

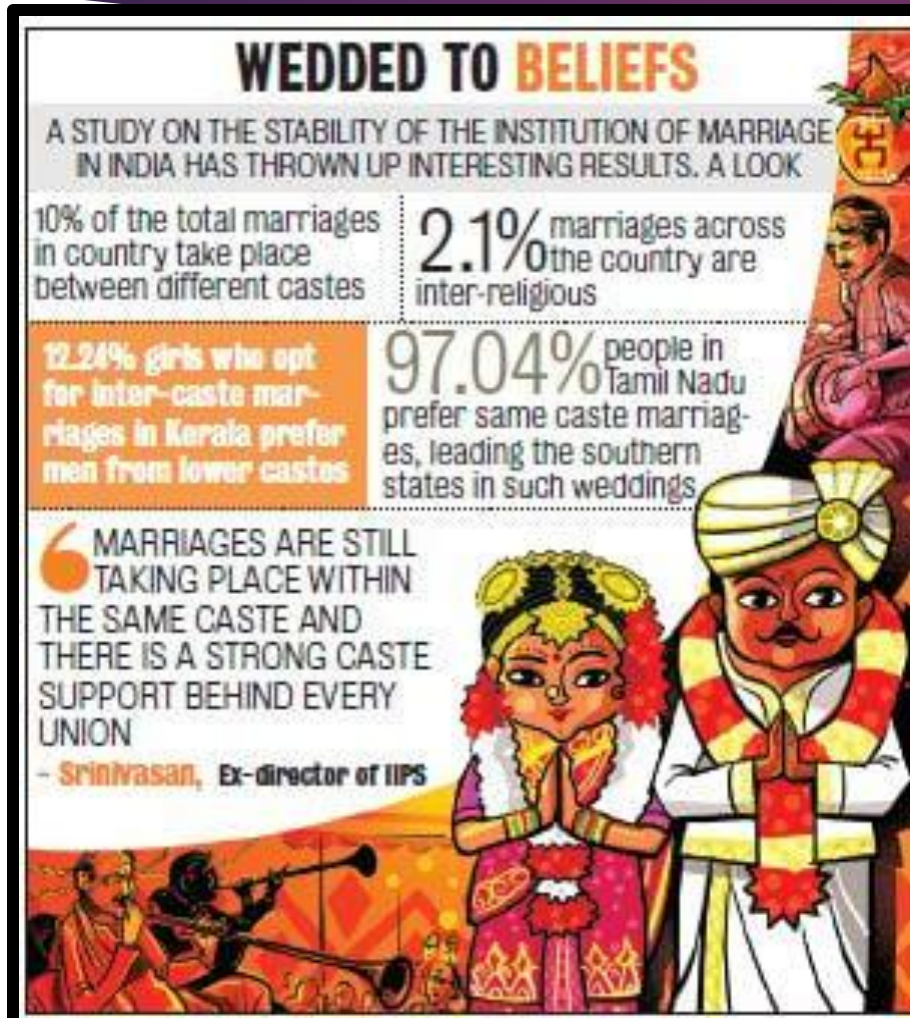


UPSC MAINS 2024

General Studies Paper-1 Analysis

BAJIRAO IAS ACADEMY

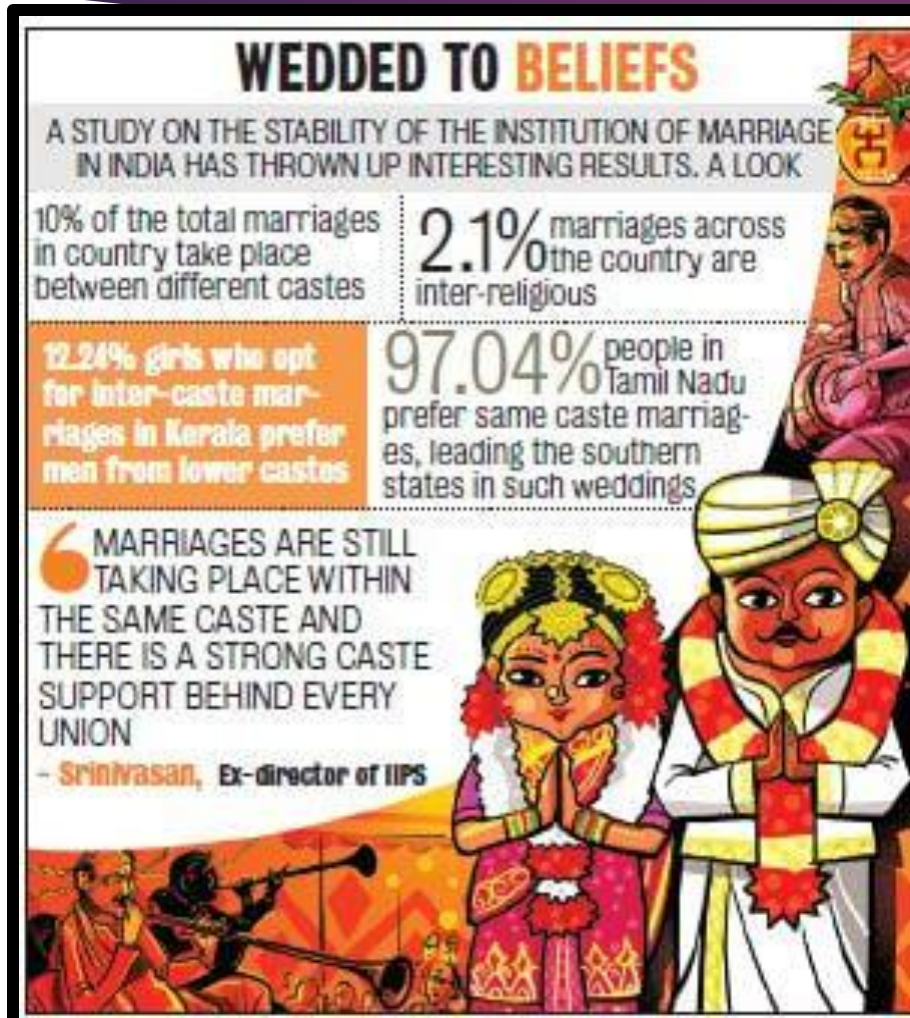
Q) Inter-caste marriages between castes which have socio-economic parity have increased, to some extent, but this is less true of inter-religious marriages.
Discuss.



Approach

- ❑ Introduce inter-caste and inter-religious marriages scenarion in India.
- ❑ Inter-caste Marriages Between Castes with Socio-Economic Parity have Increased:
- ❑ Discuss inter- religious marriages and social perceptions.
- ❑ Conclusion.

Q) Inter-caste marriages between castes which have socio-economic parity have increased, to some extent, but this is less true of inter-religious marriages.
Discuss.




Approach

- ❑ Introduce inter-caste and inter-religious marriages scenarion in India.
- ❑ Inter-caste Marriages Between Castes with Socio-Economic Parity have Increased:
- ❑ Discuss inter- religious marriages and social perceptions.
- ❑ Conclusion.

- ❑ **Globalization and urbanization have contributed to the weakening of rigid caste barriers, especially among financially secure and educated communities.**

Interreligious Marriages:

- ❑ **Cultural and religious differences act as stronger barriers to interreligious marriages. Family, community, and religious sentiments play a crucial role in maintaining religious endogamy.**
- ❑ **Fear of identity loss, societal backlash, and legal complications (e.g., under personal laws) further discourage interreligious unions.**
- ❑ **Interreligious marriages often face more resistance from families and communities due to the fear of religious conversion and loss of cultural identity.**
- ❑ **Marriages between Hindus and Muslims often portrayed as "Love Jihad" propaganda adding to the tension.**

- 
- ❑ **Interreligious marriages remain contentious, often viewed through the lens of communal relations rather than individual choice.**
 - ❑ **Both types of marriages face honor killings and social ostracism, necessitating stronger legal protections.**

While socio-economic parity has facilitated some intercaste marriages, religious identity continues to be a more rigid boundary, limiting the acceptance of interreligious marriages. Broader societal change is needed for greater inclusivity in both areas.

Q) In dealing with socio-economic issues of development, what kind of collaboration between government, NGO's and private sector would be most productive?



Approach

- Introduce social economic issues of development.**
- Discuss the role of government, NGOs, and private sector in socio economic development .**
- Discuss collaborative roles between government,NGOs, private sector.**
- Conclusion.**

The social science and area of economics that examines the connections between economic activity and social conduct is known as socioeconomics. Social economics studies the economic and social issues such as: how values, attitudes, and other factors such as social standards and ethics have an impact on the economy. It helps in studying and examining the characteristics of social structure.

Role of government, NGOs, and private sector in socio economic development

Role of the Government

Policy Making and Regulation:

- The government can create a conducive policy framework that enables development and ensures regulatory compliance.

Contribution of NGOs

Grassroots Reach and Community Engagement:

- NGOs have deep connections with local communities, making them effective in engaging vulnerable populations.

Private Sector's Role

Investment and Innovation:

- ❑ Private companies can bring innovation and funding to socio-economic development projects through CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility).

Collaborative Models

Public-NGO Partnerships:

- ❑ NGOs and government can work together to provide services at the grassroots level, with NGOs implementing programs and governments providing the necessary policy support.

Private-NGO Partnerships:

- ❑ The private sector can collaborate with NGOs to reach communities, combining funding from businesses with the implementation expertise of NGOs.

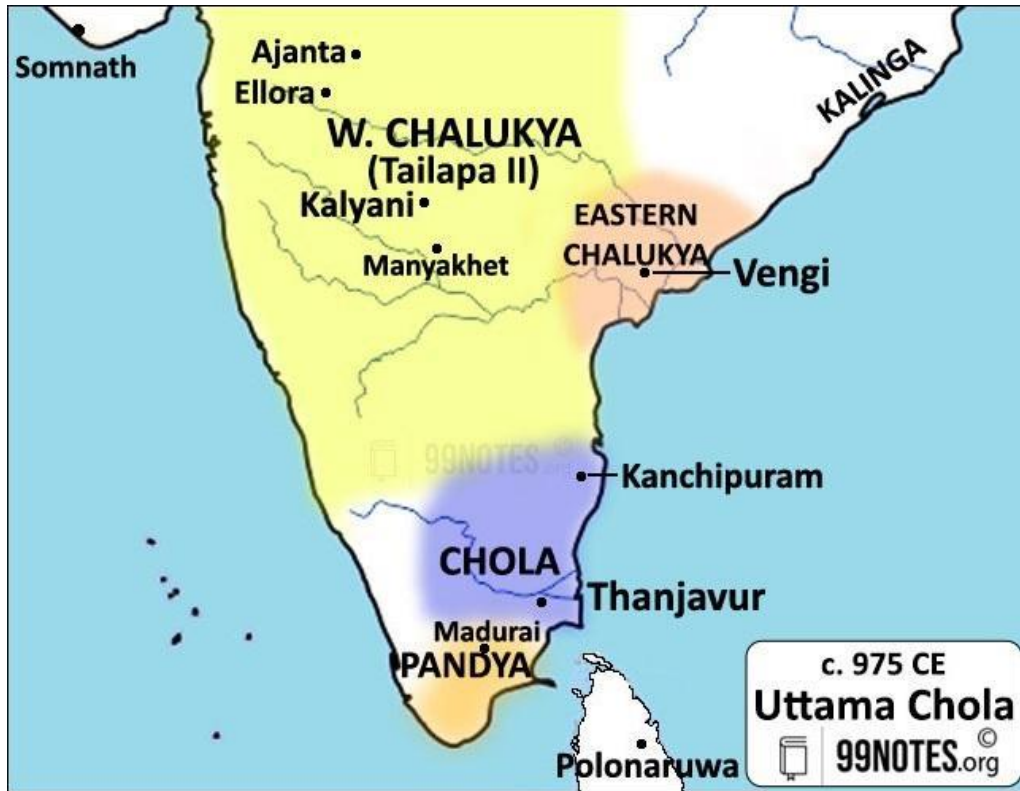


Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration:

- ❑ Involving all three—government, NGOs, and private sector—creates a robust mechanism to tackle socio-economic issues, bringing together policy support, community outreach, and innovation.**

By working together, these sectors can leverage their respective strengths and resources to create sustainable and inclusive solutions that benefit society as a whole.

Q) 'Though the great cholas are no more yet their name is still remembered with great pride because of their highest achievements in the domain of art and architecture.' Comment.



Approach

- Brief description about chola art and architecture.
- Cholas contribution to art.
- Discuss temple architecture of cholas and its significance.
- Conclusion

The Chola Dynasty, a Tamil dynasty, ruled primarily in southern India until the thirteenth century. Under the Cholas, new heights of excellence in art, religion, and literature. Monumental architecture in the form of majestic temples and sculpture in stone and bronze reached a level of finesse never before seen in India.

Cholas contribution to art.

Paintings

- Scenes from Periyapuram are beautifully depicted, and the Kailasanathar temple in Kanchipuram and the Vishnu temple in Malaiyadipatti both house fine examples of Chola paintings.
- During the Chola period, Rajaraja-I and Rajendra made greater contributions to the development of the art of painting.

Drama

- Drama was promoted by the Cholas. Drama was linked to music and dance.
- Dramas were performed on a variety of stages and theatres. During the festival, two dramas were performed: Rajarajeswara natakam and Rajarajavijayam.
- The Chola kings rewarded drama actors with honours. One type of drama is Koothu. Ariyakuthu, Chakki koothu, and Santhi koothu

Dance

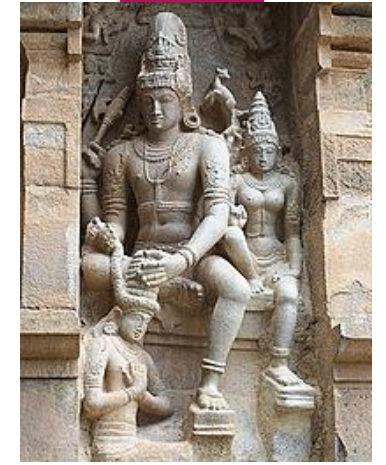
- ❑ The Chola kings supported the art of dance. During the Chola period, two types of dances were performed: Bharatanatyam and Kathakali. Lord Siva was depicted as a performer of the Karana dance.
- ❑ Lord Nataraja can be seen dancing at the Natarajar temple in Chidamparam and the Sarangapani temple in Kumbakonam.

Temple architecture of cholas.

- ❑ Innumerable temples were built and patronised by the Cholas. The royal temples of Thanjavur, Gangaikonda Chozhapuram, and Darasuram are the repositories of Dancing woman accompanied by musician, Brihadishvarar temple architecture.
- ❑ The Grand Temple of Thanjavur, also known as Rajarajisvaram and Brihadishvarar Temple, is a magnificent example of Chola architecture, painting, sculpture, and iconography.
- ❑ Rajaraja's polity was greatly legitimised by this temple. The sanctum, which has a 190-foot vimana, is topped with an 80-ton stone.
- ❑ The fresco paintings and miniature sculptures of scenes from puranas and epics in the temple walls reveal the Chola rulers' religious ideology.

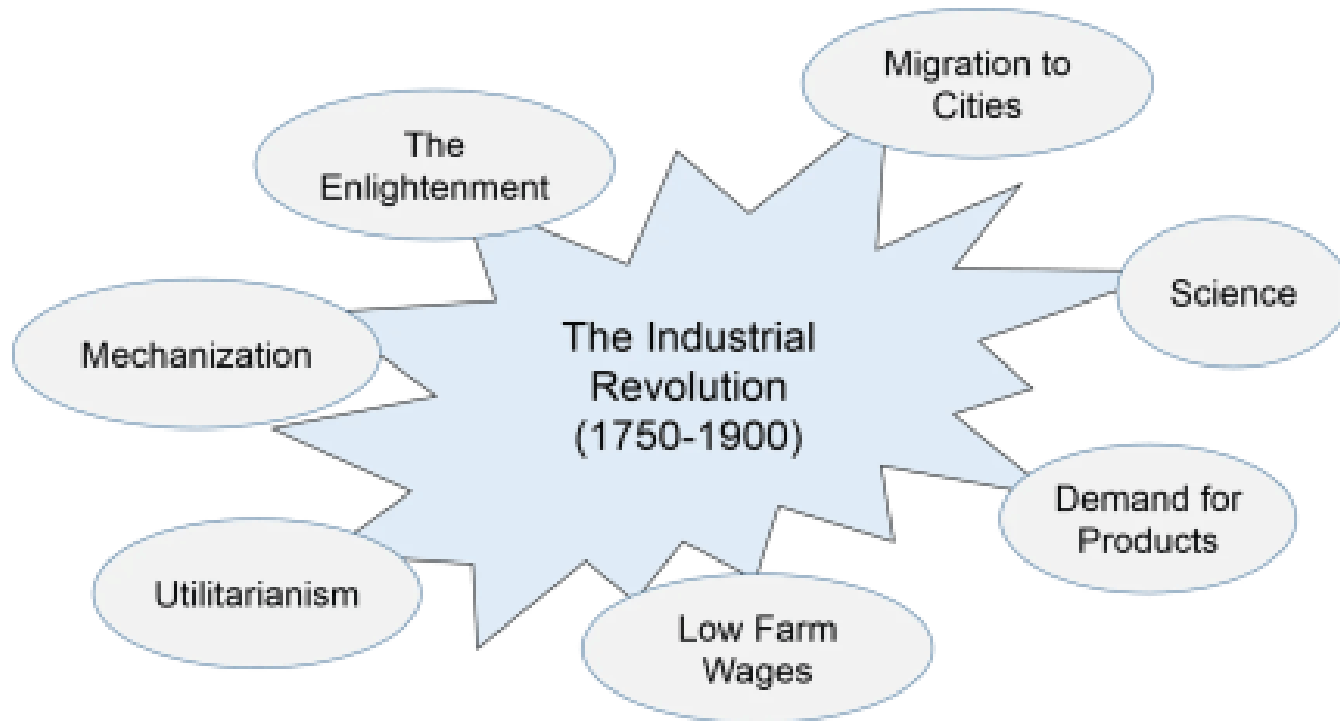
Significance of Chola Architecture

- ❑ Chola temples had a beautiful shikara stone at the top. It had intricate and meticulously carved carvings.
- ❑ It's amazing how these structures, weighing hundreds of tonnes, are placed without the use of cranes.



During the reign of the Chola Kings, however, the Kings themselves guided and advanced large donations for the construction of grand temples. The sophistication of art in these temple structures reflected the atmosphere of the imperial court.

Q) How far was the Industrial Revolution in England responsible for the decline of handicrafts and cottage industries in India?



Approach

- Introduce Industrial revolution .**
- Discuss factors responsible for decline of cottage industries.**
- Mention industrial revolution coupled with discriminatory British policies and their impact.**
- Conclusion**

The Industrial Revolution in England was a period of rapid technological progress that transformed the country from an agrarian society to an industrial one. It began in the 18th century and lasted until 1900, and had a profound impact on society, the economy, and the way people lived.

Factors responsible for the decline of the cottage industry

Factory system

The factory system replaced the cottage industry, which was based on family economies and independent craftspeople working in or near their homes.

Mechanization

The use of machinery, such as the water frame and steam engine, made cottage industries less productive and unable to compete with large-scale factories.

Mass production

Mass production in factories led to long hours of dangerous work for many people, including women and children, at low wages.

Urbanization

As factories moved from waterbeds to cities, cities grew rapidly.

Agricultural Policies

- ❑ Colonial policies focused on cash crops led to food insecurity, diverting labour from traditional crafts to agriculture.**

Innovations

- ❑ Innovations like the spinning jenny (a wooden frame with multiple spindles), the flying shuttle, the water frame and the power loom made weaving cloth and spinning yarn and thread much easier. Producing cloth became faster and required less time and far less human labour.**

Labor movements

- ❑ The difficult working conditions led to labor movements to improve the lives of the working class.**

Introduction of Railways:

- ❑ The British introduced the railways, which opened new markets for Indian raw materials. This allowed some Indian industries to expand by exporting raw materials to Europe.**



Impact on Indian Economy:

- ❑ Millions of artisans, weavers, and craftsmen were left unemployed, leading to widespread poverty. The traditional artisanal economy that had sustained India's prosperity was replaced by colonial economic dependency.**

The Industrial Revolution in England played a significant role in the decline of handicrafts and cottage industries in India. This had a lasting impact on the livelihoods of Indian artisans and craftsmen, highlighting the interconnectedness of global economic systems.

Q) How far is it correct to say that the First World War was fought essentially for the preservation of balance of power?



**World War One:
Who's Who**
Alliances in 1917

Pre-war national boundaries shown

0 600 miles

Key to Alliances in 1917

Central Powers ■

Allied Powers ■

Neutral Nations ■


Approach

- Introduce first world war .
- Discuss First World War was fought essentially for the preservation of balance of power .
- First World War: Other reasons .
- Conclusion

The First World War (1914-1918) was a complex conflict driven by multiple factors, including nationalism, imperialism, militarism, and alliances. However, a key underlying cause was the struggle to maintain the balance of power in Europe, as major powers sought to prevent any single nation from dominating the continent.


First World War was fought essentially for the preservation of balance of power

- ❑ Before the war, European powers formed alliances (Triple Entente and Triple Alliance) to balance each other's military strength. Britain, France, and Russia wanted to counterbalance the rising influence of Germany and its allies.
- ❑ The balance of power system in Europe was highly unstable, leading to a situation where any disturbance (such as the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand) could ignite a major conflict.

- 
- ❑ Germany's growing economic and military power was seen as a threat by other European nations, especially Britain, which aimed to preserve its dominance.
 - ❑ The naval arms race between Britain and Germany is a prime example of the power struggle that directly contributed to the war.
 - ❑ European nations were competing for colonies and global influence, which contributed to tensions.

First World War: Other reasons

- ❑ Economic rivalries, particularly between Britain and Germany, were key factors. The desire for market dominance and resource control was as important as power balance considerations.
- ❑ The war also served the interests of industrialists and arms manufacturers who benefited from wartime production.

- 
- ❑ The war was fought over imperial ambitions rather than just maintaining a European power equilibrium.
 - ❑ The scramble for Africa and control of Asian colonies had created longstanding tensions, especially between Germany and other European powers.
 - ❑ The immediate cause of the war, the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand, was tied to nationalist struggles in the Balkans rather than any direct attempt to preserve the balance of power in Europe.

While the preservation of the balance of power was certainly a factor in the outbreak of the First World War, it was not the sole cause of the conflict. Imperial rivalries, nationalism, and militarism also played significant roles in shaping the events that led to the war.

Q) The groundwater potential of the gangetic valley is on a serious decline. How may it affect the food security of India?



Approach

- Introduce with importance of Gangetic valley for India**
- Discuss reasons for serious decline of ground water potential.**
- Impact of decline groundwater potential on food security.**
- Conclusion.**


The Indo-Gangetic Plain, also known as the North Indian River Plain, (172-million-acre) fertile plain encompassing northern regions of the Indian subcontinent.

The Gangetic valley stretches from the Indus River valley in the west to the Brahmaputra River valley in the east, and includes the delta of the Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers. These are part of world's largest alluvial tract.

The Ganga River basin supports a significant portion of India's population and economy. It provides water for irrigation, drinking, and industrial purposes, supporting agriculture, fisheries, and other livelihoods. The river also serves as a major transportation route, facilitating trade and commerce in the region.


Discuss reasons for serious decline of ground water potential.

- The impacts of climate change, including rising temperatures, altered precipitation patterns, and extreme weather events, have additional challenges to the Ganga River system.**
- Glacial melt in the Himalayas, for example, affects the river's flow and water availability, while sea-level rise threatens coastal areas in the deltaic region.**

- 
- ❑ The construction of dams, barrages, and irrigation canals along the Ganga and its tributaries has altered natural flow regimes and fragmented habitats.
 - ❑ Water diversion for agriculture, hydropower generation, and urban consumption has reduced downstream flow, affecting ecosystems and livelihoods.
 - ❑ Deforestation, soil erosion, and unsustainable land use practices in the Himalayan region contribute to sedimentation and siltation in the Ganga River.
 - ❑ This reduces water quality, disrupts aquatic ecosystems, and increases the risk of floods and landslides.

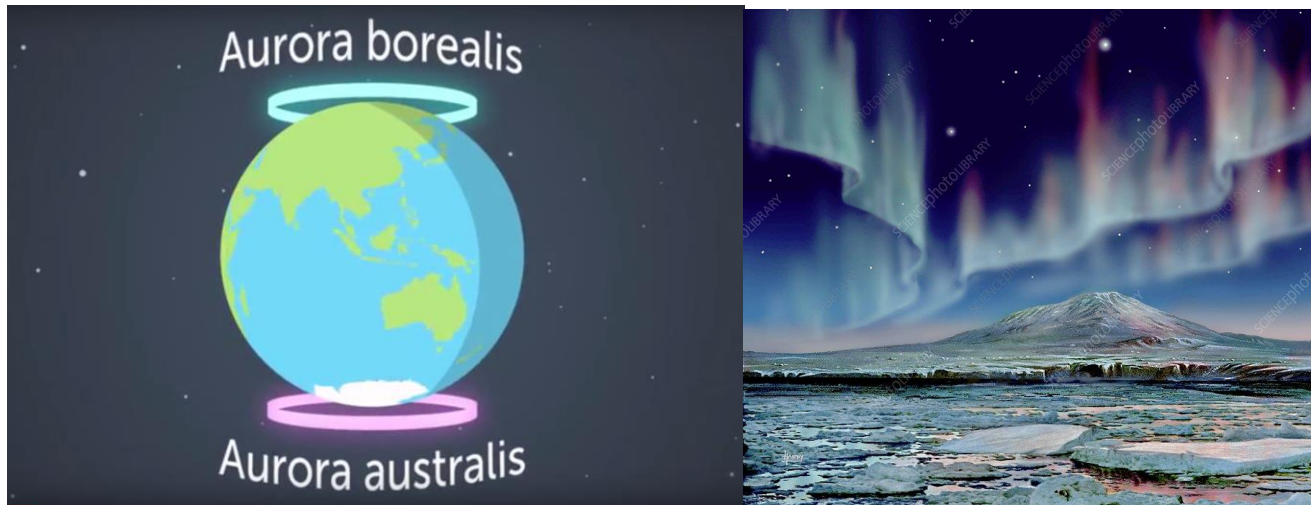
Impact of decline groundwater potential on food security.

- ❖ The basin provides more than one-third of India's surface water, 90 percent of which is used for irrigation.
- ❖ Paradoxically, this fertile region is also home to some of the poorest sections of India's population, with more than 200 million people living below the national poverty line.

- 
- ❖ Millions of people residing in the lower reaches of the Ganga basin in India may face food shortage in the next three decades, if the iconic river continues to lose water due to factors including unsustainable groundwater extraction
 - ❖ The combination of groundwater (around 70 percent) and river water (30 percent) availability actually runs the farming system that yields the food crops.
 - ❖ Dwindling of the Ganga would also severely affect water available for surface water irrigation, with potential decline in food production in the future.
 - ❖ prediction shows that about 115 million people can be impacted due to insufficient food availability in the next few decades.

A study forecasts that in the absence of interventions, groundwater contribution to Ganga river's water flow would continue diminishing in the summer for the next 30 years.

Q) What are aurora australis and aurora borealis? How are these triggered?



Approach

- Introduce Aurora australis and aurora borealis
- Define aurora australis and aurora borealis
- Discuss how auroras triggered.
- Conclusion.

An aurora also commonly known as the northern lights (aurora borealis) or southern lights (aurora australis) is a natural light display in Earth's sky, predominantly seen in high-latitude regions (around the Arctic and Antarctic). Auroras display dynamic patterns of brilliant lights that appear as curtains, rays, spirals, or dynamic flickers covering the entire sky.

Auroras are the result of disturbances in the Earth's magnetosphere caused by the solar wind.

Aurora australis and Aurora borealis

Aurora australis and aurora borealis are both names for the natural light displays that appear in the Earth's sky as curtains, rays, spirals, or flickers of light:

Aurora australis

Also known as the southern lights, this display is seen in the southern hemisphere near the South Pole. Places to see it include Australia and New Zealand.

Aurora borealis

Also known as the northern lights, this display is seen in the northern hemisphere near the North Pole. Places to see it include the United States, the United Kingdom, and Ladakh.

How auroras triggered.

- ❑ Auroras are triggered by solar activity that causes charged particles from the sun to interact with Earth's atmosphere and magnetic field:

Solar activity

- ❑ Solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs) release large amounts of charged particles into space.

Earth's magnetic field

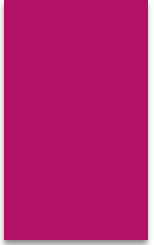
- ❑ Earth's magnetic field protects the planet from most solar winds, but at the poles, the field lines are weaker and allow some charged particles to enter the upper atmosphere.

Atmospheric interaction

- ❑ The charged particles collide with gas molecules in the upper atmosphere, transferring energy to the molecules and exciting them.

Light release

- ❑ When the excited molecules return to normal, they release energy in the form of light, creating the aurora.

- 
- ❑ **The lights are caused by solar particles colliding with atoms in the Earth's atmosphere, which strips away electrons and creates ions in excited states. These ions then emit radiation at different wavelengths, which produces the characteristic colors.**
 - ❑ **Aurora australis and Aurora borealis displays are polar lights, or aurora polaris, because they occur near Earth's magnetic poles. The lights can appear in a range of colors, including blue, red, yellow, green, and orange.**

Q) What is a twister? Why are the majority of twisters observed in areas around the Gulf of Mexico?



Approach

- Introduce twister.
- Discuss conditions for formation of twisters.
- Discuss reasons why majority of twisters observed in areas around gulf of mexico.
- Conclusion.



Tornado and Twister:

- » Tornado and twister are **different names for the same type of storm**—a violently rotating column of air over land associated with a severe thunderstorm.
- » Tornadoes are usually a downward spiral stemming from a cumulonimbus cloud and are often accompanied by rain, hail, or sleet.

Conditions for formation:

- » **Instability** refers to unusually warm and humid conditions in the lower atmosphere, and possibly cooler than usual conditions in the upper atmosphere.
- » **Wind shear** in this case refers to the wind direction changing, and the wind speed increasing, with height.
- » An example would be a southerly wind of 15 mph at the surface, changing to a southwesterly or westerly wind of 50 mph at 5,000 feet altitude.
- » Tornadoes form when warm air meets cold air, causing unstable pressures.

Reasons why majority of twisters observed in areas around gulf of mexico.

- ❑ The Gulf of Mexico provides a continuous supply of warm, moist air that feeds into the lower atmosphere. This warm air mass is essential for the development of thunderstorms, which are precursors to tornadoes.
- ❑ In the central United States, particularly in areas around the Gulf, cold, dry air from the Rocky Mountains or Canada can clash with warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico. This sharp temperature difference creates strong instability in the atmosphere, leading to severe thunderstorms, which often give rise to tornadoes.
- ❑ Strong winds at varying altitudes and directions (wind shear) in the Gulf of Mexico region contribute to the development of rotating thunderstorms (supercells).

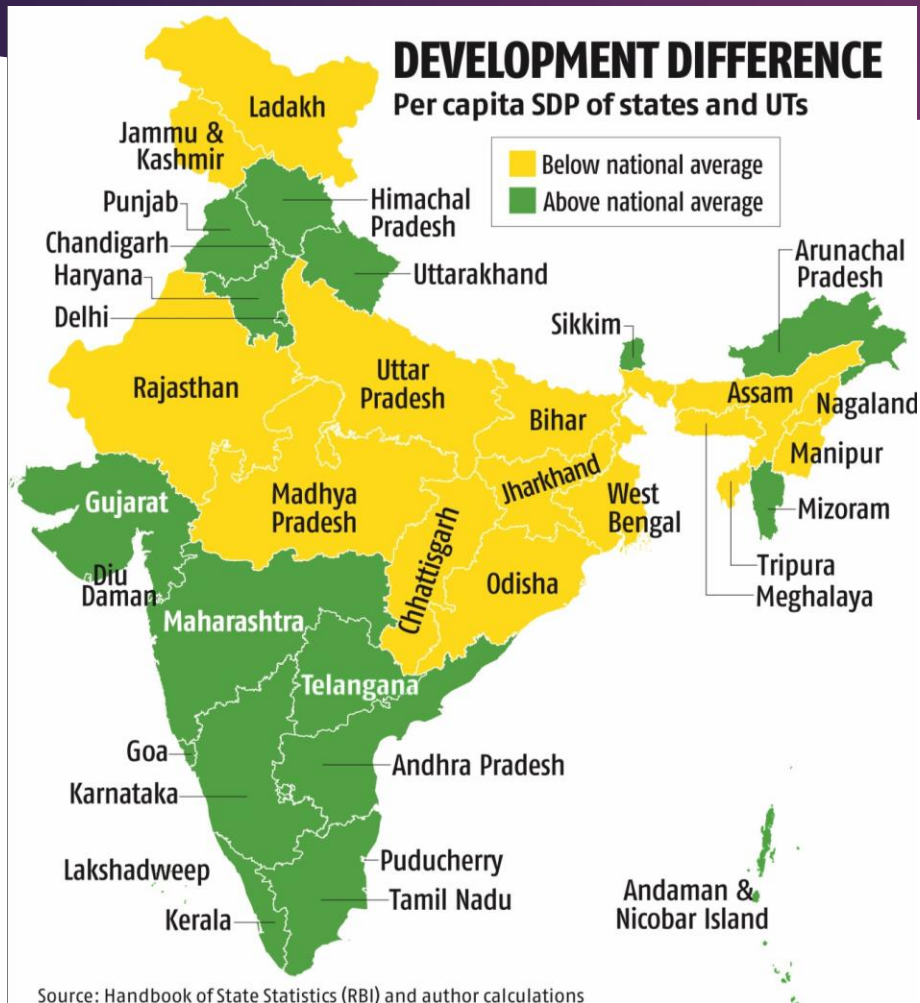
CHARACTERISTICS

- ❑ Formed due to the interaction of warm, moist air with cool, dry air during thunderstorms.
- ❑ Can reach wind speeds of up to 300 mph.
- ❑ Typically has a short duration but can cause extensive damage to property and infrastructure.



India is prone to cyclones and tornadoes. With increasing global warming, the conditions for formation of cyclones are more favourable. This has led to increased weather events causing damage to man and material.

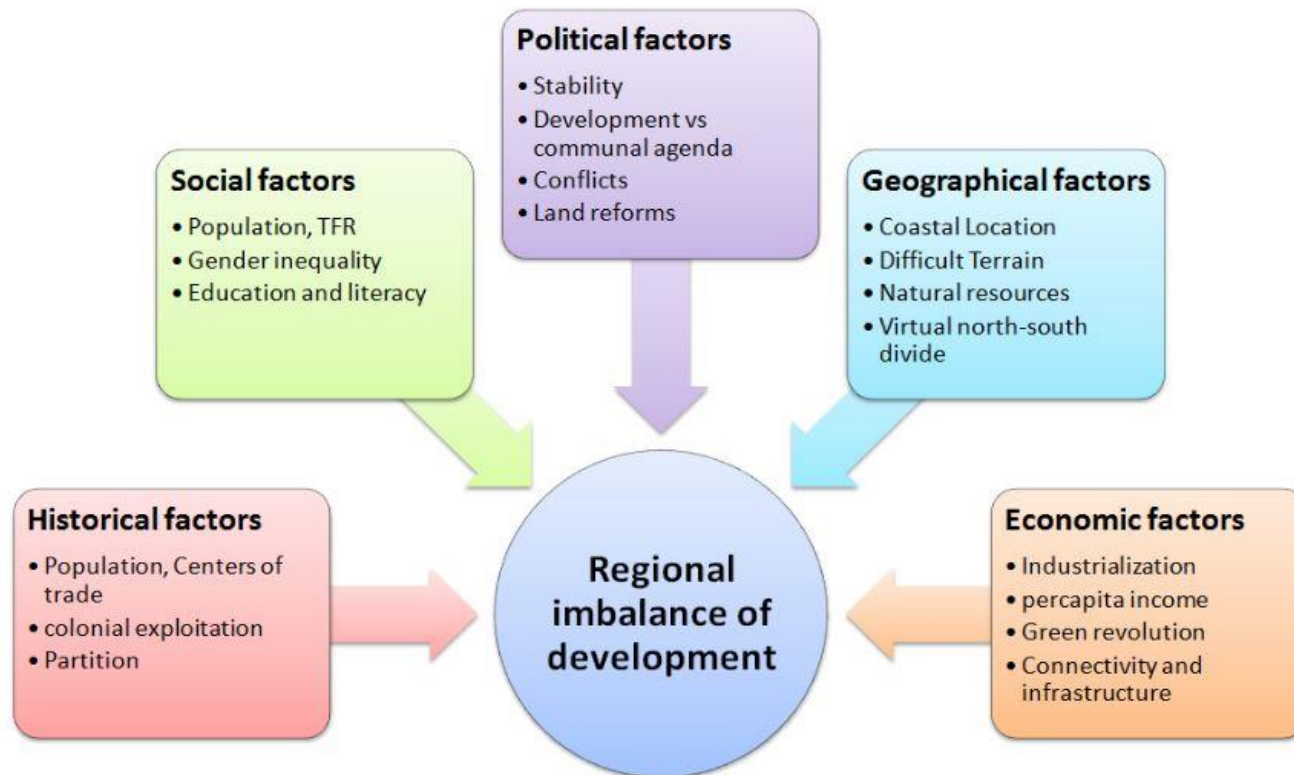
Q) What is regional disparity? How does it differ from diversity? How serious is the issue of regional disparity in India?



Approach

- Define what is regional disparity in introduction.
- Explain how does regional disparity is different from diversity.
- Discuss the issue of regional disparity in India.
- Conclude the answer with some suggestion on reducing regional disparity.

- ❖ **Regional Disparities** refer to differences in economic development and uneven economic achievement in different geographical regions.
- ❖ The coexistence of relatively developed and economically depressed states and even regions within each state is known as a regional imbalance.
- ❖ Many countries are characterized by significant regional disparities in economic performance and living standards, as reflected in income, education, or health outcomes.



<u>Aspect</u>	<u>Regional Disparity</u>	<u>Diversity</u>
Definition	Refers to unequal distribution of resources, wealth, and opportunities across regions.	Encompasses the presence of various cultural, linguistic, and social differences.
Basis	Primarily economic and developmental, focusing on gaps in growth.	Rooted in cultural, ethnic, linguistic, and social variety.
Examples in India	Economic gaps between states like Maharashtra and Bihar or urban vs. rural areas.	Diversity in language (Hindi, Tamil, Bengali), festivals (Diwali, Bihu), and food.
Nature of Issue	Leads to calls for equitable development and resource allocation.	Celebrates coexistence of various identities, though it may cause identity conflicts.
Effects	Causes political instability, demands for autonomy, and social unrest.	Enhances cultural richness but can lead to conflicts if not managed properly.

Discuss the issue of regional disparity in India.

- ❑ The level of infrastructural development, such as- power distribution, irrigation facilities, roads, modern markets for agricultural produce has been at back stage. All these are state list subjects.
- ❑ Low level of social expenditure by states on education, health and sanitation These subjects are core for human resource development. The states which have invested heavily on these subjects, fall under the developed and advanced states
- ❑ India's economic growth hasn't matched its rapid population growth. This has led to a lack of equal job opportunities in all parts of the country, especially in areas that are still developing.
- ❑ Southern states like Kerala and Tamil Nadu boast higher human development indicators (HDI), better healthcare, and education, while northern states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar face challenges in these areas.

Entrepreneurship and labor skills in lower-income states need to be promoted along with connecting these regions with higher-income states.

Q) Critically analyse the proposition that there is a high correlation between India's cultural diversities and socio-economic marginalities.



Approach

- ❑ Explain cultural diversity in India as introduction.
- ❑ Explain correlation between India's cultural diversity and social economic marginalities.
- ❑ Discuss essence of socio-cultural diversities in India
- ❑ Conclude the answer by suggesting ways to reduce socio-economic marginalities.

This defined cultural diversity as "the set of distinctive spiritual, material, intellectual, and emotional features of society or a social group", including lifestyles, value systems, traditions, and beliefs.

Eg: A society comprising people from different religions, languages, races, and ethnic backgrounds

Correlation between India's cultural diversity and social economic marginalities.

- ❑ India's diverse cultures often align with specific geographical regions. For example, the Northeastern states, with their unique tribal cultures, face disproportionate socio-economic marginalization due to geographic isolation, poor infrastructure, and limited industrial development.
- ❑ The hierarchical caste system has historically marginalized Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), resulting in limited access to education, healthcare, and employment. Many SCs and STs continue to face discrimination and live in poverty despite affirmative action policies.

- ❑ **Historically marginalized communities like Dalits, Adivasis, and other backward classes (OBCs) often face systemic exclusion, leading to persistent poverty.**
- ❑ **Women from marginalized communities face a dual burden of socio-economic deprivation and cultural patriarchy, leading to higher illiteracy, maternal mortality, and unemployment rates.**

Essence of socio-cultural diversities in India

National identity

- ❑ **India's diverse cultural elements help shape its national identity, which is based on shared aspirations and hopes, not on religion or language.**

Unity in diversity

- ❑ **India's diversity can help people feel a sense of brotherhood and harmony, despite their differences.**

Global recognition

- ❑ **India's diversity and unity can help it gain global recognition and become an example for the world.**

Effective communication

- India's diverse range of languages and cultures can help the country communicate more effectively with different parts of the world

Wayforward

- Social protection programs: Cash transfer programs can help people escape poverty.
- Respect for culture: There should be respect and promotion of common and particular cultures.
- Universal access to education: There should be universal and equitable access to quality education.



Thank you

Address

**B-47, Main Road Shivalik
Enclave, Block-B, Shivalik Colony,
Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017**

Phone Number +91 8178833167