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THIS MAGAZINE IS A RESULT OF TEAM COLLABORATION. WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO ALL OUR TEAM MEMBERS. APART FROM THE GIVEN NAMES, SEVERAL FREELANCE WRITERS HAVE ALSO MADE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS.

DEAR ASPIRANTS,

The UPSC has postponed the Preliminary Examination, and the new date of examination is October 4th 2020. But this is not an ordinary postponement. It comes at a time when our country is in the midst of a health crisis never seen since Independence. It is taking a toll on all fronts – economic, social, political and personal. Despite that, we know that the crisis of the Second World War produced some of the finest statesmen, thinkers, scientists and civil servants in England. So, let this crisis do the same to the steel frame of India. As an aspirant, you owe it now, to yourself and your countrymen as such, to prepare yourself to become the finest public servants India has ever produced.

Towards this goal, every aspirant must now adhere to a new set of rules. Rule number one is to get online. Since classroom programs are on hold on Government orders and no date has been released officially when classroom teaching can be resumed, your best and the only option is to prepare from online classes. Therefore, everything in the world of UPSC coaching is now shifting online at a pace forced by the needs of the aspirant. Some institutes have even come up with online courses without thinking twice and be wary of those. Before joining any online courses, always have a good understanding of what such courses will entail.

The second rule is not to break the continuity of your preparation. The third rule is to acquaint yourself with learning from videos and digital documents like PDFs. Students in technologically advanced countries like the USA were already using digital technologies to accomplish their goals and targets. In this moment of crisis, they will transition to learning from home at a rate smoother than India, but that does not mean we cannot

After a lot of planning and work, and definitely after thinking more than twice, we at Drishti IAS have been able to put together one of the best online preparation courses for UPSC in India. We believe we will be able to help you transit smoothly into the digital learning space, make your online preparation and engagement with us worth the while. We are confident that our online learning tools like the website, pen-drives, new app, will be extremely useful in your preparation in the next four months and that come October 4th, we are sure you will be ready to win the day!

Wishing you all the best in your future endeavours. We look forward to your feedback and suggestions

> With Best Wishes Vins Bry with

(Dr. Vikas Divyakirti)

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Polity & Governance

Basic Structure of Constitution

The concept of 'basic structure' came into existence in the landmark judgment in Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala case (1973), 47 years ago.

■ However, the basic structure theory was first introduced by Justice Mudholkar in the Sajjan Singh case (1965) by referring to a 1963 decision of the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

Background

- Since the adoption of Indian Constitution, debates have started regarding the power of the Parliament to amend key provisions of the Constitution.
- In the early years of Independence, the Supreme Court conceded absolute power to Parliament in amending the Constitution, as was seen in the verdicts in Shankari Prasad case (1951) and Sajjan Singh case (1965).
 - In both the cases the court had ruled that the term "law" in Article 13 must be taken to mean rules or regulations made in exercise of ordinary legislative power and not amendments to the Constitution made in exercise of constituent power under Article 368.
 - This means Parliament had the power to amend any part of the constitution including Fundamental rights.
 - Article 13 (2) reads, "The State shall not make any law which takes away or abridges the right conferred by this Part (Part-III) and any law made in contravention of this clause shall, to the extent of contravention, be void."
- However, in the Golaknath case (1967), the Supreme Court held that Parliament could not amend Fundamental Rights, and this power would be only with a Constituent Assembly.
 - The Court held that an amendment under Article 368 is "law" within the meaning of Article 13 of the Constitution and therefore, if an amendment "takes away or abridges" a Fundamental Right conferred by Part III, it is void.
- To get over the judgments of the Supreme Court in the Golaknath case (1967), RC Cooper case (1970), and Madhavrao Scindia case (1970), the then government headed by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had enacted major amendments to the Constitution (the 24th, 25th, 26th and 29th).
- All the four amendments brought by the government were challenged in the Kesavananda Bharati case.

Kesavananda Bharati Case

■ In Kesavananda Bharati case, a relief was sought against the Kerala government vis-à-vis two state

land reform laws, which imposed restrictions on the management of religious property.

- The case was challenged under Article 26, concerning the right to manage religiously owned property without government interference.
- Question underlying the case: Was the power of Parliament to amend the Constitution unlimited? In other words, could Parliament alter, amend, abrogate any part of the Constitution even to the extent of taking away all fundamental rights?
- The Constitutional Bench in Kesavananda Bharati case ruled by a 7-6 verdict that Parliament could amend any part of the Constitution so long as it did not alter or amend the basic structure or essential features of the Constitution.
- However, the court did not define the term 'basic structure', and only listed a few principles federalism, secularism, democracy — as being its part.
- The 'basic structure' doctrine has since been interpreted to include:
 - the supremacy of the Constitution,
 - the rule of law,
 - Independence of the judiciary,
 - doctrine of separation of powers,
 - · sovereign democratic republic,
 - the parliamentary system of government,
 - the principle of free and fair elections,
 - welfare state, etc.
 - Power of the Supreme Court under Articles 32, 136, 142 and 147
 - Power of the High Court under Articles 226 and 227
- An example of application of basic structure is the SR Bommai case (1994).
 - In this case the Supreme Court upheld the validity of President's Rule in three states (Madhya pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan) on the ground that secularism is a 'Basic Feature' of the Constitution.
- Arguments related to Basic structure:
 - Critics of the doctrine have called it undemocratic, since unelected judges can strike down a

Nation & States

Report on Energy Efficiency Measures

Recently the Ministry of Power and New & Renewable Energy released a report on the "Impact of energy efficiency measures for the year 2018-19".

Key Points

- Objective: To evaluate the performance and impact of all the key energy efficiency programmes in India, in terms of total energy saved and the related reduction in the CO, emissions.
- Agency Involved: The report was prepared by a third party agency PWC Ltd, who was engaged by Bureau of Energy efficiency (BEE).
- Methodology: Since 2017-18, every year BEE has been appointing a third party expert agency which compares the estimated and actual energy consumption due to various energy efficiency schemes.
 - The study assesses the resultant impact of current schemes at national as well as state level for the financial year and compares it with a situation where the same were not implemented.
- Electricity Saving: Implementation of various energy efficiency schemes have led to total electricity savings to the tune of 113.16 Billion Units in 2018-19, which is 9.39% of the net electricity consumption.
 - The total energy savings achieved in 2018-19 is 23.73 Mtoe (million Tonne of Oil Equivalent), which is 2.69% of the total primary energy supply (estimated to be 879.23 Mtoe in India).
- Emission Reduction: These efforts have also contributed in reducing 151.74 Million Tonnes of CO₂ emissions, whereas last year this number was 108 Million Tonnes of CO₂.
- Flagship Programmes: This year the study has identified the following major programmes, viz.
 Perform, Achieve and Trade Scheme, Standards & Labelling Programme, UJALA Programme, Municipal Demand Side Management Programme.

Perform, Achieve and Trade Scheme

- It is a market-based mechanism to further accelerate as well as incentivize energy efficiency in the large energy-intensive industries.
- This market- based mechanism is facilitated through the trading of Energy Savings Certificates (ESCerts) which are issued to those plants who have overachieved their targets.
- The ESCerts were introduced in India in 2011 under the Perform,
 Achieve Trade scheme (PAT) by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) under the National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE).
 - NMEEE is one of the eight national missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) launched by the Government of India in the year 2008.
- Those plants which under achieve their targets are entitled to purchase ESCerts through two power exchanges - Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) and Power Exchange India Limited (PXIL).
- The scheme is unique in many ways, particularly from a developing country's perspective since it creates a market for energy efficiency through tradable certificates ESCerts, by allowing them to be used for meeting energy reduction targets.

Standards & Labelling Programme

- A key objective of this programme by BEE is to provide the consumer an informed choice about the energy saving and thereby the cost saving potential of the relevant marketed product.
- The programme targets display of energy performance labels on high energy end use equipment & appliances and lays down minimum energy performance standards.

Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA)

- It was launched in 2015 with a target of replacing 77 crore incandescent lamps with LED bulbs and to nullify the high-cost of LEDs that acted as a barrier previously in the adoption of energy-efficient systems.
- The scheme was implemented to set up a phase-wise LED distribution.
- The objective is to promote efficient lighting, enhance awareness on using efficient equipment that will reduce electricity bills and preserve the environment.
- It is the world's largest domestic lighting project.

Municipal Demand Side Management Programme

- The Municipality Demand Side Management (Mu-DSM) programme of BEE was initiated during the Eleventh five year plan(2007-2012).
- The basic objective of the project is to improve the overall energy efficiency of the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), which could lead to substantial savings in the electricity consumption, thereby resulting in cost reduction/savings for the ULBs.

Economic Scenario

Monetary Policy Review: RBI

The Reserve Bank of India has extended the moratorium on loan repayments by three more months in view of Covid-19. Further, a 40 basis points (bps) cut to both the repo and reverse repo rates has been announced.

- The decision has been taken by the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee which met ahead of its scheduled meeting in early June.
- The latest moves are expected to ease the financial burden on businesses due to the extended lockdown.

Key Points

■ Repo Rate and Reverse Repo Rate:

- **Decision:** The repo rate is presently at 4%, while the reverse repo rate stands at 3.35%.
- Impact: This will make funds cheaper for banks, thus aiding them to bring down loan lending rates.
 Repo rate is the rate at which a country's central bank (RBI) lends money to commercial banks.
 - ◆ The cut in reverse repo rate will prompt banks to lend more rather than keeping their funds with the RBI. Reverse repo rate is the rate at which the central bank of a country borrows money from commercial banks within the country.

Extension of Moratorium on Loan Repayments by another 3 Months:

- **Decision:** The lending institutions have been permitted to extend the moratorium (suspension) on term loan instalments by another three months, i.e., from 1st June, 2020 to 31st August, 2020.
 - A term loan is a loan from a bank for a specific amount that has a specified repayment schedule and either a fixed or floating interest rate.
- Impact: This is expected to help borrowers, especially companies, which have halted production and are facing cash flow problems, to get more time to restart their units.
- Earlier, the RBI announced the moratorium for a three-month period — 1st March to 25th May.

- All Conditions Unchanged: All conditions related to the extension remain unchanged, that is, the loan will not be classified by the lender as a 'nonperforming asset' and there will not be any impact on the creditworthiness of any individual/firm.
 - ◆ A Non Performing Asset (NPA) is a loan or advance for which the principal or interest payment remained overdue for a period of 90 days.

Conversion of Interest Charges into a Term Loan:

- The RBI has allowed borrowers and banks to convert the interest charges during the moratorium period (from 1st March to 31st August) into a term loan which can be repaid by March 2021.
- This is expected to reduce the burden on borrowers who have gone for moratorium.

■ Group Exposure Limit Raised:

- The group exposure limit of banks has been increased from 25% to 30% of the capital base for a temporary period till 30th June, 2021.
- Group exposure limit determines the maximum amount a bank can lend to one business house.
 Under the existing guidelines on the Large Exposures Framework, the exposure of a bank to a group of connected counterparties should not be higher than 25% of its capital base.
- The decision was taken to facilitate flow of resources to the companies as many of them were unable to raise funds from capital markets and are predominantly dependent on funding from banks.

■ For Boosting Foreign Trade:

- A ₹15,000 crore line of credit for a period of 90 days would be extended to the Exim Bank to boost the foreign trade. Export-Import (Exim) Bank is the premier export finance institution of the country.
- The maximum permissible period of pre-shipment and post-shipment export credit sanctioned by banks has been increased from the existing one year to 15 months (for loan disbursements made up to 31st July, 2020).
 - This was done to help exporters support their production and realisation cycles. Simply put,

International Relations

India-Nepal Border Dispute

Recently, Nepal released a new political map that claims Kalapani, Limpiyadhura and Lipulekh of Uttarakhand as part of Nepal's territory. The area of Susta (West Champaran district, Bihar) can also be noted in the new map.

Key Points

- India rejected the new map of Nepal saying that Nepal's new map involves artificial enlargement of territories, which is not based on historical facts and evidence.
- India has urged the Government of Nepal to refrain from such an unjustified cartographic assertion and respect India's sovereignty and territorial integrity.
- Nepal's act is an unilateral act and is contrary to the bilateral understanding to resolve the outstanding boundary issues through diplomatic dialogue.
 - India has asked Nepal to return to dialogue.
- Nepal's move came after India' Defence Minister recently inaugurated a motorable link road that connects India and China, significantly reducing the time of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra.
 - The road passes through territory at the Lipulekh pass that Nepal claims as its own territory.
 - Nepal had also expressed displeasure on the 2015 agreement between India and China for using the Lipulekh pass for trade, without consulting Nepal.
 - Earlier, Nepal had protested strongly against India, when India published a new map which showed the region of Kalapani as part of the Indian territory.
- According to India, the road going through Pithoragarh (Uttarakhand) lies completely within the territory of India.

• The road follows the pre-existing route used by the pilgrims of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra.

Areas of Dispute Between India and Nepal

- Currently, India and Nepal have border disputes over Kalapani - Limpiyadhura - Lipulekh trijunction between India-Nepal and China and Susta area.
- Kalapani Limpiyadhura Lipulekh Trijunction:
 - Kalapani is a valley that is administered by India as a part of the Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand.
 It is situated on the Kailash Mansarovar route.
 - ◆ Kalapani is advantageously located at a height of over 20,000 ft and serves as an observation post for that area.
- The Lipulekh pass is a far western point near Kalapani.
- The Kali River in the Kalapani region demarcates the border between India and Nepal.
 - The Treaty of Sugauli signed by the Kingdom of Nepal and British India (after Anglo-Nepalese War) in 1816 located the Kali River as Nepal's western boundary with India.
- The discrepancy in locating the source of the Kali river led to boundary disputes between India and Nepal, with each country producing maps supporting their own claims.



Environment & Ecology

Locusts Attack

Recently, India has experienced the desert locust outbreak which has damaged crops in five states — Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra — with the Centre issuing a warning to 12 states.

■ These swarms of locusts also have been sighted unusually even in urban areas of Rajasthan.

Locusts in India

- Four species viz. Desert locust (Schistocerca gregaria), Migratory locust (Locusta migratoria), Bombay Locust (Nomadacris succincta) and Tree locust (Anacridium sp.) are found in India.
- The existing series of locust swarms that have entered India via Pakistan had originated in Iran.
- Movement of locusts is facilitated by summer dusty winds, which flow from the Arabian Sea, taking along these creatures from Sindh in Pakistan to western Rajasthan.
- The last major locust outbreak that was reported in Rajasthan was in 1993.
- Locust Warning Organisation (LWO), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, is responsible for monitoring, survey and control of Desert Locust in Scheduled Desert Areas mainly in the States of Rajasthan and Gujarat.

Desert Locusts

- The desert locust (Schistocerca gregaria) is a short-horned grasshopper.
- These locusts are harmless when solitary but undergo a behavioural change when their population builds up rapidly.
- They enter the 'gregarious phase' by forming huge swarms that can travel up to 150 km per day, eating up every bit of greenery on their way.
- These insects feed on a large variety of crops.lf not controlled, locust swarms can threaten the food security of a country.

Early Arrival of Locust

■ Time Period:

- The first swarms were sighted along the India-Pakistan border on April 11, months ahead of the usual time of arrival.
 - In India, locusts are normally sighted during July- October along the Pakistan border.

■ Reasons:

 The cyclonic storms Mekunu and Luban that had struck Oman and Yemen respectively in 2018.

- These turned large deserts tracts into lakes, facilitating locust breeding that continued through 2019.
- Swarms attacking crops in East Africa reached peak populations from November, and built up in southern Iran and Pakistan since the beginning of 2020, with heavy rains in East Africa in March-April enabling further breeding.



Locusts and Urban Areas

- Locusts are being seen in urban areas not historically associated with their sightings, such as — Jaipur, MP's Gwalior, Morena and Sheopur, and recently stray swarms in Maharashtra's Amravati, Nagpur and Wardha.
- There being no crops in the fields, the locusts have moved across states attracted by green cover in search of food.
 - The swarms were aided by **high-speed wind** and thus they made their way to such urban areas.

Impact on Crops

- At present, chances of crop damage are low given that farmers have already harvested their rabi crop.
- The bigger problem will come once the present swarms breed. An adult female locust lays 80-90 eggs thrice in her three-month life cycle.
 - If left uncontrolled, a swarm can grow exponentially to 40-80 million locusts per square kilometre.
 - The locusts will start laying eggs after the monsoon starts and continue breeding for two more months, with newer generations rising during the growth phase of the kharif crop.

Science & Technology

Conversion of Surplus Rice to Ethanol

Recently, the Central government allowed the conversion of surplus rice to ethanol. Ethanol produced will be used in making alcohol-based hand sanitizers and for blending in petrol.

Key Points

- This will lead to utilisation of part of a huge stockpile of 30.57 Million Tonnes (MT) of rice lying with the Food Corporation of India (FCI).
 - The stock is almost 128% more than the buffer stock and strategic requirement norms.

- The National Policy on Biofuels, 2018 allows conversion of surplus quantities of food grains to ethanol when there is a projected oversupply of food grains, based on the approval of NBCC.
- Using surplus rice for ethanol will address the concern of about 750 million litres of grain-based distillery capacities lying idle, due to the lack of feedstock.
 - In India, the total capacity of grain-based distilleries is close to 2 billion litres, of which around 38% (750 million litres) is lying unused.
- Also, Ethanol is one of the most variable alternatives amongst biofuels.

National Policy on Biofuels 2018

Salient Features



An indicative target of 20% blending of ethanol in petrol and 5% blending of biodiesel in diesel is proposed by 2030.

Develop
National
Biomass
repository by
conducting
appraisal of biomass
across the Country.

Categorization of Biofuels into Basic Biofuels - First generation (1G) Bioethanol and biodiesel and "Adavanced Biofuels" - Second Generation (2G) ethanol, drop-in fuels, algae based Third Generation (3G) Biofuels.

Bio diesel production to be encouraged from non edible oilseeds, **used cooking oil**, short gestation crops and development of supply chain mechanisms.

With a thrust on Advanced Biofuels, the Policy indicates a viability gap funding scheme for 2G ethanol Bio refineries of ₹5000 crore in 6 years in addition to additional tax incentives, higher purchase price as compared to 1G biofuels.

Thrust on reserach, development and demonstration in the field of Biofuel feedstock production, advanced conversion technologies from identified feedstock.

Increase scope of raw material for ethanol procurement by encouraging Intermediate (B-Molasses), Sugarcane Juice, Other sugar containing materials and damaged as well as surplus food grains.



Setting up of National Biofuel coordination committee (NBCC) under Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Working Group on Biofuels.

Biofuels

- Any hydrocarbon fuel that is **produced from an organic matter** (living or once living material) in a short period of time (days, weeks, or even months) is considered a biofuel.
- Biofuels may be solid, liquid or gaseous in nature.
 - Solid: Wood, dried plant material, and manure
- Liquid: Bioethanol and Biodiesel
- Gaseous: Biogas
- These can be used to replace or can be used in addition to diesel, petrol or other fossil fuels for transport, stationary, portable and other applications. Also, they can be used to generate heat and electricity.
- Some of the main reasons for shifting to biofuels include emission of the greenhouse gases from fossil fuels and the interest for obtaining fuel from agricultural crops for the benefit of farmers.
- The National Policy on Biofuels 2018 aims to utilize, develop and promote domestic feedstock and its utilization for production of biofuels thereby increasingly substitute fossil fuels while contributing to national energy security, climate change mitigation, apart from creating new employment opportunities in a sustainable way.

History, Art & Culture

GI Tag Status to New Products

Recently, Manipur's Chak-Hao, Gorakhpur (U.P) terracotta, Kashmir saffron, Jharkhand's Sohrai Khovar painting and Telangana's Telia Rumal have bagged the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

Key Points

■ Chak-Hao:

 Chak-Hao is a scented glutinous (sticky) rice which has been in cultivation in Manipur over centuries, and is



characterised by its special aroma.

- The rice is black in colour and takes the longest cooking time of 40-45 minutes due to the presence of a fibrous bran layer and higher crude fibre content.
- It is normally eaten during community feasts and is served as Chak-Hao kheer.
- Chak-Hao has also been used by traditional medical practitioners as part of traditional medicine.

Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh) terracotta:

• The terracotta work of Gorakhpur is a centuries-old traditional art form.



• Uniqueness:

◆ The entire work is done with bare hands.



- ◆ The clay used in the terracotta products is 'Kabis' clay which is found in the ponds of Aurangabad, Bharwalia and Budhadih village areas of Gorakhpur.
- The potters do not use any colour, they only dip the clay structure in a mixture of soda and mango tree barks, and bake it.

◆ The red colour of terracotta does not fade for vears.

Products:

◆ Major products of craftsmanship include the Hauda elephants, Mahawatdar horse, deer, camel, five-faced Ganesha, single-faced Ganesha, elephant table, chandeliers, hanging bells etc.

Kashmir Saffron

- It is cultivated and harvested in the Karewa (highlands) of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Uniqueness: The features which differentiates it from other saffron varieties available the world over are:
 - ◆ It is the only saffron that is grown at an altitude of 1,600 m to 1,800 m above mean sea level.
 - ◆ It has longer and thicker stigmas, natural deep-red colour, high aroma, bitter flavour, chemical-free processing.
 - ◆ It also has a high quantity of **crocin** (colouring strength), safranal (flavour) and picrocrocin (bitterness).
- Types: There are three types of saffron available in Kashmir — Lachha Saffron, Mongra Saffron and Guchhi Saffron.

Uses:

- ◆ Kashmir saffron is used globally as a spice. It also helps in revitalizing health.
- ◆ It is used in cosmetics and for medicinal purposes.
- Benefit of tag: With the GI tag, Kashmir saffron would gain more prominence in the export market.
 - ◆ Iran is the largest producer of saffron and India is a close competitor.

■ Sohrai Khovar Paintings:

• The Sohrai Khovar painting is a traditional and ritualistic mural art.

Social Issues

Global Nutrition Report 2020

The Global Nutrition Report 2020 stated that India is among 88 countries that are likely to miss global nutrition targets by 2025.

■ It also identified the country as one with the highest rates of domestic inequalities in malnutrition.

Global Nutrition Report

- The Global Nutrition Report was conceived following the first Nutrition for Growth Initiative Summit (N4G) in 2013.
 - The first report was published in 2014.
- It acts as a report card on the world's nutrition—globally, regionally, and country by country—and on efforts to improve it.
- It is a multi-stakeholder initiative, consisting of a Stakeholder Group, Independent Expert Group and Report Secretariat.

Global Nutrition Targets

- In 2012, the World Health Assembly (the decisionmaking body of the World Health Organisation) identified six nutrition targets to be met by 2025. These are:
 - Reduce stunting by 40% in children under 5.
 - Reduce the prevalence of anaemia by 50% among women in the age group of 19-49 years.
 - Ensure 30% reduction in low-birth weight.
 - Ensure no increase in childhood overweight.
 - Increase the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months up to at least 50%
 - Reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5%.

India's Status

- India will miss targets for all four nutritional indicators for which there is data available, i.e.
 - Stunting among under-5 children,
 - Anaemia among women of reproductive age,
 - Childhood overweight and
 - Exclusive breastfeeding.
- Stunting and wasting among children
 - Data: 37.9% of children under 5 years are stunted and 20.8% are wasted, compared to the Asia average of 22.7% and 9.4% respectively.

• Inequity:

- ◆ India is identified as among the three worst countries, along with Nigeria and Indonesia, for steep within-country disparities in stunting, where the levels varied four-fold across communities
- ◆ For example, Stunting level in Uttar Pradesh is over 40% and their rate among individuals in the lowest income group is more than double those in the highest income group at 22.0% and 50.7%.
- ◆ In addition, stunting prevalence is 10.1% higher in rural areas compared to urban areas.

Overweight and Obesity

- Data: Rate of overweight and obesity continues to rise, affecting almost a fifth of the adults, at 21.6% of women and 17.8% of men.
- Inequity: There are nearly double as many obese adult females than there are males (5.1% compared to 2.7%).

Anaemia

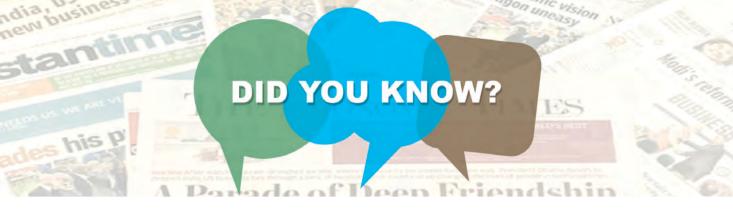
• One in two women of reproductive age is anaemic.

Underweight children

- Between 2000 and 2016, rates of underweight have decreased from 66.0% to 58.1% for boys and 54.2% to 50.1% in girls.
- However, this is still high compared to the average of 35.6% for boys and 31.8% for girls in Asia.

Link Between Malnutrition and Inequity

- The report emphasises on the link between malnutrition and different forms of inequity, such as those based on geographic location, age, gender, ethnicity, education and wealth in all its forms.
- Inequities in food and health systems increase inequalities in nutrition outcomes that in turn can lead to more inequity, perpetuating a vicious cycle.
- Coming at a time the world is battling Covid-19, which has exposed different forms of socio-economic inequities, the report calls for promoting equity to address malnutrition.



Ambubachi Mela

- In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, the annual Ambubachi Mela in Assam will not be organised this year. The annual fair in Assam is organised from 21st to 25th June, every year.
- It marks the annual menstruation of the presiding Goddess in the Kamakhya Temple, Guwahati, Assam. The temple is situated on the Nilachal Hills, whose northern face slopes down to the Brahmaputra river.
- Kamakhya is one of 51 shakti peethas or holy sites for the followers of the Shakti cult, each representing a body part of the Sati, Lord Shiva's companion.
- The ritualistic fair celebrates the Goddess' period due to which taboo associated with menstruation is less in Assam compared to other parts of India.

Jagannath Rath Yatra

- Ratha Yatra or Jatra, also known as Chariot Festival, is a Hindu festival associated with Lord Jagannath held at Puri. Odisha.
- The festival is celebrated on the 2nd day of Shukla Paksha of Ashadh, the third month, according to the traditional Oriya calendar.

Jagannath Temple

- It is believed to be constructed in the 12th century by King Anatavarman Chodaganga Deva of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty.
- It is called 'Yamanika Tirtha' where, according to the Hindu beliefs, the power of 'Yama', the God of Death has been nullified in Puri due to the presence of Lord Jagannath.
- This temple was called the 'White Pagoda' and is a part of Char Dham pilgrimages (Badrinath, Dwaraka, Puri and Rameswaram).
- There are four gates to the temple- Eastern 'Singhdwara' which is the main gate with two crouching lions, Southern 'Ashwadwara', Western 'Vyaghradwara' and Northern 'Hastidwara'. There is a carving of each form at each gate.
- In front of the entrance stands the Aruna Stambha or sun pillar, which was originally at the Sun Temple in Konark.

 During the festival, the three chariots carrying idols of Lord Jagannath, his brother Balaram (Balabhadra) and sister Subhadra are pulled by thousands of devotees from India and abroad.

Devanahalli Pomelo Trees

- To mark the 50th anniversary of World Earth Day, Devanahalli Pomelo trees were planted by Bangalore International Airport Limited as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- Devanahalli pomelo is a variety of citrus, almost on the brink of extinction.
- Pomelo is a parent of the grapefruit and is also known by its scientific name Citrus Maxima. The fruit is rich in Vitamin C.
- It has a Geographical Indication (GI) tag. It is grown in Devanahalli taluk, Banglore (Karnataka) and is popularly known as chakota.

Strategic Petroleum Reserves

- India has decided to fill its strategic petroleum reserves in view of the slump in crude prices.
- Strategic petroleum reserves are huge stockpiles of crude oil to deal with any crude oil-related crisis like the risk of supply disruption from natural disasters, war or other calamities.
- According to the agreement on an International Energy Programme (IEP), each International Energy Agency (IEA) country has an obligation to hold emergency oil stocks equivalent to at least 90 days of net oil imports.
- India's strategic crude oil storages are currently located at Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Mangaluru (Karnataka), and Padur (Karnataka).
 - The government has also given approval for setting up of two additional facilities at Chandikhol (Odisha) and Padur (Karnataka).



GIST OF MAJOR ARTICLES FROM THE MAY 2020 ISSUE

Benchmarking Healthcare System

The NITI Aayog has established the Health Index as an annual systematic tool to leverage cooperative and competitive federalism to accelerate the pace of achieving health outcomes and encourage crosslearning among states. NITI Aayog releases it along with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the World Bank.

Health Index

- It is the first ever systematic exercise for tracking the progress on health outcomes and health systems' performance across all the States and Union Territories (UTs) in India on an annual basis.
- It is a weighted-composite Index based on select indicators in three domains:
 - Health Outcomes:
 - Governance and Information; and
 - Key Inputs and Processes.
- The vision behind establishing the annual systematic tool is to propel States towards undertaking multipronged interventions and drive efforts towards achievement of SDG Goal 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing).
- An analysis of this can help States in focusing attention on better targeting of interventions and improving the delivery of health services and also an opportunity of sharing best practices.
- The Index is an innovative tool as it not only fosters competition among states by comparing similar states to each other but also nudges them to better their own performance in the previous year.
- The gap between the best performing states and the least performing states is very wide:
 - Kerala and Uttar Pradesh are separated by around 45 points, Mizoram and Nagaland by around 36 points, and Chandigarh and Daman and Diu by around 22 points as indicated by the Overall Performance Scores for 2017-18 (Health Index, 2019).

- The States are grouped into three categories: Aspirants, Achievers, and Front-runners.
 - Andhra Pradesh had the highest proportion of indicators (63%) among the larger States which fell in the category of most improved or improved.

Room for improvement

- It is envisaged that tracking progress on incremental performance will also help shake complacency among "Healthiest Large States" such as Kerala, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu that have historically done well.
- The Health Index has the potential to be a gamechanger as it can shift the focus from budget spends, inputs and outputs to outcomes by shining the light on States that have shown most improvement.
- The need of the hour is to make outcome data available for smaller States and UTs more frequent and updated outcomes for non-communicable diseases.
- Financial protection, and other priority areas, and the robust programmatic data that can be used for continuous monitoring.

Conclusion

The Health Index is an important instrument in understanding the variations and complexity of the nation's performance in health. However, there are limitations to the Index as no single index can purport to comprehensively capture the complex story of the evolution of the health system.

Strengthening Health Systems

India has largely achieved Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and is committed to Universal Health Coverage (UHC) which is one of the targets of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by 2030. The SDG 3 targets to achieve UHC, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health care services, and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.



GIST OF MAJOR ARTICLES FROM THE MAY 2020 ISSUE

Women, Agriculture and Rural Prosperity

There has been an increasing trend in the role played by women in agricultural activities in rural areas. Women have been instrumental in agricultural development and rural prosperity.

Key points

- Agriculture in India, contributing about 15.5% of GDP, is a female intensive activity.
- The Agriculture Census, 2015–16 has revealed a very promising trend.
 - The census established that the share of **female** operational holders has increased from 12.79% in 2010-11 to 13.87% in 2015-16.
 - In terms of the **operated area**, the share of women increased from 10.36% to 11.57%.
- This signifies that more and more females are participating in the management and operation of agricultural lands.

Agriculture and female employment

- The central role in all operations of agriculture and even rural household management is played by women.
- They are involved in all aspects of agriculture, from crop and seed selection to harvest and post-harvest management, marketing, and processing.
- According to estimates, the agricultural sector employs about 4/5th of all economically active women.
- Women have a clear edge in dairying and animal husbandry also.
- Rural women play a vital role not only in crop planning and cultivation but also in high-value activities like horticulture, primary food processing, livestock rearing, fisheries and cottage industries.

Financial inclusion and rural women

■ NABARD's All India Rural Financial Inclusion Survey, 2016–17 indicated that the structure of rural income has been changing rapidly.

- Agriculture which happened to be a major source of income for the rural households a few years earlier has been transformed and the wages including labour wages have taken a front seat both in Agri and non-Agri households in terms of earnings to households.
- However, agriculture is still an engine of growth and poverty reduction in rural areas being the main occupation for the poor.
- According to NABARD's estimates, close to 60% of women members participating in the survey were attending domestic duties and not engaged in any economic activity.
- It is evident that rapid urbanisation in India is yet to become inclusive to encourage women to join the labour force.

Challenges

- Agri-census 2015 data shows that 12 states account for about 92% of the number of women farmers and areas operated by them showing a countrywide disparity.
 - The average landholdings with women farmers are 0.9 ha while the highest is of 2.84 ha in Nagaland.
- Women have very limited access to productive resources which consequently limits their productivity.
- The jobs in rural areas have been decreasing and not enough rural women have been able to make the transition to working in urban areas.

Way forward

- Mobilizing rural women: Till date 64.39 lakh, SHGs with 7.05 crore members have been established and revived under NRLM. The movement needs to be continued along with more and more employment to women workers under another flagship rural employment programme MGNREGA and others.
- Role of financial institutions: They need to play a proactive role in last-mile accessibility of credit to the



GIST OF MAJOR ARTICLES FROM 30 APRIL AND 15 MAY ISSUES

World After Coronavirus

The current global scenario due to COVID-19 has brought four possible futures to the world: a descent into barbarism, a robust state capitalism, a radical state socialism, and a transformation into a big society built on mutual aid.

Barbarism

- Barbarism will be the future if we continue to rely on exchange value as our guiding principle and yet refuse to extend support to those who get locked out of markets by illness or unemployment.
- Businesses fail and workers starve because there are no mechanisms in place to protect them from the harsh realities of the market.
- The subsequent failure of the economy and society would trigger political and social unrest, leading to a failed state and the collapse of both state and community welfare systems.

State capitalism

- It is a form of capitalism in which the Central government controls most of the capital, industry, natural resources, etc.
- It is the dominant response we are seeing across the world right now. Typical examples are the UK, Spain and Denmark.
- The state capitalist society continues to pursue exchange value as the guiding light of the economy. But it recognises that markets in crisis require support from the state.
- It also enacts a massive Keynesian stimulus by extending credit and making direct payments to businesses.
- Increased illness and death will provoke unrest and deepen economic impacts, forcing the state to take more and more radical actions to try to maintain market functioning.

State socialism

- State socialism describes the future with a cultural shift that places a different kind of value at the heart of the economy.
- The key here is that measures like nationalisation of hospitals and payments to workers are seen not as tools to protect markets, but a way to protect life itself.
- Citizens no longer rely on employers as intermediaries between them and the basic materials of life. Payments are made to everyone directly and are not related to the exchange value they create.
- There are risks to this approach-we must be careful to avoid authoritarianism. But done well, this may be our best hope against an extreme COVID-19 outbreak.

Mutual aid

- In this future we will adopt the protection of life as the guiding principle of our economy. But, in this scenario, the state does not take a defining role. Rather, individuals and small groups begin to organise support and care within their communities.
- The risks with this future is that small groups are unable to rapidly mobilise the kind of resources needed to effectively increase healthcare capacity, for instance.
- But mutual aid could enable more effective transmission prevention, by building community support networks that protect the vulnerable and police isolation rules.

Conclusion

Social change can come from many places and with many influences. A key task for us all is demanding that emerging social forms come from an ethic that values care, life, and democracy. The Central political task in this time of crisis is living and (virtually) organising around those values.



O THE POINT

Designed to hit the bull's eye: Point wise, short, crisp material in an easy-to-understand format.

Power Sector of India

Why in news?

- Recently, the part of the package announced by the Finance Minister was a ₹90,000 crore liquidity injection into power distribution companies (discoms).
- This is subject to the condition that the Centre will act as guarantor for loans given by the state-owned power finance companies such as PFC and REC Ltd. to the discoms.

Key points

- With a generation of 1,561 terawatt-hours (TWh), India is the third-largest producer and the thirdlargest consumer of electricity in the world.
- India is ranked fourth in wind power, fifth in solar power and fifth in renewable power installed capacity as of 2018.
- The Government of India has set a target to achieve 175 GW installed capacity of renewable energy by FY22.

The major sources of Power in India

- Currently, India produces a majority of its energy from thermal sources.
- However, with the commitment to the Paris Agreement (on climate change), there has been a push towards increasing the renewable generation capacity in the country.

Fuel	MW	% of Total
Total Thermal	2,30,600	62.8%
Coal	1,98,525	54.2%
Hydro (Renewable)	45,699	12.4%
Nuclear	6,780	1.9%
RES* (MNRE)	87,028	23.5%
Total	370,106	

NOTE: Electricity is a concurrent subject at Entry 38 in List III of the seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India.

Stakeholders of the Power Sector

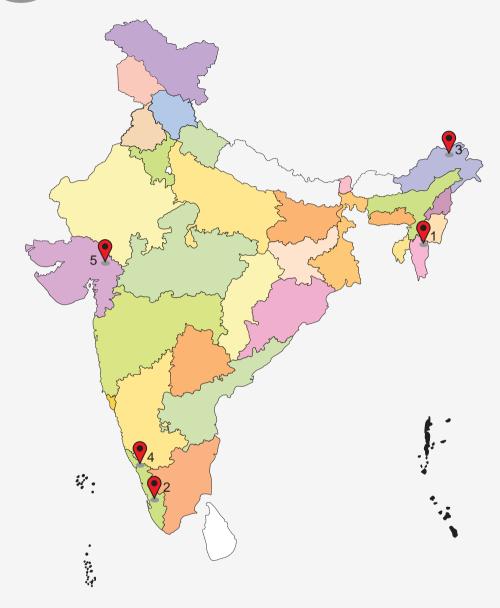
- **Producers**: Electricity is generated at thermal, hydro or renewable energy power plants, which are operated by either state-owned companies such as NTPC Ltd, NHPC Ltd, or private companies such as Tata Power, Adani Power, etc.
- State Governments: The generated electricity then moves through a transmission grid system that connects electricity producers and the end-consumers which is dominated largely by state-owned companies such as Powergrid Corp.
- Distribution Companies (Discoms): Distribution includes maintenance of the distribution network and retail supply of electricity to the consumers mostly carried out by state-owned distribution companies (discoms). However, in cities such as Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, and Kolkata, private entities own the entire distribution business or parts of it. For example, BSES Rajdhani Power is a private discom in Delhi.

Acts and Policies

- Electricity Act 2003 was introduced with the objective to introduce competition, protect consumer's interests and provide power for all. The Act provides for National Electricity Policy, Rural Electrification, Open access in transmission, phased open access in distribution, etc.
- Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs): As per the 2003 Act, distribution licensees enter into PPAs with generation companies for the retail sale of electricity. PPAs are bilateral contracts between the procurers (discoms) and the generators (power plants).



LEARNING

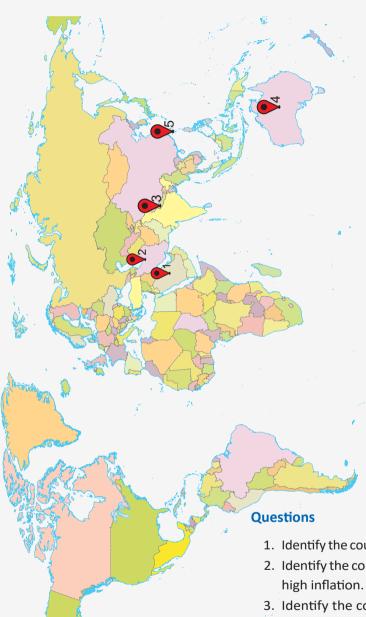


Questions

- 1. Identify the State which has granted industry status to sports.
- 2. Identify the city which got a place in ITC's Video tribute to farmers.
- 3. Identify the State where a tribe has recently revived lockdown festivals Arr-Rinam and Ali-Ternam.
- 4. Identify the pass which runs parallel to Anakkampoyil-Kalladi-Meppadi corridor.
- 5. Identify the state which has recently amended its APMC Act.

(Answers: Refer to Page No. 112)

THROUGH MAPS



- 1. Identify the country which has recently abolished flogging.
- 2. Identify the country which has changed its currency amid high inflation.
- 3. Identify the country which has a dispute with India on Kalapani territory.
- 4. Identify the country which has recently cancelled exercise Pitch Black.
- 5. Identify the country off the southern coast of China where the swearing-in ceremony of its President was virtually attended by two Indian legislators.

(Answers : Refer to Page No. 112)

ESSAY WRITING

COMPETITION

"A drop of ink may make a million think."

- PAPER-I (250 Marks, UPSC CS Main Examination): "Essay: Candidates may be required to write essays on multiple topics. They will be expected to keep closely to the subject of the essay to arrange their ideas in orderly fashion and to write concisely. Credit will be given for effective and exact expression." That is what the UPSC says about the Essay paper in the CSE notification. Through an essay, the commission wants to know if you will make the right civil servant who has balance of judgement, variety and depth of interest, logical exposition and other such bureaucratic qualities.
- Keeping this in mind, we present a forum where you are asked to practice your writing skills by writing essays on the given topics. The topics are decided keeping in view the thematic trends in CS (Mains) examination.
- If that is not all, the best essays shall be rewarded and published. We'll judge the essay based upon four parameters viz. Structure of the essay, Content, Flow and Language.
- The prize details are as follows:

First Prize: 6 Months Subscription Second Prize: 4 Months Subscription Third Prize: 2 Months Subscription

Essay Writing Competition—50

Topic:

'Poverty is the parent of revolution and crime.'

Terms and Conditions—

- 1. The essay shall be of length between 1000-1200 words.
- 2. It should be neatly written or printed on A4 sheets.
- 3. Only one entry per participant is allowed.
- 4. Entries are to be sent by Registered/speed post only on following address: EXECUTIVE EDITOR, DRISHTI CURRENT AFFAIRS TODAY, 641, FIRST FLOOR, DR. MUKHERJEE NAGAR, DELHI-110009. Please mention 'For Essay Competition' in capital letters on the envelope.
- 5. Remember to submit your personal details on the form printed on this page after neatly tearing it off the marked pointers. Submissions without this form shall not be entertained.
- 6. Your essay must reach the given address before 20th June, 2020. Entries reaching us after the given date will not be accepted.
- 7. Essays should be original and not plagiarized or copied except for properly quoted references. Prior published or awarded essays will not be accepted.
- 8. All rights related to the results of the competition are secure with 'Drishti Current Affairs Today'. The winners shall be announced in the subsequent issue of the magazine and the winners shall be contacted by email and telephone.
- 9. Copyrights of the rewarded essays will lie with the magazine which may be used in any way by 'Drishti Publications'.



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Form for Essay Competition-50

(Kindly cut and attach this	s form along with your essay. U	Ise original form and not photocopy.)
Name of participant:		Mobile no.
• •		

TARGET MAINS

PAPER-I

uestion 1. The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre shook the verve and vitality of the Indian freedom struggle. Enumerating the events that followed it, discuss the role of this incident in changing the attitude of the masses towards British rule.

nswer: The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, also called AMassacre of Amritsar was an incident on April 13, 1919, in which British troops fired on a large crowd of unarmed Indians in an open space known as the Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar in Punjab.

Events that followed the massacre:

- The shooting was followed by the proclamation of martial law in the Punjab that included public floggings and other humiliations.
- Indian outrage grew as news of the shooting and subsequent British actions spread throughout the subcontinent.
- The Bengali poet and Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore renounced the knighthood that he had received in 1915.
- Gandhiji began organizing his first large-scale and sustained non-violent protest (satyagraha) campaign, the noncooperation movement (1920–22).
- Newspapers across the world condemned the act, which pressurised the British government to conduct an inquiry against General Dyer (the Hunter Commission).
- As a consequence of the event and the resulting reactions across the country, the Government repealed the Rowlatt Act, the Press Act, and 22 other laws in March 1922.

Significance of this event in changing the attitude of the masses towards British rule.

It was an act so monstrous and shocking that it sowed the seed for the end of British rule in India, reviving a greater sense of nationalism and demand for independence among the citizens of India.

- The massacre shocked the conscience of many Indians who believed in the British idea of rule of law and rule towards self-rule or Swaraj.
- Many stalwarts of the Indian freedom struggle were lawyers trained in Britain; British imposition of a draconian law and the appalling cruelty of the massacre were enough for them to discard their illusions about the British tradition of fair play.

It marked a turning point in India's modern history, in that it left a permanent scar on Indo-British relations as the people began to wilfully break the laws made by the state, the state itself became illegitimate.

uestion 2. The current pandemic has its most visible Limpact in terms of suffering of migrant workers. In this context, explain the concept of reverse migration and discuss the reasons behind it.

nswer: The recent outbreak forced many workers to Amove back to their hometown due to the work crisis and food crisis. This migration is showing a reverse trend from urban area to rural area which was earlier pronounced as urban to rural migration for better employment and life which is termed as reverse migration.

Reasons of reverse migration

- 1. Job loss: This outbreak forced many factories and industries to shut down due to complete trade off. Many migrant workers who are dependent only on wages lost their jobs which made them move back where they might earn from their land.
- 2. Fear of family loss: COVID-19 is the most lethal outbreak in history. Due to this migrants are facing fear of losing their family members and in the ray of hope meeting last time they are forced to go back to their home.
- 3. Quarantine and isolation pressure: It has been seen that isolation facilities are becoming a burden on the state's exchequer. So this huge population of migrants are becoming pressure on states to provide public health and reduce COVID-19 cases.

- It will also create more panic among the people.
- If challenged in court, disclosure of personal information by the government will have to pass the "proportionality test" prescribed by the Supreme Court in the landmark 2017 Puttaswamy verdict that recognised the fundamental right to privacy.

Despite the exceptions in regulations being used to share data with health and government authorities, the regulations that cover the protection of data should be adhered to. For example, the GDPR states that data must be encrypted when at rest and in transit, and these requirements are still mandatory

PAPER-III

Question 7. Enumerate the key provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003. In light of the recent events, to what extent flexibility vis a vis the provisions of the Act is important?

Answer: The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003, intends to bring transparency and accountability in the conduct of the fiscal and monetary actions of the government.

Key provisions of the FRBM Act:

- The FRBM Act made it mandatory for the government to place the following along with the Union Budget documents in Parliament annually:
 - Medium Term Fiscal Policy Statement
 - Macroeconomic Framework Statement
 - Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement
- The FRBM Act proposed that revenue deficit, fiscal deficit, tax revenue and the total outstanding liabilities be projected as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) in the medium-term fiscal policy statement.
- The Act envisages the setting of limits on the Central government's debt and deficits as it limited the fiscal deficit to 3% of the GDP.

Flexibility in FRBM can be utilised as

States have sought relaxation in their fiscal deficit limit by as much as 1-4% of their respective gross state domestic product (GSDP) to deal with the additional spending and sudden fall in revenue on account of the COVID-19 outbreak.

- This fund can be accessed in case of emergencies and to curb on the spread of corona disease.
- If the limit can be raised, the Centre can reduce allocation to States and States on their own can use their revenue.
- The government is concerned that the stringent borrowing cap under the fiscal responsibility law should not constrain its borrowing and spending ability over the remaining 11 months.

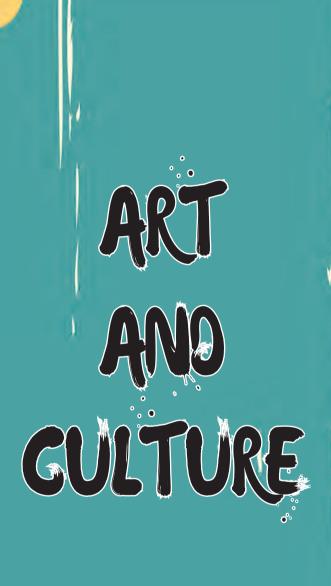
Flexibility under the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003 is needed to ensure that fiscal stimulus in the wake of COVID-19 does not get deterred by FRBM considerations.

Question 8. What does the term globalization imply? The current pandemic has challenged its profitmotivated model for a human-centric one. Discuss.

And political integration of nations. It entails the spread of products, technology, information and jobs across national borders and cultures.

Challenge to globalisation

- Inward policy of nations: The pandemic may exacerbate an existing tendency for countries to turn inward by restricting movement of people and trade.
- People centric: Countries around the world are now responding by restricting the movement of people, blocking the entry of people from countries particularly hard hit by the coronavirus or requiring inbound travelers to self-quarantine for a period of time.
- **Trade restriction:** Of course, once the pandemic has eased, these restrictions will surely be removed. But with this new awareness of the risks associated with the free movement of people, there are some who may avoid future life, business or leisure plans that require crossing borders.
- Populism: This trend towards strengthening national borders was already manifest in a number of countries. Brexit, the rise of populism accompanied by antiforeigner sentiment in multiple European countries, and the America First policy of Trump.



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SUPPREMENT

Section - 1: Architecture

Architecture is the art of building. Over the millennia, the art of building has evolved from simple shelters to complex skyscrapers.

Key features

- Architecture not only provides worldly needs of shelter, workspace and storage but also represents human ideals in buildings like courthouses, government buildings and manifestations of the spirit in churches and temples.
- Traditional architecture has survived over thousands of years in one form or another, while contemporary design offers new approaches in how we use materials and technology to shape the look of our environment.
- The origin of Indian architecture can easily be traced back 5000 years to the Indus Valley Civilization.

INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION

- The Indus Valley Civilization was an urban civilization that prospered during the Bronze Age (2500-2000 BC). It was one of the contemporaries of the Mesopotamian and Egyptian civilizations.
- The remnants of this civilization have been extensively excavated. There are major sites like Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, and there are minor sites like Banawali and Kalibangan.

Building

- The settlement was divided into two sections, one smaller but higher and the other much larger but lower. Archaeologists designate these as the Citadel and the Lower Town respectively.
- The Citadel owes its height to the fact that buildings were constructed on mud-brick platforms. It was walled, which meant that it was physically separated from the Lower Town.
- The Lower Town was also walled. Several buildings were built on platforms, which served as foundations.
- The "Great Granary" in Mohenjo-Daro was built on a raised platform. It also had air ducts in its design.
 These were measures to protect grain from flood, pests and from rotting.

 Bricks, sun-dried or baked, used in buildings were of a standardised ratio. Such bricks were used at all Harappan settlements.

Drainage system

- Roads and streets were laid out along an approximate "grid" pattern, intersecting at right angles. It seems that streets with drains were laid out first and then houses built along with them.
- If domestic wastewater had to flow into the street drains, every house needed to have at least one wall along a street.
- They also used arches in their buildings but only as underground foundations or when building drains and not as structural designs for the standing buildings.

Public bath

- A watertight pool called the Great Bath, perched on top of a mound of dirt, was a large rectangular tank in a courtyard surrounded by a corridor on all four sides.
- There were two flights of steps on the north and south leading into the tank, which was made watertight by setting bricks on edge and using a mortar of gypsum.
- There were rooms on three sides, in one of which was a large well. Water from the tank flowed into a huge drain.
- It is believed that this tank would have been used for special religious functions where water was used to purify and renew the well being of the bathers.
- The 'college of priests' is the name given to the large building that stood adjacent to the Great Bath.

Personal Dwellings

- Generally, rooms were built around a central courtyard and front doors rarely faced the main street. Some two-storied houses were also found suggesting the presence of a middle or elite class.
- These types of houses had wells, bathrooms and were mostly ventilated suggesting a high degree of urban opulence.

Portuguese School of Architecture

- The Portuguese brought the Iberian Style of architecture to India.
- They introduced the patio style of building houses and also built Baroque Churches.
- For example, St. Cathedral (Goa), Castella de Aguanda (Mumbai).

French School of Architecture

- The French built planned cities like Pondicherry (Puducherry) using Cartesian grids.
- They introduced anonymous architecture in India.
- For example, the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Puducherry).

British School of Architecture (Indo-Gothic Style)

- It is called the Victorian style of architecture and it fused Indian, Persian and Gothic styles.
- Its features were elaborate and large constructions, thinner walls, large windows, pointed arches and were constructed using concrete, iron and steel.

■ For example, Victoria Memorial (Kolkata) Gateway of India (Mumbai).

British School of Architecture (Neo-Roman Style)

- After 1911, the British introduced the Neoclassical style of architecture in India.
- Its features were anonymous designs, fusion of many styles, limited artistic expressions, compromise on utility, overuse of oriental motifs, introduction of the upturned dome and the emphasis on circular buildings.
- For example, Rashtrapati Bhavan and Supreme Court (Delhi).

Post-independence India saw the decline of the architecture traditions as the constructions focused primarily on the utility and economic viability of the buildings. The concept of modern economic buildings was introduced and it broke the continuity in the architectural traditions of the preceding ages.

Laurie Baker

He is known as the 'Architect of the Poor' as he designed mass housing projects in Kerala. His construction style used locally available material and was eco-friendly. He also introduced the now-common method of using filler slabs to replace steel while constructing homes.

Section - 2: Paintings, Music, Dance, Theatre and Puppetry

PAINTINGS

Painting is one of the most delicate forms of art giving expression to human thoughts and feelings through the media of line and colour. Many thousands of years before the dawn of history, when man was only a cave dweller, he painted his rock shelters to satisfy his aesthetic sensitivity and creative urge.

Key features

- History of Indian paintings can be traced back to the primitive rock paintings of Bhimbetka, Hosangabad, Mirzapur and Panchmarhi. This followed the painted pottery of the Indus Valley Civilization, but the real beginning of the art of painting began from the Gupta Age.
- The paintings are primitive records of wild animals, war processions and hunting scenes. They are crudely but most realistically drawn. All these drawings bear a remarkable resemblance to the famous rock shelter paintings in Spain, which are presumed to be the work of Neolithic man.

 Vishakhadutta's famous Sanskrit play Mudrarakshasa also had mention of many paintings. It also mentions 6 principles/limbs of paintings:

Rupabheda	Variety of form
Sadrisyan	Portrayal of likeliness of the subject
Bhava	Creation of lustre with the colours
Varnika Bhanga	Mixing of colours to resemble the effects of modeling
Pramanam	Proportion of the object or subject
Lavanya Yojanam	Immersion of emotions

Under Akbar, the Portuguese introduced the idea of foreshortening thus giving the 3D effects to the pictures. Akbar established a place called **Karkhana** where artists from various countries came and collectively worked on producing paintings.

Wall paintings

 The tradition of wall paintings has been passed down from pre-historic times to us today. Paintings are done on walls to invoke the gods to bless the soil, The music is dominantly influenced by the classical music of the region and the theme of the puppet plays are drawn from the Ramayana, Mahabharata and Puranas.

Ravana Chhaya, Orissa

- The puppets are in one piece and have no joints.
 They are not coloured, hence throw opaque shadows on the screen.
- The puppets are made of deer's skin and are conceived in bold dramatic poses.

Rod Puppets

Putul Nautch, West Bengal

- They are carved from wood and follow the various artistic styles of a particular region.
- The Bengal rod-puppets, which survive are about 3 to 4 feet in height and are costumed like the actors of Jatra, a traditional theatre form prevalent in the State.

■ Yampuri, Bihar

- These puppets are made of wood. Unlike the traditional Rod puppets of West Bengal and Orissa, these puppets are in one piece and have no joints.
- As these puppets have no joints, the manipulation is different from other Rod puppets and requires greater dexterity.

Glove Puppets

■ Pavakoothu, Kerala

- It came into existence during the 18th century due to the influence of Kathakali, the famous classical dance-drama of Kerala, on puppet performances.
- The musical instruments used during the performance are Chenda, Chengiloa, Ilathalam and Shankha.
- The theme for Glove puppet plays in Kerala is based on the episodes from either the Ramayana or the Mahabharata.

Section - 3: Philosophy in India, Language and Literature

SCHOOLS OF PHILOSOPHY

Key Points

- The tradition of philosophy is as old as the tradition of literature in the Indian context. Some of the earliest works were in fact philosophical works that questioned the mysteries of life.
- In answering these questions the philosophical traditions often merged with religious and social traditions, thereby helping create a new social and political order on the lines of Varna division.
- Even though there were many different strands of philosophical thought, yet the four basic goals of human life were agreed upon without much confusion.
 - The goal of Artha (wealth) was dealt with in the Arthashastra,
 - The goal of Dharma (social regulation) was described in the Dharmashastra,
 - The goal of Kama (sexual pleasure) was elaborated in the Kamashastra or the Kamasutra and
 - The goal of Moksha (salvation) was tackled in many Darshana texts.
- The common theme running across these different schools of ancient philosophy was

the attainment of salvation or the freedom from the cycle of birth and death.

- It was only on the methods advocated for the attainment of salvation that these schools disagreed upon. Based on these disagreements, the ancient Indian schools of philosophy are classified.
- The ancient philosophy of India can be broadly divided into two major strands the Orthodox School and the Heterodox School. Both Schools are further subdivided into six and three major schools respectively.

The Orthodox School of Philosophy

- The Orthodox School believed in the supremacy of the Vedas. They believed that the ancient scriptures were the guide to human salvation. The authenticity of the ancient texts was not questioned.
- It was during the later Vedic period that definite ideas and philosophies about the true nature of the soul or atman and the cosmic principle or brahman who represented the ultimate reality were developed.
- These Vedic philosophical concepts, later on, gave rise to six different schools of philosophies called Shada Darshana.

TNAMBARAS

- The most important text in Punjabi literature is Adi Granth, the religious book of the Sikhs.
- The tenth guru of Sikhs, Guru Gobind Singh contributed to the **Adi Granth** and also wrote poetry in Punjabi known as Savaiyyas.
- Guru Nanak was the first poet in Punjabi. Some other contemporary poets, mostly Sufi saints, used to sing in this language.
- These Sufis or their followers used the Persian script if they wanted to commit their poetry to writing. In this list, the first name is that of Farid. His poetry has found a place in the Adi Granth.

Marathi

- The earliest Marathi poetry and prose is by Saint Jnaneshwar (Gyaneshwar) who lived in the 13th century. He wrote a long commentary on the Bhagavad Gita. He was the one who started the kirtan tradition in Maharashtra.
- He was followed by Namdev (1270-1350), Gora, Sena and Janabai. All these sang and popularised the Marathi language.
- Almost two centuries later, Eknath (1533-99) wrote the commentaries on the Ramayana and the Bhagavad Purana. His songs are very popular all over Maharashtra.
- The closing years of the 19th century saw an upsurge in the Marathi literature. It was a nationalist movement that made Marathi prose popular and prominent. Bal Gangadhar Tilak (I 857-1920) started his Journal Kesari in Marathi.

■ Hari Narayan Apte, V S Chiplunkar, M G Ranade, K T Telang etc. were some of the important writers and poets of that period.

Kashmiri

- Kashmir shot into literary prominence, when Kalhana wrote Rajatarangini in Sanskrit but this was in the language of the elite.
- For locals, Kashmiri was the popular dialect.
- Lal Ded, who lived in the 14th century, was probably the first to sing in the Kashmiri language. She was a Shaivite mystic.
- After Islam spread in this area, the Sufi influence also came to be visible. The later literary works in Kashmir were dominated by Dogri, due to the passing of political power of Kashmir to the Dogra family.

Assamese

Although Assamese literature was dominated by court chronicles called Buranjis, several poetry and other literary works have also been composed by writers such as Shankardev, Padmanaba Gohain Barua, etc.

Gujarati

- Various popular names are attached with Gujarati literature like Narsinh Mehta, Govardhan Ram, SaraswatiChandra, etc.
- The literature reached its zenith with the writings of Dr K M Munshi, who wrote many fiction and nonfiction works such as Prithyi Vallabha.

Section - 4: Miscellaneous

TRIBES OF INDIA

India is home to an estimated more than five thousand unique anthropological groups. These groups are also of different racial stocks like Negritos, Australoids, Mongoloids, Mediterranean and Nordics, etc. These groups are sometimes called tribal groups or race groups.

Bhils

 The Bhil are one of the largest tribal groups, living in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. ■ The Bhil are known to be **excellent** archers coupled with deep knowledge about their local geography.

Munda

- The Mundas are a tribe belonging to the Chotanagpur plateau, spread across Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tripura and West Bengal.
- They observe many festivals, the most important being the Magha or Ba, a thanks-giving festival celebrated in spring.
- Buried ancestors are treated as guardians spirits of the 'khunt' or the genealogical family, symbolized by sasandiri, the burial stone.

Baiga

- The Baiga, meaning sorcerers, are one of the particularly vulnerable tribal groups and are spread across Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
- Traditionally, the Baiga lived a semi-nomadic life and practiced slash and burn cultivation.

Kokna

- The Kokna are a major tribe found in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
- The tribe celebrate **Bohada**, the famous festival of masks, which is a combination of dance and drama, celebrated during March and April.

Santhal

- The Santhal are the largest and one of the oldest tribes in India, They are spread across Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal.
- Santhals worship Marang Buru or Bonga as supreme deity.

Korku

- The Korku are mostly found in the Khandwa, Burhanpur, Betul and Chhindwara districts of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and adjoining Melghat region of Maharashtra.
- Korku is one of the 196 languages termed endangered by UNESCO. The community has a distinct cultural heritage.

Abhuj Maria

- Abhuj Maria lives a life of isolation from the outside world. A subtribe of the Gond, they can be found in the secluded enclaves of Narayanpur tehsil in Bastar, Chhattisgarh.
- The tribe's main festival is **Kaksar**, which is celebrated in June. The other important festival is Kudin, which is marked to honour the clan Gods before the beginning of the harvest season.

Toda

- The Todas are a pastoral community belonging to the Nilgiri plateau. They are one of the smallest groups of people with a numerical strength of less than a thousand members.
- Todas speak the Toda language which is a group within the Dravidian family of languages.

Gondi

- The Gondi is a group of Dravidian people living mostly in Central and South India. They were called Raj Gond earlier due to the political influence of the Gond Rajas. This term is not in vogue anymore.
- Gunjala Gondi Lipi, which is a newly discovered script, is currently used to write the Gondi language. The Gunjala Gondi Lipi had been discovered in manuscripts dated to roughly 1750 AD

Chakma

- The Chakma are an ethnic group belonging primarily to the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh. The North Eastern states of India and western Myanmar also have a sizable Chakma population.
- The major festivals of the Chakmas are the Bizu, Buddha Purnima, Kathin Civar Dan and the Alpaloni.

Apatani

- The Apatani are a tribal group belonging to the Ziro valley of Arunachal Pradesh. They are also known as Tanw, Apa and Apatani.
- Their wet rice cultivation system and their agriculture system are extensive even without the use of any farm animals or machines. So is their sustainable social forestry system.

Hmars

- The Hmar tribe is a Scheduled Tribe under the Constitution of India's 6th Schedule and primarily belongs to the states of North Eastern India.
- Hmars have a variety of dances which are popular in the cultural world. The most famous is the Hmar Bamboo Dance called Fahrel Twak Lam.

Onges

- The Onges are indigenous aboriginal groups belonging to the Andaman Islands. They are one of the few Negrito groups of India.
- The Onges are traditionally semi-nomadic and hunter gatherers. They are considered one of the least fertile people of the world.

Shompen

- The Shompen are indigenous people of the Great Nicobar Island. They had no recorded outside contact prior to the 1840s.
- They are the only mongoloid tribal group of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

UPPREMENT

Jarawa

- The Jarawa is an adivasi indigenous group belonging to the Andaman Islands. Jarawas speak the Jarawa language which is an Ongan language.
- They live in parts of South Andaman and Middle Andaman Islands, and their present numbers are estimated at between 250–400 individuals.

Festivals of India

List of Indian Festiva	als	
State	Festival	Description
Assam	Bihu (Bohaag, Magh and Kaati Bihu)	These are seasonal festivals held to celebrate the agricultural calendar viz. sowing (Bohaag), transplanting (Kaati) and harvesting (Magh).
Arunachal Pradesh	Torgya Monastery Festival	It is a monastic festival held to celebrate the destruction of the evil spirits and harmful forces.
Meghalaya	Behdienkhlam Festival	It is an important festival of the Jaintias held to seek good health, prosperity and a good harvest. Literally it means 'to drive away evils and plague'.
Manipur	Ningol Chakouba	Literally meaning to invite a married daughter for lunch at her mother's home, it is a festival that celebrates the special homecoming with a feast of various delicacies.
Mizoram	Chapchar Kut	It is a spring festival celebrated in Mizoram to mark the successful clearing of the jungles in preparation for the Jhum cultivation.
Nagaland	Hornbill Festival	This festival is the celebration of the Naga cultural heritage where the various Naga tribes showcase their traditions under one roof.
Tripura	Kharchi Puja	In Tripuri language, it literally means to cleanse the land and the people of all sins. It involves the worship of the Fourteen Gods which is the dynastic deity of the Tripuri people.
Assam	Ambubachi Mela	Held in the Kamakhya Temple, in Assam, it is also called the 'Mahakumbh of the East'. It is also the biggest festival in India associated with the cult of fertility worship.
Ladakh	Losar festival	The festival is marked by making offerings to the Gods, both in Gompas and their shrines. It has its origin in the 15th century, celebrates the Ladakhi or Tibetan New Year.
Kerala	Onam	It is a harvest festival, and falls in the Malayalam calendar month of <i>Chingam</i> , which overlaps with August-September. The festival is celebrated to commemorate King Mahabali.
Kerala	Thrissur Pooram	It is held at the Vadakkunnathan Temple in Thrissur annually on the Pooram day – the day when the moon rises with the Pooram star in the Malayalam Calendar month of Medam.
Tamil Nadu	Pongal	It is a harvest festival of South India, particularly in the Tamil community. It is observed at the start of the month Tai according to Tamil solar calendar, and this is typically about January 14.
Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	Bathukamma	It is a floral festival celebrated as per Satavahana calendar for nine days starting Bhadrapada Pournami usually in September–October. Bathukamma is a beautiful flower stack, arranged with different unique seasonal flowers, most of them with medicinal values.
Jharkhand	Karma festival	$\textbf{Karma} \ \text{is a harvest festival dedicated to the worship of Karam-Devta (Karam-Lord/God), the god of power, youth, and youthfulness.}$
Lohri	Punjab	It is celebrated on 13^{th} January every year. It marks the ending of winters as the Sun moves from Winter Solstice to Equinox.

List of Tribal Festivals					
Festival	Region		Festival	Region	
Kail Poldhu festival, Kodava Tribe	Coorg, Karnataka		Mopin festival, Galo Tribe	Arunachal Pradesh	
Sarhul festival	Jharkhand		Tusu festival, Kurmi Tribe	Jharkhand, West Bengal	
Thisam Phanit, Naga Tribe	Manipur		Bhagoria haat festival, Bhil Tribe	Madhya Pradesh	
Bhoramdeo Mahotsav	Chhattisgarh		Chavang Kut, Kuki-Chin-Mizo Tribe	Manipur	
Boori Boot, Nyishi Tribe	Arunachal Pradesh		Nongkrem Dance festival, Khasi Tribe	Meghalaya	
Baneshwar festival, Bhil Tribe	Rajasthan		Moatsu festival, Ao Tribe	Nagaland	
Dree festival, Apatani Tribe	Arunachal Pradesh				

MARTIAL ARTS

Martial Arts are a form of combat art where fighting styles are codified. It was originally used as training guides to dictate fighting methods during battles or personal assaults.

Major Forms of Martial Arts in India

- Kalaripayattu: Popularly titled as the 'Mother of all martial arts', Kalaripayattu is known to be approximately 3000 years old and originated in Kerala. The term 'kalari' refers to the place where this combat style is taught while 'payattu' means to practise.
- Gatka: Originated in Punjab, it is believed to be a battle technique which was created by the Sikh warriors. Gatka is actually a milder version of the deadlier martial art form Shastar Vidya, which was the fighting style of Akali Nihangs, the blue-turbaned sect of Sikh fighters.
- Silambam: Silambam is an ancient stick-martial art form that originated around 1000 BC in Tamil Nadu. 'Silam' means hills and 'Mambam' means bamboo from the hills, these sticks are usually found on the hills in that particular region.
- Sgay: Sgay is a South Asian martial art form of swordfighting originated in ancient Kashmir. Sqay have different techniques such as the single sword, double sword free hand techniques and lessons of both free hand and sword.
- Mardani Khel: Originally from Maharashtra, Mardani Khel is a weapon-based martial art form. It is particularly known for its use of the uniquely Indian patta (sword) and vita (corded lance).
- Malla-yuddha: It is said to have a history of more than 5000 years. Practiced at least since the 5th century BC, described in the 13th century treatise Malla Purana, malla-yuddha is the precursor of modern pehlwani.
- Cheibi Gad-ga: It is an ancient form of martial arts practiced in Manipur. The style involves using a sword and a shield.
- Thang-ta and Sarit Sarak: These are the two parts of the Huyen Langlon martial art. Both were creations of the Meitei people of Manipur. Thang-ta is fought with weapons (Thang – sword; Ta – spear) whereas Sarit Sarak is fought unarmed.

- Pari-khanda: The Raiputs created it and it is fought with swords and shields. Pari means shield and Khanda means sword. It is practiced in Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha and its forms are also used in the Chhau dance.
- Thoda: It originated in Himachal Pradesh. The origin of Thoda can be traced back to historical times when the Mahabharata mentions the use of bow and arrows in the epic battles.
- Inbuan Wrestling: Originated in Mizoram, it is played inside a circle, and to win, the player has to lift up his opponent without stepping out of the ring. The wrestlers wear a belt and it is used to grapple and hold the opponent.

HANDICRAFTS OF INDIA

Terracotta Sculpting

- Terracotta sculpting is done using the technique of semi-firing ceramic clay. It literally translates into 'baked earth'.
- Terracotta art includes the making of sculptures, pottery, earthenware, utilitarian household items, architectural edifices etc.
- Terracotta is hard and water-proof which makes it durable and long-lasting.
- The Bankura Horse, which is named after the Bankura district of West Bengal, is a fine example of terracotta art.
- Gorakhpur terracotta recently got the Geographical Indication tag.
- Today, Indian terracotta art is being produced and sold the world over as Indian traditional art.

Art of Pottery

- Pottery is one of the oldest forms of clay art in the history of human civilization. Pottery can be done using either the wheel-method or by hand moulding.
- One of the earliest recorded evidence of pottery can be found in the Neolithic sites of Mehrgarh (Pakistan).
- The pottery of the Vedic period (from about 1500-600 BC) is called Painted Grey Ware (PGW).
- In the East Indian states like West Bengal (in the Vedic period) Black and Red Pottery were found.
- In the Mauryan Period, the Northern Polished Black Ware was found which was burnished in the colour black.

SUPPREMEN

Practice Questions (Art and Culture)

- 1. Which of the following showed the greatest uniformity in Harappan settlements?
 - (a) Town planning
 - (b) Building
 - (c) Bricks
 - (d) Religious practices
- 2. Which metal has so far not been discovered in Harappan sites?
 - (a) Copper
- (b) Gold
- (c) Silver
- (d) Iron
- 3. Consider the following statements regarding the Indus Valley Civilisation:
 - It was predominantly a secular civilisation and the religious element, though present, did not dominate the scene.
 - During this period cotton was used for manufacturing textiles in India.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 4. Which one of the following is not the characteristic feature of the Harappan settlements?
- (a) Doorways and windows generally faced the side lanes and rarely opened into the main streets
 - (b) Houses generally had separate bathing areas and toilets
 - (c) The citadel was walled but the lower towns were not walled
 - (d) Drains and water chutes from the second storey were often built inside the wall
- 5. Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct about seals found in Harappa civilization?
 - 1. Seals were primarily made of silver and gold.
 - 2. Un-inscribed seals were found at Rakhigarhi.
 - 3. Seals were only used for trade and commerce.

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 6. The script of the Indus Valley Civilisation was:
 - (a) Boustrophedon
 - (b) Brahmi
 - (c) Nagri
 - (d) None of these
- 7. Consider the following pairs:

COII	Sider the following	, puil 3.	
	River		Place
A.	Ghaggar	1.	Mohenjodaro
В.	Ravi	2.	Kalibangan
C.	Indus	3.	Lothal
D.	Bhogava	4.	Harappa

Select the answer from the codes given below:

				о с. с. о б.
	Α	В	С	D
(a)	1	2	3	4
(b)	3	4	1	2
(c)	3	1	4	2
(c)	2	4	1	3

- 8. Which one of the following statements regarding Harappan Civilisation is correct?
 - (a) The Harappan script was first deciphered by James Prinsep.
 - (b) The inhabitants of Harappa had neither knowledge of copper nor of bronze.
 - (c) The Harappan Civilisation was rural-based.
 - (d) The inhabitants of Harappa grew and used cotton.
- 9. Which one of the following sites of the Indus Valley Civilisation had an ancient dockyard?
 - (a) Kalibangan
 - (b) Lothal
 - (c) Rangpur
 - (d) Harappa
- 10. The site of Harappa is located on the bank of the river:
 - (a) Saraswati
- (b) Indus
- (c) Beas
- (d) Ravi
- 11. Which of the following was conspicuous by its absence in the terracottas of Indus Civilisation?
 - (a) Sheep
- (b) Buffalo
- (c) Cow
- (d) Pig
- 12. Which one of the following was *not* known to the Harappans?
 - (a) Construction of wells
 - (b) Construction of pillars
 - (c) Construction of drains
 - (d) Construction of arches
- 13. Consider the following pairs:

L3.	Con	sider the following pa	irs:	
		Place		Finding
	A.	Lothal	1.	Ploughed field
	B.	Kalibangan	2.	Dockyard
	C.	Dholavira	3.	Terracotta replica of a plough
	D.	Banawali	4.	An inscription comprising ten large-sized sign of the

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

Harappan script

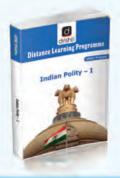
	Α	В	С	D
(a)	1	2	3	4
(b)	2	1	4	3
(c)	1	2	4	3
(d)	2	1	3	4

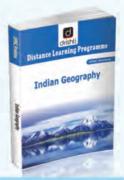
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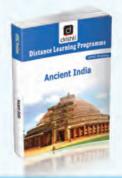
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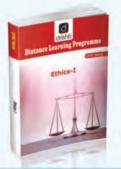
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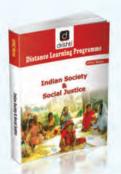
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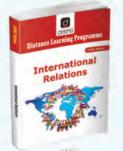
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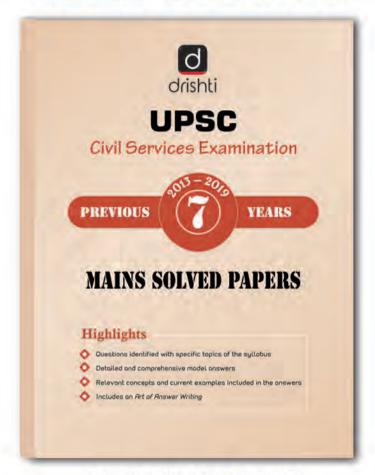
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