Write paper on answer sheet of Institute.

95/200

Q1 Indo-gangetic plains are important part of Indian geography and extend from Punjab in west to ~~west Bengal~~ in the east.

3

Write some facts about plains

Geomorphological and regional diversity of Indo gangetic plains

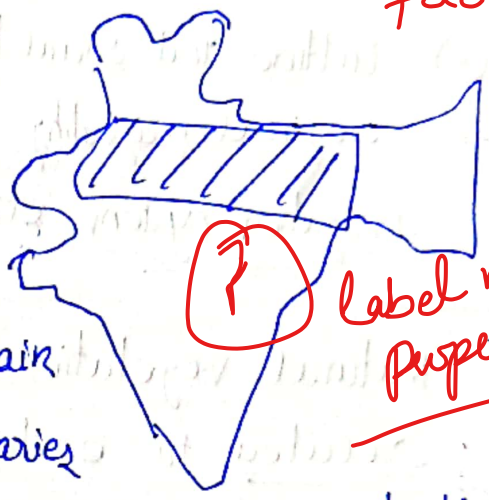

Fig 1 Indo-gangetic plain

Label map properly

① Slope - Indo gangetic plain have little slope which varies from region to region

eg slope is higher in west.

② Soil characteristics - Although dominated by alluvial soil, there are certain regional characteristics

eg soil of UP - Bihar is more fertile than other regions

③ Drainage - drained by perennial rivers like Ganga, Yamuna etc which also have regional variation

How does this variation affect socio economy

① Cultural festivals - based on agriculture which depends on geomorphology of the plains

② Economy — e.g. Fertile soil of UP ⇒ sugarcane wheat rice is grown

↓

frequent floods in Bihar due to adverse drainage impacts regional stability

③ Culture and social habits are influenced by regional geography → e.g. settlement pattern irrigation system etc

Write a short conclusion

Q2. Natural vegetation and rainfall are intricately related to each other.

Write proper introduction

Relationship between vegetation and rainfall pattern in India

Rainfall impacting natural vegetation

① Area with 200cm+ rainfall ⇒ give rise to distinct evergreen rainforests e.g. Western Ghats

4

② Area with scanty rainfall ⇒ i.e. <50 cm leads to desert type vegetation i.e. shrubs etc

② Area with monsoonal fluctuation of rainfall with 100 cm – 200cm ⇒ deciduous type vegetation

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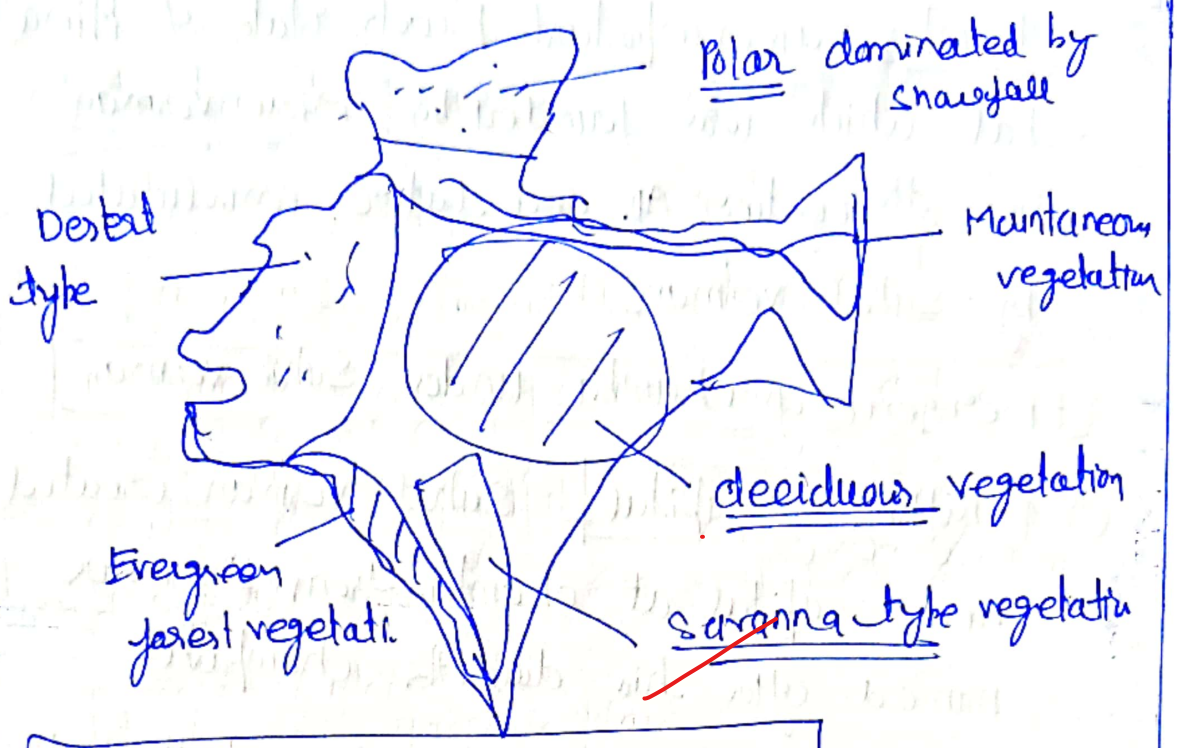

Impact of vegetation on rainfall

① Vegetation regulate the water cycle

Higher vegetation ⇒ Better rainfal

② loss of vegetation can lead to desertification and hence irregular rainfall

Hence both rainfall and natural vegetation are dependent on each other and hence must be taken into consideration while during developmental process

Q note Koeppen Classification on India

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Q3 Chamba is an important princely state of Hima-chal which was founded by Meru Verman in 6th century AD, and later consolidated by Sahil Verman.

4

Emergence of Chamba under Sahil Verman

① **Shifting of Capital** - Sahil Verman created new capital at Chamba from Bhormaur named after his daughter Champavati

② **Architectural development** → he built temples like Lakshmi Narayan temple in Chamba.

③ **Agricultural development** - with the construction of Saratha stream ⇒ dealing with water scarcity

④ **Cultural development** → festivals like Minjar started from this period.

⑤ **Territorial expansion** - settlement with neighbouring states like Chamba Kully Kangra etc through battles and matrimonial ties

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As such sahil veman have been instrumen-tal in development and emergence of chamba state.

Q4 Industrial revolution took place in 17th and 18th century in Europe which have had deep impact on society economy and polity of europe

5

Structural changes in society

① Rise of middle class which provided the workforce for industrial growth.

② Migration from rural areas to urban centers.

③ Development of new social hierarchies and inequalities

good answer

④ Urbanization increased which structurally changed social tier and relations

Structural change in economy

① Profit motive ⇒ gained more importance
⇒ hence rise of capitalistic economy

② Rise of economic institutions (eg) Bank of England

③ Industrial economy rather than agricultural

④ Dependence on export ⇒ as industrial products could not be consumed within europe

Structural change in polity

① Rise of democratic principles ⇒ i.e.g. liberty freedom etc ⇒ which suited free economy and industrial development

② Rule based order ⇒ to ensure stability
⇒ which intern ensure investment.

③ Rise of socialism as a response to exploitative nature of capitalistic and industrial economic structure

Hence industrial revolution brought certain fundamental changes in economy, society and polity

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Q5 Himachal Pradesh is land of rivers e.g. Sutlej, Chenab, Ravi Beas etc. which are lifeline of economy of the state

4

Major drainage system of Himachal

① **Sutlej drainage** system - covers districts like Shimla, Mandi, Bilaspur Una etc.
↓
longest river with one of largest drainage Basin

② **Beas River drainage system** → Beas rises in Kullu (Beas kund) and goes through Mandi, Kangra etc.

Draw map

③ **Yamuna drainage** system - smallest river in term of length, flows through Sirmaur

④ **Chenab river system** - Rises from Baralacha La from glacier like Chandra and Bhaga
⇒ has largest volume of water
⇒ flows through Chamba and Lahaul & Spiti

Influence on physiography

① **Formation of valleys** (eg) Kullu valley by Beas river
↓
Paonta valley, Kiarda dun valley by Yamuna drainage system

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② Formation of lakes → eg. Gobindsagar lake Pong lak by river like sutlej and Beas respectively

Influence on agriculture

① Source of Irrigation - eg. Shahnahar project ⇒ water from Beas.

② Soil formation - eg. Alluvial silt for rice cultivation

Hence Rivers and drainage system of Himachal are crucial for states agriculture and ecology and must be monitored and conserved.

Q6 Fairs and festivals of Himachal are diverse in nature eg festivals of tribals, festivals in plains etc dominated by regional culture and geography

Fairs and festivals as ~~tools~~ mode of recreation and community integration

① Intra-state integration → eg. Fairs like Dussehra brings diverse cultural practices in the form of performances eg. Nati of Kullu, Panthang of Mandi etc.

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4

(2) Inter-state unity → People from other states visits specially to ~~attend~~ these fairs.
→ cultural exchange and integration

(3) International people-to-people connect → (ex) international cultural performances at Kullu winter festival etc.

(4) Religious integration (ex) events in Triloki-nath temple combining Hindu and Budhist practices

(5) Economic integration → through purchase and selling of cultural products (ex) Kullu and Kinnauri shawls in Mandi Shivratri

Thus fairs and festivals are not just for recreation but for holistic community integration.

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Q7 Both Kangra and Basholi painting are collectively called pahari school of painting along with Chamba, which emerged during 18th and 19th century after decline of Mughal empire or during last phase of mughal empire

4

How chamba paintings differ from Kangra and Basholi

Theme — Chamba paintings are based on Nayak-Nayika theme e.g. Radha-Krishna etc

Kangra and Basholi are dominated by spiritual texts like Ramayana, Mahabharata Bhagvatgeeta.

Landscape — shown in Background differs

e.g. dominance of rainy season with characters drenched in rain → in Kangra painting.

→ No such emphasis on one season in case of Chamba paintings

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Material used — Chamba paintings can also be found to be done on Chamba rumal unique to the region.

Painters → Chamba paintings ⇒ Nikka
→ Kangra paintings ⇒ Pandit Seu

However, Kangra paintings have influence Chamba style in many ways (ex) use of vibrant colors, sinous figures of females etc

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Q8 Around 40 million hectare of Indian landmass is prone to draught. Hence there is need for sustainable management of such areas

Steps / Measures taken for development of drought prone areas in India

4

① Integrated **Watershed development** project (IWDP) ⇒ with holistic and area based approach

② **Command area development** → for managing drainage basins for sustainable use

② Rivers interlinking - (eg) Recent Ken-Betwa project to address scarcity in Bundelkhand region

④ Construction of canals - (eg) in Punjab, Haryana etc.

⑥ Lift irrigation projects (eg) Godavari project in Andhra Pradesh

⑦ Regional programmes - (eg) Mission Kakatiya in Telangana

How do these contribute to sustainable development of these region

⇒ Reducing desertification and land degradation ⇒ (environmental sustainability)

⇒ Increasing livelihood ⇒ through sustainable agriculture ⇒ (economic sustainability)

⇒ Reduces burden on women (eg) water fetching activities ⇒ (social inclusivity and sustainability)

Going forward India must ensure data driven and technological solution to drought situation in India with increased investment and good governance

Write about schemes and programmes

Q9 India is a culturally diverse country with varying languages, cuisines, clothing e.g from region to region

Diversity of India
- Multilingual
- Tribal and mainstream cultures
- Multireligions
- multiple cuisines
- Multiple faiths and festivals
- diverse music and dance traditions etc

4

Despite such difference India as a nation is united.

e.g Places like Kashi where Mosque, and Jain / Buddhist shrines, Hindu temples etc are existing at one place ⇒ is model of such unity in diversity

How this concept have contributed to national unity

① Cultural pride and equal space to all the cultures have fostered unity

e.g Article 26, – 28 of constitution

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② Historical nature of such diversity from the tym time of Ashoka ⇒ also makes unity in diversity a natural concept for India

Issues

- Economic differences
- North vs South
- Communalism
- Regionalism (e.g. recent Maharashtra language issue)
- Caste based politics etc

Going ahead India must preserve such unity in diversity through programmes like Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat

---

Q10 Sanchi Stupa is important architectural product of Mauryan empire, built during Ashoka's period

Sanchi stupa – Buddhist architecture, associated with relics of Buddha buried inside the mound

– Material used – Burnt bricks as well as unbaked bricks for the mound construction

3

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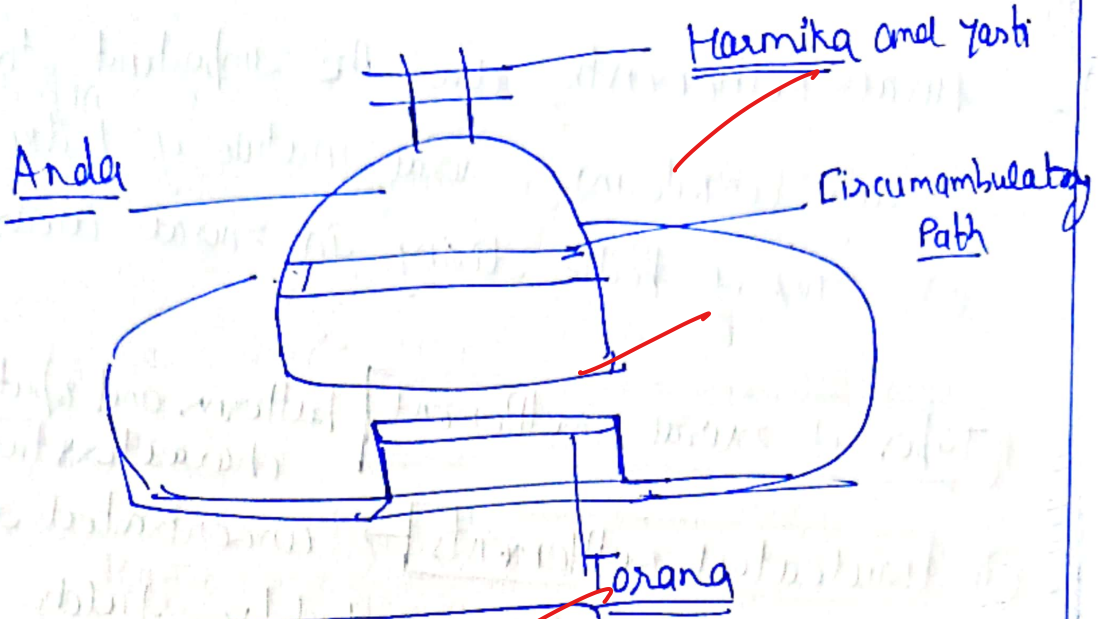

Fig 1 Sanchi Stupa

Architectural techniques

(+) structural mound and monolithic torana with engravings

Symbolism – Representation of Budha

Jatalka stories on Torana & Shala bhanjika engraved on Torana

– Harmika on the top ⇒ symbolizing connection with sky

Mauryan architecture was further development by later dynastia like Shunga, Kushana etc.

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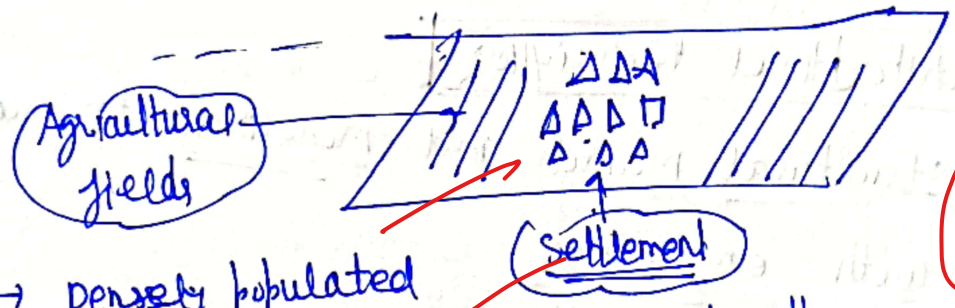
Q1 Rural settlements are ~~the~~ important to study considering rural nature of India

(e) 70% of people living in rural areas

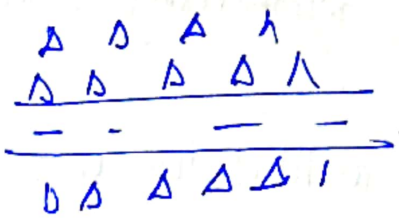
Types of rural settlement patterns and spatial characteristics

① **Nucleated settlements** → concentrated in a place and surrounded by fields

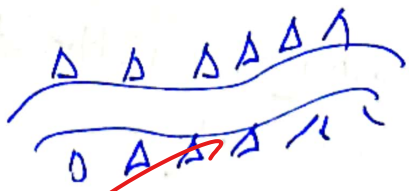


→ Densely populated with houses attached to each other

② **Linear settlements** → settlement in linear fashion ~~dominated~~ influenced by geography roads, Highways, canals etc



along highway



along river or canal

– settlement on both side of roads or canals make such settlements

6

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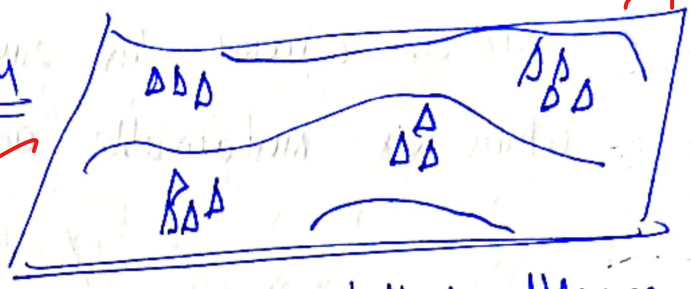
③ Hamletted settlements ⇒ isolated settlements with few houses separated by other such clusters

- Circular
- Star shaped

→ found in mountain

eg Himachal Pradesh



Hamletted settlement

Challenge associated with rural settlements

① Social challenge — caste based discrimination w.r.t. settlements eg lower caste individual living far away from upper caste

② Structural challenge — lack of planning ⇒ which can lead to other challenges

eg floods vulnerability

③ Lack of public spaces — not rationally designed

④ Unregulated — eg outside the norms which are applicable in urban / municipal areas

⑤ Encroachment → of forests and riverbanks due to lack of enforcement

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Rural settlements needs to be planned and regularly monitored, using advanced technologies like drones, GIS etc. This is crucial for rural development which is sustainable and futuristic

Q12 India along with the world is facing the challenge of climate change which could have deep impact on agriculture.

Climate change impact on agriculture
- → Reduced productivity by 12-15%
- → Increased extreme weather events ⇒ loss of produce
- → Increased shortage of food etc

How India can make agriculture more resilient, inclusive and future ready

① Structural measures – Building supply chain infrastructure like roads, railway, cold chains etc ⇒ reduces vulnerability of uncertain market access ⇒ ↑ resilience

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② Sustainable practices like natural farming, Organic farming etc

③ Encouraging agroforestry ⇒ diversification of livelihood ⇒ more resilient agriculture

④ Promotion of sustainable irrigation practices

(eg) micro-irrigation, drip irrigation etc

⑤ Crop diversification → using resilient crops like millets.

⑤ GM crops → which can reduce water use, resistant resistant to pests etc

⑥ Vertical farming and hydroponics → increase productivity / ha ⇒ important for small and marginal farmers ⇒ hence inclusive

⑦ Use of modern technology → eg IOT, AI and GIS for data driven decision making and monitoring

6

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(Government initiatives)

1. National mission on sustainable agriculture (NMSA)
2. National mission on organic farming
3. PM-Krishi sinchayi Yojna — Per drop more crop
4. Krishi Vigyan kendras etc

Explain them briefly

(Issues) — lack of investment / funding
- lack of awareness
- Inertia among farmers to change
- Top down approach ⇒ impacts acceptance in natural way

(Way forward) → consultative policy making
- strengthening local bodies for implementing such policies
- Traditional knowledge must be used

Increase budgetary allocation.

Agriculture of the future must be based on technology and considerate of ecology.

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Q13 Right to information act was enacted in 2005 to ensure transparency in governance.

RTI as master key to good governance

① Ensures accountability - Providing information in timeband timebound manner (eg) within 30 days

② Ensures hasty decision making and corrupt practices - (eg) Fear of RTI among officials

② Increases transparency → (eg) citizen can seek information regarding how funds are spent and where

④ & Unearthing scams - (eg) Coal scam and 2G spectrum scam → were the results of RTI

⑤ Promoting fundamental right of speech - with information only, one can speak & hold government accountable

⑥ Increases citizen participation in governance i.e participatory democracy

6

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⑦ Ensures proper implementation of schemes like PDS etc where people can file RTI any time if there is diversion.

⑧ Environmental degradation is also checked with RTI as handy tool with citizens

Recent amendment in RTI act in 2019

Major change → abbrevi ment of central information commissioner and information commissioners by central government

Impact → Reduces the independence of CIC as central government may turn it into caged parrot ⇒ impacting / undermining sole purpose of the act.

— Dilution of transparency
— Undermines federalism regarding SIC

RTI is integral to good governance and must be strengthened institutionally, and functionally

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Q14

Himachal has recently seen heavy floods and cloudbursts especially in Chamba, Kullu and Mandi, causing huge impact on life, livelihood and infrastructure

Underlying causes of this phenomena

① Natural causes → Increased rainfall and funnelling effect which creates situation of cloudbursts

② Anthropogenic reasons

→ Unsustainable development → eg unscientific road construction, unchecked mining

⇓

Increases vulnerability of state w.r.to floods and cloudbursts

→ Climate change ⇒ increasing extreme weather events like unforeseen unprecedented rainfall

↓

melting of glaciers

→ glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs)

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→ River encroachments which leads to increased loss to life and infrastructure

— Felling of trees (e.g.) for expansion of horticulture and agricultural land

— Unsustainable tourism → pressure on ecology

⇒ enhanced vulnerability (e.g.) warming effect of huge incoming tourist vehicles

6

Impact on settlements, infrastructure and environment

(1) Houses swept away by floods

(2) Social infrastructure like hospitals, schools disconnected

(3) Loss of vegetation → huge trees swept away

(4) land degradation and soil erosion

(5) Loss of biodiversity ⇒ increased fragmentation of wildlife habitat.

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Steps to be taken

- address the issue of illegal mining and felling of trees ⇒ through technology (e.g) drones
- sustainable development (eg) nature based solutions to road infrastructure
- Reforestation with lifecycle monitoring
- Community based solution.
- Behavioural change ⇒ towards forest and ecology

Himachal Pradesh is fragile ecological and geographical unit and must take immediate steps to deal with the menance of such floods

your answers are balanced keep writing like this
Just add some schems and programmes and current

Q 15 Himachal Pradesh has tremendous pool of old traditions and customs which needs to be preserved

4

Old traditions and customs of Himachal

① Community Councils and Devta Councils used to deal with disputes and village development → (i.e) decentralised and participative democratic traditions
(e.g) Chaibhai among Gaddi,

② Architectural tradition (e.g) Kathi-kuni which is sustainable and resilient

③ Grain processing through sustainable methods like Gharats

④ Agricultural tradition → (e.g) traditional varieties of seeds, and livestock suitable for hills

⑤ Traditional drinks like Chhang etc

Challenges in preserving

① Lack of data repository of such traditions

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Q16 Nature and structure of family is changing among tribal communities in Himachal.

Write proper and informative introduction

(Nature of change)

① Structural change → From joint family towards nuclear families

② Functional change → reduced patriarchy increased women role which already was there but is increasing even more

③ Dwindling of polyandry → which was prevalent in tribal communities.

④ Adoption of Hindu system of marriage → which have impact of familial ties.

⑤ Filiocentric families → rather than community centric which was trait of tribal societies

(Reasons) — ① cultural exchange → and diffusion of traits from non-tribal societies eg loss of polyandry

② Cultural imitation and inferiority → in order to integrate and get accepted in mainstream society.

6

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② Dwindling nature due to incoming of mainstream cultural practices.

(eg) kothi-kuni replaced by cement homes

③ Lack of awareness ⇒ regarding need to preserve such traditions

④ Geographical challenge ⇒ which make it difficult to document and preserve

Suggestions for practical and culturally sensative ways to overcome these challenges

① Institutional measures - (eg) separate authorities for such preservation

② enhance funding to these institutions

③ Increase public participation in the process

④ strengthening local bodies and tribal council to preserve their knowledge

⑤ Integrating tourism with culture and customs

⇒ which would inculcate pride in people ⇒ hence desire to conserve their culture

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③ Economic integration → Presence in Industrial jobs ⇒ reduced practicality of joint family

④ Migration → (eg) Majority of tribals migrating to urban areas ~~due to~~ for education and jobs.

~~key drivers~~ ⑤ Shift from agriculture to industrial or administrative jobs ⇒ reduced dependence on family land ⇒ encourage nuclearization

⑥ Financial independence ⇒ reduced dependence on family.

⑦ Individualism → rise in individual rights and personal space concept.

⑧ Social media → also have influence such change ⇒ (eg) reduced family ties and attachment

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Q17 Legal measure of Ambedkar for schedule caste

① Reservation in education and employment as given under article 15 and 16

② Separate electorate in Government of India act 1935

5

Educational measures

① Promotion of education institutions for dalits.

② Entry into public employment through modern education

③ Sponsored educational institution in Maharashtra for dalits

④ Formation of Dalit educational societies

⑤ Addition of article 15, 16 and 46 for education of dalits

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Social strategies

→ Burning of Manusmriti as symbol of caste discrimination

→ Temple entry movements to challenge caste hegemony

→ Literary publications like annihilation of caste to spread his ideas

→ Institutional measures like Bahishkrit Hitkarini sabha

→ Conversion to Budhism Mahars of Maharashtra to come out of social stigma and discrimination.

However despite his efforts caste discrimination still persists and need sustained efforts to remove this inhumane system

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Q1Y Right to education is indeed crucial for social justice

Again same issue

Implementation of Right to education

① Statutory backing with RTF act 2009.

② Free and compulsory education and to all between 6–14 years ⇒ hence inclusive

③ No detention policy ⇒ to ensure that no one leave school

④ Mid day meal scheme to increase enrollment.

⑤ Free books, uniform, bags etc to attract enrollment.

⑥ Presence of schools with 5km radius ⇒ increasing accessibility

⑦ Use of technology eg swayam portal, smart classrooms etc for better educational outcomes

6

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Issues with its implementation

① Lack of emphasis on quality → eg acc. to ASER report (10% of class 5th cannot read class II text)

② Low teacher to pupil ratio → impacting quality of education

③ Lack of infrastructure → eg 30% of rural schools did not have toilets

④ Teacher absenteism → is high in rural and tribal area

⑤ Lack of quality teacher training → undermining right to education.

Way forward

- Performance based
- Enhanced expenditure atleast 6% of GDP
- Quality teacher training institutes
- Technology and internet penetration in education
- Use of AI for targeted courses as approach for students.

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Q19 Urban floods have become common in India

eg recent Mumbai, Chennai, and Hyderabad floods

Reason for growing incidence of urban floods

① lack of proper planning ⇒ i.e. lack of futuristic planning considering migration

② Increasing concretization ⇒ reduced absorption ⇒ increased floods

③ Reducing green spaces in the urban areas

④ Faulty sewerage plans leads to frequent clogging and overflow

⑤ unsustainable infrastructure ⇒ encroachment of water bodies

⑥ Administrative vacuum lack of trained staff and reduced funds

6

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Existing policies and frameworks

① Smart cities mission → to make cities futuristic including flood or disaster management

② AMRIT 2.0 → water and sanitation management ⇒ addressing urban flooding

③ Urban settlements for slum dwellers and migrants ⇒ reduces impact of floods of such people

④ Green buildings as per GRIHA rating reducing urban heat island effect
⇓
which reduces chances of localised rain

Way forward — Concept of sponge cities of singapore should be adopted

- Increasing green spaces
- Reducing concretization et

By 2050 majority of Indian population will be in cities hence the situation of urban floods must be seen seriously

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Q 20 Integrity is essential feature of quality of a public servant which is central to all the other qualities

5

Integrity means to do the right thing even when no one is watching

Examples → Not crossing red light even when you are alone and there is no traffic police

Not littering even when no one is watching

Integrity is one step ahead of honesty

i.e. Integrity is above honesty in the ladder of values

Integrity means being honest that too with consistency

i.e. → in all spheres of life not just public sphere but also personal

Give examples

example → A person can be honest towards his job but cheating on his/her partner

Hence lacks integrity of character

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→ A person may be honest towards funds of public but may enjoy other special treatments ⇒ lack integrity of character

Thus integrity is a holistic concept of being honest with oneself in all the spheres of life all the time without fatigue ⇒ That is why it is most valued virtue of any public servant or individual

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