished. On the contrary, such a cultural invasion is a threat that causes serious problems for some conservative states by virtue of the fact that the openness to foreign content can erode the traditional values and indigenous cultural identity.

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

Keywords:
Globalization, cultural identity, intercultural penetration, Westernization, polarized groups, cultural Pluralism etc.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start by suggesting what you understand by globalization and in a wider level what are its impact on the societies of the world.

Body
Discuss the following – first discuss the positives that Globalization brought for the world. Then move on to discuss the important aspects of the question that is ; in what way globalization is leading to loss of cultural identities across the world. Discuss this with examples that through its integrated network of trade and commerce and transport and communication is linked all the corners of the world. Though the aim behind this is to connect and merge all the
cultures of the world but unfortunately it is the reason behind the weakening of cultural bonds between communities and also leads to the loss of cultural identity. Though with the help of globalization people stay connected with each other 24×7 but it also makes one forget their own values and traditions.

Conclusion

Conclude that these aspects of globalization definitely need to be blacklisted at the earliest. It’s the need of hour; we need to realize this high time and start educating our children right from the childhood the art of deriving good virtues, thereby maintaining our own uniqueness.

Introduction:

The term ‘Globalization’ is itself self-explanatory. It is an international platform for maintaining evenness in the living mode of the people all over the world. Globalization is the resultant of the interchange of worldly views, opinions and the various aspects of the culture everywhere around the world. This is the means for providing the international arena for intermingling of people from different sectors, culture and dialects and learns to move and approach socially without hurting and affecting each others’ prestige.

Body:

Globalization has both positive and negative impacts throughout the globe. Right from the environmental challenges from the climatic influence, the air, water soil pollution etc., to the cyber crime; globalization has a huge contribution to all the ill-effects of scientific advancements. May it be business, trade, and work exposure or the economic and financial status of the country, no field is left behind the reach of globalization.

- **Access to education:**
  - On one hand globalization has aided in the explosion of information on the web that has helped in greater awareness among people. It has also led to greater need for specialisation and promotion of higher education in the country.
  - On the flip side the advent of private education, coaching classes and paid study material has created a gap between the haves and have-nots. It has become increasingly difficult for an individual to obtain higher education.

- **Urbanization:**
  - It has been estimated that by 2050 more than 50% of India’s population will live in cities. The boom of services sector and city centric job creation has led to increasing rural to urban migration.

- **Cuisine**
  - Indian cuisine is one of the most popular cuisines across the globe. Historically, Indian spices and herbs were one of the most sought after trade commodities. Pizzas, burgers, Chinese foods and other Western foods have become quite popular.

- **Clothing:**
  - Traditional Indian clothes for women are the saris, suits, etc. and for men, traditional clothes are the dhoti, kurta. Hindu married women also adorned the red bindi and sindhur, but now, it is no more a compulsion.
  - Rather, Indo-western clothing, the fusion of Western and Sub continental fashion is in trend. Wearing jeans, t-shirts, mini skirts have become common among Indian girls.

- **Language:**
  - Even the Indians are not very much in favour of promoting their mother tongue or our national language.
  - Instead the youth today consider it to be a shameful condition to speak in their national language Hindi.
**Secure Synopsis**

- **Indian Performing Arts:**
  - The music of India includes multiples varieties of religious, folk, popular, pop, and classical music. India’s classical music includes two distinct styles: Carnatic and Hindustani music. It remains instrumental to the religious inspiration, cultural expression and pure entertainment. Indian dance too has diverse folk and classical forms.
  - Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Mohiniattam, Kuchipudi, Odissi are popular dance forms in India. Kalarippayattu is considered one of the world’s oldest martial art. There have been many great practitioners of Indian Martial Arts including Bodhidharma who supposedly brought Indian martial arts to China.
  - The Indian Classical music has gained worldwide recognition but recently, western music is too becoming very popular in our country. Fusing Indian music along with western music is encouraged among musicians. More Indian dance shows are held globally. The number of foreigners who are eager to learn Bharatanatyam is rising. Western dance forms such as Jazz, Hip hop, Salsa, Ballet have become common among Indian youngsters.

- **Family Structure**
  - The increasing migration coupled with financial independence has led to the breaking of joint families into nuclear ones.
  - The western influence of individualism has led to an aspirational generation of youth. Concepts of national identity, family, job and tradition are changing rapidly and significantly.
  - The rise of nuclear families has reduced the social security that the joint family provided. This has led to greater economic, health and emotional vulnerability of old age individuals.
  - Children have started treating grandparents like guests or visitors, and such an upbringing is one of the main reasons of increasing old age homes, as those children consider their own parents as burden in their state of adulthood.

- **Marriage Values**
  - Similarly, marriages have also lost their values.
  - It is very much evident from the increasing number of divorce cases and the extra-marital affairs reported every now and then.
  - Marriage used to be considered as bonding of the souls which will be linked even after the death; but today marriage is like a professional bond or a so-called commitment to share life without compromising their self-interests.

- **Adultery**
  - Both the genders were kept at a distance, with lot many restrictions and limitations to the approach for ages in our culture.
  - With the emergence of globalization and western culture, youth have start mixing up well with each other.
  - The friendly approach and the socializing feature is worth appreciable.
  - But the total breakout of restrictions have adulterated the Indian mindset, playing up with the physical relationship.

- **Pervasive Media:**
  - There is greater access to news, music, movies, videos from around the world. Foreign media houses have increased their presence in India. India is part of the global launch of Hollywood movies which is very well received here. It has a psychological, social and cultural influence on our society.
SECURE SYMPHONY

- McDonaldization:
  - A term denoting the increasing rationalization of the routine tasks of everyday life. It becomes manifested when a culture adopts the characteristics of a fast-food restaurant. McDonaldization is a reconceptualization of rationalization, or moving from traditional to rational modes of thought, and scientific management.

- Walmartization:
  - A term referring to profound transformations in regional and global economies through the sheer size, influence, and power of the big-box department store WalMart. It can be seen with the rise of big businesses which have nearly killed the small traditional businesses in our society.

Conclusion:

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

Are the world countries witnessing de-globalisation? Examine and explain the associated implications.(250 words)

Why this question:
The question is in the context of rising trends of de-globalization being witnessed across the world. Increased protectionism professed especially by countries like USA etc.

Key demands of the question:
The answer must first elaborate on what is deglobalization, what are the causes of it, its impact and implications on countries like India. Compare and contrast it with effects of globalization in the recent past.

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

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Briefly discuss the backdrop of the rising trends of protectionism.

Body
The body of the answer should address the following dimensions:
What do you understand by deglobalization.
Discuss the raising global fears of a possible slowing down of the global economic recovery, due to de-globalization.
Elaborate on “national interests first” attitude in trade and economic policies by the countries of the world.
What are the implications of it?
Its affects on India, discuss it with examples.
Conclusion
Conclude with way forward, what needs to be done to strike a balance between globalization and deglobalization.

Introduction:

Harvard Business School professor Geoffrey G. Jones says Brexit and Donald Trump’s rise show that the world is in the second wave of deglobalization. The present talk around ‘trade war’ and ‘de-globalisation’ cropped up after the US, in March 2018, imposed 25 per cent and 10 per cent duty on steel and aluminium imports, respectively, from certain countries, citing national security and job creation as the triggering factors.

Body:

The term de-globalisation is used by economic and market commentators to highlight the trend of several countries wanting to go back to economic and trade policies that put their national interests first. These policies often take the
form of tariffs or quantitative barriers that impede free movement of people, products and services among countries. The idea behind all this protectionism is to shield local manufacturing by making imports costlier.

**Implications of Deglobalization:**

- We still live in a highly globalised world, and these protectionist moves upend the fundamental premise on the basis of which global growth is estimated and organisations such as the WTO regulate global trade.
- When large, industrialised and prosperous nations break ranks to erect new entry barriers for goods and services, this can drastically impact the fortunes of their many trade partners.
- All calculations of global economic growth, inflation and interest rates then go haywire.
- The US economy, for instance, imports a lot of inexpensive manufactured goods from China. If a tariff war increases costs of imports into the US, its domestic inflation may rocket and US interest rates may increase faster.
- India may not be much affected by the recent rash of tariffs, given that the US derives only a little over one per cent of its steel and aluminium imports from India.
- But de-globalisation with respect to the mobility of services and people can impact both the export of services, and the trend of Indians migrating abroad for higher education and jobs.
- The recent global bull market is predicated on a global recovery and de-globalisation can puncture the optimism very quickly.
- What starts with goods can also move to the people. The US and the UK have already made immigration norms very stringent for outsiders.
- Deglobalization may hamper efforts towards gender equality.
- Restrictions on the movement of people will limit women’s ability to move in search of greater opportunities.
- Reduced capital flows, which make investment capital harder to come by, may encourage the return of old cultural myths against investing in women.
- Internationalization weakens biases, but with economic fragmentation, these old biases kick back in.

**Way forward:**

- In order to stifle nationalist and protectionist feelings, we must produce stability and security.
- There is a need to bring emerging countries into closer association with world governance, implying that, in return, they share the responsibility and the costs of underpinning capitalism and an open society.
- Promotion of new forms of international and regional integration that preserve and allow the multiple dimensions of life to flourish.
- Cooperation is vital to make the world economy more predictable, to mitigate vulnerabilities and to strengthen the free trade system.
- the culture of tolerance and understanding must be promoted which provides space for positive dialogue

**Conclusion:**

The spectre of protectionism is haunting the global economy, as politicians in many parts of the world cast doubt on the benefits of globalization and free trade. Deglobalization does not oppose trade nor the exchange of products or services, but proposes that trade is not done at the expense of the communities, the local and national economies and the diversity of its products whether agricultural or industrial.
Discuss in detail the Socio-Cultural Impact of globalisation on Indian Society.(250 words)

Why this question:
The question is about recognizing the specific impacts that globalization has made over the socio-cultural fabric of India.

Demand of the question:
This question seeks to examine the issues associated with identification of poor in the country and what measures are required to be taken to do away with.

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
Start by explaining effects of globalization in general.

Body
One can start with the positives that globalization brought in for the socio-cultural aspects like Access to education, Growth of cities, global interconnectedness etc. Then move on to discuss the negative implications – Nuclear Families, Old Age Vulnerability, Pervasive Media, Walmartization, McDonaldization etc.
Then discuss how all these above factors impact the country's socio-cultural fabric.

Conclusion
Conclude with importance of globalization yet reassert that it doesn’t come without a cost.

Introduction:
The term ‘Globalization’ is itself self-explanatory. It is an international platform for maintaining evenness in the living mode of the people all over the world. Globalization is the resultant of the interchange of worldly views, opinions and the various aspects of the culture everywhere around the world. This is the means for providing the international arena for intermingling of people from different sectors, culture and dialects and learns to move and approach socially without hurting and affecting each others’ prestige.

Body:
Globalization has both positive and negative impacts throughout the globe. Right from the environmental challenges from the climatic influence, the air, water soil pollution etc., to the cyber crime; globalization has a huge contribution to all the ill-effects of scientific advancements. May it be business, trade, and work exposure or the economic and financial status of the country; no field is left behind the reach of globalization.

- **Access to education:**
  - On one hand globalization has aided in the explosion of information on the web that has helped in greater awareness among people. It has also led to greater need for specialisation and promotion of higher education in the country.
  - On the flip side the advent of private education, coaching classes and paid study material has created a gap between the haves and have-nots. It has become increasingly difficult for an individual to obtain higher education.

- **Urbanization:**
  - It has been estimated that by 2050 more than 50% of India’s population will live in cities. The boom of services sector and city centric job creation has led to increasing rural to urban migration.

- **Cuisine**
  - Indian cuisine is one of the most popular cuisines across the globe. Historically, Indian spices and herbs were one of the most sought after trade commodities. Pizzas, burgers, Chinese foods and other Western foods have become quite popular.

- **Clothing:**
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Traditional Indian clothes for women are the saris, suits, etc. and for men, traditional clothes are the dhoti, kurta. Hindu married women also adorned the red bindi and sindhur, but now, it is no more a compulsion.

- Rather, Indo-western clothing, the fusion of Western and Sub continental fashion is in trend. Wearing jeans, t-shirts, miniskirts have become common among Indian girls.

- **Language:**
  - Even the Indians are not very much in favour of promoting their mother tongue or our national language.
  - Instead the youth today consider it to be a shameful condition to speak in their national language Hindi.

- **Indian Performing Arts:**
  - The music of India includes multiples varieties of religious, folk, popular, pop, and classical music. India’s classical music includes two distinct styles: Carnatic and Hindustani music. It remains instrumental to the religious inspiration, cultural expression and pure entertainment. Indian dance too has diverse folk and classical forms.
  - Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Mohiniattam, Kuchipudi, Odissi are popular dance forms in India. Kalarippayattu is considered one of the world’s oldest martial art. There have been many great practitioners of Indian Martial Arts including Bodhidharma who supposedly brought Indian martial arts to China.
  - The Indian Classical music has gained worldwide recognition but recently, western music is too becoming very popular in our country. Fusing Indian music along with western music is encouraged among musicians. More Indian dance shows are held globally. The number of foreigners who are eager to learn Bharatanatyam is rising. Western dance forms such as Jazz, Hip hop, Salsa, Ballet have become common among Indian youngsters.

- **Family Structure**
  - The increasing migration coupled with financial independence has led to the breaking of joint families into nuclear ones.
  - The western influence of individualism has led to an aspirational generation of youth. Concepts of national identity, family, job and tradition are changing rapidly and significantly.
  - The rise of nuclear families has reduced the social security that the joint family provided. This has led to greater economic, health and emotional vulnerability of old age individuals.
  - Children have started treating grandparents like guests or visitors, and such an upbringing is one of the main reasons of increasing old age homes, as those children consider their own parents as burden in their state of adulthood.

- **Marriage Values**
  - Similarly, marriages have also lost their values.
  - It is very much evident from the increasing number of divorce cases and the extra-marital affairs reported every now and then.
  - Marriage used to be considered as bonding of the souls which will be linked even after the death; but today marriage is like a professional bond or a so-called commitment to share life without compromising their self-interests.

- **Adultery**
Both the genders were kept at a distance, with lot many restrictions and limitations to the approach for ages in our culture.

With the emergence of globalization and western culture, youth have start mixing up well with each other.

The friendly approach and the socializing feature is worth appreciable.

But the total breakout of restrictions has adulterated the Indian mindset, playing up with the physical relationship.

**Pervasive Media:**

There is greater access to news, music, movies, videos from around the world. Foreign media houses have increased their presence in India. India is part of the global launch of Hollywood movies which is very well received here. It has a psychological, social and cultural influence on our society.

**McDonaldization:**

A term denoting the increasing rationalization of the routine tasks of everyday life. It becomes manifested when a culture adopts the characteristics of a fast food restaurant. McDonaldization is a reconceptualization of rationalization, or moving from traditional to rational modes of thought, and scientific management.

**Walmartization:**

A term referring to profound transformations in regional and global economies through the sheer size, influence, and power of the big-box department store WalMart. It can be seen with the rise of big businesses which have nearly killed the small traditional businesses in our society.

**Conclusion:**

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

Critically examine how globalisation has affected urban and rural society differently in India. (250 words)

Reference

Why this question:
The question is in the context of Effects of globalization on Indian society and more so specifically with respect to its effect on Urban and rural society.

Key demands of the question:
The answer must first elaborate on what is Globalization, what are the causes of it, its impact and implications on rural and urban India. Compare and contrast each of these implications and examine how they are different from each other.

Directive word

Critically Examine – When asked to „Examine”, we have to look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications. When „critically” is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgement.

Structure of the answer:

**Introduction**

Briefly discuss the importance of globalization and its implications in general.

**Body**

The impact of globalization on Indian and rural life has a tremendous influence which is both positive as well as negative. The Indian urban
and rural life is viewed as the two faces of the same coin. They are mutually interdependent and both have a greater impact of globalization. India is getting global recognition and slowly moving forward to become a major economic and political strength. Thus, the paper clearly elucidates that globalization is a complex phenomenon and its impact on rural and urban life clearly. It has a very profound impact on both Indian rural and urban life. As a result globalization has shown remarkable growth in urbanization and rural development.

Conclusion
Conclude with a positive note that Globalization has proved to be an empowering entity in Indian scenario.

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

Body:
Impact of globalization on Indian rural society

- Positives:
  - Commercialization of agriculture: There is an increased trend of commercialization from sustenance farming. This has been successful only with farmers having large tracts of lands.
  - Expansion of agro-industries: Increased crop yield has led to development of agro-processing industries which help in adding value to the products and increasing their shelf life. E.g.: Tomato Ketchup, Potato chips etc.
  - Wider use of information, communication and technologies: Agricultural extension techniques like Kisan TV, sms about weather conditions has helped farmers plan better. Initiatives like e-Nam have helped farmers get better prices in certain areas.
  - Increased Mechanization, better inputs: Mechanization like use of tractors, harvesters, tillers has eased the job. High yield variety seeds, fertilizers have given better yield as seen during Green Revolution
  - Socio-economic development: With telemedicine and teleeducation, people are able to access the health and education facilities at the remotest areas. Adult literacy has helped in fighting for their rights.
  - MSMEs: There has been a rise of MSMEs with women entrepreneurs heading it.

- Negatives:
  - Changes in Land-Use patterns
  - Internal labour migration: Labour migration to cities from rural areas in search of employment was a common phenomenon. This was for various reasons especially for luxurious life, handsome salary and for numerous job opportunities
  - Increasing privatization of resources: Rural population is still suffering from unemployment as rural labour is mostly uneducated and unskilled. Machines and latest technologies have reduced the number of manpower a lot
  - Loss of jobs and Displacement: due to mechanization, women are the worst sufferers. When big-ticket projects like Dams, Roads, and Mining come up, people are displaced making them internal refugees.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- Increased inequality: Regional and sectional disparity due to only a few reaping the benefits.
- No Behavioural changes: Open defecation still present, caste discriminations are still prevalent.

Impact of globalization on Indian urban society

Positives:

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

Negatives:

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

Conclusion:

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

To what degree globalization has influenced the core of cultural diversity in India? Explain (250 words)

Why this question:
The question is about recognizing the specific impacts that globalization has made over cultural diversity of India.

Demand of the question:
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SECURE SYNOPSIS

This question seeks to examine the effect of globalization on cultural diversity of India viz. linguistic diversity, communal diversity, Religious diversity, Racial diversity etc.

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

Structure of the answer:

Introduction
Start by explaining effects of globalization in general and discuss its influence and the extent in brief.

Body
One has to analyse both positives and negatives of globalization:
Linguistic diversity: resulted in centralist language, which dominates regional dialects, and minority languages. E.g.: In urban areas, most of the families these days talk in English even at homes. But it has a positive dimension, where it had led to Indians excelling in the services sector of the economy.
Caste Diversity: has led to decreased emphasis on localized castes but the socio-economic disparities in societies continues to cause conflicts, which are dominated by caste hegemony.
Religious diversity: increased prosperity and materialistic pursuits have decreased the religion based conflicts but religion continues to dominate the social sphere mostly concerned with ethos and values. It also had led to questioning the age old exploitative traditions like Devadasi and Triple-talaq. Also though India was multi-religious but was dominated by Hindu’s with globalization it has led to be polarized by few religions. Also, exposed India to religious fundamentalism.
Racial diversity: Globalization to an extent has changed the racial demography to an extent with decreasing numbers of Mongoloid race. Migration from North East side of India has to an extent changed the demography of Indian races. The economic inequalities and slow movement towards mono-culture has led to increased attacks on racial minorities, E.g.: NE students attacked in New Delhi.

Influence
Negative influence:
Unmonitored access to Western culture – Misrepresentation, stereotyping and the risk of loss of cultural and intellectual property rights.
Increased consumerism and erosion of local cultural traits.
Under the influence of Western idea of individualism – more homogenization of values and beliefs. E.g.: Loss of local artifacts, promotion of western dressing, shift from local culinary habits etc.

Positive influence:
Technology has helped preserve some of the dying artifacts, document local languages and also exposed Indians to various global arts/movies etc.
It has minimized cultural barriers and promoted universal ethos (reducing partial mindset etc.), education etc.

Conclusion
Conclude that Globalization to an extent acted as a unifying force but monitored access would help India preserve its multi-lingual, multi-religious and multi-caste society.

Introduction:

Globalization is the process of international integration arising from the interchange of world views, products, ideas and other aspects of culture. This results into decrease in variation in cultural diversity and formation of a ‘Global village’ with identical features.

Body:

Globalisation has varying degree of influence on cultural diversity in India as following:

- Linguistic diversity:
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- The influence of transnational corporations has resulted in centralist language, which dominates regional dialects, and minority languages. E.g.: In urban areas, most of the families these days talk in English even at homes.
- English as medium of mass communication has undermined the local languages.
- The development of literature is also impacted by this.
- Many tribal languages have been wiped out due to use of a common tongue.
- But it has a positive dimension, where it had lead to Indians excelling in the services sector of the economy.

**Caste Diversity:**

- The western idea of civilization has impacted prospective toward Indian tradition and customs which are looked down as regressive.
- It has led to decreased emphasis on localized castes in the urban areas.
- People eat together, increased instances of inter-caste marriages are seen in the urban areas.
- However, the socio-economic disparities in societies continue to cause conflicts, which are dominated by caste hegemony. Instances of honour killing, flogging of dalits are some of the examples which assert caste identity.

**Religious diversity:**

- In a globalized world where increased prosperity and materialistic pursuits have decreased the religion based conflicts but religion continues to dominate the social sphere mostly concerned with ethos and values.
- It also had led to questioning the age old exploitative traditions like Devadasi and Triple-talaq.
- Although India was multi-religious but was dominated by Hindu’s with globalization it has led to be polarized by few religions.
- India is also exposed to religious fundamentalism

**Racial diversity:**

- Globalization to an extent has changed the racial demography to an extent with decreasing numbers of Mongoloid race.
  - Migration from North East side of India has to an extent changed the demography of Indian races.
  - The economic inequalities and slow movement towards mono-culture has led to increased attacks on racial minorities, e.g.: NE students attacked in New Delhi.

**Ethnicity:**

- The globalization generalized the taste and preferences of people relating to food, Dance forms and Values.
- This undermines the peculiar features of various ethnicities like cuisines.
- Increased consumerism and availability of media has led to erosion of local cultural traits.
- Under the influence of Western idea of individualism there has been more homogenization of values and beliefs. E.g.: Loss of local artefacts, promotion of western dressing, shift from local culinary habits etc.
- At times, with the help of internet and social media, it has helped to mobilize people in the garb of protection of cultural identity. E.g. Jallikattu movement.
**SECURE SYNOPSIS**

- **Art and handicrafts:**
  - In the globalized and mechanized economy no art has remain local.
  - Countries like China is flooding Indian market with the products which were local to India like toys making.
  - This has impacted diversity in Art and handicraft as now we find same kind of product all over India.
  - Unmonitored access to Western culture has led to increasing Misrepresentation, stereotyping and the risk of loss of cultural and intellectual property rights.
  - Technology has helped preserve some of the dying artefacts, document local languages and also exposed Indians to various global arts/movies. Example: Flipkart is selling tribal artefacts, Channapatna wooden toys etc.

**Conclusion:**

India is a land of pluralism. The highly diverse nature of our culture is the unifying strength of India. Globalization to an extent acted as a unifying force but monitored access would help India preserve its multi-lingual, multi-religious and multi-caste society.

**Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.**

What do you understand by regionalism? Does regionalism support India's federal character? Discuss.(250 words)

*Insightsonindia*  
**why this question:**  
The question is about discussing the concept of regionalism and its role both positive and negative in defining the federal character of the country.  
**Key demands of the question:**  
The answer must first elaborate on what is Regionalism, what are the causes of it, its impact and implications on the federal character of the country. Compare and contrast each of these implications – both positive and negative and examine what needs to be done.  
**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**  
Discuss Regionalism as an ideology.  
**Body**  
Discuss the following aspects in the answer:  
What is Indian regionalism?  
extample of regionalism in India  
What are the causes of regionalism in India?  
Its link with the federal character of the country.  
explain regionalism as an ideology and political movement that seeks to advance the causes of regions.  
**Conclusion**  
Conclude with optimism that regionalism should be used to unify rather than divide the country.

**Introduction:**

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

Regionalism in India:

- Roots of regionalism is in India’s manifold diversity of languages, cultures, ethnic groups, communities, religions and so on, and encouraged by the regional concentration of those identity markers, and fuelled by a sense of regional deprivation.
- For many centuries, India remained the land of many lands, regions, cultures and traditions.
- For instance, southern India (the home of Dravidian cultures), which is itself a region of many regions, is evidently different from the north, the west, the central and the north-east.
- Even the east of India is different from the North-East of India comprising today seven constituent units of Indian federation with the largest concentration of tribal people.

Factors responsible for Regionalism: A host of factors ranging from Geographical, Historical, Linguistic, Religious, political, Economic and Ethnic factors influence the Regionalism in India.

Regionalism and Federalism:

- The role played by Indian federalism in ensuring India’s unity, stability and survival as a polity in the face of persistent regionalism, often verging on separation, rooted in manifold and complex social and cultural diversity, and mass poverty, illiteracy, extreme regional unevenness in development, and widespread inequality.
- The question has assumed special significance in the aftermath of the disintegration of the multi-ethnic and multinational Soviet Union, and the split up of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.
- The need for federalism is enhanced in countries with ethnically distinct regions where the territorial accommodation of distinct groups of people is of paramount importance.
- For those countries, a combination of shared rule (for general purposes of unity) and some kind of self-rule (for regional/local purposes of diversity) is a must if unity and integrity are to be maintained.
- Indian federalism is seen as a method of accommodation of regionalism in India.
- Federalism is seen here as a political equilibrium, which results from the appropriate balance between shared rule and self-rule.
- In the post Second World War period, many post-colonial countries adopted federalism as a method of governance in multi-ethnic contexts.
- India’s rich diversity sometimes looks like an obstacle to unity. But the latest election has proved that a commitment to resolving differences peacefully and democratically can transform diversity into a source of strength.
- India’s federal reconciliation of regional identity with autonomy has a democratic aspect.
- Democracy rather than ethnicity is thus the legitimacy basis of such political institutions.
- The federalism has been given strong push by devolving powers at local level to states and their local bodies through 73rd and 74th Amendment act. And according to Indian judiciary, federalism is basic structure of Indian constitution.
- The regions declared under fifth and sixth schedule enjoy certain autonomy which gives them scope to maintain their own culture and develop according to their own need. This makes federal structure stronger.
- Other than this any policy for such area is different than the mainland policy as in case of the provisions of the panchayats (extension to the scheduled areas) act, 1996, popularly known as PESA.
The need of the hour is to develop each region of India, through devolution of power to local governments and empowering people for their participation in decision-making. The governments at State level need to find out the alternative resources of energy, source of employment for local people, use of technology in governance, planning and for agriculture development.

“Homosexuality remains a taboo for a large portion of Indian society, even among the youth”. Critically analyse the statement and suggest measures to overcome the ills of it. (250 words)

**Livemint**

**Why this question:**
The article brings out that the survey shows that among India’s urban youth, those with stronger religious predispositions display more prejudice against homosexuality compared to their less-religious counterparts. Thus necessitating us to analyse the question critically.

**Demand of the question:**
This question seeks to examine the Stereotypes associated with homosexuals, the discriminatory attitude faced by them. The taboo associated with it. The question is about recognizing the varying Societal attitudes toward homosexuality more so specifically in the Indian case and with a special emphasis on Youth.

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction**
Brief upon the current identity of Homosexuals in India as per laws.

**Body**
First start by stating the historic judgement that has decriminalized homosexuality by declaring section 377 as unconstitutional.

Discuss why the prejudices and patriarchal mindset of Indian society are so prevalent?

Suggest how legal solution alone would not be enough for homosexuals to overcome the taboo.

Discuss in detail the causes of such mindset.

Suggest solutions – what needs to be done?

**Conclusion**
Based on your discussion form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the above issue.

**Introduction:**

Homosexuality remains a taboo for a large portion of Indian society, even among the youth. Less than half of India’s urban youth approve of same sex relationships, shows survey data collected by market researcher YouGov in collaboration with Mint. Even among those **residing in the major metro cities**, acceptance of same-sex relationships is low, especially in the southern regions of India.

**Body:**

Six months ago, in a historic verdict, the Supreme Court of India struck down Section 377, a British-era law which criminalized same-sex relationships between consenting adults in India.

**Findings of the survey:**

- Social acceptance of homosexuality is the highest in Delhi-NCR, closely followed by Mumbai. About 50% of the youth are supportive of same-sex relationships in these cities.

- Social acceptance of homosexuality is the highest in Delhi-NCR, closely followed by Mumbai. About 50% of the youth are supportive of same-sex relationships in these cities.

- only a third of Chennai’s youth approves of such relationships

**Causes for such a mindset:**

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- **Religion:**
  - Among India’s urban youth, those with stronger religious predispositions display more prejudice against homosexuality compared to their less-religious counterparts.
  - A 2013 survey conducted by Pew Research Center found that acceptance of homosexuality was particularly widespread in countries where religion was less central in people’s lives.

- **Patriarchal mindset:**
  - The belief that there are only two sexes and Male dominates the females.
  - Homosexuality is against the order of nature and is a sin.
  - Four out of five people are against gay and lesbian marriages.

- **Prejudice:**
  - About three out of five Indians feel being gay or lesbian is a disease and almost a same percentage of those surveyed says it can be “cured”
  - Being gay or lesbian is against Indian culture is the popular opinion.

- **Stereotypes:**
  - It is stereotypes about gender roles that constituted the basis of criminalising same-sex relations, and which ensure discrimination.

- **Harassment:**
  - The amount of protection that the law provides is determined by the level of privilege one wields and other intersectional positions in society, and it can be argued that the decriminalisation of sexual acts in private would do little to limit the harassment LGBTQ persons are subjected to in public spaces and the discrimination they face in employment opportunities.

  - **Social exclusion, identity seclusion and isolation** from the social mainstream are still the stark realities faced by these individuals today.

  - Constant police harassment of the gay community.

- **Independence:**
  - Jobs and, in turn, financial security is denied to people on the basis of their sexual orientation.

**Measures to overcome the taboo:**

- Law and morality are different issues. Our legislators may frame laws or courts deliver judgments that are ahead of the moral values of a society. But it would be farfetched to expect that moral values can be changed because of court judgments.

- Indian constitution ought to adapt and transform with the changing needs of the times. The very purpose of constitutionalism is to transform society. Dynamic constitutional interpretation allows for the progressive realisation of rights as societies evolve, and is also essential to enable transformative constitutionalism.

- Periodic sensitisation and awareness programmes for all government officials, particularly police officials, any sensitisation will be incomplete without the systematic devaluation of heterosexism, the institutionalised valorisation of heterosexual activity.

- The challenges of social mindset need to be changed with people educated that this aspect is not unnatural and is innate to a human being.
While the decision by the country’s highest court is certainly significant, there needs to be more of an impetus for social change and removing ignorance from society. There needs to be a campaign to not only to raise awareness but to educate people on what homosexuality

The government should conduct programmes to end the stigma around homosexuality and individuals employed with the government should receive workshops to sensitise them to subject.

There is a need for rape law reform to protect male survivors of sexual violence. There is no law to protect adult male victims of sexual assault, whether they are cis- or transgender. Parliament needs to fill these lacunae in the law.

It is time for the Indian Parliament to conduct wide-ranging review of existing legal framework, repeal discriminatory laws, and address other gaps in the law that prevent LGBT persons from fully exercising their rights

Conclusion:

India may have decriminalized homosexuality, but it is still a long way from de-stigmatizing it. The challenges of social mindset need to be changed with people educated that this aspect is not unnatural and is innate to a human being.

Discuss the concept, constraints and prospect of secularism in India.(250 words)

Why this question:
The question is about discussing the concept of Secularism and its boundaries in India. In the recent past Indian secularism has been under constant threat, in the name of religion, creed and community people have tries to impose their superiority over the other.

Key demands of the question:
The answer must first elaborate on what you understand by Secularism, what are the causes of it, its impact and implications. Compare and contrast each of these implications – both positive and negative and examine what needs to be done.

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
Discuss Secularism as a concept.
Body
Discuss the following aspects in the answer:
Define what is Indian Secularism, What are the important features of Indian secularism?
How has secularism evolved in India?
What are the causes of Secularism in India?
Discuss its prospects – What path should Indian secularism take?
Conclusion
Conclude with optimism that Secularism should become a unifying factor rather than dividing the country on lines of religion, race, caste etc.

Introduction:

Secularism is the “indifference to, or rejection or exclusion of, religion and religious considerations.” As a philosophy, secularism seeks to interpret life on principles taken solely from the material world, without recourse to religion. In political terms, secularism is the principle of the separation of government institutions and persons mandated to represent the state from religious institution and religious dignitaries. Under a brief definition, secularism means that governments should remain neutral on the matter of religion and should not enforce nor prohibit the free exercise of religion, leaving religious choice to the liberty of the people.

Body:
Secularism in India:

Secularism has been discussed in India primarily as a state policy towards religious groups. The debate on secularism began by pointing to the difference of the Indian variation to its Western counterpart, either by pointing to an idea of a ‘principled distance’ or samadharma samabhava, where all religions are treated as equal. Our Constitution acquire its secular character from the words in the Preamble, collective reading of many of its provisions, particularly the various fundamental rights.

Important features of Secularism in India:

- Secularism in India refers to the equal status and treatment of all religions.
- Secularism in India is a positive, revolutionary and comprehensive concept which takes within its sweep all the communities in India following several religions.
- Indian secularism recognizes the importance of religion in human life.
- Diversity can only be effective with secularism as a foundational value.
- India’s survival as a multi-religious, multilingual, multiracial, multicultural society will depend on how successful it is in working its secularism
- Indian Secularism equally opposed oppression of dalits and women within Hinduism. It also opposes the discrimination against women within Indian Islam or Christianity and the possible threats that a majority community might pose to the rights of the minority religious communities.
- Indian Secularism has made room for and is compatible with the idea of state-supported religious reform. For example- Indian constitution bans untouchability under Article 17. There is also abolition of child marriage and lifting the taboo on inter-caste marriage sanctioned by Hinduism.
- Indian Secularism deals not only with religious freedom of individuals but also with religious freedom of minority communities i.e. individual has the right to profess religion of his /her choice. Likewise, religious minority also have a right to exist and to maintain their own culture and educational institutions.

Constraints:

- Uniform Civil Code:
  - No progress has been made in the evolution of a uniform Civil Code.
  - There are deep religious sentiments prevailing among different religious communities.
  - It limits the path to a truly secular society in India
- Politics and Religion:
  - The Supreme Court had observed in the Bommai case that if religion is not separated from politics, the religion of the ruling party tends to become the state religion.
  - During the time of elections most of the political parties completely forget the noble ideal of secularism and woo the voters on communal or cast lines.
- Communalism:
  - Increasing violence between people of different communities or religions.
  - Rise of fringe elements threatens India’s history of communal harmony and peace.
  - Instances like demolition of the Babri Masjid, anti-Sikh riots in Delhi and other places in 1984 are on the rise.
- Rise of fundamentalism and obscurantism:
o Religious entities have taken up the radicalisation of youths to promote their religion.

o This poses grave threat to the harmony and security of the nations.

- Failure of the Government in Evolving a Just Economic Order:

  o The failure of the government to evolve a just economic order and eliminate poverty also is a setback to secularism.

- Cultural Symbols and Secularism:

  o Many public rituals like bhoomi pujan, breaking of coconuts on inaugural occasions, performing of ‘aarti’ and applying ‘tilak’ are perceived by Hindus as cultural or nationalistic expressions, but to non-Hindus these are manifestations of Hindu culture.

  o Such rituals are performed even on state functions and therefore, create unnecessary misgivings about the neutrality of the State.

- Schools today have become havens of social isolation where children of similar economic and social backgrounds are unaware of the kind of social diversity that exists outside their little worlds.

Way forward:

- Since secularism has been declared as a part of the basic structure of the Constitution, governments must be made accountable for implementing it.

- Define the word “minority”. The concept of secularism is based on recognition and protection of minorities. The two cannot be separated.

- Setting up of a commission on secularism for ensuring adherence to the constitutional mandate on secularism.

- Separation of religion from politics. It is of such urgency that no time should be wasted in bringing this about.

- It is the duty of the secular and democratic forces to rally behind those political forces that really profess and practice secularism.

- In a secular state, religion is expected to be a purely personal and private matter and is not supposed to have anything to do with the governance of the country.

Conclusion:

Supreme Court rulings over the years have also ensured that the secular ethos of India is maintained, and that religion does not interfere or impinge upon the fundamental rights guaranteed to the individuals. Indian secularism is a unique concept that has been adopted and devised keeping in mind the unique needs and characteristics of the Indian culture. It denotes the core principles of tolerance and respect that have been ingrained into the Indian conscience since millennia.

Define Communalism and discuss the rise Communalism in India and its ramifications. What steps are needed to be taken to check the growth of Communalism?(250 words)

Why this question:

Question is about communalism and how it has evolved in India, question is to analyse the ramifications of communalism in India and evaluation of measures to check communalism.

Demand of the question:

This question seeks to examine the concept of Communalism. The question expects us to write in detail about communalism, in the Indian historical, social and political context. It then wants us to write in detail about the evolution of communalism in India; its ramifications and counter measures to check its growth.

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.
Structure of the answer:

Introduction

Define communalism in a simple way- e.g. Communalism is a political philosophy, which proposes that market and money be abolished and that land and enterprises to be placed in the custody of community. But in the Indian sub-continent context, communalism has come to be associated with tensions and clashes between different religious communities in various regions.

Body

Discuss about communalism in India in detail.

Discuss the evolution of communalism in India – like ancient India was united and no such communal feelings were there. People lived peacefully together, there was acceptance for each other’s culture and tradition. For example, Ashoka followed religious tolerance and focused mainly on Dhamma; In Medieval period, we have examples such as Akbar, who was epitome of secular practices and believed in propagating such values; Communalism in India is result of the emergence of modern politics, which has its roots in British policy of divide and rule and the partition of Bengal in 1905 and feature of separate electorate under Government of India Act, 1909; Such acts were done by the British government to appease Muslims and other communities, and dividing the Indian public opinion for their own political needs. This feeling of communalism has deepened since then, fragmenting the Indian society and being a cause of unrest etc.

Suggest solutions – what needs to be done?

Conclusion

Based on your discussion form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the above issue.

Introduction:

Communalism is basically an ideology which consists of three elements:

- A belief that people who follow the same religion have common secular interests i.e. they have same political, economic and social interests. So, here socio-political communalities arises.

- A notion that, in a multi-religious society like India, these common secular interests of one religion is dissimilar and divergent from the interests of the follower of another religion.

- The interests of the follower of the different religion or of different ‘communities’ are seen to be completely incompatible, antagonist and hostile.

Body:

Rise of Communalism in India:

- Ancient India:
  - Ancient India was united and no such communal feelings were there. People lived peacefully together; there was acceptance for each other’s culture and tradition. For example, Ashoka followed religious tolerance and focused mainly on Dhamma.

- Medieval period:
  - In Medieval period, there are examples such as- Akbar, who was epitome of secular practices and believed in propagating such values by abolishing Jizya tax and starting of Din-I- ilahi and Ibadat Khana.
  - Same acceptance for different cultures and tradition was practised in several kingdoms throughout India, because of which there was peace and harmony, barring few sectarian rulers like Aurangzeb, who was least tolerant for other religious practises.
  - Such rulers and actions by them like- imposing taxes on religious practises of other community, destructing temples, forced conversions, killing of Sikh guru, etc. were instrumental in deepening and establishing the feeling of communal differences in India.
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- But, these incidents were not common as, huge majority of Indians were rural and were aloof from such influences and so people coexisted peacefully. Overall, the Hindus and Muslims in those days had common economic and political interests.

- Modern India:
  - Communalism in India is result of the emergence of modern politics, which has its roots in partition of Bengal in 1905 and feature of separate electorate under Government of India Act, 1909.
  - Later, British government also appeased various communities through Communal award in 1932
  - All these acts were done by the British government to appease Muslims and other communities, for their own political needs. This feeling of communalism has deepened since then, fragmenting the Indian society and being a cause of unrest.

Ramification of Communalism:

- Genocides: With mass killings, the real sufferers are the poor, who lose their house, their near and dear ones, their lives, their livelihood, etc. It violates the human rights from all direction. Sometimes children lose their parents and will become orphan for a lifetime.

- Ghettoization and refugee problem are other dimensions of communalism induced violence, whether its inter country or intra country.

- Sudden increase in violence against any particular community causes mass exodus and stampede which in turn kills many number of people. For example, this was seen in the case of Bangalore in 2012, with respect to people from North eastern states, which was stimulated by a rumour.

- Apart from having effect on the society, it is also a threat to Indian constitutional values, which promotes secularism and religious tolerance. In that case, citizens don’t fulfil their fundamental duties towards the nation.

- It becomes a threat for the unity and integrity of the nation as a whole. It promotes only the feeling of hatred in all directions, dividing the society on communal lines.

- Minorities are viewed with suspicion by all, including state authorities like police, para-military forces, army, intelligence agencies, etc. There have been many instances when people from such community have been harassed and detained and finally have been released by court orders guilt free. For this, there is no provision for compensation of such victims, about their livelihood incomes forgone, against social stigmas and emotional trauma of the families.

- Barrier for development: Communal activities occurring frequently do harm the human resource and economy of the country. And then again it takes years for the people and the affected regions to come out the traumas of such violence, having deep impact on minds of those who have faced it. They feel emotionally broken and insecure.

- Terrorism and Secessionism: As seen during the Khalistan movement in Punjab.

Steps to check the growth of Communalism:

- Economic:
  - Poverty is one of the major factors for communal violence. Poverty alleviation measures are thus important for promoting communal harmony.
  - Eradicating the problem of unemployment among the youths, illiteracy and poverty and that too with honesty and without any discrimination.
  - Reducing educational and economic backwardness of minorities like Muslims.
  - This can uplift their socio economic status and reduce their deprivation compared to Hindus.
• Social:
  o The religious leaders and preachers should promote rational and practical things through religion promoting peace and security.
  o Children in schools must be taught through textbooks and pamphlets to maintain brotherhood and respect for all religions
  o Creating awareness in the society about the ill effects of communism through mass media

• Political:
  o Political communism should be avoided recent Supreme court’s directives
  o Identification and mapping of riot prone areas. For Example, Delhi police used drones to monitor to maintain vigil during communal festivals
  o Media, movies and other cultural platforms can be influential in promoting peace and harmony.
  o Social Media should be monitored for violent and repulsive content and taken off immediately.

• Recommendations of Committee on National Integration
  o Joint celebration of community festivals
  o Observing restraint by Hindus while taking processions before the mosques
  o Formation of peace and brotherhood communities at local level to prevent anti-social elements from engaging in communal riots
  o Respect for religious customs, rituals and practices

Conclusion:
Communalism cannot be accepted as the necessary evil in the society. It is detrimental to the development, social change, democracy and the federal feature of the State. Jawaharlal Nehru had pointed out the issue and termed it as the greatest danger. And so he said that anyone who loves India would hate communalism and anyone who hates India would love communalism.

Salient features of world’s physical geography.

Explain weathering and mass wasting, and describe their geomorphic significance. (250 words)

Why this question:
The question is based on the denudational processes of weathering and mass wasting.

Key demands of the question:
The answer must first elaborate on the concept in detail and write their geomorphic importance.

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

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Discuss in brief the concept.
Body
Discuss the following aspects in the answer:
Types of weathering – chemical, biological, physical etc.
Factors Influencing Weathering Processes – climate, rock type, slope orientation, vegetation etc.
What is mass movement and its types – soil creep, Solifluxion, slumping or sliding.
Present the above types with suitable diagrams and examples wherever possible.
Discuss their geomorphic significance.
Conclusion
Conclude with their significance in Earth building activities.

Introduction:

Weathering is defined as mechanical disintegration and chemical decomposition of rocks through the actions of various elements of weather and climate. As very little or no motion of materials takes place in weathering, it is an in-situ or on-site process.

Mass wasting or Mass movement is the movement of weathered material down a slope due to gravitational forces. Mass movements are very active over weathered slopes rather than over unweathered slopes. Usual geographic agents like running water, glaciers, wind, waves etc do not have much role to play in mass movements, and it is the gravity, which is the main driving force.

Both are exogenic forces, i.e. they derive their strength from the earth’s exterior or originate within the earth’s atmosphere. Their actions results in wearing down, hence known as land wearing forces.

Body:

Weathering is of two kinds

- Chemical Weathering: basic process by which denudation occurs. Extremely slow and gradual decomposition of rocks due to exposure to air and water. Solution, Oxidation and Decomposition by Organic Acids are few processes.

- Physical or Mechanical weathering: physical disintegration of a rock by the actual prising apart of separate particles. Repeated temperature changes, Repeated wetting and drying, Frost action and Biotic factors are processes.

Significance of weathering

- Weathering is the first step in formation of soils.
- Weathering of rocks and deposits helps in the enrichment and concentrations of certain valuable ores of iron, manganese, aluminium, copper etc.
- Weathering helps in soil enrichment.
- Without weathering, the concentration of the same valuable material may not be sufficient and economically viable to exploit, process and refine. This is what is called enrichment.
Mass wasting is of two types:

- **Slow movements:**
  - **Soil Creep:** It occurs on moderate steep, soil-covered slopes (doesn’t need to be lubricated with water as in solifluction). The movement is extremely slow and imperceptible except through extended observation.
  - **Solifluction:** It is the process of slow down slope flowing of soil mass or fine-grained rock debris saturated or lubricated with water. It can be said as a type of creep with lubricated water influences the movement. It mainly occurs in permafrost regions as the layers of ground water are occupied in between permanently frozen soil and rocks.

- **Rapid movements:**
  - **Earthflow:** Movement of water-saturated clayey or silty earth materials down low angle terraces or hillsides is called earthflow.
  - **Mudflow:** In the absence of vegetation and cover and with heavy rainfall, thick layers of weathered materials get saturated with water and either slow or rapidly flow down along definite channels is called as mudflow.
  - **Debris avalanche:** It is more in humid regions with or without vegetation. It occurs in narrow tracks on steep slopes and is similar to snow avalanche.
  - **Landslides (slumping or sliding):** These are very rapid kinds of movement and occur when a large mass of soil or rock falls suddenly. Landslides usually occur on steep slopes undercut by a river or the sea so that it falls by gravity. Slumping is particularly common where permeable debris or rock layers overlie impermeable strata such as clay. Water sinking through the permeable material is halted by the clay. The damp clay provides a smooth slippery surface over which the upper layers easily slide.

Significance of Mass-wasting:

- The topography of the earth’s surface, particularly the morphologies of mountain and valley systems, both on the continents and on the ocean floors.
- The character/quality of rivers and streams and groundwater flow.
- The forests that cover much of the earth’s sub-aerial surface.
- The habitats of natural wildlife that exist on the earth’s surface, including its rivers, lakes, and oceans.
• Large amounts of geologic materials enter streams as sediment as a result of this landslide and erosion activity, thus reducing the potability of the water and quality of habitat for fish and wildlife.

Mitigation of Mass-Wasting:

• Afforestation
• Re-Afforestation
• Terracing steps on slopes or, more generally, re-modelling its shape
• Slope stabilization

Conclusion:

The interaction of these constructive and destructive forces gives rise to great diversity of present day landforms.

How are tidal currents different from tidal bores? Discuss the importance and uses of tidal current.(250 words)

Why this question:
Question is about the concepts of tidal currents and tidal bores and how they are different from each other. One is expected to throw some light upon the importance and utility of tidal bores.

Demand of the question:
This question seeks to examine the concept of Tidal bores, how they differ from regular tidal currents, and their specific uses.

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.

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start with what are tidal currents and their significance in the oceanic ecosystem.
Body
Discuss the following points in detail:
What are tidal bores – body of water that, during exceptionally high sea tides, rushes up some rivers and estuaries near a coast where there is a large tidal range and the incoming tide is confined to a narrow channel.
What causes tidal bores? – natural phenomenon in which an incoming tide creates a wave of water that travels up along a river or a narrow bay causing water to flow against the river’s current.
Where are tidal bores most common? – their range
How are they different from Tidal currents?
Explain the importance of tidal currents.
Conclusion
Conclude with their importance in oceanic ecosystem.

Introduction:

Tidal currents can be defined as the periodic movement of water driven principally, though not necessarily exclusively, by a head difference created by out-of-phase ocean tides at each end of a restriction. Tidal currents occur in conjunction with the rise and fall of the tide.

A tidal bore is a phenomenon in which the leading edge of the incoming tide forms a wave (or waves) of water that travels up a river or narrow bay against the direction of the river or bay’s current. It occurs along a coast where a river empties into an ocean or sea.

Body:

Tidal bore:
• It is a strong tide that pushes up the river, against the current. A tidal bore is a true tidal wave. A tidal bore is a surge.

• A surge is a sudden change in depth. When a channel suddenly gets deeper, it experiences a positive surge.

• When a channel suddenly gets shallower, it experiences a negative surge. Tidal bores are positive surges.

• Two key features of a tidal bore are the intense turbulence and mixing generated during the bore propagation, as well as its rumbling noise.

• A tidal bore creates a powerful roar that combines the sounds caused by the turbulence in the bore front and whelps, entrained air bubbles in the bore roller, sediment erosion beneath the bore front and of the banks, scouring of shoals and bars, and impacts on obstacles

Tidal Currents:

• The vertical motion of the tides near the shore causes the water to move horizontally, creating currents. When a tidal current moves toward the land and away from the sea, it “floods.” When it moves toward the sea away from the land, it “ebbs.” These tidal currents that ebb and flood in opposite directions are called “rectilinear” or “reversing” currents.

• Rectilinear tidal currents, which typically are found in coastal rivers and estuaries, experience a “slack water” period of no velocity as they move from the ebbing to flooding stage, and vice versa.

• Tidal currents are the only type of current affected by the interactions of the Earth, sun, and moon. The moon’s force is much greater than that of the sun because it is 389 times closer to the Earth than the sun is.

• Tidal currents, just like tides, are affected by the different phases of the moon. When the moon is at full or new phases, tidal current velocities are strong and are called “spring currents.” When the moon is at first or third quarter phases, tidal current velocities are weak and are called “neap currents.”

Importance of Tidal Currents:

• Fishing:
  o Fish may concentrate during ebb tides. Commercial fishermen follow the tides and learn to fish during levels of highest concentration to improve their economic investment and to make more efficient use of their time.

• Recycling of Nutrients:
  o Tides affect other aspects of oceanic life, including the reproductive activities of fish and ocean plants.
  o Floating plants and animals ride the tidal currents between the breeding areas and deeper waters.
  o The tides help remove pollutants and circulate nutrients ocean plants and animals need to survive.

• Tidal Zone Foods
  o Crabs, mussels, snails, seaweed and other edible sea life inhabit the tidal zone. Small tide pools may also contain small fish and sea vegetables.
  o The sea life found in these regions is often harvested for food. Without the regular washing of the tides, these complex and abundant creatures would die and food resources would diminish.

• Weather
  o Tides and tidal currents affect the weather by stirring the ocean waters.
  o The tides and tidal currents mix arctic water that can’t absorb lots of sunlight with warmer topic water that does.
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- The stirring produces more predictable and habitable climate conditions and balances temperatures on the planet.

   - **Tidal Energy**
     - Two high tides and two low tides occur during every 24-hour period.
     - The predictability of the tides, fast movement of water during the inflow and outflow can provide a source of renewable energy to communities living along the coast.
     - **Hydroelectric plants** can exploit the water flow in ways similar to those used on rivers.

**Conclusion:**

Tidal bores are seen in the rivers of Ganga, Krishna, Mahanadi etc. According to Ministry of New and Renewable energy, Total identified potential of Tidal Energy is about **12455 MW**, with potential locations identified at Khambat & Kutch regions, and large backwaters, where barrage technology could be used. The Gulf of Kutch region is all set to develop India’s first 50MW tidal energy plant.

**Explain the concept of discordant drainage? Do structure and lithological aspects always control drainage systems? Explain with examples. (250 words)**

**Why this question:**
The question is based on the concept of types of drainage system and role of structure and lithological aspects as a control factor on them.

**Key demands of the question:**
The answer must provide for a brief discussion on what is meant by Discordant drainage system with examples and then evaluate the role of structure and lithological aspects as a control factor on the formation of a drainage system.

**Directive word**

**Explain –** Clarify the topic by giving a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context.

**You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.**

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction**

**Start by definition of a drainage system.**

**Body**

**Discuss the following aspects in the answer:**

- **What is a Discordant drainage system?** – The river follows its initial path irrespective of the changes in topography i.e. it does not correlate to the topology [surface relief features] and geology [geological features based on both Endogenetic movements and exogenetic movements] of the area.

- **Explain the types :** Discordant drainage patterns are classified into two main types: antecedent and superimposed.

- **Factors otherwise Influencing drainage patterns** – Topography, Geology, landforms etc.

- Then move on to explain role of structure and lithology; explain how these factors do not control the pattern in case of Discordant drainage pattern.

- **Substantiate your answer with examples and suitable diagrams wherever necessary.**

**Conclusion**

**Conclude with significance of controlling factors in formation of a drainage pattern.**

**Introduction:**

In geomorphology, **drainage systems**, also known as **river systems**, are the **patterns formed by the streams, rivers, and lakes in a particular drainage basin**. They are governed by the topography of the land, whether a particular region is dominated by hard or soft rocks, and the gradient of the land. Geomorphologists and hydrologists often view streams as being part of drainage basins. A **drainage basin** is the **topographic region from which a stream receives runoff, throughflow, and groundwater flow.**

**Body:**
A drainage pattern is described as **discordant** if it does not correlate to the surface relief features and geological features based on both Endogenic movements and exogenic movements of the area. In a discordant drainage pattern, the river follows its initial path irrespective of the changes in topography.

Discordant drainage patterns are classified into two main types: **antecedent and superimposed**.

**Antecedent Drainage or Inconsequent Drainage:**

- A part of a river slope and the surrounding area gets uplifted and the river sticks to its original slope, cutting through the uplifted portion like a saw (Vertical erosion or Vertical down cutting), and forming deep gorges: this type of drainage is called Antecedent drainage.
- Example: Indus, Sutlej, Brahmaputra and other Himalayan rivers that is older than the Himalayas themselves. There are usually called as antecedent rivers.
- The rivers cut through the newly formed landform and maintain the same path.
- The soil formed is weak and it is easily eroded by the rivers.

**Superimposed Drainage:**

- When a river flowing over a softer rock stratum reaches the harder basal rocks but continues to follow the initial slope, it seems to have no relation with the harder rock bed. This type of drainage is called superimposed drainage.
- Usually, the drainage patterns (dendritic, trellis, etc.) are strongly influenced by the hardness and softness of the rock and patterns of faults or fractures.
- Sometimes, however, the land rises rapidly relative to the base level of the stream. This increases the gradient of the stream and therefore, gives the stream more erosive power.
- The stream has **enough erosive power** that it cuts its way through any kind of bedrock, maintaining its former drainage pattern.
- It is a drainage pattern which exhibits discordance with the underlying rock structure because it originally developed on a cover of rocks that has now disappeared due to denudation.
- Consequently, river directions relate to the former cover rocks and, as the latter were being eroded, the rivers have been able to retain their courses unaffected by the newly exposed structures.
- The stream pattern is thus superposed on, or placed on structural features that were previously buried.
- The Damodar, the Subarnarekha, the Chambal, the Banas and the rivers flowing at the Rewa Plateau present some good examples of superimposed drainage.
- Rivers cut deeper through the existing landform and maintain the same path.
- The rivers have high erosive power so that they can cut through the underlying strata.

The factors of structure and lithology do not control the pattern in case of Discordant drainage due to high erosive power as seen in the above explanations.

**Conclusion:**

India has many antecedent and superimposed river systems due to its varying topography and geology.

**Explain the meridional circulation of the atmosphere and its importance in world climate.**

(250 words)

*Why this question:*

*Question is based on the concept of Meridional circulation of the atmosphere and it significance in World climate.*

*Demand of the question:*

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This question seeks to examine the role of Meridional circulation of the atmosphere and its role in determining the aspects of World climate.

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

Structure of the answer:
Introduction
Start with what is Tri-Cellular Meridional Circulation of atmosphere.

Body
Discuss the following points in detail:
The concept of Meridional circulation in detail. – There is cellular circulation of air at each meridian (longitude). Surface winds blow from high pressure areas to low pressure areas but in the upper atmosphere, the general direction of air circulation is opposite to the direction of surface winds. Explain the three cells associated in detail with diagrams.
Discuss its significance – meridional circulation plays a vital role in the transfer of energy and in maintaining the heat budget of the earth. The belt of doldrums or the inter-tropical convergence zone (ITCZ) is the most important and uninterrupted belt of convergence on the surface of earth. The development of tropical cyclones, temperate cyclones, and anticyclones is also the result of meridional circulation. Etc.

Conclusion
Conclude with how distribution patterns of precipitation and climatic types are also largely controlled by the tricellular meridional circulation.

Introduction:
Meridional circulation is a general airflow pattern from north to south, or from south to north, along with the Earth’s longitude lines (perpendicular to a zonal flow, which is east-west). The wind belts girdling the planet are organised into three cells in each hemisphere: The Hadley cell, the Ferrel cell, and the Polar cell. These cells exist in both the northern and southern hemispheres.

Body:

- Tropical Cell:
  - It is also called Hadley cell. High rate of heating at equator results in the ascent of wind.
  - These ascending warm and moist wind release latent heat after condensation which causes further ascent of the winds.
o After, reaching the height of 8 to 12 kilometers in the troposphere over the equator diverse northward and southward.

o Surface winds/trade winds blow from subtropical high pressure belt to equatorial low pressure belt in order to replace the ascending air at the equator.

o Antitrade (upper air moving in direction opposite of surface winds) descends near 30 degree – 35 degree latitudes to cause subtropical high pressure belt. After, ascending they blow towards equator where they again heated up and ascend.

**Polar Front Cell/ Mid Latitude Cell:**

o Winds blow from subtropical high pressure belt but winds because at most westerly due to coriolis force.

o Regularity and continuity of westerlies are frequently disturbed by temperature cyclones, migratory extra tropical cyclones and anti-cyclones.

o Warm air ascends along the polar front which in more regular and continuous in the middle troposphere.

**Polar Cell:**

o Atmospheric circulation prevailing between 60 degree and poles. Cold winds, knows as polar easterlies, blow from polar high pressure areas to sub-polar or mid-latitude low pressure belt.

o Central direction of surface polar winds become easterly (east to west) due to Coriolis force.

o The winds ascend upward due to the rotation of the earth at the sub polar low pressure belt and after reaching middle troposphere they turn pole ward and equator ward.

o The pole ward upper air descends at the poles and reinforces the polar high pressure. Thus complete polar cell is formed.

**Importance of the Meridional Circulation of Atmosphere:**

- The meridional circulation plays a vital role in the **transfer of energy and in maintaining the heat budget of the earth.**

- The **belt of doldrums or the inter-tropical convergence Zone (ITCZ)** is the most important and uninterrupted belt of convergence on the surface of earth.

- In the subtropical high pressure belt there are numerous areas of divergence which make significant contribution to meridional circulation.

- Areas of convergence and divergence of mean surface wind over the oceans produce innumerable complexities in the climate of the world.

- The low pressure and high pressure distribution and the shifting of pressure belts over the Earth’s surface virtually **control air movement** around the world.

- The **development of tropical cyclones, temperate cyclones, and anticyclones** is also the result of meridional circulation.

- The **area of divergence and convergence** are known as **centres of action**, for it is along their boundaries that most of the cyclones and anticyclones move out from one region to another.

- The **distribution patterns of participation and climatic types** are also largely controlled by the tricellular meridional circulation

- The mechanism of origin of **Indian Monsoon** is closely influenced by these cells.

- **The origin of tornados and vertical disturbances** are the results or heat transfer in the Hadley Cells.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

- The formation of hot deserts, horse latitudes, roaring forties are because of the meridional circulation of the atmosphere.

Conclusion:

In brief, the seasons, climates, climatic belts, vegetation belts, and the life style of people in the different regions of the world are directly or indirectly influenced by the Tricellular atmospheric circulation.

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

In the light of recent Forest Survey report, discuss the significance of Forest Survey in India. What are the issues and challenges involved? Elucidate. (250 words)

The hindu

Why this question:
The article is in the background of the recent recommendations made by the high-power committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) that forest surveys — the biennial exercise by the government to estimate forest cover — should explicitly demarcate trees grown in forests from those grown outside, that is, in plantations and private lands.

Key demand of the question:
The answer must discuss the significance of the forest surveys in India; importance, issues and challenges involved and how do we address such challenges.

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:
Begin with the importance of forests as a key natural resource, forest surveys as a prime most step in conservation efforts to save forests.

Body:
Discuss the importance of forests, bring out the role of forest surveys – in terms of assessment, analysis of the status of the natural resources. Bring out ow they highlight the conditions of forests effectively, what are the issues involved in these surveys, what needs to be done, government’s role in dealing with these challenges.

Conclusion:
Conclude with the importance of the survey and suggest way forward.

Introduction:

Forests provide renewable raw material; and energy, maintain biological diversity, mitigate climate change, protect land and water resources, provide recreation facilities, improve air quality and help alleviate poverty. At the same time forests are affected by fire, grazing, pest and invasive species and are also the primary targets for agricultural and urban expansion.

India is among top ten nations in the World in Terms of Forest Area. As per the latest FAO report, India is placed 8th in the list of Top Ten nations reporting the greatest annual net gain in forest area. 24.4% of land area under forest and tree cover.

Body:
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Forest Survey of India, an organization under Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change recently published 'India State of Forest Report 2017' based on satellite imagery.

Significance of Forest Survey in India:

- The Report provides state/district wise forest cover of the country and change thereon with the previous assessment.
- It also provides the estimates of growing stock within and outside the forest areas, forest cover in hill, tribal and north eastern states.
- Survey serves as an important tool to monitor the country’s forest resources and plan suitable scientific and policy interventions for their management.
- The Tree cover is estimated by using sampling based exercise and estimated partly through high resolution satellite data (Resourcesat-II with a spatial resolution of 23.5 meters) and partly through field level inventory data.
- In the recent survey report, along with Tree cover, information on Carbon stock in India’s forest and Bamboo resources have been incorporated.
- Forests play an important role in mitigation and adaptation of climate change. Carbon data by FSI was reflected in India’s initial National communication submitted to UNFCCC.
- Carbon stock information has been used for deciding the target for India’s INDC (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions).
- FSI has been carrying out real time forest fire monitoring at national level since 2004 using Remote Sensing and GIS Technology. The objective is to detect and inform state forest departments about active forest fires on near real time basis.

The Special Features of current FSI report (ISFR-2017) report are:

- Forest cover in the country is assessed irrespective of ownership, legal status and land use.
- This information provides qualitative and quantitative attributes for effective forest management and devising appropriate strategies.
- FSI has given information on forest cover in and outside green wash area for those states from where digitized records are not present. Green wash areas are represented by forests by Survey of India during its survey.
- Information has been given for 633 districts by using new and updated district boundaries.
- State wise information on Carbon stock in the country’s forests has been provided.
- FSI fire alerts issued to State Forest departments during last five years has been provided.
- For the first time, the report contains information on the decadal change in water bodies in forests.

The various issues and challenges involved in the Forest Survey are:

- No explicit demarcation of trees grown in forests from those grown outside, that is, in plantations and private lands.
- The ecosystem services performed by plantations that have a lot of trees grown for commercial purposes cannot be equated with those of an undisturbed assemblage of plants, trees and animals.
- Currently, the government counts both towards estimating the portion of India’s geographical area covered by forest. This gives a wrong estimate of forest cover in India.
- Forest cover is different from ‘recorded forest area’ which the ISFR defines as legally notified forests

Independent critics have for long pointed out that including both isn’t an ecologically sound principle.
• The government also includes substantial patches of trees outside areas designated as forests, such as plantations or greenlands, in its assessment.

• An estimate listing very dense, moderately dense, open and scrub forests mapped through remote sensing does not really provide deep insights into the integrity of the green areas.

• A cumulative loss of forests is recorded in Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal of nearly 1,200 sq km. The impact of such a loss must be seen against the backdrop of the Northeast representing a global biodiversity hotspot.

• Any gains achieved through remediation programmes in Odisha, Assam, Telangana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Manipur cannot compensate for it adequately.

• There is an ongoing debate on the resolution of satellite imagery the government uses to conduct the forest survey.

• The scientific reports are based on a mix of satellite data, ground vegetation observations and historical maps. This is at odds with the latest Forest Survey of India report that assesses India’s forest cover.

Way forward:

• FSI should consider reporting India’s green cover under more explicit categories, including plantations, orchards etc.

• It could also help to make the GPS data for each forest unit available for public audits.

• Expanding forest cover should be prioritised in the years to come and non-conventional green cover such as home gardens and urban forests should also be considered.

Conclusion:

India’s forests are critical for its ecosystem because they absorb 11.25 percent of the country’s greenhouse gases. The value of what is technically called an “ecosystem service” would amount to Rs 6 lakh crore ($120 billion) or 4.2 percent of India’s gross domestic product. The increase in forests is important to improving biodiversity and reducing damage caused by natural disasters like floods. States that have reported damage by floods had fewer forests compared to states that had reported less damage. Forest Survey helps in assessment of the forests and take up the necessary actions by the State.

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

What do you understand by “Bombogenesis” or “Bomb cyclone” ? Examine why Great Plains of USA are experiencing unusually extreme flood conditions these days. (250 words)

Reference
Indianexpress
Reference

Why this question:
Bomb cyclone is a concept in Geography that was recently seen in the news. Hence, it is important to know the concept from the point of view of GS paper I.

Key demand of the question:
The question expects us to discuss in detail the concept of bomb cyclones; their origin, formation, process, effect and consequences and also why the Great Plains of USA are experiencing unusually extreme flood conditions recently.

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

Structure of the answer:
Introduction:
Explain Briefly the significance of such a phenomena, or quote the recent onset of these cyclones in USA.
SECURE SYNOPSIS

Discuss the recent incidences – In 2018, two winter storms hit the northeastern coast of the U.S. that were classified as bomb cyclones – one in January and another in March and again last week they were reported in the great plains of USA.

Discuss – How are bomb cyclones formed? How long does a bomb cyclone last? What causes Bombogenesis? Then discuss its impact and what can be done to ensure preparedness to such natural inevitabilities.

Conclusion:
Conclude with importance of disaster management in the context of cyclones.

Introduction:

The term Bomb Cyclone is used by meteorologists to indicate a mid-latitude cyclone that intensifies rapidly. A bomb cyclone happens when atmospheric pressure in the middle of the storm drops at least 24 millibars over 24 hours, quickly increasing in intensity. Bomb cyclones also draw air from Polar Regions after it weakens.

The United States East Coast and Midwest are battling record-breaking low temperatures as cold Arctic air continues to sweep through the region followed by the freezing winter storm — bomb cyclone or Bombogenesis.

Body:

Mechanism:

- The cyclone is essentially a storm caused by a collision of warm air and cold air which develop into rotating storm-like pattern and lead to an explosive deepening of pressure.
- The air starts to move and the rotation of the earth creates a cyclonic effect.
- The direction is counter clockwise in the Northern hemisphere leading to winds that come out of the northeast.
- The East Coast’s first snowstorm of 2018 was energised by this rapid drop in barometric pressure.

Reasons why Great plains of America are facing Bomb Cyclones:

- The occurrence and severity of “warm-West/cold-East” winter events, which is also called North American winter temperature dipole, increased significantly between 1980 and 2015.
- This is partly because winter temperature has warmed more in the West than in the East.
- It also has been driven by the increasing frequency of a “ridge-trough” pattern, with high atmospheric pressure in the West and low atmospheric pressure in the East producing greater numbers of winter days with extreme temperatures in large areas of the West and East at the same time.
- Particular atmospheric configuration connects the cold extremes in the East to the occurrence of warm extremes ‘upstream’ in the West.
- So some regions can experience colder than normal temperatures associated with anomalous circulation patterns that drive cold air from the poles to the mid-latitudes
- Human-caused emissions of greenhouse gases are likely driving this trend.
- Nor’easter:
  - A nor’easter is a storm that mainly affects the north-eastern part of the United States. These storms form along the East coast as warm air from over the Atlantic Ocean clashes with arctic cold to the north and west.
  - Hurricanes have a narrow field of strong winds with a concentration around the center, whereas a nor’easter’s winds are spread out
- Polar vortex:
Mass of air expands and gets pushed south, carried along with the jet stream, a stream of wind that extends around the hemisphere and divides the air masses in the polar region from those further south.

The air circulation coming with this imminent storm could help pull the jet stream and even more arctic air south, bringing temperatures to parts of the US that are simply too cold for people to safely be outside.

**Conclusion:**

Although a “Bombogenesis” is not as scary as it sounds, it can be dangerous, with travel conditions particularly affected. Worldwide, about 40 to 50 ‘bomb cyclones’ brew each year, but most are over open oceans. However, with rampant climate change due to global warming, the frequencies of such events are going to increase.

The frequency of tropical cyclones has decreased ever so slightly over the last 70 years in the Indian Ocean season and instead, a much higher frequency of high-intensity storms are being witnessed, in the light of recent onset of Cyclone Idai discuss role of human-induced climate change in such events. (250 words)

**Reference**

**Why this question:**
The question is in the backdrop of the Cyclone Idai that swept through Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe over the past few days, the devastating cyclone that hit south-eastern Africa may be the worst ever disaster to strike the southern hemisphere.

**Key demand of the question:**
The answer must revolve around the role of human-induced climate change in such disastrous events. The cyclone Idai has led to devastating floods, killing and injuring thousands of people and ruining crops. More than 2.6 million people have been affected across the three countries. Thus the answer must highlight and discuss in detail the causes and consequences of such events.

**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:**
Begin with quoting the facts related to cyclone Idai; location, impact spread etc.

**Body:**
Discuss in brief what are cyclones, their impact in general, then move on to explain the current context of Idai cyclone. Then justify why – The frequency of tropical cyclones has decreased ever so slightly over the last 70 years in the Indian Ocean season and instead, a much higher frequency of high-intensity storms are being witnessed. Discuss the role of climate change, mainly the human induce ones. Suggest measures to tackle such incidences – disaster management, early detection etc.

**Conclusion:**
Conclude with way forward – global efforts to tackle climate change and others.

**Introduction:**

Cyclone Idai is the seventh major storm of the Indian Ocean season – more than double the average for this time of year – the long-term trend does not support the idea that these type of events are now more frequent.

**Body:**

Cyclone is any large system of winds that circulates about a centre of low atmospheric pressure in a counter-clockwise direction north of the Equator and in a clockwise direction to the south.

**Conditions Favourable for Cyclone Formation:**

- Large sea surface with temperature higher than 27° C
• Presence of the Coriolis force enough to create a cyclonic vortex
• About 65 per cent of cyclonic activity occurs between 10° and 20° latitude.
• Small variations in the vertical wind speed
• A pre-existing weak low-pressure area or low-level-cyclonic circulation
• 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.

The interesting thing is that the frequency of tropical cyclones has decreased ever so slightly over the last 70 years. Instead, we are getting a much higher frequency of high-intensity storms. The reasons for the same are:

• Climate change is affecting a number of factors in the background that are contributing to making the impact of these storms worse.
• Climate change makes the rainfall intensities higher, increased influences of warming on specific events.
• Warmer seas mean there is more energy available for cyclones, which only form when the water reaches 26 degrees Centigrade.
• Global warming causes a sea-level rise, the resulting flooding is more intense than it would be without human-induced climate change.
• In previous decades, the further away you were from the Equator meant the cooler the seas became and so any tropical cyclones that formed didn’t have the energy to keep going. Now climate change is impacting that relationship.
• Under increasing sea-surface temperatures, we are seeing the line of constant temperature required for these storms to form moving further and further towards the South Pole

Cyclone Management in India:

• India is highly vulnerable to natural disasters especially cyclones, earthquakes, floods, landslides, and drought. Natural disasters cause a loss of 2% of GDP every year in India. According to the Home ministry, 8% of total area in India is prone to cyclones.
• In 2016, National Disaster Management Plan was unveiled to tackle disaster. It provides a framework to deal with prevention, mitigation, response and recovery during a disaster.
• Due to increased awareness and tracking of Cyclone, the death toll has been reduced substantially. For example, Very severe cyclone Hudhud and Phailin claimed lives of around 138 and 45 people respectively, which might have been more. It was reduced due to the early warning and relocation of the population from the cyclone-hit areas.
• But the destruction of infrastructure due to cyclonic hit is not been reduced which leads to increase in poverty due to the economic weakening of the affected population.

Measures to tackle such incidences:

• The National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP), to be implemented with financial assistance from the World Bank, is envisaged to have four major components:
  o Component A: Improvement of early warning dissemination system by strengthening the Last Mile Connectivity (LMC) of cyclone warnings and advisories.
  o Component B: Cyclone risk mitigation investments.
  o Component C: Technical assistance for hazard risk management and capacity-building.
  o Component D: Project management and institutional support.
These components are highly interdependent and have to be implemented in a coherent manner.

The **NDMA** had come up with its National Guidelines of Management of Cyclones in 2008. The basic premise of these guidelines is that the mitigation has to be multi-sectoral.

Developing Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) frameworks for addressing the sustainability and optimal utilisation of coastal resources as also cyclone impact minimisation plans.

Ensuring cyclone resistant design standards are incorporated in the rural/ urban housing schemes in coastal areas

Implementing coastal flood zoning, flood plain development and flood inundation management and regulatory plans.

Coastal bio-shields spread, preservation and restoration/ regeneration plans.

There is a need for private sector participation in designing and implementing policies, plans, and standards.

Need of Disaster Management program to be inclusive including women, civil society, and academia.

**Conclusion:**

India should prepare to mitigate and deflect the destruction caused by Cyclones. We need to employ technology, strict following of command structure and most importantly the participation and cooperation of local communities in the affected area.