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Question No. प्रश्न संख्या

# U.P.S.C.

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8)

Indian philosphical thought has been described by VR Mehta as Cosmopolitan (Vasudeva kutumbakam), Communitarian, pluralistic. It is based on ideas like moksha, atma, Nirvana and Brahma

**Contribution of north india to the thought:**

1) The 4 vedas (Rig, yajur, atharva, sama) were composed in north India by aryans and form the base of philosphy.

2) The upanishads which denounced rituallisms were also composed in north during Gupta times as

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were the Ramayan and Mahabharata

3) The role of Bhakti Sufi thinkers impacted the thought in medieval times in north India eg Sant Kabir, Gurunanak, Mirabai, Srichaitanya

Contribution of South India

1) Role of thinkers like Adishankar (Advaita), Ramanujacharya (Vishist Advaita), Madhvacharya and Vallabhacharya (Krishna worship) was profound on the philosophical thought

2) Role of Alvar and Nayanars from South India in Vishnu and Shiva worship respectively.

Apart from this Jainism, Buddhism, and the Sadhakshan (Patanjali, Kannada etc) also impacted Indian philosophy profoundly.

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Q2

The colonial rule of British awakened a sense of self respect and self consciousness in Indians which manifested in the form of not just political but social change also.

Impulse for social change → response to colonial rule:

1) There was acute consciousness that Caste system had weakened Indian society and led to subjugation; (eg) Jotiba Phule in Satyashodhak.

2) The role of women was also re-evaluated in the face of British rule (eg) Roy opposed

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child marriage, Karve opened womens university, Vishnu Shastri Pandit called for widow remarriage.

3) Religious reforms were also linked to opposition to British rule (eg) Singh sabha was anti British in nature

4) After Gandhian times social reforms and freedom movement merged.

(eg) - ekhilafat-wcm movement → to promote hindu muslim unity also.
- Harijan sevak sangh → to reform caste.

ISSUES

1) movements were limited in reach to rural areas.

2) often led to communalisation

"British control is a political Symptom of our social disease" - Tagore encapsulates the misplaced strategy of social movement.

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Q3

The Russian revolution was a part event (Feb & Oct 1917) that led to overthrow of Czar and establishment of socialism in USSR.

**Factors leading to revolution**

1) Lack of political freedoms under the Czar leading to sense of injustice in people.

2) Poverty and lack of industry in Russia, unlike in west.

3) war time shortages & essential goods increased the suffering of people.

4) Role of intellectuals like Lenin

5) Social uncertainty only formed the atmosphere even more.

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## Consequences

1) Establishment of first socialist state based on equality of all
2) first direct challenge to capitalism.
3) Emancipation of women in a narrow sense.
4) Formation of USSR which would be ruled by workers.
5) In the long run → base for cold war
6) challenge to colonialism as USSR gave up its colonies

## impact on india

1) impacted the non coop movement as people were inspired by it.
2) Rise to generation of new leaders like Bose and Nehru
3) Trade movements and communists became important
4) Freedom was redefined in terms of economic & social.

Even today the ideas of socialism based on equality are relevant

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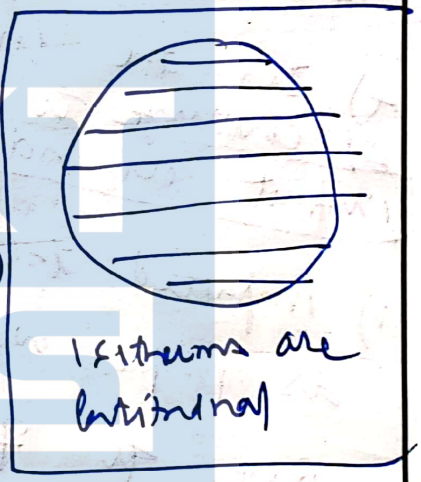
Q4

The Sun is the primary source of heat on earth and impacts the geographical distribution of temperature.

Factors responsible for uneven temperature

1) Shape of earth

because of which there is strong latitudinal control with temperature decreasing from equator to poles as angle of Sun becomes slanted.



Isotherms are latitudinal

2) Proximity equator is not the warmest due to role of cumulonimbus clouds increasing albedo.

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3) Areas at margin of ocean and continents are cooler for their latitude due to impact of ocean Breezes.

4) Role of upwelling in eastern part of oceans reduces temperature

(eg) equatorial region

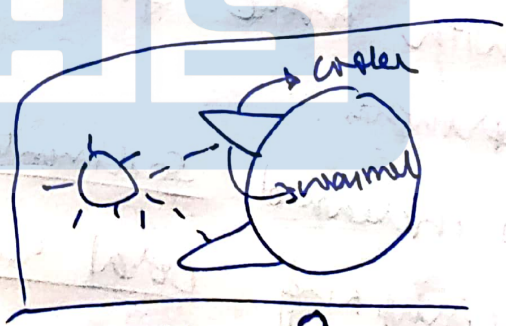
5) cold currents reduce temperature and warm currents increase it

(eg) North atlantic drift keeps europe warmer.

6) continentality also increases temp.

(eg) Gobi desert

7) Slope aspects like advect or wback as shown in figure?




The balance of temperature (heat budget) is very sensitive and can be disrupted by climate change

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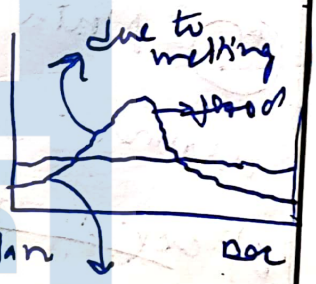
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Q7

According to a report by ICIMOD even if ~~2~~ temp rise is capped at 2°, 2/3 of glaciers can still melt leading to serious consequences for ecosystem and human society.

Effect on melting glaciers on environment

1) change in river regime with more flooding and droughts.




2) increased sedimentation of rivers damaging coral reefs and reducing formation of flood plains.

3) increased GLOF as seen in Sikkim recently.

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4) Increased landslides due to increased erosion

5) Loss of biodiversity which are dependent on the glacial ecosystem.

6) Springs will run dry (NITI report), Less groundwater.

7) Change in mass balance can cause Seismic activity disrupting the environment.

**Measures**

1) Global concerted efforts to fight climate change - root cause.

2) Cross country collaboration (eg) India Nepal.

3) Technological solutions (eg) Aerosol spray to increase Albedo.

4) More R&D to understand the patterns & melting.

Apart from this we also need to shift to Green GDP, ecological fiscal transfers and legal rights for glaciers

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Q6

The White Revolution or operation flood was launched in west India to increase milk productions and is considered a success as India is the largest milk producer in the world

**Factors for regional success**

1) Better cooperative culture in west India as compared to north.




(Eg) Even today in success of Sugar Coop. in Maharashtra.

2) Role of Amul setup in Gujrat to act as prime mover and provider of extension services

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3) Better quality of indigenous breeds of cows in west & south

4) entrepreneurship, culture & innovativity finances etc in gau-shala.

5) Better quality roads are to which milk could be transported over long distance.

In Contrast

1) Patriarchy embedded in north india along with caste considerations → economic considerations ignored (eg) role of women in sheep & Amul.

2) no technological modernisation

3) Animal husbandry relatively neglected

Way forward

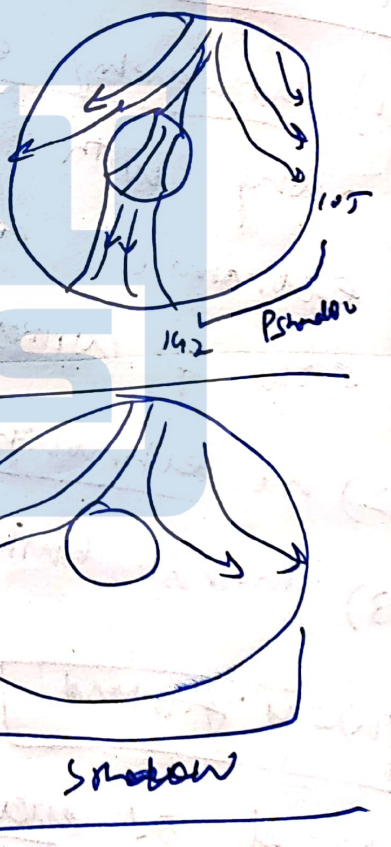
Need of evergreen revolution based on regional diversification, new products, cooperatives and sps measures.

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Q7

Earthquake waves are classified as body waves (P+S) and surface waves (L+R) and are the primary source of investigating interior of earth.

Understanding the interior




1) The speed of both P+S waves increases with depth implying density increases with depth.

2) At around 1200km below the surface there is a sudden drop in speed. This implies the

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presence of less dense asthenosphere.

3] Similarly change in speed at varying depths indicates various discontinuities such as Conrad, Moho, Gutenberg and so on.

4) The presence of P & S shadow zones has helped to identify the liquid outer core at 2900 km

5) Recently a new layer of solid core was discovered inside the inner solid core.

Seismic waves
- → Study of asteroids is also important as they were formed at the same time.
- → Study of magma from volcanoes
- → Study of textures (eg) South Sandwich rock.

Thus a combination of these studies has helped scientists form a picture of interior earth.

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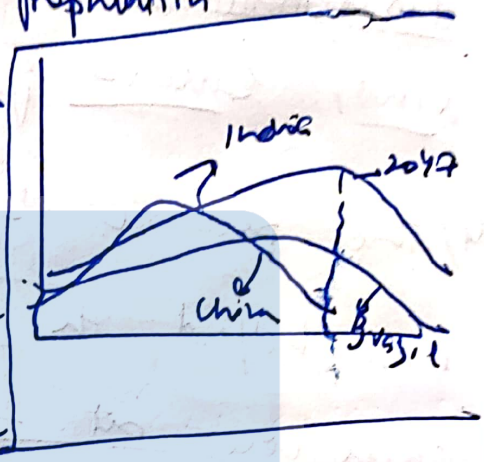
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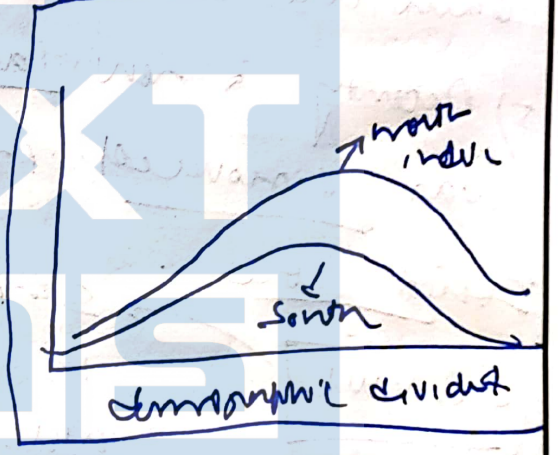
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Q8

According to UN population prospects not only is India going to see the largest demographic dividend but also the longest one.




However according to economic survey there is a clear north south divide in demographic dividend with the window already being shut in states like Kerala




Due to this population growth is a double edged sword:

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**Positive**

1) more economic growth due to more LFPR (of) seen in Japan
2) Spirit of innovation due to young population
3) inflow of new ideas, reduced patriarchy, caste and communalism.
4) increasing soft power and geopolitical importance of India

**Negative**

1) Decline in growth of south India → not good as these coastal states contribute 60% of GDP.
2) internal migration from N → S leading to conflict, language issues, clustering of crime and crime.

**Way forward**

1) promoting economic activity in north.
2) better IT connectivity
3) silver economy in south
4) Spirit of Entrepreneurship

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09

major factors of cultural contact

1) politically continuous civilizations

2) Geographical factors (eg) ① India isolated from the world ② Arab & Mongolia

3) Social aspects ⇒ culture of tolerance and assimilation

4) economic factors ⇒ agricultural economy and associated cultural values.

5) Role of urbanization in assimilation of local cultures.

6) Role of joint family in transmission of cultures.

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7) role of festivals like diwali/holi etc.

8) role of epics like Ramayan, Mahabharata

9) role of bhakti-sufi eg Adi Shankar, Ramanuj who created uniform philosophical trend.

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Q10

private life → following core values

- imbibed in children
- seen in conflict with public ideas
  - leads to latent expression of core
    - Hindu annihilation experiment.

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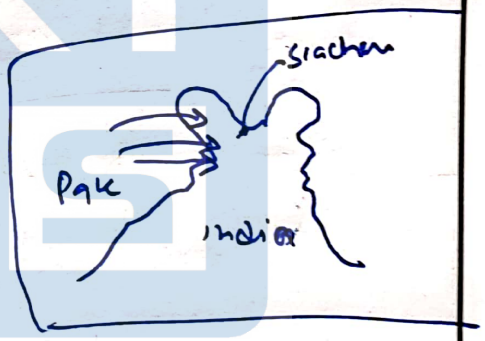
Q11

India believes in Panchsheel and peaceful Coexistence. Yet due to complex historical, ~~and~~ geopolitical, geo economic and geo strategic factors, India was forced to enter many wars.

## Indo-Pak wars

Causes

1) 1948 war: Pak sent irregulars and tribals to take over Kashmir




2) 1972 war: India was forced to intervene in liberation of Bangladesh due to




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threat of preemptive strike by Pak and also due to Uyghur movement towards India along with persecution of ~~minorities~~ minorities.

3) 1999 Kargil war: Pak again tried to take over Kashmir.

**Impact**

1) According to realist scholar Kanishka Bajpai the wars ~~have~~ have resulted in lack of trust and geopolitical competition between India & Pak.

2) failure of SAARC can also be traced to the wars.

3) Lack of people to people connect, no economic interdependence, rise of asymetric wars, role of non State actors, nuclear tests etc are all a result of the wars.

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## Indis china 1962




### Cause

1) chinas aggressive attitude, middle ceingdom syndrome and occupation of tibet

2) Forward policy of nehru, giving refugee to dalai lama and alleged training of CIA in darjeeling.

### Impact

1) According to Kanti Bajpai the war still ~~hangs~~ like a Banquus ghost on india china relations.

2) The conflict, tension and confrontation of indo-china can be traced to this war.

Today there is possibility of a 2 front war for which india has modernised its border infra, army and new steps like integrated battle groups.

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The beginning of British political rule of India can be traced to wars such as Battle of Plassey (1757) and Battle of Buxar (1764).

## Battle of Plassey




1) The British were led by Robert Clive against Indians led by Nawab Siraj ud daula

2) The British won due to treachery of Manik chand, Omichand and Raj Ballabh.

3) It established the British as the emerging power

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as they were able to defeat the most important ruler of India.

However Battle of Buxar was even more consequential

1) instead of treachery, the British won this war by superior planning, leadership of Hector Monroe and superior weapons.

2) By the treaty of Allahabad they got the right to collect revenue of Bengal. This fund allowed them to expand all over India in the next 100 years (eg) defeat French & Marathas

3) By appointing the deputy subadar they were able

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to control Bengal. This form of indirect control later led to Subsidiary alliance treaty.

4) They experimented with revenue systems as the collection of revenue which led to impoverishment and deindustrialisation of India, strengthening their control even more.

5) Due to Bengal coast they were able to expand their trade which led to drain of wealth from India.

The occupation intensified over the years, but also gave rise to a sense of nationalism. In 1857 the first war of independence marked a new era of modern history.

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Q13

Literature is writing that is considered to be of high value and merit. Various forms of Indian literature include Sanskrit, Prakrit and Pali.

**Sanskrit literature as high material**

1) The 4 vedas (Rig, Yajur, Sama, Atharva) are poetic in nature and have been recognized as world heritage literature.

2) The Upanishads have tremendous literary merit and deal with various themes like religion,

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learning, Common life, history etc

3) The epics of Ramayan and Mahabharata not only embellished sanscrit literature but also form a part of our identity.

4) Some Buddhist literature like Buddhacharitra were also written in Sanskrit and are excellent specimen.

5) Arthashastra of Kautilya epitomises strategic thought written in Sanskrit language

6) Mahabashya - a commentry on Sanskrit grammar is also considered important.

The highest watermark was Gupta era

1) The works of Kalidasa such as Abhijanang Shakuntalam, Raghuvamsha Vikramuvashi, Meghdoot are

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Considered literary Jewels and are read even today.

2) Verses of aryabhatt in sanskrit talked about Pi, solar system etc.

3) Verses of varahmihir and later in Bavabhuti (2nd century)

4) Plays such as Devi chandragupta mudrarakshas etc

**Criticism**

AL Basham has criticised sanskrit literature as verbose, ornamental and written to please the rulers.

Nevertheless govt has taken various steps to promote sanskrit such as Sahitya academy, National Culture fund, and teaching Sanskrit in schools.

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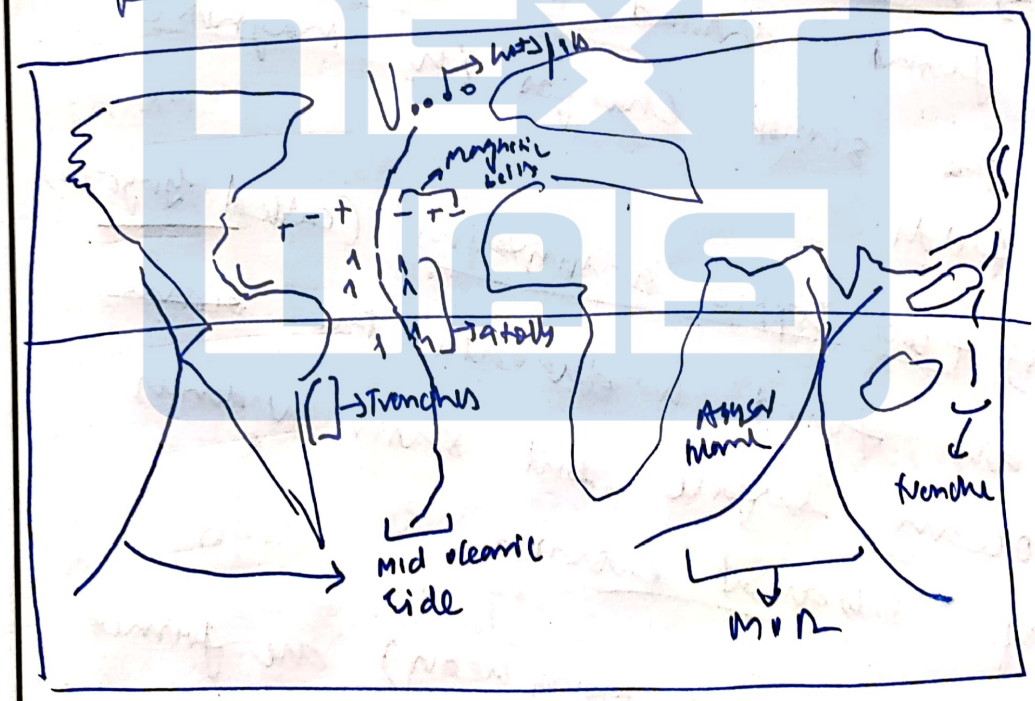
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Q14

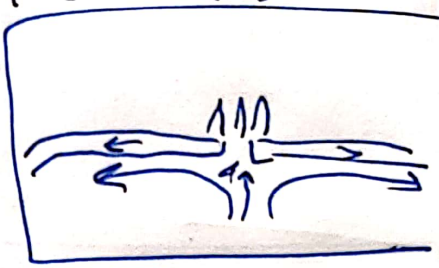
The ocean floor is not a flat ~~fea~~ featureless surface but has features like mid oceanic ridges, flat topped mountains, alternating magnetic belts, hotspots and trenches.




various features of ocean surface

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1) Mid oceanic ridge is the area where new ocean floor is being formed due to magma convection current. This is why ocean floor is not more than 200 million years old.



Ridges also have hotspot volcanisms.

2) Alternating bands of magnetism are found around the mid ridges showing the actual changes in magnetic fields.

3) Flat topped mountains (called guyots) are found underneath the ocean surface but show evidences of subaerial erosion.

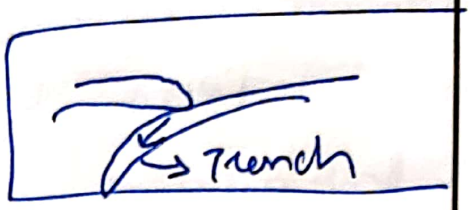
4) Hotspots (eg Hawaii) are formed from deep ocean magma and show the direction of movement

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of plates.

5) Trenches are the areas of subduction of ocean plates, are associated with high degree of volcanism.




6) Mountain ranges along ocean-continent margin show accretionary prism of sedimentary rocks as the rocks are upthrust due to tectonics

7) ocean continent margin has features like ocean wire, slope and shelf.

The discovery of these features in 1960s and their interpretation led to the plate tectonic theory.

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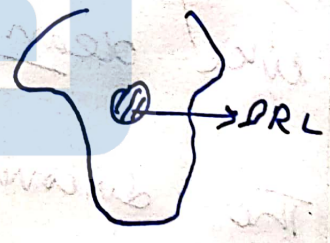
Q15

Rare earth elements are called 'Rare' because it is difficult to extract them or they are present in small quantities. Eg

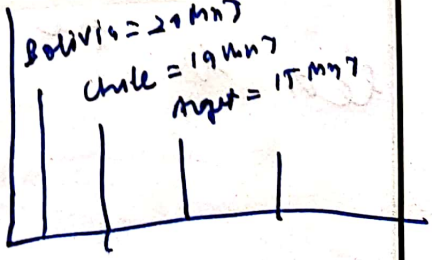
Recently India identified a list of 30 REE like Cobalt, Lithium, Gallium, Silicon etc

**Distribution of REE**

1) Cobalt: 85% Cobalt is extracted from democratic republic of congo.




2) Lithium: it is found in Boliva, chile and Argentina apart from




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Rock based lithium in Australia. ~~Recently~~
Recently India discovered 6mnt in J&K.

3) Lanthanoids: found in Australia and Kazakhstan.

4) China has important reserves of almost all critical elements. Further it has also controlled the supply chains by signing of long term futures contracts.

Uses → used in various industries.

1) Electric vehicles: Cobalt used in motors and lithium in batter

2) defence: Hitech minerals are essential for defence industry (Eg) Neodium magnets

3) Medical devices such as MRI scanners use rare earth elements

4) Entire electronic industry, Computer industry, chip making

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industry, Quantum and AI cannot develop without REE like Silicon.

5) Space tech (eg) recent chandrayaan 3 uses all forms of REE.

## Environmental impact

1) Lithium is extracted just like salt and hence cause contamination of water and shortage of water.

2) Extraction of cobalt has led to destruction of pristine forests.

3) Polymetallic nodules can lead to destruction of unique biodiversity of ocean floor.

## Way forward

1) Sustainable and resilient supply chains.

2) Profit of extraction to local people

3) Reduction in demand by promoting circular economy.

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Q16

Tourism contributes 10% to GDP and leads not just to development but also soft power and national integration.

However tourism is threatening to exceed the carrying capacity:

1) unscientific managed tourism with only few famous areas being promoted which lead to excess of influx (eg) shimla.

2) modern means of transport, IT Connectivity etc which has made tourism approachable to most people more so with rising disposable income.

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3) Corruption and greens, due to which illegal construction in tourist spots are ignored (eg) resorts etc.

## Potential environmental impacts

1) Local biodiversity will be lost due to increased pressure.

2) Alien species invasion (eg) tall canny wm.

3) Melting of glaciers (eg) chandanwari in pahalgam in kashmir melting due to high footfall.

4) water streams polluted and springs running dry.

5) Landslides due to infrastructure development (eg) recently seen in shimla.

6) Increased soil pollution due to use of plastics

7) increased air and noise pollution

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of existing areas.

5) change of ecological character (eg) loss of sand from beaches.

9) Fragmentation of habitat to provide facilities for tourists.

**Measures to ensure sustainable tourism**

1) Regulate the number of tourists visiting (eg) put a cap.

2) Diversify to new areas.

3) New forms of tourism (eg) Home stay, eco tourism, health tourism

4) Banning of plastic, promoting green transport in hilly areas.

5) Development in line with local topography and needs.

6) Raising awareness among tourists about the sensitive nature.

Recently launched MISSION LIFE has been applauded by world tourism organisation as key to Sustainable tourism

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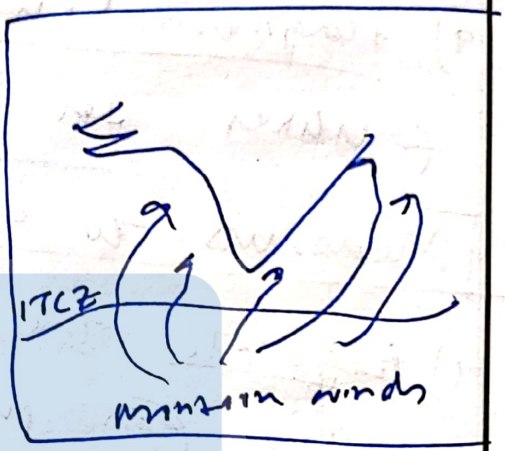
Question No. प्रश्न संख्या

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Q17

The indian monsoon is a system of ~~systems~~ winds that impact not just the economy and environment but also the culture of india.

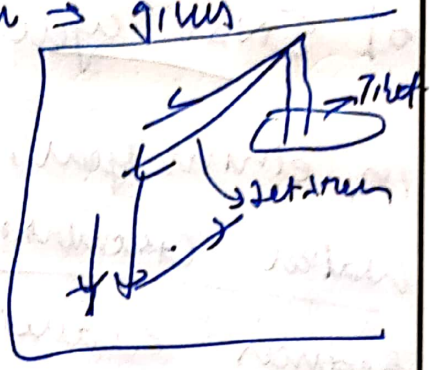



Role of oceanic and atmospheric factors in determining the intensity and distribution of monsoon

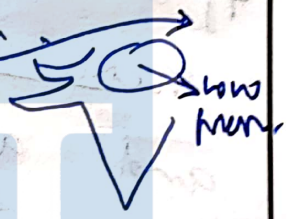
1) Position of ITCZ: as ITCZ shifts north with the shift in apparent position of sun, the westerlies enter india in the form of monsoon winds

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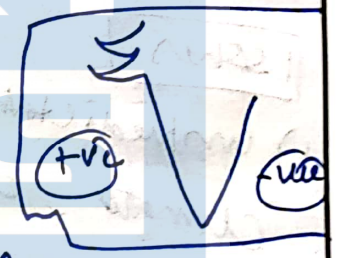
2) Role of Tibetan Plateau → gives rise to tropical easterly jetstream which sinks at anticyclonic high and push winds towards India



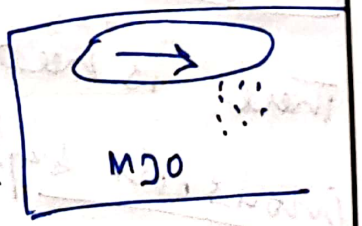

3) Role of western disturbance → the subtropical westerly jetstream creates a low pressure over northern plains which forces the winds in




4) Indian ocean dipole comes with monsoon trough to impart rain. Positive IOD leads to more rains in India.



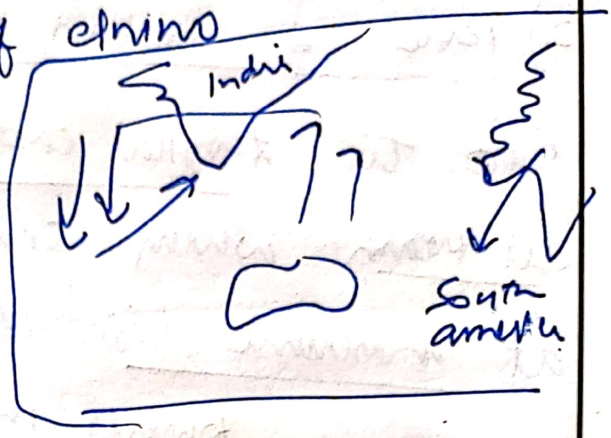

5) Madden Julian oscillation are tropical rain bearing systems that travel from west to east and impart rains.




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6) ENSO cycle of elnino




In elnino year, water circulation reduces, reducing monsoon rain.

In lanina it increases, increasing the rain.

7) Other factor include role of Arctic ice, temperature & precipi and aerosol concentration.

**Issues**

1) unpredictable changes to due to climate change

**way forward**

There is need for more R&D in monsoon systems, adaptations and mitigations and above all fighting climate change.

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Q18

Traditions are old ways of life that are taken as acceptable by a society.

Traditions in our society impede change as:

1) They create super structures of power that are difficult to challenge eg deference towards authority led to lack of democracy in indi

2) Traditions create role expectations and promote social orientation for opposing them eg Caste system.

3) They also impede change as people internalise traditions and

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accept them as normal (eg) patriarchy may be internalized by women.

4) Traditions curb scientific thinking and Rationalism which can form the basis of change (eg) evil of superstition.

5) Traditions may claim religious backing and hence no one will challenge them (eg) small General mutation

6) Traditions often have an economic aspect due to which they are difficult to challenge (eg) Caste system was primarily economic in nature.

7) Traditions develop a (soft power) where in they are seen as defining element of a people and hence not challenged.

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Social legislation can be instrumental:

1) It creates the fear of law against wrong traditions (eg) sati abolition act.

2) It gives the aggrieved people protection of state (eg) intercaste marriage

3) It sets precedents in society (eg) age of marriage act.

However

1) Law can act as best as a deterrent, what is needed is social change

Way forward

1) Raising awareness and social concerns on negative social traditions

2) Promoting and protecting our positive traditional values (eg) bharat, vasudeva centuries

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Q1a

According to a report of UNDP almost 17% of indian urban population live in slums with Dharvi being among the largest slums of world.

Traditionally slums have been seen as 'problems' to be solved

1) Physical eviction of slum dwellers and police action.
2) Denial of basic rights like water, electricity and sanitation.
3) Relocation of slums or covering up of slums (eg) Done during Donald Trumps visit to India.
4) Reducing in migration

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However how they are seen in a more holistic manner'.

1) Vested urban policies that invest in infrastructure only in some areas

(eg) DLF in Gurugram → best infra Sector 57 onwards → slums.

2) Land mafia that force poor people to sell their lands and live in slums

3) Municipal bodies not able to provide electricity, water, sanitation giving rise to slum living conditions.

4) Socio economic issues such as Caste-class overlap (Prof. Yogendra Yadav) due to which low caste poor people are forced to live in slums.

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5) ~~High~~ High income distance and high cost of living in urban areas along with high inequality that lead to people forced to live in slums.

6) Recent clashes in Nuh also highlighted how communalism leads to ghettoisation and slum development.

7) Modern slavery of domestic workers who are paid low and hence live in slums.

**way forward**

1) Holistic development of cities with proper civic amenities

2) Reducing income distance and proper remuneration for workers.

3) Retrofitting and physical redevelopment of slums

to ensure social.

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Communalism is a feeling of excessive sense of group belonging. In modern times it is associated with religion and seen as a challange to nationalism.

**Communalism and economic deprivation**

According to Ashtosh Varshney Communalism is increased due to economic deprivation as the other community is seen as exploiter. Further it reinforces backwardness and role of traditional elements. It stops flow of education, and social mobility and new

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(deas.

(eg) mapilla rebellion was economic but gained communal overtones.

## Communalism and social exclusion

1) Social exclusion creates mistrust between communities which in turn leads to communalism.

2) Due to social exclusion stereotypes develop among communities and they aren't able to see that their economic concerns are same.

3) Social exclusion leads to ghettoisation which increases communal tendencies.

(eg) In recent North east delhi riots, areas where 2 communities live together saw no untoward incidents.

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Creates fertile ground for discontent & division

According to Paul Brass economic and social exclusion leads to rise of political demagogues in all communities. Such politicians use divide and rule to increase divisions and stay in power. They don't care about economic or social development leading to even more communalism

Way forward

1) Holistic economic development
2) Promoting interactions between communities, role of elders, Celebration of common festivals.
3) Laws to deal with communal violence

Above all there is need for truth, reconciliation and tolerance to defend composite