

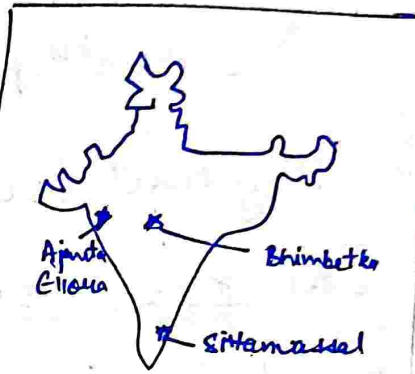
Ans 1 - Rock architecture especially cave

paintings give insight on prehistoric man.

India is home to cave paintings of paleolithic to neolithic and chalcolithic ages.

CAVE PAINTINGS IN INDIA

① Sites such as Bhimbetka, Ajanta, Ellora etc are rich with prehistoric paintings.



② Paintings in cave started especially in middle paleolithic ages and grew prominent in 10,000 to 6000 BC.

③ Cave paintings are made of natural colours depicting routine & the incidences of prehistoric man.

INFERENCE FROM PAINTINGS

① Paintings of middle paleolithic ages were of one colour with stick figures of men, women, animals, simple tools etc.

② In late paleolithic ages, the paintings were prominently of red colour.

③ They showed group scenes like hunting, dancing, gathered around fire etc

④ Cave paintings of Ajanta, Ellora, also point towards religious beliefs of Buddhism, Jainism, Hinduism eg Panel of Bodhi in Nainital at Ellora.

⑤ They hint towards important establishments like fire, tools, prey catching, gender based division of labour etc.

⑥ Paintings of animistic beliefs, floral motifs, fresco art etc were also prominent. eg Jataka stories of Hinayana

Thus, cave paintings provide insight into prehistoric living. They are treasure trove of architectural and ancient history.

Ans. - The start of Colonial Education came with ^{Charter} Act of 1809 and subsequent Macaulay Plan of Education. It promoted English class as well as national awakening at the same time.

EDUCATION POLICY

① Charter Act of 1809 provided for 1 lac rupees for education in India.

② Oriental-anglicist debate was broken by Macaulay Plan of 1835 which promoted English Education.

③ It aimed to create a class of men brown in colour, but English white in tastes, choices and language.

④ This would facilitate obedient workforce with no language barrier for the British.

⑤ Dominant filtration theory was followed for educating minimum required Indians with least resources.

⑥ This was further cemented by conversion activities of the church.

POSITIVE IMPACT

- ① With English education, many middle and rich class Indians started accessing national and international ideas of renaissance.
 - ② Newspapers like Marathi, Amrit Bazar Patrika by freedom fighters propagated nationalist feelings.
 - ③ Worldwide revolutionary activities like Chhota Razi and involvement of international personalities like Harriet Cousins, Annie Besant became prominent.
 - ④ Awareness about global defeats of west in Ethiopian war, Russian Japanese war etc. promoted spirit for 'Swaraj'.
 - ⑤ Multiple social classes from rich to poor especially students in colleges became centres of nationalist movements.
- Thus, English education acted as double edged sword for British. It helped in spreading Indian unity and resentment to foreign oppression.

Ans 3 - Gupta age (3rd - 6th C) is referred as Golden Age in Indian ancient history. Gupta period was rich with economical, cultural, scientific and political advancements.

SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENTS

- ① Scholars like Aryabhata, Brahmagupta, Varahamihira, Amarasimha were given patronage and their mathematical, astronomical, literary ideas were propagated. eg During Chandragupta II's period.
- ② Setting up of universities like Nalanda by Guptas with worldwide student and teacher attendance promoted research.
- ③ Creation of Iron Pillar of Mehrauli, efficient gold coins highlight metallurgical prowess.
- ④ Foreign travellers like Fa-hien also noted educational advancements under Guptas.

CULTURAL ADVANCES

- ① Guptas followed Vaishnavism but were liberal to all religions showing cultural diversity.

① Society showed division of labour with women doing poor conditions.

② Cultural & wonder like coins of Kumaraditya of Chandragupta I, artistic coins of Samudragupta are famous.

④ ECONOMIC SUPPORT

① Society and economy promoted jobs based on arts, metallurgy, music and dance, pottery etc.

② Gupta were last to have highly skilled pottery of Northern Black Polished Ware, Rouletted pottery etc.

③ Foreign trade promoted export of spices, textiles, metals etc.

④ Buddhist and educational centres attracted global audiences.

Thus, Gupta age was favourable and prosperous for all except women. It promoted scientific and academic learnings.

Ans 4 - India occupies 3% of land of world but receives 4% of world's freshwater. However, it supports 17% of population leading to water crisis.

CAUSES OF WATER CRISIS

① Indian agriculture alone consumes $\frac{1}{2}$ of world's groundwater due to inefficient water utilisation.

② Growing urban slums and concentration have led to reduction of surface water sources for drinking due to high population.

③ Rapid deforestation and over consumption along with nitrate, calcium pollution of groundwater has led to health concerns.

④ Domestic sewage and industrial effluents have impacted health of major river systems like Ganga, Yamuna etc.

⑤ Erratic rainfall, El Nino, Climate Change etc have affected water availability especially in Deccan Plateau.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- ① Check on industrial untreated and domestic waste entering river systems
eg leather belts along Yamuna in UP, Haryana.
 - ② Afforestation and wetland conservation strategies at local and national level.
eg Ameen Sarovar Yojana, Yamuna Gangs
 - ③ Awareness to farmers and rationalisation of electricity subsidy for waterpumps to promote water use efficiency.
 - ④ River water linking projects to avoid flooding-drought conditions eg Ken-Betwa river link
 - ⑤ Promotion and incentivisation of rain water harvesting, sewage treatment plants etc.
- Water is lifeline of domestic and agriculture life. Efficient conservation is necessary to avoid water crisis in India.

5. Plateau region in India comprises predominantly of Deccan, Chotanagpur, Shillong etc. However, they differ in resource and topographical base.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

DECCAN

- ① Located over states of Maharashtra, MP, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra etc
- ② Constituted of black soil due to lava eruption
- ③ Hard, water logging soil due to small pores. Poor in humus
- ④ Comprises of Deccan Trap, Western and Eastern Ghats, Central Highlands etc
- ⑤ River systems include Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery etc

CHOTANAGPUR

- ① Located over Eastern region in Jharkhand, Chattisgarh, Orissa, Bihar etc
- ② Made of hard red soil
- ③ Less fertile soil
- ④ A part of overall Central highlands
- ⑤ Rivers like Mahanadi, Damodar, Sunderbans, Brahmani etc

RESOURCE POTENTIAL

DECCAN

CHOTANA GPUR

- | | |
|---|---|
| ① Rich in <u>metalliferous</u> minerals like Fe, Mn etc | ① Rich in <u>more non-metallic</u> and <u>energy</u> minerals |
| ② Rich in <u>magnetite</u> iron | ② Rich in <u>coal</u> , <u>natural gas</u> basins |
| ③ More <u>fecundous</u> for crops like <u>cotton</u> , <u>sugarcane</u> etc | ③ Good for <u>mining</u> , <u>iron</u> , <u>power plants</u> eg Jamshedpur in west Bengal |
| ④ Potential of <u>wind</u> , <u>hydro energy</u> | ④ Potential of <u>conventional thermal energy</u> |

Thus, both the regions are resource rich. Strategic bureaucratic actions are must to tap their potential and balance with demographic rights.

Ans:- India has most number of Himalayan and Peninsular rivers. Most rivers are east flowing than west due to geographic and paleomorphologic history of India.

EASTWARD RIVERS

- ① Most rivers in India flow eastwards eg Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery, Mahanadi, Damodar, Bhakrauni etc
- ② This is due to eastward tilt of Indian landmass.
- ③ This is due to layered lava deposition on western side raising its height.
- ④ However, volcanism also led to rift valley formations due to land subsidence, leading to west flowing systems like Narmada, Tapi.
- ⑤ Eastern side experienced less volcanism so most rivers tend to flow towards Bay of Bengal than Arabian Sea.

CHARACTERS

WESTWARD RIVERS

- ① Include Narmada, Tapi, Kalinadi, Mahadayi etc.
- ② Form estuaries or very small deltas.
- ③ Cause land submergence on western coast.
- ④ Good for waterfalls, hydropower generation
eg Hundru, Dhuadhar falls etc.
- ⑤ Good for port formations
eg JNPT, Marmagao etc.

EASTWARD RIVERS

- ① Include Godavari, Mahanadi, Krishna, Kaveri etc.
- ② Form large deltas with high silt deposition.
- ③ Cause land emergence on eastern coast.
- ④ Good for agriculture, paddy cultivation, fertile soil.
- ⑤ Small or very less deep ports eg Haldia, Chennai etc.

Thus, while westward rivers have industrial potential, eastward rivers have agricultural power. Both are necessary for Indian economy and culture.

Short - The rising interest of Arctic Council especially USA in Arctic region especially Greenland provides new frontier to world geopolitics including for India.

RISE OF ARCTIC POTENTIAL

- ① Arctic has vast energy and mineral resources untapped under ice.
- ② Global warming has led to opening of new waterways from east to west.
- ③ low population and wildlife density also promote economic exploitation.
- ④ Strategic and autonomous concerns have also risen leading to global attention.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIA

- ① India is an observer in Arctic Council. This provides it a seat at the table of Arctic potential.
- ② Global mining and exploration partnerships can strengthen critical minerals and energy supplies for India.

③ India can partner with nations like Russia, Canada to utilise Arctic waterway to counter BRI.

④ Studies of Arctic region egat Svalbard are eminent for Indian meteorology.

CHALLENGES

① India lacks shipping and engineering prowess for Arctic waters.

② Superpowers like USA, Denmark, Canada, Russia are asserting territorial claims.

③ Climate change and fragile topography has put Arctic ecosystem at risk.

④ Arctic melting has negative impact on Indian monsoon, AMOC etc.

Thus, Arctic region is set to continue rising in geopolitical scenarios. It is eminent that India balances national and natural interests.

Ans 8 - Globalisation and western influence has led to shift in social and familial structures. This has both positive and negative impacts.

CHANGING SOCIAL SCENARIO

① Traditional India witnessed joint families with strong kinship ties and communal ownership of resources.

② With rise of private property, family structure has changed to nuclear families.

③ Rising education and employment in cities is also promoting DINK (Double Income No kids).

④ Rural to urban migration and urban to urban migration for employment, studies is promoting demographic changes.

⑤ Non farm male jobs and women prominence in farming is rising.

⑥ Rising land and living costs also promotes small families.

NEGATIVE IMPACT ON ELDERLY

- ① As youth moves to urban nuclear families, elderly are left to social and familial isolation.
 - ② This is expected to rise with 60+ population expected to boom in India in 2050.
 - ③ Rising dependency ratio coupled with lack of care economy jobs will negatively harm the old.
 - ④ Examples are rising cases of accidental hits, dementia, stranded by children, cases of old parents.
 - ⑤ Lack of evident post retirement social security and rising healthcare inflation are challenges to elderly well being.
- Thus, social isolation can be controlled by going back to traditional family roots and establishing health and economic well being of old.

Ans 9 - Urban population is expected to double in world and India by 2050. This challenges traditional Indian roots.

URBANIZATION CHALLENGE

- ① Rising urbanization and globalisation have led to fragmentation of Indian society.
- ② Slum growth and land constraints have strained relative and neighbourhood ties over resources.
- ③ Rising incidences of abandoning of elderly and breakdown of joint families.
- ④ Women empowerment and awareness of scientific principles has ~~also~~ positively transformed society.
- ⑤ Private resource ownership and fall in agriculture's economic yield also promotes migration and service sector orientation.

TRADITIONAL NOTIONS

- ① Earlier, villages were prominent with social alliances like Khap, women doing chores together etc.

- ① Religious and kinship ties were main drivers of economic, political, social decisions.
 - ② Women were highly subjugated to social evils and patriarchy was strong.
 - ③ Social cohesion was evident even among Castes via Tajmani and within own caste via community ownership.
 - ④ Joint families and gendered labour division was common.
 - ⑤ Urbanisation and westernisation has led to erosion of roots of sharing and helping others and planted jealousy, conflicts, etc.
- Thus, urbanization needs to be tackled effectively by ensuring retaining of our heritage along with modern ideas.

Ans 10 - World Bank estimates that India's GDP could boost by 1-3% if women makes up half of work force. But safety and mobility concerns limit their labour participation.

WOMEN LABOUR FORCE

- ① PLFS data suggests around 30-40% women participation in work force which is around 60-70% in China, Korea etc.
- ② This also includes unpaid care work by women highlighting lack of formal jobs.
- ③ Migration of men to cities has led to dominance of women in agricultural work force without land ownership.
- ④ Women participation is further limited due to gendered labour and societal notions.

GENDERED CONSTRAINTS

- ① Safety and travel concerns especially in night time restrict women's working hours whereas increases burden of household chores.

- ① Social stigma, early marriages, preference of male education also limit women potential.
- ② Poor creche and hostel facilities inhibit mothers and married ladies from joining efficient industrial and gig sectors.
- ③ Lack of secure public transport in villages and tier II and III cities also restricts women.

ACTIONS TO AMEND

- ① Many states like UP, TN have changed their industrial rules to allow women night time working.
 - ② Legal provisions like POSH guidelines, SHE-Box provide grievance redressal.
 - ③ Incentives to women startups, scholars, patent holders etc also aims to enhance their labour participation.
- Women's role is important to boost economic stronghold of India and fulfill SDG of ~~equal pay~~ gender parity.

Ans II - Medieval history is rich with travels of various foreign scholars who recorded Indian art culture and way of living of medieval times.

ARAB & EUROPEAN TRAVELLERS

- ① The advent of travellers can be traced to as early as Al-Hasudi during Chola Pratiharas or Vth during Mohammed Ghazni Mahmud of Ghazni.
- ② European travellers like Duarte and Barbosa, Domingo Paes, Fausto Nunes etc visited the Deccan and Vijaynagar kingdoms.
- ③ These travellers also translated many Indian epics and led to dissemination of religious beliefs of Hinduism, Buddhism etc.
- ④ Travel records also accounted for foreign trade and contact among kingdoms.
- ⑤ Travellers only helped in discovery of land routes and new continents like Americas and India which led to colonial advent.
- ⑥ They were facilitated by sea routes and curiosity about east, demand for spices etc.

INFO FROM TRAVELOGS

- ① Travellers' records account for nature of social and religious and economic life of medieval India.
- ② Records from Vijayanagar Empire - highlight women empowerment by their role in multiple economic sectors and skills such as fighting, pottery etc.
- ③ Records also indicate ~~the~~ start of pradash system with Mughal empire and relative presence of Sati and Child Marriage since past.
- ④ Records like Kitab-ul-Hind, Kitab-ul-Rehla account for invasions like Ghazni and further establishment of Delhi Sultanate over India and the socio-religious policies followed by them.
- ⑤ They also reveal series of conquests and expansionist policies of kings like Alauddin Khilji, Akbar etc.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC LIFE

- ① Hinduism was main religion due to fading of Buddhism and Jainism and rise of Bhakti movement, Sufism etc.
- ② Agriculture economy was predominant and foreign trade had no deficit till EIC.
- ③ Castes and class differences were visible through practice of untouchability, Jajmani etc.
- ④ Many architectural wonders were built in this period eg Cities of Delhi, astronomical observatories and forts in Rajasthan etc.
- ⑤ This was a period of conquest and empire building which led to many foreign invasions.

Thus, travelogs are repositories of medieval history which help in reconstructing the conditions of society and economy.

Ans 12 - India is known for language diversity with 22 scheduled languages, 11 classical languages, 2 official languages, thousands of local languages and dialects. This provides challenges and opportunities.

LANGUAGE POLICY AND IDENTITY POLITICS

- ① Constitution does not provide for any national language due to makers being aware of linguistic diversity.
- ② Since independence, demand for states based on language has been prominent which led to States' Reorganisation Commission, formation of centrally administered territories but the demand still continues.
- ③ Contemporary politics has often pushed language based identity and promoted language hegemony and violence due to perception of language imposition.
- ④ Foreign conflict between TN and Union govt over 3 language policy, tribes of North East reporting longer imposition of Hindi etc.

CHALLENGES

- ① linguistic politics fuels fragmentary tendencies and demand for state autonomy eg Bihar Pradesh, demand to change state name to Kesaria etc.
- ② This also helps non state actors to cause internal disturbances and support insurgent attitudes.
- ③ States based solely on language won't be administratively and financially viable.
- ④ State policies like reservation of local language speakers for public and private jobs often leads to inter-state conflicts. eg Kannadigas, Marathis etc.
- ⑤ It also fuels rampant demand for reservation for certain communities.

OPPORTUNITIES

- ① However, Indian linguistic diversity is more of national binder as it facilitates our rich history and literary and spoken culture.

where no one language can be imposed overall.

② Measures like ~~these~~ constitutional provisions for linguistic minorities and provision of classical and scheduled languages promote diversity.

④ schemes like Gyan Bharatam mission aim to conserve diverse texts of facts to preserve linguistic literature.

⑤ Linguistic diversity also enables countenance of dominance of English and wide choice of languages for students to learn from.

Thus, lack of Balkanization is a proof that language is not divisive in spirit. local and govt. efforts are essential to promote inclusive language treatment.

Ans 13 - The modern history accounts for series of socio-religious movements which aimed to revivise past glory eg Arya Samaj or reform the Indian society eg Brahmo Samaj

REFORMIST ORGANISATIONS

➤ BRAHMO SAMAJ

① Established by Raja Ram Mohan Roy in Bengal, it aimed to untwine rational beliefs of west in Indian society by promotion of women's rights over polygamy, countering effects of conversion by Churches etc

② With entry of Keshab Chandra Sen, the movement became inclusive of beliefs of other religions and led to split to Brahmo Samaj of India and Atmi Brahmo Samaj.

③ Brahmo Samaj led to promotion of western Education, abolition of sati, women education, monothestic beliefs, ideas of rationalism etc to counter traditional discrimination to women.

④ Brahma Samaj also inspired rise of other socio-religious reform movements like Prarthana Samaj which sought to remove child marriage, untouchability etc.

⑤ It also led to rise of political and non-violent struggles against freedom of speech and British Central Censorship. eg Press Regulation Act, 1823 was criticised by Ram Mohan and Debendranath Tagore.

b) ARYA SAMAJ

① Arya Samaj was established in 1875 by Dayanand Saraswati.

② It aimed to stand against polytheism, idol worship and reiterate the practices and glory of Vedas.

③ Dayanand Saraswati also promoted female education and abolition of sati, child marriage, devoid etc.

④ later, it also led to establishment of DAV schools by Yashwantrao and Mahatma Hansraj for educating poor.

⑤ However, with later movements like Cow Protection Movement and promotion of Hinduism, movement became communal and considered to be Anti-Muslim.

⑥ Its slogan was Go Back to Vedas to revive the traditional society but with better women condition.

Thus, the reform movements aimed to broaden local horizon with Nationality and promote nationalistic sentiments in society.

Ans 14 - Rift valleys are linear systems formed due to land subsidence and uplifting due to internal factors. India has many rift valleys and potential for their economic exploitation.

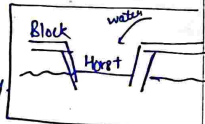
RIFT VALLEYS

① Rift valleys are formed by definite linear flow due to land and geomorphic changes.



② Due to volcanism by Reunion Hot Spot, the Deccan peninsula especially Western Ghats witnessed subsidence of land due to melting of rocks.

③ This led to formation of Block and Horst topography.



④ These depressions were then filled with water which led to formation of rift valleys. Same process but milder took place in Eastern India.

GEOMORPHIC SIGNIFICANCE

① Despite the eastward tilt of peninsular India, rift valleys of Narmada and Tapi flow westwards.

② This provides for major linear systems and water availability and estuary formations on western coasts.

③ Due to land submergence, western coasts have deep ports and economic significance. Eg Mumbai port, JNPT etc.

④ Due to steep cliffs, multiple waterfalls are also found even rift valleys eg Kundli falls on Susunika river, Dhuadhar falls on Narmada etc.

⑤ They also account for many cave formations and rock paintings.

ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE

① Rift valleys of Narmada and Tapi help to provide water to western regions in Gujarat, Maharashtra, MP etc.

- ① Rift valleys of East like Damodar Basin, Mahanadi are rich sources of coal, petroleum, natural gas etc.
- ② They also are rich in non metallic and metallurgical minerals eg Fe, Mn, ^{Al}Cr, etc.
- ④ Due to delta formation, they also provide good agricultural soil on eastern coasts.
- ⑤ Western coast acts as trade and export hotspot via ports.
- ⑥ Mining near these basins have provided nontax revenue surplus in states like Odisha, Jharkhand etc.

Thus, rift valleys and all integral river systems. They have huge potential for Indian industries.

Ans 15 - Blue Revolution suggests revolutionary upgradation in Aquaculture by increased yield of freshwater and inland fisheries and Crustaceans. The sector provides for second highest growth in agriculture and allied.

BLUE REVOLUTION

- ① It aimed to increase production capacity of fresh and saline water fishes for domestic and export uses.
- ② Establishment of National Fisheries Development Board, Priority Sector Lending, Kisan Credit Cards etc. bolstered fishery production from 6 MT to 20 MT and more.
- ③ Fisheries accounts for one of the major exports and is being strengthened by Matsya Sampada Yojana for procurement and processing.
- ④ It also helps to meet rising protein demand and diversity of eating habits and cuisines across world.

CHALLENGES TO AQUACULTURE

- ① Most aquaculture is dominated by unformal sector leading to lower economic gains.
- ② Lack of sanitary and phytosanitary measures can lead to export rejection.
- ③ Low formal credit prohibits business expansion and leads to debts.
- ④ Practices like bottom trawling, plastic nets etc hamper aquatic ecosystem and fish populations.
- ⑤ Rampant seasonal ~~un~~ unemployment leads to low income and shift to agriculture.

STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME

- ① Schemes like Matsya Sampada Yojana provide for collateral free credit worth 2cr and processing centres for fish catch.
- ② Skilling and sanitary awareness to fish catchers can help in increasing yield and reducing unemployment.

③ Access to formal credit will formalise the sector and promote divergence from wheat rice farming.

④ Financial and employment incentives during lean period to counter poverty and seasonal joblessness.

⑤ Processing and ~~alignment~~ alignment to ready to eat and foreign cuisine styles can boost export potential and rising demand.

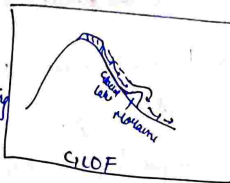
⑥ High yield variety seeds and R&D in aquaculture and infrastructural development of hacways, fish pens etc.

India's vast coastline provides high potential for fisheries. It is important to tap on the economic benefits of blue revolution.

What is - Glacial lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) are rising rapidly in Himalayan ecosystem due to climate change. They provide significant challenge to fragile topography.

GLOFs CAUSES

① Glacial lakes are formed due to partial glacier melting which leads to creation of water filled depressions bound by moraines to hold them.



② With rising warming, this leads to rapid melting causing flow breach beyond limit and moraine may break causing floods.

③ Eg Queer Teesta river in Sikkim, in Uttarakhi, Chamoli due to Bhagirathi. India has more than 5000 potential GLOF lakes.

IMPACT OF GLOF

① GLOF leading to rampant floods can trigger landslides, land subsidence, climatic weather etc.

② Rising water level can lead to downstream submergence of land, trees, houses etc.
Eg Floods in Kedarnath, 2013.

③ Man-made factors like Deforestation, mining, global warming further accelerate GLOFs.

④ It can lead to loss of livelihood, habitat crisis and have negative effects on tourism, GDP of country etc.

⑤ Glacier melting can further reduce ice abode which can further accelerate melting leading to a positive feedback loop.

MITIGATION STRATEGIES

① Immediate study and impact assessment of ongoing and upcoming projects of ecosystem disruption in Himalayas.

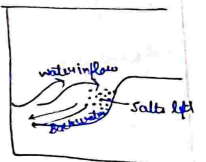
② Control over tourism and land use change pressure in hilly areas and control over industrial or road infrastructure.

- ③ Awareness and rescue strategies for local by mock drills with NDRF, SDRF etc.
- ④ Provision of post disaster rescue and relief sites, amenities etc.
- ⑤ Special infrastructure and building codes for hills and regulated mining, HEP projects.
- ⑥ Controlled miniature GLOFs, strengthening of moraines, forest cover etc. can help in preventing flooding.
- ⑦ Thus, GLOFs act as eminent threat in hilly and downstream ecosystems. It is important to balance nature with development to prevent havoc.

Ans 17 - India's vast coastlines provide for suitable conditions for formation of salt pans and mangroves. They play role not only in natural beauty but also in coastal resilience.

SALT PAN FORMATIONS

- ① Famous salt pans in India are found in Rann of Kutch, Maharashtra, Kerala etc.

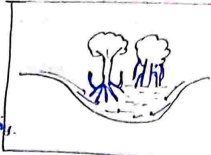


- ② As tides lead to water inflow and land submergence, with receding and evaporating water filled depressions, only salts and minerals, mainly NaCl, KCl are left behind.
- ③ This leads to formation of barren soil and salt pans not good for agriculture but economic purposes of salt extraction.

MANGROVE FORMATIONS

- ① Eg Sunderbans delta, Gujarat coast, Andaman islands etc account for India having largest mangroves diversity.

② Depressions of land are filled with water and sediments leading to water logged condition.



③ These are good for salt tolerant mangrove species like Avicennia, Bruguiera etc.

④ Special features like vivipary, pneumatophores etc help in survival in these overflooded habitats.

ROLE IN COASTAL RESILIENCE

① Salt pans and marshy and mangrove areas provide barriers for mainland against high tides, tsunamis etc.

② Their dense root network and soil nature reduces impact of waves on shore and reduces impact to other ecosystems.

③ They act as breakwaters and marshy lands are good store of high undecomposed carbon.

④ They also help in providing support to salt makers, paddy cultivators, fish farmers.

⑤ Rising deforestation and mangrove loss as suggested in ISFR 2023 report especially in Gujarat makes the coasts vulnerable to water hazards.

⑥ Claiming of salt pans and mangrove land in Dharami has attracted criticisms against construction over these lands.

⑦ Transshipment hub in Galathea Bay is also expected to lead to rapid habitat loss.

Thus, it is important to conserve the salt pans and mangroves for own habitat viability. Development must not be at cost of nature.

... influenced from Portuguese word
Caste which refers to homogenous, social and labour
division in society which is unique to India.
 It has taken big role in identity politics.

CASTE TRANSFORMATION

- ① Earlier caste was not rigid and served as mechanism of division of labour on non hereditary basis.
- ② It was not rigid and could change based on person's skills and occupation.
- ③ With Rig Vedic period, caste mechanism got associated with birth and divisions of Brahman, Kshatriya, Vaishya and Shudra became job specific and permanent.
- ④ The lower groups were subjugated to poor treatment and intercaste interactions like dining and marriage were prohibited.

CONTEMPORARY CHANGES

- ① With education and economic upliftment, lower groups started seeking own rights and caste rigidities broke down majorly.
- ② This led to breaking of caste based job monopolies along with reservation for disadvantaged.
- ③ However, due to regional and identity politics, caste came to be associated with group identity again but this time lower groups started asserting for their rights.
- ④ Many communities have started demanding caste based reservation leading to conflicts between groups eg Kuki-Meitei, Maratha communities.

CHALLENGES

- ① Caste based politics though promotes group mobilisation but leads to fractures in society.
- ② Caste identity tends to overpower national unity.

③ On behest of reservation, only creamy layers seek all benefits and poor members stay the same.

④ This also promotes monopoly of caste groups over employment eg Jats in leather belt of UP, Marwatis and Patidars as affluent traders in Gujarat.

⑤ This also prohibits inter caste marriages and promotes caste based violence, khap panchayats etc.

Thus, caste identities in India are complex and economic and socially entangled. Caste Census would provide proper data for upliftment.

Ans 19 - Indian diversity has both its opportunities and challenges to social cohesion. Regional and linguistic identities have become means to assert autonomy.

REGIONAL IDENTITIES AND AUTONOMY

① Since independence, language based state formation was demanded in India.
eg Formation of Andhra, States' Reorganisation Act etc.

② The Constitution, though federal in spirit but tilted towards centre, always ~~favoured~~ led to demand of states over share of resources, abolition of provisions like Article 356 etc.

③ Over time, language and culture based state identities have expressed themselves as assertions of autonomy.

④ There is insurgent and Marxist tendencies to topple the prevalent structure and seek for self autonomy.

⑤ Eg Demand of Marathwada in Maharashtra, Greater Nagaland, Bhit Parolash etc

⑥ This is due to relative deprivation of these areas compared to central state and their need to prevent hegemony over their minority language and culture.

⑦ Thus, cultural diversity seen as test to bind has turned to inter-regional conflicts and demand for economic and political upliftment.

IMPACT ON NATIONAL COHESION

① Demand for region based reservations and state autonomy leads to social fracturing.

② Resurrection of Kannad speakers in Karnataka, conflicts due to son of soil movement in Maharashtra etc are common examples against free migration and equal employment.

③ These factors are also used by external and internal non state actors to cause conflicts eg Manipuri disturbances.

④ Justice Verma Committee suggested reorganisation of all states to provide for equal political and economic representation to all regions.

⑤ Regional divisions also impact GDP, industrial growth, FDI inflow negatively and further delay development.

Thus, it is important to counter these divisive tendencies and use culture as soft power for Viksit Bharat.

Ans 20 - Globalisation and rising middle class income have birthed culture of awe and conspicuous consumption. This has effect on traditional family structure in India.

CULTURE OF CONSUMPTION

① Traditional society was based on production enough for survival and community sharing of resources which promoted joint living and simple lifestyle.

② With capitalism, western influence, rising income levels and urbanisation, Indian society and youth shifted to overzealous consumption and show-off culture.

③ Rise of private property and migration led to preference of nuclear and DINK (Double Income No kids) Families leading to vulnerable old population.

TRANSITION IN URBAN INDIA

① Impulsive consumption and consumerism of west has taken over Indian youth leading to McDonaldisation and rise of use and throw culture.

② Rampant emigration and rural to urban migration for better living styles has led to degrading of simple village life.

③ Family structure has broken leading to abandoning of elderly, rise in burden of old age homes etc.

④ The Indian ethos of simple living high thinking and treatment of elderly as god is rapidly vanishing.

NEED OF HDIX

① Urban population in India is expected to double by 2050. This requires sustainable consumption based cities and preservation of nature.

② The children and youth must be reignited with our scriptural and cultural knowledge.

③ Urban and private living must not lead to social and elderly isolation demanding focus on care economy.

④ Indigenous supply chains and conscious consumption is important to stop over creation of food and cloth market chains and influence of west.

India, has traditionally been land of community. It is important that we must not forget our roots while moving to Viksit Bharat.