

# VISION IAS

www.visionias.in

VISION IAS  
M  
N 26 JUL 2023 No  
3  
RECEIVED

## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2085)

Name of Candidate	RITWIK MEHTA		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	149946
Center	MUKHERJEE NAGAR, DELHI	Date	26/07/2023

### 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	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

### INSTRUCTIONS

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)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH** इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में छप हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.** सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.  
प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
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।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.  
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
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।

16-B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar  
Delhi- 110009

## 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. पाल साम्राज्य को बौद्ध कला के विशिष्ट रूप के लिए जाना जाता है। इस संदर्भ में, कला के क्षेत्र में पाल वंश के योगदानों पर चर्चा कीजिए।  
The Pala Empire is known for a distinctive form of Buddhist art. In this context, discuss the contributions made by the Pala dynasty towards art. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Pala empire emerged in Eastern India as a strong power in the aftermath of Harsha's death and patronized Buddhism (especially Vajrayana Buddhism)

Distinctive contributions to Buddhist art

- ① Pala bronzes → found at Nalanda etc → depiction of Buddha in various mudras
  - ② Mural paintings at viharas → depiction of Bodhisattvas
  - ③ Architectural design → mahaviharas dedicated to Buddhism @ Odantipuri, Somapura etc → emerged as centres of Buddhist learning.
- Pala dynasty's impact on art went beyond Buddhism as they contributed to ⇒



① Temple architecture → including Hindu (Shiva) Temple

eg → Vanga style / Pala style at Ramnathi  
by Rampala

② Sculpture making traditions → bronze  
stone  
terracotta

eg → continued Nalanda bronze sculpting  
traditions

③ Painting → founder of miniature art in India  
with depiction of Geeta Govinda manuscripts  
in subdued colours.

The role of Pala dynasty in India's cultural  
heritage also includes contributions made to  
Buddhist literature, Bengali etc.

2. आदि शंकराचार्य ने अपनी महान क्षमता से हिंदू धर्म को पुनः स्थापित किया और उत्कृष्ट स्पष्टीकरण प्रस्तुत करते हुए वैदिक परंपरा को फिर से प्रतिष्ठित किया। चर्चा कीजिए।  
It was Adi Shankaracharya's genius that reinvented Hinduism and re-established the Vedic tradition with excellent commentaries. Discuss.  
(Answer in 150 words) 10

Adi Shankaracharya was a 12th c. Bhakti reformer who initiated revival of Hinduism in India in the face of growing Buddhist influence.

### Role of Adi Shankara in reinventing Hinduism

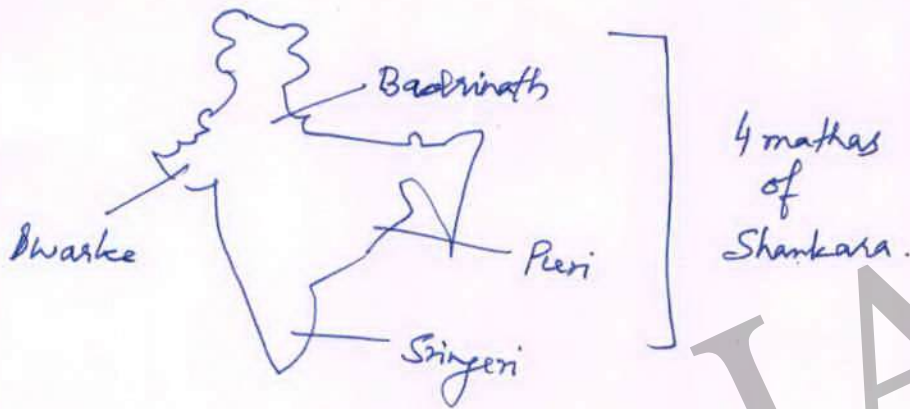
- ① Revisionary emphasis on Vedanta that is an orthodox school of philosophy in India.
- ② Derived his theory of Non-Dualism / Monism called Advaita from Upanishads
- ③ Wrote commentaries on Brahmasutra → highlighting the Advaita viewpoint.
- ④ Opposed influence of Buddhism and Jainism as he saw them to be opposed to Vedic philosophy.
- ⑤ Provided coherent philosophy that could be used to propound Hindu doctrines without resorting to dualism.

VisionIAS

VisionIAS

### Role played through his organizational efforts

- ① He set up 4 mathas / ashrams for spread of Hinduism (esp Shaira).



- ② Participated in debates / discussions with scholars to propound his viewpoint.
- ③ Taught pupils like Padampada who further spread Advaita philosophy.

The significance of Adi Shankara to revival of Vedic philosophy is visible in the recent unveiling of his statue by PM Modi.

3. औपनिवेशिक वन नीतियां स्थानीय लोगों के कल्याण और पर्यावरण की चिंता किए बिना ब्रिटिश साम्राज्य की जरूरतों से प्रेरित थीं। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।  
The colonial forest policies were driven by the needs of the British Empire with no concern for the well-being of the locals and the environment. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The British empire in pursuit of colonial goals exploited Indian forests for their resources (especially timber). This was often done under guise of forest protection.

ambiguity with  
regards to  
minor  
forest  
produce

timber and major  
forest produce  
reserved as  
govt. property

Elements of  
Colonial forest  
policies

removal of and  
non-recognition of  
rights of tribals  
in forests (esp.  
Central & Eastern India)

Introduction of  
Forest Act 1927 →  
concept of reserved  
and protected forest

These policies betrayed lack of concern for local well being and environment as ⇒

- ① Loss of livelihood opportunities for tribals
- ② Loss of traditional sources of food, fodder

and agriculture (shifting cultivation)

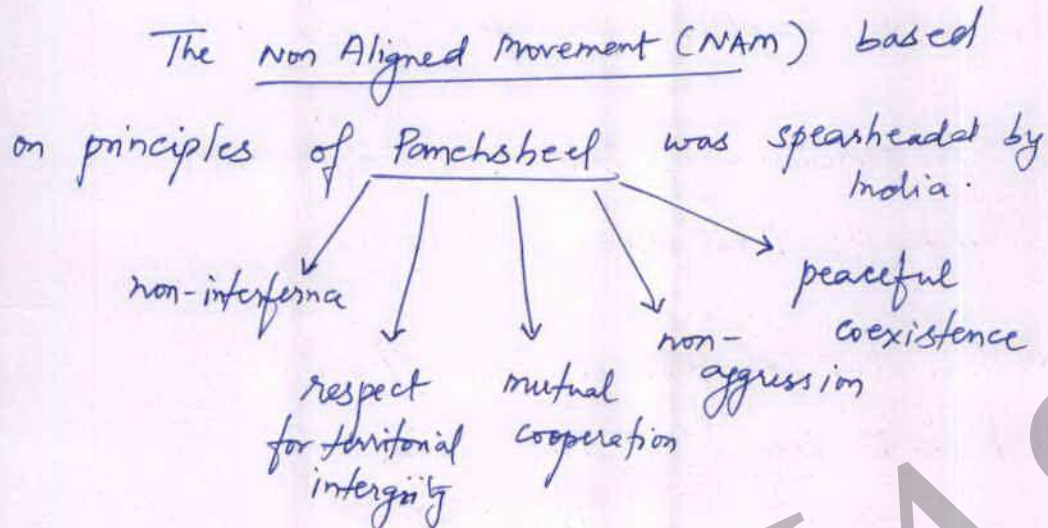
- ③ Led to displacement of tribals → poverty and alienation
- ④ Large scale destruction of forests through timber collection activities.
- ⑤ No concern for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation.
- ⑥ Lack of scientific policies in forestry which led to exploitation of resources

However, colonial policies also laid groundwork for future conservation:

- ① Acts such as CNT and SPT Act in Jharkhand → prevented tribal land and forest alienation
- ② Indian Forest Act 1927 → primary legislation governing forests in India
- ③ Set up FR I at Dehradun → premier forestry Institute of Asia.

The colonial policies must be studied to remove exploitative elements while retaining its ~~main~~ scientific aspects

4. पंचशील और गुटनिरपेक्षता के सिद्धांतों ने शीत युद्ध के दौर में भारत को मार्गदर्शित करने में सहायता प्रदान की। चर्चा कीजिए।  
The principles of Panchsheel and Non-Alignment aided India in maneuvering the Cold War era. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10



This allowed India and other NAM nations to avoid the pressures of the Cold War era.

### Role of NAM in Cold War

- ① Emphasis on peaceful coexistence → allowed India to avoid being pulled into military alliances (eg: Pakistan joined SATO SEATO)
- ② Allowed pursuit of independent foreign policy with aim of mutual benefit/cooperation
- ③ It also allowed India to provide principled leadership on global fora.  
(eg) → mediator in Korean war

④ The principles of Neo Economic order at NAM helped India to achieved inclusive economic structure with emphasis on poverty alleviation.

However, the principles of Panchsheel and NAM often served as limitations as well -

① Panchsheel did not prevent India from being pulled into wars → 1965 - China  
→ 1971 - Pakistan

② India had to suspend policy of non-interference during war of Liberation for Bangladesh.

③ NAM was seen as Team B of Soviet bloc → led to US hostility

Ⓣ → role of US during 1971 war  
→ nuclear apartheid after Smiling Buddha

④ India's political class showed Soviet bias

Ⓣ → no criticism of USSR invasion of Afghanistan.

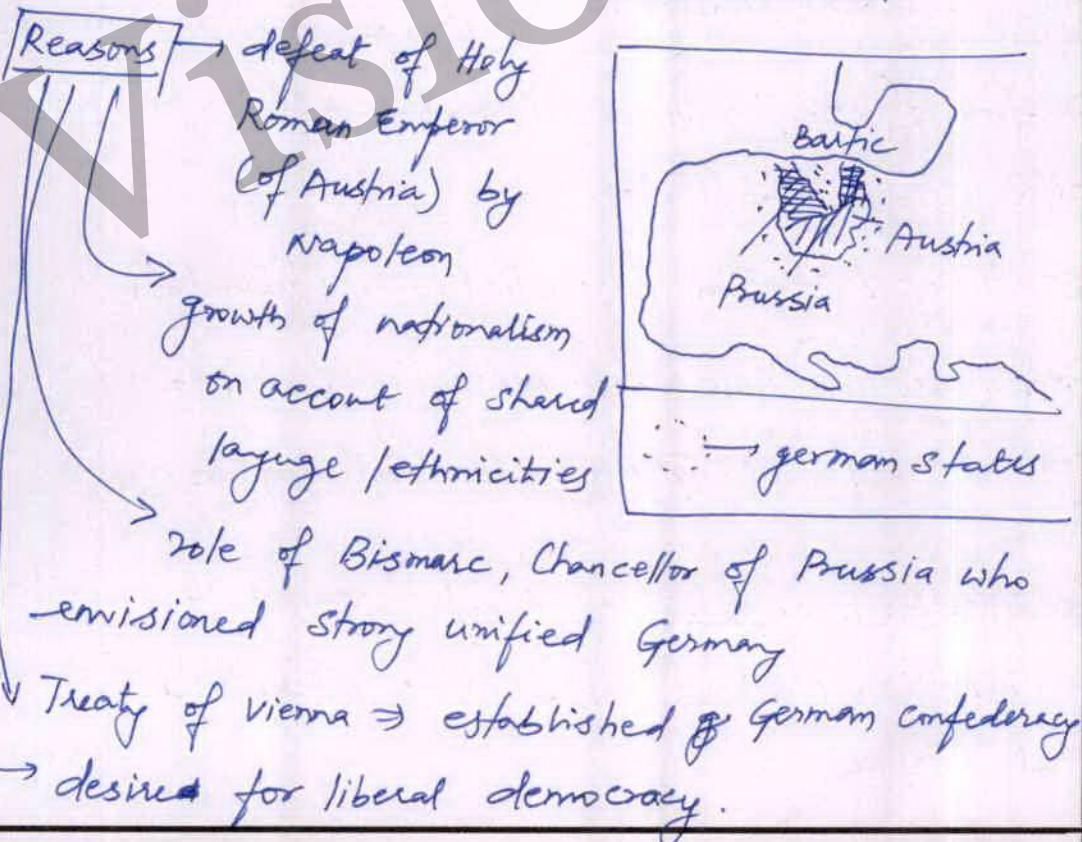
While NAM and Panchsheel were not based in realpolitik, they gave India's constitutional commitment in Article 51, a principled expression.

5. 19वीं शताब्दी के यूरोप की प्रमुख विशेषताओं में से एक राष्ट्रीय एकीकरण के लिए संघर्ष था। जर्मनी के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।  
One of the major features of the 19th century Europe was the struggle for national unification. Discuss in the context of Germany. (Answer in 150 words) 10

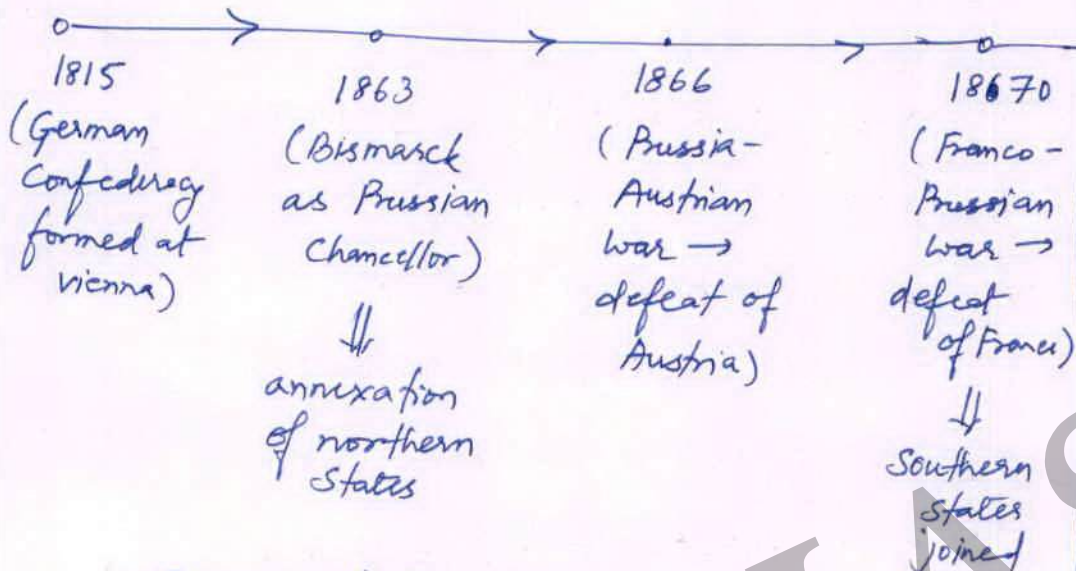
The Napoleonic wars in early 18th c. had led to growth of nationalist sentiments as monarchies crumbled. This swept a wave of national unification movements.

eg → Italian unification → 1871  
Balkan unification → Yugoslavia in 20th c  
German unification → 1871

### German struggle for national unification



### Timeline of German unification



German unification under Prussia and Wilhelm I crowned as Emperor 1871

### Impact of such unification efforts

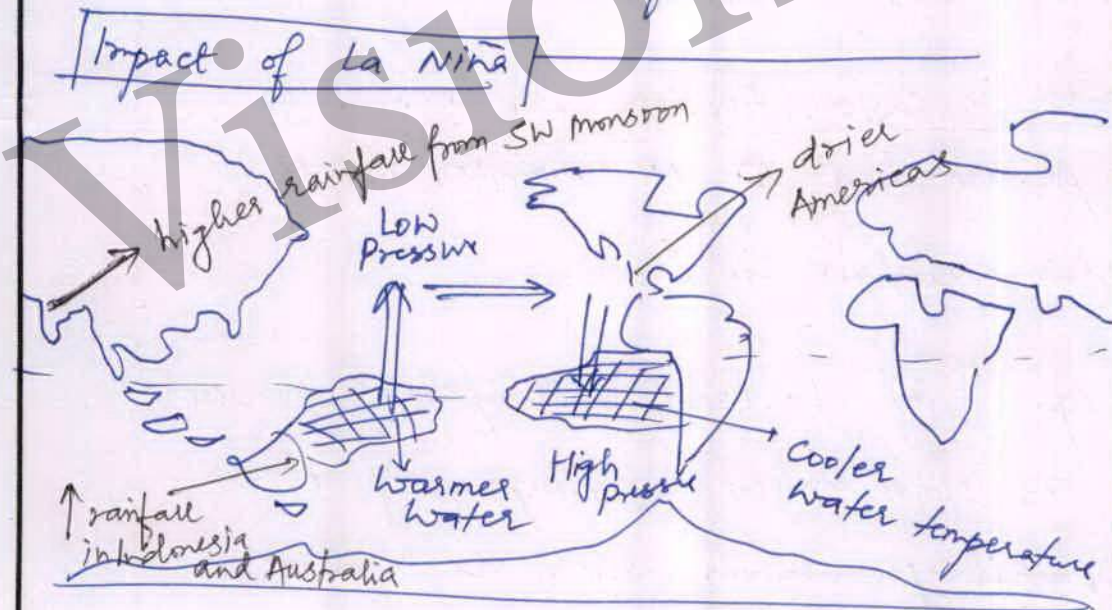
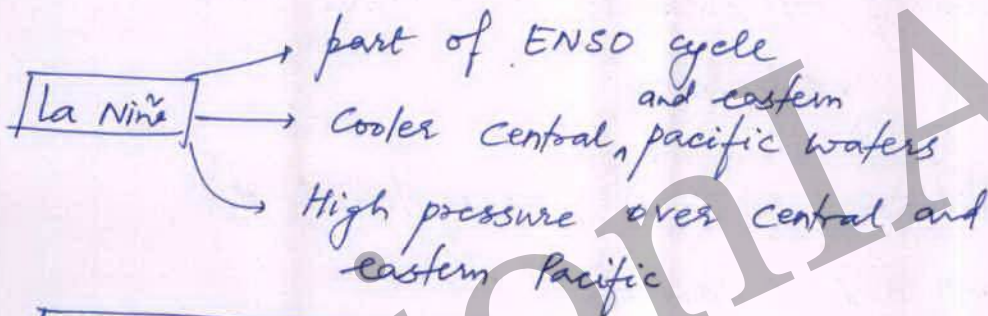
- ① creation of strong militarized nation-states with strong central govt.
- ② growth of Industrial Revolution → Colonialism
- ③ friction within these new nations → led to World War I (eg: Germany seen as aggressor)

The unification movements of Europe served to inspire Indian leaders who also strengthened national struggle.

6. ट्रिपल डिप ला नीना परिघटना क्या है? विश्व के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों पर इसके संभावित प्रभाव की विवेचना कीजिए।

What is the triple dip La Niña phenomenon? Discuss its likely impact on different regions of the world. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Triple dip La Niña phenomenon refers to 3 continuous years where La Niña episode has persisted. Recently in 2022, it was seen that a triple dip La Niña episode occurred for first time in this century.



The triple dip La Niña led to extreme events impacts due to intensification of its impacts.

- ① Higher rainfall from SW monsoon in S. Asia
- India saw excess rainfalls
- floods in Pakistan inundated 60% of nation
- higher rice yields in India
- ② Dry conditions in America ⇒ driest August experienced. However, cold waters led to ↑ upwelling of nutrients thus better fish catch off S. America.
- ③ Dry conditions in Europe ⇒ instances of Heatwaves and wildfires.
- ④ Floods in Eastern Australia on account of low pressure and Ⓢ NE monsoon winds.
- ⑤ Higher rainfall in Indonesia.

The impact of La Nina is complex to predict and is often based on interplay of other atmospheric phenomenon such as Indian Ocean Dipole, Madden Julian Oscillation etc.

7. जलविद्युत दुनिया भर में निम्न कार्बन उत्सर्जन वाली ऊर्जा आपूर्ति का एक प्रमुख स्रोत है, लेकिन भारत के कुल इलेक्ट्रिसिटी मिक्स में इसकी हिस्सेदारी बहुत कम बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए।  
Hydropower is a major source of low-carbon energy supply across the world but its share in India's total electricity generation remains low. Discuss.  
(Answer in 150 words) 10

India aims to fulfil its Panchamrit promise of Net 0 emissions by 2070. For this an energy transition model based on renewable energy is critical.

Hydropower accounts for only 11.2% of India's electricity mix.

Reasons for hydropower's dominance in RNE of world

- ① technology is comparatively cheaper than solar, wind
- ② Scalable → from large to small HEP
- ③ Rivers are more reliable sources of renewable energy.

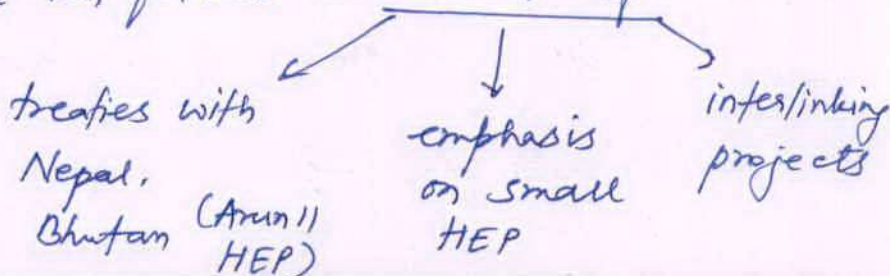
India's potential

- 23 major river basins
- youthful nature of Himalayan rivers
- waterfall line in northern peninsula and W. Ghats

### Reasons for poor share in India

- ① Cumbersome land and forest clearance process
- ② Opposition to large HEP projects (eg: Vishnupad)
- ③ Threat of disasters such as reservoir induced seismicity (Koyna) and flooding (Chamoli)
- ④ High cost of setting up large HEP → conscious shift towards small hydropower projects  
 (eg) → inclusion in RNE for priority sector lending.
- ⑤ Climate change → variability in water flow especially in Peninsular rivers.
- ⑥ Water disputes due to it being a state subject. → leads to political opposition  
 (eg) → Odisha - Chattisgarh over Mahanadi

However, the share of hydroelectricity will increase in future on account of



8. हाल ही में तुर्किये में आए भूकंप के संदर्भ में, सिस्मिक गैप की अवधारणा की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, भूकंप की तीव्रता के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Explain the concept of seismic gap in the context of the recent earthquake in Turkey. Also, enlist the reasons behind the severity of the earthquake.

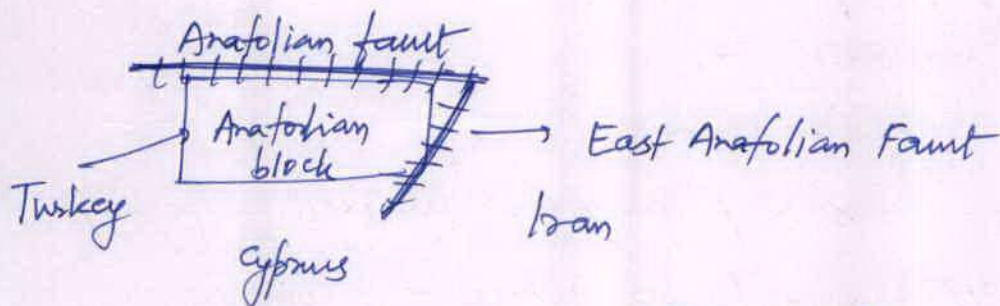
(Answer in 150 words)


10

Seismic gap refers to the absence of a strike slip earthquake for a long duration in a region which lies on an active fault. It is an indicator that a sudden release of strain is possible leading to devastating earthquake.

eg → Turkey that experienced 7.6 magnitude earthquake in Feb 2023 → after decades

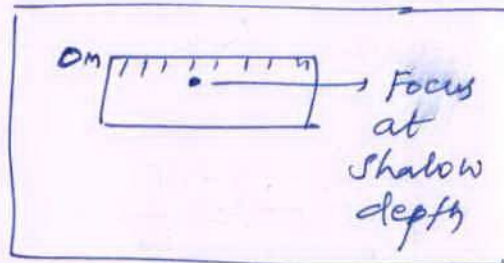
Turkey case study → lies on a complex but active transform fault region



In 2023, strike slip fault (  )  
i.e. caused by horizontal motion of plates along the Anatolian fault took place.

## Reasons for severity of earthquake

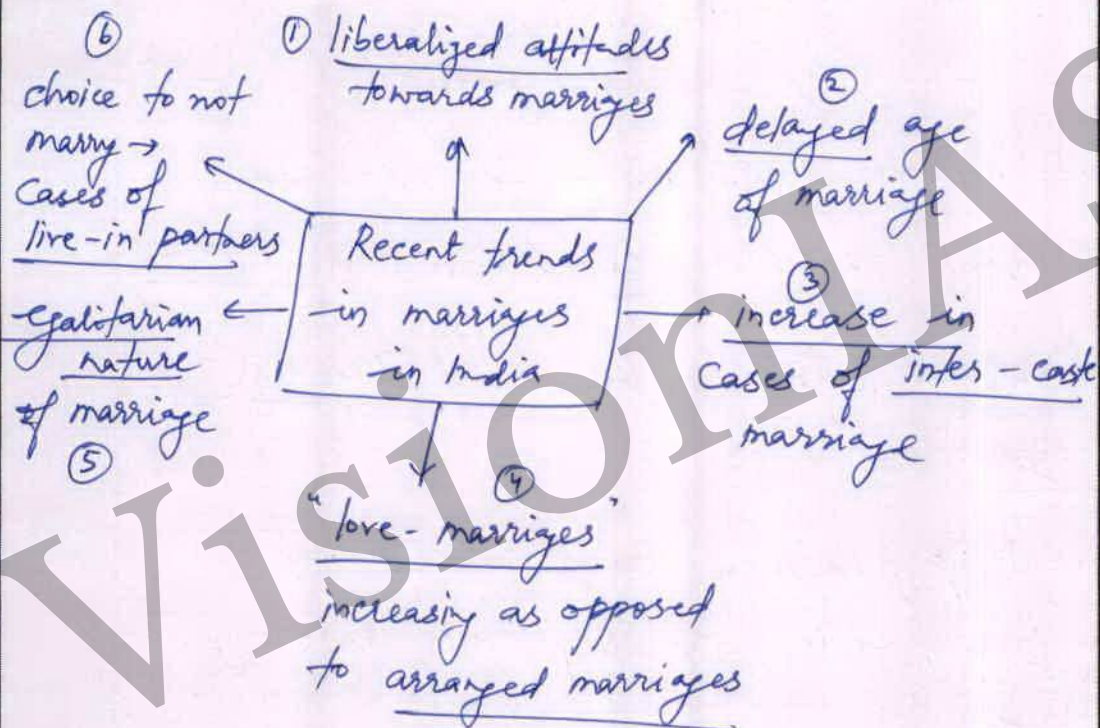
- ① Seismic gap - built over 8 decades in an otherwise earthquake prone region.
- ② lack of disaster resilient infrastructure in Turkey and Syria along with high incidence of poverty  $\rightarrow$  thus vulnerability was high.
- ③ Continued readjustment along Aretolian faults led to devastating aftershocks
- ④ Shallow focus nature of ~~near~~ earthquake led to faster travel of waves and higher destruction



The example provided by Turkey must be a wake up call for Indian disaster preparedness as well especially along Himalayan faults where a seismic gap has long been highlighted.

9. भारत में विवाहों की हालिया प्रवृत्तियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, व्याख्या कीजिए कि समलैंगिक विवाह के कानूनी समर्थन को मौलिक महत्व का मुद्दा क्यों कहा जा रहा है।  
Highlighting the recent trends in marriages in India, explain why the legal backing of same-sex marriage is being termed as an issue of seminal importance. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Marriage, despite being a traditional social institution, is witnessing various structural and functional ~~change~~ changes in recent times.



In this context, the demand for same sex marriage has been a significant one. While homosexuality was decriminalized in 2018 by way of Nartej Singh case, personal laws do not recognize same sex unions.

Importance of legal backing

- ① Will promote egalitarianism and equality in society
- ② recognition of rights of same sex partners  
Such as in → Inheritance  
→ loans  
→ medical listing  
→ insurance and banking.
- ③ Will improve social outlook towards same sex unions → develop acceptance and tolerance
- ④ Reduce problematic instances of lavender marriages.
- ⑤ Prevent psychological harm caused by being forced into sexuality non-conforming marriages
- ⑥ Allow same sex couples to gain adoption rights.

While the need for legal backing is seminal, sustained efforts are needed by civil society and govt. to ensure social backing is also nurtured.

10. परस्पर संबद्ध विश्व में मानसिक कल्याण को प्रभावित करने वाले कारकों की बहुलता को ध्यान में रखते हुए, बेहतर मानसिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्राप्त करने में आने वाली विभिन्न चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Considering the multiplicity of factors affecting the mental well-being in an inter-connected world, discuss the various challenges in achieving sound mental healthcare. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Mental well being refers to an absence of mental stress, anxiety, depression etc. It involves both clinical care and supportive social environment.

Multiple factors affect mental well being today

- ① Social media → role in developing anxiety, depression due to aspirational value created.  
 (e.g. Instagram role in promoting anorexia in teen girls.)
- ② Smartphone addiction → leads to sleeping disorders
- ③ Pornography → imbalance in dopamine releases
- ④ Cyber bullying, stalking → leads to psychological trauma, sexual assault and PTSDs
- ⑤ Absence of increased globalization → leads to competition → unhealthy attitudes to success

⑥ Stress from workplace, overcrowded living spaces, traffic → Bengaluru high incidence of depression.

### Various challenges in achieving sound mental healthcare

- ① Absence of understanding regarding mental health → leads to lack of prioritization
  - ② Low number of and high cost of psychiatric care providers (eg: therapists)
  - ③ Legislative lacunae → mental healthcare Act 2016 → suffers from implementational challenges
  - ④ Lack of coverage of mental health issues in insurance etc.
  - ⑤ Social stigma in talking about such challenges → fear of ostracization.
  - ⑥ Research in psychological well being and pharma products is lesser
  - ⑦ Absence of mental health from school curriculum and medical professional courses
- Civil society and govt must join forces to ensure mental wellbeing.

11. प्राचीन काल से लेकर आधुनिक काल तक भारत में प्रमुख मुद्राशास्त्र चरणों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि सिक्कों का अध्ययन किस प्रकार इतिहास को समझने में मदद करता है।

Elaborate upon the major numismatic stages in India from the ancient to modern times. Also, discuss how the study of coins helps in understanding history. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Numismatics plays significant role in reconstruction of history through study of coins. India has a long and diverse history of coinage.

Ancient period → No coins of VC/Chalcolithic period

- vedic and coins from mahajanapada → crude → point to emergence of money economy.
- Mauyayam coins → usually of silver and copper - crude → some of varying shapes.
- Post mauyayam → gold coins issued by Indo-Greeks for first time but expanded in purity and standardization by Kushanas → highest no. of gold coins.
- Gupta → coins called dinars → gold initially with standardization and

depiction of motifs and information →  
purity reduced by 6th c AD.

### Medieval period

- Delhi Sultanate → minting of coins at Delhi, Agra, Jaunpur → usually of silver alloy → experimentation with bronze coinage by Tughlaks.
- Mughals → introduction of Rupree for first time → silver coins minted with high degree of standardisation → introduction of annas and paisa
- Shah Suri

### Modern

- Colonial govt → silver coins with issuance in the name of British monarch. → rupees, annas, paise
- modern Independent India → use of stainless steel → removal of annas → denominations of 50p, ₹1, ₹2, ₹5, ₹10 and ₹20.

### Role of coins in studying history

- ① Direct sources of information → regarding

name of monarch, reign, year etc.

eg → Kanishka coins highlight lineage

② Quality of coins points to state of economy.

eg → Gupta coins at its highest were purer in gold

③ Level of standardization highlights nature of polity

eg → low standardization of Sultanate coins → lesser centralization

④ Religious or cultural information

eg → languages used → Sanskrit by Shakas

→ gods worshipped - Kushana coins show Shiva

→ musical instruments → veena played by Samudragupta.

⑤ Location found → highlights trade or spread of empire eg → Roman coins in South India.

⑥ Commemorative coins help identify important events

eg → marriage of Chandragupta I to Kumaradivi

The role of coins in historiographical reconstruction is immense.

12. दलित अधिकारों के समर्थक के रूप में प्रसिद्ध होने के बावजूद, डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर का योगदान इससे कहीं अधिक है और इसमें कई अन्य विषय भी शामिल हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।  
Despite being celebrated as the champion of Dalit rights, the contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar went far beyond that and encompassed a wide range of issues. Elaborate. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was a prominent lawyer, politician, economist and social worker whose influence permeates various aspects of modern India.

Celebrated champion of Dalit Rights

- ① Founded organizations such as Bahishkrit Hitakarni Sabha.
- ② Agitated for equality → Mahad Satyagraha to access public tank
- ③ Wrote seminal literature on Dalit emancipation. (eg: Annihilation of Caste)
- ④ participated in Simon Commission as representative of Depressed classes → later secured reservation under Poona Pact
- ⑤ Conversion to Buddhism → gave new identity to Dalit movement → raised social status

- ⑥ Constitutional guarantees to Dalit rights →  
Abolition of untouchability, right to equality,  
NESC etc.

However his contributions go beyond Dalit rights:

- ① **Economic** → His thesis - "Problem of the

Rupee" played key role in RBI being

set up → Central bank of India

Architect of fiscal guarantees and  
incorporation of economic provisions in  
Constitution

Supported capitalism → saw pitfalls of  
communism as economic philosophy.

- ② **Political contributions**

As chairman of Drafting Committee of  
Constituent Assembly

Role in defending Constitution.

Wrote on political democracy -  
Conditions Precedent for Successful  
Working of Democracy in India.

### ③ Cultural Contributions

- Revival of Buddhism in India
- reform of Hinduism attempted through works like (Riddles in Hinduism etc.)

### ④ B Legal Contributions

- As first law minister → reform and codification of Hindu Personal law

Thus, BR Ambedkar's role in Indian society and polity is of immense significance.

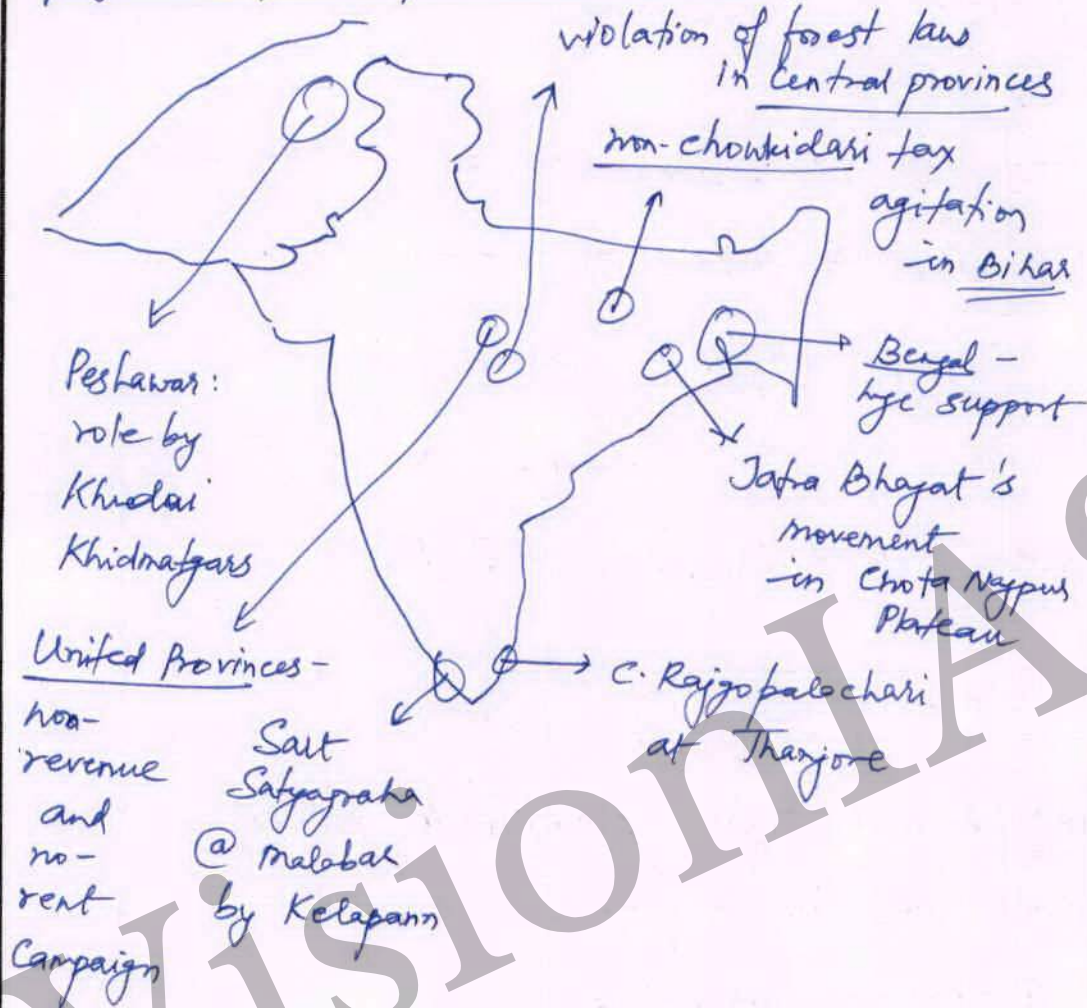
13. 1930-34 के सविनय अवज्ञा आंदोलन को एक अद्वितीय विशेषता, क्षेत्रीय स्थानिक पैटर्न और लामबंदी के नए तरीकों को शामिल करने के लिए जाना जाता है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।  
The Civil Disobedience Movement of 1930-34 was marked by a unique character, regional spatial patterns and employment of new mobilization techniques. Elucidate. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) was launched due to failure of Gandhi-towin talks to accept 11 points forwarded by INC in context to simmering nationalist sentiments. It was launched in 1930.

### Unique character of CDM

- ① Went beyond non-cooperation to actively break laws in a peaceful manner.  
(eg) → Salt Satyagraha.
- ② Non payment of taxes and calls for students to leave colleges.
- ③ Incorporation of social activities such as women picketing at liquor shops
- ④ Considerable support from business groups, women, trade unions etc.

### Regional spatial patterns in CBM



### Unique mobilization techniques

- ① Participation of business groups and civil society such as trade unions → thus providing political mobilization
- ② Use of ideas such as prabhat forums to spread political awareness.

- ③ mobilization of women through Gandhian Satyagrahe → participation in huge numbers
- ④ children ~~used~~ ~~in~~ banded in "rathinis" to spread awareness (eg) → in Bengal
- ⑤ Students and urban youth participated in ~~the~~ ~~the~~ revolutionary terrorism.

CDM's success was however short lived and ~~the~~ efforts to revive it after dissatisfaction of Round Table talks were futile. Still it lay future groundwork for success of INC in elections and led to mass mobilization in Quit India movement.

14. भारत के तटीय क्षेत्रों में द्वीपों के डूबने की परिघटना के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, संपूर्ण राष्ट्र और विशेष रूप से द्वीपीय समुदाय के लिए इसके संभावित प्रभावों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Explain the underlying causes behind the phenomenon of sinking islands in India's coastal regions. Also, evaluate its possible implications for the nation as a whole and island communities in particular. (Answer in 250 words) 15

India's coastal islands face threat of submergence in recent decades prompting investigation into its causes.

### Causes of sinking islands

- ① Sea level rise due to global warming especially impacting low lying islands on western coast.
  - ⊕ → Lakshadweep atolls
- ② Natural processes such as tidal changes
  - ⊕ → chars in Sunderbans
  - tidal bores in Khambat
- ③ Impact of disasters such as -
  - (i) cyclones and storm surges → lead to coastal flooding on east coast
  - (ii) tsunamis - Point Calimere submerged

④ Erosion of islands due to wave action on eastern coast is also responsible for loss of islands

⑤ → along Gulf of Manna

### Possible implications for India -

① Reduced buffers against tsunamis / cyclones that these islands provided

② Economic loss due to loss of land, resources etc.

③ Will lead to forced ~~imm~~ migration increasing stress of other cities.



④ will intensify coastal erosion as islands act to break waves

⑤ Can lead to border disputes - eg: along Bangladesh, Sri Lanka

⑥ ports may be impacted → lead to difficulty in docking etc.

### Implications for island communities

- ① Forced to outmigrate to other places
- ② loss of livelihood, homes etc.
- ③ Conflicts with different groups or with animals as they relocate to higher points
- ④ forced into poverty, loss of property
- ⑤ disrupts social life.

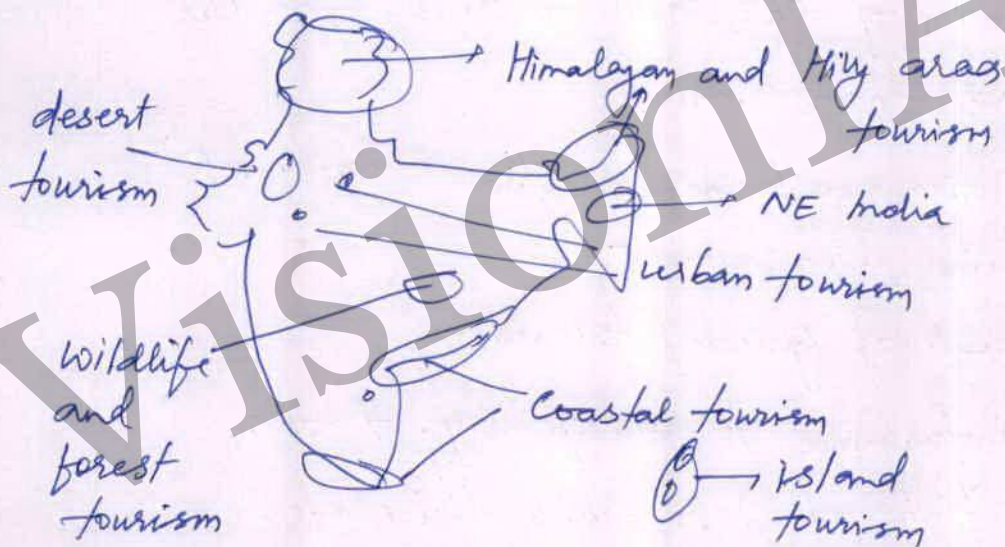
The phenomenon of sinking islands is part of global ~~east~~ processes, and thus effective mitigation and adaption policies need to be implemented at the earliest.

15. भारत में संधारणीय पर्यटन के संबंध में क्षेत्र-विशिष्ट बाधाओं का एक समालोचनात्मक विवरण दीजिए।

Give a critical account of region-specific constraints with regard to sustainable tourism in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Sustainable tourism refers to tourism that does not cause environment degradation or social disruption while supporting higher economic growth for local communities.

### Regions of tourism in India



### Region specific constraints

- ① North India, NE India, Western Ghats ⇒  
hilly areas →
  - threat of landslides / cloudbursts
  - need for tourism infra such as

roads, ropeways that require cutting into hills.

- difficulty in sourcing indigenous food due to lower agriculture → pollution due to packaged food, transport.
- higher tourism → higher vehicular emission → ↑ snow melting in Himalayas.

### ① Coastal areas tourism

- dilution of CRZ rules to create facilities and infrastructure
- pollution - especially plastics - enter into marine environment
- threat of cyclones/tsunamis
- disturbance to wildlife (e.g: turtles, fish etc.) in suba diving etc.

### ② Islands tourism - Andaman, Lakshadweep

- damage to coral reefs
- pollution
- threat of Island submergence
- excessive infrastructure creation
- disruption of tribal lifestyle

(iv) Forest/Wildlife tourism - In national parks, WLS etc

- leads to man animal conflict
- disruption of tribals
- clearance of forests needed to create roads, build safaris

(v) Urban tourism - Delhi, Jaipur, Chennai, Agra etc

- increase in traffic and overcrowding
- leads to ↑ vehicular emissions
- strain on water resources (eg: Shimla)

While there are various threats to sustainable tourism in various regions, planned efforts to mitigate damage, shift to renewables and fixing accountability with tourists can be implemented.

16. पारिस्थितिक तंत्र के लिए मृदा द्वारा निभाई गई महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका को ध्यान में रखते हुए, भारत में संधारणीय मृदा प्रबंधन के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

In view of the important role played by soil for the ecosystem, discuss the significance of sustainable soil management in India. (Answer in 250 words)

15

Soil is the interface between various components of the ecosystem and supports all life.

### Important role played by soil

#### ① Supporting services

→ allows roots of ~~trees~~ <sup>trees</sup> to form thus supporting vegetation  
→ home to variety of flora, fauna (eg: rabbits)

#### ② Provisioning services

→ nutrients in soil taken up by vegetation, trees, crops  
→ food sources for animals/birds  
→ reservoir of oxygen

#### ③ Regulatory services

→ important role in biogeochemical cycles  
→ storage of carbon dioxide

#### ④ Cultural services → used by humans to make products

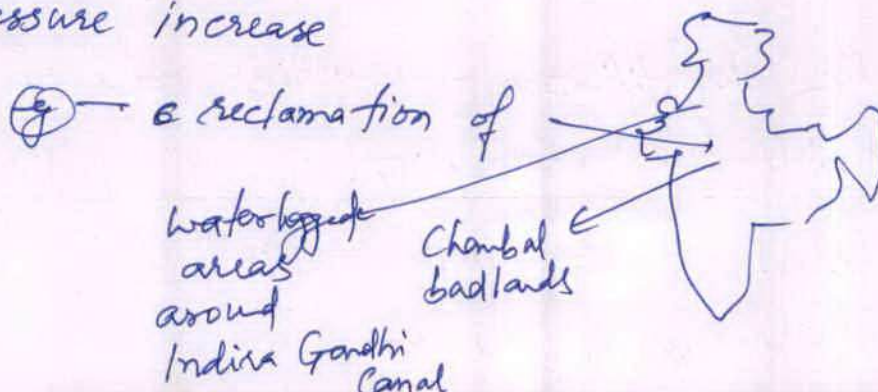
Despite its significance, soil is threatened by:

- ① erosion → due to running water, wind
- ② loss of fertility → loss of nutrients
- ③ degradation → due to contamination  
 (eg) → waterlogging
- ④ anthropogenic activities such as  
 concretization, digging, mining, deforestation  
 etc.

Sustainable soil management → maintain fertility  
 → integrated soil management  
 → soil protection

is thus the need of the hour -

- ① To ensure support to agriculture  
 (eg) → dust bowl of USA - led to famine
- ② to expand agriculture as population  
 pressure increase



- ③ to ensure carbon sequestration → as carbon dioxide leakage from soil leading to warming. → climate change
- ④ For biodiversity conservation → loss of good bacteria (nitrosomonas etc.) due to chemical treatment.
- ⑤ to support livelihoods in primary sector
- ⑥ Necessary for meeting various SDGs such as
- SDG 1 - No Hunger →

SDG 2 - No poverty →

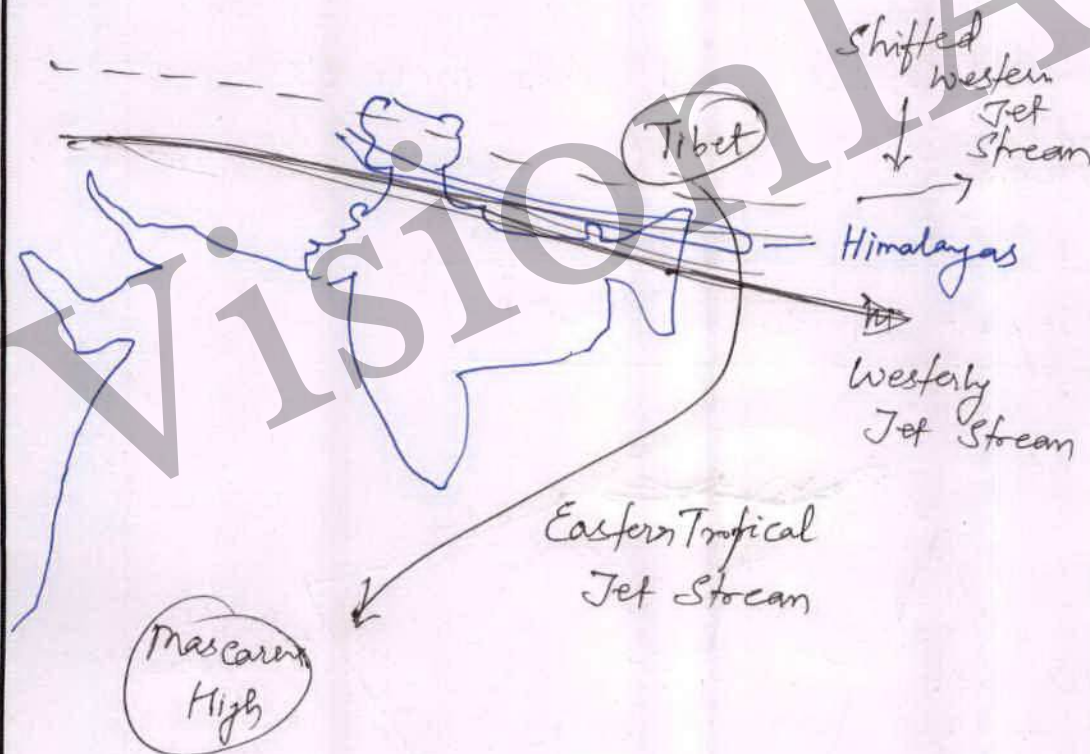
life above land (SDG-14)
- ⑦ To promote organic farming that can act as sunrise sector → exporting to western nations
- ⑧ To check desertification → achieve goals of Land Degradation neutrality
- ⑨ To ensure forests survive → goal of 33% coverage in land use.

17. जेट धाराएं भारत और विश्व की जलवायु को बदलने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए।

Jet streams play an important role in altering the climate of India and the world. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Jet Streams (JS) refer to fast moving air masses in upper troposphere that flow along defined directions and play critical role in impacting climatic phenomenon.

Role of JS in altering Indian climate

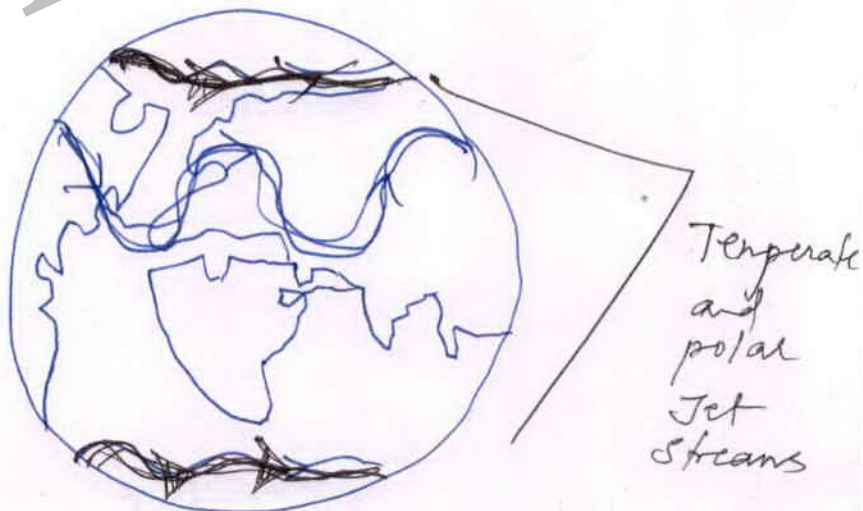


- JS impacts Indian monsoon
- ① → by allowing monsoon trough to form over Indian continent.

⇒ the Western Jet stream that flows south of Himalayas in winter is shifted north due to ITCZ displacement in summer. This allows monsoon (SW) winds to advance

② Eastern Tropical Jet Stream ⇒ is a special summer JS that flows over Tibet to Indian Ocean → It helps to drive the monsoon winds and thus increases precipitation

JS impact on global climates



• Jet streams are significant in maintaining -

- heat and pressure transfer
- Containing air masses
- For instance, the weakening of Polar JS in Northern Hemisphere due to high heat leads to phenomenon of Polar Vortex allowing temperatures to drop in US, Canada
- They ensure transfer of heat from in upper atmosphere → thus maintaining calm and high pressure conditions around poles.

The role of JS needs to be studied better through climate modelling in order to enhance our understanding.

18. भारत में मलिन बस्तियों के निर्माण और इसके प्रसार के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, प्रधान मंत्री आवास योजना के तहत इन-सीटू स्लम पुनर्विकास योजना में सुधार की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Highlighting the factors responsible for the formation and proliferation of slums in India, discuss the need to revamp the In-Situ Slum Redevelopment (ISSR) scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban). (Answer in 250 words)

15

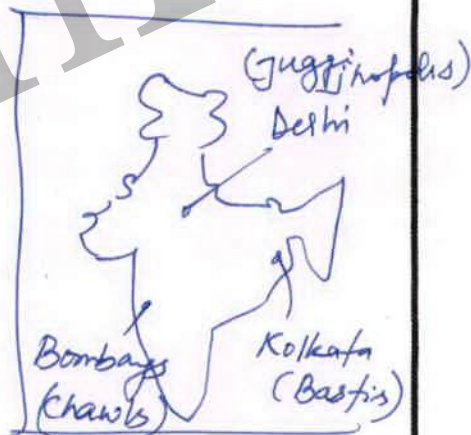
Slums refer to illegal and haphazard growth of urban dwelling places formed ~~due to~~ especially in developing and low income nations.

### Factors responsible for slums in India

- ① High Rural to urban migration

(close of 50% of India to be urban by 2050)

- ② Absence of affordable housing in urban areas near city centre



- ③ Lax implementation of building codes, poor monitoring of encroachments → allows spread.

- ④ Slums allow urban poor to band together and leverage social capital.

- ⑤ high incidence of urban poverty and absence of employment guarantee programmes
- ⑥ Illegal immigrants → often cannot live in any other place than slums (eg: Kolkata)
- ⑦ Need for a large population of domestic workers by urban rich leads to slums  
(eg → Mumbai's Dharavi slum)

### Need to reform ISSR Scheme

- ① To provide empowerment to enable slum dwellers to build own homes
- ② To ensure affordable housing  
(eg → J.J. colonies in Delhi)
- ③ Increase pace of ISSR and ~~etc.~~
- ④ Improve quality of redevelopment work.
- ⑤ Incorporate other urban amenities  
Such as water, gas connections etc.
- ⑥ To prevent leakages caused by huge corruption.

Slums are a ~~base~~ in the critical challenge  
without overcoming which, quality of  
life in urban areas cannot be maintained.

VisionIAS

19. भारत में निर्धनता और पर्यावरण क्षरण के बीच संबंध पर प्रकाश डालिए। निर्धनता में कमी करने से संबंधित प्रयास किस प्रकार संधारणीय विकास को बढ़ावा देने और पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकते हैं?

Bring out the relationship between poverty and environmental degradation in India. How can poverty reduction efforts play an important role in promoting sustainable development and safeguarding the environment?  
(Answer in 250 words) 15

The relationship between poverty and environmental degradation has been highlighted since the days of Stockholm Conference in 1972.



Poverty forcing degradation

- ① Shift to use exploitative use of resources → burning biomass / coal for heating.
- ② Induces farmers to overuse chemicals to increase output → loss of soil fertility
- ③ Directly violative practices such as poaching, tree felling and smuggling by poor.

- ④ Poverty → leads to population growth → strain on limited resources → degradation.

### Degradation causing poverty

- ① loss in farm incomes due to ~~an~~ environ fertility loss
- ② environment degradation (eg: soil erosion) → disasters → poverty  
(eg) → landslides + land subsidence in Uttarakhand.
- ③ Pollution → negative impact on health → higher OOP on health → poverty.

In this context, poverty reduction efforts

Such as

- employment guarantee
- DBT
- credit facility
- empowerment through health & education

Can help in -

### ① Promoting Sustainable Development

↳ SBG1 → No target - per disposable incomes for food

- reduced poverty → achieve SDG 2
- empowerment and education (esp. of girl child) → reduces inequality.
- improves quality of life and creates sustainable communities

### ② Safeguarding environment

- people can be nudged towards climate conscious behaviour
- use of innovations such as stewardship of resources to tackle poverty can lead to conservation.

---

The recent mantra of LiFC (Lifestyle for Environment) can help integrate poverty reduction with sustainable development.

---

20. वैश्वीकरण और धर्म के बीच का संबंध जटिल रहा है, साथ ही दोनों के बीच की अंतःक्रिया के परिणामस्वरूप नई संभावनाएं और चुनौतियां उभर रही हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।  
The relationship between globalisation and religion has been a complex one with new possibilities and challenges emerging as a result of the interaction between the two. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Globalization refers to free flow of goods, capital, people, ideas.

Complex relationship between globalization and religion

① Globalization has led to both

Spread of religion

- ability to propagate ideas

(eg. Hollywood stars adopting Hinduism)

loss of religiosity

- has led to modernization → which is accompanied by scientific thinking

② often globalization and religion have been pitted against each other

⊕ → rise of conservatism in social life in response to globalization

[New opportunities from their interaction]

① Religion can be reformed → by incorporating ideas

⊕ → banning of superstitious practices, incorporation of liberal divorce regime, removal of triple talaq.

② Allows spread of good faith based ideas → promotes tolerance

⊕ → role of Vivekananda's speech in popularizing ideas of Hinduism.

③ Globalization can support religious missions for good.

⊕ → charities donating to mosques in Eid

↳ donations to ~~temp~~ gurdwaras for langar.

However, new challenges have also emerged -

① Spread of fundamental ideologies eases

⊕ → ISIS recruitment through internet.

② leads to phenomenon such as Islamophobia, Hinduophobia etc → which can impact well being of diaspora.

eg → Christchurch attack

③ It has led to revivalist response in developing nations where globalization is seen as westernization.

eg — Islamic nations opposing Christianity  
Anti-missionary activities in India

The interplay of religion and globalization needs to be channalized for greater good of all.