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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2713)

Name of Candidate	VARUN TOKAS		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	46100045
Center	ONLINE	Date	7 Aug 2025

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।</p> <p>2. There are TWENTY questions printed in HINDI & ENGLISH. इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में छपे हैं।</p> <p>3. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।</p> <p>4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।</p> <p>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. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।</p> <p>6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।</p> <p>7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।</p>	
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Total Marks Obtained:			Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?	
Remarks:			Recommended	
			Strongly Recommended	

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. नालंदा न केवल शिक्षा का एक केंद्र था, बल्कि संपूर्ण एशिया के विद्वानों के लिए भी एक महत्वपूर्ण केंद्र था। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Nalanda was not only a center of learning, but also a hub for scholars from across Asia. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Nalanda Mahavihara (University) was an acclaimed Indian University in the ancient age.

It was a center of learning

① Included study of theology in Buddhism, Jainism, Hinduism

② Study of science was wide spread in fields such as

- ↳ Astrology
- ↳ Mathematics
- ↳ Physics

③ In the Gupta age the university was sponsored by the state for research in medicine

It also attracted the best minds from Asia

- ① Buddhist scholar Hiuen-Tsang visited the university to gain and teach Buddhist principles
- ② Scientific and mathematical scholars like Bhaskaracharya frequently disseminated their work
- ③ Students would enroll from all over the Indian subcontinent and abroad.

It was due to the paramount importance of Nalanda University that led to its designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

2. 16वीं शताब्दी के पुर्तगाली यात्री डोमिंगो पेस ने विजयनगर स्थापत्य कला की भव्यता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए इसकी तुलना रोम से की थी। किस कारण से विजयनगर पूर्व-आधुनिक दक्षिण भारत में शहरीकरण का प्रतीक बन गया?

Domingo Paes, a 16th-century Portuguese traveller, equated Vijayanagara to Rome, highlighting its architectural splendour. What made Vijayanagara the epitome of urbanisation in pre-modern South India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Paes described the capital of Vijaynagar Hampi as "too big for the eye to see in one direction" and among the finest cities of Earth.

Vijaynagar was the South Indian Epitome of urbanization because.

- ① Possessed a thriving urban community with central markets trading in spices, gemstones
- ② Syncretic culture dominated → speakers of Sanskrit, Telugu, Kannada were given equality in citizenship.
- ③ High achievements in architecture—

- Virupaksha Temple
- Saregama Pillar → Musical engineering

④ Secular administration promoting equality with presence of mosque with Hindu trabeque features and arcuate Hindu temples and state buildings

△ Domes in Queen's Bath

⑤ Wide over seas trade through the ~~ext~~ Tungabhadra → global identity of Vijaynagara

⑥ State sponsored public infrastructure was given priority

△ Devaraya II's reservoir projects on Tungabhadra

⑦ Hub of cultural activities with literature like → Kannada Katha Manjari
→ ~~El~~ Elasha Panayam

The empire of Vijaynagar was a melting pot of global and local culture in ancient south India.

3.

महात्मा गांधी के आगमन के बाद भारत में राष्ट्रवाद कौन-कौन से विभिन्न तरीकों से प्रकट हुआ?

What were the various ways in which nationalism manifested itself in India after the advent of Mahatma Gandhi? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Gandhiji's arrival brought with it the novel means of mass action in the form of Satyagraha and a new way of envisioning India.

His advent allowed nationalism to manifest itself

① Cross-religion national identity

→ His efforts in NCM served to unite Hindus and Muslims for common goals

② Mass-nationalist identity

→ Involving sections such as peasants and workers allowed nationalism to take on a global role in Indian society.

③ Focus on social equity and equality

→ Campaigns for Harijans promoted

A sense of belonging and dignity
among Depressed Classes

④ Primacy of Indian culture in
national identity

→ Nai Talim and Ramraj envisioned
traditional Indian cultures as ideals
to be achieved.

⑤ Adherence to non-violence and
righteous agitation

→ Through satyagrah and
civil disobedience → no violent conflict

⑥ Inclusion of women in nationalism

→ Advocated for upliftment and
activity by women in mass action.

Gandhiji helped bring together divided
Indian sections to advocate for
common swaraj and freedom in national
struggles

4.

आपातकाल (1975-77) ने भारत की लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं और राजनीतिक परिदृश्य को किस प्रकार प्रभावित किया?

How did the Emergency (1975-77) impact India's democratic institutions and political landscape? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Indira Gandhi signed declaration of Emergency to counteract "internal disturbance" in 1975.

It had a profound effect on democratic landscape

- ① Fundamental rights such as right to protection against arrest & detention were suspended
→ Led to mass arrests.
- ② Parliament was supreme over state bodies
→ Promoted "rule by decree"
- ③ Forced sterilizations violated bodily autonomy and human rights of citizens
→ Led to widespread suffering

- ④ Censorship of public media such as press undermined democratic accountability.

Impact on political landscape

- ① Arrest of leaders that dissented led to suppression of opposition
- ② Counteracted judicial rulings nullifying Indira Gandhi's elections ⇒ violated supremacy of constitution
- ③ Press was used to spread propaganda and ~~as~~ manipulate public opinion.

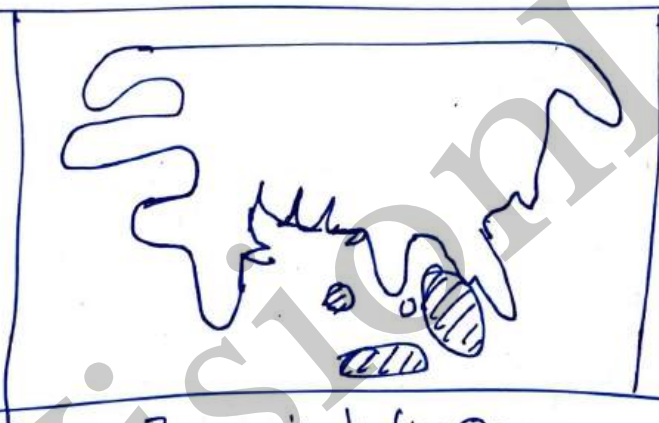
The Emergency established a unitary all-powerful govt at centre and led to Indira Gandhi's ouster in 1977 elections.

5.

हिंद महासागर में सुनामी उत्पन्न करने वाले प्रमुख क्षेत्रों की पहचान कीजिए तथा सुनामी तरंग के प्रसार की क्रियाविधि को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Identify the major, tsunamigenic zones in the Indian Ocean and explain the mechanism of tsunami wave propagation. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Tsunamis are high waves generated by underwater seismic activity and make landfall in coastal regions.



Zones in Indian Ocean

Major Zones

① Bay of Bengal due to tectonic activity in Sumatra region

② 2004 tsunami in Andaman & Nicobar

③ Arabian sea by shifting of gulfian ~~plate~~ plate → Gujarat region.

② South Indian Ocean → landfall in
Maldives & Sri Lanka

Mechanism

- ① Seismic disturbances create underwater S-waves that create a "ripple effect".
- ② The ripple reaches surface and travels radially outward.
- ③ Near coast, the wavelength of the wave decreases which increases wave height to 5-10m.
- ④ This wave crashes onto shore creating "landfall".

As a by product of oceanic seismic activity Indian Coast is susceptible due to proximity of "Ring of Fire" in Indo-Pacific.

6.

चीनी उद्योग के उत्तर से दक्षिण भारत की ओर स्थानांतरण के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Discuss the factors responsible for the shift of the sugar industry from North to South India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Sugar Industry is a cornerstone of India's primary sector and has historically been concentrated in North India.

However there is a recent shift to South India due to

- ① Proximity to cultivation → New plantations in Maharashtra coast and Karnataka increase local supply of sugarcane → factories must be close to sugarcane as it spoil quickly in transit
- ② High availability of capital due to well-developed industrial base in South states
- ③ Access to skilled labour in Maharashtra and Karnataka increases labour output.

- ④ Large number of urban centres such as Mumbai and Bengalore provide strong domestic demand
- ⑤ Proximity of major ports like Marmagao and JNPT provide access to global markets through export.
- ⑥ Access to ports also aids investment by importing foreign machinery to increase productivity of factories
- ⑦ Lowering groundwater has hindered sugarcane cultivation in North India leading to shift

The shift in sugar industry is a response to pull-factors of South India in industrial economies & export.

7.

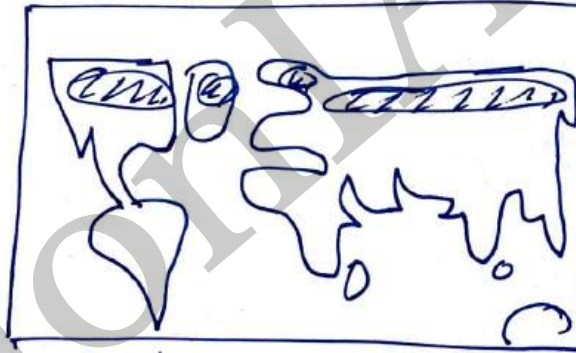
थर्मोकार्स्ट क्या है? आर्कटिक पर्माफ्रॉस्ट के पिघलने और वैश्विक जलवायु परिवर्तन के संदर्भ में इसकी बढ़ती प्रासंगिकता का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

What is thermokarst? Analyse its growing relevance in the context of Arctic permafrost thawing and global climate change. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Thermokarsts are surface cavities in Earth caused by melting permafrost in North arctic and polar regions.

Features

1. Located in regions where permafrost has melted



Distribution of Thermokarst

2. Create surface depressions and sinkholes due to soil subsidence.
3. Are sometimes filled with ice meltwater

Growing relevance of Thermokarsts

①. Arctic Permafrost Thawing

- Arctic region is heating 2x that of global average ⇒ resulting in thawing of permafrost
- This has caused thermokarsts and has depleted carbon sinks ~~by~~ of trapped organic matter
- It also degrades land ⇒ Siberian badlands are an example
- Permafrost thawing leads to disease outbreaks near thermokarsts ⇒ Siberian anthrax outbreak ~~in~~ 2016.

① Climate change

- Primary driver of permafrost thawing and thermokarst occurrence is global warming
- Result in thawing permafrost and "greening of ice-line"
- Reduces earth's ability to ~~to~~ radiate heat → intensifying temp rise.

Thermokarsts serve as a signal for urgent climate correction to tackle global warming.

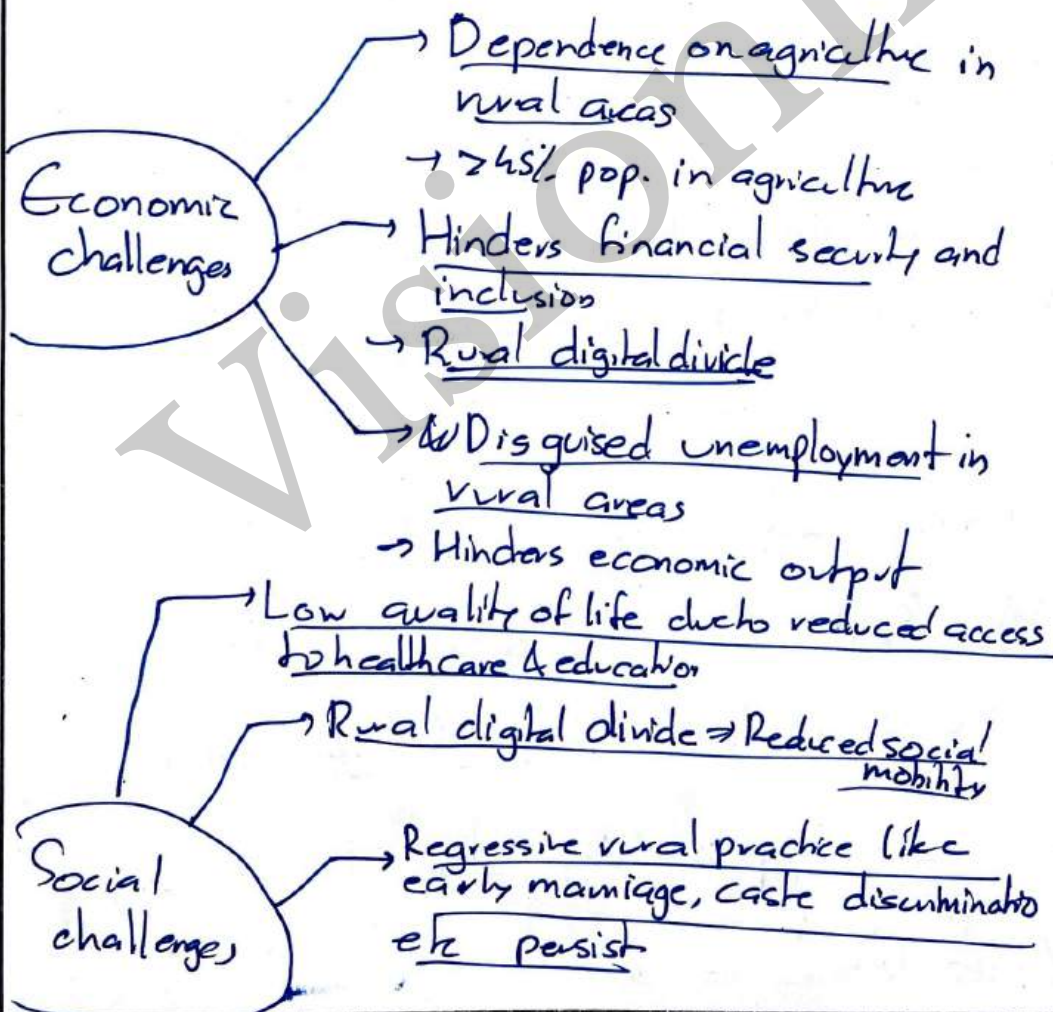
8.

भारत में शहरीकरण की धीमी गति इसकी आर्थिक और सामाजिक प्रगति के समक्ष महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियां उत्पन्न करती है। इस प्रवृत्ति के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

India's slow pace of urbanisation poses significant challenges to its economic and social progress. Examine the factors responsible for this trend. (Answer in 150 words) 10

While India has reached 36% urban population, this is slow compared to developing countries like China (>40%).

~~This~~ This poses challenges



Challenges, Factors responsible

- ① Lack of affordable housing in urban cities discourages migration
- ② Inadequate development of manufacturing
→ Crucial to absorb agricultural labour but has only 20% workforce
- ③ Low connectivity of rural regions reduces migration
- ④ Unplanned urban development restricts economic and urban growth
→ 50% cities not growing by master plan (NITI)

Urbanization is crucial to achieving SDG-3 and SDG-4 and steps such as PM Awas Yojana and PM Udan are promising steps to achieving Vikasit Bharat 2047.

9.

भारत की विविधता इसके लोकतंत्र को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करती है? राष्ट्रीय एकीकरण हेतु इस विविधता का लाभ उठाने के लिए शुरू की गई पहलों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

How does India's diversity influence its democracy? Discuss the initiatives taken to leverage this diversity for national integration. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India's diversity has profound impacts on its democracy.

Influence on Democracy

- ① Regional parties to promote local concerns and interests are growing
- ② Reservation for tribes and depressed castes for political empowerment
- ③ Thriving ~~with~~ civil society with pressure groups like SEWA and RSS advocating for personal issues
- ④ Formation of linguistic states such as Telangana to accommodate regional variations
- ⑤ Promotion of diversity in political administration through 5th and 6th Schedule areas to allow local autonomy

⑥ Institutions like NITI Aayog have come up to foster common resolutions and consideration of diverse issues in state.

~~Influence~~ Initiatives

- ① One district one product to promote national inclusion of regional arts & crafts.
- ② Education of youth ~~at~~ in NEP
→ Multilingual medium to promote integration
- ③ Increased focus on coalition govts to accommodate regional parties in decision making.

The diverse Indian culture is crucial to national identity of the "salad bowl" Indian populace.

10.

ग्रामीण आजीविका और सामाजिक दृष्टिकोणों को रूपांतरित करने में जमीनी स्तर के महिला संगठनों की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Examine the role of grassroots women's organisations in transforming rural livelihoods and social attitudes. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Women Organizations are crucial in promoting reform in women rights and remedying their "gender gap" in socio-economic spheres.

Role in transforming Rural Livelihoods

- ① Promote skilling to empower rural women ~~via~~ Initiatives of SEWA
- ② Encourage entrepreneurship of women by investment and venture capital ~~via~~ Microfinance by SHGs.
- ③ Develop cooperatives to increase market access and promote economic development
~~via~~ Women FPOs are growing.
- ④ Increase diversity of livelihood by

improvements to sectors like dairy
and food processing . .

Role in transforming Social Attitudes

- ① Safeguard dignity of women through initiatives like "Nai Shakti"
- ② Advocate for social reform such as ending child marriage, female foeticide
- ③ Entry of women into jobs and industry tackles patriarchal notions .
- ④ Promote social capital growth through girl child education

Hence women grassroots organization empower and unite women for social and economic upliftment of rural areas

11.

भारतीय लोक और जनजातीय कलाएं जीवंत व जीवित परंपराएं हैं, जो पीढ़ी दर पीढ़ी हस्तांतरित की जा रही हैं। पारंपरिक ज्ञान और सांस्कृतिक विरासत के संरक्षण में महिलाओं की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Indian folk and tribal arts are vibrant, living traditions that are passed through generations. Discuss the role of women in preserving traditional knowledge and cultural heritage. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Indian folk and tribal arts promote an expression of diverse and pluralistic Indian society and cultural values.

Role of women in preserving traditional knowledge

- ① Female scholars collect and preserve tribal knowledge and local customs and help in their spread
→ Mirabai's poetry → shaped Rajasthani Bhatti literature
- ② Help pass on knowledge through socialization of children
- ③ Matriarchal tribal structures give matriarchs power to call for cultural safeguards and preserve knowledge
- ④ Promote tribal and cultural activity

through art

(eg) Madhubani paintings in UP/Bihar

⑤ Accounts of female writers help showcase tribal life and ~~the~~ display customs endemic to species.

⑥ Women also advocate for mass action to preserve local customs

(eg) Santhali → added to 8th schedule after tribal movements

Role in preserving cultural heritage

① Participation in cultural activities

↳ Kalibelia dance

↳ Mudiyettu dramas &

feature women in leading roles.

② Artistic expression through dance like Kathakali helps preserve heritage and showcases identity of women.

- ③ Celebration of festivals by women leads to preservation of cultural tradition.
- ④ Literature of Sangam age showcases role of women in providing detailed account of social life.
- ⑤ Female priests such as Jain Ariyikas help preserve religious identities of cultures.

Women form an integral part of common heritage of societies and play an important part in its preservation.

12.

1905 में बंगाल के विभाजन के कारण और परिणाम क्या थे? 20वीं सदी के आरंभ में इसने राष्ट्रवादी रणनीति को किस प्रकार नया रूप प्रदान किया?

What were the causes and consequences of the Partition of Bengal in 1905? How did it reshape the nationalist strategy in the early 20th century? (Answer in 250 words)

15

The partition of Bengal was a classic example of British efforts to "divide and rule" the Indian populace.

Cause of Partition

- ① To set Muslims against Hindus by making one region Hindu and other Muslim dominated.
- ② Make Bengal → (hub of nationalism) easier to control by subdividing it
- ③ Reduce common identity of Bengalis and curb nationalistic sentiment → promoted communalism
- ④ In line with plans to control extremist nationalism by weakening support base.

Consequences of Partition

- ① Sowed seeds of Muslim-Hindu discord
 - Upper class Muslims preferred partition while Hindus did not
 - ② Led to public outrage and public displays of unity
 - Tying Rabhis at border → unity signal
 - ③ Formed base of action for Swadeshi Movement
 - Advocated mass protest and British boycott to annul partition
 - ④ Deepened Moderate-Extremist divide in INC due to perceived inefficacy of moderates
 - Led to Swat split of 1902
- ⑤ It reshaped nationalist strategy
- ① Swadeshi movement was born which formed basis of future

agitation on self-reliance.

② Leaders like Tilak were convinced moderate struggle would not be ineffective
→ Led to primacy of mass action

③ Focus on promotion of Indian values
- in national action

④ Tilak's Hindu festive processions in Bengal

⑤ Made maintaining relations between different groups a priority

⑥ Gandhi's efforts to include Muslims to avoid communal divides

⑦ Annulment of Partition signalled success of extremist measures

→ Confidence base for CDM, NCM later

The Partition of Bengal shaped national struggle by giving the first mass action of Indian nationalism

13.

"अपमान की सदी (Century of Humiliation)" (1839-1949) ने आधुनिक चीन की राष्ट्रीय पहचान और विदेशी संबंधों के प्रति उसके दृष्टिकोण को किस प्रकार आकार प्रदान किया? प्रमुख घटनाओं के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

How did the "Century of Humiliation" (1839-1949) shape modern China's national identity and its approach to foreign relations? Discuss with reference to key events. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Chinese "Century of Humiliation" was marked by loss in sovereign power to Western nations like Britain and has shaped China's modern identity.

Role in National Identity

- ① Helped unite population to tackle foreign enemies
- ② Social reform and uprising under leader Mao Zedong was formed on the basis of countering Western capitalism by Communist ideology
- ③ Social decline in that period solidified national desire for promoting welfare and resisting

Social welfare

~~It has shaped~~

- ④ It's parbed a culture of self-reliance and self-sufficiency in Chinese population

It has shaped China's modern foreign policy in a significant way

- ① China's non-alignment to ~~Western~~ blocs is dependendent on past experiences
- ② Trade protectionism on external imports is in response to avoid "Opium epidemic" of the 19th century
- ③ China favours engagement with other exploited countries like South East Asia and Africa to solidify

resistance to Western neo-imperialism

④ Resist Military dominance of the Chinese

is to not repeat losses in the
"Opium Wars"

⑤ China uses a centrally planned
economy and policy to avoid "divide
and rule" as in the 19th century, and
resist foreign influence

⑥ Excursions into East and South
China Sea form a basis of
territorial sovereignty and avoid
repeating the Opium Wars naval defeats.

Hence the Western oppression and
internal strife of the "Century of
Humiliation" have shaped China's modern
identity and ~~active~~ ideology.

14.

पूर्वी भारत में जूट उद्योग के संकेंद्रण में योगदान देने वाले कारकों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, वर्तमान में जूट उद्योग द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली प्रमुख चुनौतियों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए।

Analyze the factors contributing to the concentration of the jute industry in eastern India. Also, discuss the key challenges currently faced by the jute industry. (Answer in 250 words) 15

India produces 70% of the World's Jute with most of it concentrated in the Hooghly delta in east India.

Factors contributing to concentration in East India

- ① Fertile soil in Hooghly delta supports nutrient-intensive jute cultivation
- ② Bulky transport necessitates factories to be close to jute farms for efficient and economical production.
- ③ Cheap labour due to high population density helps provide labour for factories
- ④ Presence of historical basis and localization → Jute cultivated in Bengal

region since ancient times

⑤ Suitable climatic conditions with high rainfall and suitable temperature results in high-quality crop

⑥ Hooghly Port serves as nearby hub to access international markets

However the industry faces challenges

① Unprofitable economies of scale in factories

→ Lead to factories selling at loss

→ 15/60 mills shutdown

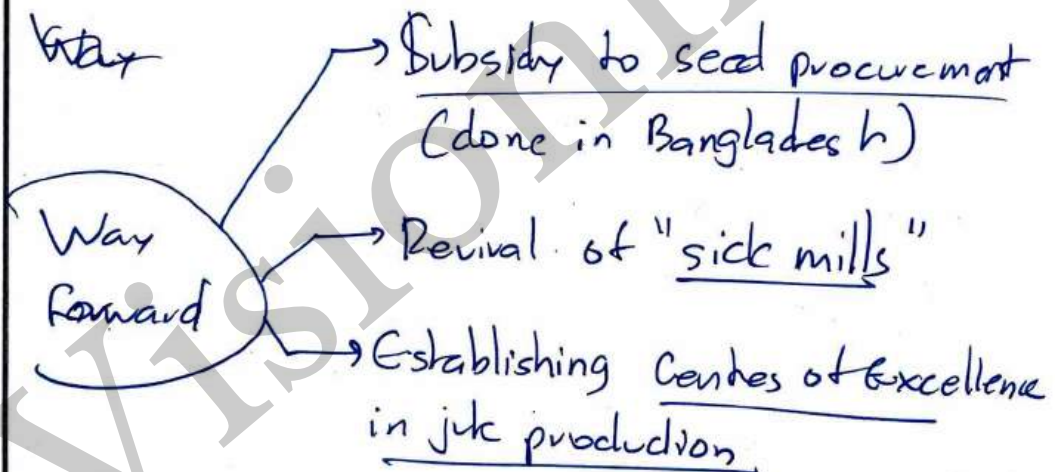
② Low export competitiveness results in Indian exports being only 7% of total

→ Bangladesh → >70% global export.

③ Textile demand of jute is falling affecting income

→ From 15% in 2000 to 9% in 2020

- ④ Poor seed quality results in low quality crop → affects competitiveness
- ⑤ High influence by intermediaries adds to cost
 → Mills do not buy directly from farmer.
- ⑥ West Bengal faces electricity disruption affecting industrial output



The Jute Industry forms a cornerstone of Indian textiles and is crucial to reduce plastic pollution by synthetic fibres.

15.

प्रवाल भित्तियों के निर्माण हेतु अनुकूल पर्यावरणीय दशाओं का वर्णन कीजिए। उनके क्षरण के लिए उत्तरदायी प्रमुख प्राकृतिक और मानवजनित कारकों की विवेचना कीजिए।

Enumerate the environmental conditions conducive to the formation of coral reefs. Discuss the major natural and anthropogenic factors responsible for their degradation. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Coral reefs are referred to as "oceanic rainforests" and constitute 25% of marine oceanic diversity.

Environmental conditions to form corals

- ① Suitable temperatures and adequate sunshine
- ② High concentration of plankton to support zooxanthellae population
- ③ Suitable bedrock to allow corals to anchor to them
- ④ Presence of carbonate in water to allow coral growth.

- ⑤ Proper oxygen concentrations to support life
- ⑥ Calm waters free from extreme weather variations

However corals are facing high bleaching and degradation.

Natural factors

- ① Extreme weather such as tsunamis and earthquakes breakdown corals
- ② Oceanic currents are seasonal
→ lead to shift in plankton population
- ③ Depletion of oceanic nutrients such as carbonate leads to coral breakdown.

Anthropogenic Factors

- ① Rising sea temperatures leads to

heat stress → bleaching of corals

- ② Ocean acidification leads to dissolution of corals
- ③ Presence of invasive species brought by tourism such as Great Barrier Reef causes competition
- ④ Illegal mining and sale of corals for carbonate ⇒ used in cement
- ⑤ Anthropogenic weather variations due to global warming reduce climatic sustainability of corals
- ⚠ Shift in currents ⇒ loss of nutrient

Corals are integral to preserving

Marine biodiversity. Initiatives such as artificial bedrocks in Mumbai signify

positive developments to achieve SDG-14

16.

भारत में मानसून के समय-पूर्व आगमन में योगदान देने वाले कारकों पर चर्चा कीजिए। इसके सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रभावों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Discuss the factors contributing to the early onset of the monsoon in India.
Analyze its socio-economic impacts. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Southwest monsoon forms a crucial part of Indian agriculture and climatic patterns, and its onset is influenced by global phenomena.

Reason for early onset

- ① La Nina conditions in Pacific promote transport of moisture to Indian subcontinent.
- ② Strong Indian Ocean dipole promotes Somali current adding to Arabian Sea rainfall
- ③ Strong low pressure conditions on ITCZ due to heating of landmass results in larger attraction of trade winds

- ④ Higher oceanic evaporation leads to increased moisture and earlier rainfall by faster seeding of clouds
- ⑤ Stronger tropical easterly jet stream over south India pushes winds to Indian subcontinent earlier.

Socio-Economic Impacts of Early Monsoon

- ① Provides Positive irrigation source for Indian agriculture → 75% depends on rains
- ② Relief from summer heat reduces heatwaves and promotes economic activity
- ③ Helps increase forest cover and provides water supply to deciduous forests → green cover increases
- ④ Higher water flow in rivers → increased availability of water.
- ⑤ Recharges groundwater aquifers in

plains → vital to water security

⑤ Supports cultural traditions like Teej

Negative Impact

① Early monsoon can cause rot due to waterlogging ~~eg~~ Coffee stalk rot is growing in Kerala

② Flooding of rivers leads to loss of life in hilly regions ~~eg~~ Uttarakhand cloudburst

③ Causes more landslides in hilly regions ~~eg~~ Wayanad disaster.

④ Untimely rain can ruin agricultural harvests ~~eg~~ Wheat crop loss &

Therefore early monsoons can have negative effects but proper mitigation can allow them to rejuvenate Indian economy and people.

17.

ट्रांजिट ओरिएंटेड डेवलपमेंट (TOD) क्या है? भारतीय शहरों में अव्यवस्थित नगरीय प्रसार, आवागमन से जुड़ी चुनौतियों और समावेशी विकास से निपटने में इसकी प्रासंगिकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

What is Transit Oriented Development (TOD)? Discuss its relevance in addressing urban sprawl, mobility challenges, and inclusive growth in Indian cities. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Transit Oriented Development is a recent shift to improve public commuting options to promote liveability and public activity in urban areas.

Features

① "15-minute model"

→ Connectivity ensures quick access to important centres such as shops, offices, housing

② Reduced reliance on car transport

→ Focus on mass-transit like buses and metros

③ Public zoning reforms to create multiple city centres eg Prague's "community hub" model.

- ④ Promoting walkability By ensuring sufficient and safe walking and cycling infrastructure (eg) Amsterdam model

Relevance in Indian Cities

① Urban Sprawl

- Reduces size of cities by promoting ~~the~~ compact development
- Reduced parking space need for cars saves urban space
- Multi-purpose zoning laws such as street shops and office complexes led to efficient space usage
 - ⇒ Favour vertical development not horizontal

② Mobility challenges

- Ease of access to public transit helps increase commutability of cities
- Reduces transit time to office centres such as Gurgaon and helps reduce

emissions.

- Reduced traffic helps efficient road usage and quickens travel time
- DMRC reduced road traffic in Delhi

③ Inclusive Growth

- * → Democratizes access to transit by reducing dependence on expensive cars
- Reduces ghettoization by promoting connectivity and mobility
- Greater access to offices and housing in close proximity → enhances upward mobility

Transit Oriented Development is a positive direction for achieving SDG-11 and increasing urban quality of life.

18.

उच्च आर्थिक संवृद्धि के बावजूद भारत में शहरी गरीबी बनी हुई है। भारत में शहरी गरीबी के संरचनात्मक कारण क्या हैं? शहरी गरीबी की समस्या के समाधान हेतु उचित उपाय सुझाइए।

Urban poverty in India persists despite high economic growth. What are the structural causes of urban poverty in India? Suggest appropriate measures to address the problem of urban poverty. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Urban poverty is the prevalence of marginalised and socio-economically backward ~~classes~~ castes in populations in urban centres.

It still persists in India

- ① More than 16% urban population lives in slums
- ② High cost of urban healthcare lead to financial insecurity
- ③ Jobless growth forces urban poor to engage in low paying jobs
- ④ Skill gap prevents urban poor from accessing high-paying tertiary sector jobs

Structural Causes of Urban Poverty

- ① Jobless Growth → In tertiary sector

doesn't absorb labour and forces employment
in low income jobs.

② Societal marginalization hinders
mobility of SCs, STs

→ 76% manual scavenging by SCs

③ Lack of affordable housing leads
to declining disposable income

④ Skill gap leads to exclusion of
urban poor from high-paying jobs
in the IT sector.

⑤ Lack of Manufacturing Growth → Only 20%
of employment prevents mass-employment
of low-skill labour

Measures to reform issues

① Promotion of housing development
under schemes such as PM Awas Yojana

② Increasing skilling and employment
of workers under schemes like PMKVY

- ③ Promoting vocational education in schools and midday meals to increase attendance
- ④ Development of entrepreneurship in manufacturing and IT under PM MUDRA and SIDBI grants
- ⑤ Increasing insurance penetration in urban poor population by PMJDY and free primary care
- ⑥ Enforcement of societal and legal safeguards like NAMASTE to prevent employment in hazardous sectors.

Urban poverty is a crucial issue to resolve in reaching a \$5 billion economy.

19.

भारत में परिवार व्यवस्था पर विवाह-विच्छेद की बढ़ती दरों और विवाह की आयु में वृद्धि के प्रभावों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Evaluate the implications of rising divorce rates and delayed marriages on the family system in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

India's "marriage market" has seen a paradigm shift with increasing divorce rates and delayed age of marriage.

Delayed Marriage → Average male age → 23+ yrs

(NFHS-5) → Average female age → 19+ yrs

~~Rate~~

Divorce rates → Increasing rates of divorce

→ Increasing remarriage rates.

Implications on family systems

⊕

Rising divorce rates

→ Positive effect

→ Promotes right to choose spouse
and safeguards individual autonomy

- Leads to better freedom by countering forced-marriage by families
- Escapism from ills like domestic violence increases quality of life.

Negative

- Parental divorce has a negative impact of children
 - Mental trauma
 - Depression, loneliness
- Creates pressure of alimony and litigation
 - ↳ Bangalore techie committed suicide
 - divorced wife pressured for money
- Increases loneliness in adults and impacts mental health

Delayed Marriage

Positive

- Allows women to prioritize career growth and gainful employment
- Prevents child marriage and increases

Control over fertility

→ S.I. of child brides had children by 16 yrs
(NFHS-5)

→ Gives time for adults to find spouse of their choosing ⇒ Family cohesion promoted.

Negative

→ Impacts fertility and increases complication in pregnancy

→ Reduces birth rate → lead to "demographic winter" → TFR is 2.0 below 2.1 target

→ Single people are rising → face loneliness and depression ⇒ Lead to suicide and jeopardize families

The way forward is to promote autonomy and choice in marriage while balancing maternal health and mental health in Indian young adults.

20.

वैश्वीकरण ने भारत में बच्चों के लिए नए अवसरों के साथ-साथ चुनौतियां भी उत्पन्न की हैं। परीक्षण कीजिए।

Globalization has brought new opportunities as well as challenges for children in India. Examine. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Globalization has given rise to the "Gen Z" which are increasingly digitally literate and more dependent on global culture and values in their decision-making.

This can have negative impact on children

① Digital dependence has created "iPad™ kids" who are spending too much time on devices causing issues like

↳ Cyberbullying

↳ Low interest in learning

↳ Myopia from overuse of mobiles

② Rise of social media has resulted in body dysmorphia, online bullying and anxiety in children

③ Rise in ultra-processed foods in chains like McDonalds are increasing childhood

Obesity

- ④ Security threats from online radicalization of children due to lacking digital safety
- ⑤ Nuclear families are increasing making it hard for parents to balance work with parenting
→ Negative impact on child development
- ⑥ Decreasing physical activity leads to poor posture → muscle pain etc.

However it also has positive effects

- ① Rise in global consciousness promotes social reform in casteism and communalism
- ② Increases digital literacy makes Indian youth "future ready" and more skilled in employment.
- ③ Access to foreign goods increases access to global goods and promotes quality of life

- ④ Social media increases connect of children to friends and family
- ⑤ Family nuclearization leads to reduced internal conflicts leading to a healthy childhood.
- ⑥ Increased opportunities for girls in education and ~~employment~~ have raised ~~66~~ gender ratio in primary education to 1
- ⑦ Greater children's autonomy promotes mental development and builds character.

The benefits of globalization to India's ^{children} are crucial in realizing the dream of Digital India