



# VISION IAS

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## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1246)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	371859
Center	BENGALURU	Date	9/9/2019

### INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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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).
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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## 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. Rock-cut structures were closely associated with various religions and religious activities. Discuss the statement giving relevant examples.

(150 words) 10

Indian architecture - particularly rock cut caves, temples - are closely associated to its religious past.

Closeness to Religion:

① Rock cut Caves:

① Ajanta caves with depiction of Buddha & his life

② mural paintings of Padmapani, Vajrapani, etc.

③ rock cut temple of Shiva by Ganga dynasty in Ellora

④ Elephanta caves depiction of Trimurti

## 2) Rock cut Temples

(a) Mandagapattu temple by  
Pandyas

(b) Mamallapuram rock cut Pandava  
chariots

(c) Dravidian rock cut temples  
dedicated to Vishnu & Shiva

### Closeness to Religious activities:

(a) temples used for religious  
festivals

(b) royal weddings which had  
religious tinge

(c) religious education fostered in  
religious temples ex → Kanchi

Thus, rock cut architecture of  
India is closely associated to religion

2. The legislative and administrative record of the Congress Ministries during their twenty-eight months rule under the Act of 1935 was positive, but the period also witnessed the emergence of serious weaknesses in the Congress. Discuss. (150 words) 10

Congress, post the 1937 provincial elections, formed governments in all states barring Punjab, Sindh & Bengal.

This 28-month rule saw its share of successes:

### Legislative successes:

① Laws to ensure peasant welfare  
ex → cancelling all rent hikes since 1911 in Bihar

② Laws to ensure smooth labour relations ex → through Disputes Act, etc.

③ Laws to affect societal change  
ex → opening up temples, wells; prohibition in few areas

### Administrative Success:

① increase in civil liberties by reducing

CID & police powers

② restoring pensions & lands of participants  
in freedom struggle

However, some serious weaknesses  
did emerge:

① corruption in congress due to presence  
of reactionists

② failure to completely solve agri problems  
led to peasant backlash ex → Bedakhli  
land in Bihar

③ labour disputes solving irked the  
Left ex → in Bombay

④ use of official powers by some  
leaders to  curb dissent ex → C Rajagopal  
chari in Madras

Thus, altho despite its weaknesses,  
the congress through its multi-pronged  
approach, was able to do justice  
to its mandate & increase its prestige.

3. Kamladevi Chattopadhyay was a multifaceted personality with significant contributions both to pre and post independence India. Elucidate.

(150 words) 10

Recently, Government efforts to commemorate the life of Kamladevi Chattopadhyay have highlighted her contributions to India.

Her multifaceted personality can be witnessed by her:

- (a) contribution to women empow-  
ment
- (b) focus on tribal art & craft
- (c) internationalist outlook in action

Her contributions were multiple & multidimensional.

Pre-Independence:

- (a) worked to setup Indian branch of International Women's Organisation

⑤ took active part in Indian freedom struggle

### Post-Independence

① worked for emancipation of African nations

② took steps to improve cultural heritage <sup>conservation</sup> of India ex → Kala Akademi

③ focused on tribal art & craft popularisation

Thus through her multipronged contribution, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay has indeed led a life worth commemorating.

4. The inherent limitations of Napoleon's policy of Continental Blockade ultimately resulted in its failure. Analyze. (150 words) 10

Napoleon in the 18th century implemented a Continental Blockade on Britain:

(a) banned trading of British goods in Europe

(b) closed economic markets of Europe to British goods

This policy to weaken Britain had several limitations:

(a) no control on international markets of Britain → India, China, USA

(b) British industrial revolution

untouched by this blockade

© failure to provide alternative  
to British goals

© focus solely on Britain's loss  
not France's gains

© no action against colonies  
of Britain

Thus, due to its inherent  
limitations the policy failed  
& Britain emerged as a  
global superpower.

5. Despite changes in the institution of marriage in recent times, there have been elements of continuity as well. Discuss in the context of India.

(150 words) 10

Marriage is a social institution having the approval of society & sanction of customs & law.

This institution has however seen multiple changes recently:

- ① change in purpose from 'religious duty' to 'lifelong companionship'
  - ② shift from religious function to a more social function
  - ③ egalitarianism in married households i.e. women empowerment
  - ④ increase in divorces, desertation & single parent households, intercaste marriages
  - ⑤ emergence of neolocal marriages
- However, despite changes, elements

of continuity exist:

- ① families say in deciding marriage partners
- ② religious functions still persist
- ③ focus on gotra-exogamy continues
- ④ women still not equal to male partners ex → marital rape problem
- ⑤ taboos regarding inter caste marriages, divorces, widowhoods persist

Thus, although an element of homogenisation is visible, it is hybridisation of the institution ~~with~~ that is more palpable, particularly in the Indian context.

6. There are multiple disabilities that a person experiences in the course of ageing. Elaborate. Also identify key government initiatives taken for addressing them. (150 words) 10

India's population will increase by 50% by 2050 but the 60+ population will increase by 350% by 2050. Thus, focus on old age & its disabilities are imperative.

The multiple disabilities faced & the relevant government steps are.

① Health Disabilities:

① increased in NCD burden of diseases

② psychological problems (43% of senior citizens face psychological issues)

Government steps:

① increase Health & Wellness centres to 1.5 lakh

② Ayushman Bharat scheme → NHPS

② Economici) Disability

Ⓐ impoverishment in old age due to lack of income

Ⓑ lack of financial support from families

ii) Government Steps:

Ⓐ PM Vaya Vandana Yojana for economic insurance

Ⓑ Maintenance Act 2007 & PRANAM Bill (in Assam)

③ Culturali) Disability:

Ⓐ increased ruralisation of elderly (71% elderly are in villages)

Ⓑ skewed sex ratio increasing widows (1033 women per 1000 men for 60+)

ii) Initiatives: Ⓐ Widow Pension Schemes

Thus, although steps have been taken a more multipronged response is needed

7. Highlight the reasons behind prevalence of low literacy rate among tribals. Also, mention some initiatives taken by the government in this regard.

(150 words) 10

Tribal literacy rate in India continues to be ~50% compared to the national average of 76%.

There are multiple causes behind this prevalence:

- ① lack of awareness of importance of education among tribals
- ② economic poverty makes pushes children into labour as economic agents
- ③ discrimination faced by tribals in schools particularly in rural India
- ④ geographic isolation of tribals
- ⑤ benefits of reservation not evenly spread

⑥ geographical disparities among tribals ex → 90% literacy rates in some NE states

To address these factors, Government has taken multiple initiatives

① Eklanya Model Residential schools in all ITDAs

② Kasturba Gandhi Vidyalyaya for female tribal students

③ policy of reservation in educational institutions

④ 25% EWS reservation in RTE which tribals can avail

⑤ Triban Sampark Yojana of Odisha government for PVTGs

Thus although initiatives abound, more systematic & multipronged efforts are the need of the hour.

8. Explain how Continental Drift Theory describes the changing configuration of the continents. Discuss the prominent evidences given by Alfred Wegener to support his theory. (150 words) 10

The Continental Drift Theory was one of the earliest theories proposed by Alfred Wegener to describe the continental configuration.

Theory:

- a) proposes a super proto continent called Pangea
- b) proto-ocean called Panthalassa
- c) continents were initially all joined into this landmass
- d) slowly, over centuries, drifted apart to take current shape
- e) force force drift:
  - tidal pull of Sun & Moon
  - polar theory force

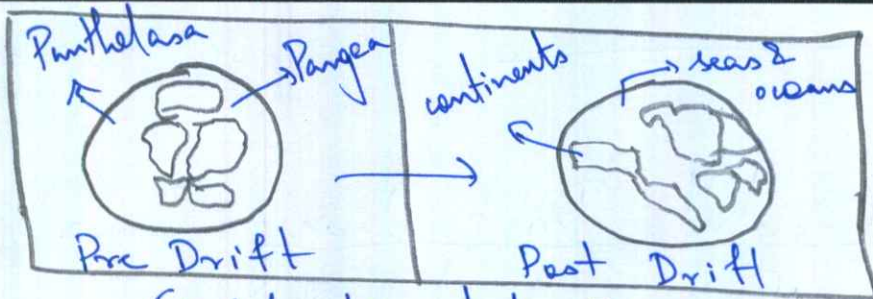


Fig: Continental Drift

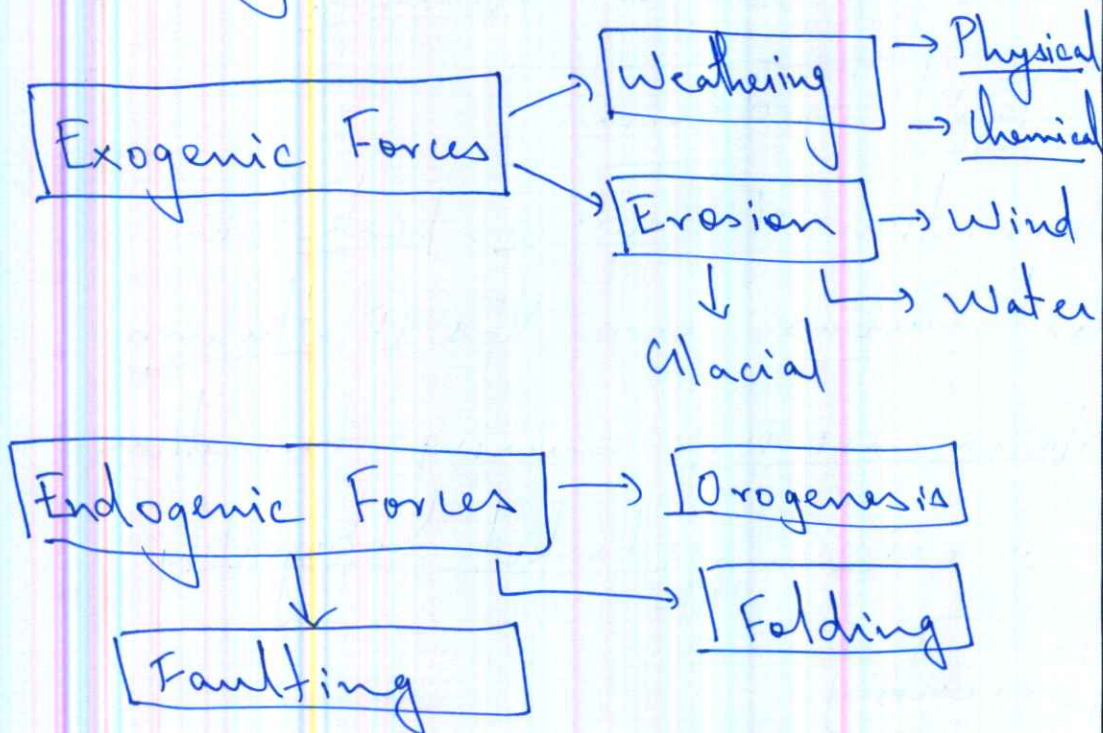
The evidence for this were:

- ① jigsaw puzzle fit of continents  
(ex → South America & Africa)
- ② fossil evidences found across continents matched
- ③ similarities in rock distribution & presence of soils in continents without parent rock
- ④ glacial evidences in tropical areas

However, the lack of a satisfactory driving force & emergence of the better Plate Theory led to the theory's discredit.

9. The variety of landforms on the earth's surface is the result of internal and external forces. Discuss. (150 words) 10

Earth's landform is constantly being shaped by exogenic (external) & endogenic (internal forces).



These forces give rise to a variety of landforms:

- ① Plains
- ② formation of river valleys, meanders
- ③ depositional forces causing sediment plain formation ex → Ganga plain

## ② Mountains

① folding causing fold mountains

ex → Himalayas, Alps

② erosion creating plateaus & smaller hills ex → Aravalli

## ③ Glacial Landforms

① formation of arêtes, peaks in glacial areas ex → Alps (Matterhorn)

② glacial erosion causing formation of moraines, egg basket topography

## ④ Deserts

① formation due to wind erosion (external)

② pedeplains, dunes, barchans due to depositional forces

Thus, Earth's landforms are continuously being changed due to these forces.

10. Explaining the concept of Lapse Rate, examine its relationship with atmospheric stability. (150 words) 10

Lapse Rate refers to increase in temperature & its impact on the water carrying capacity of the atmosphere/airmass.

Adiabatic Lapse Rate has significant implications on atmospheric stability.

ADT Adiabatic Lapse Rate of airmass determines the height upto which it rises. The lower the height the larger the atmospheric stability.

High heights attained by  
airmass causes rain & thus  
atmospheric instability.

11. The colonial period brought the influence of Western architectural forms to India. In this context, giving examples, highlight the contribution of Europeans to Indian architecture. (250 words) 15

The recent addition of Gothic styles of architecture in Mumbai to the World Heritage list has highlighted Western influence on India's architecture.

This influence of Europeans to Indian architecture was multidimensional:

- ① Religious architecture
- ② use of Gothic features in churches constructed
- ③ Latin cross ground layout, spires principle of verticality visible
- ④ witnessed in Goa, Puducherry (Basilica of Bom Jesus)

## ② Civic Architecture

① Lutyens' influence seen in buildings in Delhi

② Parliament, Rashtrapati Bhawan all show Indo-Gothic style

③ mix of Indo-Islamic & European influence

## ③ Widespread Influence

① French architecture in Puducherry (plain walls) visible

② Portuguese influence in Goa's religious & civic architecture

③ European influence seen in architecture of Mussorie, Shimla

Thus, through its all-encompassing  
influence & mixture of  
several styles, the Europeans  
indeed contributed significantly  
to India's architectural history  
& present.

12. The nineteenth century witnessed a struggle against the backward elements of traditional culture. Discuss in the context of socio-religious reform movements. (250 words) 15

The 19th century period in India is often termed as the 'Indian Renaissance' due to the socio-religious movements efforts against the backward elements of traditional cultures.

### ① Struggle against Women Misery

① women were suppressed & their rights denied under garb of tradition

② socio-religious movements focused on female emancipation

③ educational efforts of DK Karve, Jyotiba Phule fought against this culture

④ widow emancipation through Widow

Remarriage Association, Tschwar  
Chandra, etc. fought for widows

① fight against sati & child marriage  
by Raja Ram

② Struggle against Backward classes

① Jyotibao Phule fought for  
emancipation of lower castes

② Sri Narayana preached equality  
in Kerala

③ movements like Justice Party,  
Self Respect Movements

④ Shahu Maharaja took the fight  
to princely states

③ Struggle against conservatism

④ socioreligious reformers aimed  
to break rigid religious constructs

(b) increase in universalism, monotheism  
& rationality in religion

(c) Raja Ram, Akshay Kumar, Syed  
Ahmed Khan led this change

Thus this struggle against  
backward cultural elements ~~assumed~~  
assumed multiple forms &  
was spread to various religions  
(Aligarh Movement, Singh Sabha,  
Rehnumai Mazdayasan).

These reformers thus laid the  
groundwork for an all inclusive  
national movement to follow.

13. Explaining the reasons behind partition of Bengal, discuss the successes and limitations of the Swadeshi movement launched in its wake.

(250 words) 15

The Partition of Bengal effected in October 1905 was an example of British application of Divide & Rule.

Official Reasons Given:

- ① size of Bengal was administratively unworkable
- ② contained 78 million population (quarter of British Raj) thus division needed

Real Reasons:

- ① dividing Bengal on lines of religion
  - ⓐ East Bengal → Muslim majority
  - ⓑ West Bengal (proper) → Hindu majority
- ② division to weaken Bengal movement:
  - ⓐ Bengali speaking in minority in

Bengal proper

Thus the goal was to effect a divide in order to weaken Bengal's national movement & extend the Raj.

In response to this, the Swadeshi & Boycott movement was launched on 7th August 1905:

Successes

- ① First genuine mass movement of India
- ② unity between economic classes - intelligentsia, peasants, etc.
- ③ focus on self reliance in economic & cultural spheres (Bengal PC Ray Factory, "Amar Sonar Bangla" by Tagore)
- ④ focus on national education increased (National Council of Education, Bengal Institute)

of Technology)

⑤ cloth imports from Britain fell 5-15 times thus boosting national textile

However, there were some shortcomings

① confined only to Bengal (with only individual efforts in Punjab & Bombay)

② divided congress severely on Moderate & Radical lines leading to 1907 Surat split

③ communalism continued as some religious aspects of movement were misconstrued

④ confined only to question of partition not Swaraj

Thus, although there were shortcomings the Swadeshi movement pared a new & devised methods of mass struggle which the Gandhian era successfully emulated.

14. The reorganisation of states in India post-independence has been an ongoing process with distinct contributing factors. Analyse. (250 words) 15

India, post independence, has seen widespread state reorganisation as seen by:

① increase in number of states from 14 → 28

② ~~increase in~~ changes in number of Union territories

③ multiple committees - JVP, Fazl Ali - formed to study state reorganisation

However, this process still remains an ongoing process:

① demands of smaller states (UP → Haryana UP in West)

② reorganisation in North East (Bodoland, Nagaland demands)

③ recent bifurcation of J&K & Ladakh

This has ongoing process has several factors:

① Economic Factors:

Ⓐ calls of reorganisation due to imbalanced regional development

Ⓑ witnessed in Marathwada, Saurashtra

② Geographic Isolation

Ⓐ isolation of North East fuels reorganisation calls

Ⓑ seen in Nagaland demand

③ Social & Causes

Ⓐ religion driving reorganisation calls (as was in Khalistan)

(b) reorganisation calls to ensure political clout (Bodoland demand in Assam)

(4) Divisive Politics

(a) fuelling son of soil theory in substate units

(b) increasing focus on political mobilisation in smaller areas

Thus, there calls for state-reorganisation & the processes are still ongoing. The government should address demands of all stakeholders while ensuring unity & integrity of our nation.

15. The Treaty of Versailles was not a peace agreement based on reconciliation but was 'dictated peace' forced on Germany, which eventually triggered the Second World War. Examine. (250 words) 15

The 100 year anniversary of the Treaty of Versailles has led to further examination of its nature & its contribution in Hitler's Rise & the Second World War.

Clearly, the Treaty was a dictated peace as can be witnessed by:

- ① Germany was not a participant thus a "Victor's Treaty"
- ② placing sole blame of war on Germany through the Blame Clause
- ③ was a revenge against the harsh 'Treaty of Brest-Litovsk'
- ④ even Victors were not fully consulted (ex → no Russia in negotiations)

⑤ use of Treaty by France to solely improve its national interests  
ex → coal mines of Saar, weakened Germany

It is this 'dictated peace' that played a significant role in the second ww.

## ① Rise of Hitler

① Hitler exploited misery of Germany to further his rise

② spoke of economic & military consequences of ToV on Germany

③ propaganda to break clauses of ToV furthered his popularity

## ② Policy of Appeasement

① Britain believed Germany was treated unfairly

② thus followed Policy of Appeasement in Hitler's actions of annexation, Czechoslovakia

- slovakia, etc.

② this was a major factor to WWI

### ③ International Impacts

① lack of German economic recovery  
led to growth slowdown in Europe

② ToV was also not favourable  
to Italy, thus rise of Fascism

③ chained us in a web of  
Alliances through its loans which  
caused Wall Street Crash to spread  
to Europe

Thus, although not the sole factor,  
Treaty of Versailles was indeed  
a significant factor in the  
eventual WW II.

16. Legal measures alone are not sufficient for addressing the issue of domestic violence against women, rather it requires intervention at societal level. Discuss. (250 words) 15

India through the Domestic Violence Act & relevant sections of the IPC aims to curb the menace of domestic violence.

However, these are often inadequate because:

### ① Economic Causes

- ① women's contribution to GDP is only 17%. & the LFPR is 22%,
- ② huge unpaid work by women (60% more than men → OECD)
- ③ causes economic subordination to men & thus disempowerment

### ② Social Causes

- ① acceptance of intimate partner violence (IPV) in many sections (surveys)

Place this at ~50%.)

(b) lack of awareness of legal alternatives

Thus, the increase of IPV needs more interventions at the societal level:

① Awareness

(a) focus on raising awareness of IPV & the alternate legal resources

(b) increase education to ensure women empowerment

② Social Capital

(a) use of SHGs to build women's social capital

(b) 47 million women under SHGs are a good sign

### ③ External Interventions

- ① using NGOs like NAD Sahiya to work for women empowerment
- ② strengthen Krishna Kutirs to further provide legal & psychological help to victims
- ③ sensitise police to women issues

Thus, the menace of IPV that has gripped Indian women needs a more systemic & multi-pronged response at the societal & economic level. This will go a long way in SDG 5 achievement by 2030.

17. India is undergoing a demographic transition the implications of which are multipronged. Analyze. (250 words) 15

Indian population is undergoing a demographic transition that impacts: (a) various segments of population (demographic dividend & ageing population) (b) socio-economic implications that need further analysis.

This demographic transition is witnessed by:

- (1) increasing urbanisation (32% of population in urban areas)
- (2) demographic dividend (60% population in 15-59 age group)
- (3) increase in old age share (8% currently) → 16% (2045)

This all-encompassing transition has multiple implications:

## Social Implications

- a) increasing focus on old age health
- b) shifting focus to NCDs (responsible for 60% deaths in India)
- c) shifting focus to higher education from primary education (ECS survey)
- d) room for social strife due to increased population

## Economic Implications

- a) job creation for 9.7 million addition in workforce annually needed
- b) skill development of youth (currently 5% formal training)
- c) focus on urban planning to prevent spread of slums (65 million slum inhabitants) as stress on cities will increase
- d) increase in costs on pensions &

Social security

(e) increase in migration thus adding to economic resource stress

(f) increased food insecurity

Thus, India needs a multipronged solution:

(1) increase education & health spending (3.3% & 1.18% of GDP respectively (current))

(2) phased increase in retirement age

(3) work on 'pull back factors' of migration (agri revival, MNREGA expansion)

(4) increase focus on old age & NCD health care

Thus, to reach the SDGs by 2030, India needs to focus on these & similar steps.

18. Highlight the significance of watershed development in India. Give reasons for the limited success of initiatives directed towards watershed management in India. Also, suggest some measures to improve the design of watershed programs. (250 words) 15

The recent Composite Water Management Report of NITI Aayog highlighted the significance & urgent need of watershed development in India.

The significance of watershed development:

① Urgent Need of water

① 120 million Indians lack access to clean drinking water

② responsible for 21% of communicable disease mortality

② Potential of Watershed Management

② would reduce water misuse in agriculture (runoff, flooding, etc.)

⑥ be pivotal in water recycling efforts of India

Realising this importance several initiatives have been taken to ensure watershed development:

① Command Area Development Programme

② Bhujal Yojana

③ elements of Krishi Sinchayee Yojana

④ Narmada Change Programme  
However, these have faced multiple hurdles:

① lack of funds (Long Term Fund was needed for success of AIBP)

② lack of community participation (top-down approach)

③ rampant reliance & misuse of groundwater

④ difficulty in reducing non-point pollution sources

Some suggestions to ensure success:

① focus on drip irrigation (1 m ha vs 90 m ha potential)

② focus on community participation (as in Bhojpal Yojana)

③ holistic efforts & targeted approach (as in Narmada Ganga)

④ increasing funds to ensure watershed development

Thus, to achieve SDG 4 by 2030, watershed development will need a significant boost.

19. Explain the relationship between raw materials and location of industries. How are globalisation and technological advancements changing this relationship? (250 words) 15

Raw materials - presence & proximity  
- are one of the <sup>main</sup> determining factors in the location of industries.

This factor however, varies for types of industries:

- ① Input Intensive Industries
- ② need proximity & abundance of raw materials
- ③ closeness to raw materials reduces costs of transportation
- ④ perishable raw materials (sugarcane) need proximity to industries
- ⑤ presence of raw materials sometimes also determines presence of markets  
(ex → coal bearing Jharkhand & steel industries)

(2) Footloose industries

(a) low relationship between raw materials & location

(b) ex → pharmaceuticals

Thus, for majority of industries barring footloose ones, raw materials & industry location are closely related

However, this relationship is changing due to tech advancements & globalisation.

Globalisation:

(1) increased export & import of raw materials thus factories shifting to ports ex → iron & steel industries in Vizag

(2) increase in capital has made capital availability an equally important factor

③ increased demand for products of footloose industries ex → electronics, pharma, etc.

### Tech Advancement:

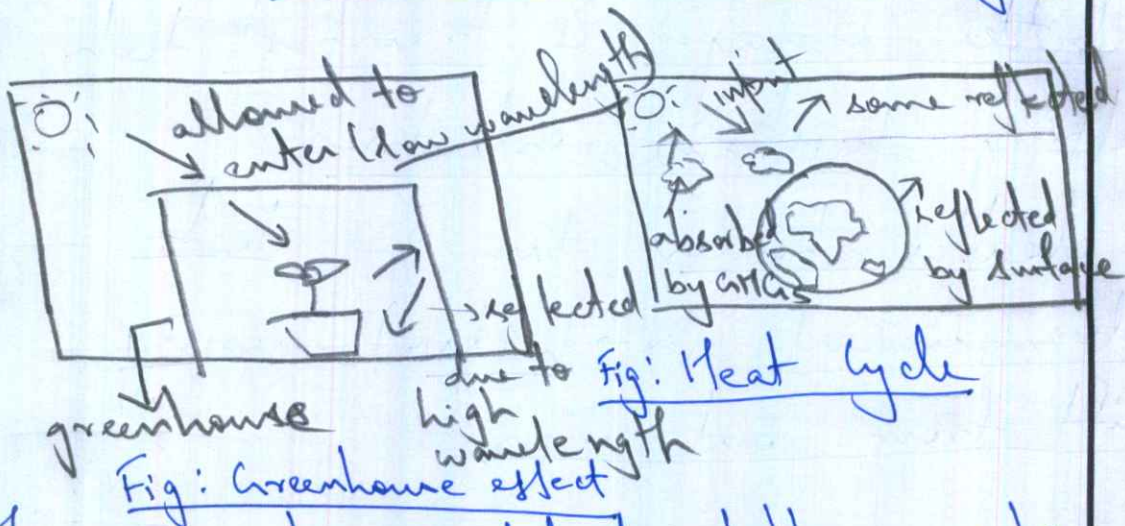
- ① improved resource utilisation, scavenging has reduced raw material dependence
- ② better storage & transport tech helping perishable industries
- ③ cheaper power due to tech advancement (ex → hydro) causing shift from coal areas

Thus, globalisation & tech advancements, have & will continue to change the industrial landscape in multiple ways.

20. Explain how natural greenhouse effect helps in maintaining Earth's heat budget. What are the possible implications of rising concentration of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in atmosphere on Earth's heat budget?

(250 words) 15

The maintenance of Earth's temperature by ensuring natural balance & delay in its solar insolation & reflection through the greenhouse effect, helps the Earth maintains its heat budget.



The greenhouse effect helps maintain heat budget by:

- ① absorbing share of solar insolation thus giving ensuring high temperature
- ② causing delay in heat escape of

reflected light (thus ensuring lag)

③ allowing Sun's rays to enter  
as they are of low wavelength

However, this natural phenomena  
has been drastically impacted  
by anthropogenic addition of  
various GHGs.

This has the following implications:

① Global warming

① increased GHG concentration  
increased heat absorption

② thus temperatures increase  
(already 1°C rise from pre industrial)

③ increases melting of glaciers,  
seasurface temperatures, etc.

② Impact on Marine Environment

① increase temperatures of sea which

absorb 90% of temperature increase

(b) causes deoxygenation as warm waters hold less oxygen, thus killing sea life & coral bleaching

(3) Increased Disasters

(a) high sea surface temperatures increase tropical cyclones (Fani, Vayu)

(b) melting of glaciers causes flooding (33% of glaciers in Hindukush expected to melt)

(c) rising sea levels can cause 200 million climate refugees by 2050 (IMO)

Thus, it is imperative to control GHG emissions & achieved SDG 13, 14 & 15 through combined adaptation & mitigation measures.