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NEXT IAS

NEXT IAS (Head Office) : 27-B, Pusa Road, Metro Pillar no. 118, Near Karol Bagh Metro, New Delhi-110060
Bhopal Centre: Plot No. 46, ZONE-2, M.P. Nagar, Bhopal-462011
Ph: 8081300200, 8827664612 | E-mail : mts@nextias.com | **Web:** www.nextias.com

(To be filled by candidate)

Name of Candidate : Aryan Sharma

NEXT IAS Roll No.: GSPM23B13100 → AIM24GCL1006 Date of Examination : 26-08-2023

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☑ Bhopal ☐ Online ☐

Test Code : TC ~~004~~ 055

Time Taken : 10:30 - 01:30

Program : FLT ☐ FLT+ ☐ SLT ☐ SLT+ ☑

MAIN TEST SERIES 2023
(TEST-9)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This Question-cum Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 56 pages. Immediately on receipt of the booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.

Candidates must read the instructions on this page and the following pages carefully before attempting the paper.

Candidates should attempt the questions strictly in accordance with the instructions specified in the question paper and in the space prescribed under each question in the booklet. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.

Question paper will be provided separately and can be taken by the candidates after conclusion of the exam.

.....

SUBJECT/PAPER
GENERAL STUDIES

Invigilator's Sign. : .....

[To be filled by the STUDENT]

Student's Queries for the Evaluator (if any write them below)

[To be filled by the EXAMINER]

Evaluator's response

(For filling by Examiners only)

Evaluator Code :

Q.No	Pg No.	Maximum Marks		Marks	Total
1	1				
2	3				
3	5				
4	7				
5	9				
6	11				
7	13				
8	15				
9	17				
10	19				
11	21				
12	24				
13	27				
14	30				
15	33				
16	36				
17	39				
18	42				
19	45				
20	48				
Grand Total					

Signature

MACRO COMMENTS

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2. Do not write anything other than the actual answers to the questions anywhere inside your QCA Booklet.
3. Do not tear off any leaves from your QCA Booklet, if you find any page missing do not fail to notify the supervisor/ invigilator.
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2. Write your registration number and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover of QCA Booklet.
3. Write legibly and neatly. Do not write in bad/illegible handwritings.
4. For rough notes or calculation, the last two blank pages of this booklet should be used. The rough notes should be crossed through afterwards.
5. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it or write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be evaluated.
6. Handover your QCA Booklet personally to the invigilator before leaving the examination hall.

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1. कई विदेशी यात्रियों ने समय–समय पर विजयनगर साम्राज्य के बारे में अपनी टिप्पणियों को स्पष्ट रूप से प्रलेखित किया है, और इसके इतिहास के पुनर्निर्माण के लिए मूल्यवान स्रोत प्रस्तुत किए हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Numerous foreign travellers have vividly documented their observations of the Vijayanagara Empire over time, offering valuable sources for reconstructing its history. Elucidate.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Vijaynagara empire was a crucial part of Indian medevial history lasting from 13th to 17th century. Founded by Harihara and Bukka-I, but prospered under Krishna Dev Raya.



Fig 1.

Foreign travellers and their contribution to reconstruct its past :—

1) **Social Life :-** Domingo Paes came to Vijay Nagar empire and gave various ascept of society such as caste system prevalent, Sati is present, Brahmins condition is very good, women also taking part in public sphere activities.

2) **Political construct :** Nikitin travelogue gave

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a vivid description of political life as king used to administer law and order himself, Brahmins take care of temple administration, king listens to his ministers carefully.

③ **Cultural life:** Abdur Razzak when reached Dev Raya-II court and how he describes the culture of hunting an elephant, celebration of festivals, etc. muslim men in army of Vijaynagar.

④ **Economic life:** Prevalence of irrigation tax, customs and war booty forms major share. Also Dev Raya-I constructed a bridge for water security.

⑤ **Women:** There were accounts which refer to women being participating in activities such as wrestling etc.

Vijaynagar empire was the one of greatest empire which later disintegrated into empires such as Madurai region empires.

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2. 'आदि शंकराचार्य की विचारों के प्रतीत होने वाले अप्रासंगिक विश्वदृष्टिकोण को एकजुट करने में महत्त्वपूर्ण भूमिका थी।' इस संदर्भ में उनके दार्शनिक विचार और भारतीय दर्शन पर उसके स्थायी प्रभाव की चर्चा कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

'Adi Shankaracharya had a profound role in uniting seemingly irreconcilable worldviews of thought'. In this context discuss his philosophical thought and its lasting impact on Indian philosophy.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

ADI Shankracharya a 11th century philosphical reformer was born in Kerala but his ideas spread across the world.

Philosphical thought of Adi Shankracharya :

* He was part of Vedantic Philosphy of Hinduism and advocated for **Advaitsaad** i.e Non-Dualism or monoism which means that he considers both soul and body as the one and required for each other's functioning.

* It was basically against what Ramanujam gave as Dvaitsaad (Dualism) earlier in 8th-9th CE

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* He also revived Hinduism by making 4 Maths (worship places) across India

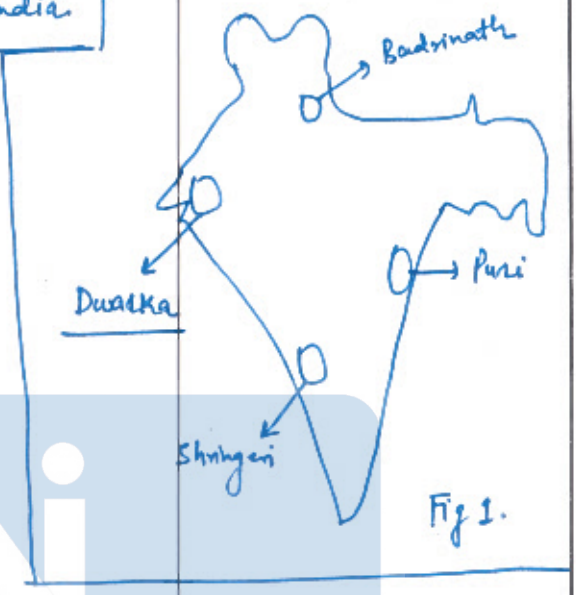


Fig 1.

* Adi Shankracharya advocated for love and devotion and ~~but~~ said that education could lead to Moksha attainment

Impact on Indian Philosphy :-

- Later Vallabhacharya gave the concept of Qualified Dualism (Vishit Advaitsaad)
- Influenced the Bhakti movement from south to North.
- Even in contemporary literature, it is used to spread harmony (Vasudev Kutumbakam).

PM paid tribute to Shankracharya in 2022 by erecting a tall statue. ig

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3. क्या आप इस बात से सहमत हैं कि जाति समस्या पर डॉ. बी आर अंबेडकर का दृष्टिकोण सामाजिक से अधिक राजनीतिक था? साथ ही सामाजिक सुधार के उद्देश्य से किए गए उनके प्रयासों पर भी प्रकाश डालिये।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Do you agree that Dr BR Ambedkar's view of the caste problem was more political than social? Also highlight his efforts aimed at social reform.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Dr BR Ambedkar, born and brought up in a lower caste family after studying became a radical critique of caste and wanted to eliminate it in form of every sphere of life.

View of caste more as political than social :-

① As he advocates for reservation, also supported the communal award, thus demanding greater representation.

② Also against the view of Scheduled Caste not allowed in education or are harassed. Thus feels that Education could liberate them.

As more social than political :

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(1) Asking to convert from Hinduism to Buddhism

(2) Believes that Hinduism has more evils in terms of caste oppression and thus socially castes are more oppressed.

(3) Against social discrimination of not allowing lower Caste to drink water.

In my view, Dr BR Ambedkar views are more social than political to get rid of caste problems.

Reforms he undertook:

- 'Bhashikrit Bharat' published in 1920
- Mahad Satyagrah in 1927.
- All India Scheduled Caste Federation 1942
- Poona Pact 1932

Dr BR Ambedkar devoted entire life for getting lower Caste out of opression, and those efforts are today replicated in our Constitution.

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4. विश्व के महासागरों के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में समुद्री लवणता किस प्रकार भिन्न होती है, और इन विविधताओं में कौन से कारक योगदान देतें हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

How does oceanic salinity vary across different regions of the world's oceans, and what factors contribute to these variations? (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Ocean salinity is defined as amount of dissolved material present in a water body. It varies latitudnaly as well as longitudnally

Variation of oceanic salinity across regions :- FACTORS

(1) Insolation - Insolation recieved at tropics is higher as cloud over equator inhibits it thus salinity more at 0 topics than equator.

(2) Wind flow : Easterlies flow strongly in South Westerlies hemisphere than Northern thus more evaporation & more salinity.

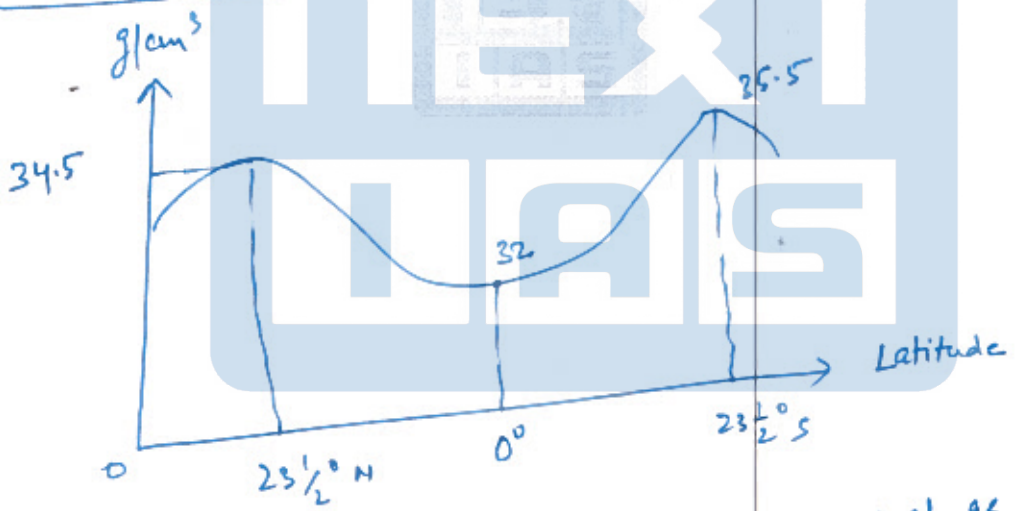
(3) Ocean Cuments : Ocean currents such as North Atlantic Drift bring the salty water towards Europe

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(4) **Rivers:** Since Northern part has more landmass thus more rivers flow from land to sea and thus lesser salinity in North.

(5) **Ice melting** In the polar regions, due to climate change Ice is melting thus reducing oceanic salinity.

These all factors contribute to variation as :-



- Also variation occurs due to local factors such as Closed boundaries along Gulf - making it more saline.

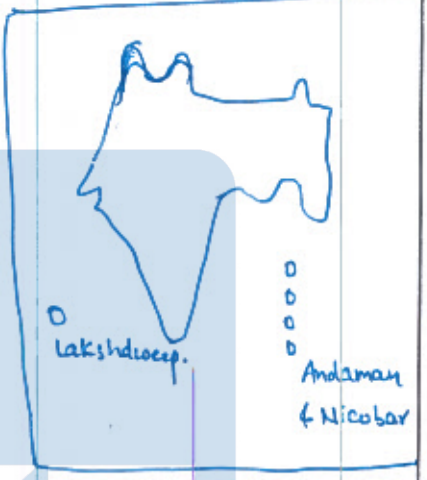
Global warming is weakening the Atlantic circulation which effects salinity and could be determinental to biodiversity and human coastal population.

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5. बंगाल की खाड़ी और हिंद महासागर में भारतीय द्वीपों की उत्पत्ति की व्याख्या कीजिए।
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Explain the origin of Indian islands in the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean.
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Indian islands represent a unique ascept in terms of habitation (tribal), culture and huge biodiversity (part of Biodiversity hotspots).



Origin of Indian Islands :-

(A) In Indian Ocean : BAY OF BENGAL

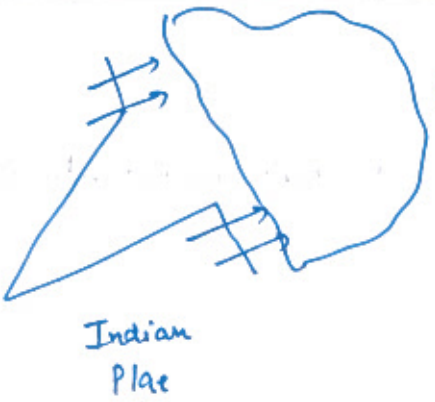
✓ Andaman and Nicobar island are formed just as an extension of Arakanoma mountains (which were formed due to collsion of Indo-Eurasian plate)

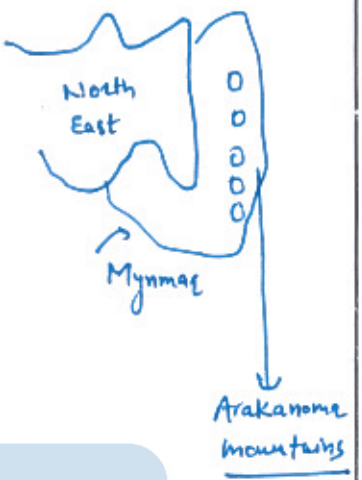
✓ Thus, they represent origin related to Continental -

- Continental Plate Convergency

✓ Volcanic activity was there due to presence of water body

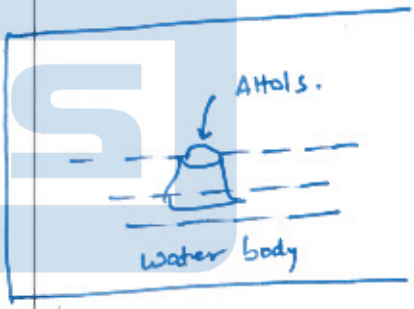
Candidates must not write on this margin





(B) **In Indian Ocean :-**

- Lakshdweeps have coral origin and represent the atols which are last stage after formation of fringing, barrier reef.
- No volcanic activity is present.



- other islands such as Mauritius and Maldives also represent the same type of origin.

As per IPCC, avg 6.2 mm rise per year in sea level, will be greatly threatening to Island ecosystem, thus Conservation efforts are needed.

Candidates must not write on this margin

6. भारत के भूजल संकट में योगदान देने वाले कारकों और देश में कृषि और जल सुरक्षा पर इसके प्रभाव की जाँच कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Examine the factors contributing to India's groundwater crisis, and its implications for agriculture and water security in the country. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

As per CGWA, 16% of blocks in India are overexploited and 45% are in severe category as per survey of 2022.

Factors:

- Huge agriculture demand (85% in Punjab and Haryana)
- Rising Urbanisation leading to encroachment of urban water bodies.
- Climate change leading to frequent droughts in lakes drying up faster.
- Rising population and its demands of drinking water
- Available water is too unfit for drinking
  eg: 300 polluted river streches across India
  rivers.

Implications on :

Candidates must not write on this margin

(A) **Agriculture :-**

① As 80-85% groundwater in India is absorbed by agriculture alone, its scarcity will mean more and more water pumps (increase in irrigation subsidy), more fertilizer so that crop can be productive (increase in fertiliser subsidy), less agricultural productivity will mean threat to food security, farmers losing income and more people being pushed to poverty as 14 cr household are agricultural dependent.

(B) **Water Security.**

NITI Aayog says 25L people die each year and 60 cr are facing water shortage already, and more of water we will mean there numbers will increase for worse. Thus impacting the livlihood of poors more worse. and urban areas suffering from water quality.

Amrit Kaal gives India an opportunity to progress itself towards SDG6 by making water resources healthy and thus fulfilling everyone's demand.

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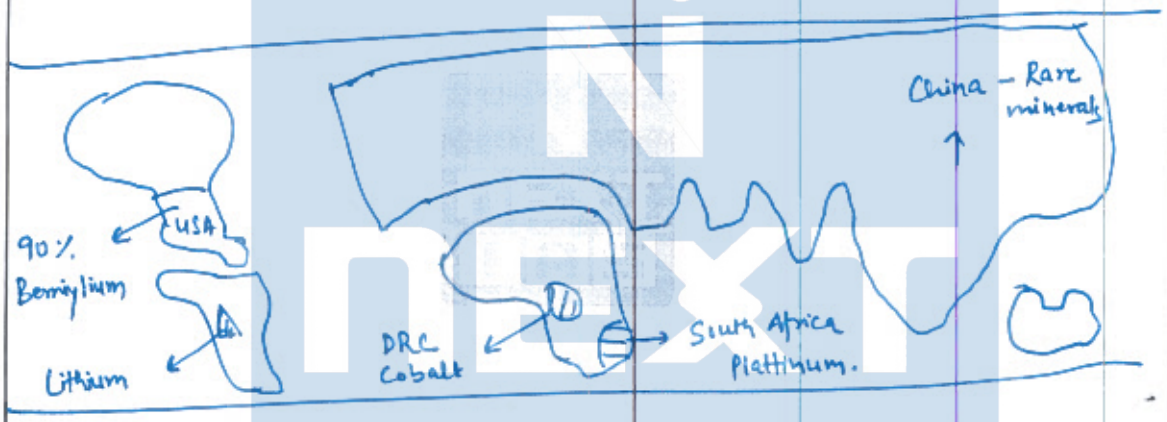
7. दुर्लभ खनिज क्या हैं, और वे तकनीकी प्रगति और राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा को कैसे प्रभावित करते हैं?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

What are critical minerals, and how do they influence technological advancement and national security?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Critical minerals are the ones which are going to be of immense importance in the advancing technological arena but the problem is that their extraction is difficult.



Global Distribution of some critical minerals.

Influence in Technological Advancement:

(1) **Electronics:** — As the world is moving towards AI, every device approximately require critical minerals such as Platinum & Hafnium.

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(2) **Magnetism :** Critical minerals are very magnetically active & thus have applications in Camera and film making industry

(3) Reduction in size of devices due to wafer like nature of materials.

(4) Used in Green Technology eg :- Ev cars.

In National Security :

- Defence sector is very much dependent due to changing speeds of warfare from tank to precision guided attacks.
- Cyber attacks which has been increasing as per NCRB reached 52% from 28% in 2016, so technology updation is required using these minerals
- Strategic interest as it will lead to less dependency on imports of oil, as green energy production will be easier.

India needs to increase its R&D budget (0.8% GDP currently) so that it do not miss the bus in advancing technology sector due to critical minerals.

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8. भारतीय समाज के भीतर बहुलवाद को बढ़ावा देना राष्ट्र–निर्माण के प्रयास में कैसे योगदान देता है?
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

How does fostering pluralism within Indian society contribute to the endeavour of nation-building?
(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

"There are as many religions in this world as the number of men"
— Mahatma Gandhi

represents the plural society we are living in.

Fostering Pluralism: Endeavour National Building

1) **Universalism:** It instills the value of universal thought and respecting each culture equally as taught by Swami Vivekanand.

2) **Egalitarianism:** Individual rights and community rights of each society are treated at par

(3) **Eliminates the threat to National security:-**

It eliminates the internal violence, if we respect diversity and plural thoughts are upheld

Candidates must not write on this margin

Eg :- Recent Nuh violence is example of lack of pluralism in society.

(4) **Fraternity :** many societies living at one single place lead to flow of cultural ideas (eg :- Islam teaches brotherhood, thus helping to foster Fraternity & leading to a strong nation.

(5) Helps to improve the image at Global order and in emerging as Global leader.

But recently, Indian society has faced some threats to plural society due to diverging views, radicalism on social media, political hate speaches, fake news etc.

Government Initiatives such as "Ek Bharat, Shresth Bharat" will help Indian society to leave in harmony, thus are the need of hour.

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9. उभरती गिग अर्थव्यवस्था के कारण श्रमिक वर्ग को जिन समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, उनकी बदलती प्रकृति की चर्चा कीजिये। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Discuss the changing nature of problems the working class is facing due to the emerging gig economy. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

As per NITI Aayog, Gig economy will contribute 2.34 crore workers (currently ~ 80 Lakhs) by the end of this decade.

Changing nature of problem vis-a-vis working class :

(1) **Social security:** Though, Gig economy workers are included in Labour codes but as they are not implemented yet, the social security net is not available for them

(2) **Hasty Jobs :** Quick delivery items necessitating workers to break the traffic rules, thus a double whammy one for worker (contributing to his mental stress) and second a law & order problem.

(3) **Women workers :** Though, it has given an

Candidates must not write on this margin

extra opportunity, but as work is not stable no timely schedules, thus making it a tough job for women.

For eg: women need to work at night.

④ **Employer- Employee relations:** As some big companies clearly stated that Gig economy leading to moonlighting is not legal & ethical creating the problems for employers. eg:- TCS

⑤ **Poor working conditions:** As there is no regulatory body or pressure group working in this sector leading to Gig workers working under adverse condition.

6.) No insurance provisions aviable.

7) Less Social acceptance for such jobs.

India on the path of $5 Trillion economy, can be acheived by using Gig economy but making sure that workers do not suffer, thus regulation is needed.

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10. वैश्वीकरण के परिणामस्वरूप समरूपीकरण की प्रवृत्ति ने वास्तव में भारत की स्थानीय संस्कृतियों को संरक्षित किया और बढ़ावा दिया है। टिप्पणी कीजिये (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Homogenisation tendencies as a result of globalisation have in fact preserved and promoted the local cultures of India. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

"Globalisation will create our societies more prosperous but at the same time will make them more vulnerable"

It was said in 2001 and seems true today.

Globalisation leading to Homogenisation

- Economic integration (Trade)
- Political (Multilaterals)
- Cultural (Cosophere Festival)
- Climate change (Conference of Parties)

Promoting and preserving Local culture:-

(1) Multinational companies taking care of this eg:- McDonald during Navratra Thali offered by Navratri.

(2) Festival Celebration by Indian Diaspora leads to increasing influence of our culture. eg:- Chutney festival in Guyana is mix of our & their traditions.

Candidates must not write on this margin

③ Tribal folk and art : Tourism to tribal places and tribal art representing at events such as Aadi Mahotsav (February 2023) leads to preserving it.

④ Yoga and Ayurveda : have got a global recognition. eg:- Global centre of traditional medicine at Jamnagar.

⑤ Indian cuisine getting famous in the globe

⑥ Diwali and Holi celebration by Sikhs in Canada and Australia.

Threat to Local culture : → Waltmartisation, → McDonaldisation, → Materialism.

- G20 and its logo of Vasudev Kutumbakam should be the manage of every country of globe to ensure local cultures sustain for generation.

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11. वे कौन सी परिस्थितियाँ थीं जिनके कारण सोवियत संघ का विघटन हुआ और शीत युद्ध की समाप्ति हुई? शीत युद्ध की समाप्ति ने विश्व भर में वैश्वीकरण के प्रसार में किस प्रकार योगदान दिया?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15अंक

What are the circumstances that led to the disintegration of the USSR and the end of the Cold War? How did the end of the cold war contribute to the spread of Globalization across the world?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

USSR disintegrated in 1991, after a brief period of Cold war (1948 - 1991) but the disintegration was not sudden, it had many factors.

Factors leading to this :-

(1) **Social Factors :**

↳ Workers in factories are resenting due to poor working conditions.

↳ Due to communist policies, agriculture was less productive thus hunger & food insecurity.

(2) **Political Factors :**

↳ Spread of democratic ideas in Eastern Europe eg: East Germany.

Candidates must not write on this margin

↳ Against communist ideology.

(3) **Economic Factors!**

↳ GDP growth was negative in provinces other than Russia in USSR.

↳ Less infrastructure & roads.

(4) Ideological ideas spread by Intellectuals.

(5) **Role of Gorbachev**

Glasnost

(openness ie freedom of speech)

↓

people becoming aware

Perestroika

(Economic restructuring)

↓

~~Towards~~ Away from communist policies.

Contributing to spread of Globalisation!

i) Decline of such a <u>major power</u> led to many bilateral relations being formed.

Candidates must not write on this margin

2) Resource rich regions such as Kazakstan in Uranium led to FDI inflows into these countries.

3) Western part of USSR, started moving towards capitalist ideology ensuring good relations with Western Europe.

4) Russia itself emerged as pioneer in Globalization making relations with India, Pakistan and China.

USSR disintegration gave a lesson to world to ensure that each country is fully sovereign and thus respecting each other's territorial boundary which must also be the principle in today's world.

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12. हड़प्पा सभ्यता की स्थायी विरासत ने अचानक पतन के बाद भी भारतीय संस्कृति के विकास पर किस प्रकार अपनी छाप छोड़ी? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15अंक

How did the enduring legacy of the Harappan Civilization leave a mark on the evolution of Indian culture, even after its sudden decline? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Harappan civilisation emerged in 3300 BC, matured in 2600 BC and declined towards the 1900 & 1800 BC, but left a mark on Indian culture for centuries to come.

Reasons for decline: → Though no reason was much established, only theories are there such as due to earthquake, flooding or Aryan Invasion.

Enduring Legacy : Leaving a mark on evolution of Indian culture

(1) **Lost wax technique:** which was found in Harappan era even practised today in the pastoral India.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(2) **Ritual Bath** as seen in the Harappan civilisation in Mohenjodaro was still practised in many villages and holy places of country.

(3) **Seals and Sculptures:** such as dancing Girl of Mohenjodaro, represents the knowledge Indian people had at that time. Though their writing was not deciphered it is a source of literature still

(4) **Influenced the Chalcolithic culture:** Ahar Banas and Malwa culture of Gujrat represents Links b and they evolved due to influence of Harappan civilisation.

(5) Mesopotamian seals represent the trade links b/w Mesopotamia and Harappa.

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Learnings for Present day :-

1.) Toilets and Kitchen are diagonally located, ensuring hygeine – can be used in Swach Bharat mission.



2) Drainage facilities was proper as covered – can be used to check spread of diseases.

3) Residential and Administrative area clearly demarcated – use in Urban development.

4) Sectoral division of city into numerous sectors as witnessed today in Chandigarh

Harappan civilisation thus was not only a source of influence for other civilisations which came after that but also in our present life of urban cities.

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13. खलिफ़त आंदोलन में महात्मा गांधी की भागीदारी ने विभिन्न मुद्दों को जोड़ने और विभिन्न समुदायों को एक सामान्य उद्देश्य के लिए एकजुट करने की उनकी क्षमता को कैसे दर्शाया? खलिफ़त आंदोलन ने किस हद तक अपना उद्देश्य प्राप्त किया? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15अंक

How did Mahatma Gandhi's participation in the Khilafat Movement illustrate his ability to connect diverse issues and mobilize different communities towards a common cause? To what extent did the Khilafat movement achieve its objective? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Khilafat movement came in the backdrop of Europear powers taking up the West Asia & Turky region into their hands during the World War-I.

Participation of Mahatma Gandhi :-

- All India Khilafat Committee, organised its meet in Delhi and requested Mahatma Gandhi to lead the movement.
- Mahatma Gandhi saw this as an opportunity of uniting Hindu-Muslims and generating a mass movement.
- Also at that time, other causes were present like rising prices due to inflation

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and William Hunter report belying expectation of Indians of Rowlett issue.

① So Gandhiji asked Congress to support on the above issues and it lead to a bigger movement.

② This all shows Gandhi's ability, to join diverse communities (Hindu-Muslim) and also he appealed for women to boycott foreign utensils & clothes, and students to boycott foreign schools and colleges. thus ensuring participation from their ends too.

Khilafat movement vis-a-vis its objectives :-

① ~~Khila~~ Holy land was returned to them, thus marking it as a success.

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(2) But soon due to crisis in that region it went away from their hands.

(3) So, it fulfilled only its short term objective.

(4) For INC, it formed into Non-cooperation movement which proved a huge blow for Britishers and made Indian people realised that British rule is not invicible.

Though, Khilafat ensured a Hindu-Muslim highly united but it did not lasted longer and soon both diverged. so it was the peak of Hindu-Muslim unity.

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14. ट्रांजिट ओरिएंटेड डेवलपमेंट (टीओडी) एक धारणीय शहरी परिवहन प्रणाली की अवधारणा से किस प्रकार जुड़ा है? नागरिकों के जीवन की समग्र गुणवत्ता में सुधार पर इसके प्रभाव पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15अंक

How is Transit Oriented Development(TOD) linked to the concept of a sustainable urban transportation system? Discuss its impact on overall enhanced quality of life for citizens.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Urbanisation at present content is ~35% in India and estimated to be around 55% by end of 2050 (UN World Development Report) will require better urban transportation system to cater those needs.

Transit Orient Development vis-a-vis sustainable urban Development :-

* Transit oriented leads to more use of mass transportation and less use of private cars which leads to reduction in GHG emission and moving towards sustainability.

* In this mode, different modes (as rail or metro, car and Electric vehicles) are used which also leads to reduction in

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Cost and thus economically sustainable.

eg:- Yulu cycle rides at Delhi Metro.

* In Transit Oriented mode, use of eelectric vehicles is encourage more and more.

* Different parts of city are connected through different modes. For eg:- In Banglore, the more pooled cabs are in IT sector area making it sustainable.

Impact on Quality of life :-

(1) Better human development Indicators eg:- Ahmedabad city witnessed an uptick of air pollution level dropping, thus better health.

(2) Decrease in Non-communicable disease due to more emphasis on cycle.

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(3) Reduction in out of pocket expenditure, ensuring better avenues for other living modes of life like health and education.

(4) But the spread of communicable diseases had increased due to more mass transportation.

(5) For industries, cost reduction happened thus controlling inflation.

As PM Modi said Urbanisation is not an crisis but an opportunity, and this must be converted into a success by enhancing urban transportation.

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15. यद्यपि दुनिया भर के मरुस्थलीय भूदृश्य कई समानताएँ दर्शाते हैं, लेकिन मरुस्थलीकरण की प्रक्रिया स्थानीय कारकों से प्रभावित होती है। उपयुक्त उदाहरणों के साथ विस्तारपूर्वक समझाइए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
Although desert landscapes across the world reflect many similarities the process of desertification is influenced by local factors. Elaborate with suitable examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

As per UNCCD, 25% of world's land is under desertification and will lead to grave crisis both on environment as well as humans.

Similarities in desert landscapes :-

① **Formation:** generally formed on the same factors such as sub tropical high, cold currents or upwelling area proximity. or leeward side.

② **Ecology:** In terms of ecology also the same type of flora and fauna is found (eg: Cactus and Camkara.

③ **Habitation:** There are minimal habitations and tribals ~~too~~ living an mostly pastoralists.

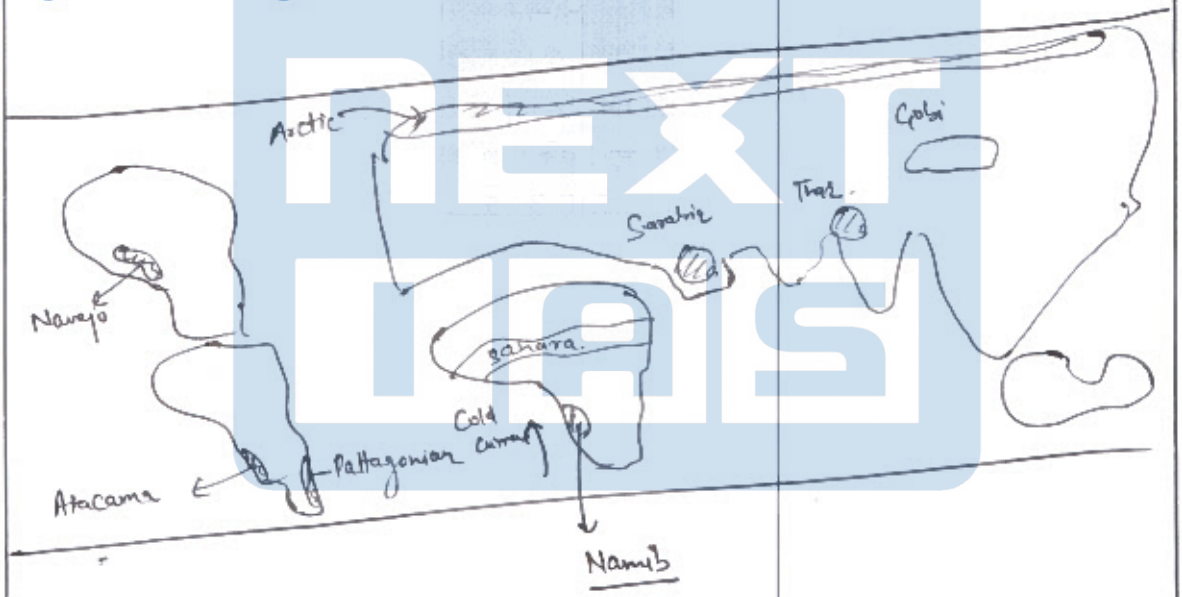
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(eg):— Bedouin Tribes.

(4) Most of them are threatened by desertification but the factors vary as

Factor variation in desertification — due to local climate:

(1) **Cold currents:** — Namib Desert is due to cold current desertifying at a faster pace.



(2) **Leeward side:** Navajo and Atacama are under desertification due to leeward side of Rockeys and Andes respectively.

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(3) Sahara region under threat due to less rainfall and persistent drought like conditions.

(4) Gobi desert due to cold temperature.

(5) Even Arctic Continent is affected due to climate change and Arctic amplification.

(1) Thar Desert, is due to overgrazing and similarly Murray Darling of Australia. Eg:

31% overgrazing in Aravali hills.

Though the causes may vary but conservation is the ~~best~~ much needed and Great Green Wall of Sahara is great step in this regard.

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16. वृहत हिमालय के निर्माण के विभिन्न चरणों की व्याख्या कीजिए। पूर्वी हिमालय पश्चिमी हिमालय से किस प्रकार भिन्न है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Explain the various stages of the formation of The Great Himalayas. How Eastern Himalayas is different from Western Himalayas? (Anwer in 250 words) 15 marks

Himalayas as the ancient people call it as "Adobe of Snow", extends from Pamir range in Central Asia to Mynmar till Arakonama Mountains.

Formation of Great Himalyas:

(1) Indian Plate which was part of large Pangea and its souther part ic Gondwana land started drifting towards North-East some million years ago and similarly Eurasian plate drifted Southwards.

(2) **Subduction of Indian Plate:** as it was moving relatively slower so it subduced and the material got melted due to huge temperature inside.

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③ **Rising of molten material:** As the material moved upwards (the lighter one & denser one settled inside) the Himalyas first formed on Eurasian plate.

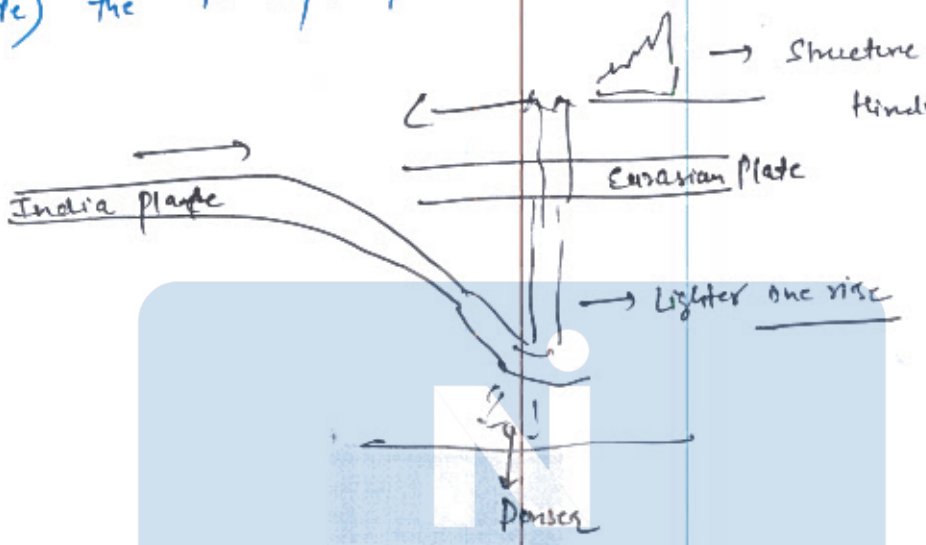


Fig 3.

Difference between Eastern and Western Himalyas

Western	Eastern Himalyas
1) High Latitude but low altitude	1) High in altitude but lesser latitude eg: Mount everest.
2) More Snow	2) Less snow
3) Less vegetation so prone to wildfires	3) More vegetation leads to more rainfall.

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4) Broader about 300km	1) Narrow about 100 – 120 Km
5) Located from Ladakh to Uttrakhand	5) Lies in region of UP to Darjeeling & North East

Both also have similarities like supporting huge faunal & floral biodiversity.

Thus Himalayas which are an inseparable part of India, currently facing threat of melting as IPCC says 90% will be vanished by end of 21st century require consevation efforts.

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17. पर्यावरण संरक्षण में पारिस्थितिकी–संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों के महत्व का वर्णन कीजिए और उदाहरण दीजिए कि उन्हें विभिन्न भौगोलिक क्षेत्रों में कैसे अभिहित और प्रबंधित किया जाता है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15अंक

Describe the significance of eco-sensitive zones in environmental conservation and provide examples of how they are designated and managed in different geographical regions?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Eco sensitive zones (ESZ) is a concept derived from Environmental Protection Act, 1986 which acts as a transitory boundary between protected area (eg: National Park) and human habitation.

Significance of Eco sensitive Zones in environmental conservation :-

1. Zones division : Due to concept of dividing it into zones, certain activities are prohibited in the core area. eg: Sawing wood mill not allowed thus conservation of trees.

2. Prevents Human–wildlife conflict thus preventing the faunal biodiversity to decrease

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3. Penal offences for exploiting the resources of this region ensures floral biodiversity.

4. Local committees or Gram Panchayats are given responsibility of Conservation of water resources ensuring conservation of ground water.

Designation and Management : Its Variations :-

(1) SC though gave an order of minimum 1 Km ESZ around each protected area but later due to protests it moved away from one size fit all approach in 2022.

(2) In Kerala around the Wayanad National Park it extends only to 1.6 Km, whereas in Rajasthan around Sariska Tiger Reserve it is around 5 Kms due to less habitations.

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(3) Management of ESZ have also varied.

For eg: In Jim Corbett National Park, certain activities like stone quarrying & change in land use are permitted whereas in Assam around Kaziranga National Park such activities are banned.

(4) In Kachatha around Nagarhole NP, the state govt. have given responsibility of managing ESZ to a local NGO.

ESZ have been an important part for conserving biodiversity so a case to case basis approach must be followed such that humans and biodiversity could live in harmony.

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18. महामारी ने शिक्षा के परिदृश्य को किस प्रकार नया रूप दिया है, और इन परिवर्तनों का शिक्षण विधियों और सीखने के परिणामों पर दीर्घकालिक प्रभाव क्या हो सकता है? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15अंक

How has the pandemic reshaped the landscape of education, and what long-term effects might these changes have on teaching methods and learning outcomes? (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Pandemic due to COVID-19 was once a century crisis which took ~6.9 million lives and impacted the social infrastructure (health, education) very badly.

Pandemic in reshaping landscape of education

1. Inequality due to digital divide :-
   - The poor ones have less resources, which led them to fall backwards in terms of intellect from rich ones (eg. Bihar only 10% have access to digital education while Kerala 90% does.

2. Crimes related to cyber have increased due to digital education mode. (eg. 8% of Crimes registered under NCRB in children case are of online sexual exploitation

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3. More time spending on phone. Recently UNESCO asked to ban smartphones in this backdrop.

4. Learning ability hampered as everything is easily available now on google.

5. Decrease in outdoor activities lead to mental stress eg: Kota witnessing 13 suicides this year.

6. Less teachers are compatible with new online teaching landscape.

Long Term Effects :-

- May lead to fully digital mode
- on Teaching methods
  - → Less student – teacher interaction
  - → More recorded classes leading to student being less disciplined.
  - → AI in education (NEP 2020).

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On Learning Outcomes

↓

2 facets can be seen on this aspect

Positive

- New skills like immersive methods (eg: online Gaming)
- Coding and AI skills for students.
- More and more hands-on experience with new technology may make brains smarter

Negatives

- As FLN data, 82% in class 3 does not know subtraction.
- Hinders the creative thinking.
- In every case, the student belonging to poor section will be more hampered & a viscious cycle of poverty will be there.

In this, background incorporation of AI as subject in NEP 2020 and NIPUN Bharat (to acheive FLN by 2026-27) are great steps.

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19. भारत के संदर्भ में नृजातीय पहचान संघर्ष के उत्थान के पीछे के कारकों का विश्लेषण कीजिए, और देश के सामाजिक ताने–बाने पर उनके निहितार्थों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15अंक

Analyze the factors behind the upsurge of ethnic identity struggle in the context of India, and discuss their implications for the country's social fabric. (Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

As WS Coffin Jr. said diversity may be the hardest thing to live but surviving without diversity is the impossible task. In this content, ethnic identity must also be respected which is being breaking in the present content.

Factors behind ethnic identity struggle :

① **Historical :-** → British policy of divide and rule led to the conflicts.

→ Isolation of North Eastern region (NER)

→ Land revenue oppressive policy led to alienation of central Indian tribes.

② **Geographical :-** → Less connectivity to North Eastern region.

→ Concept of Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas

→

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(3) **Political and Adminstrative:**

→ Underdevelopment eg: Central Indian tribes of Jharkhand and Chattisgarh.

→ Unable to check illegal migration eg: Demand of Bodoland due to migration from erstwhile East Pakistan.

(4) **Cultural Assertiveness:**

→ Feeling of their culture being diluted lead to succession tendency eg:- Gorkhaland and Tripura

→ Unique social-cultural laws eg:- Nagalim demand due to Naga different laws.

(5) Insurgency and Naxalism fuelled it further.

(6) Reservation demands for ST's eg:- Recent Kuki-Meitei conflict.

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Implications on country's social fabric :—

1) Problem of Internal security as witnessed in recent case of Amritpal Singh (Khalistan demand)

2) Loss of lives and economic loss as witnessed in recent Kuki- Meitei conflict in Manipur.

3) Decline in value of universalism and egalitarianism.

4) Hostile Behaviour leads to further alienation of ethnically percieved distinct people.

5) Recent violence in Haryana led to question on global image, thus impacting the soft power diplomacy.

12th Rock Edict of Ashoka asked not only in tolerance but to respect other religions too, which can be replicated in content of ethnic identity also for a peaceful social order.

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20. पितृसत्तात्मकता घर की तुलना में कार्यस्थल की गतिशीलता को किस प्रकार भिन्न रूप से प्रभावित करती है?
(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15अंक

How does patriarchy differently impact the dynamics of the workplace vis a vis the household?
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

" To address the issue of women and make them feel empowered, patriarchy needs to be eliminated from every sphere of life"
— Sarojini Naidu

Patriarchy Impacting the dynamics of workplace :-

1. **Glass ceiling Theory :-** There is an artificial glass layer above which women are not allowed in company's corporate structure.

2. **Glass Cliff :** But when company is failing in terms of revenue/profit generation, women are raised to higher levels, so that they can be blamed.

3. **Pink collarisation of jobs :** Due to stereotyping norms present in society jobs like

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receipient, nurse, airhostess are mainly kept for women only

4. Crime rates at workplace: Patriarchy is so deep ingrained in minds, that even successful women are facing sexual harassment at major companies.

eg: 32% cases of women under NCRB are of sexual exploitation

Patriarchy at household level:

1. **Maternal Poverty:** which describes the dual burden women facing who is working also and in house-hold chores also eg: Nsso data shows 75% women spent atleast 30 minutes/day to bring water.

2. **Caste and Gender:** Intersectional discrimination in lower caste women due to patriarchial norms

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and caste based discrimination.

③ **Domestic Drudgery:** Husbands don't feel that it is their duty to help women in household chores leading to extra burden on women

Eg: NSSO Data : Husband spend 32 mins on Child care and women 4hrs 12 mins.

④ Marital Rape :- When husband considers that it is his rights on his wife, thus treating her like an object.

Women both across time and space have faced inequalities but Amrit Kaal is an excellent opportunity for India to make resources & power distribution equal among the gender.

Space for Rough Work

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NEXT IAS