

# VISION IAS

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**R N** 18 NOV 2015  
SUBMITTED IN 3 HOURS  
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## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 635)

Name of Candidate	P PRAVINYA		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	12594
Center	ORN	Date	18/11/15

### INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	10	
12	10	
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16	10	
17	10	
18	10	
19	10	
20	10	
21	10	
22	10	
23	10	
24	10	
25	10	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are TWENTY FIVE questions printed in ENGLISH.
3. All questions are compulsory.
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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103, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, B/1-2, Ansal Building, Behind UCO Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi – 110009

## EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 150 WORDS each. Contents of the answer are more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

10X25=250

1. Mughal chronicles present the empire as comprising many different ethnic and religious communities; the emperor stood at the centre of it and ensured that justice and peace prevailed. Elaborate in the context of sulh-i kul as described by Abu'l Fazl.

Sulh-i-kul represented secularism and existence of pluralism in the society. Abu Fazl was a writer in the court of Akbar, who described the social and religious atmosphere of the Mughal times.

Mughal chronicles were largely Islamic in the sense that they were administered by the court and the emperors. Ex: Akbar, Shahjahan etc. Yet the empire displayed secularism in the works commissioned.

Ex: Ramayana was translated into Persian as Ramzanamah.

The chronicles elaborated on how the emperor ensured peace and justice in the society with multi-religious and multi-ethnic character. Ex: Ain-i-Akbari, Jabbarqath-i-Hind.

Most emperors even employed local writers to publish works in local languages. This indicates the justness of the emperors.

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2. Nalanda school of sculpture was the culmination of a synthesis between the local tradition and surrounding areas. Elaborate. Also enumerate the features that make the Nalanda art distinct.

Nalanda school of sculpture evolved around the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. The pattern of sculpting had salient features like :

- i) Sitting Buddha with Abhaya Mudra
- ii) Slender and Elongated Buddha
- iii) The Sanghati (shawl) appeared almost integrated with the sculpture.
- iv) The Ushanka (hair) was curled up into a tiny ball at the centre.
- v) The halo around the head was simple and surrounded by motifs.

The above features make Nalanda art distinct. It was a synthesis of various traditions because :

- i) It was inspired by the local Mathura school of art in the form of sculpture and the level of simplicity.

- ii) Nalanda being a confluence of Buddhist scholars from Tibet, Nepal, Tanashila, central Asia, the achemenian, and outside influences (Greek) etc can be seen in the detail to sculpting.
- iii) The art form incorporated the features of Gandhara style too.
- iv) Nalanda school had the distinction of creating small sculptures which could be carried by the monks in their travels and thus was subjected to more outside influences than other forms of art.

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3. Discuss the contribution of Vijayanagar Empire to Indian art and architecture.

Vijayanagar empire of the South had contributed immensely to Indian art and architecture:

i) Temples: They perfected the Dravidian style of temples and also added features like Kalyana Mandap and Amman-gudis to the temple structures.

They introduced the fine rock cut temples at Hampi.

ii) Sculpture: The vijayanagara empire perfected the sculpting technique and made it integral to temples. They carved beautiful dancers (Devadasis) onto the temple walls.

iii) Music: The kingdom flourished with larnati music and compositions of various ragas.

iv) Literature: King Krishnadevaraya.

himself was an accomplished scholar and wrote many books like Amuktamalyade and the Panchakavyas

v) Dance: The court was the birthplace of Bharatanatyam and the Devadasi system of dance also developed during this period.

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4. The striking thing about modern India is that the men and women who made its history also wrote more authoritatively about it. In this context, highlight the literary contributions of B.R. Ambedkar, Jawaharlal Nehru and M.K. Gandhi.

Ambedkar, Gandhi and Nehru were academics and intellectuals who were well read and were inspired to write.

1) B.R. Ambedkar: He was a scholar who wrote on the degrading caste system in Bashiskrita Bharata and Mukhanayaka.

He outlined the social violence and the atrocities that the depressed classes were subjected to and thus made an important contribution to literature.

2) Jawaharlal Nehru: He was an accomplished intellectual of his times who wrote the "Discovery of India" and "Glimpses of world History."

These books contribute to the knowledge on the rich history and heritage of India

and espouse values of secularism and appreciation for our culture.

3) Gandhi: He was influenced by Tolstoy, Thoreau, Ruskin etc and thus wrote immensely on various aspects of society, polity, morality and ethics, history etc during his time. His journals include Harijan, Indian Opinion, Young India etc. These literary contributions are invaluable as the values espoused are relevant even today and form the basis for Indian history.



5. Railways, which served as an important tool of industrial revolution in many western countries, acted in India as a catalyst of colonization. Discuss.

Railways have been a boon for the industrialization of many western countries:

- 1) In Germany, they were used for transport raw materials from the Ruhr region.
- 2) In US, the railways played a key role in the Pittsburg and Great Lakes region.
- 3) In France, the Alsas and Lorraine regions were connected to industrial centres using railways.

Yet in India, railways introduced in 1854 served as a catalyst for colonization because:

- i) Railways allowed transportation of coal and iron ore and other raw materials from interiors to the ports for transport to Britain. En: Transport of Agricultural produce from interiors to ports: Colton
- ii) Railways facilitated the distribution

of British goods to interior rural markets  
Ex: the British mill made cloth, liquor.

iii) It helped British in transport of arms  
and men thus gain a greater grip and  
prevent rise of instability in any part  
of the country.

But the positives cannot be ignored that,  
the same railways facilitated integration  
of India through rural-urban transport,  
connecting markets and spread of the  
nationalist ideas.

Thus it served as a catalyst for  
nationalization too, though British never  
intended it.



6. Highlight the salient features of British policy towards Princely states during the 20th century. How did the policy of Indian National Congress evolve towards democratic movements in the Princely States?

The British policy towards the princely states can be categorized as:

- i) Relative Isolation (1776-1840)
- ii) Subordinated Isolation (1840-1860)
- iii) Subordinated union (Post 1860).

Thus from a system of ring fencing, subsidiary alliances and doctrine of lapse, the British after 1857 revolution adopted a system of appeasement of princely states, and non acquisition of the states.

This led to a very cordial relation between the two in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

- i) Subsidiary alliances continued in disguised forms as British controlled the foreign policy and finances of the states.
- ii) The British and states together suppressed the revolts in the princely states. Ex: Council of Indian Princes was formed in 1911
- iii) The Cripps mission plan, and other features like Cabinet mission allowed

for right of self determination to keep the  
princes on this side till the end.

### Policy of congress :

- congress initially acknowledged the  
movements in these states in Nagpur  
session in 1920, but did not interfere  
or integrate them.
- With the rise of wheat, Bar and socialism  
the state movements were accelerated in  
the form of anti zamindari revolts and  
no tax movements leading to  
AISPC in 1927.
- In 1940 session at Wardha congress  
integrated the state movements into  
Quit India movement and thus  
was the beginning of coordinated  
action.



7. One of the paradoxical changes in the caste system in post-independence India is that it has become almost invisible for the urban middle and upper classes amongst the upper castes. Critically examine.

The caste system post independence provided benefits to certain sections due to the affirmative policies of the government.

The reservations provided opportunities to many lower castes, but unfortunately majority of the benefits of these reservations have been captured by the upper classes of lower castes.

Thus the result has been that there is a conflict in the urban middle and upper classes competing for same resources but the lower castes with an added advantage.

Thus the caste system has become all the more visible for the upper classes today and also the upper castes.

But at the same time it is considered invisible because, ~~when~~ soon after

independence the various opportunities in public sector companies, advantages of industrialisation, education etc were more easily accessed by the upper castes due to their historical advantages.

But over generations, the caste has become invisible and thus the later generations believe that it was merit which has made them successful, though the truth remains that caste helped them grab the opportunity in the first place.



8. Though Pakistan believed that it could succeed against India in a short local war because of India's internal and external situation, India registered both real and symbolic gains. Discuss in context of the 1965 India-Pakistan war.

In 1965 India's internal and external situation made Pakistan believe it would wage a successful war against India.

- i) Internal: Nehru had just passed away and the PM Shastri was still adjusting to the new role.
- ii) The Chinese - Indian war of 1962 had shattered India's confidence and economy.
- iii) The country was facing food crisis and was importing food largely.

Yet the war which began in 1965 ended quickly and India made real and symbolic gains:

- i) Real gains: Indian soldiers managed to defeat the Pakistani soldiers and went on ahead to capture Lahore.
- ii) The pressure mounted on India at Sikkim by incursion of Chinese soldiers.

too was managed by India on the two fronts.

iii) Symbolically: India proved that it was capable of defending its borders and was strong militarily.

iv) The end product was a Tashkent agreement, which India accepted thus proving its intentions as peaceful and propagating dialogue as means of conflict resolution.

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9. The post-independence era witnessed emergence of 'New Social Movements' as a corrective measure to maladies arising from the neglect of political establishment. Discuss emergence of these movements in India. Also, examine their limitations.

The new social movements after independence were a direct outcome of the shortcomings of the political establishment.

1) Dravidian movement: It was the culmination of linguistic movements in response to the forced imposition of Hindi.

The political establishment failed to take necessary steps and a more plural approach while considering the issue of official language. Thus the movement emerged in the southern non Hindi speaking states. Ex: DMK.

2) Sarvodaya movement and Total revolution of Jayaprakash Narayan:

The rise of authoritarianism, rampant corruption, nepotism and favoritism which was destroying the modern

democracy resulted in the rise of this total revolution! The widespread disparities and poverty prevalent in the country due to failure of governance caused the movement.

Other movements include the Bhoodan, Gramdan movements, linguistic & class caste based movements.

the limitations :

- i) Majority of the movements were composed of issues of a narrow section of the population  
Ex: The Tamils & DMK.
- ii) The leadership and members of the movement was elitist and failed to draw in wide sections of population.
- iii) The movements were politicised and later led to establishment of political parties resulting in dilution of actual cause for movements.



10. The Guomintang despite its attempts to unite China failed. What is meant by "San min chui" in the context of Sun Yat-sen's programme for modernising China? Elaborate the factors that led to the failure of Guomintang.





11. The Spanish Civil War, often described as a prelude to WWII, represented a battle arena for all the political ideologies of the time. Elucidate.

The spanish civil war was basically a clash between the dictator franco and the sections demanding democratic governance.

The dictator was clearly supported by Hitlee and Mussolini in his authoritarian governance and was also receiving aid & help from Hitlee & Mussolini to repress the civil rebellion.

The world war II was due to the policy of appeasement followed by the western powers vis-a-vis the dictatorial and fascist governments in Germany, Italy and Spain.

Thus the Spanish civil war represented the two ideologies dominating at the time - Democracy and Fascism & Nazism. The failure to curtail the latter ultimately resulted in formation of military alliances in the

form of axis powers - Germany, Italy,  
Japan - based on Nazism, Fascism and  
militarism and the allies who were  
largely democratic.

Thus the clash of political ideologies was  
the true cause of world war II.



12. The seven-year war was fought from 1754 to 1763. What were its consequences for British and French colonies across the world? What were its repercussions in India?

The seven year war was fought between Britain and France from 1754 to 1763 altered the power distribution across the world:

- 1) In America, the defeat of France resulted in intensification of the nationalist movement and overthrow of Britain in 1774.
- 2) In France, the heavy losses incurred resulted in widespread economic distress and French revolution 1789.
- 3) The war resulted in switching of colonies from the hands of France to those of Britain. Ex: India.
- 4) The colonies were taxed more heavily now to meet the war time losses by both Britain and France.

The repercussions on India were:

- 1) The seven years war resulted in

the start of second carnatic war. The civil wars in hydrabad and carnatic were encouraged by Britain and France.

ii) The war considerably weakened French power in India and thus in the third carnatic war, France was easily defeated ending French colonial ambitions in India.

iii) Due to losses in battles, Indian peasantry was taxed even more heavily by Britain and its resources exploited.

iv) The British empire expanded enabling Britain to increase its hold without any major rivals in India.

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13. Although Napoleon destroyed democracy in Europe, he laid the foundations of modern Europe. Comment.

Napoleon's war expeditions had mixed consequences in the continent.

Napoleon as the destroyer of democracy:

- i) Napoleon quelled the civil rebellion for democracy in Spain and placed his brother Joseph as a dictator in the region.
- ii) Napoleon curtailed freedom of press, freedom of speech and civil liberties during his conquests and thus destroyed democracy.
- iii) He divided Europe into small unstable regions and created a situation of ethnic and religious minorities against the wishes of the people.

But some of the reforms brought in by Napoleon resulted in modern Europe:

- i) Napoleon introduced a uniform system of weights and measures.

- ii) He is called the second jurist as he codified all the laws of the place.
- iii) He recognized importance of education and encouraged vocational education and women's education.
- iv) He pushed for the construction of roads bridges etc thus facilitating movement and communication in Europe.

The above characteristics have created integration and assimilation of cultures, economy and society in Europe, thus resulting in the modern Europe we know today.



14. The origin of the Israel-Palestine conflict is a corollary of the British imperialism. Discuss.

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15. The Global Age Watch Index 2015 ranks India 71 out of 96 countries when it comes to social and economic well being of elderly. What are the reasons behind the poor condition of the elderly in the Indian society? Discuss.

Geriatric care in the country has been poor in comparison to the pace of growth and development of the economy.

India has 8% of its population above 65 years. The reasons for poor condition of the elderly are:

- i) Changing social institutions : With decline in the concept of joint families and emergence of nuclear families, elderly are now living alone and are unable to take care of their needs.
- ii) Increasing migration : The selective migration involving youth has affected the demography with several areas having predominantly older population but lack access to basic facilities of healthcare etc.
- iii) Lack of efforts on part of the state : Since the elderly do not actively contribute to

the economy of the country, the state has shown apathy towards the geriatric communities' social and economic wellbeing.

The steps that are needed to reverse this chronical trend are:

- i) The state must ensure economic security through minimum pensions. Ex: NPS etc.
- ii) Establishment of more old age homes and healthcare facilities in both rural and urban areas.
- iii) Balanced regional development to prevent migrations of youth & thus providing a source of support for the Elderly.

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16. What is meant by commodification? In what ways has water undergone the process of commodification in India?

Commodification refers to the process of converting a free entity into something which can be bought and sold in the market.

It refers to process of attaching a market value to a product and integrating it in the market system.

Water has undergone commodification in India in the following manner:

- i) Lack of availability of fresh and hygienic water: The increasing pollution of rivers and lakes have made these sources un-usable.
- ii) Rise of packaged water: The poor quality of water has resulted in growth of companies purifying and packaging water. These are now sold at higher prices leading to its commodification.  
Ex: Himalaya, Bisleri, Kingfisher etc.

iii) The scarcity of water resources has made even government supply of water for domestic rural and urban use commodified.

The consequences of this phenomena are  
adverse:

- The prices as determined by market will render water inaccessible to the poor.
- This can further lead to conflicts and widespread epidemics.

Thus steps must be taken to rejuvenate the streams and conserve water resources.

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17. What are the reasons for highly concentrated nature of semiconductor chip manufacturing industry? Should India aim for establishment of such an industry?

Semiconductor chip manufacturing industry of the world is highly localised due to the following factors:

- i) Raw material: The inputs like silicon, graphite, titanium, cadmium etc are available only in certain areas. Ex: China
- ii) Labour: The industry requires high skilled labour which is available in the developed and quasi developed countries. Ex: South western USA.
- iii) Capital: Plays an important role in the industry.
- iv) Markets: The semiconductor chips find their markets in electronics industries, thus they are located close to urban areas and agglomeration corridors.
- v) Size of the industry: Semiconductor manufacturing is not a bulky industry, thus they are located close to urban regions and are concentrated to take advantage of economies of scale.

The major areas in the world are:

- California, USA
- China's Beijing and Guangdong provinces
- South Korea and Japan
- Bangalore, India.

India's potential for the industry:

- India has the manpower, and markets for the industry: The highly skilled engineers and the technicians from southern states.
- The booming electronics industry and India's silicon valley would serve as market for it.
- India must take a decision considering that it is scarce in the raw materials and rare earths which are used.

Thus, the industry has great potential in India if we can manage to import the raw materials and develop the agglomeration and build the economies of scale for it.

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18. (a) What is Acid mine drainage? How does it affect biodiversity?

Acid mine drainage refers to the process of leaching which occurs in the mines due to which the concentration of heavy metals and acidic components increases in the ground water resources.

Ex: The leaching of Arsenic, Cadmium, Sulphur etc from the mines increases acidity in the water.

The affect on biodiversity:

- These ground water resources find their way to streams and lakes from the aquifers.
- The acidity causes death of many species which are sensitive to PH changes in aquatic ecosystems.
- Some of the components are absorbed into species leading to bioaccumulation and biomagnification, and thus loss of species.
- The soil too absorbs, the water and

increase in salinity acidity causes degradation of soils and loss of vegetation and biodiversity of an ecosystem.

18. (b) What do you understand by permafrost? How does thermal erosion affect permafrost?

Permafrost refers to the soils which are permanently frozen. The hydroomorphic water holding soil particles together is completely frozen rendering the soils uncultivable.

Thermal erosion is due to increase in temperatures and melting of permafrost. This basically results in frost wedging and the soil which is now loose.

is subjected to solifluction.

This results in loss of top soil and loss of nutrients from the soil. The alternate wet and dry periods also results in breaking down of soil into single grain texture.

19. Despite having one of the largest reserves of iron ore in the world, India's share in the world steel production is negligible. Discuss the challenges faced by the Indian steel industry. What measures has the government taken to revive growth in this sector?

India has the 5<sup>th</sup> largest reserves of iron ore in the world. Yet India's production is negligible because: Steel

- i) The rate of production / extraction of iron ore has been slow. The Bastar, Damodar series iron ores of Bababudan hills, Goa and Bailadila are the only regions serving most steel plants:
- ii) Indian iron ore has high level of impurities which increases the cost of processing.
- iii) Manufacturing steel involves limestone, and high quality coking coal. The coal and limestone are often not available.
- iv) The cost of manufacturing is much lower in china, South Korea etc who have been dumping steel into India, thus resulting in serious challenges for domestic manufacturers.

The steps taken by the government includes:

- i) Establishment of more port based mini steel plants which can import high quality iron ore from Australia etc and produce steel for export.
- ii) Imposition of 20% safeguard duties against import of steel to protect domestic manufacturers.
- iii) Improving the transportation facilities to help market based scrap steel plants remain viable.

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20. Desertification is caused by a combination of social, political, economic, and natural factors, which vary from region to region. Examine in the context of India.

Desertification is a process which results in the death of ecosystems due to prolonged degradation.

In the context of India, the various factors resulting in desertification are:

- i) The northern Ladakh and Leh regions:  
These are natural cold deserts which receive less than 20 cms of rainfall.
- ii) Punjab and Haryana: These areas face the threat of desertification due to:
  - Economic factors: faulty agri-practices, overgrazing etc.
  - Social factors: Apathy towards the deteriorating quality of soils.
- iii) Rajasthan Bagar and Marwasthali region:
  - Natural factors: The shifting of sand dunes and low precipitation.
  - Political factors: Negligence of authorities.

iv) Bundelkhand region: Naturally the region has badland topography, yet the apathy of the governance and local practices of cultivating water intensive crops like sugarcane have been resulting in desertification.

Thus in various parts of the country, the combination of social, political, economic and natural causes have resulted in decrease in the capacity of the land, soil, water and the ecosystem as a whole resulting in desertification.



Regions prone to  
desertification



21. "Soil is a living system which responds to both degrading factors and conservation efforts." In this context, discuss the factors responsible for soil degradation in India. What measures can be taken to arrest soil degradation and restore soil fertility?

Soil is composed of organic and inorganic matter and thus responds to degrading and conservation practices.

The factors causing soil degradation are:

- 1) Natural factors: Leaching in regions of heavy precipitation result in degraded soils  
Ex: The laterites of Western ghats and North East India.
- 2) Faulty agricultural practices:
  - i) Overirrigation of land has resulted in the capillary effect causing salinization and alkalinization of soils.
  - ii) Disproportionate use of fertilizers: The ideal N:P:K ratio of 4:2:1 has been distorted to 32:8:1 in some regions thus creating nutritional imbalances and acidification of soils.
  - iii) Overgrazing: This has prevented the soils from retaining moisture balance.

3) Soil Erosion: Deforestation, and denudation of slopes have resulted in rapid soil erosion causing loss of nutrient rich top soil.

The steps that ought to be taken include:

- i) Adoption of appropriate farming practices
  - precision farming and irrigation techniques like drop irrigation.
  - Organic farming and vermicompost
  - Agricultural practices like mulching, strip cropping, relay cropping.
- ii) Afforestation, vegetation conservation, and slope management can help arrest soil erosion.

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22. What are the different types of droughts identified by the India Meteorological Department? Identify the drought prone areas in India. Discuss its consequences and suggest some measures to mitigate its effects.

IMD identifies three type of droughts:

- 1) Meteorological drought: when the sub-region is deficient of rainfall by 25% in a year.
- 2) Agricultural drought: when the rainfall does not occur for 5 consecutive weeks in the agricultural season resulting in wilting of crops and lack of soil moisture.
- 3) Hydrological drought: Extreme situation when water scarcity occurs for man, crop and livestock and all the surface & under ground resources are dried up.

The drought prone areas of India include:

- 1) Severely prone: Maruwasthali, Rajasthan regions, Leh, Ladakh, Arid zone of Deccan plateau
- 2) Moderately prone: The Bundelkhand & Malwa plateau, Telangana and Rayalseema regions.

3) Regular - Moderately prone: The rain shadow regions of western ghats and the central plateau regions.

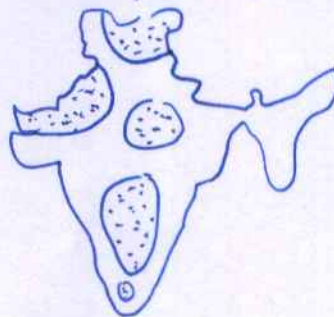
Consequences of drought:

- i) Loss of crops and livestock results in loss of livelihoods and economic & social loss in rural areas.
- ii) It can cause famine and deaths and also create a case for farmer suicides.

Measures to mitigate:

- i) Increasing the area under irrigation
- ii) Adoption of agroclimatic suited crops and increasing alternative sources of income and livelihood diversification
- iii) Prediction of droughts and taking necessary steps to prevent loss of livestock and human life with adequate drinking water supply.

Drought  
prone areas.





23. Giving examples, enumerate the non-natural causes of the phenomenon of earthquake. Also, list some measures to make buildings and cities resilient to earthquakes.

Earthquakes occur due to natural causes like volcanism, tectonic movements etc but can also be induced by non natural causes

- i) Reservoir Induced Seismicity: The excessive siltation of reservoirs causes abrupt release of stresses and thus cause earthquakes. Ex: The Tehri dam
- ii) collapse of mines causes displacement of rock structures and can create seismicity.
- iii) Anthropogenic detonations for construction of tunnels, roads etc in mountainous regions leads to landslides etc and thus induces seismicity.

The steps to be taken for making cities resilient and buildings safe are:

- i) Cities: Earthquake prone regions must be demarcated and steps must be taken to avoid concentration of settlements in the region.

- ii) Cities must have adequate open spaces for citizens to accumulate in case of earthquakes.
- iii) Regular drills must be conducted to make children and adults aware of steps to be taken.
- iv) Buildings must be retrofitted by increasing column widths to sustain vibrations.
- v) The foundations of buildings must be strong and deep to ensure the building does not move.
- vi) Construction materials must be used such that it results in earthquake safe buildings.

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24. Explain the geographical factors affecting the location of the coffee plantation industry. What are the reasons behind the tropical and sub-tropical regions having a lion's share in the world beverages market?

Coffee plantation industry has been mainly located in the tropical and subtropical countries like, India, Ghana, Brazil etc.

The reasons include :

- i) Coffee plants grow in slightly acidic soils which are prevalent over the slopes of Karnataka, Fazendas of Brazil. They have laterite soils.
- ii) Coffee plants require warm to cool climates with a rainfall of 60-80cms and small showers before the ripening period. These conditions are available along the trade wind belts and monsoon regions where premonsoon showers aid in ripening.
- iii) These plants are indigenous to the region and grow on the moderate-gentle slopes in climates of 20-25°C.

Tropical & subtropical regions have lions share in world's beverages market because:

- i) These regions grow superior quality coffee like Kohusta and Arabica.
- ii) They have tea gardens with suitable geographical conditions.
- iii) The regions have sufficient labour at low costs to sustain the plantation industries.
- iv) Markets available in these regions too increase their share.

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25. Shrinking ice caps forced National Geographic to make the biggest change in its atlas since the Soviet Union broke apart. Discuss the environmental and economic consequences that the loss of arctic ice shelf will have.

Shrinking ice caps due to global warming is causing major changes to the geography of the planet.

The consequences of melt of arctic ice shelf are:

1) Environmental consequences:

- The melt of ice shelf will cause a rise in global sea levels which will increase the coastal erosion process modifying the coastline.
- The region's biodiversity will have to endure habitat loss and extinction.
- The salinity levels will further fall in the polar areas affecting aquatic biodiversity and also resulting in increased thermohaline circulations.
- Situation of elk browsing and invasion of sub polar species into habitats of other polar species.

2) Economic consequences :

- Sea level changes will cause unequal displacement and create ecological refugees which can adversely affect economies.
- The loss of arctic can facilitate the exploration and exploitation of oil and gas in the area thus increasing supply of energy resources.

Thus the phenomena has economic, environmental, social and political impact.



