1. While elaborating on the recurrent themes of the Bhakti literary tradition, examine the contribution of women poets towards India's Bhakti literature.

Introduction

The most powerful trend of medieval Indian literature between 1000 and 1800 A.D. is devotional (bhakti) poetry which dominates almost all the major languages of the country. Krishna and Rama, the two main incarnations of the great god Vishnu, began to be worshipped widely. Many temples were built for them, and their worshippers formed a number of different sects, each one following a particular religious teacher. Much bhakti literature was written in the form of hymns, still sung today. These hymns praised the deities and their deeds, or humbly requested their help.

Body

The recurrent themes of the Bhakti literary tradition:

- Bhakti poetry was an important influence in the development of regional languages because it emphasized people's everyday speech, rejecting the elite tradition of Sanskrit. Bhakti also challenged the caste system as many of its poets were from the lower castes and a common theme of the poetry is that God is within every human being.
- Some of the earliest bhakti poetry was written in Tamil. From the A.D. 900's, Kannada became an important influence, with devotional literature such as the Vachanas (sayings) of the saints of various Hindu sects. Famous Kannada poets of the medieval period include Basavanna and Allama Prabhu.
- The next language to adopt bhakti was Marathi, the most important poet being Gyaneswar (1200's). Other Marathi poets were Eknath and Tuka Ram.
- In Gujarati, prominent poets were Narsi Mehta and Premananda.
- Other languages to follow the tradition were Kashmiri, Bengali, Assamese, Manipuri, Oriya, and early variants of Hindi. Another kind of bhakti is found in the Sant tradition, which believes in one omnipresent God. Bhakti became a great platform for Hindu-Muslim unity.

The contribution of women poets towards India's Bhakti literature

- Lal Ded (1320-1384), the Muslim poetess from Kashmir Lalded & Habba Khatun, represented the sant tradition of bhakti and wrote Vakhs (maxims), which are peerless gems of spiritual experience.
- Mira Bai (1500's) wrote in Gujarati, Rajasthani, and Hindi. She wrote songs of Krishna in a voice of longing, expressing the pain of separation from the god she loved as a husband.
- Avvayyar, writing in Tamil, and Akkamahadevi, writing in Kannada, wrote about the position of women in society

- Janabai was a sudra from maharashta. She influenced by teachings of Saint Namdev. Her poetry encompasses the discrimination faced by women & sudras. This awaken the sudras and women for their rights.

- Bahina was also from maharashtra and devotee of Krishna. She was the disciple of Saint Tukaram. But unlike others she never left her marriage but devoted to bhakti alongwith marriage.

Conclusion

The women, all wrote small lyrics or poems of devotional fervour, metaphysical depth, and with a spirit of dedication and utmost sincerity. Behind their mysticism and metaphysics is a divine sadness. They turned every wound inflicted by life into a poem.

2. What is 'Romanticism'? Explain. Discuss the trends of romanticism in Indian literature.

Introduction

Romanticism, a cultural movement which sought to develop a particular form of nationalist sentiment. Romantic artists and poets generally criticized the glorification of reason and science and focused instead on emotions, intuition and mystical feelings. Their effort was to create a sense of a shared collective heritage, a common cultural past, as the basis of a nation.

Body

- Romantics such as the German philosopher Johann Gottfried Herder (1744-1803) claimed that true German culture was to be discovered among the common people – das volk. It was through folk songs, folk poetry and folk dances that the true spirit of the nation (volksgeist) was popularised. So collecting and recording these forms of folk culture was essential to the project of nation-building.
- The emphasis on vernacular language and the collection of local folklore was not just to recover an ancient national spirit, but also to carry the modern nationalist message to large audiences who were mostly illiterate.

The trends of romanticism in Indian literature

- The trend of Indian romanticism ushered in by three great forces influenced the destiny of modern Indian literature. These forces were Sri Aurobin

*(1872-1950) search for the divine in man, Tagore's quest for the beautiful in nature and man, and Mahatma Gandhi's experiments with truth and non-violence.

- Sri Aurobindo, through his poetry and philosophical treatise, 'The Life Divine', presents the prospect of the ultimate revelation of divinity in everything. He wrote mostly in English.
- Tagore's quest for beauty was a spiritual quest, which attained fruition in the final realisation that service to humanity was the best form of contact with God. Tagore was aware of a supreme principle pervading nature and the entire universe. This supreme principle, or the unknown mystique, is beautiful, because it shines through the known; and it is only in the unknown that we have perpetual freedom. Tagore, a many-splendoured genius, wrote novels, short stories, essays and dramas, and never ceased to try out new experiments.
- The age of romantic poetry in Hindi is known as Chhayavad, the age of romantic mystery, in Kannada, is Navodaya, the rising sun, and in Oriya, it is known as Sabuj, the age of green. Jaishankar Prasad, Nirala, Sumitra Nandan Pant and Mahadevi (Hindi); Vallathol, Kumaran Asan (Malayalam); Kalindi Charan Panigrahi (Oriya); B.M. Srikantayya, Puttappa, Bendre (Kannada); Viswanath Satyanarayana (Telugu); Uma Shankar Joshi (Gujarati), and poets of other languages highlighted mysticism and romantic subjectivity in their poetry.
- The poets of Ravikiran Mandal (a group of six poets of Marathi) searched for the hidden reality in nature. Indian romanticism is fraught with mysticism – not like English romanticism, which wants to break puritanic shackles, seeking joy in Hellenism.
- In fact, the romantic trend of the modern times follows the tradition of Indian poetry, where romanticism indicates the Vedantic (the philosophy of one Reality) oneness between Nature and man, more along the lines of Vedic symbolism and not Paganism. Muhammad Iqbal (1877-198), the greatest poet that Urdu had produced, second only to Ghalib, went through initially a romantic-cum-nationalistic phase in his poetry. His best collection of Urdu poems is Bang-i-Dara (1924). His quest for Pan-Islamism did not deter him in his concern for humanity at large.

Conclusion

Thus, Romanticism was a cultural movement that believed in emotions, intuitions and mystical feelings over reason and science. They tried to evoke the feelings of a common past and shared heritage.

3. Instead of the classical dignity, sobriety and simplicity, the medieval school of sculpture tend more towards ornamentation, creating highly ornate art objects. Elucidat

Introduction

Medieval Indian sculpture clearly demonstrate that as styles went on developing the sculptors frequently departed from the Shilpashastra, texts and rules laid down, and delighted in those departures and the liberties they took with the bodies of humans and even of gods and goddesses.

Body

- The sculptor had attained sufficient dexterity, maturity and skill to be able to infuse a certain individuality in his work of art. This is a sign of dynamism. If art has to grow, it has to react to the changing circumstances of different times, inclinations, tastes to reflect contemporary society.
- The most remarkable achievement of the new artist of this age was to contribute a dreamy, floating quality to the figures of the flying gods and freer movement than in the classical period and there is a tendency towards increasing elegance and slenderness of form.
- There is a new beauty in women. The hips are more slender, the waist more supple, the legs longer. The face still continued to be stylized and the breasts full and firm. The woman is no longer the mother goddess but a divine charmer. One such superb example of the sculptor's art is a lovely figure of Vrikshika, or a celestial damsel, from Gyraspur, in Gwalior, standing in a gracefully flexed pose, against a tree.
- An artistic movement of great importance flourished under the aegis of the Pallava rulers of Kanchi in Mahabalipuram. Some of the outstanding sculptures that are credited to their patronage are the Mahishasuramardini in relief, Girigovardhana panel, Arjuna's penance or the Descent of the Ganga, Trivikrama Vishnu, Gajalakshmi and Anatasayanam. The Pallava style concerns itself with a tall and slender physiognomic form. The thin and elongated limbs emphasise the tallness of the figure. The female figures are much lighter in appearance, with their slender waists, narrow chests and shoulders, smaller breasts, sparse ornaments and garments and generally submissive attitude.
- 8th century the Rashtrakutas created the greatest wonder of medieval Indian art in Kailasa temple at Ellora. Carved out of a hill and solid rocks, magnificent carving shows the Rashtrakuta style of tall and powerfully built figures, reflecting with spiritual and physical poise. The beautiful architectural rock sculpture from Cave No.29 at Ellora shows the marriage of Siva and Parvati. Siva holding the hand of the Parvati occupies the centre of the composition. Another magnificent sculpture at Ellora is a panel depicting Ravana shaking mount Kailasa.
- A good example of Chola craftsmanship in the 11th century is the relief carving of Siva as Gajsurasamaharamurti. The irate god is engaged in a

vigorous dance of fierce ecstasy after having killed the elephant-demon. The later phase of Chola art, in the 13th century, is illustrated by the sculpture showing Bhudevi or the earth goddess as the younger consort of Vishnu. She stands in a gracefully flexed attitude on a lotus base holding a lily in her right hand, while the left arm hangs along her side in lolahasta.

Conclusion :

Instead of the classical dignity, sobriety and simplicity, the sculpture in medieval school tending more towards ornamentation, creating highly ornate art objects, with strange and unusual imaginary creatures, such as half human, half monsters, etc. The characteristic new form of style of art is the difference with classical art in attitude, if not in skill and aptitude. Loveliness and idealization are still the artist's passion, but love of the ornate, decorative details is now dominant over classic simplicity. There is more complication, ornamentation and enrichment.

4. Buddhism and Jainism were the prominent motivating forces for the artistic activity in in many parts of India during the ancient and medieval periods. Do you agree? Substantiate.

Introduction:

Buddhism and Jainism were the prominent motivating forces for the artistic activity in many parts of India during the ancient and medieval periods. Buddhism and Jainism has influenced and contributed to many artistic spheres in India, such as painting, sculpture, and architecture, literature.

Body:

Buddhism as prominent motivating force for the artistic activity:

- Stupas: were to commemorate important events or mark important places associated with Buddhism or to house important relics of Buddha. The best examples of stupas are those constructed at Amaravati, Sanchi, Barhut, Saranath and Gaya. One of the most striking architectural remains of ancient India and the earliest and largest of the three stupas found in Sanchi was built by Ashoka (273-236 B.C.)
- Viharas or monasteries: constructed for prayer with a running verandah on three sides or an open courtyard surrounded by a row of cells and a pillared verandah in front. These cells served as dwelling places for the monks. These monastic buildings had a Chaitya hall or Chaitya mandir attached to a stupa - the chief object of worship. Some of the important Buddhist viharas are those at Ajanta, Ellora. Nasik, Karle, Kanheri, Bagh and Badami.
- Paintings: Paintings which has been an accepted art since early times attained heights of excellence in Gupta period. These exquisite paintings or frescos are to be seen in the caves of Ajanta. The entire surface of the caves is exquisitely painted and shows the high standard reached in mural painting.

- Sthambas or Pillars: with religious emblems were put up by pious Buddhists in honour of Buddha or other great Buddhists. Fragments of sthambas belonging to Mauryan times and later were found at Sanchi, Sarnath, Amaravati and Nagarjunkonda.
- Literature: The canonical literature is best represented by the "Tripitakas", that is, three baskets -Vinaya Pitaka, Sutta Pitaka and Abhidhamma Pitaka. The non-canonical literature is best represented by the Jatakas.

Jainism as prominent motivating force for the artistic activity:

- Excellent Jain architecture and sculpture can be seen in their Stupas and rock-cut caves found in Mathura, Bundelkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa cave temples. A number of rock-cut caves have been built in Udaigiri and Khandagiri, twin hills in Puri District of Orissa and in Ellora in Maharashtra.
- Medieval Jains built many temples, especially in western India. Dilwara Temple complex built in Rajasthan consists of five ornately carved marble temples, each dedicated to a different Tirthankara .
- The statue of Bahubali called Gomatesvara at Sravan Belgola and Karkal in Karnataka are examples of wonderful jaina architecture. The statue of Bahubali 21 metered high, carved out of a mass of granite was erected in 984 A.D.
- Kannada literature owes its origin to the Jaina literary works. Vikramarjuna-Vijaya, written by Adi Pampa, is famous as Pampa-Bharata. Pandavapurana was written by Shubhachandra. Harivamsapurana was written by Jinasena.
- Ardhakathanaka, by Banarasidasa, is the first autobiography in Braj Bhasha which is termed as the precursor to the Hindi.
- Many Jaina literary works were written in Apabhramsa such as Kahas, grammar etc. Apabhramsa is known as the precursor to many Indian languages of the Gangetic plains.
- Some of the oldest Jaina literature is available in Shauraseni, which led to the development of languages such as Gujarati, Marwari etc.
- The motivating force for the painting activity in Western India was Jainism. Malwa painting, Rajasthan School of painting style were prevailed during the time of Jainism.

Conclusion:

Jainism and Buddhism arose to suit the needs of a changing society, patronized by an emerging class and left an indelible mark on India's culture, architecture, philosophy and way of living. These religions also found their influence in neighboring countries and helped India expand its footprint in these regions, paving way for a cultural connect to this day.

5. What are some of the most striking and unique features of Indo-Islamic architecture. Illustrate.

Introduction

With the arrival of islamic rulers and subsequent conquest of Delhi throne by the 12th century, Indian architecture underwent a massive change. Though new elements were introduced majorly, the local architects retained certain flavours of the local architectural traditions as well. Thus a confluence of persian and Indian elements can be seen which is known as Indo-Islamic or Indo-Sarcenic architecture. It was introduced during Delhi sultanate period and evolved during the reign of Mughals

Body

Striking and unique features:

- Arches and Domes: used which is known as 'arcuade' style of architecture replaced the traditional Trabeat style of architecture.
- Minars: are used around the mosques and the mausoleums.
- Mortar: used as a cementing agent in their constructions.
- Natural Figurines: were used. Human and Animal figures are avoided.
- Spaciousness, massiveness and breadth of buildings and structures.
- Calligraphy: used as a means of decoration as well as arabesque method which involved the use of geometrical ornamentation. Further, the decorations followed a symmetrical pattern.
- Jaali work: a feature allowing light into the structures.
- Water: pools in the premises of the building used for cooling, decorative and religious purposes.
- Charbagh style of gardening: in which a square block is divided into 4 adjacent identical gardens.
- Foreshortening technique: in the buildings, such that the inscriptions appear to be closer than it really is.
- Pietra Dura and Mosaic designs: using cut and fitted highly polished gems and stones.

Some of the examples illustrating the same are:

- Delhi Sultanate: Qutb Minar, Quwwat Ul Islam Mosque, Alai Darwaza, Lodi Gardens etc.,
- Mughals: Taj Mahal, Red fort, Fatehpur sikri etc.,
- Deccan sultanate: Gol Gumbaz, Char minar, Golconda fort etc.,
- Provincial: Adina Mosque, Atala Mosque etc.,

Conclusion

Architecturally, a mix of many techniques, stylised shapes and surface decorations evolved through a continuous amalgamation of architectural elements from the various styles. Indo Islamic Architecture flourished in entire India over time. Its influence could be seen in southern Indian structures like Mysore palace and in Various buildings under British like Parliament, Victoria terminus etc.,

6. In what ways the tradition of tribal and folk music differ from Indian classical music? Explain.

Introduction

Indian classical music is the classical music of the Indian subcontinent. It has two major traditions: the North Indian classical music tradition is called Hindustani, while the South Indian expression is called Carnatic.

Body

The tradition of tribal and folk music differ from Indian classical music in the following way:

Cultural traditions from various regions of the country reflect the rich diversity of Regional Music of India. Each region has its own particular style.

- Tribal and folk music is not taught in the same way that Indian classical music is taught. There is no formal period of apprenticeship where the student is able to devote their entire life to learning the music, the economics of rural life does not permit this sort of thing. The musical practitioners must still attend to their normal duties of hunting, agriculture or whatever their chosen profession is.
- Music in the villages is learnt from childhood, the music is heard and imbibed along with numerous public activities that allow the villagers to practice and hone their skills.
- The music is an indispensable component of functions such as weddings, engagements, and births. There is a plethora of songs for such occasions. There are also many songs associated with planting and harvesting. In these activities the villagers routinely sing of their hopes, fears and aspirations.
- Musical instruments are often different from those found in classical music. Although instruments like the tabla may sometimes be found it is more likely that cruder drums such as daf, dholak, or nal are used. The sitar and sarod which are so common in the classical genre are absent in the folk music. One often finds instruments such as the ektar, dotar, rabab, and santur. Quite often they are not called by these names, but may be named according to their local dialect. There are also instruments which are used only in particular folk styles in particular regions. These instruments are innumerable.
- The instruments of classical music are crafted by artisans whose only job is the fabrication of musical instruments. In contrast the folk instruments are commonly crafted by the musicians themselves.
- It is very common to find folk instruments that have been fabricated of commonly available materials. Skin, bamboo, coconut shells, and pots are but a few commonly available materials used to make musical instruments.

Few Examples:

- Pankhida, Rajasthan: Sung by the peasants of Rajasthan while doing work in the fields, the peasants sing and speak while playing algoza and manjira. The literal meaning of the word 'Pankhida' is lover.
- Pandavani, Chhattisgarh: In Pandavani, tales from Mahabharata are sung as a ballad and one or two episodes are chosen for the night's performance. The main singer continuously sits throughout the performance and with powerful singing and symbolic gestures he assumes all the characters of the episode one after another.
- Sohar, Uttar Pradesh: Social ceremonies have, at times, served as a potent factor for intermingling of different cultures. North India has a strong tradition of singing 'Sohar' songs when a son is born in a family. This has influenced the Muslim culture and a form of 'Sohar' song gained currency in the Muslim families living in some regions of Uttar Pradesh. 'Sohar' songs unmistakably point to the mingling of two cultures.

Conclusion

Besides classical music India has a rich legacy of folk or popular music. This music represents the emotion of the masses. The simple songs are composed to mark every event in life. They may be festivals, advent of a new season, marriage or birth of a child. Rajasthani folk songs such as Mand and Bhatiali of Bengal are popular all over India. Ragini is a popular form of folk songs of Haryana.

7. In India's traditional theatre forms, songs and the art of singing have an important role to play. Comment.

Introduction

Theatre is a great form for story-telling in which one or more actors using the skills of dancing, acting, singing, talking, miming and theatre crafts like masks, make-up and costumes create a story world for us. Every corner of India has its own unique form of folk theatre — the lively Nautanki of Uttar Pradesh which often draws on romantic Persian literature for its themes; raw vigour and bawdy humour characterise the Tamasha of Maharashtra or the Bhavai of Gujarat; the blood and thunder of the Jatra melodramas of Bengal which are in great demand during Puja (Dussehra) festivities: or the dance-drama form of Yakshagana from Karnataka, to name just a few.

Body

Importance of songs and the art of singing In India's traditional theatre forms can be understood by the following:

- Koodiyattam: One of the oldest traditional theatre forms of India, Koodiyattam follows the performative principles of the ancient tradition of Sanskrit theatre. However, it has its own distinctive characteristics that are firmly rooted in the culture of Kerala. This theatre was traditionally a part of temple rituals performed in sacred theaters, called Koothambalams. In 2001, Koodiyattam was officially recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

- Yakshagana: it is a popular folk theatre form of Karnataka with a long history of nearly four hundred years. It is a unique harmony of musical tradition, eye-catching costumes, and authentic styles of dance, improvised gestures and acting, with its extemporaneous dialogue holding a wide appeal. The themes are generally derived from the mythological stories and epics. Traditionally presented from dusk to dawn, this folk theatre is predominantly seen in the coastal districts of Karnataka.

- Swang: A popular folk theatre form in Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, Swang is centered around music. In this folk theatre, religious stories and folk tales are enacted and sung by a group of a dozen or so artistes. Characterized by loud rendering of dialogues and songs (a legacy of its open air performances in the past), Swang has two important styles – one that belong to Rohtak (performed in the Bangru language)and the other that belongs to Haathras (performed in the Brajbhasha language).

- Bhand pather: The centuries old traditional theatre form of Kashmir, bhand pather is a unique combination of dance, music and acting. Satire, wit and parody are commonly used in this folk drama that incorporates local mythological legends and contemporary social commentary. Traditionally, the performances begin in the evening with a ritualistic dance called chhok. The play unfolds gradually after this and ends in the early hours of the morning. Interestingly,the performers or bhands dance to the tune of specific instruments like the mukam, swarnai, dhol and nagara.

- Bhaona: is a presentation of the Ankiya Naat, a one-act play that has its roots in rural Assam. A creation of Srimanta Sankardeva (an Assamese saint-scholar), these plays were written in Brajavali, a unique Assamese-Maithili mixed language, and are primarily centered on Hindu diety, Krishna. The dialogues, costumes   ornaments, entry and   foot   movement of bhaona are unique and set this theatre form apart from others in India.

- Tamasha: A traditional folk theatre form of Maharashtra, tamasha flourished in the courts of Maratha rulers of the 18th and 19th centuries and attained its artistic peak during the reign of Baji Rao II . It has evolved from the folk forms such as gondhal, jagran and kirtan. Unlike other theatre forms, in tamasha, the female actress is the lead performer and the chief exponent of dance in the play. Classical music, the lightning fast footwork of the lavani dance, and vivid gestures of the performers gives this folk theatre a distinctive character.

- Therukoothu: A unique form of rural entertainment in Tamil Nadu, therukoothu literally means street theatre. Some influence of classical Sanskrit drama on it is apparent. Performed in the open, mostly during temple festivals in villages, this theatre primarily draws from mythological stories and epics. The performance includes lively dances and songs sung in a high pitch by the male actors (even the female roles are played by males) who wear wide colorful costumes, sparkling shoulder plates, elaborate head-dresses and thick bright make-up.

Conclusion

India has a long, rich and illustrious history of theatre. In ancient times, Sanskrit dramas were staged at seasonal festivals or to celebrate special events. Between the 15th and the 19th centuries, actors and dancers were given special places of distinction in the courts of several Indian kings.

For instance, in the 18th century, the tamasha folk theatre was patronized by the powerful Peshwas of the Maratha kingdom. The Maharajas of Travancore and Mysore also competed with each other to establish the superior talent of their drama troupes. The maharaja of Banaras was the producer and patron of grand ramlila, a 31-day play based on Ramayan with spectators numbering in thousands.

8. As per the ancient treatises, dance is considered to have three aspects: *natya, nritya* and *nritta. With the help of suitable examples,* explain the meaning and significance of these aspects?

Introduction:

In the dance there is the combination of the movements of the body, of the hands, of the expression, of the face and the eyes together with a music accompaniment exalting the theme that the dance wants to describe; a theme which can have a religious, mythological, legendary character or one from the classic literature. The Sanskrit terms used to refer to the dance confirm such assertion. It is divided, in fact, in three categories: natya, nritta, nritya.

Body:

Natya:

Natya means abhinaya and it is the combined manifestation of bhava, rasa and abhinaya. The term natya is derived from the root Nat, meaning movement and to mean to dance or act. It can also be considered as the combination of Lyal, isai and nataka, ie, Literature, music and Drama. Thus Natya is telling the story through dance and music or laya and abhinaya or Nritta and Nritya. Bharatha described
Natya as pure abhinaya having six angas such as postures, words, gestures, expression of temperament, music and rasa. Facial abhinaya is very important in Natya. It is divided into ten sections. They are Bhana, Veedhi, Anga, Vyayoga,

Samavakara, Yihamriga, Dima, Prahasana, Nataka etc. This constitutes the Dasarupakas. Example, In Bharatanatyam the Padams come under the Natya.

Nritya:

Nritya consists of footwork and abhinaya. It relates to Rasa and psychological state. Angika abhinaya relating to Hasta, eyes, eye brows, lips etc. are very important in Nritya. It can be termed as the explanatory aspect of dance where hand gestures and facial expressions convey the meaning of the lyrics of the performing song. Bhav of the dancer is of prime importance in this so it can also be considered as the miming aspect of dance. 'Rasabhavavyanjanaadiyuktam nrutyamitiryate '.Nritya mainly depends on Bhavabhinaya. It has five forms such as Vishama, Vikata, Laghu, Perani and Gundali. The term is believed to have derived from Nrit, meaning bodily movements. Nritya is considered to be that form of dance that suggests both Bhava and Rasa. It combines all the three forms of abhinaya, namely, Angika, Vachika, and Sattvikam. Example In bharatanatyam Swarajathi, Sabdam and Varnam which come under Nritya.

Nritta:

Nritta means pure dance, a presentation of rhythm through graceful movement of the body. It always reflects the mood, Bhava and Rasa underlying the compositions sung for dance. It is important for its pure beauty. This presentation of dance does not stress on facial expressions. Footwork is given prominence in this. Beat and tempo are the guiding factors for the synchronization between the rhythm and time. Abhinaya Darpana defines nritta as bodily movements without evoking Rasa Bhava. 'Rasa bhaavaviheenaantu nrittamityabhidiyate' Tala and laya are the basic concepts of nritta. "Nrittm talalayasritam"as given in Dasarupaka stresses the basic concepts of nritta. Nritta figures in the first part of a dance performance. It involves bodily movements and consists of chari, rechika, Angaharas, Karanas, Bhramaris, Nrittahastas etc. Nritta is divided into three forms such as Vishama, Vikata and Laghu. Generally, expressional aspect is given less importance and more emphasis is given for the movement of various angas of the body. Example, in the art of Bharatnatyam, the starting items, Alarippu, Kauthuvam, Jathiswaram all come under Nritta.

Conclusion:

The movements of Nritta, Nritya and Natya should always be in concordance with ~~the primary standards of Dance. Laya found in Nritta in combination with Bhava~~ becomes Nritya, which in turn when combined with gestures and actions becomes Natya. Natya will ultimately be impressive as well as effective only when there is a harmony between the bodily movements of the dance and emotional expressions the abhinaya. All great dancers display a perfect blend of all three in each of their performances.

9. What significance does puppetry hold in Ancient Hindu philosophy and traditional Indian culture? Discuss.

Introduction:

A puppet is one of the most remarkable and ingenious inventions of the man. Puppetry is a type of narrative theatre; at the crossroads between bardic storytelling and theatre plays. Shows include live music, narration and gestures taken from dance. Puppetry throughout the ages has held an important place in traditional entertainment. Like traditional theatre, themes for puppet theatre are mostly based on epics and legends. Puppets from different parts of the country have their own identity. Regional styles of painting and sculpture are reflected in them.

Body:

- The earliest reference to the art of puppetry is found in Tamil classic 'Silappadikaaram' written around the 1st or 2nd century B.C. In Sanskrit terminology Puttalika and Puttika means 'little sons'.
- Ancient Hindu philosophers have paid the greatest tribute to puppeteers. They have likened God Almighty to a puppeteer and the entire universe to a puppet stage. Srimad Bhagavata, the great epic depicting the story of Lord Krishna in his childhood say that with three strings-Satta, Raja and Tama, the God manipulates each object in the universe as a marionette.
- Natyashastra, the masterly treatise on dramaturgy written sometime during 2nd century BC to 2nd century AD., does not refer to the art of puppetry but the producer-cum-director of the human theatre has been termed as 'Sutradhar' meaning the holder of strings.
- Stories adapted from puranic literature, local myths and legends usually form the content of traditional puppet theatre in India which, in turn, imbibes elements of all creative expressions like painting, sculpture, music, dance, drama, etc.

String Puppets

India has a rich and ancient tradition of string puppets or marionettes. Marionettes having jointed limbs controlled by strings allow far greater flexibility and are, therefore, the most articulate of the puppets. Rajasthan (Kathputli), Orissa (Kundhei), Karnataka (Gombeyatta), TamilNadu (Bommalattam) are some of the regions where this form of puppetry has flourished.

Shadow Puppets

India has the richest variety of types and styles of shadow puppets. Shadow puppets are flat figures. They are cut out of leather, which has been treated to make it translucent. Shadow puppets are pressed against the screen with a strong source of light behind it. The manipulation between the light and the screen make silhouettes or colourful shadows, as the case may be, for the viewers who sit in front of the screen. This

tradition of shadow puppets survives in Orissa. Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu

Examples: Togalu Gombeyatta-Karnataka, Tholu Bommalata- Andhra Pradesh, Ravanachhaya- Orissa

Rod Puppets

Rod puppets are an extension of glove-puppets, but often much larger and supported and manipulated by rods from below. This form of puppetry now is found mostly in West Bengal and Orissa.

Examples: Putul Nautch-West Bengal, Yampuri-Bihar,

Glove Puppets

- Glove puppets, are also known as sleeve, hand or palm puppets. The head is made of either papier mache, cloth or wood, with two hands emerging from just below the neck. The rest of the figure consists of a long flowing skirt. These puppets are like limp dolls, but in the hands of an able puppeteer, are capable of producing a wide range of movements.
- The tradition of glove puppets in India is popular in Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal and Kerala. In Uttar Pradesh, glove puppet plays usually present social themes, whereas in Orissa such plays are based on stories of Radha and Krishna. In Orissa, the puppeteer plays on the dholak with one hand and manipulates the puppet with the other. The delivery of the dialogues, the movement of the puppet and the beat of the dholak are well synchronised and create a dramatic atmosphere

    Example: Pavakoothu, Kerala

Conclusion:

Besides traditional puppetry, India is home to a lively contemporary scene. Independent India opened up to artistic exchange, and new forms and techniques affected puppetry, introducing new styles and giving origin to a refined urban puppet theatre.

10. Examine the trends and status of Indian art cinema. Introduction

India has one of the largest cinema industries in Asia. Thousands are employed not only as actors, directors but also as spot boys, extras etc., Movies are produced in multiple languages including Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Bhojpuri and so on. In a survey conducted in 2014, India produces nearly 3000 celluloid films,

which were further classified into around 1000 short films and around 2000 feature films.

Body

Background:

Originally, Lumiere Brothers brought the concept of motion pictures to India in 1896. The first film was titled 'Coconut Fair and Our Indian Empire' and it was shot by an unknown photographer in 1897. The first motion venture by an Indian was by Harishchandra Bhatvadekar. He made two short films in 1899 and exhibited them to the audience by using the Edison Projecting Kinetoscope.

Trends and status over the time:

- 1900s:
  - Earliest efforts were all foreign ventures, which were focusing on the British or their empire in India.
    e.g. short films like The Death of Nelson, call on the London Fire Brigade and Noah's Arkwas exhibited in Bombay in 1898.
  - There were very few Indian filmmakers in this era. Notable amongst them were F.B Thanawalla who made 'Taboot Procession', 'Splendid New Views of Bombay' and Hiralal Sen made 'Indian Life and Scenes' in 1903.
  - Major Warwick established first cinema house in Madras and Jamshedjee Madan established the Elphinstone Picture House which produced major movies of the time.

- 1910-1930 (The Era of Silent Films):

  - There was little music and dance. Yet, they were not totally mute. Often in theaters, they were accompanied with live musical instruments like sarangi, tabla, harmonium and violin.
  - NG Chitre, R. G Torney, Dadasaheb Phalke are some of the famous film makers of the time.
  - In 1920s two film companies, i.e. Kohinoor Film Company and Dadasaheb Phalke's Hindustan Cinema Films Company produced most of the movies of the time.
  - Fatima Begum became the first Indian woman who produced and directed her own film in 1926, titled 'Bulbul-e- Parastan'.
  - The most popular subjects were mythology and history as the stories from history and folklore had a great appeal to the audience's sense of a shared past.

- 1930s (Era of Talkies):

- ○ 'Alam Ara' was the first talking film directed by Ardeshir Irani. In 1933, the first color film 'Sairandhri' was produced.
  - ○ The major themes included daily life, mythologic stories as well as some of the Indian national movement stories.

- 1940s:

  - ○ The turmoil in the Indian politics was also reflected in the cinemas. The fervor for independence was displayed in the films like Dharti ke Lal, Do Aankhen Baarah Haath, etc.
  - ○ Several films were made on tragic love stories and fictional historical tales like Chandralekha, Laila Majnu, Sikander, Chitralekha, etc.
  - ○ There were several films about social issues like 'Neecha Nagar' of Chetan Anand and Aurat made by Mehboob.

- 1950s:
  - ○ Central Board of Film Certification was established to regulate the movies.
  - ○ This was also the time when international film festivals turned towards India as a destination. It helped Indian movies getting recognition abroad.
  - ○ Movies like 'Pather Panchali', 'Mother India' etc., were nominated for International film awards.

- 1960s (The Golden era):

  - ○ music became the integral part of the film fraternity and it became a unique selling proposition.
  - ○ Several nationalist movies were produced like Rajesh Khanna Starring 'Aradhana' and Raj Kapoor starring 'Sangam'.
  - ○ Film and Television Institute of India was established in Pune in 1960 which trained writers, directors and actors in their craft.

- 1970-80 (The Angry Young man phase):

  - ○ This age was themed around young man struggling in life with heroic stories. Amitabh Bachchan became the poster boy for most of these movies and this can be considered the 'era of Amitabh Bachchan.
  - ○ Another major theme was of horror. Ramsay Brothers pioneered this through movies like Do Gaz Zameen ke Neeche.
  - ○ Religious films were also made majorly centered around deities of Shiva, Vishnu, Durga etc.,

- 1980-2000(Era of Romantic cinemas)

  - ○ Romantic and family dramas were getting huge audience. Movies like Tezaab, Ram Lakhan were hugely popular.

- ○ The late 80s saw the emergence of 'anti-hero' through films like Baazigar and Darr.
- ○ With economic Liberalization in 1990s, more money came in through foreign companies and involved more advanced technology use.

- ● Contemporary:

  - ○ the themes are not limited and are continuously changing and influenced by movies being produced all over the world.
  - ○ The emergence of short films is providing young talent to showcase their creativity with limited investment.
  - ○ A provision was passed recently to allow full Foreign Direct Investment in the film sector which led major international media houses like the 20th Century Fox, Warner Bros., etc to invest in Indian films. This has also led major foreign directors to pick up socio-cultural issues relevant to India.

- ● Parallel Cinema: they are produced with sole purpose of creating good cinemas, experiment with crafts even though the movie is not commercially viable. They exist since 1940s and still are produced in limited scale.
- ● South Indian Film Industry: this includes majorly Tamil, Kannada, Telugu and Malayalam movies. They had limited audience till 2000s. Lately, movie release in multiple languages has been a trend which has also increased the budget of the movies.

Further, there has been controversies regarding the cinema content and the censoring by the CBFC board. Also, the political influences in the movies cannot be sidelined.

E.g. Controversy around movie like 'Padmavat', 'Bandit queen', 'Water' etc.,

Conclusion

Indian art cinema has played a major role in spreading social messages. Movies like 'Article 15', 'Pink' and so on highlight the problems faced by many sections of the society. The latest technologies including the VFX art and animations are being used in Indian movies making it rich in artistic features. Indian art cinema has evolved enormously over the time and at present has audience all over the world.

11. With what motives did the British introduce English education in India? Discuss.

Introduction:

In the Round- table conference in 1931, Mahatma Gandhi in one of his speeches said, "The beautiful tree of education was cut down by you British. Therefore, today India is far more illiterate than it was 100 years ago." British introduced English education not to educate India but to achieve its sadistic goals.

Body:

What Alexander, Ashoka and the western missionaries had failed to do was accomplished by Macualay's minutes, decreeing that India was to receive through English education, the language of the West. Motives behind English introduction were:

- It was to make the Indians, especially the sepoys 'disloyal' to their own language and culture. The British were acutely aware of the danger posed by regional education.
- They realized that if the Indian sepoys of the British Army continued learning in their own languages, they would turn against the British someday. The Muslims sepoys would look down on them as infidels if they studied Islamic literature and the Hindu sepoys would look down upon them as adharmic mlecchas if they studied their Sanskrit texts.
- The British contrived an ingenious, if cunning solution to this tricky problem by educating the elite class of Indians in English and thereby creating a separate class of 'learned natives' i.e. formed a class of persons Indian in blood and colour but English in tastes, in opinion, in morals, and in intellect.'
- They imagined that familiarly acquainted with English literature, the Indian would speak of the great Englishman with the same enthusiasm as the British themselves, they would reject the teachings of Brahmin priests, the natives shall not rise against us, because we shall stoop to raise them.
- Also, the expenses of running administration were becoming costly, so they wanted English educated men in the lower levels to reduce their expenditure.

Implications of English education on Indian society:

- The system of giving preference to Brahmins in the govt. and missionary run schools went on for nearly hundred yrs. In the meantime, other castes practicing any trade had lost their business due to the flooding of Indian markets with British goods and also due to the deliberate strangulation of their business by the British.
- The systematic destruction of the Indian system of education deprived certain castes of education. Thus over a hundred years these castes had become impoverished and ignorant and the Brahmins who were supposed

to lead the society became distorted in their understanding of things, due to foreign education.

- They observed that no Hindu who has received an English education ever remains sincerely attached to his religion.
- But they found that though to an extent they were successful in taking away the Brahmins from their ideals, their conversion had not taken place. A decision to slowly target the other castes and tribals in their educational institutions, was taken.
- It is also noted that Brahmins, allowed themselves to be intellectually corrupted by the British and because they entered into all the professions practiced by other castes. This created issues in society.
- Like for instance, they also took on government jobs thus paving the way for competition and hatred among castes in the society. Today they stand discredited in general, and are no longer considered to be the examples to be followed.

Positive implications of English education:

- Government Job: It provided a path to join government job for Indians and opportunity for Indians in Administration.
- Literature: It gave access to western literature and help question many theories and practices being followed at that time.
- New class of people: The English education created a new class of people who went on to help reform Hindu society like Raja ram mohan roy, Ishwar Chandra vidya sagar etc.

Conclusion:

Introduce of English education can also be considered as blessing in disguise for Indians just like introduction of railways. Also they believed English educated Indian would act as interpreters between the rulers and the ruled.

12. The Indian elites in the 19th century argued for and launched a movement to reform Hinduism from within in the light of post- Enlightenment rationalism. This phenomenon is referred as 'Bengal Renaissance' or 'Nineteenth Century Indian Renaissance'. Who were the main proponents of this movement and what did they strive for? Analyse.

Introduction:

The Bengali Renaissance time of transition from medieval to modern in a number of fields, including literature, religion, social reform, political leanings and scientific discoveries in Bengal region in the eastern part of the Indian subcontinent during the period of the British Indian Empire, from the nineteenth century to the early twentieth century dominated by Bengalis.

Body:

The main proponents of Bengal Renaissance were:

- Raja Ram Mohan Roy.
- Ishwar Chandra vidya sagar. (These two the flag bearers of Bengal renaissance, the other followed them in various fields).
- Bankim Chandra chattarjee.
- Rabindranath Tagore.
- J C Bose.
- Sathyendra nath bose.

There main aims were around religious reforms and modernization:

- Education: They realized that the society could not develop if women were denied the values of education. Some like Vidya sagar, personally met the parents of girls and requesting them to send their daughter to school for education. He donated his large portion of salary to educational reforms.
- Schools: They opened a number of new schools, including girls' schools. Vidya Sagar started the first school for girl's education in Calcutta in 1849.
- Widow Remarriage and Abolition of Sati: a great role in the passing of the law which made the marriage of widows legal, The Hindu Widows' Remarriage Act, 1856. They argued, on the basis of scriptures and old commentaries, in favour of the remarriage of widows and for the abolition of Sati. They took authoritative texts like Manu Smriti and Puranas to show that there was no prohibition on widows remarrying in the entire body of 'Smriti' literature (the Sutras and the Shastras).
- Child marriage: They launched a powerful attack on the practice of marrying off girls aged 10 or even younger, pointing to social, ethical, and hygiene issues, and rejecting the validity of the Dharma Shastras that advocated it.
- Awareness: They created many journal houses and associated with many newspapers, journalistic publications like Tattwabadhini Patrika, samprakash, sarbashubhankarr Patrika and Hindu patriot to bring social and educational reforms with regards to the women.
- Tribal women: Vidyasagar spent the last 18 years of his life living among Santhal tribals in present day Jharkhand, where he started what is possibly India's first school for Santhal girls.
- Radical Ideas: They wanted to promote radical ideas through teachings and by organizing debates and discussions on Literature, History, Philosophy and Science.
- Modern ideas: Spreading ideas of French revolution like liberty, fraternity and equality.

Conclusion

They did not achieve the success at first instances, infact they faced lot of threats from oxthodoxy elements, societal groups and from their own family members. But

with sustained efforts, they were able to bring about a change in society, reforms customs and put a full stop to evil practices prevalent in the society.

13. Why did the peasants rebel against the British rule in the 19th century? Were there religious overtones in some of these rebellions? Examine.

Introduction

The Land revenue system of British extracted money from the peasants even if their crops failed. The impoverished peasants could never pay back this borrowed money. This led to many hardships like extreme poverty and they were forced to work as bonded labourers. All these forced the peasantry to revolt.

Body

Some peasants' revolts which took place on account of the British policies of 19th Century:

- **The Faqir and Sanyasi Rebellions (1770–1820s):** The establishment of British control over Bengal after 1757 led to increase in land revenue and the exploitation of the peasants. The Bengal famine of 1770 led peasants whose lands were confiscated, displaced zamindars, disbanded soldiers and poor to come together in a rebellion. They were joined by the Sanyasis and Fakirs.
- **The Indigo Rebellion (1859-1862):** The British adopted many ways through which they could increase their profits. They also started interfering with the basic means of livelihood of the people. Not only did they introduce new crops, they also brought new techniques of farming. Heavy pressure was put on the zamindars and peasants to pay high taxes and grow commercial crops. One such commercial crop was Indigo. The peasants launched a movement for non-cultivation of indigo in Bengal.
- **Faraizi Movement (1838-1848):** This was the first ever no-tax campaign against the British Government led by Shariatullah Khan and Dadu Mian. Their band of volunteers fought heroically with the armed group of Indigo planters and zamindars. It brought together all the cultivators of Bengal against the tyranny and illegal extractions by the landlords
- **Wahabi Movement (1830's-1860's):** The leader of the movement was Syed Ahmed Barelvi of Rae Bareilly who was greatly influenced by the teachings of Abdul Wahab of Arabia and Shah Waliullah, a Delhi saint. The movement was primarily religious in its origin. It soon assumed the character of a class struggle in some places, especially in Bengal. Irrespective of communal distinctions, peasants united against their landlords.
- **Pabna Agrarian Unrest:** Peasants unrest broke out due to the efforts of the zamindars to enhance rent beyond legal limits & prevent the tenants from acquiring occupancy right under Act X of 1859. As a result in May 1873, a agrarian league was formed at Yusuf Shahi Pargana in Pabna district of East Bengal to resist the zamindari oppression.

☐ **Deccan Riots:** A major agrarian revolt occurred in Pune and Ahmednagar districts of Maharashtra in 1875 due to the difficulty which the peasants faced in paying land revenue in the Ryotwari System.

Were there religious overtones in some of these rebellions?

Prior to the commencement of mass movements of the freedom struggle, these peasant movements were localized based on religion, caste and social consciousness.

☐ Wahabi movement was primarily religious in its origin. It soon assumed the character of a class struggle in some places, especially in Bengal.

☐ The Mappila Uprisings was against atrocities of the landlords (mainly Hindus) led the Mappilas to revolt against them.

☐ Immediate cause of the Sanyasi rebellion was the restrictions imposed by the British upon pilgrims visiting holy places among both Hindus and Muslims.

Later on, some secular trends were observed in these movements which became national level mass movements resulting in formation of platforms such as Kisan Sabha, Congress Socialist Party, etc.

Conclusion

The peasant revolts taking place in various parts of the country were mainly directed at oppressive British policies. Though these revolts were not aimed at uprooting the British rule from India, they created awareness among the Indians. They now felt a need to organize and fight against exploitation and oppression. In short, these rebellions prepared the ground for various other uprisings such as Sikh Wars in Punjab and finally the Revolt of 1857.

14. What administrative measures did the British adopt initially to rule India? Did the initial approach change later on? If yes, examine the factors that led to such change in the approach.

Introduction

In 1764 after the Battle of Buxar the British became supreme power in Bengal. When the British took control of Bengal, they tried to establish administration according to their requirements. However after 1857 British Administrative policies were modified but it never lost sight of its main objects which were –Company's profits, to enhance the profitability of its Indian possessions to Britain and to maintain and strengthen the British hold over India.

Body

Administrative measures British adopted initially to rule India:

• From 1765 to 1772, in the period of the Dual Government, Indian officials were allowed to function as before but under the over-all control of the British Governor and British officials. In 1772, the Company ended the Dual

Government and undertook to administer Bengal directly through its own servants.

- Continuous wars and mismanagement by the company officials made British parliament to pass Regulating Act of 1773.

- **Regulating Act, 1773** The government, headed by a Governor General in Bengal and four Councilors, having the supervisory authority over the presidencies of Bombay and Madras. The Act recognized the right of Parliament to regulate the civil, military and revenue affairs of the company's territories in India

- **Pitt's India Act, 1784** gave the British Government supreme control over the Company's affairs and its administration in India. It established Board of Control. The Board of Control was to guide and control the work of the Court of Directors and the Government of India.

- **Charter Act of 1813** Government and the revenues of India continued to be in the hands of the Company. The Company also continued to appoint its officials in India.

- **Charter Act of 1833** Government of India was reconstituted on a new model which gave it in all India character. This Act re-designated the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor-General of India. The Governor-General was given exclusive legislative powers for the whole of British India. It attempted to introduce a system of open competitions for the selection of civil servants.

Initial Administrative approach changed later on

- From 1853 onwards changes begun in administrative policies, but major changes seen after 1857 revolt.
- **Charter Act of 1853** separated, for the first time, the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-General's council. It introduced, for the first time, local representation in the Indian (Central) Legislative Council. It introduced an open competition system of selection and recruitment of civil servants. The covenanted civil service was thus thrown open to the Indians also.
- **Government of India Act of 1858** abolished the East India Company, and transferred the powers of government, territories and revenues to the British Crown. It ended the system of double government by abolishing the Board of Control and Court of Directors. It created a new office, Secretary of State for India, vested with complete authority and control over Indian administration.
- In pursuance of this policy of association, three acts were enacted by the British Parliament in 1861, 1892 and 1909.
- **Act of 1861** made a beginning of representative institutions by associating Indians with the law-making process.

- **Act of 1892** It increased the functions of legislative councils and gave them the power of discussing the budget5 and addressing questions to the executive.
- **Act of 1909** provided (for the first time) for the association of Indians with the executive Councils of the Viceroy and Governors. Satyendra Prasad Sinha became the first Indian to join the Viceroy's Executive Council. He was appointed as the law member
- **Government of India Act of 1919** relaxed the central control over the provinces by demarcating and separating the central and provincial subjects. The central and provincial legislatures were authorized to make laws on their respective list of subjects. It introduced, for the first time, bicameralism and direct elections in the country. It provided for the establishment of a public service commission. It separated, for the first time, provincial budgets from the Central budget and authorized the provincial legislatures to enact their budgets.
- **Government of India Act of 1935** introduced 'provincial autonomy'. The provinces were allowed to act as autonomous units of administration in their defined spheres. It provided for the establishment of not only a Federal Public Service Commission but also a Provincial Public Service Commission and Joint Public Service Commission.

Factors that led to such change in the approach:

- 1857 Revolt against British Policies.
- English Education and interaction between the Indian and the western cultures helped Indians to know the world affairs, this raised aspirations of the people which forced British to change in Administrative process.
- Establishment of Indian National Congress in 1885 forced British to Include Indians in Administration.

Conclusion

The Revolt of 1857 gave a severe jolt to the British administration in India and made its reorganization inevitable. Some of the British administrative policies were highly effective which are even today reflecting in Indian Government administration.

15. Did the development of railways by the British had any positive impact on the Indian economy and society? Critically examine.

Introduction

The first passenger train in India ran between Bombay and Thane in 1853. The political condition and economic trend of the 19th century induced the British to construct railways all over India. Though introduced to further the economic exploitation of British, it had positive impact on Indian economy, society and administration.

Body

Positive impact on Indian economy and society:

a. Social impact:

- It connected people from hitherto unknown lands and they mixed with one another irrespective of caste and race.
- Movement of people was facilitated. Women and Dalits were benefited majorly as they could travel without any constraints.
- It helped in the development of new labour class who were instrumental in times like Non-cooperation movement.
- It only took a journey by train to remind the hostile treatment of Indians by the British as 2nd or 3rd class citizens in their own countries. This brought a feeling of fraternity among Indians.
- It helped in mobilization of national leaders. With this, they were able to exchange their ideas and discussed the problems and shaped popular public opinion against foreign rule.
- e.g. Dadabhai Naoroji pinpointed the misuse of railways to justify his economic drain theory by British.
- It was used by Indian national congress to connect Indian intelligentsia from different parts of India.
- Gandhiji used railways to travel all over India and familiarize Indians on ideas of swaraj and satyagraha.
- Helped Vernacular press: which with the help of Indian railways could penetrate the interiors of subcontinent. Now, their ideas and critique of British could be read by common people as the circulation of newspapers and journals increased.

a. Economic Impact:

- Railways united the entire Indian economy as one part of India depended on movement of goods and services of other parts.
- It helped in movement of Indian goods and provided market for Indian producers. It integrated the markets and increased the trade.
- It facilitated the investment in different industries as now the movement of finished goods became easy. Jute, Cotton, Iron and steel industries were established in times to come.
- It provided employment and helped several subsectors like mining, construction and so on.

Negative impact on Indian economy and society:

- It became another front for the humiliation of Indians by the British who used it to further their racial superiority.

- It helped for the easy mobilization of force by British which was used to suppress any popular uprising.
- Railways ruined the India's traditional handicrafts industry which became uncompetitive compared to British goods whose outreach of market increased by the railways.
- Railways, though helped in increasing the food security ruined Indian peasants who suffered due to surplus of food grains because of easy movement provided by the railways.
- The very nature of railways was to increase economic exploitation and policies of British helped it. E.g.
  - Capital investment in railways was restricted to British alone which increased the drain of wealth in the form of interest payment.
  - Indian goods faced high fright charges compared to British goods which made Indian products more uncompetitive.
- In the long run, railways under British rule did not alter the basic structure of Indian economy. It only facilitated swift movement of British resources which was useful in maintaining their imperial hegemony.

Conclusion

British introduced railways with ulterior motive of economic exploitation. Though railways had its drawbacks as illustrated above, with the Advent of railways - regional specialization began to occur and trade (both domestic and foreign) flourished. Railways made possible the establishment of a well-knit market and as Karl marks observed "Indian railways in India truly became the forerunner of modern industry".

16. The battle of Plassey marked the beginning of political supremacy of the English East India Company in India. Elucidate.

Introduction

The Battle of Plassey was a decisive victory of the British East India company over the Nawab of Bengal and his French allies. The battle consolidated the company's rule in Bengal by defeating one of the strongest dynasties of the time. It was the first major event of East India company meddling into Indian politics and establish political supremacy over Indian provinces.

Body

It was the beginning of the political supremacy of the British as

- Sovereignty of British over Calcutta was recognized and established. The free trade and revenue from Bengal provided the company resources to expand their rule.
- British were able to install a puppet nawab 'Mir Jafar' who gave them
  - A large sum of money as war compensation which was used by the British in their future conquests.
  - Zamindari rights of Bengal paraganas which upheld the taxing rights of British.
  - Allowed the British to maintain their army at the expense of Bengal (which later developed into subsidiary alliance by Wellesley).
  - Robert Clive controlled the political affairs of the Bengal who appointed a resident to assist (aka control) Mir Jafar in administration.
- It resulted in the ousting of the French from Bengal and left British without any rivals in economic exploitation of Bengal.
- It displayed the military supremacy of the British which helped in subsequent diplomatic efforts in expansion of British empire.
- Further, it is on the success of Battle of Plassey, British built upon their military power and allies which helped to defeat rivals in subsequent wars like Battle of Buxar etc.,
- It was after the Battle of Plassey (and later Battle of Buxar) Robert Clive started to introduce the political administration of British in India. This later evolved into regulating act of 1773 and so on.

    Thus, the British started to control the politics of Bengal and began to rule.

Conclusion

Battle of Plassey was of immense historical importance. It paved the way for the British mastery of Bengal and eventually whole of India. As Historian Edward Thompson noted, it boosted British prestige and the rich revenues of Bengal enabled them to organize a strong army. It also played a decisive role in Anglo-French rivalry and made the British the only contender of the Indian empire.

17. The rebellion of 1857 was something more than a sepoy mutiny, but something less than a national revolt. Do you agree? Substantiate your views.

Introduction

The 1857 revolt was much more than a mere product of sepoy discontent. It was the end result of accumulated grievances of the people, rulers, zamindars etc., over the company's administration especially the economic exploitation built over the time. Yet,

the spread and extent of revolt shows that it was less than a national revolt with an idea of 'India'.

Body

Background:

There are multiple views about the nature of 1857 revolt which are listed below

- Sepoy mutiny: as some British historians like John Seeley observed – "it was a wholly unpatriotic and selfish sepoy mutiny with no central leadership".

- Military outbreak as some of the historians like K. Datta observed which was taken advantage by certain sections of discontented landlords and princes. Though this may be true up to an extent, the nature of revolt had a nationalist feeling over the time.

- Planned war of national independence: as nationalists like V D Savarkar interpreted, the revolt was inspired by the intent of self-rule by the Indians.

More than sepoy mutiny:

- It involved many sections of the civilian population (artisans, peasants etc.,) and not just the sepoys. As per an estimate, more than half of the people dead are civilians.

- The revolt as said by Nehru was also an uprising against the feudal class. The instances where villagers attacked and burnt moneylender books shows the revolutionary character of the revolt.

- The revolt spread all over north India which involved various princes, local chieftains and not just led by sepoys and military commanders.

- The mutineers looked up to the Mughal King to lead them with the intent of self-rule. This shows that it was an intent for freedom from British rule and not just discontent among sepoys.

- The sepoys who revolted for the reason of Pig-Cow greased cartridges later used the same cartridges to fight the British. This shows, the revolt was against the British rule and policies per-se than just about sepoys' discontent.

Less than a national revolt:

- All-India participation was absent which would have made it national revolt. The eastern, southern and western parts of India remained more or less unaffected.

- The revolt was not organized by any institution or a group with a proper structure with a defined goal like the Indian national congress.
- All classes did not join.
  - Big zamindars, Taluqdars, Money-lenders and merchants helped the British.

- o Educated Indians trusted British as way of modernization and did not support the mutineers.
    - o Most Indian rulers refused to join, and many rulers like Holkar, Sindhia etc., gave active help to the British.
- **No Unified Ideology:** There was no idea of an Indian nation and the mutineers had no concrete plan to overthrow British.
- As R C Majumdar considers it was neither the first, nor national nor a war of independence as major parts of the country is not affected.

Conclusion

Thus, the 1857 revolt as British called it was indeed a mutiny of soldiers. However, when it spread among civilians it assumed the civilian character and instilled nationalist feelings. The observation by S N Sen summarizes it "The Mutiny became a Revolt and assumed a political

character when the mutineers of Meerut placed themselves under the king of Delhi. What began as a fight for religion ended as a war of independence. "

18. **In the public discourse of early nationalism, religion played an important role. However, a distinction has to be made between the two strands that coexisted during this period- one being a revivalist tendency that invoked the sense of an Indian nation based on Hindu religious symbols and history, and the other- a reformist one that attempted to bring changes in Hindu social organization. Comment.**

Introduction

The 19th century was the time of emergence of first stages of Indian nationalism, and beginning of mutual interaction between politics and religion. Unlike the notion of Nationalism as it appeared in Europe as a secular doctrine, Indian religion has had important role in nationalism so that this area evidenced the growth of religious nationalist movements.

Body

Revivalist tendency that invoked the sense of an Indian nation based on Hindu religious symbols and history

- The first stirrings of national awakening in India were visible through the religious reform movements of the 19th century such as the Arya Samaj, the Rama Krishna Mission, the Theosophical Society, and others. These Movements directly and indirectly have had important impact on nationalism movement during 19th and 20th centuries**.**

- Religious symbolism was frequently and effectively used to mobilize peasants to secure their rights through organized struggle. Swami Sahajanand, one of the successful organizers of peasant movements in the 1930s, was a Hindu religious activist who made extensive use of religious symbolism and traditional ties.

- The whole of the Extremist movement was a call to go back to Indian ancient religious and cultural traditions and following the Hindu scriptures as its religious and philosophical weapons to meet the challenge of an alien civilization.

- Mahatma Gandhi looked to religion as a unifying force and used the revivalist method to awaken the people. His motive in appealing to the religious faith of the people was to use this faith as an instrument to national awakening and to give an ethical and moral basis to the political struggle.

However Despite their religious origin or regional source, the spirit and content of some of these tendencies were designed for wider appeal and transcended regional barriers. The
significant role of a song like 'Bande Mataram' in national mobilization across regions was hard to dispute. The references to historical events or religious symbols in literary works in regional languages often alienated members of particular religious communities. For instance, some historical novels in 19thcentury Bengal, written by nationally prominent authors of Hindu origin were criticized for their bias against Muslim characters or episodes of history.

Reformist tendencies that attempted to bring changes in Hindu social organization

- **The Brahmo Samaj:** Established in 1828 and Led by Raja Ram Mohan Roy. He tried to interpret the highest elements of Islam, Christianity and modern Rationalism or Humanism and transformed them into a single creed which he discovered in the ancient Upanishadic philosophy of his own community.

- **The Prarthana Samaj**: Established in Bombay by Dr. Atma Ram Pandurang in 1876 with the objective of rational worship and social reform. The two great members of this Samaj were Shri R.C. Bhandarkar and Justice Mahadev Govind Ranade. They devoted themselves to the work of social reform such as inter-caste dining, intercaste marriage, widow remarriage and improvement of the lot of women and depressed classes. Prarthana Samaj's central idea was one positive belief in the unity of God.

- Gandhi imparted a powerful symbolism and great depth and diffusion to reform Hindu social organization. He converted large and unresolved issues of Indian society into charismatic symbols. He gave to the vast masses of "untouchables" the name of

  "Harijans. Besides, Mahatma Gandhi used the concept of 'Rama-raj'. He relates it to a "higher" utopian goal, namely the transformation of society by religious reform.

Conclusion

Indian nationalist leaders used religion to mobilize the mass against British Empire for gaining independence. Almost all trends used the religion in the line of their goals. It was shown how these leaders used the religious symbols, the religion's power of solidarity to integration of Hindu mass and consequently achieved coordination and unity against the same enemy.

19. Examine the factors that led to the rise of an extremist trend within the Congress circles? What were the most characteristic attributes of this trend? Analyse.

Introduction

When the failure of moderate politics became quite apparent by the end of the 19th century, reaction set in from within the congress circles and this new trend is referred to as the Extremists' trend. This extremism developed in three main regions and under the leadership of three important individuals- Bipin Chandra Pal in Bengal, Bal Gangadhar Tilak in Maharashtra and Lala Lajpat Rai in Punjab.

Body

The factors that led to the rise of and extremist trend within the Congress circles

- Frustration with moderate politics was definitely the major reason behind the rise of extremists' reaction. The congress under moderate leadership was being governed by an undemocratic constitution, although after repeated attempts by Tilak, a new constitution was drafted and rectified in 1899, it was never given a proper trial.

- Moderate politics reached a dead end as most of their demands remained unfulfilled and this was certainly a major reason behind the rise of extremism.

- The failure of the Moderates to win any notable success other than the expansion of the legislative councils by the Indian Councils Act (1892).

- The partition of Bengal in 1905 opened the eyes of the Indians to the true colors of the British rulers.

Characteristic attributes of the extremists trend

- The extremist goal was 'swaraj'. This, at that time either meant complete autonomy and freedom from British control, or a total Indian control over the administration.

- Extremists called for boycotting of foreign goods and the use of swadeshi goods.

- They vehemently opposed the appeasement policy of the moderates. Leaders like Tilak gave the slogan, "Swaraj is my birth right and I shall have it".

- They were strongly against British imperialistic policies in India. They took pride in Indian culture and history. They looked at the ancient scriptures for inspiration and courage.

- They were very vocal in their opposition to the British rule unlike the moderates who had faith in British justice. They did not believe in loyalty to the British Crown.

- They tried to instill self-respect and patriotism in the people by invoking the great heroes of past like Shivaji maharaja, Rani Laxmibai etc.

Conclusion

The extremists drew inspiration from India's past, invoked the great episodes in the history of the Indian people and tried to infuse national pride and self-respect among them. Idealizing western culture gives the Indians an inferiority complex. The rich history of India was revived by them, especially with regard to Hindu history and ideologies.

20. The Swadeshi movement may be described as the best expression of extremist politics. Comment.

Introduction

The swadeshi movement had its genesis in the anti-partition movement which was started to oppose the British decision to divide Bengal. The movement was led majorly by leaders like Tilak, Lala Lajpat rai, Bipin Chandra pal and an element of extremism was incorporated by the overt boycott of British goods.

Body

Extremist politics:

- Methods: The movement was beyond the methods of moderates (petitions, prayers and political protests) as it involved passive resistance in the form of boycott.

- Goal: The end goal of swadeshi movement was 'Swaraj' and not just autonomy and more representation in administration which was the ideology of moderates.

    E.g. Indian national congress declared 'Swaraj' as end goal in 1905 congress session.

- Emphasis was given to Atma Shakti (self-reliance) which was extremist ideology while moderates depended on British for any improvement in the administration.

    E.g. Establishment of National schools, swadeshi enterprises and so on.

- New forms of extremist struggle: Boycott of foreign goods, public meetings and processions, formations of samitis for mass mobilization.

- Role of masses: every struggle during swadeshi movement involved the masses who played limited role in moderate's style struggle.
    - Students: came out in large numbers to propagate and practice the swadeshi idea.
    - Women took active part in processions.

- Labor class and trade unions participated with leaders like Chidambaram pillai.
- Revolutionaries: on the sidelines, many revolutionaries like Sachin Sanyal, Rashbihari Bose and others who led the movement extended it to include the element of force which was an ideal of extremists.

Not all extremist politics:

- Moderate leaders like Surendranath Bannerjee, Pherozhshah Mehta etc., played major role in leading the movement who were against extremist ways of protest.
- The movement was not able to incorporate the ideas of non-cooperation and passive resistance which were the main ideas of extremists.
- Extremists were expelled from the congress for difference of opinion with moderates in 1907 Surat session. This shows that the movement was still an extension of moderate form of struggle rather than led by Extremist ideology.

Conclusion

The 1857 revolt as British called it was indeed a mutiny of soldiers. However, when it spread among civilians it assumed the civilian character and instilled nationalist feelings. The observation by S N Sen summarizes it "The Mutiny became a Revolt and assumed a political character when the mutineers of Meerut placed themselves under the king of Delhi. What began as a fight for religion ended as a war of independence.

21. Why did Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy and political programme had a wide popular appeal? Analyse.

Introduction

Mahatma Gandhi entry into to the Indian national movement was a decisive turn towards a broad-based popular struggle. Gandhi's philosophy was well accepted by both the masses and the nationalist leaders and his political programme was well received and saw wide-spread participation across India.

Body

Reasons for Acceptance of Gandhi's philosophy and political programme:

- Demonstrated results in Africa:
  - Gandhiji, by the use of satyagraha and ahimsa as tools was able to secure major demands relating to poll tax, registration certificates etc., from the British government.
  - Tolstoy farm illustrated the peace time utility of ashramas in helping the masses through constructive work and prepare them for popular struggle.

- Early successes in India: Through Champaran satyagraha, Ahmedabad mill strike and Kheda satyagraha – he demonstrated the utility of satyagraha and non-violent struggle.
- Practical philosophy and political programmes: tools like Satyagraha and ahimsa could have been used by every section of the society especially the masses. The methods like petitions, constitutional struggle hitherto used were not possible to be followed by masses.
- Belief in masses:
    o Gandhiji used to say, India live in the villages and it is only through masses the freedom can be achieved. This was not the case with earlier nationalist leaders including moderates and extremists who involved masses on a limited scale.
    o He held all India public meetings focused mainly on the participation of masses.
- Identification with masses:
    o Gandhian followed the philosophy of 'practice what you preach'. For instance, he popularized charkha by using it personally to weave his clothes. He shunned his elite clothes and wore a dhoti to identify himself with the masses.
    o As Ramachandra Guha noted – he dressed like them, walked among them and a sense of belongingness was developed among the masses. Hence, they followed him.
- Secular leadership: every strategy and programmes of Gandhiji was secular and he incorporated members of all the religions without any skepticism or discrimination. He took up the issues of all the factions. For instance, he supported Ali brothers in Khilafat movement, supported Akali movement, Temple entry movement etc.,
- Social issues included in political programmes:
    o The political programmes of Gandhiji included Dalit upliftment, women emancipation and hence found widespread participation of these sections.
    o Further, the philosophy of Sarvodaya, Antyodaya etc., tried to address the prevailing issues including inequality, rural poverty, food insecurity etc., and hence was widely supported.
- Peace time constructive work:
    o Ashramas provided a way help those who participated in struggle and build momentum garnering public support.
    o Programmes like promotion of Khadi helped Indian producers and hence found support.
    o Establishing local schools provided alternatives to students who left British schools for participating in freedom struggle.
- Supporting local issues like demand of linguistic provinces, Vaikom satyagraha, Malabar Muslim protest etc.,
- Effective use of Newspaper and journals: Gandhiji popularized his philosophy through Harijan and the use of local dialects helped in spreading of his message to large number of people especially in rural areas.

- Home rule movement: under Tilak and Annie Besant prepared a base for Gandhiji demonstrating self-rule which found its resonance in Gandhian philosophy of Swaraj.

Conclusion

Thus, Gandhian way of struggle was not limited to any section of the freedom fighters. He was able to unite different factions (religious, social etc.,) and more importantly was instrumental in finding wide appeal among masses.

22. What do you understand by the instrument of 'Satyagraha'? When and how did Mahatma Gandhi use this tool against the British. Was it effective? Critically comment.

Introduction

Satyagraha is a technique developed by Gandhiji to oppose the exploitative policies of British. It was based on Truth and Non-violence. It was based on the philosophy that evil could best be countered by non-violent resistance. It is a technique to of resisting adversaries without violence.

Body

Gandhiji in South Africa after the Pietermaritzburg incident took up the cause of African Indians. he witnessed the ugly face of white racism and the humiliation an

contempt to Asians who had gone as labourers were subjected. It was then he first used the tool of satyagraha to organise the Indian workers to enable them to fight for their rights.

He used it during the phase of passive resistance in 1906 to oppose exploitative British policies of the time in South Africa.
Satyagraha being effective:

In Africa:

- Against registration certificates (1906): Gandhiji formed passive resistance Association to conduct the campaign of defying the law and suffering all the penalties resulting from such a defiance. Gandhiji and his followers publicly burnt registration certificates. In the end, there was a compromise settlement.
- Restrictions on Indian Migration: was defied by crossing over from one province to another and by refusing to produce licences though they knew they would be jailed.
- Protest against Transvaal Immigration Act by illegally migrating from Natal into Transvaal.

Gandhiji was successful in bringing the British to the negotiating table who conceded to the conceded the major Indian demands. In India:

- Champaran Satyagraha: Gandhiji defied the order of by the authorities to leave the town and prepared to face punishment. After the enquiry and negotiations, he was successful in partial compensation to peasants under tinkathia system.
- Similarly, in Kheda Satyagraha, Gandhiji defied the British by uniting peasants against paying taxed and finally was able to strike a deal to return all confiscated property and reduce the increase in rate.
- It was again used during Non-cooperation movement, salt satyagraha, quit India movement and it saw partial successes like participation in 2nd RTC, negotiations under August offer-Cripps mission-Cabinet mission, INA trials (popular pressure) and so on.

Satyagraha being Ineffective:

- Even where satyagraha was successful, it was only partial. The British always found ways to concede to limited demands be it be in Champaran, Kheda etc.,
- Satyagraha had limitations:

- Maintaining non-violence was a challenge. For instance, Gandhiji had to withdrew non-cooperation movement in 1922 after the Chauri-Chaura incident.

- Sustaining satyagraha for long time was difficult. It was natural as it is not possible to sustain any movement at a high pitch for very long. For e.g. Gandhiji had to withdraw the civil disobedience movement in 1934 as the movement was showing fatigue.

- The capacity of masses was limited and they faced practical difficulties while adhering to principles of satyagraha. E.g. Khadi being costly, students leaving colleges facing unemployment etc

- British defied Gandhiji's demand many a times as sometimes satyagraha seemed harmless. E.g. Even though Gandhiji secured concession from Lord Irwin and participated in 2nd RTC, the subsequent viceroy (Birkinhead) denied any further role to Congress after understanding the limitations of satyagraha

- Opposition among Indians themselves against satyagraha made it ineffective several times. For E.g during the negotiations of cripps mission etc., Muslim league did not head to satyagrahas of Gandhiji. Even among congress leaders like Subhash Chandra Bose were skeptical of satyagraha as effective tool and did not support it.

- In spite of several fast unto death satyagrahas by Gandhiji, the communal holocaust could not be prevented on the eve of partition.

Conclusion

Satyagraha was a novel and an ideal way of struggle introduced by Gandhiji. It gave the Indian National Movement, a moral strength to oppose the British. As Subhash Kashyap observes – though the technique of satyagraha might have delayed the freedom for India, it ensured that the freedom is won the right way.

Additional information:
Basic tenets of Satyagraha:

- A satyagrahi was not to submit to what he considered as wrong, but was to always remain truthful, non-violent and fearless.
- A satyagrahi works on the principles of withdrawal of cooperation and boycott.
- Methods of satyagraha include non-payment of taxes, and declining honors and positions of authority.
- A satyagrahi should be ready to accept suffering in his struggle against the wrong-doer. This suffering was to be a part of his love for truth.
- Even while carrying out his struggle against the wrong-doer, a true satyagrahi would have no ill feeling for the wrong-doer; hatred would be alien to his nature.
- A true satyagrahi would never bow before the evil, whatever the consequence.
- Only the brave and strong could practise satyagraha.it was not for the weak and cowardly. Thought was never to be separated from practice.

23. What was the response of the nationalist leaders towards World War I? Did their views change during World War II? Elaborate.

Introduction

When the First World War broke out, British Government, appealed to the Indian leaders to join hands with them, although the leaders agreed but they forwarded their own terms and conditions. When the war was over, British Government did not fulfil its promises. This led to change the views of nationalist leaders in the Second World War.

Body

The response of the nationalist leaders towards World War I

- During the war years, political unrest was growing within India and Leaders such as Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Annie Besant launched the Home Rule League in 1916 and used India's war contributions to demand self-government within the empire.
- Political moderates such as Surendranath Banerjee and Bhupendranath Basu, pledged their whole-hearted support to the Allies.
- Different political parties and communities such as the All India Muslim League, Madras Provincial Congress, Hindus of Punjab and the Parsee community of Bombay supported the Allies and fund-raising was organized, meetings were held in cities such as Calcutta, Bombay, Lahore and Allahabad.

- Mahatma Gandhi thought that England's need should not be turned into our opportunity, and he argued that we should send our men to France and Mesopotamia.
- Moderate and extremist groups within the Congress submerged their differences in order to stand as a unified front and argued their enormous services to the British Empire during the war, demanded a reward and demonstrated the Indian capacity for self-rule thus the pre-war nationalist movement had revived.
- Lucknow Pact of 1916, was an alliance between Muslim League and Congress, which led to some sort of consensus over the issue of devolution of political power.

Response of Revolutionaries

- The outbreak of the First World War in 1914 gave a new lease of life to the nationalist movement since Britain's difficulty was seen as India's opportunity by the revolutionaries as well as other nationalists. This opportunity was seized, in different ways and with varying success, by the Ghadar revolutionaries based in North America.
- The Ghadarites attempted a violent overthrow of British rule. After the outbreak of World War 1, Ghadarites conducted revolutionary activities in central Punjab and organized uprisings. This way the Ghadar party proved to be the stepping stone for future Indian revolutionary movements.

Nationalist leaders views during World War II

- On 1 September 1939, 2nd World War broke out. The British Government without consulting the people of India involved the country in the war. The Congress vehemently opposed it.
- As a mark of protest the Congress Ministries resigned in all the seven Provinces on 12 December 1939
- The Indian National Congress, led by Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Maulana Azad, denounced Nazi Germany but would not fight it or anyone else until India was independent.
- Congress launched the Quit India Movement in August 1942, refusing to co-operate in any way with the government until independence was granted.
- In Singapore, Bose formed the Azad Hind Fauj (Indian National Army or INA) to conduct a military campaign for the liberation of India.

Conclusion

Unfulfilled promises by British in the World War **I** made Indians not to trust British anymore, this led to Indian nationalists change their strategies. After World War II**,** movement like quit India launched by the Indian leaders eventually culminated in India's independence in 1947, Two years after the end of the second world war.

24. In the overall discourse of India's freedom struggle, what status do princely states have? Was an active attempt made by the nationalist leaders to integrate the subjects in princely states with the masses elsewhere? Examine.

Introduction

The struggle for freedom in the Indian Princely States was an inseparable part of the Indian struggle for freedom from the British colonial dominance. The movement for freedom in the Princely States, therefore, aimed at a number of objectives, which included the emancipation of the State's people from foreign rule, the realization of Indian unity, and the achievement of self-rule for the people in the Indian States.

Body

Status of Princely states in the overall discourse of India's freedom struggle.

- Time and again, at critical junctures, the princes showed themselves as loyal and useful friends of the British Raj such as in the Revolt of 1857, during the anti-partition agitation of 1905, in the war crisis of 1914 and 1939, and during the Quit India movement of 1942.
- Some of the princely States, like, Hyderabad, Gwalior, Rampur, Patiala, gave valuable military aid to the Company's Government in 1857-58 which helped the British Government to limit and suppress the revolt.
- In 1858 Viceroy Canning issued to mark the transfer of the East India Company's possessions to the crown. Thereby he ensured that almost 600 royal houses in India became bound up with the reputation of the crown in England.
- 1877 the States were gradually deprived of civil and criminal jurisdiction over broad-gauge railways passing through their territory.
- In 1909 the princes were called in to service by the British to deal with the nationalist challenge. The princes responded very quickly and positively, and in a true loyalist tune. Most of them banned any public meetings, clamped down on the nationalist newspapers and any sort of anti-imperialist activity was banned in their territories.
- World War One forced the Government of India to make the structural changes which the princes were demanding. The princes stood out in their support for the British war effort. The princes received the rewards for their help in the war effort in the form of titles and enhancement in their gun-salutes.
- The princes were feeling marginalized in decision-making after the 1919 Constitutional reforms were introduced as now the Legislature had elected Indians—the princes were unrepresented—which made policy-making more tilted towards provinces.
- After 1931 Round table Conference, the representative princes found it difficult to rally the fellow princes around the idea of the federation. Gulab Singh of Rewa, Udaibhan Singh of Dholpur and many like-minded rulers did not want to be associated, even marginally, with democracy, and believed that federation result in the subordination of the States.

- The absence of the "protection of the treaty rights of the States" in the Government of India Act 1935,the differences among the princes, the changed attitude of the Congress towards the States, the political unrest in the States, and the shift in the governments' policy finally made the States not to join the federation.
- The outbreak of the Second World War provided the princes with the much needed opportunity to repair the damage done to the relationship between the States and the government by the federation debacle. The States generously helped in the British war efforts and altogether.
- The princes welcomed the Cabinet Mission Plan as it appeared that the Plan assured them the independence after the lapse of British paramountcy in India. In regard to the selection of the delegates to the Constituent assembly, the Chamber of Princes rejected the mechanism of popular election.

Attempts made by the nationalist leaders to integrate the subjects in princely states with the masses elsewhere

- Till the 1920's the Congress remained somewhat aloof from the political activity in the princely states on the ground that a confrontation with the Indian princely states was likely to weaken the Congress in conducting its main struggle against foreign rulers.
- In the early part of the 20th century the educated middle class subjects of the princely states had formed Prajamandals (Peoples' Organization) Lokparishadas (Peoples' Conferences). The first such association was formed in Mysore in 1917. By the turn of the decade however, similar associations were formed in the states of Gujarat and central India, including Baroda and Indore.
- In 1938 Patel in the altered circumstances agreed to lead the Baroda Prajamandal and resolved to undertake Civil Disobedience in the state unless taxes were reduced. The Satyagraha did not take place since the Baroda court decided to reduce the taxes and promised to enlarge the Legislative Assembly.
- Gandhi decided to intervene in Rajkot in favour of the Rajkot Prajamandal constitutional demands through mass civil disobedience.
- Provoked by the repressive measures of the Mysore rulers, the non-Brahmin rural leadership decided to merge with the Congress movement. In 1941 the Mysore state permitted labour unions. The Congress in its turn started extending its influence among the workers as well.

Conclusion

Princely states acted as path breakers in the extension of the national movement into the princely domains. While the State People's Conference was an example of successful forging of ties between the Congress and the Prajamandal. Finally efforts of Vallabhbhai Patel settled the problem of the States. Sooner States signed the Instruments of Accession and integrated to Union of India.

25. What role did the business class play for India's freedom struggle? Discuss. What role did Mahatma Gandhi envisage for the business community? Elaborate.

Introduction

The business class emerged in late 19th century played major role in freedom struggle supporting the nationalist cause by supporting the swadeshi movement and took major part realization of congress policies. The Business class participation remained minimal till the entry of Gandhiji. They played active role in Non-cooperation movement, civil disobedience movement and quit India movement.

Body

Background:

Capitalists suffered by the economic policies of British stood with Congress and lobbied for favorable economic policies. Most of the industrialists saw the colonial policies of restricting business activity as oppressive and wanted them to be removed so that trade and industry could flourish, thus, contributing to the growth of Indian economy.

Role played by Business class:

- Criticism of British economic policies: Purshotamdas, Thakurdas and G.D Birla attacked colonial control over the Indian economy and supported the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- Financial assistance and support:
  - Policy support: FICCI refuse to negotiate with British in economic or political issues without the participation or approval of Congress.
  - Funding the Indian National Congress in organizing protests, conferences. e.g. Chidambaram Pillai funded the INC branch of Madras state.
- Swadeshi enterprises: they established industries and produced swadeshi goods which provided alternatives after boycotting foreign goods. e.g. Swadeshi textile mills, soap and match factories, tanneries, banks, insurance companies etc.,
- Self-reliance: indigenous enterprises helped in self-sustenance of Indian economy. It provided employment opportunities to those who quit British industries after protesting to support the freedom struggle.
- Lobbying: they lobbied for favorable economic policies which would promote indigenous enterprises. Per se, they advocated import protection and tax benefits for Indian enterprises.
  - FICCI was formed as an interest group which played major role in economic policies negotiations.
  - Indian Industries and Commercial Congress was formed in 1920 which became a discussion body and put forth the demands of Industrialists.

- Economic Planning: in 1944 and 1945, Bombay plan was formulated by a small group of influential business leaders in Bombay for the development of the post-independence economy of India. These were in lines of philosophy of Indian freedom struggle.

Role envisaged by Gandhiji:

Gandhiji envisaged a role for business community more than in the economic sphere.

- Critical role against British policies: The business community must resist the small term economic benefits provided by the British and struggle for long term sustainable economic policies which would help India and the Indians.
- Swadeshi promotion: Gandhiji viewed business community participation as vital in success of swadeshi idea of struggle. Business class has major role to play in promotion of Indian and traditional products like Khadi and so on.
- Trusteeship: the business community has the social responsibility alongside profit and must help in sarvodaya and antyodaya. Further,
   - A long-term vision beyond one generation making the business sustainable.
   - Fostering trust and build reputation will all the sections of the society. Thus, create a value for community.
- Employment: Gandhiji was against blind mechanization to be imitated by the business community. This would result in the loss of jobs. Thus, he recommended business community to invest in labour intensive industries.
- Rural development: Gandhiji believed that the real India lives in villages and therefore it is also the responsibility of the Business community in ensuring village development.

Conclusion

Though most of business class community supported the freedom struggle, they were skeptical of the unconstitutional means to carry it. So, they advocated legal methods and followed negotiations to pursue freedom struggle. But it goes without saying that they actively helped Indian freedom struggle. Industrialists like Tata, Chidambaram Pillai and others played the role of trustees as envisaged by Gandhiji as well.

26. Many other countries got liberated from the colonial rule around the time of India's independence. However, many of those failed or got embroiled into internal civil wars. What made India a success story then? Analyse.

Introduction

The period after Second World War saw the emergence of most countries of Asia & Africa as independent nations. Generally, the colonial powers were not willing to give up their hold on the colonies and left only when they found that it was not possible to maintain their rule any more.

Body

During the Second World War, many imperialist countries had been ousted from their colonies, but after the war they tried to re-establish their rule. For some time they succeeded in doing so but were ultimately forced to withdraw. The achievement of independence was the result primarily of the struggles of the peoples of the colonies.

The independence of India was of great importance in the history of freedom movements in Asia and Africa. India had, however, been partitioned & along with it, another independent state, Pakistan, also came into being.

India, A success story

- Visionary Leadership: strong and staunch leaders like Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shahstri, Patel, etc set the course in the direction of unity and development and provided a stable constitutional regime. Example Sardar Patel integrated the princely states with the Indian democracy. Pandit Nehru framed the economic framework and foreign policy for the country.
- Spirit of Gandhism: Gandhi's values of satyagraha, non violence, passive resistance etc demonstrated during the freedom struggle inspired the nature of movements in India after independence e. g. Bhoodan movement
- Unity in diversity: India being a multi ethnic, multi cultural nation has always followed the idea of unity in diversity and the principle of Vasudeva Kutumbakam (whole world as one family)
- Constitutional framework: India has a strong constitution based on the ethos of democracy, unity, integrity, secularism, balanced federation etc and a clear provision and roles for different institution.
- Political structure: India has a stable political structure based on democratic values. It has set up Election Commission on 1950 for free and fair election and has given universal adult franchise to its citizen.

India always had a far sighted reach towards dimensions like communalism, regionalism etc. and has a vision to maintain its internal stability but many countries has failed to maintain their internal stability like Myanmar, Libya, Sri Lanka eg persecution of minorities in Myanmar. Also, Countries in South east Asia, Africa are facing legitimacy crisis even today cause of their lopsided political structure.

Conclusion

India's struggle for independence was unique in its nature because of the people involved in it and their cordial attitude and unity with each other negating caste race

religion etc. The constitutional framework it has adopted has ensured peace and solidarity.

27. What is your assessment of the way the nationalist leaders addressed the language issue post-independence? Substantiate your views.

Introduction

The language problem was the most divisive issue in the first twenty years of independent India, and it created the apprehension among many that the political and cultural unity of the country was in danger. The problem posed to national consolidation by linguistic diversity has taken two major forms, one was the dispute over official language of the union and other was the linguistic reorganization of the states.

Body

Language issues in post-independence of

India Official language debate

- **Problems regarding Hindi being the official language:** When the Indian Constitution was being framed in the Constituent Assembly, the question of choosing one language as the official language arose in the minds of the Constitution makers. The official language of the Central government was the
  - o single most divisive official issue in the Indian Constituent Assembly. There were two problems regarding Hindi being the official language: a) the dialect of Hindi; and b) the other languages existing in India.
- **Question of adopting a Hindi dialect:** Hindi is spoken in around 13 different dialects. So debate arose as to which of the dialect was to be chosen as the official Hindi dialect. Later, Hindi dialect was adopted which was the one spoken in the Delhi-Agra region with Sanskrit vocabulary.
- **Gandhi's Dream of One National language:** Most of the members of Constituent Assembly wanted to fulfill Mahatma Gandhi's dream who had opined that there should be a national language which would give a distinct identity to the nation. They chose the most popular language of the country to be crowned as the official language of the Union of India. As soon as the proposal was laid down before the Assembly, many members of the assembly opposed it on the ground of it being unfair for the non-Hindi
  - o speaking population who'll suffer in terms of employment opportunities, education, and public services because of their non-Hindi background.
- **Demand for including regional languages:** Several arguments were raised for the inclusion and non-inclusion of Hindi language. Some of the members of the Constituent Assembly including L.K.Maitra and N.G.Ayyangar demanded that the regional languages should also be recognized (at State level) and the chosen national language should not be made exclusive. There were others like Lokamanya Tilak, Gandhiji, C. Rajagopalachari, Subhash Bose and Sardar Patel who demanded that Hindi should be used throughout India without any

exceptions and the states should also resort to the use of Hindi language because it would promote integration.

- **Two groups in the Assembly:** The whole assembly was divided into two groups, one which supported Hindi and wanted it to become the official language and the other which did not favour Hindi to become the official language. The assembly was at loggerheads.

- **Ambedkar's views:** Introducing multiple languages as official languages was not considered feasible. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was quoted as saying, "One language can unite people. Two languages are sure to divide people. This is an inexorable law. Culture is conserved by language. Since Indians wish to unite and develop a common culture, it is the bounden duty of all Indians to own up Hindi as their official language."

- **Munshi-Ayyangar formula:** Ultimately, when the Constituent Assembly was on the verge of losing its unity, a compromise called Munshi-Ayyangar formula was adopted without dissent. It was a half-hearted compromise because no group got what it wanted. According to this formula, English was to continue as the official language of India along with Hindi for a period of fifteen years but the limit was elastic and the power of extension was given to the Parliament. A statute titled 'Official Languages Act, 1963' was enacted when the period of fifteen years was about to expire in an attempt to prevent agitation in the non-Hindi speaking States. But the provisions of the Act could not satisfy the views of the protestors.

  - **Lal Bahadur Shastri policy:** Lal Bahadur Shastri, Nehru's successor as prime minister, did not pay much heed to the opinion of non-Hindi groups. He, instead of effectively countering the fears of non-Hindi groups that Hindi would become the sole official language, declared that he was considering making Hindi an alternative medium in public service examinations which meant that although the non-Hindi speakers would still be able to compete in the all-India services in English medium, the Hindi speakers would have an added advantage of being able to use their own mother tongue Hindi as a medium. This increased the fury of the non-Hindi groups and they became more anti-Hindi and later also raised and popularized the slogan of 'Hindi never, English ever'. Thus Lal Bahadur Shastri only gave air to the blazing agitation of the non-Hindi groups against Hindi.

  - **Amendment to the official languages act:** The Official Languages Act was ultimately amended in the year 1967 by Indira Gandhi's government which provided for indefinite usage of English and Hindi as the official languages of the country.

Conclusion

After many twists and turns, a great deal of debate and several agitations, small and big, and many compromises India had arrived at a widely accepted solution to the very difficult problem of the official and link language for the country. Since 1967, this problem has gradually disappeared from the political scene, demonstrating the capacity of the Indian political system to deal with a contentious problem on a democratic basis, and in a manner that promoted national consolidation.

28. Do you think India's first Prime Minister- Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru misunderstood the intentions of the Chinese in the 1950s? Critically comment. Was there any other way to address the Chinese problem? Suggest.

Introduction

India adopted a policy of friendship towards China from the very beginning. Nehru had great hopes that the two countries with their common experience of suffering at the hands of colonial powers and common problems of poverty and underdevelopment would join hands to give Asia its due place in the world.

Body

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's Views towards China

- Nehru's understanding of Chinese history, of the history of revolutions, especially the Russian revolution, had convinced him that China should not be isolated and pushed into a corner, but should be brought into the community of nations and its revolution humanized. 'We know enough history to realize that a strong China is normally an expansionist China,' he said, but did not want to precipitate any conflict with China as it would be as disastrous for both countries as was the French-German conflict. He added that soon after the Chinese revolution he had come 'to the conclusion that our borders were going to be, well, threatened in some way.

- With Pakistan already hostile, India did not need another neighbor as an enemy. Preparing for war on two fronts would have meant an end to development. Therefore, the conflict, even if inevitable, should be delayed as much as possible by adopting a friendly approach and asking others to do the same, for example by trying to get China into the UN.

- He understood that the Chinese occupation of Tibet meant a common border with attendant conflicts. But he also saw that China could not think of expansionism as yet, as it had big problems to solve. After the revolt in Tibet, and the Dalai Lama's arrival, and the border clashes, he was well aware of the dangers, but what good would it has done to threaten China? In an effort to checkmate the Chinese he did make diplomatic preparations, by moving closer to the Soviets.

- Nehru was shocked at the scale of the 1962's attack, as he had thought at there may be occasional border skirmishes here and there, but not an invasion of this nature. He erred in not anticipating the precise nature of the attack, rather than in the foreign policy he pursued. A further mistake was the panic in appealing to USA and UK for help, as next day the Chinese withdrew.

- Nehru was well aware and had been warning of the possibilities of border clashes with the Chinese since 1959. But neither the political nor the military leadership anticipated the precise nature of the Chinese attack, and were therefore taken by surprise.

- The failure was also, it is felt, due to the lack of a proper system of higher defence command and management, and because there was no system of

defence planning and the structure of civil-military relations was flawed. The chiefs of staff were not integrated into the civilian policymaking structure, but remained theatre commanders preparing for the near-term future but not for the long-term future security environment. Despite Nehru's warnings since 1959, of trouble with China, much professional thought had not gone into the planning for a war in the Himalayas. It was a failure of logistics, of intelligence, or rather of analysis of intelligence, of coordination of different wings such as the Army with the Air Force, etc.

There were no other ways to address the Chinese problem

India was newly independent country in 1950s; even though Investment on defense was one of the important factors but her main priority was eradication of poverty, development of agriculture, development of Health and Education of her people which was more important and foothold issue. India's First Prime Minister Nehru took a pragmatic decision to concentrate on development of nation rather than investing scarce resources on defense. As per the political scientists this was the best solution available at that time.

Conclusion

The debacle of the India-China war in no way raises doubts on the correctness of Nehru's basic thrust in foreign policy. For example, nonalignment ensured that even in the India-China war, the US and the Soviet blocs were not ranged on opposite sides and India succeeded in getting greater or lesser sympathy from both. Nehru had been right in pursuing a policy of friendship with China, even if it ended the way it did.

29. The 1960s and 70s can be regarded as the decades that restored India's self-esteem and pride. Elucidate.

Introduction

The 1960s and 70's were the real watershed decades in the life of Independent India. It was the period which heralded the coming of age of the new Nation as a functional and vibrant democracy, and sowed the seeds of multiple developments, most of which were very significant and having far reaching impact on the future course of the nation.

Body

Until the start of the 1960's, India had been a young independent nation trying to tackle the challenges arising out of a nascent democracy in a polarised world order with problems like crisis of foreign exchange shortage by 1959. In this regard, the 1960's and 70's can be regarded as the decades that restored India's self-esteem and pride due to the following factors:

1. **Operation Smiling Buddha(1974)** - In 1974, the Indian government conducted its first nuclear test in the deserts of Pokhran, Rajasthan making it a peaceful nuclear explosion. 'Smiling Buddha' was the assigned code name of India's first successful nuclear bomb test. With the Smiling Buddha, India became the world's sixth nuclear power after the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, France and China to successfully test out a nuclear bomb.

2. **India-Pakistan war of 1965** - The war was the second fought between India and Pakistan over the region of Kashmir. The war began following the failure of Pakistan's "Operation Gibraltar" which was designed to infiltrate and invade Jammu and Kashmir. Decisive mandate in the war helped India overcome the failure of 1962 Indo-China war and restored it's self-esteem.

3. **Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971** - The Indo-Pakistani War of 1971 was the first war between the countries that did not involve fighting over the Kashmir region. Pakistan was separated as a result of the war and the new nation of Bangladesh was formed with the help of India. Such a result restored India's pride on the world stage as a regional power.

4. **General Elections of 1967 and 1977** - The March 1967 general elections in India was perhaps the last time when the people voted to elect the Union as well as the State Governments simultaneously. The Congress party, even while retaining power at the Centre, had a reduced strength in the Lok Sabha and was voted out of power in nine states. Whereas in 1977 general elections, centre saw the 1st non-congress government in independent India. In the aftermath of Emergency(1975-1977), India emerged as a more resilient democracy and strengthened democratic culture.

5. **Green Revolution and White Revolution** - Green Revolution was aimed to increase the production of food-grains that resulted in a drastic reduction in imports and made India self-sufficient in food-grains. White Revolution was the concerted effort on a cooperative level to increase milk supply through which Indian Dairy Industry grew to the extent that milk output not only topped the world, but also represents sustained growth in the availability of milk and milk products. These efforts helped India overcome its dependency on foriegn countries for food and restored its self esteem and pride.

6. **Economic Measures** - June 6, 1966 was a defining day in independent India's economic history. It was the day on which Indira Gandhi devalued the rupee by 36.5%, increasing the dollar's value against it by 57.4%. Further in 1969, the Nationalization of Banks was carried out to ensure the release of huge amounts held by the Private Banks by way of deposits from the general public for the equitable and inclusive growth of the Country's economy and facilitate easy access to credit for the common people for their various productive needs. These measures showcased confidence of nation to take decisive steps towards achievement of its ideals.

7. **States Reorganisation** - In 1960, the state of Bombay was bifurcated to create the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra following violence and agitation. In 1963, the state of Nagaland was created for the sake of the Nagas. By 1966, Punjab was divided into three states along linguistic lines—Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Further, more states were created in northeastern India. These efforts showcased the ability of Union to accommodate multiple demands of people.

Conclusion

Though some events like dynastic political succession and emergency in 1975 were a blot on the inclusive democratic functioning of the nation, the 1960's and 70's formed the defining decades of post independent India where India emerged as a resolute south Asian power on the world stage with a stable democratic system which restored its lost self esteem and pride.

30. The emergency declared in 1975 is considered to be a black chapter in India's democratic political history. However, it served as a shock therapy for a young nation and paved the way for a series of constitutional measures and judicial pronouncements that would go a long way in strengthening democracy. Comment.

Introduction

The emergency was declared by the Indira Gandhi government in 1975 and was in place for 21 months. Threat to national security and bad economic conditions were cited as reasons for the declaration. Considering it as a black chapter, a famous historian Coomi Kapoor noted "The number of those in Indira Gandhi's prisons during the Emergency far exceeded the total number jailed during the 1942 Quit India".

Body

Reasons for emergency declaration:

- Economic issues:
  - India support to Bangladesh's liberation caused serious repercussion on India's foreign exchange reserves
  - Consecutive monsoon failure in 1972 & 73 affected India food grains availability and fueled prices.
  - Large scale unemployment and economic recession led to industrial unrest and wave of strikes in different parts of country which culminated in All India railway strike in May 1974.
- Executive tussle with Judiciary:
  - Union government under the leadership of Indira Gandhi amended the constitution in the Parliament that it can abridge Fundamental rights while giving effect to DPSPs. But, Later, In Kesavananda Bharti Case, the Apex Court ruled that there are some basic features of the constitution, which can't be amended.

- o Furious with SC judgment, Union Government changed the long-term precedence of appointing senior most judges in SC as Chief Justice.
  - o Allahabad HC, while hearing the plea of socialist leader Raj Narain on the validity of victory of Indira to Lok Sabha ruled in the his favour and set aside her victory and ruled her election invalid on the grounds of abuse of power.
- JP Movement:
  - o The students of Gujarat protested immensely in 1974 against the rise in prices of food-grain, cooking oil & other essential commodities, later joined by the political parties too
  - o Inspired by the efforts and success by Gujarat student's movement, similar agitation was initiated in Bihar by students in March 1974.
  - o JP Narayan gave a call for "Sampooran Kranti" (Total Revolution) against the immense corruption, to defend democracy from authorization personality of Indira Gandhi.

Black Chapter in India's democratic history:

The union government misused its emergency powers and curbed democratic rights of the citizens, opposition parties and of the press.
- Electricity of the newspaper houses got disconnected, leaders of opposition parties were arrested.
- Government curtailed the freedom of press via "Press censorship" and made it mandatory to get its approval before publishing it.
- Protests, strikes and public agitations were not allowed.
- Fundamental right of constitutional remedies to move the court for restoring their FRs got suspended.
- Religious and cultural organization like RSS, Jamait-E-Islami was banned on the apprehension of disturbance to social and communal harmony.
- Government misused the provision of preventive detention, arrested the political workers of opposition parties.
- Torture and custodial deaths occurred during Emergency, arbitrary relocation of poor people, imposition of compulsory sterilization to control population.

The power misused came as a wakeup call for the entire nation and consequent steps were taken to amend the constitution (44th constitutional amendment) to take safeguards against misuse of powers:

- Ground for Emergency declaration: the word 'internal disturbance' was replaced by 'armed rebellion' in respect of national emergency.
- Made the president to declare a national emergency only on the written recommendation of the cabinet.
- Empowered the president to send back once, the advice of the cabinet for reconsideration.
- Provided that the fundamental rights guaranteed by article 20 and 21 cannot be suspended even during emergency.

- Gave constitutional protection to publication in newspaper of true reports of the proceedings of parliament and state legislatures.

Further, it was the supreme court decision which upheld that government can arrest any person or even take extreme steps under emergency, it is legal and no relief is available. However, the judiciary leant it lessons and consequently passed several judgements to uphold democracy.

- the Supreme Court has thereafter enlarged the concept and the application of Article 21 well beyond what was ever contemplated by the framers of the constitution
- The supreme court expressed its view on ADM Jabalpur judgement to be violative of fundamental rights in Ram deo Chauhan case.
- The supreme court strengthened the concept of Basic structure which was reiterated in cases like Minerva mills.
- The judiciary in later judgements evolved the collegium system for appointments of the judges to uphold the independence of the judiciary.
- To uphold the democratic rights of the citizens, it also invented tools like Public interest litigation in 1980.

Conclusion

The 1975 emergency is viewed as the darkest phase in the democratic history of India. But it also reminded the absolute powers vested in the government in emergency situation. The consequent defeat of congress illustrated that it is the citizens who are the ultimate deciders of democratic fate in India. It also helped in perfecting the Indian democratic setup to restore the people's faith in democracy.

31. How did the implementation of the Mandal Commission Report change the socio-political discourse in India? Discuss.

Introduction

The Mandal Commission, or the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission (SEBC), was established in India on 1 January 1979 by with a mandate to "identify the socially or educationally backward classes" of India. It was headed by the late B.P. Mandal an Indian parliamentarian, to consider the question of reservations for people to redress caste discrimination, and used eleven social, economic, and educational indicators to determine backwardness.

Body

The commission estimated that 52% of the total population of India (excluding SCs and STs), belonging to 3,743 different castes and communities, were 'backward'. Recommendations of Mandal commission-
1. A roster system should be prepared for the backward classes on the pattern of that for the SCs and STs.

2. Reservations to be made in PSUs, banks, private sector undertakings receiving government grants, colleges and universities
3. Reservation of 27% public sector and government jobs for OBCs for those who do not qualify on merit.
4. Reservation of 27% for promotions at all levels for OBCs in public service.
5. The reserved quota, if unfilled, should be carried forward for a period of 3 years and dereserved after that.
6. Age relaxation for OBCs to be the same as that for SCs and STs.
7. The government to make the necessary legal provisions to implement these recommendations.

Effects

Positive impact
- Provision of employment opportunity for 'backward classes' improved the economic condition of 'backward classes'.
- Enabled the community to have a better socio-political representation.Because of reservations in jobs on the basis of caste, the backwards now have an identity as a composite pressure group.
- Reservations will also achieve social egalitarianism by breaking the psychological barriers of the backwards by bringing them into positions of power in the Government.
- The scheme is necessary because it gives the backwards a sense of being part of governance - the system - and compensates for generations of discrimination.
- Because backwards have been deprived for ages on the basis of their caste, now they should be provided facilities on the same basis. That is why we need representation in the Government on a caste basis, where wealth and respect go hand in hand. These reservations are not for the economic good, but to link backwards with the state

Negative impact

- The implementation of the report providing reservation to the backward classes further deepen the class divide between upper and lower class.
- This may lead to an Orwellian situation where some castes will be more equal than others. It will strengthen the caste-system because genetic heritage will become the basis for discrimination. Caste-based quotas will lay down that privileges should be extended to the groups and not to the individuals.
- This lowered the importance of merit in securing job by emphasizing more on class reservation.
- It may unleash a more-backward-than-thou race among various castes for the limited spoils, lead to corruption in the certification of castes, and raise expectations.
- The already intense competition gets worsened when caste becomes the basis for selection. Thus it will lead to inter-caste rivalries. Since the new

policy does not consider all castes equal, inequalities within the government departments will increase.

- Politics based on caste and region became more prominent. Eg Jat reservation agitation.
- it led to entrenchment and institutionalization of caste as an important determinant in India's socio-politico structure and thus impacting every aspect of life, which is inherently against equality and creates fissures in society.

Conclusion

A modern democratic state recognises the necessity of preferential treatment to the disadvantaged. But if done on the basis of whole caste-groups, it will be holding responsible the present generation for the follies of its previous generation. Thus Mandal commission decision had chequered outcomes, although reservation is based on principle of positive discrimination and affirmative action, its misuse will dilute its utility

32. Give a brief description of the way in which environmental movements took Shape in post- Independence India? What are the major achievements of these movements? Examine.

Introduction

The environmental movements in India were of special significance in the history of new social movements in India. The post-independence era has witnessed

environmental degradation on an unprecedented scale. Soil erosion, air and water pollution, rapid depletion or forest cover and wild life are just some of the effects of environment degradation. These problems led to emergence of environmental movements.

Body

The way in which environmental movements took Shape in post-independence India

The major environmental movements in post independent India were chipko movement, Save Silent valley movement, Jungle Bachao Andolan, narmada bachao andolan etc.

- The movements were addressed novel issues like environmental degradation
- The movements were massive with the active participation of marginalized groups
- The demands of the new movements were novel in the sense that it demanded right to livelihood and rights of displaced
- The environmental movements adapted non-violent Strategy

- The movements incorporated hitherto unrepresented sectors of society including Adivasi's, women and the marginalized.
- Many of the new environmental movements forced the governments to take affirmative policies in the form of new laws and provisions.

The achievements of these movements

1. **Chipko movement:** This renowned movement began in 1971 in the hills of Uttrakhand. Chipko Movement means hug-the-tree movement. The Chipko Movement's first action started in March 1974 in Reni village in the Garhwal Himalayas, when a group of village of women led by Gauri Devi hugged the trees and prevented the hired sawyers to cut them down for a sports goods company. Women, being most affected by the hardship of both the ongoing degradation to their environment and the privatization of basic resources, played a prominent and decisive role.

2. **Save Silent valley movement:** Another significant anti-dam movement is against the Kerala Government's proposal to construct a dam across the river Kunthi in the Silent Valley. The government has argued that it is a viable alternative to the more expensive and polluting sources of thermal power. However, environmental and citizen groups oppose it due to a threat that it may upset the delicate ecological balance of the bio-diversity reserve inhabited by some rare species in the Silent Valley. International organization such as the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and International Union for the conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) mounted pressure on the government, leading to the shelving of the project in 1983 by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. This movement met with success fairly early and is one of the very rare instances where the State yielded to pressure and retracted.

3. **The Jungle Bachao Andolan:** it began in Bihar and later spread to states like Jharkhand and Orissa. The tribals of Singhbhum district of Bihar bubbled up a protest when the government decided to replace the natural Sal forests with highly-priced teak, a move that was termed "a greed game, political populism".

Conclusion

These environmental movements are an expression of the socio-ecological effects of narrowly conceived development based on short-term criteria of exploitation. The movements reveal how the resource-intensive demands of development have built-in ecological destruction and economic deprivation.

33. What were the precursors to the computer and IT revolution in India? How did it Shape the socio-economic landscape in India? Analyse.

Introduction

The IT industry emerged in the 1960s, and its export prospects were recognized as early as the early 1970s. The government adopted suitable policies to develop the

export potential of this sector, the most important of which was to allow duty-free import of computer systems for software export purposes. The second phase follows the announcement of the New Electronics Policy and the New Computer Policy, both in 1984.

Body

The precursors to the computer and IT revolution in India

1. Relaxation in immigration laws and IT revolution in USA: Fast growing IT sector in USA resulted and relaxation in immigration law in 1965 enabled Indian immigration into the USA. As a result, it also led to the creation of IT professionals in India.

2. Establishment of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Wipro, Patni Computers and Infosys in the pre-1991 era - The establishment of these firms between 1960s and 1980s led to the development of IT business model in India.

3. Pre-1991 policy intervention - The Policy on Computer Software Export, Software Development and Training announced in 1986 facilitated the development of the software industry. It recognized software as an industry to invest and made it eligible for incentives as other domestic industries, reducing import tariffs and announcement of CSDT policy which liberalized exposure to the latest technologies to compete globally and to capture a share of global software exports.

4. Economic liberalization in 1991 - relaxed the strict control over private entities and gave a further boost to the IT sector in India. After the economic reforms of 1991-92, liberalization of external trade, elimination of duties on imports of information technology products, relaxation of controls on both inward and outward investments and foreign exchange and the fiscal measures taken by the Government of India and the individual State Governments specifically for IT and ITeS have been major contributory factors for the sector to flourish in India and for the country to be able to acquire a dominant position in offshore services in the world.

5. Government policies that facilitated IT revolution post 1991 reforms - The major fiscal incentives provided by the Government of India have been for the Export Oriented Units (EOU), Software Technology Parks (STP), and Special Economic Zones (SEZ).

How it shaped the socio-economic landscape in India
- With the number of jobs steadily increasing and has resulted in creation of new class of young consumers with high disposable incomes causing changes in lifestyles, forms of sociality, family structure, and self-identity. These changes fuel the rapid upward socio-economic mobility experienced by employees in this industry. This workforce has been identified as a distinct occupational group, which affects their identity, attitude, interest, colleagueship, collective actions, power, and status and work consciousness.
- This sector has emerged as the biggest employment generator. For each person employed in IT sector, around four people were employed in the rest of the economy (NASSCOM News line, 2007). Every rupee spent by IT sector (on domestically sourced goods and services) translates into a total output of

Rs.2.00 in the economy. In addition, for every job created in this sector, four new jobs are created in the rest of the economy.

- The rapid growth of IT-BPO and IT industry as a whole is having a profound impact on the socio-economic dynamics of the country. The IT workforce has its own distinct forms of work, employment, organization, and management. Along with its distinct work culture emerged a distinct lifestyle, attitude, sociality and identity.

- This industry is also positively influencing the lives of its people through an active direct and indirect contribution to the various socio-economic parameters such as employment, standard of living and diversity among others. The industry has played a significant role in transforming India's image from a slow moving bureaucratic economy to a land of innovative entrepreneurs and a global player in providing world class technology solutions and business services. The industry has helped India transform from a rural and agriculture based economy to a knowledge based economy.

Conclusion

The IT sector in India today outsources software services across the world and because of the economic reforms in 1991 and the various liberalization acts introduced by the subsequent Governments helped the IT sector in India grow immensely.

34. Examine the factors that led to the balance of payment crisis of the early 90s. How did the political class handle this crisis? Explain.

Introduction

A default on payments, which would have a disastrous consequence for the Indian economy, had become for the first time in our history a serious possibility in June 1991. This balance of payment crisis had its genesis in the policies of earlier governments and was ably handled by the then government at the centre, headed by P V Narsimha Rao and finance minister Manmohan Singh.

Body

The balance of payments (BOP) is a statement of all transactions made between entities in one country and the rest of the world over a defined period of time, such as a quarter or a year. These transactions consist of imports and exports of goods, services and capital, as well as transfer payments, such as foreign aid and remittances.

The following factors can be seen as responsible for the balance of payment crisis in 1991:

1. The first important factor responsible for this growing crisis in BOP was the policy of import liberalisation introduced by the Congress (I) Government headed by Late Rajiv Gandhi resulting in a huge inflow of imports particularly after the announcement of Exim Policy in 1985.

2. The second factor responsible for the crisis was the existing heavy import base of the country. In-spite of attaining an encouraging 18.7 percent annual growth rate of exports during Seventh Plan, which was even higher than the annual growth rate of imports (16.8 per cent), the BOP position deteriorate to a serious point as the country started with larger volume imports.

3. The third factor responsible for this BOP crisis is the higher import intensity in the industrial development resulting from import intensive industrialisation process followed in the country for meeting the requirements of elitist consumption (viz., colour TVs, VCRs, refrigerators, motor cycles, cars) etc.

4. The steep depreciation of rupee with dollar and other currencies during 1987-91 had resulted in a considerable increase- in the value of imports.

5. The worsening of the current account deficit in BOP in 1990-91 and therefore was partly on account of Gulf war and the higher price of petroleum imports and higher volume of petroleum imports continuously.

6. The current account deficit in 1990-91 weakened the ability to finance deficit massively. Political uncertainty at home, copied with rising inflation and widening fiscal deficits, led to a loss of international confidence. This had resulted in drying up of commercial borrowing and an outflow of NRI deposits.

To tackle such a grave crisis, the government's immediate response was to secure an emergency loan from the International Monetary Fund by pledging tons of India's gold reserves as collateral security. Furthermore, the Narsimha Rao government brought wide ranging reforms which were collectively called LPG reforms (Liberalisation-Privatisation-Globalisation) and these formed part of the New Economic Policy (NEP).

The thrust of the policies was towards creating a more competitive environment in the economy and removing the barriers to entry and growth of firms. This set of policies can broadly be classified into two groups: the stabilisation measures and the structural reform measures.

Stabilisation measures are short term measures, intended to correct some of the weaknesses that have developed in the balance of payments and to bring inflation under control. In simple words, this means that there was a need to maintain sufficient foreign exchange reserves and keep the rising prices under control. On the other hand, structural reform policies are long-term measures, aimed at improving the efficiency of the economy and increasing its international competitiveness by removing the rigidities in various segments of the Indian economy.

The government initiated a variety of policies which fall under three heads viz., liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation. These can be seen as below:

- Liberalisation- Liberalisation was introduced to put an end to restrictions and open up various sectors of the economy. Deregulation of Industrial sector, financial sector reforms, tax reforms, foriegn exchange reforms and trade and investment policy reform formed part of this measure.

- Privatisation- It implies shedding of the ownership or management of a government owned enterprise. Privatisation of the public sector enterprises by selling off part of the equity of PSEs to the public is known as disinvestment.
- Globalisation- Globalisation is the outcome of the policies of liberalisation and privatisation. It means an integration of the economy of the country with the world economy.

Conclusion

The crisis that erupted in the early 1990s was basically an outcome of the deep-rooted inequalities in Indian society and the economic reform policies further aggravated the inequalities. But the process of globalisation through liberalisation and privatisation policies has produced positive as well which has helped leapfrog economic development in India.

35. The surgical strikes in Uri and the operation by the Indian Airforce in Balakot signify a marked departure from India's past responses to terrorism and associated activities. Do you agree? Substantiate.

Introduction

In the words of IAF chief "The strategic relevance of the Balakot air strikes is the resolve of the political leadership to punish the perpetrators of terrorism. There is a major shift in the government's way of handling terrorist attacks. "

Body

India's past responses to terrorism:

India since independence vouch for peace and has not taken unilateral offensive steps. It relied on

- Public condemnation with a passive response relying on bilateral talks and investigation. E.g. joint investigations after 26/11 attack.
- Institutional reforms overhauling the counter terrorism structure. E.g. creation of NIA after Mumbai attack.
- Responses to the attacks were within the borders which included arrest/killing of terrorists. E.g. Afzal guru after parliament attack, Kasab after Mumbai attack etc.,
- Focus more on peace time border management than on preparation for retaliation.

India's response marking a change:

Along with the above steps, there is a change in intensity and form of response like

- Retaliation: Use of limited force to give a befitting reply as well as ensuring the non-escalation of the conflict. E.g. Balakot air strikes.
- Limited emphasis on bilateral talks. The view that" talks and terrorism cannot go together". Also, other areas like trade linked to the terrorism issue. E.g. India closed down its border for several imports from Pakistan.
- Joint operations with neighboring countries using force to eliminate insurgency incidents. E.g. Operation sunrise with Myanmar.
- Countering the act with stand on similar issues in the other country. E.g. The prime minister talk on issues in Balochistan during Independence Day.
- The areas hitherto untouched taken up and made part of counter terror talks. E.g. Statements on Indus water treaty where the PM said "blood and water cannot flow together".
- A shift from politically dealing the terrorism issue to militarily – similar to USA but on a small scale. E.g. free hand given to the army chief to take steps to curb terrorism after Pulwama attack.
- Taking unprecedented stands on settled propositions like 'No first use policy' for the sake of National Unity and security.
- Mainstreaming terrorism issue in every bilateral talks and multilateral forum and also coming up with strategies to handle the issue. Previously, the discussion on terrorism attacks were mainly limited in bilateral talks. E.g. Counter terrorist exercise in SCO (RATS) etc.,

Conclusion

Thus, the way in which India handle the terrorism issue has changed from passive defensive pressure relying on talks to active offensive immediate response to create a deterrent effect. Both ways have its own positives and collaborative effort of talks with deterrent response is needed. In the words of PM, 'the responses were to teach terrorists a lesson in the language they understand'.

36. How far did the ideas of enlightenment inspire the American Revolution? Illustrate.

Introduction

The American Enlightenment was a period of intellectual ferment in the thirteen American colonies in the 17th to 18th century, which led to the American Revolution, and the creation of the United States of America.

Body

The Renaissance had inaugurated an era of questioning the established beliefs. Gradually, this questioning covered every aspect of thought and belief. The period after the 16th century, witnessed an intellectual revolution when all the existing beliefs based on faith came under heavy attack.

- Around 1750, many Thinkers were challenging the status-quo and demanding freedom & liberty for the people. They placed before the people idea of a democratic form of governance. They helped in development of ideas of Republicanism and Liberalism that militated against colonialism

- Great progress was made in various sciences, which also undermined the existing beliefs. The new ideas were characterized by rationalism and were increasingly concerned with secular affairs. Because of the growing emphasis on reason, the period of the 18th century in European history is called the Age of reason or the Age of Enlightenment.

- Some of the leaders of the American Revolution were influenced by Enlightenment ideas which are, freedom of speech, equality, freedom of press, and religious tolerance. American colonists did not have these rights, in result, they rebelled against England for independence. In the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson wrote about American's natural rights to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." These ideas came from the Enlightenment, the ideals led towards the American Revolution soon after.

- John Locke was one of the most important and influential philosophers in the history of the world. He devoted a lot of his time into writing about philosophy and political thought. The founding fathers of the American Revolution drew heavily on his ideals. John Locke argued "The power of any king or government is derived from people who contract to obey their rules in exchange for law and security. Individuals have a natural right to hold property and this can never be taken from them without their own consent.

If a ruler infringes the terms of the contract that empowers him or seizes property without consent, the people can resist and depose him" (John Locke).

- These arguments are things that American Colonists wanted to have but couldn't under the control of England. Therefore, American Colonists wanted independence from England.
- Thomas Hobbes is known for his political thought. His main concern in the world is how individuals can live together with peace and not think of conflict (Williams).He rejects free will of determinism, in which freedom is treated as having the ability to do what an individual desires (Oregon State). The American Colonists ended up turning to Hobbes work to justify the passage of the U.S constitution.

Conclusion

Although distinctive features arose in the eighteenth-century American context, much of the American Enlightenment was continuous with parallel experiences in British and French society. Four themes recur in both European and American Enlightenment texts: modernization, skepticism, reason and liberty. American Revolution was a revolution in ideas and system of Polity and it impacted the future events, the most prominent of them being the French Revolution of 1789.

37. What is mercantilism? Discuss. How did mercantilism give rise to colonialism in 19th century Europe? Explain.

Introduction

The term 'mercantilism' was coined by Adam Smith in 1776. The concept of mercantilism has been called the ideology of the monopoly trading companies by the Marxists. Maurice Dobb describes it as system of state regulated exploitation through trade or the economic policy of an age of primitive accumulation. The term mercantilism usually applied to the policies and measures which the European states adopted between the 15th & 18th century to acquire wealth and power.

Body

Mercantilism

- First popularized in Europe during the 1500s, mercantilism was based on the idea that a nation's wealth and power were best served by increasing exports, in an effort to collect precious metals like gold and silver.
- The mercantilists adopted policies of economic nationalism in many European states. These policies were not new; they had their roots in the scattered acts and beliefs of feudal and municipal authorities of the medieval period. With the expansion of trade and the declining revenues of the feudal states, with the emergence of centralized monarchies and more luxurious courts, the emerging states realized the value of trade that brought wealth and greater revenue for the state. It was believed that the wealth of the subjects was the wealth of the kings. This led to active government

intervention in economic and political matters and became the central feature of all mercantilist ideas. However the mercantilist policies and practices could only be adopted in states that had strong governments and a reasonably well developed trade and commerce. It was aimed at strengthening the centralized state structure by weakening and regulating the semi-independent local authorities.

Mercantilism gives rise to colonialism in 19th century Europe

- Under mercantilism, nations frequently engaged their military might to ensure local markets and supply sources were protected, to support the idea that a nation's economic health heavily relied on its supply of capital. Mercantilists also believed that a nation's economic health could be assessed by its levels of ownership of precious metals, like gold or silver, which tended to rise with increased new home construction, increased agricultural output, and a strong merchant fleet to provide additional markets with goods and raw materials.

- Under mercantilism, the colonies were supposed to send to the mother country raw natural resources. Colonies were not supposed to manufacture any goods; the raw natural resources were supposed to be processed into manufactured goods only in the mother countries.

- **English methods of colonization:** England introduced fiscal policies that discouraged colonists from buying foreign products, while creating incentives to only buy British goods. For example, the Sugar Act of 1764 raised duties on foreign refined sugar and molasses imported by the colonies, in an effort to give British sugar growers in the West Indies a monopoly on the colonial market. The British wanted a monopoly of trade with India so that there would be no other English or European merchants or trade companies to compete with. The Company wanted to sell its goods at high prices and buy Indian products at low rate to make maximum profits. After 1800, India began to absorb textiles from English mills. In 1813, the Charter ended the Company's monopoly of Indian trade. It opened East Indian trade to private enterprise. With the termination of the Napoleonic Wars in 1814-15, enormous increase of import of British machine made cloths began to India. During 1800-1850, the colonial objective changed from seizing Indian commodities to seizing the Indian market. The changed objective no only made the East India Company's monopoly over Indian internal commerce and overseas trade obsolete, but positively required free trade.

- **Spain's methods of colonization:** From the late 15th century to the early 19th, Spain controlled a huge overseas territory in the New World, the Asian archipelago of the Philippines, and territories in Europe, Africa and Oceania. Spain attempted to expand the possibilities for trade within the empire, by

allowing commerce between all ports in the empire, and took other measures to revive economic activity to the benefit of Spain. Spain had an economy shorn of manufactures, a crown deprived of revenue taxing colonists, tightening control, and fighting off foreigners. In the process, Spain gained revenue. The Napoleonic invasion of the Iberian Peninsula precipitated the Spanish American wars of independence (1808–1826), resulting in the loss of its most valuable colonies. In its former colonies in the Americas, Spanish is the dominant language and Catholicism the main religion, enduring cultural legacies of the Spanish Empire.

- **France's methods of colonization:** 19th Century France controlled its colonies in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Ivory Coast, Porto-Novo, French Guinea Mauritania etc. French firms were authorised to ship to the colonies without further restrictions. The trade was thus "free" to all French subjects residing in a long list of ports, but protected from foreign competition. With the addition of a few naturalized foreigners, all French-born individuals were considered French subjects. This policy restricting colonial trade and shipping to French subjects is traditionally considered as laying the foundation of French 19th century colonial trade growth.

Conclusion

Mercantilism paves the way for fight between countries in 19th century Europe. Two world wars fought for capturing markets in colonies. After the end of World War II economic nationalism remained the prevalent tendency of most countries of the world, and most colonies got Independence after end of the war.

38. How far can industrial revolution be held responsible for the imperialistic ambitions of Europe? Critically examine.

Introduction

The Industrial Revolution was the transition to new manufacturing processes in Europe and the United States, in the period from about 1760 to sometime between 1820 and 1840. Imperialism is a policy or ideology of extending a country's rule over foreign nations, often by military force or by gaining political and economic control of other areas.

Body

Although imperialism began some centuries before Industrial Revolution(IR), IR lead to 'new Imperialism'. It was a period of colonial expansion by European powers, the United Sates, and the Empire of Japan during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

After Industrial Revolution more aggressive and extensive form of imperialism began. The industrial revolution created the need for Europe to take over more colonies around the world. Now apart from national greatness, measured by number of colonies, there was an additional push to conquer new territories –

- Raw materials - because the Industrial Revolution increased the production capacity of Western states astronomically, there was an enormous hunger for raw materials to satisfy demands.
  - European power eyed Africa, which was rich in oil, ivory, rubber, wood, cotton, cocoa beans, copper, gold, iron, cobalt, diamonds, etc.
  - The American Civil War created a shortage of cotton supply. This prompted the main purchasers of cotton, Britain and France, to turn to Egyptian cotton.

- Demand for labors - With hundreds of thousands of workers finding employment in textile mills, there was not enough labor to plow, seed, prune, and harvest the cotton. The cotton industry needed a new source of raw material supply and labor. The Western countries looked at western Africa, India, and China for that.
- Market - The colonies gave the Western powers a ready-made market for their goods, at the colonized people were left with little to no legal recourse to produce their own finished products. Asia's textile markets were vast, and winning them was the grand prize for European imperialism. India, in particular, became a huge market.
- Capability enhancement - Industrial Revolution, Europeans had an advantage in the quality of their weapons and military training. The Western powers used their superior weapons like The Maxim gun and powerful iron warships to conquer much of the world, especially lands in Africa and Asia. In 1800, Europe controlled 35 percent of the world's land surface; by 1914, they controlled 84 percent.
- Advancement in Medicine – allowed Europeans to better survive malaria and yellow fever. Africa, especially the western regions, was known as the 'White Man's Grave' and years earlier only one in ten men could survive. With the new medicine to combat malaria, European explorers could venture much deeper into Africa, and therefore make more accurate maps for future Europeans arriving on the continent.
- Infrastructure development – like steam-powered trains and ships, telegraph, opening of Suez Canal gave Europe the power to efficiently maintain and profit from so many colonies around the world.

However here were other reasons as well for –

- Decline of the great empires in Asia and Africa.
- Feeling of racial superiority - Because of growing racism, or the belief that one race was superior to another because they were more technologically

advanced, many Europeans and Americans felt they had the right to dominate people of other races.

- Philosophical bias - Despotism is a legitimate mode of government in dealing with barbarians, provided the end be their improvement wrote John Stuart Mill, the great philosopher of human freedom in On Liberty

Conclusion

Without the innovations of the Industrial Revolution, the Imperialistic powers would not be able to penetrate deeply in the colonial countries. Their access would be limited to the ports.

39. How did aggressive nationalism and militarisation in Europe create the platform for WWI? Analyse.

Introduction

World War I started on the 28th of July 1914 between two sides - triple alliance and the triple entente. Though the immediate cause was the assassination of Austria's Archduke Ferdinand, the war started mainly because of four aspects: Militarism, Alliances, Imperialism and Nationalism.

Body

Nationalism in Europe as a reason:

Nationalism was a great cause of World War one because of countries being greedy and not negotiating. The use of Nationalism gave nations false hope and made them aggressive to win the war.

- Nationalist groups in Austria-Hungary and Serbia wanted independence.
    - o Serbian nationalism: The Serbs wanted to integrate the Balkan areas populated with Slavs into a single Yugoslavia. But that required secession of certain areas from the German empire which had Slav people.
    - o Slavic peoples in Bosnia and Herzegovina to no longer be part of Austria Hungary but instead be part of Serbia.
- Austria annexed the Ottoman provinces of Bosnia which had significant population of Slavs. As Serbia wanted Bosnia to be a part of Yugoslavia, the enmity between the two widened.
- Albania was made an independent state with the help of Austria which was claimed by Serbia. This further embittered its rivalry against Serbia.
- France wanted Alsace Lorraine back from Germany who was lost in 1871 Franco-Prussian war. This was a nationalist pride for France.
- Finally, the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand in Serbia by the nationalist terrorist group Black Hand.

Militarization in Europe as a reason:

Militarism rised mutual suspicion and led to to the naval and arms race. The main event of Militarism causing World War one was the naval rivalry which was made after 1900.

- Naval race: The new Keiser Wilhelm announced his intention to build a bigger German navy than Britain. Britain felt very threatened by this.
- Arms race: Threatened by the naval race between Britain and Germany, major powers on mainland Europe were also building up their armies.
- Russia mobilized its troops as a precautionary measure on German border due to the rising tensions. This was seen as a sign of military aggression by Germany which came up with Schlieffen Plan which was the main reason for Britain to declare war on Germany.
- Increased military control over civilian government: The German army was called 'state within a state' and controlled almost all the decisions related to security with civilian government having limited say.
- Rise in military expenditure: which increased drastically after 1910 with Germany – 73%, Russia - 39% and so on. This in turn increased the tensions across Europe.
- Army conscription: was adopted by almost all the European countries. This increased the standing forces, arms procurement etc., which fueled further militarism.

Conclusion

Thus, Nationalism was a prominent force in early 20th century Europe and a significant cause of World War I. Adding to it, militarism in Europe increased the rivalry between nations. It increased the confidence of every country to win war which led to a large-scale war.

40. How did newly found petroleum resources change the fate of Southwest Asian nations? Discuss.

Introduction

- Southwest Asia is the westernmost sub region of Asia
- Southwest Asia has the world's largest known oil reserves. Saudi Arabia and Iran have the largest deposits of oil.
- Oil rich countries in south-west Asia includes Iran, Iraq, Syria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Oman, and Yemen. These ten countries together have an area of 5.1 million square kilometres, or about 3.4% of the Earth's land surface, but they possess according to BP's 2012 Statistical Review of World Energy, 48% of world's known oil reserves and 38% of natural gas reserves.

Body

The Middle East oil fields, stretching in a great arc from Iran and Iraq around the Persian Gulf, comprise collectively the largest known petroleum deposits, approximating about two-thirds of the oil reserve of the free world.

The region has been completely transformed due to the discovery of oil.

- Oil-producing countries have enjoyed tremendous growth in national wealth and an improved standard of living. Citizens that live in these countries may have the access to quality houses, food, health care, education, jobs, transportation, communication, and luxury items. The life expectancy in these countries has increased by over 15 years because of advancements in healthcare, hospitals, medicines, education, etc.
- One of the results from cracks in oil rigs, oil spills, and illegal dumping of oil waste is reduction in the amount of freshwater available for drinking apart from environmental deterioration leading to climate change.

Many Southwest Asian nations became dependent on oil sales.

Global impact-

It has made some of these countries extremely rich and has led them to have a lot of control over the global economy.

Political instability-

- Some countries have grown very rich due to their oil production (Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait), while countries without oil are struggling (Afghanistan, Jordan, Israel, etc.).

- Countries without oil have a much harder time improving living conditions for their population. This difference in wealth in some of the Middle East has led to conflicts among the nations.

- Anarchy/despotism in Iraq and Syria was a result of the leaders in these nations growing rich by exporting oil and not spending the revenue generated on the wellbeing of the common people.

- Interference by western nations further complicated the situation.

Even though there was drastic growth in this region, the recent issue on curbing climate change will dampen oil economy in future and many of these nations are not ready with other alternative to run their nations. They have been exploitative and never concerned about the consequences.

Conclusion:

Developments like initiation of production of Shale gas and environmental regulation under Paris agreement is surely going to bring in much required sustainability in the region. Further, development of alternative economies like livestock ranching as proposed by Saudi Arabia's prince should be a pathway for other nations to go for sustainability and help future generation.

41. In what ways did the post WWI global economy's excessive dependence on the United States of America (USA) create the platform for the Great Depression? Discuss.

Introduction

"The primary cause of the Great Depression was the war of 1914-1918," the former president of United States of America Herbert Hoover wrote in his 1952 memoirs. "Without the war there would have been no depression of such dimensions."

Body

Economic Turmoil after WWI Led to the Great Depression

"World War I's legacy of debt, protectionism and crippling reparations set the stage for a global economic disaster".
                    -----CHRISTOPHER KLEIN

- **America Retreats from the World:** While the United States emerged from World War I not only as the world's leading economic power, but scarred by its involvement in what many Americans saw as a purely European conflict. The disillusionment with World War I led to a retreat from international affairs. America was going to make the world safe for democracy and came out disgusted with the whole thing. The United States emerged as the logical leader on the world stage and then cut out of that role. Not wanting to be saddled with the cost of a European war, the United States demanded that the Allies repay money loaned to them during the conflict. "The Allies took the position that if they had to do that, then they would have to collect reparations from Germany that could be used to repay the war loans.

- **German Reparations Weigh Down Europe:** The punitive *Treaty of Versailles* required Germany to pay billions of dollars in reparations to Great Britain, France, Belgium and other Allies. "The Peace is outrageous and impossible and can bring nothing but misfortune," wrote economist John Maynard Keynes after resigning in protest as the British Treasury Department's chief representative to the peace conference. In his international bestseller The Economic Consequences of the Peace, Keynes argued that the onerous reparations would only further impoverish Germany and exacerbate the damage caused to the European economy by the war. What ensued was a vicious flow of money back and forth across the Atlantic as American bankers lent money to Germany to pay reparations to the Allies to repay their debts to the United States. With the Allies refusing to ease reparation terms, Germany defaulted on its payments in 1923, and its economy further crumbled when factories shuttered after France and Belgium occupied the

industrial Ruhr region to force German repayment. To come up with the money to meet its obligations, Germany accelerated its currency printing, which caused such hyperinflation that the German mark became virtually worthless. The exchange rate of the German mark to the American dollar plummeted from 32.9 to 1 in 1919 to 433 billion to 1 by 1924. The paper on which German marks were printed had more value as kindling or children's building blocks than as currency.

- **Economic Barriers Restrict Trade:** While the crippled European economy whimpered, the American economy roared through the Twenties. However, social changes to the United States as a result of World War I laid the groundwork for the ensuing economic free-fall. Due to the role they played during the war, businessmen emerged as knights in shining armor, and the business of the country is business. Policies enacted by successive Republican administrations resulted in both large tax cuts for big business owners that widened income inequality and a lack of regulation on banks and Wall Street that some historians connect to the start of the Great Depression. At the same time, the United States continued its inward turn by curtailing immigration and in 1922 enacting the highest tariff in the country's history to that point. While global guns remained silent during the 1920s, an international trade war raged around the globe that hindered economic recovery. By the time of the October 1929 Stock Market Crash, countries such as Germany, Great Britain, Canada and Japan had already fallen into recession. When American credit dried up and banks started to fail, lenders not only stopped lending to Germany, they sought prompt repayment. The added economic pressure only worsened the downturn.

- **The Global Economy Collapses:** The Great Depression did not take hold until the fall of 1930, and in the interim Hoover signed into law the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, which erected the highest trade barriers in American history. At the very time you need to stimulate spending, these policies put in place a tariff that raised the price of goods and made it more difficult for Europeans to pay their bills and sell their goods in this country. As another protectionist wave swept across the globe, Germany announced the formation of a customs union with Austria in March 1931. France feared it a step toward annexation and withdrew funds from Austrian banks, igniting a banking panic in Vienna that spread to Germany. In the ensuing months, the European economy imploded.

The inward turn after World War I had now left the United States to confront the Great Depression on its own.

Conclusion

The most devastating impact of the Great Depression was human suffering. In a short period of time, world output and standards of living dropped precipitously. As much as one-fourth of the labour force in industrialized countries was unable to find work in the early 1930s. While conditions began to improve by the mid-1930s, total recovery was not accomplished until the end of the decade.

42. How far can the German military aggression during the interwar period be held responsible for the outbreak of WWII? Critically examine.

Introduction

Years after World War I but before World War II is referred as interwar period. It is also the period when the Nazi Party and Adolf Hitler took control of Germany. After rising to power in Germany, Hitler began to carry out aggression towards other nation-states in Europe and Hitler carried out actions that went against the general terms of the Treaty of Versailles. The Western European democracies of Britain and France did not want to enter into a military conflict with Germany at this time as both had been reducing their armies and ability to wage war. This lack of will to fight pushed both countries towards the policy of appeasement which involved giving into the demands of an aggressive country in the hopes that the aggression could be contained.

Body

German military aggression during the interwar period responsible for the outbreak of WWII

- Remilitarize the Rhineland – In March of 1936, Nazi Germany remilitarized the Rhineland under the direction of Adolf Hitler. France was angered by the move but lacked the ability to respond and did not have the support of Britain. This lack of a response by both Britain and France to the remilitarization of the Rhineland only confirmed for Hitler that he would not be challenged as he expanded his aggression.

- Annexation of Austria – Germany annexed Austria in 1938. The Treaty of Versailles forbid Germany from uniting with Austria but Hitler, who was born in Austria, wanted to unite all Germany speaking people under his control. Britain and France protested the move by Germany but did not respond in any meaningful way, which furthered Hitler's belief that the Allied nations would not stop his aggression.

- German aggression towards Czechoslovakia in 1938 - Czechoslovakia, as a country, was created after World War I and parts of it included German-speaking people, such as the Sudetenland. Again, Hitler pressured Europe with his military aggression in the goal of uniting all German-speaking peoples under the control of the Nazi's. A two-day conference in Munich was held in 1938 in which the leaders of Britain, France, Italy and Germany met to discuss Germany's desire to take over the Sudeten region. Western powers allowed Hitler with no resistance to take over the Sudeten region, on promise that Germany will not seek any more territory in Europe. Germany soon took control over the remainder of Czechoslovakia through a series of invasions.

- Invasion of Poland - German forces invaded Poland on September 1st, 1939. This action was what finally caused the Allied nations to stand up against Germany and Britain and France both declared war on Germany on the 3rd of September. Europe was again at war, only two decades after the end of the First World War.

Some historians have argued that if the British and French had acted earlier than the German invasion of Poland, then they may have been able to stop Hitler and the Nazi's and avoided the devastation of World War II.

Other reasons responsible for the outbreak of WWII

- Treaty of Versailles - that punished Germany for causing World War I in 1918. It humiliated and angered Germany.
- Economic downturn - Hyper-inflation hit Germany hard in 1923-4 and facilitated the early development of Hitler's career.
- Aggression by other countries – for instance Japanese militarism against China, Italian aggression against Ethiopia
- The failure of appeasement policy of Britain and France.
- Failure of League of Nations - in its mandate to prevent a second global conflict.
- Axis alliance – formed by Germany, Japan and Italy.
- Agreement between Germany and the Soviet Union in August 1939 to divide up Eastern Europe.

Conclusion

German military aggression during the interwar period was enabled by many other factors. It cannot be considered as the only driver of WWII.

43. Give a brief description of the manner in which countries aligned themselves after WWII. What were the implications of this alignment for the world at large? Examine.

Introduction

The world completely transformed during the years after the end of the Second World War in 1945. The influence and the dominations which a few European imperialist powers exercised in the pre-war years waned and the world saw the emergence of two superpowers(USA and USSR) along with newly independent asian and african nations.

Body

- Many countries in Europe had been liberated from German occupation by the Soviet armies. The Communist parties and other antifascist parties in these countries had played an important role in liberating those countries from german rule.
- On the other hand, the United States of America was instrumental in rebuilding the western european nations, which came under its sphere of influence.
- A major feature of the history of the world for almost four decades after the end of the Second World War was the antagonism between the United States and the Soviet Union and the armed confrontation between the military

blocs headed by them. This was the period of the Cold War and the race in the designing and production of ever new weapons of mass destruction. It posed a danger to the very survival of humankind.

- The most important reason for the 'outbreak' of the Cold War was the

  Western countries' fear of communism. The United States openly declared that her policy was to prevent the spread of communism. One of the objectives of the massive economic aid that the United States gave to West European countries was also to 'contain' communism.

In 1947, The USSR set up Cominform (Communist Information Bureau) which was the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties responsible for the creation of the Eastern bloc.

The growing tension in the world was worsened by the setting up of military blocs. In 1949, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was formed for defense against the Soviet Union. The members of this alliance were the United States and other west european nations.

In 1955, in response to NATO, the Warsaw Pact was formed with member states East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Albania, Bulgaria, and the Soviet Union.

Many newly independent nations of Asia and Africa as well as many nations in other continents did not like the military blocs. They began to follow a policy of nonalignment with any military bloc. Their emergence played a very important role in reducing the intensity of the Cold War and in creating an atmosphere of peace. These countries formed the Non-aligned Movement(NAM) in 1961.

The formation of the military alliances was accompanied by another dangerous development. This was the race for deadlier weapons of destruction. Nuclear weapons were developed by both the superpowers which kept the world on the verge of destruction.

Further, the antagonism on both sides led to conflicts between the two superpowers indirectly in other countries. This was a feature of the cold war.

The rivalry between the two superpowers also derailed the healthy and smooth functioning of the United Nations Organisation(UNO) as both had veto powers in the Security Council of the UN.

Domestic discourse in the democratic nations was subverted to some extent under the fear of spread of communism and socialism. For example, Mccarthyism in United States of America.

The space race between the two superpowers also helped in the advancement of science and technology. For example, Humans reached moon in 1969.

Countries under the Warsaw Pact remained underdeveloped as was evident after the end of the cold war and many people suffered under the autocratic rule of dictators. For example, Stalin and Mao policies in the USSR and China.

Conclusion

After the Second World War, the International System came to be a totally different system where the new international system was characterised by two superpowers, the Cold War, bipolarity, non-alignment, anti-imperialism, the UNO, the presence of several new sovereign states in the world, N-weapons and the threat of Total War.

44. Examine the factors that led to the creation of the European Union. Was it successful? Critically examine.

Introduction

The Treaty of Rome was signed on March 25, 1957, cementing an economic agreement between six European countries that ultimately paved the way to today's European Union. EU is a political and economic union of 28 states formed by the Maastricht treaty in 1992 located primarily in Europe.

Body

Factors led to the formation of European Union:

The Second World War had exhausted the Europe with industries in ruins and defence being weak. A single country wouldn't have survived the newly started cold war and the countries came together to address the same and formed ECSC (European Coal and Steel Community). It later evolved into the EU.

- Political factors: The European Union is set up with the aim of ending the frequent and bloody wars between neighbors, which culminated in the Second World War. With communism and dictatorship on the rise, EU wanted to promote democracy, freedom, human dignity, Rule of law and Human rights.

- Economic factor: The world war had destroyed the economy of Europe and the countries came together to ease the trade and to be more competitive in the global marketplace. At the same time, it must balance the needs of its independent fiscal and political members.

- Handling common global issues: like terrorism, migration issue and so on which was gaining on the circumstances. The Maastricht treaty broadened the EU's scope, to include both economic and social issues - like education, public health, technological development, and environmental protection, to name a few.

- Safeguard the culture and respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity which was under threat after the world war and later during cold war.

The shortcomings of European union are mainly cited for the Brexit and there is a wave of Euroscepticism posing serious challenges to the EU. Yet EU is successful over the years in many aspects.

Achievements of European Union:

- World's largest single market: with labor market mobility, the free movement of goods, services and capital. This in turn has boosted the economic activity making the EU accounting for 23% of world GDP.

- It gave more than 500 million people the freedom to live, study or work anywhere within the EU member states. The EU also created the Schengen Area, a zone of passport-free, borderless travel.

- EU is instrumental in maintaining peace and it was awarded Nobel peace prize in 2012 for contributing to the advancement of peace and reconciliation, democracy and human rights in Europe. As a upholder of Human rights, it also banished death penalty.

- For a country to join the EU, it needs to meet three criteria: political, with stable institutions underpinning democracy; economic, with a functioning market economy; and legal, with the acceptance of EU law and practice. Under this process, a number of former dictatorships and ailing ex-communist economies made peaceful transitions.

- Programs on Global issues like

    o The EU has the biggest programme of environmental legislation in the world. It also ratified the Paris agreement and collectively contributing to address environmental concerns.

    o EU Counter terrorism strategy, rules to fight money laundering and terror financing etc.,

Shortcomings of European Union:

- Crisis in Europe: one of the main reasons for the formation of European union is to bring political stability. However, EU failed many times during the cold war period including bifurcation of Germany, Balkan wars of 1990s and so on.

- Immigration crisis: it was not aptly handled by the EU as per the experts which led to protests all over Europe and also a major reason of Brexit.

- Representation: EU is seen as Anti-Democratic due to it institutional setup. For the same reason there is Euro-skepticism and the citizens of EU feel excluded. The European Commission – the executive branch and most important organ of the Union – drafts the laws implemented in member-state countries. But the Commission is unelected by the people. This is against the purpose of EU which wanted to promote democratic values.

- The economic model of EU is outdated and not catching up with the latest developments. There are no big technological giants competing with Google, Facebook etc., which has made EU redundant to its purpose of competitive

economic union. This has made the economic growth weak leading to even Eurozone crisis.

- The countries are not having control over monetary policies and due to hardline EU fiscal rules and suffering the deficit in growth. The failure of the EU to deliver led to Italy signing Belt and road Initiative.
- After the global financial crisis, instead of taking proactive measures, the EU rules mandated Austerity measures which only increased the Unemployment rates and low growth.

Conclusion

The EU was formed to give Europeans the convenience of one currency, to enhance mutual prosperity, and to reduce political tensions after centuries of animosity and war. However, rigid rules and undemocratic working of EU has created a problem to achieve its purpose. There is a need of reforms in the institutional setup to give flexibility for nations in times of crisis and handle sensitive issues like migration.

45. While attempts at socialism over the last century have had varying degree of success, each has sought to establish an egalitarian society to replace the structural inequalities inherent to capitalism. Comment.

Introduction

- Socialism is a range of economic and social systems characterised by social ownership and democratic control of the means of production as well as the political theories and movements associated with them.
- Capitalism is a type of social system that follows the belief of individual rights. From political perspective, capitalism is the system of laissez-faire (freedom). Lawfully, it is a system of objective laws that is rule of law in contrast to rule of man. In financial terms, when such freedom is applied to the domain of production its result is the free-market.

Body

Attempts of Socialism

- Capitalism is viewed as an irrational system resulting from market anarchy, which leads to high social waste and suffering (notably through crises and unemployment). It produces large inequalities and works in favour of a wealthy minority, both within capitalist societies and at the level of the capitalist world economy. But with its inequalities of power and wealth, capitalism nurtures economic inequality alongside equality under the law. Eg. The wealthiest 1 percent of American households own 40 percent of the country's wealth
- Ideal or existing socialism, on the other hand, is seen as allowing consciously planned rational development, which does away with such capitalist flaws as recurring crises, waste and unemployment; it fosters social equality and may

promote a higher form of liberty where a united society comes to master its own progress.

- Socialism, as an alternative system, has proved to be sustainable in terms of decades, but not beyond. Its failure is patent, when judged according to the very objectives and values that were basic to its promoters and advocates, especially the aim of overtaking capitalism in terms of rationality, efficiency and welfare, and of eventually replacing it as a more progressive historical economic system.

- If socialism is interpreted as a substitute for capitalism in countries that had missed the first industrial revolution (as suggested by Robinson, 1960), the overall judgment is more mixed, but in a majority of instances (the Chinese being the exception), the early reduction of the economic distance with capitalist countries at a similar initial level of development was followed by a growing gap during the last two or three decades of the systemic life cycle of socialist economies.

- While some socialist countries managed to introduce positive economic reforms at the end of Great depression, most reformist experiences were disappointing or short-lived. Moreover, the political element in the institutional base of these systems was the ultimate obstacle to genuine adaptive reform (though China later represented an interesting exception, as noted earlier).

- In the current scenario Norway is one of those countries that very closely approximates the democratic socialist ideal and is more successful than Unites states on virtually every social metric one can name.
  Also socially, it routinely ranks as the Happiest (2017)or second-happiest (2018) country in the world.

- On the other hand, on the policy side Venezuela is one of that country which is ostensibly socialist and undergoing a severe economic crisis.

Conclusion

Socialism, as the term has evolved in mainstream usage, does not mean a total absence of markets, just as capitalism does not imply a total absence of public ownership and regulations.

46. Although proponents of the same philosophy of socialism, the social democrats and the communists had different approaches to implementing socialism. Elucidate.

Introduction

Democratic socialism describes a socialist economy where production and wealth are collectively owned, but the country has a democratic system of government. Communism is an Economic and social system in which all property and resources are collectively owned by a classless society and not by individual citizens.

Body

Social democrats approaches to implementing socialism.

- Democratic socialism is committed to more liberty. The most disadvantaged and the wretched individuals must be lifted from their ignoble condition and this can be done by the state. Democratic socialism says that the doors of liberty shall be opened to all and not to few. It is loudly claimed by the democratic socialists that allowance of scope to everyone for the enjoyment of liberty will finally open the way for overall participation in the processes of state. This we can call maximization of liberty.

- Every democratic socialist claims that equality is a very important value or principle. In a socialist society based on democratic values and principles everyone will have the opportunity to enjoy equality. In other words, unjustified or unreasonable differences cannot be allowed to rule the society. Equality also means the absence of special privileges.

- It is the goal of democratic socialism to bring the chief sources of production under the authority of state and to give due share to labour.

- Since democratic socialism falls in the category of evolutionary socialism it avoids in all probable ways the techniques of armed struggle or revolution. In its account force or coercion is associated with revolution and, therefore, it should not be used. There are many peaceful ways which can be applied for "reaching the goals of socialism. Moreover, coercion means the abduction of freedom of the individuals and such course of action is to be avoided at any cost.

- The most important peaceful way is the reforms. The democratic socialists want to build up socialism within the main structure of capitalism and because of this they argue for introducing reforms. They believe that if reforms are successfully implemented they can produce the results which revolutionary socialism promises to bring forth.

- Economic planning, introduced to streamline production and distribution in a planned way, is an important method of democratic socialism. The management of production and the distribution of produced commodities is performed through planning. Planning in democratic socialist state plays a very crucial role. Because of planning the management of economy proceeds in a definite and scientific way and this assures the attainment of promised goals, especially the proper distribution of wealth, and in this way the reduction of inequalities is possible.

Communists approaches to implementing socialism.

- Communist Manifesto includes Abolition of property in land and application of all rents of land to public purposes, A heavy progressive or graduated

income tax, Abolition of all right of inheritance, Confiscation of the property of all immigrants and rebels, Equal liability of all to labor and establishment of industrial armies (especially for agriculture), The gradual abolition of the distinction between town and country, Free education for all children in public schools and abolition of children's factory labor, Centralization of credit in the hands of the state, The state would control communication and transportation, The state factories and instruments of production would cultivate wastelands and improve the soil etc.

- The manifesto mentions state ownership, which makes even this pure vision of communism sound like socialism. But the state ownership is a valid stage in the transition to communism. In a true communist economy, the community makes decisions; in most communist countries, the government makes those decisions on their behalf. This system is called a command economy.

- The leaders create a plan that outlines their choices, and it's executed with laws, regulations, and directives. The goal of the plan is to give to "each according to his need." Communist countries have free health care, education, and other services. The plan also seeks to increase the nation's economic growth, secure national defense, and maintain infrastructure.

- The state owns businesses on behalf of the workers, which, in effect, means the government owns a monopoly. The government rewards company managers for meeting the targets detailed in the plan. In communism, central planners replace the forces of competition and the laws of supply and demand that operate in a market economy, as well as the customs that guide a traditional economy.

- Communism has a centrally planned economy; it can quickly mobilize economic resources on a large scale, execute massive projects, and create industrial power. It can move so effectively because it overrides individual self-interest and subjugates the welfare of the general population to achieve critical social goals. Communist command economies can wholly transform societies to conform to the planner's vision.

Conclusion

Communism is what existed in the Soviet Union and still exists in China, Cuba, Laos, North Korea and Vietnam. It isn't monolithic, but the common thread is a fully centralized economy achieved through revolution. At the other end is social democracy, which is common in Europe. It preserves capitalism, but with stricter regulations and government programs to distribute resources more evenly.

47. A combination of economic uncertainty and a lack of trust in the solutions offered by incumbent politicians, is a fertile ground for fascism/ authoritarianism. Do you agree? Critically comment.

Introduction

Fascism is a political ideology characterized by far-right, authoritarian ultra-nationalism. It has features like dictatorial power, forcible suppression of opposition, and strong regimentation of society and of the economy. Fascism came to prominence in early 20th-century Europe.

Body

It is said that economy is the basis of empire. Economic uncertainty creates hardship among masses, yearning for a change. Coupled by lack of trust in the solutions offered by incumbent politicians create anti-incumbency feelings, creating new political space. Hence, emerge a new leadership, which sheds reluctance of previous regime and emboldened by the public mandate develops fascist/authoritarian tendencies. Authoritarianism may also get support for quick implementation of solutions and fulfilment of the aspiration of people.

This has been shown time and again throughout the history –

- Reign of terror – on of the most brutal autocratic regime in France 1993-94 combination of economic uncertainty and a lack of trust in the solutions offered by incumbent politicians.
- Rise of Hitler – one reason for rise of Hitler's Nazi party was economic uncertainty and global depression. Treaty of Versailles also put mistrust among the Germans in the previous regime.
- Russian revolution – Lenin's rise to power was enabled by mismanagement of economy by and mistrust in Czars rule.
- Pakistan – Military rule in Pakistan was due to economic stress and lack of trust in political leaders.
- Arab spring – in Middle East.
- Right wing – Rise in rise wing government in France, Britain, Turkey etc. Lack of trust in the solutions offered by incumbent politicians lead to Brexit in Britain.

However not always does combination of economic uncertainty and a lack of trust in the solutions offered by incumbent politicians lead to fascism/ authoritarianism –

- India despite economic hardships and lack of trust in the incumbent politicians has never become victims of fascism/ authoritarianism. Indians have always taken fight ballet rather than bullet.
- During economic depression, which began in 1929, U.S remained democratic and overcame the economic hardship. Thrust in democratic values remained intact in the world's oldest democracy.

There are many other reasons for breeding of fascism/ authoritarianism like ideology of selective nationalism; propaganda, for example against Jews by Nazis in Europe.

Conclusion

As per Ruth Benedict, it is 'national characteristics' that will decide fascist/ authoritarian tendencies of a nation, despite conditions like economic uncertainty and a lack of trust in the incumbent politicians being the same.

48. Do you agree with the socialist argument that society's inequalities in income and power stem from the capitalist system that dominates the world today? Critically comment.

Introduction

Capitalism and Socialism are the two primary economic systems used to understand the world and the way economies work. Their distinctions are many, but perhaps the fundamental difference between capitalism and socialism lies in the scope of government intervention in the economy.

Body

The capitalist economic model relies on free market conditions to drive innovation and wealth creation and regulate corporate behavior; this liberalization of market forces allows for the freedom of choice, resulting in either success or failure.

In capitalist economies, people have strong incentives to work hard, increase efficiency, and produce superior products. By rewarding ingenuity and innovation, the market maximizes economic growth and individual prosperity while providing a variety of goods for consumers.

The socialist-based economy incorporates elements of centralised economic planning, utilized to ensure conformity and to encourage equality of opportunity and economic outcome.

Following factors can be considered in understanding the socialist critique of capitalism with regards to society's inequalities:

- Under capitalism, because market mechanisms are mechanical, rather than normative, and agnostic in regard to social effects, there are no guarantees that each person's basic needs will be met.
- Markets also create cycles of boom and bust and, in an imperfect world, allow for "crony capitalism," monopolies and other means of cheating or manipulating the system.

- According to socialists, Capitalism makes possible universal abundance through focus on productivity. But its central features—market competition, the pursuit of profits, and private property—ensure that this possibility will never be realized.
- Socialists argue that Capitalism misallocates resources towards producing what is profitable rather than what is needed. Though what is needed can sometimes be profitable. But often the two categories come apart. For example, production of luxury goods.
- Further, capitalism is also inefficient in its use of human labor power. Capitalism functions best when there exists a "reserve army of the unemployed," in Socialist terminology. The credible threat of unemployment reduces workers' salary demands and increases their work effort.
- Socialists want democracy to have very broad scope where they want citizens to be highly involved in democratic processes and they want citizens to have roughly equal opportunities to influence these processes. Further, that the democratic ideal, understood in this rich and demanding way, militates against capitalism
- According to many socialists, one of capitalism's central moral failings is that it is exploitative. Exploitation is "a kind of coercive prying loose of unpaid labor". This may appear counterintuitive as capitalism provides choice but in the absence of alternative, choice becomes dependency which leads to exploitation.
- Socialists posit that capitalism market logic leads to deeply anti-social relations where community life is sacrificed at the altar of individual interest. This further leads to inequality in material and social sense.
- The rise of giant multinational corporations has been a topic of concern among scholars, intellectuals and activists, who see the large corporation as leading to deep, structural erosion of such basic human rights and civic rights as equitable wealth and economic distribution, equitable democratic political and socio-economic power representation and many other human rights and needs.

At the same time, it is necessary to consider that socialism's solutions to capitalism's ills have been ineffective and created more issues in society in the form of centralization and negation of choice.

According to socialism everyone must be equal, one way to do this is to 'level down' the better off, but this is morally repugnant. So socialism is generally rejected.

Conclusion

In the present world context, classical capitalism has faded into the background after the emergence keynesian model and further, economies have tended to combine elements of both systems where capitalism has developed its safety nets, while countries like China and Vietnam are edging toward full-fledged market economies.

49. What do you understand by 'neoliberalism'? What are its characteristics? How is it different from socialism? Discuss.

Introduction

Neoliberalism is an ideology that emphasize the value of free market competition. It is closely associated with the ideology of Laissez-faire economics with minimal state intervention in economic and social affairs, and its commitment to the freedom of trade and capital. It emerged due to the failure of communist and socialist policies which resulted in high public debt.

Body

Characteristics of neoliberalism:

The philosophy of neoliberalism is usually considered as a modern alternate of classical economic liberalism. It is centered on a conviction in the self-regulating capacity of the market and correlatively the need to restrict the scope of action of the state. Its characteristics include

- Liberalization and privatization: Opening up sectors for private participation where government regulations are relaxed and hitherto banned sectors are opened up for private sector.
- Government as a business enterprise: Government at all scales under neoliberalism is turned into a business and citizens are consumers of public goods.
- Free flow of capital and labour: the foreign investment has limited restrictions. labour mobility is relaxed.
- Limited trade barriers facilitating free flow of goods and services with least tariff and non-tariff barriers.
- The increasing replacement of the Citizen with the Consumer as the most important and respected identity and mode of communication with both the State and the Market.
- The public has a choice in goods and services due to competition as multiple players are involved in production.
- Trickle down philosophy: Under neoliberalism, the belief and rhetoric of "trickle down" economics runs strong and alongside it the belief that everything would be better off if it were a private business.
- personal responsibility doctrine: all emphasis on individual. Every transaction happens at the individual level.

Difference from socialism:

- Government role:
  - it has the role of facilitator with limited role in neoliberalism where as in socialism, the state has a major role responsible for the welfare of its citizens.

- o The role of the state is to regulate the markets, in the public interest in socialism, whereas the role of the state is in service of the markets, in the interest of market players in neoliberalism.
- The government impose trade barriers in interest of the domestic producers where as in socialism, there is limited trade barriers in interest of domestic consumers.
- Labour is mainly domestic and there is limited flow of labour as well as capital in socialism where as in neoliberalism, labour and capital mobility is relaxed.
- Citizen welfare and well-being is the responsibility of the state in socialism whereas in neoliberalism it is contingent on market forces and individual.

- The citizens are viewed mainly in passive welfare perspective in socialism whereas in neoliberalism, they are seen as active consumers.

Conclusion

A general characteristic of neoliberalism is the desire to intensify and expand the market which act as a balancing force. Neoliberalism has overcome the problems of socialism by the rightful mix of market and state role in providing efficient and effective goods and services to citizens.

50. Do you think patriarchy as a dominant social feature has got diluted in the 21st century India? Critically examine.

Introduction

Patriarchy is a social system in which men hold primary power, predominate in the roles of political leadership, moral authority, special privilege and control of the property. Men are also centre and authoritative figure in the domain of the family. Patriarchy has been one of the dominant features of Indian society.
21st century has brought many opportunities among women in social, economic and political domain.

Body

Patriarchy as a dominant social feature has got diluted in the 21st century India

- Women movements have earned many rights to women in India. 33% reservation in Panchayat is one example of rising political equality in Indian Society.
- Women's share in non-traditional employment has increased. 11.7% of India's pilots are women (global average ~ 3%).
- Women's recruitment in combat operation in army has now been planned.
- Under MGNREGA women's participation has increased 50%.
- There are many SHGs successfully owned by women.

- Women's movements, like #Metoo movement, have been very successful in recent times. There has been support by media and male members of the society. This signals shift in patriarchal mindset.

Patriarchy as a dominant social feature is still intact in the 21st century India

A quantitative picture of patriarchy can be gaged by Global Gender Gap Index, in which India ranks 108th/149 in 2018.

A quantitative and qualitative picture of patriarchy in India

- **Social**
  - Literacy - female ~ 65%; male ~ 80% (2011 census)
  - Males get more medical care compared to girls
- **Cultural**
  - Son meta preference (less opportunity to come to the world)
  - Child marriage ~ 27% (UNICEF)
  - More women divorced and separated – This tells a story about India's gender biases and how patriarchy operates.

- **Economic**

  - Female labour force participation rate ~ 26% (Niti Aayog)
  - Gender pay gap ~ 34% (ILO)
  - Glass ceiling
  - Feminization of informal sector and de-feminization of formal sector.

- **Political**
  - female representation in Parliament ~ 99th in the world
  - Lok Sabha ~ 12%; Rajya Sabha ~ 11%.

Conclusion

Women are the largest untapped reservoir of talent in the world – Hillary Clinton. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar had said progress of community must be measured "degree of the progress of women". Patriarchy is hindrance for overall development of India.

51. Examine the factors that can be attributed to the rising divorce rates in India.
Introduction
The number of divorcees has doubled over the past two decades, as per a report of United Nations titled "Progress of the World's Women 2019-2020: Families in a Changing World".

As per the census, 1.36 million people in India are divorced. That is equivalent to 0.24% of the married population, and 0.11% of the total population. More strikingly, the number of people separated is almost thrice the number of people divorced - 0.61% of the married population and 0.29% of the total population.

Body

Rising divorce rates in India can be seen through various lenses. One is increasing empowerment in women.

- The landmark Hindu Code Bill passed in the parliament in the mid-1950s gave women property rights, outlawed polygamy and allowed partners to file for divorce. The laws were further tweaked in 1976 to allow divorce by mutual consent.

- Over time, the traditional joint family has given way to nuclear families in cities and towns; and more and more women are going to work or setting up their own businesses. Many urban women no longer have to depend on their spouses for financial security, men are sharing household chores; and gender equations are slowly changing.

- United Nations report titled "Progress of the World's Women 2019-2020: Families in a Changing World" point out that the age of marriage has increased in all regions, while birth rates have declined, and women have increased economic autonomy;

Other perspective of looking at it is violence against women.

- Millions of women and girls live in countries where rape within marriage is not explicitly criminalized.
- With socio-economic-politico empowerment of women, and voice through movement like #MeToo movement, women are more confident to unshackle themselves from marriages that put them to violent subjugation.

Other reasons –

- Also given that rates of living together before marriage are extremely low in India and marriage is universal, it wouldn't be surprising that for some members of the younger people, first marriages can end up in divorce.
- Adultery and incompatibility are the two common reasons that are cited for the breakup
- More women divorced and separated - is even more striking, and tells a story about India's gender biases and how patriarchy operates.

Different pattern of divorce throughout India

- Divorce and separation rates in the north-eastern states - where tribal laws allow for informal relations and women sometimes enjoy a relatively higher status because of a matrilineal system - are relatively higher than elsewhere in India.
- Northern states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana and Rajasthan which are known to be deeply patriarchal have much lower divorce and separation rates.

Conclusion

India's divorce rate stood at 1% in 2017, according to a report from the Organisation for Economic Co -operation and Development. While the absolute number of divorces has gone up from 1 in 1,000 to 13 in 1,000 over the last decade or so, India still remains at the top of the list of countries with the lowest divorce rates.

52. How do the aspirations of a 21st century Indian middle class differ from its 20th century counterpart? Discuss. What are the drivers of this change? Examine.

Introduction

India's middle class is not a homogenous group. It can include a farmer in rural India, a taxi driver in Mumbai or any middle income family. Many reports define India's middle class as households with annual disposable incomes between 200,000 and 1 million rupees, which have seen multiple changes since the past century.

Body

- Since the early 1990s, India has been viewed globally as the next China, poised to emerge as a massive market for just about everything money can buy. The most fabled part of this emergence story has been the country's middle class, a group raring to lead lives of comfort denied in past decades by a mix of socialist policies and cultural austerity.
- In the early 20th century, a few exceptions notwithstanding, the middle class almost always hailed from upper-caste groups; they would have typically received at least a smattering of Western education. 21st Century middle class contains a heterogenous identity in terms of caste, religion, language, etc.
- Historically, many among middle classes liked to imagine themselves as the mirror image of Victorian middle-class professionals. Whereas, the 21st century has a rise of aping of American lifestyle by middle class.
- Post 1947, many among the middle class lost their connection with land and became exclusively dependent upon professional income. But what

continued to unite the middle class was their predominantly upper-caste status and a shared disdain for manual labour, which is prevalent till present day.

- Till Independence, the size of the Indian middle class remained relatively small with an additional six million added in the next two decades, with a count of 11.2 million in 1971, according to the government statistics.

- The 1970s and 1980s saw a move toward a mixed economy, with the private sector adding a significant number of jobs as well. The "colonial" middle class from the days of British rule prior to 1947 was slowly transformed into a "new" middle class, who increasingly began being defined in terms of consumption behavior, with the country moving gradually toward a market-led capitalist economy.

- During the eight-year period between 2004 and 2012, the middle class doubled in size from 300 million to 600 million. By 2015, the size of the middle class in India was between 300 and 600 million, according to Deutsche Bank Research.

- Present day middle class is generally divided into upper and lower middle classes. The upper middle class has been educated in English. It spoke the language well, read English-language newspapers and used Western cultural reference points. The lower middle class usually did not speak English that well but recognised that it was the only language that matters in the workplace.

- When it came to politics, however, 20th century counterparts of present day middle class were more liberal and secular with present day middle class tending towards communal outlook as is evident from online trolling prevalent.

- The Indian middle class continues to play a significant role, not only in their home country, but also in other parts of the world. The rapid growth of the global software industry, where Indians excel and continue to be in demand, is creating a new, modern, mobile middle class.This has been a departure from their 20th century counterparts.

- The expansion of the middle class in India will not only enhance domestic consumption but also continue to grow the country's outbound tourism. The number of households in India with disposable incomes of more than US $10,000 has risen twentyfold in twenty-five years which has given them political and economic weight.

Conclusion

A healthy middle class is necessary to have a healthy political democracy. A society made up of rich and poor has no mediating group either politically or economically. This clearly demonstrates the importance of middle class and changes in their aspirations affecting society on a large scale which is evident from the general elections in 2014.

53. What are the most dominant unifying factors that have knit India together despite her tremendous social diversity? Examine.

Introduction

In diversity there is beauty and there is strength – Maya Angelou
India is a land of "Unity in diversity". The high mountain ranges, vast seas , large river-irrigated lands, countless rivers and streams, dark forests, sandy deserts, all these have adorned India with an exceptional diversity. Among the people there are numerous races, castes, creeds, religions and languages. But with all these diversities we live together as there is a fundamental unity among us.

Body

There are many factors that are contributing for the unification of India, but the most dominant are

1. Geographical factor: India has its own fixed natural boundary, At broadest level, the country can be divided into several regions viz. Himalaya, northern plains,plateau of central India and Deccan, Western & Eastern Ghats, Thar Desert etc. Despite of this diversity, India has been defined as a distinct geographical unit since ages. A sloka in Vishnu Purana defines Bharata as the land which is south of snowy mountains and north of ocean.

2. Religious factor: There has been an under-current of religious unity among the various religious sects in the country. India has multitude of religions including majority Hinduism and minority Islam, Sikhism, Christianity, Buddhism, Jainism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Bahá'í Faith and so on. All these religions have some common principles like principles of benevolence, honesty, faith in an invisible power, value of life etc. The concept of 'One in Many' and of universal morality as essence of religion has provided the essence of religious unity.

3. Cultural factor: The Cultural unity in diversity of India is generally denoted with the phrase "Ganga-Jamuni Tahjeeb" or India's composite culture. Despite of diversity, there are numerous cultural elements and factors that have shaped India's composite culture. There has been a basic unity of literary ideas, philosophy, conventions and outlook of the people throughout the country. there has been close socio-cultural cooperation among the followers of different creeds and communities. The composite culture of India is a living example of her fundamental cultural unity.

4. Linguistic factor: Side by side with this linguistic variety operates the unifying influence of Sanskrit, the mother of most of the Indian Languages. Sanskrit has been acknowledged as the one sacred language by all sections of the people irrespective of their race, rank or creed. Most of the Indian Languages have been influenced by Sanskrit, which may be regarded as a 'Mother Language' of India. English emerged as lingua franca of the country and serves as medium of communication between two people who have different mother tongue.

5. Political factor: The rulers of India tried to establish their way over the whole country and fostered its unity. The term 'Ekrat' is more significant as applying to the "Kins Ruling over the whole country". The geographical conception of the identity and individuality of the country in all its vastness and variety led to the attainment of its political unification under various sovereigns. After independence, India adopted democratic system of politics which demands political unification at all its levels.

6. Racial factor: India has a great power of fusion and assimilation. From the earliest time India has invaded by different races such as Aryans, Shaks, Huns etc. But with the passage of time they have merged completely with the local population and culture. Innumerable number of tribes and races coming to India were all absorbed in the broad cultural mainstream of the country. Racial diversity gave a variety to Indian culture, which is its unique feature.

7. Spirit of Nationalism: There is an emotional bond of patriotism in India that binds all the members of the nation. The very word Bharat Varsha binds all Indians and emotionally they become closer to one another. They can also sacrifice their lives to protect India from any forign power.

Conclusion

"Unity in Diversity" this phrase transcends the notion accommodation without assimilation which has been the key feature of Indian civilization. The diversity in terms of race, religion, Language, caste and culture has made India is a strong nation tied together with integration and unity in both politico-geographic and cultural backgrounds.

54. India's diversity is a huge capital. Do you agree? Substantiate. Introduction
"Diversity may be the hardest thing for a society to live with, but perhaps the most dangerous thing to live without" – MF Hussain.
A diverse ethos like India not only showcases unity in diversity but also the potential to create waves in innovative thinking. The diversity of India is not only its strength in the cultural sphere but also forms a huge capital for the progress of the nation.

Body

Diversity as a huge capital:

- Geographical diversity: India has almost every possible climate in the world.
  - This makes India robust enough to indulge in all kinds of agricultural and allied sectors. This has led to development in sugar industries, wheat industries, tea industry, fruit industry and industries depending on the cash crops of the subsequent crops. Also, India is leading producer of Milk and milk products, meat industry etc.,
  - Further, it is responsible for huge natural capital (Flora and Fauna). The minor forest produce, forest products generates a huge revenue for the government as well as the tribal people.

- o Furthermore, Water resources: The diversity in availability of water forms capital in terms of activities like fishing as well as in hydroelectric projects etc.,
- Racial diversity: Indian race consists of all major races of the world which forms the human capital especially in mobilization of people across the world (Indian diaspora and ancestral link).
- Linguistic diversity: India has around 20 major languages and more than 200 dialects used in the sub-continent. The literature out of them form a huge capital within and outside the country.
- Tribal diversity: Tribal handicrafts (whether it is Dhokra metal technique of West Bengal or Bidri technique of Karnataka), Tribal dances, etc., forms a huge capital for India.
- Medicinal diversity: The traditional medicinal practices and medicinal plants forms a major capital specially in terms of patents. Also, practices like Yoga, Ayurveda, Homeopathy etc., are gaining importance at the global level (E.g. Yoga is being introduced to fight climate change).
- Diversity for soft power: India with population of major races, religions, languages fares good in soft power which adds up to the diplomatic capital of the country. E.g. Bollywood movies famous in South Asia, Indian food being popular in almost every continent.
- Diversity of culture translates into diversity of ideas and innovations. Diverse problems and society bring in custom made ideas. E.g. the concept of Ice stupa in Ladakh by Sonam Wangchuk, Zero budget natural farming etc.,
- The historical diversity has added to India's rich heritage and culture which is a reflection of diverse historical monuments, architecture forming the cultural capital of the country. For instance, we have centuries old churches as well as millennium old temples and mosques.
- Tourism: diverse cultures in practicing religion, traditions, cuisines, manners and clothing attract all the visitors and tourists from globe to India. Being origin of major religion like Jainism, Buddhism also attracts visitors from countries like ASEAN countries.
- Differential Breed of Profession: Diversity has added to diverse professions ranging from Software engineers as well as literature pandits.
- Social capital: Riding under the principle of 'Unity in Diversity', Indian diversity upholds the principle of secularism, national integration, intermingling of people forming huge social capital. This can be seen in the fact that India is one of the few countries in south and west Asia which hasn't seen toppling of democracy or civil war.

However, there are some challenges posed by diversity which is contrarily hindering the capital formation. The instances of mob lynching, communal riots etc., bring forth the issues of communalism, Sectarianism, Casteism, Linguism, Regionalism etc., which also form the side effects of diversity.

Conclusion

Thus, the diversity in terms of race, religion, Language, caste and culture has made India is a strong nation tied together with integration and unity in both politico-geographic and cultural backgrounds. India is on its way of growth and development. It is worth mentioning that it has one of the strong and stable economies in the world and Indian diversity is adding up to its goals.

55. What do you understand by gender stereotyping? What are its socio-economic implications? Examine.

Introduction

Stereotype is a generalized view or preconception about attributes or characteristics that are or ought to be possessed by members of a particular social group or the roles that are or should be performed by, members of a particular social group.

Gender stereotyping is the practice of ascribing to an individual woman or man specific attributes, characteristics, or roles by reason only of her or his membership in the social group of women or men. A gender stereotype is, at its core, a belief and that belief may cause its holder to make assumptions about members of the subject group, women and/or men. In contrast, gender stereotyping is the practice of applying that stereotypical belief to a person.

Gender stereotypes can be both positive and negative for example, "women are nurturing" or "women are weak".

Body

Socio-economic implications of gender stereotyping
- It limits women's or men's capacity to develop their personal abilities, pursue their professional careers and make choices about their lives and life plans. Both hostile/negative or seemingly benign stereotypes can be harmful. It is for example based on the stereotype that women are more nurturing that child rearing responsibilities often fall exclusively on them.

- Women's role within the family leads to a division of labour within households that often result in time poverty for women and lower levels of education.

- It results in a violation or violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms. An example of this is the failure to criminalize marital rape based on the stereotype of women as the sexual property of men. Another example is the failure of the justice system to hold perpetrator of sexual violence accountable based on stereotypical views about women's appropriate sexual behaviour.

- Traditional attitudes by which women are regarded as subordinate to men perpetuate widespread practice involving violence and coercion.

- Investigation of cases of violence and the sanctioning of perpetrators are underpinned by patriarchal notions and stereotypes that negatively affect their objectivity and impartiality.

- A range of UN human rights mechanisms have highlighted how stereotypes about women's role can be incorporated in discriminatory legislation, for example preventing women from acquiring ownership of land since only the "head of the household" is authorized to sign official documentation.

- Economic Implications

  - Female labour force participation rate ~ 26% (Niti Aayog)
  - Gender pay gap ~ 34% (ILO)
  - Glass ceiling
  - Feminization of informal sector and de-feminization of formal sector.

Conclusion

"Moving beyond recognition that gender stereotyping is an obstacle to women's rights to meaningful progress in implementing human rights obligations to address harmful stereotypes and wrongful stereotyping will require all of us – treaty bodies, special procedures, States Parties, civil society, academics and many others – to give this issue the serious attention it deserves." OHCHR commissioned report – 'Gender Stereotyping as a human rights violation'

56. What are your views on the Sabarimala temple controversy? Should equal rights for women be given precedence over age old tradition? Substantiate.

Introduction

Sabarimala Temple controversy is all about the conflict between tradition and women rights. The shrine at Sabarimala is an ancient temple of Ayyappan, worshipped as a 'Naishtika Bramhachari' or a celibate for life. As per traditions and customs, women between 10 and 50 years of age were not allowed to enter into Sabarimala Temple.

Body

The Supreme Court verdict paved the way for the entry of women of all ages into the Ayyappa temple at Sabarimala in Kerala.

The five-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice of India, in its 4:1 verdict, said banning the entry of women into the shrine is gender discrimination and the practice violates the rights of Hindu women.

Supreme Court view on Sabarimala temple

- Religion is a way of life basically to link life with divinity.
- The court observed that it can't be oblivious to the fact of the case that a class of women is disallowed due to physiological reasons (menstruation).
- Devotion cannot be subjected to discrimination and patriarchal notion cannot be allowed to trump equality in devotion.

Dissenting view of Justice Indu Malhotra

- Issues which have deep religious connotation should not be tinkered with to maintain a secular atmosphere in the country.
- Essential religious practice must be decided by religious community, not the court.
- Religious freedom is presence of religious institution rather than individual rights.

Equal rights for women should be given precedence over age old tradition

- Preventing women from entering the places of worship goes against articles 14, 15, 19, and 25 of the Indian constitution, which deal with the right to equality, the right against discrimination based on gender, freedom of movement and freedom of religion.

- Barring them access to the inner sanctum of the shrine violated their fundamental right under Article 25(1) to freely practice their religion.

- Right to manage its own religious affairs under Article 26(1) cannot "override the right to practice religion itself", as Article 26 cannot be seen to overrule the right to practice one's religion as guaranteed under the Constitution of India.

- Restricting the entry of women into places of worship is one of the ways of imposing patriarchy. Often the restrictions are based on patriarchy and not religion.

- Banning entry to the temple is discriminatory since it subverts the idea of everyone being equal to God.

- In April 2016, the Shani Shingnapur temple, which had barred women from entering its core area for over 400 years, allowed women to pray inside the temple following the court's orders.

Equal rights for women should not be given precedence over age old tradition

- Referring to the presiding deity Lord Ayyappa as a Naishtika Bramhachari, many point out that it is the celibate nature of the deity that forms the basis of the practice and not misogyny.
- Sabarimala was a separate religious cult with its own rules.
- Article 15 of the Constitution does not apply to religious institutions. Article 15(2) provides citizens with the right to access to places such as hotels, shops and so on but nowhere does it mention public temples.
- Such traditions are protected by Article 25(1).
- Article 25(2) pertains to only secular aspects and it is only pertaining to social issues, not gender or religious-based issues.

Conclusion

The main issue is not an entry, but equality. The religious exclusion has a public character, and that it is not just an issue of a sacred tradition but one of the civil rights and material and symbolic equality.
Beliefs and customs of devotees cannot be changed through a judicial process. The reforms should come from within the society. So long as that does not happen, we are likely to see religious issues being repeatedly taken to court.

57. Why is sexual violence against women a recurring and pervasive societal reality in India? Analyse.

Introduction

India has been named the most dangerous country in the world for women in a recent Thomson Reuters Foundation survey which exposes a vicious cultural agreement that women have little value in our society in spite of being modern, liberal and a functioning democracy based on a constitution which guarantees equality for all.

Body

- Violence against women has taken the form of a global epidemic which has taken its toll on the physical, psychological, sexual and economic life of the female. It impacts the cultural forces and the implementation of laws that impact how women are actually treated in a culture, despite formal law, education, employment or income.
- India is in denial of the fact that a majority of its women do not feel safe alone on the streets, at work, in markets, or at home, even though they have learned how to cope with this existential anxiety.

- National Crime Records Bureau statistics for 2012 to 2016 show that approximately 40% of female reported rape victims were minors and 95% knew the rapist. The rapists belonged to the "circle of trust" of extended family and friends. This clearly showcases the recurring and pervasive social reality of sexual violence against women.
- Further, the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) suggests that 30 percent of women in India in the age group of 15-49 have experienced physical violence since the age of 15. The report further reveals that 6 percent women in the same age group have experienced sexual violence at least once in their lifetime. About 31 percent of married women have experienced physical, sexual or emotional violence by their spouses.
- The deeply entrenched patriarchal attitudes of most of the members of society is one of the factors for recurring and pervasive social reality of sexual violence against women.
- Not engaging with "men and boys" as change agents but acknowledging the expectations linked to masculinity which further perpetuates the cycle of masculine sexual violence and repression of women.
- Not recognizing sexual and reproductive health and rights of women by not promoting and protecting women's right to have control and decide freely over matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, family-planning choices and access to comprehensive sexuality education which perpetuates sexual violence against them.
- Not reclaiming the spaces for women to increase their presence in visibility through political and economic participation and not diversifying their engagement in nontraditional sectors which relegates them to limited spaces.
- Another aspect is the cost incurred due to sexual violence, be it direct or indirect. The direct costs for violence against women include lives lost as well as cost of services provided such as expenditures on medical treatment and psychological counseling, legal protection, providing housing and shelters for women, and social services. Indirect costs include days of work lost leading to reduced productivity and its impact on overall economy.
- India has been slow in its pace for action against violence on women, but the brutal gang rape of a 23-year-old New Delhi girl on December 2012, aroused the Indians from their deep slumber on this issue. This incident led to a sudden outpouring of anger and frustration about the situation that allowed such attacks to take place.
- The irony is that without wide media coverage there is no possibility of cultural shift, and with media coverage, the illusion of women's safety breaks and ratings plunge. India – and the rest of the world – would do well to make women's safety and freedom central goals of democracy and development, and learn about the science of cultural change.
- As a result of Nirbhaya effect, the parliament passed the criminal law (amendment) Act 2013, which provides for amendment of the Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act, and the code of criminal procedure.
- It also enacted the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prohibition, Prevention, and Redressal) Act 2013, 16 years after the Supreme Court

directed the Indian Government to provide legal framework to deal with the issue of sexual harassment. Five exclusive fast track courts were set up to deal with cases of sexual violence against women.

Conclusion

While government's efforts to end the caste system and overturn women's disempowerment by advocating for policies focused on gender equality, fight against sexual violence, the government's failure to enforce these policies due to corruption has left patriarchy and the caste system intact which helps in propagation of sexual violence against women and makes India stay away from its civilizational ideal of women being respected and honoured with empowerment.

58. With the evolving public policy discourse in India, the role of women and women organisations has gained much traction as a factor essential for the success of any scheme/ project. Illustrate with the help of suitable examples.

Introduction

Women in India make up 7.5% of the world's total population. In spite of this the representation of women in the level of policy making is abysmally low.The report Women In Politics ranked India at 148 position in representation of women in executive government.

Body

Constitutional provisions for women in Political Participation:

The Constitution of India guaranteed justice-social, economic and political, liberty of thought, and equality to all citizens. Constitution provided for equality of women and called State to take measures to neutralize the socio-economic, educational and political disadvantage faced by women.

- Article 14: It guarantees equality before law and equal protection of law with in the territory of India.
- Article 15: It prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth. According to article 15(3), State can make special provisions for the benefit women and children.
- Article 16: Equality of opportunity for all citizens in matter relating to employment. No citizen can be denied employment on grounds of religion, race, cast, sex, decent, place of birth residence or any of them.
- Article 39: Article 39(a) provides for an adequate means of livelihood for all citizen. Article 39 (b) has provisions for equal pay for equal work for both men and women. Article 39 (c) has provisions for securing the health and strength of workers, men and women, and not to abuse the tender age of children.

- Article 42: It guarantees just and humane condition of work and maternity relief. Article 42 is in accordance with Article 23 and 25 of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Article 325 and 326: They guarantee political equality, equal right to participate in political activity and right to vote, respectively.
- Article 243 (D): It provides for the political reservation to women in every panchayat elections. It has extended this reservation to elected office as well.

Women and women organization also tends to act as pressure group for the discourse of any public policy, for examples

- Gulabi gang: Sampatlal devi started a society called the Gulabi Gang with a group of women from her village to fight various forms of social injustice. This developed into an organized women's movement with tens of thousands of members spread over several districts in Uttar Pradesh.
- Nirbhaya vahini: Nirbhaya Vahini is a volunteer unit of the Honour for Women National Campaign founded by Manasi Pradhan. It helps to mobilize public opinion and launch a sustained campaign for the implementation of the movement's Four-Point charter of demand such as
  ban on liquor trade, self-defence training for girls, special protection for women security in every district, and Fast-track court and special investigating & prosecuting wing in every district.
- The RAHI Foundation (Recovering and Healing from Incest): This specializes in working with adult women survivors of incest and childhood sexual abuse and offers services that are uniquely important to their recovery process located in Delhi.
- Sabala: This focus on the "empowerment of women", including the tribal Lambani, through enabling financial freedom, political voice, social acceptance, and educational opportunities, located in Bijapur, Karnataka.
- Sanlaap: Sanlaap is a developmental organization that works towards correction of social imbalances which present themselves as gender injustice and violence against women and children. The primary work is focused against trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation, sexual abuse and forced prostitution located in Kolkata.

Conclusion

Women role in society has come a long way, which benefits not only women but society as a whole, still a lot needs to be done in our country to bring women at par with men in social status, a lot needs to change to modernise societal mindsets, and men also have a big role alongside women to further this cause. There is a need for women to organize
themselves to be able to carve a niche in all sectors of the society and fight for their needs.

59. Critically evaluate the status, challenges and opportunities for women entrepreneurs in India.

Introduction

Women are the largest untapped reservoir of talent and women entrepreneurship is the most unexplored part of the economy, especially in developing countries like India. Women entrepreneurship is gaining importance in India in the wake of economic liberalization and globalization.

Body

Status of Women entrepreneurship in India:

- In a survey conducted by Dell and Global Entrepreneurship and Development Institute (GEDI), India was ranked 16th/17 countries only above Uganda. Countries like Turkey, Morocco and Egypt has outperformed India.
- Only about 16 percent of Indian women own or run businesses, according to the Economic Census conducted by IMF. More than 90 percent of companies run by women are microenterprises, and about 79 percent are self-financed.
- At present, women's entrepreneurial role is limited in the large-scale industries and technology-based businesses. But even in small scale industries, the women's participation is very low. As per the third all India census of Small-Scale Industries, only 10.11% of the micro and small enterprises were owned by women, and only 9.46% of them were managed by women
- The participation of women has increased in the past decade. Yet, women constitute only one third of the economic enterprises.
- The government has introduced schemes like Skill India Mission, Stand Up India, Mudra scheme etc., which have helped Indian women to start their own business.
- The Self-Help Group promotion through schemes like Bank linkage or Kudumbashree / Jharcraft etc., have generated women run business all over the country.
- Many women start a business due to some traumatic event, such as divorce, discrimination due to pregnancy or the corporate glass ceiling, the health of a family member, or economic reasons such as a layoff.

A new talent pool of women entrepreneurs is forming today, as more women opt to leave corporate world to chart their own business plans. Skill, knowledge and adaptability in business are the main reasons for women to emerge into business ventures.

Challenges:

- Conflicts between Work and Domestic Commitments: Women's family obligations also bar them from becoming successful entrepreneurs especially in developing country like India.
- Heavy household responsibilities leave a demand on women especially those in rural areas who have more children. They are required to perform their

traditional role as housewives and therefore, they have fewer hours of free time than men, both during the weekend and on weekdays.

- Lack of family support- Sometimes the family may make the women feel guilty of neglecting household duties in her pursuit of business obligations. Cultural traditions may hold back a woman from venturing into her own business. Male members think it is a big risk financing the ventures run by women.
- Marketing and promotion of business poses challenge to women entrepreneurs specially with the patriarchial and stereotyped mindset of the society. E.g. A school in Bihar rejected a proposal to supply books as it was run by a women.
- Lack of confidence and faith-lack of role models undermines the self Confidence of women entrepreneurs. The activity of selling is considered abhorrent to the female gender. As per ILO report there is a prevailing stereotyping in India against women entrepreneurship especially in rural areas.
- Unlike men, women mobility in India is highly limited due to many reasons. E.g. A single women asking for room is still looked with suspicion.
- Indian women give more emphasis to family ties and relationships. Married women have to make a fine balance between business and family.
- Gender gaps in education: HDI reports shows that the Gender gap is as much as 100% in several of the states (E.g. Mean years of schooling for women is around 5 years compared to 7.2 years for men). they often lack the Combination of education, vocational and technical skills, and work experience Needed to support the development of highly productive businesses.
- Lack of finance: impeded by lack of personal identification, lack of property in their own name and the need for their husband's countersignature on many documents.
- Legal constraints in family law- The institutional and legal environment is critical to the growth of female-owned enterprises. Laws regulating the private sphere specifically those regarding marriage, inheritance and land can hinder women's access to assets that can be used as collateral when securing a loan

Opportunities:

Economic development of the today's woman is crucial for economic development of any country specially a country like India. The dependency on service sector has created many entrepreneurial opportunities for women that they can utilize to enhance their social standing and reputation.

- Increasing awareness among parents is shattering the patriarchal mindset and stereotyping within the families and hence women are seen as potential resources to do business.
- Increasing Urban population has shattered the patriarchal mindset about women which has increased opportunity for women. E.g. the incidents of

- dowry have come down and marriage of women is not a liability and hence provide additional capital for ventures.
- Government promotion to women entrepreneurship through various schemes by providing capital support.
- International recognition of women entrepreneurial potential and increasing international support. Recently NITI Aayog organized Women Entrepreneur Summit with Ivanka Trump as chief guest which saw numerous investment support.
- Increasing Literacy and education level of the present generation women which has provided an opportunity to involve in business activities.
- Promotion to traditional crafts through various government schemes like Tribes India etc., has increased the self-help groups which are mainly driven by women.
- The rising digital market has increased the market exposure and ease in setting up of enterprise which has helped in mobility constraints of women.

Conclusion

When women move forward, the family moves, the village moves and then ultimately the Nation moves forward. The glass ceilings are shattered and women are found indulged in every line of business. The entry of women into business in India is traced out as an extension of their kitchen activities. There is a need for more Awareness programme, training Programmes, skill development, loans and subsidies, grievance forums etc., promoting women entrepreneurship.

(Note: Distinguish Sociology points from governance points. Practice writing sociology points in paper 1)

60. What are the intended benefits of National Register of Citizens (NRC)? Explain. Is it a good idea to have a national level NRC? Critically examine.

Introduction

National Register of Citizens, 1951 is a register prepared after the conduct of the Census of 1951 in respect of each village, showing the houses or holdings in a serial order and indicating against each house or holding the number and names of persons staying therein.

Recently NRC was updated in Assam. The updated National Register of Citizens (NRC) was published on August 31, 2019.

Body

Intended benefits of National Register of Citizens

- Identification of illegal migrant – **The Assam accord 1985** promises to detection, deletion name from the electoral rolls and deportation of the

Bangladeshi refugees who entered in the state on mid night of March 24, 1971 a day before the Bangladesh war of freedom began. An updated NRC is likely to put an end to speculations about the actual number of illegal

- migrants. Publication of an updated NRC is expected to deter future migrants from Bangladesh from entering Assam illegally.

- Curbing fake illegal voters – It will avoid the illegal immigrants from swinging elections in favour of those who promise them legitimacy.

- Resolve *crisis of identity* – Influx of immigrants has created a crisis of identity among the indigenous. Locals fear that their cultural survival will be affected, political control weakened and employment opportunities undermined because of immigrants.

- Reduce financial burden and better resource utilisation. Immigration has increased pressure on the part of state government, as the government has to increase the expenditure on education and health facilities to the immigrants.

- NRC also improves government data which could help in better planning and administration.

- It will also create a peaceful environment in long run, ending the role of suspicion and violence against foreigner. Just signing of Assam accord ended the six years of violence in 1985.

National level NRC is required for having a sound governmental data for effective public delivery of services and better planning and administration. However recent NRC demands arising out from different state leaders are disturbing as it may lead to rise of regionalism.

Also updating of NRC in Assam has created large number of exclusion whose

deportation is a huge challenge. Further the official presumption that people residing in Assam areas are foreigners has reduced several million of these highly impoverished, mostly rural, powerless and unlettered residents to a situation of helplessness and extreme poverty, destitution, hardship. Exclusion of genuine citizen may happen especially women are in danger of exclusion from the citizenship register. Typically, they have no birth certificates, are not sent to school, and are married before they become adult.

Citizenship rights must be respected but it has to be balanced by human rights of foreigners. Likewise the feeling of Vasudev kutumbakam must be balanced by national security. Special arrangement has to be made for identified migrants such as making fresh talks with Bangladesh, allowing them to stay with reduction in rights etc.

Conclusion

The Central Government should appoint a *National Immigration Commission* to frame a National Migration Policy and a National Refugee Policy. The Commission should examine ways of strengthening the Foreigners Act 1946, as well as feasibility of Identity Cards for both citizens and non-citizens and Work Permits for migrants.

61. **In the present era of machine learning and artificial intelligence, it is not sustainable to have a huge population. Do you agree? In this light, examine the imperatives to have a stringent population control policy to address the problem of poverty and unemployment.**

Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI) refers to the simulation of human intelligence in machines that are programmed to think like humans and mimic their actions. And, Machine Learning is a current application of AI based around the idea that we should really just be able to give machines access to data and let them learn for themselves.

Body

Why in the era of machine learning and artificial intelligence, it is not sustainable to have a huge population?

- In the short term, there is a threat being posed to many job markets in the form of automation, and for many automation problems.
- The demand for skills linked to home appliance repair, for example, is shrinking quickly because technology is driving down the price of appliances and improving reliability.
- Mobileye of Israel is developing driverless vehicle navigation units.
- Baidu, the Chinese technology giant, is working with King Long Motor Group, China, to introduce autonomous buses in industrial parks.
- Sberbank, the largest bank in the Russian Federation, relies on artificial intelligence to make 35 percent of its loan decisions, and it anticipates raising that rate to 70 percent in less than five years. "Robot lawyers" have already replaced 3,000 human employees in Sberbank's legal department. The number of back-office employees will shrink to 1,000 by 2021, down from 59,000 in 2011.
- Ant Financial, a fintech firm in China, uses big data to assess loan agreements instead of hiring thousands of loan officers or lawyers.

Why in the era of machine learning and artificial intelligence, huge population can be better sustained?

- There is nothing artificial about intelligence and unlike industrial automation that is actually taking away jobs globally, AI is only going to supplement human intelligence across the spectrum -- from banking to media.

- AI consists of software tools aimed at solving problems.

- ML is absolutely not about replacing humans but enhancing the experiences, as per Olivier Klein, Head of Emerging Technologies, Asia-Pacific at Amazon Web Services (AWS).

- Machines are not here to take decisions on their own and certain human emotions -- empathy, for instance - can never be automated.

- Artificial Intelligence can expedite achievement of the SDG's. For example Population Foundation of India is carrying out a project in North India using AI to give adolescents access to sexual and reproductive health information.

Imperatives to have a stringent population control policy to address the problem of poverty and unemployment

- As per the East Asia Forum report, in 2050, India's population is projected to be 1.69 billion which will be higher than that of China.

- The demand for food will double in the year 2050 and even if India manages to feed its expanding population, its growth may not be ecologically sustainable.

- Small family is good for the society and nation. It's high time the nation debates this and brings a law if needed. Else we will soon run out of resources.

There is no imperatives to have a stringent population control policy to address the problem of poverty and unemployment

- The number of Indian women, wanting to have another baby is falling fast, as per National Family Health Survey-4 (2015-16). Only 24% of the married women between 15 and 49 years want a second child. For men, the corresponding proportion is 27%, down from 49% a decade ago.

- Based on the National Family Health Surveys (1 to 4), it is estimated that in 2018, around 430 million people out of 135 million in India were a result of unplanned pregnancies. The consequences of such pregnancies are being reflected in widespread malnutrition, poor health, low quality of education, and increasing scarcity of basic resources like food, water and space.

- Incidents of unplanned pregnancies can be dramatically reduced, if not eliminated, within the next five years by simply providing reproductive services as per the needs of clients, as had been done in Andhra Pradesh during the nineties. If Andhra—with little outside help—could manage its population growth under relatively low literacy and high poverty (Literacy Rate of A.P. in 2011 was 67.7% compared to 67.1% in Rajasthan, as per 2011 Census), there is no reason why other states, especially, Four Large North Indian (FLNI) States of Bihar, MP, Rajasthan and U.P.—with lesser problems and increasingly generous support from the centre—should fail so spectacularly in managing unwanted fertility.

- Reducing incidences of unplanned pregnancies will help in achieving the national goal of population stabilization at the earliest.

Conclusion

There is no need to implement coercive measures like a one-child norm or to provide incentives and disincentives, through a stringent population control policy The real need is to provide services in un-served and underserved areas by realigning the capacity of the health system to deliver quality care to suit the needs of clients.

62. What are the key demographic indicators for measuring the status of human development in a state? Why do some states lag far behind on some of these indicators? Explain.

Introduction

India with a population of over 1.20 billion is ranked 130 among 189 countries of the world in terms of the Human Development Index (HDI). With the composite HDI value of 0.64, India finds herself grouped with countries showing medium human development (UNDP 2017).

Body

1. Human development is a process of enlarging the range of people's choices, increasing their opportunities for education, health care, income and empowerment and covering the full range of human choices from a sound physical environment to economic, social and political freedom.

2. Using the indicators selected by the UNDP, the erstwhile Planning Commission of India also prepared the Human Development Report for India. It used states and the Union Territories as the units of analysis. Subsequently, each state government also started preparing the state level Human Development Reports, using districts as the units of analysis.

3. The HDI is a summary measure for assessing long-term progress in three basic dimensions of human development:
   a. Long and healthy life - A long and healthy life is measured by life expectancy.
   b. Access to knowledge - Knowledge level is measured by mean years of education among the adult population, which is the average number of years of education received in a life-time by people aged 25 years and older; and access to learning and knowledge by expected years of schooling for children of school-entry age, which is the total number of years of schooling a child
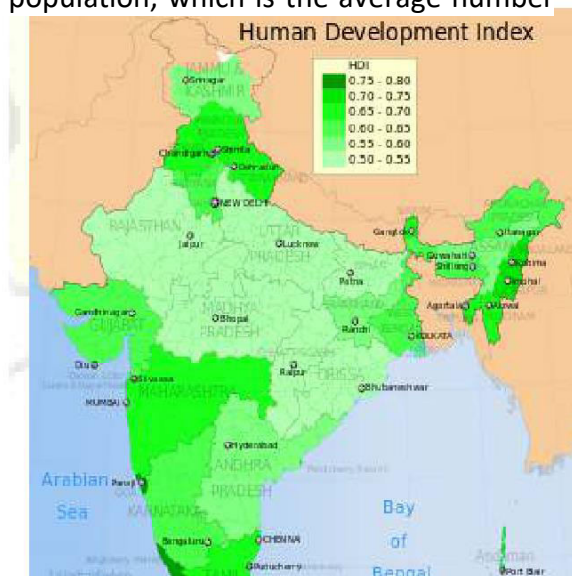
of school-entry age can expect to receive if prevailing patterns of age-specific enrolment rates stay the same throughout the child's life.

c. Standard of living - Standard of living is

measured by Gross National Income (GNI) per capita expressed in constant 2011 international dollars converted using purchasing power parity (PPP) conversion rates.

4. Uttar Pradesh and Bihar do poorly on the human development index (HDI), as smaller states Haryana and Himachal improved in the last 27 years at the same time, Industrial Gujarat and Maharashtra slipped in the HDI ranking between 1990 and 2017, while Haryana has improved the most. Southern states continue to lead the pack.

5. These variations between states in terms of human development indicators are due to multiple factors, some of which can be as seen below :

a) Geographical variations - India being a geographically diverse nation, it presents challenges towards achieving uniform success in HDI rankings across the states.

b) Economic Disparity - The states, which are economically better off, performed well in human development while the states, which were at the bottom of economic progress, also had a low level of human development.

c) Governance factors - The states with high HDI have well developed governance structures which facilitates implementation of programs for human development effectively.

d) Social factors - States with high HDI have a progressive characteristics where social indicators of development are emphasised leading to allocation of required resources to these sectors while others have a mostly feudal outlook.

Many consider that Ayushman Bharat scheme, which provides health cover to the poor, can help improve HDI value both at the national and sub-national level in the coming years if rolled out properly and rolled out across the states.

Conclusion

Thus, enlarging the range of people's choices is the most significant aspect of human development. People's choices may involve a host of other issues, but, living a long and healthy life, to be educated and have access to the resources needed for a decent standard of living, including political freedom, guaranteed human rights and personal self-respect, etc. are considered some of the non-negotiable aspects of the human development and become important in the backdrop of ideals of 'New India'.

63. What is the demographic window of opportunity for India? Are we on the right track to make full use of this window? Critically examine.

Introduction

Demographic window of opportunity is said to be occurring when the ratio of the working age population is high and the dependency ratio in terms of proportion of children and elderly people low. This advantage can create the space needed to increase investments in enhancing human capabilities, which, in turn, can have a positive influence on growth and development.

Body

A study on demographic dividend in India by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) throws up two interesting facts. One, the window of demographic dividend opportunity in India is available for five decades from 2005-06 to 2055-56, longer than any other country in the world. Second, and more interesting, is the fact that this demographic dividend window is available at different times in different states because of differential behaviour of the population parameters.

1. India has entered a 37-year period of demographic dividend, which could spell faster economic growth and higher productivity.
2. As such, the government needs to engineer its policies to harness the opportunity.
3. It must also formulate policies to take care of higher medical costs as the population ages and productivity shrinks.
4. As more people live away from their parents, India will also need to have an affordable social security system that provides pension to the elderly and takes care of their daily needs and medical expenses.

India's step towards reaping the benefits of its demographic dividend:

- Education: India is home to the world's largest concentration of illiterate people in the world. It has made gains in human development, but challenges remain, including big barriers to secondary schooling, low-quality public services, and gender discrimination. The draft National Education Policy 2019 provides for reforms at all levels of education from school to higher education. It seeks to increase the focus on early childhood care, reform the current exam system, strengthen teacher training, and restructure the education regulatory framework.

- Providing Skills: According to the National Sample Survey, out of the 470 million people of working age in India, only 10% receive any kind of training or access to skilled employment opportunities. Recent initiatives such as "Skill India Mission" aim to train and create an employable skilled talent pool of 500 million people by 2020.

- Nutrition mission: Key nutrition-specific and sensitive interventions such as exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding and micronutrient supplementation are the need of the hour. Steps taken by govt: POSHAN Abhiyan: POSHAN Abhiyan is government's multi-ministerial convergence mission with the vision to ensure attainment of malnutrition free India by 2022. It is focusing on ensuring the nutrition of children, women, and pregnant mothers in impoverished areas and the government seems to be looking at community management of the problem.

- Employment: Lack of jobs combined with a demographic dividend will increase the share of the population that is dependent on the working population. This will increase the economic insecurity of the elderly, as there will be fewer people generating wealth. Various schemes of govt to generate employement are MGNREGA, Start up India, Stand up India, MUDRA Bank, Din Dayal Upadhyay Gramin Kaushal Yojana, Self employment and talent Utilisation (SETU), Atal Innovation Mission, Make in India etc.

- Human capital: Investing in people through healthcare, quality education, jobs and skills helps build human capital, which is key to supporting economic growth, ending extreme poverty, and creating more inclusive societies.Various schemes of govt to develop human capital are Rashtriya Ucchatar Siksha Abhiyan (RUSA), National Research Proffessiorship, PMSSY, Janani Suraksha Yojana, Mission Indradhanush, National Ayush Mission, Skill India Mission etc.

Concerns:

Technological change is making labour partially or wholly redundant in a number of sectors, across the world. Even where labour is still necessary, increasing complexity of production requires labourers to have a minimum skill level that is much higher than the skill level required during the labour-intensive output boom in China and South-East Asia in the past decades. Also, an alarming aspect of the current employment situation is that a large proportion of employees are not in a very happy situation. According to a study, nearly 40% of employed people are not satisfied with their job profiles. The major reasons for dissatisfaction cited are unsecure jobs, low salaries, stressful environment, and mismatch between job and qualification.

Another appalling concern is that a significant proportion of qualified women drop out of the workforce for reasons ranging from no suitable jobs in the locality—particularly in rural areas—to family responsibilities and marriage.

This is not only a huge loss of valuable human resource, but also has a deleterious impact on family incomes. The government of India had launched an initiative called Skill India to equip millions of people with basic blue collar skills. Even here the results will take time because the quality of primary schooling in India is very poor.

The more one thinks about it, the more difficult it is to see how India will be able to reap the benefits of a demographic dividend. A period of mass unemployment and social unrest is looming unless there is a shift, both internal and external, that at the moment is nowhere to be seen.

Way Forward

- To be able to harness the potential of this large working population, which is growing by leaps and bounds, new job generation is a must. The nation needs to create ten million jobs per year to absorb the addition of young people into the workforce.

- UNFPA advocates a differential approach in forward-looking policymaking and programme planning to harness the demographic dividend opportunity. For example, the focus in the states where the window is closing soon will have to be on ageing and migrant-friendly policies and programmes, while the focus in the states where the window is open and will close in the next 10-15 years will have to be on empowering girls and women, provisioning of health, education and skill development for young people, and employment generation. The focus in the states where the window is yet to open will have to be threefold—addressing harmful practices such as child marriage, access to quality sexual and reproductive health services and family planning services to all, and provisioning of health, education, life and vocational skills to all the young people.

- Improved infrastructure, skill development, access to easy finance, reducing barriers to entrepreneurship and forums for mentorship of emerging entrepreneurs in partnership with corporates are some of measures.

- The current situation calls for more and better schools, especially in rural areas. It also calls for better transportation links between rural areas and regional urban hubs.

- The government must also ensure better quality of jobs with a focus on matching skill-sets and job opportunities.

- There is a need to look into these qualitative issues of job satisfaction, job profile and skill matching, and the creation of opportunities for entrepreneurship in order to be able to harness the vast potential of human resources.

Conclusion

Fine-tuning the planning and implementation of schemes and programmes by factoring in population dynamics is likely to yield greater socio-economic impact and larger benefits for people.

64. What are some of the key insights derived out of India's gender demographics? What lessons can be learnt from these insights? Explain.

Introduction

India is set to be the most populous country by 20207 as per UN population report. Indian population median age is 27 years and forms a strong demographics. An ideal

demographical utility for a country would be equal participation and development level of both the genders. However, the fact that India ranks 108th in WEF gender gap index depicts the improvement still needed in gender equality.

Body

Key insights out of India's gender demographics:

- Sex ratio: is 1.08(male to females) which has increased from 933:1000 in 2001 to 943 in 2011. Though, this is a good sign of decreased female foeticide and infanticide, there are still concerns on discriminated nutrition among girl child and also among women (50% of female are anemic).

- Age group: Below 65 years age group India has more males than females. However, above 65 years, females are more. This is because of the more life expectancy of females than males (71.8 for female and is 69.2 for male). It indicates that, as the country ages, the number of females would increase.

- Dependency ratio: is around 48% of the total population. However, the dependency ratio if women alone is concerned is around 70% of the total women population.

- Labour force participation: Though the participation of females is increasing, there is a gender gap and low female labour force participation (which is around 25%). Also, Gender pay gap is around 30% which shows discriminatory treatment of women at workplace (also inferred from the fact that only around 20% of top-level posts are occupied by women).

- Population pyramid: Increasing narrow base suggests an ageing population with decreasing fertility rate (which is 2.3 as per the latest government data).

- Urban population of women is less than men mainly owing to the migration pattern wherein the male would migrate to towns in search of marriage and female would stay behind in village.

- Demography is skewed in terms of its utility in entrepreneurship and participation in innovation. E.g. Only 14% of Indian women are entrepreneur. Only 24% of data scientists on India are women etc.,

Lessons Learnt:

- Importance of sex ratio and women nutrition: which also impacts the infant/ new born child nutrition. Hence, the government is giving more importance to through schemes like PM Matru vandhana yojana, Mission Indradhanush

  etc., Delivery is being institutionalized through schmes like Janani suraksha yojana and criminalizing sex selection, registration of births are being conducted to improve sex ratio.

- Importance of Women education: The schemes like Sukanya samruddhi, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao etc., shows that the government and the society has recognized the importance of women participation in education.

- Promotion to women employment: promotion to SHG, reservation in several government jobs etc., show that the lesson is learnt on productively using

gender dynamics. Government has also recognized the problems faced by women at work place and came up with steps like Sexual harassment at work place act, SHE box, working women hostel etc., to promote employment.

- Recognition of inadequate safety to women: schemes like One stop centre, Swadhar Greh and so on aiming at providing secure environment to women so that they can develop to their potential which would help India to reap its demographic dividend.

- Women participation in science and technology, higher education is being recognized as important and is being promoted through various schemes like KIRAN scheme, Women scientist scheme and so on.

Conclusion

When women move forward, the family moves, the village moves and then ultimately the Nation moves forward. We have learnt the lesson that the country cannot progress with half its resources lagging behind and taking proactive steps to actively reap demographic benefits. Transformatory reforms are needed to bridge the gender gap and effectively reap the gender demography.

65. How do instrument of social discrimination lead to poverty? Illustrate with help of suitable examples.

Introduction

Social discrimination is sustained inequality and unfairness present between individuals in the society mainly due to hierarchal social structure. Inequality leads resources stratification in the society which becomes main cause for poverty.

Body

SC/ST, women, elderlies etc are often denied access to market, public places and economic activity. Women are not given right to property. Only 8% women own immovable property. There are stereotyping against women in different sectors. Girls are trained to develop a low profile and learn home based works. Female literacy is 65% as compared to male literacy of 80% (2011 census). Males get more medical care compared to girls. Child marriage is rampant among girls (27% as per UNICEF).

All this has resulted in poor socio-economic conditions and poverty among women –

- Female labour force participation rate ~ 26% (Niti Aayog)
- Gender pay gap ~ 34% (ILO)
- Glass ceiling
- Feminization of informal sector and de-feminization of formal sector.
- female representation in Parliament ~ 99th in the world
- Lok Sabha ~ 12%; Rajya Sabha ~ 11%.

If economy is not engendered, it is endangered. WEF said gender parity can not only fight poverty but boost India`s GDP by 27%.

Caste in India has often played lead to poverty as economic activity was inherently link to caste. Dominate caste still holds major stake in regional economy and land. They deny other caste from entering in these avenues. Land owned by SC/STs is still very less so they are reduced to economic labourer. Often they are presumably linked to marginalised work like manual scavenging.

Disabilities have also provided unequal opportunity to them leading to poverty. There is not only denial of physical infrastructure but denial of social respect. Proper transportation, unavailability of ramp in buildings etc often disinterest them to take part in economic activity. They have also no representation in political institution.

Transgender and civil partnership often face worse form of discrimination. They are not accepted as part of society and often denied job opportunity. Even after Supreme court decision to treat transgender as third gender, they face huge discrimination at work places.

Elderly population are often faced discrimination, due to early retirement, decline of health abandonment by their children. They even cannot get new job at this age, leading them to poverty.

Conclusion

Social discrimination have often aroused from socials taboos, religious cults, rites and social beliefs. So they are still strong. It needs good laws, political will, and above all behavioural change to reduce this discrimination. As India cannot become superpower leaving out important section of its society.

66. What do you understand by 'gender budgeting'? Examine its significance in the Indian socio-economic context.

Introduction

Gender budgeting (GB) means preparing budgets or analyzing them from a gender perspective. Gender Budgeting is a powerful tool for achieving gender mainstreaming so as to ensure that benefits of development reach women as much as men. It is not an accounting exercise but an ongoing process of keeping a gender perspective in policy/ programme formulation, its implementation and review.

Body

Since 2005-06, the Expenditure Division of the Ministry of Finance has been issuing a note on Gender Budgeting as a part of the Budget Circular every year. This GB Statement comprises two parts-

- Part A reflects Women Specific Schemes, i.e. those which have 100% allocation for women.
- Part B reflects Pro Women Schemes, i.e. those where at least 30% of the allocation is for women.

Significance in the Indian socio-economic context

- The rationale for gender budgeting arises from recognition of the fact that national budgets impact men and women differently through the pattern of resource allocation. Women, constitute 48% of India's population, but they lag behind men on many social indicators like health, education, economic opportunities, etc. Hence, they warrant special attention due to their vulnerability and lack of access to resources.
- Global Gender Gap report 2018 ranked India 108 in terms of inequality in economy, education, health and political representation.
- Poor socio-economic indicator of women –
  - Literacy - female ~ 65%; male ~ 80% (2011 census)
  - Males get more medical care compared to girls

  - Son meta preference (less opportunity to come to the world) o Child marriage ~ 27% (UNICEF)
  - Female labour force participation rate ~ 26% (Niti Aayog)
  - Gender pay gap ~ 34% (ILO)
  - Glass ceiling
  - Feminization of informal sector and de-feminization of formal sector.
  - female representation in Parliament ~ 99th in the world
  - Lok Sabha ~ 12%; Rajya Sabha ~ 11%.
- All measures across the globe taken towards development, poverty alleviation and improvement of social indicators like health, education and gender equality are worthless unless policies are implemented specifically for women and girls.
- Women face disparities in access to and control over services and resources.
- Bulk of the public expenditure and policy concerns is in ''gender neutral sectors''.

Challenges involved in Gender Budgeting
- There is limited availability of disaggregated gender-specific data sets for all schemes and programmes.
- The budgeting exercise is linked to schemes instead of outcomes. For example, in the Budgets there are funds allocated for infrastructure maintenance under the ministry of health and family welfare. However, there

is very little data available on the impact these funds made in reducing female mortality rates.

- It is important to understand time-bound goals for parameters such as female school enrolment, gender-based violence, health, labour force participation.
- Authority should be created for gender auditing

Conclusion

Gender Budgeting is a powerful tool for achieving gender mainstreaming so as to ensure that benefits of development reach women as much as men. The way Government budgets allocate resources, has the potential to transform these gender inequalities.

67. What are life cycle vulnerabilities and how do they lead to poverty? Explain. In this light, examine the need to have a developmental paradigm that focuses on addressing life cycle vulnerabilities. Elucidate.

Introduction

The World Bank defines poverty as the inability to attain a minimum standard of living where WHO goes on to describe it as the greatest cause of suffering in the world. Around 22% of India's population lives under the poverty line where life cycle vulnerabilities play a debilitating role to arrest the development of this population.

Body

- Life cycle vulnerabilities refers to the risks associated with a series of stages through which an individual passes during his/her lifetime like childhood, puberty, adolescence, adulthood, old-age, etc.
- Housing is usually the principal economic asset of poor households. Damage or loss to housing places enormous strain on household economies, given the high monetary cost of replacing lost assets, relative to low and irregular incomes, and the absence of insurance or safety nets.
- Urban poverty is now understood to have many additional dimensions - including 'voicelessness' and 'powerlessness', and inadequate provision of infrastructure and basic services. Most of the immediate causes of the deprivations associated with urban poverty are vulnerability related.
- Key factors in underprivileged areas include low-quality and insecure housing, which in turn limits access to basic services such as health care, public transport, communications, and infrastructure such as water, sanitation, drainage and roads.
- Poor rural livelihoods are highly exposed and vulnerable to weather-related risks and have a low resilience to loss because they have little or no surplus capacity to absorb crop or livestock income losses and to recover. Research suggests that vulnerabilities cause impoverishment, which can lead to a cycle of losses, poverty traps and a slowing of efforts to reduce poverty.

- Further, Life cycle vulnerabilities which can cause poverty can be seen from the following points in brief:

  - INADEQUATE ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER AND NUTRITIOUS FOOD
  - LITTLE OR NO ACCESS TO LIVELIHOODS OR JOBS
  - POOR EDUCATION AND INEQUALITY
  - CONFLICT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
  - LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESERVES

The above factors necessitate a development paradigm to address the issues of poor who are the most vulnerable. This need is due to the following factors:

1. Pro-poor(broad-based or balanced) growth-led development - Growth matters for development only if associated with an equitable distribution of income, to be achieved through the promotion of activities generating a broad-based primary income distribution and institutional mechanisms.
2. Constitutional ideals - Constitution provide peaceful, democratic means to bring about social transformation where every individual is empowered in political, social and economic terms.
3. Manpower utilisation - Developmental paradigm with a focus on human development would lead to effective utilisation of the available human resource which will help in overall growth and prosperity.

Conclusion

Principles of Amartya Sen offer useful alternative to tackle poverty where his Capability approach to understanding poverty goes beyond income and stresses the whole range of means available to achieve human capabilities such as literacy, longevity and access to income. From this viewpoint, tackling life cycle vulnerabilities would become essential towards well being of the most marginalized sections of the population and help in achieving the ideals of 'New India'.

68. What do you understand by 'social capital'? Examine its significance for a diverse country like India. Isn't social capital imperative for development? Examine.
Introduction

The term social capital was popularized by Robert Putnam and can be defined as networks together with shared norms, values and understandings that facilitate co-operation within or among groups (as per OECD).

Body

Types of social capital:

- Bonds– Links to people based on a sense of common identity ("people like us") – such as family, close friends and people who share our culture or ethnicity (homogenous groups).
- Bridges: Links that stretch beyond a shared sense of identity, for example to distant friends, colleagues and associates (heterogeneous groups).
- Linkages: Links to people or groups further up or lower down the social ladder.

Significance and Impotance of social capital:

Social capital has been described as both a glue and lubricant – a glue that holds societies together without which collaboration and cooperation would not be possible; and a lubricant that facilitates getting things done.

- Civil society– A proactive civil society can take can take up the cause of common people and work towards their welfare, for example HelpAge India NGO working for disadvantaged elderly of India.
- Women's organisations– Organisations like Bhartiya Grameen Mahila Sangh, Nirbhaya centres etc, are helping in socio-economic empowerment of women.
- Self-help groups– Plays an important role in mobilizing the distressed rural populace through entrepreneurship development, promotion of thrift savings etc.
- Education– Quality of education can be improved by active work of population as social capital, eg. social audit of schools.
- Health– A good social capital leads to reduced isolation due to urban lifestyle, improved health service delivery among people and helps improve the average mortality rates.
- Crime prevention– Social capital can act as a security system. It is evident in traditional societies where gram sabha would serve as the judicial authority to take concrete actions like social boycott against criminals or evildoers.
- Environment– Community based organization preserve the environment and sustain resources. Sacred groves are an excellent example of role of social capital in preservation of environment.
- Water use and sanitation– The success of Swachh Bharat abhiyan is attributed to a large extent to Swachhagrahis and active participation of gram sabha.
- Economic development– A good social capital will enhance trade relations among people and nations, thus helping in mutual economic development, for example India's trade with Bangladesh is better as compared to Pakistan due to better social capital in former case.

Limitations of social capital

Decay– Social capital does not stay same and needs constant efforts to be maintained or else it decays over time.

Lack of equity– Not everyone has equal access to the social capital, rich or politically powerful have more influence compared to others.

Lack of individuality– Often group and social norms limit the individual growth and personal creativity is stifled by traditions.

Separatism– When bonding social capital is dominant as compared to bridging, the groups develop a notion where it perceives societal and its own interests as exclusive of each other, for example current situation in Jammu & Kashmir.

Personal political gains– If the political institution and democracy in a specific country is not strong enough and it can be overpowered by the social capital groups, for example Jat and Maratha agitation and subsequent reservation.

Conclusion

Social capital is essential for proper functioning of society, however care must be taken about the capital being present equally in terms of bonding and bridging capital for a harmonious and prosperous society.

69. Does it make more sense for the government to lay more emphasis on women and child development to ensure overall socio-economic transformation. Do you agree? Substantiate.

Introduction

When women move forward, the family moves, the village moves and then ultimately the Nation moves forward. In the same way, as Lal Bahadur Shastri noted, Children are the future of the nation and citizens of tomorrow. Any government would be prudent enough to lay more emphasis on women and child development to ensure socio-economic transformation.

Body

The sorry state of Indian women and child development levels is a more reason making sense of the government's increasing focus on their development. India has high infant mortality rate, 1/3rd of global stunted children, ranks 103 in Global

hunger index, Immunisation level still around 70%, Learning outcome of children is dismal, school dropouts specially after secondary education is still high etc.,

Apart from this, if one looks at women development – Literacy rate is less than men (around 65%), Labour force participation rate is around 25%, High mortality rate, Low -nutrition level(50% women being anemic), increasing crimes against women etc., – all this shows that the potential of women and children are not completely utilized.

Women ensuring socio-economic transformation:

- Family: A aware woman would be in a better position to take care of the family. A pilot project in Madhya Pradesh's village showed that women are

likely to spend in children education, health etc., if she has the power to decide on expenditure.

- Health transformation: Women development also ensures decreased fertility rates and lower infant mortality rates, and lower maternal mortality rates. This in turn also have impact on nutrition of women as well as the children and help increase the productivity and participation in economy and society.
- Independent decisions: educated women are better able to make decisions related to health, both for themselves and their children. This increase the quality of life for women which would reduce instances like domestic violence, harassment etc., E.g. A survey in Bangalore showed that the increasing education and employment level is reducing the cases of dowry in Karnataka.
- Political participation: Women development (education and credibility) more likely results in civic participation of women. There are several instances in which educated women in the developing world were able to secure benefits for themselves through political movements. E.g. protests against women crimes in Delhi etc.,
- Socio-Economic transformation: Women employment not only helps in economic benefits but improves the society as a whole. E.g. The JHarcraft project of Jharkhand (a SHG project) not only provided employment to women, but also have improved the socio-economic indicators like education level, health, less number of loans and so on.
- Reform in the mindset: Women development through education and employment is the only way to fight the patriarchal mindset and shatter the glass ceiling imposed upon women.

Christine Lagarde noted that the women participation in economy would boost the economic growth by as much as 35%. Also, as Kofi Annan observed, a society which has developed women would be peaceful, egalitarian and sustainable.

Children development ensuring socio-economic transformation:

- Children Health: Child malnutrition, diseases etc., would not only impact the child development but also adds additional burden on the family as health expenditure. Also, neglect of children health results in underdevelopment of cognitive abilities which impacts education and employment.
- Employment: Children education is vital for reaping demographic dividend. Early childhood education, Skill development programmes etc., is emphasized for the same.
- Instrument of change: Children being the futute of the nation, the society as a whole is dependent on the Children development and learning. Morally educated children would mean less crimes in future, healthy family relationships and so on.
- Children are the effective means of bringing changes within the family and bring behavioral changes. E.g. A school in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka is roping in children to spread awareness on plastic change.

Recently, A district administration in Telangana ran a literacy programme for illiterate mothers with their children teaching them.

- Cognitive and holistic development of children also helps the nation through improved innovations, research and inventions. For the same reason, government is taking up schemes like Atal Innovation mission, Yuva Vignan puraskar and so on.
- Empirical evidence from across the globe demonstrates that the foundations for human development are laid down in early childhood.

Conclusion

"Economic growth without investment in human development is unsustaible and unethical" – Amartya Sen.

Women and children in this context are vital human resources. Thus, there is a need which is also recognized by the governments all over the world (In India though schemes like Mission Indradhanush, Samagra Shiksha, PMMVY, BBBP and so on) which would help in women and child empowerment.

70. With less than 1% of total vehicles of the world, India accounts for the highest number of fatalities related to road accidents. Why? Examine. What are the smart solutions to address this challenge? Suggest.

Introduction

Over millions Indian lost their life in road accidents in last decade. From 2008, India is has recorded highest number of death due to road accident in the world. WHO estimates that these accident amounts to economic loss of 3 percent of GDP. 'Road Accidents in India-2018' report, informed that a total of 467044 road accidents were reported in the year 2018.

Body

India accounts for the highest number of fatalities related to road accidents due to following reasons –

- Faulty road design and poor engineering such as sharp curves, single lane etc.
- Improper public transport often leading to neglect of safety such as overloading.
- Poor road conditions with potholes and blind spots. In 2016, government identified 76 black spots in different National Highways and tried to fix them.
- Use of poor building materials and construction.
- Climatic condition such fog in winter in northern India, heavy rainfall and dust storm often reduces visibility causes road accidents
- Weak vehicle safety design even in top selling cars of India, most of which fails to withstand crash test.

- Lobbying by transport unions, car industry to stop government to bring better legislation for improving car safety etc as this comes against their economic interest.
- Negligence on part of driver by over speeding, drunken driving, riding without helmet, driving without seatbelts etc
- Late action of government in adoption Brasilia declaration, bringing amendment in motor vehicles act, has already delayed our efforts.

Smart solutions to address this challenge

In order to reduce road accident by more than 50 percent, staying committed to Brasilia declaration, we must think innovatively and apply smart solutions.
- Use of smart trafficking, better lighting, 3-D speed breakers etc.
- Improvement of public transport, metro and other safer mobility option should be encouraged. India should move towards automated vehicles to reduce manual errors.

- Bettering vehicle design, safety features, use of new sensors, on board analytics that can provide drivers with real time suggestions.
- Enhancing the capability of police to check over speeding and neglect of traffic rules through digital technology such as CCTVs, laser speed gun etc.
- For pedestrian safety and cyclists mobility, such as sidewalks, bike paths, bike lane should be maintained.
- Strict implementation of traffic rules such as Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act.
- Civil society should work for not only behavioural change of masses but also to demand attention of government on road safety.

Conclusion

India loses 3% of its GDP due to road accidents, most of which are preventable. The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India has announced the observance of 30th Road Safety Week Campaign from 4th to 10th February 2019. These steps must be implemented with utmost urgency to make road safe for the citizens.

71. Can you suggest few working models to reduce and reuse waste in a city? Are you aware of some of the best practices for waste processing prevalent in few Indian cities? Discuss.

Introduction

Urban waste generation in India is around 62 million tonnes every year. As per Global resources outlook 2019

- Resource extraction has more than tripled since 1970
- Resource extraction is responsible ~ 50% of greenhouse gas emissions and over 90 per cent of biodiversity loss and water stress.
- Exploding human consumption is the driving force for Anthropocene extinction (The living planet report, WWF)
- This calls for some working models to reduce and reuse waste in a city.

Body

Few working models to reduce and reuse waste in a city

- **Waste to Energy plant**
  According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, there exists a potential of about
  o 1700 MW from urban waste
  o 1300 MW from industrial waste.

  Why Waste to Energy?
  - Treatment of waste resulting in
    o mitigating the harm to land and water
    bodies o Safe landfills
  - Renewable source of energy
  - New business opportunity with appropriate technology and government incentive.
  - International expansion possibilities for Indian companies, especially expansion into other Asian countries.
  - Success in municipal solid waste management will lead to opportunities in sewage waste, industrial waste and hazardous waste by development of new technology.

- **Biogas**
  Compressed biogas can be produced from various bio-mass/waste sources including agriculture residue, sugarcane press, cattle dung, sewage treatment plant waste.

  Importance of Biogas
  - Sanitation – Complement WASH program; Swatch Bharat Abhiyan reduce vector borne disease etc
  - Reduction in emission of greenhouse gasses
  - Reduction in urban air pollution
  - Renewable source of energy
  - Energy access – off grid connectivity
  - Import of oil, gas and coal are expensive

- - Increased income of farmers
  - Local employment and entrepreneurship opportunity
  - Can become rural development strategy.

- 'Waste to Wonder' Theme Park

- Circular economy - circular flows of resources through a combination of extended product life cycles, intelligent product design and standardization and reuse, recycling and remanufacturing. Eg: decentralised smaller units of steel plant.

- Plastic waste recycling - plastic waste generation is around 25000 tonnes per day (CPCB)

Some of the best practices for waste processing prevalent in few Indian cities
- Alappuzha municipality
  - Biogas plants in every locality
  - Piped compost unit within houses.
  - Aerobic compost units in public places
- Bawana WTE plant - A model
  - The garbage is burned in a controlled environment
  - Remaining ash placed in a scientifically created landfill a part of which remains underground.
- Kerala Government has switched over to ink pens and steel cutlery to avoid usage of plastic products.
- In Kerala fishermen are engaged in not just finding fish but also plastic that either gets stuck in the fishing nets or floats in the sea.
- Recycling plastic into wide range of products from construction materials to threads and fabrics for the textile industry.

- Project 'Tsang-da' - It aims at sustainable waste management in rural areas of Leh district.

Conclusion

UNCTAD report on India – $280 billion additional economic value can be created by using circular economy by 2030. Models for reduce and reuse waste in a city can not only lead to sustainable development but also open new avenues to accelerate growth.

72. With increasing instances of city crimes that include rape, murder, theft, robbery etc, there is a need to create a robust, effective and integrated security ecosystem for urban India. Elucidate.

Introduction

In October 2019, India's National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) released crime statistics for the year 2017. The NCRB has provided crime rates in terms of crime per lakh population where Delhi witnessed the highest crime rate in the country with 1,050 Indian Penal Code (IPC) crime incidents per lakh of the city's population, which clearly showcases the extent of city crimes prevalent in India.

Body

- Social changes affect the concept of crime in many ways, one of which can be through transition from a rural self-contained and relatively sparsely populated to highly urbanized, industrialized pattern.
- The NCRB further reports that in terms of fatal attacks that have resulted in deaths, Patna tops the list, with a crime rate of nine murders per lakh population. It is followed by Nagpur (eight), Indore, Jaipur and Bengaluru (three each). The lowest crime rates for murder are reported from Kozhikode, Kochi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Hyderabad – all clocking below one murder per lakh population.
- It is generally acknowledged that cities have a greater propensity to crime and that megacities have a higher crime rate than smaller cities.The reasons assigned to this phenomenon of more crime in cities are:
  a. Greater access to wealth.
  b. Greater anonymity on account of large-size-cum-high-density and hence lower probability of arrest and
  c. The larger urban ability to attract crime-prone individuals.

- Crime is primarily the outcome of multiple adverse social, economic, cultural and family conditions. To prevent crime, it is important to have an understanding of its roots. Social root causes of crime are:

  a. Inequality and not sharing power.
  b. Lack of support to families and neighborhoods.
  c. Real or perceived inaccessibility to services.
  d. Lack of leadership in communities.
  e. Low value placed on children and individual well-being and overexposure to television as a means of recreation.

In light of these factors and reports of crime in Indian cities, there is a need for robust, effective and integrated security ecosystem for urban India which addresses the deficiencies of current system and ensures a secure urban space for citizens. This can be achieved through the following measures:

- The recently announced umbrella scheme on "Modernisation of Police Forces" to strengthen law and order and modernize the police is a welcome stimulus. A part of police reform is intrinsically linked to legal/judicial reform, which would result in efficient criminal justice dispensation.
- Create a law-abiding society - It is necessary to inculcate respect for the rule of law among citizens. The process should start at the school level and can be effected by mandatorily introducing innovative programmes with well thought out content and activities.
- Greater sensitivity on the part of government officials to citizens' needs can help reduce the number of litigations/disputes. This will require an attitudinal reorientation among government officials through sensitization programmes. Future prospects of employees can be made contingent on their successfully completing such programmes.
- Launch a common nation-wide emergency contact number to attend to emergency security needs of citizens. Legal and judicial reforms to address the massive pendency and capacity issues in Indian courts, which impede access to justice. Several archaic and defunct laws have already been repealed and many others are in the process of being weeded out.
- Strengthening finances of ULB's and civic agencies - Cities require a financial sustainability roadmap to be financially self-sufficient to support high-quality security infrastructure and the delivery of services.
- There is a strong link between reducing risk and building resilience in children and decreasing crime. As a result, the provision of appropriate care and required resources to all children will have great significance for their long term physical, intellectual, and emotional well-being and their development into independent, healthy adults.
- Citizen participation - Enhanced citizen participation is needed for greater trust between citizens and governments, improved sustainability, better security service delivery and accountability. Ward committees and area sabhas should be activated with a technology enabled 'Open Cities Framework' and the use of digital tools for security feedback and crime reporting.
- Further, following measures will help in addressing the city crimes –

  1. Collaboration between government, media and public
  2. Increasing the capabilities of security force
  3. Institutionalising swift decision-making
  4. Building the overall resilience of cities

Conclusion

Establishing the causality of crime in relation to the nature of its settlements is a complex issue. India is still in the midst of urbanization, hence this is a subject worthy of deep and wide investigation. The results may light up the path of India's choices with regard to the pattern of growth for its cities and towns and the security systems in place for it.

73. What are some of the smart and innovative solutions being carried out in India to make city transport better and more efficient? What can be learnt from these solutions? Discuss.

Introduction

Currently, India's nearly 30% population lives in urban areas and it is expected to rise upto 50% by 2050. Being a developing country with a huge population pressure India is facing many challenges and one of them is public transport.

Body

Smart and innovative solutions

China has about six buses for 1,000 people while India has only four buses per 10,000 people.
Some of the smart and innovative solutions given by government are

- Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission JNNURM, 2005:JNNURM was launched in 2005 and closed in 2014 (now succeeded by Atal AMRUT Mission). It attempted to improve the public transport system in larger cities through funding of public transport buses, development of comprehensive city mobility plans and supporting city transport infrastructure projects.
- National Urban Transport Policy, 2006: The policy envisages safe, affordable, quick, comfortable, reliable and sustainable urban transport through establishment of quality focused multi-modal public transport systems.
- Green Urban Transport Scheme, 2016:. The scheme aims to improve non-motorised transport infrastructure such as dedicated lanes for cycling, pedestrians, increasing access to public transport, use of clean technologies and adoption of intelligent transport systems (ITS).
- Mass Rapid Transit/ Transport Systems (MRTS): The metro rail has come up as a favoured alternative of mass transport in Indian cities. In 2017, the government introduced new Metro Policy which aims to improve collaborations, standardising norms, financing and creating a procurement mechanism so that the projects can be implemented effectively.
- Bus Rapid Transport System (BRTS): BRTS segregates the movement of buses from all other transport modes, and introduces other changes in the road infrastructure that are associated with safety. BRTS is an important component of AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation)
- National Transit Oriented Development Policy, 2017: The policy framework aims to promote living close to mass urban transit corridors like the Metros, monorail and bus rapid transit (BRT) corridors.
- Sustainable Urban Transport Project (SUTP): The project in partnership with Ministry of Urban Development and UNDP aims to promote environmentally sustainable urban transport in India.

- Personal Rapid Transit System (PRT): It is a transport mode combining small automated vehicles, known as pods, operating on a network of specially built guideways. In 2017, the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) had called the expression of interest (EOI) for launching India's first driverless pod taxi systems on a 70 km stretch from Dhaula Kuan in Delhi to Manesar in Haryana
- National Public Bicycle Scheme (NPBS): In 2011, NPBS was launched to build capacity for the implementation and operation of cycle sharing systems across the country. The first public bicycle sharing (PBS) initiative — Trin Trin was launched in Mysuru.
- Promotion of Electric Vehicles: Indian Government plans to have an all-electric fleet of vehicles by 2030. For promotion of electric vehicles FAME (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (hybrid &) Electric vehicles. Under FAME, the Centre subsidizes the cost of electric buses and has sanctioned 390 buses in 11 cities (as of April 2018).

- Ahmedabad BRTS Corridor: Features that stand out is- For the first three months, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) ran BRTS free and then made design changes based on commuter feedback, It provides affordable Smart cards for commuters.
- Integrated Transportation Management System (IMTS) which includes Advanced Vehicle Tracking System (AVLS), Fleet Management System (FMS), Automatic Fare Collection System (AFCS), Passenger Information System (PIS), Passenger announcement (PA), and Vehicle Scheduling and Dispatching (VSD)
- CNG Buses
- Safe and secure BRT bus stops with a standard attractive form for presenting passengers information such as signages, route details and graphics

Learnings and way forward:

- Taking an integrated view of comprehensive mobility for the city/metropolitan areas and/or national/regional geographies.
- Viewing the entire eco-system (and not only the transit system) as a 'black-box' to ascertain overall viability and act as a financial intermediary between different commercial models.
- Providing interoperability between transport modes in terms of quality, schedule alignment and integrated ticketing.
- Making the public transport system amenable to technological innovations that can enhance user experience and make transport safe and efficient.
- Facilitate the inter-connect between different service providers and modes.
- Specifying standards and deliverables on each parameter related to customer experience for any/all service providers and monitoring the same.
- Providing a mechanism for grievance redressal for both customers and service providers with options for modifying, in light of the changing business conditions.
- Promoting research, development and innovation.

Conclusion

NITI Aayog Recommendations calls for a 3C Framework (Clean, Convenient and Congestion free) for transforming mobility in India. To achieve this, it lays down the following action-agenda:
a) Connect Bharat
b) Optimize travel footprint
c) Promote seamless public transport
d) Adopting green modes and technologies.

74. How can IT solutions make urban governance more effective and efficient? Illustrate with the help of suitable examples.

Introduction

Indian urban population has already reached 31% of the total population in 2011 and is expected to reach 50% by 2040. IT and digital technology provide efficient,

effective and sustainable tools for urban governance. 12th five-year plan conceived digital technology to address the urban infrastructure deficit in Indian cities, and to also promote sustainable development.

Body

IT Solutions making urban governance effective and efficient:

- Urban Master planning: One of the major issues in our urban areas is lack of proper planning which is holistic, sustainable. IT tools like GIS, Remote sensing, AI etc., can be used to make it more efficient.
- Citizen participation: IT can provide tools by creating online forums for citizen feedback, e-petitions and so on. E.g. Fund raising for rehabilitation of flood hit citizens in Chennai, citizen vigilance app to report crimes by Delhi police etc.,
- Urban security: E.g. Use of digital tools (CCTV, e-registration of police complaints etc.,) in Rajkot city under smart city mission has reduced crime rate by 18% within 6 months. Suraksha app of Bengaluru police.
- Information dissemination: Digital display boards are efficient tools for communication with the public which can be seen in major metro cities around the world. Projects like video wall, Indian Urban observatory also aim at information dissemination to the public which would help in effective communication, awareness spreading and campaigns.
- Crisis management: IT can be effectively used in all the stages of crisis management - prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. E.g. Pune has installed flood sensors in the city triggering timely warning and response mechanism, Satellite communication/ Local area network during the floods used in Kerala etc.,

- Fund utilization: e-management of funds address the issue of leakages and pilferages - corruption in the fund management. E.g. e-tendering of road projects etc.,
- Compliance: Bhopal has seen increase in property tax collection after the Revenue department underwent digitization.
- Smart resource utilization: IT can provide solutions for urban issues like water shortage, electricity shortage and so on by efficient monitoring. E.g. smart electricity grids and smart metering for electricity, water and gas. ICT applications like Intelligent LED Street Lighting and Surveillance, networking of safety and security systems (CCTVs, police, traffic, etc.).
- Sustaining social infrastructure: A GIS based heritage mapping can be done to conserve and promote the historical monuments located in cities.
- Transportation efficiency: can be increased by using IT tools which can manage the traffic congestion using technologies like AI. Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) are introduced in several cities all over the world.
- Fund Mobilization: IT provides an interface to raise public funds which can be used for urban development. E.g. issue of municipal bonds over the internet platform.

Conclusion

An Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) would help in comprehensive coverage of all aspects and planning of overall Urban governance. IT tools are a part of Good governance ensuring transparency and accountability in governance and thus make the urban governance efficient and effective.

75. How is access to global content on entertainment through platforms like Netflix and Amazon Prime transforming the cultural understanding of the Indian youth? Examine.

Introduction

In today's world, television's role in structuring audiences' experiences and understanding of the social world is increasing. One such phenomenon in television viewing world in recent times has been the Internet TV, which allows audiences to view television programmes distributed through online streaming to desktops, smart TVs, and portable devices such as notebook computers and smartphones, which is having a great impact on present day Indian youth.

Body

- The introduction of Internet TV technologies such as Netflix is of crucial importance especially in the backdrop of smartphone revolution of recent times. The smartphone has changed society more than any single individual, movement or product. This is true for India and for the entire world,

particularly in the last five years because data usage and connectivity costs have fallen appreciably.

- In a country of 1.3 billion people, Online streaming platforms have a subscriber base of about 20 million, many of whom would arguably be from the upper middle class. Smartphones, which indeed witnessed their biggest penetration among India's growing mobile telephony industry in the last decade, are still somewhat of a luxury that a section of the population can't afford.

- Although online streaming is an emerging media technology, and consequently primarily associated with younger users, amongst the 1.3 billion Indians, almost half are below twenty-five, which indicates a growing relevance of new media in the Indian context. India, with around 500 million Internet users is of particular interest, especially to global media.

- Online streaming platforms such as Netflix, Hotstar and Amazon Prime Video combine technological and programming innovation to draw audiences through the rhetoric of control, audience autonomy and quality content, changing the television landscape by influencing how audiences select, view, share and interpret television.

- Additionally, a further point of interest is that Video on Demand(VOD) audiences in India, originally conceived as seeking English language content, are enthusiastically engaging with new 'glocalized' products - programmes that are regionalized and diversified to adapt to local tastes while retaining the brand of quality content

- Further, transformations of VOD's content and the use of subtitles as a domestication tool for urban, English-educated Indian audiences in engaging with Indian as well as transnational content which is helping shape their worldview.

- The targeting of niche audiences in India who are primarily urban, upper middle class, educated young adults has been the USP of VOD's. The urban exposure and millenials are reasons for the openness to try the off-beat, creative content on VOD's.

- It also provides various gratifications due to watching transnational content which helps in identification with non-western themes, cultural learning and even respite from American formats, which is leading to real global exposure devoid of western dominance for Indian youth.

- The censorship battle between Indian audiences and the government is not fought on online platforms, which again, owing to its digital-only nature circumvents censorship certifications subject to all other platforms, which also becomes a factor in shaping cultural understanding of Indian youth where traditional views are exposed towards new aspects of global culture.

- Online streaming platforms as a cultural phenomenon that have engendered the transformation of dinner time – amongst millennials with access to the platforms – as a secondary leisure activity; demonstrating how VOD's are 'incorporated' into TLP everyday routines and the social community of the household.

- In a positive light, VOD's are seen as enabling social interactions for youth by drawing people into the conversation because of the ubiquitous interest in online platform's content shows in their social circles.
- Users of VOD's who are also viewers of its content actively influence their friends and relatives, through direct word of-mouth as well as social media activity.
- The usage of these platforms is also considered as unfavourable to meaningful social experiences. Watching shows together can be particularly challenging as people find it hard to negotiate between the discourse of freedom and personalisation that these platforms engender resulting in the fragmentation of audiences, and the shared social situations wherein individual preferences are compromised by the politics of viewing.

Conclusion

Smartphones have revolutionised access to everything from communication to information and entertainment, typified by streaming platforms like Netflix and Amazon Prime as well as news consumption which is fundamentally altering the cultural and social interactions of Indian youth who have access to it.

76. Do you think outward international tourism from India has increasing substantially in the recent years? Examine. What are its overall effects on the Indian society?
Introduction

According to OECD, Outbound tourism consumption comprises the consumption of resident visitors outside the economic territory of the country of reference and provided by non-residents. It does not include goods and services acquired for or after the trip within the country of reference.

Body
Outward international tourism from India has increased

- India is now one of the fastest growing outbound tourism markets in the world, second only to China. The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) estimates that India will account for 50 million outbound tourists by 2020.
- Despite the slowdown due to rupee fluctuations, the Indian outbound numbers have been growing at an average annual growth rate of 10-12 percent over the last seven years. The market for travel and tourism in India is expected to grow at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of around 7.23 percent during 2016-2021.
- A growing, consumption-driven economy, a large and increasingly affluent middle class, and the ongoing liberalization of air transportation have contributed significantly to this growth in international outbound travel.
- Additional interest in niche tourism sectors such as medical, wellness and adventure tourism has also contributed to this growth.

- Increased smartphone and internet penetration have also contributed to an increased number of online bookings.
- Indian spending outside the country while traveling abroad has doubled in the past 10 years, from $7.5 billion in 2005 to nearly $16 billion in 2015.

"India Outbound Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) Tourism Market Report" Keyfindings:

• India is poised to be the world's fastest growing outbound MICE tourism market
• India outbound tourism market is expected to exceed US$ 45 Billion by 2025
• India to generate more than 2 Million outbound MICE tourists by 2020
• India is the largest source market for Dubai and Singapore MICE Industry
• Indian MICE travellers likely to become major spenders in the United States and Dubai

Effects

Employment generation: Recognizing this immense potential in outbound travel from India, more than 70 National Tourist Organizations (NTOs) from around the world have set up local offices in India and are aggressively marketing their destinations.
SATTE (South Asia Travel and Tourism Expo) is India's largest travel trade event, scheduled for January 8 - 10, 2020, in Greater Noida, Delhi (NCR). This show draws hundreds of travel agents.
Soft power: Increase people to people contact, cultural exachange.
According to data provided by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), in 2017, outbound tourism expenditures accounted for a 20 percent share of service imports in India, an increase from almost 13.3 percent in 2010.

Conclusion

The future of both India and especially its travel and tourism industry is bright – if it continues to focus on its opportunities and address its current limitations. The need for public private cooperation in execution and change in mindset of people is crucial.

77. India's global diaspora is a diverse and a well spread out community. In what ways their links to the motherland affect the local economy and society? Analyse.

Introduction

As per the UN's International Migrant Stock 2019, the Indian diaspora at 17.5 million is the largest accounting for 6.4% of the global migrant population. The US, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Myanmar, the UK, Sri Lanka, South Africa and Canada host an Indian diasporic population of at least one million each.

Body

Diaspora affecting local economy:

- They impact the economy by contribution through remittances. According to a World Bank report released in April, India was the largest remittance-receiving country in the world, with an estimated $69 billion in 2015.
- When they visit India, they tend to spend more lavishly than the locals, thereby helping economic activity.
- Indian diaspora adds to the local economy through bio-tourism and tourism due to historical and religious links. E.g. Ayurvedic treatment in Kerala, Buddhist or Jain historical places and so on.
- NRIs are more prone to donating to domestic charities because of the strong cultural and emotional feelings that they nurse.
- They bring technical and domain expertise to domestic startups and often act as angel investors. Diaspora Indian faculty abroad volunteer time and resources to help faculty on Indian campuses improve the quality of education — as in the case of member institutions of the Indo Universal Collaboration of Engineering Education.
- The migration of less-skilled labour (especially to West Asia) has also helped in bringing down disguised unemployment in India.
- The Diaspora population bring technical and domain expertise to domestic startups and often act as angel investors.

- Indian diaspora can bring deposits for specific development programs. As per a report, if just 25 per cent of the diaspora population invests the maximum amount, this could bring in $400 billion in new investments to India.
- The diaspora has also impacted society and maintain communal harmony. E.g. Compared to other Indian states, Kerala has a history of relatively peaceful Muslim-Hindu-Christian relations, providing a good basis for co-existence and multicultural understanding.

Conclusion

As our PM said "The world is seeing India with a ray of hope and our diaspora can play a crucial role in further spreading it". With a little commitment and some creative thinking, the government could double or even treble the already substantial economic value of diaspora contributions by carefully designing a set of policies to exploit the talent, industriousness and patriotism of those living abroad.

78. Do you agree with the assertion that India has gained much less as compared to her western counterparts in the process of globalisation? Substantiate your views.

Introduction

Globalisation is the method of interaction and union among people, corporations and governments universally. It includes the creation of networks and pursuits transforming social, economic and geographical barriers. Globalisation tries to build links in such a way that the events in India can be determined by events happening distances away.

Body

India has gained much less as compared to her western counterparts in the process of globalisation

- **Economic sphere**
  - World leading financial institutions like IMF, World Bank, are dominated by Western nations.
  - Competition in agricultural sector form imports has resulted in stagnation and farmer's suicide.

- **Political sphere** – After LPG reforms interference of government in economy has decreased. The concept of welfare state has reduced to minimalist state after globalisation.

- **Cultural sphere**
  - Globalisation had led to shrinking of Indian culture. People are influenced by western culture even in day to day activities like dressing style, food habits, music etc
  - The 'McDonaldization of Society' is a case in point.

- **Social sphere** – Urbanisation and resulting migration due to globalisation has worsened the social situation in India causing
  - Increasing number of nuclear families, high divorce rates, individualism etc

However there is a different opinion too, as per which, India had fair share in the process of globalisation

- **Economic sphere**
  - Increased FDI and FII and higher growth rate after 1991 reform.
  - Indian is the highest receiver of remittance.
  - More export market and overseas branches of Indian companies.

- **Political sphere**
  - Indian is a prominent country at the UN.
  - Due to Globalisation India has the opportunity to take leadership role in regional groupings like BIMSTEC, QUAD, SCO etc

- **Social sphere**
  - Better health and education facility
  - Improved social development indicators and women empowerment.

- **Cultural sphere** – Indian culture has become more popular at the global level. Recognition of International Yoga Day is a case in point.

Conclusion

The phenomenon of globalisation and its effect is too important to be reversed. It would be wise to have policy preparedness to reap the benefit of globalisation.

79. How are global IT giants like Google and Facebook affecting the lives of common Indians? Illustrate.

Introduction

Internet and IT sector has revolutionised the life of common people. Global IT giants like Google and Facebook affecting the lives of common Indians have a larger role to play and have affected life common people in various ways.

Body

- Giving expression to one's thought – There was a time when one had to submit his/her article and, if lucky, wait for Sunday edition of newspapers to print it. Now anyone can anytime express his/her view online. Common man can become director, actor and producer of online programs on platforms like YouTube.

- Connecting with people – for cultural, economic, political reason has become easy. Networking has helped common people in seeking jobs, advertisement etc.
- Tools like Google translator has helped in increasing interaction among people.
- Gender sensitization through online movements and campaigns like #Metoo movement, "Beti Bacao, Beti Padhao" Andolan.
- E-learning is revolutionizing education sector. Students can self-learn from the online platforms.
- E-commerce – has increased choices of goods and services for common man.
- E- governance – has been made possible due to easy access of internet, facilitated by some IT giants.

However, there have been many negative impacts as well –

- Privacy of people is constantly under threat. It was alleged in Cambridge Analytica case that data of common people were collected from Facebook – a social media platform, to do 'election engineering'.
- There is a constant threat of malware attack and damage to the devices.
- Fake news emanating from IT giants platforms has affected the moral compass of common man. It also leans to illegal and immoral activities like mob lynching.
- Cyber bullying and trolling has affected many especially women.
- Internet addiction, game addiction etc had caused damage among young generation. Certain online game like 'Blue Whale' has caused death of youths.

- Tendency of Individualism, isolation, depression etc are increasing.

Conclusion

Need of the hour is create awareness among masses to use these platforms like wisely to tap maximum benefits from them. Self-regulations from the side of IT Giants to detect and remove fake news to content that may cause violence must be taken up. Platform like Facebook and WhatsApp has taken steps in this direction, but more pro-action steps are requires to serve the interest of common man.

80. Do you think the Citizenship Amendment Act violates the basic structure of secularism? Critically examine.

Introduction

The Indian parliament has passed the Citizenship Amendment Act amid claims that it is violative of the secularism principle of Indian constitution. This Act amends the 1955 Citizenship Act and seeks to amend the definition of illegal immigrant for Hindu, Sikh, Parsi, Buddhist and Christian immigrants from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, who have lived in India without documentation. They will be granted fast track Indian citizenship in six years instead of standard 11 years.

Body

- Citizenship in India is currently covered under two legislations: Part II of the Constitution of India, 1950 and the Citizenship Act, 1955. However, neither of these legislations have defined citizenship clearly and only provide the prerequisites for a "natural" person to acquire Indian citizenship.
- Citizenship is a complex term, enshrined within which are the ideas of nationality, assumed as ethnicity; and domicile is understood as permanent residence. In India, however, the courts are inclined towards pegging citizenship as an extended arm of domiciliation. The Supreme Court of India, in Star Trading Corporation v Commercial Tax Officer (1963), has stated, in no uncertain terms, that nationality and citizenship are not interchangeable terms.
- The theory of "basic structure" states that the Constitution contains certain characteristics that cannot be taken away by any legislation; for example, judicial review, free and fair elections, welfare state. These form the cornerstone of the governance of a country. Therefore, any legislation that fails the test of "basic structure" is unconstitutional. Secularism is a basic structure, as has been reiterated by the Supreme Court in S R Bommai v Union of India (1994). It has also been incorporated in the Preamble to the Constitution, which serves as the guiding light to interpreting the Constitution.
- As understood in the Indian context, secularism means "sarva dharma samabhav." This means that all religions are equal in the eyes of law and that the State shall not propagate or endorse one particular religion. This

philosophy is also enshrined in the Preamble and in Articles 26 to 29 of the Constitution.

- The preamble begins with the values of sovereignty, socialism, democracy and republicanism that are the very foundations of India. Subsequently it secures for its citizens' social economic and political justice, 'liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship' and 'equality of status and of opportunity'

- The opponents of the new law argue that it breaches the Fundamental Right to Equality stated by Article 14, because it violates the principle of "equality before the law" and the "equal protection of laws" assured to all individuals, including non-citizens. Naturalisation and citizenship in the name of the religion, they say, is total discrimination and against the basic structure of the humanitarian and secular Constitution of India.

- The decision to grant citizenship based on religion goes against the letter and spirit of the Constitution. In northeastern states, which share a history of ethnic cleansing of minorities, the act is having damning repercussions. The new citizenship act will deepen the old fault lines in Assam, both religious and linguistic.

- Finally, the CAA denies the value of community as it violates fraternal bonds between communities: a public good recognised by Ambedkar and the Supreme Court in decisions on secularism.

But at the same time, proponents of CAA consider it as not violative of the secularism doctrine under the following grounds:

- There has been much ado about the amendment to the Citizenship Act. It has been attacked as unconstitutional. At first blush the law may appear to be discriminatory and unconstitutional, but such a charge does not stand closer scrutiny. The amendment essentially seeks to facilitate religious minorities in the named countries that have a state religion acquire Indian citizenship.

- Ever since the failure of the Liaquat-Nehru pact of 1950, various leaders, cutting across the ideological spectrum, have demanded the grant of citizenship to religious minorities from Pakistan and Bangladesh, who mostly belong to the Dalit castes.

- CAA did not "change the criteria of citizenship in any way; merely providing a special expedited redress, under special circumstances, for minorities fleeing religious persecution from three specific countries i.e. Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan

- It does not in any way prevent Ahmadis, Hazaras, Baloch or any other denominations and ethnicity, from these same three countries, seeking citizenship through regular processes

- The seemingly contradictory demands of legislative specialisation and constitutional generality have been resolved by the doctrine of reasonable classification. It is one that includes all persons who are similarly situated with respect to the purpose of the law. In the present case there is a reasonable, valid classification of persons of religious minorities in the three-named theocratic states who came to India before a cut-off date.

Conclusion

There is more rhetoric than legal reasoning in the contention that the law is against secularism and infringes the Constitution's basic structure. As Legislature is an inclusive body, and is representative of the will of the people, it should have no biases and try its utmost to provide justice and liberty to all. Further, although the legislature consists of political parties, there should be no politics in the passing of legislations that bypass the democratic ideals of India.

81. What are your views on the idea of a nationwide NRC exercise? Will it not flare up communal tensions? Share your views.

Introduction
NRC The National Register of Citizens (NRC) is a register of Indian citizens and was prepared in 1951, following the census of 1951. At present, only Assam has such a register.
Purpose: To separate "illegal" immigrants and deport them.
Nodal Agency: Registrar General and Census Commissioner India.

Body

Census and National Population Register is counting residents while the proposed NRC will count citizens. Its objective is to weed out non-citizens and deport them to their countries of origin or put them in detention camps.

Views on the idea of a nationwide NRC exercise

- It puts an entire population under suspicion of alienage. Under the foreigners' Act 1946, the burden of proof rests on the individual charged with being a foreigner. Moreover, Citizenship Act provides no mechanism for identifying aliens. With that justification can a state that does not have the ability to detect aliens or even to secure its borders against illegal immigrants, set out to find aliens by elimination? Elimination method is not the right approach.
- **Cost of Authentication:** Preparation of a countrywide NRC requires lot of resources. The Assam NRC is reported to have costed Rs 1600 crores. To prepare a countrywide NRC we need an estimated outlay of Rs 4.26 lakh crore. It would also need deployment of 1.33 crore officials when total number of government employees in India was 2.9 crore in 2011-12.
- **Lot of time to prepare it:** It is a regressive exercise and will take lot of time to prepare it.
- **Building new detention centers** that will be needed to incarcerate the excluded people**.**
- **Panic among people:** The necessary documents required to be included in NRC has created panic and fear in Assam and many committed suicides as they were not having the documents to prove their citizenship even when

their ancestors have been living here for hundreds of years. If NRC done at national level it would have graver ramifications.

- **Flawed Process** - People who found themselves on the first list in Assam NRC, that was released on January 1, 2018, didn't find their names in the second. Even the family of a former President of India did not mention on the list.
- Since such 'non citizens' can resort to judicial relief to substantiate their citizenship claim, it can lead to overburdening of judiciary which already reels under large number of pending cases.
- **Federal Imperative of seeking the consent of state governments:** Many states in northeast are erupting in protest against NRC. It is a federal issue and requires consultations between states and the centre and it cannot be done on the whims of a particular political party that comes to party.
- With no end to uncertainty, NRC seems to be a process without an end.

Fraying communal tension or plural social fabric of this nation:

If the NRC carves out paths to statelessness for groups that are disfavoured, the citizenship Amendment Bill creates paths to citizenship for preferred groups. The implicit assumption in the NRC is that the infiltrators are Bangladeshis Muslims who must be disenfranchised as they have illegally acquired the citizenship. The citizenship Amendment Bill on the other hand promises citizenship to migrants belonging to all groups except Muslims – who will be eligible for fast-track citizenship because they are persecuted minorities in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh. However, it does not offer the same to the victims of sectarian religious persecution in neighbouring countries, such as the Ahmadiyas or the Rohingyas. It is a hypocrisy on part of the state.

Conclusion

India, as a country which follows the ideology of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', should not be hasty in taking decisions that can disenfranchise her citizens – contradicting its centuries-followed values. The Central Government should appoint a National Immigration Commission to frame a National Migration Policy and a National Refugee Policy. The Commission should examine ways of strengthening the Foreigners Act 1946, as well as feasibility of Identity Cards for both citizens and non-citizens and Work Permits for migrants.

82. Why is India's northeast a complex regional challenge for the Indian state? Analyse.

Introduction

"India will be successful when the North East develops at par with the other developed states of India" – Narendra Modi.
India's North Eastern region includes 8 states covering 8% of the country's landmass and 4% of the national population representing one of the diverse cultures in the country.

Body

Why northeast is a complex regional challenge?

The northeast has several constraints which are acting as hindrance to the regional development and mainstreaming of the society. They are:

- Historical reason:
  - British policy of north eastern states virtually disconnecting them from the mainland.
  - Partition blow to the northeast: creation of East Pakistan resulted in
    - Virtual disconnection of the northeastern region from the rest of India connected through a narrow Siliguri corridor.
    - Loss of natural sea route through the port of Chittagong restricting the economic activities.
- Geographical challenges:
  - About 99% of the region has international border along Bangladesh, Myanmar, China and Bhutan which create complications in international diplomacy.
  - Over 70% of the region is forest area which makes the economic development difficult. Further, the region is host to an overwhelming tribal population ranging from 19% in Assam to 94% in Mizoram.
  - The region is predominantly hilly in all the states except Assam. This creates difficulty in utilization of natural resources.
- Cultural/societal challenges:
  - The region has over 160 scheduled tribes and over other tribal and sub-tribal communities and groups. The varied culture creates alienation from the mainland and hinder development.
  - The region is predominantly rural with around 84% of the population living in the rural areas.
  - The presence of different ethnicities has made it difficult to cater the demands clamoring for recognition of their distinctive identity.
  - Though the literacy rate is high, the employability is low. High dependency on agriculture has also resulted in low per capita income.
  - Different ethnic groups have caused conflicts and insurgency due to tribal rivalry, migration, control over local resources and so on. E.g. inter-tribal conflict between Kukis and Nagas, insurgent groups like NSCN etc.,
- Resentment to the central government: Economy depend on the patronage of the central government resulting in lack of economic activities. Also, the deployment of the armed forces has caused phycological resentment in the society.

Conclusion

Thus, for the above reasons, even the steps taken by the successive governments have produced slow progress. Yet, the steps are being taken towards fast development of the region and integration with the rest of India.

Note: This is a paper 1 question. So, focus on society, geography, historical points. If one write more governance or security related arguments, they will get relatively lesser marks.

83. Elaborate upon the concept of 'social empowerment'. Is there a correlation between social and economic empowerment? Examine.

Introduction

Social empowerment is understood as the process of developing a sense of autonomy and self-confidence, and acting individually and collectively to change social relationships and the institutions and discourses that exclude poor people and keep them in poverty.

Body

The notion of empowerment entails numerous things including concepts of choice, liberty, agency, capacity, contribution, self-sufficiency, and increased resources among others.

This is to be done by adopting the approach of social justice to ensure equal rights, access to benefits and resources and empowerment to enable them to develop their potential and capacities as agents of social change, through the process of planned development.

Social empowerment is a means to build a socially just society. The holistic empowerment of all sections of the society is a necessary condition for the development of a country.

Correlation between social and economic empowerment

- Poor people's empowerment, and their ability to hold others to account, is strongly influenced by their individual assets such as land, housing, livestock, savings. Also important are people's collective assets and capabilities, such as voice, organisation, representation and identity.
- NSSO data reveals this correlation. Comparison of NSSO data (2011-12) the between Dalit and upper caste households –
    - In rural areas - expenditure gap - ~ 37
    - In urban areas- incomes gap ~ 65%
- Social empowerment leads to more accessibility to health, education, credit etc leading to better employment opportunity and hence economic empowerment.

However, there have been instances of no visible correlation between social and economic empowerment

- Female LFPR is declining despite higher growth, higher educational attainment, and higher age of marriage and declining fertility. Increased social empowerment did not lead to economic empowerment.
- Emergence of 'Dalit capitalism', higher percentage in administration, higher offices from lower class communities has not effectively increased the social status of lower caste. There is widespread discrimination as seen from temple entry restriction in various parts of the country.

Conclusion

Empowerment is a holistic concept. It cannot be seen as social, economic or political. Apart from creating enabling environment for individual growth and prosperity, there must be change in people's attitude to recognise everyone as equal. Then only substantive equality as envisaged by the constitution can be achieved.

84. What is your assessment of reservations in jobs and education as a tool of social empowerment? Substantiate your views.

Introduction

The objective of reservation as envisioned by the founding fathers of the Constitution was to ensure social justice and empowerment. It was important to undo the historical injustice done to SC/STs. Reservation was extended to other backward classes under the recommendation of the Mandal Commission.

Body

Assessment of reservations in jobs and education as a tool of social empowerment
- Government policy of reservation is based on the fact that economic backwardness is intricately linked with social backwardness. This is backed by NSSO data too. Comparison of NSSO data (2011-12) the between Dalit and upper caste households
  - In rural areas - expenditure gap - ~ 37
  - In urban areas- incomes gap ~ 65%
- Lack of education among SC/STs makes them uncompetitive at the entrance level. Hence reservation in educational institutions tries to bring parity.
- The Constitution (103rd Amendment) Act, 2019 for the very first time, economic class is constitutionally recognized as vulnerable section.
- Social deficiencies may exist beyond the concept of caste (Ram Singh case, 2015). This is recognised by the reservation policy.

However policy of reservation has been criticised on various ground

- Reservation is now being increasingly seen as the only tool available for upward social mobility.

- It perpetuates caste differentiation and encourages competition among communities at the expense of national unity.

- Only small new elite of educated Dalits, Adivasis, and OBCs benefit from reservations.
- Don't do enough to lift the mass of people out of poverty.
- Women's status has not substantially improved in the society due to patriarchy. India ranks 122th in WEF's Gender Gap Index.

Conclusion

The Constitution envisages not just a formal equality of opportunity but also the achievement of substantive equality. Reservation can be just one tool in this regard. However social empowerment and universal access to services like education and health is necessary to make the fruits of reservation reach the last man in society.

85. What are mantle plumes? How do mantle plumes give rise to various geographical features? Illustrate.

Introduction

A mantle plume is an upwelling of abnormally hot rock within the Earth's mantle. It is a buoyant mass of material in the mantle that, because of its buoyancy, rises. The existence of mantle plumes in the Earth was first suggested by Wilson(1963) as an explanation of oceanic-island chains, such as the Hawaiian-Emperor chain, which change progressively in age along the chain.

Body

1. Hot mantle rock that rises toward the earth's surface in a narrow column is called a mantle plume**.** Plumes can be located beneath continental or oceanic crust or along plate boundaries.
2. Wilson proposed that as a lithospheric plate moves across a fixed hotspot (the mantle plume), volcanism is recorded as a linear array of volcanic seamounts and islands parallel to the direction the plate is moving.
3. However, it is known today that plumes can also move, so this simplified model
   does not hold for all hotspot tracks. There are even a few investigators who question whether mantle plumes exist.
4. The three-dimensional tomographic model of Earth's interior, similar to a medical CT scan, revealed large swells of what is likely hot mantle material with diameters roughly 1,000 kilometers wide. The structures, dubbed plumes by the researchers, rise from areas at the core-mantle boundary with strongly reduced seismic velocities.
5. Further, Plumes are a secondary way that Earth loses heat, much less important in this regard than is heat loss at plate margins. Some scientists think that plate tectonics cools the mantle, and mantle plumes cool the core.

Two of the most well-known locations that fit the mantle plume theory are Hawaii and Iceland as both have volcanic activity.

Mantle Plumes has considered as the reason for giving rise to following geographical features:

- Plumes are thought to spread out laterally at the base of a continent, creating increased pressure that stretches the crust and results in uplift, fracturing, rifting, or flood basalts.
- Mantle plumes emanating from the upper mantle may gush up through the lithosphere as hot spots.
- Mantle plumes are thought to be strong enough to induce rifting and the formation of plates. The pressure creates a domed region that eventually splits in a three-pronged pattern (triple junction or triple point). The best example of a triple junction in the world is provided by the three faults marked by the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden, and the inactive African Rift Valley.
- The high ratios in Hawaiian basalts were interpreted as evidence that plumes are fed by primordial material from deep in the mantle, while mid-ocean ridge systems tap recycled upper mantle material depleted in helium-3.
- As a mantle plume reaches the upper mantle, it melts into a diapir. This molten material heats the asthenosphere and lithosphere, triggering volcanic eruptions. These volcanic eruptions make a minor contribution to heat loss from Earth's interior, although tectonic activity at plate boundaries is the leading cause of such heat loss.
- The potential of mantle plumes may go well beyond volcanism within plates. For example, the mantle plume that may lie under Réunion Island in the Indian Ocean has apparently burned a track of volcanic activity that reaches about 3,400 miles (5,500 km) northward to the Deccan Plateau region of what is now India.

Conclusion

Although many details of plumes and their effects are still controversial and debated, the basic theory of mantle plumes is well established and there is considerable observational evidence to support the plume concept. Recently, as the resolution of seismic tomography improved sufficiently, it has led to at least some plumes in the upper mantle being detected seismically.

86. Why do some places on earth experience heavier air pollution than others? What role does climate play in this? Examine.

Introduction

Air pollution may be defined as the presence of any solid, liquid or gaseous substance including noise and radioactive radiation in the atmosphere in such

concentration that may be directly and/or indirectly injurious to humans or other living organisms, property or interferes with the normal environmental processes.

Body

Air pollution is the mixing of unwanted and harmful substances such as chemicals, dust, auto emissions, suspended particles, gases among others in our atmosphere. It can be of two types; indoor and outdoor air pollution. It is a serious threat to the health of living beings and the different ecosystems found in our environment. According to WHO, it was the cause of death of approximately 7 million people around the world in 2014.

If we take the scenario of India,

- High dependence on coal for power: share of coal in power generation in India continue to be around 80%. Power plants with poor technology and efficiency continue to be the major source of pollutants like CO and oxides of nitrogen and sulfur.
- High levels of poverty
  - Dependence on fuelwood and kerosene for the purpose of lighting and cooking leads to high level of pollutants being released in rural and urban periphery
  - Over exploitation of commons like forests, grazing lands and mindless deforestation reduces the natural capacity to absorb pollutants
- Poor governance: the issue of environment and pollution is still to get the policy priority it deserves. While agencies liked CPCB and SPCBs continue to be under-resourced and under-staffed, multiplicity of the state authorities at the ground level leads to poor coordination, lax enforcement of rules and lack of accountability as seen in Delhi. Absence of environmental governance continues to be a major challenge
- Access to technology: India's industrial landscape continues to be dominated by MSMEs which lack access to cleaner technologies. Agricultural waste burning is also the result of poor access to farm technologies
- Unplanned urbanization: haphazard growth of urban areas has led to proliferation of slums and poor public transport has increased the burden of personal vehicles on the road. Landfills used for waste management also releases pollutants in the air. The rapid urbanization of the recent years if left unmanaged will further exacerbate the problem
- Continentality: problem of pollution in the landlocked northern states gets exacerbated due to unfavourable winds and phenomenon of temperature inversion during winters

Most of the pollution of the air is caused because of the ignorance and negligence of humans but it is also true that some time the air can be polluted by natural causes.

The natural factors causing air pollution are:

1. Forest fires
2. Wind erosion

3. Radioactivity released from decay of rocks
4. Volcanic eruptions.

Forest fires produce giant masses of smoke which tend to drift over nearby villages and cities.

Occasional eruptions of volcanoes can eject huge amount of volcanic ash and lava onto the earth surface which introduces dust and smoke into the atmosphere thereby polluting the air.

Natural air pollution can also be caused when rocks decay over time and release gas such as radon which has adverse effects on our health.

Once pollutants are emitted into the air, the weather largely determines how well they disperse. Turbulence mixes pollutants into the surrounding air. For example, during a hot summer day, the air near the surface can be much warmer than the air above. Sometimes large volumes of this warm air will rise to great heights. This results in vigorous mixing.

Wind speed also contributes to how quickly pollutants are carried away from their original source. However, strong winds don't always disperse the pollutants. They can transport pollutants to a larger area, such as the smoke from open burning or forest fires.

Sometimes the condition of the atmosphere is very still (stable) and there is very little mixing. This occurs when the air near the surface of the earth is cooler than the air above (a temperature inversion). This cooler air is heavier and will not want to move up to mix with the warmer air above. Any pollutants released near the surface will get trapped and build up in the cooler layer of air near the surface. Temperature inversions are very common in B.C., especially in mountain valleys, often forming during calm clear nights with light winds. They can even persist throughout the day during the winter.

Role of climate

Climate change can impact air quality and, conversely, air quality can impact climate change.

Changes in climate can result in impacts to local air quality. Atmospheric warming associated with climate change has the potential to increase ground-level ozone in many regions, which may present challenges for compliance with the ozone standards in the future. The impact of climate change on other air pollutants, such as particulate matter, is less certain, but research is underway to address these uncertainties.

Conclusion

Given air pollution issues in the country, Government has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) A time bound national level strategy for pan India

implementation to tackle the increasing air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner.

87. What is an air mass? How does it get formed? In what ways does it affect the local climate conditions? Discuss.

Introduction

An air mass is a large volume of air in the atmosphere that is mostly uniform in temperature and moisture.

Body

Formation of air masses:
When the air remains over a homogenous area for a sufficiently longer time, it acquires the characteristics of the area. The homogenous regions can be the vast ocean surface or vast plains. The homogenous surfaces, over which air masses form, are called the source regions. An air mass acquires these attributes through heat and moisture exchanges with the surface.

Further, Low wind speeds let air remain stationary long enough to take on the features of the source region, such as heat or cold. When winds move air masses, they carry their weather conditions (heat or cold, dry or moist) from the source region to a new region.

Furthermore, Uneven warming and cooling of the earth's surface by the Sun gives rise to air masses. Air Masses are most common in the tropics, subtropics and high latitudes. The zones from which air masses grow are called "source regions" which are the large surfaces with uniform temperatures and humidity. These are generally tracts of ocean, desert or snow-covered plains. For instance,

- The warm air masses form over the equator or desert areas where the solar radiation is maximum. In clear, almost cloudless days, the heat is reflected back to the atmosphere. The air becomes light and spreads.
- Cold air masses form near the poles where solar radiation is at a minimum. On cloudless days, the snow cover near the Poles, reflect sunlight away, preventing the earth to warm up. When this persists for a long period of time, cold air masses form over a large area.

(Use a simple diagram depicting airmass in the exam)

Air masses affecting local weather conditions:

In a particular area, the occurrence of particular air masses helps to ascertain the climate of that region. This in turn decides the type of flora and fauna as well as the type of crops that can be grown. For instance,

- Precipitation: E.g. the maritime-tropical air over Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea is a major reason for precipitation east of Rocky Mountains. It is also the cause of persistent humidity in the summer season.
- Temperature: Maritime polar air affects the coastal temperature in subtropical and arctic regions.
- Cyclones and anti-cyclones: Stormy cyclones form near the air-mass fronts. The mixing of air masses will result in rising air feeding the cyclone formations in the subtropical cyclone. Similarly, the warm maritime tropical air mass will provide the energy for tropical cyclones.
- Drought: they are the result of hot, dry air mass. This can destroy natural vegetation and kill trees. These regions have the increase risk of devastating wildfires. E.g. California wild fires.
- At the boundaries between air masses, the clash of masses of air with different characteristics can lead to dynamic weather like hail, tornadoes, high winds or ice storms. E.g. tropical cyclones formed in east china sea.

Conclusion

Air masses spread across massive region up to 1600 km or more. They exercise a considerable influence on the climatic conditions of the region over which they lodge and carry with them distinctive climatic features of their source region.

Additional information (Per se not required in the answer as per the demand of the question):

The air masses are classified according to the source regions. There are five major source regions:
- Warm tropical and subtropical oceans.
- The subtropical hot deserts
- The relatively cold high latitude oceans
- The very cold snow-covered continents in high latitudes
- Permanently ice-covered continents in the Arctic and Antarctica

Accordingly, the following air masses are formed.

- Maritime tropical (mT): Maritime Tropical air mass results from the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico and Gulf Stream. This air mass is characterized by hot, humid conditions.
- Continental tropical (cT): These are the hot, dry air masses which originate over regions like northern Mexico and the southwestern United States.
- Maritime polar (mP): Maritime Polar air masses have their source region over cold ocean currents or high latitude ocean waters. This air mass can produce widespread rain or snow, fog, drizzle, cloudy weather and long lasting light to moderate rain.
- Continental polar (cP): Continental Polar air masses are cold to cool and dry. Continental Polar air masses form over Canada and Siberia. These air masses

bring cold air during the winter and cool, relatively clear, rather pleasant weather in the summer.

- Continental arctic (cA): This air mass is considered very cold. Their source of origin is Arctic Ocean, Siberia, Northern Canada, Southern Ocean.

88. Illustrate the role of the Tibetan plateau in the Indian Monsoon.

Introduction

Indian monsoon is a complex system characterized by seasonal reversal in wind direction in south and South East Asia. Monsoon system is modified trade winds guided by various landforms such as Himalayas and water systems such as Pacific. Tibetan plateau especially has very major role to play in genesis of monsoon.

Body

Landforms play a major role in deciding the path of propagation as well as intensity of rainfall, as most of the rainfall in India is orographic in nature. The Himalayas plays a major role in genesis of monsoon as well as monsoon breaks. Tibet Plateau is an enormous block of a high ground act as a formidable barrier as well as a heat source.

Role of the Tibetan plateau in the Indian Monsoon

- Tibetan Heating creates a low pressure in summer which gets coupled with Massacarene High pressure area and thus helps in initiation of Monsoon.
- The vast mountain range also acted as a tall barrier, preventing cold, dry air in the northern latitudes from entering the subcontinent and subduing the warm, moisture-laden winds from the oceans that drive the monsoon.
- During southwest monsoon, a thermal anticyclone appears over Tibet, which the resultant formation of dynamic anti-cyclogenesis. On the south side of the anticyclone, the tropical jet stream is from. The plateau accents the northward displacement of the jet stream in the middle of the October. The withdrawal sub-tropical westerly jet stream to the north Himalayas marks the onset of monsoon season in India.
- With the Tibetan heating and ENSO acting independently of each other, the two factors taken together could have predictive value for rainfall in the monsoon's early and late phases.

- The tropical easterly jet stream is formed at an eastern longitude of India then moves towards westwards across India and the Arabian Sea to eastern Africa. This upper-level easterly jet stream creates a flow of air on the south side of Tibetan Plateau that reaches down to low levels over northernmost India. During summer, the insolation heating of air above Tibet Plateau

weakens the western subtropical jet stream south of the Himalayas with the resultant reversal of pressure gradient and wind flow over northern India.

Conclusion

Thus the presence of Tibet Highland is very important, even if there is no significant barrier effect on the flow of air.

89. How do jet streams get formed? How do jet streams affect India? Examine.
Introduction
Jet streams are relatively narrow bands of strong wind in the upper levels of the atmosphere. The winds blow from west to east in jet streams but the flow often shifts to the north and south. Jet streams are like rivers of wind high above in the atmosphere. These slim strips of strong winds have a huge influence on climate, as they can push air masses around and affect weather patterns.
The jet streams on Earth typically run from west to east, and their width is relatively narrow compared to their length. Jet streams are typically active at 20,000 feet to 50,000 feet, above the surface and travel in what is known as the troposphere of Earth's multi-layered atmosphere.

Body
Effect of Jet Stream on India

- It is believed that the southern branch of the jet stream in northern hemisphere exercises an important influence on the winter weather in India.

- The western cyclonic disturbances which enter the Indian subcontinent from the west and the northwest during the winter months, originate over the Mediterranean Sea and are brought into India by the westerly jet stream.

- The Sub-Tropical Jet stream plays a significant role in both hindering the monsoon winds as well as in quick onset of Indian monsoons.

- The burst of monsoons depends upon the upper air circulation which is dominated by Sub Tropical Jet Streams (STJ).

- During summer, there is a presence of easterly jet streams. An easterly jet stream flows over the southern part of the Peninsula in June and has a maximum speed of 90 km per. In August, it is confined to 15°N latitude, and in September up to 22° N latitudes. The easterlies normally do not extend to the north of 30° N latitude in the upper atmosphere.

- The easterly jet stream steers the tropical depressions into India. These depressions play a significant role in the distribution of monsoon rainfall over the Indian subcontinent. The tracks of these depressions are the areas of highest rainfall in India. The frequency at which these depressions visit India, their direction and intensity, all go a long way in determining the rainfall pattern during the southwest monsoon period.

- At times, Jet Streams bring about some moisture to the stratosphere, leading to the formation of Noctilucent clouds (tenuous cloudlike phenomena in the upper atmosphere which are made of ice crystals visible in a deep twilight)
- Known to have brought some ozone depleting substances to stratosphere which result in ozone layer depletion.

Conclusion

Jet stream has wide ranging effect on India. The theories explaining and predicting the effects are still evolving.

90. Write a short note on the distribution of natural gas across the world. Do you think natural gas can address the challenge of global energy crisis in the long run? Critically examine.

Introduction

Natural gas is a fossil fuel which is a fossil energy source that formed deep beneath the earth's surface. Nearly 80% of the world's total proven natural gas reserves are located in ten countries. Russia tops the list, holding about a quarter of the world's total gas reserves, followed by Iran and Qatar in the Middle East.

Body

Natural Gas's distribution is widespread and this distribution can be seen from the following points -

1. Natural gas deposits are often found near oil deposits. Deposits of natural gas close to the Earth's surface are usually dwarfed by nearby oil deposits. Deeper deposits—formed at higher temperatures and under more pressure—have
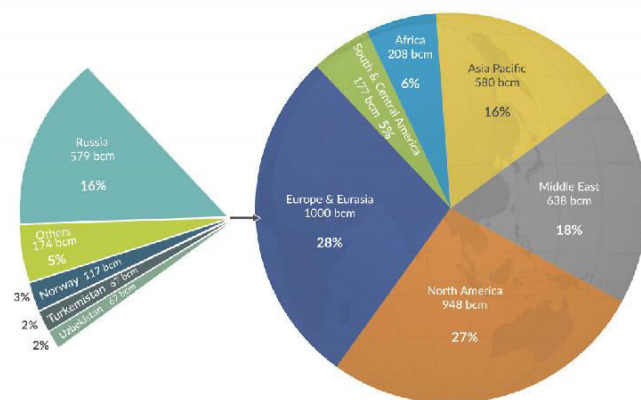
more natural gas than oil. The deepest deposits can be made up of pure natural gas.

2. In some places, natural gas moved into large cracks and spaces between layers of overlying rock. The natural gas found in these types of formations is sometimes called conventional natural gas. In other places, natural gas occurs in the tiny pores (spaces) within some formations of shale, sandstone, and other types of sedimentary rock. This natural gas is referred to as shale gas or tight as, and it is sometimes called unconventional natural gas.

3. Natural gas also occurs with deposits of crude oil, and this natural gas is called associated natural gas. Natural gas deposits are found on land, and some are offshore and deep under the ocean floor. A type of natural gas found in coal deposits is called coalbed methane.

4. The world's top six natural gas producers are (2016) - United States (749 bcm), Russia (579 bcm), Iran (202 bcm), Qatar (181 bcm), Canada (152 bcm), China (138 bcm).

Today, natural gas is used in countless ways for industrial, commercial, residential, and transportation purposes. By energy source, natural gas accounts for the largest increase in world primary energy consumption.

- Abundant natural gas resources and robust production contribute to the strong competitive position of natural gas among other resources. Natural gas remains a key fuel in the electric power sector and in the industrial sector.

- In the power sector, natural gas is an attractive choice for new generating plants because of its fuel efficiency. Natural gas also burns cleaner than coal or petroleum products, and as more governments begin implementing national or regional plans to reduce carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions, they may encourage the use of natural gas to displace more carbon-intensive coal and liquid fuels.

- In residential homes, the most popular use for natural gas is heating and cooking. It can further be used to power home appliances such as stoves, air conditioners, space heaters, outdoor lights, garage heaters, and clothes dryers.

- Natural gas can also be used on a larger scale in commercial settings, such as restaurants and shopping malls, where it is an extremely efficient and economical way to power water heaters, space heaters, dryers, and stoves.

- Natural gas can also be used as an alternative fuel for cars, buses, trucks, and other vehicles. Currently, there are more than 5 million natural gas vehicles (NGV) worldwide. Also, fuels derived from natural gas could help avoid a future oil crisis if they're poised to effectively compete in the oil-dominated transportation sector

- Methanol could be the most promising option for large-scale market penetration of a natural gas-based fuel for light-duty vehicles because of its low fuel cost and low additional cost relative to powering a vehicle with gasoline.

At the same time, there are multiple challenges with regards to future use of Natural gas on a large scale, some of which are listed below -

- To meet the rising natural gas demand which is projected, the world's natural gas producers need to increase supplies by nearly 69% from 2012 to 2040.
- Currently there is no globally integrated market for natural gas, and pricing mechanisms vary by regional market.
- As with any extractive activity, drilling for natural gas can lead to leaks. If the drill hits an unexpected high-pressure pocket of natural gas, or the well is damaged or ruptures, the leak can be immediately hazardous. Further, the leaks are an environmental hazard as they also leak mud and oil into the surrounding areas.
- If hydraulic fracturing was used to expand a well, the chemicals from that process can contaminate local aquatic habitats and drinking water with highly radioactive materials. The uncontained methane released in the air can also force people to temporarily evacuate the area.

Conclusion

Natural gas is a win environmentally because it produces less local pollution and less carbon dioxide emissions than traditional petroleum and electricity generated from coal. But it's also necessary to consider the degree to which natural gas should replace other types of energy sources and the full life-cycle emissions associated with fuels derived from natural gas, which will help usher in a sustainable future for the world in terms of energy.

91. The supply of water has the potential to influence geopolitics, diplomacy and even conflict.

Introduction

Water politics, sometimes called *hydropolitics*, is politics affected by the availability of water and water resources, a necessity for all life forms and human development.

Body

We need water to survive. But it also fuels a country's commerce, trade, innovation and economic success. This has been the case for time immemorial, from the Nile in Ancient Egypt to the Amazon in the Brazilian rainforest.

While bodies of water typically help form natural borders of countries, several nations tend to share access to rivers or lakes – the Nile runs through nearly a dozen countries alone, for example. Given how conflict-prone humankind is, it's surprising there haven't been more dust-ups of a "hydro-political" nature.

The supply of water has the potential to influence geopolitics, diplomacy and even conflict

Experts agree: if there was no access to water, there would be no world peace. That's why one of the grand challenges of the next few decades could be maintaining this ultra-sensitive stasis of water management.

- In the 21st Century, freshwater supplies are drying up, climate change is raising sea levels and altering borders, explosive population growth is straining world resources, and global hyper-nationalism is testing diplomatic relations. Meanwhile, water demand is expected to go up 55% between 2000 and 2050. In the coming century, in terms of its value as a global resource, it's been described as "the next oil."

World peace hinges on hydro-politics: Experts agree: if there was no access to water, there would be no world peace.

- In many areas of the world, bodies of water run through several countries or brush up against many countries' borders. That's where something called "riparian water rights" come into play.
- In the case of a river, upstream countries – where the river originates – enjoy inherent power and leverage over the downstream countries. These kinds of riparian hotspots abound. And they're often in places that are already fraught.
- In the Middle East, the Jordan River basin is the primary water source for many regions, including Jordan, Palestine, and Israel, regions of long-standing political tensions. In Syria, meanwhile, the worst drought in close to a millennium has been partly blamed for the country's generation-defining civil war and radicalisation that led to the formation of so-called Islamic State.
- Egypt and Ethiopia have sparred over development of water from the River Nile for centuries: the iconic river originates in Ethiopia but ends in Egypt, which sets up an inherently combative relationship. In 2015, Egypt and Ethiopia put enough differences aside to construct the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the river, which is Africa's largest dam. The countries also signed a deal that strives to ensure fair river access.
- Malaysia has a 99-year deal with Singapore, giving them paid access to fresh water from the Johor River.
- Singapore is arguably one of the most progressive nations on our planet, but without sufficient fresh water resources within its boundaries, all industry, trade, commerce and culture would all stand still."
- Afghanistan is an upstream country to many nations in the region, and is trying to use that advantage to develop its economy. For a country that's been subjected to decade upon decade of war and upheaval, the political power of water sources like the Kabul River could be a boon.
- If one includes virtual water in the picture, farmers are managing much of the water in the supply chain. And in countries that are water deficient, that imported embedded water is integral. In Europe alone, 40% of this "virtual water" comes from outside the continent.

- In reality, the water that goes into the country's food is being brought in from elsewhere. In other words, 160 countries depend on imported food – and the water needed to make it. That's why hydro-diplomacy is one of the great unsung heroes in maintaining global peace.

Conclusion

In the words of Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary General, in an address to the international community: "Fierce national competition over water resources has prompted fears that water issues contain the seeds of violent conflict. If the entire world's peoples work together, a secure and sustainable water future can be ours." However, water, as a resource, it is dependent on sustainability. This means that it entails sound socioeconomic development that safeguards the resource base for future generations. And that the concerns on resource use should transcend beyond short term "on-site" gains, and should necessarily be on an environmentally sensitive use of resources including many possible "off-site" implications.

92. Energy has traditionally played an important role in global geopolitics, contributing to the rise of great powers, the formation of alliances and, in many cases, also to the emergence of wars and conflicts. Elucidate.

Introduction

Geopolitics of energy as it is called has been playing a major role in global diplomacy and has been a decider of rise of great powers, allies and enemies. This has been especially true post-industrial revolution where in the energy accounts for production of goods and services.

Body

Rise of great powers and Alliances:

- During the first industrial revolution time period, the control of coal production by Britain through its colonies helped it to build and expand its empire all over the world.
- United States of America was able to sustain post revolution owing to the rich energy resources available in the regions of Pennsylvania, Detroit, Rocky-mountains and so on.
- The newly emerged Germany, Italy were in control of rich sources of coal, iron in regions like Rhine valley leading to the rise of new empires.
- Most of the west Asian countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq and so on were built on account of abundant oil and natural gas present in the region.
- The western alliance like that between USA and Turkey or Saudi Arabia and others hinges on the oil diplomacy.
- OIC was formed between nations to control the production of oil which is the key element of the alliance.

- Even Indian relation with several countries like UAE, Qatar, Venezuela etc., is friendly for the reason of energy resources. Also, India is maintaining friendly relation with both Iran and Saudi Arabia who are traditional rivals.
- The rich energy resources in Africa has attracted the hand of alliance from countries like China, India, Japan and others who have invested and launched programs like Asia-Africa Growth corridor and so on.
- Lately, formation of international solar alliance is an example of energy-based alliance. Similarly, several European countries have aligned together for renewable energy production.

Causing war and conflicts:

- France conflicted with Germany over the control of Rhineland (source of coal) post worldwar1 which is also a reason for rise of Hitler.
- The gulf wars were fought for the control of oil in the west Asian region.
- The major events during the cold war period like the Iranian revolution, USA's invasion of Afghanistan has energy control as the hidden agenda. Toppling of governments were sponsored by USA and USSR during the period in countries like Egypt so as to have a control on energy resources.
- Civil war in Nigeria and Sudan were fought for the reason of control of energy resources.
- The discovery of shale gas in the arctic region has led to several global and regional conflicts like that between Russia and northern European countries, USA and so on.
- The rivalry between the western countries and regional countries like Iran is mainly on account of oil resources in the region. For the same reasons, intra-regional rivalry like that between Iran and Saudi Arabia exists.

Conclusion

Almost every conflict that has been fought or been fighting has an angle of control of energy resources. Be it be Russia-Ukraine conflict, South china sea conflict or even the conflict between developed and developing countries over the renewable energy adoption to fight the climate change, energy has and will always play the major role in global geopolitics.

93. What are the components of sustainable resource management? Explain with the help of suitable examples.

Introduction

Sustainable Resource Management is the use of the available in a way that creates the ability of a system to thrive by maintaining economic viability and also nourishing the needs of the present and future generations by limiting resource depletion.

According to Global resources outlook 2019

- Resource extraction has more than tripled since 1970
- Resource extraction is responsible ~ 50% of greenhouse gas emissions and over 90 per cent of biodiversity loss and water stress.

Exploding human consumption is the driving force for Anthropocene extinction as per '**The living planet report**' of WWF. These findings call for sustainable resource management.

Body

Components of sustainable resource management
- Human well-being
- Economic activity (GDP)
- Environmental impact

Human well-being
Resource extraction is needed for human development

- India's per capita GDP - $1965 (world average ~ $10,000)
- HDI – 0.64 (130/189)
- Per capita energy consumption ~ $1/5^{th}$ of global average.
- ~300 million people do not have electricity
- 55% households live in mud or semi-concrete household (2011 census)

Economic activity (GDP)
- Employment need increasing the industrial base
- Doubling the farmer's income require high energy consumption.
- To increase India's manufacturing base and to decrease dependence on mineral import, resource extraction is important.

Environmental impact

- IPCC report has said that this is the last chance for fight against climate change.
- Resource extraction is responsible ~ 50% of greenhouse gas emissions and over 90 per cent of biodiversity loss and water stress as per global resources outlook 2019 (UNEP).
- Exploding human consumption is the driving force for Anthropocene extinction (The living planet report, WWF)
- Sustainable future is one three biggest challenges as per World Economic Forum.
- Mean temperature in Indian has risen by 0.66^{o} C.
- Disaster – Kerala floods etc.

Conclusion

Emission mitigation pathway for development
- **Energy efficiency**
    o Alternative to aviation turbine fuel
    o Efficient power loom equipments
    o LED lights
- **Power sector decarbonisation** through renewable energy
- **Electrification of end uses** – eg: electric cook stoves; electric vehicle

Ingraining sustainable development concept in governance
- Impact assessment of any project
- EIA

Sustainable resource management is the answer to present crisis and the future need.

94. Examine the distribution of key nuclear elements in the world. Introduction

Nuclear minerals are identified so due to presence of radioactivity in minerals caused by the inclusion of naturally-occurring radioactive elements in the mineral's composition. For the most part, minerals that contain potassium (K), uranium (U), and thorium (Th) are nuclear minerals.

Body

Global distribution of nuclear minerals

Uranium
- Mines in Canada, Australia and Kazakhstan cover over two-thirds of the uranium production across the world. As per 2016 data, Kazakhstan is the largest producer of uranium with 39% of world supply, followed by Canada (22%) and Australia (10%).
- A large reserve of uranium is estimated to be in sea water.
- Australia possesses around 30% of the world's known recoverable uranium reserves. Kazakhstan contains about 13% of the world's recoverable uranium.
- Canada was the world's largest uranium producer for many years, but in 2009 was overtaken by Kazakhstan. Other important countries with large known uranium reserves include Russia, South Africa, Niger and Namibia.
- India has minimal production of uranium and dependent on import for its needs.

Thorium

- Thorium is more abundant in nature than uranium.

- Monazite is the chief source of thorium in the world. Commercially viable deposits of Monazite can be found mainly in the beach sands in the coastal tracts of India, Brazil, Australia, Ceylon and Malaysia.
- India has possibly the highest thorium resources.

The current distribution pattern shapes the global geostrategic paradigm. Nuclear mineral play critical role in the energy security as increased strive for carbon free fuels compared to the traditional coal based energy production which is discouraged due to climate change obligations. Nuclear mineral supplier could control fuel and operations of nuclear power in any country and in a way energy security. Advanced reactors will be a source of geopolitical force in the near future.

Conclusion

India eventually succeeded to overcome its nuclear mineral supply short comings with the indigenously developed thorium based reactors. India has proved its credibility as responsible nuclear power. India bolstered its claim in the global nuclear order with number of civil nuclear agreements with various nuclear supplier nations despite of oppositions.

95. What is ocean based blue economy? What potential does India have on this front? Analyse.

Introduction

Oceans are the world's single largest ecosystem, covering nearly 3/4th of the earth's surface, where according to estimates by the Global Ocean Commission, ocean resources contribute five percent of the world's GDP, secure the jobs of three billion people, and sustain the livelihoods of 350 million. This clearly demonstrates the importance of ocean based economy for humanity.

Body

- 'Blue Economy' (BE) conceptualises the oceans as "shared development spaces". It is defined by the World Bank as the "sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihood and jobs, and ocean ecosystem health."
- Blue economy is a shift from the old, "brown" business-as-usual development model where oceans are perceived as a means of free resource extraction and waste dumping. This paradigm does not consider the costs of the negative externalities to resource accounting, failing to take into cognisance the costs of environmental damage and ecological imbalance by consumption.
- The United Nations has recognized the importance of the blue economy and its important role in a sustainable future for the world's oceans. Sustainable

Development Goal 14, aims to "conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources."

- Recognizing the great potential of the blue economy, world leaders and scientists united for strategic talks about the future of our oceans at the first Sustainable Blue Economy Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 2018.

- The core of Blue economy is to realize socio-economic development and dynamic balance of resources and environment. In their second preparatory meeting summary, The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the Preparatory Committee highlighted approaches to adopt "blue economy," and believes it is consistent with the core contents of RIO+20 Summit.

- There are two elements for the Blue Economy -
    - The first is the necessity of protecting and restoring where needed the existing ocean resource base that already supplies food and livelihoods to billions of people.
    - The other side of the Blue Economy is where opportunities may exist for enhanced or new sustainable economic activity derived from the ocean.

In context of India, Blue economy holds great potential as seen from the following points:

- The Indian Ocean Region is abundant with resources, particularly in the sectors of fisheries, aquaculture, ocean energy, sea-bed mining and minerals, and provides tremendous economic opportunities to develop marine tourism and shipping activities. Commercial and artisanal fisheries sustain the livelihoods of more than 38 million people worldwide.

- In the Indian Ocean, fish production increased drastically from 861,000 tons in 1950 to 11.5 million tons in 2010. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report states that while other world oceans are nearing their fisheries limit, in certain areas, the Indian Ocean"s resources have the potential to sustain increased production.

- Polymetallic nodules and polymetallic massive sulphides are the two mineral resources of commercial interest to developers in the Indian Ocean. India had received exclusive rights for the exploration polymetallic nodules in 1987, in the Central Indian Ocean Basin. Since then, it has explored four million square miles and established two mine sites.

- The Indian Ocean Region is of strategic importance to India's economic growth as the most of the country's oil, and gas is imported through the sea. Further, this dependency is expected to rise by 2025 exponentially

- The Indian Ocean Region presents tremendous trade potential for the country. The countries in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) exhibited significant dynamism in the past few years as the trade in the region increased by over four times.

- Under the Make in India program of the Government, shipbuilding industry can benefit from a major thrust. This industry has a high multiplier effect on

investment and can accelerate industrial growth along with its large number of associated industries.
- The India Maritime Security Strategy published by the Indian Navy articulates country's policy in the Indian Ocean region. It states that in the Indian Ocean region, India is committed to Building Indian Ocean Region as a frontier of sustainable economic development.
- The Sagarmala project, launched by the Ministry of Shipping, is the strategic initiative for port-led development through the extensive use of IT enabled services for modernisation of ports. It tackles the issue of underutilized ports by focussing on port modernization, efficient evacuation, and coastal economic development.

Conclusion

The blue economy can provide a model for people to rethink how they preserve and sustain and improve the biodiverse ocean resources for future generations. It is necessary for India to tap the enormous potential of the Ocean based Blue Economy, which will propel the nation into a higher growth trajectory. The development of Blue Economy can serve as a growth catalyst in realizing the vision to become a $10 trillion economy by 2032.

96. How is India placed globally in terms of renewables? What initiatives have been taken recently to tap the potential on this front? Examine.

Introduction

India is one of the countries with the largest production of energy from renewable sources. As of 2019, 35% of India's installed electricity generation capacity is from renewable sources, generating 17% of total electricity in the country.

Body

Renewable Energy in India Potential: Estimated renewable energy potential: 900 GW from commercially exploitable sources Sources:

Wind: 102 GW (at 80 metre mast height); Small Hydro – 20 GW
Bio energy – 25 GW; Solar-750 GW solar powers
India ranked second in renewable energy attractiveness index in 2017.
- India was ranked 76th on a global energy transition index 2019.Sweden remains on the top on this annual list compiled by Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF) and is followed by Switzerland and Norway in the top three.
- India ranks 4th in overall installed capacity of 35 GW of wind energy. While, China tops the chart with 221 GW of installed wind capacity followed by the United States and Germany.

Policy Initiatives in the Renewable Energy Sector

	Initiative	Details
1	**National Green Corridor Programme- Green Energy Corridor Project**	• Objective: synchronise electricity produced from renewable sources, such as solar and wind, with conventional power stations in the grid.
2	**National Clean Energy Fund**	• For funding research and innovative projects in clean energy technologies.
3	**National Biogas and Manure Management Programme**	• Objective: To set up family type biogas plants in rural and semi-urban areas of the country.
4	**Biomass Power and Bagasse Co-generation Programme**	• Aim: efficient utilization of biomass such as agro residue and agro-industrial residues for power generation
5	**Draft National Wind Solar Hybrid Policy**	• Aim: promotion of large grid connected wind - solar PV hybrid system • Significance: This would help in optimal and efficient utilization of transmission infrastructure and land, reducing the variability in renewable power generation and achieving better grid stability. • Wind-solar hybrid systems to be formed: Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) and Solar PV systems will be configured to operate at the same point of grid connection.
6	**Off-Grid and Decentralised Solar PV Applications Programme**	• Aim: promote off-grid applications of Solar photovoltaic (SPV) systems for meeting lighting, electricity requirements
7	**National Offshore Wind Energy policy**	• Objective: To set up of Offshore Wind Farms in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the nation; (PPP) Public Private Partnership in ideal coastal regions.

8	Development of Solar Parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects	• Aim: to set up at least 25 Solar Parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects targeting over 20,000 MW of solar power installed capacity within a span of 5 years starting from 2014-15
9	Grid Connected Solar Rooftop Programme	• Promote installation of solar panels on rooftops across India
10	Sustainable Rooftop Implementation for Solar Transfiguration of India (SRISTI) Scheme:	• Financial incentives to be provided to the beneficiary for installing solar power plant rooftop projects in India • mobile app **ARUN (Atal Rooftop Solar User Navigator)** launched • **Suryamitra programme**- creation of a qualified technical workforce
11	Repowering of Wind Power Projects	• Objective: To promote optimum utilization of wind energy resources by creating a facilitative framework • Repowering refers to replacing ageing wind turbines with more powerful and modern units in order to raise electricity generation levels
12	National Solar Mission	• Aim: To achieve 100GW capacity by 2022 • Renewable purchase obligation (RPO): The RPOs make it compulsory for all large consumers of energy to ensure that a certain percentage of that energy mix is from renewable sources such as wind and solar. • In 2017 there has been Enhancement in Solar RPO to 8% by March 2022 • **Accelerated Depreciation**: Indirect financial support mechanism- Tax relief due to availing higher rate of depreciation. A tax break is given in the first year of operation
13	Small Hydropower Programme	• Aim: To set up installed capacity of 7000 MW by the end of 12th Plan • The Draft National Hydropower scheme- promote public-private partnership in developing small hydro power projects in hilly terrains in India
14	Generation Based Incentive (GBI) Scheme	• A GBI @ Rs. 0.50 per unit of electricity fed into the grid is provided for a period not less than 4 years and a maximum period of 10 years with a cap of Rs. 62 lakh per MW.
15.	Wind Energy Bidding	• Auctions in wind power. Has led to transparency in wind tariffs

Intended Nationally Determined Contribution: The GoI in its submission to the UNFCC on Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) has stated that India

will achieve 40% cumulative Electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources GoI has set a target of achieving 175GW of renewable energy capacity by 2022. This includes:

- 60 GW from wind power,
- 100 GW from solar power,
- 10 GW from biomass power

- 5 GW from small hydro power

Conclusion

India is all set to cross the 100GW renewable energy capacity mark in 2020 and can make rapid strides towards the ambitious 175GW clean energy target by 2022 provided the government keeps a close eye on key issues and deals with those well in time.

97. What is water stress? Which parts of India are water stressed? How can proper water management help in addressing this challenge? Discuss.

Introduction

Water stress is a situation where in the demand for water exceeds the available amount during a certain period or when poor quality restricts its use. Water stress causes deterioration of fresh water resources in terms of quantity and quality.

Body

Parts of India facing water stress:

According to the data released by the World Resources Institute (global research non-profit organization), India is ranked 13th among the 17 most water stressed countries of the world.

- The states of Rajasthan and some parts of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat face water stress due to inadequate rainfall, desert like conditions, excessive evaporation.

- Parts of North East face water stress due to heavy rainfall and inadequate storage and distribution of water.
- The leeward side of western ghats which include several regions of Maharashtra like Marathwada, Saurastra of Gujarat, Bayalseema regions of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh face water stress due to inadequate monsoon rainfall.

- Groundwater depletion faces high groundwater depletion with states like Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan facing severe water stress. Punjab, Haryana also faces water stress due to overuse of water in agriculture.
- Almost all metropolitan cities like Bengaluru, Chennai, New Delhi and so on faces drinking water crisis.

Proper management of water would help address the issue as

- Watershed management programmes like PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana restore the ecological balance by harnessing, conserving and developing degraded natural resources such as soil, vegetative cover.
- Agriculture: Proper crop selection as per the climatic conditions would reduce the water requirement and also prevent groundwater depletion. E.g. Paddy grown in Punjab, Haryana; sugarcane grow in several parts Maharashtra is the major reason for water stress in those regions. Further, precision farming, micro irrigation techniques would reduce the use of water.
- Water use techniques: Israel supply around 70% of its domestic water requirement through desalination of sea water. This would help increase the supply to meet the growing demand. Similarly,
- Managing the urban water bodies provides additional storage for the rainwater and urban domestic supply.
- Ideas like Inter-river linking reduce persistent floods in some parts and water shortages in other parts of India.
- Decentralised water management like rainwater harvesting, local area water bunds creation under MGNREGA would help provide additional storage for water collection and reduce the dependency on long distance water supply.
- Proper drainage and sewerage management in cities would help not only in avoiding disasters like that happened in Chennai, but also help in recycling of water which could be used in non-domestic use.

Also, all these would help maintain adequate water supply during the summer season during which the water stress is more.

ZBNF in agriculture, desalination plants in Tamilnadu, projects like Mission Kakatiya, traditional water management like Bamboo drip irrigation of Meghalaya are some examples where proper water management is able to address water stress.

Conclusion

As per the report of Niti Aayog, India is currently suffering from the worst water crisis in its history with the country ranked at 120 among 122 countries in the quality of water. Around 70% of the water is not even drinkable as per the report. In these scenarios, the proper management of water is the need of the hour.

98. Why is land such an important resource? Discuss. Do you think India's land resources require better planning and management? Substantiate your views.

Introduction

Land is an essential natural resource, both for the survival and prosperity of humanity, and for the maintenance of all terrestrial ecosystems.

Land and Land Resources refer to a delineable area of the earth's terrestrial surface, encompassing all attributes of the biosphere immediately above or below this surface, including those of the near-surface climate, the soil and terrain forms, the surface hydrology (including shallow lakes, rivers, marshes and swamps), the near-surface sedimentary layers and associated groundwater and geohydrological reserve, the plant and animal populations, the human settlement pattern and physical results of past and present human activity (terracing, water storage or drainage structures, roads, buildings, etc.). Or

Land is not regarded simply in terms of soils and surface topography, but encompasses such features as underlying superficial deposits, climate and water resources, and also the plant and animal communities which have developed as a result of the interaction of these physical conditions.

Body

Land is such an important resource because of following reasons –

- a store of wealth for individuals, groups, or a community
- production of food, fibre, fuel or other biotic materials for human use
- provision of biological habitats for plants, animals and micro-organisms
- co-determinant in the global energy balance and the global hydrological cycle, which provides both a source and a sink for greenhouse gases
- regulation of the storage and flow of surface water and groundwater
- storehouse of minerals and raw materials for human use
- a buffer, filter or modifier for chemical pollutants
- provision of physical space for settlements, industry and recreation
- Storage and protection of evidence from the historical or pre-historical record (fossils, evidence of past climates, archaeological remains, etc.)
- enabling or hampering movement of animals, plants and people between one area and another

India's land resources require better planning and management

- India today is facing a critical situation in relation to land - use planning. Even though the foodgrain production recorded almost a fourfold increase in the post-independence decades, shortage of rice, pulses and oilseeds is growing. Shortages of pasturelands, firewood and fast depletion of the forest wealth are assuming serious proportions.
- As a consequence of various development endeavors ecological imbalances e.g. soil erosion, rapid situation of dams, shortage of ground water, land and

water pollution, water logging etc. are growing adversely affecting the agricultural productivity.

- The non-sustainable nature of the green revolution, white revolution technology and the fast depletion of natural resource base needs serious cognizance of the problems of planning and management of country's natural resources.

- Relaxation of restrictions on conversion of agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses, and ceiling on agricultural land holdings. This is resulting in a large-scale transfer of lands for speculative purpose, distorting the land market and viability of agriculture.

- Promotion of export-oriented agriculture and concessions to agro-processing companies. This is leading to diversion of land peasant farming and exhaustion of soils, mining of water resources due to chemical-input intensive cultivation.

- Invasion of Coastal Lands through measures like Coastal Regulation Zone 2018 to promote tourism and affordable housing.

- Aarey forest protest against Mumbai metro project; opposition from certain state against declaring Western Ghat as Ecologically Sensitive Area requires careful planning.

- For the success of smart city projects, to provide congestion-free and pollution-free urban space, to promote city foresty, planning and management of land resource is crucial.

Conclusion

Unless special efforts are made towards preservation of the land, water and vegetative resources of the country and its long term sustainable use is planned, the food grains and other basic needs of the country's population cannot be met, food security and self-reliance cannot be assured and enhanced livelihood security to the oiling millions in India cannot be ensured.

99. What are non-ferrous minerals? How are they distributed in India? Discuss their significance for an economy like India.

Introduction

A non-ferrous mineral is a mineral that does not contain iron in appreciable amounts. Important non-ferrous metals include aluminium, copper, lead, nickel, tin, titanium and zinc, and alloys such as brass. Precious metals such as gold, silver and are also non-ferrous. They are usually obtained through minerals such as sulfides, carbonates, and silicates.

Body

Distribution of non-ferrous minerals in India

India's reserves and production of non- ferrous minerals is not very satisfactory –
- Copper - India is critically deficient in the reserve and production of copper. However the Balaghat mines in Madhya Pradesh, Khetri mines in Rajasthan and Singhbhum district of Jharkhand are leading producers of copper.
- Bauxite - Though, several ores contain aluminium, it is from bauxite, a clay-like substance that alumina and later aluminium is obtained. India's bauxite deposits are mainly found in the Amarkantak plateau, Maikal hills and the plateau region of Bilaspur-Katni.
- Gold - There are three important gold fields in the country, namely, Kolar Gold Field, Kolar district and Hatti Gold Field in Raichur district (both in Karnataka) and Ramgiri Gold Field in Anantpur district (Andhra Pradesh).
- Lead-Zinc - Lead-Zinc resources are located in Rajasthan, Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Odisha, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya

Significance of non-ferrous minerals for an economy like India

Non-ferrous metals, due to their inherent characteristics like excellent thermal and electrical conductivity, high recyclability, high strength-to-weight ratios, form the backbone of a growing economy like that of India.

- Metals like aluminium, copper, zinc and lead are key inputs to a wide range of critical industries, including infrastructure, power, automobile, defence, transport, telecom and manufacturing in general.
- India is critically deficient in the reserve and production of copper. Being malleable, ductile and a good conductor, copper is mainly used in electrical cables, electronics and chemical industries.
- Aluminium is an important metal because it combines the strength of metals such as iron, with extreme lightness and also with good conductivity and great malleability.
- Key Government reforms like Make in India, focus on urbanization, including initiatives like Smart Cities, place strong emphasis on expansion of our manufacturing sector. Growth of the manufacturing sector will be directly proportional to the growth of the non-ferrous metals industry.
- Aided by strong demand in sectors like automobile, construction, electrical and consumer durables, the non-ferrous metals industry in India has historically witnessed good progress.
- The NFM industry generates large-scale employment both directly and indirectly. For example, aluminium industry alone accounts for employment generation of about 800,000 people.

Conclusion

However, there are many critical challenges which are affecting robust growth of the sector in India, especially the China factor, the underdeveloped scrap recycling sector and the problem of inverted duty structure. Addressing each of these challenges is imperative for India to realize the true potential of its vast natural reserves and for boosting sustainable economic development.

100.   With the help of suitable examples, discuss the locational factors of commercial lumbering. In this regard, compare and contrast tropical and temperate lumbering.

Introduction

Lumbering is a process of commercial exploitation of timber for furniture, paper and pulp and other marketable products. Lumbering, or the commercial extraction of timber is one of the most important economic activities of the forest. This activity is an important economic activity in temperate regions as compared to tropical regions

Body

Almost all the forest region on earth has developed its own lumbering industry which are markedly different from one another. In this regard, the locational factors of commercial lumbering include:

- Raw material - When wooden logs are processed in the sawmill, significant weight loss occurs. Barely 40% is used and the rest discarded as waste. Therefore most pulp mill and saw-mills are located near the jungles to reduce the cost of transporting waste matter. For example, Pacific coast of northwestern United States of America.
- River - They're located near rivers and streams because Logs are bulky and awkward to transport. Rivers provide cheap and convenient mode of transport. E.g. Myanmar, the teak logs are floated down the Irrawaddy river upto Yangon and then exported. The paper/pulp mills require clean water free from chemical/pollutants. This is one reason why they were set up in forest locations away from polluted rivers.
- River direction - Generally, this is towards the market but sometimes, some industries are also located in a direction away from the market. For example, in Southern Canada, Sweden, Finland, Himalayas, rivers flow in general direction of final market which keeps production, transport cost low whereas in some places of US West Coast, Siberia, rivers flow in the opposite direction from market areas which leads to higher transport cost.
- Industrialisation - along with the infrastructure development of a nation affect the location of lumbering industry as mechanisation and efficiency are an important factor. For example, Canada has a highly developed lumbering industry along with paper manufacturing.

Tropical Lumbering	Temperate Lumbering
1. Despite having innumerable tree species in the hitherto untouched dense virgin forest of tropical rainforest, lumbering industry in this region has not yet been properly developed.	1. Nearly 80% of lumbering products are obtained from temperate coniferous forest spread over North America and Europe. Here, lumbering industry is integrated, coordinated, well-organized

	and well-managed.
2. Tropical forests have large number of tree species in a particular location. This made commercial exploitation tough. The hardwood trees found in such areas are difficult to float on water and thus difficult to transport.	2. In temperate forests, the commercial exploitation is easier as small number of species are located in a region. Softwood trees are found that are easier to chop.
3. Valuable trees are scattered throughout the jungle, needing some land transport before logs reach the rivers. But road construction is difficult due to rain, dense vegetation. In Amazon and Zaire Basin, some trees are so heavy, it is difficult to float logs so there is high extraction cost.	3. During Winter, frozen ground helps transporting logs from jungle/hills up to rivers. Further, Softwood are easy to float down the river streams.
4. Settlement is sparse, economies are non-industrialized, away from demand areas (e.g Africa).	4. Located in major industrial/urban areas thus are nearer to market. For example, United States of America.
5. These regions have Lax regulations, slash-n-burn type agriculture, jungles are permanently destroyed.	5. Many replantation programs are undertaken along with silviculture, there is strict government regulation on lumbering which helps in jungles regenerate thus leading to lumbering as continuous economic activity.

Conclusion

Sustainable lumbering on scientific lines, planting multiple trees for a single tree cut can make lumbering an environmental friendly and economically viable alternative where Governments can a playing crucial role to increase environmen-tal awareness

through proper forest management and also giving assistance to forest research projects.

101.   Why is commercial fishing is more developed in Northern Europe and North America as compared to Asia? Why is Japan an exception in Asia? Explain.

Introduction

Commercial fishing is the activity of catching fish and other seafood for commercial profit, mostly from wild fisheries. It provides a large quantity of food to many countries around the earth, but those who practice it as an industry must often pursue fish far into the ocean under adverse conditions.

Body

- Climate – In tropical climate fish perishes soon. Cooler climate in North Europe and North America helps in longer storage and transportation.
- Coastline – Asia has relatively smooth coast line and hence less natural harbors than North Europe and North America. This puts Asia in natural disadvantage for fish catch.
- Continental shelves – of Asia are narrower than Europe and North America.
- Capital – Commercial fishing requires large ships as multiple varieties of fishes caught are separated and processed for packing on the ship itself. High end technologies like GPS, underwater camera etc are needed for high fish catch. This requires massive capital investment which are easily available in Northern Europe and America but not much in Asia.
- Species variety – in the tropical regions of Asia, multiple variety of fishes occur, but in smaller groups. This is not good for large scale commercial exploitation.
- Health issue – Tropical fishes have higher oil content. This is less desirable for eating.

Why is Japan an exception in Asia?

Favorable Geography

- Sea of Japan has shallow water and high plankton growth.
- North-West pacific continental shelf=more planktons
- Meeting of warm Kuroshio and cold Oyashio currents near coast of Japan helps is high planktons growth.
- More than 3000 island around coastline of Japan

- **Lack of agricultural prospect –** Japan being a mountainous country has less area for cultivation. People have shifted more towards fishing.

- **Human expertise –** Already good experience for whale fishing. Japanese also have invented method to cultivate pearls artificially.
- **Main source of protein –** In absence of livestock farming, fishing industry is the main source protein for Japanese population. This has also given thrust to the fishing industry.
- **Development of ancillary industries**
  - Steel industry, marine engineering has been developed in coastal areas using imported coal and iron ore.
  - Provides material for sophisticated fishing vessels with processing and refrigeration facilities onboard.
- **Development of export market** – to nearby Asian countries.

Conclusion

Apart from geographical factors, socio-cultural and economic factors decide the development of fishing industry all over the world.

102.   What are the most important locational factors for the silk industry? Discuss. How is India placed with respect to these factors? Illustrate.

Introduction

India is the second largest producer of natural silk after China and is the only country producing all four varieties of natural silk: Mulberry, Tasar, Oak Tasar, Eri and Muga. This industry got great patronage during the medieval period. The famous 'Silk Route' passed through India, and Indian silk found markets worldwide.

Body

Most important locational factors for the silk industry

- Climate – Temperate and tropical climate suitable for growth many silk varieties. For instance Lower Yangtze valley produces one of the finest white mulberry silk.
- Labour – One important requirement for sericulture is cheap female labour. In the ancient-medieval times, both China and Japan had lots of poor peasants. Silk production become important source of income for them.
- Skill and institutions – for instance Lyon city of France is important fashion centre due to skilled labor and also availability of fashion designers.
- Technology - Chinese scientists have developed hybrid varieties using Japanese and European silkworms. It is possible to rear silkworms seven times a year.
- Raw material – Silk is easy to transport, non-perishable, non-bulky. Can be easily imported from China.

- Natural silk is considered a luxury item and fashion statement among rich in US, Europe. Good demand of silk ties, scarves and lingerie.
- Investors found better returns in automobile and electronics industry. This has led to lack of investment in silk industry.
- Alternate technologies – After WW1, Silk was in high demand for women's stockings in USA but later cheaper stockings were locally produced using American nylon=market lost
- Competition with other industries –One dramatic example is Koromo town of Japan. Their silk industry was on decline. However land and labour was available at cheap price. Toyota took the opportunity to setup factory. Thus a rural silk growing area turned into a major automobile industry.

How is India placed with respect to these factors?

- **Labour** – Sericulture does not involve hard labour. Silkworms can be reared by women and old people. In Eastern States, Farmers earlier used to grow Jute but Jute demand declined so they shifted to Sericulture.
- **Raw material** – Mulberry grows easily due to climate Bombax variety of silk worm can be reared throughout the year.
- **Technology** – Karnataka uses hybrids of silkworm which can be harvested five to six times a year. However such varieties are not widely cultured all over the growing regions.
- **Investment** – Works on simple technology, no sophisticated equipment needed It can be done by small and marginal farmers, tribals.
- **Market** – silk saree are still popular in India.
- **Skill and institutions –**
    - o Central Silk board located at Bangalore
    - o Technical knowledge sharing by Japan Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Conclusion

Way forward

- Establishment of close linkage between forward and backward sub-systems for greater efficiency and synergy as sericulture and silk industry is highly scattered and unorganized.
- Adequate thrust on non-traditional uses of silk such as use for artificial skin and other medical applications could create a positive pressure for high value addition.
- Protection to some extent of Indian silk market from Chinese cheap raw silk and fabrics by implementation of anti-dumping duty.
- Identification and promotion of potential clusters for silk production in potential traditional and nontraditional areas.
- Skill up-gradation through structured and specially designed training programme.

- Evolution of appropriate cost-effective technologies through focused research projects for the development of superior and hybrid breeds.

103.   What are natural fibres? How are industries related to natural fibres distributed in India? Discuss.

Introduction

Natural fibres are hair-like raw material directly obtainable from an animal, vegetable, or mineral source and convertible into nonwoven fabrics such as felt or paper or, after spinning into yarns, into woven cloth. E.g. Hemp, Sisal, Jute, Rice straw etc.,

Body

A wide variety of natural fibres are used in traditional and modern textile/handlooms.

Distribution of Industries related to Natural Fibres:

- Cotton industry: Maharashtra is the leading producer in cotton textiles Followed by Gujarat, Tamilnadu and so on. The reasons include cheap availability of labour, raw material close to ports helpful in exports.
- Jute industry: West Bengal alone accounts for 50% of jute production and has the highest jute textile industries. Andhra Pradesh comes in the second place with both places owing to the presence of river useful of retting (Hugli and Godavari) and availability of skilled labour.
- Banana fibre: used in manufacture of building boards and fire resistant fibre board. Places like Burhanpur of Madhya Pradesh, Erode district of Tamil nadu are leading producers. Apart from this, the Banana growing regions of north east are at nascent stages vis-à-vis industries establishment.
- Rise Husk: As fuel, bricks, acid proof cement – the industries are distributed near paddy growing regions like Tamilnadu, parts of Karnataka, Odisha and Bihar owing to the easy raw material availability.
- Coconut Husk: mainly used in the coir industry is situated in and around the state of Kerala which is famous for coconut cultivation.
- Sisal fibre: used in manufacture of ropes, carpet etc., and is found majorly in Maharashtra, Odisha and other Southern states. Tribal regions of Odisha and Chattisgarh, even today manufacture traditional crafts from Sisal fibre and has huge demand.

Conclusion

Thus, the distribution of Natural fibre based industries are dependent on the raw material availability, labour, power supply as well as market. The related industries are distributed all over India. The government policies have major impact and has to

promote these industries which are not only labour intensive which is conducive for India ,but also environmental friendly which is conducive for world environment.

104.   Which are the major meat producing and processing regions of the world? What are the factors attributed to this pattern? Analyse.

Introduction

Meat is an important source of nutrition for many people around the world. Global demand for meat is growing: over the past 50 years, meat production has more than quadrupled. The world now produces more than 320 million tonnes each year. This growth reflects not only increasing demand for meat as global incomes have risen, but also improved efficiencies in production, processing and transportation declining real feed prices.

Body

- Livestock and meat products have been among the fastest growing components of the global agriculture and food industry. Overall world meat production increased by 1.25% to 323 Mt in 2017, with moderate increases in the production of bovine and poultry meats and more modest gains in pig and sheep meat.
- Regionally, Asia is the largest meat producer, accounting for around 40-45 percent of total meat production. This regional distribution has changed significantly in recent decades. In 1961, Europe and North America were the dominant meat producers, accounting for 42 and 25 percent, respectively. In 1961, Asia produced only 12 percent. By 2013, Europe and North America's share had fallen to 19 and 15 percent, respectively.
- This reduction in production share was despite a large increase in production in absolute terms: Europe's meat output has approximately doubled over this period, whilst North American output has increased 2.5-fold. Production increases in Asia, however, have been staggering: meat production has increased 15-fold since 1961.
- Meat production continues to be dominated by Brazil, China, the European Union, the Russian Federation, and the United States.
- Meat production in China, the world's largest meat producer, increased little overall mainly because of the several Avian Influenza (AI) outbreaks affected the country. Nevertheless, China remained the second largest contributor to the 2017 increase in meat production.
- Only 9.7 percent of the meat produced in the world is traded. Much of it is grown by small producers and stays within the region. In 2018, Brazil was the

world's largest exporter of beef, providing close to 20 percent of total global beef exports, outpacing India, the second-largest exporter.

- Traditionally, meat processing is a means of extending shelf-life (preserving) and producing a convenient item for use later and elsewhere. In modern times, meat is processed not only as a means of preserving, but also for producing consumer-acceptable products compatible with modern lifestyles and philosophy of a health-related quality of life.

- Meat processing coproducts are a rich source of proteins, many possessing high nutritional value as well as techno functional and bioactive properties of interest. Large volumes are generated per slaughtered animal, the majority directed to uses other than human consumption.

- The world's livestock sector is growing at an unprecedented rate and the driving force behind this enormous surge is a combination of population growth, rising incomes and urbanization.

- There is a strong positive relationship between the level of income and the consumption of animal protein, with the consumption of meat, milk and eggs increasing at the expense of staple foods.

- Because of the recent steep decline in prices, developing countries are embarking on higher meat consumption at much lower levels of gross domestic product than the industrialized countries did some 20-30 years ago.

- Urbanization is a major driving force influencing global demand for livestock products. Urbanization stimulates improvements in infrastructure, including cold chains, which permit trade in perishable goods.

- Compared with the less diversified diets of the rural communities, city dwellers have a varied diet rich in animal proteins and fats, and characterized by higher consumption of meat, poultry, milk and other dairy products.

- There has been a remarkable increase in the consumption of animal products in countries such as Brazil and China, although the levels are still well below the levels of consumption in North American and most other industrialized countries.

- As diets become richer and more diverse, the high-value protein that the livestock sector offers improves the nutrition of the vast majority of the world. Livestock products not only provide high-value protein but are also important sources of a wide range of essential micronutrients, in particular minerals such as iron and zinc, and vitamins such as vitamin A.

- For the large majority of people in the world, particularly in developing countries, livestock products remain a desired food for nutritional value and taste. Excessive consumption of animal products in some countries and social classes can, however, lead to excessive intakes of fat.

Conclusion

Meat production is an important part of the world economy with important contributions to local, national, and international trade. There may be multiple paths to the future of meat production but addressing its global footprint on climate change becomes important in light of the SDG's to be achieved by 2030.

105.   What are quinary services? How is it different from quaternary sector activities? Discuss.

Introduction

Growth of modern economy has led to the addition of two more industrial sectors to which businesses belong. These are quaternary and quinary sectors. The highest level of decision makers or policy makers perform quinary activities. These are subtly different from the knowledge based industries that the quaternary sector in general deals with.

Body

- Quinary activities are services that focus on the creation, re-arrangement and interpretation of new and existing ideas; data interpretation and the use and evaluation of new technologies.
- Often referred to as 'gold collar' professions, they represent another subdivision of the tertiary sector representing special and highly paid skills of senior business executives, government officials, research scientists, financial and legal consultants, etc. Their importance in the structure of advanced economies far outweighs their numbers.
- New trends in quinary services include knowledge processing outsourcing (KPO) and 'home shoring', the latter as an alternative to outsourcing. The KPO industry is distinct from Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) as it involves highly skilled workers. It is information driven knowledge outsourcing. KPO enables companies to create additional business opportunities.
- This sector includes top executives or officials in such fields as government, science, universities, nonprofits, health care, culture, and the media. It may also include police and fire departments, which are public services as opposed to for-profit enterprises.
- Economists sometimes also include domestic activities (duties performed in the home by a family member or dependent) in the quinary sector. These activities, such as child care or housekeeping, are typically not measured by monetary amounts but contribute to the economy by providing services for free that would otherwise be paid for.
- The quaternary sector, on the other hand, is the fourth sector of the economy which consists of intellectual activities often associated with technological innovation. It is sometimes called the knowledge economy.
- Activities associated with this sector include government, culture, libraries, scientific research, education, and information technology. These intellectual services and activities are what drive technological advancement, which can have a huge impact on short- and long-term economic growth.

Quinary activities are different from Quaternary activities in the following manner:

- Quinary sector represents the highest category of decision makers who formulate policy guidelines whereas Quaternary is part of tertiary sector of the economy which is knowledge based.
- The services provided under the quinary sector can't be completely outsourced whereas services involved in Quaternary type of economy are outsourced in varied forms as the doctor' services, elementary schools and university classrooms, theaters, and brokerage firms.
- Over half of all workers In developed economies are in the 'Knowledge Sector' and there has been a very high growth in demand for and consumption of information based services where as quinary services have been limited to a small section of population with large influence.

Conclusion

The "Quaternary" and "Quinary" sectors of the economy have no universally accepted definitions yet, so the analysis vary with different opinions but the overall evidence points to the fact that these sectors play the most decisive role in any modern economy.

106.   Do you think India's wellness and hospitality industry holds immense potential for regional growth? Examine.

Introduction

Regional Growth refers to economic activities, especially in remote parts of the country due to local economic activities and employment generation.
The wellness sector has been booming since the past couple of years as alternative therapies and measures are being deduced to shield the people of the country from sickness hazards. The Indian wellness industry was estimated at close to USD13.4 billion in 2014 -15 and is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of nearly 12% for the next five years.
According to WTTC, India ranked third among 185 countries in terms of travel & tourism's total contribution to GDP in 2018. India was ranked 34th in the Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Report 2019 published by the World Economic Forum.

Body

India's wellness and hospitality industry holds immense potential for regional growth

The Indian tourism and hospitality industry have emerged as one of the key drivers of growth among the services sector in India.

- The Indian systems of medicine and homoeopathy particularly Ayurveda and Yoga are widely recognised for their holistic approach to health and capability for meeting emerging health challenges

- The demand for Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) and herbal products is surging in India and abroa
- The country has developed vast AYUSH infrastructure comprising of registered practitioners, dispensaries and hospitals in public sector, undergraduate colleges.
- India is a rich country in terms of biodiversity. Of the 17,000-18,000 species of flowering plants found in India, 7,000+ are estimated to have medicinal usage.
- Around 1100 species of medicinal plans are estimated to be in trade, of which 242 species are annually consumed in excess of 100 metric tons/year.
- India has 15 Agro-climatic zones.
- The medical tourism market in India is expected to grow from US$ 3 bn to US$ 7-8 bn by 2020.
- The Tourism and Hospitality industry in India is one of the largest service industries. The Tourism and hospitality industry in India is an employment generating industry and every $1 Mn invested in tourism creates 78 jobs.
- The World Heritage List has 36 sites inscribed which include 28 cultural, 7 natural and 1 mixed category site. There are 3686 monuments/sites under the protection of the Archaeological Survey of India
- The Tourism industry in India is the 3rd largest foreign exchange earner after gems, jewellery and readymade garments.

Conclusion

The Ministry of AYUSH with a separate department for Yoga, which has been exempted from service tax, is another example of government's efforts. The sector has the potential to generate over 3 million job opportunities.
Swadesh Darshan launched - 15 theme-based tourist circuits identified, 5 pan-India mega circuits identified, 77 projects worth $880 Mn underway. PRASAD launched – 41 sites in 25 states identified, 24 projects worth $104 Mn underway.

107. Examine the changes in the distribution pattern of cotton textile industry in India. Also, discuss the factors leading to such changes.

Introduction

Cotton textile industry is largest organised modem industry of India. There has been a phenomenal growth of this industry during the last four decades. About 16 per cent of the industrial capital and over 20 per cent of the industrial labour of the country is engaged in this industry.

Body

Initially they used to be dependent on sources of supply of raw material, but with the progress in science and technology, there are frequent changes in factors, on which location of the industries depends.

Initially cotton textile industry developed in certain major centres such as Mumbai, Surat etc which had all the factors that are responsible for location of textile industries. Factors responsible were easy transportation, cheap labour, closer to market etc.

Decentralization of cotton textile industry and factors responsible

- Dispersal of industry from the old nuclei started after 1921 with railway lines penetrating into the peninsular region. New centres like Coimbatore, Madurai, Bangalore, Nagpur, Indore, Solapur and Vadodara were favourably located in respect to raw material, market and labour than places of original locations.
- This industry also reached some places with some additional advantages, such as nearness to coal (Nagpur), financial facilities (Kanpur) and wide market with port facilities (Kolkata);
- Dispersal of cotton textile industry was further boosted with the development of hydroelectricity.
- The growth of this industry in Coimbatore, Madurai and Tirunelveli is largely due to the availability of hydroelectricity from Pykara dam.
- The industry also tended to shift from areas of high labour cost to those with low labour cost.
- The labour cost factor played a crucial role in establishing this industry at Madurai, Tirunelveli, and Coimbatore etc.

Conclusion

Several cotton textile mills have closed down. This is primarily due to the emergence of new textile centres in the country as well as non- upgradation of machines and technology in the mills of Ahmedabad.

108.   What are the major hubs of automobile manufacturing in India. Do you witness a shift in the way automobile industry is distributed across the country? Comment.

Introduction

India is the 4th largest automobile market in the world and has the 5th largest automobile industry. Owing to the market size, the investments in various segments

of the industry is increasing spreading the automobile industrial clusters across the country.

Body

Major Hubs of automobile industries:

- Chennai- Bengaluru-Hosur in the south
- Jamshedpur-Kolkata in the east
- Delhi-Gurgaon-Faridabad in the north
- Mumbai-Pune-Nashik-Aurangabad in the west

The above hubs are on account of

- raw material availability E.g. the presence of Iron and steel industry in and around Jamshedpur and west Bengal region
- Market availability E.g. Chennai – Bangalore has one of the highest 2 wheelers on road in the world.
- Skilled labour – in the region of Mumbai, and migrants from north India providing cheap labour and so on.
- Export availability and distance for transport for imports E.g. Mumbai, Kolkata closer to ports; Other places with road and rail connectivity.

Shift in location of Automobile industries:

There is a shift in pattern of automobile industries in addition to earlier industrial hubs
Tier 2 cities: owing to the scarcity and expense on land, 2nd tier cities are being preferred to setup automobile industries. E.g. Kolar district of Karnataka, Sanand Gujarat and so on.

Southern Indian region is witnessing in surge of automobile production units owing to the increase in vehicular use. The industrial regions of chittor-Ananthpur in Andhra Pradesh, Chakan near pune in Maharastra etc.,

With state government investor summits being held, Make in India initiatives, the industries are being planned in new states. E.g. Industrial region announced in Ranchi.
With increasing connectivity, market distribution- the industries are also being away from coastal regions to hinterland E.g. Pithampur and Indur in MP, Expansion around NCT Delhi.

Instead of standalone Automobile industrial regions as in the past, automobile industrial corridors are being set up with original equipment manufacturers with value chain development in surrounding areas. E.g. Chennai- salem – along with Oragadam in Tamilnadu, Sarjapur industrial cluster in Bangalore etc.,

Conclusion

Thus, Automobile industry is being spread across the country and with promising market has the potential of high growth rate. With electric vehicles being promoted, the distribution of the industry in future also depends on its consumption and infrastructure availability includin power majorly and feasibility of industrial plants. Thus, there is a need to incentivize and ease the setting of Automobile industries through land reforms, tax benefits and so on.

109.   Why is India a leading manufacturer of pharmaceuticals? What are the challenges being faced by the pharmaceutical sector in India?

Introduction

The Indian Pharmaceuticals Industry is ranked the third largest industry by volume. It serves as one of the major manufacturers around the globe. India has become a prime destination for manufacturing of branded and generic medicines with a strong export element. The Patent Act, 1970 and Economic Liberalization in the 90s led to the huge transformation of the pharmaceuticals industry in India.

Body

The pharmaceutical industry has played a key role in driving better health outcomes across the world through its affordable and high-quality generics drugs. Increased accessibility to affordable drugs has been one of the key enablers for lowering the disease burden in India.

In this regard, the following factors can be considered as important for India to have emerged as a leading manufacturer of pharmaceuticals:

●   Largest Generic Drugs Manufacturer in the world - Generic drugs have been the main reason for the success of Indian Pharma industry. It is the third largest manufacturer of generic drugs by volume. The drugs are the same as the branded drugs but have a patent right.
●   Export to the western world - Owing to the easy availability of low price as well as high quality manpower in India, the smaller size pharma companies are able to produce drugs at low prices. Now, a significant amount of the drugs manufactured are exported to the United States.
●   Patent system - The patent system (Patent Act of 1970) associated with the pharma sector of India is also quite flexible and agile. The Paten Acts, 1970 and the Drug Policy in 1978 resulted in the expansion of the sector.
●   Governmental support - The strong support provided by the Indian government also proves to be an encouraging factor for the pharma sector in India. At present, more than 70 percent of FDI or Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in this sector. For this reason, it is easier for the businessmen in India to set up a new pharma company by finding a foreign source of funding.

- Globalization Process - Economic Liberalization lead to the growth of the Pharma industry. India offers the benefit of quality manpower and low cost attracted major pharma companies from all around the world to have a subsidiary here.

India Pharmaceutical Industry is one of the best developed and fastest growing market that produces about 20 % of the world's drugs. Even then, there are various challenges in the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry, some of which are :

- Lack of capabilities in the innovation space - Indian pharmaceutical companies have been slow to grow in the innovation space (e.g., new molecular entities, complex generics), with a limited government-supported research ecosystem. For example, government policies such as reversing the weighted deduction of erstwhile 200% on spend on R&D, which ends in 2021 has an adverse impact on innovation.
- Dependence on external markets for intermediates and APIs - Around 80 percent of India's requirements for Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, by volume, are fulfilled by China, putting importers at the risk of supply disruptions and unexpected price movements (e.g., a policy shift by the Chinese government had resulted in a price increase of up to 50 percent for a few molecules). India has been unable to seize the API opportunity due to inadequate infrastructural facilities.
- Indian pharma's eroding competitive advantage - especially in the US generics market and limited presence in other markets and products. Generics exports, specifically to the US, were a key driver of double-digit growth for top Indian pharmaceutical companies over the last few years. However, growth in the US market is moderating, in part by price erosion – generics prices declined by about eight percent annually between 2015 and 2018.
- Increased scrutiny in quality compliance when supplying to international markets - As the industry expands in different geographies and concerns on the quality of imported drugs increase globally, there will be greater scrutiny from regulators on quality norms. India has faced the highest number of USFDA inspections since 2009.
- India needs user friendly government policy for the common man to establish small scale, raw material manufacturing units/ incubators in all states of the country to improve the availability of raw materials to manufacture generic drugs at affordable rates.

Some of these challenges can be overcome through –

- Increased budgetary allocations for healthcare to boost the domestic market.
- Increased focus on attracting pharma investment.
- Indian academic institutions are full of ideas born from the young, creative brains of students. Indian pharma industry can explore these ideas for future progress.

Conclusion

Looking at the urgent need of the nation for quality healthcare, the pharma industry has to develop strategies for raw material producing units with user friendly government policy for the small scale industry as well as focus on high-quality generic medicines at most affordable price for a healthy 'New India'.

110. **With the help of suitable examples, examine the correlation between plate tectonics and earthquakes.**

Introduction

According to the theory of plate tectonics, Earth is an active planet. Its surface is composed of many individual plates that move and interact, constantly changing and reshaping Earth's outer layer. Volcanoes and earthquakes both result from the movement of tectonic plates.

Body

- The interior of the earth is hot. Heat flow and movement of material within the earth cause earthquakes and volcanic eruptions and create mountains and ocean basins. There are worldwide patterns to major geological events (such as earthquakes) that coincide with plate boundaries. Earthquakes often occur along the boundaries between colliding plates.
- The Earth's lithosphere is broken into distinct plates which are floating on a ductile layer called the asthenosphere (upper mantle). The tectonic plates) vary from minor plates to major plates, continental plates (Arabian plate) to oceanic plates (Pacific plate), sometimes a combination of both continental and oceanic plates (Indo-Australian plate).
- Three main types of boundaries exist between tectonic plates. The first, called a divergent boundary, occurs most often at mid-oceanic ridges. Here, two plates move away from each other, forming a break, or rift, in Earth's crust. Magma from the mantle rises to fill the gap, creating new crust.
- These boundaries tend to produce most of the earthquakes that have magnitudes greater than 6.0, and subduction zones produce the deepest earthquakes.
- Earthquakes (shallow focus) are common along divergent edges.
- Example: East African Rift Valley, Mid-Atlantic Ridge, minor earthquakes near Azores and Iceland etc
- The second type, called a convergent boundary occurs where two plates moving toward each other meet. If at least one of the plates is made up of relatively dense oceanic crust, the denser of the two plates subducts, or slides beneath the other. If both plates are made up of continental crust, very little subduction occurs. Instead, the plates buckle and fold to create valleys, ridges, and high mountain ranges.
- Examples include deep ocean trenches like the Peru–Chile trench, Himalayan Boundary Fault, Andes etc

- The last type of boundary is called a transform boundary. At these locations, plates slide roughly alongside each other in opposite directions. The plates often get stuck as they move past each other, leading to a build-up of tension, which is ultimately released in the form of an earthquake

- Transform boundaries typically produce large, shallow-focus earthquakes. Although earthquakes do occur in the central regions of plates, these regions do not usually have large earthquakes.
- Examples include the San Andreas Fault and the Anatolian fault, earthquakes close to and in California
- The zones along plate boundaries are the most geologically active regions on Earth. Earthquakes are common along all types of boundaries and occur all over the world. One of the most well-known plate boundaries encircles the Pacific Ocean, and the frequent earthquakes and volcanic activity along this circle of boundaries have caused it to be dubbed the Ring of Fire.
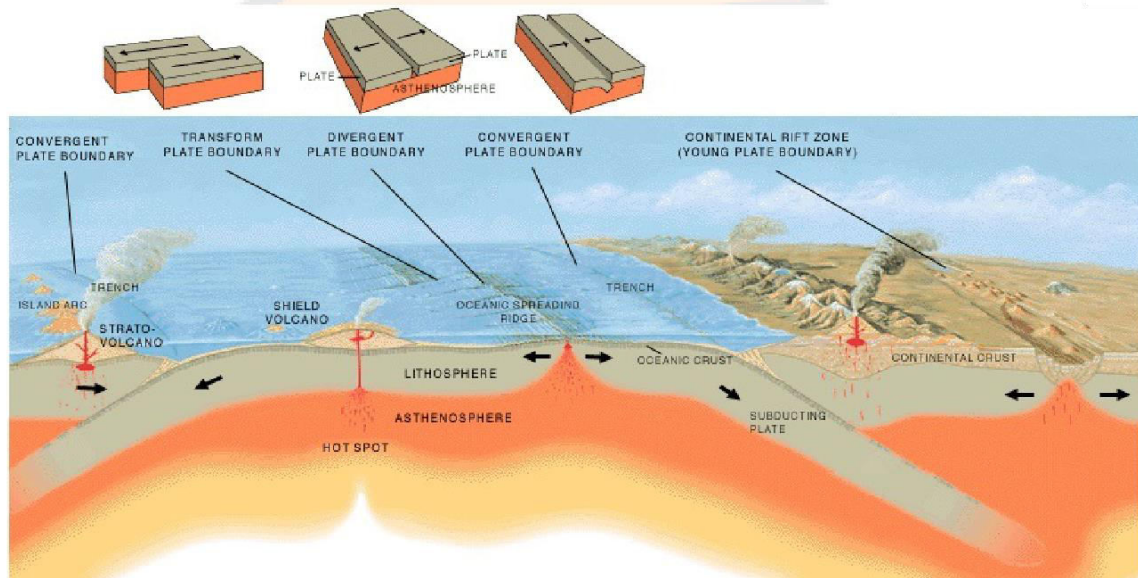
Conclusion

Seismologists associate different kinds of seismic activity with what is happening at different types of plate boundaries. The theory of plate tectonics can be used to provide a simplified explanation of the global distribution of earthquakes, their evolution and provide a background research for sustaining loss and resistive measures.

111.   How is volcanic eruption responsible for developing various landforms? Illustrate with the help of suitable examples.

Introduction

Volcano is a rupture in the crust of a planetary-mass object, such as Earth, that allows hot lava, volcanic ash, and gases to escape from a magma chamber below the surface. The process is called Volcanism and has been ongoing on Earth since the initial stages of its evolution over 4 billion years ago.

Body

Volcanic landforms are divided into extrusive and intrusive landforms based on weather magma cools within the crust or above the crust. Rocks formed by either plutonic (cooling of magma within the crust) or volcanic (cooling of lava above the surface) are called 'Igneous rocks'.

Extrusive Volcanic Landforms These are formed from material thrown out during volcanic activity. The materials thrown out during volcanic activity includes lava flows, pyroclastic debris, volcanic bombs, ash and dust and gases such as nitrogen compounds, sulphur compounds and minor amounts of chlorine, hydrogen and argon.

Various landforms associated with volcanic activities

- Conical Vent and Fissure Vent
    - A conical vent is a narrow cylindrical vent through which magma flows out violently. Conical vents are common in andesitic (composite or strato volcano) volcanism.
- **Composite Cones or Strato volcanoes**
    - They are conical or central type volcanic landforms.
    - Along with andesitic lava, large quantities of pyroclastic material and ashes find their way to the ground.
    - They are accumulated in the vicinity of the vent openings leading to formation of layers, and this makes the mounts appear as composite volcanoes.
    - Example: Vesuvius, Mt. Fuji, Stromboli (Lighthouse of the Mediterranean) etc.
- **Shield Volcanoes or Lava domes**
    - These volcanoes are mostly made up of basalt, a type of lava that is very fluid when erupted. They are not steep.
    - They become explosive if somehow water gets into the vent; otherwise, they are less explosive.
    - Example: Mauna Loa (Hawaii).
- **Lava Plains and Basalt Plateaus**
    - Sometimes, a very thin magma escapes through cracks and fissures in the earth's surface and flows after intervals for a long time, spreading over a vast area, finally producing a layered, undulating (wave like), flat surface.
    - Example: Deccan traps (peninsular India), Snake Basin, U.S.A, Icelandic Shield, Canadian Shield etc.
- **Cinder cone (Tephra cones)**

- o Cinder cones are small volume cones consisting predominantly of tephra that result from strombolian eruptions.
- o They usually consist of basaltic to andesitic material.
- **Calderas**
- p After the eruption of magma has ceased from the cones, the crater frequently turns into a lake at a later time.
- o Water may collect in the crater. This lake is called a 'caldera'.
- o Example: Lake Toba in Sumatra, Crater Lake in Oregon, USA.

- **Mid-Ocean Ridges**

  - o These volcanoes occur in the oceanic areas. There is a system of mid-ocean ridges more than 70,000 km long that stretches through all the ocean basins. The central portion of this ridge experiences frequent eruptions.
  - o The lava is basaltic in nature.
  - o Cools slowly and flows through longer distances.
  - o The lava here is responsible for sea floor spreading.
  - o Example: Mid-Atlantic ocean ridge; extension is seen in the Iceland.

Intrusive Volcanic Landforms: Intrusive landforms are formed when magma cools within the crust. The intrusive activity of volcanoes gives rise to various forms.

Batholiths

- These are huge mass of igneous rocks, usually of granite.
- These rock masses formed due to cooling down and solidification of hot magma inside the earth.
- They appear on the surface only after the denudation processes remove the overlying materials and may be exposed on surface after erosion.
- Example: Wicklow mountains of Ireland; the uplands of Brittany, France.

Laccoliths

- These are large dome-shaped intrusive bodies connected by a pipe-like conduit from below.
- These are basically intrusive counterparts of an exposed domelike batholith.
- Example: The laccoliths of Henry mountains in the Utah, USA.

- **Lopolith**
  - o As and when the lava moves upwards, a portion of the same may tend to move in a horizontal direction wherever it finds a weak plane.
  - o In case it develops into a saucer shape, concave to the sky body, it is called Lopolith.
  - o Example: The Bushveld lopolith of Transvaal, South Africa.

- **Phacolith**

- o A wavy mass of intrusive rocks, at times, is found at the base of synclines or at the top of anticline in folded igneous country.
- o Such wavy materials have a definite conduit to source beneath in the form of magma chambers (subsequently developed as batholiths). These are called the Phacoliths.
- o Example: Corndon hill in Shropshire, England.

 Sills
- o These are solidified horizontal lava layers inside the earth.
- o The near horizontal bodies of the intrusive igneous rocks are called sill or sheet, depending on the thickness of the material.
- o The thinner ones are called sheets while the thick horizontal deposits are called sills.
- o Example: Great whin sill of NE England

 Dykes
- o When the lava makes its way through cracks and the fissures developed in the land, it solidifies almost perpendicular to the ground.
- o It gets cooled in the same position to develop a wall-like structure. Such structures are called dykes.
- o These are the most commonly found intrusive forms in the western Maharashtra area. These are considered the feeders for the eruptions that led to the development of the Deccan traps. Cleveland Dyke of Yorkshire, England.

Conclusion

Volcanic activities have a profound influence on earth's landforms. Solid, liquid or gaseous materials may find their way to the surface from some deep-seated reservoir beneath.

112.   How do temperate cyclones affect the weather pattern in the Indian subcontinent? Explain.

Introduction

The systems developing in the mid and high latitude (35° latitude and 65° latitude in both hemispheres), beyond the tropics are called the Temperate Cyclones or Extra Tropical Cyclones or Mid-Latitude Cyclones or Frontal Cyclones or Wave Cyclones.

Much of the highly variable & Cloudy weather in temperate zone is direct result of these travelling cyclones, so called temperate cyclone. It is in these latitude zones that the polar and tropical air masses meet and form polar fronts, most of these cyclone form wavelike twist i.e. wave cyclone.

Body

- In continental Europe the largest number of winter cyclones form over the Baltic Sea and sharp contrast between the temperature of the Baltic Sea and adjoining land area leads to formation of storms in this region. Under similar

condition numerous storms form over Mediterranean basin. These storms move north-eastward reaching Russia or travel to east as far as northern India. It is associated with instability so called western disturbance.

- Western disturbances, specifically the ones in winter, bring moderate to heavy rain in low-lying areas and heavy snow to mountainous areas of the Indian Subcontinent.
- They are the cause of most winter and pre-monsoon season rainfall across northwest India. Precipitation during the winter season has great importance in agriculture, particularly for the Rabi crops.
- Western disturbances are usually associated with cloudy sky, higher night temperatures and unusual rain.
- Over the Indo-Gangetic plains, they occasionally bring cold wave conditions and dense fog. These conditions remain stable until disturbed by another western disturbance. When western disturbances move across northwest India before

The onset of monsoon, a temporary advancement of monsoon current appears over the region.

Conclusion

Temperate cyclones play an important role in weather pattern in the Indian subcontinent through massive heat transfer.

113. In terms of origin, propagation and impact, differentiate between hurricanes and tornadoes.

Introduction

Hurricanes and tornadoes are extreme weather events caused due to the creation of extreme low-pressure regions and strong winds circulated because of pressure gradient created.

Body

Both the weather events are spins like a top around a fixed point in the center. Both are storms with strong winds that swirl around and around and are very destructive. Though, both are very similar, there are certain features differentiating both.

In terms of Origin:

- Hurricanes originates over moisture rich region typically over pacific-ocean. It starts as a wave of low-pressure air and derives its energy from the warm ocean waters.
- Tornadoes on the other hand called as twisters form over land which produce powerful updrafts of wind that twist as they rise.

In terms of Propagation:

- Speed: the strongest tornadoes can have wind speeds over 200 mph, but even the strongest hurricanes rarely produce wind speeds around 100 mph.
- Size: The largest tornado every observed was 4 km wide, but most tornadoes are about 0.8 km wide. Hurricanes are much larger, ranging from about 160 km to 1600 km wide.
- Life cycles: A tornado's lifetime is short, ranging from a few seconds to a few hours. A hurricane's life cycle can last from days to weeks.

In terms of Impact:

Tornadoes tends to be more destructive than hurricanes for the reasons

- Speed of tornadoes are typically high than hurricanes

- As tornadoes originate and propagate over land, the destruction level on ground is high.
- As the size of tornado is small, the destruction intensity is higher.

The impact of hurricane is more seen in the coastal regions when compared to tornadoes, whose impact is majorly seen in hinterland.

Conclusion

Very often, Hurricanes after making a landfall spawn tornado. The changing climate is believed to be resulting in more frequent and more destructive and is a cause of concern.

Additional information: take this as an opportunity to know differences between tornado ad cyclone as well.

Differences between Tornado and cyclone

	Tornado	Cyclone
Definition	A tornado is a rotating column of air ranging in width from a few	A cyclone is an atmospheric system of rapidly circulating

|		
	yards to more than a mile and whirling at destructively high speeds, usually accompanied by a funnel-shaped downward extension of a cumulonimbus cloud. Winds 40-300+ mph.	air massed about a low-pressure centre, usually accompanied by stormy often destructive weather. Storms that begin in the Southern Pacific are called cyclones
Rotation	Clockwise in the southern hemisphere and counter clockwise in the northern hemisphere	Clockwise in the southern hemisphere and counter clockwise in the northern hemisphere.
Forms of precipitation	rain	Rain, sleet, and hail
Frequency	The United States records about 1200 tornadoes per year, whereas the Netherlands records the highest number of tornadoes per area compared to other countries. Tornadoes occur commonly in spring and the fall season and are less common in winters	10-14 per year
Location	Tornados have been spotted in all continents except Antarctica	Southern Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean. Cyclones in the northwest Pacific that reach (exceed) 74 mph are "typhoons".
Occurrence	Places where cold and warm fronts converge. Can be just almost anywhere.	warm areas

114.   What are tsunamigenic forces? Which parts of the world are more vulnerable to tsunamis and why? Discuss.

Introduction

Tsunamigenic is referring to those earthquakes, commonly along major subduction zone plate boundaries such as those bordering the Pacific Ocean, that can generate tsunamis. More broadly, tsunamigenic forces refer to any geological force capable of generating a tsunami in an ocean body.

Body

- Most shallow large earthquakes in subduction zones cause tsunamis. An earthquake is tsunamigenic if it generates a tsunami, and it is "tsunami earthquake" if it generates a much larger tsunami than expected from its seismic waves.

- In some cases of subduction, part of the seafloor connected to the lighter plate may "snap up" suddenly due to pressure from the sinking plate. This results in an earthquake. The focus of the earthquake is the point within the Earth where the rupture first occurs, rocks break and the first seismic waves generate. The epicenter is the point on the seafloor (or other part of the Earth's surface) directly above the focus.

- When this piece of the plate snaps up and sends tons of rock shooting upward with tremendous force, the energy of that force transfers to the water. The energy pushes the water upward above normal sea level. This is the birth of a tsunami. The earthquake that generated the Dec. 26, 2004, tsunami in the Indian Ocean had a magnitude of 9.1 -- one of the biggest in recorded history.

- The occurrence of several mega-thrust tsunamigenic earthquakes in the last decade, including but not limited to the 2004 Sumatra-Andaman, the 2010 Maule, and 2011 Tohoku earthquakes, has been a dramatic reminder of the limitations in our capability of assessing earthquake and tsunami hazard and risk.
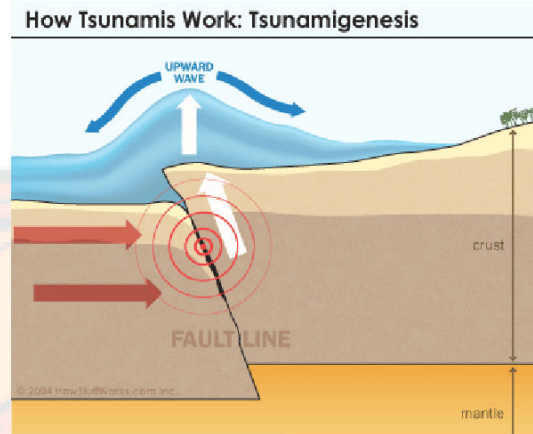
All low lying coastal areas can be struck by tsunamis, some of them can be very large; their height can be as great as 10 meters or more (30 meters in extreme cases), and they can move inland several hundred meters, depending on the slope of the ground. All oceanic regions of the world can experience tsunamis, but in the Pacific Ocean and its marginal seas, there is a much more frequent occurrence of large, destructive tsunamis because of the many large earthquakes along the margins of the Pacific Ocean.
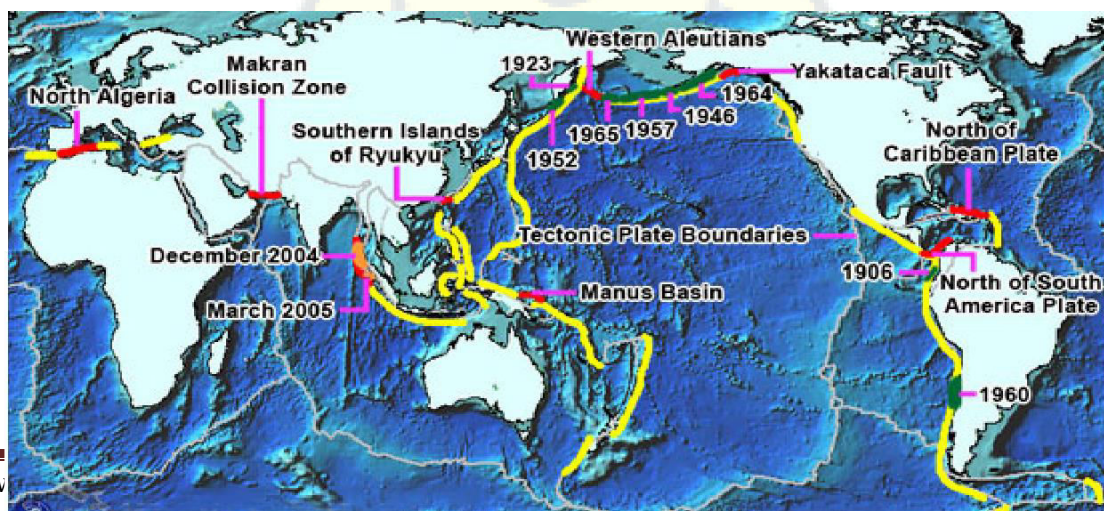
These regions of the world are more vulnerable to tsunamis as they come under the regions of subduction zones of interacting plates in earth's interior. For example, the Pacific ring of fire where most of the tsunami generating earthquakes occur underwater.

Conclusion

Short-term disaster response gives vital resources and hope to people living through disasters. But at the same time, longer-term solution like reducing the vulnerability of people in poverty by helping them create sustainable livelihoods to reduce their exposure to such risk should be focused upon to improve humanity's fight against devastating natural calamities.

115.   What are coral reefs and how do they get formed? Discuss the global distribution of coral reefs.

Introduction

Coral reefs are the most diverse of all marine ecosystems. Coral reefs cover less than 1 percent of the ocean floor — all the reefs combined would equal an area of about 285,000 square km. About 25 percent of all known marine species rely on coral reefs for food, shelter and breeding. They are also referred to as "the rainforests of the sea" for their biodiversity.

Body

- Coral reefs are large underwater structures composed of the skeletons of colonial marine invertebrates called coral. The coral species that build reefs are known as hermatypic, or "hard," corals because they extract calcium carbonate from seawater to create a hard, durable exoskeleton that protects their soft, sac-like bodies. Other species of corals that are not involved in reef building are known as "soft" corals. These types of corals are flexible organisms often resembling plants and trees and include species such as sea fans and sea whips.
- Each individual coral is referred to as a polyp. Coral polyps live on the calcium carbonate exoskeletons of their ancestors, adding their own exoskeleton to the existing coral structure. As the centuries pass, the coral reef gradually grows, one tiny exoskeleton at a time, until they become massive features of the marine environment.
- Most corals, however, depend on algae called zooxanthellae to provide energy via photosynthesis. The corals have a symbiotic, or mutually beneficial, relationship with the zooxanthellae. These algae live inside the coral polyp's body where they photosynthesize to produce energy for themselves and the polyps.

- The polyps, in turn, provide a home and carbon dioxide for the algae. Additionally, the zooxanthellae provide the coral with their lively colors — most coral polyp bodies are clear and colorless without zooxanthellae.
- Deep-sea corals live in much deeper or colder oceanic waters and lack zooxanthellae. Unlike their shallow water relatives, which rely heavily on photosynthesis to produce food, deep sea corals take in plankton and organic matter for much of their energy needs.
- Coral reefs are typically divided into four categories, according to CORAL:
- Fringing reefs are the most commonly seen reef and grow near coastlines.
- Barrier reefs differ from fringing reefs in that they are separated from the coastlines by deeper, wider lagoons.
- Patch reefs typically grow between fringing and barrier reefs on the island platform or continental shelf.

- Corals are colonial, the size of a colony can be large. Reefs, which are usually made up of many colonies, are much bigger still. Reefs form when corals grow in shallow water close to the shore of continents or smaller islands. It takes a long time to grow a big coral colony or a coral reef, because each coral grows slowly. The fastest corals expand at more than 6 inches (15 cm) per year, but most grow less than an inch per year. Reefs themselves grow even more slowly.

- Reef-building corals are restricted in their geographic distribution by their physiology. For instance, reef-building corals cannot tolerate water temperatures below 18° Celsius (C). But there is a presence of cold water corals.
- Many grow optimally in water temperatures between 23° and 29° C, but some can tolerate temperatures as high as 40° C for short periods. Most also require very saline (salty) water ranging from 32 to 42 parts per thousand, which must also be clear so that a maximum amount of light penetrates it.
- Corals are found all over the world's oceans, from the Aleutian Islands off the coast of Alaska to the warm tropical waters of the Caribbean Sea. The biggest coral reefs are found in the clear, shallow waters of the tropics and subtropics. The largest of these coral reef systems, the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, is more than 2,400 kilometers.

Conclusion

Hundreds of millions of people rely on coral reefs for essential nutrition, livelihoods, protection from life-threatening storms and crucial economic opportunity. At the same time, about half the world's shallow water coral reefs are already gone, and without urgent action to address climate change, pollution, overfishing and destructive coastal development, these life-sustaining natural wonders could all but disappear.

116. **If you were to visit the Antarctica, which major ice bodies would you encounter in your journey towards the south? What are the most potent threats to these ice bodies? Examine.**

Introduction

Antarctica is earth's southernmost continent. The Antarctic ice sheet is the largest single mass of ice on Earth. Most of Antarctica is a polar desert, with annual precipitation of 200 mm along the coast and far less inland; there has been no rain there for almost 2 million years, yet 80% of the world freshwater reserves are stored there.

Body

Major ice bodies towards the south

- Brunt Ice Shelf
- Larsen ice shelf
- Ronne Ice Shelf
- Ross Ice Shelf

Most potent threats to these ice bodies

- **Anthropogenic causes** – The industrial revolution, carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions have raised temperatures, even higher in the poles, and as a result, glaciers are rapidly melting, calving off into the sea and retreating on land.
- **Fishing** – Fishing for krill could be particularly significant as these are at the bottom of many Antarctic food chains.
- **Tourism** – With the accompanying pollutants that accompany ships and aircraft, the possibility of oil spills and the effects of lots of people and infrastructure on wildlife and the wider environment.
- **Pollution** – CFC's and other ozone depletion materials are responsible for the ozone hole that has appeared over Antarctica for over 30 years, chemicals produced thousands of miles away are found in Antarctic ice and in the bodies of wildlife.
- **Methane** – Melting permafrost releases methane: a greenhouse gas more potent than carbon dioxide in terms of warming potential.
- **Oil spills and gas extraction** – An extractive oil and gas industry poses new danger to already vulnerable animal populations.

Conclusion

Melting sea ice is also likely to have global consequences by unlocking new shipping routes and exposing more fossil fuel reserves. But it is clear that although Arctic and Antarctic sea ice only covers a small fraction of the Earth's surface, there may well be serious climate-related impacts

117. **Why are mangrove forests ecologically valuable? Examine the geographical factors that lead to the concentration of mangroves in certain parts of the world.**

Introduction

Mangroves are salt-tolerant vegetation that grows in intertidal regions of rivers and estuaries. They are trees and shrub species that grow at the interface between land and sea in tropical and subtropical regions of the world, where the plants exist in conditions of salinity, tidal water flow and muddy soil.

Body

Ecological valuable of mangrove forests

- **Biodiversity** – Home to an incredible array of species, mangroves are biodiversity hotspots. They provide nesting and breeding habitat for fish and shellfish, migratory birds, and sea turtles. An estimated 80% of the global fish catch relies on mangrove forests either directly or indirectly.
- **Livelihoods** – fishers and farmers depend on these natural environments to provide healthy fisheries from which to fish, and healthy land on which to farm.
- **Water quality** – Mangroves are essential to maintaining water quality. With their dense network of roots and surrounding vegetation, they filter and trap sediments, heavy metals, and other pollutants. This ability to retain sediments flowing from upstream prevents contamination of downstream waterways and protects sensitive habitat like coral reefs and sea grass beds below.
- **Coastal defence** – Mangroves are the first line of defence for coastal communities. They stabilize shorelines by slowing erosion and provide communities from increased storm surge, flooding, and hurricanes. In 2003, it was estimated that a quarter of the world's population lived within 100 kilometres of the coast and at 100 meters of sea level. Robust mangrove forests are natural protection for communities vulnerable both to sea level rise and the more intense and frequent weather events caused by climate change
- **Carbon storage** – Mangroves "sequester carbon at a rate two to four times greater than mature tropical forests and store three to five times more carbon per equivalent area than tropical forests" like the Amazon rainforest. This means that conserving and restoring mangroves is essential to fighting climate change, the warming of the global climate fuelled by increased carbon emissions, that is already having disastrous effects on communities worldwide.
- **Materials** – In addition to consuming fish and shellfish from the mangroves, communities have historically used mangrove wood and other extracts for both building and medicinal purposes. Their potential as a source for novel

biological materials, such as antibacterial compounds and pest-resistance genes, remains largely undiscovered.

- **Sustainable development** – Intact and healthy mangrove forests have an potential for sustainable revenue-generating initiatives including ecotourism, sport fishing, and other recreational activities.

Geographical factors that lead to the concentration of mangroves in certain parts of the world

Mangroves are found in 105 nations globally. Although distributed across 105 nations, the top 10 mangrove holding nations contain approximately 52% of the global mangrove stock with Indonesia alone containing between 26% and 29% of the entire global mangrove stock.

- Maximum concentration of mangroves is found between 5-degree north to 5-degree south of equator. Asia has the largest amount around 43 percent of world's mangrove followed by Africa, North America, Oceania and South America

  o   Papua province of Indonesia archipelago
  o Tarut island, Saudi Arabia
  o   Sundarbans mangroves, India

- Mangroves of the World have been divided into two groups: Eastern group i.e. East Africa, India, Southeast Asia, Australia and the Western Pacific and Western group comprises of West Africa, South and North America and the Caribbean Countries.
- The most extensive area of mangroves is found in Asia, followed by Africa and South America.
- Four countries (Indonesia, Brazil, Nigeria and Australia) account for about 41 percent of all mangroves.
- The Sundarbans region is the world's largest area of mangrove forest, spanning approximately one million hectares (2.47 million acres) in India and Bangladesh.

Conclusion

According to a report by IPCC 2018, mangroves are threaten by impacts of global warming. But seeing the benefit provided by these mangroves, it is highly necessary that we should conserve them with holistic and integrated approach. Mangrove for future by IUCN and government of India is a step in right direction. It will also fulfil sustainable development goal 14 i.e. conservation of lives depended on oceans.

118.   What are cold deserts? Discuss their global distribution. How are they different from hot deserts? Explain.

Introduction

Cold desert are arid ecosystems which receive rainfall less than 25cm in a year. They are located in the interior of the continent and at high latitude, characterized by the temperate climatic condition – hot summer and chilled winter.

Body

Global distribution:

- Cold deserts occur in temperate regions at higher latitudes.
- These deserts are often situated on plateaux and are a part of continental interiors.
- They are present in almost every continent but confined to temperate regions.

Distribution of cold deserts is depicted in the map. Some of them are

- North America – Great basin
- South America – Atacama Desert, Patagonian desert
- Eurasia – Iranian desert ¸Gobi desert, Turkestan
- Africa – Namib desert

In India, we can see the presence of cold desert like conditions in the region of Ladakh.

Difference between hot and cold deserts:

The main aspect that differentiate the cold desert from a hot desert are:

- The hot deserts are mainly formed in tropical and subtropical regions whereas the cold deserts are found in temperate regions.
- Hot deserts are formed due to reasons like the offshore wind patterns, aridity due to cold current, sand property and heat whereas cold deserts are formed mainly due to continentality and rain-shadow effects.
- The cold deserts have an extremely chilling winters which is totally absent in hot deserts.

Apart from this, some of the differences include:

Hot Desert	Cold Desert
It has a sandy soil.	It has sand, ice or snow covered land.
It is red or orange in colour.	It generally appears gray.

than cold deserts.	precipitation levels than hot deserts.
Evaporation is higher than precipitation in hot deserts.	Precipitation is higher than evaporation in cold deserts.
Commonly found animals include fennec foxes, dung beetles, bactrian camels, sidewinder snakes, Mexican coyotes etc.	Commonly found animals include foxes, jackrabbits, kangaroo rats, pocket mice, badger etc.
Vegetation is very rare and mostly includes ground-hugging shrubs and short woody trees.	Vegetation is scattered with needle like leaves.

Conclusion

The worrying trend is the increase of desertification and expansion of both the types of deserts. Natural causes for desert formation have been from times immemorial, it is the anthropogenic causes which are cause of concern. The plan of action to combat desertification needs to be in line with the UN convention to combat desertification (UNCCD).

119.   What is badland topography? How are they formed? Discuss their distribution in India.

Introduction

Badlands are some of the best examples of naturally occurring, erosion-shaped terrains on earth. They are simply clay soils in dry areas that have been eroded to a significant degree, so as to form their iconic shapes and topography.

Body

- Badlands are erosional landforms of highly dissected morphology that are pervasive on soft bedrock in a variety of climate conditions. Although these systems share common geomorphological features, badlands may show diverse erosive activity, age and dynamic behaviour, which complicates the analysis of the reasons for badland formation.
- Badlands develop in arid to semiarid areas where the bedrock is poorly cemented and rainfall generally occurs as cloudbursts. The dry, granular surface material and light vegetation is swept from the slopes during showers, leaving the gullies bare.
- Badland are areas cut and eroded by many deep, tortuous gullies with intervening saw-toothed divides. The gullies extend from main rivers back to tablelands about 150 m (500 feet) and higher.

- The gully bottoms increase in gradient from almost flat near the main rivers to nearly vertical at the edges of the tablelands. Because the rocks are not uniform in character, differences in erosion result in stair-step profiles.
- The joining and separating of the gullies cause many isolated irregular spires, small flat-topped buttes, or mesas, and produce a landscape of jagged, fluted, and seemingly inaccessible hills.
- Badlands have also been formed artificially by mining operations and by poor agricultural practices that remove topsoil from the land.

The Distribution of Badlands in India:

- According to one estimate, most of the badlands in India, which are presently sculptured by rills, gullies and ravines, were once covered by thick deciduous forest.
- The factors and processes of deforestation throughout the country were industrialisation, railway building, extension of settlement and agricultural activities.
- In Uttar Pradesh, the problem of ravine erosion and formation of badlands has been noticed along the Yamuna. Chambal, Gomati and their tributaries flowing through the districts of Etawah. Mathura, Jalaun, Jhansi, Hamirpur, Banda, Agra and Mirzapur.
- In Madhya Pradesh, badlands are seen along Chambal, Sindh and their tributaries critically affecting districts like Shivpur. Morena. Bhind, Gwalior, Ujjain and Mandsor.
- In Rajasthan, the problem of gully erosion is most acute along the Chambal and its tributaries like Banas, Kalisindh, Parbati, Mej and Morel. Districts like Kota, Bundi, Sawai. Madhopur, Tonk, Jhaleswar. Jaipur and Bharatpur districts are most affected
- Bihar also has significant areas under ravenous lands in Hazaribagh, Ranchi.n Singhbhum district of Chotanagpur plateau.
- In West Bengal, gully eroded and shallow ravinous badlands occur in the fringe areas of Chotanagpur plateau and adjoining Rarh upland. The Chotanagpur plateau consist four erosion surfaces and interconnecting scarps that have been marked by three intermittent uplifts from early Tertiary to Pleistocene.

Conclusion

In light of the fact that the country is losing about 8,000 hectares of land to ravines every year, it becomes necessary to develop capability to fight deforestation and other factors affecting badland formation and help safeguard the integrity of land in India.