

Total Marks : 250

Time : 3 Hours

Candidates should attempt all questions of Group A with word limit of 300 words and all questions of Group B with word limit of 250 words.

Question 1 to Question 5
20 marks each (answer in 300 words)

Question 6 to Question 15
15 marks each (answer in 250 words)

GROUP A

- Q.1 Describe the different layers of the Earth's internal structure, emphasizing the role of seismic waves in enhancing our understanding.
ଆମ ବୁଝାମଣାକୁ ବୃଦ୍ଧି କରିବାରେ ଭୂକମ୍ପୀୟ ତରଙ୍ଗର ଭୂମିକା ଉପରେ ଗୁରୁତ୍ବ ଦେଇ ପୃଥିବୀର ଆଭ୍ୟନ୍ତରୀଣ ଗଠନର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସ୍ତର ବର୍ଣ୍ଣନା କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.2 One of the defining aspects of 19th-century Europe was the struggle for national unification. Discuss this in the context of Germany.
୧୯ଶ ଶତାବ୍ଦୀର ଯୁରୋପର ଏକ ପରିଭାଷିତ ଦିଗ ଥିଲା ଜାତୀୟ ଏକୀକରଣ ପାଇଁ ସଂଘର୍ଷ। ଜର୍ମାନୀ ପରିପ୍ରେକ୍ଷୀରେ ଏହା ଆଲୋଚନା କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.3 Give an account of the contribution of prominent freedom fighters of Odisha in India's struggle for independence.
(a) Madhusudan Das
(b) Gopabandhu Das
(c) Rama Devi
(d) Sarala Devi
ଭାରତର ସ୍ବାଧୀନତା ସଂଗ୍ରାମରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ପ୍ରମୁଖ ସ୍ବାଧୀନତା ସଂଗ୍ରାମୀମାନଙ୍କ ଅବଦାନର ଏକ ବିବରଣୀ ଦିଅନ୍ତୁ
(କ) ମଧୁସୂଦନ ଦାସ
(ଖ) ଗୋପବନ୍ଧୁ ଦାସ
(ଗ) ରମା ଦେବୀ
(ଘ) ସରଳା ଦେବୀ
- Q.4 Discuss the major freedom movements in Odisha during the pre-independence era, highlighting their impact on the state's socio-political landscape.
ସ୍ବାଧୀନତା ପୂର୍ବ ଯୁଗରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ପ୍ରମୁଖ ସ୍ବାଧୀନତା ଆନ୍ଦୋଳନଗୁଡ଼ିକ ଆଲୋଚନା କରନ୍ତୁ, ରାଜ୍ୟର ସାମାଜିକ-ରାଜନୈତିକ ଦୃଶ୍ୟପଟ ଉପରେ ସେମାନଙ୍କର ପ୍ରଭାବକୁ ଆଲୋକପାତ କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.5 Discuss the major physiographic divisions of Odisha and their significance in shaping the state's geography, economy, and biodiversity.
ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଭୌଗୋଳିକ ବିଭାଗ ଏବଂ ରାଜ୍ୟର ଭୂଗୋଳ, ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ଏବଂ ଜୈବ ବିବିଧତା ଗଠନରେ ସେମାନଙ୍କର ଗୁରୁତ୍ବ ବିଷୟରେ ଆଲୋଚନା କରନ୍ତୁ।

GROUP B

- Q.6 What is the Triple-Dip La Niña phenomenon? Examine its potential impacts across various regions of the world.**
ତ୍ରିପଲ୍-ଡିପ୍ ଲା ନିନା ଘଟଣା କ'ଣ? ବିଶ୍ୱର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ଏହାର ସମ୍ଭାବ୍ୟ ପ୍ରଭାବ ପରୀକ୍ଷା କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.7 How do the Western Ghats impact the South-West Monsoon in India's south-western coastal regions?**
ଭାରତର ଦକ୍ଷିଣ-ପଶ୍ଚିମ ଉପକୂଳବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ପଶ୍ଚିମଘାଟ ଦକ୍ଷିଣ-ପଶ୍ଚିମ ମୌସୁମୀକୁ କିପରି ପ୍ରଭାବିତ କରେ?
- Q.8 Discuss the opportunities and challenges that globalization presents for working women in India.**
ଭାରତରେ କର୍ମଜୀବୀ ମହିଳାମାନଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ବିଶ୍ୱୀକରଣ ଉପସ୍ଥାପିତ ସୁଯୋଗ ଏବଂ ଚ୍ୟାଲେଞ୍ଜ ବିଷୟରେ ଆଲୋଚନା କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.9 The plate tectonics theory provides an explanation for various geological processes associated with natural hazards. Discuss.**
ପ୍ଲେଟ୍ ଟେକ୍ଟୋନିକ୍ସ ତତ୍ତ୍ୱ ପ୍ରାକୃତିକ ବିପଦ ସହିତ ଜଡ଼ିତ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଭୂତାତ୍ମକ ପ୍ରକ୍ରିୟା ପାଇଁ ବ୍ୟାଖ୍ୟା ପ୍ରଦାନ କରେ। ଆଲୋଚନା କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.10 Analyze the influence of globalization on India's socio-cultural traditions and practices.**
ଭାରତର ସାମାଜିକ-ସାଂସ୍କୃତିକ ପରମ୍ପରା ଏବଂ ଅଭ୍ୟାସ ଉପରେ ବିଶ୍ୱୀକରଣର ପ୍ରଭାବ ବିଶ୍ଳେଷଣ କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.11 the reasoning behind anti-conversion laws in India and highlight the concerns associated with them.**
ଭାରତରେ ଧର୍ମାନ୍ତର ବିରୋଧୀ ଆଇନ ପଛରେ କାରଣ ଏବଂ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ସହ ଜଡ଼ିତ ଚିନ୍ତାଧାରା ଉପରେ ଆଲୋଚନା କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.12 Civil liberties were a significant legacy of the Indian freedom movement. Analyze.**
ନାଗରିକ ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତା ଭାରତୀୟ ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତା ଆନ୍ଦୋଳନର ଏକ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଐତିହ୍ୟ ଥିଲା। ବିଶ୍ଳେଷଣ କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.13 Discuss the ecological services offered by wetlands, the factors contributing to their decline, and the measures implemented by the government for their conservation.**
ଆର୍ଦ୍ରଭୂମି ହାରା ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯାଉଥିବା ପରିବେଶଗତ ସେବା, ସେମାନଙ୍କର ହ୍ରାସ ପାଇଁ ସହାୟକ କାରଣ ଏବଂ ସେମାନଙ୍କର ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ ପାଇଁ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀ କରାଯାଇଥିବା ପଦକ୍ଷେପଗୁଡ଼ିକ ବିଷୟରେ ଆଲୋଚନା କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.14 Analyze the Congress Party's stance on the Second World War and examine the reasons behind the failure of the Cripps Mission along with its consequences.**
ବ୍ରିଟିଶ୍ ବିଶ୍ୱଯୁଦ୍ଧ ଉପରେ କଂଗ୍ରେସ ଦଳର ମତ ବିଶ୍ଳେଷଣ କରନ୍ତୁ ଏବଂ କ୍ରିପ୍ସ ମିଶନର ବିଫଳତା ପଛରେ ଥିବା କାରଣଗୁଡ଼ିକ ସହିତ ଏହାର ପରିଣାମ ମଧ୍ୟ ପରୀକ୍ଷା କରନ୍ତୁ।
- Q.15 Discuss how the principles of Panchsheel and Non-Alignment helped India navigate the challenges of the Cold War era.**
ପଞ୍ଚଶୀଳ ଏବଂ ଅସହଯୋଗ ନୀତିଗୁଡ଼ିକ କିପରି ଭାରତକୁ ଶୀତଳ ଯୁଦ୍ଧ ଯୁଗର ଚ୍ୟାଲେଞ୍ଜଗୁଡ଼ିକୁ ମୁକାବିଲା କରିବାରେ ସାହାଯ୍ୟ କରିଥିଲା ତାହା ଆଲୋଚନା କରନ୍ତୁ।

(GS-I FULL SYLLABUS)

GROUP A

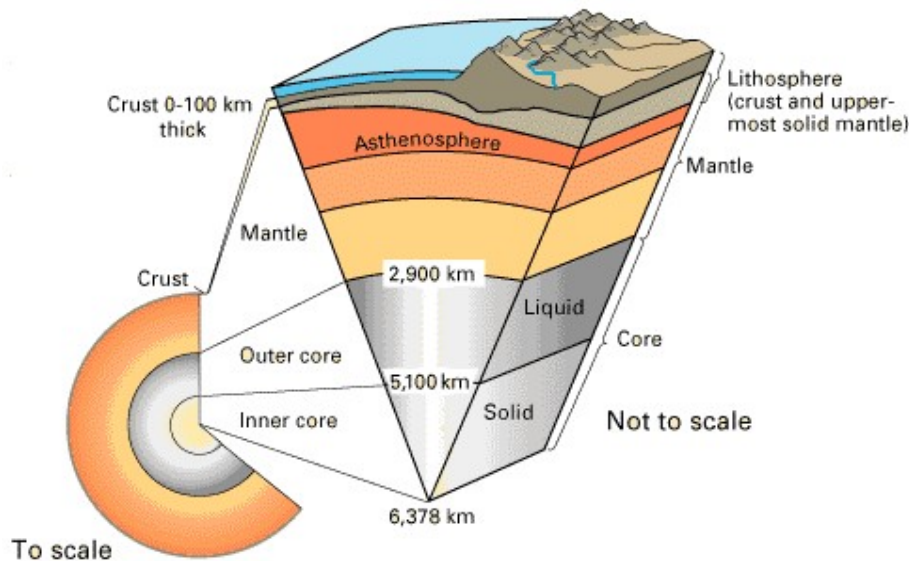
Q.1 Answer

APPROACH:

- Explain the meaning of seismic waves.
- Mention the role of seismic waves in understanding the Earth's internal structure.
- Describe different layers of Earth's internal structure.
- Conclude on the basis of above points.

Introduction:

An earthquake is the shaking of the surface of the earth, which is caused due to a sudden release of energy in the Earth's lithosphere, which generates seismic waves that travel in all directions. The study of propagation of seismic waves provides a picture of the earth's layered interior.



Body:

Role of seismic waves in understanding the Earth's internal structure:

- Seismic waves move faster through denser or more rigid material and vice versa. Thus, they help in studying the density, rigidity and compressibility of various layers.
- The abrupt increase in speed of seismic waves when they move from one layer to another helps in assessing the thickness of various layers. For example, there is an abrupt increase in seismic wave speed at the boundary between crust and mantle.
- P-waves slow down at the mantle-core boundary. This means that the outer core is less rigid than the mantle.
- S-waves can only propagate through solids. They cannot travel through liquids and disappear at the mantle-core boundary. Thus, it proves that the outer core is in a liquid state.
- There is an abrupt increase in the speed of P-waves while passing through the inner core. It means that the inner core is more rigid than the outer core. Also, it has been found that the inner core is probably a crystalline or solid mass.

Different layers of the Earth's internal structure:

Feature	Crust	Mantle	Core
Definition	Outermost solid	Extends from Moho's discontinuity to a depth of	Extends from 2,900 km below the

	part of the Earth	2,900 km	surface to the Earth's center
Nature	Brittle in nature	Predominantly solid	Outer core is liquid, inner core is solid
Types	Two types: Oceanic and Continental	Divided into lithosphere, asthenosphere, and mesosphere	Divided into outer and inner core
Thickness	Oceanic crust: 5 km Continental crust: Around 30 km	Extends up to 2,900 km	Extends from 2,900 km to the center of the Earth
Composition	Oceanic crust: Basalt Continental crust: Granitic rocks	Very dense rocks rich in olivine	Heavy materials mostly composed of nickel and iron
Density	Average density is 3 g/cm ³	Average density is 3.4 g/cm ³ , higher than the crust	Density at mantle-core boundary is around 5 g/cm ³ and at the center of the Earth it is around 13 g/cm ³

Conclusion:

The study of earthquake waves, along with the evidence from volcanic eruptions, deep mine operations and crustal borings, have led to the study of the internal structure of earth.

Q.2 Answer

APPROACH:

- Introduce by highlighting the fragmented political landscape of Germany before unification.
- Discuss the role of Prussia, Otto von Bismarck, and the wars that shaped German unification.
- Explain the impact of nationalism, economic integration (Zollverein), and military strategies.
- Conclude appropriately.

Introduction:

The 19th century was a period of significant political and social changes in Europe. During this time, many countries were divided into smaller states and territories. The idea of national unity was closely tied to the rise of nationalism, which gained momentum in the aftermath of the French Revolution and the Napoleonic wars.

Body:

Struggle for national unification in the 19th century Europe:

Period/Year	Events and Developments
Till 1812	Napoleon successfully established a French-dominated empire in Europe through military campaigns.
Territorial Expansion	France directly annexed the Low Countries and western Germany, applying revolutionary legislation. Satellite kingdoms were established in Germany, Italy, Spain, and Poland.
1815 (Treaty of Vienna)	After Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo, victorious powers redistributed territories. Prussia gained western German territories.

	Russia took control of most of Poland. Britain acquired former French, Spanish, and Dutch colonies.
1820 (Revolutions and Suppression)	Revolutionary movements arose in fringe areas. Uprisings in Italian states and Spain were suppressed.
1861 (Italian Unification)	A series of wars and political struggles led to the unification of Italian states into a single kingdom.
Other Nationalist Movements	Ireland, Poland, and the Balkan states witnessed nationalist struggles seeking unification.

Similarly, before 1871, Germany was fragmented into a large number of small states. The struggle for German unification is also marked with various wars:

- The first effort at unifying the German states came in the revolutionary year 1848 when revolts started in all German states to overthrow the present political system of Monarchy. However, due to the lack of strong executive power, the revolution disintegrated by 1849.
- The next attempt at German unification, a successful one, was undertaken by Otto von Bismarck, the Prime Minister of Prussia.
 - The first war of German unification was the 1862 Danish War, begun over the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein.
 - The second war of German unification was the 1866 Austro-Prussian War. Prussia won and directly annexed some of the German states that had sided with Austria (such as Hanover and Nassau).
 - In 1867, Bismarck created the North German Confederation, a union of the northern German states under the hegemony of Prussia.
 - The third and final act of German unification was the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, orchestrated by Bismarck to draw the western German states into alliance with the North German Confederation.
 - With the defeat of France, the remaining German states agreed to join the North German Confederation to form a unified German state under Prussian leadership.

Conclusion:

On January 18, 1871, the German Empire was proclaimed in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles. All the above-mentioned movements helped to shape the political, social, and cultural landscapes of Europe, and their legacy can still be seen today in the identities and boundaries of many modern nation-states.

Q.3 Answer

APPROACH:

- Introduce by mentioning key freedom fighters from Odisha and their role in India's independence movement.
- Discuss their contributions in resisting British rule through movements like the Non-Cooperation and Quit India movements.
- Explain how their efforts influenced Odisha's socio-political landscape, fostering regional identity and leadership.
- Conclude appropriately.

Introduction:

Odisha played a significant role in India's freedom struggle, with several leaders emerging as key figures in various movements. These freedom fighters not only participated in national movements but also worked towards the socio-political and cultural upliftment of Odisha. Their relentless efforts led to the formation of Odisha as a separate province and strengthened the nationalistic spirit in the region.

Body:

- **Madhusudan Das**—Known as the Grand Old Man of Odisha, he was instrumental in creating Odisha as a separate province. He advocated for Odia-speaking regions' unification and played a key role in introducing the Odisha Tenancy Bill.
- **Gopabandhu Das** - Popularly known as the *Gem of Utkal*, he was a prominent leader of the Congress in Odisha. He established the Satyabadi School and played a crucial role in spreading education, social reforms, and journalism through *Samaj* newspaper.
- **Rama Devi** - A dedicated Gandhian, she actively participated in the Quit India Movement and worked for women's empowerment, Harijan upliftment, and Khadi promotion. She also led various social organizations to promote Gandhian principles.
- **Sarala Devi**—The first woman of Odisha to join the Non-Cooperation Movement, she actively participated in the Salt Satyagraha and Civil Disobedience Movement. She was also a prolific writer who advocated for women's rights and social reforms.

Other Prominent freedom fighters:

- **Krushna Chandra Gajapati Narayan Deo** - A visionary leader who twice served as the Prime Minister of Odisha. His efforts, including meeting the Simon Commission and participating in the Round Table Conference, were crucial in the formation of Odisha as a separate state.
- **Malati Devi** - A fearless leader, she played a vital role in the Salt Satyagraha in Odisha and encouraged women's participation in the freedom movement. She was also chosen as an Individual Satyagrahi during the Civil Disobedience Movement.

Conclusion:

The freedom fighters of Odisha made remarkable contributions not only in India's independence struggle but also in shaping the region's social and political framework. Their efforts in education, social reforms, women empowerment, and statehood movements left a lasting impact, inspiring future generations to work towards a progressive and self-reliant Odisha.

Q.4 Answer**APPROACH:**

- Begin by mentioning Odisha's role in the national freedom struggle and its regional movements against British rule.
- Highlight key movements like the Paika Rebellion (1817), Ganjam Uprising, and Praja Mandal movements, emphasizing their significance.
- Discuss the socio-political impact of these movements, including increased political awareness and the rise of regional leadership.
- Conclude appropriately.

Introduction:

The freedom struggle in Odisha was marked by active participation in various national movements, including the Swadeshi Movement, Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement, and Quit India Movement. Additionally, the region witnessed significant localized struggles such as the Prajamandal Movement and the Massacre of Eram, contributing to the broader fight for independence.

Body:

Movement	Key Events in Odisha
Swadeshi Movement (1905)	Sparked by the partition of Bengal, it influenced Odisha's educated class. Protest meetings were held in Cuttack, Puri, Balasore, and Sambalpur. Local handloom production was encouraged as a boycott of foreign goods.
Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22)	Many students and professionals left schools, colleges, and government jobs. Gandhi's visit to Odisha in 1921 boosted participation. Newspapers like <i>The Samaj</i> and <i>Utkal Sevak</i> played a crucial role.
Civil Disobedience Movement (1930-34)	Odisha actively participated in breaking the Salt Law, especially in Inchudi, Balasore. Leaders like Gopabandhu Chaudhary, Rama Devi, and Sarala Devi led the movement. Mass participation included salt production, foreign goods boycott, and tax refusal.
Quit India Movement (1942)	Odisha witnessed intense uprisings, particularly in Koraput. Laxman Naik, a tribal leader, was executed for his role. Ravenshaw College students led protests despite mass arrests of leaders.
Massacre of Eram (1942)	Known as 'Rakta Tirtha Eram,' the incident saw mass killings by the British, similar to Jallianwala Bagh.
Prajamandal Movement (1938-47)	Aimed at ending princely oppression and feudal taxation. Led by H.K. Mahtab and Sarangdhar Das, it forced rulers to introduce reforms. Contributed to the merger of princely states into Odisha post-independence.

Conclusion:

The freedom struggle in Odisha was integral to India's independence, blending national movements with regional struggles against feudal oppression. These movements not only inspired political awakening but also paved the way for Odisha's social and administrative transformation, culminating in its recognition as a separate province in 1936.

Q.5 Answer

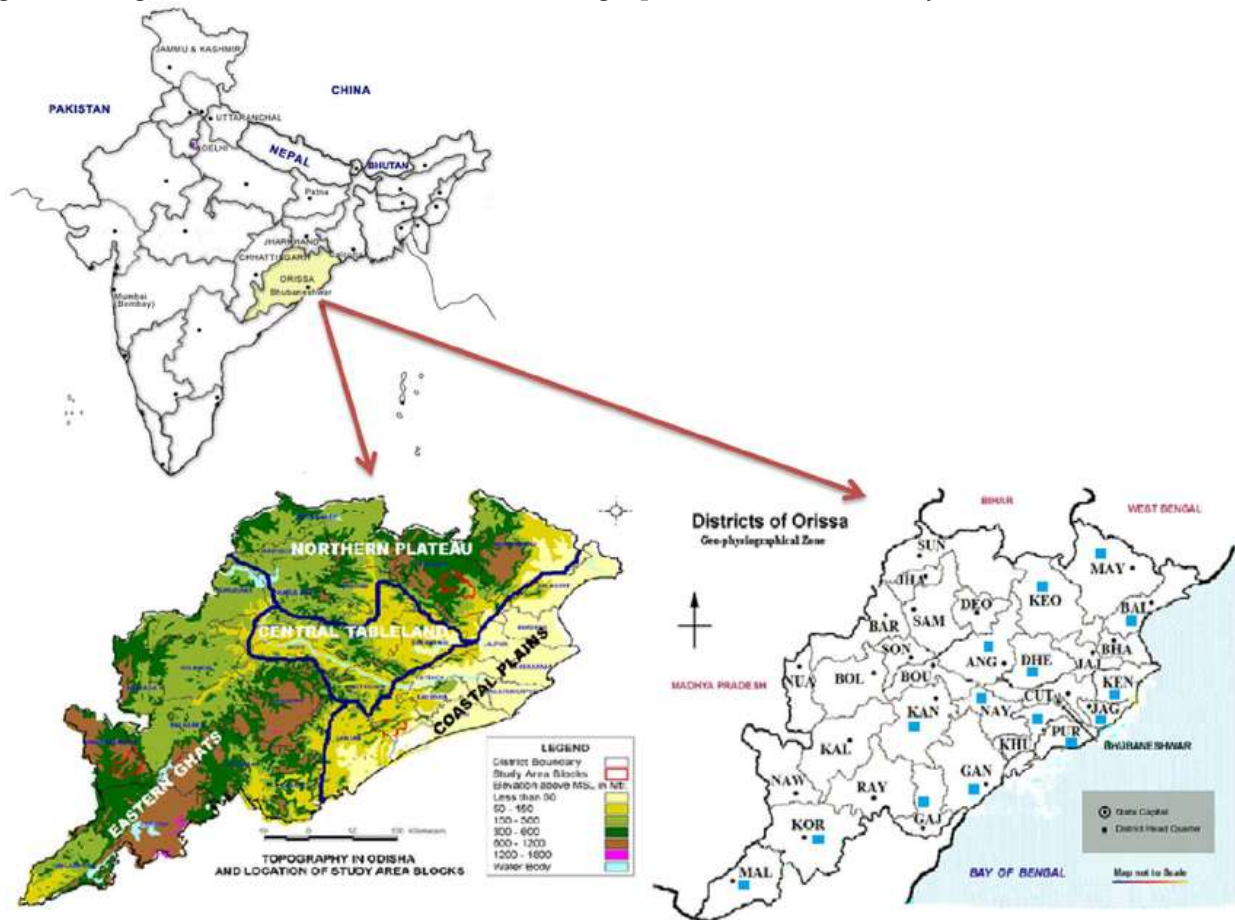
APPROACH:

- Introduce by mentioning the major physiographic divisions of Odisha and their geographical extent.
- Explain how these divisions influence Odisha's economy, including agriculture, industry, and infrastructure.
- Highlight the role of these regions in shaping the state's biodiversity and ecological balance.
- Conclude appropriately.

Introduction:

Odisha, located on the eastern coast of India, exhibits diverse physiographic features that influence its climate, agriculture, and biodiversity. Based on homogeneity and morphological characteristics, the state is

divided into five **major physiographic regions**: the Odisha Coastal Plains, Middle Mountainous and Highlands Region, Central Plateaus, Western Rolling Uplands, and River Valleys & Flood Plains.



Body:

Region	Key Features
Odisha Coastal Plains	Stretch from the Subarnarekha River in the northeast to the Rushikulya River in the southwest. Known as the "Rice Bowl of Odisha" due to fertile alluvial soil. Includes three sub-divisions: Northern Coastal Plains, Middle Coastal Plains, and Southern Coastal Plains.
Middle Mountainous and Highlands Region	Covers nearly three-fourths of the state and is part of the Eastern Ghats. Features important peaks like Simlipal (900m), Meghasani (1147m), and Deomali (1672m – the highest peak in Odisha). Contains important river valleys, including those of Mahanadi, Brahmani, and Vamsadhara.
Central Plateaus	Located on the western slopes of the Eastern Ghats with an elevation between 305–610m. Includes Panposh-Keonjhar-Pallahara Plateau and Nabarangpur-Jayapur Plateau.

	Receives high rainfall and supports rice cultivation.
Western Rolling Uplands	Lower in elevation (153–305m) and include Rajgangpur-Panposh, Jharsuguda, Balangir, and Malkangiri uplands. Formed by the action of rivers like Koel, Sankh, Ib, Jira, and Tel.
River Valleys and Flood Plains	Formed by major rivers like Mahanadi, Brahmani, and Vamsadhara. Highly fertile, supporting intensive agriculture and dense population.

Conclusion:

The diverse physiography of Odisha shapes its agricultural productivity, biodiversity, and economic activities. However, challenges like soil erosion, deforestation, and climate change impact these regions. Sustainable land management and conservation strategies are essential to preserve Odisha's geographical diversity and ecological balance.

GROUP B

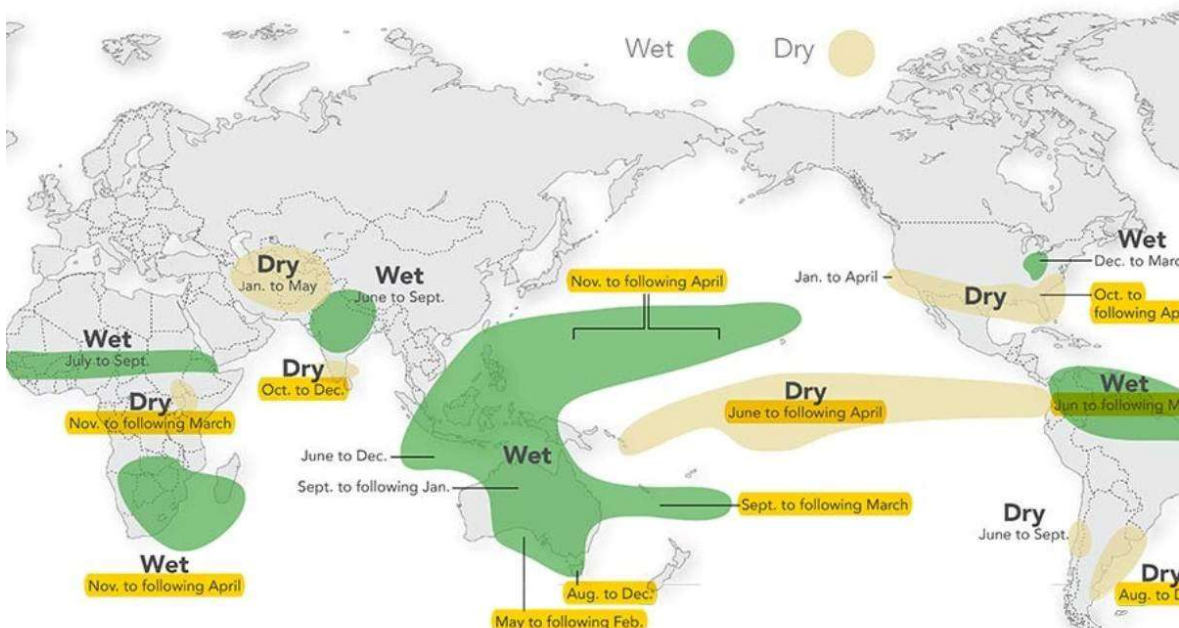
Q.6 Answer

APPROACH:

- Write about the triple dip La Niña phenomenon in the introduction.
- Discuss the likely impact of this phenomenon by giving examples from different parts of the world.
- Conclude accordingly.

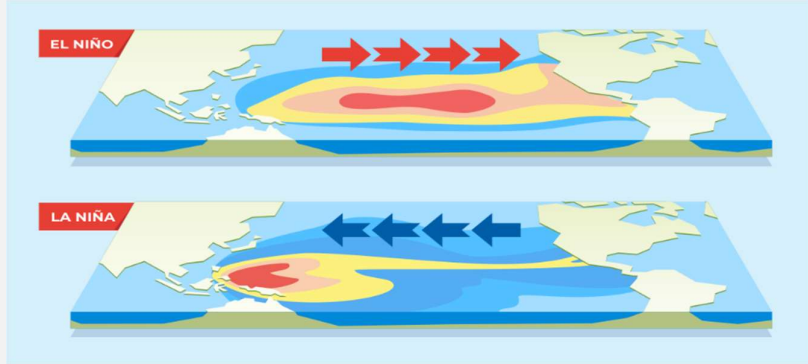
Introduction:

La Niña refers to the large-scale cooling of ocean surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, coupled with changes in the tropical atmospheric circulation, namely winds, pressure, and rainfall. The current La Niña episode started in September 2020 and has continued for a third consecutive year, thus being classified as a 'triple dip' La Niña.



Body:

According to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the first “triple-dip” La Niña of the 21st century will continue to affect different parts of the world as given below:

Impact Area	Effects of La Niña
Atmospheric Pressure	Lower than normal air pressure over the western Pacific leads to increased rainfall. 
Rainfall Patterns	Summer monsoon rainfall in Southeast Asia, especially northwest India and Bangladesh, benefits agriculture and industry more than normal. Strong La Niña events can cause catastrophic floods in northern Australia.
Drought Conditions	Higher than normal pressure over the central and eastern Pacific leads to decreased cloud production and rainfall. Drier than normal conditions are observed along the west coast of tropical South America, the Gulf Coast of the United States, and the pampas region of southern South America.
Global Temperature Impact	Cooler ocean surfaces allow more heat absorption, leading to a temporary cooling effect. This cooling effect is not strong enough to reverse or neutralize global warming.
Impact on Fishing Industry	Upwelling in western South America brings cold, nutrient-rich waters to the surface. Increased nutrients support plankton, which sustain fish and crustaceans. High-value fish species such as sea bass thrive due to the abundance of prey.

Conclusion:

In light of these impacts, concerns are raised about the unfolding humanitarian catastrophe for millions of people in different parts of the world especially in the Horn of Africa, which is witnessing one of the longest and the most severe droughts. It is necessary to provide tailored information to the humanitarian sector and to support sensitive sectors like agriculture, food security, health, and disaster risk reduction.

Q.7 Answer

APPROACH:

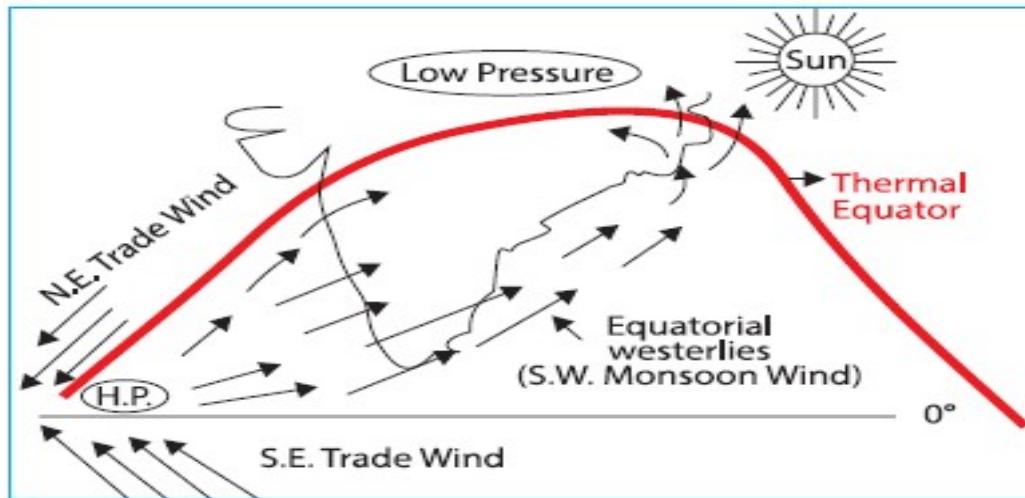
- Give a brief overview of Western Ghats.
- Discuss the role of Western Ghats during South-West monsoon on south west coastal regions.
- Conclude accordingly.

Introduction:

The Western Ghats (WG) is one of the important mountain ranges that run parallel to the west coast of India. It lies almost perpendicular to the direction of monsoon winds and hence, receives about three times the average rainfall in India.

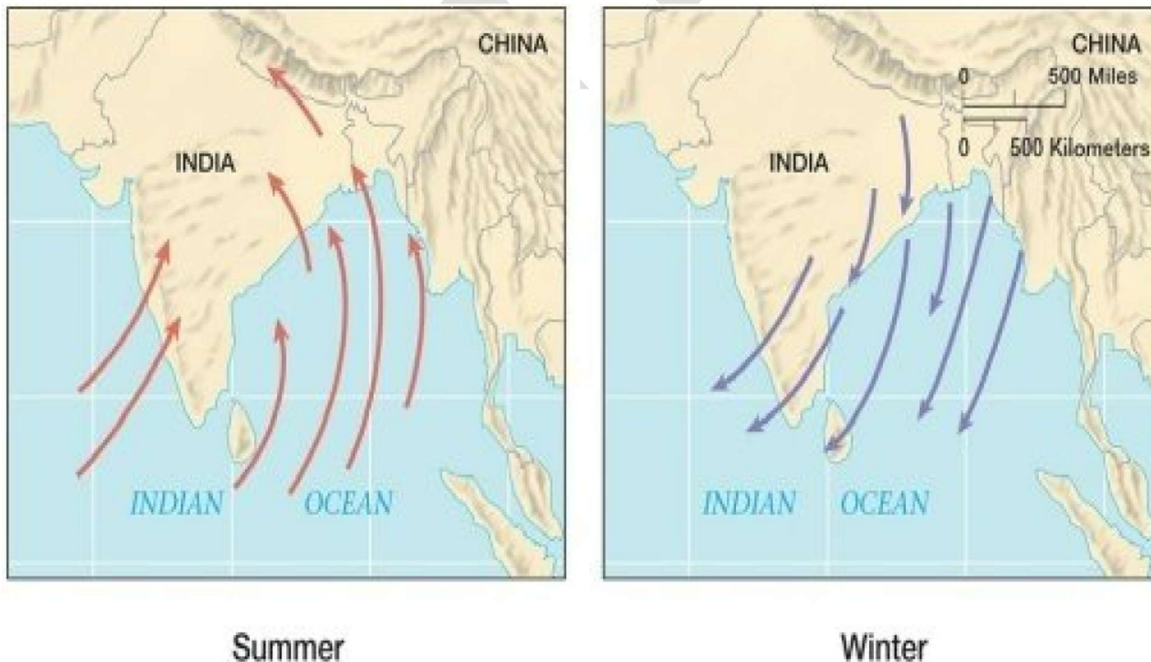
Role of Western Ghats during SW monsoon on the SW coastal region

- **Barrier Effect:** between June and September, when 65% to 80% of the rain falls.
- **Gaps in Western Ghats:** 30-km wide Palghat Gap.
- **Variations in mountain topography:** greater width in Karnataka.
- **More Convection:** gentle slope of Karnataka Ghats; less area of Maharashtra and Kerala Ghats.
- **Distance from peak:** areas of heavy rainfall - 50 km away.
- **Cyclones:** barrier for cyclonic storms.



Body:

Role of Western Ghats during South-West (SW) monsoon on the SW coastal region:



Factor	Impact on Rainfall and Climate
Barrier Effect	When monsoonal winds strike the Western Ghats, they rise vertically, causing orographic rainfall in the southwest coastal region.

	Example: Monsoon winds between June and September contribute to 65% to 80% of the rainfall.
Gaps in Western Ghats	In Kerala, gaps in the Western Ghats allow rain-bearing winds to cross over to the leeward side without much precipitation in coastal areas. Example: The 30 km wide Palghat Gap between the Nilgiri and the Anamalai Hills.
Variations in Mountain Topography	The wider mountains in Karnataka force rain-bearing winds to travel further, allowing more time for moisture to coalesce and precipitate, leading to higher rainfall.
More Convection	The gentle slope of Karnataka's Western Ghats absorbs more sunlight, leading to greater convection compared to the steeper slopes of Maharashtra and Kerala.
Distance from Peak	There is a higher chance of rainfall at the foot of the mountain as the greater depth of moisture allows cloud droplets to coalesce into larger raindrops. Example: Studies show that areas of heavy rainfall can be as much as 50 km away from mountain summits.
Cyclones	The Arabian Sea has witnessed more frequent cyclones in recent decades during the onset phase of the Southwest Monsoon. The Western Ghats act as a barrier, reducing the intensity and impact of these cyclonic storms on India's west coast.

Conclusion:

Thus, the Western Ghats regulates South-West Monsoonal rainfall on India's South-West Coastal regions through orographic lifting, wind pattern alteration, and creation of diverse microclimates.

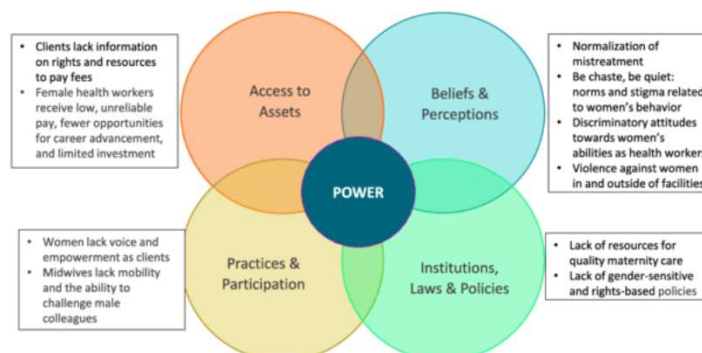
Q.8 Answer

APPROACH:

- Give a brief context of the impact of globalisation on working women in India.
- Mention various opportunities created by globalization on working women in India.
- Also discuss the challenges posed by it.
- Conclude appropriately.

Introduction:

Globalisation has not only increased the economic opportunities but has also led to an increase in access to information, primarily through television and the internet. Globalisation has given women a new identity, financial independence, freedom of expression as well as a remarkable social status.



Body:

Opportunities provided by Globalisation for working women in India:

Aspect	Impact of Globalization on Women	Example
Modern Education and Capacity Building	Globalization has created opportunities, pushing economies to utilize resources efficiently. More women are acquiring higher education and participating in the workforce.	Increased female enrollment in higher education and professional fields.
Increased Employment Opportunities	Expansion in global sectors, especially services like data processing, banking, insurance, and software development, has created diverse job opportunities for women.	Women are increasingly employed in IT, banking, and multinational companies.
Development of Entrepreneurial Attitude	Greater connectivity and exposure have encouraged women to take up entrepreneurship, leading to a rise in women-led enterprises.	Companies like Nykaa, founded by Falguni Nayar, showcase women's leadership in business.
Increase in Social Choices of Women	Access to paid work has enhanced women's self-confidence and decision-making ability, allowing greater social and economic independence.	More women are making autonomous choices in career, finances, and lifestyle.

While globalization has improved the socio-economic condition of women and has promoted equality between the sexes, there are still many challenges:

- **Double burden:** Women do both household work (like cooking, baby care, etc.) as well as professional work. This dual responsibility makes it difficult to leave their mark in their places of work.
- **Sexual harassment at work place:** Job opportunities have increased but safety at workplace and in public spaces remains an issue. The issue of women safety is of particular concern in new age industries that have opened as a result of globalisation and involve working at odd hours.
- **Gender inequality:** Gender differences in education, particularly scientific and technical education, have limited women's access to new employment opportunities created in the globalised world.
- **Access to resources:** Issues related to property rights of women and limited access to productive inputs also constrain their capacity to benefit from trade opportunities that have opened up.
- **Lower-level jobs:** Barring the IT sector, women are mainly employed in middle and lower managerial level jobs. Women's participation in the higher managerial level in the private sector is still limited (glass ceiling effect).

Conclusion:

Despite this, the advent of global communication networks and cross-cultural exchanges have led to change in the status of women albeit not to a very large extent. Globalization has indeed promoted ideas and norms of equality for women that have brought about awareness and acted as a catalyst in their struggle for equitable rights and opportunities.

Q.9 Answer

APPROACH:

- Introduce by writing about the plate tectonics theory.
- Write about plate boundaries and associated natural hazards.
- Conclude appropriately.

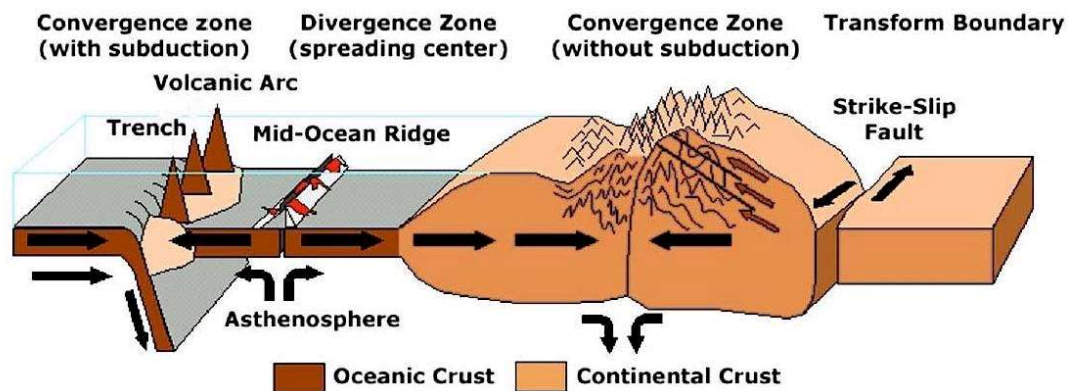
Introduction:

According to plate tectonics theory, lithosphere is broken into large tectonic plates, which move relative to each other. The interaction of tectonic plates is responsible for many different geological processes that are linked to natural hazards.

Plate boundaries and associated geological processes and hazards:

- Divergent plate boundaries: Iceland experiences frequent volcanic activity.
- Transform faults: earthquakes, landslides abundant all along the San Andreas fault.
- Convergent plate boundaries with continental collisions: Himalayan region prone to earthquakes, landslides, floods.
- Convergent plate boundaries with subduction zones: Circum-Pacific Belt - active volcanoes, frequent earthquakes and tsunamis.

Types of Plate Boundaries



A plate tectonics model illustrating divergent, convergent, and transform plate boundaries.

Body:

Plate boundaries and associated geological processes and hazards:

Plate Boundary Type	Characteristics	Example
Divergent Plate Boundaries	Associated with the production of new lithosphere, prone to earthquakes and non-explosive volcanic eruptions.	Iceland, located atop the Mid-Atlantic Ridge.
Transform Faults	One plate slides past another, leading to frequent earthquakes. Often associated with rift valleys and mountainous areas, experiencing landslides and flooding during heavy rainfall.	San Andreas Fault in Southern California.
Convergent Plate with Subduction Zones	One plate is subducted below another, generating explosive volcanoes and earthquakes. Underwater earthquakes at these zones are the most common cause of tsunamis.	Circum-Pacific Belt, also known as the Pacific Ring of Fire.
Convergent Plate	Two plates collide without subduction, leading to the	Himalayan region in

Boundaries Continental Collisions	with	highest topography in the world. These regions are earthquake-prone, with frequent avalanches, landslides, and flooding due to steep slopes.	India.
--	-------------	--	--------

Conclusion:

The theory of plate tectonics provides a comprehensive framework for understanding the dynamic processes that shape Earth's surface and result in natural hazards. It helps scientists predict and mitigate the impacts of these natural events. Understanding plate tectonics is thus crucial for disaster preparedness and risk management in regions vulnerable to these hazards.

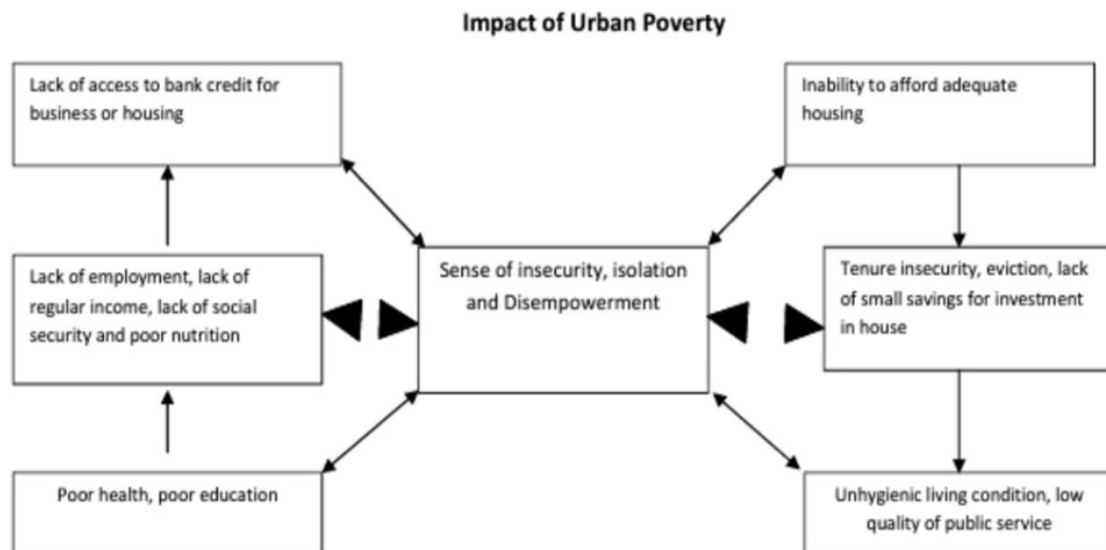
Q.10 Answer

APPROACH:

- Give a brief introduction about the issue of urban poverty.
- Identify the problems in India's urban poverty alleviation measures.
- Conclude appropriately.

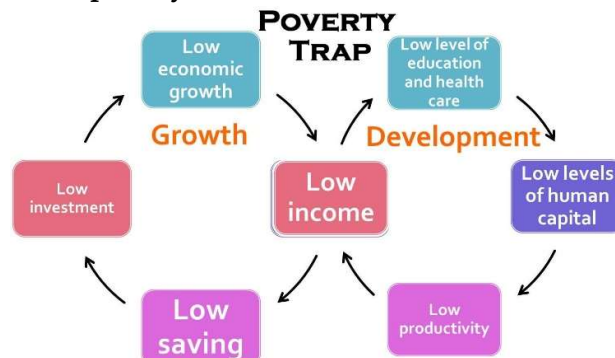
Introduction:

India has become the fastest urbanising country in the world. It has caused widespread disparities between urban poor and high-income groups. While a number of urban poverty alleviation measures have been undertaken in India, they are plagued with multiple issues:



Body:

Issues that plague India's urban poverty alleviation measures:



- **Lack of adequate measures:** The Unorganised Workers Social Security Act 2008 has seen little progress.
- **Lack of local participation:** AMRUT mission did not involve representatives from local bodies.
- **Poor design of the schemes:** Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) – urban peripheries, beyond paying capacity.
- **Poor implementation:** National Urban Health Mission - ineffective implementation.

Issue	Challenges	Example
Lack of Adequate Measures	Urban poor, mostly working in the unorganised sector, face a high poverty risk, yet insurance-based interventions remain underdeveloped.	The Unorganised Workers Social Security Act (UWSSA) 2008 has made little progress in creating effective social security schemes for informal workers.
Lack of Local Participation	The AMRUT mission aimed to provide every household with tap water and a sewerage connection but failed due to a lack of involvement from local representatives.	The apex committee consists of non-elected members, and the State-level high-powered committee is headed by the chief secretary with a private nexus of consultants and professionals.
Poor Design of Schemes	The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) aims to address the housing needs of urban poor but faces key concerns: Affordable Housing Approach: High land prices push projects to urban peripheries, whereas poor people prefer slums near their workplaces. Slum Redevelopment: The recurring costs of water, electricity, and maintenance in redeveloped buildings often exceed the paying capacity of slum dwellers.	High land prices make affordable housing projects unaffordable for the urban poor, and redeveloped slum areas have high maintenance costs.
Poor Implementation	The National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) was launched to meet the healthcare needs of the urban poor and reduce out-of-pocket expenses but suffers from weak implementation.	A study reveals that urban public health services via Urban Primary Health Centres fall 40% short of government norms, with many located far from slums across the country.

Conclusion:

Effective urban poverty alleviation requires a focus on sustainable livelihoods, improved social security, accessible healthcare, etc. Some recent government steps in this regard include Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, and PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi.

Q.11 Answer

APPROACH:

- Give a brief introduction about anti-conversion laws in India.
- Discuss the rationale behind anti-conversion laws in India.
- Bring out the various concerns that are being raised with regard to these laws.
- Conclude appropriately.

Introduction:

In pre-independence India, anti-conversion laws were introduced by some princely states such as Kota, Jodhpur, etc. to preserve their religious identity from the influence of the Christian missionaries. Independent India also witnessed various failed attempts at the national level to pass the anti-conversion bill. In 2015, the Ministry of Law and Justice stated that it is a matter of purely state subject. Currently, legislations on unlawful conversion are in force in several states of India such as Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, etc.

Body:

The rationale behind anti-conversion laws in India:

Concern/Justification	Explanation
Fear of Change in Demography	Conversions can alter the demographic composition of a region, affecting the majority-minority balance, which may impact social structure and cohesion.
Serving Justice	Laws against forced conversions aim to prevent coercion, inducement, or fraudulent conversions, thereby ensuring justice for victims.
Strengthening Religious Freedoms	Such laws act as safeguards against forced or induced conversions, ensuring that religious freedom is protected. Article 25 of the Indian Constitution provides religious freedom but with restrictions related to public order, health, morality, and other fundamental rights.
Legal Backing	India's legal framework only recognizes voluntary conversions that are not influenced by inducement or threats.

However, certain concerns are being raised concerning anti-conversions laws:

- **Burden of proof:** The burden of proof lies on the person who has 'caused' the conversion. Thus, the laws reportedly focus more on prosecuting the converter, and the opinion of the person who has converted is given less importance.
- **Lack of equitable treatment:** It is argued that the anti-conversion laws, both by their design and implementation, infringe upon the individual's right to convert and may favour one religion over another. They also raise concerns about the privacy of individuals who wish to adopt other religions.
- **Creates an atmosphere of fear:** Reports suggest that though there are very rare instances of prosecution or arrest under anti-conversion laws, they create an atmosphere of fear amongst couples opting for inter-faith marriages.
- **Vague nature and wide scope:** The terms used in such laws like fraud, force, allurement etc. are loosely defined, leaving wide scope for misuse. The misreading of these laws could result in the deepening of communal fault lines.

Conclusion:

Anti-conversion laws in India are intertwined in complex situations wherein, drawing a balancing line protecting the freedom of religion of a person and identifying victimization is required. More concrete definition of forced conversion needs to be adopted. Further, these laws must be backed by data, evidence, and trends.

Q.12 Answer

APPROACH:

- Introduce the answer with the rich legacy of the national movement and its various manifestations.
- Substantiate with examples how civil liberties formed an important legacy.
- Conclude appropriately.

Introduction:

The Indian National Movement left a rich legacy for independent India. It manifested along the contours of secularism, independent foreign policy, promotion of civil liberties, mass participation in politics and modern science-based development.

From the very beginning, our leaders fought against attacks by the British on the freedoms of the press, expression and association, and made the struggle for these freedoms an integral part of the national movement.

Body:

Legacy of Civil Liberties:

Aspect	Details	Example
Freedom of Press	The early nationalist leadership relied on the press for political activities and raising awareness.	S. N. Banerjee was the first nationalist leader to be jailed for criticizing the British through journalistic writings.
Commitment to Human Rights	Nationalist leaders advocated for civil liberties and human rights as fundamental principles.	Lokmanya Tilak demanded adult franchise before it was introduced in Britain (1928). The Nehru Report (1928) prepared by Motilal Nehru and Tej Bahadur Sapru emphasized civil liberties and human rights.
Civil Liberties Movement	The Indian Civil Liberties Union (ICLU) was formed to promote and protect civil liberties across national activities.	Initiated by Jawaharlal Nehru in 1936, the ICLU was a non-party organization dedicated to defending civil liberties.
Promotion of Representative Democracy	The national movement was committed to representative democracy and individual civil liberties.	Gandhi called civil liberty “the breath of political and social life” and Nehru stated in 1936 that without civil liberties, a nation loses vitality and becomes impotent.

Conclusion:

However, the fate of human rights in independent India has not remained consistent and at the same level throughout the period. There have been times when the society as a whole has suffered from a deficit of human rights and liberties either because of a tilt of the State and its institutions towards authoritarianism, or because of intolerance displayed by one section of society towards other members.

India today certainly enjoys a healthy respect for civil and human rights of the people. Undoubtedly, the human rights perspective practised by the Indian society is an inheritance from the dominant practices developed during the Indian freedom movement.

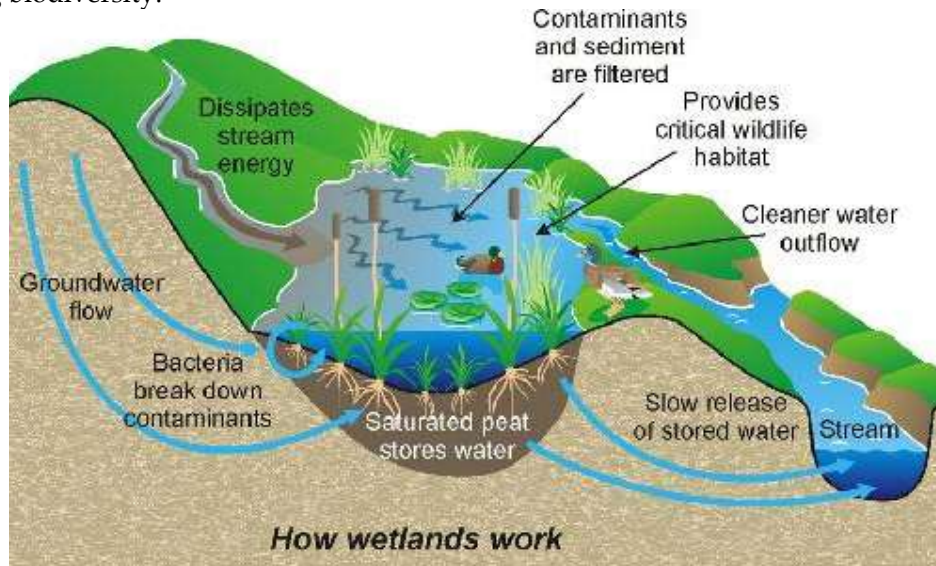
Q.13 Answer

APPROACH:

- Give a brief introduction about wetlands.
- Highlight the ecological services provided by wetlands.
- Give the reasons behind their decline.
- Mention the steps that have been taken by the government to protect wetlands.
- Conclude appropriately.

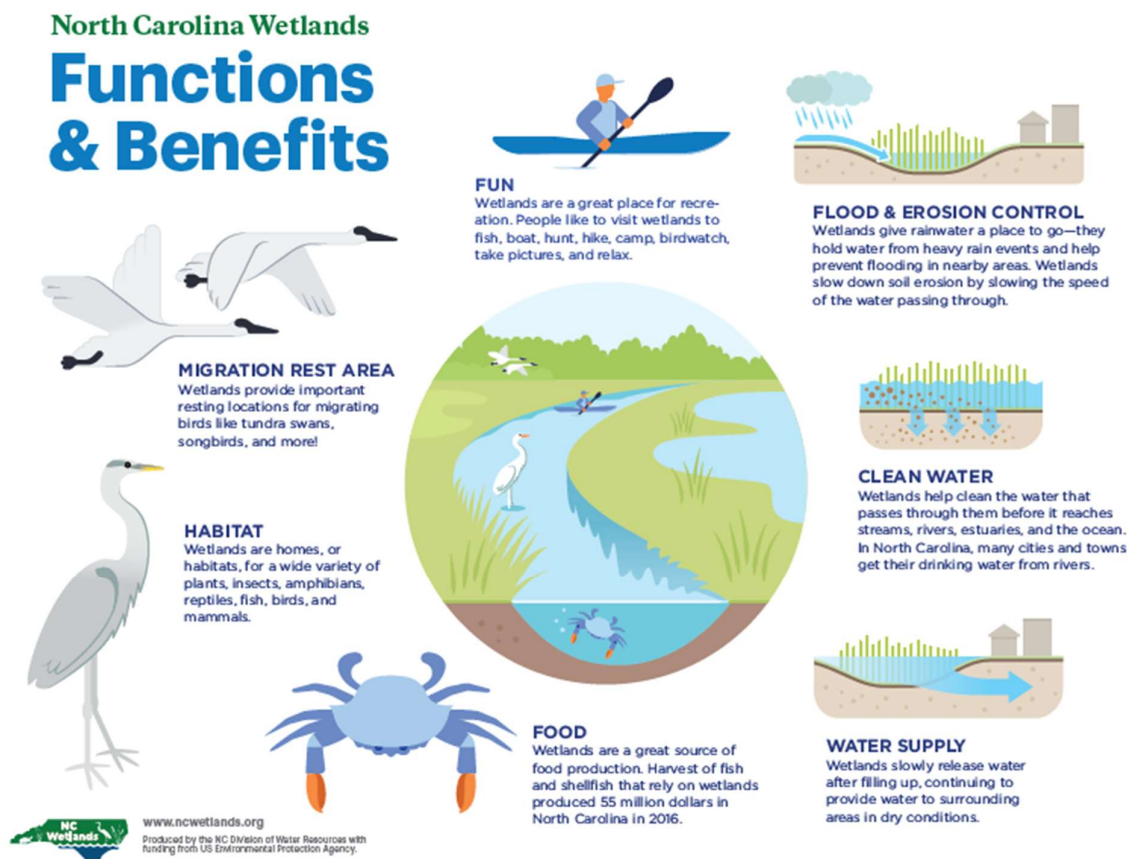
Introduction:

Wetlands are defined as transitional lands between terrestrial and aquatic eco-systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. While covering only 6% of the Earth's surface, wetlands provide a disproportionately high number of ecosystem services, in addition to maintaining biodiversity.



Body:

These include:



Function	Role of Wetlands
Flood Control	Wetlands act as a barrier to absorb excess water, reducing the risk of floods.
Groundwater Replenishment	Wetland systems are directly linked to groundwater and help regulate both the quantity and quality of water found below the ground.
Shoreline Stabilization and Storm Protection	Tidal and intertidal wetland systems protect and stabilize coastal zones by acting as a protective barrier to the shoreline.
Nutrient Retention	Wetland vegetation absorbs and stores nutrients found in the surrounding soil and water, preventing nutrient runoff.
Water Purification	Wetlands contain biofilters, hydrophytes, and organisms capable of removing toxic substances from pesticides, industrial discharges, and mining activities.
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	Wetlands help mitigate climate change by acting as carbon sinks and aid in adaptation by storing and regulating water.

Despite its importance, the world has lost around 87% of natural wetlands since the 1700s and 35% have disappeared since the 1970s. It is estimated that wetlands are vanishing three times faster than forests and their rate of disappearance is increasing.

The reasons for decline are tabulated below:

Causes	Details
Anthropogenic Causes	
Drainage for agriculture, forestry, and mosquito control	Wetlands are drained to create land for farming, forestry, and to reduce mosquito breeding areas.
Dredging and stream channelization for navigation and flood protection	Modifying waterways for navigation and flood control disrupts wetland ecosystems.
Aquaculture/mariculture	Conversion of wetlands into fish or shrimp farms leads to habitat destruction.
Construction of dykes, dams, and seawalls for flood control	Alters natural water flow and affects wetland hydrology.
Discharge of pesticides, herbicides, and nutrients from domestic sewage	Leads to pollution, eutrophication, and degradation of wetland ecosystems.
Groundwater abstraction	Excessive groundwater extraction leads to land subsidence and drying of wetlands.
Sediment diversion by dams, deep channels	Changes in sediment flow disrupt wetland formation and maintenance.
Hydrological alterations by canals, roads, and other structures	Infrastructure development changes natural water movement in wetlands.
Subsidence due to extraction of groundwater, oil, gas, and mining	Resource extraction causes wetland sinking and degradation.
Natural Causes	

Subsidence due to earthquakes, sea level rise, etc.	Natural sinking of land and rising sea levels affect wetland stability.
Drought	Reduced water availability leads to wetland drying.
Hurricanes and other storms	Extreme weather events can erode and destroy wetland areas.
Erosion	Natural soil loss affects wetland formation and sustainability.
Biotic effects (natural as well as induced due to disturbances)	Changes in plant and animal populations impact wetland ecosystems.

Measures taken by the Government to protect wetlands

- India is a party to the Ramsar Convention, an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.
- **Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017** serve as a regulatory framework for conservation and management of wetlands in India.
- **The Indian Environment (Protection) Act, 1986** provides protection and improvement of the environment, including inter-alia, wetlands.
- **The National Environment Policy, 2006** recognises the ecosystem services provided by wetlands and emphasises the need to set up a regulatory mechanism for all wetlands.
- **The National Wetlands Conservation Programme** has been in operation since 1986. Since 2013, the programme has been known as the National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems.
- **The Ministry of Jal Shakti** operates a scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies.
- The central government provides assistance to state governments for implementation of management plans for prioritized wetlands.

Conclusion:

Apart from the government, citizens too need to undertake efforts to protect and improve the natural environment. Individual initiatives combined with government support would go a long way in protecting these ecosystems.

Q.14 Answer

APPROACH:

- Discuss the circumstances at the start of the Second World War and the Congress attitude towards it.
- Write about the arrival and failure of the Cripps Mission, including the reasons for it.
- Conclude appropriately.

Introduction:

After Britain declared war against Germany on 3rd of September, 1939, the British Government of India declared India's support for the war without consulting the Indian opinion. Although, Gandhiji extended his support to the British war efforts for he opposed Nazi and Fascist ideologies, Nehru suggested that India could not be a party to a war being fought for democratic freedom until it itself is free.

Body:

The following points sum up Indian National Congress' attitude towards the Second World War:

- Congress decided to support the war efforts conditionally: The Congress Working Committee (CWC) during its meeting at Wardha adopted a resolution in which it adopted Jawaharlal Nehru's position.

- It condemned Fascist aggression and at the same time asked the British government to end imperialism, declare its war aims, and also provide clarification on how the principles of democracy were to be applied to India after the war.
- Congress agreed to support the war efforts only if the British promised to grant India independence once the war got over.
- Congress ministries resigned: The above offer of the Congress was refused by the British government and in protest, the Congress ministries resigned in October 1939.
- Demand for complete independence: After the August Offer of 1940, which offered Dominion Status, the Congress in its resolution adopted at the Ramgarh session declared that the people of India would accept nothing short of complete independence.

Arrival of Cripps Mission 1942:

After the reverses suffered by Britain in South-East Asia, the threat of Japanese invasion of India became real. India's support to the war efforts became crucial. In March 1942, a mission headed by Sir Stafford Cripps was sent to India with constitutional proposals to seek Indian support for the war.

Party/Group	Objections to Cripps Mission
Congress	- Dominion status instead of complete independence. - Representation of princely states by nominees instead of elected representatives. - Right of provinces to secede. - No plan for immediate transfer of power; Governor General's supremacy was retained.
Muslim League	- Rejection of the idea of a single Indian Union. - Opposition to the proposed machinery for the creation of a Constituent Assembly.

The failure of Cripps Mission to resolve the constitutional deadlock exposed Britain's unchanged attitude on constitutional advancement in India. The rejection of Cripps proposal by the political parties further showed that India would not compromise on complete independence. Its failure emboldened the spirits of those demanding partition of the country. If the British government had offered India the assurance of independence after the war, as the United States of America had done in the case of the Philippines, the cooperation of the Indian National Congress during the war could have been possible.

Conclusion:

After the failure of the Cripps Mission, Mahatma Gandhi decided to launch his third major movement against British rule, the "Quit India" movement in August 1942. It was the last major blow to the British rule in India, as they realised that they can only delay but not deny the grant of independence to Indians. It eventually culminated in the Indian independence on 15th August, 1947.

Q.15 Answer

APPROACH:

- Introduce the answer with the geo-political backdrop post the independence of India.
- Substantiate how both Panchsheel and NAM helped in Indian foreign policy to conduct its diplomatic relations during the Cold War era.
- Conclude by highlighting the criticism over both the policies and establishing their contemporary relevance.

Introduction:

It was in the backdrop of newly gained independence and the chaotic world order owing to the Cold War that set the context for India's foreign policy after independence. India opted for Panchsheel and NAM as principles underlying its foreign policy as it had to assert its sovereignty and not become a satellite of any other nation.

Non-Aligned Movement marks 60th anniversary

Founded in 1961 under leadership of then Yugoslavia, Non-Aligned Movement gathered more than 100 countries in Serbia's capital Belgrade on its 60th anniversary



**NON-ALIGNED
MOVEMENT**

Member countries

Formed in **1961**

Established during **Cold War** to avoid polarization between East and West

Called 3rd bloc **against US and Soviet Union**

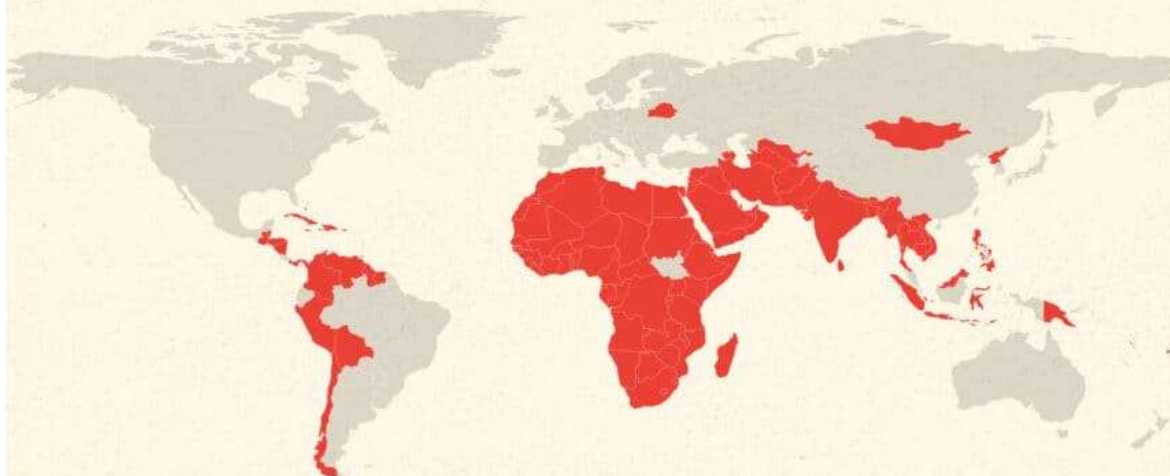
Political, economic turmoil

in member countries prevented movement from developing

Non-Aligned Movement **completely lost its influence** after death of **Yosip Broz Tito**, then leader of Yugoslavia, in 1980

Non-Aligned Movement currently **has 120 members**

Most recent group summit was held in 2019 in Azerbaijan's capital, Baku



11.10.2021



Body:

The five principles of Panchsheel included Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, Mutual non-aggression, Mutual non-interference, Equality and mutual benefit, and Peaceful co-existence.

The Non-Alignment Movement (NAM) was based on the concept that countries of the developing world should abstain from allying with either of the two superpowers (the United States and the U.S.S.R.) and should instead join together in support of national self-determination against all forms of colonialism and imperialism.

The principles of Panchsheel and NAM as foundational pillars of India's foreign policy aided India in maneuvering the Cold War era in following ways:

Aspect	Details
India's Role in NAM	India, as a founder member of NAM during the Cold War, remained non-aligned and refused to favour any superpower. It maintained close relationships with both the US and USSR to support its developmental efforts after independence.
Polarisation of the World	The developed world was divided into two nuclear blocs led by the USA and USSR. Third world countries were coerced into superpower competition. India's foreign policy provided a voice to newly independent nations, promoting an alternative ideology focused on peace and development.
Panchsheel Principles	Panchsheel became the guiding principle of the Asian-African movement for equality and freedom against colonialism and imperialism. These principles influenced the Non-Aligned Movement and were later adopted by the United Nations in 1957.
Major Contributions of NAM	NAM called for greater representation of third world countries in the UNSC, cessation of the arms race, and the end of apartheid. It promoted cultural diversity and human rights and introduced the idea of a New International Economic Order (NIEO), reflected in trade reforms proposed by UNCTAD.

Conclusion:

However, despite **adopting Panchsheel principles**, India had to face war with China in 1962. Also, NAM was accused of not taking firm actions to address global issues and instead maintaining a passive or indecisive approach. It was also said that NAM lost its relevance after the disintegration of the USSR. But, both the policies are still significant in the 21st century, especially when a new form of cold war is beginning to unfold between the USA and China and a neo-colonial tendency is reflected in the actions of China in its dealings with Asian and African nations.