

1. What are the effects of globalisation on the rural population of India? Illustrate.**Introduction:**

Since 1991, when the new industrial policy of India came into force, globalization started taking momentum in India. Globalization means an uninterrupted flow of trade, capital and technology across the national borders by considering the whole world as a big market. Globalization has converted the whole world into a single society.

Body:

Globalization is a double-edged sword. It is a powerful vehicle that raises economic growth, spreads new technology and increases living standards in rich and poor countries alike but also an immensely controversial process that assaults national sovereignty, erodes local culture and tradition, and threatens economic and social stability.

Two-Third of Indian population lives in rural areas and almost half of the total population is dependent on agricultural activities. The impact of globalization on Indian rural life has a tremendous influence which is both positive as well as negative.

Positive effects of globalization that relate to rural life or its development includes:

- Commercialization of agriculture and expansion of agro-industries.
- Liberalization of international trade and marketing for food and other agricultural products.
- Intensification and internal labour migration. Labour migration to cities from rural areas in search of employment is a common phenomenon.
- Standards of living have increased.
- Increasing privatization of resources such as coal mines led to more employment opportunities.
- The wider use of ICT led to better service delivery like Common Service Centre (CSC) and better health services using e-Health.
- Technical education is provided to most of the students from rural areas to secure employment.
- The farmers in the Indian village now have access to the advanced equipment and seeds for agriculture, which leads them to better yields and higher earnings.
- Globalization also provides better exposure to the agricultural produces and ensures the farmers that they get the correct value for the produces due to globalization.
- Impact of globalization, mass media and education directly or indirectly encourage the current generation to abandon traditional social conservative norms and taboos.

Negative effects:

- Rural population is still suffering from unemployment as rural labour is mostly uneducated and unskilled. Machines and latest technologies have reduced the number of manpower a lot.
- Globalization has caused intermingling of cultures. Though it has curtailed narrow mindedness of humans, it has caused cultural degradation also.
- As most of the villages don't have adequate electricity and modern means of communication, so the benefits of globalization didn't reach the hinterlands.
- Imports make the farmers' position worse as they are not able to compete with imported goods in terms of price and quality.
- The position of artisans is also bad in villages. They are also not able to compete with machine-made goods.
- As the competition has become global, so it has become quite difficult for small, cottage, handicraft & medium industries to maintain the pace.
- Western perceptions are not aligned with local perspectives, they encouraged consumerism amid extreme poverty in India.

Way Forward:

There are some measures which may be fruitful in the neutralization of the evil effect of globalization-

- Latest information and technology facilities should be provided and developed in rural areas in an intense manner. 'BharatNet' and 'Saubhagya' are good steps in this direction.
- Govt. officials and NGOs, both private sector and public sector, should encourage rural mass to use the latest ICT facilities in developing their entrepreneurial activities.
- Positive aspects of globalization should be imitated like green consumerism, eco-friendly techniques of production etc.
- The high degree of globalization should not affect the small cottage industries and handicraft industries prevailing in rural India.
- MNCs should be allowed to enter the Indian market only after studying their effect on environmental degradation, small-cottage industries, Indian buying habits and on Indian social values.
- Globalization should be a two-way process and not a one-way flow. 'Make in India' and 'Export Promotion' to be implemented in its full potential.
- For globalization and transformations in rural areas governments have to provide proper rural-urban road links through PM- Gram Sadak Yojna.

2. How is globalisation affecting the work culture in Indian corporates? Examine.**Introduction:**

Globalization is described by theorists as the process through which societies and economies are integrated through cross border flows of ideas, communication,

technology, capital, people, finance, goods, services and information. Globalization has a huge impact on cultural, social, monetary, political, and communal life of countries.

Body:

In India, MNCs are playing a major role in the globalisation process affecting the corporate work culture in many ways.

Competition: Globalization increases competitiveness at company level and national level, which leads company management and governments to embrace strategies designed to increase labour effectiveness with reference to productivity, quality and innovation.

Diversity in work space: People from all over the country from diverse social backgrounds work together in the corporate industry. This amalgamation provides a wonderful cauldron from where new ideas and systems will originate.

Gender equality: Though female workforce is comparatively less compared to western countries, globalisation has brought about a change in the corporate culture of India, providing and hiring more female workforce, and measuring the capability than judging by gender.

Recreational spaces: Corporate work spaces nowadays also accommodate gyms, recreational rooms, gaming areas etc. to encourage employees to engage in personal and interactive developing activities.

Formal hierarchy: Globalisation has brought with it a formal work culture. Respecting employees' privacy, segregation among team members and upper-level employees, strict work timings and weekend offs are some corporate styles of working.

Work from home and flexible shifts: Due to increase in dependency on technology and use of Internet, cloud facilities, 'Work-from-home' culture have been on the rise. Day and night shifts have been introduced to co-ordinate and accommodate western timelines. For ex- UK and US shifts are associated with work timings in the night.

Informal wear: Most corporate companies now do not stress on a strict adherence to formal attire. Informal but decent wear is also being encouraged to increase comfort of employees in the work environment.

However, there are certain undesirable implications as a result of globalisation:

Fast food culture: Work culture also is influenced by the fast food consumption as a spill over effect from globalisation. Corporate employees often tend to have food on their tables or in a short break, sometimes carrying out work simultaneously. This has been shown to increase health problems, stress and many chronic issues.

Night shifts: Though considered as a measure to increase productivity and suitability, the night shifts have been known to disrupt normal body behaviours and contribute to numerous health problems in the long run. Safety also becomes an issue at times, when commute is for longer distances.

Less social and cultural interactions: It has been said that 'IT culture' has resulted in a decrease of interactions with family and close ones due to either work pressure tiring them out, or carrying over the deadlines to personal spaces, thus impacting the personal relationships in a harmful manner.

Conclusion:

Though globalisation as a positive phenomenon with professionalism might give further a strong motivation to the Indian economy, but apprehensions regarding its penetration into work culture of Indians should be addressed adequately to avoid collateral damage on India's positive ethos.

3. What are 'problems without passport'? Explain with the help of suitable examples.

Introduction

Passport is an official document issued by a government, certifying the holder's identity and citizenship and entitling them to travel under its protection to and from foreign countries.

Body

Problems without passport:

- **Health epidemics:** The current displacement of a record 60 million people world-wide by war and conflict, natural disasters and economic crises like the Global Financial Crisis.
Example: Smallpox, which killed hundreds of millions of people in the 20th century.
- **Fire weather and extreme sea-level events:** In Australia, the \$5 billion Great Barrier Reef tourism industry has already felt the impacts of coral bleaching and increased frequency and severity of storms and cyclones.
- **Mass movements of people:** In the Pacific, all of the land area of the Marshall Islands and Tuvalu, and 97 percent of the land area of Kiribati, is less than five metres above sea level.
- **Extreme weather conditions:** In the broader Asian region, countries are experiencing declining food security, water shortages, increased prevalence and geographical reach of disease and more extreme weather events including floods and cyclones.

- **Environmental threats:** From pollution of our air to overfishing in the seas.
Example: Disputed land of South China Sea.
- **Organized crime:** Pollution, organized crime, and the proliferation of deadly weapons likewise show little regard for the niceties of borders; they are problems without passports and, as such, our common enemy.
Example: organized crime in Central America and the Caribbean
- **Hate crime and racism:** Incident/crime which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person's religion or perceived religion.
Example: Jews prosecution.
- **In the name of religion:** Prosecution in the name of religion and seeking asylum.
Example: Hajongs and Chakmas in Bangladesh
- **Mass scale destruction:** large-scale weaponry of other technologies, such as chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear warfare.
Example: Syria-Palestine issue.

Conclusion

No nation is immune; no nation can address such issues on its own; and no nation is exempt from risks without the benefits of international cooperation. The strong involvement of non-governmental organizations in the preparation of the Convention is a must to solve the problems.

4. Has globalisation led to enhanced secularisation in India? Critically comment.

Introduction

Globalisation is the ongoing process that is linking people, neighbourhoods, cities, regions and countries much more closely together than they have ever been before. Secularization refers to the historical process in which religion loses social and cultural significance.

Body

Globalisation led to enhanced secularisation in India in following ways:

Access to education:

- Globalisation has aided in the explosion of information on the web that has helped in greater awareness among people about various religions, customs, practices and the concept of secularism itself. It also had led to questioning the age-old exploitative traditions like Devadasi and Triple-talaq.

Employment:

- There is an increase in the number of multinational companies operating in India. MNC's recruit based on talent, not based on affiliation to religion or caste.
- The Teamwork concept in such companies promotes brotherhood between persons of different religions and enhances secularisation.

Urbanization:

- It has been estimated that by 2050 more than 50% of India's population will live in cities. The boom of services sector and city-centric job creation has led to increasing rural to urban migration. It is observed that Urban areas are more secular than in rural areas. People eat together, increased instances of inter-faith marriages are seen in urban areas.

Increased exposure to Different cultures:

- Globalisation has increased the exposure of a variety of cultures and religions in the form of movies, festivals, cuisine. These all are increasing understanding of other religion from their lens.

Globalisation hasn't led to enhanced secularisation in India:**Communal Politics:**

- As long as Political parties rely on Vote bank politics, instances of communal flareups continue to rise. The Gujarat riots of 2002, Muzzafarnagar riots of 2013 show that Globalisation has no or very little impact on the secularisation of India.

Spread of Communal violence:

- Globalisation made communal hatred and violence borderless. Even peaceful countries such as New Zealand (Christ church attack), European countries like France, Britain etc., are victims of communal violence.

Spread of Intolerance:

- An increase in stereotyping of a particular religion has crept all over the world. Eg. Islam religion as perpetrator of terrorism.
- These stereotypes increase the amount of intolerance in society and hinder the process of secularisation of a nation.

Technology:

- Availability of technology is an outcome of Globalisation, sometimes they act negatively as a means to spread religious fundamentalism. Eg.- Radicalisation of youth by ISIS, Spread of fake news and resultant mob lynchings.

These processes hinder secularisation of India as a whole.

Conclusion

India is a land of pluralism. The highly diverse nature of our culture is the uniting strength of India. Globalization to an extent acted as a unifying force but monitored access would help India enhance secularisation and preserve its multi-lingual, multi-religious and multi-caste society.

5. Has globalisation been good for the agrarian economy? Critically examine.

Introduction

With the advent of WTO and increasing emphasis on market based economy as well as free trade, agriculture sector has also been impacted by the wave of Globalization.

Body

Benefits for agrarian economy:

- **Agro-technologies-** Availability of hybrid seeds, pesticides, technologies like drip and sprinkler irrigation, genetically modified crops etc. that has improved the productivity and efficiency of farming.
- **Increased production-** Introduction of HYV seeds, pesticides and herbicides through green revolution has increased agriculture production tremendously across the globe.
- **Higher earnings-** Export oriented farming results in better price realization for the farmers.
- **New employment avenues-** Food processing and other agro allied industries have generated employment and reduced pressure on land in developing countries.
- **Feminization of agriculture-** Due to male moving out because of increased urban employment through globalization, agriculture is being dominated by females.
- **Social impact-** Food security, water management through dry and precision farming etc. have social benefits for farmers.

Drawbacks:

- **Unstable prices-** Lower prices in one part of the world adversely impact the local food prices in an open economy.
- **Debt trap-** Commercial agriculture requires increased inputs which further increase the debt burden on farmers.
- **Migration of labour-** With increased urban migration, there is lack of labour for agriculture.

- **Income suppression-** Trade agreements forbid most subsidies excepted for agricultural goods. This depresses incomes of those farmers in the developing countries who do not get subsidies.
- **Unsustainable practices-** Shift from traditional cropping to market oriented farming that is unsustainable, like growing rice in dry areas of Punjab or Sugarcane in dry regions of Marathwada, has caused havoc to the agrarian sustainability of these regions.

Conclusion

Globalisation thus has mixed impact on agrarian economy. The impacts can however be more positive with a focused approach like Special Safeguard Mechanism in WTO and use of tools like glocalisation where regional considerations are given due importance while adopting global practices.

