



**VISIONIAS**  
INSPIRING INNOVATION  
**ABHYAAS MAINS**

**सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-I)/GENERAL STUDIES (Paper-I) (2928)**

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे  
Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250  
Maximum Marks: 250

**सामान्य अनुदेश**

इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका में 55+1 पृष्ठ हैं। प्रश्न-पत्र, क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न है, जो अलग (वियोज्य) किया जा सकता है और उम्मीदवार परीक्षा के उपरांत अपने साथ ले जा सकते हैं।

रफ कार्य के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंत में खाली पृष्ठ दिया गया है।

पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर, कृपया यह जांच कर लें कि इस क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका में कोई कमी न हो, फटा हुआ पृष्ठ न हो अथवा कोई पृष्ठ गायब न हो इत्यादि। यदि ऐसा हो, तो इसके बदले नई क्यू.सी.ए. पुस्तिका प्राप्त कर लें।

**General Instructions**

This Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 55+1 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

For rough work, blank page has been provided at the end of this Booklet.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages etc. If, so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

(उम्मीदवार द्वारा भरा जाएगा/To be filled by the Candidate)

पंजीकरण सं./Registration No. : 01101662

अभ्यर्थी का नाम/Name of Student : Abhishek Singh

माध्यम: हिंदी/अंग्रेजी  
Medium: Hindi/English

English

तारीख  
Date

24/08/2024

**सामान्य अध्ययन (प्रश्न पत्र-I)  
GENERAL STUDIES (Paper I)**

केंद्र

Centre Bhai Joga school  
Jhondewalon

निरीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर  
Invigilator's Signature

Booney

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>महत्वपूर्ण अनुदेश</b></p> <p>उम्मीदवारों को नीचे उल्लिखित निर्देश सावधानी से पढ़ लेने चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर उम्मीदवारों को मिलने वाले अंकों में कटौती, उम्मीदवारी रद्द या आयोग के परवर्ती परीक्षाओं के लिए वर्जित करने इत्यादि के रूप में दण्डित किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Important Instructions</b></p> <p>Candidates should read the undermentioned instructions carefully. Violation of any of the following instructions may entail penalty in the form of deduction of marks, cancellation of candidature, debarment from further Examination of the Commission etc.</p>
1	<p>(क) अपना पंजीकरण सं. एवं अन्य विवरण केवल प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) में उम्मीदवार के लिए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें।</p> <p>(ख) इस पुस्तिका में अन्यत्र कहीं भी अपना नाम, पंजीकरण सं., मोबाइल नं., पता अथवा प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका (क्यू.सी.ए.) संख्या न लिखें जिससे आपकी पहचान का खुलासा हो।</p>	<p>(a) Write your Registration Number and other details only in the space provided in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet for candidates.</p> <p>(b) Do not disclose your identity in any manner such as, by writing your Name, Registration number, Mobile number, Address, Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet No. etc. elsewhere in the Booklet</p>
2	<p>अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तर के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें जैसे कि कोई कविता/दोहा, अभद्र या अपमानजनक अभिव्यक्ति इत्यादि और न ही कोई ऐसा चिन्ह/निशान बनाएं जिसका उत्तर से सम्बन्ध न हो।</p>	<p>Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer.</p>
3	<p>परीक्षक को प्रत्यक्ष/अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से कोई भी प्रार्थना/धमकी भरी बातें न लिखें।</p>	<p>Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.</p>
4	<p>उत्तर अस्पष्ट अथवा गंदी लिखावट में न लिखें। इस प्रकार के उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं भी किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p>Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.</p>
5	<p>उत्तर स्याही में ही लिखें। उत्तर लिखने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग न करें, हालांकि आरेख, चित्र इत्यादि बनाने के लिए पेंसिल का उपयोग किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p>Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.</p>
6	<p>प्रवेश पत्र में उल्लेख किए गए माध्यम के अलावा अन्य किसी माध्यम में उत्तर न लिखें। अधिकृत और अनधिकृत की मिली जुली भाषा का भी उपयोग न करें।</p>	<p>Do not write answers in medium other than the authorized medium in the Admission Certificate. Do not use mixed language either i.e. authorize and unauthorized media together for writing answers.</p>
7	<p>प्रश्नों के उत्तर ठीक उसके नीचे दिए गए निर्धारित स्थान पर ही लिखें। निर्धारित स्थान के अलावा किसी अन्य स्थान पर लिखे गए उत्तर का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया जाएगा।</p>	<p>Write answer at the specific space (right below the question) only. Answers written elsewhere at unspecified places in the booklet shall not be evaluated.</p>
8	<p>यदि आप अपने किसी उत्तर को रद्द करना चाहते हैं तो उसे पेन से काट दें तथा उस पर "रद्द" लिख दें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।</p>	<p>If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it and write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.</p>

कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use	कार्यालय के प्रयोग हेतु For Official Use
<p>परीक्षक के हस्ताक्षर Signature of Examiner(s)</p>	

**प्राप्तांक के विवरण (परीक्षक द्वारा भरा जाए)/ Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))**

प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks		प्रश्न सं. Q. No.	अंक Marks	
1			11		
2			12		
3			13		
4			14		
5			15		
6			16		
7			17		
8			18		
9			19		
10			20		
उप-योग (A) Subtotal (A)			उप-योग (B) Subtotal (B)		
सकल योग (A+B) / GRAND TOTAL (A+B)					



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Time Allowed: **Three Hours**

अधिकतम अंक: 250  
Maximum Marks: **250**

**प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश**

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

कुल बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं जो हिंदी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में छपे हैं।

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए नियत अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्न संख्या 1 से 10 तक का उत्तर 150 शब्दों में तथा प्रश्न संख्या 11 से 20 तक का उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गए कोई पृष्ठ अथवा पृष्ठ भाग को पूर्णतः काट दीजिए।

**QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS**

*Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.*

*There are TWENTY questions printed both in HINDI and in ENGLISH.*

*All questions are compulsory.*

*The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.*

*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 a medium other than the authorized one.*

*Answers to Questions No. 1 to 10 should be in 150 words, whereas answers to Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words.*

*Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.*

*Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.*

## 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

1.

जनजातीय कला किस प्रकार भारतीय जनजातीय समुदायों के सांस्कृतिक परिप्रेक्ष्यों एवं मूल्यों के बारे में मूल्यवान जानकारी प्रदान करती है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How does tribal art provide valuable insights into the cultural perspectives and values of Indian tribal communities? (Answer in 150 words)

10

Tribal art are a collection of knowledge and value system, tribal communities share with their environment and themselves.

# Valuable insights: Cultural Perspectives

- ① Strong family and kinship ties based on blood relation.
- ② Community ownership of resources
- ③ Shared language and culture
- ④ Endogamy is celebrated
- ⑤ Tribal music and entertainment modes of celebration

## # Valuable insights: Values of Tribal Communities

उम्मीदवारों को इस हद लिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

- ① Values of conservation of nature.  
eg: Pattachitra Art.
- ② Harmony between humans, animals and plants. (eg): Sarees with animal figurines.
- ③ Egalitarian society - equal role & participation of women.
- ④ Community living and avoiding materialistic growth.

∴ Tribal art needs to be conserved as it is a storehouse of India's cultural richness.

2.

भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संघर्ष के प्रति महात्मा गांधी और जवाहरलाल नेहरू के दृष्टिकोणों में समानता एवं अंतर बताइए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Compare and contrast the approach of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru towards the Indian freedom struggle. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal

Nehru are two of most important

architects of Indian Freedom Struggle

in 20th century.

Similarity in Approach

- ① Both favoured involvement of masses.
- ② Role of women in Indian freedom struggle is invaluable
- ③ Equality and oneness of all religions.
- ④ Social unity and religious unity → key to attain freedom
- ⑤ British rule → sole cause of India's poverty and underdevelopment.

## # Difference in approach

उम्मीदवारों को इस क्राशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

① Purna swaraj demand of Nehru was initially not agreed to by Gandhiji

② Role of technology and industrialisation - not favored by Gandhi who believed in Gram Swaraj.

③ Modern Education was supported by Nehru while Gandhiji favored value based education.

④ Role of Religion: Nehru was agnostic while Gandhiji said religion is integral to all facets of life.

⑤ Nehru defied caste while Gandhiji saw untouchability and not caste as evil.

∴ Both Nehru and Gandhi had immense influence of Indian freedom struggle even with difference in approach.

3. द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के उपरांत वि-औपनिवेशीकरण को तीव्र करने वाले प्रमुख कारक क्या हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
What are the key factors that accelerated decolonization post-World War II? (Answer in 150 words)

The post world war II phase saw accelerated decolonization all around the world i.e. from 1945 to almost 1991!

# Key factors : Decolonisation

- ① Fall of colonial power in world war II (e.g.) England, Italy etc.
- ② Rise of socialist Russia, who renounced colonialism.
- ③ Post war reconstruction → reduced resources availability with colonial powers.
- ④ formation of United Nations & other organisation (WB, IMF)

- ⑤ weakened military elite of the world.
- ⑥ Pressure of USA → for free economy  
access
- ⑦ Rise of Hedgling economies and  
Non-Alignment economies who favoured  
and championed independence -

Though decolonisation accelerated  
post WW2, but not in true sense.

As it was replaced by neo colonialism  
of the west

4.

मानव अतिक्रमण शहरी क्षेत्रों में जल निकायों को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How does human encroachment impact water bodies in urban areas? (Answer in 150 words) 10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Recent occurrences of Floods in cities of Chennai (2015) and Bangalore (2022) are result of human encroachment of water bodies.

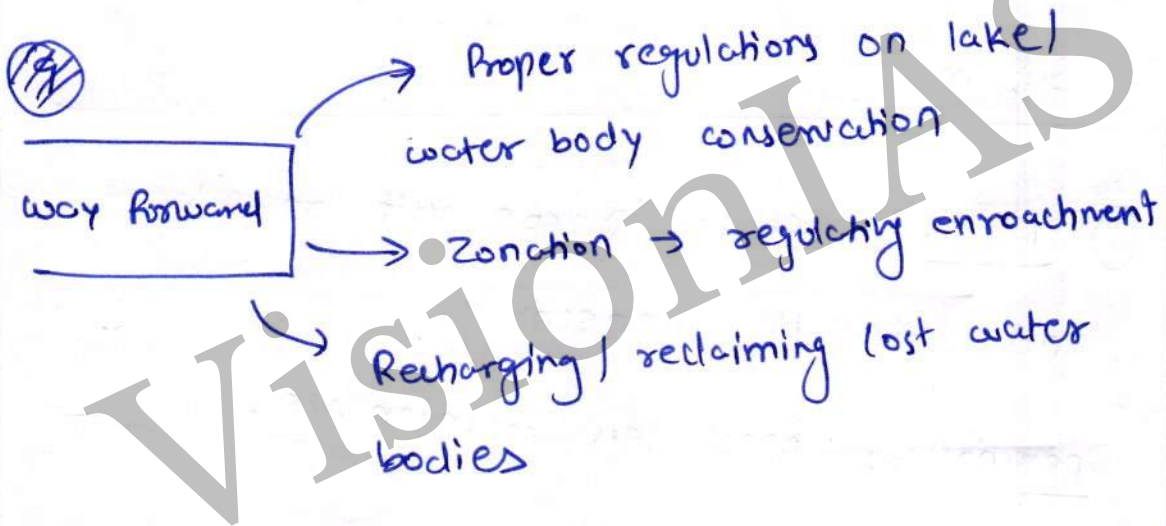
### # Impact on Water Bodies

- ① Reduced ground water recharge from these bodies
- ② Increases surface runoff
- ③ Reduced carrying capacity of rivers and lake beds
- ④ Destroys local ecosystem supported by these bodies
- ⑤ Increases surrounding temperature and effect on local climate.

⑥ Pollution : Due to human activity led runoff → eutrophication

⑦ Increased Biological Oxygen Demand of water bodies → ↓ biodiversity support

⑧ Changing of natural course / Flood plain → concretisation



∴ water bodies in urban areas are crucial for water security as well as ecosystem biodiversity.

Hence, its protection is needed.

5. भौतिक भौगोलिक विशेषताएं परिवहन प्रणालियों के विकास और संचालन को किस प्रकार प्रभावित करती हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
How do physical geographical features influence the development and operation of transportation systems? (Answer in 150 words)

Geo-physiography and topology play the most important role in influencing the development of transportation system.

# Physical features influencing : Transportation System

① Plains : easier to construct roads and railways connectivity.

Operation : needs less maintenance.

② Hills / Rugged terrain : Railway connectivity is not possible. Road construction → last mile connectivity but costly.

③ Desert & Marshes → Road is difficult

✓ Slope of the terrain

→ Permeability

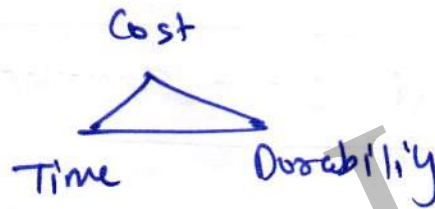
→ Economic cost

→ Climatic conditions

→ Physical features → Rivers, Oceans, Plateaus

→

Constraint



VisionIAS

6. महासागरीय गर्त किस प्रकार निर्मित होती हैं? इन महासागरीय उच्चावच संरचनाओं की महत्वपूर्ण विशेषताओं का वर्णन कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
How are ocean trenches formed? Describe the significant characteristics of these oceanic relief formations. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Ocean trenches are the deepest point on earth and ocean surfaces

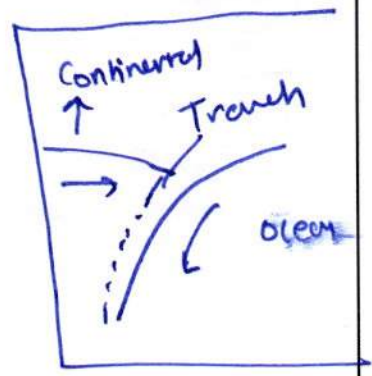
(eg:) Challenger's Deep in Pacific Ocean (> 10,000 km depth)

# Formation of Ocean Trenches

① They are formed as convergent boundaries as well as divergent boundaries in the ocean

② Convergent Boundaries

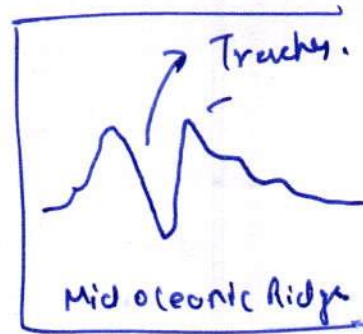
When an oceanic plate submerges below continental plate, it gives rise to deep valley known as trenches.



⇒ Mostly found at continental margins.

## ⑤ Divergent Boundaries

Mostly formed at Mid oceanic ridges between 2 parallel mountain systems.



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

Area of intense volcanic activity.

## # Characteristics of Oceanic Ridges & Trenches

- ① Depth of these valleys are greater than 4 km
- ② Areas of intense volcanic eruption & earthquake
- ③ These are made up of basalt and other elements like Silica & Magnesium
- ④ Rich in biodiversity.

Ocean trenches are unique features of an oceanic relief.

7.

हाल के समय में संपूर्ण भारत में अत्यधिक वर्षण की घटनाओं की बढ़ती संख्या के पीछे निहित कारणों की पहचान कीजिए। उनके सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रभाव का आकलन कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Identify the reasons behind increasing number of extreme rainfall events throughout India in recent times. Assess their socio-economic impact. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हशिप-में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Global warming led climate change will increase frequency and intensity of extreme events. (IPCC AR6 report)

# Reasons: Increasing extreme rainfall

- ① La Niña (triple dip): Increased rainfall in S.E. Asia → India.
- ② Positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)
- ③ Presence of Madden Julian Oscillations over Indian subcontinent
- ④ Increase in average global temperature → increasing convection → floods due to rainfall
- ⑤ Increasing frequency of cyclones → extreme rainfall

⑥ Development & Urbanisation led change in atmospheric circulation.

# Socio-economic impact : Extreme Rainfall

- ① loss of lives due to floods, storm surge.
- ② loss of livelihoods
- ③ Destruction of infrastructure
- ④ loss of public resources
- ⑤ High fiscal burden on the state
- ⑥ Destruction of agriculture crop → Food

security issues

- ⑦ loss of savings and assets
- ⑧ Increased inequality & poverty incidence
- ⑨ Destruction of public utility and critical

infra

∴ Climate resilient development  
is key to inclusive growth.

8.

वर्ष 2030 तक भारत में विश्व की सबसे बड़ी कामकाजी आयु वाली जनसंख्या होने की संभावना है तथा यह कार्यबल में महिलाओं की कम भागीदारी के जोखिम को अब और अधिक नहीं उठा सकता है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India is expected to have the largest working-age population in the world by 2030 and it cannot afford low participation of women in the workforce anymore. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

According to UNFPA, India has entered into a 37 year period of demographic dividend with 51% population in working age.

# Why India cannot afford low participation of women in workforce

- ① It leads to large unemployment
- ② To facilitate economic growth (IMF: 27% to growth)
- ③ For equitable distribution of resources and growth
- ④ Reducing inequality and poverty.
- ⑤ For making growth sustainable and inclusive

- ⑥ Huge source of demographic dividend
- ⑦ Adds to human capital of India
- ⑧ Workforce → competitive advantage of exports.
- ⑨ Untapped potential → increase in productivity and efficiency of economic system.
- ⑩ Can lead to increase in national savings and so's investments.

### # Steps to Increase Participation of women

- ① Holistic education at all levels
- ② Increase health outcomes (NFHS 5: 59% anaemic)
- ③ Increased access to higher education
- ④ Create working jobs → ↑ed participation

As Swami Vivekananda has said, "It is difficult for a bird to fly only on one wing."  
∴ women participation is key to

Viksit Bharat by 2047.

9. क्या आप इस बात से सहमत हैं कि भारत में जाति का प्रगतिशील धर्मनिरपेक्षीकरण हुआ है? प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ अपने विचार का समर्थन कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)
- Do you agree that there has been a progressive secularization of caste in India? Support your view with relevant examples. (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्जिन में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Caste is "heirarchical division of society"  
based on notion of purity and pollution  
and birth.

Caste has undergone a social change in recent times.

### # Progressive Sewlarization of Caste

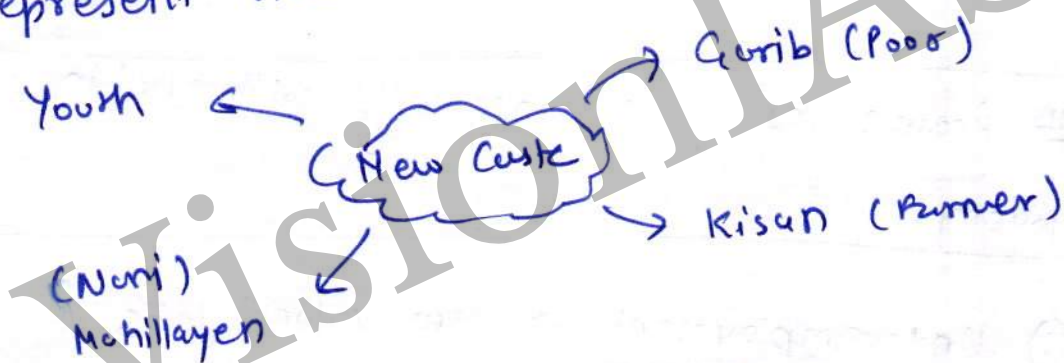
- ① Polthies : Caste ~~has~~ based political parties  
(Eg) Bahujan Samajwadi Party.
- ② Social movements based on caste  
(Eg) : Dalit Panther movement.
- ③ Ghettoization in cities & Rural areas  
Similar caste occupy → one place.
- ④ Caste based groups on social media  
→ caste assertiveness.

⑤ Trade Groups / Occupations based on caste  $\Rightarrow$  Trading  $\rightarrow$  Baniya / Marwari's

⑥ Demand of caste based census & reservation in private jobs.

# New changing dynamic

According to PM Modi, caste has changed notion, now the weaker section represent new castes:



QYAN  $\rightarrow$  new caste system of India.

$\therefore$  Though there has been sewlanisation of caste, there cannot be a casteless society without loss of caste assertiveness

10.

समग्र निर्धनता में कमी के बावजूद भारत में असमानता क्यों बढ़ती जा रही है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Why is inequality increasing in India despite the fall in overall poverty? (Answer in 150 words)

10

उम्मीदवारों को इस शीट में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

According to Oxfam's, Inequality in India report 2023, 10% of Indian citizens hold 70% of the total wealth.

And according to NITI Aayog, poverty has fallen from 25% (2014) → 11% (2024) (MDPI)

# Reason for rising inequality with fall in poverty.

- ① Underemployment → low valued jobs
- ② Unemployment increase but social support from state
- ③ Disguised unemployment in agriculture.
- ④ Low economic growth in all sectors.
- ⑤ Poor performance of agriculture vis-a-vis services

⑥ Vicious cycle (Warkse) → rich gets richer

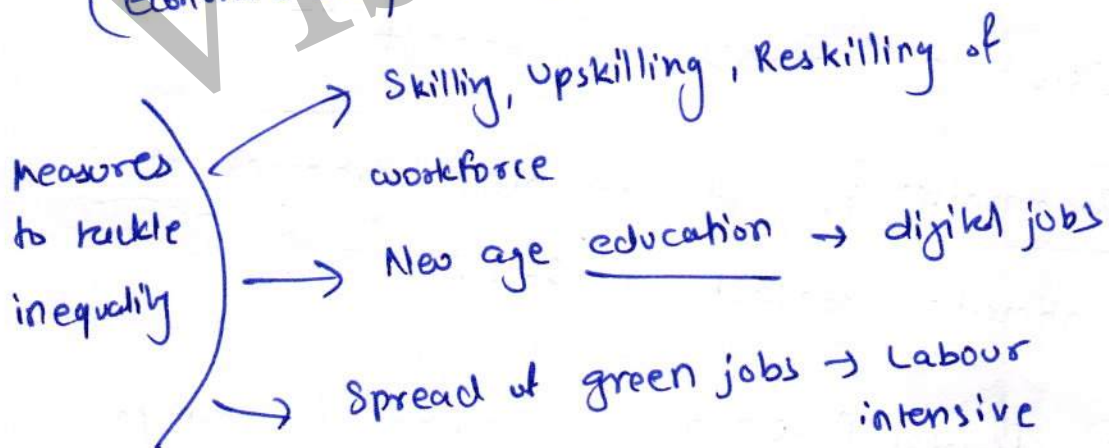
⑦ lack of social sector development → low human development (HDI rank 134)

⑧ low skilling of workforce → wage productivity mismatch (ILO Report)

⑨ Social structural issues → Caste discrimination  
→ low social mobility (WB rank : 76)

⑩ High inequality in land holding pattern.

⑪ Poor health and education outcomes  
(Economic Survey 2022)



Along with poverty, solving problem of inequality is key to peace & sustainability.  
(SDG 10)

11.

ब्राह्मणवाद और बौद्ध धर्म के बीच अर्थ, अनुयायियों और विचारधारा को लेकर हुई प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक एवं शत्रुतापूर्ण गतिशीलता ने किस प्रकार बौद्ध धर्म के पतन में भूमिका निभाई? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

How did the competitive and hostile dynamic between Brahminism and Buddhism over funding, followers, and ideology mark the decline of Buddhism? (Answer in 250 words) 15

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

The rise of Sunga dynasty after overthrowing Maurya's marked the beginning of decline of Buddhism in India.

# Competitive & Hostile Dynamic b/w Brahminism & Buddhism → Decline of Buddhism.

① Ideology: Buddhism → lack of image worship & renunciation life difficult for masses to connect

Brahminism: idol worship, brahmins → intimate contact to God.

② Political Patronage: Decline of Maurya empire → decline in support to Buddhism

Sungas and Guptas favoured Brahmanism

∴ loss of state support.

③ Funding : Brahmanism receive funding in the form of temples, caves and guilds donated immensely.

Post Sakavahana decline Buddhism lost its source of resources for sustenance.

④ Followers : Followers in Buddhism had to follow a more extreme penance life compared to Brahmanism

⇒ lead to loss of support to Buddhism.

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# Other Sources/Reasons of Decline of Buddhism

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① Gupta rule for more than 300 years.

② Increasing decline in purity of Buddhism with rise of Mahayana sect.

- उम्मीदवारों को इस हाथिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin
- ③ Restrictions in Buddhism on joining into Sangha (debt ridden → not allowed)
  - ④ Spread to other regions like Sri Lanka, Tibet, etc
  - ⑤ Rise of Bhagvatism and Shaivism under the patronage of Chola & Pallava rulers.
  - ⑥ Intense competition from Jains and other heterodox sects like Ajivika.

∴ Indian ancient scene was graced by many heterodox sects which lost its relevance due to many reasons.

12.

मध्यकाल में आए यूरोपीय यात्रियों के वृत्तांतों ने भारत के तत्कालीन साम्राज्यों और जनसामान्य के बारे में हमारी समझ को आकार देने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

European travellers' accounts in the medieval period have played an important role in shaping our understanding of the empires and people of that period in India. Comment. (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

15

Medieval period of India was witness to many invasions and cultural interaction which led to formation of travellers' accounts → useful in historical reconstruction.

# European's Account : Medieval Period

① Ibn - Batuta came (Morocco)

↳ came during reign of Mohammad bin Tughlaq -

↳ Explained agricultural & materialistic richness of India

↳ Described prosperity of India → sink of precious metals

↳ Abundant elephants, horses, guilds.

② Nicolo-de Conh' - (Italian)

- ✓ Came during reign of Devarayya II
- ✓ Explained governance of Vijayanagar empire
- ✓ Robberies and theft were not found in rule
- ✓ People wore ornaments & gold necklaces.

③ Fernao Nuniz - (Portuguese)

- ✓ Described reign of Krishna Deva Raya II
- ✓ Talked about water conservation system
- ✓ System of a large dam on Tungabhadra and canals network.
- ✓ women → involved in wrestling, story telling, astrology, farming, etc.

④ Captain William Hawkins & Thomas Roe.

(British)

- ↳ Come during the reign of Jehangir
- ↳ Saw struggling peasants
- ↳ Rich monarch and royalty
- ↳ Conflict with portuguese.
- ↳ Agricultural richness and self-sufficiency of villages
- ↳ Commonly rights but poor technological growth.

∴ Varied European travellers have helped in our understanding of empires and people of medieval period.

These accounts are "window to our civilisation".

13. 1757 में प्लासी के युद्ध में ब्रिटिश विजय ने न केवल भारतीय इतिहास बल्कि विश्व के इतिहास की दिशा भी बदल दी। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)  
The British victory in the Battle of Plassey in 1757 not just changed the course of Indian history but also that of the world. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

The British victory of Battle of Plassey in 1757, acts as a 'cornerstone moment' in the history of modern India.

# Battle of Plassey : Course of Indian History

- ① Gave boost to British Interest in Subjugating India into a colony
- ② 1st instance of defeat of an Indian regional state / ruler to an European put company
- ③ Showed how small discipline British army could defeat large old school based Indian army.
- ④ Example of British intellect and deceit.

⑤ Proof of abled 2nd rung of commanders  
in British army.

⑥ laid to increasing avenues of drain of  
wealth

⑦ Diwani rights of Bengal → led to loss in  
trade and land revenue.

⑧ Gave a permanent base to East India  
Company in Kolkata → future actions.

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# Battle of Plassey: Changed course of world

---

① Rule for colonisation all over the  
western European world.

② Division of regions between French,  
British, Dutch and Portuguese.

③ Increased pace of exploitation of  
colonies for domestic gains.

- ④ Drain of wealth → laid the seeds of Industrial Revolution in England.
- ⑤ Battle for colonies → world war 1
- ⑥ formation of economies of free trade  
→ laissez faire policy
- ⑦ Development of Steam Engine, Railways  
Suez Canal → exploiting colonial economy.
- ⑧ India → exporter of raw material to the world and importer of finished goods.

∴ it would not be wrong to say "Battle of Plassey" left an indelible mark on future of both India & the world.

विभाजन के बाद पंजाब की तुलना में पश्चिम बंगाल में शरणार्थियों का पुनर्वास करना अधिक कठिन क्यों था? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Why was it more difficult to rehabilitate refugees in West Bengal as compared to Punjab after partition? (Answer in 250 words)

The partition horrors of 1947 saw huge influx of refugees from both Pakistan & Bangladesh (erstwhile E. Pakistan).

The refugees were to be settled in nearby Punjab and west Bengal.

# Easy settlement in Punjab: Reasons.

① Same Religion of refugees (Predominantly Sikh)

② Shared culture of being a

Punjabi

③ Common shared political patronage

under Ranjit Singh

④ Similar economic condition → largely agrarian.

## # Difficulty: Settlement of Refugees in Bengal

- ① Religious Conflict: B/w hindus & muslim refugees.
- ② Already existing tension between communities under British rule.
- ③ Difference between peasant and landlord class.
- ④ Partition of Bengal in 1905 Under lord Curzon → led hostility.
- ⑤ Role of Muslim League in E. Pakistan → vitriol against Bengali Hindus.

⑥ Political will was lacking in the  
thereby state political party who used  
crisis → political gain.

The effect of difficult settlement  
of refugees in W. Bengal after 1947  
is still felt today in the border state.

VisionIAS

15.

भारत में कोयले से हरित ऊर्जा की ओर ट्रांजिशन से जुड़ी आर्थिक और सामाजिक लागतों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Discuss the economic and social costs associated with the transition from coal to green energy in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिय में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

According to WEF, Global Energy Transition Index, India is ranked 63<sup>rd</sup> out of 140 countries.

# Economic cost : Transition (Coal → Green Energy)

- ① Critical Minerals extraction and mining is costly. Eg: Lithium
- ② High fiscal burden on the government
- ③ Decommissioning of existing coal plants will lead to wastage of resources
- ④ Life cycle cost of green energy still very high against coal energy (Economic Survey 2024)
- ⑤ Supply chain of green energy tech not well established

- ⑥ low R&D expenditure of developing countries → unequal benefit
- ⑦ Huge initial capital shock required.
- ⑧ Import dependency for inputs → current account deficit → ↑ burden on reserves.

### # Social Cost : Transition

- ① Loss of employment in coal based sector - traditional source
- ② Lack of skilling & skilled workforce will lead to increased inequality
- ③ Decreased social welfare → green energy will be uneconomical.
- ④ Green energy → capital intensive, will exacerbate unemployment problems.
- ⑤ Lack of technology with LIC's → exploitation by developed countries.

⑥ will lead to exclusion and marginalisation of weaker especially women from development process.

⑦ MSME's will face brunt of ↑ed cost and reduced competitiveness.

⑧ Might lead to regional disparity in development ⇒ social unrest.

as per India's stand at COP28 at UAE, energy transition most just, fair and according to CBDR principles.

16.

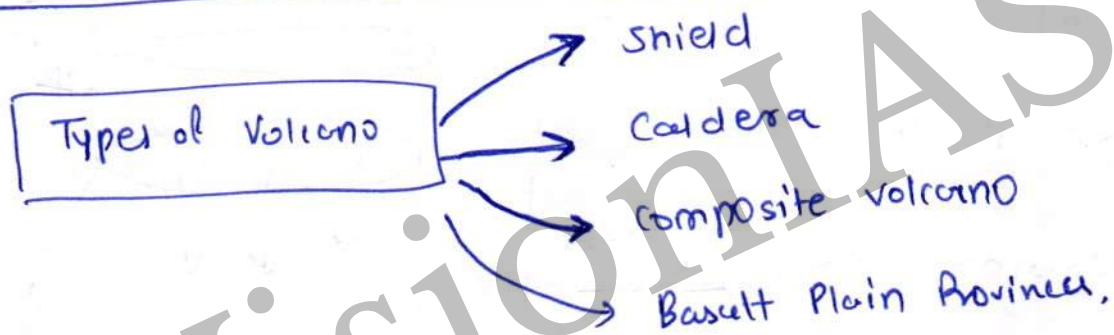
ज्वालामुखीय काल्डेरा के निर्माण की प्रक्रिया की व्याख्या कीजिए। ये क्षेत्र की प्राकृतिक सुंदरता में किस प्रकार योगदान करते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Explain the process of formation of volcanic calderas. How do they contribute to the scenic beauty of the region? (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्शिस में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Volcanoes are openings on the surface of the earth, from where magma from asthenosphere reach the surface.



# Process: Formation of Volcanic Caldera

① Caldera's are formed when on volcano contains high - viscous lava

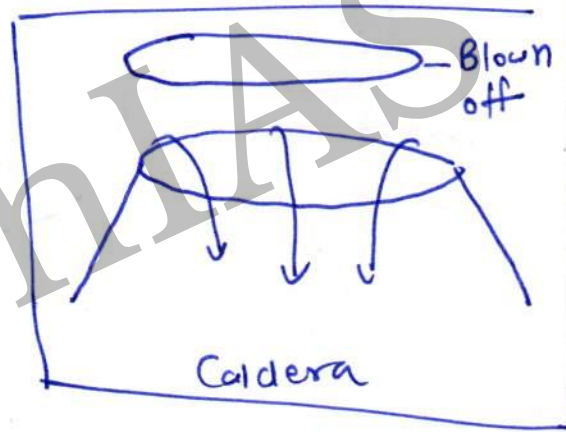
flows

② This high viscous lava flows contains ash, debris, gases

like  $SO_2$  and  $NO_2$ .

③ When this lava flow reaches the surface vent  $\Rightarrow$  they are very explosive

④ The explosion is so powerful that volcano collapses on itself, after blowing the cinder cone at the top.



⑤ What remains is a large hollow depression - remnant of a volcano known as caldera

## # Contribution to Scenic Beauty

- ① unique land form than the surrounding region
- ② Adds to the topographic diversity of the locality.
- ③ lava flows rich in minerals leads to formation of vegetation diversity surrounding caldera
- ④ Areas of great tourism potential given scenic beauty. Eg: Iceland caldera.
- ⑤ Diversity of reelit and thereby accompanying biodiversity  $\Rightarrow$  rich adds to natural beauty.

$\therefore$  caldera are unique landforms of on earth, which needs to be protected from over-tourism.

17.

वैश्विक स्तर पर हीट वेव की बढ़ती आवृत्ति और तीव्रता के लिए कौन-से कारण उत्तरदायी हैं? इसका वैश्विक खाद्य सुरक्षा पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

What are the reasons behind the increased frequency and intensity of heat waves globally? How will it impact global food security? (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नही लिखना चाहिए  
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According to IMD, when temperature of a region crosses 40°C in plains and 30°C in case of hills, it is known as heat wave.

# Reasons: Increased frequency & intensity of global heat waves

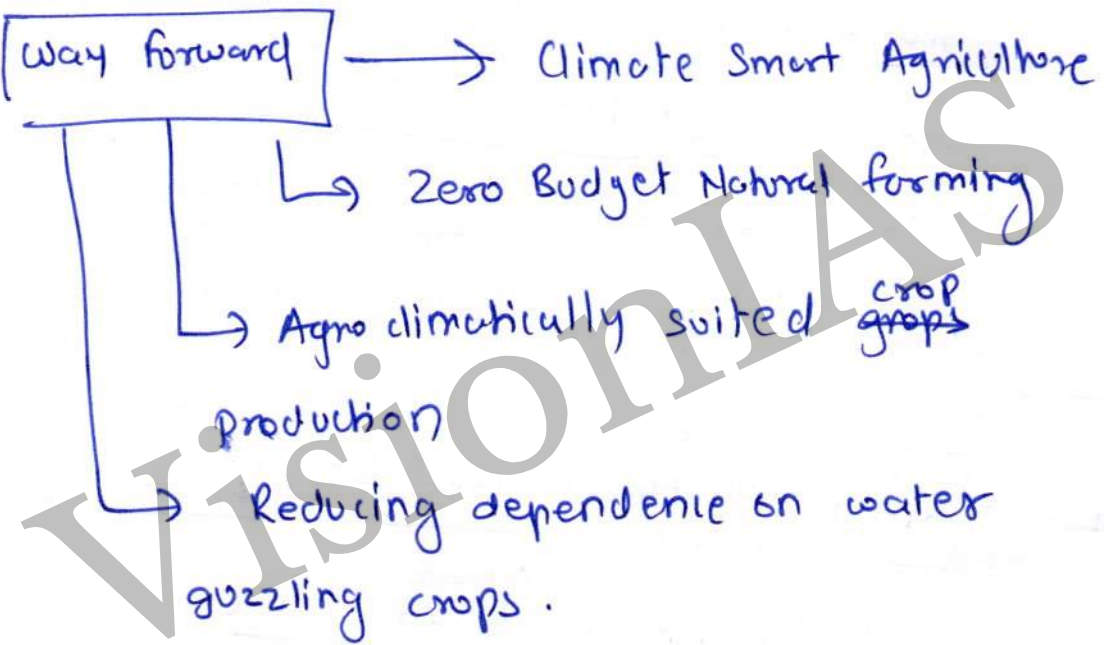
- ① Climate change induced by global warming (IPCC AR6 report)
- ② Omega blocking of Jet streams due to change in atmospheric circulation
- ③ Urban Heat island effect due to defective urbanisation
- ④ Deforestation → increased industrialisation  
↳ ↓ cooling effect.

- 5) Wetland encroachment and destruction  
→ adding to warming up of local environment
- 6) Increased vulnerability due to ↑ed poverty and inequality.
- 7) Dry air ~~ten~~ over landmass due to local wind. (5) loo, sirocco
- 8) Lack of formation of convectional clouds to high pressure over lands.

## ## Impact on Global Food Security

- 1) Reduced productivity of agriculture
- 2) Reduced productivity of farmers to  
due intense heat → reduced working hours.
- 3) Extreme events like floods & drought  
reduced crop production.
- 4) Increased social strife due to hunger

- ⑥ food systems would be destroyed
- ⑦ large scale failure of crop & livestock production → ↓ farmers income.
- ⑧ Increased marginalisation & inequality in world.



∴ PM-PRANAM initiative could go a long way in solving problem of heat wave induced food security problem.

घास के मैदान के बायोम की विशेषताओं की पहचान करते हुए, भारत में बन्नी घास के मैदानों के समक्ष उत्पन्न खतरों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Identifying the characteristics of the grassland biome, mention the threats posed to Banni grasslands in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Grassland is one of the unique biome that forms a transition biome between dry arid lands and wetter margins.

### # Characteristics of Grassland Biome

- ① low rainfall : usually less than 75 cm annually
- ② fixed season : Hot summers, mild winters and small rainy season.
- ③ Vegetation : Mostly covered by small to long grasses species that grow in moisture deficient conditions.
- ④ Biodiversity : less than rainforests. Lot boasts of rodents, cats, camels, etc.

⑤ Margins of grasslands have rich biodiversity → transition zone

⑥ Temperature : Temperature in grasslands show small variation in

⑦ daily and annual temp

⑦ location : Temperate Grasslands

are located between  $35^{\circ}N - 65^{\circ}N$  and similarly in south.

Tropical Grassland : Between  $15^{\circ}N - 25^{\circ}N$  and  $15^{\circ}S - 25^{\circ}S$ .

# Threats : Banni Grassland of India

① Overgrazing : due to local nomadic maintained herds of goats & sheep.

② Development : led destruction of local liome.

- ③ Deforestation of surrounding areas  
→ spillover effect on grassland
- ④ Biodiversity loss: Due to deupt-activities,  
extinction of species.
- ⑤ Land shifted to Agriculture by local  
people → destroying local ecosystem
- ⑥ Pollution → both air and soil pollution  
→ contamination → -ve effect on grassland.
- ⑦ Soil Erosion due to deforestation & grazing  
∴ Bonni Grassland just like any  
grassland biome, provides crucial  
ecosystem service, hence needs to be  
protected.

19.

धर्मनिरपेक्षता के प्रति भारत का दृष्टिकोण न केवल अंतर-धार्मिक प्रभुत्व को चुनौती देता है, बल्कि अंतरा-धार्मिक प्रभुत्व को भी चुनौती देता है। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

India's approach to secularism does not merely challenge inter-religious domination but intra-religious domination as well. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words)

15

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाँसिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Secularism in India is based on positive model where all religion has "equal support and protection" from the state unlike western model of non-interference in religion.

# Indian Secularism: Challenge to Inter religious domination

- ① All religion granted equal protection under the state
- ② Fundamental right of individual to follow and profess any religion (Article 25-28)
- ③ Non discrimination policy on the basis of religion (Article 14, 15, 16, etc)

④ Minorities protection → cultural rights  
under Article 29 & 30.

⑤ Against cultural hegemony & assimilation  
of minorities.

⑥ No state religion (official)

⑦ Affirmative action like reservation for  
the deprived and weaker section (Article  
330/332)

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# Indian Secularism: Against Intra Religion  
domination

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① No caste based or sect based  
discrimination within religion

② Affirmative action basis → social  
backwardness and not religion,

③ Policy of religious reforms →  
principle over lengthy intervention

④ Reforms ~~to~~ within religion to promote modern thought and values like gender equality. (Eg: Sobrimata case.)

⑤ Cultural protection to not just religious minority but linguistic & other minority.

⑥ Against ~~for~~ Patriarchal mindset prevailing within religion.

∴ India's approach to secularism is a novel way to define relationship between state and religion.

क्या आप इस दृष्टिकोण से सहमत हैं कि भारतीय शहर घोर असमानता और सामाजिक बहिष्करण के परिदृश्य में बदलते जा रहे हैं? भारत में शहरी क्षेत्रों को अधिक समतावादी बनाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं? (उत्तर 250 शब्दों में दीजिए)

Do you agree with the view that Indian cities are turning into landscapes of stark inequality and social exclusion? What steps can be taken to make urban areas more egalitarian in India? (Answer in 250 words)

उम्मीदवारों को इस दृष्टिकोण में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

15

Indian cities serve as a centre  
of cultural centres of minIndia  
encapsulating idea of "Unity in Diversity"

But it has been marred by inequality  
and exclusion.

# Cities : Inequality & Exclusion

Yes

- ① Duplicating infrastructure
- ② Spread of urban sprawls
- ③  ghettoization of marginalized and poor.
- ④ Caste based → Class based discrimination
- ⑤ Centres of development, surrounded by ocean of poverty.

⑥ lack of basic civic amenities to most poor people

⑦ Poor drainage, polluted environment, lack of safe drinking water

⑧ Slums → common feature → poor social conditions.

No - Not landscape of inequality & exclusion

① No caste based discrimination

② Increased social mobility

③ Equal opportunity at employment

④ Individualism and anonymity.

---

# Steps : Urban Areas → Equitarian

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① Supply of basic social infrastructure

② Expensive outreach of government support programmes. (e-governance)

- ③ Social security of informal worker (APY)
- ④ Health needs of people → taken care  
eg: Aayushman Bharat insurance
- ⑤ Education inclusivity (Sewa Shiksha  
Abhiyan)
- ⑥ Urban employment scheme  
(PM - Employment Guarantee Programme)
- ⑦ Affordable Housing Programme under  
Smart city mission
- ⑧ Rehabilitation of slum dwellers through  
in-situ slum reconstruction project.

∴ Indian cities need to be made  
more inclusive in order to attain  
SDG 11 of sustainable cities

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

VisionIAS