

Educrat IAS Academy
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GENERAL STUDIES I

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INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q.No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained		
1			1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No. and Mobile in the answer sheet.	
2			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH, all questions are compulsory.	
3			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.	
4			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.	
5			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be struck off.	
6			<i>Any specific messages for Educrat IAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write here.</i>	
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19			Start Time:	End Time:
20			Mode of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Marks:			ECN CODE:	Evaluation Date:
Remarks:				
<p align="center"><i>Checked</i></p> <p align="center">Educrat IAS Academy Pvt. Ltd.</p> <p align="center">Director</p>				

Q.1) With the help of suitable examples, discuss some of the most prominent themes of Indian mural paintings. (10 marks)

Indian mural paintings refer to the paintings done on the walls of caves, temples and even palaces in ancient India. Indian murals have been found spatially and temporally distributed.

Themes of Indian murals →

1) Religious - Most paintings depict gods and goddesses. Eg - Hindu gods and goddesses (eg - shiva) in Ellora caves, Ajanta's Padmapani paintings.

2) Society - Paintings demonstrate social hierarchy. Eg - kings shown as divine in Chola temples.

3) Raw materials used such as

haematite for red color, } not
limestone for white color, } theme

demonstrate knowledge of minerals

4) Style of paintings - Ellora's

paintings have more intricate design than Ajanta, showing progress in style

5) Brahmanical influence on daily

life is seen from Badami cave paintings.

The depiction of Buddha's life, stories from Jatakas, Jain and Hindu symbols highlight religious significance of murals and they must be preserved by ASI and Ministry of Culture

depicting emotions through hand gestures - depiction of activities - military gathering - political life.

3

Q.2) What is 'sexism'? Examine its prevalence in Indian social life. Why is it harmful? Discuss. (10 marks)

Sexism can be understood as stereotyping and/or discrimination against women or men. It is a very prevalent aspect of Indian society.

According to SEWA, over ~~over~~ 50% of Indian society have sexist attitude towards women.

Prevalence of sexism in Indian social life

1) Sex-selective abortion - Right from birth, Legal Limitations on pre-diagnosis of sex has reduced occurrence by >60%, but it is still prevalent.

2) Stereotyping women → construction of glass ceilings

- Considered less able, limiting economic empowerment
- Considered a burden, leading to child marriage (23% cases in India)
- Considered secondary to men

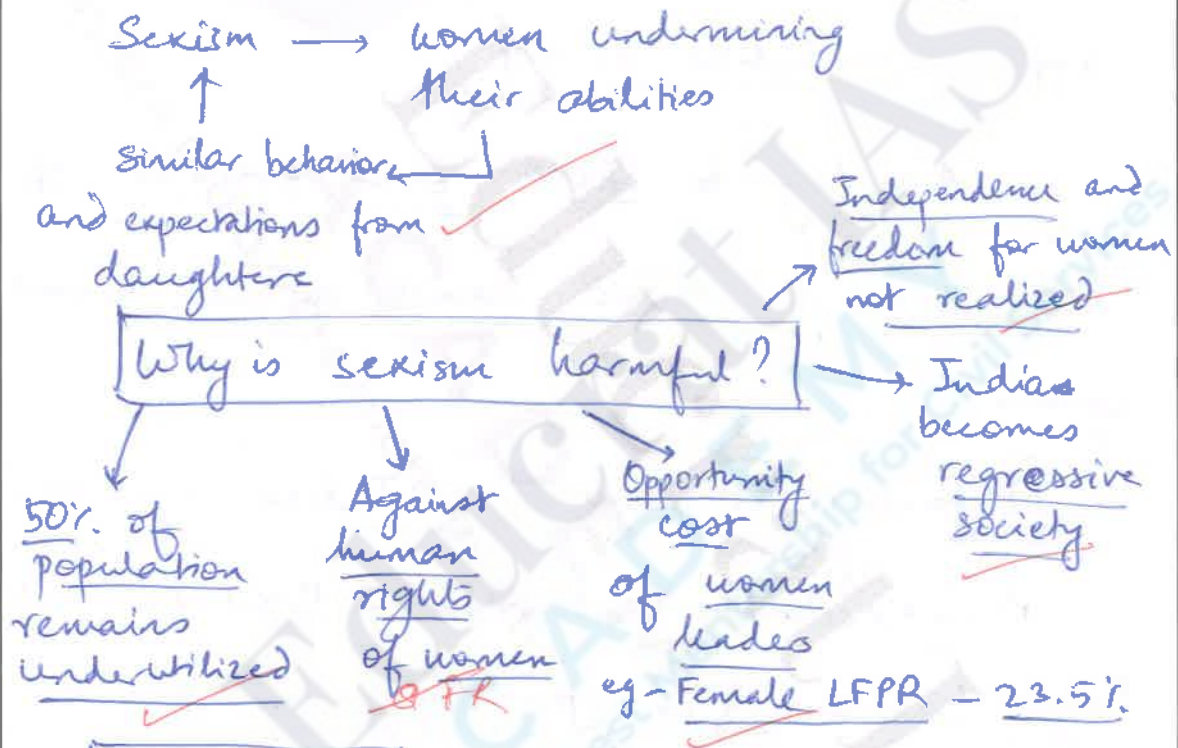
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- edu
- health

3) Women jobs/ Pink-collared jobs -

Jobs that are traditionally associated with women. Eg - cooking, domestic work, call-centres, etc

4) Vicious loop →



7

Way forward →

- 1) Fundamental Duty must be enforced to protect women
- 2) Differential benefits for women. Eg - reservation, PM Ujjwala Yojana, MGNREGA
- 3) Creation of Nari-Sashakt Bharat
goti Amrit Kaal

Q.3) What is temperature inversion? What are its different types? Explain (10 marks)

Temperature inversion is a phenomenon ~~where~~ where normal lapse rate (where temperature reduces with increase in altitude) is inversed ^{temporarily & locally}

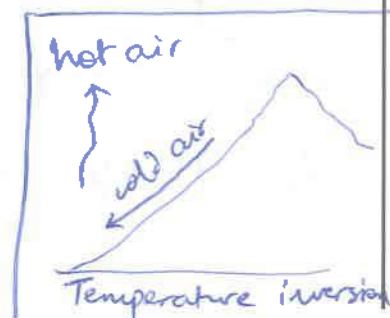
In case of temperature inversion, temperature increases with altitude

Types of temperature inversion →

1) In plains -

Clear, cloudless, long, winter nights
↓
no clouds to trap & reflect heat back.
Earth radiates more heat in the night, than it absorbed in the day, leading to lower temperatures near the ground

2) In mountain valleys
^{due to being heavy}
Cool air slides down the slope, replacing rising warm air



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3) In polar regions —

→ stratosphere

Higher albedo of polar surface reflects more heat, leading to cooler temperature near the surface

Effects of temperature inversion →

1) Smog and tropospheric ozone
density increases during winters leading to
→ flight delays
→ road accidents

2) Defrosting of trees on mountains,
increasing their survivability

3) Less melting of polar ice

Way forward →

Although localized, it might cause widespread discomfort, specially in urban areas. Early warning system is needed to tackle it

6

Q.4) How does commercial coastal fishing affect the lives of local fishermen in India? How can it be addressed? Discuss (10 marks)

Commercial Coastal fishings is a major source of livelihood for fish farmers living along India's 7500 km long coastline.

About 35% of India's fish catch comes from marine sources, while 65% comes from inland fisheries. *relevance??*

Effect of commercial coastal fishing on the lives of local fishermen

1) Reduces prices -



2) Unsustainable fishing by commercial entities leads to reduction in fish density in coastal waters.

↳ This forces local artisanal farmers to venture deeper in the ocean. Eg- Sri Lanka issue

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3) Forces local fishermen to either seek other means of livelihood, or employment with commercial entities / contract farming or purchase modern equipment using loans

4) This has led to local traditional fishermen becoming a dying breed.

Suggested measures →

1) Fishing clusters should be set up to give greater bargaining power to fishermen

2) Lesser regulation and easy approvals for local artisanal fishing in Maine Fisheries Bill.

3) Credit flow to local fishermen

4) Additional sources of income

Seaweed culture

Shrimp culture
for exports

Cage fishing
in reservoirs

providing mechanized boats to clusters

India is the 2nd largest fish producer in the world and the artisanal fishing sector must be preserved to meet demand

Reduce this section word limit

use cooperatives - Kerala fishermen

7.3

Q.5) The JP movement was a watershed event in India's post independence history. Do you agree? Substantiate. (10 marks)

The JP movement aimed to check the government's powers in the 1960s-70s and was a major movement in post-independence India.

Features of JP movement

mention few causes

1) Leaders - Charismatic leaders such as Jai Prakash Narayan ~~could~~ garnered huge following.
 - against corruption
 - defending democracy

2) Power of civil society was highlighted to check inaction and misaction by incumbent INC govt.
 - student participation
 - strong opposition

3) Call for Total Revolution - It served as a reminder to the govt to not get complacent, and India was in danger of total anarchy and riots.

4) Professionalisation of politics due to many young people choosing to join politics as a career - choice

5) Dangerous decades - Selig Harrison held that the 60s were a dangerous decade and the experiment of Indian freedom is now over

Issues of JP movement
- extra constitutional
- lack of broader vision
- incitement to army

However, Indian democracy survived fortunately and the JP movement died. However, its effects can be seen in today's govt.

Effects

- participative democracy
- acknowledgement of civil society
- unionization of people and cause

The JP movement was a watershed movement for changing the very course of Indian history and bringing India back from the throes of govt mismanagement

Q.6) To what extent the British policies in colonial India transformed the agrarian structure of the time? (10 marks)

Effects of the British raj and its policies were seen in different verticals of society, economy and culture, including the agrarian structure.

British agrarian policies

1) Permanent Settlement

- introduced by Lord Cornwallis
- mainly in parts of East India
- permanent fixing of tax rates
- zamindari given to highest bidder

2) Ryotwari system

- introduced by Thomas Munroe and Alexander Reed
- mainly in parts of Southern and Western India
- tillers / peasants were directly taxed
- covered about 50% of India

we need to write in detail
word limit exceeded

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3) Mahalwari system

- introduced by Holt and Mackenzie
- group of villages were taxed together as a mahal.

Effect of these policies in transforming agrarian system

1) Commercialization of agriculture —

Greater cultivation of cash crops, affecting food security → led to famines

2) Loss of zamindari and oppression by money lenders, who became absentee landlords

3) Unsustainable tax rates that went as high as 50%. → peasants suffered

4) huge inequity in land, as was seen after independence

India's land reforms have been instrumental in providing equity to land distribution and land to the tiller

5

Q.7) What are the problems faced by domestic workers in India? Discuss critically the actions taken by the legislative, executive and the judiciary to address such problems. (10 marks)

Domestic workers are workers who are employed within the domestic sphere for cooking, cleaning, etc.

Rapid urbanization has led to rapid growth in employment of domestic help.

Problems faced by domestic workers in India

- 1) Wages are often below minimum wages *irregularity in wages*
- 2) Unhygienic work environment in some households. Domestic workers are often mistreated in households.
- 3) No social security - Domestic workers form part of the informal workforce. They do not get paid leaves, maternity benefits, etc.
- 4) Dual burden - Domestic workers are mostly women, who *face* dual burden of work

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and their household.

5) Work hours - No guidelines on work hours. Domestic workers often live in urban outskirts and have long travel hours

Actions taken to address the issues

Legislative → domestic workers are being added in the Social Security Code

Executive → providing scheme benefits to domestic workers. through PMAY, ONDRC, etc
- e skram - Domestic worker sector Skill (awes)

Judiciary → provisions of PIL to enforce Fundamental Rights of domestic workers

India's domestic workforce must be regulated and incorporated in the formal sector. ~~The~~ The police must be sensitized to stop instances of trafficking, rape and abuse of domestic workers

better conclusion

Q.8) The government has been actively promoting the cultivation of millets. Discuss its importance for Indian agriculture. (10 Marks)

Millets are known as super food or nutricereals. They are coarse cereals, which are a supplement to rice or wheat. ^{eg.}

Importance of millets →

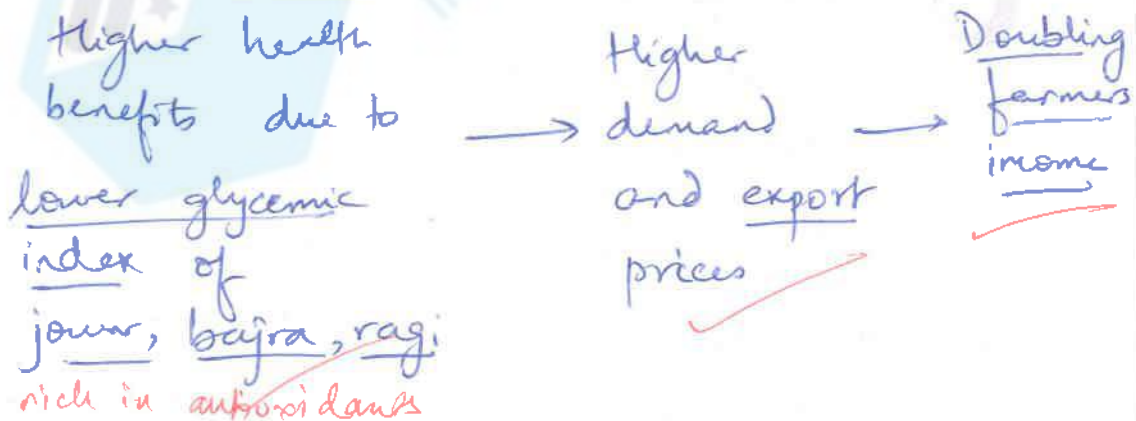
1) Lower water requirement

<u>Millets</u>	<u>Rice / wheat</u>
300 - 600 mm rain	600 - 1200 mm rain

2) Shorter growing season

<u>Millets</u>	<u>Rice / wheat</u>
70 - 100 days	120 - 150 days

3) Remunerative - less expensive



4) Lower requirement of pesticides, insecticides - cost benefits to farmers.

5) Drought resistant and so can tackle climate change → food security

Ways in which govt is promoting millets

- qualifying them as nutricereals
- MSP procurement of millets
- National Year of Millets in 2018
- influencing UN to celebrate International Year of Millets in 2023

Way forward →

- reduce
- Greater consciousness is required to mainstream millet cultivation
 - Considered as poor man's wheat and this needs to change.

The govt should promote millet consumption to tackle cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and anaemia in India

Q.9) A recent analysis of electoral turnout in India suggests increasing feminization of electorate, but it is still facing the female voter deficit. Discuss its causes and consequences. (10 Marks)

India provided for universal adult franchise since independence, but has been facing issues of low ~~low~~ electoral turnout, especially among women.

Recent interventions have increased female turnout by 18% in 2019 elections, vs 2014 elections, but female voter deficit exists

Causes of female voter deficit →

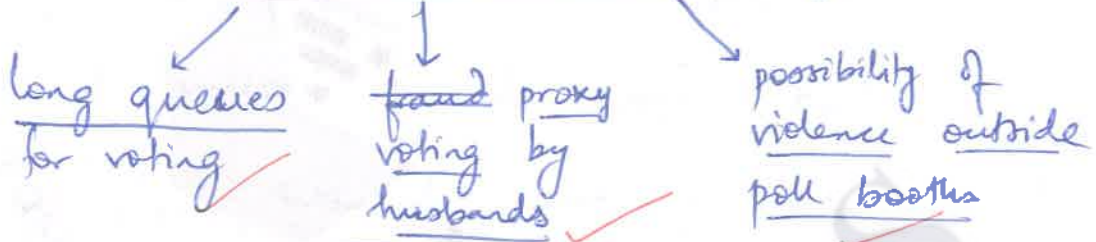
- 1) Women in India are mostly limited to domestic sphere. Female LFPR of 23.5% indicates lack of empowerment
- 2) Low awareness of rights and duties
- 3) Voting is considered secondary as women do not get breaks from domestic work

lack of verifiable documents.

4) Lack of political understanding

among women about who to vote

5) Issues with accessibility



Consequences of low female voter turnout

1) women voices remain under represented

2) Political leaders' speeches and actions

do not cater to women as they do not form votebank

3) Hard-won voting rights are lost

4) Incomplete democracy

5) vicious loop where women do not participate in voting

↳ lower female benefits → lesser female voter turnout

2

initiated by ECI
- associate women at polling booth
- separate toilet.

Way forward

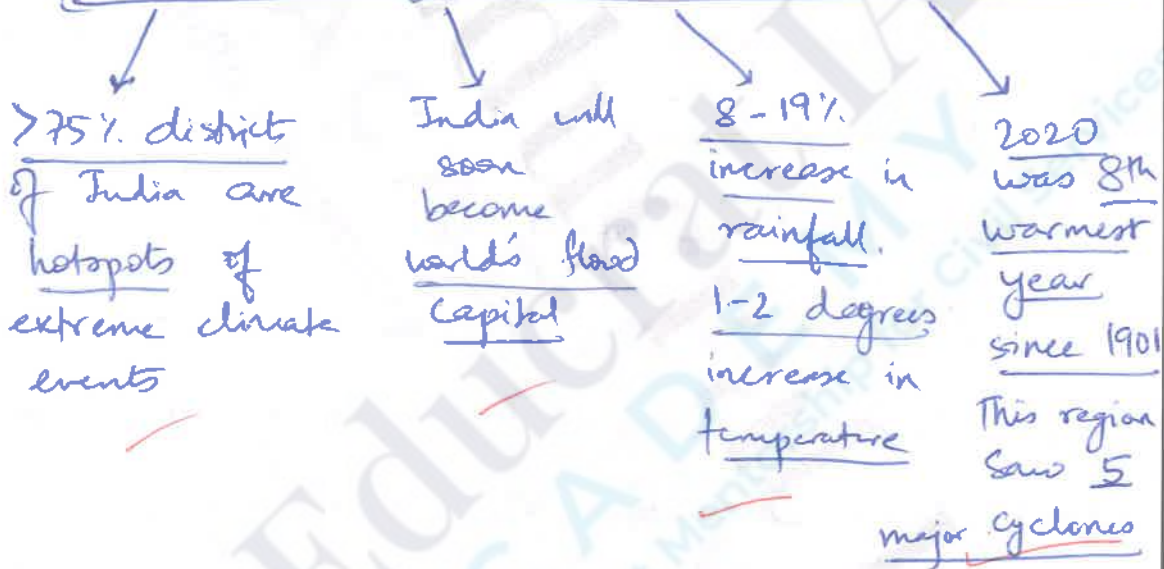
→ ECI's SVEEP initiative must cater to women awareness

→ Political leaders must ensure women section in their election manifesto

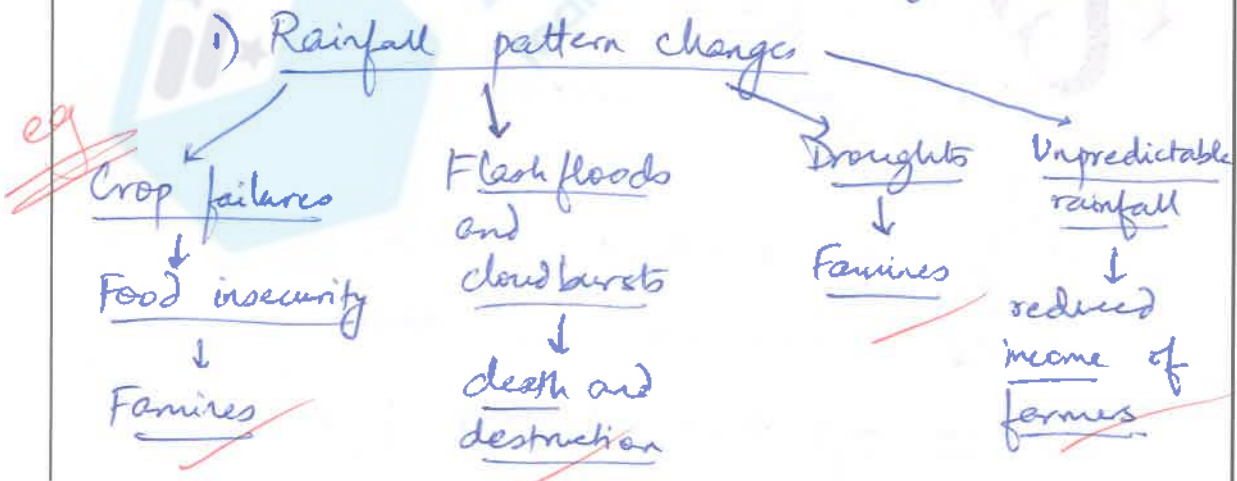
Q.10) With a special focus on South Asian countries, discuss how the changes in precipitation and temperature affect the living standard of the people. (10 Marks)

Climate changes (eg - temperature, rainfall) affect the lifestyle of people and South Asian countries (India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, etc) are no exception

Climate change in South Asian countries



Effect of climate change in living standards →



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2) Temperature changes

Urban heat island

↓
discomfort and even deaths

Adoption of ACs

↓
even lower middle class are buying ACs

Seasonal flu becomes more irregular

Focus on S. Asia - examples within

3) Sea level rise, induced by precipitation

are drowning coastal regions.

↳ displacement of villages

Changes in precipitation and temperature has led to greater uncertainty, displacement, death and destruction, and has largely reduced living standards of people.

Way forward →

- 1) Early warning systems for climate change
- 2) Disaster resilient infrastructure, according to Sendai Framework and NDMA
- 3) Community participation to fight adversity.

4.5

Q.11) Differentiate between El-Nino and La-Nina. How do they affect the subcontinent? Explain (15 marks)

El-Nino and La-Nina are together known as ENSO complementary weather phenomena that affect Indian Monsoon and rainfall over many countries around the Pacific.



El-Nino



La-Nina

better diagrams ??

El-Nino

- 1) Low pressure in South America, high pressure in SE Asia
Higher
- 2) Rainfall in South America
- 3) Caused when trade winds weaken
- 4) Lower fish catch in South America.

La-Nina

- 1) Low pressure in SE Asia, high pressure in South America
- 2) Higher rain in SE Asia, India
- 3) Caused when trade winds are strengthened
- 4) Upwelling near South America increasing fish catch

explain in relation to warming of Pacific

Effect of La-Nina, El-Nino on Indian subcontinent

1) La-Nina increases SW rainfall/
monsoon in India. ✓

El-Nino reduces monsoon rain

2) La-Nina years have abundant
rains and bountiful crop, even leading

to floods.

3) El-Nino years have droughts in
certain regions of India. ✓

4) Reverse effect in retreating monsoon —
Higher rain during El-Nino years.
Lower rain during La-Nina years. ✓

Indian monsoon is affected by a
variety of factors — El-Nino, La-Nina,
Indian Ocean Dipole, South Easterly
Jet Stream. IMD should check ENSO
oscillation for better rainfall prediction. ✓

Impact
on fishing
industry



Q.12) Supporting the British cause during World war I and then supporting the Khilafat movement was a strategic miscalculation by the Congress. Do you agree? Critically comment. (15 marks)

Indian national movement adopted a unique approach during WW I (1914-19). The British war effort was supported and many Indians died in the battlefield. On the other hand, the Khilafat agitation was supported by INC.

Reasons for supporting British cause in WWI

1) Anti-fascism - INC's leaders were against the fascist agendas of the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary) and considered the British as paramount of democracy.

2) British appeasement for political benefits. The Home Rule movement was supported by INC for demand of dominion status.

3) Belief that the British cause was just.

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4) Fear of Central Powers winning the war

Reasons for supporting Khilafat movement

1) Hindu-Muslim unity - Gandhiji saw this as an opportunity to unite the two sections.

2) United front for Non-Cooperation movement was the ultimate goal.

Thus, the support for both - British war effort in WWI and Khilafat agitation was not a strategic miscalculation by INC, but steeped in the political culture of that time and to unitedly fight for

Indian freedom.

WW I

- conflict b/w moderates & revolutionaries
- an opportunity missed
- no significant outcome

Khilafat

- religious issue
- imp leaders didn't support → Tilak
- no attempt for long term unity

show some negative impact too

7

Q.13) What do you understand by 'neoliberalism'? What are its characteristics? How is it different from socialism? Discuss (15 marks)

Neoliberalism can be understood as rolling back of the state. ^{free market}

It is a philosophy of the 60s-70s post-WWII era, marked by market fundamentalism. ^{better who needed}

Characteristics of neoliberalism →

1) Thatcherism / Reaganism - where the market is considered supreme.

Market is like a central nervous system and can do most efficient resource allocation.

2) Reducing state involvement - Welfare state gets a backseat, as the focus is on market independence, and reduction of fiscal deficit.

3) Progressive taxation, social justice are

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liberalisation not encouraged in neo-liberalism
 - privatisation
 - limit trade barriers
 - citizens as consumers
 - trickle-down belief

4) The most important role of the state is formulation of trade policies for market empowerment

The Washington Consensus, founding of WTO were major events of the neo-liberal age.

Neo-liberalism

- 1) equality of opportunity
- 2) leads to inequity in society
- 3) belief in trickle-down effect
- 4) progressive taxation is considered aggressive
- 5) encourages utilitarian and capitalism in society
citizen active consumer

role of govt about capital mobility

Socialism

- equality of outcome
- leads to social equity
- action of state for redistribution
- progressive taxation is encouraged
- focus is on empowerment of people
citizen passive recipients

9

According to Amartya Sen, India needs a society where equality of capabilities is focused on — neither neo-liberalism, nor socialism

Q.14) The number of factors affecting the location of industries can be reduced with the development of transport and technology. Substantiate this statement with an example of Cotton industries in India. (15 marks)

The spatial location of industries in India depends on a variety of factors. India is a major cotton producer, an industry which has been limited to certain regions of the country only.

Benefits of development of transport and technology

→ Lower logistics cost - India has logistics cost of 14%, which is much higher than OECD countries (8%)

→ Labour intensiveness of cotton industry in India is higher and technology can reduce it

→ Quality of cotton produced is lower due to lower R&D. India's GERD, if improved, can fetch higher prices.

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- Mercidifiers
 - allow for
 intercon
 nection
 - transport
 less: no need
 for proximity
 to raw material
 - new focus
 of energy -
 & dependence
 on coal
 mine
 - give locations

→ With development of logistics, and technology (to improve quality, and reduce labour intensity), it seems like cotton industries become independent of location

- Other factors for location of cotton industries

reduce this section

1) Availability of raw material - Cheap,

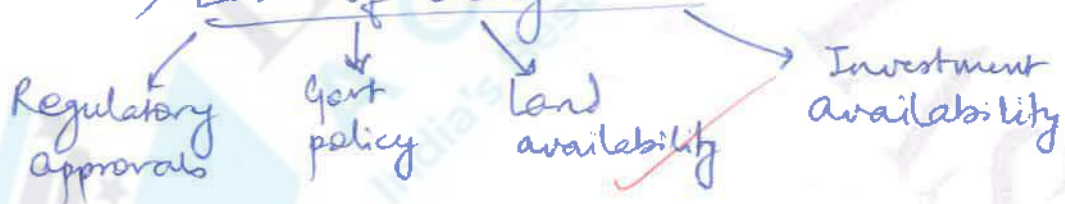
quality cotton available in western India

2) Proximity to ports, market - Despite

logistic improvements, proximity to ports reduces costs further

3) Availability of cheap labour

4) Ease of doing business



All of these restrict the cotton industry to regions of west India only

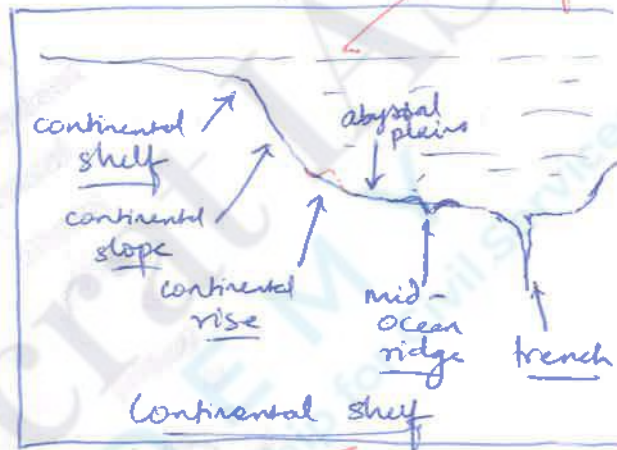
~~and~~ The govt should empower regional industries and not seek to alter location-specificity.

8

Q.15) The continental shelf contains valuable minerals and marine organisms which makes it suitable for exploration and commercial exploitation. Discuss. Also, trace the bottom reliefs feature of the Indian ocean. (15 marks)

The continental shelf is the extension of continental crust in the ocean. India has a 3 lakh sq km continental shelf.

Importance of continental shelf of India



a) Valuable minerals - like critical minerals

(eg- graphite, lithium, manganese),

polymetallic nodules, methane hydrates

↓
for new-age technology

↓
for energy resources

b) Marine organisms - Fish density is highest due to shallow water & plankton in continental shelf. Corals are called rainforests of the oceans and support

25% of all marine biodiversity

- petroleum & natural gas
- sand & gravel

- c) Renewable energy - tidal energy, offshore wind energy, ocean thermal energy resources ✓
- d) Strategic benefit of mapping ocean relief for movement of submarines ✓
- e) Livelihood of fishermen - through seaweed farming, shrimp aquaculture ✓

Bottom relief of Indian Ocean region

- 1) Continental shelf, slope and rise along the rim of the ocean ✓
examples withy
- 2) huge abyssal plains with deep-sea species and exotic fish like coelacanth ✓
Mauritius, Somali
- 3) Mid-ocean ridge - runs along the length north-south ✓
Seychelles - Mauritius, Madagascar
- 4) Seamounts, guyots and trenches -
Java, Sunda

Indian Ocean region has one of the deepest trenches. Eg - Java trench.

The Indian Ocean region must be wisely used in sustainable manner in line with SDG 14 for biodiversity conservation

draw diagram here

8

Q.16) Breaking myths and stereotypes around Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is crucial to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 5 (gender equality) and to accelerate technology-led economic growth and development. Discuss. (15 marks)

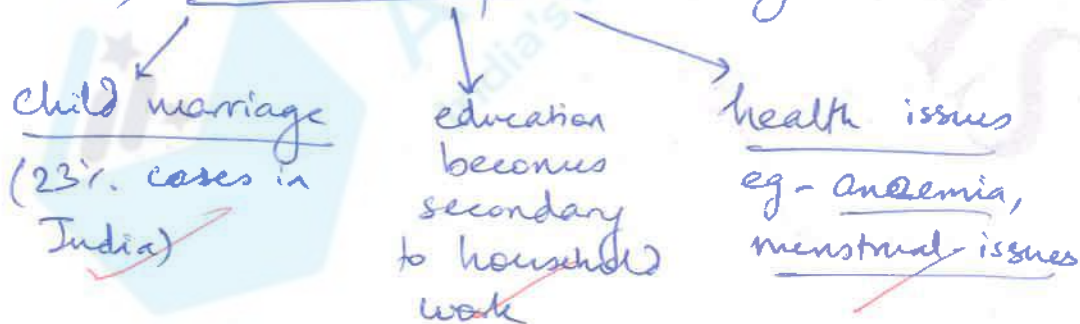
According to AISHE survey, the worst gender ratio is found in the institutes of national importance. Less gender equality in STEM education can be attributed to this.

Myths and stereotypes in STEM education

1) Women are not smart enough —

This leads to greater participation of girls in domestic courses, like home science, and less in STEM education. Double burden syndrome

2) Women dropouts in higher education



3) Men are more suited to labour intensive roles. However, women farmers form 52% of the population. relevance

4) Stereotyped roles of women as domestic labour and of men as wage earner.

Ways to break these stereotypes and myths

1) Govt schemes like CBSE Udan, SERB-Power, KIRAN, Vigyan Jyoti to increase GER of girls

2) Health benefits - IFA tablets, nutritious mid-day meal. Bahini scheme of Sikkim govt to provide free sanitary pads vending machines.

3) Sensitization and awareness in society, family, by presenting examples of excelling women in STEM.

4) Female reservation, fellowships and grants

5) School/college infrastructure should be female-centric as well. eg - toilets.

Women form 50% of the population, yet their contribution to STEM is minimal. The NEP-2020 should aim to empower women in STEM.

- Puroit
Bharat
- del. ver. 1-2 schemes
rather than
just giving
values.
KIRAN
Bio
cell
scheme.

10

Q.17) Instances of the prevalence of bonded labour system in India are noticed now and then even long after its abolition. What are the reasons that have kept the bonded labour system still alive? (15 marks)

Bonded labour can be understood as using ^{forced} labour without payment or with minimal payment. Bonded labour has been abolished in India by the Constitution — Article 23.

However, instances of bonded labour are still prevalent.

Reasons for bonded labour prevalence

1) Caste discrimination — Most bonded labours belong to lower castes. Eg — Safai karmchais.

According to CSE, India has about 67,000 safai karmchais

2) Lack of awareness and opposition — Labours are not aware of their constitutional rights and society remains indifferent

Page — of —

- lack of credit availability
- natural calamities
- unorganised workers
- intergenerational loan payments

3) Lack of opportunities - Lack of employment opportunities and low social mobility

4) Lack of political will, since many politicians are from the historically higher castes.

Nexus of politicians and police keeps the situation of bonded labour alive even 75 years after independence

Suggested measures →

- Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Scheme

1) Role of civil society - NGOs, pressure groups must spread awareness of rights.

2) Legislative action - strict punishment for bonded labour, eg?

3) Technology - Mechanization of sewer cleaning

4) Education, social security to the poorest of the poor.

India's Amrit Kaal should usher in an era of Viksit Bharat free of bonded labour

(10)

Q.18) Atmanirbhar Bharat is a human-centric way forward based on our own civilisational ethos and values. Elaborate. (15 marks)

Atmanirbhar Bharat is a slogan used by the incumbent govt to highlight India's trajectory for growth. It is not about protectionism, but about being empowered.

Relation of our cultural ethos and values with Atmanirbhar Bharat

- 1) Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (The world is my family) as mentioned in Indian scriptures can only be fulfilled if we are empowered.
- 2) India was once the market of the world. India can become a prominent player in global supply chain even today.
- 3) The elements of Atmanirbhar Bharat include — Vocal for Local and

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Make in India for the world.

inclusive dev

It highlights India's focus ~~on~~ on good assisting global developments.

*think with
brahmin
swadeshi
- dev of
social
capital
- address
existential
challenges
in India*

4) Atmanirbhar Bharat is not about closing our borders and going to a ~~free~~ pre-LPG era, but about greater integration with global economy.

Eg- PLI schemes allow foreign companies to set up branches in India to earn benefits

(9)

Offset clauses in defence purchases allow foreign companies to get returns from domestic manufacturing.

Atmanirbhar Bharat is a clarion call for the world to seek benefits of India's demographic dividends, while accepting the message of peace and global unity.

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Q.19) Elaborate up on the development of science and technology in India since ancient and medieval times. What are the key learnings from them in the present day? (15 marks)

Ancient India has been a major source of various science and technological developments of today.

Development of science and technology in ancient India and medieval era

- 1) Aryabhatta - discovery of numeral 'zero'.
- discovery of planetary motions, eclipses
- 2) Ancient scriptures - Sulvasutras contain geometric measures of sacrificial altars
- 3) Bhaskara I - mathematical treatise. Lilavati
- gave laws of algebra during medieval era
- 4) Brahmagupta - gave the Brahmagupta theorem on area of cyclic quadrilaterals

don't leave space

5) Architectural developments

→ free standing temples (eg - Shore temple)

→ calculation of days, hours, etc
(Konark sun temple)

6) Calculation of earth-sun distance
in Harmonious Chalisa

Key learnings in present era →

not answered clearly

1) Patronage - India's GFRD is

0.7% of GDP. It must be increased

2) Role of educational institutions

like Nalanda, Takshila

3) Literacy and education were

considered necessary and not secondary

4) Scientific temper must be encouraged among citizens

In Anurit Kaal, India must endeavor to fall through PM Modi's vision of Jai Kisan, Jai Jawan, Jai Vigyan and Jai Anugardhan

7

Q.20) What is a flash drought? How is it different from a conventional drought?
Discuss the steps that need to be taken to minimize its impact. (15 marks)

Flash droughts can be understood as phenomena of droughts over an area for a small period of time. ^{that occurs} ^{in minutes} ^{within} a short period of time. According to IMD, droughts ~~are~~ occur when rainfall falls ~~to~~ below 26% of long-period normal.

Flash drought

- 1) Temporally very limited ✓
- 2) Mostly contingent on rainfall scarcity.
 ^{being monsoon break}
 ^{+ evapotranspiration.}
- 3) Difficult to counter due to unpredictability ✓

Conventional drought

- Extends for longer period of time ✓
- Can be permanent, or seasonal. ✓
- Many factors, such as hydrological scarcity ✓
- More predictable ✓

Steps to minimize impact of flash droughts

- 1) Quick relief and redressal - rapid mobilization under NDMA
- 2) Improve prediction through collaboration of IMD, ISRO
- 3) Drills and training for areas prone with flash droughts
- 4) Principles of Serdai framework, UNCCD to restore degraded land
- 5) Water conservation to reduce impact of flash droughts.

Eg - Mission Kakatiya of Telangana

India must remain vigilant to tackle the threat of climate change and conserve land and life in accordance to SDG-15.

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