



Mains Marathon Compilation

12th to 17th September, 2022

Mains Marathon Compilation for the Month of September, (Second Week) 2022

1. Highlight the challenges associated with laws that govern adoption in India? What measures can be taken to resolve these challenges?
2. The homegrown apple is in danger of becoming a rarity in India, what are the issues facing apple growers in India?
3. Comment on the significance of the India assuming G-20 presidency next year.
4. India has decided to opt out of the trade pillar of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF). What is the rationale behind this decision and also discuss its implications?
5. The patent system is a critical aspect of the national innovation ecosystem, thus, the right interventions should be made for the promotion of the patent infrastructure. Comment.
6. Although the draft Indian Ports Bill of 2022 addresses many issues facing the Port sector, a few important challenges remain unaddressed. Discuss.
7. Near-universal social security pensions would be a good start to a radical expansion of public support for the elderly. In light of the statement, comment on the need for moving from targeted to near-universal pensions for elderly people. Also, enumerate the government initiatives in this regard.
8. Highlight the graveness of the doctor- drugmaker nexus in India. What measures are required to keep this nexus at bay?
9. Why are Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committees (DRSC) not being utilized as per their stated objectives? Suggest some measures to increase their efficacy and their relevance.
10. What is the Eastern Economic Forum? Highlight the Significance of the Eastern Economic Forum for India.
11. Although the benefits of declining fertility are many, there are consequences as well. Elaborate
12. What do you mean by integral humanism? Discuss the relevance of integral humanism in modern times?

Q.1) Highlight the challenges associated with laws that govern adoption in India? What measures can be taken to resolve these challenges?

The Hindu

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Write some challenges associated with laws that govern adoption in India. Also write some measures to resolve these challenges.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

Adoptions in India are governed by two laws — the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act (HAMA), 1956, and the Juvenile Justice Act (JJA), 2015. HAMA is the statute that governs the adoption of and by Hindus. The definition of ‘Hindus’ here includes Buddhists, Jains, and Sikhs. It gives an adoptive child all the rights of a natural-born child, including the right to inheritance.

Challenges associated with adoption laws:

- There are **no rules for monitoring adoptions** and **verifying sourcing** of children and determining whether parents are fit to adopt.
- There are very few children in the registry of CARA. This allows **traffickers** to take advantage.
- HAMA is a **parent-centric law**.
- JJ Act handles issues of children in conflict with law as well as those who are in need of care and protection and only has a **small chapter on adoptions**.
- **Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System (CARINGS)** acts as a centralised digital database of adoptable children and prospective parents. The human contact, bonding and psychological preparedness has been taken away. Therefore, there are an **increasing number of disruptions and dissolutions**, where children are returned after an adoption is formalised.
- The law obstructs **LGBTQI+ persons** from becoming parents because the minimum eligibility for a couple to adopt a child is the proof of their marriage. To negotiate these legalities, illegal adoptions are becoming increasingly common among queer communities.
- HAMA also does not provide for **inter-country adoptions**.

Measures:

- There should be a **“child-centric, optional, enabling and gender-just”** special adoption law like in other countries.
- There is a need for **uniform laws for adoption** so that there would be no discrimination in adoption on the basis of religion and there could be equal status and equal rights for all.
- There is a need to **adopt an inclusive approach** that focuses on the needs of a child to create an environment of acceptance, growth, and well being, thus recognising children as equal stakeholders in the adoption process.
- There should be **background checks** for people wanting to start **childcare institutions** and a mandatory security check of all those running them right now to ensure that none have a criminal history.
- There should be a **district-level survey** of orphaned and abandoned children.

Policy intervention without knowledge of the ground realities often results in little or no benefit. Hence, a ground-level study has to be conducted as suggested by the Parliamentary Committee to bring out child-centric policies in adoption.

Q.2) The homegrown apple is in danger of becoming a rarity in India, what are the issues facing apple growers in India?

The Hindu

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Write **some** issues facing apple growers in India.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

In India, Apple is primarily cultivated in **Jammu & Kashmir; Himachal Pradesh; hills of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand**. It is also cultivated to a small extent in Arunachal Pradesh; Nagaland; Punjab and Sikkim. Himachal Pradesh is known as the “**apple bowl of the country**”. Recently, Farmer's organizations and apple growers are holding protests in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

Issues facing apple growers in India:

- The input **cost of fertilizers, insecticides, and fungicides has risen** in the last decade. The cost of apple cartons and trays and packaging has also seen a dramatic rise. The cost borne to market the produce has also risen.
- The **increase in the Goods and Services Tax on cartons** from 12% to 18%. This was done to ensure that farmers are forced to sell their produce to big buyers instead of selling it in the open market. But this leaves the apple growers at the mercy of large giants in procurement, who even decide the procurement price.
- Due to **poor road infrastructure and non-availability of cold chains**, growers are forced to sell apples to commission agents at a lower price and the agents then sell the produce to big companies.
- Unlike in Jammu and Kashmir, there is **no minimum rate for procurement in Himachal**.
- Apple imports from Chile and Iran have aggravated problems of farmers. Moreover, apple production in Kashmir gets impacted by **climate change**.

Way forward:

- A legally guaranteed procurement at a **Minimum Support Price** should be ensured to improve the conditions of farmers.
- There is need of an **independent body** having representatives of apple growers, market players, commission agents and the government for conducting research in the apple economy.

Q.3) Comment on the significance of the India assuming G-20 presidency next year.

The Hindu

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Write significance of the India assuming G-20 presidency next year.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

G20 members currently account for nearly 80% of world GDP, 75% of global trade, and 60% of the global population. The G20 does not have a charter or a secretariat. The Presidency, aided by the countries holding the Presidency before and after it (**Troika**), is responsible for setting the agenda of each year's Summit. At present, the Troika is made up of Italy (2021), Indonesia (2022) and **India (2023)**.

Significance of the India assuming G-20 presidency next year:

- The G20 presidency offers a **unique branding opportunity** for India's recent achievements. This includes the ability to combat COVID-19 both in India and abroad through India's vaccine diplomacy, India's digital revolution, reshaping global value chains, etc.

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- It can be **utilised to transform India's sub-optimal physical infrastructure** to create an attractive investment and tourism destination, especially as several important G20 meetings will be hosted outside Delhi.
- The four democracies- Indonesia, India, Brazil, and South Africa — hold the presidency from December 2021 to November 2025. This offers a rare opportunity for **synergy and solidarity to advance the interests of the developing world** and to assert their combined leadership of the Global South.
- All three members of IBSA Forum — India, Brazil, and South Africa — will hold the G20 presidency consecutively in 2023, 2024, and 2025. This forum is insulated from the geopolitical pressures and can **develop a cohesive plan to project the priority concerns of the Global South**.
- India can provide evidence of its domestic successes, tested at the continental scale, for global adoption.
- India can factor in the perspectives of countries not represented in the G20 and advocate an inclusive approach, with pragmatic and human-centric solutions to global issues. For instance, India can demand the G20 for elevating the African Union (AU) from a permanent observer to a full-fledged member of the G20, thus placing it on a par with the EU.
- India can find a common ground for setting its G20 agenda by addressing issues of global concern.

G20 has to include objectives, vision and mission statements, a permanent secretariat, and staff to oversee commitments and ensure continuity in the agenda. The G20, instead of international commitments, can focus on domestic commitments and start implementing them.

Q.4) India has decided to opt out of the trade pillar of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF). What is the rationale behind this decision and also discuss its implications?

Business Standard

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Explain the rationale behind opting out of the trade pillar of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF). Also write discuss its implications.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) is an effort by United States to deepen ties with Asian nations through a range of issues including trade, climate change, supply chains and taxation. It's also among US levers to counter China's rising influence. India had **agreed to three out of four pillars of trade** relating to supply chains: tax, anti-corruption and clean energy.

Rationale behind this decision:

- **Data Localization:** As per U.S, India's proposed data localisation requirements will act as market access barrier, especially for smaller firms. However, India strongly supports data localization for protection of personal data and upholding national security.
- **Environment and Labour standards:** The IPEF imposes stricter environment and labour standards that are way above the prevailing norms in India. Such strict measures may hamper investment flows into India thereby limiting the benefits. Moreover, incorporation of such standards in Free Trade Agreements is against India's official stand.

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- IPEF talks about digital governance but the IPEF formulation contains issues that directly conflict with India's stated position.
- It is not clear what member countries will gain and whether some of the conditions would discriminate against developing countries. .

Implications:

- It will adversely affect longer-term economic prospects.
- Such preferential deals will give India an advantage over other countries, and help particularly to reduce trade diversion.
- Due to the global slowdown India seems to be impacted more in future than others as the trade pie shrinks. As of today, in the US market for textiles and garments, India's growth is the slowest among the top five exporters excluding China.

India is committed to a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific region. It is important to establish connectivity in the Indo-Pacific region based on respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, consultation, good governance, transparency, viability and sustainability.

Q.5) The patent system is a critical aspect of the national innovation ecosystem, thus, the right interventions should be made for the promotion of the patent infrastructure.

Comment.

The Hindu

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Explain how patent system is a critical aspect of the national innovation ecosystem. Also write some measures for the promotion of the patent infrastructure.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

A patent is an exclusive set of rights granted for an invention, which may be a product or process that provides a new way of doing something or offers a new technical solution to a problem. In India, patents are governed by the **Patents Act, 1970**. In most cases, a patent can protect an invention for up to 20 years.

Critical for innovation ecosystem:

- **Recognize and reward:** As such they serve as an **incentive** for inventors to invent. With a patent, an inventor or small business knows there is a good chance that they will get a return on the time, effort and money they invested in developing a technology.
- **Research and development (R&D):** The revenues generated from commercially successful patent-protected technologies make it possible to finance further technological research and development (R&D).
- **Commercialization of a technology:** Holding a patent also makes a small business more attractive to investors who play a key role in enabling the commercialization of a technology.
- **Spark new ideas:** The technical information and business intelligence generated by the patenting process can spark new ideas and promote new inventions from which we can all benefit and which may, in turn, qualify for patent protection.
- **No freebies:** A patent can help stop unscrupulous third parties from free riding on the efforts of the inventor.

What can be done?

- The government should **partner with industry and academics** to identify various issues and proactively address them. E.g. **KAPILA** (Kalam Program for IP Literacy and Awareness).
- **Clear incentives** should be provided to firms to invest in research and development through safeguarding their property and innovation.

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- **Public awareness** should be created about the economic, social and cultural benefits of patents among all sections of society.
- India should consider **adopting a petty patents regime** that provides limited protection to minor incremental innovations made, especially those by MSMEs, often called jugaad.
- There is a need for **fixing procedural shortcomings** to ensure ease of patent registration. E.g. the patent office is currently understaffed in terms of the number of examiners.
- A one-size-fits-all standard of inventiveness cannot be applied to patent applications. Patents are important not only for individuals or an organization but for the whole of humanity. Thus the need of the hour is to balance between profits of the organization and needs of the poor through a robust Patent Regime.

Q.6) Although the draft Indian Ports Bill of 2022 addresses many issues facing the Port sector, a few important challenges remain unaddressed. Discuss.

The Hindu

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Write how Indian Ports Bill of 2022 addresses many issues facing the Port sector. Also write some challenges that are unaddressed.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

India has a **7,500 km long coastline**, 14,500 km of potentially navigable waterways and a strategic location on key international maritime trade routes. About 95% of India's trade by volume and 65% by value are done through maritime transport facilitated by ports. Indian Ports Bill of 2022 seeks to repeal and replace the existing Indian Ports Act 1908.

Addresses many issues:

- It empowers the Maritime State Development Council (MSDC) to formulate a national plan, for the development of major and **non-major ports** (Concurrent List) in India.
- It provides for adjudicatory mechanisms for **redressal of port-related disputes** and establishes a national council for fostering structured growth and development of the port sector.
- The **redundant provisions** of the Act have been **deleted** or replaced with contemporaneous provisions.
- It ensures compliance with the country's **obligation under the maritime treaties** and international instruments to which India is a party.
- Promote **integrated planning** between States inter-se and Centre-States through a purely consultative and recommendatory framework.
- Ensure **prevention of pollution measures** for all ports in India while incorporating India's obligations under international treaties.
- Outdated penalties in the Act have been updated with respect to amounts and offences relevant to present-day scenarios.

Challenges remain unaddressed:

- It has retained the MSDC as a statutory-cum-permanent body.
- It has also retained open-ended provisions like Section 10(c) that authorise the Central government to entrust any administrative and financial functions to the MSDC.
- In order to ensure that the composition of the MSDC is in favour of the Centre, the draft Bill makes five Secretaries and one Joint Secretary to the Government of India, besides the administrators of the coastal UTs, as members.

Way forward:

- The Centre should work towards greater **decentralisation**, deregulation, corporatisation and private sector participation.

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- Centre should give the concerned maritime States and city municipal corporations a **substantial equity stake in corporatized major ports**.
- Like the Goods and Services Tax Council, the MSDC should consist only of the concerned Ministers of the Union and maritime States/UTs.

Q.7) Near-universal social security pensions would be a good start to a radical expansion of public support for the elderly. In light of the statement, comment on the need for moving from targeted to near-universal pensions for elderly people. Also, enumerate the government initiatives in this regard.

The Hindu

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Explain why there is need of near-universal pensions for elderly people. Also write some government initiatives in this regard.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

According to the World Health Organization, India's elderly population will rise from its current 60 million to over 227 million by 2050. Accordingly, the old-age dependency ratio will rise from 9.8 to 20.3. An increase in our elderly population and rising pressure on pension systems can offset many of the government efforts.

Need of near-universal pensions for elderly people:

- National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is **restricted to below poverty line** (BPL) families, based on outdated and unreliable BPL lists, huge exclusion errors in the BPL lists.
- **Central contribution to old-age pensions** has stagnated at a tiny 200 Rs per month since 2006, with a slightly higher but still paltry amount (Rs 300 per month) for widows.
- Targeting tends to be based on household rather than individual indicators.
- Eligible persons who had been left out of pension schemes were found to be much poorer than the pension recipients.
- Universalisation strengthens the moral-politico claim and the delivery of the public good or service.
- Present entitlements don't support lowest official poverty line consumption levels of Rs 27 in rural and Rs 33 in urban per day as per the Tendulkar committee.

Government initiatives:

- **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP):** non-contributory pensions for the elderly, widowed women and disabled persons.
- **National Policy for Older Persons:** To encourage individuals to make provisions for their own and their spouse during old age.
- **Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)** – The scheme provides an old-age pension for persons above the age of 60 years and belongs to the BPL category.
- **Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)** – The scheme provides Physical Aids and Assisted-living Devices for Senior citizens belonging to the BPL category.
- **Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana** – The scheme aims to provide social security during old age. It also protects elderly persons aged 60 and above against a future fall in their interest income due to uncertain market conditions.
- **Senior care Ageing Growth Engine (SAGE)** Initiative and SAGE portal– It aims to help startups interested in providing services for elderly care.

The need of the hour is to strengthen our pension systems through **better funding and coverage**. For that, the government has to allocate a **special budget** for the elderly population.

Q.8) Highlight the graveness of the doctor- drugmaker nexus in India. What measures are required to keep this nexus at bay?

The hindu

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Explain the graveness of the doctor- drugmaker nexus in India. Also write some measures to improve this.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

Drug firms offer freebies in cash and kind to physicians to incentivise them to prescribe 'their drugs'. Further, Doctors are **utilized for reputation-building exercises**. Doctors have a commanding position and patients know little about the medicine. Patients will consume whichever medicine is prescribed. This unequal situation gets exploited.

Graveness of the doctor- drugmaker nexus:

- **Unethical drug promotion adversely influences doctors' prescription attitudes and harm human health** by over-use, prescription of higher doses etc. For instance, during COVID-19, many doctors prescribed dolo-650 instead of the usual 500 mg tablet.
- This causes a **severe financial stress for patients** as doctors would be inclined to prescribe a branded drug rather than the cheaper generic version.
- It is **against the spirit of competition** and can jeopardize the survival of small pharma companies which lack in financial resources in comparison to the big players.
- It induces the doctor to work in the interests of the company and not the patient which **erodes patient's trust on doctors** and the entire medical system.
- It has resulted in **unprecedented rise in the irrational prescriptions of drugs**, such as cough syrups, digestives and cognitive drugs that do not have any scientifically proven therapeutic merit.
- It **pushes costly medicines over the generic versions** that are priced around 40%-50% less than the branded medicines.

Measures:

- Making the Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) a **legally binding code of ethics** and should **face the same penal action as is mentioned in the Indian Penal Code** for bribery and other similar unethical practices
- **Mandatorily periodic disclosures of payments made by companies** towards doctors and professional bodies, directly or indirectly via other parties. It should be accessible to the public and include the amount, purpose of expenditure, and the party paid.
- A **mandatory ethical marketing code** will define boundaries for drugmakers and to prevent freebies from being masqueraded as product-related or educative material.
- To have **special laws** or provisions to prevent the corruption of pharma companies.
- The Government should consult all stakeholders, National Medical Commission, FMRAI, Doctors Associations and Pharma Companies etc. to establish a comprehensive framework to check such unethical practices.

It is high time we had strict regulations governing the relationship between doctors and drug manufacturers. To address this asymmetric relationship and promote ethical behaviour by Pharma companies, the **Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP)** has been drafted the Government.

Q.9) Why are Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committees (DRSC) not being utilized as per their stated objectives? Suggest some measures to increase their efficacy and their relevance.

The Hindu

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Explain why Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committees (DRSC) are not being utilized as per their stated objectives. Also write some measures to increase their efficacy and their relevance.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees have been formed to cover all the Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India. Each of these Committees consists of **31 Members – 21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha** to be nominated by the Speaker, Lok Sabha and the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, respectively. They have tenure of one year, then they are reconstituted and their work continues throughout the term of a Lok Sabha.

Following reasons explain why Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committees (DRSC) are not being utilized as per their stated objectives:

- Meetings happen behind closed doors of which the minutes are never published creating the **issue of transparency** in the working of the committee.
- The committee's **recommendations are not binding** in nature. This leads to bypassing the result of detailed scrutiny of the bill.
- Lack of standing research support. There is an **absence of dedicated researchers** associated.
- All the bills are **not referred** to the departmental standing committees. E.g. three Farm Bills were passed without being referred to the DRSC.
- One year tenure leads **very little time for specialization**.
- **Attendance** of MPs at the committee meetings is weak. Also, one committee had to deal with too many ministries.

Measures to increase efficacy and relevance of DRSC:

- It may be useful to make the process of reference of Bills to these committees **compulsory/an automatic process**.
- During the discussions of the committee meetings, **no whip of the party** would apply to them and they have the liberty to vote in favour or against the Bill in Parliament.
- The committees can be given a **fixed timeline** to come up with the recommendation and present its report which can be decided by the Speaker/Chairman.
- To ensure quality work in the committees, **experts in the field may be invited** who could bring with them the necessary domain knowledge and also help introduce the latest developments and trends in that field from worldwide.
- Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in collaboration with the committee chairmen should organise parliamentary works during the inter-sessional period, in advance.
- The committees should not limit themselves to discussing just the budget proposals. They should also come up with suggestions for the Ministry to take up new initiatives and people-friendly measures.

Parliamentary Standing Committees ensure healthy democracy and governance through scrutiny and better policies. They enable the cabinet and Parliament to make difficult decisions.

Q.10) What is the Eastern Economic Forum? Highlight the Significance of the Eastern Economic Forum for India.

The Hindu

Introduction: Explain Eastern Economic Forum.

Body: Write some significances of the Eastern Economic Forum for India.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

The Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) was established in 2015 to encourage foreign investments in the Russia's Far East (RFE). The EEF displays the economic potential, suitable business conditions and investment opportunities in the region. It serves as a platform for the **discussion of key issues** in the world economy, regional integration, and the development of new industrial and technological sectors, as well as of the **global challenges facing Russia and other nations**.

The RFE is geographically placed at a strategic location; **acting as a gateway into Asia**. EEF has emerged as an effective platform for discussing strategy for developing political, economic and cultural ties between Russia and **Asia-Pacific region**. China is the biggest investor in the region as it sees potential in promoting the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative and the Polar Sea Route in the RFE.

Significance of the Eastern Economic Forum for India:

- India and Russia are planning to expand the level of trade between the two countries. Hence, an area of special interest for India is the **exploration of hydrocarbon reserves** along the coast of Russia's Far East.
- *To deepen Russian-Indian cooperation in high latitudes in bilateral and multilateral formats, including the **Arctic Council**.*
- *Apart from traditional areas of cooperation such as weapons, nuclear energy (Kudankulam), space (Gaganyaan) and diamonds, new sectors of economic engagement are likely to emerge in **mining, agro-industrial and high technology**, including robotics, nanotech, and biotech.*
- This is a historic opportunity to **extend Act Far East Policy**. Engaging closely with East Asia was in line with India's policy goal of "Act East".
- The two countries' leaders set the goal to reach a volume of mutual trade equal to 30 billion dollars by 2025.
- *India and Russia determined to forge cooperation in geological exploration and **joint development of oil and gas fields** in Russia and India, including offshore fields.*
- There are plans to connect the port of Chennai with Vladivostok, the largest city in the Russian Far East.

India and Russia continue to share a common strategic rationale for their relationship. India needs to pursue and facilitate Russia's engagement in the Indo Pacific as it could contribute to make the Indo Pacific truly free and inclusive.

Q.11) Although the benefits of declining fertility are many, there are consequences as well. Elaborate

The Hindu

Introduction: Contextual introduction.

Body: Explain some benefits of declining fertility. Also write its consequences.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

According to the **World Population Prospects 2022**, the average global fertility has been consistently declining over the past 70 years. Most advanced economies have their fertility

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rate below the replacement rate of 2.1, with South Korea reporting the lowest at 1.05 children per woman.

Benefits of declining fertility:

- **Higher wages:** With a shortage of workers, they will be in a position to bargain for higher wages and enjoy higher living standards. This could help reduce the relative decline many workers have faced in recent decades.
- **Less pressure on the environment:** Global warming, desertification, loss of farmland, pollution and use of non-renewable materials – all these environmental problems will be lessened by a fall in the global population.
- **Diminishes risk of famine and drought:** there will be less pressure on limited farmland and water supplies will face less competition.
- **Immigrants welcomed:** if populations fall so much there is a shortage of workers, attitudes to immigration may change and there even may be competition to attract migrants rather than resistance.
- **Greater choice and freedoms for women:** more freedom to pursue economic autonomy, gain education and pursue a career. It also increases the ability for children to gain a good education.

Consequences:

- **Increased share of retired people:** it will create a rising share of people over 65, and an **inverted population pyramid**. This has profound implications for health care, government spending and tax revenues.
- **Pressure on government spending:** With an ageing population, the government will need to spend **more on pensions and health care**. There will be fewer young people to pay income tax. It may require higher taxes on a shrinking workforce.
- **Less innovation:** Young people are more likely to be entrepreneurs, innovators and take risks to develop new technologies and business. With less young people, the potential 'brain pool' will be less.
- It leads to concerns about labour shortages and the **effects on a country's economic and social stability**. E.g. Japan is facing a shrinking labour force and challenges in caring for a growing cohort of elders.

Even though the effects of the demographic transition will not be felt tomorrow, India must get the ball rolling early, as the shifting in the socio-cultural landscape towards those of advanced age will take time.

Q12) What do you mean by integral humanism? Discuss the relevance of integral humanism in modern times?

Introduction: Explain integral humanism.

Body: Explain the relevance of integral humanism in modern times.

Conclusion: Write a way forward.

Integral Humanism was a set of concepts drafted by Deendayal Upadhyaya as political program and adopted in 1965 as the official doctrine of the Jan Sangh. It was developed as an indigenous economic model with human being at center stage. This approach made this concept different from Socialism and Capitalism.

Tracing its origins to the non-dualistic philosophy of Advaita Vedanta, integral humanism propagated the oneness of various souls, be it of human, animal or plant origin. Rejecting the intrinsic diversity based on race, colour, caste or religion, it identified all human beings as part of this one organic whole, sharing a common consciousness of national thought. It

rejected social systems in which individualism 'reigned supreme'. It also rejected communism in which individualism was 'crushed' as part of a 'large heartless machine

Relevance:

- It places the **welfare of human** as the primary motto of any society.
- A large population of our world lives in poverty. After having tried various development models with mixed results, the world is in search of model of development which is integrated and sustainable.
- He believed that every individual, family and our society has a role to play in the development of our nation.
- The purpose of politics is to bring about **social and economic changes**.
- Policies and principles that can balance the use the labour, natural resources and capital so that we can provide a **life of dignity to every human being**.
- Full employment must be a primary consideration. Instead of the usual exhortation of "every worker must get food", we must think of "everyone who eats must get work", as the basis of our economy.

Conclusively, integral humanism builds on an organic thought. A nation, where all citizens identify themselves as a part of the same Indian ethos, where we modernise but do not westernise, where we have individual economic liberty but that which is coupled with social safety net.