

## VAJIRAM &amp; RAVI

SURE SHOT TEST SERIES 2025

General Studies  
Full Length Test

Test - 1 | GS1

Test Code - A21051501

Evaluator Code:

Date of Assignment:

CQ:

NAME:

SRINJAY KUMAR

Time allowed: 3 Hours

STUDENT ID.:

Email:

UPSC ROLL NO.:

Submission

30-June-2025

MOBILE NO.:

Date:

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:-**

- Legible Scanning:** Exercise due diligence in scanning your scripts for clear legibility
- Submissions** marred by poor scanning, notably those with illegible sections or blackened pages due to improper scanning, risk being excluded from the evaluation process.
- Non-Adherence Consequences:** Failure to comply with the aforementioned instructions may lead to the disqualification of your submission.

**For Student Only**

Start Time -

2:20 PM

End Time -

8:30 PM

Mode of Examination

Online

Offline

Receiving date -

Dispatch date -

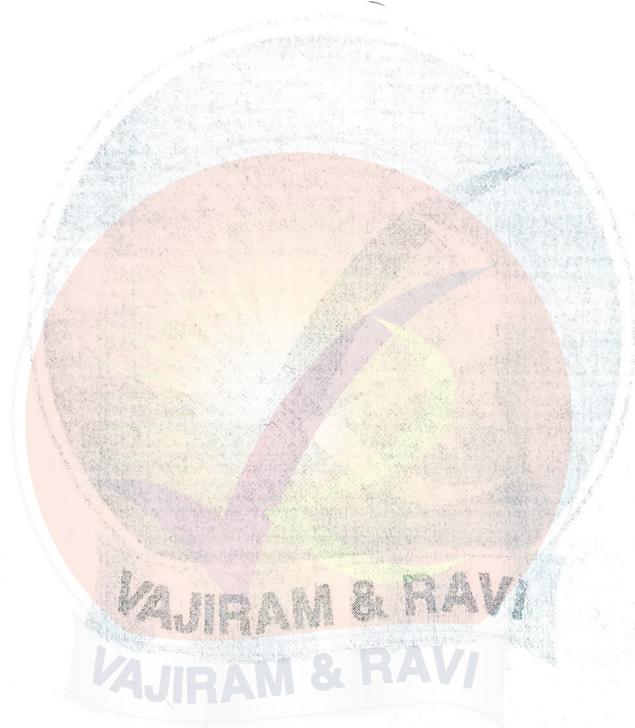
Parameters		Good	Average	Needs Improvement
Conceptual Understanding				
Understanding Demand of Question				
Structure	Introduction			
	Body			
	Conclusion			
Presentation-Illustrations, flowcharts, diagrams, etc.				
Language and Handwriting				
No. of Questions Attempted				
Adherence to Word Limit: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

### Mentor's Feedback

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VAJIRAM & RAVI  
VAJIRAM & RAVI

## Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



# Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



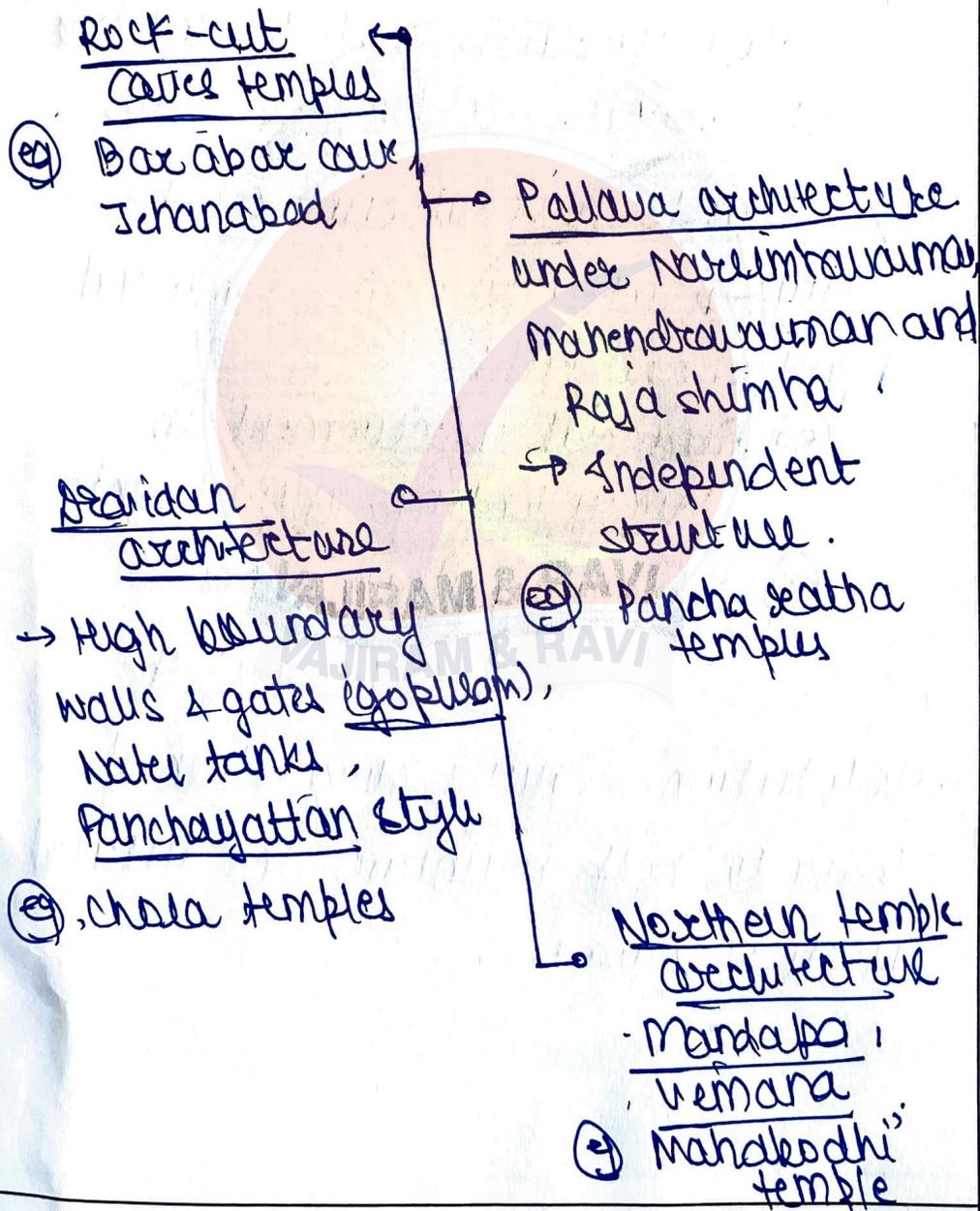
(Answer questions in NOT MORE than the word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length.)

1. The evolution of temple architecture in India illustrates the synthesis of art, religion, and polity. Illustrate with suitable examples from South India.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Temples remain the core of socio-cultural heritage from ancient to modern times.

## Evolution of temple architecture



Temple architecture: synthesis of art, religion and poetry

I) Mural paintings - depicting court scenes @ Meenakshi temple  
→ scenes from Mahabharata and Ramayana

II) Wall sculpturing - prevalent in Hoysala temple made of sandstone @ Chennakesava temple, Belur

III) Temple as focal point of the city → acted as major financial and social hub.

@ financial involvement in money lending, investment

@ Devadasi performances -

Article 51 of the

constitution requires every citizen of India to help maintain the cultural assets of India.

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Marks:	

2. The rise and development of the new religious ideas in the 6th B.C. India have brought significant changes to contemporary social life. Do you agree? Justify using examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

~~6th century BC was the age of renaissance and enlightenment in Europe.~~

6th century BC saw the emergence of new religious ideas which challenged the dominant religious ideas and practices

→ Rise of Heterodox religions

⊕ Buddhism, Jainism

New Religious ideas in 6th BC

→ concept of fatality

⊕ Arjuna by Mahatma Gandhi

→ salvation can be achieved by anyone.

New religious ideas: bringing significant changes to contemporary social life

It is challenging Brahmanical dominance over religious practices

(Don't write anything in this part)

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II) Improved status of lower varna and shudras

eg. Buddhism: even shudras can attain Nirvana

III) Removing religious disabilities

eg. women admitted to sanghas

IV) shifting royal patronages

eg. Ashoka adopted Buddhism & appointed ayuktas for its spread

No major change in many spheres

Some new ideas also believed in varna system eg. Jainism: lower varna due to past karma

V) Assimilation into dominant stream

eg. Buddha as 9th avatar of Vishnu

VI) Brainmanisation of other religions

The emergence of new religious ideas gave an alternative religious path for the deprived sections and it also pushed for reforms in Hinduism

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Marks:

3. Under colonialism, India's traditional economic structure was reoriented to fit into the economic needs of industrial Britain. Examine. (10 marks, 150 words)

Battle of Plassey (1757) laid the <sup>future</sup> foundation of subjugation of India by Britishers.

India's traditional economic structure reoriented to fit Britain's need

Industrial revolution in Britain

- ↳ Demand for new markets to sell finished goods
- ↳ Requirement of raw materials

↳ promotion of commercial crops in place of weeds (eg. Indigo, cotton)

↳ One-sided free trade policy to make India a market of British finished goods

↳ De-industrialisation of India (eg. cottage industries shut down)

↳ Development of communication &

## Transportation infrastructure

① development of Indian railways to connect hinterlands to ports

ii) expansion of plantation agriculture

iii) encroachment of tribal lands → disrupting tribal economy

iv) skewed selling - purchase exchange ratio to make Indian exports uncompetitive

v) Promotion of English education → rise of "new middle class" with European taste

This industrial & economic reorientation made India from a self-sufficient economy to an import dependent economy

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Marks:

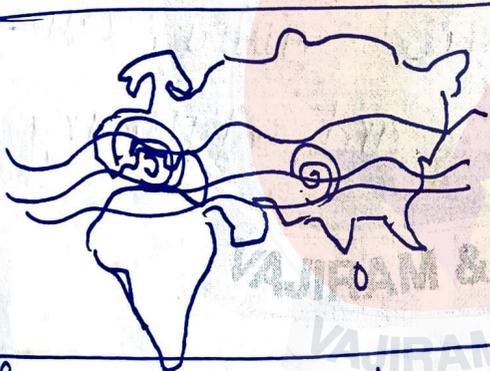
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4. What are Western disturbances? Explain their role in influencing the weather patterns of northern India. (10 marks, 150 words)

Western disturbances are low pressure systems travelling from west to east.

Western disturbance: role in influencing weather of northern India

1) Being cyclonic disturbances from Mediterranean towards India.



2) carry moisture from Persian Gulf and Caspian Sea

freq. western disturbances

3) bring rainfall in winter months to northern states like Punjab, Delhi

4) Very beneficial for rabi crops  
e.g. wheat.

It prevents stagnation of winter airflow over northern India.

It can cause snowfall, hail in mountainous and colder region.

It shows sharp fall of temperature and increase humidity.

It may cause cyclonic formation in Arabian sea.

Western disturbances play a crucial role in food security, socio-cultural maintenance and influencing weather patterns.

VAJIRAM & RAVI

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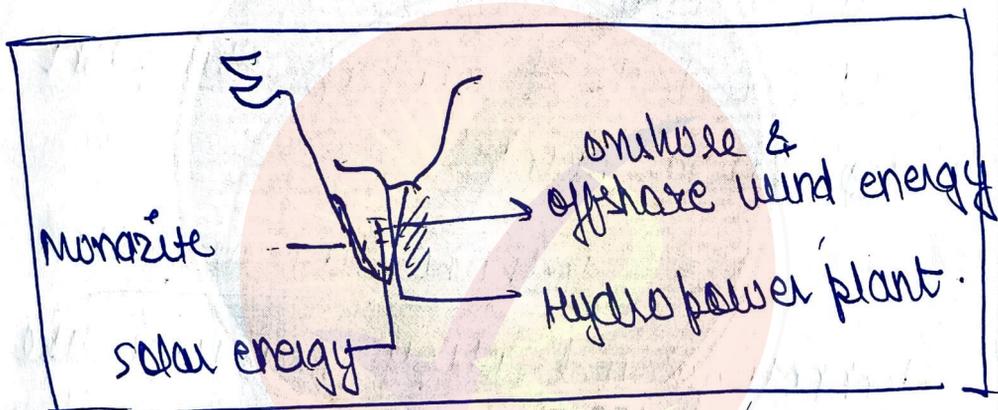
Presentation

Marks:

5. Discuss the non-conventional energy potential of peninsular India with relevant examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

Non-conventional energy potential refers to the estimated energy generation capacity from renewable and nuclear energy sources.

## Non-conventional energy potential of peninsular India



→ long coastline → of around 7000 km.  
↳ ideal ~~set~~ for onshore and offshore wind energy generation  
(potential - 142 GW)

→ coastal sand → contains monazite (thorium - 232) (eg) Kerala coast.

Thorium used in India's 3 phase

nuclear plan

→ tropical region → high insulation  
high solar energy potential

→ peninsular river systems - harness  
hydropower electricity.

eg Run of the river hydropower plants on 'canary'.

→ higher capital expenditure capability  
due to higher per capita income

eg decentralised rooftop solar plant

eg Biogas plant.

indigenisation of green

technology and policy measures like  
streamlined land acquisition, interest

subvention etc will ensure that this  
non-conventional energy potential is  
utilised to its fullest

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Presentation

Marks:

6. Why are most of India's iron and steel plants concentrated in the eastern and central parts of the country? Illustrate with examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

Iron and steel plants form the foundation of industrial sector. India is among the largest producer of iron and steel but their manufacturing is regionally imbalanced.

Why concentration in eastern and central parts

1) Proximity to raw materials like iron ore. (Bulky → high transportation cost)  
 (eg) Iron mines concentrated in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Odisha (eg. TISCO)

2) Market access → easy connectivity to large markets and ports for exports  
 (eg) Nishakhaapatnam steel plant

3) Conducive policy and regulatory environment  
 (eg) Electricity subsidy, single window clearance.

(Don't write anything in this part)

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(Do anything in this part)

1) Abundant supply of water continuously

eg) Damodar river caters to industrial need in Jharkhand

2) proximity to import centres

eg) India dependent on import of cooking coal

3) colonial industrial base in eastern India

4) policy measure - for development of tribal and backward regions and become source of employment of them

Iron and steel industry form the backbone of India's infrastructure -  
- drive push. Greening of the industry is imperative for sustainable development -  
- ent

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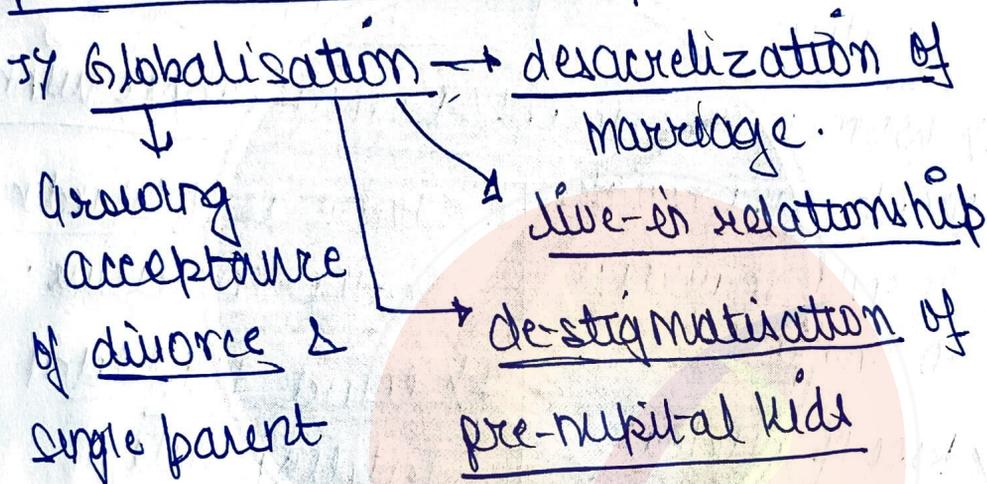
Marks:

7. In contemporary India, marriage is increasingly perceived as a personal choice rather than a societal obligation. Enumerate the socio-economic forces behind this transformation and assess its potential impact on family structure.

(10 marks, 150 words)

considered  
Marriage is the union of two individuals  
However, it is increasingly perceived as  
personal choice rather than social  
obligations.

### Socio-economic Reasons



2) Legal jurisprudence : SC: Right to choose life partner is a fundamental right.

3) Economic independence of women

4) Streamlined adoption and fostering processes @ adoption of Hague convention, CARA as nodal agency

(Don't write anything in this part)

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- ⇒ rising cases of divorce and separation
- ⇒ liberalisation of sex regime → pre-marital sex no longer taboo.
- ⇒ rise of atypical families without right to marry (Sushrta case).

## Potential impact on family structures

### Positive

- ⇒ women empowerment (eg. prevalence of child marriage in India)
- ⇒ Rise of nuclear and small families (more autonomy and cohesion)

### Negative

- ⇒ Demographic winter
- ⇒ increased dependency ratio in future.
- ⇒ lower TFR (total fertility rate)
- ⇒ dismantling of traditional religious structures.

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Marks:

8. Analyse to what extent does regionalism contribute to the deepening of decentralization in India? (10 marks, 150 words)

Regionalism is a political ideology where an individual prioritises regional interests and traditions.

Regionalism: deepening of decentralisation

I) Rise of regional political parties

eg) AIADMK / DMK in Tamil Nadu,  
SP / BSP in UP.

II) Voting on the line of regional interests and issues.

III) safeguarding regional culture and interests eg. Hornbill festival in Nagaland

IV) Linguistic diversity promotion

eg) Tamil Nadu push against NEP 2020 three language formula.

V) Constitutional amendments

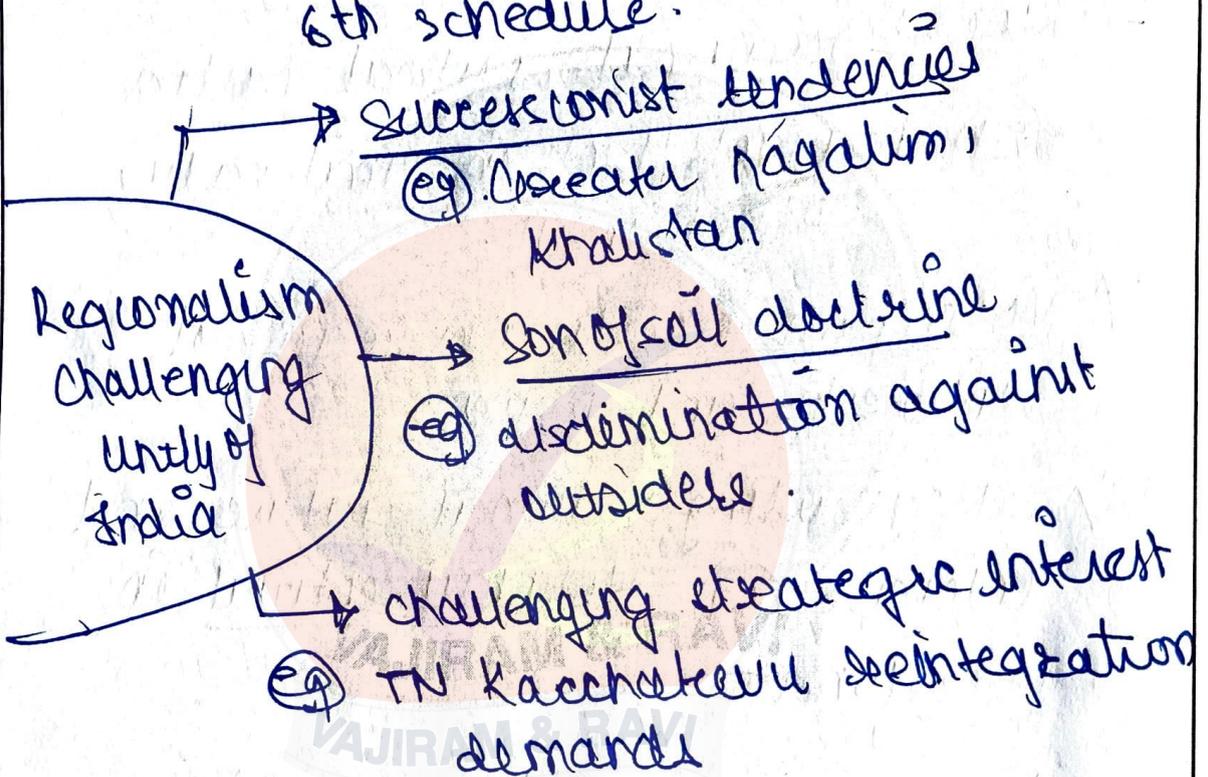
↳ creation of special development boards (Art 371A - J).

(Don't write anything in this part)

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VII) Demand for creation of new states  
eg) Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bundelkhand.

VIII) 5th schedule and 6th schedule states.  
enjoy special equation with centre  
eg) Lakshadweep for inclusion into 6th schedule.



Regionalism is mainly a good force in democratic polity however. It is detrimental when it takes violent / successionist undertones

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Marks:

9. Discuss the potential socio-political implications of implementing a nationwide caste census.  
(10 marks, 150 words)

Caste census refers to integration of caste data enumeration with the decadal census. It is conducted under the purview of union government (Ministry of home affairs).

Caste-census: positive implications

1) Caste-segregated data availability

reflect the ground realities

→ last caste census in 1931;  
SECC (2011) had discrepancies in data collection

2) Evidence-based decision making

eg) Targeted measures for underserved sections

3) New baseline for row-based budgeting

4) Rationalisation of affirmative actions

eg) subcategorisation of OBC/SC →  
for substantive equality

⇒ critical evaluation of developmental progress

Caste-census = Negative implications

⇒ Reinforcing stereotypes and caste identities.

⇒ politicisation of caste and casteisation of politics (eg) vote bank politics

⇒ communal/caste clashes → dominant group assertion against removal of benefits

⇒ Vertical competition for backwardness to get reservation benefits.

conducting caste-census is a progressive step for ensuring good governance and leaving no one behind.

Write  
in  
part)

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(Don't write  
anything in  
this part)

10. The Lucknow Pact of 1916 was both a high point of Hindu-Muslim unity and a harbinger of future communal divisions. Comment (10 marks, 150 words)

Lucknow pact of 1916 was signed between the Indian National Congress <sup>(INC)</sup> and Muslim League (ML) to create a single front against the Khilafat Issue & non-cooperation movement.

Lucknow pact: high point of Hindu-Muslim Unity

It is joint resistance against dismemberment

- ent of Turkey post world-war I

It is Gandhi (a Hindu) made leader of all India Khilafat committee

It is single front against made-minor parts of reforms

It is united protest and participation in Non-cooperation movement (NCM)

(eg) All Brothers (Mohammad ali & Shaukat ali). Red-shirts

(Don't write anything in this part)

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- One-time unique cooperation between ML and INC since formation of ML.
- Jinnah left Congress post-NM due to disagreements

Unknown fact: harbinger of future communal division

- Joint acceptance of different ideological standings of ML & INC
- ML and INC brought on equal footing as equals
- ML & INC united in demands but acting as separate entities
- post-NM appeasement of Muslims by British govt under policy of divide and rule.

→ This the seeds of communal divisions led to eventual partition of British India into two separate nations - India & Pakistan.

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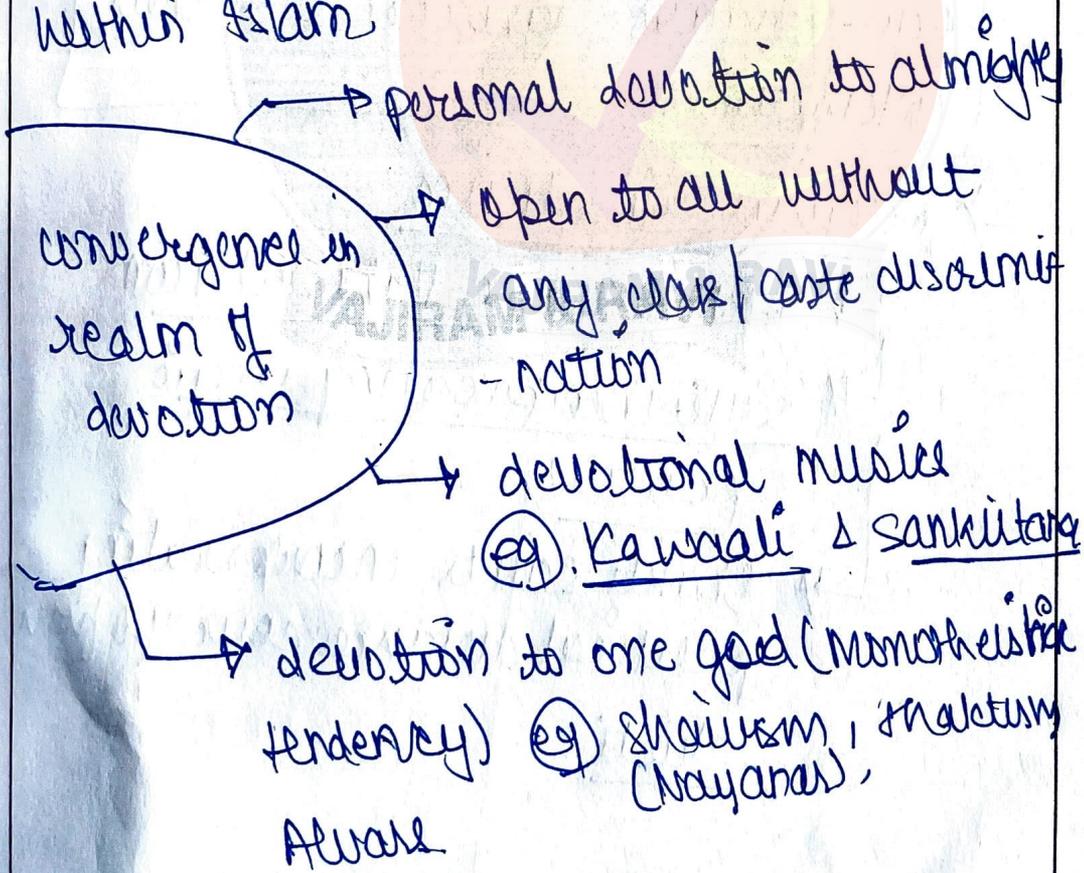
Presentation

Marks:

11. "While the Bhakti and Sufi movements emerged from different religious milieus, their convergence lay in the realm of devotion and dissent." Examine the socio-religious significance of their interaction in medieval India. (15 marks, 250 words)

Bhakti and Sufi movements were medieval religious reforms movement which emphasised on personal devotion to god as means to salvation rather than performing religious rituals.

Bhakti movement was within the fold of Hinduism and Sufism within Islam



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Convergence in realm of dissent

→ rejecting over-ritualistic practices (strict observance - tion)

→ rejecting dominant belief systems.  
eg) Vaishya system.

→ development of local language against court language

eg) Emergence of Marathi from Prakrit

Socio-religious significance of their interactions

→ Religious syncretism

↳ Akbar Din-e-Ilahi religion

↳ Sufi incorporating yogic practices

↳ Bhakti saints incorporating political distance concept from Christi

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(Don't write anything in this part)

1) Communal Harmony promotion

↳ Both Bhakti and Sufism were open to each other and promoted mutual understanding and reverence

2) Development of Urdu (Linguistic development)

3) Reemergence of Gurukul traditional education system (e.g. Pir-Mirad in Sufism)

4) Shrines for revered figures

(e.g. concept of Dargah)

5) Rise of different sects

(e.g. Rasnami sampradaya, Guru Ghasool sampradaya)

The ethics preached by Bhakti & Sufi saints are timeless and serve as guiding light for an increasingly divided mankind.

(Don't write anything in this part)

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12. Contrast the approaches of Sardar Patel and Jawaharlal Nehru in handling princely states and regional integration. How did their differing visions shape the evolution of the Indian Union? (15 marks, 250 words)

Sardar Patel and Jawaharlal Nehru were among the tallest figures of Indian independence struggle and founding of modern independent Indian Republic.

Different approaches in handling princely state and regional integration

Nehru	Patel
<p>↳ pre-<u>Independence</u> session (1939) →</p> <p>only symbolic and external support</p> <p>↳ post-1939 complete support</p> <p>↳ pivotal role in formation of <u>praja mandal</u> &amp; <u>praja movement</u></p>	<p>↳ envisioned Indian Republic encompassing whole of British India</p> <p>↳ backed state in strengthening grassroots congress organization</p>

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(Don't write anything in this part)

i) primacy to negotiations

eg) Plebiscite in Jammu & Kashmir

ii) More accommodation & space toward princely states

eg) allowing ruler of J&K to administer without interference

iii) Against idea of all-India services as an unifying force.

iv) open to use of violent means to secure Indian interest

eg) Operation Polo in Hyderabad

v) strict toward princely and princely states

eg) mandatory signing of instrument of accession

in lieu of helping J&K

vi) Advocate of All-India services

Newer vision shaping evolution of Indian Union

vii) Majority of princely states joined union voluntarily due to praja movements.

(Don't write anything in this part)

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i) Linguistic ~~reg~~ reorganisation of states under 1956 act

ii) Raypramukh status and p<sup>ri</sup>ny p<sup>ri</sup>ny to erstwhile Indian princely rulers

Patel vision: shaping evolution of Indian Union

iii) Tirunagari operation p<sup>ri</sup>ny in Hyderabad

iv) Instrument of accession with Jammu and Kashmir

v) Popular resurrection in Tirunagari and subsequent plebiscite

vi) Father of all-India services → The steel frame played pivotal role in reinforcing unity in India

eg) IPS TN Saini - Intellect or naga accord;

For both Nehru and Patel epitomised leadership, nationalism and dedication to public services.

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Body

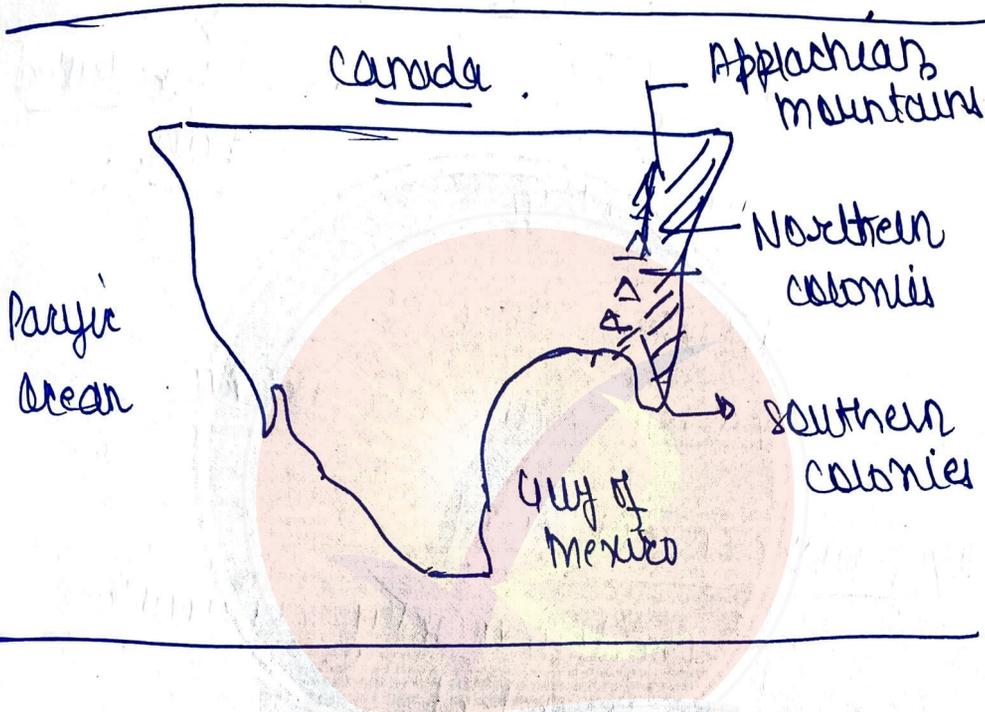
Conclusion

Presentation

Marks:

13. The American Civil War was not just a political conflict but a clash of two divergent economic systems. Substantiate  
(15 marks, 250 words)

American civil war was a major historical milestone in the history of United States and the world.

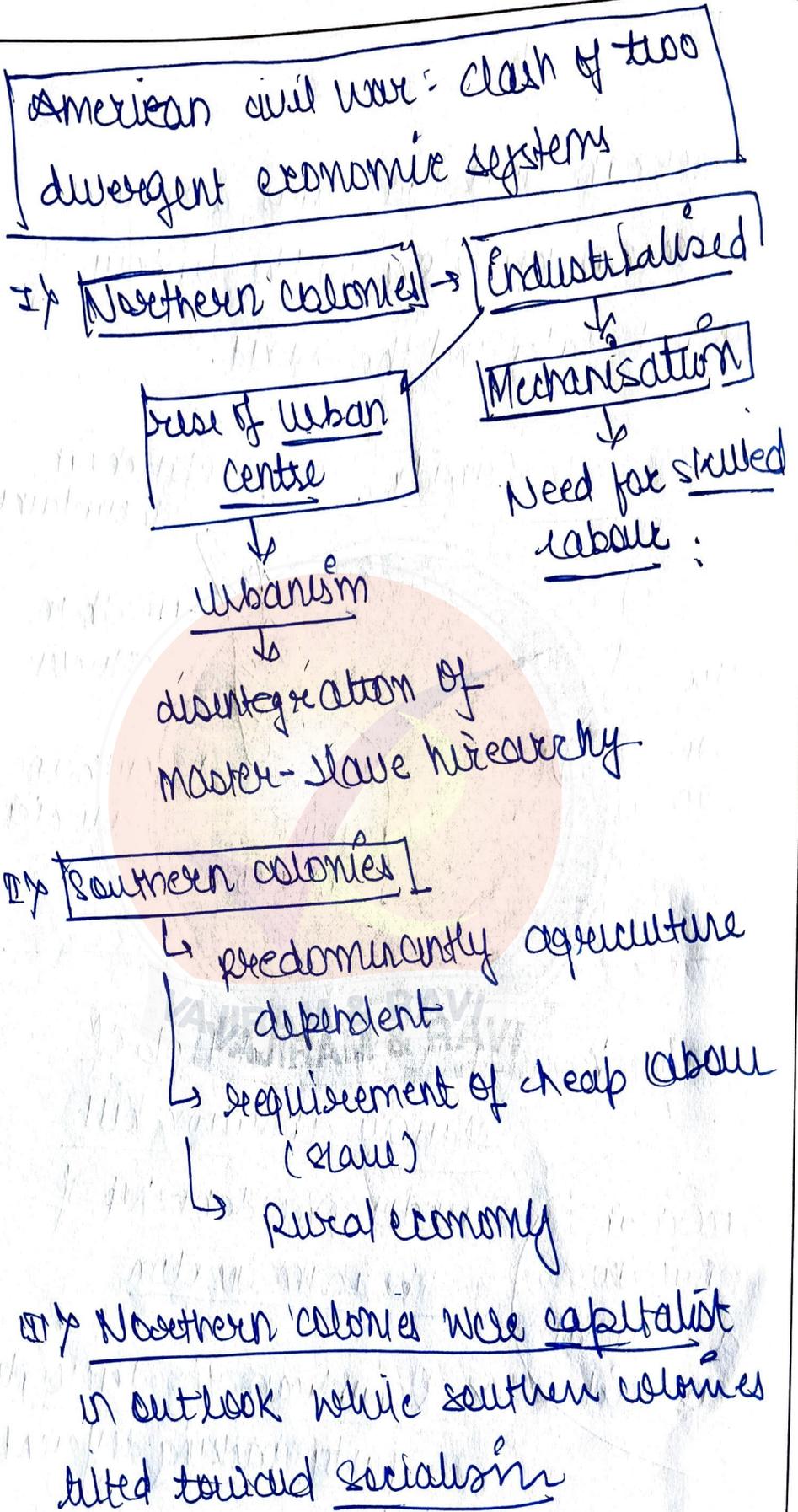


→ acted in the backdrop of  
slavery abolition bill  
under presidency of  
Abraham Lincoln  
→ Republican v/s democratic  
party backing different  
ideology.

American civil war - a political conflict

(Don't write anything in this part)

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i) Northern industrial economy vs  
southern agrarian economy  
ii) dispute over moving east of  
Appalachian for more land as well  
as exploitation of other resources

iii) Northern commercial agriculture vs  
southern primitive & subsistence  
agriculture

iv) Northern focus on factory production  
and principle of comparative  
advantage vs southern focus on  
self-sufficiency

American civil war  
resulted in abolition of slavery and  
paved way for a more egalitarian  
world.

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14. What are marine heatwaves? Examine the causes of the increasing frequency of marine heatwaves. How do they influence the onset of the summer monsoon in India? (15 marks, 250 words)

Marine heatwave refers to the sustained increase in oceanic temperature - well beyond average temperature.

Causes of increasing frequency of Marine heatwaves

1) Global warming and climate change

→ rising sea surface temperatures

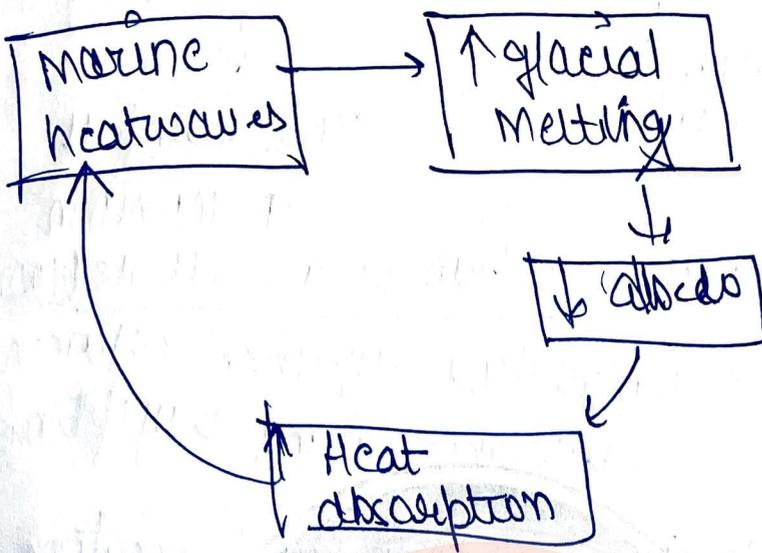
2) disruption of AMOC (Atlantic meridional overturning circulation)

3) weakening of ocean currents

4) Ocean thermal pollution due to balast pollution (water discharge)

5) Discharge of industrial effluents into oceans

## Q4 positive feedback loop



Marine Heatwaves: influence on onset of summer monsoon in India

It reduce pressure gradient of marine heatwave around Indian Ocean  $\rightarrow$  poor monsoon

Q4 Aggravate effects of ENSO depending on region of formation.

Marine Heatwave in eastern Pacific  $\rightarrow$  strengthening of  $\text{ENi\ddot{n}o}$   
 $\downarrow$   
 poor monsoon

(Don't write anything in this part)

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Marine Heatwave → La-Niña strengthening  
on eastern Australian coast ↓  
More rainfall

⇒ Impact on Indian Ocean dipole (IOD) in monsoon  
↓  
IOD & temperature difference between Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal

⇒ conducive conditions for formation of tropical cyclone (as more sea surface temperature  $> 26.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) → essential rainfall.

Paris agreement commitment should be honoured by every member states & understanding of marine heatwave will help <sup>better</sup> tackle its negative impacts.

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Marks:

15. Assess the effectiveness of tribal development programmes in India. Why do tribal areas continue to experience developmental setbacks, and what are the challenges?  
(15 marks, 250 words)

Tribal development programmes were formulated to tailor to specific demands and challenges of India's tribal population.

Tribal development programme: Effective

⇒ improved health and education outcome (eg) improved literacy rate and reduced disease burden

⇒ Access to basic facilities - (eg) focus on housing under tribal sub-plan

⇒ Individual and community rights under Forest rights act 2006

⇒ Joint forest management principles boosting tribal livelihood.

Tribal development programme: Short-comings

⇒ Assimilationist approach → erosion

- ↳ of tribal culture
- ↳ development induced displacement
- ↳ poor <sup>socio-economic</sup> developmental indicator
  - ⊙ lack of access to basic facilities like toilet

## Reasons for developmental setbacks

- ↳ Bureaucratic delays and corruption
  - ⊙ global corruption index - India ranked 93.

- ↳ Encroachment of forest land for expansion of cities / agriculture

- ↳ low awareness level among tribals
- ↳ Lack of <sup>adequate</sup> representation in important positions → paternalistic view of tribal development

- ↳ Rough terrain → ⊙ difficulty in providing services in forest/hilly terrain

- ↳ Left-wing extremism

⇒ High disease burden due to poor sanitation

⇒ Land alienation

⇒ Clashes with forest bureaucracy

⇒ Easy target for harassment (eg) Santhals (Jharkhand).

## Way forward

⇒ Tribal panchayat - Integrationist approach

⇒ Inclusive and sustainable development

PM-JANMAN is a renewed effort to plug in the developmental gaps in tribal areas.

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(Don't write anything in this part)

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16. "As the world's water towers melt, the risk of water stress increases." Discuss how the Himalayan glaciers' retreat could redefine freshwater availability and regional hydropolitics in South Asia. (15 marks, 250 words)

Water towers refer to the mountains with major glacial deposits which act as a major source of fresh-water availability.

With the rising global warming -ing has accelerated glacial retreat, thus risking water security

Glacial retreat redefining freshwater

Availability

↳ low recharge of Himalayan sewer system

↳ Perennial Himalayan rivers

like Ganga, Brahmaputra & Indus are lifelines

↳ positive feedback loop

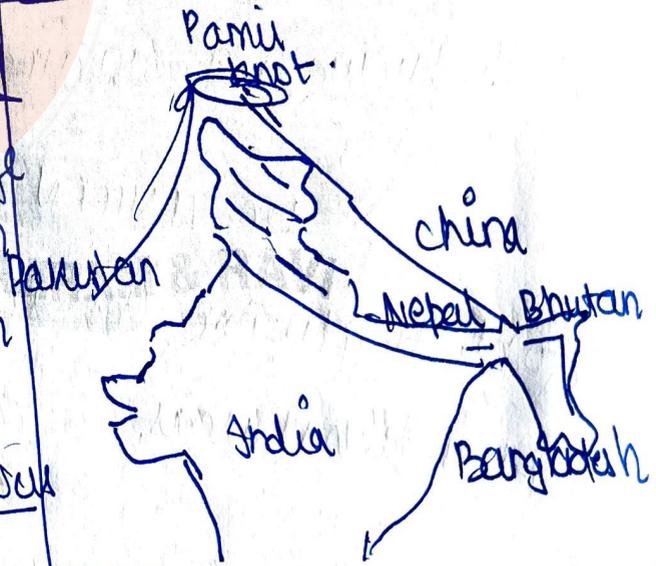
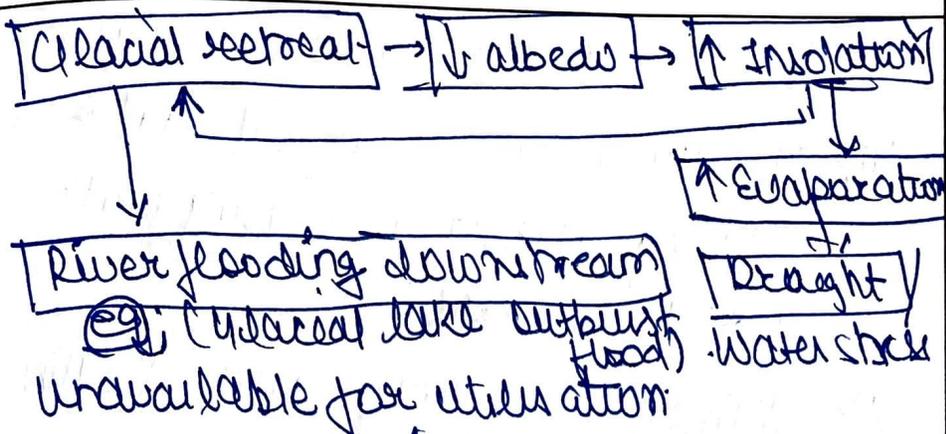


Fig: Himalayan-Hindu-kul and South Asia

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⇒ by drying up of <sup>glacial</sup> lakes → major source of water for nearby habitations.

## ~~Glacial~~

Himalayan glacier retreat - redefining regional hydro-politics

⇒ Inter-state river water dispute escalation

⊕ e.g. Indus river basin water sharing (Indus treaty).

⊕ China building world's largest dam near Tangpo's great bend

⇒ The next world war would be fought over water

⇒ upper riparian states exerting unilateral control → potentially

(Don't write anything in this part)

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hauling lower suburban states.

⇒ opacity in hydrological ~~water~~ data  
sharing due to overusing water  
quota concern.

⇒ chinese monopoly over desalination  
technology.

## Way forward

⇒ collaborative efforts for protection  
of Himalayan ecosystem

⇒ global Himalayan conservation  
alliance formation

⇒ climate change mitigation & adaptation  
measures

⇒ ethical & transparent water governance

⇒ Demand as well as supply side  
management.

Himalayas and its rivers are the  
thread that unite us (South Asia) & not  
divide us

Introduction

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Marks:

17. Despite increasing participation of women in the professional workforce, their presence in top leadership remains minimal. Examine the interplay of societal norms and workplace structures in perpetuating this gender gap.

(15 marks, 250 words)

India's female labour force participation rate (FLFPR) shot up to 37.6 percent (PLSS 2023) however, their presence in top leadership remain minimal.

Societal norms - perpetuating gender gap

↳ Patriarchal mindset - women are primary caregivers and child rearing mandates

↳ Early marriage and pregnancy → lower education attainment & skill development → low end jobs

↳ Dual burden - unpaid domestic chores as well as formal job

↳ Gender stereotypes against women  
eg) poor in STEM fields

- I) labour force boost due to increased participation in social economy
  - (eg) female feminization of agriculture due to male specific migration
- II) status quo - poor compliance to women leadership reinforced by systemic biases

Workplace structures - perpetuating gender gap

- I) Gender-based discrimination
  - ↳ pay-gap even for equal work
  - ↳ casual sexism regarding ability
  - ↳ poor pay and performance appraisal
  - ↳ Glass ceiling - invisible barrier to upward mobility of women
  - ↳ pink collarisation
    - (eg) women offered low paying front facing jobs

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1) Sexual harassment at workplace

only 13% of organisations are compliant with POSH ICC (Internal complaints committee / mandate)

2) motherhood penalty - low desirability due to 24 weeks paid leave (maternity benefit act)

3) poor creche facilities and flexible work opportunities

→ Enforcement of POSH act in letter and spirit

Way forward

→ Equal pay for equal work

→ National creche mission

→ paternity leave and singapore model of financing leaves.

SC in Babita Pramiya

case reiterated that women are no less than man in any sphere of life.

(Don't write anything in this part)

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18. The phenomenon of 'livability atrophy' in Indian cities reflects the widening gap between urban expansion and quality of life. Examine the causes and consequences of this trend, and suggest measures to make urban growth more humane and sustainable. (15 marks, 250 words)

Livability atrophy refers to ~~the~~ the dichotomy of increasing urban population but ~~falling~~ <sup>decreasing</sup> urban living standards.

Livability atrophy: causes - poor quality of life

↳ unplanned and haphazard expansion of urban centres

⊙ emergence of urban sprawls

↳ proliferation of slums due to poor affordable housing availability

Slum → poor access to work  
→ dilapidated homes.  
→ epicentre for communicable disease outbreaks

↳ poor capacity building of urban municipal bodies.

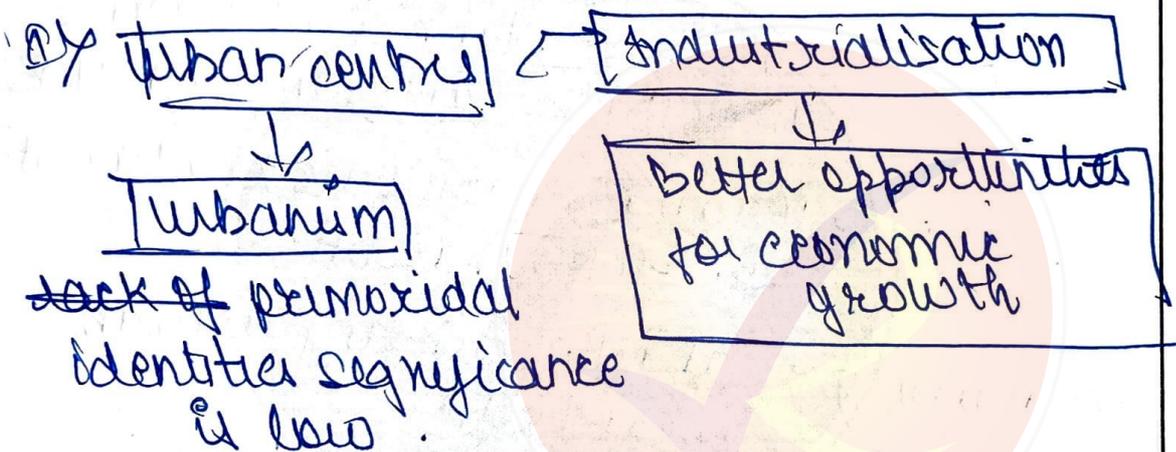
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It's realisation of blue-green space →  
Heavy concretization.

It's (eg) urban heat island effect

It's causes → urban expansion

It's agricultural distress - declining agricult-  
-ural productivity and erratic  
monsoon



It's Survivability atrophy - consequences

It's Reverse migration towards rural areas

It's lower life expectancy and di

(eg) Delhi poor AQI reducing lifespan by a decade.

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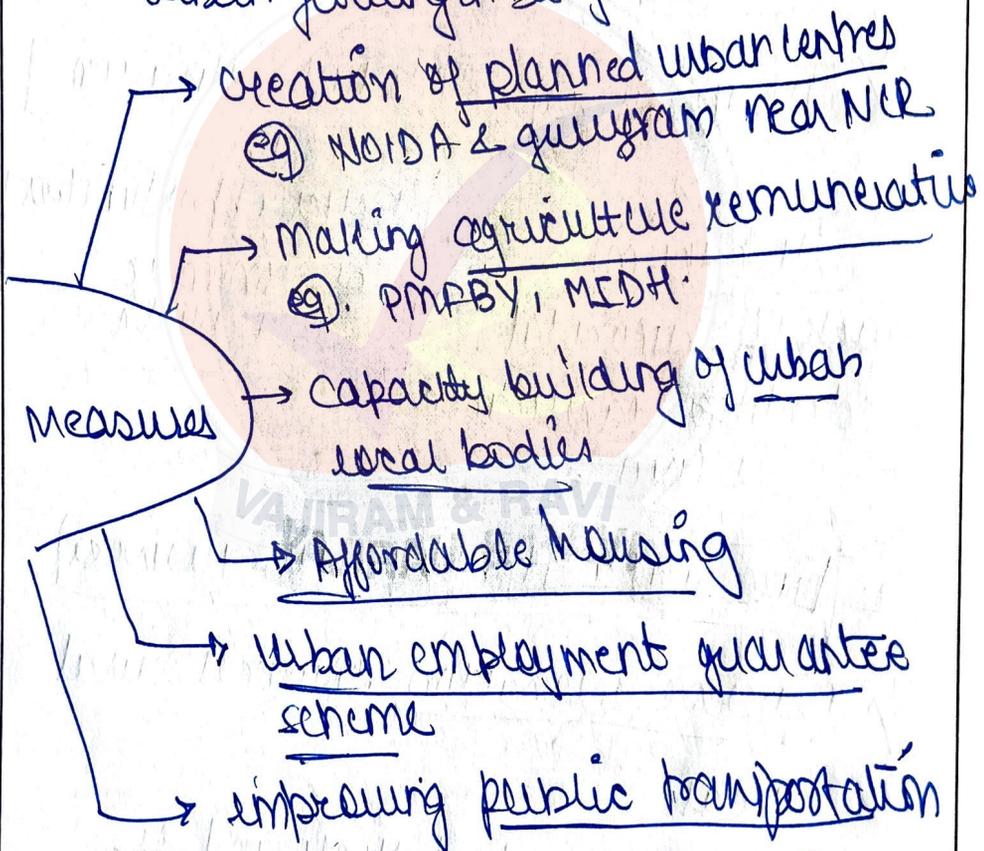
II) Rising Health care burden and Out of pocket expenditure (57%)



Urban poor

III) Unsustainable resource extraction (eg).  
groundwater depletion

IV) Lower resilience to disaster (eg)  
Urban flooding in Bangalore



cities are growth engines of India. creation of greenfield cities will propel economic growth while addressing inequality.

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Marks:

19. Define transnationalism and examine the factors that have led to the increasing global interconnectedness of diaspora communities. (15 marks, 250 words)

Transnationalism is a political ideology where an individual professes nationalist loyalty to more than one nation-state.

eg) An Indian-American has Indian roots but citizenship of USA.

Factors = increasing global interconnectedness of diaspora communities

i) Rise of social media - digitally connecting people from far geographical location

eg) Billion+ user base of Meta

ii) Globalisation → improved trade relation and econ socio-economic integration

iii) Preservation/Revival of local culture

eg) Sindhis across globe documenting their culture

iv) Efforts of Ministry of External Affairs

(MEA) → eg) Pravasi Bharatiya Divas;

Dekho apna dekh; OCI cardholders

- ii) ~~to~~ Rising Right-wing extremism and global anti-immigrant sentiment
  - ⊕ Deportation of Indians from USA.
- iii) Globalism and universalism ideals
  - 'The world is our home, political boundaries are artificial construct'
- iv) Global interconnectedness of diaspora positives
  - 1) Diaspora solidarity against unfair treatment
    - ⊕ Global diaspora uproar against handcuffing of Indian immigrants at US airport
  - 2) Improved awareness of rights and obligations.
  - 3) Promotion of Brand India & boosting soft power

Global interconnectedness of diaspora ∴ challenges

- 1) stereotyping of all diaspora based on personal experience

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→ Westernization and ~~also~~ erosion of traditional culture.

→ Social profiling by host country on basis of social media profiles.

→ Exploitative labour practices  
⊙ Kafala system in middle east

Other challenges faced by diaspora

→ Racial discrimination and stereotypes.

→ Cumbersome remittance process

→ Lack of sense of security.

→ Security seek due to regional instability.

⊙ Operation Kaveri in sudan

Indian diaspora is a progressive and powerful community across the globe which act as cultural ambassadors of India.

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20. Communalism in India, rooted in historical legacies and socio-economic inequalities, continues to undermine social cohesion and national integration. (15 marks, 250 words)  
Discuss with examples.

Communalism is a political ideology that different religious/communal groups have different interest and most of the times they are mutually incompatible.

Communalism: rooted in historical legacies

I) Islamic rule in India over majority

Hindu population

(eg) forced conversions during Delhi sultanate.

(eg) Poll tax (eg Jizya) based on religious identity

II) British policy of divide and rule

↳ Appeasement of Muslims post-1857 revolt

↳ Morley-Minto reforms - separate electorates

↳ Evolution of two-nation theory and eventual partition of India

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Communalism = roots in socio-economic inequalities

In India, the <sup>overlap</sup> ~~consequence~~ of class based challenges and ~~some~~ religious identity has reinforced communalism.

↳ Sachar committee report - on many indicators muslims perform poorly than SC/ST.

↳ Poor access to education

(eg) only 4% students in premier institutions are muslims whereas they constitute 14.2% of total population.

↳ Income and wealth inequality between average hindu and muslim family.

↳ Push for reforms within personal laws  
(eg) abolition of triple talaq.

Communalism: undermining social cohesion and national integration

↳ Extreme communalism leading to violence (eg) communal riots in Muzaffarnagar

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- ii) Environment of distrust and lack of fraternity (eg) cow-vigilantism
- iii) Vote bank politics based on religious lines
- iv) Non-participation in religious festivals.
- v) Separatist tendencies in Jammu and Kashmir region (eg) Pakistani flag hoisting in PoJK.

India is home to almost all major religions of the world which generally have peaceful co-existence. Promotion of cultural dialogues, employment and skilling opportunities (eg) Nari Manjil, USTAAD etc) will help blur socio economic inequalities and promote national integration.

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