VAJIRAM & RAVI
SURE SHOT TEST SERIES - 2025

General Studies
Full Length Test
Test - 5 (GS - 1)
Test Code - A21051505

Evaluator Code:

Date of Assignment:

CQ:

NAME: SOPHIA SIDDIQUI

STUDENT. ID.:

UPSC ROLL NO:.: 0 4 1 3 7 8 5

MOBILE NO.:

Time allowed: 3 Hours

Email:

Submission Date: 14/08/25

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:

There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**. All the questions are compulsory. *The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.*

Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks
Q1	/10	Q8	/10	Q15	/15
Q2	/10	Q9	/10	Q16	/15
Q3	/10	Q10	/10	Q17	/15
Q4	/10	Q11	/15	Q18	/15
Q5	/10	Q12	/15	Q19	/15
Q6	/10	Q13	/15	Q20	/15
Q7	/10	Q14	/15	Total	/250

Instructions:–

1. **Legible Scanning:** Exercise due diligence in scanning your scripts for clear legibility

2. **Submissions** marred by poor scanning, notably those with illegible sections or blackened pages due to improper scanning, risk being excluded from the evaluation process.

3. **Non-Adherence Consequences:** Failure to comply with the aforementioned instructions may lead to the disqualification of your submission.

For Student Only	
Start Time - 3:00 Pm	End Time - 6:00 PM
Mode of Examination	Online ✓ Offline
Receiving date -	Dispatch date -

Parameters		Good	Average	Needs Improvement
Conceptual Understanding				
Understanding Demand of Question				
Structure	Introduction			
	Body			
	Conclusion			
Presentation-Illustrations, flowcharts, diagrams, etc.				
Language and Handwriting				
No. of Questions Attempted				
Adherence to Word Limit: Yes/No				

Mentor's Feedback

👍 🙂 **All the Best** 🙂 👍

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions

👍 😊 All the Best 😊 👍

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Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.
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Q1.

Ancient rock cut caves started with the first rock cut cave i.e Barabara Hills build under mauryan dynasty for the lokayatas or charvaka philosophy

They are great examples of Religious harmony as —

(1) Ellora caves in Maharashtra → have all three religion caves viz Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhis.

(2) Buddhist caves alter as viharas and chaityas (prayerhall)

staying place

Ⓢ Ajanta caves in Maharashtra

(3) Barabara caves for other religious philosophies like Charvaka.

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Only write question number in this margin

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
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(4) Bhimbetka caves
in Madhya Pradesh

- people dancing
figures
- community
life

fig - Ancient caves in
India.
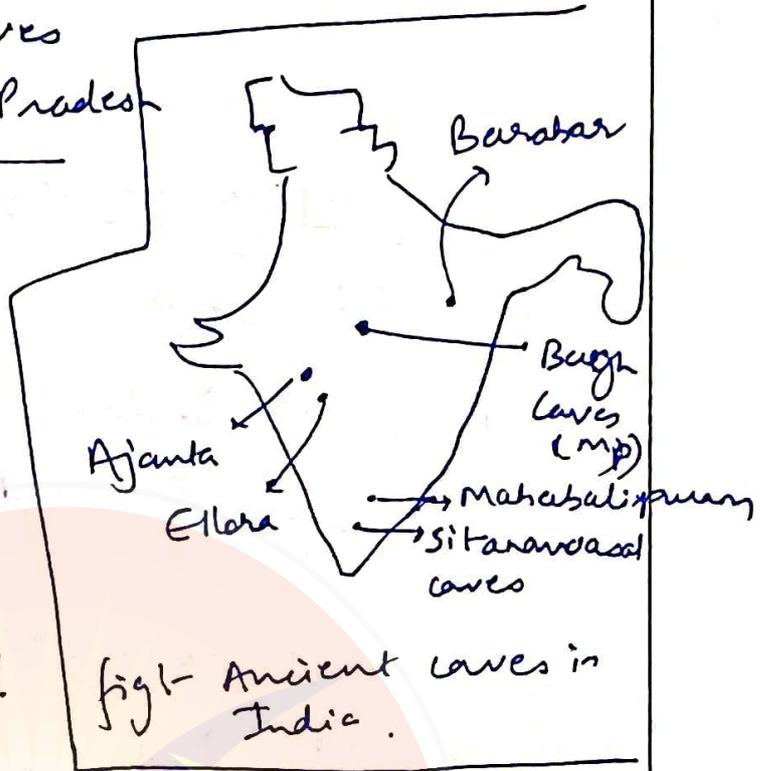
(5) South Indian caves

- depicted the
Sangam literature periods Cheras,
Cholas
Pandyas.

- later under Pallavas,
Great Cholas → influence of
Bhakti tradition → Alvars and
Nayanars lived
in caves.

Hence under the national heritage
preservation, these caves show cultural
ethos of India.

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Q2.

Gupta period started from 3rd c. AD was called as GOLDEN PERIOD of India due to its influence of art & architecture.

However, there is a shift in condition of women →

(1) Positive shift

Earlier times	Gupta period
→ Early ~~later~~ vedic period	→ Influence of Brahmanism
considered at same levels as ~~Shudras~~ Others	→ women participated politically
can read poetry, Eg- Apala, Lopamudra.	→ women rulers also at some places.
→ participation in political affairs.	

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Negative shift

Earlier period	Later Gupta period
→ Had same rights earlier	→ more patriarchal society
→ Later vedic period	→ Increased cases of -
{ child marriage sati women subjugation	{ sati child marriage polygamy
→ patriarchal society	→ prohibited from political participation

Thus, in Gupta period, overall the condition of women worsened and they could not come at par with men.

However, Kalidasa wrote books like Raghuvamsa, Meghduta praising women.

इस हाशिए में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें। Only write question number in this margin

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Q3.

Swadeshi movement started in early 1900s against lord Curzon's regressive policy of <u>partition</u> of <u>Bengal</u>.

> It can be seen as <u>precursor</u> to <u>Gandhian mass mobilization</u> as →

(1) First major movement after <u>1857 revolt</u> seeing mass participation.

(2) Supported by <u>middle class intelligentsia</u> of Bengal

(3) Rise of <u>nationalistic feelings</u>

(5) Rabindranath Tagore's Amar Sonar Bangla.

(4) <u>Boycott</u> and <u>social exclusion</u> of Britisher goods. → promotion of khadi

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(5) Participation of women, workers, Capitalists affected by Bengal partition.

(6) Indegnisation and growth of indigenous industries

(Eg) Steel. manufacturing by VO Chidambaram Pillai.

These strategies were later adopted by Gandhi
However Gandhian mass mobilization techniques also based on →

→ John Ruskin, Leo Tolstoy ideas. Jainism idea of non-violence
→ Satyagraha experiment in south Africa
→ peace and truth to show Britishers real face

Thus, Gandhi as master strategist employed struggle - truce - struggle strategy to lead Indian freedom movement.

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इस हाशिए
नहीं लिखन
चाहिए।

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Q4

<u>World war 2</u> (1939 - <u>early 1945</u>)
was a war between the
fascist regimes (Axis) (Germany, Japan,
Italy) and pro <u>Democracy allies</u>
(Britain, France, USA)

The axis powers occupied
Southeast Asia including <u>Singapore</u>.
It shaped <u>Indian independence</u>
<u>movement</u> as →

(1) <u>Formation of Indian National</u>
<u>Army</u> by <u>SC Bose</u>.

(2) It included <u>prisoners of wars</u>-
<u>Indian soldiers</u> fighting for
Britishers

(3) <u>Formation of Indian Independence</u>
<u>League</u>.

हस हाशिए में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें।

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(4) SC Bose secured Japan and German support through arms, ~~ammun~~ ammunitions and funds.

(5) SC Bose also got islands in Andaman & Nicobar → Swaraj and other island.

(6) Ideological support as they were also fighting against oppressive colonial regimes.

(7) Women contingent led by Laxmi Sehgal → Increased military women participation.

This led to INA Trials later which led to INA mutiny resulting in final nail in coffin of rule of Britishers.

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Q5.

Aquifers are the water recharging and raising the Groundwater through sustainable ground water management.

Artesian aquifers includes →

1. Restoration of lakes, ponds and wetlands to absorb rainwater
2. Groundwater recharge capability and capacity
3. Increase porosity and absorption of water
4. Increased water absorption from flood plain areas
   (eg) Ganga plains.

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✗ Geological and environmental
conditions necessary for their
formation →

(I) Geological → Depressions and
conditions   Cracks on earth
              crust (ₑ) Lonar lake
              nearby   in Maharashtra.
            → Water source
              availability

            · High porous and
              absorption ground
              capabilities.

(II) Environmental → Not in erratic
    conditions   climate regions

    { Stable environment climate
    { presence of forests nearby
    { Not in arid & semi arid
                        areas.

— Thus, it plays significant
role in ensuring SDG 6 (clean water)
and SDG 14 (Life below water)

इस हाशिए में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें। Only write question number in this margin

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86

India is called as 'pharmacy of the world' due to its comparative advantage in pharma industry and initiatives like vaccine maitri.
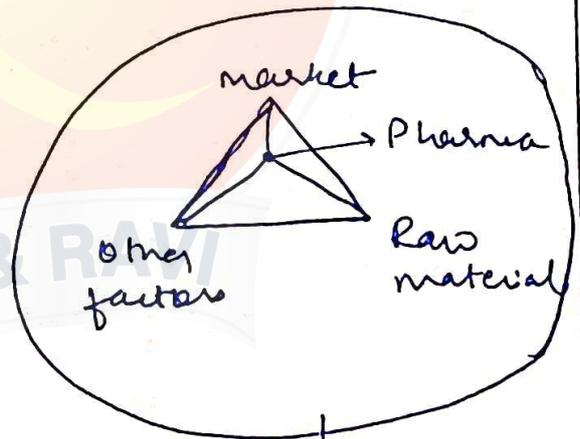
Factors leading to concentration of pharma industry in west →

(1) Alfred Weber model of low cost of production.

(2) Easy availability of raw material

(3) Presence of ports
⊥
import of key ingredient elements from China

market
Pharma
other factors
Raw material
⊥
Critical isodapane for pharma industry

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(4) Infrastructure and investment

(Eg)- Maharashtra companies
manufactured Covid vaccine

(5) Availability of labour and machines

(6) Development of the states → Higher
Gross state domestic product

(Eg.) Gujarat, Maharashtra

(7) State government conducive
policies

(8) Research and
development
expenditure.

Thus, pharma
industry plays
key role in India's
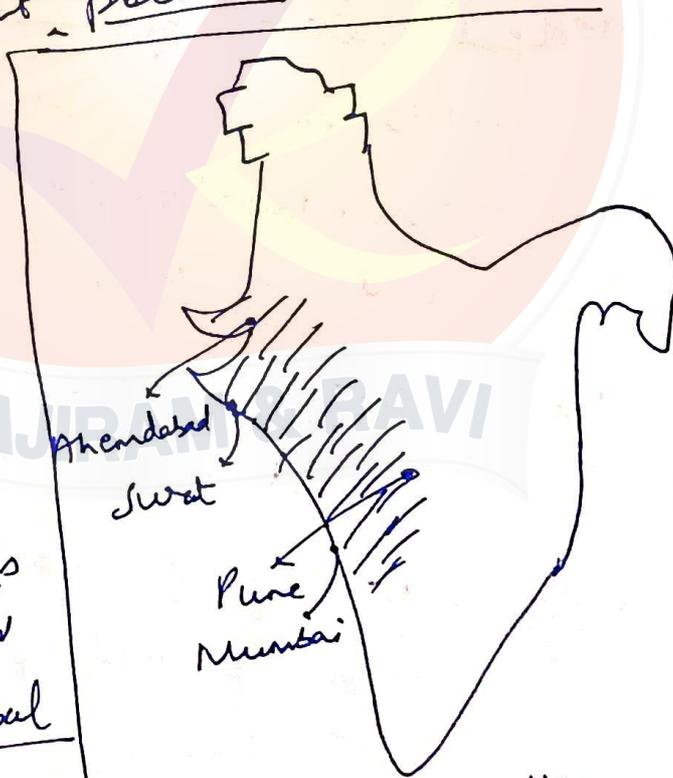health security and
security of Global
South

Ahmedabad
Surat

Pune
Mumbai

fig:- major cities
with pharma
industry

इस हाशिए में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें।
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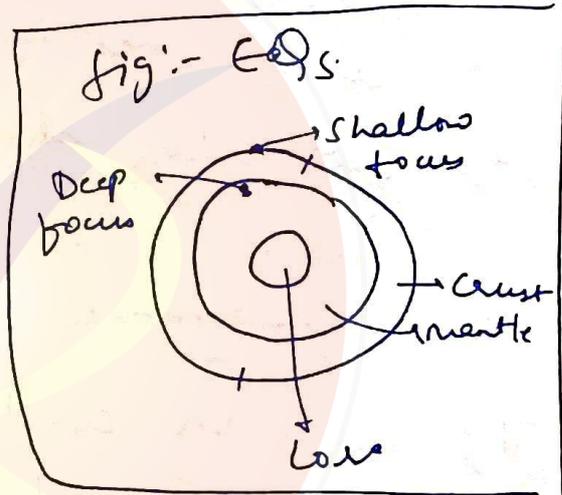
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Q7.

Recently, earthquake (EQ) swarms were observed in Northern India especially around Delhi. in 2024-25. EQs can be deep focus or shallow focus.

* |Shallow focus EQs|

fig:- EQs.

① where the epicentre and focus lies in upper crust region (0 - 10 km range)

② most active in Convergent and divergent boundary plates.

(Eg) Himalayas → convergence of Indo Australia & Eurasia plate.
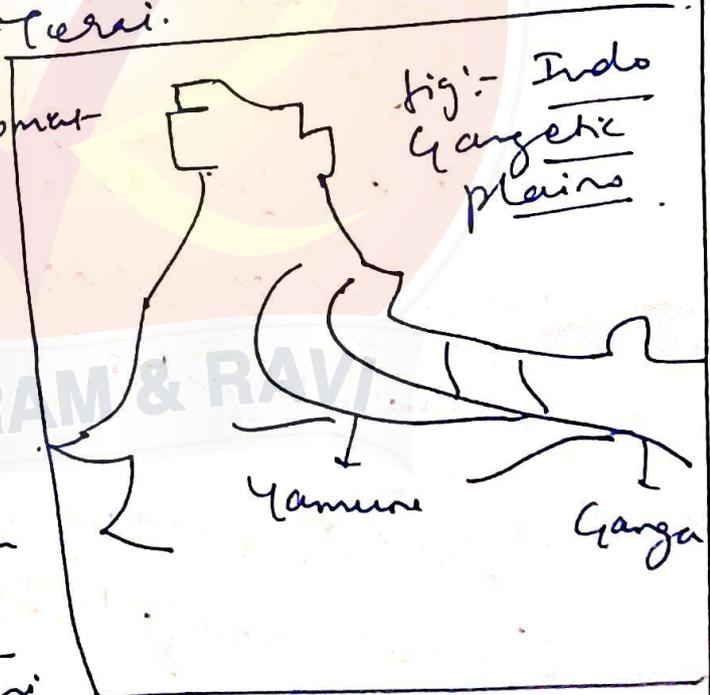
③ more destructive and lifeless.

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* Factors responsible for frequent occurrence in Indo-Gangetic plains →

(1) Tectonically active region due to plate convergent boundary

(2) Fragile topography and terrain

(3) Himalayas → young fold, (still rising at around 1cm/year)

(4) Young sediment deposits like Bhabar and Terai.

(5) Human development and tourist activities

    (E) Himanchal.

(6) mining activities

However, through apps like Quake system, Sagar vani, these can be handled.

fig:- Indo Gangetic plains.

Yamuna   Ganga

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लिखें।

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Q8.

India ranks 130 in HDI in 2020 which includes health, education and standard of living as parameters.

The health outcomes are shaped by →

(1) Physical environment → clean air,

→ tropical areas → Neglected tropical Diseases like snake bites, filariasis

→ Cleanliness, sanitation

→ Low water -, air, noise pollution.

(2) Cultural factors → focus on mental health

→ High Out of pocket expenditure

→ Food budget squeeze.

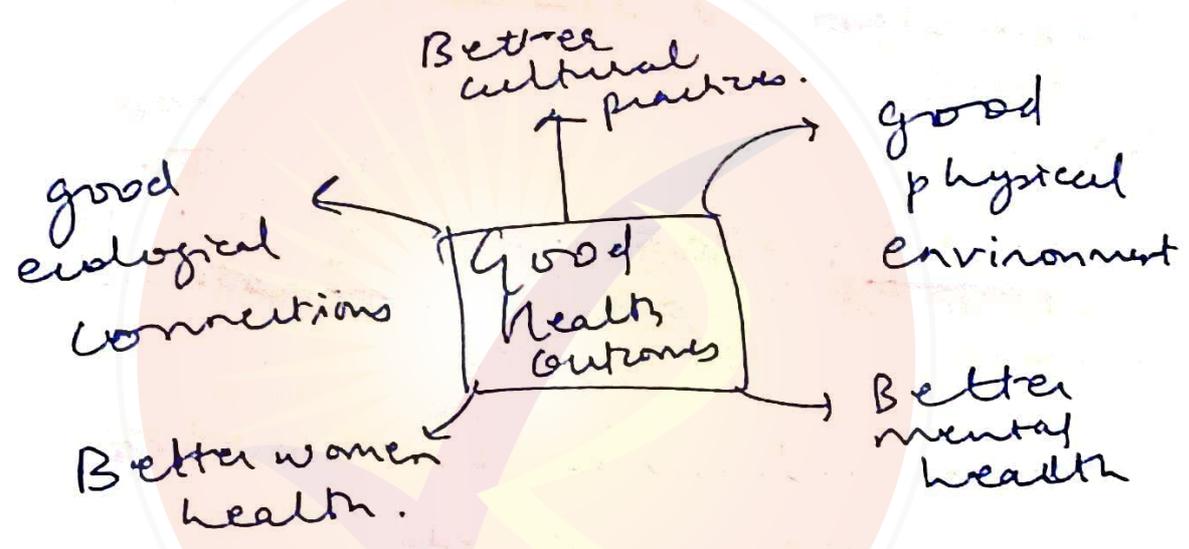→ Social Stigma of mental health, PCOD etc.

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(3) Ecological connections
→ zoonotic disease. (Eg) SARS COV2
→ clean water, low pollutants
(Eg) Arsenic in West Bengal, Bihar.
→ Livestock disease → Foot and mouth disease

Good
Health
Outcomes

- Better cultural practices.
- good physical environment
- good ecological connections
- Better mental health
- Better women health.

For Instance, Bhutan in Gross Happiness Index includes these parameter for better health outcomes.

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Q9.

The developed nations are moving towards ageing population and fourt level of demography (low birth and low death rates).

[Factors shaping population trends]

(1) Fertility → Reduced total Fertility rate below replacement level. (Eg) Japan

→ Reduced women fertility due to PCOS, obesity etc.

(2) However, (migration) is more significant favor as —

(1) Increased migration. from developing areas
(Eg) India → largest diaspora.

(2) Decreased local population
(Eg) South korea.

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(3) Better health → medical tourism
infrastructure

    (Eg) Japan → High populatin > 80 yrs

(4) Influx of <u>refugees</u>, <u>climate</u>
war refugees

    (Eg) Refugees from Africa to British.

(5) <u>Child control policies</u>

(6) Visa based on birth

    (Eg) USA → many foreigners giving
birth there, to get citizenship
for child.

However, developed countries
are taking measures like
France's ~~one~~ ~~this~~ <u>child planning</u>
and <u>promoting</u> policy. Japan
incentivizing women for producing
children.

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Q10.

Around 30% people live in urban areas (census 2011) which has increased to 35% now and will reach to around 40% by 2036 (UN PFA).

However, poor urban planning limits full economic potential of urbanization as →

(1) Overurbanization & suburbanisation
   Eg- Delhi NCR

(2) Congested roads, slums, unhygienic conditions
   Eg around 40% of people in mumbai live in slums.

③ Traffic congestion and road accidents
   Eg Bangalore traffic

④ Ghettoization and marginalization based on caste, religion.

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(eg) lower caste staying near Delhi's dumpyard.

(5) over extraction and burden of Resources

(eg) Groundwater exploitation

(6) low urban economic growth because of low quality, low paid jobs

(eg) Gig workers, garment factories.

| Solutions to achieve economic potential |

(1) Transit Oriented Development model

(2) master plans for development
(eg) Delhi master plan 2041

(3) Formalization of gig economy

(4) Development of → shift of migration Tier 2, 3 cities there.

Thus, a holistic governance and economic planning approach needed for economic growth.

इस हाशिए में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें।
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Q11.

India's ~~rich~~ ancient tradition of sustainable water management practice can be seen in Dholavira's water harvesting infrastructure accorded as UNESCO's World Heritage Site.

> Ancient kingdoms evolved sustainable management practice through →

(1) Building water harvesting infrastructure, water tube wells, ancient storage.

Ⓔ Baolis, Rani ki vav→ Patan Gujarat

(2) Religious significance for preservation

Ⓔ Great Bath → Mohenjodaro.

(3) Urbanised civilization → covered drainage pattern, Ⓔ Harappa.

bung'r

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(4) Stormwater management practice as seen in Dholavira

(5) Presence of lakes, wetlands in dry arid areas
   (Eg) Saline lakes in Rajasthan.

(6) Pottery for storing water and purification through ancient systems.

(I) [Cholas empire]

(1) Built ponds and tanks within homes, temples

(Eg) - Brihadeshwara Temple

(2) Water Reservoirs and canal system

(3) wetland ecological management.

Harappa Mohenjodaro   Dry   Mauryan

Rastrakutas   Dry

Pallavas   Vijaynagara

Good Rainfall

Cheras   Cholas

Pandyas.

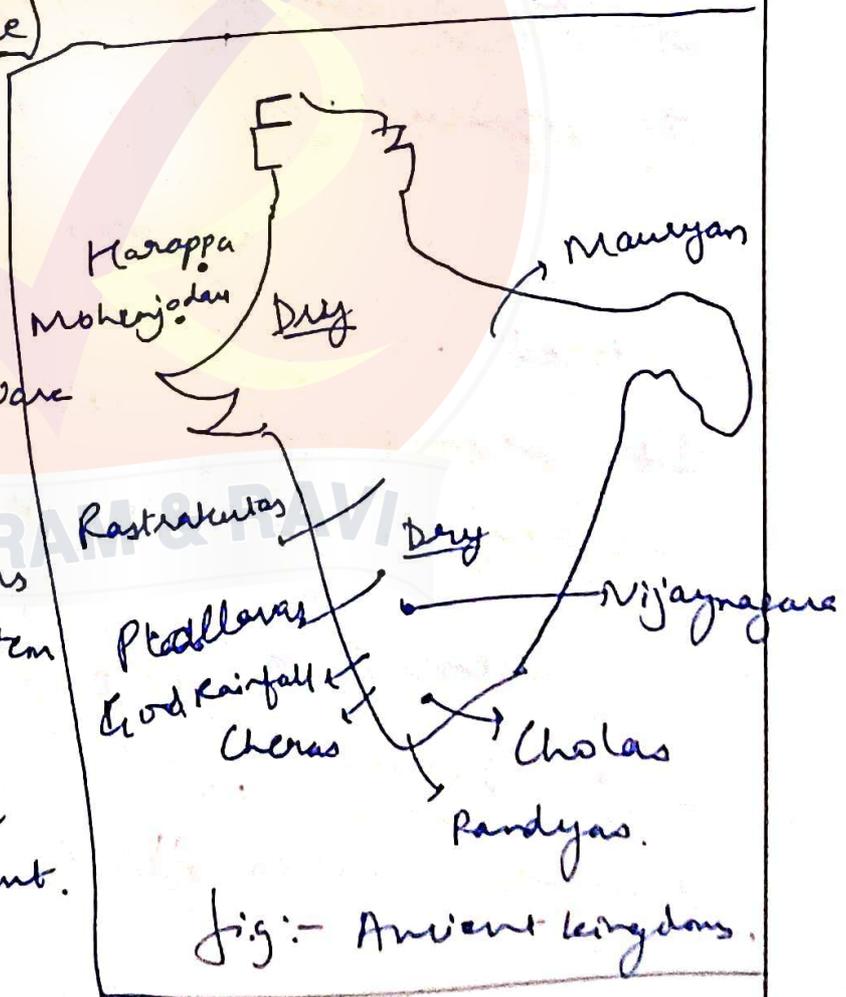fig :- Ancient kingdoms.

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(11) Vijaynagara empire

(1) Built circular fort walls and stored water in these gaps.

(2) Water tanks at temples.

Eg) Hampi temples

(3) Canal system through the core living area → supplying water to every house.

(4) Agricultural rationing of water.

However, they were evolved yet lagged the modern water management. It significantly later led to decreased water availability.

Even in present times, they are preserved and implied under A51 and through vikas bhi virasat bhi.

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Q12.

French revolution is one of the most revolutionary in world history for giving the ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity to world.

Causes of French Revolution :

(I) Immediate causes → ① regressive policies of Louis XVI.

② Economic and underdevelopment in France

However, it was also an outcome of prolonged structural imbalances and social discontentment as,

(1) Feudalism in france →

Page

bunghee

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this margin.

State divided $\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Rules} \\ \text{Nobles (clergy)} \\ \text{poor citizens (serfs)} \end{array}\right.$
into

(2) Poors not allowed to participate in political affairs, in parliament.

(3) High inequality, extreme poverty and illiteracy in France

(4) Rich vs poor divide urban vs. rural divide

(5) Social discontent due to lack of faith in government

(6) Role of religion and clergy in manipulating leaders.

(7) Excessive interference of religion in state matters.

(8) Low quality and conditions of life.

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Outcomes of French Revolution

(1) Gave the noble ideals of liberty, equality & fraternity

(2) Equality of rich and poor.

(3) Adoption of French constitution

(4) Inclusion of poors in the political process

(5) Led by ideas of Voltaire, Rousseau etc.
   └ Concept of General wills
   State has legitimacy which is ruled by consent of people.

Thus, French revolution acted as inspiration for American Revolution and post colonial revolutions.

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Q13

West Asia has been a theatre of great game since the ancient times to present times.

Arab Nationalism was an ideology demanding Arab unification of Arab countries from middle East and Africa i.e Arab speaking countries.

It is a →

(1) Unifying ideology ⎰ Arab speaking states
                      ⎱ Unique Arab culture
                      � Common religion
                           i.e Islam

(2) Demand of west Asia as an Islamic Representative in world

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(3) Rule of shariat and state policies.

However, it is also a source of freg fragmentation in West Asia as —

(1) Regionalistic identity and politicisation of matter

(2) Unification of diverse cultures
(Eg) African culture different from Arab peninsula.

(3) Different regional ideologies
(Eg) Hezbollah, Houthis.

(4) Shia vs Sunni Conflict
(Eg) Sunni → Saudi, Iraq Arabia

Shia → Iran

(5) Influence of great powers.
(Eg) — Russia supporting Syria

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(6) Presence of multiple religion in West Asia

(5) Zionism of Israel is supported by USA.

⌐ It creates challenges for Arab
Nationalism as →

(1) lack of unifying religious ideology

(2) Terrorist and radicalization
   (5) Houthis → Red Sea crisis

(3) Internal civil wars and crisis
   (5) Boko Haram in Africa

(4) Rising secessionism and regional aspirations
   (5) Ethiopia vs. Eritrea.

However, it is said that the
Arab spring (pro democracy reforms)
turned to Arab winter as it could
not take place.

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
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Q14

North East India is the major reservoir - for oil (Assam) and hydro power through perennial rivers like Brahmaputra.

They hold immense strategic and ecological value as →

(1) Strategic value → ASEAN countries.

→ Chicken neck corridor connects North East

② Gateway to South and Southeast Asia.

③ Internal security threats.

(2) Ecological value

① Rich dense forests and Himalayas

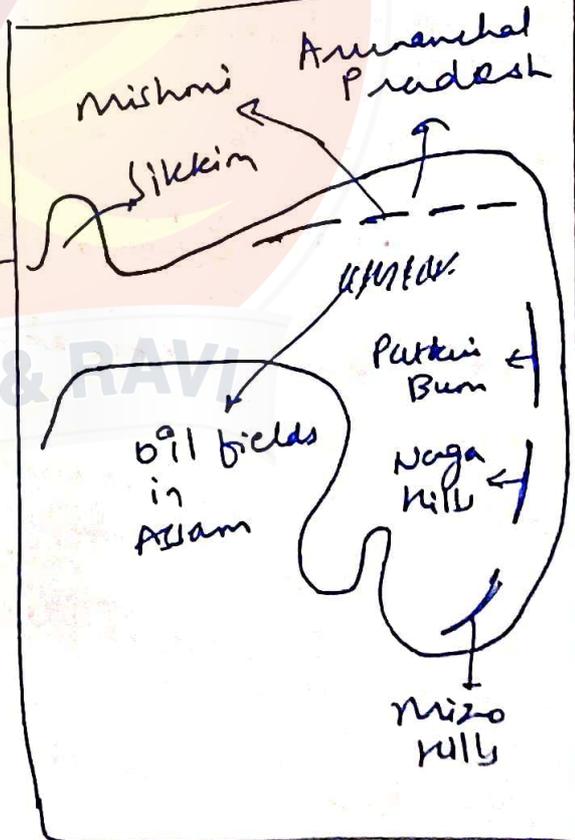Mishmi ← Arunachal Pradesh

Sikkim

U.P.W.

Patkai & Bum

Oil fields in Assam

Naga Hill

Mizo Hill

fig:- Eastern India.

bung*nee

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(2) Rivers → Brahmaputra, Barak

(3) Rich floras and fauna

Eg) Arunachal Pradesh → orchids

Assam → One Horned Rhinoceros.

Resource potential of North East

(1) Oil fields in Assam.

(2) North Eastern belt of minerals

Eg) mica, Zinc, copper, iron, bauxite, aluminium

(3) Fisheries and sea food capacity

Eg) Brahmaputra & its tributaries

(4) Tea cultivation, coffee, Rubber

(5) Thick vegetation cover with highest monsoon rainfall → High Hydropower potential

Eg) Mawsynram

(6) mining and ancillary industries potential

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Constraints affecting its effective
utilisation —

(1) Infrastructure → roads, railways
         connectivity

(2) Rough and steep Himalayan terrains

(3) Indigenous internal security threats
     (Eg) Insurgency in Assam, Nagaland

(4) Illegal rathole mining
     (Eg) Meghalaya.

(5) Local and ethnic community support.

Way Ahead → Renewed focus → PM DeVINE
                                     → strategy
                                        for
                                     infrastructure
                                     development
↳ Tribal integration and
  demands met.

↳ Renewable energy
  plants → Hydropower.

↳ Iron and steel and other
  ancillary industries.

Thus, North East holds immense
capacity for contribution to developed
India by 2047

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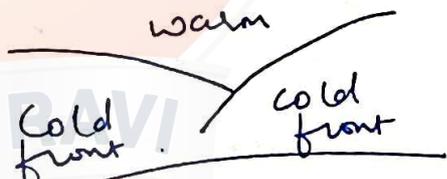
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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
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Q 15

Anticyclones are the anti-cyclonic disturbances present in temperate and mediterranean region.
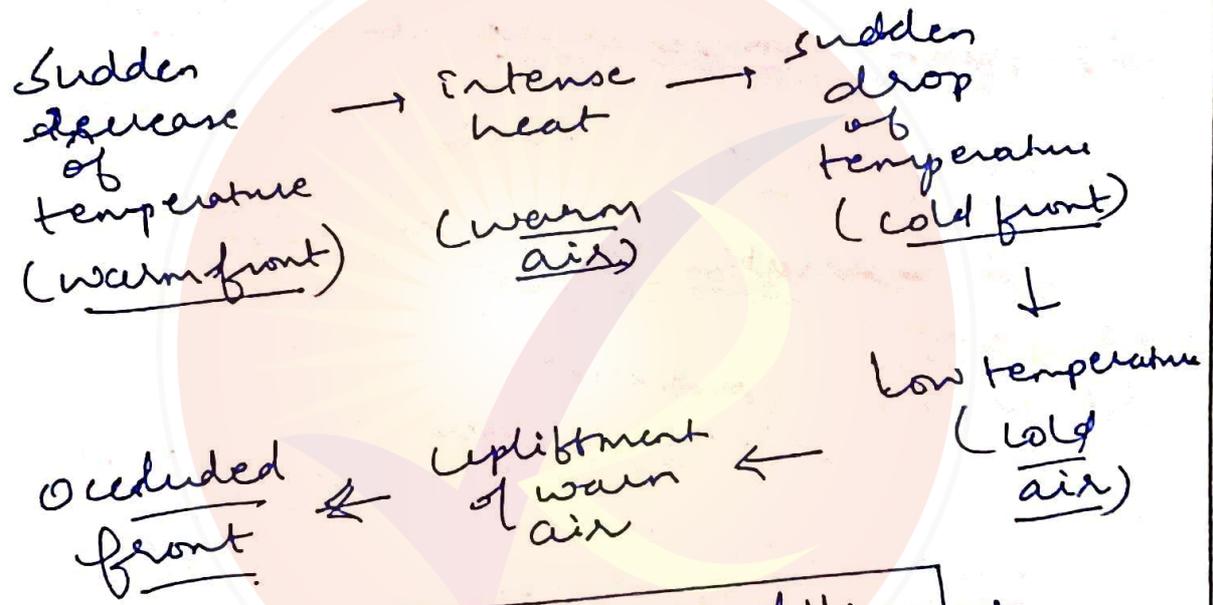
[Anticyclones] and [their characteristics]

(1) Formed due to frontal or frontogenesis — i.e upliftment of warm air mass by cold air mass.

(2) It creates atmospheric instability and lead to temperature inversion

(3) They are formed mostly around mediterranean region.

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(4) Under the influence of westerlies they more towards <u>west</u>. While cyclones more towards east.

(5) ~~Rhoalbb~~ Phases of anticyclonic.

Sudden decrease of temperature (warm front) → intense heat (warm air) → sudden drop of temperature (cold front)

↓

Low temperature (cold air)

Occluded front ⇐ upliftment of warm air ⇐

┌─────────────────────────────┐
│ Associated climatic conditions │ →
└─────────────────────────────┘

(1) Formed on <u>land</u> and on <u>sea</u> as <u>well</u>. While tropical cyclones form only on sea.

(2) Require cool temperature and <u>high</u> pressure conditions.

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(3) Brings rainfall and might damage the crops

(4) Temperature inversion causes fog, haze, mist at ground level

(5) High temperature and low temperature creates mix climate & erratic weather patterns

(6) Move clockwise in Northern Hemisphere

And clockwise in Southern Hemisphere $\Big\}$ due to impact of coriolis force

Thus, they create destruction of agricultural standing crops and human lives.

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उम्मीदवारों को हम हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।

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816

According to UNCCD, India's desertification - has expanded from the traditional arid areas to semi arid and grassland - areas.

| Regional variations of in desertification across India |

(1) Thar Deserts expanding in the semi arid and grassland areas
   (→) Rajasthan, Gujarat

(2) Decreased wetland and marshlands due to increased aridity
   (→) Kutch, Gujarat

(3) Peninsular block → expansion of semi arid areas in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu.

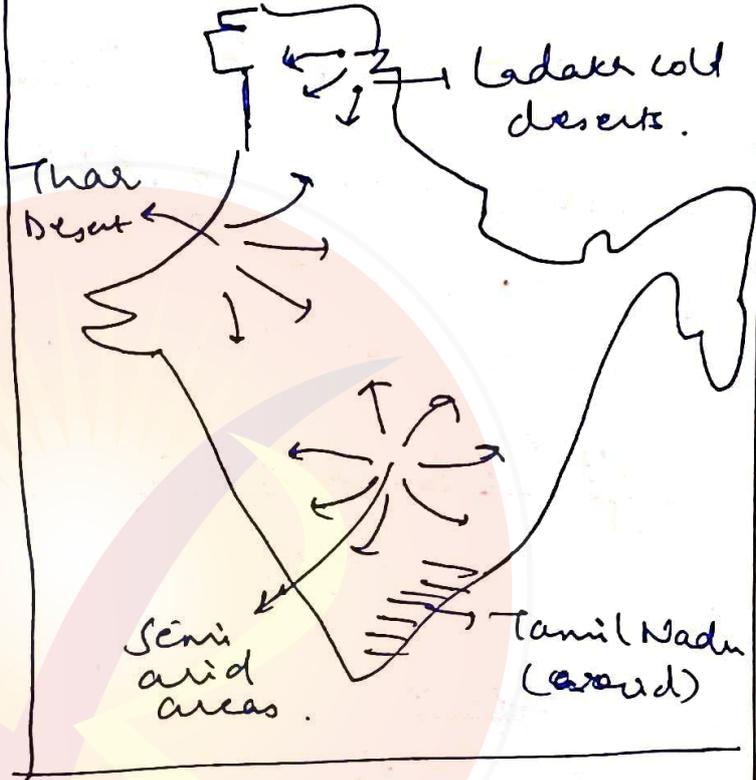Specimen Booklet   For Practice Purpose Only

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इस हाशिए
में केवल
प्रश्न संख्या
लिखे।
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उम्मीदवारों को
इस हाशिए में
नहीं लिखना
चाहिए।
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Expansion of

(4) Cold deserts in Ladakh and Kashmir

(5) Climate change and global warming

↓

desertification in North India plains, North East region

fig:- Desertification in India

→ Ladakh cold deserts.

Thar Desert

Semi arid areas.

Tamil Nadu (around)

(6) City → Urban heat island → aridity → Desertification
↳ Decreased wetlands
(ɛ) Chennai

┌─────────────────────────────┐
│ Impact on food security → │
└─────────────────────────────┘

(1) Cereal centric agriculture → Hidden Hunger
↳ Low groundwater in Punjab, Haryana → desertification

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(3) low calorific food and lost agricultural productivity lower than China.

(3) Increased water guzzling crops in arid and semi arid areas
Ⓔ Sugarcane, rice → Punjab, Haryana etc.

(4) Decreased millet production since 1950s due to drought etc.

(5) Erratic and extreme climate weather events → low production of food.
Ⓔ low monsoons in Gangetic plains.

Way Ahead → Adopt land degradation Neutrality

→ UNCED efforts to combat desertification
→ miyawaki Forest, Nagar van

SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 13 (climate action) to fight desertification

इस हाशिए में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें।

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में कुछ नहीं लिखना चाहिए।

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Q17

Scheduled castes under Article 342 and 338 and given reservation through Article 15 and 16 of Indian Constitution.

However, demand of subcategorisation of scheduled casteas.

(1) Address intragroup inequities →

(2) Proliferation of benefits within a particular communities

(3) Lack of actual transfer of benefits.

(Eg) Around 40% of STs are below poverty line (Census 2011)

(4) Perpetuation of past injustices

(Eg) Around 95% of manual scavengers were SCs.

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इस हाशिए में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें।
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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
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(5) Bring parity like in <u>OBCs</u> to address <u>economic deprivation</u>.

(6) Modern <u>casteism</u> still evolves.
(Eg) Covert untouchability through seperate utensils.

However, it may risk conflating

| caste based exclusion with class based deprivation as → |

(1) <u>Politicisation of caste</u> (Rajni kothari)
(vote Bank politics.

(2) <u>Class</u> based <u>achievement</u> and deprivation.

(3) Upper class of SC and STs excluded but lower <u>class</u> of SC and STs. → yet not much <u>educated</u> to take jobs

(4) <u>Casteisation</u> in urban <u>spaces</u>
(Eg) Seperate homes for SCs

VAJIRAM & RAVI

bung ree

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(5) Reveal of identity → can lead to social stigma and marginalization lower

(6) Economic ^jobs and low quality jobs as lower skills of SCs

(Eg) Garment shops.

(7) can lead to lower representation overall.

[Way Ahead] → sub categorisation based on authentic and valid data.

Caste census to identify real beneficiaries

(Eg) SECC 2011 → more than 46 lakh caste name came up.

Government efforts through reservation should include creamy layer criteria like OBCs in long run.

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Q18

Regional movements in India are based on ideology of regionalism or strong affinity towards one's region over others.
Eg- maratha nationalism.

It includes the multicultural and multi ethnic identities of race, religion, culture, tribal, language etc.

| Cultural and tribal identity at core of Regional movements → |

(1) Cultural distinctiveness and cultural promotion.
  (Eg) Bodoland in North East

(2) Cultural integration issues (melting pot)
  (Eg) opposition of three language formula by maharashtra, Tamil Nadu

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(3) Tribal culture and customs traditions

(g) matrilineal society in North east

fig:- Regional movements in India

→ Kashmir

Khalistan

Bodoland

Bundelkhand

Maratha Nationalism

Gorkhaland

Greater Nagalim

→ Tamil Nationalism

(4) Ladakh → demand of seperate special status
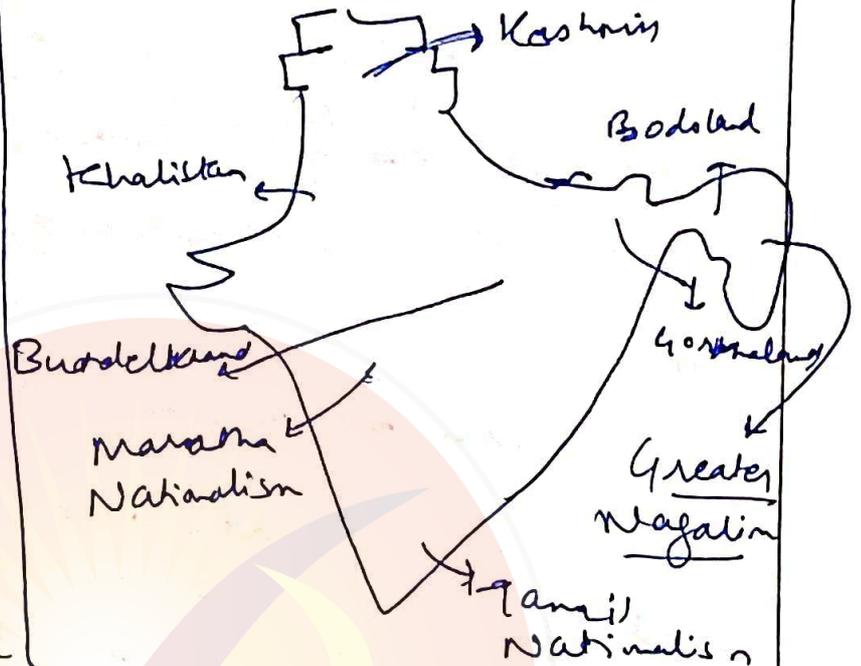→ mix of Buddhists, Hindus, muslims.

(5) Protection of indigenous knowledge, tribal rights etc.

(g) Use of Giloy tablets in Covid 19.

However, there are other factors too

(1) Underdevelopment and backwardness , drought → (g) Bundelkhand region.

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(2) Cultural imperialism through English as ligna franca

(3) Antonio Gramsci concept of cultural hegemony → imposing on tribals.

(4) loss of tribal lands and excessive development. on their land.

(E) North East

(5) Sons of soil Theory → Maharashtra

Way Ahead → Respect culture, tradition, tribal rights (Art 51A (k)

→ Address regionalistic → Balanced demands   development

→ Special category status to backward states.

— The government efforts through Team India and Ek Bharat Shresth Bharat aims at cultural unity with diversity.

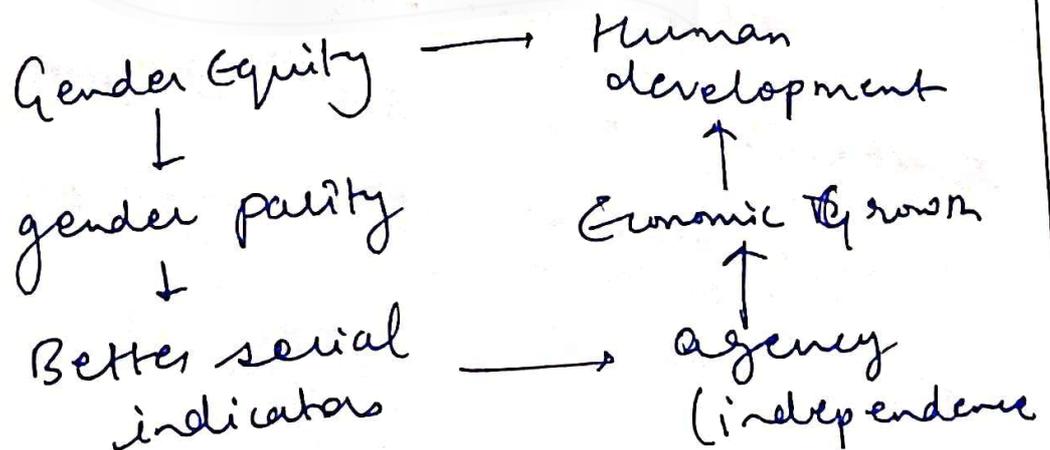Specimen Booklet   For Practice Purpose Only

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Q19

Human development is the overall social, political, cultural and economic development of individual through better education, health and standard of living.

While gender equity stands for gender equality as well as fairness to achieve parity. It is intersectionality as gender is a social construct.

Relationship between them

Gender Equity ⟶ Human development
↓   ↑
gender parity   Economic Growth
↓   ↑
Better social ⟶ agency
indicators   (independence

Page

इस हाशिए में केवल प्रश्न संख्या लिखें। Only write question number in this margin

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए। Candidates must not write on this margin.

(1) India's HDI rank at 130 (2025) reflects the human development discourse. While global gender gap stands at 129 (2024).

(2) According to studies by Esther Duflo, gender empowerment leads to better social good outcomes.

Key areas where gender equity impacts development outcomes →

(1) Health
— Reduces out of pocket expenditure
— Health and time poverty of women reduced.
— Better MMR (97), IMR (28) and other social indicators.

(2) Education → Increase Gross Enrolment Ratio (Beti Bachao Beti Padhao)
↳ quality and learning outcomes
(Eg) ASER Report → 70% class V students cannot read class V

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(3) Technology Divide — Reduce
→ STEM education
→ WEST initiative
→ KIRAN

(4) Better Standards of living
→ NFSA, MGNREGA
→ POSH Act
→ Dronedidis
→ Lakhpati didis.

(5) Safety and Security
→ (6) Pride parade of LGBTQ+
→ CCTV, Free bus rides for women.

(6) Governance
→ women Reservation (106 CAA)
→ gender centric humane governance.

Amartya Sen thus emphasized on capacity building for gender and human development.

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Q20.

Gig economy also called as platform economy which provide formal and informal labour.
(Eg) Zomato, Swiggy, Urbanclap company.

It is a tool for women's economic inclusion as→

(1) Flexible and work from Home capabilities
(Eg) Cloud kitchen in Zomato.

(2) Safety and assured wages.

(3) Increased women labour force participation rate
(Eg) PLFS → 41.7% (2025)

(4) Financial empowerment and agency (decision making)

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(5) Gig work → require low
basic skills and educational requirements
↑

ⒺⒼ Ola, Uber drivers.

Howeres it has created some issues

(1) Feminisation of labour due to
poor quality and poorly paid
jobs.

ⒺⒼ Chat support system

(2) Increased informalisation due
to temporary, non-permanent
nature.

(3) Dual burden on women of
handling family & work

(4) lack of effective security and
safety.

ⒺⒼ Abuse & misconduct by passengers
towards women drivers.

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(5) lack of effective social security benefits like maternity leave, pension.

(6) Capitalist nature of companies → Hire and fire → No actual quality job experience

Way Ahead

(1) Gig economy to be formalized and inclusion in labour codes (Economic survey)

(2) Safety policy and guidelines for platform economy

(3) Increase quality and work experience of jobs.

(4) Professional training and certificates

(5) Driving certificates in USA.

— Thus, counting the women to 50% urban force, would significantly Increase country's GDP.