NEXT IAS

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NEXT IAS Roll No.: A1M24GLRA009 Date of Examination : 22/08/23

Exam Centre : Old Rajinder Nagar ☑ Bhopal ☐ Online ☐

Test Code : TC066 Program : FLT ☐ FLT+ ☐ SLT ☐ SLT+ ☑

Time Taken :

MAIN TEST SERIES 2023

(TEST-9)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

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.....

SUBJECT/PAPER
GENERAL STUDIES

Invigilator's Sign. : .....

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

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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				

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MACRO COMMENTS

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Candidates must not write on this margin

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

Ans) Vijayanagara Empire was at peak during 14th - mid 16th century & was visited by many travellers & foreign students too.

Accounts of Foreign travellers accounting for observations of Vijayanagara Empire

(1) Numerous accounted multiple aspects.

(i) Diverse religious belief & the secular outlook of state administration.

(ii) Organization of political administration in centralized manner.

(iii) Greater autonomy to women & roles like - Watch gatekeeper, astrologer played by them

Candidates must not write on this margin

(2) Nicolo Conti's is Architectural marvel such as Vijayanagara Temples, Yali Sculptures etc.

(ii) ~~Both~~ State celebration of festivals of multiple religions & harmony among people.

(iii) Military organization was efficient & accounts of victory over Bahmani Kingdom.

(3) Chinese foreign travellers accounted for foreign diplomacy, fertility of soil & high agricultural produce.

(4) Other foreign travellers documented about education, social rituals, economy - taxes, exports & imports & about Krishnadevaraya.

Foreign accounts not only help in reconstructing timeline but are translated accounts

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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

Ans 2) Adi Shankaracharya's role was significant as he aimed to resolve internal factionalism within Hinduism & minimize differences.

Philosophical thought of Adi Shankaracharya

(1) His philosophy of Advaita → i.e. no difference between Brahma & Soul (Atman). He considered soul to be part of Brahma - the eternal Consciousness driving the world.

(2) His argument was that we all are manifestations of same Brahma & thus are invariably interconnected.

(3) Any difference of thought, action & ritual can be resolved by mutual discussions.

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Impact on Indian Philosophy

(1) Pan Indian Spread - Started from South & spread to whole India.

(2) Neo era of Vedantic Enlightenment thought. Criticism of ritualistic obscurantism & focus on reason & logic.

(3) He established Mutts all over India to spread his philosophy & to converge the existing factions in Hinduism. (Eg - Jyotirmath)

(4) Later Vedantic philosophers like Kanad, Samkya etc were inspired by him.

(5) Shifting focus from ritual conflicts to philosophical debate.

" Shankaracharya has rightly been called the [illegible] of Vedantic Philosophy" in India.

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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

Ans 3) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's view of caste was shaped by own life experiences (Mahar caste) & the Casteist disabilities present in society.

Ambedkar's view was more political than social

(1) View caste problem as hierarchy of power dynamics. Rejected ritualistic basis of caste & claimed it was domination of Dwijas over Shudras & Avarnas.

(2) His solution to caste problem was gaining political power to remove inequalities. He advocated for separate electorate, reservation in education, jobs & office & state protection.

(3) Amelioration through political empowerment.

Candidates must not write on this margin

However, his view was equally social as well. (a) Emphasis on Education & abandoning demeaning professions.

(b) Religious mass conversion to Buddhism (1955).

(c) Complete radical abolition of caste.

Ambedkar's Effort at social reforms

(1) Dalit Consciousness: Educate, organise & Agitate, Advocated Affirmative Action.

(2) Movement leadership (Ex: Mahad Satyagraha).

(3) Advocated for female education & empowerment.

(4) Prominent Contribution: Chairman of Drafting Committee of Constitution - Political & Social Modernisation of India.

Ambedkar was not merely a Dalit leader but among the Makers of Modern India.

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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

Ans 4) Oceanic Salinity is described as amount of dissolved mass per thousand parts & is contingent on various factors.

Variation of oceanic Salinity across different regions of world Oceans

Average

(1) Salinity of Southern Hemisphere Oceanic Mass is greater than northern counterpart.

(2) Longitudinal Distribution :- (a) Highest at tropics (~ 36 ppt)

(b) Slightly lower at equatorial zone (34-36 ppt)

(c) lowest at poles (~ 32 ppt).

(3) ~~At tropics~~ :- (a) Surface Salinity > Subsurface Salinity

~~(b)~~ ~~At Poles~~ :- (a) Subsurface > Surface Salinity Salinity

Candidates must not write on this margin

④ Oceanic Highest Salinity is at Mediterranean Sea & lowest at Baltic Sea.

Factors Contributing to Salinity Variations

① Evaporation : Highest at tropics; Directly proportional to salinity.

② Precipitation : Reason for low surface salinity at equator.

③ Inflow of Rivers : Brings salts as well as fresh water.

④ Continental landmass increase salinity by facilitating evaporation.

⑤ Ocean Surface Currents as well as global thermohaline circulation.

Salinity differences are responsible for movements of watermass as survival of marine life forms.

5. बंगाल की खाड़ी और हिंद महासागर में भारतीय द्वीपों की उत्पत्ति की व्याख्या कीजिए।

Explain the origin of Indian islands in the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean.

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

(Answer in 150 words) 10 marks

Candidates must not write on this margin

Ans) Indian Islands in Bay of Bengal & Indian Ocean are marked by various physical relief features owing to difference in methods of origin.

Origin of Indian Islands in Bay of Bengal & the Indian Ocean

① Tectonic Origin :- Andaman & Nicobar are considered extension of Arakan Yoma which are tectonic in origin. Due to collision of Indian Plate with Eurasian Plate & subsequent subduction of oceanic crust & Burmese Plate, created a chain of volcanic arcs. Andaman & Nicobar are top-most flats of such underwater tectonic mountains - (Ex) - Barren Island still has active Volcano.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(2) Coral Islands :- Multiple small islands in Palk Bay & Southern Indian Ocean are formed by coral action through solidification of calcium carbonate.

(3) Continental Island :- Initially part of mainland Continent but separated over time. (Ex) - Sri Lankan Island & Madagascar.

(4) Volcanism Hotspot Island :- Due to mantle upwelling near Madagascar.

(Ex) - Maldives & Seychelles

Different origin leads to varied landforms & different vulnerability to tectonic activities. However, most of them as Biodiversity Hotspots.

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

Candidates must not write on this margin

Ans) UNESCO's Groundwater Report puts groundwater situation in India in "High Alert Category" reflecting urgency of situation.

Factor Contributing to India's Groundwater Crisis

(1) Unsustainable Agriculture :- 90% groundwater for agriculture use - (Ex) - Wheat - Rice Water Intensive Monoculture -

(2) Continuous Extraction through tubewells - Faulty legislations like Enactment Act give Complete freedom to landowners -

(3) Unplanned Urbanisation & destruction of wetlands -

Candidates must not write on this margin

④ Deforestation leading to surface water runoff.

⑤ Depleting underground aquifers leading to continuous pumping out.

Implications of depleting groundwater

① Agriculture :- (i) Loss of soil moisture & water availability.

(ii) Desertification of land. (Ex) - Hissar (Haryana)

(iii) Decline in farmer income & low productivity impacting nutrition security.

② Water ~~security~~ security :- (i) Rising water inequity will increase conflicts.

(ii) Unsustainable cities. (Ex) - Delhi water shortage.

(iii) Adverse impact on industries too. (Ex) - Textiles.

Groundwater Conservation should be prioritised through limited extraction & wetland restoration.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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

Ans) Critical minerals are minerals used in technological devices and are characterised with Rare occurence but high utility. Lithium & titanium are examples of Critical minerals.

Importance of Critical Minerals for Technological Advancement

(1) Backbone of semiconductor industry which is the basis of all chipsets.

(2) Used for power storage infrastructure & indispensable for Electronic Vehicle industry. Eg:- Lithium Batteries.

(3) Better hardware infrastructure aid rapid technological advancement.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(Ex) :- American Silicon Valley was developed due to semiconductor Boom.

(4) Use in modern devices for high computational requirements.

Importance for national security

(1) All self-navigated missile systems & tech-enable weapons (SPYDER, S-400 etc) used chipsets.

(2) Used in critical infrastructure like electricity grids & data centres.

(3) Geopolitical Alliances based on critical minerals. (Ex) - Minerals Security Partnership by USA.

Recent discoveries in Reasi (Jammu) & Aravali (Raj) are promising for critical mineral security of India.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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

Ans 8) Indian Pluralism is rooted in ancient dictum of Vasudhev Kutumbkam & Constitutional Ethos of Unity in Diversity.

Fostering Pluralism contributing to nation Building

(1) Partition of Communal lines & Divide & Rule Policy of British left us with fragmented polity & society. Fostering Pluralism assured minorities of safety & co-development.

(2) Accomodating diverse identities & rejecting assimilationist forces helped us to protect our secular-democratic fabric.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(3) Checking communal divide & Countering secessionistic tendencies.

(Ex) P.D.- Cultural identities as subset of national identities.

(4) Special emphasis on minority rights both constitutionally (Art. (25) to (30)) & socially. Positive affirmation of identities helped people participate in development process as equals.

(5) Diversity was seen as strength - leading to inclusive growth & holistic policies rather than threat.

Fostering Hurabism in form of "Sarv Dharm Sabhav" made India rich both culturally & democratically.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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

Ans) Post neo-liberal shift & withdrawal of welfare state, we have witnessed the rise of gig economy.

Changing nature of Problems of working Class

(1) Informalization of workforce:

(a) No income security.

(b) No Job security - Easy hiring & firing

(c) No social security (Pension, Insurance etc)

(2) No Unionization & Collective Bargaining possible as there is no formal employment.

(3) Excessive exploitation by ~~long~~ high
- working hours & wages compensation.

Candidates must not write on this margin

(Ex) :- ILO report showed 93% platform workers earned just above minimum wage.

(4) Competitive policies like 10 min delivery impacting physical security like rising accidents of delivery partners.

(5) No access to formal justice system.

(6) Absence of legislative protection as compared to formal workforce.

(7) Deskilling of individuals.

Government aims to regulate gig economy through social security measures & new labour codes.

10. वैश्वीकरण के परिणामस्वरूप समरूपीकरण की प्रवृत्ति ने वास्तव में भारत की स्थानीय संस्कृतियों को संरक्षित किया और बढ़ावा दिया है। विवेचना 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

Candidates must not write on this margin

Ans:) Globalisation is increased integration of economies due to rise of cross country flow of capital, labour, ideas etc. producing homogenizing force globally & Protecting & Preserving Local Culture.

(1) Internationalisation of Indian Culture

Ex:- World Yoga Day & rising popularity of Indian cuisines.

(2) Better connect with global audience.

Ex:- SPIC MACAY : Spreading Indian culture globally.

(3) Technological aid. Ex:- Manuscript Digitization; Online Bharatnatyam Classes.

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(4) Global Demand for traditional handicrafts & artpieces -

However, homogenizing force is also harming Indian culture

(1) McDonalization & Teanization - westoxification of youth & dissonance from culture.

(2) Losing relevance of regional dialects

(3) No economic value of traditional occupations.

(4) Excess following of Western way of living - (Ex) - Netflix

(5) Fast depleting Indian ethos structure.

There is a need to preserve indigenous culture while leveraging the opportunities for internationalising our culture.

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

Candidates must not write on this margin

Ans 11) End of Cold War was formally in 1991 but the process kickstarted in 1980s when various political & economic factors led to disintegration of the USSR.

(1) Economic Reasons :- (a) Russian Soviet model resulted in industrial backwardness & mass poverty - Attached against thriving Western Capitalism it led to internal discontentment.

(b) Closed nature of Soviet Economy restricted foreign investment. This led to reaction from Russian Oligarchy.

(2) Political Reasons :- (a) Gorbachev's

Candidates must not write on this margin

liberal policies of 'Glasnost' & 'Peres-troika'. Dissent was allowed which led to criticism of Soviet Rule.

(b) East European Nations like Poland & Czechoslovakia declared independence.

(c) Growing influence of NATO & bankruptcy of Warsaw Pact.

(3) Countries globally started adopting Free Market Model. Additionally, proxy wars in Vietnam & Afghanistan fell in American favour weaking USSR's influence.

(4) Rising global trade, flow of technology & ideas accelerated the process of disintegration.

(5) Internal Revolt in cadres of Communist Party of Russia.

Candidates must not write on this margin

Spread of Globalization due to end of Cold War

(1) End of Global Blocs – easing free flow of goods, services, culture, people & ideas - (Ex) 1991 New Economic Reforms-

(2) Washington Consensus : Global Agreement that Free Market Economy with liberal world trade is sole development pathway

(3) End of Proxy wars (Ex) Afghanistan Crisis, West Asian Question etc.

(4) Free flow of Capital as mutual suspicion came to end.

(5) Militarisation & Hostility was replaced by Integration & Cooperation.

End of Cold War kickstarted the process of globalization & integration of economies.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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

Ans(12) Harappan Civilization (2500-1900BC) is considered First Urbanisation of Indian History leaving a significant impact on Indian Culture.

Enduring Legacy of Harappan Civilization

(1) Town Planning :- (a) Perpendicular Grid Roads → still present in modern cities.

(b) well developed drainage & culvert system.

(c) Use of slope to prevent flooding.

(d) Location on bank of water source.

(Ex) - True for modern towns like Varanasi, Ahmedabad

(2) Emphasis on Purity & Sanitation by

Candidates must not write on this margin

ways like maximum distance between Kitchen & bathroom, Naturalistic cleaning like Breath Bath etc. Same ideas of purity is found in Indian way of living.

(3) Social stratification manifested in:

- Private well & Public well
- Lower City & Citadel
- Round & Square Houses

Social stratification systems like caste are also salient features of Indian Culture.

(4) Emphasis on Naturalistic worship. (Ex) - Pashupati seals. Worship of Five Elements & nature worship is still part of Indian Culture.

(5) Agricultural Primacy & storage of foodgrains for crisis. Indian Agricultural

Candidates must not write on this margin

pattern pre-green revolution was almost similar to Harappan Civilization.

(6) Centralized Production & Standardisation

(Ex) - Bead Factory at Kalibangan.

Indian handicraft industry & merchant guilds of medieval India was on same pattern.

(7) Contact with other cultures like Meso-potamian Civilization. Various empires like Mauriya, Cholas etc maintained elaborate foreign contacts.

(8) Emphasis on Community Activities.

Later Indologist Dumont called Indus Valley Civilization as "Birthplace of Indian Culture" with profound impact on upcoming Indian society.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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

Ans(3) Mahatma Gandhi's first pan India Movement is considered to be NCM-Khilafat in 1921 & established him as national leader.

Khilafat Movement Characteristics

(1) Ability to connect diverse issues: (a) United the Muslim Cause for Restoration of Ottoman Islamic Authority with Nationalist Cause.

(b) Raised the issue of Jallian wala Bagh Massacre.

(c) Aligning demand of self-rule by aligning Indian National Congress & & Home Rule Movement.

(2) Mobilizing Different Communities:

Candidates must not write on this margin

(i) United Hindus & Muslims for a Common Cause.

(ii) Aligned the leadership of Shaukat Ali & leaders of Congress.

(iii) Interests of different classes - politicians, peasants, professionals etc. were amalgamated.

(iv) Uniting action of different Communities of different regions (Ex:- Punjab massacre victims to Mapilah tenants of Kerala)

NCM - Khilafat marked a high point as for the first time, different factions came together for common cause.

Success of Khilafat Movement

(1) Bridging the Communal divide &

Candidates must not write on this margin

Call for common action.

(b) United resistance made British pay heed to Khilafat demands.

(c) Islamic leadership of west Asia (Ottoman region) was eventually restored.

(d) Demand for Self-Rule & Swaraj was popularised among masses.

Limitations of Khilafat

(1) Violent actions & indiscipline by masses. (Ex) - Chauri Chaura incident (1922)

(2) Communal Divide Emerged (Ex) - Mapla Revolt of 1921.

(3) Eventually the original demands of Khilafat lost relevance.

Despite it's limited success, the sudden withdrawal of movement testifies its shortcomings.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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

Ans(14) Recently TOD Policy was unveiled for NCR Region to decongest Roads & ensure faster & efficient mobility.

TOD linking to sustainable urban transportation

(1) Shift from private vehicles to public transport ∘ Cheaper, fuel efficient & decongest roads.

(2) Integration of multiple modes of transportation for faster travel.

(3) Mobility corridors & Differentiating Civil & logistics ~~...~~ Roads i.e. Decongesting Commercial traffic in cities.

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(4.) Construction of walkways for easy movement of pedestrians & cycle lanes for promoting greener modes.

(5) Inclusivity & special emphasis on vulnerable sections by connecting their residential areas to urban city centres.

(6) Reorganization of traffic grids to minimise travel time. Construction of tunnels & underpasses for linking remote areas.

Impact on enhancing overall life of Citizens

(1) Easier & Faster Travel. Cheaper & efficient public transport.

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(2) Minimising vehicular emissions leading to more liveable cities -

(3) Easy movement of pedestrians & cyclists. Diversion of heavy-axle vehicles will ensure minimizing accidents.

(4) Vulnerable Sections with segregated residences will have easier connect to urban centres. Better economic opportunities & quality of life.

(5) Promoting green belts across road grids will further reduce urban Heat Island Effect.

TOD Policy will ensure Sustainable Development Goal of "Sustainable & Inclusive Cities".

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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

Ans 15) Desert landscapes are regions of high aridity (less than 25cm precipitation) & minimal vegetation.

Similarity in Desert landscapes across the world

(1) Longitudinal extension: Mostly along tropics on western coast — minimal rainfall, high pressure & cold upwelling.

(2) Sand dominated relief features: Loess, Barchans & Mushroom Rocks.

(3) Xerophytic Vegetation, Eg: Cactus

(4) Less human settlements owing to extreme temperature range & minimal

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Influence of local factors on Desertification

Deserts are a geographical landscape while desertification is a process of conversion of land into wasteland owing to several factors:

(1) Deforestation & resulting soil loosening. (Ex) - Aravallis Desertification

(2) Land Degradation owing to unsustainable land use: Depleting Groundwater Table, Soil Salinization, Surface Soil Runoff. (Ex) - Punjab & Haryana

(3) Concretization of land, destruction of wetlands etc. leading to low moisture levels in soil. (Ex) - Chennai & Mumbai (Unplanned Urbanization)

(4) Urban Heat Island Effect; rising temperatures leading to quick loss of moisture.

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(5) Erratic rainfall pattern & rising instances of flash droughts. Drying up of rivers due to river pollution, dam construction etc. drying up riverbeds.
Ex:- Banks of Yamuna - NCR Region.

(6) Overgrazing by cattles & unsustainable livestock practices.

(7) Release of chemical effluents from industries leaching into soil & destroying land quality. Ex:- Chemical factories of Okhla.

Process of desertification is contingent on ~~otte~~ anthropogenic actions & thus are localised. Various initiatives like Bonn Challenge & 30x30 (UNCBD) aims to reverse desertification process -

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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?
(Answer in 250 words) 15 marks

Ans) Great Himalayas are the youngest folded mountains & are formed due to tectonic shifting.

Various stages of formation of The Great Himalayas

(1) Stage I :- As shown in Fig (1), around 150 mn years ago the Indian plate separated from Gondwanaland & shifted Northeastwards.



Fig (1)

(2) Stage II :- Convergence of Indian Plate & Eurasian Plate. Shrinking Tethys sea led to the rise of marine sediments which got accumulated on plate boundary

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(3) Stage III : The denser ocean Core of Tethy Sea subducted, it got melted in mantle rose as Basaltic lava. Cooled & Crystallized & under High Pressure metamorphised into hard metamorphic base of Himalayas.

(4) Stage IV : After complete subduction of Tethys Sea, both plates collided leading to rise of Continental sediments. This Completed Himalayan formation with origin of sedimentary & less high Shivaliks.

Firstly the West Coast of Indian plate collided then hinge like closure gave two distinct feature to Himalayas : (1) West & East Orientation.

(b) Syntaxial Bends : Hindukush & North East-

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Difference between Eastern & Western Himalayas

	Eastern Himalayas	Western Himalayas
(1)	Kali to Brahmaputra extension	Indus to Kali Extension.
(2)	Lower average height	Highest average height
(3)	High rainfall area	Low rainfall area.
(4)	Dominant evergreen & deciduous vegetation.	Dominant Alpine Vegetation
(5)	Higher ~~Snowline~~ Snowline	Lower Snowline
(6)	Higher human density of settlement	Lower Density of settlement
(7)	Geologically Younger	Older Rocks

Different cultural & biodiversity patterns Result due to geographical &

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17. पर्यावरण संरक्षण में पारिस्थितिकी–संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों के महत्त्व 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

Ans 17) Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZs) are corridors around protected areas like Wildlife Sanctuary & National Parks. They are declared under Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986.

Significance of Eco-Sensitive Zones

(1) Act as ~~Buffer~~ ecological buffer zones as they denote transition by protected areas & human settlements.

(2) Minimize Wildlife-Animal Conflict.

(3) Prevent the formation of ecological biodiverse islands. In some cases they connect two protected areas - (Ex) - Pench Tiger Reserve

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(4) Regulate human activity & prevent exploitation of natural resources.

(5) Protect ethnic communities & their sustainable styles of living (Ex)- Valmiki Corridor, Bihar housing Tribals.

Process of Designation & management in Different Areas

(1) Identified by state governments but declared by Central Government. Though Supreme Court recently mandated 1 Km minimum ESZ but they may extend upto 10 Km (Valmiki Reserve) too.

(2) Activities are divided in 3 categories

(a) Prohibited: Hunting, Mining.

(b) Regulated: Small Hydro, Tourism.

(c) Permitted: Traditional Forest Rights.

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(3) Mostly they are managed by the local communities who look after natural resources & have traditional rights.

(Ex) - Todas of Niyamgiri Hills.

(4) In Northeast - 6th Schedule areas, autonomous councils have complete jurisdiction over management of ESZ.

(5) In Kerala, traditional forest dwellers reside who practice agriculture. Since entire Western Ghat is protected zone, hence ESZ covers more than 40% state area.

(6) Commercial operations are strictly regulated.

The management of activities in ESZ rest on central principle of "Responsible Anthropocentrism".

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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

Ans(18) Covid-19 Pandemic led to closure of schools & shift from physical mode of education to virtual delivery.

Pandemic reshaping landscape of education

(1) Shift to Virtual Classrooms - Continued Education but issue of digital divide

(2) Reduced physical interaction leading to less automisation of methods of delivery.

(3) Use of tools like AI & Virtual Reality to reveal methods of education.

(4) ~~To~~ Easier connect to remote places & access to global resources - (Ex) - Stanford started Digiversity -

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(5) Virtual modes of evaluation – issue of cheating & plagiarism.

Long term impacts of Pandemic

(1) Teaching methods : (i) Easy to deliver uniform content but special attention to individuals is missing.

(ii) Less physical interaction confines learning to formal curriculum only.

(iii) More emphasis on lecture delivery - Absence of real time feedback.

(iv) Absence of digital resources (especially for girl students) hinders access to education.

(v) Digital Illiteracy of teachers & professors impacting their lecture delivery -

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(2) Learning Outcomes :- (i) Inequalities will grow as digital divide will benefit some & deprive others.

(ii) Drop in learning standards.

Ex :- Annual School Education Report by Pratham reported 30% learning drop for all classes.

(iii) Easy availability of solutions online - hindering thinking & critical reasoning skills.

(iv) Positive impacts too :-

- Access of multiple institutes
- Skill relevant education. Ex :- Coding & AI
- Easy access to varied resources

Covid Pandemic definitely impacted educational outcomes however same is being countered by initiatives like DIKSHA

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

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Ans 19) Recently struggle between Kuki-Meities in Manipur has resurfaced debates on ethnic identity as basis of violence.

Factors Behind Upsurge of Ethnic Identity Struggle

① Economic Inequalities where some communities gained at the expense of others - This develops subjective deprivation feelings. Ex :- Kukis in Manipur.

② Perceived political apathy & less representation in national politics.
Ex :- Dravidian sub nationalist struggle.

③ Developmental Deficit - Ex :- Demand of Tipraland based on ethnic lines.

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④ Rise of identity politics for political mobilisation & electoral benefits.

⑤ Collusion of lower bureaucracy with local ethnic groups & failure of governance model.

⑥ Regionalism & secessionistic tendencies manifesting in form of ethnic struggle.
Ex :- Greater Nagalim Movement.

⑦ Mutual Hostilities, Absence of Deliberative Mechanisms & rising violence.
Ex :- Cultural Differences among tribes.

∴ Impacts on country's social fabric

① Trust Deficit, Violence & Conflicts leading to mutual loss of communities Ex :- Death toll greater than 100

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in Manipur.

(2) Disturbed peace give rise to hate crimes & promote anti-social activities

(3) Weakening of India's federal fabric.

(4) Difficult to provide governance services & furthering developmental deficit.

(5) Loss of Confidence in public institutions & government failure.

(6) Loss of Community networks & socio-cultural capital.

(7) Spillover to adjacent areas - (Ex) - Mass exodus of Meities from Mizoram.

Ethnic conflicts need to be amicably resolved by codeliberation of government people & ethnic political groups.

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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

Ans) Patriarchy is a social institution which systematically subordinates & exploits females - It operates at two levels : Public (workplace) & Private (Household).

Patriarchy impacting the dynamics of workplace vis-a-vis household

(1) within household, there is gendered division of labour i.e. mothering role & homemaker females & breadwinner males.
At workplace, this is reflected as Sex Segregation of Jobs - lower pay & low social respect & gender pay gap.

(2) Within household, women do not take important material & financial

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decisions & are powerless.

low political representation, glass ceiling & glass cliffs are public manifestations of patriarchy having women powerless -

(3) within household - Devi-Dasi dichotomy operates, women is worshipped but also oppressed.

within workplace & public, her sexuality is exploited. Plastic Sexuality & Commercialization of women's sexuality are evidences -

(4) Violence in household - Domestic Violence, Marital Rape etc.

Violence at workplace :- Sexual Harassment, mental issues etc.

Also discrimination in hiring is there.

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5) Deprivation of nutrition & finances within household.

Financial, Political & social marginalization in workplace. (Ex- High female workforce in gig economy.

6) Rising instances of Feminization of Agriculture & Feminization of Poverty are leading to Convergence of household & workplace patriarchy. However, measures like Dowry Prohibition Act, Domestic Violence Act, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao empower women within household & POSH at Workplace Act, Equal Wages Act etc. empower women at workplace, leading to dismantling of patriarchy.

Space for Rough Work

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