

# NEXT IAS

## MAIN TEST SERIES 2.0 - 2025 (FLT)

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : FLT2501

Test No. : 01

Name of Candidate: ADITYA MATHUR Mobile No .....

Roll No. : MT25 FLT0N033 Start Time 2:30 PM End Time 5:30 PM

Date of Examination: 22.07.2025 Medium : English  Hindi

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1.	10	
2.	10	
3.	10	
4.	10	
5.	10	
6.	10	
7.	10	
8.	10	
9.	10	
10.	10	
TOTAL MARKS - 100		

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
11.	15	
12.	15	
13.	15	
14.	15	
15.	15	
16.	15	
17.	15	
18.	15	
19.	15	
20.	15	
TOTAL MARKS - 150		

GRAND TOTAL - ...../ 250

EVAL CODE: ..... EVAL DATE: .....

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Immediately on receipt of the QCA booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.
2. Candidates must mention all relevant details like Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
3. Candidate is expected to attempt all 12 questions within the given timeline.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized at the time of admission.
5. Candidates must write answers for the specific question under the respective question itself. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.
6. Please write neatly. Avoid illegible writing.
7. Do not write/mark irrelevant matters in the QCAB.

### सामान्य निर्देश

1. QCA पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर कृपया तुरंत जांच लें कि इस QCA पुस्तिका में कोई पृष्ठ या सामग्री आदि गलत छपी हुई या फटी हुई या गायब तो नहीं है। यदि ऐसा है, तो इसे एक नई QCA पुस्तिका से बदल लें।
2. अभ्यर्थियों को सभी प्रासंगिक विवरण जैसे नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल नंबर आदि का आवंटित स्थान पर उल्लेख करना होगा।
3. अभ्यर्थियों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह आवंटित समय-सीमा के भीतर ही सभी 12 प्रश्नों के उत्तर-लेखन का प्रयास करें।
4. प्रत्येक उत्तर, प्रवेश के समय चुनी गयी भाषा के माध्यम में ही लिखे जाने चाहिए।
5. अभ्यर्थियों को विशिष्ट प्रश्न के उत्तर संबंधित प्रश्न के नीचे ही लिखने होंगे। आवंटित स्थान के बाहर लिखे गए किसी भी उत्तर को क्रेडिट नहीं दिया जाएगा।
6. कृपया साफ-सुथरा लिखें। अपठनीय लेखन से बचें।
7. QCAB में अप्रासंगिक तथ्यों को न लिखें / न ही चिह्नित करें।

REMARKS: .....

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

<u>Student Concerns / Query</u>	<u>Evaluator's Feedback / Response</u>
1 .....	1 .....
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2 .....	2 .....
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3 .....	3 .....
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<b>MARKING SCHEME *</b>			
Marks Per Ques	Below Average	Average	Above Average
10 Marks	Below 3.00	3.00 - 3.75	4.00 and above
15 Marks	Below 4.50	4.50 - 5.75	6.00 and above

\* Subject to change without prior notice.

<b><u>IMPORTANT QR CODES</u></b>	
 <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Topper's Copy</p>	 <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB</p>
 <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Copy Scanner App</p>	 <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Next IAS Test Centre Location</p>

**MACRO COMMENTS**

*The Purpose of MTS 2.0 Score Improvement Program (SIP) is to provide constructive suggestions on 'How to improve Answer Writing and thereby score better marks.*

Q1.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q2.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q3.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q4.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q5.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q6.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q7.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q8.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q9.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q10.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

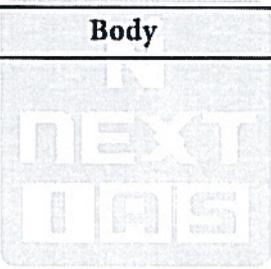
Q11.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q12.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q13.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
		

Q14.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q15.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q16.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q17.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q18.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q19.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q20.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

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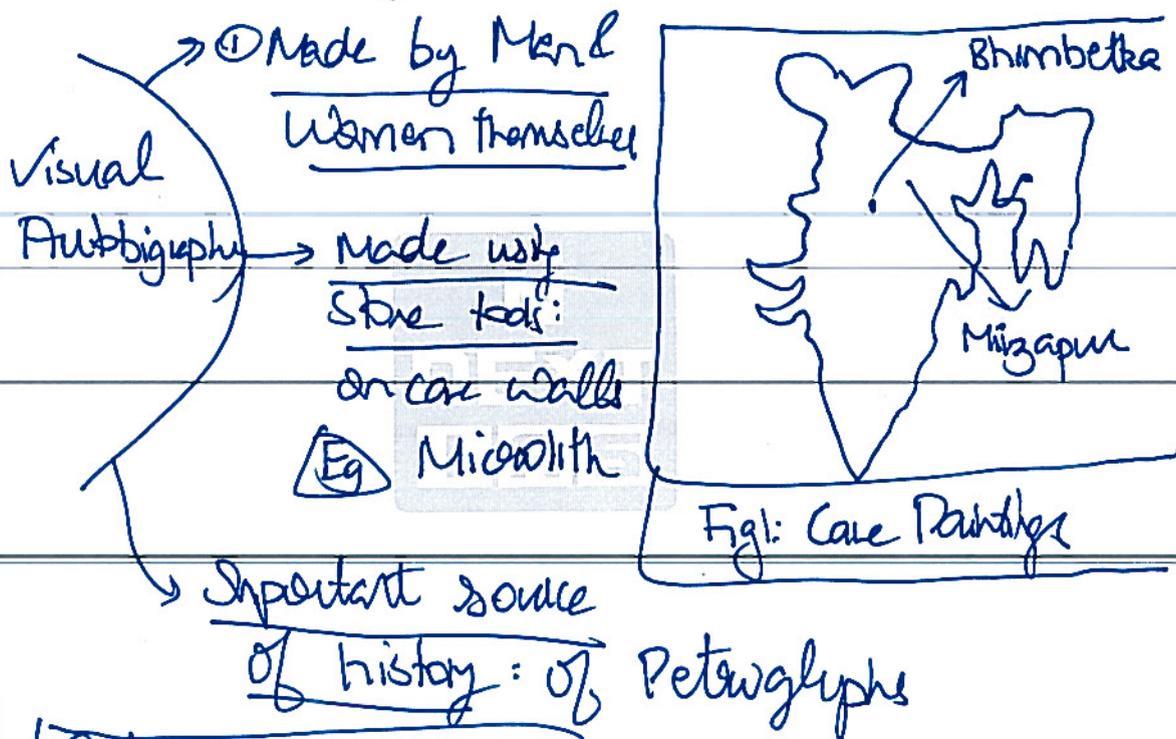
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1. शैल चित्र (Cave paintings) प्रागैतिहासिक मनुष्य की दृश्य आत्मकथा हैं। भारत में शैल चित्र से हम प्रागैतिहासिक विश्वासों और सामाजिक प्रथाओं के बारे में क्या अनुमान लगा सकते हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Cave paintings are the visual autobiography of a prehistoric man. What can we infer about prehistoric beliefs and social practices from the cave paintings in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Cave paintings made by prehistoric men have been an important source to reconstruct ancient history. Eg Palaeolithic cave paintings



Inferences Drawn

I Prehistoric Beliefs

① Palaeolithic Painting: Shows hunting, gathering

Eg Bhimbetka

② Mesolithic & Neolithic: show community feasts, group celebrations etc

- Also show first sign of domestication of animals.

## II. Social Practices

- ① Primitive Worship: of phallic gods.  
(Eg) Belan Valley
- ② Equality: of men & women
- ③ Social equity: Without social stratification
- ④ Community Ownership: of property & no prevalence of social stratification  
(Eg) Brahmagiri hill (Karnataka)
- ⑤ Food & Drink: They were hunters & gatherers. (ws Wakankal)

Prehistoric paintings are a mirror that we use to study ancient people & cultures, seen in UNESCO WHL recognition to Bhimbetka Caves

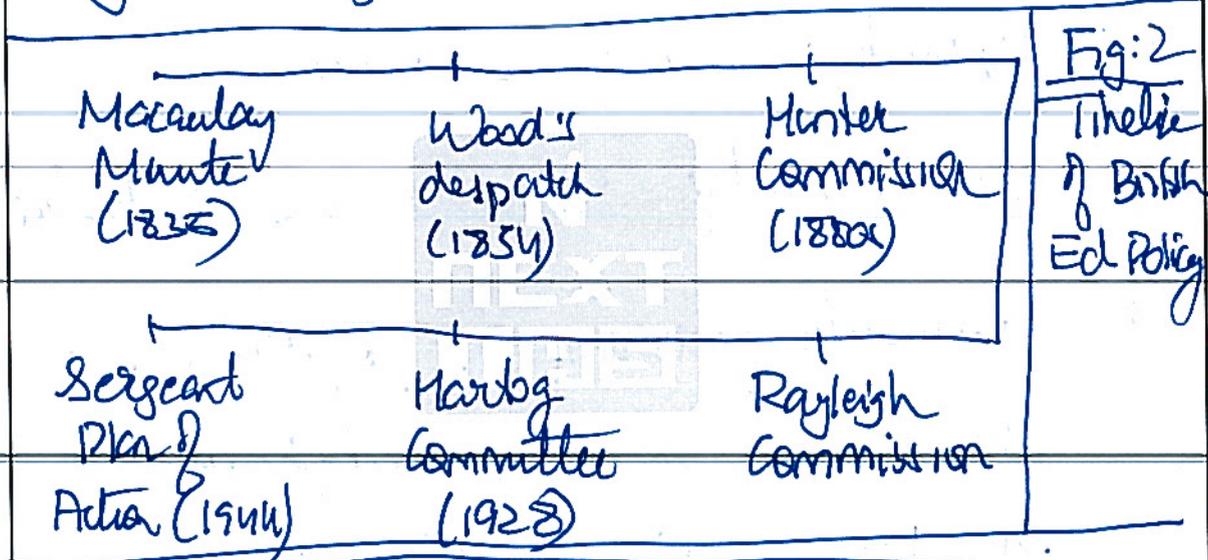


2. "औपनिवेशिक शिक्षा नीति, जिसका उद्देश्य आशाकारी वर्क बनाना था, राजनीतिक जागृति और राष्ट्रीय स्वाग्रह (self-assertion) का माध्यम बन गई।" विवेचना कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Colonial education policy, intended to create obedient clerks, became a channel for political awakening and national self-assertion." Discuss (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Colonial education Policy was a tool used by the British to perpetuate their rule but also had unintended consequences.

⊕ Eg Rise of Indian nationalism.



Intended to create Obedient Clerks

① Tool of Administration: to make Indians.  
⊕ office clerks

② Law Positors: and no/less promoters  
⊕ security guards etc

Channel for Political Awakening

① Education: Helped understand nature

of British rule. (Eg) Naoroji's "Poverty & Un-British Rule in India"

(2) Dissemination of Ideas: Through newspapers & magazines.

(Eg) SK Ghosh's Ananta Bazar Patrika

(3) Mobilization: (Eg) SC Bose's Forward Bloc  
Channel for National Self Assertion

(1) Political Demands: (Eg) Poona Durand (Lahore Session, 1929)

(2) Greater say in governance. (Eg) GK Gokhale

(3) Devolution of authority:

(Eg) Ramprasad Roy's Gift to Motherland

Colonial education policy fostered rise of

Indian nationalism & fall of British rule in India

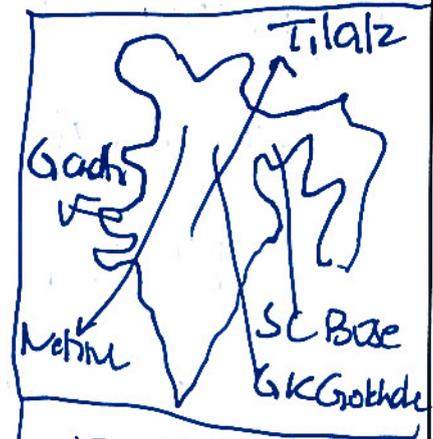


Fig 3:

fall of British

3. गुप्त अर्थव्यवस्था ने किस हद तक सांस्कृतिक और वैज्ञानिक प्रगति को सुगम बनाया, इसका मूल्यांकन कीजिए।  
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Evaluate the extent to which the Gupta economy facilitated cultural and scientific advancements.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Gupta Empire ruled in North India from ~300 AD to 550 AD after fall of Maurya Empire by Pushyamitra Shunga, started by ruler

Srigupta

Facilitation of Cultural & Scientific Achievements

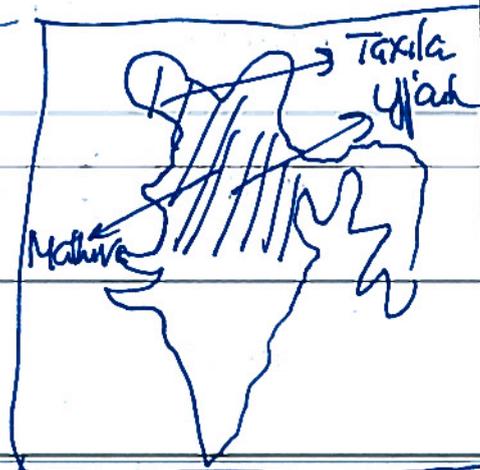


Fig: Gupta Empire

- I Scientific
- ① Astronomy: Led by Aryabhatta. Eg Predicted sun eclipses
  - ② Mathematics: Aryabhatta calculated  $\pi$  value
  - ③ Cloud formation Theory: Given by Varah Mihir during Chandragupta II reign

(4) Metallurgy: During Samudragupta's reign

## II. Cultural Advancement

(1) Literature: Through Navratnas like Kalidasa. (Eg) Malvikagnimitra, Ratonksha

(2) Architecture: Start of Nagara Architecture  
(Eg) Dashavatara temple

(3) Hindu texts: Written down. (Eg) Ramayana

→ (1) less focus on modern science

Startcomings → (2) Constant war at border  
(Eg) Hunas

→ (3) Weak rulers: post Skandagupta

→ (4) Disintegration in 550 AD

Empires rise & fall but contributions  
of Gupta empire remain etched  
eternally in Indian history.

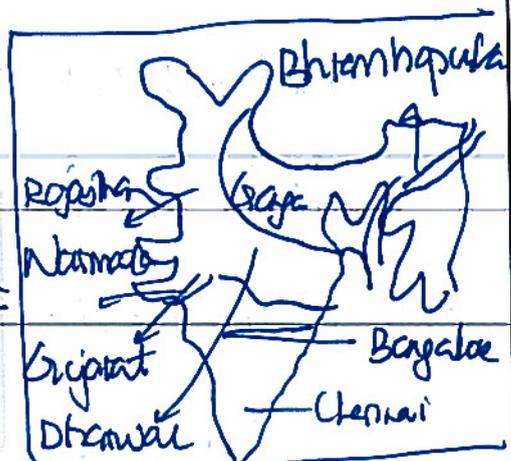
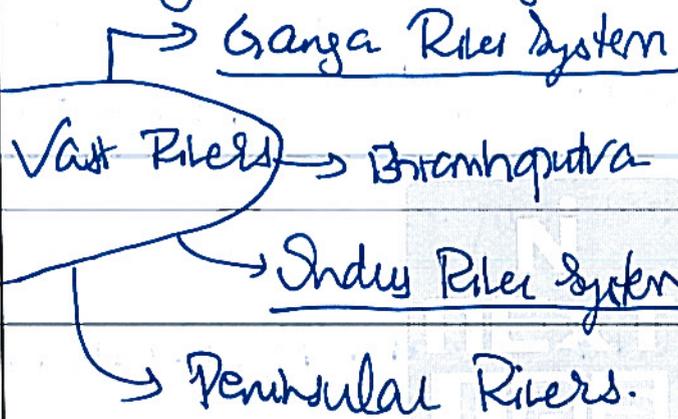


4. विशाल नदी प्रणालियों के बावजूद भारत को स्वच्छ जल के संकट का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। कारणों की विवेचना कीजिए और संधारणीयता के लिए एकीकृत जल संसाधन प्रबंधन रणनीतियों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

India faces a looming freshwater crisis despite its vast river systems. Discuss the causes and evaluate integrated water resource management strategies for sustainability. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

India faces a severe & chronic freshwater crisis, as seen recently in droughts in Bangalore & Chennai



Causes I Natural

① Skewed Distribution: due to SW Monsoon

② Low Resources: India has 18% world population but only 4% resources

Fig: Freshwater Crisis in India (Rivers)



Fig: Rainfall in 6 months

II. Man-Made

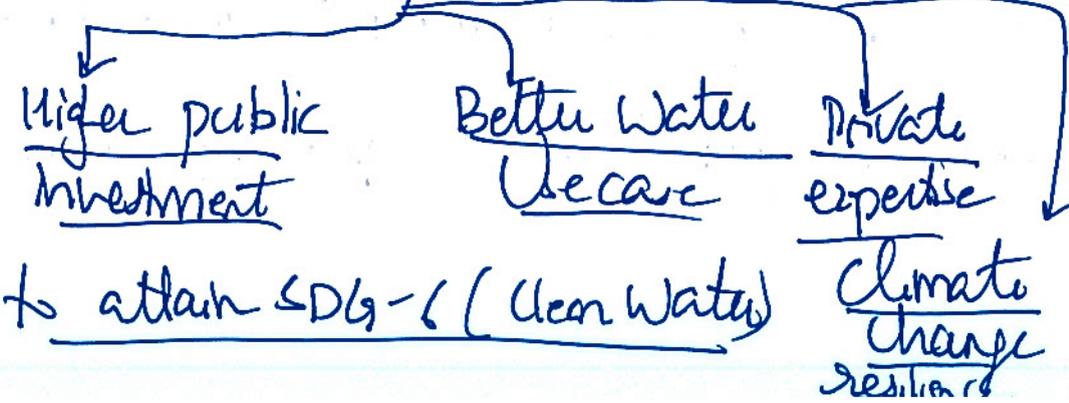
① High Use: Eg Cities like Mumbai

- ② High Wastage: (Eg) Leaking faucets
- ③ Climate change: (Eg) More frequent drought
- ④ Skewed agriculture: (Eg) Rice guzzles water

Integrated Water Resource Management Strategies (IWRM)

Advantages	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① <u>High efficiency</u>: (Eg) Drip Irrigation</li> <li>② <u>Higher availability</u>: (Eg) Recycle water</li> <li>③ <u>Long term benefit</u>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① <u>Low Investment</u> (0.66% of GDP)</li> <li>② <u>High tech needed</u>: (Eg) IoT</li> <li>③ <u>Low private sector participation</u></li> </ul>

India must immediately invest in IWRM by



5. दक्कन और छोटा नागपुर पठार अपनी भौतिक विशेषताओं और संसाधन क्षमता में किस प्रकार भिन्न हैं?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

How do the Deccan and Chota Nagpur plateaus differ in their physical characteristics and resource potential?  
(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks



Deccan & Chota Nagpur Plateaus were formed at different geographic periods & hence differ greatly.

Differences in both plateaus

I. Physical Character

① Deccan Plateau:

High Volcanic ash content due to Reunion Hotspot lava

② Chota Nagpur: High metal content due to Dharwar rock

~~③~~ ③ Deccan Plateau: Rich in black soil & fertile for crops. (Eg) Cotton



## II. Resource Potential

### ① Deccan Plateau

- 1) Metals: Iron, mica, manganese
- 2) Non-metalliferous: lignite coal  
(Neyveli, Tamil Nadu)
- 3) Others: Gold (Kodharu Mine in Karnataka)

### ② Chota Nagpur Plateau

- 1) Coal: (Eg) Jharia, Bokaro
- 2) Metals: Iron ore, Nickel, Copper, Tungsten
- 3) Others: Feldspar, haematite

India must sustainably utilize resource potential of both plateaus by doubling resource expenditure & higher private investment (India @ 75 Report)



6.

पूरव की ओर बहने वाली और पश्चिम की ओर बहने वाली नदियों की विशेषताओं की तुलना उपयुक्त उदाहरणों के साथ कीजिए। भारत में अधिकांश नदियाँ पूरव की ओर क्यों बहती हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Compare the characteristics of east-flowing and west-flowing rivers with suitable examples. Why do most rivers in India flow eastward? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Indian Peninsular rivers are characterized by old, discordant & mature river systems. Eg Godavari  
Most Rivers flow East

① Gradient of Peninsula

India is W-E

Eg Godavari, Damodar

② Eastern Ghats:

Discontinuous & low due

to River flow. Eg Krishna



③ River-flow system: A river bed is

at gradient of W-E.

## Characteristics

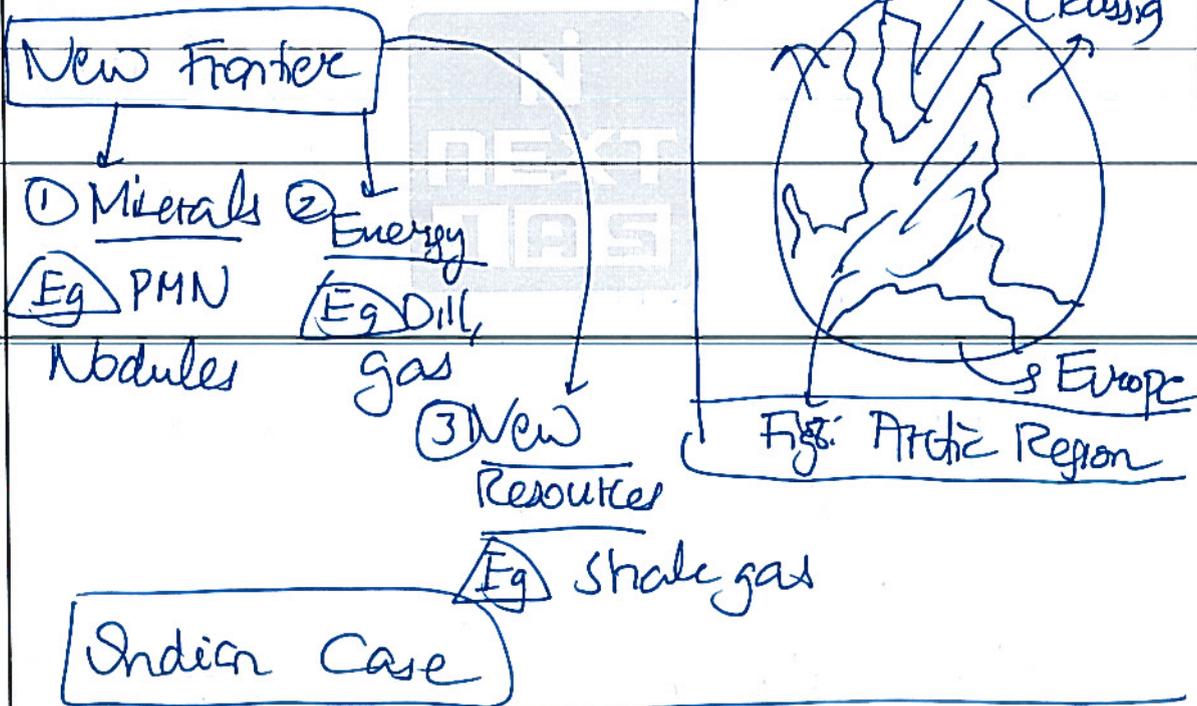
Basis	West-flowing	East flowing
① Length	Generally longer	Generally shorter
② Delta	Generally yes (Eg) K-G Delta	Generally No (Eg) Tapi
③ Estuary	Generally No	Generally Yes (Eg) Narmada
④ Water Volume	Larger (Eg) Krishna	Lesser
⑤ Tributaries	More (Eg) Wardhar Godavari	Fewer
⑥ Cut across Ghats	Eastern Ghats	Western Ghats
⑦ Example	Vaigai	Mandovi, Periyar

Both West & East flowing rivers are critical to Indian economy & marine & river ecosystems.

7. आर्कटिक क्षेत्र, संसाधन अन्वेषण के लिए एक नए क्षेत्र के रूप में उभर रहा है। इस संबंध में भारत के लिए अवसरों और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
- The Arctic region is emerging as a new frontier for resource exploration. Discuss the opportunities and challenges for India in this regard. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks



Arctic region is the region on Earth around the North Pole & Arctic Circle surrounded by continents. Recently Russia began oil exploration in Arctic Ocean



Indian Case

Opportunities	Challenges
<p>① <u>New Resource Sites:</u> Eg Norway Svalbard Coast</p> <p>② <u>Energy Security:</u> Eg Petroleum</p>	<p>① <u>Far location:</u> to Indian territory</p> <p>② <u>Low Tech:</u> to harness resources</p>

③ Study Climate

Change: Eg Himadri Station

④ Food Security:

Eg Fish, mammals

⑤ Ties with friendly nations

Eg Russia, UK

⑥ Geopolitical:

Counter PRC influence

Eg Ice-cutters

③ Non-Member:

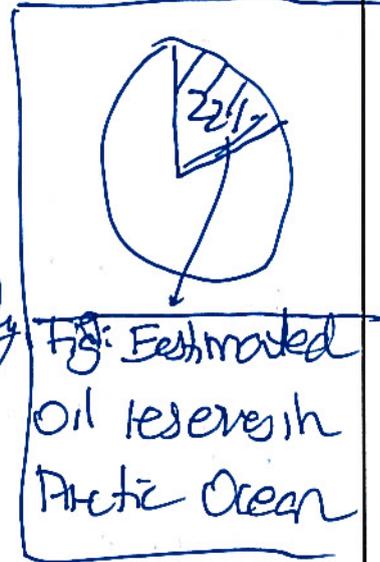
of Arctic Council (only Observer)

④ PRC

influence: on Russia

⑤ Bad Innovation:

ecosystem (R&D) Only 0.66% of GDP



→ ① leverage friendly ties: Eg Russia

→ ② Permanent Mission: To study Arctic amplification

→ ③ Regional agreements: to share Arctic Resources

India must become Arctic Ready to ensure preservation & utilization of Arctic Cryosphere

8. बदलती पारिवारिक संरचना और प्रवासन प्रवृत्ति किस प्रकार भारत में बुजुर्गों के सामाजिक अलगाव को बढ़ावा दे रही है? 10 अंक (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

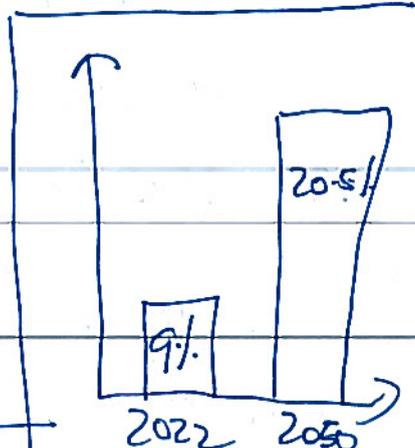
How are changing family structures and migration trends increasingly leading to the social isolation of the elderly in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks



Change in Indian society is leading to rising exploitation of elderly population. Eg Neglect, isolation

Changing family structure & Migration

Changes in family & Migration	Impact & Social Isolation
① Disintegration of joint family	Isolation, low social care, neglect
② Rising materialism	Verbal & physical abuse as less/no income
③ Individualism	Low social bonds, poor social capital
④ Dual income family	Low time spent with children



⑤ Male specific Migration

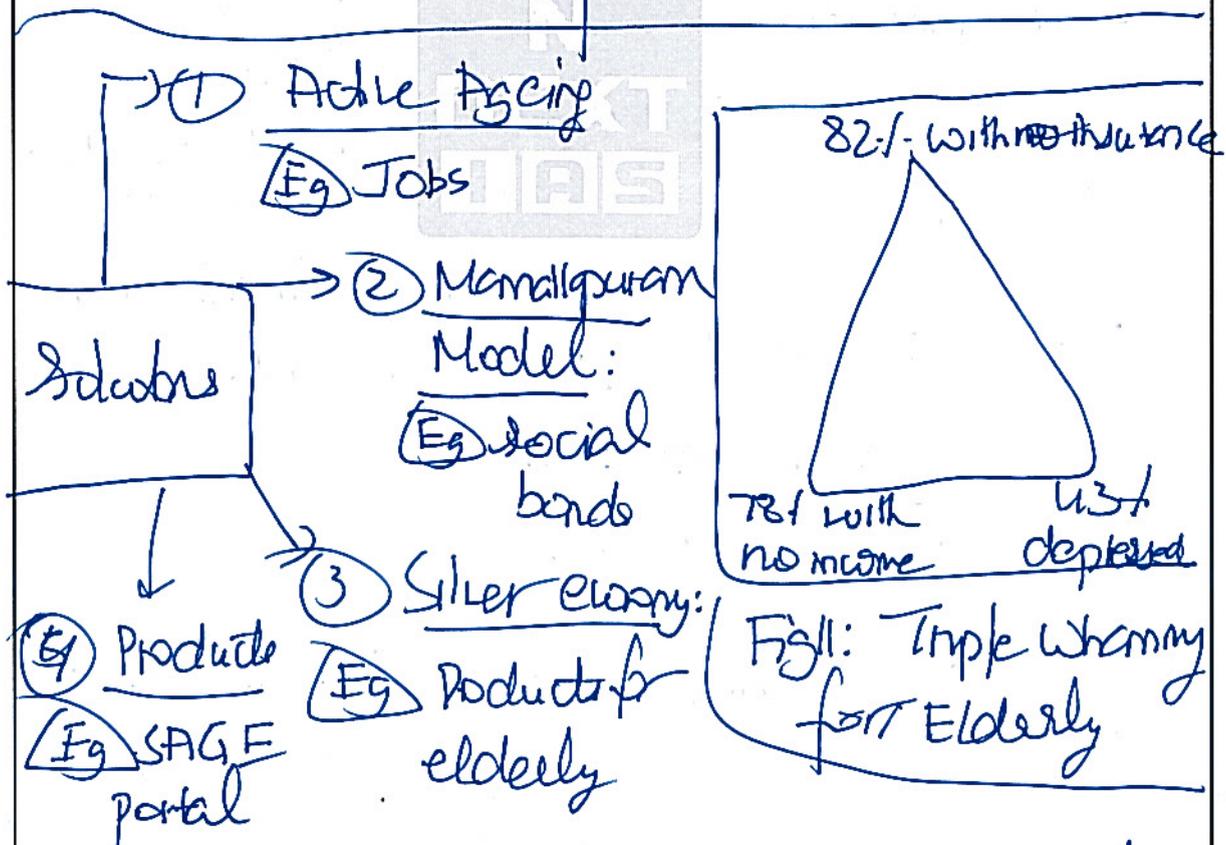
Female depression, feminization of agriculture

⑥ New Tech advancements

Skewed Use as ~~not~~ not ~~the~~ tech friendly for elderly

⑦ Higher family discord

Legal cases like cruelty (106, BNS)



India must utilize & protect elderly population to ensure 2<sup>nd</sup> demographic dividend (Mehra Gini Committee)

9.

शहरीकरण, भारतीय समाज में सामाजिक सामंजस्य की पारंपरिक धारणाओं को किस प्रकार चुनौती देता है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

In what ways does urbanization challenge traditional notions of social cohesion in Indian society?

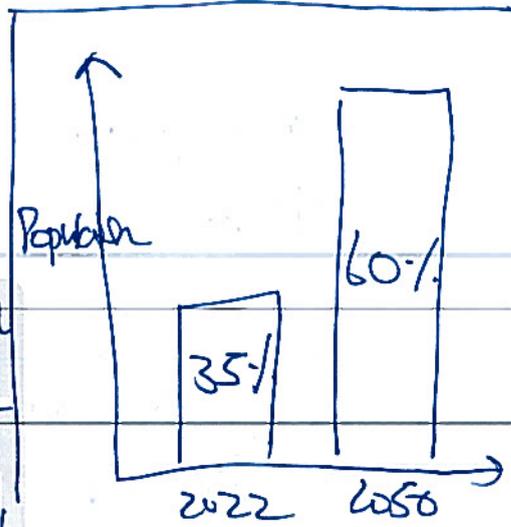
(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks



Urbanization has key changes & impact on social cohesion.

Urbanization Challenges Social Cohesion

→ ① Dilution of separation of Contact: Secular living



→ ② Skill based work:  
not on caste basis  
Eg) Factories

Fig: Urbanization in India

→ ③ Urbanism in India: "live & let live" ideology

→ ④ Secular likelihood:

→ ⑤ Social cohesion: on economic & not caste basis

→ ⑥ Women empowerment: Eg) Jobs

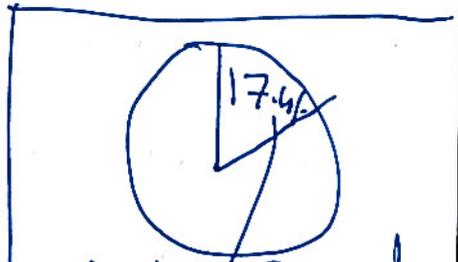
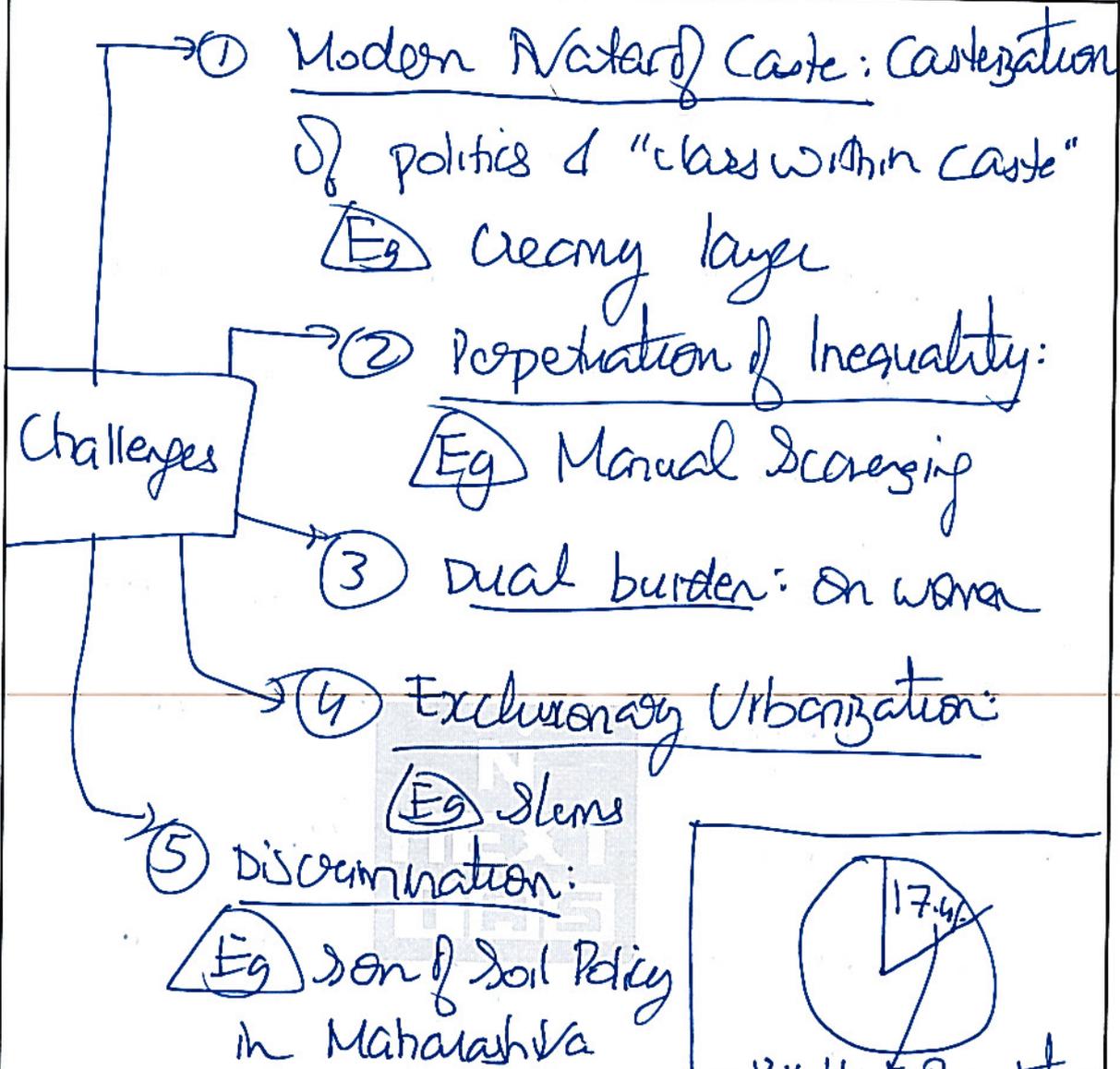
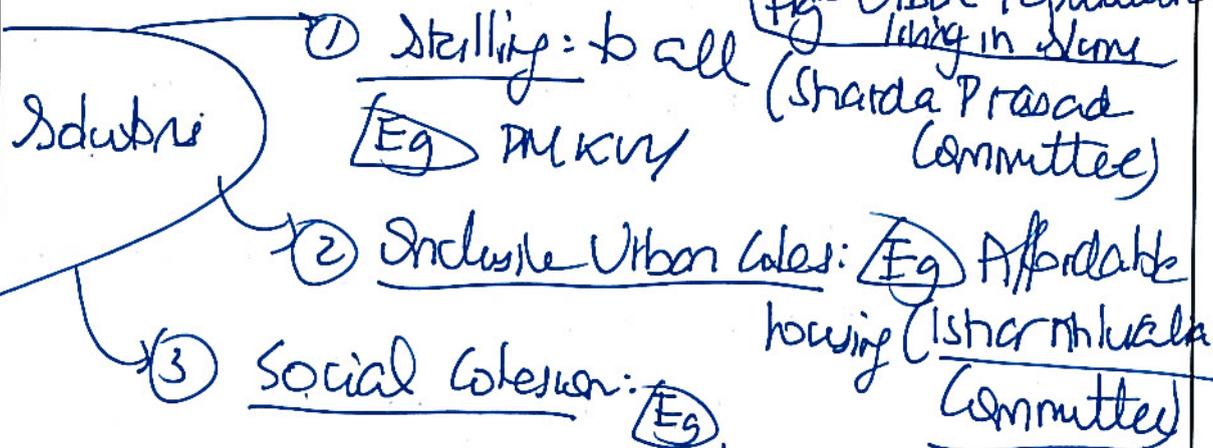


Fig 13: Urban Population living in slums (Sharda Prasad Committee)



Urbanization is a double edged sword & we must ensure inclusive & resilient cities (SDG-11)

10. सुरक्षा और गतिशीलता लैंगिक बाधाएँ हैं जो भारत में श्रम बल में महिलाओं की भागीदारी को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से प्रभावित करती हैं। परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Safety and mobility are gendered constraints that significantly influence women's participation in the labour force in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks



According to NCRB 2022 Report  
there is a rape every 16 minutes  
in India

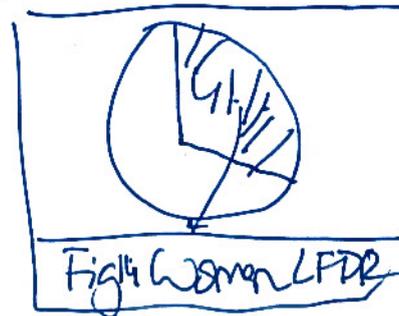
Safety & Mobility as Gendered Constraints

→ ① Disproportionate Impact: on women

△ Eg Rape, molestation

→ ② High Cost - to ensure safety hinders women participation

→ ③ Dual Burden: on women



→ ④ Objectification of women. △ Eg Trafficking

→ ⑤ Poor facilitative Policies: △ Eg Rigid labor laws

Fact box: Equal FLFP Rate

Can increase Indian GDP by 1.4%

Other Issues

① Low Skills: Only 45.3% Indians are skilled (98% in South Korea)

② Entrenched Patriarchy: (Eg) No work to women

③ Poor health: due to high NMR

Fact box:  
57% women are ~~anemic~~ anemic (NFHS-5)

→ ① Skilling: Kiranti Samaj Committee  
(Eg) STRIVE

Solutions

→ ② Facilitate Labor laws: (Eg) Wage on Wages

→ ③ Ensure Safety: (Eg) Commonly

→ ④ High deterrence: (Justice Verma Committee) (Eg) Strict punishment to convict

India must follow policy of RENEW

(Respect, empower & nurture) women &

attain SDG-5 (Gender Equality)

11.

अरब और यूरोपीय यात्रियों के विवरण मध्यकालीन भारत में सामाजिक और आर्थिक जीवन की प्रकृति के बारे में क्या बताते हैं? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

What do the accounts of Arab and European travellers reveal about the nature of social and economic life in medieval India? (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks



Accounts of Arab and European Travelers have painted a rich tapestry of life in Medieval India by leaving extensive accounts. (Eg) Sulaiman, Nicolo Conti

Nature of Medieval India

I. Social Life:

① Rigid Caste System:

as stated by Fernando Nuniz in Vijaynagar empire

② Nature of Rulers:

stated by (Eg) Ibn Batuta about Mohd Bin Tughluq in "Rehla"

③ Condition of Women: Respectable in empires like Vijaynagara by Abdul Razzaz

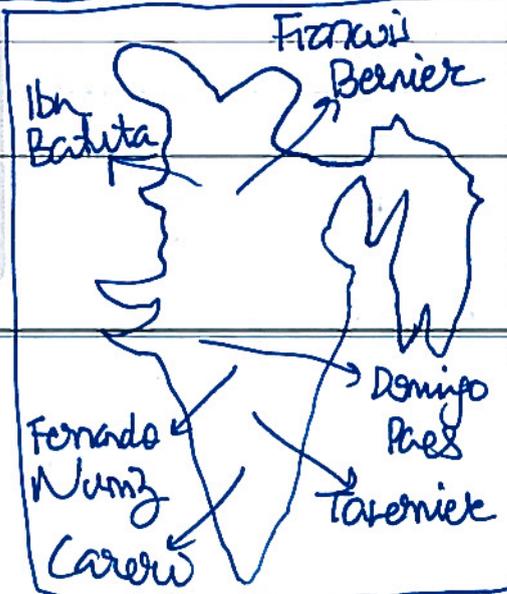


Fig 15: Travellers in Medieval India

- ④ Social Life: was rigid, ritualistic and communitarian (as per Barbosa)
- ⑤ Rulers Policies: Discussed by William Hawkins (like Jehangir)
- ⑥ Comparison to Europe: done by Francois Bernier (physician to Dara Shikoh & called Indian cities as "Camp towns")

## II: Economic Life

- ① Nature of Indian Economy: Discussed by Domingo Paes as self sufficient with high exports.
- ② Sink of Precious Metals: to pay for Indian exports (Kaveri)

③ Gold Trade: Discussed by French  
traveller JP Tavernier

④ Agricultural Produce: discussed  
by Nuniz who states hinterland also  
fortified by Vijaynagara rulers

→ ① Biased accounts: Eg Bernier

Issues

→ ② Eulogy to Patron Kings: Low  
trust by historians

→ ③ Large size: of India too big for  
travellers

The rich & poignant accounts of  
Arab & European travellers play a  
key role as independent sources to  
study Medieval India historically



12.

भारत की भाषाई विविधता राष्ट्रीय एकीकरण के लिए चुनौती नहीं है, बल्कि इसकी सांस्कृतिक लचीलापन का प्रमाण है। भारत में भाषा नीति और अस्मिता की राजनीति पर समकालीन बहस के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

India's linguistic diversity is not a challenge to national integration but a testament to its cultural resilience.' Discuss in the context of contemporary debates on language policy and identity politics in India.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

India's linguistic diversity is defined as the peaceful co-existence of many languages in Indian subcontinent for millenia. Eg Khariboli, Marathi, Telugu

Not Challenge to National Integration

① Allow linguistic pluralism

as part of Indian ethos. Eg National Mother tongue day

② Medium of Expression:

of all Eg Telugu, Naga

③ Promotes harmony: in line with 'Salad Bowl Theory'

Eg Hindi speaker learns Marathi if living in Pune.

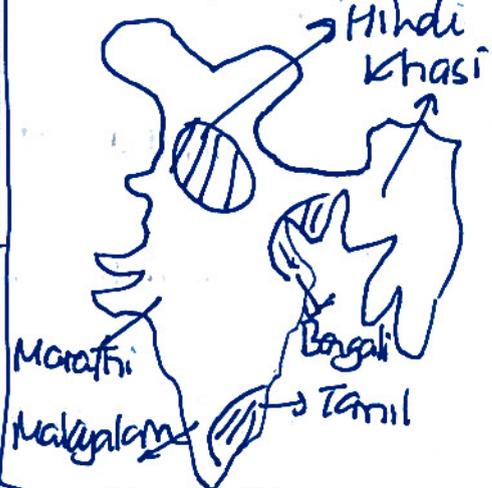


Fig 6 - Linguistic Diversity in India

Factbox:

India has 19500 languages spoken as mother tongue  
Census 2011

- (4) Mutual Respect: in all languages
- (5) Ensures integration: (Eg) NEP 3 language formula

### Testament to Cultural Resistance

- (1) Linguistic Resilience: due to continuous use of language despite invasions.

(Eg) Hindi did not die despite Ghazni invasions

- (2) Continuous evolution: (Eg) Urdu formed by combining Hindi & Persian

- (3) Cultural Advancement: Via concerted efforts. (Eg) Sahitya Academy

- (4) Constitutional Mandate: As per Article 343-351 of Part XVII.

### Contemporary Debates - Challenges

- (1) NEP, 2020: 3 language formula
- (2) Linguistic Chauvinism: (Eg) Party workers

hitting shopkeeper for not speaking Marathi

③ Fear of Cultural Assimilation: (Eg) Hindi & Tamil

④ Petty Political Goals: (Eg) Some part of South India

→ ① Panchsheel Principle: for peaceful co-existence of languages

→ ② Flexible language Policies: (Eg)

NEP, 2020 (Kothari Committee)

Solutions

→ ③ Promote regional literature

(Meharwalla Committee) (Eg) Karnataka

→ ④ Higher funds: (Eg) Classical Language status to Bengali

→ ⑤ People education: to respect all languages (Eg) IEC Campaigns, Nuktad Natak

India must celebrate all languages as they form part of a beautiful bouquet of flowers and bouquet with only one flower (language) will not be beautiful

13. विभिन्न सामाजिक मुद्दों के समाधान में ब्रह्म समाज और आर्य समाज जैसे सुधारवादी संगठनों द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Examine the role played by reformist organizations like the Brahma Samaj and Arya Samaj in addressing various social issues. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks



Socio-Religious Reform Movements have played a crucial role in India's cultural renaissance & social justice.

⊕ Eg Ramakrishna Mission

Role of Reformist Org

I. Brahmo Samaj

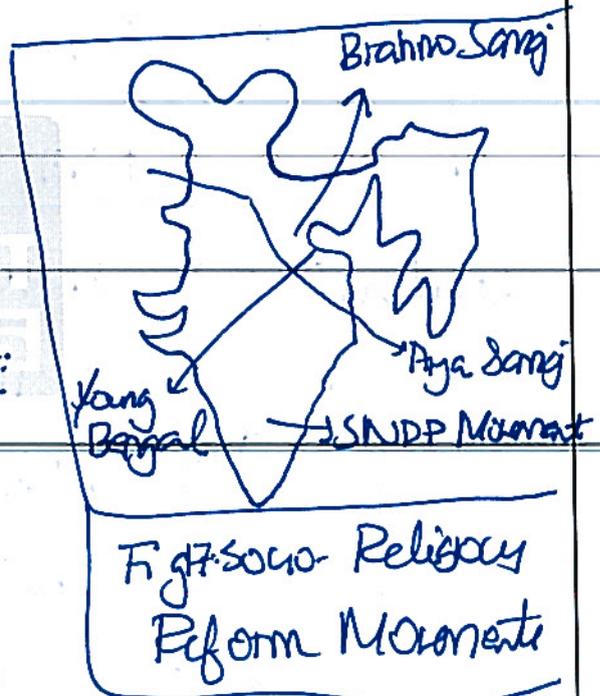
① Women empowerment:  
by education. ⊕ Eg  
Rammohan Roy

② Against Idolatry:

⊕ Eg Gift to Montheists

③ Rationalism: as foundation of all religion. ⊕ Eg Debendranath Tagore

④ Against Child Marriage: due to Rammohan Roy.



⑤ Abolition of Sati: By Governor General William Bentinck in 1829 due to Rammohan Roy

⑥ Used Religious Texts: to enhance trust & persuasive power.

II. Arya Samaj: Set up in Lahore by Dayanand Saraswati.

① Modern education: as basis for modern India. (Eg) DAV schools

② Tradition in line with Modernity: By coming "back to the Vedas"

③ Cultivate Good Character: by continuous improvement

④ Girls' education: as foundation of a modern nation.

(Eg) Admission to girls on equal basis in DAV schools

⑤ Cultivate National Temper: by writing  
against British

⑥ Inspiration to Others: (Eg) Vivekananda

Shrikrishna I Brahma Samaj

① Setbacks: Post Ram Mohan Roy demise

② Disintegration into factions: (Eg) Adi  
Brahma  
Samaj

③ Hypocrisy: (Eg) KC Sen marrying young  
daughter

II - Arya Samaj

① Evil Stance: (Eg) on religious texts

② "Shuddhi" Movements

Despite challenges both reform

movements heralded cultural renaissance  
& social justice in India, recently

seen in commemorative stamps of  
Rammohan Roy & Dayanand Saraswati



14. घंश घाटियाँ (rift valleys) क्या हैं और वे कैसे बनती हैं? उनके आर्थिक और भू-आकृति विज्ञान संबंधी महत्त्व को व्याख्या कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

What are rift valleys, and how are they formed? Explain their geomorphological and economic significance.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Rift Valleys are defined as narrow linear valley formed due to movement of tectonic plates moving on a ductile mantle. Eg Afar rift valley

Meaning of Rift Valley

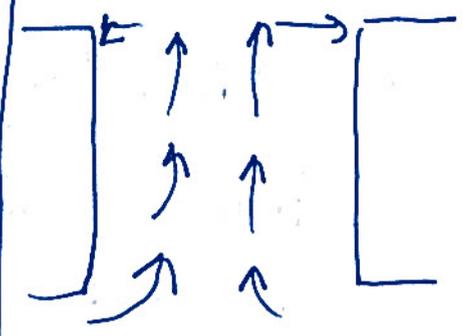
① Narrow Valley: that can form intra or inter-plate region

② Linear shape: due to tectonic movement

Formation

① Divergence of Mantle Current: due to rising limb, sending lava on floor of plate

② Solidification: due to lower temp



Diverging  
Fig 18: ~~Converging~~ limb  
creating rift  
Valley

③ Mantle Plumes: Lead to rift valleys.

(Eg) Great African Rift Valley

④ Breakage of Continent: due to mantle plume. (Eg) African rift valley

### Significance

#### I. Geomorphological

① Dissolution of Crust: due to Mantle Plume which can create new landmass

② Basaltic lava: Gives rise to new land due to fast flowing, less viscous lava.

#### II. Economic Significance

① Rich Reserves of Minerals: due to egress of basaltic lava.

(Eg) Iron, Nickel, Titanium

- ② Rich soil formation: due to rich underlying rock strata. (Eg) Black soil
- ③ Secondary economic activities: due to locational advantages. (Eg) Wheel industry near iron & steel plants
- ④ Tourism Industry:

(Eg) Yellowstone  
National Park

Rift Valleys are  
critical geological  
features & play a  
key role in global  
economy

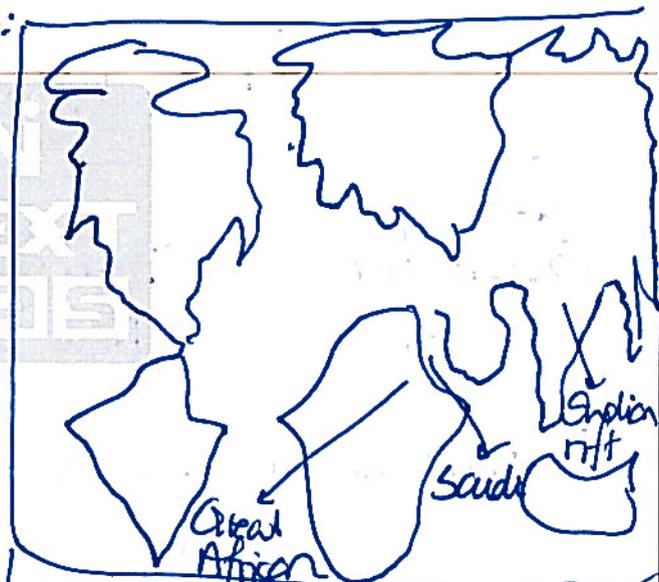


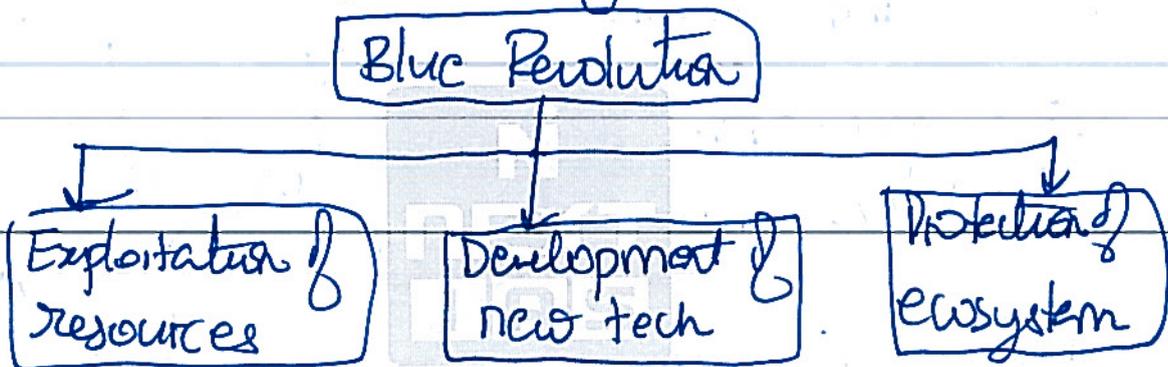
Fig 1: Rift Valleys

15. 'नीली क्रांति' क्या है? भारत में जलीय कृषि के विकास में आने वाली प्रमुख चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों पर काबू पाने के लिए व्यापक रणनीतियों का सुझाव दीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

What is 'Blue Revolution'? Discuss the major challenges faced in the development of aquaculture in India. Suggest a set of comprehensive strategies to overcome these challenges.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Blue revolution is defined as the sustainable utilization of marine and aquatic resources for inclusive growth for all. ~~Eg~~ Fishing.



Challenges in Aquaculture

① Low Capacity: of fishermen to catch fish.  
~~Eg~~ Poor fish boats.

② Low demand: due to less fish eating population.

③ Smooth Coastline: low fish population.

④ No near fishing ground:  
~~Eg~~ No meet of warm & cold ocean currents

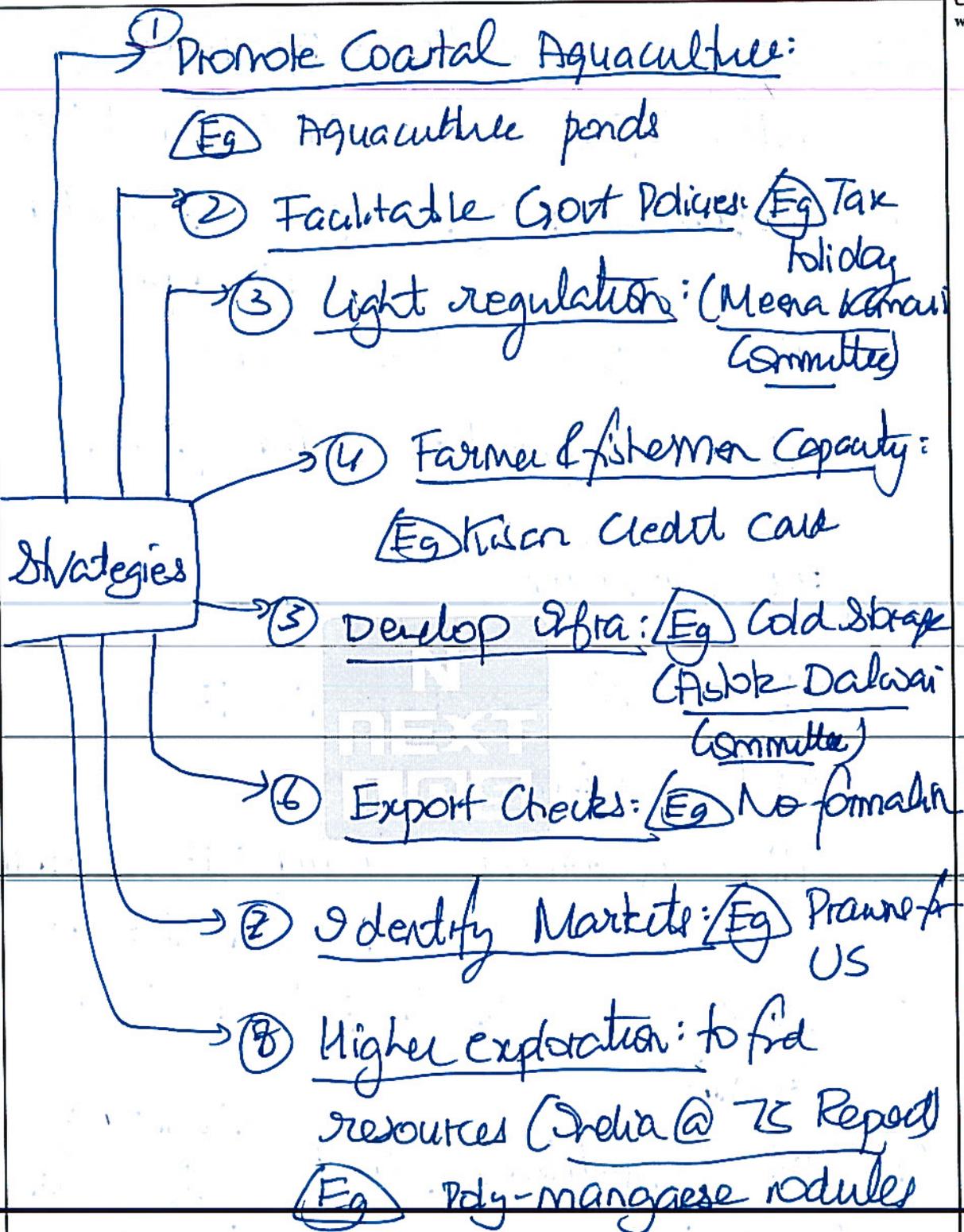
Best Practice  
 ↓  
 Norway  
 Japan

- ⑤ Geopolitical challenges: (Eg) Arrest of Indian fishermen by Sri Lanka Navy
- ⑥ Export Control: (Eg) PPS standards of Europe
- ⑦ High Hypoxic (dead zones)
- ⑧ High Oil Content: in Indian fish.

### Blue Revolution

- ① Use of all Resources: (Eg) Energy, food, tourism
- ② High employment generation: (Eg) Tourism is labor intensive
- ③ Coastal led Growth: due to large coastline
- ④ High Competitiveness: due to low logistics cost.
 

Factor:  
Indian coast is 11,096 km
- (Eg) Shipping
- ⑤ Sustainable growth: (Eg) Tidal energy



India must work on blue economy to become Viksit Bharat by 2047 & meet SDG-14 (Life below water)



16. हिमालय में हिमनदों के तेजी से पिघलने के कारण, ग्लेशियल लेक आउटबर्स्ट फ्लड (GLOF) अनुप्रवाह क्षेत्र (downstream region) की ओर गंभीर खतरा उत्पन्न कर रहे हैं। भारत में वृद्धि से संबंधित कारणों, प्रभावों और शमन रणनीतियों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

With accelerating glacial melt in the Himalayas, GLOFs pose a severe hazard downstream. Analyse the causes, impacts, and mitigation strategies related to GLOFs in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) is defined as sudden movement of glacial lake water downstream due to poor holding capacity. Eg) Chungthang lake, Sikkim

### Causes of GLOF

#### I Natural Causes

① Poor Holding Capacity: due to loose sediments

② Glacial movement: Creating GLOF

#### II Anthropogenic Causes

① Climate Change:  $1.8^{\circ}\text{C} - 2.4^{\circ}\text{C}$  with current GHG emissions (Emissions Gap Report)

② Hydroelectric Projects: Eg) Upper Siang project

③ Over-Tourism: Eg) Annapurna Pradesh



④ Poor surveillance: (Eg) High Himalayan mountains

## II. Impacts

① GLOF Floods: Loss of life & property

(Eg) Sikkim

② High Vulnerability: to population

③ Economic Impact: Low

tourism, low growth, high unemployment

④ Loss of habitat: of animals

(Eg) Himalayan antelope

## III. Mitigation Strategies

① Difficult to Predict: due to sudden nature of GLOF

② Reactive Approach: of Centre & State governments

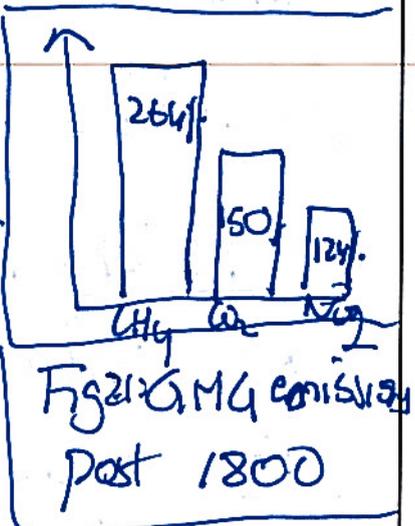
### Factbox:

9 million people at risk of

GLOF in Himalayas

- Challenges
- ① High Risk: due to climate change
  - ② High Vulnerability: due to poor population with low awareness
  - ③ Challenging terrain: Geologically active Himalayas
  - ④ Rising emissions: of GHG gases

- Solutions
- ① Use Tech: to identify Glacial lakes. (Eg) Satellites - NISAR



- ② Community Prep: (Eg) Fapda Mira scheme
- ③ GLOF embankments:
- ④ Synergy in Planning: (Eg) Central State
- ⑤ Better Planned hydro projects

② GLOF are a pocket (Ran Chopra Committee) threat & India must ensure holistic framework to mitigate impact (Sendai Framework)

17. उपयुक्त उदाहरणों का प्रयोग करते हुए भारत में नमक के मैदानों (salt pans) और मैंग्रोव के निर्माण के लिए आवश्यक परिस्थितियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। ये परिस्थितिकी तंत्र तटीय लचीलेपन को किस प्रकार समर्थन प्रदान करते हैं?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Using suitable examples, discuss the conditions required for the formation of salt pans and mangroves in India. How do these ecosystems support coastal resilience? (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks



Salt pans & Mangroves are found throughout the length & breadth of Indian Subcontinent & play many roles in their ecosystems. Eg Mangroves in Coondapure, Maharashtra

Conditions Required

① Marshy Area: due to waterlogging.

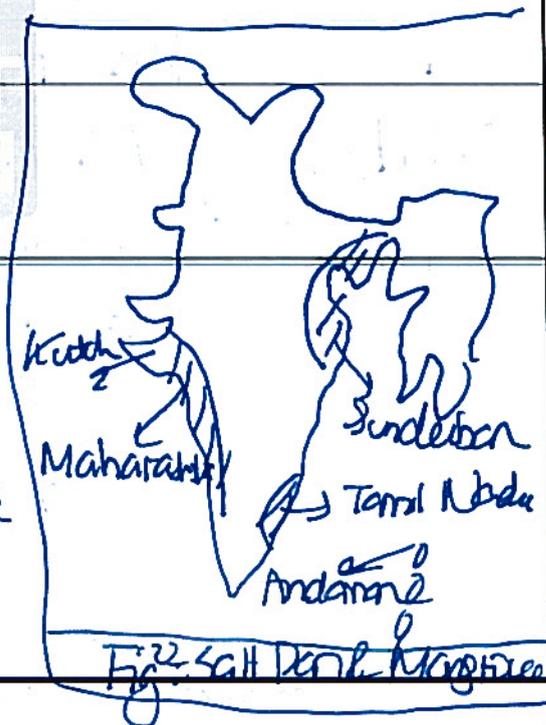
Eg Sunderbans (West Bengal)

② High Salinity: due to high silt.

Eg Ratnagiri

③ Low Permeability: of soil to water

Eg Marshy Soil



④ Suitable flora: (Eg) Sonneratia alba  
(recently declared as Mahanushtra  
state Mangrove)

⑤ Wetlands: Often occur in Marshy  
areas. (Eg) Deepor Bel (Assam)

Support Coastal Resilience

① High biodiversity: due to "ecotone"  
(transition b/w two ecosystems). (Eg) <sup>Animal</sup> plants

② Coastal Aquaculture: (Eg) Shrimp, fish

③ Protection against Disasters: (Eg)

Floods, Cyclones like Bipartyoj

④ Employment: (Eg) Fishermen

⑤ Industry: (Eg) Agro-processing  
industry in West Bengal

⑥ Prevents Coastal erosion: due to  
rising sea level (WMO Report)

⑦ Hedge against Climate

Change: (Eg) Floods

⑧ Agriculture: (Eg)

Kuttanad agricultural practice in Kerala

Factbox:  
India has  
11,096 km of  
Coastline

① Rising sea levels, (WMO Report)

Challenges

② Diversion of salt pans & Mangroves. (Eg) Highways

③ Rising disasters

① Mangrove plantation: (Eg) MISHM Scheme

Solutions

② Agricultural extension service  
(Eg) NMAET

③ Community Resilience: (Eg) Apda Niva Scheme

Salt Pans & Mangroves play key role in community welfare & disaster risk mitigation (NOMA Study)



18. भारत में जाति आज कठोर पदानुक्रम (rigid hierarchy) को बजाय पहचान पुष्टिकरण (identity assertion) की एक प्रणाली के रूप में अधिक कार्य करती है। जाति समूह लामबंदी और आर्थिक परिवर्तन के संदर्भ में इस रूपांतरण पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Caste in India today operates more as a system of identity assertion than of rigid hierarchy. Discuss this transformation in the context of caste group mobilisation and economic change.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Caste is defined as system of social stratification with closed, endogenous groups with separation of contact, and ascriptive membership with theoretical impossibility of mobility (GS Ghurye)



Caste as system of Identity Assertion

I Caste Group Mobilization

- ① Politicization of Caste: due to exploitation of "lower caste" for votes with no benefit to them (Kaka Kalekar Commission)
- ② Casteization of Politics: Political parties

formed on caste basis.

- ③ Caste Odentity: (Eg) Dalit Groups like Dalit Sahitya
- ④ Self Help: by some caste members  
(Eg) DICCI (industrial help)
- ⑤ Horizontalization of Caste: due to competition for benefit. (Eg) Reservation

## II. Economic Change

- ① Destigmatization of Caste: (Eg) Urbanization

- ② Skilling & Jobs: & not on basis of Caste

- ③ Economic empowerment: breaking social barriers. (Eg) Dalit Capitalism

- ④ Gradual Amelioration: (Eg) Reservation schemes like DM-AJAY

### Factor:

Karnataka & Telangana did Caste Surveys for better policy formation

However, Caste still means rigid hierarchy as -

- ① Separation of Caste: Still prevalent
- ② Less Acceptance: of Inter-caste marriage  
 (Eg) Honor killing in UP
- ③ Caste-based Violence: (Eg) Dalit boy killed for drinking water from jug of "higher Caste"
- ④ Caste-based Occupation: (Eg) Manual Scavenger

Solutions

- ① Convergence of govt schemes:  
 (Eg) PM-SURAT
- ② Value ed.:  
 (Eg) NEP, 2020
- ③ Economic & Social empowerment  
 (Eg) Standup India schemes



India must work to ensure less caste-based hierarchy to ensure New India by Sabka Saath with Sabka Prayas & attain SDG-11 (reduced inequality)



19. क्या भारत में क्षेत्रीय पहचान, सांस्कृतिक अभिव्यक्तियों से विकसित होकर स्वायत्तता के संगठित अभिकथनों में बदल गई है? राष्ट्रीय एकता के लिए उनके निहितार्थों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Have regional identities in India evolved from cultural expressions to organised assertions of autonomy? Discuss their implications for national cohesion. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Regionalism is defined as feeling of loyalty to a particular region or area in place of loyalty to a nation at large. Eg Maharashtra Regionalism

- Regional Identities in India
- ① Linguistic: Eg Tamil Nadu
  - ② Religious: Eg J & K
  - ③ Development deficit based: Eg Telangana

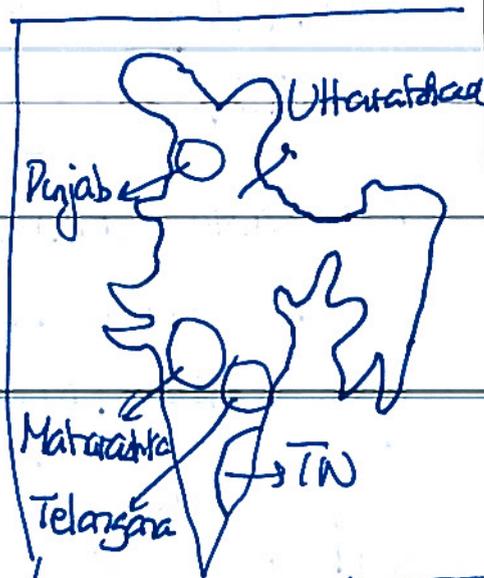


Fig. Regions in India

Regionalism & Cultural Expression

- ① Assert regional Pride: Eg Tomasha theatre in Marathi
- ② Self Respect & Identity: Eg Tamil literature like Tolpakayam

③ Bargain for higher resources: (Eg)

Telangana movement

④ Preserve local Culture:

(Eg) Gurmukhi script in Punjab.

However, Regional identity have also ended to Organized

assertion of autonomy —

① Higher share: in resources.

(Eg) Kerala asking for higher devolution of taxes from ~~17~~ 16<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission

② Statehood Demand: (Eg) Gorkhaland, Kutchland

③ secession demands: (Eg) Khalistan

④ Higher autonomy: (Eg) Cadatek demand for VI schedule status

Implications for National Cohesion

I. Positive

① Accommodation: due to Indian federal

Fact box:  
India has 19, 500 languages, all major religions & many races

polity as basic structure (SR Bommai Case)  
 (Eg) separate Uttarakhand state

(2) Unity in diversity: as crucial part of Indian society. (Eg) Ganga-Jamuna Tehzeeb

(3) National Resilience: (Eg) India stayed united despite diversity.

II. Negatives

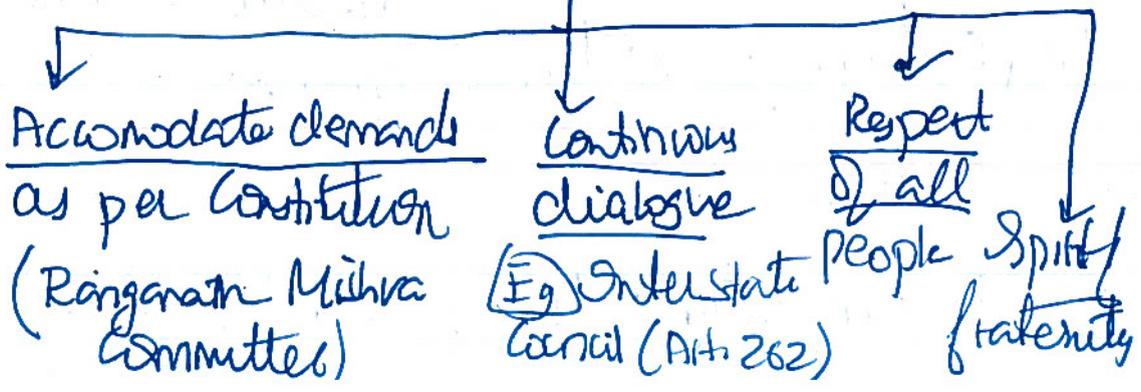
(1) Discrimination: (Eg) Marryana Son of Sol Policy

(2) Violence: (Eg) Hitting people for not speaking Marathi

(3) Secession demands: (Eg) Hypothetical Dravidistan

Regionalism is inevitable in diverse country like India & should be

positively utilized by





20.

भारत में नए मध्यम वर्ग का उदय उपभोग की संस्कृति से चिह्नित है। सचेतन उपभोग से आवेगपूर्ण उपभोग की ओर संक्रमण किस प्रकार शहरी भारत में पारिवारिक संरचना और गतिशीलता (dynamics) को प्रभावित कर रहा है?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The rise of the new middle class in India is marked by a culture of consumption. In what ways is the transition from conscious to impulsive consumption affecting family structure and dynamics in urban India?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Rising incomes has given rise to a materialist middle class with deleterious impact on Indian society.

(Eg) lower family ties strength

Conscious Consumer

① Using as per need

② Sustainable Consumer

(Eg) Food

Fact box:

India's Per Capita GDP is 2400 dollars

③ On line with Indian Value

(Eg) Buddha's Middle path

Impulsive Consumer

① Using as per greed

② Due to Rising Income: & FOMO

Culture. (Eg) Buy new Apple phone despite no need.

Affecting Family Structures

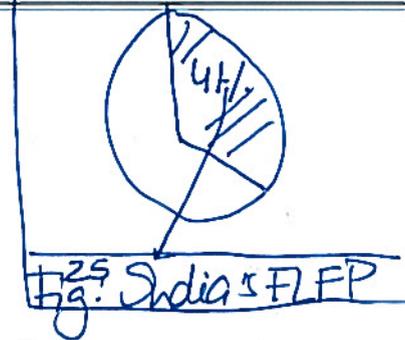
① Disintegration of Joint Family: due to rising consumer & male specific

migration. Eg In rural areas

- (2) Rising Materialism: Creating social enls. Eg Dawdy demands for car
- (3) Misuse of social laws: Eg Divorce & cruelty cases (Section 106, BNs) due to high consumption
- (4) Emergent forms of family: Eg Dual Income families
- (5) Male Specific Burden: due to low female labor participation

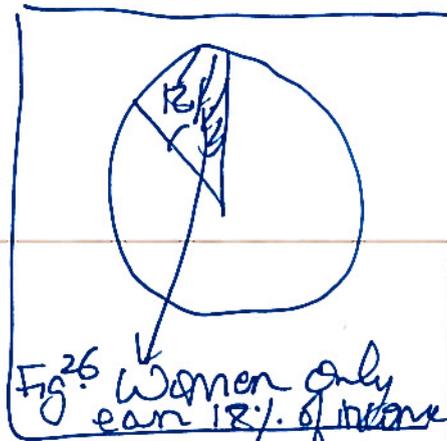
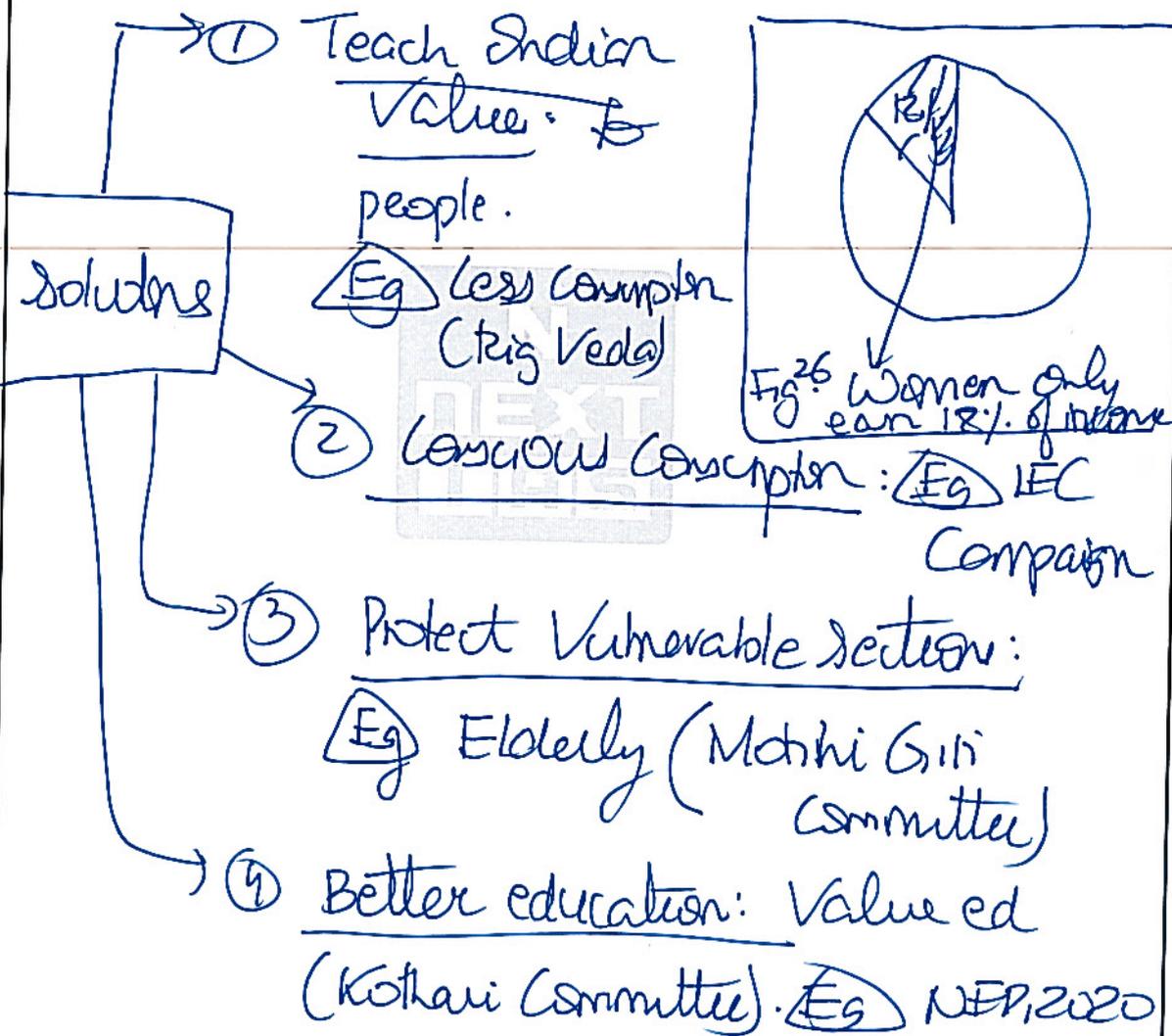
### Affecting Family Dynamics

- (1) Low Respect: to elders due to no income from them. Eg 81% elders face verbal abuse
- (2) Low kinship Ties: due to consumerism  
Eg low bonds with cousins
- (3) High Conflict: due to rivalry



individualism. Eg Higher divorce rates in Delhi

④ Higher Women Autonomy: due to cultural acceptance of working women in urban India



India must embrace conscious consumption to ensure inclusive society via steps like Mission Life &

LPG, Subsidy Campaign



**NEXT IAS**

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*Space for Rough Work*

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## NEXT IAS

### IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

CANDIDATES SHOULD READ THE UNDERMENTIONED INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE INSTRUCTIONS MAY LEAD TO PENALTY.

#### DON'TS

1. Do not write your name or registration no. anywhere inside this Question-cum-Answer Booklet.
2. Do not write anything other than the actual answers to the questions anywhere inside your QCA Booklet.
3. Do not tear off any pages from your QCA Booklet, if you find any page missing do not fail to notify the supervisor/invigilator.
4. Do not leave behind your QCA Booklet on your table unattended, it should be handed over to the invigilator after conclusion of the exam.

#### DO'S

1. Read the instructions on the cover page and strictly follow them.
2. Write your registration number and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover of QCA Booklet.
3. Write legibly and neatly. Do not write in bad/illigible handwritings.
4. For rough notes or calculation, the last two blank pages of this booklet should be used. The rough notes should be crossed through afterwards.
5. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it or write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be evaluated.
6. Handover your QCA Booklet personally to the invigilator before leaving the examination hall.

### SPECIAL REQUEST FOR CANDIDATE AVAILING ONLINE FACILITY

1. Scan the QCA booklet properly. We suggest the uses of the app CAM scanner (Scan QR code in page 2) based on our previous experiences.
2. Please scan the QCA booklet in ample light. Copies scanned under moderate light can hamper evaluation quality.
3. Any page/pdf having shadow needs to be rescanned. Please make sure that the pdf that you upload is as clean as possible.
4. Candidates not using the QCA booklet must mention their details on the front page. And leave the next page blank for the macro comments. It must be understood that the answer should start from Page no. 3 in of the scanned pdf.
5. Candidates not using the QCA booklet must follow the sequence of the answer as per the question paper.
6. Please check the sequence of the answer and total number of pages in the scanned version. Make sure it is in consonance with the physical version of the same.

## NEXT IAS

### माध्यमपूर्व दिर्घ

अभ्यर्थियों को निम्नलिखित निर्देशों को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ना चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर दण्डित किया जा सकता है।

#### क्या न करें-

1. इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें।
2. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें।
3. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका से कोई भी पृष्ठ न फाड़ें, यदि आपको कोई पृष्ठ गायब लगे, तो पर्यवेक्षक/निरीक्षक को सूचित करना न भूलें।
4. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका को अपनी टेबल पर न छोड़ें, परीक्षा समाप्त होने के पश्चात इसे निरीक्षक को सौंप देना चाहिए।

#### क्या करें-

1. कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए निर्देशों को ध्यान पूर्वक पढ़ें और उनका सख्ती से पालन करें।
2. QCA पुस्तिका के कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर अपना पंजीकरण नंबर और अन्य विवरण लिखें।
3. स्पष्ट और पठनीय तरीके से लिखें। खराब/अपठनीय लिखावट में न लिखें।
4. रफ नोट्स या गणना के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंतिम दो खाली पृष्ठों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। रफ नोट्स को बाद में क्रॉस कर देना चाहिए।
5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना पेन चलाएं या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।
6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी QCA पुस्तिका व्यक्तिगत रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।

### ऑनलाइन सुविधा का लाभ उठाने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के लिए विशेष अनुरोध

1. QCA पुस्तिका को ठीक से स्कैन करें। हम चाहेंगे कि आप स्कैनिंग के लिए कैमस्कैनर ऐप (CAM SCANNER) का प्रयोग करें। (यह कोई प्रमोशन नहीं है)।
2. कृपया QCA पुस्तिका को पर्याप्त रोशनी में स्कैन करें। कम रोशनी में स्कैन की गई पुस्तिकाएं, उनके मूल्यांकन की गुणवत्ता को बाधित कर सकती हैं।
3. स्कैन के दौरान छया वाले किसी भी पृष्ठ/पीडीएफ को फिर से स्कैन किया जाना चाहिए। कृपया सुनिश्चित करें कि आपके द्वारा अपलोड की गई पीडीएफ यथा संभव स्पष्ट हो।
4. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को अपना विवरण पहले पृष्ठ पर देना चाहिए और मैक्रो टिप्पणियों के लिए अगला पृष्ठ खाली छोड़ दें। यह समझना चाहिए कि उत्तर स्कैन की गई पीडीएफ में पृष्ठ नंबर 3 से शुरू होना चाहिए।
5. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को प्रश्नपत्र के अनुसार उत्तर के अनुक्रम का पालन करना चाहिए।
6. कृपया स्कैन किए गए संस्करण में उत्तर के अनुक्रम और कुल पृष्ठों की संख्या की जाँच करें। सुनिश्चित करें कि यह उसी के भौतिक संस्करण के अनुरूप है।

