

TS SC STUDY CIRCLE: HYDERABAD

GENERAL STUDIES PAPER I

FULL LENGTH Test – 1

Date: 23.12.2022

Time Allowed: 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks: 250.

Answer questions in NOT MORE than the word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length.

1) How far do you think that Hindi has been successful in becoming the link language for India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

As per the 2011 census, 43.63 percent of Indians speak Hindi as their mother tongue. Recently, on Hindi Diwas,

the home minister of India said that diversity of languages and dialects is the strength of our nation. But there is

a need for our nation to have one language so that foreign languages don't find a place. By this he meant Hindi to be used as a link language throughout the country.

HINDI HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN BECOMING THE LINK LANGUAGE FOR INDIA

1. Origin of Hindi itself was as a link language. It was born out of various languages of North India having roots in Sanskrit.

People are accepting it as a connecting medium, for instance in Tamil Nadu, more and more children are learning Hindi with the rise in the number of CBSE schools.

3. The number of students voluntarily enrolled in Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, established in 1918 by Mahatma Gandhi to propagate Hindi in the southern states has seen a steady increase.

4. Most people view the acquisition of Hindi skills as something that augments job prospects, enabling the individual to seek opportunities in other states. Working knowledge of Hindi just makes it easier to connect with the national market in India.

5. In Metro cities like Bangalore and Chennai, it is now easier to communicate as we find more multilingual people around.

6. Many people from the northeastern region of India are coming to various states and using Hindi as a medium of communication to connect with local people.

7. Hindi has become not only a link of communication but also a link to culture. Onam, Diwali, Durga Puja and Holi such festivals are being celebrated by all Indians.

HINDI HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN BECOMING THE LINK LANGUAGE FOR INDIA

1. Article 351 states that to promote the spread of Hindi is the duty of the union. This is considered as the imposition of Hindi by many non-Hindi states.
2. People belonging to non-Hindi regions feel it as a threat to their culture and identity. They believe using Hindi will dilute their cultural identities.
3. Hindi is widely used as a medium of communication, this trend is unknowingly killing the threatened languages. Many of the tribal languages are either extinct or on the verge of extinction.
4. Hindi or non-Hindi language, it has taken a political overtone. Language is being used by politicians for their political gains.
5. The dominance of Hindi speaking representatives in parliament is perceived as the preference of Hindi speaking population over non-Hindi population for allocation of resources. It creates a feeling of animosity towards Hindi in the Non-Hindi speaking population.

Language, religion, etc. appeal strongly to our emotions. If they are forced on someone, the reaction will almost always be to oppose it. What puts vernacular speakers on the back-foot is the fear of imposition of a dominant language. Once those fears are assuaged, there isn't any major resistance to the practicality of having Hindi as a national link language. It is very much evident from increasing use of Hinglish; Hindi plus English.

2) Explain what is bicultural identity? Do you think it is an inherent by-product of globalization? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Bicultural identity is the condition of being oneself regarding the combination of two cultures. The bicultural individual selects aspects from the heritage and receiving cultures and integrates them into an individualized 'culture' that is not directly reducible to either the heritage or receiving cultural streams.

For example, a Chinese American person might eat hamburgers together with traditional Chinese food, might speak 'Chinglish,' and might mix in social groups that include both Chinese and American friends.

When the individual is embedded in a community that integrates the heritage and receiving cultural streams, and where comfort with both cultures is essential for day-to-day living, then biculturalism is most likely to emerge.

BICULTURALISM AS BYPRODUCT OF GLOBALIZATION

Due to Globalization there is a seamless flow of people across geographical borders and cultural exchanges. The development of bicultural identity has become one of the byproducts of globalization. For example

1. Food habits: Globalization has changed the dietary habits of people. In India, people love not only traditional Indian food but also pizza, burgers, Chinese foods etc.
2. Language: English as a language of globalization is widely used in India. However, the adoption of English in India comes with its own regional variations like Hinglish, Tanglish etc.

3. Increased interaction with other cultures: Globalization forces many managers to increasingly interact with new cultures. This interaction creates a bicultural identity because this identity becomes essential to perform their jobs.
4. Business, trade, education: Globalization has increased business and educational opportunities and more and more students are going to other countries for these purposes. The longer they stay, the more chances of developing bicultural identities.
5. Changes in attire: Except during any special occasions or festivals most Indians nowadays wear western attire of shirts, pants, track pants, boxers etc.
6. Movies: India's various states' film industries' existence and new OTT platforms streaming both western and Indian content is another example of biculturalism. Bicultural identity is not a new phenomenon. Various factors like migration to other places due to education, job or marriage, Inter-caste, inter-religious, inter-regional and inter-ethnic marriages etc also create bicultural identity. However, these factors affect a very small section of the population, unlike globalization which is creating bicultural identity across the world and in the vast majority of the people.

3) All steps towards women's empowerment will remain half-hearted until marital rape is criminalised in India. Argue the merits and demerits of criminalisation of marital rape. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Marital rape is the act of sexual intercourse with one's spouse without the spouse's consent. Section 375 of IPC which deals with rape contains an exception saying Sexual intercourse by a man with his wife, the wife not being under eighteen years is not rape. Recently a two-judge Bench of the Delhi High Court delivered a split verdict in a batch of petitions challenging this exception.

WHY MARITAL RAPE NEEDS TO BE CRIMINALISED

1. Consent in perpetuity: marital rape is the assumption that in marriage a woman gives consent held by her husband in perpetuity which she cannot retract. This is rooted in the antiquated idea that a woman is the property of her man.
2. Expectation of sex: This is the assumption that a woman is duty-bound or is obligated to fulfil sexual responsibilities in a marriage. Since the husband has a reasonable expectation of sex in a marriage, the provision implies that a woman cannot deny it.
3. Against fundamental rights and basic human rights: Marital rape immunity stands against the right to equality, the right to life with dignity, personhood, and sexual, and personal autonomy protected under Articles 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution.
4. Unreasonable classification: It creates an unreasonable classification between married and unmarried women and, by corollary, takes away the right of a married woman to give consent to sexual activity.
5. Against various judgments of the Supreme court: The challenge to marital rape has been possible because of a slew of Supreme Court rulings like the triple talaq case, and the Aadhar case which held that law cannot be "manifestly arbitrary."

WHY DOES MARITAL RAPE NEED NOT BE CRIMINALISED?

1. To preserve family institution: Criminalizing marital rape might lead to false, fabricated and motivated complaints of 'rape' by 'wife' against her 'husband'.
2. Availability of other resources: Married women who might be subjected to rape by their husbands have other legal recourses such as filing for divorce or a case of domestic violence.
3. Hindu Marriage Act: The law on restitution of conjugal rights, a provision in the Hindu Marriage Act that allows a court to compel a spouse to cohabit with the husband, is valid, and so is the exception to marital rape, by extension.
4. Illiteracy and social awareness: Still the vast majority of Indians especially in rural areas are illiterate. These will not have an iota of the idea, so as to what constitutes Marital Rape and may easily fall into some trap, rising from vendetta.

The criminalization of marital rape is essential for women's empowerment because marital rape denies women their bodily autonomy and by reduces a married woman to the status of property of men. However, while criminalizing this practice steps need to be taken to ensure ruling out false, motivated complaints.

4) What are the marine resources? Explain the significance of deep seabed exploration and mining for humankind. (150 words, 10 marks)

The biotic and abiotic resources found in the oceanic water and bottoms are called marine resources, which include marine water, inherent energy in the oceanic water, biotic life of marine water, marine deposits, and abiotic elements. Marine resources can be classified into many types, like marine food(fishes, crabs, etc) and non-food resources(corals), Marine mineral resources, Marine energy resources(petroleum, natural gas), and marine non-conventional energy resources(tidal energy, wave energy, etc).

IMPORTANCE OF MARINE RESOURCES

1. After land resources, marine resources are the resource frontier for the human community. Over 3 billion people depend on marine and coastal resources for their livelihoods.
2. At least 90% of the volume of global trade is in seaborne trade. Approximately 50% of all international tourists travel to coastal areas. In some developing countries, notably Small Island Developing States (SIDS), tourism can account for over 25% of GDP.
3. The global ocean-based economy is estimated at between USD 3-6 trillion/year.
4. Oceans capture and store about 30% of carbon dioxide produced by humans. Moreover, mangroves and coral reefs offer shoreline protection. Global coral reefs protect around 150,000 km of shoreline in more than 100 countries and territories.

WHAT IS DEEP SEABED MINING?

Deep-sea mining involves the retrieval of minerals and deposits from the ocean floor found at depths of 200 meters or greater. There are three types of deep-sea mining that have generated

great interest: polymetallic nodule mining, polymetallic sulphide mining, and the mining of cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts.

SIGNIFICANCE OF DEEP SEABED MINING FOR HUMANKIND

1. **Treasure of Metals:** The ocean floor holds vast deposits of ores containing sought-after metals. As of now, most commercial attention is focused on the nodules in the Pacific Ocean's Clarion-Clipperton Zone (CCZ). Estimates suggest that the CCZ holds more of certain metals than do land deposits.
2. **To meet future demands for metals:** The rising world population is creating a massive demand for urban infrastructure and clean energy technologies which are extremely metal intensive. But extracting metal from land comes at a cost to the environment, hence we are exploring the deep sea as a potential alternative source of metals.
3. **Many of the minerals found below the water's surface are essential to the modern digital economy.** In particular, some of the rare earth metals that have been harvested from polymetallic nodules, including erbium, europium, and yttrium, play important roles in cutting-edge technologies.
4. **To develop clean energy technologies:** The metals found in polymetallic nodules are critical for clean energy technologies such as wind turbines, solar panels, electric vehicle batteries, and other energy storage devices.
5. **The World Bank estimates that more than three billion tons of these metals will be needed to deploy the wind, solar, and energy storage technologies required to keep climate change to below +2°C.**
6. **Economic development:** Nodule mining would reap significant economic and social benefits for small island nations especially Pacific Island nations, polymetallic nodules represent an opportunity for these states, which have historically been left behind in global development, to level the playing field.
7. **The UN Convention of the Law of the Sea has granted them sovereignty over vast tracts of the ocean, which they can use to lead in the development of an industry that has the potential to fully supply the critical minerals required for the shift to clean energy with a fraction of the social and environmental cost.**

The economic benefits in terms of availability of rare minerals, the environmental benefits in terms of large-scale transition to cleaner energies are enticing many to explore deep-sea mining. But there are also concerns that seabed mining might affect the largely unknown marine environment and ecosystem interactions. However, these questions being raised and the extensive studies happening across the world in this regard is a healthy sign that as and when commercial mining starts there will be enough safeguards in place to protect the marine environment.

**5) "Bismarck created a new Germany with the policy of 'blood and. 'iron'".
Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10**

One of the momentous events in the history of Europe was the unification of Germany in 1870. This event led to the creation of an economically strong and militarily powerful German nation that shook the power dynamics in Europe and led to two world wars to satisfy German national aspirations. The man who achieved this massive task is Prussian Prime Minister Otto Von Bismarck. He through a series of wars and deftly made diplomatic ties unified individual German states under Prussian banner. From the very beginning Bismarck made his position very clear by saying that great questions of the day would not be solved by the parliament but through blood and Iron policies that included building a strong military and fighting wars to achieve one's goals.

HOW BLOOD AND IRON POLICY UNIFIED GERMANY

Before Unification, the 39 German states which replaced the old Holy Roman Empire were grouped under German confederation. Bismarck was a diplomat who served in various countries throughout his career. When King Wilhelm I was facing problems with liberals in the Prussian parliament, on the verge of abdication he called Bismarck back to the office of chancellor. A Staunch Supporter of monarchy, Bismarck, to draw away popular support, liberals were enjoying the goal of unifying Germany under Prussian Leadership. In the course of this task, he fought a series of wars.

- 1) When Denmark violated the London agreement of 1852 and incorporated territories of Schleswig and Holstein, Bismarck went to war with Denmark in 1864. He was supported in this war by Austria. The combined forces of Austria and Prussia defeated Denmark.
2. This war led to the Gastein agreement of 1865 according to which Schleswig came under the protection of Austria and Holstine under the protection of Prussia.
3. After defeating Denmark he turned his attention to Austria. He began systemically isolating Austria by making treaties with other major European powers to prevent them from coming to the aid of Austria.
4. He supported Russia when a revolt arose in Russian Poland, He offered support to Italians in their goal of Italian Unification. Having isolated Austria he violated the 1865 Gaustein treaty leading to war with Austria. Prussia came out victorious in this war and the subsequent Treaty of Prague excluded Habsburgs of Austria from German affairs.
5. This led to Prussia becoming the only major power among German states. In 1867 he incorporated all German states north of the Main river, deposing their ruling dynasties. Thus he formed the North German Confederation.
6. Bismarck completed the unification process when a possibility of the cousin of Wilhelm I becoming monarch of Spain arose. Bismarck backed the idea, while France, the last remaining obstacle in German unification, opposed it.
7. This led to the Battle of Sedan in 1870, where Prussia not only defeated but captured Napoleon III. When war broke out all southern German states supported Bismarck. The war ended in 1871, January.
8. Ten days before the ending of the war, the establishment of unified Germany was declared with Wilhelm I as its emperor at a conference in the hall of mirrors in Versailles palace.

Bismarck blood and iron policy not only included wars and concluding treaties but also building up a strong army to fight these wars. He made sure the army reforms took place and built a powerful army. The unification of Germany established a strong and powerful nation with aggressive nationalistic aspirations. The downside of Blood and Iron policy was that it caught the popular imagination and tended to foster militarism and authoritarianism in Germany.

6) Explain the reasons for the break-up of Soviet Union. What consequences did it have for India?

The collapse of Soviet Union (USSR) in 1991 generally refers to the disintegration of communist bloc of nations which were held together voluntarily/forcefully and the associated independent satellite states in Eastern Europe.

Fall of USSR: Reasons

- Failure of economic system, reflected in shortages in the consumer goods and food.
- Lack of scientific developments as compared to the west, was another reason for discontent among the people.
- Gorbachev adopted the liberalization policy, in the form of Perestroika (Socio-economic reforms) and Glasnost (Openness). It prompted the movements towards liberalization and democratization in the socialist bloc. Political changes such as introduction of democracy within the soviets were also made.
- Gorbachev policies could not satisfy both the liberals (led by Yelstin) and the conservatives within the communist party. Economic reforms also did not yield results and public opinion turned against communism.
- Soviet central power also got weakened as a result and its ability to use power and authority got limited.
- Ethnic conflicts started developing in several republics, and they started demanding independence from the Union. For example, the Baltic States were the first to secure their independences from the USSR.

Fall of USSR: Impacts on India

Geo-political Impact

o USSR was one of India's 'time tested and dependable friends'. Our foreign policy had to readjust relations with Russia and the West.

o India had to re-adjust its foreign policy priorities, like the Indian vote in the U.N. for the resolution in support of Israel, Indian vote in respect of the Gulf crisis and Gulf war.

o One of the world's leading arms buyers in the 1980s, India acquired most of its arms from the Soviet Union at bargain basement rupee prices. All this ended with the fall of USSR.

o With collapse of the U.S.S.R., the NAM, India's ideological movement, came under stress.

Economic Impact

o India BoP crisis exacerbated, because USSR used to trade with India on concessionary terms.

o USSR helped India set-up big industries by supplying technology and finances. This process came to a halt.

o With the Collapse of USSR, India came to be depended on the west for trade. Economic liberalisation was partly due to changed economic order of the world.

Its possible that all of this would have happened anyway, with or without the dissolution of the Soviet Union. But, the demise of Communism certainly provided an impetus.

7) Why does the Arabian Sea experience fewer tropical cyclones as compared to the Bay of Bengal? Explain why tropical cyclones do not occur during the southwest monsoon season.

The Indian sub-continent is one the worst cyclone affected region of the world. With a coast line of 7516 km, it is exposed to nearly 10% of the world's tropical cyclones. On an average, about 5-6 tropical cyclones are formed in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea every year, out of which 2 or 3 may be severe.

Fewer cyclones in the Arabian Sea

- Cyclones that form over Bay of Bengal are either those that develop in situ over southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Andaman Sea or remnants of typhoons over northwest Pacific and move across south China sea to Indian seas. As frequency of typhoons over northwest Pacific is quite high (about 35% of the global annual average), the Bay of Bengal also gets its increased quota.
- Cyclones over Arabian Sea either originate in situ over southeast Arabian Sea (which includes Lakshadweep area also) or remnants of cyclones from the Bay of Bengal that move across south peninsula.
- As majority of cyclones over Bay of Bengal weaken after landfall, frequency of migration into Arabian Sea is low.
- Arabian Sea is relatively colder than Bay of Bengal and hence inhibits the formation and intensification of cyclonic system.
- Cyclones forming in the Bay of Bengal have greater chance to reach east coast due to North-East Trade Winds when compared to Arabian Sea.

Cyclones and Southwest Monsoon

- The southwest monsoon is characterized by the presence of strong westerly winds in the lower troposphere (below 5 km) and very strong easterly winds in the upper troposphere (above 9 km). This results in large vertical wind shear. Strong vertical wind shear inhibits cyclone development.
- Potential zone for development of cyclones shifts to north Bay of Bengal during southwest monsoon season. During this season, low pressure system up to the intensity of depressions form along the monsoon trough, which extends from northwest India to the North Bay of Bengal.
- The Depression forming over this area crosses Orissa – West Bengal coast in a day or two. These systems have shorter oceanic stay, which is also one of the reasons for their non-intensification into intense cyclones

8) The Communal Award was seen not only as an attack on national unity but also inimical to the interests of the depressed classes. Discuss. Also, highlight how the Poona Pact sought to address some concerns in this regard. (150 words) 10

In the 1920s, the British attempted to make the government more representative and broad based but there were divergent views on representation for the depressed classes. One section demanded reservation within joint electorates and another section demanded separate electorate for the depressed classes.

In this regard, the British Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald announced the Communal Award in 1932 which introduced a separate electorate for the Depressed Classes. The award also provided certain statutory safeguards to the depressed classes:

- Depressed classes were declared as a minority community similar to Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Anglo-Indians, and Europeans.
- The award gave the depressed classes voting rights along with caste Hindus in the general constituencies and also an extra vote in the special Depressed Classes constituencies.

This Award was seen as an attack on national unity and was considered harmful to the interests of the depressed classes because:

- A separate electorate could have resulted in permanent segregation of the depressed classes from the Hindu community. This was seen as a prospective 'divide and rule' strategy of British.
- The aim of British government was to detach depressed class people of the province from the freedom struggle movement and get them interested in social reforms instead.
- The Communal Award could have made any future agreement among Indians more difficult with multiple viewpoints and no consensus.
- As per Gandhiji, separate electorate would ensure that the Untouchables remained 'Untouchables in perpetuity' since the caste Hindus would not consider it as their moral responsibility to strive for the eradication of untouchability anymore.
- The seats allocated were few and disproportionate to the population of the depressed classes. Also, there was no clarity over their representation in the Central Assembly.

Gandhiji strongly opposed separate electorates for the depressed classes and sat on fast unto death in Yeravada jail. This forced the representatives of caste Hindus (such as Madan Mohan Malviya, C. Rajagopalachari) and the depressed classes (such as B.R. Ambedkar, M.C. Rajah) to sign a pact, known as Poona Pact. The idea of separate electorate for depressed classes was abandoned and some of their concerns were resolved through the pact:

- The seats reserved for the depressed classes were increased to 147 in the Provincial Legislatures and 18% in the Central Legislature. This system of representation of depressed classes through reserved seats in the Provincial and Central Legislatures was to stay until terminated by mutual agreement between the communities.

- Depressed classes would not be deprived of election to local bodies or appointment to public services on the basis of their birth.
- To provide educational facilities to the members of depressed classes, every province would earmark an adequate amount out of the educational grant they receive.

Poona Pact is significant due to the fact that it initiated a pattern of political compromise between “caste” Hindus and the depressed classes in the allocation of legislative representation and government jobs. It led to the passage of resolution that no one shall be regarded as untouchables amongst Hindus and they will have the same rights in all the social institutions as the other Hindus.

9) Though the upsurge by the ratings of the Royal Indian Navy was suppressed, it is seen as an event which marked the end of British rule in India. Discuss. (150 words)
10

On 18th February 1946, around 1100 naval ratings of HMIS Talwar went on a strike in Bombay to protest against the treatment meted out to them such as racial discrimination, unpalatable food etc. These demands also echoed the wider national concerns including the release of INA (Indian National Army) personnel and other political prisoners, withdrawal of Indian troops from Indonesia etc. The strike spread to other naval establishments around the country.

The second phase upsurges, when people in the city joined in, was marked by the virulent anti-British mood and resulted in the virtual paralysis of the two cities of Calcutta and Bombay. The third phase was characterized by a display of solidarity by people in other parts of the country. As news reached other military establishments across India, immediate strikes began there as well. Eventually it was suppressed but it marked the end of British rule in India due to the following factors:

Widespread resentment against the British rule: There was a massive outpouring of public support for the mutineers. The public transport network was brought to a halt, trains were burnt, roadblocks were erected and commercial establishments were shut down.

- Fall of loyal patrons: It was the second major rebellion after the Sepoy mutiny of 1857, which involved regular British Ratings defying the authority of the British. The armed forces were the most important pillar in sustaining the British Empire in India.
- Naval paralysis: The British power was hugely dependent on its naval power to maintain its offshore colonies.
- Broad scale participation: The revolt was not limited to some areas or sections of the population. The labour classes also went on strike in solidarity with the ratings. It even got the support of Communists and other Nationalists.
- Global recognition: The mutiny drew global attention towards India's causes and issues. In the wake of emerging cold war, both America and Soviet Union noted this revolt.

- Conciliatory approach by the British: In the ensuing negotiations, the government accepted most of the demands of rebels in principal like improvement in the quality of food and living conditions of the ratings.

The Mutiny acted as a final nail in the coffin of the colonial government of India. Large-scale public support made the British government believe that it is no longer easy to rule India now, which was even admitted once by the former British Prime Minister Clement Atlee. It forced the British to send Cabinet Mission Plan to India to draw a Constitution for free India.

10) The story of India's freedom struggle cannot be complete without recognizing the role that many leaders of North East India played during the time. Discuss.

The East India Company's rule in the North-East region began with the Treaty of Yandabo in 1826 which ended the First Anglo-Burmese War. However, soon after the British conquest, the people from the region opposed the British rule. This opposition continued till Indian independence. Some of the prominent freedom fighters from North-East India and their contributions are:

Rani Gaidinliu, a Naga spiritual leader, rose against the British in Manipur in the 1930s. She was arrested at the age of 16 and was released after independence.

- Tirok Singh led the Khasi uprising (1829- 1833) against the British who initiated a project of road construction through the Khasi hills.
- Maniram Dewan was hanged for conspiring to restore the Ahom dynasty in Assam during the 1857 Sepoy Revolt.
- Shoorvir Pasaltha Khuangchera was the the first Mizo leader to fight the British in 1890 when they invaded the Lushai hills.
- U Kiang Nangbah, a freedom fighter from Meghalaya led an uprising against the British and was eventually hanged.
- Paona Brajbasi from Manipur chose death over treason at the Battle of Khongjom in April 1891.
- Matmur Jamoh from Arunachal Pradesh killed a British officer in 1911, as he was against British interference in the day-to-day lives of the people.
- Kanaklata Barua and Bhogeswari Phuknani from Assam were shot dead by the Britishers while trying to unfurl a tricolour flag during the Quit India Movement.
- Kushal Konwar from Assam was hanged in the last phase of the Quit India Movement (1942) for his suspected role in derailment of a military train in which several British soldiers were killed.
- Moje Riba from Arunachal Pradesh was arrested by the British for participating in the independence struggle and distributing pamphlets during the Quit India Movement.
- Trilochan Pokhrel (Gandhi Pokhrel) from Sikkim participated in many Gandhian movements like the Non-cooperation Movement, the Civil Disobedience Movement, and the Quit India Movement. He played a vital role in propagating the concept of Swadeshi Movement of ahatma Gandhi among the Sikkimese peasantry.

Thus, freedom fighters of North East India played a significant role in the independence movement and opposed the British rule through various means.

11) To what extent can Germany be held responsible for causing the two World Wars? Discuss critically. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The world has witnessed two great wars in quick succession in the form of world war 1(1914-19) and world war 2(1939-45). The first war engulfed entire Europe and the second is far more complex involving almost all the countries of the world. Till today they're different views among historians as to who was to blame for these wars.

But a large proportion of them lay the blame squarely at the feet of Germany. Kaiser Wilhelm 2 policy of Weltpolitik and Hitler expansionist policy, threatened world peace and plunged the world into two great wars.

HOW FAR GERMANY WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR WORLD WAR 1 GERMAN ROLE IN THE WAR

1. Bismark, who was instrumental in the unification of Germany, wanted to maintain the balance of power in Europe with Germany as one of the major powers. To maintain this he signed treaties with almost all other nations of Europe except France.
2. All this changed in 1888 when young and impatient Kaiser Wilhelm II came to power in 1888. He wanted to expand Germany's power and influence in Europe.
3. He ended diplomatic relations with Russia, strengthened Germany's alliance with Austria-Hungary, and began to build up Germany's navy in an attempt to match the naval power of Great Britain.
4. This aggressive move by the Germans threatened all other nations of Europe and thus began an alliance system. The first alliance was a triple alliance involving Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy in 1882. This was followed up by an alliance between France and Russia in 1894, Britain and France in 1904 and Britain and Russia in 1907. Thus the aggressive foreign policy of Germany divided Europe into two armed camps.
5. The final nail in the coffin was Germany's blank check to Austria-Hungary in its war against Serbia for the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand, heir to the Austria-Hungary throne in Serbia.
6. With Austria-Hungary declaring war on Serbia, Russia came in support of Serbia, Thus Germany declared war on Russia and its ally France. When German troops entered Belgium on their way to occupy France, British who swore to protect Belgium declared war on Germany, thus plunging all major powers of Europe into a catastrophic war.

OTHER FACTORS THAT LED TO WORLD WAR I

Historians who believe Germany was not primarily responsible for the war base their conclusion on the fact that other nations behaved just as badly as Germany did in the decades preceding the war, and that factors outside the control of any one country or individual were more responsible for the war. Factors like militarism, nationalism, alliance systems, and socio-cultural factors played a prominent role

1. Militarism was successfully used as a method to carry out imperialistic expansion by England and France. Force or the threat of force was used whenever necessary to establish or maintain control of their colonies. It was used because it worked.
2. Historians believe that the tendency to resort to military action rather than compromise and diplomacy played an important role in how these countries responded when they were threatened at home.
3. Nationalism is another factor that played a huge role in world war I. However Nationalism didn't just affect Germany. French nationalism dates back to 1789, in British colonial expansion nationalistic pride of having colonies played a huge role.
4. Nationalist movements in the Balkans involving Serbs had been going on for the decade leading up to World War I, and war had almost broken out several times. Russia was defeated by Japan was trying to regain its nationalistic pride, and the war was an easy way to do this.
5. All of the countries joined in alliances for mutual protection, and the alliance system kept peace on the continent from the time of the establishment of the German Empire under Bismarck in 1871 to the beginning of the war.
6. None of the major countries, Germany, France, Russia, Austria-Hungary or Great Britain, trusted each other, so the alliances were imperfect. Once aggressive acts were initiated against any country, though, the alliance system acted to promote rather than prevent war as countries were bound to come to the defence of each other. This can be seen as the main reason why a skirmish between Serbia, a small country, and Austria-Hungary, an empire in decline, escalated into World War I.
7. There was social and political unrest in many European countries during the years preceding World War I. The ruling class was fighting for survival, and all of the major countries were looking for ways to gain the support of the people and strengthen their own countries. Because of this, some historians believe all of the countries were willing to go to war to increase their power and prestige, relative to each other.

There are thus several intricately related factors that led to world war I, but these factors were brought to fore by German actions. However, laying war guilt solely on Germany through the Treaty of Versailles was not only unfair and also laid seeds for another world war where again German actions played a prominent role.

HOW FAR GERMANY WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR WORLD WAR II GERMAN ROLE IN THE WAR

1. The Treaty of Versailles in 1919 forced Germany and its allies to accept sole responsibility for causing the First World War and committed it to make territorial concessions, disarming and paying reparations. As Hitler saw it, this was a great humiliation, and he made it his mission to rectify it.

2. Political and economic instability in Germany, and lingering resentment over the harsh terms imposed by the Versailles Treaty, fueled the rise to power of Adolf Hitler and the National Socialist German Workers' Party.
3. After rising to power Hitler immediately began secretly building up Germany's army and weapons. Although Britain and France knew of Hitler's actions, they thought a stronger Germany would stop the spread of Communism from Russia.
4. Obsessed with the idea of the superiority of the "pure" German race, which he called "Aryan," Hitler believed that war was the only way to gain the necessary "Lebensraum," or living space, for the German race to expand.
5. In the mid-1930s, he secretly began the rearmament of Germany, a violation of the Versailles Treaty. After signing alliances with Italy and Japan against the Soviet Union, Hitler sent troops to occupy Austria in 1938 and the following year annexed Czechoslovakia. Hitler's open aggression went unchecked, as the United States and the Soviet Union were concentrated on internal politics at the time.
6. Neither France nor the UK, the countries most devastated by the great war, are willing to confront Germany in another war. Thus German expansionist policies went unchecked.
7. In late August 1939, Hitler and Stalin signed the German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact, which incited a frenzy of worry in London and Paris.
8. The pact with Stalin meant that Hitler would not face a war on two fronts once he invaded Poland, and would have Soviet assistance in conquering and dividing the nation itself.
9. On September 1, 1939, Hitler invaded Poland from the west; two days later, France and Britain declared war on Germany, beginning World War II.

OTHER FACTORS THAT LED TO WORLD WAR II

Historians and most observers of the war blame the harsh conditions imposed by the Versailles treaty as the main reason for German bitterness and resulted in the war. But the German grievances related to the treaty were resolved by 1938. So apart from German Grievances other factors also played a huge role that led to war.

1. The economic depression of 1929, is among the main reasons that led to the rise of authoritarian regimes. Already ravaged by war and burdened by war reparations, the great depression led to further deterioration of economic conditions in Germany.
2. German people were looking for a strong political leader who could lift the country out of the mess and Hitler with the promise of a better future appeared as a messiah. Thus the Depression led to conditions that helped the rise of Hitler.
3. Another reason for world war II was the failure of the league of nations. The idea of collective security was criticized because it failed to secure general disarmament.
4. The policy of Appeasement followed by Britain and France is also another major reason for the war. Both these countries failed to confront Hitler's aggressive policies as they not only believed Hitler's actions were justified in light of harsh Versailles treaty, they were also reluctant for another war so soon after world war I.

5. Besides the UK and France thought Hitler will act as a shield in preventing the spread of communism in Europe, which for them is a more serious threat than Hitler.
6. However, this policy of appeasement led Hitler into a false sense of belief that France and Britain will not act against him regardless of his action. So he took a gamble by invading Poland.
7. Another factor that led to war was a non-aggression pact between Russia and Germany and the secret agreement of partitioning Poland between them. Had Russia aligned with the west, Hitler would not have risked an attack in Poland as Germany was not in a position to fight a two-front war.

Germany certainly created conditions that precipitated the crisis but it would be unfair to blame Germany solely for the world wars. Apart from Germany many major European powers are also to blame either for creating the circumstances that cornered Germany like during world war I or for their inaction in stopping Hitler like during world war II.

12) Arctic circle encompasses resources of various usage to humankind and their incessant exploration might as well trigger climate catastrophe. Analyse. (250 words, 15 marks)

The Arctic is a polar region located at the northernmost part of Earth. The Arctic has been little exploited for economic purposes, but, because it contains 8 percent of the surface of the planet and 15 percent of the land area, significant resources (both renewable and nonrenewable) are present. It is one of the last frontiers of natural resource discovery, and underneath the tundra and ice are vast amounts of undiscovered oil, natural gas, and minerals. That's why there is a high-stakes race for Arctic domination between countries such as the United States, Norway, Russia, Denmark, and Canada.

ARCTIC NATURAL RESOURCES

The opening of the Arctic presents huge commercial and economic opportunities, particularly in shipping, energy, fisheries and mineral resources. The natural resources of the Arctic are the mineral and animal resources within the Arctic Circle that can provide utility or economic benefit to humans. The mineral resources include major reserves of oil and natural gas, large quantities of minerals including iron ore, copper, nickel, zinc phosphates and diamonds. Living resources of the Arctic are primarily the abundant fisheries.

1. Oil & Natural Gas: The area above the Arctic Circle is underlain by sedimentary basins and continental shelves that hold enormous oil and natural gas resources. The Arctic holds about 22% of the world's undiscovered conventional oil and natural gas resource base along with mineral deposits including 25% of the global reserves of rare earth, buried in Greenland.
2. Arctic Minerals: The territories in the Arctic Circle regions of Russia, Norway, Sweden and Finland have large minerals, particularly, the iron ore. Mineral exploration and exploitation is expected to pick up as Arctic shipping develops further in the future. The most popular minerals include coal, iron ore, zinc, lead, nickel, precious metals, diamonds and gemstones.
3. Arctic Aggregates Production: Hard-rock mining is also well developed, especially in Russia. The major centres are located around Murmansk and Norilsk. Rock, stone, sand and gravel are

mined throughout the Arctic region for a variety of construction projects onshore and off. As development increases, production of these resources will probably increase as well.

4. Biological resources: Apart from the minerals, the Arctic regions will emerge as a new source of fishing. The region is already being called the 'kitchen of Europe'. The release of new lands as a result of melting of ice will lead to development of agriculture in the region. The Barents, Greenland, and Bering seas all are rich fishing grounds, jointly producing about 10 percent of the world's marine catch.

5. Tourism: Polar tourism is picking up too. The small Norwegian town of Kirkenes attracts nearly 200,000 tourists in the year.

6. New Sea Routes: The Northern Sea Route (NSR) which would connect the North Atlantic to the North Pacific through a short polar arc is the most tempting.

7. Other renewable resources: Several of the world's largest rivers flow into the Arctic Ocean. This offers the opportunity for two possible developments. The first is to divert the flow, or part of it, to regions short of water; the second is to use the energy in hydroelectric schemes.

CLIMATE CATASTROPHE BY INCESSANT EXPLORATION

The 2020 Arctic Report Card, a report led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) involving 133 scientists from 15 countries, points to trends that, each passing year, have grown more extreme and have far-reaching implications for people living far outside the region, including in the Lower 48 states.

1. Issues with oil drilling: Drilling for oil in some areas of the Arctic could cause toxins such as arsenic, mercury and lead to be released into ocean waters, according to the Natural Resources

Defence Council. Toxic chemicals are not only found in the oil from oil spills, but also in the environmental contaminants that are found from the drilling process itself.

2. Harmful impact on Biodiversity: Excessive oceanic noises during the extraction process will cause damage to aquatic species like whales which use sound for navigation and hunting.

a. Pollution by drilling can impact life forms in the region. Possibility of commercial fishing due to the opening of sea Lanes disrupting the fragile ecosystem.

b. One of the most common chemicals found in oil is a polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH), which causes deformities and physiological defects in fishes' hearts.

c. Declining sea ice will lead to a loss of habitat for seals and polar bears; it also would increase encounters between polar bears and humans. Indigenous peoples in the Arctic have already described changes in the health and numbers of polar bears.

3. Climate Change:

a. The permafrosts in this region are carbon sinks. GreenHouse gases trapped within them are potent when released by drilling can accelerate global warming. During the summer, when the surface layer of the permafrost thaws, organic matter in this layer decomposes, releasing methane and carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.

b. Warming increases these releases and can create an amplifying feedback loop whereby more warming causes additional releases, which would cause more warming, and so on.

- c. The carbon-based growth will derail the focus of world economies from renewable and clean sources of energy, which are important to reverse global warming.
- d. Climate change due to ocean drilling will also affect marine fishing, a fundamental source of income in the circumpolar world, with a total fish catch in the Arctic accounting for 10.1% of the global catch.
- e. The changing vegetation of the Arctic also affects the brightness of the surface, which then influences warming. As the Arctic atmosphere warms, it can hold more water vapour, which is an important greenhouse gas.
- f. As sea ice retreats from coastlines, wind-driven waves—combined with thawing permafrost—will likely lead to more rapid coastal erosion. Other potential impacts include changing weather patterns.
- g. Acting like a highly reflective blanket, the Arctic cryosphere protects Earth from getting too warm. Snow and ice have a high albedo. They reflect much of the insolation, which helps in cooling the earth. Thus, the presence or absence of snow and ice affects the heating and cooling of the Earth's surface. This influences the entire planet's energy balance.

Geo-political impacts

- a. Their relative imprint in geopolitical terms will increase in a resource-constrained world. This might be the return of COLD WAR, as the US and Russia will try their best to dominate the Arctic region.
- b. Decreased reliance on the Middle East region (Gulf nations), thereby altering the geo-political and economic relations among the global community.

WAY FORWARD

1. As the changes will be of an essentially transboundary nature, and no global power will be able to act alone to face them, Arctic states will be called to coordinate among themselves and with an increasing number of non-Arctic states and non-state actors.
2. The challenge will be to improve the relationship between science and policy. The issues aren't going to change, but individual problems can be tackled given a modicum of political will and imagination.
3. While new economic opportunities arise, they also induce severe environmental impacts and risks. So the model of exploration should be based on cost-benefit analysis.
4. It is essential to have clear and effective policies in place to manage these risks. There is an urgent requirement of a regulating body that can set some rules and regulations to keep the process less harmful to the environment and the people associated with it.

Unlike Antarctica, the Arctic is not a global common and there is no overarching treaty that governs it. There is little doubt that the developments taking place in the Arctic will have significant and perhaps even irreversible impacts on the global ecology, the global economy and the distribution of political power. By increasing investments and knowledge flows towards renewable options that are abundant and un-perishing, the focus from the carbon economy can be shifted to a sustainable one.

13) Critically evaluate the land reform and its impact in the post-Independence period. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Land reforms refer to a series of policy measures taken by the government of India after independence, to regulate ownership, operation, and leasing of land. Nearly two centuries of British revenue policy has caused extreme indebtedness of farmers, land fragmentation, increase in income inequality in rural India, less productivity, and stagnation of agriculture. After independence, the government of India took up issues of farmers on mission mode and initiated a series of reforms to rid Indian agriculture of feudalistic and exploitative agrarian structure

EVALUATION OF LAND REFORMS

1. Abolition of Intermediaries: Abolition of zamindari and similar intermediary tenures during 1950-55 essentially involved the removal of intermediaries between state and actual cultivators.

(a) Positives of this measure: This measure brought nearly 2.5 crore farmers into a direct relationship with the state. This facilitated distribution of 61 lakh hectares of land to landless farmers.

(b) Issues with this measure:

i. It led to the large-scale eviction of poor tenants from land. While landlordism has been abolished, absentee landlordism now continues to flourish.

ii. The legislation conferred ownership rights not upon the actual cultivator, but on the statutory tenant, who himself was an intermediary with a chain of sub-tenants under him.

c. Assessment: Thus, the abolition of intermediary rights on land has been a mixed blessing. Undoubtedly, this zamindari abolition has paved the way for a remarkable shift in the balance of power. But the goal of “land to the tiller” was not achieved.

2. Tenancy reforms: These reforms include, regulation of rent, providing security of tenure, and conferring rights of ownership for tenants.

a. Positives of this measure:

i. This policy mandated that the Rent payable to the landowners should not exceed one-fifth to one-fourth of the gross produce of the land.

ii. In the light of this guideline, all the states have enacted laws for the fixation of rent. A very important aspect of tenancy reform is the conferment of ownership rights to tenants.

iii. This reform resulted in nearly 124.2 lac tenants getting ownership rights.

b. Issues with this measure: There existed a large-scale inter-state variation in rents fixed by the states.

i. Due to a loose definition of the term personal cultivation, landowners continued to resume land for self-cultivation and evicted the tenants despite it being illegal.

ii. These reforms have failed to regulate rents because of the poor position of land-hungry farmers.

iii. Conferment of ownership also failed as only tenants operating in 4 percent of land got ownership rights.

c. Assessment: Overall impact of tenancy reforms has been rather limited. Legislation for conferment of ownership rights could not yield good results because many tenants are incapable of buying land from the landowners and many of them are unwilling to do so.

3. Ceiling on Landholdings: To reduce the existing disparities in the pattern of land-ownership and make some land available for distribution to landless agricultural workers, the imposition of ceilings on agricultural holdings above a certain limit was envisaged.

(a) Positives of this measure: Till 2001, the total amount of land declared surplus was 73.67 lakh acres, 64.95 lakh acres of land had been taken over by the states. A total of 53.79 lakh acres of land have been distributed among 54.84 lakh tenants.

(b) Issues with this measure:

i. In the second phase of this reform that started after 1972, ceiling limits have also been lowered.

ii. Besides this, the exemption for orchards, grazing land, religious/charitable/educational trusts, sugarcane plantations, tanks, fisheries have made the ceiling laws virtually redundant.

(c) Assessment of this measure: The operations of the ceiling law made virtually no impact on the agrarian structure. The public debate preceding this law over several years enabled landowners to manipulate land records.

4. Consolidation of Landholdings: Fragmented and subdivided landholdings, as well as small-sized holdings, have made Indian agriculture unremunerative. So consolidation of these lands was necessary to boost efficiency and economy in India's agriculture.

(a) This process till now is completed only in very few states, prominent among them being Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) One of the reasons for the tardy progress of this aspect of land reforms is that small farmers have a strong fear that consolidation favours large farmers.

IMPACT OF LAND REFORMS

1. Land reforms have put an end to zamindars, jagirdars, and other exploitative intermediaries and reduced the revenue burden on farmers.

2. Land ceiling laws had resulted in surplus land which created jobs for marginal and small farmers.

3. The cumulative effect of all these reforms motivated investment and improved agriculture productivity.

4. Land reforms changed the rural power structure drastically. Land reforms were followed by sanskritization and democratic decentralisation. This resulted in lower castes organizing themselves and asserting their rights.

5. One of the important impacts of land reforms is that it has paved the way to change subsistence farming into commercial farming.

After more than 70 years of independence, one notices some achievements in the sphere of land reforms. At the same time, our efforts in this direction have not yielded desired results. Most of the planks of land reform measures are ambivalent and there are large gaps between policy and legislation and between legislation and implementation.

14) The economic implications of globalization are far more than social implications. Clarify your answer. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

In the economic sphere, globalization led to supply chain integration, better access to markets and technological innovations. In the social sphere, it has led to cultural engagement among different societies. However globalization is primarily derived by liberal economic policies. Hence, its economic implications are far more pronounced compared to social implications.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF GLOBALIZATION

1. Impact on Family Structure: Increasing nuclearization of traditional joint family structure. Not only structure but nature of family is also changing as we can more live-in relationships, same sex families and single parent families.
2. Impact on Mental Health: The consumerism propagated through digital media has led to adverse psychological impact on human beings. The race to achieve more in the economic sphere has led to increased pressure resulting in anxiety, depression.
3. Increase in migration: The migration facilitated by better economic opportunities in rural areas has led to regional disparities in development.
4. Selective migration: The selective nature migration like such male migration led to the phenomenon of feminization of poverty in rural areas.
5. Inferiority complex - Due to excessive exposure to western culture there is a perceived inferiority complex in local culture. People are perceiving and imitating western cultural elements as a sign of modernization.
6. Reduced Social hierarchy: Globalization has reduced traditional caste consciousness mostly in urban areas and to a great extent in rural areas. This led to increased socio economic mobility for depressed classes.
7. Gender Justice: With globalization came ideas of gender justice. The adoption of gender budgeting by the government and more educational and employment opportunities for women has reduced gender disparity in the society.
8. Cultural Homogenization: Though Globalization has created cultural homogeneity, it also served as a medium to propagate our culture across the borders. Practices like yoga, our cuisines, movies etc are gaining popularity across the world.

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF GLOBALIZATION

1. Better access to foreign markets: Globalization has enabled local businesses to have better access to overseas markets and to raw material at cheaper rates. It has facilitated cross border movement of human capital earning foreign exchange for the country.
2. Reduced cost of business: Due to increased use of information and communication technology the cost of business has reduced significantly thereby adding to profits. This has resulted in more investments in developing countries.
3. Better access to cheap labor: Countries specifically in south asia have emerged as major markets of cheap labor. This has prompted nations to liberalize their markets and engage with the global supply chain.
4. High human capital growth: Due to high demand of skilled labor force and high inflow of Foreign direct investment (India received \$74 billion FDI in 2021) countries are investing in human capital development. This has resulted in increased living standards and social transformation in the country.
5. Balanced regional growth: Globalization has led to more investment in backward regions for setting up of manufacturing units due to availability of cheap raw material and labor leading to creation of jobs and infrastructure development.
6. Increasing income inequality: Globalization has also led to increasing wealth disparity. This has led to exclusion of weaker sections from benefits of development and issues like migration and slum culture in urban clusters.

Globalization has led to changes in the public policy making paradigm. The opening of economy and LPG reforms have changed the orientation of governance towards a neo liberal paradigm. The state has assumed a role of facilitator and the process of roll back of government (New Disinvestment Policy) has started in order to focus on increasing efficiency of governance. Hence, it can be said that the economic implications of globalization are far more than the social implications of it.

15) How far climate change and land-use patterns are responsible for erratic monsoon? (250 words, 15 marks)

This year in July the Western Ghats regions have experienced extremely heavy rainfall events with cataclysmic results. Between 19th and 23 July, 112 people were killed, 99 missing and several houses destroyed. These severe monsoonal rainfall events are the result of climate change which is altering the Indian monsoon turning it into an erratic and destructive force. The Indian monsoon is facing a double whammy of climate change and changing land-use patterns. A drastic change in land use patterns due to urbanization, deforestation, diversion of forest, and agricultural land for industrial purposes is affecting the monsoons in India.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ERRATIC MONSOON

1. With Greenhouse gases clogging up the atmosphere, trapping sunlight, and warming the planet, scientists expect the monsoon to become increasingly chaotic.
2. Dust particles swept into the atmosphere from deserts in the Middle East grow so hot under sunlight that they change the air pressure over the Arabian Sea.

3. This creates a kind of heat pump in the sky, which drives moisture from above the ocean to the Indian subcontinent, leading to a wetter monsoon season that then strengthens winds and could whip up even more dust particles.
4. Human-wrought climate change is making the Indian summer monsoon wetter and more erratic. The latest climate models found that every additional degree of warming is likely to increase monsoon rainfall by 5%.
5. The summer monsoon is even more sensitive to global warming than previously thought. Humans have the power to shape the intensity of these changes via greenhouse gas emissions.
6. The Earth has already warmed by more than 1 degree Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) since the Industrial Revolution, and a November United Nations report found world leaders' plans to keep it to 1.5 C this century "woefully inadequate," adding that global heating is on track to more than double that.
7. The countries least responsible — such as India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh — are typically poorer and more reliant on agriculture than historical emitters, and already suffer from worsening weather extremes.
8. More erratic rainfall in the future poses a challenge for farmers to cope with a broader range of potential rainfall amounts. At first glance, an increase in rainfall might seem good for crops — but too much can significantly lower yields for some plants during the growing season.

LAND USE PATTERNS AND ERRATIC MONSOON

1. A study attributed the weakening of the Indian summer monsoon rainfall (ISMR) between June and September to changes in land use and land cover. The effect is more pronounced in north and northeast India during August and September.
2. Deforestation results in a decrease in evapotranspiration (transfer of water from land to the atmosphere via evaporation and transpiration), which constitutes the recycled component of precipitation.
3. This component assumes extraordinary significance in the north and northeast India during the latter half of the monsoon (August to September), when nearly 20-25 percent of the rainfall received is recycled.
4. The Woody savannah of the 1980s, dominant in Central India, Northeast India, and Peninsular India gave way to cropland in 2005 due to the demands of agriculture and development. In general, the leaf cover in central India (the core monsoon zone of the country) has reduced by 20 percent in all these years.
5. Agricultural plants with shorter roots enable lesser water absorption by the soil thereby reducing the amount of water evaporating from the earth's surface.
6. Moreover, the reduced land cover will increase the reflectivity (albedo effect) which leads to cooling of land in contrast to the ocean and results in a weakened monsoon circulation.

WAY FORWARD

Climate change is altering the nature of the Indian monsoon, turning it into an erratic and destructive force. India faces severe challenges on nearly every climate metric: be it sea level rise,

the melting of Himalayan glaciers, an increase in the number of destructive cyclones or extreme heat waves. In light of these events proactive steps must be taken.

1. Government needs to change crop cycles, credit cycles, and create storage infrastructure to deal with flooding due to erratic monsoon.
 2. Change in the type and variety of crops and change in the kind of inputs used by farmers to deal with the altered reality is needed of the hour.
 3. It is crucial for farmers (sowing, harvesting, etc.) and policymakers (payment of compensation, minimum support price, etc.) to know when and for how long the monsoon will remain active over India. For that, better predictions and timely advisories are needed.
 4. The National Supercomputing Mission will fill the necessary gaps in the computing superpower required to predict timely and accurate monsoon forecasts.
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16) The major paradox of caste today is the rising caste groups/identities, and declining caste system. Clarify your argument on this paradox. (Answer in 250 words) **15** **Marks**

India is a land of contrasts as seen in the emerging paradox of caste: the rising caste groups/identities, declining caste system. India's caste system divides Hindus into rigid hierarchical groups based on their karma (work) and dharma is among the world's oldest forms of surviving social stratification (more than 3,000 years old). The Indian caste system is a complex social structure wherein social roles like one's profession became 'hereditary,' resulting in restricted social mobility and fixed status hierarchies. Furthermore, we argue that the inherent property of caste heightens group identification with one's caste. Highly identified group members would protect the identity of the group in situations when group norms are violated.

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO DECLINE OF CASTE SYSTEM

1. The caste system is said to be declining due to the forces of Indian modernity, democracy, and capitalism.
2. Economic development has reduced the emphasis on caste by causing people to prioritize matters of livelihood over rigid social norms.
3. The most conspicuous rule among the caste rules regarding purity was that of commensality or rules regarding eating and drinking with or accepting food and water from other castes. Post-independence, industrialisation, education, and urbanisation, amongst other factors, made the applicability of some of these hardbound rules unfeasible.
4. Large scale urbanisation has diminished the awareness of caste by necessitating increased physical proximity and constant intermingling of people from different castes who interacted for work in large factories. Similarly, students of different castes, unaware of commensality rules freely ate with each other in school and at large public gatherings such as marriages, inter-caste mingling happened

5. Growth of literacy and education has helped to decrease the belief in caste as a social practice that should be discarded or abrogated instead of the universal notion of freedom, liberty, and equality of all individuals.
6. Occupational mobility is possible now and children are not compelled to continue the profession of the family or father. Industrialisation and post-liberal reforms have created the avenue for a variety of new, caste-free professions. This paved the way for challenging the social hierarchy created by associating a particular occupation with a specific caste identity.
7. Efforts of social reformers like Phule, Gandhiji, Ambedkar against the caste system have helped to promote the notion of a casteless society. This legacy is reflected in post-independent India's constitutional mandates and legal provisions.
8. Rural regions like villages were more prone to following the rigid caste rules and implementing parallel and inappropriate justice mechanisms like honour killings. But the weakening of the position of landlords in the villages has led to declining of the rigid caste barriers in villages.
9. The punitive measures associated with caste-based discrimination as outlined in fundamental rights has helped to create a deterrence against caste-based crimes. Constitutional provisions such as the Right to Equality of all before the law have helped to prevent discrimination legally to a particular extent.
10. The policy of reservation of seats in local self-government bodies and legislatures as well in educational institutes have helped to uplift the political, social, and economic position of lower castes.

FACTORS FOR RISING CASTE GROUPS/IDENTITIES

1. Development policies targeting the backward castes and scheduled have benefitted only a section of the population who have emerged as the elite. This has created a division within the backward castes with them asserting their caste identity more than before.
2. In place of caste rules, a mythology of the 'ethno-futures' (of caste) that embraces and celebrates caste identities as cultural identities, caste pride as a cultural assertion, and caste endogamy as 'natural' affinity to those who are 'culturally alike'.
3. Viewed as a positive contribution to India's cultural diversity, caste is set to enter public policy, not as a problem of inequality, but as a problem of 'management' of ethnic and cultural diversity.
4. In contrast to the older structure, various caste communities have asserted themselves and began to politically mobilize by forming political parties based on caste identities. For example-Bahujan Samaj Party. Political mobilization based on caste has been rising. Lingayats' demand to be considered as a minority community.
5. The welfare policies have led to social stigma among the castes which are not included. These policies have strengthened the caste-based mobilization. For example:
 - a) Dominant castes like Marathas, Kapus, and Patidars have been demanding reservation.
 - b) Socially empowered and landholding communities like Jats have also mobilized themselves and have demanded reservation.

6. The expression of social exclusion and maintaining the caste-based division by the communities has however not vanished but has only become more subtle. For example-

i. The matrimonial advertisements are frequent in the newspapers that especially demand brides and grooms from particular communities.

ii. Even religions that do not follow caste systems like Muslims and Christianity have observed caste-like discrimination. Dalits who have converted to Christianity have separate graveyards in States like Kerala.

7. Caste is being used as pressure groups for seeking favourable changes in policies e.g. demands for affirmative action by Patels of Gujarat, Marathas of Maharashtra, and Jats of Haryana.

REASONS FOR THE PARADOX

The paradox is that despite the declining caste system, the rise in caste groups and caste identities has been observed. These are invoked in public, and persist and flourish in Indian society, not only in matrimonial markets and electoral politics but also in everyday life-shaping access to land, credit, capital, employment, housing and knowledge, prestige, and power. This can be attributed to multiple factors:

1. Politically, democratization or modernization which views castes positively as political interest groups, instead of as shackles for the free association is helping in the decline of the caste system.

2. Cultural perception of substantialization or ethnicization which views caste again positively as ethnic groups or independent communities of cultural identity contributing to India's diversity, instead of a status hierarchy and inequality

3. Economic Discourses such as capitalization or productivity valorize caste as innovative networks of social (trust) and economic capital instead of as exploitative relations.

4. Caste is perceived as private and domestic practices (such as endogamy) that do not affect life-chances, instead of as public sites for reproducing caste networks and inequality

5. Caste-based divisions are considered to offer solidarity and psychological strength to various marginalized groups, even if the caste-based discrimination is diffused through the legislative enforcement the divisions of identity will be difficult to erase.

The above factors advance the claim that castes can exist without a caste system because caste is fundamentally about 'social difference' not hierarchy and it is only the latter that requires a caste system. Further, the existence of castes need not be considered a social problem since caste groups are simply 'cultural communities' or ethnicities, and caste identities are cultural identities that enrich India's diversity. There should be the caste-conscious anti-caste political mobilization of multi-caste groups for critically demanding an anti-caste agenda from the caste-conscious mobilization of jati-clusters for electoral purposes, explicitly reject the liberal disavowal of casteism as a fundamental organizing principle of current Indian society, and recognize the need for anti-caste politics to work through identity towards solidarity.

17) The subject of Indian folk art paintings is as diverse as the Indian cultural milieu itself. Elucidate. (250 words) 15

India is a large country with diverse society where people of different faith, language, culture, caste, and race live together in harmony. Just like its cultural diversity, each region in India presents its own unique folk art painting.

Indian folk art paintings usually deal with pictorial depictions of popular Hindu deities as well as secular features such as the sun, the moon and even some plants and flowers used in daily rituals, such as tulsi (basil). Many paintings also depict daily village life, common customs and rituals, birds, animals and the elements of nature. They have individual styles and deal with diverse subjects as observed in:

- **Madhubani Painting:** This folk art painting has evolved in the Mithila region of Bihar and has reference in Ramayana as well. These paintings mainly deal with the images of popular Hindu deities, sacred symbols, celestial bodies, royal court scenes and various social events such as thread ceremony, marriage, etc.

- **Kalamkari Painting:** It is an ancient style of painting whose history traces back to Mohenjo-Daro times. It was patronised later by Golconda Sultanate, and is produced mainly in the Andhra Pradesh region. One of its styles, Masulipatinam, has heavy Persian influence and therefore the most commonly featuring designs here are flowers, trees, creepers, colourful leaf, etc. The other style, Srikalahasti, is influenced from Hindu mythology and uses the theme of Ramayana, Puranas, etc.

Phad Painting: This scroll painting from Rajasthan use vibrant colours in specific order from orange-yellow to brown, bold green and blue, red and black to represent transcending time. The main themes of these paintings depict major Hindu deities and legend of popular heroes as Prithvi Raj Chauhan, Papuji Rathod, etc. The traditional singers, Bhopas use these paintings for narration of their tales.

- **Paata Painting or Pattachitra:** Developed in Odisha, this type of folk art painting includes wall paintings, palm-leaf etching, manuscript painting and painting on cloth, both cotton and silk. This is a devotional art and the major theme centres on worship of Lord Jagannath, a manifestation of Sri Krishna.

- **Kalighat Painting:** This folk art painting evolved in the 19th century in Kalighat, Kolkata mainly to create awareness in society. The themes include the legend of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, wealthy zamindars ravishing wine, sloppy babus spending their day and night at questionable locales, a priest or Vaishnav "Guru" living with unchaste women, etc. They had a moralizing intent and would draw the caricatures in such a way as would repel ordinary people from such activities.

- **Warli Painting:** These wall paintings from Maharashtra are traditionally done by Warli tribe. They do not depict mythological characters or images of deities, but depict social life revolving around hunting, fishing and farming; festivals and social functions; dances; and trees and animals, etc. Human and animal bodies are represented in the form of stick figures, by way of two triangles joined at the tip. Only white colour with occasional red and yellow dots is used in these paintings.

- **Pithora Painting:** It is a ritual art form traditionally done on the walls by tribal communities (Rathawa and Billala) of Gujarat to complete the vows taken for a boon from Baba Pithora. The protagonists of the entire painting are horses of the gods and goddesses and ancestors in vibrant colours.

Each of the aforementioned paintings used the imagery of well-established mythologies and folklore, and adapted to the craft and sensitivities of the time. This diverse folk art is not just an important part of our culture but also a link to India's past and traditions.

18) Despite the Cripps' proposal being a step ahead of the August Offer, it was rejected by both the Congress and the Muslim League albeit for different reasons. Discuss. (250 words) 15

Both August Offer (1940) and Cripps' Mission (1942) were proposed by the British government to draw Indian support in the 2nd World War.

The August Offer proposed dominion status as the objective for India, expansion of Viceroy's Executive Council, setting up of a Constituent Assembly after the war where mainly Indians would decide the Constitution and it would not be adopted without the consent of the minorities. The Congress rejected it, as the members were dissatisfied with the promise of dominion status. The League welcomed the veto assurance given to them, however, it reiterated its position that partition was the only solution to the deadlock.

In March 1942, a mission headed by Stafford Cripps was sent to India. The main proposals of the Cripps' Mission were an Indian Union with a dominion status and a Constituent Assembly to be constituted after the war to frame a new Constitution with members to be partly elected by the provincial assemblies through proportional representation and partly nominated by the princes.

Cripps' Mission was a departure from the past and a step ahead of the August offer in the sense that:

- The making of the Constitution was to be solely in India hands.
- A concrete plan was provided for the Constituent Assembly.
- Option was available to any province to have a separate Constitution.
- Free India could withdraw from the Commonwealth.
- Indians were allowed a large share in the administration in the interim period.

However, Cripps' Mission failed and was rejected by both Congress and the Muslim League.

The reasons for its rejection by the Congress were:

- The offer of dominion status instead of provision for complete independence.
- Representation of the princely states by nominees and not by elected representatives.
- Right to provinces to secede, as this went against national unity.
- Absence of any plan for immediate transfer of power and absence of any real share in defense.

The Muslim League rejected the proposals of Cripps Mission due to the following reasons:

- They were against the idea of a single Indian Union.
- They did not like the machinery for the creation of a Constituent Assembly and the procedure to decide on the accession of provinces to the Union.
- They thought that the proposals denied the Muslims the right to self-determination and the creation of Pakistan.

Cripps Mission was meant to supersede the August Offer and draw Indian support in the war, but the inability of Cripps' proposals to go beyond its initial Draft Declaration (on which the Mission was based) while negotiating with Indian leaders and the adoption of a rigid attitude added to the deadlock. Gandhiji described the Cripps' scheme as a post-dated cheque. Further, the failure of the Cripps Mission aggravated the frustration of the Indians.

19) The contribution of the migrant poor to society and the economy is most often hidden and too often disguised and unrecognizable. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Migration can be understood as the movement of people away from their usual place of residence due to various push and pull factors. According to Census 2011 data, the number of total migrants in India stands at 45.6 crore i.e 38 percent of the total population.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF MIGRANT POOR

1. According to the Economic survey 2017 migrants contribute fifth of India's total labor force.
2. Even by conservative estimates the total earning of India's internal migrants is \$170 billion per annum, which is about six percent of India's total GDP.
3. Nearly 2 percent of India's GDP is transferred to less prosperous areas as remittances contributing to reduced regional disparity and inclusive growth.
4. They act like change agents by carrying the modern ideas from urban areas to their native places. Migrants also lead to cultural enrichment of the local places of immigration.
5. The increased earning from urban areas translates to better living standards and increased enrolment ratio for rural children.

WHY CONTRIBUTIONS OF MIGRANT POOR IS HIDDEN

1. Lack of Political Representation: Migrants are a dispersed group and generally travel back to native constituencies to cast their votes. Hence, they lack proper representation at the place of their work.

2. Lack of Proper Data Collection: There is lack of proper data collection for migrants evident from recent covid 19 pandemic. The constant movement of migrants for work makes data collection difficult.
3. Concealed identity: In most of the cases poor migrant population work contract jobs and contractors deliberately hide the identity of migrant population either to avoid issues with the local population or to escape liabilities.
4. Lack of Social Inclusion: The regional movement like Son of Soil movement in Maharashtra and exodus of north eastern origin students from Bangalore points to lack of social acceptance for migrants.
5. Lack of strong Civil Society Movement: Since the migrant workers are mostly concentrated in informal sectors, they lack effective organization for their interest articulation.
6. Lack of Human Capital among Migrants: Due to less wages for migrants in informal sectors, they lack in terms of human capital formation. As a result they suffer from inter generational poverty which leads to their constant movement in search of work.
7. Absence of National Migration Policy: India lacks a proper National Migration Policy which can account for social and economic contribution of migrants on a scientific basis.

WAY FORWARD

1. This lack of recognition of their contribution leads to a sense of alienation and rise in disguised unemployment due to less investment in capacity building of migrant labor.
2. NITI Aayog is currently working on a draft national policy on migrant workers which takes a rights based approach for migrants.
3. There is a need to review the now archaic Interstate migrant workers act 1979 which would form the legal basis for an architecture of social protection.
4. The recognition of migrant contribution is significant not just economically but also to manage the population transition and demographic changes.

20) What do you understand about an industrial and freight corridor? Critically analyze their impact in development of a specific region and overall national development. (250 words, 15 marks)

An industrial corridor is generally defined as a set of linear projects designed for an area to promote infrastructure and industrial development. It is basically a corridor consisting of multi-modal transport services that would pass through the states as main arteries. Industrial corridors are planned in such a way that there are arterial links like a highway or railway line that receives feeder roads or railway tracks. Freight corridor on the other hand is a high speed and high capacity railway corridor that is exclusively meant for the transportation of freight, or in other words, goods and commodities. DFC involves the seamless integration of better infrastructure and state of the art technology.

1. Integration between sectors of Economy: Industrial Corridors recognise the inter-dependence of various sectors of the economy and offer effective integration between industry and infrastructure leading to overall economic and social development.

(a) Provide necessary logistics infrastructure needed to reap economies of scale, thus enabling firms to focus on their areas of core competence.

(b) Manufacturing is a key economic driver in each of these projects. These projects are expected to play a critical role in raising the share of contribution of the manufacturing sector from approximately 16% to 25% by 2025.

(c) Increased efficiency in economy: Production costs would come down due to improved transportation system and agglomeration effect, making Indian goods competitive in domestic as well as foreign markets.

Employment: The establishment of NMIZ in a scattered manner along the industrial corridor across the length of the state would prevent distress migration and provide people with job opportunities close to their dwelling place.

(a) It will prevent concentration of industries in one particular location which exploited the environment beyond its carrying capacity and caused environmental degradation.

(b) Give push to India's urbanisation: Smart cities are being developed along these corridors. These cities, with state-of-the-art infrastructure, will house the new workforce that is required to power manufacturing, in turn leading to planned urbanisation.

Socio-Economic Significance

(a) The cascading effect of industrial corridors in socio-economic terms are many such as the setting up of industrial townships, educational institutions, hospitals. These will further raise the standards of human development.

(b) Availability of jobs locally would help in preserving family as an institution. This will also increase social integration in the country.

(c) Such corridors will have world-class facilities such as high-speed road and rail transportation networks, ports with modern cargo handling systems, modern airports, SEZs, logistic parks/transshipment hubs, knowledge parks, townships, and urban infrastructure.

SIGNIFICANCE

1. Increased Capacity: The DFC shall reform the transportation sector and will create more capacity on trunk routes of Indian Railways as goods trains shall be able to run freely on DFC without any restrictions imposed by movement of passenger trains.

2. Decongestion: Around 70% of the freight trains currently running on the Indian Railway network are slated to shift to the freight corridors, leaving the paths open for more passenger trains.

3. **Business Generation:** Tracks on DFC are designed to carry heavier loads than most of Indian Railways. DFC will get track access charges from the parent Indian Railways, and also generate its own freight business.
4. **Punctuality:** The new section means on the Indian Railway main line, more passenger trains can be pumped in and those trains can, in turn, achieve better punctuality.

NEGATIVE IMPACT OF INDUSTRIAL AND FREIGHT CORRIDORS

1. **Environmental degradation and land acquisition issues:** Concerns over environmental degradation, land acquisition, dispossession and loss for agriculture based livelihoods have been voiced by various groups including grassroots organizations, farmers, academics and researchers.
2. **Projects implemented under DMIC use land pooling mechanisms for procuring land required for them rather than applying the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act of 2013.** It has been argued that land pooling mechanism is ambiguous and misleads land owners to hand over their lands for project implementation.
3. **Might widen rural-urban disparity:** Fear of widening Rural-urban gap in terms of Human Development, economic well-being and standards of living.
4. **Land related issues:** Development corridors involve conversion of agricultural land to infrastructure development which in turn increases demand for land for urban–industrial use.
 - (a) The land for the greenfield projects will require deforestation in the states that are part of the project. For instance, 70 percent of mangroves around Mumbai have been lost to land reclamation and other development projects and less than 45 sq km of mangrove forests remain.
5. **Regulatory issues:** Several financial institutions looking to invest in infrastructure projects lack appropriate environment and social safeguard policies as well as transparency and accountability mechanisms.
 - (a) Such mechanisms are imperative to hold these myriad institutions accountable for the investments they make and the impacts on the local communities in terms of loss of livelihood, displacement, environment damage and claiming appropriate resettlement and rehabilitation.
6. **Decision-making processes, wider public consultations and considering the opinions shared, role of people’s representatives and local governments as well as the increased push for profit making for domestic and international investors are other vital concerns left unaddressed.**

WAY FORWARD

1. **The economic and financial feasibility of industrial corridors should be ensured by attracting potential investors to set up manufacturing units at NMIZ and India’s taxation regime needs to clearly define the tax liabilities of foreign firms operating in India as permanent establishments and otherwise.**
2. **Infrastructure development:** While the transportation corridor will serve as the spine, robust grid networks need to be developed, connecting the clusters to the hinterlands and gateways.

3. Nurturing corridor centric MSME ecosystem: In addition to investing in and building the enabling infrastructure, the central and state governments must focus on promoting ease of doing business and developing a MSME-centric supplier ecosystem within these corridors.

4. Corridor centric skill-development roadmap: Skill availability is a key determinant of private sector investment decisions. All industrial corridors must also have a skill agenda, tailored specifically to meet the skill requirements of the corridors.

5. Land and labor reforms: By design, most parts of an industrial corridor pass through rural or semi-rural areas where the quantum of agricultural land holdings is high. For manufacturing industries to be set-up in these regions, land needs to be acquired and labor needs to be employed.

6. In order to attract investments for setting up manufacturing industries, land acquisition and labor laws must be progressive and investment friendly, calling for institutional reforms in this area.

To make the corridors successful, India has to be part of the Industrial Revolution 4.0, which will be shaped by a fresh wave of innovation in areas such as smart robotics, materials that are lighter and tougher, and a manufacturing process built around 3D printing and analytics. Industrial and freight corridors will help India's efforts to lead the world in the fourth wave of industrial revolution. Enhanced connectivity of industrial hubs with hinterland and ports will particularly help increase the participation of Indian manufacturing in global production networks and global value chains, thereby creating jobs along the corridors.