

Time Allowed : Three Hours  
समय : तीन घंटेMaximum Marks : 250  
अधिकतम अंक : 250

## GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	AMRIT MAHAPATRA		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910136444	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1900	Date/दिनांक	04.08.2025

\*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।	
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।	
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।	
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
Total/कुल अंक	250		For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु	
Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 1:45 PM	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 4:45 PM
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
			① ② ③ ④ ⑤	

**Note:** Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback provided in the answers. Discussion classes for the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the good copies of the tests and learn from them. You can also discuss your copy with a Mentor and discover ways and means to improve your answers, or if you have any issues with this test / copy. Ask specific questions, to get specific answers.

---

## EXAMINER'S REMARKS

---

### CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. Creative answer writing, sometimes missing the core demand, may fetch very high or very low scores, and exposes your answer to the subjectivity of the examiner.
2. **CD & VA = Content Density & Value Addition.** Examiner will evaluate the quality and quantity of your content in the answer. In the same word limit and space limit have you (a) written what is asked (b) gone beyond what is asked (c) enriched answers through combination of ( but not all!) suggestions, ideas, quotes, flowcharts, diagrams, facts and figures, data etc. This affects objective components of assessment.
3. **S & F = Structure & Flow =** Whether you have structured your answer properly or not. Whether the answer has been broken into parts and sub-parts and each part has been addressed appropriately or not. Whether the flow of the answer is maintained. Affects both subjective and objective components of assessment.
4. **P & R =** How your answer performs on the criteria of **presentation, ease of read, clarity and apparent effort** in writing the answer. This affects the subjective components of assessment.

**Instructions: All questions are compulsory. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. Quality of the answer is more important than the length of the answer.**

निर्देश : सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं। प्रत्येक प्रश्न द्वारा धारित अंकों को उसके सामने इंगित किया गया है। उत्तर की गुणवत्ता उत्तर की लंबाई की तुलना में अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है।

**Q.1)** The Indian monsoon is being increasingly characterized by extreme weather events ranging from prolonged dry spells to torrential precipitation. In this context, discuss the factors contributing to the variability of the Indian monsoon. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारतीय मानसून में लंबे समय तक शुष्क दौर से लेकर मूसलाधार बारिश तक की चरम मौसमी घटनाएं देखी जा रही हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारतीय मानसून की परिवर्तनशीलता में योगदान देने वाले कारकों पर चर्चा कीजिये। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.2)** Explain the concept of temperature inversion, including the conditions under which it occurs. How does it affect the weather and the inhabitants of the place? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

तापमान व्युत्क्रमण की अवधारणा को उन परिस्थितियों सहित समझाइये जिनके अंतर्गत यह घटित होता है। इसका उस स्थान के मौसम और निवासियों पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.3)** Different geomorphic agents leave their distinct imprints on the landforms they create. In this context, give an account of different landforms created by glacial action. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

विभिन्न भू-आकृतिक कारक अपने द्वारा निर्मित भू-आकृतियों पर अपनी विशिष्ट छाप छोड़ते हैं। इस संदर्भ में, हिमानी क्रिया द्वारा निर्मित विभिन्न भू-आकृतियों का विवरण दीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.4)** Why do the Middle Gangetic plains remain relatively underdeveloped despite having abundant water resources, fertile soil, and favorable demography? (10 Marks, 150 Words)

प्रचुर जल संसाधन, उपजाऊ मृदा और अनुकूल जनसांख्यिकी होने के बावजूद मध्य गंगा के मैदान अपेक्षाकृत अ विकसित क्यों हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.5)** Rare Earth Elements (REE) are rightly referred to as the 'Vitamins of Modern Industry,' but their uneven distribution across the world has wide-ranging implications. Elaborate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

दुर्लभ मृदा तत्वों (REE) को सही मायने में 'आधुनिक उद्योग के विटामिन' के रूप में संदर्भित किया जाता है, लेकिन विश्व भर में उनके असमान वितरण के व्यापक निहितार्थ हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.6)** Unemployment is not just an economic challenge, but a social one with far-reaching consequences. In this context, discuss the social impact of unemployment in the country. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

बेरोज़गारी सिर्फ एक आर्थिक चुनौती नहीं है, बल्कि एक सामाजिक चुनौती है जिसके दूरगामी परिणाम हैं। इस संदर्भ में, देश में बेरोज़गारी के सामाजिक प्रभाव पर चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.7)** "Air pollution is as much an issue of equity and justice as it is an environmental one." Elaborate with examples. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

"वायु प्रदूषण उतना ही समानता और न्याय का मुद्दा है जितना कि यह पर्यावरणीय मुद्दा है।" उदाहरण सहित स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.8)** How is poverty intertwined with the structure of society? Explain this relationship with examples from Indian society. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

निर्धनता समाज की संरचना से किस प्रकार जुड़ी हुई है? भारतीय समाज से उदाहरण लेकर इस संबंध को स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.9)** Globalization has facilitated the influx of global brands and multinational corporations into the Indian market, significantly altering the consumer behaviour. Do you agree? Justify your answer. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

वैश्वीकरण ने वैश्विक ब्रांडों और बहुराष्ट्रीय निगमों को भारतीय बाजार में आने में मदद की है, जिससे उपभोक्ता व्यवहार में काफी बदलाव आया है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? अपने उत्तर का औचित्य स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.10)** “The socio-cultural consequences of the contact between tribal and non-tribal populations are complex and multifaceted.” Examine. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

“जनजातीय और गैर-जनजातीय आबादी के बीच संपर्क के सामाजिक-सांस्कृतिक परिणाम जटिल और बहुआयामी हैं।” परीक्षण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Q.11)** Elaborating on the Plate Tectonics Theory, illustrate the different types of plate boundaries. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

प्लेट विवर्तनिकी सिद्धांत का विस्तार से वर्णन करते हुए, विभिन्न प्रकार की प्लेट सीमाओं का वर्णन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

**Q.12)** Describing the factors responsible for variations in ocean salinity, throw light on its multi-dimensional impacts. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

महासागरीय लवणता में भिन्नता के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों का वर्णन करते हुए इसके बहुआयामी प्रभावों पर प्रकाश डालिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

**Q.13)** How can the demographic transition in the southern states, marked by low fertility rates and an aging population, impact the region's economic growth and social welfare policies? (15 Marks, 250 Words)

दक्षिणी राज्यों में जनांकिकीय परिवर्तन, जो निम्न प्रजनन दर और वृद्ध होती जनसंख्या से चिह्नित है, क्षेत्र की आर्थिक वृद्धि और सामाजिक कल्याण नीतियों को किस प्रकार प्रभावित कर सकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

**Q.14)** What are the factors behind the escalating water crisis across the country? Highlighting its socio-economic impact, suggest remedial measures. (15 marks, 250 words)

देश भर में बढ़ते जल संकट के पीछे क्या कारण हैं? इसके सामाजिक-आर्थिक प्रभाव पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उपचारात्मक उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

**Q.15)** Why is jute known as the ‘golden fiber’? Identifying the major jute-producing states, discuss the causes of the decline of the jute mill industry in the country. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

जूट को 'गोल्डन फाइबर' क्यों कहा जाता है? प्रमुख जूट उत्पादक राज्यों की पहचान करते हुए, देश में जूट मिल उद्योग के पतन के कारणों पर चर्चा करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

**Q.16)** What are the causes behind the rise in substance abuse in India? Also, throw light on its impact on individuals, families and society. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

भारत में मादक द्रव्यों के सेवन में वृद्धि के पीछे क्या कारण हैं? साथ ही, व्यक्तियों, परिवारों और समाज पर इसके प्रभाव पर प्रकाश डालें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

**Q.17)** "Caste census is relevant and necessary for any well-designed policy to reduce social inequality". Comment. (15 marks, 250 words)

"सामाजिक असमानता को कम करने के लिए किसी भी अच्छी तरह से निर्मित नीति के लिए जाति जनगणना प्रासंगिक और आवश्यक है"। टिप्पणी करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

**Q.18)** Regionalism in India is a "double-edged sword", while it can lead to greater regional empowerment and representation, it also poses challenges to national unity and coherence. Elaborate. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

भारत में क्षेत्रवाद एक "दोधारी तलवार" है, जबकि यह अधिक क्षेत्रीय सशक्तीकरण और प्रतिनिधित्व की ओर ले जा सकता है, यह राष्ट्रीय एकता और अखंडता के लिए चुनौतियां भी पैदा करता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

**Q.19)** Discuss how climate change and environmental hazards are emerging as significant threats to children's well-being and development. Also, suggest measures to mitigate these risks. (15 marks, 250 words)

चर्चा करें कि जलवायु परिवर्तन और पर्यावरणीय खतरे किस प्रकार बच्चों के कल्याण और विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण खतरे के रूप में उभर रहे हैं। साथ ही, इन जोखिमों को कम करने के उपाय भी सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

**Q.20)** Despite tolerance and harmony being central to India's societal values, communal discord continues to threaten its pluralistic framework. Analyze. (15 marks, 250 words)

सहिष्णुता और सद्भाव भारत के सामाजिक मूल्यों के केंद्र में होने के बावजूद, सांप्रदायिक कलह इसके बहुलवादी ढांचे के लिए खतरा बना हुआ है। विश्लेषण करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

1/0

The Indian Monsoon, beginning in June and lasting till September is a climatic phenomena which aids agriculture (75%) and is undergoing changes in recent years.

## Factors Behind Variability of Indian Monsoon

→ Creation of the Tibetan low pressure belt which attracts monsoonal winds

Ex: <sup>?</sup> late formation → Late monsoons

→ Climatic phenomena like El Niño which leads to drought and La Niña which reverses above average rainfall.

Ex: 2025 - Expected above LPA rainfall.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

→ Urban Heat Island - concretisation have lowered green cover.

Ex: Leads to disruption in the water cycle.

→ Excessive pressure on land, especially in Himalayan areas

Ex: cloudburst (sikhim), GLOF.

→ The shifting of the monsoon through over the country due to weather phenomena

Ex: Determines strength of monsoon.

There is a need to ensure the mitigation of climate change and warning systems like IFLWS in Mumbai in the face of changing systems like atmospheric lakes.



# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

(Please do not  
write anything  
except the  
question number  
in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान  
में प्रश्न संख्या के  
अतिरिक्त कुछ  
न लिखें।

2)

Temperature inversion refers to a weather phenomenon where air close to the ground (which is warmer in morning) turns colder and blanketed by a cold layer from above.

Conditions Under which it Occurs

→ Differential heating of air masses  
at different levels -

Ex: Valley / slopes of hills

→ The air masses closer to the ground  
are warmer during day; colder at night.

→ As the cold air mass subsides from the top  
and loses heat, it settles atop the ground  
air mass.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस स्थान में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

→ Thus, there is an inversion of temperature where <sup>cold</sup> air is enveloped by warm one.

Affect the weather/Inhabitants of A Place

→ Inhabitants usually prefer to stay on the slopes instead of valley floor.  
↳ To avoid extreme cold.

→ Risk of freezing of crops as well as vegetation.

→ It helps the inhabitants plan their activities in the day.  
↳ To prevent extreme temperatures.

Thus, temperature inversion is an interesting climatic phenomenon which needs to be further studied to leverage scientific value.

3)

Geomorphic agents such as running water, ice and wind create various landforms in the course of their movement leading to varied topography on the Earth's surface.

Different Agents leave Imprints

↳ Running water creates U-shaped pools, deltas and fast flowing rivers create stepped river bed from early to mature.

↳ Wind creates dunes, playas, bajadas and Barchans primarily in deserts

↳ like wise, ice or glacial action created several landforms.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

## Different Landforms By Glacial Action

- Arêtes or longitudinal sharp features as the glacier starts getting eroded.
- U-shaped valley that the glacier creates in its movement (middle stage).
- Glacial lakes - formed due to melting or retreat of glaciers from original area  
↳ Formed by earthen debris
- Glaciers also create fjords at their mouth which are mostly found in the Scandinavian countries.

Thus, glacial action creates multiple landforms which ensure diversity and provide opportunities for eco-tourism along with ensuring sustainable development under SDG-13.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या को अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्जिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

4

The Middle Gangetic Plains or the Doab region have been the site of India's and urbanisation during the era of Mahajanapadas.

Abundant water, Demography, Fertile soil

→ Fresh water from the Ganga and Yamuna river system — and tributaries.

→ Rich alluvial soil which is created by deposits and suitable for various crops.

→ Favourable demography — 72.5% in UP and 11.0% in Bihar alone  
↳ Demographic dividend.

Middle Gangetic Plains Relatively underdeveloped

→ Historical reasons — shift of seat of power from Kannauj post Harsha

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस अंश में कोई लिखना नहीं चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

Ex: Neglected development.

→ Geographic reasons - Heavily forested till the 17<sup>th</sup> century (Mukherjee Lal)

Ex 2 Did not aid mineral extraction/industries

→ Overdependence on agriculture for livelihood

Ex 2 Drainage of groundwater (sugarcane farming 2700 kg/water requirement)

→ High population density and low human capital development.

Ex: low skill development created footloose labour.

New age policies such as Make in UP,

Defence Industrial Corridors, and Millet Mission

are aiming to leverage the potential of the

middle Gangetic plains to ensure

'Samruddh Bharat, Viksit Bharat'.



5)

Rare Earth Elements which include minerals such as lithium, Vanadium, Zirconium have wide ranging applications from electronics to the electric vehicle ecosystem.

REEs — Vitamins of Modern Industry

→ Used in the batteries of EVs, necessary for green transition

Ex: Li-ion Batteries

→ Used in high-end consumer electronics  
Such as mobile phones, TVs.

Ex: cobalt, Nickel

→ Semiconductor fabrication units with multifarious applications

? Critical infrastructure such as power / super computers.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

## Uneven Distribution - wide ranging implications

→ 90% of REE processing is concentrated in China.  
Ex: → prone to geopolitical bargaining.

→ Concentration of reserves in African nations/countries.  
Ex: Need to friendshore exploration contracts — KABIL in Africa, S. America.

→ Need for FTAs to ensure secure supply chains and avoid volatility.  
Ex: CEPA with Australia which has reserves

→ Political headwinds from the US require to explore own reserves  
Ex: Lithium reserves in Rajasthan

The MMDR (Amendment) Bill, 2023  
is a step in the right direction to ensure Atmanirbharata against these implications

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

प्रश्नोत्तरों को इस स्थान में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

6)

Unemployment refers to the process of those who are eligible for work and seeking work not finding gainful employment.

## Economic Challenges of Unemployment

- Trap India in low-income trajectory  
Ex: Jobless growth
- Lower tax base and reduced revenue realisation for the Govt.
- Unemployment also may lead to recession in the longer run.

## Social Impact of Unemployment

- Increasing inequality violates welfare state  
Ex: 1% of population with 40% of India's wealth.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

- Affect human capital development.  
Ex: Low levels of education, health will perpetuate demographic curse.
- Adverse impact inclusive growth.  
Ex: >49% of women are anaemic (with no employment, difficult to reverse)
- May fuel anti-social activities especially in sensitive regions.  
Ex: Unemployed youth form cadres of insurgents.

## Solutions

- Minimise inequalities in wealth  
(Part N - DPSP)
- ↳ Support labour-intensive development  
(UK FTA - boost to textiles)
- ↳ Promote human capital development  
(PM POSHAN, ABJAY)

Thus, the social impacts of the unemployment problem have to be tackled to guarantee 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Bikaar'.

→

Air pollution refers to the prevalence of one or more pollutants such as  $SO_2$ ,  $NO_2$ ,  $PM_{2.5}$  which adversely affect the environment and well being of humans.

Air Pollution - An Environmental Problem

→  $PM_{2.5}$ ,  $PM_{1.0}$  can penetrate into the atmosphere - lead to soot on green covers

'Decreased photosynthesis

→ Acid rain could lead to adverse effects on vegetation/crops - food security

→ Creation of smog (photochemical) can lead to extremely poor visibility / air quality.

→ Can also accelerate melting of snow caps due to increased warming.



# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

## Issue of Equity And Justice

- The poor may not afford solutions for adapting to air pollution.  
Ex: Air Purifiers
- Enhances or maximises other deprivations  
Ex: Air Pollution in JT clusters  
amplifying water pollution/adding to it.
- Indoor air pollution due to 'chulhas' can lead to reduced health outcomes for women
- Stoves are often congested - do not allow for ventilation, thus double burden.  
Air Pollution should be tackled not only with CAQM or NAAQS standards but also increased whole of society approach to ensure 'Clean and Healthy India'.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को  
इस हार्जिन में  
कोई लिखना  
नाहीं।  
Candidates  
must not  
write on this  
margin

(Please do not  
write anything  
except the  
question number  
in this space)  
केवल प्रश्न संख्या  
में इस स्थान में  
लिखना अनु-  
मति है।

8

Poverty refers to the deprivation of not just material resources but also other structural barriers such as access to education, healthcare or mobility.

---

Poverty intertwined with social structure

---

→ Hierarchies of society are often reflected in the poverty scale.

Ex: Most multidimensionally poor come from SC/STs/OBCs.

→ Gender divisions affect access to jobs and economic opportunities in India.

Ex: women restricted to pink collar jobs mostly → receptionists.

→ Caste divisions determine access to education which can break poverty.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Ex: 13,500 SC, ST, OBC students dropped out from IITs, IIMs, Central Unis

→ Caste barriers also determine mobility and the nature of jobs -

Ex: Sanitation workers are invariably from Dalits -

→ class divisions provide social capital which either enhance access or remove it.

Ex: Mukesh Ambani's father was also a successful business man.

Need 10:-

→ Important market oriented skills to people (placement from KUY at 14%.)

↳ Ensure universal education (Asst. 2/A)

↳ Guarantee human capital development.

→ This can weaken poverty - Social structure nexus and ensure inclusive growth for India@2047.

97

Globalization, with the 1991 LPG reforms have ensured proliferation of MNCs and global brands altering consumption patterns and behaviours.

---

Globalization — Altered Consumer Behaviour

---

→ It has ensured more choices for the consumers in the same category.

Ex: From Ford to Tesla in the automobile segment.

→ Increased disposable incomes have ensured consumption for recreation.

Ex: Window shopping popularity

→ led to the prevalence of fast fashion instead of traditional patterns.

Ex: Zara, Armani

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
( Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

- Has reduced significance of household with domestic patterns being outsourced.  
Ex: Consumers having lunch at McDonalds.
- Status goods have proliferated with increasing aspirations of consumers.  
Ex: Tiffany's Diamond Ring.
- It has also enured unsustainable practices in consumption  
Ex: use and throw culture of mobile phones.
- Globalization has created new standards - achieving which turns financially untenable  
Ex. 70% of iPhones in India on credit.

Thus, globalization has altered consumer behaviour in both negative and positive ways in India.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
( Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को  
प्रश्न लिखने में  
जहाँ लिखा  
वाला  
Candidates  
must not  
write on this  
margin

(Please do not  
write anything  
except the  
question number  
in this space)  
प्रश्न की संख्या  
के अलावा कुछ  
भी नहीं लिखें।

10)

Tribes refer to a social group with primitive culture, low levels of mainstream development, and egalitarian societal bonds.

---

Contact Between Tribes/ Non-Tribes Are Complex And Multi Faced

---

## POSITIVES

→ Tribes assimilate into the mainstream society and its culture.

Ex: Meenas of Rajasthan.

→ It can lead to efforts to ensure better healthcare and livelihood standards in tribes.

Ex: PMJANMAN scheme, Anaemia Mission

→ Integrated growth may happen between isolation and complete assimilation.

Ex: Tribal Panchsheel of Nehru.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

→ lead to national solidarity / fraternity  
ex: Preamble values

## NEGATIVES!

→ It can erase unique culture of tribal communities.

ex: Khasi tribe with Matrilineal customs

→ May invite hostility and further harm to the tribe in question.

ex: Sentinelese and Shompen.

→ Imposition of mainstream culture may violate tenet of unity in Diversity.

While legislations such as FRA have ensured tribal rights, we need to build more trust for tribal-non tribal integration for 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047.

11)

The Plate Tectonics Theory put forth by geographers like Harry Hess explains the differential positions or shapes of continents.

## Plate Tectonics Theory — Major Tenets

- The mantle is divided/fragmented into several plates -  
Ex: Nazca, Cocos, Pacific
- These plates have movements driven by convective currents in the chambers  
Ex: Circulation cells.
- The relative movement of the plates ensure creation of landforms -  
Ex: Ring of Fire  
(Ocean - Continent convergence)

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Please do not write anything except the question number in this space.  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

उम्मीदवारों को प्रश्न संख्या में ही लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

→ Theories of seafloor spreading with proofs  
Such as similar age of equidistant deposits  
↳ Support Plate Tectonics.

## Different Types of Plate Boundaries

→ Convergent Plate Boundary: Here, two plates collide with each other with denser plates subducting under the lighter.

Ex: Continent - Continent: Block / Fold Mountains

Ocean - Continent: Pacific Ring of Fire.

→ Divergent Plate Boundary: Here, two plates diverge away from each other due to diverging limbs of convective cells.

Ex: Mid-Atlantic Ridge - chain of mountain arcs has formed due to divergent boundaries.

→ Transform Boundary : Here, while there is no subduction, there is release of tension between plates — sliding past each other.

Ex: Gujarat Earthquake was due to a transform boundary.

Understanding of Plate Tectonics has led to:

- Better Predictability of seismic tension
- Disaster preparedness measures
- Better reconstruction steps -

Thus, the development of the theory has imparted a scientific movement to the geological shifts through Earth's history.



(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस कॉपी में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

1a)

Ocean salinity is a measure of how much salt content (parts per billion) is present in the water body.

## Factors Responsible For Variations in Salinity

→ Sunlight and Distance from the Equator

Ex: These water bodies near equator have ↑ evaporation — more saline

→ Confluence with Fresh water Bodies

Ex: Inflow of water from rivers/bays can lead to reduced salinity.

→ Amount of Precipitation Received

Ex can dilute the salinity of a water body

→ Depth of the water body

Ex: water at the surface evaporates and more prone to being salt-dense

---

## Multi-Dimensional impacts of Salinity

---

→ Increasing salinity of water bodies have chance of spilling over to fresh water

↳ Decreasing potable water

→ Survivability of marine organisms.

Ex: Fresh water fish may not tolerate high levels of salinity.

→ May have impact on livelihood of fisherfolk due to variability in catch.

→ May impact on corals which are precursors of biodiversity.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को  
इस हार्जिन में  
कोई लिखना  
नाहीं।  
Candidates  
must not  
write on this  
margin

## Way Forward

- Ocean salinity may also have multiplier effects for some business activities  
↳ Need to leverage
- Undertake R&D to guarantee the scientific impacts of salinity.
- Alternative livelihood programme such as hydroponics for impacted fisherfolk.
- Concerted efforts to preserve coasts and increase biodiversity.

There is a need to amplify the positive impacts of ocean salinity and also minimise adverse ones for 'Clean India, Green India'.

13)

The Southern States with a total fertility rate (TFR) averaging less than 2.1 have dropped below replacement levels and are embarking on an ageing population.

## Factors Behind Low TFR And Ageing Population

→ Increased access to education has fueled individualism.

Ex: Kerala - (100% literacy) one of the lowest TFRs.

→ Policies advocating women's freedom have led to increased autonomy.

Ex: Saramangali Scheme in TN.

→ Better access to contraceptives for women and state's stress on family planning.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Ex: Claudia Goldin's Study  
(Better women contraceptives  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{low TFR} \\ \text{More income} \end{array} \right. \right)$

- Out-migration of white collar workers to the US, UAE, EU  
↳ Ageing Population of dependants.
- Better health care, infrastructure and tertiary care have ensured more life expectancy.

Impact on Economic Growth / Social welfare Policies

## Positive!

- Can lead to increased per capita income in the shorter run.
- Decrease couch/conflict over resources leads to inclusive growth.
- Better state capacity to support health and education of people.
- Lower pressure on land — can be used for economic purposes.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Please do not write anything except the question number in this space.  
कृपया इस स्थान में केवल प्रश्न संख्या ही लिखें।

उम्मीदवारों को इस कॉपी में कुछ भी लिखना नहीं चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

Negative → Demographic dividend into woe with working population decline

- High dependency ratio - necessitates more expenditure on pensions, old age homes.
- Increased burden on state to finance consumption expenditure in longer run.
- Economic potential <sup>decline</sup> with retirement at 60.

Way Forward → Incentives to increase TFR  
Ex: AP CM's announcement

- ↳ leverage the silver economy with robust policies for old-age professionals.
  - ↳ Ensure political reconciliation for states through equitable delimitation.
- Thus, it is imperative to leverage the declining TFR while not falling into the trap of 'one child policies'.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस स्थिति में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

14

The water crisis in the country is of a severe nature with more than 63% groundwater resources between 2007-2017.

## Factors Behind Increasing Water Crisis

- Skewed agriculture cropping patterns.  
Ex: Paddy, wheat - 78% of all grains  
    ~ 1700 ltr/kg water usage
- Increased irrigation dependence and electricity subsidy  
Ex: 63% decline between 2007-17
- Increasing urbanisation have led to stress and overusage of water resources.  
Ex: 30% of water resources are under stress in India.
- Regional disparities enhance water stress  
Ex: Seasonal rivers in Peninsular  
    Arid topography in Rajasthan.

→ Encroachments and illegal constructions do not allow recharge of groundwater.  
Ex: Drainage Issue of Delhi.

→ Climate change induced monsoon variations  
Ex: El Niño - Droughts -

---

## Socio - Economic Impact of Water Crisis

---

→ Impact on Sanitation and hygiene, especially for women.

Ex: could lead to reproductive/ menstrual health imbalance -

→ Impact on the productivity of crops and the resultant food security.

Ex: water guzzling crops are the mainstay.

→ Slums and JI clusters could become the hub of new pandemics.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis  
( Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Please do not write anything except the question number in this space  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

उम्मीदवारों को इस स्थान में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
Candidates must not write on this margin

→ water-dependent industries such as leather, textiles could face economic downturn

## Remedial Measures For water crisis

→ River-interlinking to ensure supply to arid regions.

Ex: NRLP; Ken-Betwa project.

→ Recharge of ground water aquifers via removal of slums and encroachments.

→ Incentivising water-efficient crops and rationalising subsidies.

Ex: Nat'l Millet Mission.

→ Increased awareness

Thus, the rising water stress has to be tackled with a whole-of-govt and society approach for,

'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

उम्मीदवारों को इस स्थान में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.



Jute, a crop known for its usage across industries of storage products, textiles and crafts is starting to decline in India.

Jute - The Golden Fiber

→ Has multiple applications

▷ Gunny Bags

▷ Textiles

▷ Jute-based crafts

→ Golden colour of Raw Jute - reflected in items

→ Remunerative value - Jute Duty for 10 years post 1950.

The major jute producing regions in India include:-

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

- Odisha
  - West Bengal
  - Bihar
  - Assam
- 4 States also gained duties from Jute sales (duty)  
[Recommended by the Union FC]

## Causes of Decline of Jute Mill Industry

- Increase in the prices of raw jute has made it uneconomic for companies
  - ↳ FRP regime
- Outdated machinery and lower productivity have prevented economies of scale.
- Requirement of water and other inputs have added to the cost metrics.
- Higher cost of Jute as compared to MMF and polyethylene products
  - ↳ Low demand for Jute
- Broken market linkages with inadequate downstream integration.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या ही लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस स्थान में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin

Ex: Low levels of exports.

→ Low levels of mechanisation among the farmers

Ex: 46% as per SMAM

---

Way Forward

↳ Invest resources to upscale MMF industry in India and earn from it.

↳ Skill development of workers and retrofitting of mills to be able to compete.

↳ Focus on niche products with lower replacement

Ex: Export of Jute-crafts with b1 tag.

Thus, while the industry is declining

innovative pathways can enable transition

towards making it economic and vibrant.

67

The menace of substance abuse in India has led to loss of DALYs, psychological impacts and weakening of social structures.

## Causes Behind Rise in Substance Abuse

- Geographical proximity of India to two major drug-conduits  
Ex: Golden Crescent, Golden Triangle
- Easy accessibility in urban areas and its usage in 'parties'  
Ex: Narcotics seized in Rave party of a Bollywood star's son
- Glorification of drugs/substances as the sign of progressivism in pop culture  
Ex: Bob-Mokey's image as a weed smoker.

→ Advertisement as an easy fix to high stress life in today's world.  
Ex: Drug as an escape after 14 hour work days.

→ Vicious cycle of Addiction.  
Ex: Once addicted - need more to survive.

---

Impact on Individuals, Families, And Society

---

## Individuals

→ Health outcomes such as hallucinations, amnesia and muscle function.

→ Cycle of addiction leaves one in a state of depression/anxiety

→ Loss of social bonds/friends.

## Families

→ Psychological and physical discomfort of seeing loved ones in pain.

Please do not write anything except the question number in this space कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस कॉलम में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin

→ Economic impact of resources used in de-addiction and recovery.

Society. → Loss of productive economic value due to addiction.

→ Rise in crimes such as eve-teasing or accidents due to substance abuse

→ Negative impacts on other social actors.

There is a need to:

→ Implement the NAPDRR stringently.

→ Take a psycho-social approach to addiction. Ex: Norway.

→ whole-of-society approach to rehab.

Thus, by taking above steps, we can end menace of substance abuse towards a 'Sashakt and Samraddh Bharat'.

177

Caste census refers to the documentation of the caste identity and socio-economic status of the population so as to use the data for better design of public policies.

Relevant And Necessary To Reduce Social Inequality

→ Helps establish empirical base for knowing demographic make-up of country.

Ex: No. and distribution of OBCs

→ Aids to understand socio-economic deprivations of marginalized groups.

Ex: OBC representation among Union Secretaries - very low.

→ Can assist in design of policies to promote equity and justice.

Ex: Affirmative action.

→ It will also ensure equitable political representation for justice.

Ex: Reservation of OBC seats along with SCs/STs

→ May be the harbinger of private sector reservation

↳ providing social justice base to meritocracy.

---

However, it has a few shortcomings:-

---

→ Regional disparities in castes may lead to problems in uniform recording.

Ex: 46 lakh castes in 2011 SECC

→ Some UCs may register as lower castes to gain reservation.

Ex: 1911, '21, '31 census issues.

→ May lead to feeling of caste pride and deepen caste identities

↳ against national integrity

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस स्थान में कोई निष्कर्ष नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

- Private sector reservations and other policies may alienate business communities.
- Moral hazard of numerical majorities demanding more concessions.
  - ↳ Against equality.

## Way Forward

- ↳ Build consensus regarding importance of the caste census.
- ↳ Train enumerators to avoid contamination of the data.
- ↳ Embed anti-profiling mechanisms to avoid discrimination.

Caste census can be a tool towards ensuring the values of liberty, equality and justice enshrined in constitution if used rightly.

12/2

Regionalism refers to ideology of shared pride among members of a coherent geographical unit, demanding developmental and other benefits vis-a-vis other parts of country.

---

Lead to Regional Empowerment And Representation

---

→ Ensures non-imposition of dominant ideologies, saving unique culture.

Ex: Tamil Nadu against Hindi imposition.

→ Allows for a greater voice in decision making by demands for representation.

Ex: Fixed number of seat demand for Southern states in Delimitation.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

→ Regionalism has spurred regional parties who advocate greater resources -

Ex: TDP getting > 30,000 cr for the development of Andhra Pradesh

→ Guarantees the diverse issues to be not lost in the maze of national concerns  
Ex: Developmental concerns of Bundelkhand region.

---

Poses challenges to National unity and coherence

---

→ Ignites feelings of separatism when stretched to extreme ends.

Ex: Demands for Khalistan state

→ May lead to regional demands overshadowing national requirements.

Ex: Demand for greater resources to Nagaland and create Nagalim.

→ Threaten national integrity

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Ex: competing pressures of various states - no resources for national security

→ May hold national interest hostage to political narrow ends -

Ex: FTAs with other countries requiring acceptability from all sections

→ May create vested power groups.

## Way forward

↳ Use of Zonal Councils to resolve disputes  
Ex: HM holding ZC meeting

↳ Framework of cooperative federalism to be strengthened (Sarkaria Commission)

Thus regionalism needs to be balanced with national interest for 'Sahajkas Se Samridhi'

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस स्थान में कोई लिखना नहीं चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

19)

Climate change by disrupting patterns of production and enhancing risks of extreme events have endangered children.

Climate change - Threat to children's well being

→ Increased number of heatstrokes and diseases due to rising summer temperatures  
↳ lower resilience of children.

→ The daily well being of children requires outdoor exposure  
↳ limited due to extreme weather and urban heat islands.

→ Environmental hazards leave children most vulnerable in relocation.  
Ex: Moving houses/shelters.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

उम्मीदवारों को इस खण्ड में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin.

→ Psychological impact especially in the case of climate refugees.

↳ Reduced social welfare net.

→ Increased risk of cardiovascular issues and disturbance in sleep patterns.  
(Due to excessive heat).

## Measures To Mitigate These Risks

→ Increase R&D to specific impacts of climate change on children.

→ Allocate resources in disaster plans

for:

(i) Food, Nutrition of children

(ii) children's recreation

(iii) Reconstruction/Rehabilitation

→ Ensure Government support to get kids back in schooling system - if removed.



- Panchamrit goals to ensure Net-zero by 2070 and better climate metrics.
- Mission LiFE to ensure sustainable lifestyles for children compatible with nature.
- children-centric legislations for social security in case of loss of parents to climate change.

Thus, the climate change effects extend to children as well - need to leverage India's scientific expertise to guarantee and secure childhoods and the concept of 'Inclusive Growth'.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस स्थान में कहीं भी लिखना नहीं चाहिए।  
Candidates must not write on this margin

20/0

India has long been guided by its civilizational values of 'vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' in fostering a diverse and plural community of citizens.

Tolerance, Harmony - Central to India's Societal Values

→ Constitutional provisions that allow for freedom of conscience and religion.

Ex: Art. 25 - 28.

→ Existence of multiple ideological streams in civilizational consciousness

Ex: Advaitavada, Dvaitavada  
Nyayana, Alwara.

→ Assimilation of outsiders into India's social fabric

Ex: Hunas as one of 36 clans of Rajputs

→ Multi-religious nature of India's polity from ancient times

Ex: Buddhism, Jainism to Islam and Christianity

→ Tolerance for differing opinion/expression is protected.

Ex: Art. 19

---

Communal Discord - Threaten Pluralistic Framework

---

→ Differential access to resources can lead to perceived marginalization.

Ex: Muslims in low-paying jobs (Sachar Committee)

→ Revisionist history is leading to discords and strife over past conflicts.

Ex: Sambhal tensions

→ Communal discord sows distrust and prevents prosperity.

# UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Ex: Less investment → more discord -

→ Communal discord can threaten national integrity and solidarity

Ex: Risk of Indian Balkanization

→ Prevents full participation of all sections in national growth.

Ex: No Christian PM.

Way Forward

→ Peace Committees to prevent discord - 2<sup>nd</sup> ARC

→ Constitutionalism's values propagation

→ Increased social awareness -

→ This can lead to economic and social prosperity as well as the

'Ek Bharat, Shreshth Bharat'.