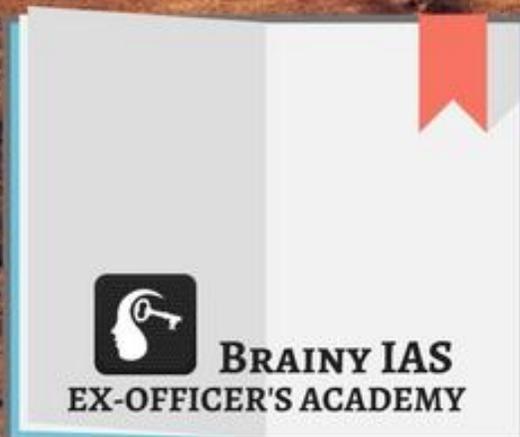




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GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

Tropical Cyclone

Topics Covered

- ✓ What Are Tropical Cyclones?
- ✓ Conditions Favourable For Tropical Cyclone Formation
- ✓ Coriolis Force (F)
- ✓ Names Of Cyclone In Different Regions
- ✓ Low Level Disturbances
- ✓ Formation Of Cyclone
- ✓ Eye Of Cyclone
- ✓ Eye Wall
- ✓ Vertical Structure Of A Tropical Cyclone
- ✓ Characteristics Of Tropical Cyclone

What Are Tropical Cyclones?

- Tropical cyclones are regarded as one of the most devastating natural calamities in the world.
- Tropical cyclones are violent storms that originate over oceans in tropical areas and move over to the coastal areas bringing about large scale destruction due to violent winds (squalls), very heavy rainfall (torrential rainfall) and storm surge.
- They are irregular wind movements involving closed circulation of air around a low pressure center. This closed air circulation (whirling motion) is a result of rapid upward movement of hot air which is subjected to Coriolis force. The low pressure at the center is responsible for the wind speeds.
- Squall == a sudden violent gust of wind or localized storm, especially one bringing rain, snow, or sleet.
- Torrent == a strong and fast-moving stream of water or other liquid.
- The cyclonic wind movements are anti-clockwise in the northern hemisphere and clockwise in the southern hemisphere (This is due to Coriolis force).
- The cyclones are often characterized by existence of an anticyclone between two cyclones.

Coriolis Force (f)

- The Coriolis force is zero at the equator (no cyclones at equator because of zero Coriolis Force) but it increases with latitude. Coriolis force at 5° latitude is significant enough to create a storm [cyclonic vortex].
- About 65 per cent of cyclonic activity occurs between 10° and 20° latitude.

Conditions Favourable for Tropical Cyclone Formation

- Large sea surface with temperature higher than 27° C
- Presence of the Coriolis force enough to create a cyclonic vortex
- Small variations in the vertical wind speed
- A pre-existing weak low-pressure area or low-level-cyclonic circulation
- Upper divergence above the sea level system

Names of cyclone in different regions

- Cyclones in the Indian Ocean
- Hurricanes in the Atlantic
- Typhoons in the Western Pacific and the South China Sea
- Willy-willies in Western Australia

Low-level Disturbances

- Low-level disturbance (thunderstorms – they are the seeds of cyclones) in the form of easterly wave disturbances in the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) should pre-exist.



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- Small local differences in the temperature of water and of air produce various low pressure centers of small size. A weak cyclonic circulation develops around these areas.
- Then, because of the rising warm humid air, a true cyclonic vortex may develop very rapidly. However, only a few of these disturbances develop into cyclones.

Formation of Cyclone

- The energy that strengthens the storm comes from the condensation process in the towering cumulonimbus clouds, surrounding the centre of the storm.
- With an uninterrupted supply of moisture from the sea, the storm is again strengthened.
- On reaching the terrestrial region the moisture supply is cut off and the storm dissipates.
- The place where a tropical cyclone cuts the coast is called the landfall of the cyclone.
- A landfall is frequently accompanied by sturdy winds, heavy rain and mounting sea waves that could threaten people and cause damage to properties.
- Cyclones which cross 20 degrees North latitude are more destructive.
- They cover a larger area and can originate over the land and sea whereas the tropical cyclones originate only over the seas and on reaching the land they dissipate.

Eye of Cyclone

- A mature tropical cyclone is characterised by the strong spirally circulating wind around the centre which is called the eye.
- The eye is an area with calm weather descending air.
- It is characterized by light winds and clear skies.

Eye Wall

- Around the eye is the eyewall, where there is a strong spiralling rise of air to a greater height reaching the tropopause.
- The wind reaches maximum velocity in this region and torrential rain occurs here.
- From the eyewall, rain bands may radiate and trains of cumulus and cumulonimbus clouds may drift into the outer region.

Vertical Structure of a Tropical Cyclone

- There are three divisions in the vertical structure of tropical cyclones.
- The lowest layer, extending up to 3 km and known as the inflow layer, is responsible for driving the storm.
- The middle layer, extending from 3 km to 7 km, is where the main cyclonic storm takes place.
- The outflow layer lies above 7 km. The maximum outflow is found at 12 km and above. The movement of air is anticyclonic in nature.

Characteristics of Tropical Cyclones

The main features of tropical cyclones are as follows.

- **Size and Shape**
 - Tropical cyclones have symmetrical elliptical shapes (2:3 ratio of length and breadth) with steep pressure gradients. They have a compact size—80 km near center, which may develop up to 300 km to 1500 km.
- **Wind Velocity and Strength**
 - Wind velocity, in a tropical cyclone, is more in poleward margins than at center and is more over oceans than over landmasses, which are scattered with physical barriers. The wind velocity may range from nil to 1200 km per hour.
- **Path of Tropical Cyclones**
 - These cyclones start with a westward movement, but turn northwards around 20° latitude. They turn further north-eastwards around 25° latitude, and then eastwards around 30° latitude. They then lose energy and subside.
 - Tropical cyclones follow a parabolic path, their axis being parallel to the isobars.
 - Coriolis force or earth's rotation, easterly and westerly winds influence the path of a tropical cyclone.
 - Tropical cyclones die at 30° latitude because of cool ocean waters and increasing wind shear due to westerlies.



Disaster Management In India

Topics Covered

- ✓ What Is A Disaster?
- ✓ Classification Of Disasters
- ✓ Causes For Occurrence Of Disaster
- ✓ Impacts Of Disaster
- ✓ Disaster Management
- ✓ Disasters In India
- ✓ Stages In Disaster Management
- ✓ Disaster Risk Reduction
- ✓ Organisations And Policies Related To Disaster Management Framework In India
- ✓ Challenges In Disaster Management

What Is A Disaster?

- A disaster is a result of natural or man-made causes that leads to sudden disruption of normal life, causing severe damage to life and property to an extent that available social and economic protection mechanisms are inadequate to cope.
- It is an undesirable occurrence resulting from forces that are largely outside human control. It strikes quickly with little or no warning and requires major efforts in providing statutory emergency service.

Classification of Disasters

- Disasters are classified as per origin, into natural and man-made disasters. As per severity, disasters are classified as minor or major (in impact).
- **Natural disasters** are sudden ecological disruptions or threats that exceed the adjustment capacity of the affected community and require external assistance.
Natural disasters can be broadly classified into categories including geophysical such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions; hydrological such as floods; meteorological such as hurricanes; climatological such as heat and cold waves and droughts; and biological such as epidemics.
- **Man-made disasters** can include hazardous material spills, fires, groundwater contamination, transportation accidents, structure failures, mining accidents, explosions and acts of terrorism.

Causes for Occurrence of Disaster

- **Political issues:** War, nuclear power aspirations, fight between countries to become super power and conquering land, sea and skies. These have resulted into wide range of disaster events such as Hiroshima nuclear explosion, Syrian civil war, growing militarisation of oceans and outer space.
- **Environmental degradation:** Removal of trees and forest cover from a watershed area have caused, soil erosion, expansion of flood plain area in upper and middle course of rivers and groundwater depletion.
- **Industrialization:** This has resulted into warming of earth and frequency of extreme weather events has also increased.
- **Developmental process:** Exploitation of land use, development of infrastructure, rapid urbanization and technological development have caused increasing pressure over the natural resources.

Impacts of Disaster

- Disaster increases the level of vulnerability and hence multiply the effects of disaster.
- Disaster results in huge economic loss due to destruction of property, human settlements and infrastructure etc.
- Disaster impacts individuals physically (through loss of life, injury, health, disability) as well as psychologically.
- After natural disasters, food and other natural resources like water often becomes scarce resulting into food and water scarcity.
- Disaster can alter the natural environment, loss of habitat to many plants and animals and cause ecological stress that can result in biodiversity loss.



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- The disaster results in displacement of people, and displaced population often face several challenges in new settlements, in this process poorer becomes more poor.

Disaster management

- Government of India had brought a shift from its relief centric approach to the one with greater emphasis is on preparedness, prevention and mitigation.
- Without disaster management, sustainable development is not possible. And also disaster management became part of the policy framework as poor and under privileged are more affected.
- Disaster management is a multi disciplinary area which includes forecasting, warning, search and rescue, relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation.
- It is also a multi sectoral task as it involves administrators, scientists, planners, volunteers and communities. CRITICAL NEED IS THE CO-ORDINATION OF ALL THE ACTIVITIES BETWEEN THEM.
- For developing countries, disaster management is a major concern as it directly influences the economy, agriculture, food and sanitation, water, environment and health. Disasters also have social, economic and psychological dimensions.
- So appropriate strategies are necessarily been developed.

Disasters in India

- The Bengal Famine in the years 1770 and 1943 affected Bengal, Odisha, Bihar very badly and resulted into death of nearly 1 crore people.
- Coringa Cyclone (1839) that affected Coringa district of Andhra Pradesh and Calcutta Cyclone (1737) are some other instances of natural calamities faced by the country in the past.
- The Great Famine (1876-1878) affected Madras, Mysore, Hyderabad, and Bombay and resulted into death of around 3 crore people. Even today, it is considered as one of the worst natural calamities in India of all time.
- Bhopal Gas tragedy (December, 1984) is one of the worst chemical disasters globally that resulted in over 10,000 losing their lives (the actual number remains disputed) and over 5.5 lakh persons affected and suffering from agonizing injuries.
- Odisha Super Cyclone or Paradip cyclone (1999) affected the coastal districts of Bhadrak, Kendrapara, Balasore, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Ganjam etc., and resulted into death of more than 10,000 people.
- Gujarat Earthquake (2001) affected Bhuj, Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Kutch, Surat, Surendranagar, Rajkot district, Jamnagar and Jodia districts of Gujarat and resulted in death of more than 20,000 people.
- The Indian Ocean Tsunami (2004) affected parts of southern India and Andaman Nicobar Islands, Sri Lanka, Indonesia etc., and resulted in the death of more than 2 lakh people.
- Uttarakhand Flash Floods (2013) affected Govindghat, Kedar Dome, Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand and resulted into death of more than 5,000 people.
- Kashmir Floods (2014) affected Srinagar, Bandipur, Rajouri etc. areas of J&K have resulted into death of more than 500 people.
- In recent times, there have been cases of railway accidents (Dussehra gathering on the railway tracks crushed by the trains in 2018), fire accidents in hospitals due to negligence and non implementation of existing mandatory fire safety norms, collapse of various infrastructure constructs like flyovers, metro tracks and residential buildings due to poor quality of construction, illegal addition of floors and recurring floods.
- Stampede at large public gathering like Kumbh Mela caused by poor people management and lack of adequate infrastructure to monitor and manage large crowd gathering.

Stages in Disaster Management

- Disaster Management efforts are geared towards disaster risk management.
- Disaster Risk Management implies the systematic process of using administrative decisions, organisation, operational skills, and capacities to implement policies, strategies and coping capacities of the society and communities to lessen the impact of natural hazards and related environmental and technological disasters.



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- These comprise all forms all activities including structural and non- structural measures to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) adverse effects of hazards.
- There are three key stages of activities in disaster management:
 - Before a disaster: to reduce the potential for human, material, or environmental losses caused by hazards and to ensure that these losses are minimised when disaster strikes;
 - During a disaster: to ensure that the needs and provisions of victims are met to alleviate and minimise suffering; and
 - After a disaster: to achieve rapid and durable recovery which does not reproduce the original vulnerable conditions.
- The different phases of disaster management are represented in the disaster cycle diagram.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

- Disaster risk reduction is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and reduce the causal factors of disasters.
- Pre-Disaster risk reduction includes-
 - Mitigation: To eliminate or reduce the impacts and risks of hazards through proactive measures taken before an emergency or disaster occurs.
 - Preparedness: To take steps to prepare and reduce the effects of disasters.
- Post-Disaster risk reduction includes-
 - Rescue: Providing warning, evacuation, search, rescue, providing immediate assistance.
 - Relieve: To respond to communities who become victims of disaster, providing relief measures such as food packets, water, medicines, temporary accommodation, relief camps etc.
 - Recovery: This stage emphasises upon recovery of victims of disaster, recovery of damaged infrastructure and repair of the damages caused.

Organisations and Policies related to Disaster Management Framework in India

National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP)

- It was released in 2016, it is the first ever national plan prepared in the country for disaster management.
- With National Disaster Management Plan (2016) India has aligned its National plan with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, to which India is a signatory.
- The objective of the plan is to make India disaster resilient, achieve substantial disaster risk reduction. It aims to significantly decrease the losses of life, livelihoods, and assets in terms of economic, physical, social, cultural, and environmental. To maximize the ability to cope with disasters at all levels of administration as well as among communities.

National Disaster Management Authority of India (NDMA)

- It was established in 2005, under the Disaster Management Act 2005.
- The objective of NDMA is, to build a safer and disaster resilient India by a holistic, proactive, technology driven and sustainable development strategy.
- The NDMA is chaired by the Prime Minister of India and has a vice chairman with the status of Cabinet Minister and eight members with the status of Ministers of State.
- The NDMA Secretariat is headed by a Secretary and deals with mitigation, preparedness, plans, reconstruction, community awareness and financial and administrative aspects.

District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA)

- Under Disaster Management Act 2005, every State government shall establish a DDMA for every district in the State.
 - The DDM Authority shall consist of:
 - Chairperson - the Collector or District Magistrate or Deputy Commissioner act as Chairperson of DDMA.
 - Co-Chairperson - is the elected representative of the local authority. In the Tribal Areas, the Chief Executive Member of the district council of autonomous district is the co-chairperson.
 - There are not more than seven other members in DDMA.
- The Disaster Management Committee governed under District Magistrate will formulate village level disaster management plans for concern villages.



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- The DDMA makes District Disaster Management Plan and implements the state Disaster Management Plan.

State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA)

- At State level, State Disaster Management Authorities are established under Disaster Management Act 2005.
- SDMA is chaired by the Chief Minister of the State and has not more than eight members who are appointed by the Chief Minister.
- The SDMA prepares the state disaster management plan and implements the National Disaster Management Plan.

Challenges In Disaster Management

- **Weak compliance of policies:** The follow up actions expected from nodal agencies in preparing plans and corrective actions to address the critical gaps in the existing policies are not initiated. Community based organizations and NGO's can play an important role in creating a level playing field for victims affected by disasters.
- **Fragile Institutions:** The National Policy on Disaster Management, prepared by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), approved in 2009 was formulated with a vision to build a safe and disaster resilient India. Central, state and district level authorities are established. Also Disaster Response Fund and Disaster Mitigation Fund were set up. But all these are not active and well operated. Good governance and effective administration are the dynamic processes of effective interface with communities at risk. The process must have transparency and accountability. We must explore ways to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of delivery of services, minimizing inordinate delays, red tape, pressure for excluding real victims and accommodating false claimants. The instrument of good governance like Right to information and legal options like Public interest litigation can be used to ensure justice wherever necessary.
- **Need to adopt innovative systems, techniques and technologies:** Some of them are Geographical Information System (GIS), Global Positioning System (GPS), Global Pocket Radio Service (GPRS), Remote Sensing, and Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP), Radio over Internet Protocol (ROIP), Scenario Analysis & Modeling, Digital Elevation Models and Bathymetry for tsunamis, Early warning systems, Doppler radar etc. Information in the local dialects will be more helpful. A judicious mix of traditional knowledge with technology is required.
- **Systemic inefficiencies influencing process:** The random audits of proposals on affected areas and fixing the accountability for financial losses on erring officials is the reason.



POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

Office Of The Governor In India

Topics Covered

- ✓ Governor
- ✓ Historical Background
- ✓ Functions Of The Governor mentioned in the Constitution
- ✓ Discretionary Powers Of The Governor
- ✓ Issues
- ✓ Supreme Court Decisions
- ✓ Sarkaria And Punchi Commission Recommendations

Governor

- The Governor's appointment, his powers and everything related to the office of Governor have been discussed under Article 153 to Article 162 of the Indian Constitution.
- The role of the Governor is quite similar to that of the President of India. The Governor performs the same duties as of President, but for the State. Governor stands as executive head of a State and the working remains the same as of the office of President of India. Under the Constitution of India, the governing machinery is the same as that of the Central Government.
- It is stated that the Governor has a dual role.
- He is the constitutional head of the state, bound by the advice of his council of ministers.
- He functions as a vital link between the Union Government and the State Government.

Historical Background

- The Governors under the Government of India Act 1935 were "by the Raj, of the Raj and for the Raj". The constituent assembly wanted elected governors as proposed by a sub-committee of B.G. Kher, K.N. Katju and P. Subbarayan.
- The apprehension of the clash between powers of Governor and Chief minister led to the system of appointed Governor in the state.
- The draft constitution of 1948 was ambivalent – the drafting committee leaving it to the constituent assembly to decide whether governors should be elected or nominated.

Functions Of The Governor Mentioned In The Constitution

- According to article 154 of the constitution, the executive power of the state shall be vested in the Governor and shall be exercised by him either directly or through officers subordinate to him in accordance with the Constitution of India.
- Article 161 states that The Governor shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, etc.
- According to article 163, There shall be a council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions except in so far as he is by or under the Constitution required to exercise his functions or any of them in his discretion.
- Article 164 mentions that it is the Chief Ministers and other ministers are appointed by him.
- Article 165 states that the Advocate General of the State is appointed by Governor.
- Article 166 states that all executive actions, of the Governor of a State shall be expressed to be taken in the name of Governor.
- Article 174 mentions that the Governor shall from time to time summon and prorogue the House and dissolve the Legislative Assembly.
- Article 175 mentions that The Governor may address the Legislative Assembly; The Governor may send messages to the House.
- Article 176 mentions that Special Address to the House by the Governor.



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- According to article 200, the Governor assents, withholds assent or reserves for the consideration of the Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly.
- Article 202 mentions that the Governor shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before the House a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure.
- According to article 203, No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the Governor.
- According to article 213, The Governor may promulgate the ordinances under certain circumstances.
- Article 217 mentions that The Governor is consulted for appointment of Judges of High Court.
- The Governor is expected to advance the cause of federalism and democracy in the contemporary constitutional landscape, which form a part of the basic structure of the constitution.

Discretionary Powers Of The Governor

The Governor exercises his discretion at following instances -

- Dismissing the government, if the cabinet no longer holds the confidence of the house.
- Selecting a chief minister after elections when there is hung assembly.
- Dissolving the Legislative Assembly due to political instability.
- Advising the President to proclaim emergency if the conditions in state are not viable for normal conduct of the government.

Issues

- There are numerous examples of the Governor's position being abused, usually at the behest of the ruling party at the Centre. The process of appointment has generally been the cause behind it.
- In several cases, politicians and former bureaucrats identifying with a particular political ideology have been appointed as the Governors by the Governments. This goes against the constitutionally mandated neutral seat and has resulted in bias, as appears to have happened in Karnataka and Goa.
- The root lies in the process of appointment itself. The post has been reduced to becoming a retirement package for politicians for being politically faithful to the government of the day.
- One of the more famous examples was the dismissal of the SR Bommai (Janata Dal) government in Karnataka in 1989. The then Governor refused to allow the democratically elected chief minister to prove his majority on the floor of the Assembly.
- Andhra Pradesh and Goa's governors, who dismissed the governments led by NT Rama Rao and Wilfred D'Souza, respectively, showed the same partisan attitude.
- Uttar Pradesh Governor Romesh Bhandari's actions were so blatantly partisan that he had to endure the Supreme Court's disgrace of being censured.
- The most recent one(2018) is action taken by the governor while forming a government in Karnataka, Governor called a party to form the government, though it was not having a simple majority and gave some time to prove majority. But the Governor did not give the first preference to other two parties with a post-poll alliance. Later this has been solved with the intervention of the court.

Supreme Court Decisions

- In Hargovind Pant v. Raghukul Tilak (1979), the Supreme Court affirmed that the "office of the Governor was not subordinate or subservient to the Government of India".
- In S.R. Bommai vs Union of India case (1994), the Supreme Court said, "The office of the Governor is intended to ensure protection and sustenance of the constitutional process of the working of the Constitution by the elected executive."
- One must consider the Supreme Court's verdict in B.P. Singhal v. Union of India on the interpretation of Article 156 of the Constitution and the arbitrary removal of Governors before the expiration of their tenure. This judgment is crucial as a fixed tenure for Governors could go quite a long way in promoting neutrality and fairness in fulfilling their duties, unmindful of the dispensation at the Centre.
- The five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court led by then Chief Justice J.S. Khehar in the Nabam Rebia judgment of 2016 ruled that Article 163 does not give Governors a "general discretionary power" as is often misunderstood. "The area for the exercise of his (Governor) discretion is limited. Even this limited area, his choice of action should not be arbitrary or fanciful. It must be a choice dictated by reason,



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actuated by good faith and tempered by caution,” the Constitution Bench, of which the current Chief Justice Dipak Misra was a part of, held.

- In Government of NCT of Delhi v. Union of India case(2018), then Chief Justice of India, Dipak Misra, clarified that democracy and federalism are firmly imbibed in India’s constitutional ethos while reiterating that democracy requires the constant affirmation of constitutional morality.

Sarkaria And Punchi Commission Recommendations

Recommendations of Sarkaria commission

The central government set up the Justice R S Sarkaria Commission in June 1983 to examine the relationship and balance of power between state and central governments. The Commission, which dealt with the role of Governors, suggested that in choosing a Chief Minister, the Governor should be guided by the following principles
Recommendations regarding the appointment of the Governor:

- Should be an eminent person;
- Must be a person from outside the State;
- Must not have participated in active politics at least for some time before his appointment; it even suggested that when the state and the center are ruled by different political parties, the governor should not belong to the ruling party at the center.
- He should be a detached person and not too intimately connected with the local politics of the State;
- He should be appointed in consultation with the Chief Minister of the State, Vice-President of India and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha;
- It even recommended that the State Government should be given prominence in appointing the Governor.
- His tenure of office must be guaranteed.
- After demitting his office, the person appointed as Governor should not be eligible for any other appointment or office of profit under the Union or a State Government except for a second term as Governor or election as Vice-President or President of India, as the case may be;
- At the end of his tenure, reasonable post-retirement benefits should be provided

Recommendations of M.M Punchi commission

A Commission headed by former Chief Justice of India M M Punchhi was set up in April 2007 to take a fresh look at the roles and responsibilities of governments at various levels, and the relations between them. The Commission recommended that there should be clear guidelines for the appointment of Chief Ministers, so that there was some sort of regulation on the discretionary power of the Governor.

Following are the Punchi commissions recommendations on Governor:

- Like Sarkaria commission, it also recommended that the person who is slated to be a Governor should not have participated in active politics.
- It recommended that state chief minister should have a say in the appointment of the governor.
- It also recommended that Appointment of the governor should be entrusted to a committee comprising the Prime Minister, Home Minister, Speaker of the Lok Sabha and chief minister of the concerned state. The Vice- President can also be involved in the process.
- The commission recommended that the doctrine of pleasure should end and should be deleted from the constitution.
- It recommended that the Governor should not be removed at the whim of the central government. Instead, a resolution by state legislature should be there to remove Governor.

The SC has many times emphasized the urgent need for implementing Sarkaria commission’s recommendations on selection and appointment of governors. In light of this, proper implementation of these recommendations would help in protecting the sanctity of the office of the Governor.



Good Governance

Topics covered

- ✓ What is Governance?
- ✓ Formal and Informal actors in Governance
- ✓ What is Good Governance (GG)?
- ✓ 4Es- Pillars of Good Governance
- ✓ What are the characteristics of Good Governance?
- ✓ Good governance through SMART Governance
- ✓ Challenges to Good Governance in India

What is Governance?

- In order to understand the concept of Good Governance, let's first understand the concept of Governance:
- The concept of "governance" is not new. It is as old as human civilization.
- Simply put "governance" means: the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented). Governance can be used in several contexts such as corporate governance, international governance, national governance and local governance.

Formal and Informal actors in Governance

- Since governance is the process of decision making and the process by which decisions are implemented, an analysis of governance focuses on the formal and informal actors involved in decision-making and implementing the decisions made and the formal and informal structures that have been set in place to arrive at and implement the decision.
- Government is one of the actors in governance.
- Other actors involved in governance vary depending on the level of government that is under discussion.
- In rural areas, for example, other actors may include influential land lords, associations of peasant farmers, cooperatives, NGOs, research institutes, religious leaders, finance institutions political parties etc.
- The actors other than government are called "Civil Society".
- At the national level, informal decision-making structures, such as "kitchen cabinets" or informal advisors may exist.
- In urban areas, organized crime syndicates such as the "land Mafia" may influence decision-making.
- Such, informal decision-making is often the result of corrupt practices or leads to corrupt practices.

What is Good Governance (GG)?

- The concept of good governance is not new.
- Kautilya in his treatise Arthashastra elaborated the traits of the king of a well governed State thus: "in the happiness of his subjects lies his happiness, in their welfare his welfare, whatever pleases himself, he does not consider as good, but whatever pleases his subjects he considers as good".
- Mahatma Gandhi had propounded the concept of 'Su-raj'.
- As per the 1992 report of the World Bank, titled "Governance and Development", good governance has been defined as follows:
 - GG is the manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic and social resources for development.
 - The essence of good governance has been described as predictable, open and enlightened policy, together with a bureaucracy imbued with a professional ethos and an executive arm of government accountable for its actions.
 - All these elements are present in a strong civil society participating in public affairs, where all members of the society act under the rule of law.
 - It assures that corruption is minimized, the views of minorities are taken into account and that the voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard in decision-making.
 - It is also responsive to the present and future needs of society.

4Es- Pillars of Good Governance



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- Ethos (of service to the citizen)
- Ethics (honesty, integrity and transparency)
- Equity (treating all citizens alike with empathy for the weaker sections)
- Efficiency (speedy and effective delivery of service without harassment and using ICT increasingly)

Citizens are thus at the core of good governance. Therefore, good governance and citizen centric administration are inextricably linked.

What are the characteristics of Good Governance?

Good governance has 8 major characteristics. It is participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and follows the rule of law.

- **Participation:** Participation by both men and women is a key cornerstone of good governance. Participation could be either direct or through legitimate intermediate institutions or representatives. It is important to point out that representative democracy does not necessarily mean that the concerns of the most vulnerable in society would be taken into consideration in decision making. Participation needs to be informed and organized. This means freedom of association and expression on the one hand and an organized civil society on the other hand.
- **Rule of law:** Good governance requires fair legal frameworks that are enforced impartially. It also requires full protection of human rights, particularly those of minorities. Impartial enforcement of laws requires an independent judiciary and an impartial and incorruptible police force.
- **Transparency:** Transparency means that decisions taken and their enforcement are done in a manner that follows rules and regulations. It also means that information is freely available and directly accessible to those who will be affected by such decisions and their enforcement. It also means that enough information is provided and that it is provided in easily understandable forms and media.
- **Responsiveness:** Good governance requires that institutions and processes try to serve all stakeholders within a reasonable timeframe.
- **Consensus oriented:** There are several actors and as many view points in a given society. Good governance requires mediation of the different interests in society to reach a broad consensus in society on what is in the best interest of the whole community and how this can be achieved. It also requires a broad and long-term perspective on what is needed for sustainable human development and how to achieve the goals of such development. This can only result from an understanding of the historical, cultural and social contexts of a given society or community.
- **Equity and inclusiveness:** A society's well being depends on ensuring that all its members feel that they have a stake in it and do not feel excluded from the mainstream of society. This requires all groups, but particularly the most vulnerable, have opportunities to improve or maintain their well being.
- **Effectiveness and efficiency:** Good governance means that processes and institutions produce results that meet the needs of society while making the best use of resources at their disposal. The concept of efficiency in the context of good governance also covers the sustainable use of natural resources and the protection of the environment.
- **Accountability:** Accountability is a key requirement of good governance. Not only governmental institutions but also the private sector and civil society organizations must be accountable to the public and to their institutional stakeholders. Who is accountable to whom varies depending on whether decisions or actions taken are internal or external to an organization or institution. In general an organization or an institution is accountable to those who will be affected by its decisions or actions. Accountability cannot be enforced without transparency and the rule of law.

Good governance through SMART Governance

- The mandate of any democratic government is to provide a set of services to its citizens in an efficient, convenient, equitable and in effective manner.
- This can ensure the welfare and wellbeing of its citizens and will facilitate the growth of economic activities.
- SMART captures the important attributes of Good Governance i.e. Simple, Moral, Accountable, Responsive and Transparent government.



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- It is necessary to discuss these five attributes to understand them and to know what can be achieved from these elements with electronic intervention.
- Simple--Citizen expects a user friendly government with simplicity of laws, rules, regulations and processes, procedures formulated by the government. The multiplicity of laws and their complex procedures with the requirement of many proofs drive citizens to middle men, resulting in delay and corrupt practices. To avoid this situation with the help of e-Governance, government is implementing —Single Window one stop services through CSC to facilitate common citizen.
- Moral - It denotes emergence of new system of governance based on moral values. The cleaning up process is very slow but it is very essential for the survival of values cherished by Good Governance. Some of the processes like systematic changes in electoral reforms, downsizing of government, enhancing literacy, to increase awareness and participation can take a longer duration to show its effects still such programs should not be overlooked. The maintenance of high ethical standards in the system with proper checks can improve efficiency of police department, judiciary and administration in general. The use of technology will be limited in creating a moralist government. M also stands for “Measure” in SMART government qualities as it is an equally important parameter to access the performance of e- Governance.
- Accountability: The civil service is accountable for design of strategies, action plan drawn to implement particular program or system and performance achieved. IT helps in design, implementation with sophisticated systems as MIS or SAP which helps top officials to execute, to pinpoint minutest details and take corrective actions in time.
- Responsiveness: It means to be attentive to the needs of common man and by action to show the urgency in responding to such needs. It includes quality of service offered in time. Service delayed is as good as service denied. An important concept developed to assure Responsiveness is “Citizen Charter”. Citizen Charter is a set of assurances given by the government agency on the quality of service and time limit for delivery. ICT can play a significant role in improving the performance of delivery and to fulfill promises set by Citizen Charter.
- Transparency- Transparency brings some of the essential virtues in to public life such as equity, level playing field, the rule of law. These virtues confer social benefits to the deserving with no discretion, no scope of corruption. —Transparency arises out of the citizen’s Right To Information (RTI), the right to know why certain decisions were taken. The deployment of ICT can quickly disseminate information through the use of web sites or portals which can be used to form decisions, opinions.
- Government of India through decentralization of power and citizens empowerment, trying for effective citizen participation at all levels in program and civic service reforms.
- The five principles of SMART governance are relevant to the working of public sector. If e-Governance systems are designed and built to enhance these principles in practice they can provide multiple benefits to its users.

Challenges to Good Governance in India

- The criminalization of politics and corruption are two major challenges of good governance in India which need to be addressed on urgent basis.
- Corruption has virtually spread in almost all aspects of public life.
- It not only averts the benefits of globalization to reach the common men but also denies transparency, accessibility and accountability, confuses rules and procedures, proliferate mindless control and poor commitments at all levels.
- The nexus of crime and politics is so strong that the common citizens of the country have no stand to say or exert their rights

Atma-Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan

Relevancy

- ✓ G.S. Paper 3
- ✓ Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their



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- design and implementation
- ✓ Indian economy and mobilization of resources

Why in news?

- ❖ Recently the PM has announced the Atma-nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (or Self-reliant India Mission) and said that in the days to come the government would unveil the details of an economic package — worth Rs 20 lakh crore or 10% of India's GDP in 2019-20 — aimed towards achieving this mission.
- ❖ The amount includes packages already announced at the beginning of the lockdown incorporating measures from the RBI and the payouts under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana.
- ❖ The package is expected to focus on land, labour, liquidity and laws.

What is Atma-nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan?

- Atma-nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan aims towards cutting down import dependence by focussing on substitution while improving safety compliance and quality goods to gain global market share.
- The Mission focuses on the importance of promoting “local” products.
- The Atma-nirbhar or Self-Reliance neither signifies any exclusionary or isolationist strategies but involves creation of a helping hand to the whole world.
- The Mission will be carried out in two phases:
 - Phase 1: It will consider sectors like medical textiles, electronics, plastics and toys where local manufacturing and exports can be promoted.
 - Phase 2: It will consider products like gems and jewellery, pharma and steel, etc.

5 pillars of Atma-nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan

According to the PM a self-reliant India should stand on 5 pillars –

- Economy
- Infrastructure
- 21st century technology driven arrangements and system
- Demand
- Vibrant Demography

What are the challenges?

- The COVID situation has revealed India's overdependence on China for Active Pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), also known as bulk drugs.
- India was dependent on China and several other countries for PPE kits and masks in order to tackle with this problem
- India is dependent on many countries for different imported products
- India lacks skill in making the products which is consumed by the population
- There is lack of infrastructure to create the required products to become self-reliant
- Chemical industries will be highly impacted due to shortage and non-availability of raw materials from China and other countries

How can India overcome the challenges?

- There is need for better infrastructure to utilize the raw materials available in the country
- The RBI, and the banks should be encouraged to make capital available liberally to sectors such as tourism and manufacturing, which need specific interventions
- There is need for skilled labourers and government must invest in skill india programmes
- The Government must step in to provide credit guarantees that can incentivise banks to SMEs.
- Using and promoting local products will help small business during this economy slowdown
- Complete self reliant is not possible as India is dependent on neighbouring countries for raw materials etc.

Significance

- The Prime Minister stated that the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan package will help revive every sector of the Indian economy including the demand and supply chain and the manufacturing sector.
- The package will form the path for the revival of the Indian economy, which will, in turn, play a major role in making India self-reliant.



42nd Amendment Of Indian Constitution

Topics Covered

- ✓ About 42nd Amendment Act
- ✓ Why Is 42nd Amendment Called 'Mini Constitution'?
- ✓ Reasons For The Enactment Of 42nd CAA
- ✓ How Is 44th Amendment Act Related To 42nd Amendment Act?

What Is 42nd Amendment Act?

- Our Indian Constitution is unique for its content and spirit.
- The Constitution of India decides the rule of the land and is taken as supreme law of the land.
- The constituent assembly that was behind formulating our constitution has also given scope for amendments in it with time.
- Hence, the Indian Constitution of what it is today has undergone substantive changes on account of several amendments.
- The act also called The Constitution Act, 1976 is termed as one of the most controversial acts in the history of amendments to Indian Constitution.
- It amended/ introduced various provisions given below:
 - Attempted to reduce the power of the Supreme Court and High Courts
 - Laid down Fundamental Duties for citizens
 - Terms- Socialist, Secular, and Integrity added to the Preamble

Why is 42nd Amendment called 'Mini Constitution'?

The 42nd amendment attempted to alter the basic structure of the Indian Constitution. Check the table below to read what all amendments were brought by the constitution act, 1976 because of which it was called the mini-constitution:

CHANGES IN PROVISIONS BY 42ND AMENDMENT ACT	DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENT
Preamble	Words 'Socialist', 'Secular' and 'Integrity' added
7th Schedule	Transferred five subjects from the state list to the concurrent list: Education Forests Weights & Measures Protection of Wild Animals and Birds Administration of Justice
Article 51A	10 Fundamental Duties added for the citizens. (The Fundamental Duties of citizens were added upon the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee that was constituted by the government in 1976)
Parliament	Made President bound to the advice of the cabinet Allowed Centre to deploy central forces in State to deal with the conflicting situations of law and order (Article 257A) Gave special discriminatory powers to the speaker of Lok Sabha and Prime Minister (Article 329A) Directive Principles were given precedence over Fundamental Rights and any law made to this effect by the Parliament was kept beyond the scope of judicial review by the Court
Judicial Powers of HC	Curtailed the judicial review power of the high courts
Articles 323A and 323B, Part XIV-A	Part XIV-A added entitled as 'Tribunals dealing with Administrative matters' and 'Tribunals for other matters'



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DPSPs	Four new DPSPs were added to the existing list of DPSPs: To secure opportunities for the healthy development of children (Article 39) To promote equal justice and to provide free legal aid to the poor (Article 39 A) To take steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries (Article 43 A) To protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forests and wildlife (Article 48 A)
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Reasons For The Enactment Of 42nd CAA

- To specify the fundamental duties of the citizens and make special provisions for dealing with anti-national activities, whether by individuals or associations.
- To avail of the present opportunity to make certain other amendments which have become necessary in the light of the working of the Constitution.
- To amend the Constitution to spell out expressly the high ideals of socialism, secularism and the integrity of the nation, to make the directive principles more comprehensive and give them precedence over those fundamental rights which have been allowed to be relied upon to frustrate socio-economic reforms for implementing the directive principles.
- To strengthen the presumption in favour of the constitutionality of legislation enacted by Parliament and State Legislatures by providing for a requirements as to the minimum number of Judges for determining questions as to the constitutionality of laws and for a special majority of not less than two-thirds for declaring any law to be constitutionally invalid.
- As Parliament and the State Legislatures embody the will of the people so it is essential to establish the parliamentary supremacy in enacting Constitutional amendments.
- To reduce the mounting arrears in High Courts and to secure the speedy disposal of service matters, revenue matters and certain other matters of special importance in the context of the socio-economic development and progress, it is considered expedient to provide for administrative and other tribunals for dealing with such matters while preserving the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in regard to such matters under article 136 of the Constitution. It is also necessary to make certain modifications in the writ jurisdiction of the High Courts under article 226.
- To take away the jurisdiction of High Courts with regard to determination of Constitutional validity of Central laws and confer exclusive jurisdiction in this behalf on the Supreme Court so as to avoid multiplicity of proceedings with regard to validity of the same Central law in different High Courts and the consequent possibility of the Central law being valid in one State and invalid in another State.

How is 44th Amendment Act related to 42nd Amendment Act?

- 44th Amendment Act was introduced in the year 1978 by the government. The act was brought to nullify the amendments made by 42nd Amendment Act 1976:
- It reversed the provision made by 42nd amendment act that allowed the government to amend the constitution on its wish by Article 368. 44th Amendment Act nullified this unjustified power to the government.
- 44th Amendment Act removed Right to Property from the list of fundamental rights and made it a legal right.
- Previously, the grounds for declaration of national emergency were external aggression and internal disturbances but the 44th amendment replaced the word 'internal disturbances' with the word 'armed rebellion'.
- Article 226 was amended to restore to the High Courts their power to issue writs for any other purpose besides the enforcement of fundamental rights.
- 44th Amendment Act modified the Constitutional emergency provisions and prevented them from being misused in the future. It restored the Supreme Court and High Courts' jurisdiction and power which they



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enjoyed before the 42nd amendment act was passed. It restored the secular and democratic ideals present in the Constitution.

- The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 added one more Directive Principle, which requires the State to minimize inequalities in income, status, facilities, and opportunities (Article 38).
- The 42nd and 44th Amendment Acts of 1976 and 1978 respectively have made the ministerial advice binding on the president
- The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 introduced a new provision to put a restraint on the power of Parliament to extend a proclamation of President's Rule beyond one year. Thus, it provided that, beyond one year, the President's Rule can be extended by six months at a time only when the following two conditions are fulfilled

Tribunalisation Of Judiciary

Topics covered

- ✓ What Is A Tribunal?
- ✓ Tribunalization Of Justice In India
- ✓ Article 323-A
- ✓ Article 323-B
- ✓ Issues With Tribunalisation
- ✓ Conclusion

What Is A Tribunal?

- Tribunal is an administrative body established for the purpose of discharging quasi-judicial duties.
- Tribunals relieve the burden of judiciary and provide quick and speedy justice.
- It is to be noted that tribunals are not courts because courts follow the Courts are governed by strict procedure defined in CrPC, IPC and the Indian Evidence Act whereas tribunals are driven by the principles of natural justice.

Tribunalization of Justice in India

- Tribunals were added in the Constitution by Constitution (Forty-Second Amendment) Act, 1976 as Part XIV-A, which has only two articles viz. 323-A and 323-B.
- While article 323-A deals with Administrative Tribunals; article 323-B deals with tribunals for other matters.
- In general sense, the 'tribunals' are not courts of normal jurisdiction, but they have very specific and predefined work area
- The administrative tribunals are not original invention of the Indian Political System.
- They are well established in all democratic countries of Europe as well as United States of America.

Article 323-A

- Article 323-A of the constitution which empowers the parliament to provide for the establishment of administrative tribunals for adjudicating the disputes relating to recruitment and conditions of service of a person appointed to public service of centre, states, local bodies, public corporations and other public authority.
- Accordingly parliament has enacted Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 which authorizes parliament to establish Centre and state Administrative tribunals (CAT & SATs).
- **Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT):**
 - It was set up in 1985 with the principal bench at Delhi and additional benches in other states (It now has 17 benches, 15 operating at seats of HC's and 2 in Lucknow and Jaipur.
 - It has original jurisdiction in matters related to recruitment and service of public servants (All India services, central services etc).
 - Its members have a status of High Court judges and are appointed by president.
 - Appeals against the order of CAT lie before the division of High Court after Supreme Court's Chandra Kumar Judgement.



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• State Administrative Tribunals

- Central government can establish state administrative tribunals on request of the state according to Administrative tribunals act of 1985
- SAT's enjoy original jurisdiction in relation to the matters of state government employees.
- Chairman and members are appointed by President in consultation with the governor.

Article 323-B

- Article 323-B which empowers the parliament and the state legislatures to establish tribunals for adjudication of disputes related to following matters
 - Taxation
 - Foreign exchange, Imports and Exports
 - Industry and Labour
 - Land reforms
 - Ceiling on Urban Property
 - Elections to parliament and state legislature
 - Food stuffs
 - Rent and Tenancy Rights

Issues With Tribunalisation

- **High Pendency:** Many tribunals also do not have adequate infrastructure to work smoothly and perform the functions originally envisioned leading to high pendency rates thus proving unfruitful to deliver quick justice.
- **Appeal:** Administrative tribunals were originally set up to provide specialized justice delivery and to reduce the burden of caseloads on regular courts. However, appeals from tribunals have inevitably managed to enter the mainstream judicial system.
- **Lack of Information:** There is a lack of information available on the functioning of tribunals. Websites are routinely non-existent, unresponsive or not updated.
- **Appointments:** Appointments to tribunals are usually under the control of the executive. Not only does the government identify and appoint the members of the tribunals, but it also determines and makes appropriate staffing hires. This is problematic because often there is a lack of understanding of the staffing requirements in tribunals.
- **Against the separation of powers:** Tribunalisation is seen as encroachment of judicial branch by the government.
- **Accessibility:** Accessibility is low due to scant geographic availability therefore justice becomes expensive and difficult.

Conclusion

- **Independence:** The administrative support for all Tribunals should be from the Ministry of Law & Justice. Neither the Tribunals nor its members shall seek or be provided with facilities from the respective sponsoring or parent Ministries or concerned Department.
- **Qualifications:** In Union of India vs. R. Gandhi (2010), the Supreme Court looked at the working of tribunals closely. It said that when the existing jurisdiction of a court is transferred to a tribunal, its members should be persons of a rank, capacity and status as nearly as possible equal to the rank, status and capacity of the court.
- **Appointments to members:** should be done by an impartial and independent selection committee.
- **Accessibility:** Tribunals must have benches in different parts so as to ensure that they are accessible.

Preamble To The Indian Constitution

Relevancy

- ✓ G.S. Paper 2
- ✓ Objective Questions- Source, Components And Text Of The Preamble
- ✓ Subjective Questions- Decoding Preamble, amendments to the preamble and its significance



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Preamble To The Indian Constitution

- The preamble to the Constitution of India is a brief introductory statement that sets out the guiding purpose, principles and philosophy of the constitution.
- Preamble gives an idea about the following :
 - The source of the constitution,
 - Nature of Indian state
 - A statement of its objectives and
 - The date of its adoption.

Text Of The Preamble

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens:

JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;

and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation;

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, DO HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.

Components Of The Preamble

Some of the important components of the preamble are as follows:

- Firstly, It indicates the source of authority of the constitution i.e. it states that the constitution has to derive its authority from the people of India.
- Secondly, it defines and declares India as a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic and Republican State.
- And, it defines the objects which the constitution seeks to promote, such as - justice, liberty, equality & fraternity etc.

Source of the Constitution

- We, the people of India.
- The phrase "We the people of India" emphasises that the constitution is made by and for the Indian people and not given to them by any outside power.
- It also emphasizes the concept of popular sovereignty as laid down by Rousseau: All the power emanates from the people and the political system will be accountable and responsible to the people.

Date Of Its Adoption

- Date of adoption of the Constitution is 26th November, 1949. But most of the articles in Constitution came into force on January 26th, 1950. Those articles which came into existence on 26th November 1949 are given by Article 394.
- Article 394 states that this article (394) and articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 60, 324, 366, 367, 379, 380, 388, 391, 392 and 393 shall come into force at once, and the remaining provisions of this Constitution shall come into force on the twenty-sixth day of January, 1950, which day is referred to in this Constitution as the commencement of this Constitution.
- 26 January was selected for this purpose because it was this day in 1930 when the Declaration of Indian Independence (Purna Swaraj) was proclaimed by the Indian National Congress.

The keywords in the Preamble

- **Sovereign**
 - The Preamble proclaims that India is a Sovereign State.
 - 'Sovereign' means that India has its own independent authority and it is not a dominion or dependent state of any other external power.
 - The Legislature of India has the powers to enact laws in the country subject to certain limitations imposed by the Constitution.
- **Socialist**



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- The word 'Socialist' was added to the Preamble by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment in 1976. Socialism means the achievement of socialist ends through democratic means.
- India has adopted 'Democratic Socialism'.
- Democratic Socialism holds faith in a mixed economy where both private and public sectors co-exist side by side. It aims to end poverty, ignorance, disease and inequality of opportunity.
- **Secular**
 - The word 'Secular' was incorporated in the Preamble by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment in 1976.
 - The term secular in the Constitution of India means that all the religions in India get equal respect, protection and support from the state.
 - Articles 25 to 28 in Part III of the Constitution guarantee Freedom of Religion as a Fundamental Right.
- **Democratic**
 - The term Democratic indicates that the Constitution has established a form of government that gets its authority from the will of the people expressed in an election.
 - The Preamble resolves India to be a democratic country. That means the supreme power lies with the people.
 - In the Preamble, the term democracy is used for political, economic and social democracy.
 - The responsible representative government, universal adult franchise, one vote one value, an independent judiciary, etc. are the features of Indian democracy.
- **Republic**
 - In a Republic, the head of the state is elected by the people directly or indirectly. In India, the President is the head of the state.
 - The President of India is elected indirectly by the people; that means, through their representatives in the Parliament and the State Assemblies.
 - Moreover, in a republic, political sovereignty is vested in the people rather than a monarch.
- **Justice**
 - The term Justice in the Preamble embraces three distinct forms: Social, economic and political, secured through various provisions of the Fundamental and Directive Principles.
 - Social justice in the Preamble means that the Constitution wants to create a more equitable society based on equal social status.
 - Economic justice means equitable distribution of wealth among the individual members of the society so that wealth is not concentrated in a few hands.
 - Political Justice means that all citizens have equal rights in political participation.
 - Indian Constitution provides for universal adult suffrage and equal value for each vote.
- **Liberty**
 - Liberty implies the absence of restraints or domination on the activities of an individual such as freedom from slavery, serfdom, imprisonment, despotism, etc.
 - The Preamble provides for the liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship.
- **Equality**
 - Equality means the absence of privileges or discrimination against any section of the society. The Preamble provides for equality of status and opportunity to all the people of the country.
 - The Constitution strives to provide social, economic and political equality in the country.
- **Fraternity**
 - Fraternity means the feeling of brotherhood.
 - The Preamble seeks to promote fraternity among the people assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.

Amendment in the Preamble

- In 1976, the Preamble was amended (only once till date) by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act. Three new terms, Socialist, Secular, and Integrity were added to the Preamble. The Supreme Court held this amendment validly.



Zonal Councils

Topics Covered

- ✓ Background
- ✓ Objectives Of Zonal Councils
- ✓ Division Of Zonal Councils
- ✓ Composition Of Zonal Council

Background

- The idea of creation of Zonal Councils was mooted by the first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1956 when during the course of debate on the report of the States Re-organisation Commission, he suggested that the States proposed to be reorganized may be grouped into four or five zones having an Advisory Council 'to develop the habit of cooperative working' among these States.
- This suggestion was made by Pandit Nehru at a time when linguistic hostilities and bitterness as a result of the States on the linguistic pattern were threatening the very fabric of our nation.

Objectives of Zonal Councils

- Arresting the growth of acute State consciousness, regionalism, linguism and particularistic tendencies
- Bringing out national integration
- Establishing a climate of co-operation amongst the States for successful and speedy execution of development projects.
- Enabling the Centre and the States to co-operate and exchange ideas and experiences

Division Of Zonal Councils

There are 5 five Zonal councils namely:

- The Central Zonal Council, comprising the States of Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- The Northern Zonal Council, comprising the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh.
- The North Eastern States i.e. (i) Assam (ii) Arunachal Pradesh (iii) Manipur (iv) Tripura (v) Mizoram (vi) Meghalaya (vii) Sikkim and (viii) Nagaland are not included in the Zonal Councils and their special problems are looked after by the North Eastern Council, set up under the North Eastern Council Act, 1972.
- The Eastern Zonal Council, comprising the States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, and West Bengal.
- The Western Zonal Council, comprising the States of Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra and the Union Territories of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
- The Southern Zonal Council, comprising the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Puducherry.

Composition Of Zonal Councils

- Chairman – The Union Home Minister is the Chairman of each of these Councils.
- Vice Chairman – The Chief Ministers of the States included in each zone act as Vice-Chairman of the Zonal Council for that zone by rotation, each holding office for a period of one year at a time.
- Members- Chief Minister and two other Ministers as nominated by the Governor from each of the States and two members from Union Territories included in the zone.
- Advisers- One person nominated by the Planning Commission (which has been replaced by NITI Ayog now) for each of the Zonal Councils, Chief Secretaries and another officer/Development Commissioner nominated by each of the States included in the Zone.
- Union Ministers are also invited to participate in the meetings of Zonal Councils depending upon necessity.



Social Influence And COVID-19

Topics covered

- ✓ What Is Social Influence?
- ✓ Dynamic Social Impact Theory:
- ✓ Areas Of Social Influence
- ✓ Role Of Social Influence During COVID Scenario
- ✓ Role Of Social Platform During COVID19
- ✓ A Source Of Information (And Misinformation)
- ✓ Social Platform Is An Influence On Public Response To The Outbreak
- ✓ Social Media Platform As A Marketing Platform
- ✓ Social Platform As A Powerful Way To Bring Positivity To A Scary Time
- ✓ Positive Impacts During COVID-19
- ✓ Conclusion

What Is Social Influence?

- Social influence is described as the change in person's behaviour, thoughts, feelings and attitudes that results from interaction with another individual in society.
- It can be intentionally or unintentionally, as a result of the way the changed person perceives themselves in relationship to the influencer.
- Many psychologists affirmed that social influence is the process by which individuals make real changes to their outlooks and behaviours as a result of communication with others who are perceived to be similar, desirable, or expert.
- Individuals may change a belief under the influence of another who is perceived to be an expert in the matter at hand.

Dynamic Social Impact Theory

- Social impact theory was originated by Bibb Latane in 1958.
- This theory has three basic rules which consider how individuals can be sources or targets of social influence.
- Social impact is the result of social forces including the strength of the source of impact, the immediacy of the event, and the number of sources exerting the impact.
- Social impact theory is described as the idea that conforming to social influence depends on the strength of the group's importance, its immediacy, and the number of people in the group (Aronson, Wilson, and Akert, 2007).
- According to Aronson et al. (2007) social impact theory envisages that conformity will increase as the strength and proximity increase.

Areas Of Social Influence

Conformity:

- It is changing how people behave to be more like others.
- This element plays to belonging and esteem needs as we seek the approval and friendship of others.
- Conformity can run very deep, as people will even change their beliefs and values to be like those of peers and admired superiors.
- Conformity refers to the act of changing a particular belief or behaviour to fit in with one's social environment.
- Main factor that influences conformity is social norms.
- Social norms are the expected behaviour within a specific culture or society.
- Person who conform to social group have low self-esteem, high need for social support or approval, need for self-control, low IQ, high anxiety, feeling of self blames and insecurity in the group, and lastly, feeling of inferiority.

Compliance:

- Compliance is described as a particular kind of response, acquiescence to a particular kind of communication, a request.



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- The request may be obvious, as in the direct solicitation of funds in a door-to-door campaign for charitable donations, or it may be implicit, as in a political advertisement that sellers the qualities of a candidate without directly asking for a vote (Cialdini & Goldstein, 2004).
- But in all cases, the target recognizes that he or she is being urged to respond in a desired way.
- In general term, compliance is where a person does something that they are asked to do by another.
- They may choose to comply or not to comply, although the thoughts of social reward and punishment may lead them to compliance when they really do not want to comply.

Obedience:

- It is different from compliance, in that it complies with an order from someone that people accept as an authority personality.
- In compliance, there is some choice. In obedience, there is no choice.
- Basically, obedience refers to a social influence in which a person follows explicit instructions that were given by an authority figure.
- In the long history of humankind, the effect of obedience is bold. It is deduced that the most conspicuous feature of obedience is the presence of an authority figure.

Social Influence During COVID Scenario

- During the time of COVID pandemic, social influence plays vital role in keeping the public calm and helping government to take proper measurements to contain the pandemic.
- Social influencing can be used in spreading of and effective health communication for the adoption of sustainable preventive measures and curtailing misinformation
- With the help of social influencing, effective strategies can be released to deal with social and physical distancing
- Public health communication to increase psychological resources and resilience in distinct age groups and socioeconomic conditions

Role Of Social Platform During COVID19

Four primary roles that social platforms are playing during the COVID-19 outbreak

A Source Of Information (And Misinformation)

- The availability of realtime information at just one click in the face of a worldwide event can help keep one safe, providing a better understanding of what is occurring and how it might impact the society.
- Yet, social media can also spread falsehoods, including miracle preventative measures, false claims about the implementation of martial law, conspiracy theories, and more.
- Finding trusted sources of information regarding COVID-19 is extremely important.

Distinguishing Between Trustworthy And Untrustworthy Sources On Social Media

- The best rule of thumb for making sure information is accurate is to check original sources and make sure that
 - Those sources are indeed trustworthy, and
 - The information was relayed accurately.
- Just because someone claims to have learned something from a reliable source doesn't mean they're relaying that information accurately.
- If you're the one presenting information, whether on behalf of a business or your personal account, it's your responsibility to cite and fact-check your own sources. Be wary of using verbiage that is alarmist or absolute. There are still so many unknowns about the virus, and nobody is sure what the coming weeks and months hold. It's always best to be cognizant of this and avoid unnecessary bold statements.

Social Platform Is An Influence On Public Response To The Outbreak

- Billions of people are free to publicly share their opinions on COVID-19 across various social platforms.
- In the past few weeks, we've seen individuals, organizations, and businesses use social media to spread awareness of COVID-19, as well as the public actions that can be taken.
- Here are a few of the most distinct ways social media has influenced the public since the virus reached epidemic and pandemic levels:
 - **Social distancing and home quarantine are trending**



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- Until a few weeks ago, many of us hadn't even heard of "social distancing," which refers to staying at least 6 feet away from others to help prevent the spread of infection. Now, social media users, from friends and family to celebrities and governments, are regularly calling for social distancing.
- **Boasting and shaming panic buying**
 - Many people have been excessively purchasing household goods, sanitization products, and food in fear that necessities will no longer be accessible — just like they do when there is a hurricane or some other natural disaster. This over-purchasing has become so commonplace that social media users have coined a phrase to describe it: panic buying.
- **On social, panic buying is being discussed in two distinct ways:**
 - People are posting about their own panic buying, showing images of carts filled with toilet paper, water bottles, and frozen meals; and
 - People are posting pictures of empty shelves or other people's carts as a way to shame supposed panic buyers.

Social Media Platform As A Marketing Platform

- The COVID-19 outbreak presents a defining moment for many brands in how they choose to market their product.
- Some businesses will prey on mass hysteria, especially businesses putting extra dollars behind social media ads, selling products like hand sanitizer and facemasks (despite frequent claims from health organizations that facemasks are not effective if you don't have the disease).
- Popular hashtags popping up related to social distancing and quarantining include #socialdistancing, #quarantineandchill, and #mypandemicsurvivalplan.

Socially Responsible Product Marketing

- Despite the uptick in alarmist-focused media spend, there are many businesses providing powerful and empathetic responses to COVID-19.
- The main responsibility of brands right now is to provide for the safety and well being of their employees and customers.
- That said, there are certain business models that lend themselves particularly well to providing relief for many people during this time.
- Streaming services, for instance, are providing entertainment for those bored at home.
- Markets and restaurants with delivery services are able to safely provide groceries and meals to those unable to venture out.
- Online courses are being offered for free and at reduced prices.
- All in all, there are many businesses doing the best they can to ease the fear and discomfort being experienced by so many.

Social Platform As A Powerful Way To Bring Positivity To A Scary Time

- No platform is perfect. But where there has been misinformation and fear on social media, there's also been an abundance of vital, lifesaving information, connection with others, and global unity.
- The ability to share experiences with family and friends helps to combat both literal and emotional isolation while also reminding us that we're all in this together.

Positive Impacts During COVID-19

- Fundraisers organized and distributed on social help raise money for those in need
- COVID-19 has put many people, especially the elderly, those with disabilities, working parents who are losing childcare, and those who are losing their jobs, in challenging situations.
- Communities are rallying together to support organizations and individuals by sharing fundraisers with large audiences on social media.
- People are also taking to social media to offer support in any way they can, such as picking up groceries for individuals who are unable to leave home or sharing information on how to support local businesses who are struggling to pay their employees.
- Nature is thriving.



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- Without us constantly running around to many different places nature is beginning to return to homeostasis and balance.
- For example, less air pollution and the return of wildlife in areas that haven't been seen for a long time.
- We have more time for family.
 - The forced isolation has served as a reminder of how much our loved ones mean to us.
 - And with this newfound importance of connection, families are coming together in ways like never before.
- We realized we are all equal with regard to the force of nature.
 - Rich or poor, great or small, this virus has impacted all of us.
 - Such a blow of global proportions has broken down the barriers between us and we no longer see ourselves as separate nations.
- We are starting to understand how much we depend on each other.
- We have time to stop and think for ourselves, our environment, our relations, our earth.

Conclusion

- This is the first time any living generation has experienced a pandemic of this scale, and we're just beginning to understand social media's ultimate role.
- In years to come, It will serve as an incredibly precise case study in the ways the public and businesses alike respond to such an unprecedented global event, and how those responses on a public platform influence not just the actions of individuals, but of corporations and governments.



SCHEMES AND POLICIES OF GOVERNMENT

NITI Aayog

Topics Covered

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Background
- ✓ Relevance of NITI Aayog
- ✓ Objectives Of NITI Aayog
- ✓ Composition Of NITI Aayog
- ✓ 7 Pillars Of Effective Governance Envisaged By NITI Aayog
- ✓ NITI Aayog Hubs
- ✓ Performance of NITI Aayog
- ✓ Conclusion

Introduction

- The centre-to-state one-way flow of policy, that was the hallmark of the Planning Commission era, is now sought to be replaced by a genuine and continuing partnership of states.
- Better inter-ministry coordination.
- NITI Aayog = more a “think tank” than a finance distributing agency.
- With NITI Aayog, there will be multi-directional flow of policy (from Center to States, from States to Center, between ministries etc.)
- NITI Aayog will provide Governments at the central and state levels with relevant strategic and technical advice across the spectrum of key elements of the policy.
- The NITI Aayog will create a knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial support system through a collaborative community of national and international experts.
- The NITI Aayog will develop mechanisms to formulate credible plans to the village level and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government.
- Its important initiatives include “15 year road map”, “7-year vision, strategy and action plan”, AMRUT, Digital India and Atal Innovation Mission.

Background

- Planning has been in Indian psyche as our leaders came under influence of the socialist clime of erstwhile USSR. Planning commission served as the planning vehicle for close to six decades with a focus on control and command approach.
- Planning Commission was replaced by a new institution – NITI AAYOG on January 1, 2015 with emphasis on ‘Bottom –Up’ approach to envisage the vision of Maximum Governance, Minimum Government, echoing the spirit of ‘Cooperative Federalism’.

Relevance of NITI Aayog

- **Competitive Federalism:** Various reports of NITI Aayog like Healthy states Progressive India etc which give performance-based rankings of States across various verticals to foster a spirit of competitive federalism. It helps to identify the best practices in different States in various sectors and then try to replicate them in other States.
- **Cooperative federalism:** Due to composition of NITI Aayog, it gives better representation of states in this body which facilitate direct interactions with the line ministries, also helps to address issues in a relatively shorter time.
- **Greater Accountability:** NITI Aayog has established a Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office which collects data on the performance of various Ministries on a real-time basis. The data are then used at the highest policymaking levels to establish accountability and improve performance. Earlier, India had 12 Five-Year Plans, but they were mostly evaluated long after the plan period had ended. Hence, there was no real accountability.



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- **Think tank of innovative ideas:** NITI Aayog is visualised as a funnel through which new and innovative ideas come from all possible sources — industry, academia, civil society or foreign specialists — and flow into the government system for implementation. By collecting fresh ideas and sharing them with the Central and State governments, it allows states to progress with these new ideas. Hence it helps in improving governance and implementing innovative measures for better delivery of public services.
- **Convergence for resolution:** Being a common point for similar issues faced by different sectors, states etc., it acts as a convergence point and platform to discuss these issues.

Objectives of NITI Aayog

- To promote cooperative federalism through well-ordered support initiatives and mechanisms with the States on an uninterrupted basis.
- The active participation of States in the light of national objectives and to provide a framework 'national agenda'.
- To grant advice and encourage partnerships between important stakeholders and national- international Think Tanks, as well as educational and policy research institutions.
- To construct methods to formulate a reliable strategy at the village level and aggregate these gradually at higher levels of government.
- To pay special consideration to the sections of the society that may be at risk of not profiting satisfactorily from economic progress.
- Economic policy that incorporates national security interests.
- To generate a knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial support system through a shared community of national and international experts, etc.
- To propose strategic and long-term policy and programme frameworks and initiatives, and review their progress and their effectiveness.
- To pay attention to technology improvement and capacity building for the discharge of programs and initiatives.
- To preserve a state-of-the-art Resource Centre, be a repository of research on good governance and best practices in sustainable and equitable development as well as help their distribution to participants.
- To provide a platform for resolution of inter-sectoral and inter-departmental issues in order to speed up the accomplishment of the progress agenda.
- To undertake other necessary activities in order to the implementation of the national development agenda, and the objectives.
- To effectively screen and assess the implementation of programmes and initiatives, including the identification of the needed resources to strengthen the likelihood of success.

Composition

- Chairperson: Prime Minister
- Vice-Chairperson: To be appointed by Prime-Minister
- Governing Council: Chief Ministers of all states and Lt. Governors of Union Territories.
- Regional Council: To address specific regional issues, Comprising Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors Chaired by Prime Minister or his nominee.
- Adhoc Membership: 2 member in ex-officio capacity from leading Research institutions on rotational basis.
- Ex-Officio membership: Maximum four from Union council of ministers to be nominated by Prime minister.
- Chief Executive Officer: Appointed by Prime-minister for a fixed tenure, in rank of Secretary to Government of India.
- Special Invitees: Experts, Specialists with domain knowledge nominated by Prime-minister.

7 Pillars Of Effective Governance Envisaged By NITI Aayog

The NITI Aayog is based on the 7 pillars of effective Governance. They are:

1. Pro-people: it fulfills the aspirations of society as well as individuals
2. Pro-activity: in anticipation of and response to citizen needs
3. Participation: involvement of citizenry



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4. Empowering: Empowering, especially women in all aspects
5. Inclusion of all: inclusion of all people irrespective of caste, creed, and gender
6. Equality: Providing equal opportunity to all especially for youth
7. Transparency: Making the government visible and responsive

NITI Aayog Hubs

- Team India Hub acts as interface between States and Centre.
- Knowledge and Innovation Hub builds the think-tank acumen of NITI Aayog.
- The Aayog planned to come out with three documents — 3-year action agenda, 7-year medium-term strategy paper and 15-year vision document.

NITI Aayog specialized Wings

- Research Wing – that will develop in-house sectoral expertise as a dedicated think tank of top domain experts, specialists and scholars.
- Consultancy Wing – that will provide a marketplace of whetted panels of expertise and funding for Central and State Governments to tap into; matching their requirements with solution providers, public and private, national and international. By playing matchmaker instead of providing the entire service itself, NITI Aayog will be able to focus its resources on priority matters, providing guidance and an overall quality check to the rest.
- Team India Wing – comprising representatives from every State and Ministry, will serve as a permanent platform for national collaboration.

Performance of NITI Aayog

- Launching of various initiatives and programmes
 - Measuring performance and ranking States on outcomes in critical sectors o Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital (SATH)
 - Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat
 - Development Support Services to States (DSSS) for Development of Infrastructure
 - Public-Private Partnership in Health
 - Resolution of pending issues of States with Central Ministries
 - 'Aspirational District Programme (ADP)': to realise the vision of 'SabkaSaath, SabkaVikas', and ensure that India's growth process remains inclusive
- Enabling evidence-based policy making and enhancing productive efficiency with long-term vision
 - Three Year National Action Agenda and the Strategy for New India @75 which allows better alignment of the development strategy with the changed reality of India.
 - Reform of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs)
 - Balanced Regional Development
 - Development support to the North East
 - NITI Forum for North East
 - Health & Nutrition Sector Reforms
 - Launch of the POSHAN Abhiyaan
 - Evolving the National Nutrition Strategy
 - Pushing Reforms in Pharmaceuticals Sector
 - In energy sector
 - NITI has prepared and launched a report on 'India's Renewable Electricity Roadmap 2030.'
 - Roadmap for revising the National Mineral Policy, 2018
- Partnerships with National and International Organisations and Promote Stakeholder Consultation in Policy Making
- Promote entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem
 - Atal Innovation Mission, which established Atal Tinkering Labs in India, has already done commendable work in improving the innovation ecosystem in India.
 - Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017: Women First: Prosperity for All
 - Women Entrepreneurship Platform
- Promoting adoption of frontier technology like Artificial Intelligence, blockchain, Methanol economy etc



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Conclusion

- NITI Aayog will function in close cooperation, consultation and coordination with the Ministries of the Central Government and State governments.
- While it will make recommendations to the Central and State Governments, the responsibility for taking and implementing decisions will rest with them.
- NITI Aayog will seek to facilitate and empower the critical requirement of good governance – which is people-centric, participative, collaborative, transparent and policy-driven. It will provide critical directional and strategic input to the development process, focussing on deliverables and outcomes.
- This, along with being an incubator and disseminator of fresh thought and ideas for development, will be the core mission of NITI Aayog.

Draft Defence Production Policy, 2018

Relevancy

- ✓ G.S. Paper 2 and 3
- ✓ Objective questions: Draft Defence Production Policy 2018
- ✓ Subjective questions: India's rising defense imports and need for indigenous production

Vision of the Draft Defence Production Policy, 2018

- To make India among the top five countries of the world in Aerospace and Defence industries, with active participation of public and private sector, fulfilling the objective of self-reliance as well as demand of other friendly countries.

Aims of the policy

- The DProP 2018 has embarked on an ambitious journey to mark India's position among the top defence production countries in the world.
- The DProP 2018 is focused on self-reliance.
- It seeks to change India's position from being the largest importer of arms in the world.

Key features

- It proposes to increase the foreign direct investment (FDI) cap in niche technology areas to 74% under the automatic route in a bid to boost local manufacturing and catapult India into the league of countries housing top defence and aerospace industries. At present, the FDI cap for the defence sector is 49% under the automatic route for all categories.
- India hopes to achieve a turnover of Rs1.7 trillion in defence goods and services by 2025.
- It has a goal of becoming an arms exporter to the tune of Rs35,000 crore in defence goods and services by 2025.
- It also hopes to transform itself into a global leader in cyberspace and AI (artificial intelligence) technologies.
- The government will list its requirements in terms of platforms and weapon systems for the next decade to help private sector companies understand the opportunities.
- Simplify procedures for private firms to enter defence production, i.e., liberalize the regime by issuing licences in 30 days and pruning no-go areas to a small 'negative list' for licensing.
- Doing away with capacity assessment, except for critical projects. It will introduce earnest money deposits and performance guarantees as safeguards for others.
- Setting up an ombudsman for resolving offset claims. Offsets—investments through a local partner to set up an ecosystem of suppliers—would be investment linked.
- Rationalisation of taxes on import of capital goods for services and inputs for defence and aims to prevent inversion of taxes.

Challenges

- Several categories listed for complete indigenisation are already available.



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- Realising the aims demands difficult changes.
- E.g. the military will have to abandon its insistence on imported, state-of-the-art weaponry.
- However the military has traditionally insisted on inducting into service only cutting-edge, fully proven weaponry.
- The policy involves multiple ministries which could delay the establishment of defence production ecosystem within an optimistic time frame.
- There is a need for an overarching infrastructural, fiscal and legal environment, and essential testing and validating facilities that individual firms cannot cost-effectively create.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)

Topics Covered

- ✓ What Is CSS?
- ✓ Centrally Sponsored Schemes Vs Central Assistance
- ✓ Should CSS Be Re-Looked?
- ✓ What Is The Significance Of Seventh Schedule Of Constitution?
- ✓ Criticism Of Centrally Sponsored Schemes
- ✓ Should States Financially Contribute To The Matters Of Union List?
- ✓ Conclusion

What is CSS?

- The constitutional assignments between the central and subnational governments in federations are done broadly on the basis of their respective comparative advantage.
- The subjects pertaining to National Importance like defence, communication are in the federal domain.
- Public services which directly affect the public are in the domain of sub-national governments. For example, subjects like education, health etc,
- However, due to the inadequacy of funds, financing is done either fully or partially by the Union to ensure that a minimum standard of such services is provided across the country.
- Therefore, in the Indian context apart from special grants, the Union government provides two kinds of financial help to states i.e. Central sector (CS) and Centrally sponsored scheme (CSS).
- The difference between a CS and a CSS is that for the former, all expenditure is borne by the Union government. For a CSS, part of the expenditure is borne by the Union government and states bear the rest.
- The CSS is a shared cost programme and is meant to ensure a minimum standard of service across the country.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes vs Central Assistance

- Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) now form a major part of the Central Assistance(CA) given by the centre to states to implement the state plans.
- For ease of understanding, CSS may now be treated synonymously to CA.
- There were other types of Central Assistance before 2015-16, but almost all of them are discontinued as states got higher revenue after the 14th Finance Commission recommendations (higher devolution of taxes to states).

Should CSS be re-looked?

- The present CSS basket has an expiry date of March 31, 2020, which is co-terminus with recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission.
- Therefore, from April 1, 2020, we will have a new CSS basket and government needs to plan for that CSS basket in advance since the 2020-21 Union and state budgets will need to factor in the new CSS basket.
- The ToR for the 15th Finance Commission mentions a re-examination of CSS.
- The Commission may consider proposing measurable performance-based incentives for states.



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- NITI Aayog's 2015 Sub-Group of Chief Ministers also recommended rationalisation of CSSs. "Rationalisation" suggests more than restructuring. It implies a rationale for the continuation of existing schemes, scrapping of some, and even introduction of fresh ones.
- According to the former Planning Commission's 2001 B K Chaturvedi report, restructuring in CSS should be done, to resolve some of the structural problems:
 - CSS has multiple objectives and service delivery standards are not clearly defined.
 - In principle, there should be consultations with states in designing the schemes, but this is hardly done.
 - "The one-size-fits-all" approach cannot succeed in a large and diverse country like India.

What is the significance of Seventh schedule of constitution?

- The seventh schedule of the Indian constitution defines and specifies allocation of powers and functions between union & states.
- It contains three lists
 - Union list
 - State list
 - Concurrent List
- The constitutional assignments between the central and subnational governments in federations are done broadly on the basis of their respective comparative advantage.
- There have been as many as 103 amendments so far including a few in the Seventh Schedule.
- Changes in Seventh Schedule requires ratification of the amendment by the legislatures of at least one-half of the states.
- In fact, the 42nd amendment actually transferred five subjects from the State List to the Concurrent List which are:
 - Education
 - Forests
 - Weights and measures
 - Protection of wild animals and birds and
 - Administration of justice

Criticism of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

- CSS dictate Centers' agenda and priorities which may not be relevant for states.
- CSS offers little flexibility for the states.
- Needs of states differ among themselves and a universal CSS package may not be practical in all cases.
- Many CSS which offers only partial support from Center may impose a burden on states.
- Should States financially contribute to the matters of Union list
- Constitutionally it is permissible as, under Article 282, both the Union or a State through the law may make any grants for any public purpose, to each other.
- However, defence is a national public good. Therefore, it is the primary responsibility of the Center to defray the cost of protecting all the people of the nation.
- Expenditure responsibilities of the states are much larger than their revenue potential. Asking states to share defence expenditure will result in erosion of critical welfare schemes.

Conclusion

- Restructuring and Rationalisation of CSS, should not mean mere rearrangement. As it has been observed over the period of time that most of the CSS have been repackaged and retained.
- Since the schemes are implemented by states, they should have substantial flexibility to ensure that the schemes benefit the targeted groups.
- Restructuring of the CSS which will entail constitutional amendment in Seventh Schedule should be done after thorough deliberations with all stakeholders.
- This revision should not be done without consultation with states, Interstate Council can be the ideal platform to discuss these issues.

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ECONOMY

Banking Regulation Amendment

Topics Covered

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ What Are Cooperative Banks?
- ✓ Structure Of Cooperative Banks
- ✓ Issues With Cooperative Banking In India:
- ✓ About The Banking Regulation Amendment Bill, 2020:
- ✓ Need For The Bill

Introduction

- A bill to provide more powers to the RBI for regulating cooperative banks was introduced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Lok Sabha.
- The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020, which comes in the backdrop of PMC Bank scam, seeks to strengthen cooperative banks by increasing professionalism, enabling access to capital, improving governance and ensuring sound banking through the RBI.
- The proposed law seeks to enforce banking regulation guidelines of the RBI in cooperative banks, while administrative issues will still be guided by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies.
- It also proposed to bring cooperative banks on par with developments in the banking sector through better management and proper regulation of cooperative banks with a view to ensure that affairs of cooperative banks are conducted in a manner that protects the interest of depositors

What are Cooperative Banks?

- Co-operative banks are financial entities established on a co-operative basis and belonging to their members. This means that the customers of a co-operative bank are also its owners.
- The primary purpose of the cooperative banking has been to serve the people and fill in the void in the absence of formal banking sector in the past.
- They are regulated by the Reserve Bank of India under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and Banking Laws (Application to Cooperative Societies) Act, 1965 or they are under dual control of Registrar of Cooperative Societies and Reserve Bank of India.
- While the role of registrar of cooperative societies includes incorporation, registration, management, audit, supersession of board and liquidation, RBI is responsible for regulatory functions such as maintaining cash reserve and capital adequacy, among others.

Structure Of Cooperative Banks

- Broadly, co-operative banks in India are divided into two categories – urban and rural.
- Rural cooperative credit institutions could either be short-term or long-term in nature.
 - Short-term cooperative credit institutions are further sub-divided into State Co-operative Banks, District Central Co-operative Banks, Primary Agricultural Credit Societies.
 - Long-term institutions are either State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (SCARDBs) or Primary Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs).
- Urban Co-operative Banks (UBBs) are either scheduled or non-scheduled. Scheduled and non-scheduled UCBs are again of two kinds- multi-state and those operating in single state.

Issues With Cooperative Banking In India

- Politicians in local as well as in state use them to increase their vote bank and usually get their representatives elected over the board of director in order to gain undue advantages.
- The cooperatives in northeast states and in states like West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha are not as well developed as the ones in Maharashtra and Gujarat. There is a lot of friction due to competition between different states, this friction affects the working of cooperatives.



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- A serious problem of the cooperative credit is the overdue loans of the cooperative banks which have been continuously increasing over the years.
- Large amounts of overdues restrict the recycling of the funds and adversely affect the lending and borrowing capacity of the cooperative.
- The cooperatives have resource constraints as their owned funds hardly make a sizeable portfolio of the working capital.
- Raising working capital has been a major hurdle in their effective functioning.

About The Banking Regulation Amendment Bill, 2020:

- Cooperative banks will be audited according to RBI's norms.
- RBI can supersede the board, in consultation with the state government, if any cooperative bank is under stress.
- It is proposed to bring the co-operative banks on par with the developments in the banking sector through better management and proper regulation of co-operative banks with a view to ensure that the affairs of the co-operative banks are conducted in a manner that protects the interests of the depositors.
- Appointments of chief executives will also require permission from the banking regulator, as is the case for commercial banks.
- It is further proposed to strengthen the co-operative banks by increasing professionalism, enabling access to capital, improving governance and ensuring sound banking through the Reserve Bank of India
- Audit of such banks will be as per central bank's guidelines and recruitment for banks' management will be based on certain qualifications
- The administrative role will continue to be done by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies. The amendments will apply to all urban co-operative banks and multi-state cooperative banks.

Why this was necessary?

- This was felt necessary in the wake of the recent Punjab & Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank crisis.
- Cooperative banks have 8.6 lakh account holders, with a total deposit of about ₹5 lakh crore.
- Besides, Urban cooperative banks reported nearly 1,000 cases of fraud worth more than ₹220 crore in past five fiscal years.

Off Budget Financing

Relevancy

- ✓ G.S. Paper 3 (Economy)
- ✓ Objective questions- Fiscal Deficit, Off-Budget Financing, FRBM Act,
- ✓ Subjective questions- Deficit Financing Mechanisms

Why In News?

- ❖ The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has pulled up the government for increased use of off-budget financing for schemes and subsidies in its Compliance of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act report for FY17.
- ❖ This practice of off- budgeting masks the true extent of fiscal and revenue deficits.
- ❖ The CAG of India recommended that the government to institute a policy framework for off-budget financing, which, should include a disclosure about its rationale and objective to parliament.

What is Off-Budget Financing?

- This refers to expenditure that's not funded through the budget.
- For example, the government sets up a special purpose vehicle (SPV) to construct a bridge.
- The SPV will likely borrow money to build the bridge on the strength of a government guarantee.
- If it's not a toll bridge, the SPV will need government support to meet interest obligations.

What is the issue?

- Even though the borrowing and spending is outside the budget, it has implications for the budget and for all practical reasons should be included in that document.
- Since it's not, this doesn't reflect on the fiscal deficit number as well.



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- Governments across the world use this to escape budget controls.

Implications Of Off-Budget Financing

- Off-budget financing by its nature isn't taken into account when calculating fiscal indicators.
- But the cost is borne by the budget through some mechanism or the other.
- Such financing tends to hide the actual extent of government spending, borrowings and debt and increase the interest burden.
- In the above example, the borrowing by the SPV should ideally be included in the government's debt.
- To the extent that this spending is backed by a government guarantee, it entails a fiscal risk.
- Hence, Parliamentary control on such spending is also reduced as it remains outside the budget.

Off-Budget Funding In FY17

Revenue Spending:

- Deferred fertilizer arrears/bills through special banking arrangements
- Food subsidy bills/arrears of Food Corp. of India through borrowings
- Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Program through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development borrowing

Capital Spending

- Indian Railway Finance Corp. borrowing for railway projects
- Power Finance Corp funding of power projects

About Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act

- The objective of the Act is to ensure inter-generational equity in fiscal management, long-run macroeconomic stability, better coordination between fiscal and monetary policy, and transparency in fiscal operation of the Government
- FRBM became an Act in 2003 which provides a legal-institutional framework for fiscal consolidation.
- The rule specifies reduction of fiscal deficit to 3% of the GDP by 2008-09 with annual reduction target of 0.3% of GDP per year by the Central government.
- Similarly, revenue deficit has to be reduced by 0.5% of the GDP per year with complete elimination to be achieved by 2008-09.
- It is the responsibility of the government to adhere to these targets. The Finance Minister has to explain the reasons and suggest corrective actions to be taken, in case of a breach.
- The Government can move away from the path of fiscal consolidation only in case of natural calamity, national security and other exceptional grounds which Central Government may specify.
- The Act prohibits borrowing by the government from the Reserve Bank of India, thereby, making monetary policy independent of fiscal policy.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Single-Use Plastic

Topics Covered

- ✓ What are Single-Use Plastics?
- ✓ India Ban Of Single Use Plastics
- ✓ Environmental Effects Of Single Use Plastic
- ✓ Government Measures In Place
- ✓ Challenges
- ✓ How To Get Rid Of The Plastic Menace?
- ✓ Conventions Related To Plastic Waste
- ✓ International Efforts To Ban Single Use Plastic

What are Single-Use Plastics?

- Single-use plastics, or disposable plastics, are used only once before they are thrown away or recycled.
- The single-use plastic products also prevent the spread of infection. Instruments such as syringes, applicators, drug tests, bandages and wraps are often made to be disposable.
- These items are things like plastic bags, straws, coffee stirrers, soda and water bottles and most food packaging.
- Petroleum-based plastic is not biodegradable and usually goes into a landfill where it is buried or it gets into the water and finds its way into the ocean.
- Also, single-use plastic products have been enlisted in the fight against food waste, keeping food and water fresher for longer and reducing the potential for contamination.
- However, there can be challenges when it comes to disposing of some single-use products.
- In the process of breaking down, it releases toxic chemicals (additives that were used to shape and harden the plastic) which make their way into our food and water supply.
- The ultimate goal is that all these products can be collected and converted into energy or recycled.

India Ban Of Single Use Plastics

- The Union government in a bid to free India of single-use plastics by 2022, has laid out a multi-ministerial plan to discourage the use of single-use plastics across the country.
- The nationwide ban on plastic bags, cups, plates, small bottles, straws and certain types of sachets is set to begin from October 2 to eliminate single-use plastics from cities and villages that rank among the world's most polluted.
- The ban will be comprehensive and will cover every sector from manufacturing to the usage and import of such items.
- The Nodal Ministry for the scheme is the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) ensured with the task of:
 - Enforcing the ban on single-use plastics, &
 - Finalizing the pending policy for Extended Producer Responsibility (a policy approach under which producers are given a significant responsibility financially and/or physically for the treatment or disposal of post-consumer products) for milk products.

Environmental Effects Of Single Use Plastic

- Due to their light weight and balloon-shaped design, plastic bags are easily blown in the air, eventually ending up on land and in the ocean.
- While it is still unclear, some studies suggest that plastic bags and Styrofoam containers can take up to thousands of years to decompose, contaminating soil and water, and posing significant ingestion, choking and entanglement hazards to wildlife on land and in the ocean.
- Plastic bags can choke waterways and exacerbate natural disasters.



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- In 1988, poor drainage resulting from plastic bag litter clogging drains contributed to devastating floods in Bangladesh, causing several deaths as two-thirds of the country was submerged

Government Measures In Place

- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme was introduced in the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2011, and was largely redefined in PWM 2016, wherein producers, importers and brand owners were asked to take primary responsibility for collection of used multi-layered plastic sachets or pouches or packaging.

Challenges

- There is no mechanism to implement Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme. Even if the government chooses to ban certain plastics, there is a big question mark on how effective it will be.
- Plastic is cheap and convenient, and as long as there is demand for it, people are going to manufacture it.
- The cigarette butt is the most commonly found litter on beaches and in rivers and lakes. A global coastal clean-up drive in 2018 found 5.7 million of them.
- Unlike urban local bodies, gram panchayats may not have the resources to do routine checks on plastic use. Maharashtra is among the 23 states that have fully or partially banned plastic bags, but that has not stopped people from using them.

Alternative To Plastic

- Bioplastics: Made from algae, waste agricultural and food residues, using bacteria or mushrooms as micro-converter
- Some bioplastics like PHAs (polyhydroxyalkanoates) are soil- and marine-safe — that is, they safely degrade in the environment within weeks or months, leaving no harmful residues.
- Water dispensers & 'water ATMs': They can replace packaged plastic bottled water in most locations.
- Finally, where single-use plastic cannot be avoided, a plethora of technologies can help recover and sort the waste. Examples are smart bins, sorting machines, reverse vending machines and smart packaging technologies that make it easier to separate different materials.

How To Get Rid Of The Plastic Menace?

- Leading a grassroots movement to support the adoption of a global framework to regulate plastic pollution.
- Educating, mobilising and activating citizens across the globe to demand that governments and corporations control and clean up plastic pollution.
- Educating people worldwide to take personal responsibility for plastic pollution by choosing to reject, reduce, reuse and recycle plastics.
- Promoting local government regulatory and other efforts to tackle plastic pollution.
- Education and responsibility are only one side of the coin, however; the other side is infrastructure. The technology to create a circular economy by means of recycling does in fact exist, but the infrastructure needed to fully implement it is seriously lacking. Of all the plastic waste produced in the world, less than 10% is recovered due in large part to the lack of infrastructure both at home and abroad.

Conventions Related To Plastic Waste

- Basel convention: Controlling transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal
- The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 (MARPOL): MARPOL specifically prohibits the discharge of plastics from ships.
- The Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 1972 (London Convention) and its 1996 Protocol (the London Protocol): With the aim of preventing marine pollution from the dumping of wastes and other matter, the London Protocol further prohibits the dumping and incineration at seas of wastes, including plastics
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants: With the potential to regulate the production, use, and disposal of additives used in the manufacture of plastics, to the extent they are persistent organic pollutants (POPs)

International Efforts To Ban Single Use Plastic



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- About 112 countries, states and cities around the world have already imposed bans on various single-use plastic goods. Of these measures, 57 are national and 25 are in Africa. And the list of these restrictions continues to grow.
- Most of these bans target thin single-use plastic carrier bags or imports of non-biodegradable bags. Some, such as the one in Antigua-Barbuda, include other single-use or problematic items, such as foam coolers and plastic utensils. A few — notably, Kenya's plastic bag law — impose stiff punishments on violators, including jail time and fines of up to \$38,000.

War Ethics and COVID-19

Topics Covered

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ What Is War Ethics?
- ✓ History
- ✓ Rules And Conventions
- ✓ COVID-19 And War Ethics
- ✓ Conclusion

Introduction

- Human beings have been fighting each other since prehistoric times, and people have been discussing the rights and wrongs of it for almost as long.
- The Ethics of War starts by assuming that war is a bad thing, and should be avoided if possible, but it recognises that there can be situations when war may be the lesser evil of several bad choices.
- War is a bad thing because it involves deliberately killing or injuring people, and this is a fundamental wrong - an abuse of the victims' human rights.

War Ethics

- The purpose of war ethics is to help decide what is right or wrong, both for individuals and countries, and to contribute to debates on public policy, and ultimately to government and individual action.
- War ethics also leads to the creation of formal codes of war (e.g. the Hague and Geneva conventions), the drafting and implementation of rules of engagement for soldiers, and in the punishment of soldiers and others for war crimes.

History

- The discussion of the ethics of war goes back to the Greeks and Romans, although neither civilisation behaved particularly well in war.
- In the Christian tradition war ethics were developed by St Augustine, and later by St Thomas Aquinas and others.
- Hugo Grotius (1583-1645), a Dutch philosopher and author of *De Jure Belli Ac Pacis* (The Rights of War and Peace), wrote down the conditions for a just war that are accepted today.

Rules And Conventions

At various times in history, rules have been laid down to govern the conduct of war - more specifically to say what behaviour is forbidden. The list below is only a selection.

- 1439: In 1439, Charles VII of Orleans laid down a law that said that officers would be held responsible for 'the abuses, ills and offences' committed by the men they commanded. If an officer didn't take action promptly, or allowed an offender to escape punishment, then the officer would be punished as if they were the original offender.
- 1815: The Congress of Vienna ruled in the case of Napoleon that it was a crime to go to war in breach of a treaty.
- 1863: The Lieber Code was an early American code of conduct for armies, implemented by President Lincoln during the Civil War.
- 1864: The first Geneva Convention protects the sick and wounded by giving protection to medical facilities and their staff and any civilians helping the wounded. The convention also recognised the Red Cross as a



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neutral medical group. 10 countries signed the Convention at first, (the UK signed in 1865, and the USA in 1882).

- 1865: Captain Henry Wirz, commander of a Confederate prison camp was tried and executed for 'conspiracy to destroy prisoners' lives in violation of the laws and customs of war' and 'murder in violation of the laws and customs of war'.
- This trial confirmed the principles of the Lieber Code and established the consequences of giving illegal orders.
- 1874: The Brussels Protocol laid down that war should not 'inflict unnecessary suffering' upon an enemy.
- 1880: The 'Manual on the Laws of War on Land' is drafted in England.
- 1899 – 1907: The Hague Conferences create 'The Convention on Laws and Customs of War' - based on the manual referred to above.
- 1906: Second Geneva Convention gives protection to wounded combatants at sea, and to victims of shipwreck.
- 1919: The 'Commission on the Responsibility of the Authors of the War and on the Enforcement of Penalties' lays down a clear doctrine of criminal responsibility for war crimes. all persons belonging to enemy countries, however high their position may have been, without distinction of rank, including Chiefs of Staff, who have been guilty of offenses against the laws and customs of war or the laws of humanity, are liable to criminal prosecution. Commission on the Responsibility of the Authors of the War and on the Enforcement of Penalties, 1919
- 1925: Geneva Gas Protocol bans the use of poison gas and biological warfare.
- 1929
- Third Geneva Convention lays down rules to protect prisoners of war.
- 1946: The Nuremberg tribunal tries Nazi war criminals on the basis that the Hague Convention of 1907 is customary international law.
- 1948: The United Nations General Assembly adopts the 'Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide'.
- 1949: Fourth Geneva Convention brings together the elements of the first three Geneva Conventions and adds rules to protect civilians during war.
- 1993: Establishment of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, with jurisdiction over genocide, crimes against humanity, grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions of 1949, and violations of the laws or customs of war committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia since 1991.
- 1997: Two protocols to the Geneva Convention give protection to guerrillas in civil wars or wars of national liberation.
- 1998: An international conference adopts the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, opening the way to the establishment of an International Criminal Court.

COVID-19 And War Ethics

Major wars and major epidemics are serious threats, but they differ from each other.

- First, in the Covid-19 crisis, the overarching objective is much more ambiguous than it is in a major war. The Covid-19 crisis comes from nature.
- Second, even though certain areas may see greater disruptions, the overall outcome of a major war is the same for the entire country. But the outcomes in the Covid-19 crisis may be different across states and cities, depending on the background conditions and how each city and state responds. Further, given the differences in economies, health systems and administrative systems, suitable responses to Covid-19 may vary across cities and states.
- Third, the economics of major wars is different from the economics of dealing with Covid-19. Major wars require shutting down a large part of normal economic activity to divert people, materials, productive capacities and finances towards waging the war. But the Covid-19 crisis requires finding ways to continue many normal economic activities, while reducing the risk of transmission. Although the resource requirement of the direct public health response, which includes tracing, testing, isolating, and treatment, is much lower than that for a major war, if we don't find ways to keep large parts of the economy



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working, the welfare costs will be quite high. And even if we breach the fiscal rules, we have limited fiscal capacity to mitigate these costs.

- Fourth, in a war, the government must lead and command, and others involved in the war effort mostly take directions. To be sure, the Covid-19 crisis has a key role for the government, but we should not assume that only the government has the answers in this crisis. Choices by individuals and families, collective action by communities, innovations by firms, and coercion by the government are all important.

Conclusion

- Global leaders have increasingly used war rhetoric to describe the COVID-19 pandemic and are responding by prioritizing the rationing of care and essential resources. Unethical behaviors such as profiteering and piracy have characterized prior wartime conduct, with negative repercussions afterwards. Some fertility clinics are overlooking ASRM COVID-19 recommendations, making it crucial to explore the bioethics perspectives on this decision.
- A shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) is one of the defining characteristics of the COVID-19 pandemic, a crisis many compare to a war.
- However, an ethical danger exists in the overly simplistic language comparing our fight against COVID-19 to a war, and equating doctors and nurses with soldiers.
- This is a time for medical interventions, for strict hygiene, for research, and not least for tough, but necessary political decisions and regulations. But it is also, just as in war, a time when we sorely need love, hope, and care. It is a time when we should tap into the philosophical and spiritual resources of our traditions, and to show, with good will, togetherness, faith, hope, charity, and even humor and smiles that this crisis – and it is a crisis – will not get the better of us.



SECURITY

Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

Topics covered

- ✓ What Is CBI?
- ✓ Logo Of CBI
- ✓ Functions And Composition Of CBI
- ✓ Divisions Of CBI
- ✓ Cases Handeled By CBI
- ✓ Problems Associated With CBI
- ✓ Why Was It Called Caged Carrot By The Supreme Court?
- ✓ Institutional Reforms Needed
- ✓ Conclusion

What is CBI?

- Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is the premier investigating police agency in India.
- Its job is to ensure a fair and an impartial probe. But, in October 2018, two of the top officials of the agency have been reported to be involved in a major feud. This has led the Government of India to intervene in order to restore the institutional integrity and credibility of CBI.
- It functions under the superintendence of the Deptt. of Personnel, Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Public Grievances, Government of India - which falls under the prime minister's office.
- It is also the nodal police agency in India which coordinates investigation on behalf of Interpol Member countries.
- However for investigations of offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act, its superintendence vests with the Central Vigilance Commission.
- Its conviction rate is as high as 65 to 70% and it is comparable to the best investigation agencies in the world.

Logo of CBI

- Origins of CBI can be traced back to the Special Police Establishment (SPE) set up in 1941 in order to cases of bribery and corruption in War & Supply Department of India during World War II.
- The need of a Central Government agency to investigate cases of bribery and corruption was felt even after the end of World War II. So, DSPE (Delhi Special Police Establishment) Act, 1946 was brought that gave legal power of investigating cases to CBI.
- CBI is not a statutory body as it is not established by an Act of the Parliament.
- CBI comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. Various organizations under this Ministry are Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), CBI, Central Information Commission (CIC), etc.
- CBI investigates cases related to economic crimes, special crimes, cases of corruption and other high-profile cases.
- CBI is exempted from Right to Information (RTI) Act similar to National Investigating Agency (NIA), National Intelligence Grid (Natgrid), etc.

Functions of CBI

- The CBI is the main investigating agency of the GOI. It is not a statutory body; it derives its powers from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.
- Investigate cases connected to infringement of economic and fiscal laws, i.e., breach of laws concerning customs and central excise, export and import control, income tax, foreign exchange regulations, etc. But cases of this nature are taken up by the CBI either at the request of the department concerned or in consultation with the concerned department.



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- The CBI is India's representative for correspondence with the INTERPOL.
- Its important role is to prevent corruption and maintain integrity in administration. It works under the supervision of the CVC (Central Vigilance Commission) in matters pertaining to the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.
- To coordinate the activities of the various state police forces and anti-corruption agencies.
- Investigate crimes of a serious nature, that have national and international ramifications, and committed by professional criminals or organised gangs.
- At the behest of a state govt., the CBI can also take up any case of public importance and investigate it.
- Maintaining crime statistics and disseminating criminal information.

Composition of CBI

- CBI is headed by a Director, an IPS (Indian Police Service) officer of the rank of Director General of Police.
- The Director of CBI as Inspector-General of Police, Delhi Special Police Establishment, is responsible for the administration of the organization.
- The director is selected based on CVC Act, 2003 for two years-term.
- The Director of the CBI is appointed by the Central Government on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Central Vigilance Commissioner as Chairperson, the Vigilance Commissioners, the Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Secretary (Coordination and Public Grievances) in the Cabinet Secretariat.
- Several other ranks in CBI are filled through recruitment by SSC or deputation from Police, Income Tax Department and Customs Department.
- The appointment procedure of CBI Director has undergone several changes over time.

Divisions of CBI

- Administration Division
- Special Crimes Division
- Anti-Corruption Division
- Economic Offences Division
- Policy and International Police Cooperation Division
- Central Forensic Science Laboratory
- Directorate of Prosecution

Cases Handled by the CBI

- **Economic Crimes** - for investigation of major financial scams and serious economic frauds, including crimes relating to Fake Indian Currency Notes, Bank Frauds and Cyber Crime, bank frauds, Import Export & Foreign Exchange violations, large-scale smuggling of narcotics, antiques, cultural property and smuggling of other contraband items etc.
- **Anti-Corruption Crimes** - for investigation of cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act against Public officials and the employees of Central Government, Public Sector Undertakings, Corporations or Bodies owned or controlled by the Government of India.
- **Suo Moto Cases** - CBI can suo-moto take up investigation of offences only in the Union Territories.
- **Special Crimes** - for investigation of serious and organized crime under the Indian Penal Code and other laws on the requests of State Governments or on the orders of the Supreme Court and High Courts - such as cases of terrorism, bomb blasts, kidnaping for ransom and crimes committed by the mafia/the underworld.
- The Supreme Court and High Courts, however, can order CBI to investigate a crime anywhere in the country without the consent of the State.
- The Central Government can authorize CBI to investigate a crime in a State but only with the consent of the concerned State Government.

Problems associated with CBI

- The CBI, run by IPS officers on deputation, is also susceptible to the government's ability to manipulate the senior officers, because they are dependent on the Central government for future postings.



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- The agency is dependent on the home ministry for staffing, since many of its investigators come from the Indian Police Service.
- Another great constraint on the CBI is its dependence on State governments for invoking its authority to investigate cases in a State, even when such investigation targets a Central government employee.
- The agency depends on the law ministry for lawyers and also lacks functional autonomy to some extent.
- Since police is a State subject under the Constitution, and the CBI acts as per the procedure prescribed by the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), which makes it a police agency, the CBI needs the consent of the State government in question before it can make its presence in that State. This is a cumbersome procedure and has led to some ridiculous situations.

Why Was It Called Caged Carrot By The Supreme Court?

- Since CBI is run by central police officials on deputation hence chances of getting influenced by government was visible in the hope of better future postings.
- Politicisation of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been a work in progress for years.
- CBI has been accused of becoming 'handmaiden' to the party in power, as a result high profile cases are not treated seriously.
- Corruption and Politically biased: This was highlighted in Supreme Court criticism for being a caged parrot speaking in its master's voice.

Institutional Reforms Needed

- The Second Administrative Reforms Commission (2007) suggested that a new law should be enacted to govern the working of the CBI.
- Ensure that CBI operates under a formal, modern legal framework that has been written for a contemporary investigative agency.
- The 19th and 24th reports of the parliamentary standing committees (2007 and 2008) recommended that the need of the hour is to strengthen the CBI in terms of legal mandate, infrastructure and resources.
- Parliamentary standing committee (2007) recommended that a separate act should be promulgated in tune with requirement with time to ensure credibility and impartiality.
- Besides appointing the head of the CBI through a collegium, as recommended by the Lokpal Act, the government must ensure financial autonomy for the outfit.
- It is high time that the CBI is vested with the required legal mandate and is given pan-India jurisdiction. It must have inherent powers to investigate corruption cases against officers of All India Services irrespective of the assignments they are holding or the state they are serving in.
- A more efficient parliamentary oversight over the federal criminal and intelligence agencies could be a way forward to ensure better accountability, despite concerns regarding political misuse of the oversight.
- It is also possible to consider granting the CBI and other federal investigation agencies the kind of autonomy that the Comptroller and Auditor General enjoys as he is only accountable to Parliament.
- One of the demands that has been before Supreme Court, and in line with international best practices, is for the CBI to develop its own dedicated cadre of officers who are not bothered about deputation and abrupt transfers.
- A new CBI Act should be promulgated that ensures the autonomy of CBI while at the same time improving the quality of supervision. The new Act must specify criminal culpability for government interference.

Conclusion

- CBI is an agency of Central Government that has wide range of investigating areas and powers.
- It was formed with a goal to check corruption and other crimes in the nation and so it shall maintain a clean image of itself.
- Any agency shall have a system of checks and balances and so, intervention of Government, CVC, Courts, etc shall be done if needed.

Offset Policy Of Defence

Topics Covered



BrainyIAS (84594-00000)

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ What Is Defense Offset?
- ✓ Defence Offset Policy Of 2016
- ✓ Objectives Of The Offset Policy (DPP 2013)
- ✓ What changes are required in Defence Offset Policy Of 2016?
- ✓ Issues With Effective Implementation

Introduction

- India has a peculiar defence scenario as the country has one of the largest defence infrastructure and at the same time is one of the largest defence importers in the world.
- To overcome the various hurdles of defence sector development including measures to overcome import dependence, government introduced several measures including defence FDI and promotion of private sector participation.
- A major policy thrust in this direction is the defence offset policy which is expected to become a chief instrument for India to develop its indigenous defence manufacturing sector.

What Is Defense Offset?

- Offset, in literary sense, is a factor that counterbalances or compensates an act. In the defence procurement context, it is an element of 'compensation' made by the manufacturer that mostly takes place in the form of placing a minimum per cent of value addition in the ordering country.
- Defence offset means "a supplier places work to an agreed value with firms in the buying country, over and above what it would have brought in the absence of the offset."
- Hence under defence offset, a foreign supplier of equipment agrees to manufacture a given percent of his product (in terms of value) in the buying country. Sometimes this may take place with technology transfer.

Defence Offset Policy Of 2016

- The defence offset policy is a part of Defence Procurement and Procedure (DPP). The latest one is the DPP 2016.
- Developing indigenous defence sector is the major objective of the defence.
- Major feature of the 2016 offset policy is that it increases the threshold of defence offset to Rs 2000 crore from the current level of Rs 300 crores under "buy" and "buy and make" categories.
- This means that only those purchase of above Rs 2000 crore that the foreign company has to ensure 30% domestic value addition in India.
- Another major feature of DPP 2016 is the creation of a new category called 'Indian Designed Developed and Manufacture (IDDM)' and it has been given the highest priority.
- This category is created and promoted maximum to encourage domestic design of defence equipments.
- The DPP has revised in 2006, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2013 and now in 2016 after the original version in 2005.

Objectives Of The Offset Policy (DPP 2013)

The key objective of the Defence Offset Policy is to leverage capital acquisitions to develop Indian defence industry by

- Fostering development of internationally competitive enterprises,
- Augmenting capacity for research, design and development related to defence products and services and
- Encouraging development of synergistic sectors like civil aerospace and internal security.

What changes are required in Defence Offset Policy Of 2016?

- **Fair Competency Among Indian Companies-** Defence procurement should be subject to transparent processes that ensure that Indian companies, big and small, compete on a level playing field.
- **Need For Fair And Diverse Procurement Process-** While the procurement policy recognizes the need for domestic private partnership, it does not mandate a fair and diverse procurement process for offsets. Given the large contract values involved, this makes it likely that foreign suppliers will partner with just one or two large industrial groups to discharge their offset obligations.



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- **The definition of IOP is flawed-** IOPs are defined as Indian enterprises engaged in making eligible products and/or services. If the objective is to build a domestic defence sector, the focus should instead be on direct investments. In other sectors where India has succeeded, foreign technology and know-how has followed investments, irrespective of ownership. "Indian" ownership does not necessarily contribute to the growth of a sector, as much as investments within Indian shores. Focussing on investments will ensure that companies of all sizes, including foreign companies who wish to manufacture in India, are permitted to grow and flourish. For this, regulations that restrict foreign investments in the defence sector require a dose of reform.
- **Transparency-** Transparency is essential in procurement contracts. While national security arguments may withstand scrutiny in outright sales (regarding, say, specifications and customization) or where specific components or technology transfer are involved, they do not stand scrutiny in relation to offsets. In the interest of fairness, foreign suppliers should be free to invest in India, yet at the same time, offset investments/procurement must be subject to safeguards along the lines of those that govern public procurement, because after all, they are expending public funds.

Issues With Effective Implementation

- 2012 CAG report points of lack of effective monitoring mechanism. There are no clear cut definition and role of various stakeholders.
- CAG also pointed out that this policy was only a paper exercise as there was no visible impact either on Defence production or on domestic manufacturing sector.
- Elevation of the offset threshold limit to Rs. 2,000 crore from Rs. 300 crore has reduced the avenues for the local industries.
- The domestic contractors and manufacturers (i.e Indian Offset Partners) were chosen by the foreign investors / vendors in arbitrary manner and in some cases the IOP was a 100% owned subsidiary of the foreign vendor.

Terrorism And Organised Crime

Relevancy

- ✓ G.S. Paper 3
- ✓ Objective Questions- Loc, Cross-Loc Trade And Its Significance, Loc Four Point Proposal
- ✓ Subjective Questions- Reasons For Cession Of Loc Trade, Impact And Way Forward

Why In News?

- In a significant move to further crackdown on terror, India has indefinitely suspended the cross-LoC trade in Jammu and Kashmir.
- This decision came amid the reports that cross-LoC trade was being misused by elements from across the border to smuggle weapons, narcotics as well as fake currency to India.
- The official statement released by the Ministry of Home Affairs said that orders have been issued for halting the trade at Salamabad of Baramulla in the Kashmir region, and Chakkan-da-Bagh of Poonch district in the Jammu region.
- The MHA statement also asserts that the decision will be revisited after stricter regulatory mechanisms are put in place to ensure that "only bonafide trade" takes place, which benefits the people of Jammu and Kashmir and does not pose a security threat to the country.
- The cross-LoC trade on Srinagar-Muzaffarabad and Poonch-Rawalakote routes was started on October 21, 2008 as a Confidence Building Measure (CBM).

What is LoC?

- Originally known as the Cease-fire Line, it was redesignated as the "Line of Control" following the Simla Agreement, which was signed on 3 July 1972.
- The part of Jammu that is under Indian control is known as the state of Jammu and Kashmir. The Pakistani-controlled part is divided into Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. The northernmost point of the Line of Control is known as NJ9842.



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- Another ceasefire line separates the Indian-controlled state of Jammu and Kashmir from the Chinese-controlled area known as Aksai Chin.
- The Line of Control divided Kashmir into two parts and closed the Jehlum valley route.

Why is cross-LoC trade significant?

- The cross-LoC trade, started roughly a decade ago, gains significance given its nature and origin.
- Being in the form of barter trade, it allows locals on both sides of the LoC to trade without the international trade requirements.
- It was conceived as one of the confidence-building measures between India and Pakistan, following the 2003 India-Pakistan ceasefire along the LoC.
- The idea was to allow locals, who often have strong family and cultural ties across the LoC, to mingle.
- It was believed that the socio-cultural interconnectedness with barter trade would lead to a more structured economic and political coming together of the region.
- Trade created an atmosphere of trust that was more conducive to allow for a thaw at a higher political level.
- Since trade commenced in 2008, employment to the order of more than 1.6 lakh days had been created for the local population.
- The volume of trade over the decade has crossed Rs. 6,000 crore.

Reasons for cessation of LoC trade:

- The government has very categorically stated that it had received reports that the cross-LoC trade was being misused in variety of ways.
- The cross-LoC trade, has fallen prey to the thoughts of certain individuals who are closely connected with terrorist organizations.
- Militants are crossing over into Pakistan and engaged in exporting some stuff mainly weapons, narcotics and fake currency to India.
- Over-invoicing from Pakistan's side was done to provide balance money to terrorist organizations.
- It was supposed to be a barter trade but meanwhile third party trade got started i.e. smuggling of materials started.
- Government being not sure about the goods that used to come from Pakistan's side i.e. whether they used to come from Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) or from other parts of Pakistan or from China.
- Now-a-days, Pakistan market remains flooded with Chinese goods. It is a possibility that Indian market would have been used to dump the Chinese products.
- The exact amount or figure of cross LoC trade in real sense is not known.

Cross-LoC trade is one of the Four-point proposal:

- Specifically, these measures seems to have originated in a four-point proposal for Kashmir that began to get regular airing from about 2005 from then military ruler General Pervez Musharraf. The four points were:
 - The loc will stay but Kashmiris on both sides will be allowed to move freely back and forth;
 - Self-governance or autonomy to the region, but not independence;
 - Gradual demilitarisation on both sides;
 - A joint supervision mechanism with India, Pakistan and Kashmir represented on it.

Potential of Loc Trade:

- To start with, this trade was meant to result in interaction between people and help build partnerships across the two parts of J&K.
- In the second phase, it would have progressed into an economic and commercial interdependence between the two parts of J&K.
- Finally, it would result in a network of institutions like banks, trade bodies, and regulators across the LoC aligning with each other.
- An institutionalisation of relations would automatically happen. In this process, a constituency of commerce for peace and normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan would be built.
- LoC trade was a major Confidence Building Mechanism, and a step towards the resolution of the impending issue of Kashmir crisis.



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Way Forward

- The ban should be continued till the last vestiges of terrorism are eliminated from the country, otherwise much stricter monitoring of cross LoC trade is necessary if it ever has to be resumed in future.
- India has to see Indo-Pak trade in its entirety. Government basically needs to look at the illegal trade route that runs through Dubai and Singapore.
- India has never been able to use its economic might against Pakistan. India needs to put economic pressure on Pakistan to make it change its thought process.
- India can even consider breaking social ties with Pakistan, by not playing cricket or by not hosting artists from Pakistan in the country.
- A real confidence building measure will be the one when Pakistan closes each and every terror camp within its soil and hands over perpetrators of terror to India for trial.
- For building confidence among people of J&K, gun culture prevalent in the valley needs to be eliminated. Once the gun culture gets eliminated, everything else will fall into place.
- 'Whole of India' approach is required to tackle terrorism. Besides army and security forces, every other organization of India, political or financial and NIA need to act together to convict people indulged in illegal activities.
- There should be no politics over the internal security of the country. Larger interest of the country should override the narrow political interests.

Conclusion:

- The three progressions — interactions, interdependence and institutionalisation — would, over time, make the LoC less of a barrier by forging a functional unification between the two parts of J&K; a de facto unification without disturbing the sovereignty claims and the de jure political status of either side.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND GLOBAL ISSUES

East Asian Financial Crisis

Topics Covered

- ✓ What Was the East Asian Financial Crisis?
- ✓ Causes
- ✓ Solutions to handel the situation
- ✓ Lessons Learned From the Asian Financial Crisis

What Was the East Asian Financial Crisis?

- The Asian financial crisis, also called the "Asian Contagion," was a sequence of currency devaluations and other events that began in the summer of 1997 and spread through many Asian markets.
- The Asian Financial Crisis of 1997 affected many Asian countries, including South Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, and the Philippines.
- The currency markets first failed in Thailand as the result of the government's decision to no longer peg the local currency to the U.S. dollar (USD).
- Currency declines spread rapidly throughout East Asia, in turn causing stock market declines, reduced import revenues, and government upheaval.

Causes

- The Asian financial crisis, like many other financial crises before and after it, began with a series of asset bubbles.
- Growth in the region's export economies led to high levels of foreign direct investment, which in turn led to soaring real estate values, bolder corporate spending, and even large public infrastructure projects. Heavy borrowing from banks provided most of the funding.
- Ready investors and easy lending often lead to reduced investment quality, and excess capacity soon began to show in these economies.
- The U.S. Federal Reserve also began to raise its interest rates around this time to counteract inflation, which led to less attractive exports (for those with currencies pegged to the dollar) and less foreign investment.
- The tipping point was the realization by Thailand's investors that the rate of appreciation in that country's property market values had stalled, and its price levels were unsustainable. This was confirmed by property developer Somprasong Land's default and the 1997 bankruptcy of Finance One, Thailand's largest finance company.
- After that, currency traders began attacking the Thai baht's peg to the U.S. dollar. This proved successful and the currency was eventually floated and devalued.
- Following this devaluation, other Asian currencies including the Malaysian ringgit, Indonesian rupiah, and Singapore dollar all moved sharply lower.
- These devaluations led to high inflation and a host of problems that spread as wide as South Korea and Japan.

Solutions To Handel The Situation

- The Asian financial crisis was ultimately solved by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which provided the loans necessary to stabilize the troubled Asian economies. In late 1997, the organization had committed more than \$110 billion in short-term loans to Thailand, Indonesia, and South Korea to help stabilize the economies. This was more than double IMF's largest loan ever.
- In exchange for the funding, the IMF required the countries to adhere to strict conditions, including higher taxes, reduced public spending, privatization of state-owned businesses, and higher interest rates designed to cool the overheated economies. Some other restrictions required countries to close illiquid financial institutions without concern for jobs lost.



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- By 1999, many of the countries the crisis affected showed signs of recovery and resumed gross domestic product (GDP) growth. Many of the countries saw their stock markets and currency valuations dramatically reduced from pre-1997 levels, but the solutions imposed set the stage for the re-emergence of Asia as a strong investment destination.

Lessons Learned From the Asian Financial Crisis

- **ALWAYS BEWARE OF ASSET BUBBLES:**Carefully watch for asset bubbles in the latest/hottest economies around the world. All too often, these bubbles pop, catching investors off-guard.
- **WATCH GOVERNMENT SPENDING:**Government-dictated spending on public infrastructure projects and guidance of private capital into certain industries contributed to asset bubbles that may have been responsible for the crisis.
- **RE-EVALUATE FIXED EXCHANGE RATES:**Fixed exchange rates have largely disappeared, except when they use a basket of currencies, since flexibility may be needed in many cases to avert a future crisis.

Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

Relevancy

- ✓ G.S. Paper 1 and 2
- ✓ Objective questions: NAM- origin, Objectives, composition and members.
- ✓ Subjective questions: It's relevance today for India and the world, need for reorganisation.

What is NAM?

- The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is a group of states which are not formally aligned with or against any major power bloc.
- As of 2012, the movement has 120 members.
- The organization was founded in Belgrade in 1961, and was largely conceived by India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru; Indonesia's first president, Sukarno; Egypt's second president, Gamal Abdel Nasser; Ghana's first president Kwame Nkrumah; and Yugoslavia's President, Josip Broz Tito.

Key features of the NAM policy

- The policy of non-alignment was based on the five principles of Panchasheel, which directed international conduct. These principles which were envisaged and formulated in 1954, were mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty; non interference in each other's military and internal affairs; mutual non aggression; equality and mutual benefit and finally, peaceful coexistence and economic cooperation
- The policy of non-alignment meant the acceptance of the inevitability of war but on the conviction that it could be avoided.
- The non-aligned movement emerged from India's initiative for formulating an independent foreign policy.
- This independent foreign policy was based on a solid moral and sound political foundation.
- The non-alignment was a strategy designed to maximise newly independent India's gains from the world system. Nonalignment did not mean to choose to become a hermit kingdom.

The evolution of NAM

- During 1950s, the world was emerging out of the long, dark period of colonialism.
- Newly independent nations dreamed they could make their way in this new world without hewing to either of the big powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, eschewing the icy hostilities of the Cold War and bask in the warmth of Third World (as it was then known) cooperation.
- The co-founders were India's Jawaharlal Nehru, Indonesia's Sukarno, Egypt's Gamal Abdel Nasser, Yugoslavia's Josip Broz Tito, and Ghana's Kwame Nkrumah were all figures of international consequence, and their collective charisma attracted lesser lights from around the world.
- The Asian-African Conference of 1955 held in Bandung was the catalyst for the establishment of the Non-Aligned Movement.



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- The actual formation took place in Belgrade, where the Non-Aligned Movement was formally established by the leaders of 25 developing countries in 1961.

Objectives

- NAM has sought to "create an independent path in world politics that would not result in member States becoming pawns in the struggles between the major powers."
- It identifies the right of independent judgment, the struggle against imperialism and neo-colonialism, and the use of moderation in relations with all big powers as the three basic elements that have influenced its approach.
- At present, an additional goal is facilitating a restructuring of the international economic order.

India's Position

- India being a founder and largest member in NAM was an active participant in NAM meetings till 1970s but India's inclination towards erstwhile USSR created confusions in smaller members. It led to the weakening of NAM and small nations drifted towards either US or USSR.
- Further disintegration of USSR led the unipolar world order dominated by US. India's New Economic Policy and inclination towards US raised questions over India's seriousness over non alignment.
- Prime Minister of India skipped the 17th Non Aligned Movement (NAM) summit held in Venezuela in 2016, it was only second such instance when Head of a state didn't participate in NAM conference.
- Moreover, NAM continued losing relevance for India in a unipolar world, especially after the founding members failed to support India during crisis. For instance, during 1962 War with China, Ghana and Indonesia, adopted explicitly pro-China positions. During 1965 and 1971 wars, Indonesia and Egypt took an anti India stance and supported Pakistan.
- India in particular, but also most other NAM countries, have integrated themselves to varying degrees within the liberal economic order and have benefited from it.
- India is a member of the G20 and has declared itself as a nuclear weapons power and has for all practical purposes abandoned the call for global nuclear disarmament.
- India has also engaged itself with new and old global powers. India joining the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, a coalition seen by many as a counterforce to China's rise in the Indo-Pacific and Shanghai cooperation organisation led by China shown India's balancing approach in new world order.
- India is striving hard for a multipolar world order and asserting itself as one of the player. Multi polar world order is very much closed to NAM principles.

How has NAM benefited India?

- NAM played an important role during the Cold War years in furthering many of the causes that India advocated: Decolonisation, end to apartheid, global nuclear disarmament, ushering in of new international economic and information orders.
- NAM enabled India and many newly born countries in 1950's and 1960's their sovereignty and alleviated the fears of neo-colonialism.
- Soft-Power Leadership: NAM made India a leader for many countries who didn't want to ally with the then global powers USA or USSR. India became a soft-power leader which still holds good till date.
- Balanced friendship: India's non-alignment gave her the opportunity to get the best of both the global superpowers of the time in terms of aid, military support etc. This was in line with her objectives of national development.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and India

Relevancy

- ✓ G.S. Paper 2
- ✓ Objective questions- SCO, aims, goals and composition, membership
- ✓ Subjective questions- India's benefit from SCO, How regional aspirations of Central Asian countries contradict with India's goals?

About Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)



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- Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is an Eurasian political, economic and security organisation.
- SCO grew out of Shanghai Five founded in 1996 with China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan as its original members.
- After the disintegration of Soviet Union in 1991, China has a large number of undecided and disputed borders with many of the countries that became independent then. This saw the formation of Shanghai Five by these nations.
- Uzbekistan joined the Shanghai Five group in June 2011 and the group was henceforth named, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.
- Its charter was signed in June 2002.
- India and Pakistan joined SCO as full members in June 2017 at a summit in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- SCO is the largest regional organisation in the world in terms of geographical coverage and population and has become very powerful and influential.

SCO Membership (2018)

- 8 member states: China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- 4 observer states: Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran and Mongolia
- 6 dialogue partners: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Nepal, SriLanka and Turkey

SCO's Main Goals

- Moving towards establishment of democratic, fair and rational international political and economic order.
- Promoting cooperation in politics, trade, economy, research, technology and culture.
- Promoting mutual trust and neighbourliness.
- Maintaining and ensuring peace, security and stability in the region.
- Enhancing ties in areas like education, energy, transport, tourism, environmental protection and healthcare.

How does membership of the SCO help India?

- Counter-terrorism
 - These sit well with the SCO's main objective of working cooperatively against the "three evils".
 - India wants access to intelligence and information from SCO's counter-terrorism body, the Tashkent-based Regional Anti Terror Structure (RATS).
 - A stable Afghanistan too is in India's interest, and RATS provides access to non-Pakistan-centred counter-terrorism information there.
- Connectivity
 - Connectivity is important for India's Connect Central Asia policy. Energy cooperation dominates its interest – and it's in China's neighbourhood.
 - But India will also have to deal with an assertive China, which will push its Belt and Road Initiative during the summit.
 - SCO membership also bolsters India's status as a major pan-Asian player, which is boxed in the South Asian paradigm.
- Geopolitics and play out for India
 - The US' power struggle with China, exit from the Iran nuclear deal JCPOA which affected India's oil imports from Iran and adversarial attitude towards Russia which delayed India's defence purchase like S-400.
 - While US's stance against Islamabad after the Pulwama attack was evidence of its support to New Delhi, India has had a strained relationship with China after the Doklam stand-off, followed by attempts to reset relations in Wuhan.

India at SCO 2019

- In 2019, PM came up with another innovative acronym called HEALTH which brings together the Indian experience in development, and India's experience in engagement with other countries.
- Indian PM also specifically spoke about radicalization as well. In the acronym that the PM gave, called, "HEALTH", the alphabet "T" stands for countries that stand against terrorism.
- It is important to note that radicalization is an issue that bedevils the Central Asian Region in a very big way. India also called for an international conference on terrorism, the SCO can take a lead in that.



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- Also in his 'HEALTH' acronym, the alphabet 'A' refers to alternative energy. It is here that he speaks about India's experience in terms of focusing on renewable energy. Prime Minister also touched upon regional cooperation and spoke about how India is willing to share its expertise in all these areas.
- Focus on Afghanistan, even though Afghanistan is not a member of the SCO, but India has a contact group on Afghanistan, and the Prime Minister underlined what India's fundamental position on Afghanistan is.
- Finally, it is important to note that the SCO provides an opportunity for the Indian leadership to connect with the leadership of the Central Asian countries.

How regional aspirations of Central Asian countries contradict with India's goals?

- Russia and Central Asian countries are likely to express "broad support" for China in the wake of trade war against U.S.
- India is equally concerned about this trade war, but is in a dilemma in view of openly slamming U.S. protectionism.
- It is also notable that all SCO members, barring India, are enthusiastic supporters of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
- Also, the other agenda of the summit would be to sell the Gwadar Port and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as a potential passage to landlocked Central Asian states. But CPEC passes through territory over which India claims its sovereignty.
- Terrorism is likely to be approached from the angle of improving the situation in Afghanistan and not necessarily of curbing the terrorist elements emanating from Pakistan.
- Also through BRI and SCO, China will be successful in uniting Eurasia to challenge a united Europe. This scenario will prompt China and Russia to enter into a new era of global strategic partnership. This might not be in India's strategic interest.



ETHICS

Elder Section Of The Society

Topics Covered

- ✓ What Is Ageing
- ✓ Population Figures On Ageing
- ✓ Concerns
- ✓ Problems Faced By Old Age Population In India
- ✓ How Elderly Can Be Utilized
- ✓ Constitutional Provisions
- ✓ Recent Initiatives By Government
- ✓ Vietnam's Example
- ✓ Conclusion

What Is Ageing?

- Ageing is a continuous, irreversible, universal process, which starts from conception till the death of an individual.
- However, the age at which one's productive contribution declines and one tends to be economically dependent can probably be treated as the onset of the aged stage of life.
- National Elderly Policy defines person of 60+ age group as elderly.

Population Figures On Ageing

- Age division of Indian population (0-14) is 30.8%, (15-59) is 60.3%, (60+) is 8.6%.
- According to Population Census 2011, there are nearly 104 million elderly persons in India.
- It has increased from 5.5% in 1951 to 8.6% in 2011.
- Projected a rise upto 19% in 2050.
- As regards rural and urban areas, more than 73 million persons i.e. 71% of elderly population resides in rural areas while 31 million or 29% of elderly population are in urban area.

Concerns

- Need to ensure healthy, meaningful & dignified life.
- Government must ensure policies that enable older people to continue participating in society.
- The stereotype of older people as frail and dependent is not correct. Many contributions are often overlooked while their needs and demands are overemphasized.
- There are several welfare schemes for the elderly but successive governments' lack of concern and lethargy towards this section of the population had rendered these schemes non-operational and defunct over the years.
- Besides, no money is allocated by big companies under the corporate social responsibility head

Problems Faced By Old Age Population In India

- **Disabilities in old age**
 - With the increasing age and decreasing health, the older person begins to depend unknowingly physically and psychologically on either the kinship group or the existing social support network.
 - Most common disability among the aged persons was locomotor disability and visual disability as per Census 2011.
- **Economic Problems**
 - Economic dependence is one of the major factors that very often affects the wellbeing of older persons. Economic dependence is manifested in two ways.
 - First, the status of economic dependence may be caused by retirement for a person employed in the formal sector.
 - Secondly, for a person in the rural or urban informal sectors, it may result from their declining ability to work because of decreased physical and mental abilities. Sometimes older persons are



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also faced with economic dependence when management responsibilities for matters relating to finances, property or business are shifted to children, pushing the older person into a new status of economic dependence.

- **Psychological Problems**
 - The common psychological problems that most of the older persons experience are: feeling of powerlessness, feeling of inferiority, depression, uselessness, isolation and reduced competence. These problems along with social disabilities like widowhood, societal prejudice and segregation aggravate the frustration of elderly people. Studies report that conditions of poverty, childlessness, disability, in-law conflicts and changing values were some of the major causes for elder abuse.
- **Health Problems**
 - Health problems are supposed to be the major concern of a society as older people are more prone to suffer from ill health than younger age groups. It is often claimed that ageing is accompanied by multiple illness and physical ailments. Besides physical illness, the aged are more likely to be victims of poor mental health, which arises from senility, neurosis and extent of life satisfaction. In most of the primary surveys, the Indian elderly in general and the rural aged in particular are assumed to have some health problems like cough, poor eyesight, anemia and dental problems.

How Elderly Can Be Utilized

- Elderly can act as jury in courts, help youth overcome problems of drugs, violence; share their life experience like PM asking all retirees to save their work experience for newcomers;
- Can act as moral guides for community causes like Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, counsellors etc. and thus monetise and channelize their social capital.
- Can act as ambassadors of their community in traditions, various decentralised decision making process and social audits. Old People's Associations OPAs in Vietnam are great example of cooperative way of functioning.

Constitutional Provisions

- Provisions have been made in the Constitution of India to preserve the rights of those aged above 60. Since these articles are part of Chapter IV of the constitution which corresponds to Directive Principles, they cannot be enforced by a court of law as stated in Article 37, however, they are the basis upon which any legislation is drafted.
- Article 41 of the Constitution secures the right of senior citizens to employment, education and public assistance. It also ensures that the state must uphold these rights in cases of disability, old age or sickness. Meanwhile, Article 46 asserts that the educational and economic rights of the elderly must be protected by the state. Article 47 Duty of the State to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health these above articles which are applicable to old age people ensures their wellbeing. Apart from this old age people are also protected under National policy for old persons 2011.

Recent Initiatives By Government

- **Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP)**
 - Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is a nodal agency for the welfare of elderly people. The main objective of the scheme is to improve the quality of life of older persons by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities, etc.
- **Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)**
 - This scheme is run by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. This is a central sector scheme funded from the Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund. The fund was notified in the year 2016. All unclaimed amounts from small savings accounts, PPF and EPF are to be transferred to this fund.
 - Under the RVY scheme, aids and assistive living devices are provided to senior citizens belonging to BPL category who suffer from age-related disabilities such as low vision, hearing impairment, loss of teeth and locomotor disabilities. The aids and assistive devices, viz walking sticks, elbow crutches, walkers/crutches, tripods/quad pods, hearing aids, wheelchairs, artificial dentures and spectacles are provided to eligible beneficiaries.



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- The scheme is being implemented by Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), which is a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- **Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)**
 - The Ministry of Rural Development runs the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) that extends social assistance for poor households for the aged, widows, disabled, and in cases of death where the breadwinner has passed away.
 - Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to person of 60 years and above and belonging to family living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by Government of India. Central assistance of Rs 200 per month is provided to person in the age group of 60-79 years and Rs 500 per month to persons of 80 years and above.
- **Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana (VPBY)**
 - This scheme is run by the Ministry of Finance. The Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana (VPBY) was first launched in 2003 and then relaunched in 2014. Both are social security schemes for senior citizens intended to give an assured minimum pension on a guaranteed minimum return on the subscription amount.
- **The Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana**
 - The Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PNVVY) was launched in May 2017 to provide social security during old age. This is a simplified version of the VPBY and will be implemented by the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India.
 - Under the scheme, on payment of an initial lump sum amount ranging from Rs 1,50,000 for a minimum pension of Rs 1000 per month to a maximum of Rs 7,50,000/- for a maximum pension of Rs 5,000 per month, subscribers will get an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8% per annum payable monthly/quarterly/half-yearly/annually.
 - The Centre will bear 75 percent of the total budget and the state government will contribute 25 percent of the budget, for activities up to district level.
- **Vayoshreshtha Samman**
 - Conferred as a National award, and given to eminent senior citizens & institutions under various categories for their contributions on International day of older persons on 1st october.

Vietnam's example

- In Vietnam, Old People's Associations (OPAs) are improving the lives of the elderly in many parts of the country.
- In a country of 90 million people, as many as 8.5 million are members of OPAs in their village and town communities.
- The associations are democratically run by the elderly in the communities.
- They set their own agendas, choose what community causes to apply themselves to, which elderly persons need special assistance and assign responsibilities among themselves.
- They represent the needs of the community and the elderly to government agencies, who also see them as a vital support for the government's outreach programmes into communities.

Conclusion

- The elderly are the fastest growing, underutilized resource that humanity has to address many other problems.
- Re-integration of the elderly into communities may save humanity from mindlessly changing into a technology-driven 'Industry 4.0' which futurists are projecting: an economy of robots producing things for each other.
- Investing a little to engage the elderly in communities can improve the health and well-being of the elderly. It can also improve the health and well-being of communities.



Code of Ethics And Code of Conduct

Topics Covered

- ✓ What Is Code Of Ethics?
- ✓ Values Guiding Code Of Ethics
- ✓ Recommendations Of Second Arc
- ✓ What Are Codes Of Conduct?
- ✓ Code Of Ethics Viz-A-Viz Code Of Conduct
- ✓ Conclusion

What Is Code Of Ethics?

- It is a set of guidelines issued by an organization, to guide the conduct in accordance with organisational primary values and ethical standards.
- It includes values and principles like integrity, impartiality, accountability, devotion to duty, exemplary behavior, commitment to public service etc.
- It ensures that individuals belonging to an organization have a consistent approach.

Values Guiding Code Of Ethics

Public Service Bill, 2006 suggests a Code of Ethics for public services. The main values guiding them are

- Ideals enshrined in the preamble.
- Apolitical Functioning.
- Good Governance.
- Accountability and transparency.
- Maintenance of highest ethical standards.
- Merit should be the criteria for recruiting civil servants.
- Ensuring economy and avoidance of wasteful expenditure.
- Provision of healthy and congenial work environment.
- Discharge functions with due regard to diversity of the nation and community.
- Provide honest, impartial and frank advice to political executive.

Recommendations of Second ARC

- Partial State funding of elections.
- Tightening of anti-defection law.
- Provision of code of ethics for ministers, legislatures, judiciary and civil servants.
- Strengthening the Prevention of Corruption Act.
- Making corrupt public servants liable.
- Confiscation of illegally acquired property.
- Speedy trails.
- Creation of lokpal or ombudsman at national, State and local level.
- Civil Service Values, to which all public servants should aspire, should be defined and made applicable to all tiers of government and organizations.
- ARC recommended that Code of Ethics include: integrity, impartiality, commitment to public service, open accountability, devotion to duty and exemplary behavior.
- ARC also recommended deletion of Article 311 of the Constitution.

What are Codes of Conduct?

- Code of Conduct is a document that expresses the practices and behaviour of a person, required or restricted as a condition for becoming a member of the organisation or profession.
- The code sets out the actual rules, so it lays down the do's and doesn't s of an employee.
- The members are responsible for its adherence and held accountable for its violation.
- Every organisation has its code of conduct issued by the Board of Directors (BOD) that determines the social norms, regulations and responsibilities.



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- It is in the form of written statement; that contains rules for behaviour, which are supposed to be followed by the employees of the company.
- The document directs and guides the employees in various matters.

Code of Ethics viz-a-viz Code of Conduct

Similarity:

- Both attempt to encourage specific behavior by employees.
- In both cases, the organization's desire is to obtain a narrow range of acceptable behaviors from employees.

Differences:

Code Of Ethics	Code Of Conduct
It is a set of guidelines.	It is a set of rules.
It is developed more in the form of statement of values and beliefs.	It enlists acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in a precise manner.
Enables employees to acquire most appropriate course of action.	Provides a fairly clear set of expectations.
It covers broad guiding principles.	It generally requires little judgment: obey or incur a penalty.
It contains the organisational values.	It translates those values into specific behavioural standards.
It is subjective.	It is objective.

Conclusion

- Code of Conduct is actually extracted from the Code of Ethics.
- Therefore, the latter concept is wider than the former.
- Moreover, these codes are beneficial for businesses of any size and nature as the codes lay down direction which is helpful for employees, to behave in a particular manner and also making a public image of ethical behaviour.

Ethical Dilemma In Public Services

Topics Covered

- ✓ Types Of Ethical Dilemmas
- ✓ Process Of Resolving An Ethical Dilemma In Administration
- ✓ Accountability
- ✓ Legality
- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Responsiveness
- ✓ Ethical Concern In Government
- ✓ Common Ethical Dilemmas In Public Services

Types Of Ethical Dilemmas



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- Personal Cost Ethical Dilemmas: It rises from situations in which compliance with ethical conduct results in a substantial personal cost to the decision maker in a problematic situation.
- Right-versus-Right Ethical Dilemmas: It arises from situations of two or more conflicting sets of bonafide moral values.
- Conjoint Ethical Dilemmas: It develops when a careful decision-maker is exposed to an amalgamation of the above-indicated ethical dilemmas in searching for the "right-thing-to do".
- Ethical dilemmas also arise in the following situation:
 - When his expert directives are in contrast with his own personal values
 - Working towards the best interest of the community versus being responsive to the government.
- Ethical dilemmas can arise, when two equally striking options are acceptable as 'right' in certain situations.

Process Of Resolving An Ethical Dilemma In Administration

- An ethical dilemma is more complex and demanding than a problem of what it appears to be. These dilemmas cannot be solved based on its initial status of presentation.
- The decision maker faces a difficult situation in which he faces mutually exclusive alternatives that choosing one option means negating the other that is equally important.
- However a dilemma is also dealt appropriately by altering and reformulating all the options in a systematic and coherent manner.
- The Government fails in such difficult situations and they degenerate to the state of confusion and indeterminacy.
- To resolve such ethical dilemmas, a lexical order or a sequence of logical reasoning sets is proposed to integrate and rearrange the process of dealing with ethical dilemmas.
- They are-
 - Democratic accountability of administration,
 - The rule of law and the principle of legality,
 - Professional integrity
 - Responsiveness to civil society.

Accountability

- In this regard, 'speaking truth to power' is vital of professional ethics and integrity of civil servants and the administrative machinery of the state.
- The distinction between politics and administration lies in the fact not only in the division of function but also in the hierarchy.
- The administration is always subordinate to the politics. The loyalty of the bureaucracy to the ministers is grounded on their obligation to be answerable and responsible to the legislature who is accountable to the will of the people and their general interest.
- It is then a fundamental ethical duty bearing on civil servants to show a spirit of neutrality and discretion and keep their own personal preferences out in the performance of their duties and responsibilities.

Legality

- The rule of law is fundamental and universal to politics and society.
- Respect and adherence to the principle of legality is an important requirement to exercise authority. Law establishes the minimum standard for morality.
- Unethical conduct means violation of law. Thus far enforcement of law can be first priority of an ethics reform strategy.

Integrity

- Public administration is inclusive of all public services exercising authority in accordance with public law and under the direction of ministers or other officials, with professional integrity and autonomy.
- Administration is a profession with an essential precondition of practicing legitimacy, therefore knowledge and expertise should be used with certain standards defining professional ethics such as, avoiding corruption in the delivery of services.

Responsiveness

- The government responsiveness to its citizens is a key issue in political economy.



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- In this respect, ethical reasoning in state action entails that public institutions be responsive to society and pay attention to the needs and demands of the people, facilitating access to services and creating an enabling environment for sustainable human and social development.
- In this regard, the government is known as the unity of the universal and particular because it provides law and governance for people certain conditions by which individuals find their fullest fulfilment.

Ethical Concern in Government

- For a public officials who try to function as a professional, the demands of law, his duty, impartiality, due process, provides a productive ground in which ethical dilemmas arises.
- Whistle blowers face this problem because their disclosure may institute a crime when the on-going misbehaviour is severe.
- Ethical standards are not organized, so there are always chances that dilemma arises and discrepancies always occur about appropriate behaviour.

Ethical Dilemmas Faced by Public Servants are as follows:

- Administrative discretion
- Corruption
- Nepotism
- Administrative secrecy
- Information leaks
- Public accountability
- Policy dilemmas

Common Ethical Dilemmas In Public Services

- An ethical dilemma arises from a situation that requires a choice between opposing sets of principles. Conflict of interest is one such example.
- Other types of ethical dilemmas in which public servants may find themselves include conflict between: the values of public administration; unclear or opposing answer-abilities; personal morals and work ethics versus administrative directive; validations for the institutions; professional ethics and director or executive directive; features of the code of conduct; and the other dimensions of ethical manner.
- The new developments in administration and governance led to downsizing, privatisations, public-private partnerships, and restructuring, these phenomena gave rise to countless and complex ethical doubts.
- The underlying factors that gives rise to more ethical dilemmas are
 - Material and resource difficulties
 - Needs of a growing and multifaceted society
 - Critical and attentive perspective implied in citizenship
 - Restructuring subjects and change of the administration
 - Constant demand that decision processes become more thoroughly participated.

Ethics Of Friendship

Topics Covered

- ✓ Aristotle On Friendship
- ✓ Types of Friendship

Aristotle On Friendship

- Aristotle, with his common sense approach to problems, frequently states the seemingly obvious. He makes points which on the surface don't seem revolutionary, but they are shrewd and insightful enough to crystalize truths that, otherwise, would be difficult to articulate. Part of our lack of surprise at his approaches and conclusions derives from our living in a post-Aristotelian world. So, if what follows doesn't surprise you, give yourself a high-five and consider yourself an Aristotelian.
- Man is by nature a social animal whose inclination it is to live in the company of others. Such is Aristotle's premise in Book I of the Politics.



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- Something within us compels us to live in society with others. We are naturally bound to form relationships with other people.
- What can we say about the social associations we make? What does their nature say about us? Aristotle addresses these questions on Friendship in Books 8 and 9 of his Nicomachean Ethics.
- According to Aristotle, there are three types of friendships: those based on utility, those based on pleasure or delight, and those grounded in virtue.

Types of Friendship.

- **The Nicomachean Ethics of Friendship based on Utility:** In this first level of friendship, people expect to derive some benefit from each other. According to Aristotle, these are “shallow” and “easily dissolved” because individuals are seeking to essentially barter and trade a product, service, connection, or other useful thing. Or, rather, it just seems important and essential at the time. But, our desires change and, thus, these first-level friendships ultimately do not last.
- **The Nicomachean Ethics of Friendship based on pleasure:** Relationships where people are attracted to one another because of their appearance, humor, or other extrinsic and “pleasant” quality. When we are young, we think we “want” to be with another person because they are fun, or popular or a good athlete. My daughter is on a school basketball team and so many of the girls are “friends” as they spend a large amount of time together in practice, traveling to games, and during and after the games. The joint activity and like-mindedness leads to simple friendships based on pleasure. But, these second-level friendships also can easily end when the activity or specific quality no longer is attractive or gives that same pleasure as it used to.
- **The Nicomachean Ethics of Friendship based on goodness:** This type of friendship emerges when both people see the good in each other. As we get older, we learn about each other’s foundational beliefs, moral compass, dedication to issues, commitment to family, social and political outlooks, and desire to help others. We learn about the other person’s character. This type of friendship is considered to the highest level of “brotherly love” according to Aristotle. In this highest level of friendship, there is no desire to get anything or seek any response from the other. Rather, the focus is on what can one do to help the other person and make the other happy.

International Ethics

Topics Covered

- ✓ What Is International Ethics?
- ✓ Power And International Ethics
- ✓ Philosophical Approaches To International Ethics
- ✓ Some Ethical Issues In International Affairs
- ✓ Ethics Can Meet The Challenges Of Diplomacy In 21st Century
- ✓ Constrained Choices And International Ethics
- ✓ International Ethics Must Be Pursued To Compete Ecological System
- ✓ Interdependence, Cooperation And Collaboration Must Be Judged
- ✓ Diplomatic Relations And Understanding Is Also Major Drivers
- ✓ Defence and Military Enterprise
- ✓ The Poverty and Wealth of Nations
- ✓ The Inequality of Nations
- ✓ International Ethics With Respect To Economic, Social And Environmental Frameworks
- ✓ Conclusion

What Is International Ethics?

- It is the study of how members of bounded communities, mostly national states, ought to treat outsiders.
- Enables one to participate in shaping good international community. E.g. various agencies of the UN promote universal principles.



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- Moral standing of the sovereign state is one of the major topics discussed by international theory. – Chris Brown
- Mervyn Frost identifies election of questions like when is intervention by one state in the domestic affairs of another state justified? When may states justifiably go to war?

Power and International Ethics

- It is generally observed that the world attention, gets itself focused on the most powerful nation, both domestically and internationally, a nation that is willing to force its powerful will on the world, taking into task any nation that challenged its authority and its interests.
- Many wars and conflicts are certainly caused by the unilateral moves of dominant nations against other nations that endangered its global interests.
- International ethics is influenced by different philosophies of international and national power and the way this power play its role.
- There are beliefs that power does not follow any rules and this reasoning and is extended to apply to international spaces and relations. In its so called “chaos” nature, this belief in power, particularly power not following any rules slants the global balance in favour of dominant nations and entities and is unfavourable to weak or developing nations and entities. It is true that the anarchy of a dominant power imposes its will on other nations and entities.
- Under such conventions, justice follows national boundaries without any space for international or global justice.
- In contradiction of “anarchy” nature of power, that is, power which does not follow any rules, there is another belief that international power follows certain rules which provide an international order which is qualitatively different from the previous case of anarchy.
- Power that follows rules of international order is better than power that does not.

Philosophical Approaches To International Ethics

The major ethical dilemma while selecting a philosophical approach is to choose between the ‘national interest’ and ‘global interest’. Some approaches are discussed:

- **Realism (Realpolitik)**
 - In international ethics, one thing that really matters is power, nothing else does.
 - Realism denies any role for shared ethics. It creates an ethically neutral or ethics free zone. There are no rules and “anarchy” prevails.
 - eg. Chinese attitude over South China Sea and One Belt One Road, 9’ line etc.
- **Idealism**
 - Focuses on common interests between nations, and not necessarily at the power.
 - Driven by ethics, morality, laws, legal systems, international institutions etc.
 - eg. Indian foreign policy, WTO etc.
- **Constructivism**
 - In the present scenario, there is increase of identity politics. Idealism allows for influence of national identities.
 - Nations resist any threat to their identities, nationalism, and sovereignty.
 - It focuses on foreign policy, diplomatic initiatives etc. to shape international relations where a country has credible influence.
 - The focus is on domestic politics and how it shapes foreign policy.
- **Cosmopolitanism**
 - It empowers international ethics and the development of global values and ethics.
 - It argues for following morally lawful behavior; behave as you want others to behave.
 - Where rules and laws do not exist, all should come together to negotiate the rules and laws that are ethical. E.g. Environmental negotiations.
- **Equality of Life**
 - No preference is given to the welfare of citizens of own country only.
 - It is the global interest that counts as much as domestic interest.
 - eg. refugee crisis.



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Some Ethical Issues In International Affairs

Major ethical dilemma is to choose between the 'national interest' and 'global interest'. It has been observed that most of the times, countries went on to pursue their national interest. Some examples are discussed:

- **Humanitarian interventions:** Western countries have intervened in the internal affairs of other countries on this ground. Though apparently bona-fide, but sometimes these were encouraged by geo-strategic
- **Disarmament:** It is being promoted by those countries that have massive reserves of nuclear armaments, missiles and nuclear powered submarines. E.g. USA sanctions on Iran.
- **IPR (Intellectual Property Rights):** Developed countries are depriving the poor ones from accessing new technologies e.g. life-saving medicines.
- **Trade Negotiations (WTO):** Developed countries want to deny level playing field for developing and poor ones. E.g. Doha Round.
- **Climate change:** Countries are divided on the issue of CBDR (common but differential responsibilities), on technology transfer and on funding arrangements.
- **Global Commons:** The domains that lie outside the political reach of one single state. For example: (a) Strategic importance, commercial use and role of UNCLOS in high seas, (b) Global warning, (c) Antarctica, (d) Outer space.

Ethics can meet the challenges of diplomacy in 21st century in the following ways:

- **Moral Diplomacy:**
 - In the present-day context, moral diplomacy in international relations has a role for everyone including the state officials and citizens who care about human rights, human dignity, liberty, and justice and is therefore of crucial importance to a civil servant's conduct, especially in foreign policy which deals with multilateral and bilateral contexts.
 - Example: Gujral Doctrine towards India's smaller neighbour is based on it, Panchsheel principle with China is also a result of moral diplomacy.
- **Soft Power:**
 - It is persuasive approach to international relations majorly using economic and cultural influences. Such influences are not possible until and unless the international actors at least appears to be ethical in their stands.
 - Examples: There are many protests against Chinese investments in countries by the masses because their investment and project practices appear unethical and exploitative
 - Assistance to Nepal during the earthquake in 2015
 - Blue economy investments in Seychelles, Madagascar, other island countries.
- **Public or Citizen's diplomacy:**
 - Track II, III and other track diplomacies need ethical and moral engagement. People to people contact is not possible without it.
 - g. Initiatives like Aamanki Asha, Nimrana dialogue etc.
- **In Governance Of Global Commons:**
 - International community has to share the global commons, and protect and preserve the same. It cannot be done through brute force E.g. Intended determined national targets can neither be fulfilled, nor the climate change governance successfully implemented until international players show any ethical conducts.
 - International Cooperation on social malaises like Terrorism, colonialism, dealing with cross border epidemics like Ebola, disasters like earthquakes etc which create destruction beyond borders need ethical commitment of nation states.

Constrained Choices and International Ethics

- International ethics also control choices of nation in the international sphere, but evidently choices are constrained rather than free. The choices may be constrained by the necessity of pleasing the domestic political support. The choices may be inhibited by the identity politics. The choices may be constrained by power equations and balances.
- Several practical restraints may also be present, assuredly economic constraints and national interest constraint will not be missing when choices have to be made.



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- No preference is given by governments or by anybody else to the welfare of citizens of that country. There are no differentiating factors acknowledged by such governments that distinguish between the welfare of its citizens and those belonging to another country.
- Everyone has equal rights. Everyone is treated equally in equal respects.
- In such cases, it becomes meaningful to make sacrifices for others. It is generally observed that people hardly sacrifice themselves for even their close ones in present scenario.
- But people sacrificing themselves for others in the international space are truly worthy. Respect for life should guide international ethics.

International Ethics Must Be Pursued To Compete Ecological System

- Nations are competing for ecological system advantages to help the environment to preserve its natural capacity and vitality.
- This will secure for nations an ecological and economic advantage.
- At the same time, they are not ready to bear much burden for the climate change action which can impede economic progression in short term. Ethical reflection on the natural environment has actually become international and global phenomena.
- Various perceptions are available from each of these fields for critical reflection on harms that human beings pose through daily activities.
- Currently, all nations have made vision plans for long term future foreseeing the changes necessary say for 2020, which have domestic and international implications and effects. All such vision plans by several countries are drivers of international ethics. These promises to be realized and fulfilled.

Interdependence, Cooperation And Collaboration Must Be Judged To Maintain International Ethics

- In the obscurities of dominant countries, other countries have evolved certain international cooperation and collaboration treaties for several reasons.
- It is well recognized that one country emerged as a super power and have a dominant role in international relations between nations.
- International cooperation and collaboration are a measure of countries interdependence with other nations. Such international cooperation provides a measure of international order between them. International ethics in the framework of cooperation and collaboration are based on recognition of their mutual interests with each other.
- There may be several fields in which international cooperation has worked well and thus provides the basis for further cooperation and collaboration. Interdependence between nations through cooperation and teamwork, can provide the basis for a “law of peace” to be established for relations between people.

Diplomatic Relations And Understanding Is Also Major Drivers Of International Ethics

- Diplomatic initiatives are always available for nations to resolve their differences and make agreements that ensure peace and security and also to further their rights and interests and to share duties and responsibilities.
- The movement of people can be eased by the diplomatic presence and provides another driver for international relations and international ethics which guides it.
- Each country may have its own interests in another country and or in promoting ties with other countries. In each country recognizing the other, there is the “international law of peace”, even though it may not resolve all conflicts between nations.
- A rule of reason can triumph under such circumstances.

Defence and Military Enterprise

- Each nation use the power to achieve its global interests.
- International ethics can also be considered as the use of power by one country against another country to accomplish its international goals and protecting its national interests.
- International conflict and wars are still a probability and it may even be impacted by the defence related establishments which have international reach and influence.
- International conventions on “international law of war” may be binding only when international community analyses and insists on it.

The Poverty and Wealth of Nations



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- Nations who want to become wealthy, have to reckon with poverty which hampers them from being active and responsible international actors involved and partaking in emergent international issues. Poverty may be a national issue.
- Lessening poverty is major issue at international level.
- “International law of justice” may be invoked to have nations pledge to reduce and eradicate poverty wherever it is found, through responsible joint actions.
- The UN framework on Millennium Development Goals calls on nations to reduce poverty to half and continue to decrease poverty around the world.
- Poverty measures, poverty indices, are available to guide policy.
- Several international NGOs involved in this field to eliminate poverty have frameworks to make decisions and choices which offers other field of international ethics and can drive the values of global solidarity and justice.

The Inequality of Nations

- Inequalities lead to certain conflicts which may be domestic in origin or international, but they are indicators of troubling trends.
- In an unequal world, expectations of equity, international equity are high.
- Any international action must be aimed at benefiting the least advantaged nations more than that would be expected for a most advantaged nation.
- Otherwise, there would not be an incentive for less advantaged or least advantaged nations to participate in international actions.
- In cases of such failures, only those international actions which are driven by prevailing nations will be carried through creating and endorsing a more divided world with even a greater possibility of future conflict.

International Ethics With Respect To Economic, Social And Environmental Frameworks

- There are a number of frameworks available for making decisions concerning international actions which have economic, social, and environmental consequences and impact over future generations. There is a gap between any system of global and international values and international ethics on the ground. This is because of the broadening gap in ground realities between nations and international organizations due to levels of difficult conflict. The frameworks are evolved to provide a way to resolve the conflict and they are useful to deal with numerous conflicting ideas on international ethics.
- For instance, the framework provided under UN agencies, the framework of Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the framework of Universal Declaration of Human Genome and Human Rights, the various international declarations and conventions which offer the necessary framework for supportive and collaborative international action to resolve international issues.
- There are several global institutions concerned with the global economic order, others with the global information order, still others with the global environmental regimes or order. Each of them provides frameworks within which its members are expected to take decisions that are respected and supported by virtue of the frameworks agreed upon.

Conclusion

- To summarize, there is vast literature that demonstrates ethics as an important determinant for good understanding of international relations.
- International relations must forestall serious and sometimes dangerous conflicts between nations or groups. Ethnic and ideological differences can explode into major conflicts.
- The threatening complexity of competing narratives distinguishing national and non-state actors alike disrupts the relative tranquillity of formal dialogue on ideological differences.
- Cycles of ethnic conflict, civil war shape clashes in ways where formal dialogue may never progress or deter.
- Many professionals have stated that matters of equity and justice, of human dignity in the face of adversity and terror, are to be judged morally and not merely administratively (Bietz (1979)). It is significant that moral issues in international relations must be shown.



Indian Philosophy And Indian Philosophy Values

Topics Covered

- ✓ Difference Between Astik Schools And Nastik Schools
- ✓ Six Orthodox Schools (Classical Schools) Of Indian Philosophy
- ✓ Sankhya Philosophy
- ✓ Yoga Philosophy
- ✓ Nyaya Philosophy
- ✓ Vaisheshik Philosophy
- ✓ Purva Mimansa (Mimansa)
- ✓ Uttara Mimansa (Vedanda)
- ✓ Three Heterodox Schools Of Indian Philosophy
- ✓ Charvaka School
- ✓ Buddhist Philosophy
- ✓ Jain Philosophy
- ✓ Ajivika Philosophy
- ✓ Philosophy In Medieval India

Difference Between Astik Schools And Nastik Schools

- The basic difference between the two branches of Hindu Philosophy schools is said to be based on the recognition of Vedas.
- Orthodox schools recognize the authority of Vedas while heterodox schools don't believe in the authority of Vedas.
- Out of these nine systems, eight are atheistic as there is no place for God in them.
- Only Uttara Mimansa, which is also called Vedanta, has a place for God in it.

Six Orthodox Schools (Classical Schools) of Indian Philosophy

- The 6 classical schools (shatdarshan) are Sankhya, Yoga, Nyaya, Vaisheshik, Purva Mimansa and Uttar Mimansa (Vedanta).
- Almost all Indian schools of thought accepted the theory of karma and rebirth, and the ideal of moksha is conceived as liberation from the cycle of births and deaths.
- Moksha/liberation is considered as the highest goal of human struggle.

Nyaya Philosophy

- Nyaya school follows a scientific and a rational approach.
- Sage Gautama is the founder of this school.
- Nyaya school banks upon various pramanas (mechanism of attaining knowledge).
- It believes that gaining knowledge through the five senses is the sole way of attaining liberation from the cycle of birth and death.

Sankhya Philosophy

- Sankhya is the oldest of all philosophies put forth by the sage Kapila.
- It is a dualistic philosophy with Purusha (soul) and Prakriti (nature) in it.
- Advaita Vedanta derives its base from Sankhya School.
- Sankhya also devolves philosophical basis for Yoga.
- It emphasizes the attainment of knowledge of self through meditation and concentration.

Yoga Philosophy

- Yoga school introduces the methods of the discipline of body and mind.
- Sage Patanjali is the founder of Yoga.
- Emancipation of Purusha from Prakriti by self-awareness through the discipline of body and mind is conceptualized by Yoga.
- It is believed that practising Ashtanga Yoga is the way to relieve oneself from past sins in order to make way for liberation.



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Vaisheshika

- Vaisheshika school deals with metaphysics.
- It was founded by the sage Kanada.
- It is an objective and realistic philosophy of the Universe.
- According to the Vaisheshika school of philosophy, the universe is reducible to a finite number of atoms, Brahman being the fundamental force causing consciousness in these atoms.

Purva Mimamsa

- Purva Mimamsa school believes in the complete authority of Vedas .
- It is based on sage Jaimini's Mimamsa Sutras.
- It emphasizes the power of yajnas and mantras in sustaining the activities of the universe.
- It states that a human being can attain salvation only by acting in conformity with the principles of Vedas.

Uttara Mimamsa (Vedanta)

- Vedanta school is a monoistic school of philosophy that believes that the world is unreal and the only reality is Brahman.
- The three sub branches of Vedanta are Advaita of Shankaracharya, Vishista Advaita of Ramanujacharya and Dvaita of Madhwacharya.
- Uttara Mimamsa is based on Upanishads (the end portions of Vedas).

Three Heterodox Schools of Indian Philosophy

Schools that do not accept the authority of vedas are by definition unorthodox (nastika) systems. The following schools belong to heterodox schools of Indian Philosophy.

Charvaka School

- It finds mention in the Vedas and Brihad-aranyka Upanishad, Thus, it is supposed to be the earliest in the growth of the philosophical knowledge.
- Knowledge is the product of the combination of four elements which leaves no trace after death.
- Out of the five elements earth, water, fire, air and ether, the Charvakas do not recognize ether as it is not known through perception
- Charvaka philosophy deals with the materialistic philosophy + also known as the Lokayata Philosophy – the philosophy of the masses.
- According to Charvaka there is no other world. Hence, death is the end of humans & pleasures the ultimate object in life. Charvaka recognizes no existence other than this material world.
- Charvaka denied the presence of any divinity or supernatural agency (God, soul, & heaven) & accepted only reality of existence as things exist & which can be experienced by human senses. According to him Brahmanas manufactured rituals to acquire gifts (Dakshina)
- Samkhya & vaisheshika system also propagated materialistic view of life
- Materialistic views of life also appears in doctrines of Ajivikas (a heterodox sect of Buddhism)

Buddhist Philosophy

- It is a system of beliefs based on the teachings of Siddhartha Gautma. Buddhism is a non-theistic philosophy whose tenets are not especially concerned with the existence or non-existence of God.
- Four Noble Truths in Buddhism are the following.
 - There is suffering
 - There is a cause of suffering
 - There is a cessation of suffering
 - There is a way to the cessation of suffering
- Buddhists philosophy of life to get 'Nirvana' from suffering is based on the following eight principles:
 - Right Faith (Samyak Dristi)
 - Right Resolve (Samyak Sankalpa)
 - Right Speech (Samyak Vakya)
 - Right Action (Samyak Karmanta)
 - Right Living (Samyak Ajiva)



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- Right Thought (Samyak Smriti)
- Right concentration (Samyak Samadhi)
- Right Effort (Samyak Vyayama)

Jain Philosophy

- Already in existence by 6th century B.C, it was revived by Mahavira, the 24th Jain Tirthankara.
- According to Jainism, Nirvana or liberation is obtained through three jewels: Right Philosophy, Right Knowledge and Right Conduct (Tri-ratna).
- Right conduct implies 5 abstinences: not to lie, not to steal, not to strive for luxury and not to strive for possessions, not to be unchaste and not to injure (Ahimsa).

Ajivika Philosophy

- A related philosophy which some classify under the heterodox system is Ajivika Philosophy.
- The Ājīvikas may simply have been a more loosely-organized group of wandering ascetics (shramanas or sannyasins).
- Some of its prominent figures were Makkhali Gosala and Sanjaya Belatthaputta.
- This was an ascetic movement of the Mahajanapada period in the Indian subcontinent.

Philosophy in Medieval India

Shankaracharya

- Propagated Advaita (non-dualism or belief in one reality)
- Ultimate reality is one, it being the Brahman : existent, unchanging, the highest truth & the ultimate knowledge
- World is false and self and Brahman are not different – All is Brahman and Brahman is all

Ramanujacharya

- Propagated Vishistadvaita means modified monism
- Ultimate reality is Brahman (God) & matter and soul are his qualities

Srikanthacharya

- Propagated Sivadvaita
- Ultimate Brahman is Shiva, endowed with Shakti
- Shiva exists in this world as well as beyond it

Madhavacharya

- Propagated Dvaita (Dualism)
- world is not an illusion but a reality full of differences

Nimbaraka

- Propagated Dvaitadvaita (Dualistic monism)
- God transformed himself into world and soul
- world and soul are different from God (Brahman) & survive with the support of God only, hence, they are separate but dependent

Vallabhacharya

- Propagated Suddhadvaita (Pure non-dualism)
- Brahman (God) is Sri Krishna who manifested himself as souls & matter
- God and soul are not distinct, but one
- His philosophy came to be known as Pushtimarga (the path of grace) & school was called Rudrasampradaya

Family Morals

Topics Covered



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- ✓ What Are Morals?
- ✓ What are Family Morals?
- ✓ Developing family morals and values
- ✓ How morals are developed?
- ✓ What are family rules and its purpose?

What Are Morals?

- Morality is the differentiation of intentions, decisions and actions between those that are distinguished as proper and those that are improper.
- Morality can be a body of standards or principles derived from a code of conduct from a particular philosophy, religion or culture, or it can derive from a standard that a person believes should be universal.
- Morality may also be specifically synonymous with "goodness" or "rightness".
- Moral philosophy includes meta-ethics, which studies abstract issues such as moral ontology and moral epistemology, and normative ethics, which studies more concrete systems of moral decision-making such as deontological ethics and consequentialism.
- An example of normative ethical philosophy is the Golden Rule, which states that: "One should treat others as one would like others to treat oneself."
- Immorality is the active opposition to morality (i.e. opposition to that which is good or right), while amorality is variously defined as an unawareness of, indifference toward, or disbelief in any particular set of moral standards or principles.

What are Family Morals?

- Family morals are the beliefs that family members have about right and wrong, and good and bad.
- Treating others with kindness and respect.
- Not taking things that don't belong to you. Cooperating with parents by following family rules

Developing Family Morals And Values

- Discipline comes from the Latin word discipulus, which means "to teach and guide."
- The basis for teaching children discipline is in identifying a set of family morals and family values.
- Without the moral basis of right and wrong, as children get older, they are likely to feel confused about limits, and may not make good decisions.

How morals are developed?

- Parents – Parents are a child's primary source of moral development.
- Extended Family – Grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other extended family members play a role in the development of morals.
- Siblings – Older brothers and sisters are a main source of moral development.
- School – Children spend the first 18 years of life educated by other adults in day care, preschool, and public school.
- Education strongly influences the development of children's morals.
- Peer Group – These are your children's friends. – Standing up to "peer pressure" is the ultimate test for how well children stick to their morals.
- The Media – Parents need to monitor the content of what children are being exposed to on television, in movies, in video games, in music and on the internet.
- Religion – Religious education can play a major role in the development of children's morals.

What are family rules?

- Family rules are a set of Do's and Don'ts that serve as guidelines for carrying out family morals and values.
- Family rules are developed by all family members, apply to all family members, and are reviewed on a regular basis to determine how well the family is doing following the rules.
- Family rules involve everyone's participation.
- So if grandpa or grandma play an active parenting role, they should be involved too.
- Family rules are designed to promote and reinforce desirable behaviors.

The purpose of family rules



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- The purpose of family rules is for parents and children to establish consistent guidelines that will help everyone know what is and what isn't expected of them
- Family rules encourage family members to take responsibility for their own behavior and to be contributing members of the family
- Family rules teach cooperation, and make living together much more pleasant. • Family rules also help ensure that everyone in the family has input in how the family operates and the standards of acceptable behavior

Ethics

Topics Covered

- ✓ What Is Ethics?
- ✓ Ethics Vs Morality
- ✓ Essence, Determinants And Consequences Of Ethics In Human Actions
- ✓ Dimensions Of Ethics
- ✓ Ethics In Private And Public Relationships

What is Ethics?

- Ethics constitute an integral part of the Human society.
- Any decision that we make has an ethical base.
- The role of ethics in the human society lies in determining what is desirable or undesirable.
- Thus, ethics is a philosophical concept that involves systematizing, defending and recommending concepts of right and wrong. It necessarily involves the moral behaviour of humans.
- Ethics relate to the concerns of good and bad, right and wrong, virtue and vice and justice and injustice.
- However, ethics are driven by a concern towards the good life.
- If something is contrary to the drive towards achieving the good of mankind, that cannot be seen as ethical.
- That is why, many philosophers have attributed great value to the conception of good life.

Ethics vs Morality

- Many people use the words Ethics and Morality interchangeably. However, there is a difference between Ethics and Morals.
- To put it in simple terms, Ethics = Morals + Reasoning.
- To have an ethical viewpoint, you should be able to give some reason for it. Yes, Ethics is Moral Philosophy, and Philosophy is all about reasoning
- For example, you might feel that it is morally wrong to steal, but if you have an ethical viewpoint on it, it should be based on some sets of arguments and analysis about why it would be wrong to steal.
- To be moral is all about adhering to what is described (by society or religion).
- But to be ethical, you should figure out what is right – by applying some principles and considering all the complexities involved. Clearly, the ethical life is the harder path.
- Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions
- Ethics is all about reasoning about how one should act in a given circumstance – ie. how to do the right action.

Essence of Ethics

- Ethics is the study of morality.
- The essence of Ethics (core of ethics) is to understand those philosophies which guide us in determining what is right or wrong.

Determinants of Ethics

- Determinants are the sources from which the ethical standard arises.
- There are multiple determinants of ethics like
 - Religion
 - Law



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- Society
- Individual
- Knowledge
- Time

Consequences of Ethics

- A consequence is the outcome of any act.
- Doing good with proper reasoning (being ethical) has many positive consequences like
 - Safeguarding the society.
 - Feeling good.
 - Creating credibility.
 - Satisfying basic human needs etc.
- However, being unethical has many negative consequences like
 - Loss of trust.
 - Nepotism.
 - Corruption.
 - Crimes etc.

Dimensions of Ethics

- Ethics is not just a theoretical science, it has a lot of applications in day to day life. Being multi-dimensional in nature, ethics is divided into four main branches. They are:
 - Meta-Ethics (Ethics about Ethics)
 - Prescriptive Ethics (Normative Ethics)
 - Descriptive Ethics (Comparative Ethics)
 - Applied Ethics.

Ethics in Private Relationships

- Private relationships largely involve relations with family and friends and hence are informal in nature. Private relationships are often driven by emotions and not by reasoning. This can result in unethical practices.
- For example, helping your friend to cheat in an exam (unethical). Also, remember the Ramayana story where Kaikeyi tried to put her son Bharata on the throne, ahead of Rama – the elder son of Dasharatha (unethical).

Ethics in Public Relationships

- Public relationships involve relations which are formal in nature. This can include co-workers, government officials, or strangers. There can be legal or social obligations as well.
- Ethics in public relations can come into play at:
 - Social Ethics – tolerance towards other sections, peace and harmony etc.
 - Political Ethics – constitutional ethics, national interest etc.
 - Organisational Ethics – impartiality, honesty, hard work, efficiency, corporate governance etc.
 - International Ethics – ethics in diplomacy, respecting international treaties etc.



HISTORY AND CULTURE

Mauryan Art And Architecture

Topics Covered

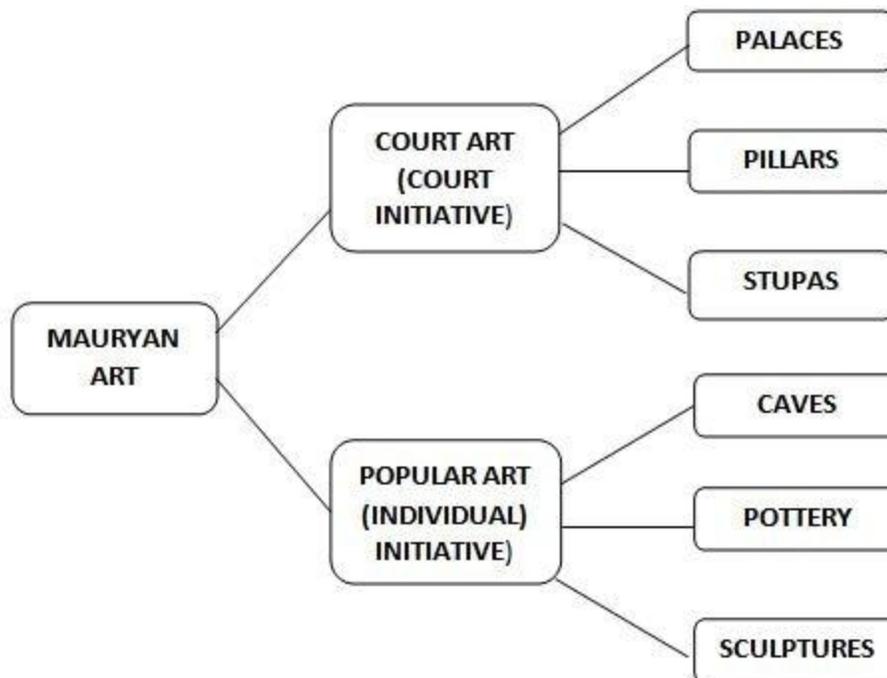
- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Mauryan Art And Architecture
- ✓ Court Art (Court Initiative- Palace, Pillars, Stupas)
- ✓ Similarities and differences with Persian (Achaemenian) Pillars
- ✓ Pillar Edicts and Inscriptions (minor and major)
- ✓ Stupas, Chaityas And Viharas
- ✓ Depiction Of The Buddha
- ✓ Popular Art (Individual Initiative- Caves, Pottery, Sculptures)
- ✓ Post Mauryan Art And Architecture
- ✓ Significance

Introduction

- Religions of the Shramana tradition, i.e., Jainism and Buddhism emerged around the 6th century BCE.
- The Mauryas had established themselves as a great power in the 4th century BCE and by the 3rd century, they had large parts of India under their control.
- At this time there were many modes of religious practices including the worship of Yakshas and mother-goddesses. Nevertheless, Buddhism became the most popular.
- After the Harappan civilization, monumental stone sculpture and architecture appears only in the Mauryan period.
- There were pillars, sculptures, rock-cut architecture, buildings like stupas, viharas and chaityas that served many purposes. They are exquisite in aesthetic quality and brilliant in their design and execution.

Mauryan Art and Architecture

Mauryan architecture can be divided into Court Art and Popular Art.





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Mauryan Court Art

- This implies architectural works (in the form of pillars, stupas and palaces) commissioned by Mauryan rulers for political as well as religious reasons.

Palaces

- Greek historian, Megasthenes, described the palaces of the Mauryan empire as one of the greatest creations of mankind and Chinese traveler Fa Hien called Mauryan palaces as god gifted monuments.
- **Persian Influence:** The palace of Chandragupta Maurya was inspired by the Achaemenid palaces at Persepolis in Iran.
- **Material Used:** Wood was the principal building material used during the Mauryan Empire.
- **Examples:** The Mauryan capital at Pataliputra, Ashoka's palace at Kumrahar, Chandragupta Maurya's palace.

Pillars

- Ashoka pillars, (usually made of chunar sandstone), as a symbol of the state, assumed a great significance in the entire Mauryan Empire.
- **Objective:** The main objective was to disseminate the Buddhist ideology and court orders in the entire Mauryan empire.
- **Language:** While most Ashoka pillar edicts were in Pali and Prakrit language, few were written in Greek or Aramaic language also.
- **Architecture:** Mauryan pillars mainly comprise of four parts:
 - Shaft: A long shaft formed the base and was made up of a single piece of stone or monolith.
 - Capital: On top of shaft lay the capital, which was either lotus-shaped or bell-shaped.
 - Abacus: Above the capital, there was a circular or rectangular base known as the abacus.
 - Capital Figure: All the capital figures (usually animals like a bull, lion, elephant, etc) are vigorous and carved standing on a square or circular abacus.

Similarities with Persian (Achaemenian) Pillars

- **Polished Stones and Motifs:** Both Maurya and Achaemenian pillars, used polished stones and have certain common sculpture motifs such as the lotus.
- **Third Person:** Inscriptions of both empires begin in the third person and then move to the first person.
- **Proclamations:** Maurya's idea of inscribing proclamations (related to Buddhist teachings and court orders) on pillars has its origin in Persian pillars.

Differences with Persian (Achaemenian) Pillars

- **The Shape and Ornamentation:** The shape of Mauryan lotus is different from the Persian pillar.
- **The Capital Figure:** It was absent in Mauryan pillars of the Kumrahar hall whereas pillars at Persepolis have the elaborate capital figures.
- **Pillar Surface:** Most of the Persian pillars have a fluted/ ridged surface while the Mauryan pillars have a smooth surface.
- **Shaft:** Unlike Mauryan shafts which are built of monolith (single piece of stone), Persian/Achaemenian shafts were built of separate segments of stones (aggregated one above the other).
- **Architectural Scheme:** The Achaemenid pillars were generally part of some larger architectural scheme, and bit complex and complicated, while the Ashokan pillars were simple and independent freestanding monuments.

Pillar Edicts and Inscriptions

Ashoka's 7 pillar edicts: These were found at Topra (Delhi), Meerut, Kausambhi, Rampurva, Champaran, Mehrauli:

- Pillar Edict I: Ashoka's principle of protection to people.
- Pillar Edict II: Defines Dhamma as the minimum of sins, many virtues, compassion, liberality, truthfulness, and purity.
- Pillar Edict III: Abolishes sins of harshness, cruelty, anger, pride, etc.
- Pillar Edict IV: Deals with duties of Rajukas.
- Pillar Edict V: List of animals and birds which should not be killed on some days and another list of animals which have not to be killed at all.



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- Pillar Edict VI: Dhamma policy
- Pillar Edict VII: Works done by Asoka for Dhamma policy.

Minor Pillar Inscriptions

- Rummindei Pillar Inscription: Asoka's visit to Lumbini & exemption of Lumbini from tax.
- Nigalisagar Pillar Inscription, Nepal: It mentions that Asoka increased the height of stupa of Buddha Konakamana to its double size.

Major Pillar Inscriptions

- Sarnath Lion Capital: Near Varanasi was built by Ashoka in commemoration of Dhammachakrapravartana or the first sermon of Buddha.
- Vaishali Pillar, Bihar, single lion, with no inscription.
- Sankissa Pillar, Uttar Pradesh
- Lauriya-Nandangarth, Champaran, Bihar.
- Lauriya-Araraj, Champaran, Bihar
- Allahabad pillar, Uttar Pradesh.

Stupas, Chaityas And Viharas

- Stupas and viharas were constructed as part of the Buddhist and Jaina monastic tradition but most of the constructions belong to Buddhism.
- Some Brahmanical gods were also represented in the sculptures here.
- Stupas were constructed over the relics of the Buddha at Rajagriha, Kapilavastu, Vaishali, Ramagrama, Allakappa, Pava, Vethadipa, Pippalvina and Kushinagar.
- Stupas consist of a cylindrical drum with a circular anda and a harmika and a chhatra on the top. Sometimes there were circumambulatory pathways and gateways. In many cases, additions were added in later centuries.
 - **Anda:** hemispherical mound symbolic of the mound of dirt used to cover Buddha's remains (in many stupas actual relics were used).
 - **Harmika:** square railing on top of the mound.
 - **Chhatra:** central pillar supporting a triple umbrella form.
- **Stupa at Bairat**, Rajasthan – 3rd century BCE; grand stupa with a circular mound and a circumambulatory path.
- Many stupas were built and not all of them with royal patronage. Patrons included lay devotees, gahapatis, guilds and kings.
- Not many mention the names of the artisans. But artisans' categories like stone carvers, goldsmiths, stone-polishers, carpenters, etc. are mentioned.
- **Stupa at Sanchi** – most famous and one of the earliest examples.
 - Chaityas were basically prayer halls and most of them were with stupas. Generally, the hall was rectangular and it had a semi-circular rear end. They had horse-shoe shaped windows. They also had pillars separating the hall from the two aisles.
 - Viharas were the residences of the monks.
 - Both chaityas and viharas were made out of wood, and later were also stone-cut.

Depiction of the Buddha

- In the early periods, Buddha is represented through symbols like footprints, lotus thrones, chakras, stupas, etc.
- Later on, stories were portrayed on the railings and torans of the stupas. These were mainly the Jataka tales.
- The chief events from Buddha's life which are narrated in the arts are birth, renunciation, enlightenment, first sermon (dhammachakrapravartana) and mahaparinirvana (death).
- The Jataka stories that find frequent depiction are Chhadanta Jataka, Sibi Jataka, Ruru Jataka, Vessantara Jataka, Vidur Jataka and Shama Jataka.

Mauryan Popular Art

- Apart from the court art or royal patronage, cave-architecture, sculpture, and pottery took the expressions of art by individual effort.



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- **Cave Architecture:** During the Mauryan period, caves were generally used as viharas, i.e. living quarters, by the Jain and Buddhist monks.
- **Key Features:** The caves during the Mauryan period were marked by a highly polished finish of the interior walls and decorative gateways.
- **Example:** The seven caves (Satgarva) in the Makhdumpur region of Jehanabad district, Bihar, were created by Mauryan emperor Ashoka for the Ajivika Sect:
- Barabar Caves (4 caves): Karna Chaupar, Sudama Cave, Lamarshi (Lomas Rishi) Cave, Vishwamitra (Vishva Zopri) Cave
- Nagarajunga Caves (3 caves): In Bihar were formed during the time of Dasharath, grandson of Ashoka, Gopi Cave, Bahayak Cave and Vedantika Cave.

Sculptures

- Two of the most famous sculptures of the Mauryan period are those of Yaksha and Yakshi.
- They were objects of worship related to all three religions – Jainism, Hinduism, and Buddhism.
- The earliest mention of yakshi can be found in Silappadikaram, a Tamil text.
- The torso of the nude male figure found at Lohanipur at Patna.
- Didargunj Yakshi was found at Didargunj village at Patna.

Pottery

- Pottery of the Mauryan period is generally referred to as Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW).
- Mauryan pottery was characterized by black paint and highly lustrous finish and was generally used as luxury items.
- Kosambi and Patliputra were the centers of NBPW pottery.

Post Mauryan Art and Architecture

- With the decline of the Mauryan empire several small dynasties rose to power. Among them, Shungas, Kanvas, Kushanas and Shakas in the north and Satvahanas, Ikshavakus, Abhiras, and Vakatakas in Southern and Western India gained prominence.
- The architecture in the form of rock-cut caves and stupas continued, with each dynasty introducing some unique features of their own.
- Similarly, different schools of sculpture emerged and the art of sculpture reached its climax in the post-Mauryan period.

Rock-cut Caves

- The construction of rock caves continued as in the Mauryan period. However, this period saw the development of two types of rock caves – Chaitya and Viharas.
 - Chaitya was a rectangular prayer hall with a stupa placed in the center, for the purpose of prayer and
 - Viharas were used as the residences of the monks.
- **Examples**
 - Udayagiri and Khandagiri Caves in Bhubaneswar, Odisha were patronized by the Kalinga king Kharavela and are also known for the Hathigumpha inscription (in Brahmi script).
 - Ranigumpha cave in Udayagiri is double-storied and has some beautiful sculptures.
- **Stupas:** Post Mauryan period stupas became larger and more decorative and wood and brickwork were replaced by stone.
- **Torans:** In the post-Mauryan period, the Shunga dynasty introduced the idea of torans (Torans reflect the Hellenistic influence) which were beautifully decorated gateways to the stupas.
- Examples: **Bharhut stupa in Madhya Pradesh.**
- **Sculpture:** Post Mauryan empire three prominent schools of the sculpture came into prominence in three different regions of India namely Gandhara, Mathura, and Amravati schools.

Significance

- Development of Art and Architecture: Mauryas made a remarkable contribution to art and architecture, and introduced stone masonry on a wide scale.
- Polished Stone Pillar: High technical skill was achieved by Maurya artisans in polishing the stone pillars, which are as shining as the Northern Black Polished Ware.



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- The stone statue of Yakshini in the form of a beautiful woman found in Didarganj (Patna) is noted for its Maurya polish.
- Pillars and Sculptor Development: Each pillar is made of a single piece of buff-colored sandstone. Only their capitals, which are beautiful pieces of sculpture in the form of lions or bulls, are joined to the pillars on the top.
- The erection of the polished pillars throughout India shows the spread of the technical knowledge involved in the art of polishing them
- Cave Architecture: The Maurya artisans also started the practice of carving out caves from rocks for monks to live in. Later, this form of cave architecture spread to western and southern India.
- Development of Terracotta Art: In the central phase of the Northern Black Polished Ware around 300 BC, the central Gangetic plains became the center of terracotta art. In Maurya times, terracottas were produced on a large scale. They generally represented animals (elephants) and women (mother goddesses).

French Revolution

Topics Covered

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Social Conditions In The 18th-Century France
- ✓ First And Second Estate
- ✓ Third Estate
- ✓ Outbreak Of The Revolution
- ✓ Causes Of The French Revolution
- ✓ Work Of The National Assembly (1789 – 1791)
- ✓ The Split Of National Assembly
- ✓ End Of Revolution
- ✓ Results Of The Revolution
- ✓ Conclusion

Introduction

- The French Revolution marked a turning point in the history of humankind as it put an end to the medieval monarchical absolutism, feudal laws and social inequality.
- It introduced for the first time the idea of republicanism based on “Liberty, Equality and Fraternity”, which influenced the entire continent of Europe and also the world.

Social Conditions in the 18th-century France

- To understand how and why the French Revolution occurred, we have to understand French society of that time. We have to realize also that conditions in France were no worse than the conditions that existed in other parts of Europe.
- Autocratic, extravagant rulers, privileged nobles and clergy, landless peasants, jobless workers, unequal taxation—the list of hardships endured by the common people is a very long one.
- France was a strong and powerful state in the 18th century. She had seized vast territories in North America, islands in the West Indies. However, despite its outward strength, the French monarchy was facing a crisis which was to lead to its destruction.

First and Second Estate

- French society was divided into classes, or estates. There were two privileged classes

Privileged class	Also known as	Population
Clergy	First estate	1.3 lakh clerics



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Nobility	Second estate	80 thousand families
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- People in these two classes were exempted from almost all taxes!
- They controlled most of the administrative posts and all the high-ranking posts in the army.
- In a population of 25,000,000 people, these two classes together owned about 40 per cent of the total land of France. Their incomes came primarily from their, large land-holdings.
- A minority of these also depended on pensions and gifts from the king. They considered it beneath their dignity to trade or to be engaged in manufacture or to do any work.
- The life of the nobility was everywhere characterized by extravagance and luxury. There were, of course, poorer sections in these two top estates. They were discontented and blamed the richer members of their class for their misery.

Third Estate

- The rest of the people of France were called the Third Estate.
- They were the common people like peasants, middle class people, artisans, city workers etc, and numbered about 95 per cent of the total population.
- People of the Third Estate were the unprivileged people.

Outbreak of the Revolution

- In 1789, Louis XVI's need for money compelled him to agree to a meeting of the States General— the old feudal assembly. Louis wanted to obtain its consent for new loans and taxes. All three Estates were represented in it but each one held a separate meeting.
- On 17 June 1789, members of the Third Estate, claiming to represent 96 per cent of the nation's population, declared themselves the National Assembly.
- On 20 June, they found their meeting-hall occupied by royal guards but, determined to meet, they moved to the nearby royal tennis court to work out a constitution.
- Louis then made preparations to break up the Assembly. Troops were called: rumours spread that leading members of the Assembly would soon be arrested. This enraged the people, who began to gather in their thousands.
- They were soon joined by the guards. They surrounded the Bastille, a state prison,
- On 14 July. After a four-hour siege, they broke open the doors, freeing all the prisoners. The fall of the Bastille symbolized the fall of autocracy. July 14 is celebrated every year as a national holiday in France.

Causes of the French Revolution

- As the 18th century drew to a close, France's costly involvement in the American Revolution, and extravagant spending by King Louis XVI and his predecessor, had left the country on the brink of bankruptcy.
- Not only were the royal coffers depleted, but two decades of poor harvests, drought, cattle disease and skyrocketing bread prices had kindled unrest among peasants and the urban poor. Many expressed their desperation and resentment toward a regime that imposed heavy taxes – yet failed to provide any relief – by rioting, looting and striking.
- In the fall of 1786, Louis XVI's controller general, Charles Alexandre de Calonne, proposed a financial reform package that included a universal land tax from which the privileged classes would no longer be exempt.
- To garner support for these measures and forestall a growing aristocratic revolt, the king summoned the Estates-General (les états généraux) – an assembly representing France's clergy, nobility and middle class – for the first time since 1614.
- The meeting was scheduled for May 5, 1789; in the meantime, delegates of the three estates from each locality would compile lists of grievances (cahiers de doléances) to present to the king.

Work of the National Assembly (1789 – 1791)



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- The National Assembly styled itself the Constituent Assembly. It drew up the Declaration of the Rights of Man. The new constitution drafted by the Constituent Assembly provided for a limited monarchy to France.
- The titles of the nobles were abolished and Judiciary was remodelled. The method of torture was abolished. New central and local courts were established. Judges were to be elected. Drastic action was also taken against the church. Absolute religious toleration was proclaimed. The collection of tithes by the church was abolished. Then, measures were taken for the nationalization of church properties. After drafting the new constitution, the National Assembly dissolved itself in 1791.

The Split of National Assembly

- Despite the new government, old issues such as food shortages and government debt remained. Angry cries for more liberty, more equality, and more bread soon caused the Revolution's leaders to turn against one another. The Legislative Assembly split into three general groups, each of which sat in a different part of the meeting hall. These were the Radicals, Moderates and Conservatives.
- Radicals
 - They sat on the left side of the hall
 - They were called left-wing and said to be on the left
 - They opposed the king and the idea of a monarchy
 - They wanted sweeping changes in government and proposed that common people have full power in a republic
- Moderates
 - They sat in the center of the hall and were called centrists
 - They wanted some changes in government, but not as many as the radicals
- Conservatives
 - They sat on the right side of the hall
 - They were called rightwing and said to be on the right
 - They upheld the idea of a limited monarchy
 - They wanted few changes in government
- Apart from the above three groups, there were two main more extreme groups viz. Émigrés and the sans-culottes.
- The Émigrés comprised the nobles and others who had fled France during the peasant uprisings. They wanted to undo the Revolution and restore the Old Regime. They can be called the Extreme Right group.
- The sans-culottes "those without knee breeches" made the most Radical group of all. This group typically comprised the urban labourers, wage-earners and small shopkeepers. Though ill-clad and ill-equipped, they had made up the bulk of the Revolutionary army during the early years of the French Revolutionary Wars. The Upper classes of France wore fancy knee-length pants, but the sans-culottes wore regular trousers. They wanted a greater voice in government, lower food prices, and an end to food shortages. Although they did not have a role in the assembly, they soon discovered other ways to exert their power as a group, especially by influencing one of the political clubs that developed later.

End of Revolution

- With the fall of Robespierre the Reign of Terror gradually came to an end. The Revolutionary Tribunal was suspended and the functions of Committee of Public Safety were restricted. The Jacobian Club was closed.
- The National Convention at last took up its long neglected task of framing of a constitution for the French Republic. The executive was entrusted to a Directory, consisting of five members. The legislative power was entrusted to two houses called the Council of Five Hundred and the Council of the Ancients.
- Napoleon Bonaparte was then at Paris and he was entrusted with the task of defending the Convention against the Parisian mob. He dispersed the mob and saved the Convention and began his brilliant career.
- On October 26, 1795 the convention declared itself dissolved and the Directory took charge of the French government.

Results of the Revolution

- The French Revolution of 1789 inaugurated a new era in the history of the mankind. The ideas of "liberty, equality and fraternity" spread to other parts of the world. The Bourbon monarchy was abolished.



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- The Revolution rejected tyranny, divine right, conservatism, and feudal vestiges associated with Bourbon rule in France.
- At the same time it failed to establish a permanent Republic in France. The French Revolution, after a violent turn led to the emergence of a great dictator, Napoleon Bonaparte.

Conclusion

- Although Napoleon was a product of the French Revolution and maintained the image as a “son of the Revolution”, but idealism always fell to pragmatism as Napoleon’s main purpose was creating a strong unified France which gradually made him a despotic ruler.

Capitalist Class And National Movement

Topics Covered

- ✓ Relevancy- G.S. Paper 1
- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Growth Of The Indian Capitalists
- ✓ Participation In The Movement
- ✓ British Policy Affecting Iron And Steel Plants In India

Introduction

- Capitalist were of the following categories one that remained neutral or pro British, one that gave financial support to the congress, one that came out in active support of the movement occasionally and the last group that completely identified with the movement and participated in the struggle and went to jail too.

Growth of the Indian Capitalists

- The growth of Indian capital class was different and not seen in other colonial countries. The Indian capitalist grew as independent from foreign capitalist and not as their junior partners or friends. The capitalist weren’t tied up with pro imperial interests but a large section of them argued for comprehensive reforms, cooperatives of production, finance and marketing.
- The capitalist grew during the period of 1914-1947 due to import substitution. The Indian enterprises had captured round 70% of the domestic market. This growth which was unusual for any industry in a colony wasn’t achieved by siding with colonialists but by wresting space from them. The capitalists took anti imperialism stands but were careful not to choose a path that would threaten capitalism itself.
- ICCI was established by the capitalist class as a body for lobbying with the colonial government. FICCI was treated as a guardian of trade, commerce and industry performing in the economic sphere functions of the national government. In this process the capitalists clearly saw the negative effects of imperialism on the home country. FICCI wasn’t merely a body created as a trade union but was to be strong enough to intervene in the politics.

Participation in the movement

- The capitalists had their own ideas about how the anti imperial struggle should be waged. They were in favor of using constitutional reforms than civil disobedience. They feared that if the movement became too revolutionary it could threaten capitalism itself. Hence when the movement was getting out of hand they tried to bring it back to constitutional opposition.
- They also weren’t in favor of all out hostility to the government as it hampered day to day interests.
- They also joined the legislative forums but not because they were interested in being a part of the movement but because they wanted to prevent black elements from joining them. However they never accepted the government proposal blindly. They refused to cooperate with the government behind the backs of the congress.
- The attitude towards civil disobedience was different. Although they saw it’s utility in getting concessions for their class as well as the nation, but they weren’t interested in protracted mass civil disobedience. But they never supported the government’s repression.



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- They were crucial in mediating truce between congress and the government for withdrawing the struggle but they never did it if the movement would be weakened.
- The national struggle was never influenced in a decisive way by this class nor was it dependent on its support.
- The capitalist class became more involved in active politics due to its growing radicalization by the left and socialists. But at no point was it driven to the lap of imperialism by this. It refused support on public safety bill since it threatened nationalism even though the main aim was to stop communism.

British Policy Affecting Iron And Steel Plants In India:

- The traditional patrons of swords and armory makers were the native princes and traditional powers of India. After the British defeated them the demand for Indian steel was reduced.
- High tax by the British to access forests.
- Forest laws prevented Indian steel makers from accessing wood to get charcoal.
- Indian entrepreneurs setup large factories to compete with British and small scale Indian iron smelters didn't have those resources.
- Indian ironsmiths too preferred British imports as the tariff policy favored them over Indians and Indian steel became costlier.

Harappan Culture Town Planning

Topics Covered

- ✓ Introduction To Harappan Culture
- ✓ Settlements Of Harappans With Town Planning
- ✓ Architecture Of Indus Valley Civilization Features
- ✓ Drainage systems
- ✓ Great Granary
- ✓ Great Bath

Introduction To Harappan Culture

- The history of India begins with the birth of the Indus Valley Civilization (IVC), also known as Harappan Civilization.
- It flourished around 2,500 BC, in the western part of South Asia, in contemporary Pakistan and Western India.
- The Indus Valley was home to the largest of the four ancient urban civilizations of Egypt, Mesopotamia, India and China.
- In 1920s, the Archaeological Department of India carried out excavations in the Indus valley wherein the ruins of the two old cities, viz. Mohenjodaro and Harappa were unearthed.
- In 1924, John Marshall, Director-General of the ASI, announced the discovery of a new civilisation in the Indus valley to the world.

Settlements of Harappans with Town planning

- Harappa or Mohenjodaro in Pakistan
- Kalibangan, Lothal or Sarkotada in India

Architecture of Indus Valley Civilization features

- **Urban Cities:** Remarkable town planning, and excellent system of drainage and sanitation
- **Large cities divided into two parts:** The 'Citadel' mound built on the high podium of mud-brick to the west. The town to the east was the main hub of the residential area, which was also surrounded by a massive brick wall
- **Streets:** Fine drainage system, Well-arranged water supply system, The street lights system, Watch and ward arrangement during night to oust the law breakers, Particular places to throw thrash and waste material, Public wells in every street, Well in every house, Main streets varying for 9 feet to as wide as 30-34 feet and were divided into networks of narrow lanes with great skills of dividing the cities.



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- **Building Materials:** No stone built house in the Indus cities and the staircases of big buildings were solid; the roofs were flat and were made of wood. Material used: Burnt bricks Sun-dried bricks

Drainage System

- Advanced drainage and sanitation system.
- Each house had horizontal and vertical drains and the house drains were connected with road drains.
- There were underground drains for the streets and there drains were shielded by stone slabs. Bricks were used to make the soak pits.

Great Granary

- Great granary at Harappa measuring 169 fit x 135 fit.
- Attached to the granary were two roomed tenements with a common courtyard.

Great Bath

- The overall dimension of the Great Public Bath is 180 feet by 108 feet.
- The bathing pool measured about 39 feet by 23 feet with 8 feet depth.
- There is a device to fill and empty the water of the bathing pool and the bathing pools were encircled with galleries and rooms.
- The urban planning of the Harappan has become a landmark for the contemporary civilization and we can get a hint of the modern day swimming pools and storehouses from their concept of bathing pools and granaries.
- Overall the Harappa town planning was very scientific and clearly indicates that the Harappan were chiefly urban people.

Revolt Of 1857- First War Of Independence

Topics Covered

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Immediate Reason Of Revolt Of 1857
- ✓ Causes Of Revolt
- ✓ Beginning Of Revolt
- ✓ Centers Of Revolt And Leader
- ✓ Impact Of The Revolt
- ✓ Causes For The Failure Of The Revolt
- ✓ Significance Of The Revolt
- ✓ Consequences

Introduction

- The revolt of 1857 was the conscious beginning of the Independence struggle against the Britishers. There are various names for the revolt of 1857 – India's First War of Independence, Mutiny of Sepoy, etc.
- The revolt began on May 10, 1857, at Meerut as sepoy mutiny. It was initiated by sepoys in the Bengal Presidency against the British officers.
- This war of Independence marked the end of rule by the British East India company. Post this, India was directly ruled by the British government through representatives called as Governor-General.

Immediate Reason of Revolt of 1857

- The immediate factor was the introduction of the 'Enfield' rifle. The cartridge had to be bitten off before loading it into the gun.
- Muslims had a belief that the cartridge was greased with pig fat where Hindus believed the grease was made from cow fat.
- Thus the Hindu and Muslim soldiers were reluctant to use the 'Enfield' rifle. This was a flashpoint to enrage the soldiers against the Britishers.
- This was believed to be the immediate factor for the revolt of 1857.



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CAUSES OF REVOLT

- **Economic Causes**
 - Unpopular Revenue Settlement
 - The peasantry were never really to recover from the disabilities imposed by the new and a highly unpopular revenue settlement.
 - Impoverished by heavy taxation, the peasants resorted to loans from moneylenders/traders at usurious rates, the latter often evicting the former on non-payment of debt dues.
 - Misery to the artisans and handicrafts-men
 - British rule also meant misery to the artisans and handicrafts-men.
 - British policy discouraged Indian handicrafts and promoted British goods.
 - The highly skilled Indian craftsmen were forced to look for alternate sources of employment that hardly existed, as the destruction of Indian handicrafts was not accompanied by the development of modern industries.
 - Zamindars
 - Zamindars, the traditional landed aristocracy, often saw their land rights forfeited with frequent use of a quo warranto by the administration.
 - This resulted in a loss of status for them in the villages.
- **Political Causes**
 - The British expansion had unjust policies that led to the loss of power from the Nawabs and Zamindars residing at various places of India.
 - The introduction of unfair policies like the policy of Trade and Commerce, the policy of indirect subordination (subsidiary alliance), the policy of war and annexation, policy of direct subordination (doctrine of lapse), policy of misgovernance (in which Awadh was annexed) greatly hampered the interests of the rulers of the native states, and they one by one became victims of British expansionism.
 - Therefore, those rulers, who lost their states to the British, were naturally against the British and took sides against them during the revolt.
- **Military Factors**
 - The Indian soldiers went through a lot of torture by the British officials with respect to their salaries, pensions, promotions.
 - Indians were subjugated in the military while their European counterparts faced no such discrimination.
 - This arose discontent and was a major military factor that resulted in the revolt of 1857.
- **Socio-Religious Causes**
 - Racial overtones and a superiority complex.
 - The activities of christian missionaries who followed the british flag in India.
 - Reforms such as abolition of sati, support to widow-remarriage and women's education.
 - Government's decision to tax mosque and temple lands.
 - Government's legislative measures, such as the religious disabilities act, 1856, which modified hindu customs.
 - Mixing of bone dust in rttta (flour).
- **Vellore Mutiny**
 - The Vellore Mutiny took place even before the revolt of 1857(50 years before).
 - It erupted on 10th July 1806 in Vellore, present-day Tamil Nadu, and lasted only for a day, but it was brutal and it was the first major mutiny by the Indian sepoy in the East India Company.
- **Outside Influence**
 - Influence of outside events the revolt of 1857 coincided with certain outside events in which the British suffered serious losses—the first afghan war (1838-42), Punjab wars (1845-49), Crimean wars (1854-56), santhal rebellion (1855-57).
- **Discontent Among Sepoy**
 - The conditions of service in the company's army came into conflict with the religious beliefs.



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- Restrictions on wearing caste and sectarian marks. e.g. turban
- Forced to travels across the seas. (General Service Enlistment Act which decreed that all future recruits to the Bengal Army would have to give an undertaking to serve anywhere their services)
- Unhappy with emoluments. (Cause of dissatisfaction was the order that they would not be given the foreign service allowance (Matta) when serving in Sindh or in Punjab)
- Racial discrimination. (Also in matters of promotion and privileges)
- Newly introduced Enfield rifle's trigger point was made of beef and pig fat.

Beginning Of the Revolt

- The revolt began at Meerut, 58 km from Delhi, on May 10, 1857 and then, gathering force rapidly, soon embraced a vast area from the Punjab in the north and the Narmada in the south to Bihar in the east and Rajputana in the west.
- Before Meerut incident, the 19th Native Infantry at Berhampur, which refused to use the newly introduced Enfield rifle and broke out in mutiny in February 1857 was disbanded in March 1857.
- A young sepoy of the 34th Native Infantry, MangalPande, went a step further and fired at the sergeant major of his unit at Barrackpore.
- He was overpowered and executed on April 6 while his regiment was disbanded in May. The 7th Awadh Regiment which defied its officers on May 3 met with a similar fate. And then came the explosion at Meerut.

Centers Of Revolt And Leader

- Delhi – General Khan
- Kanpur – Nana Saheb
- Lucknow – Begum HazratMahal
- Bareilly – Khan Bahadur
- Bihar – Kunwar Singh
- Faizabad – Maulvi Ahmadullah
- Jhansi – Rani Laxmibai

Impact of the Revolt of 1857

- The revolt of 1857 shook the foundation of British East India Company and disclosed their inefficiency in handling the Indian administration.
- The major impact was the introduction of Government of India act which abolished the rule of British East India Company and marked the beginning of British raj that bestowed powers in the hands of the British government to rule India directly through representatives.

Causes for the failure of Revolt 1857

- It was estimated that not more than one fourth of the total area and not more than one tenth of the total population was affected. South India remained quiet and Punjab and Bengal were only marginally affected.
- Almost half the Indian soldiers not only did not Revolt but fought against their own countrymen. The revolt was poorly organized with no co-ordination or central leadership. Apart from some honourable exceptions like the Rani of Jhansi, Kunwar Singh and Maulvi Ahmadullah, the rebels were poorly served by their leaders. Most of them failed to realize the significance of the Revolt and simply did not do enough.
- The rebels represented diverse elements with differing elements with differing grievances (not common). Apart from a commonly shared hatred for alien rule, the rebels had no political perspective or a definite vision of the future.
- Modern educated Indians viewed this revolt as backward looking, and mistakenly hoped the British would usher in an era of modernisation.

Significance Of The Revolt

- The revolt of 1857 played an important role in bringing the Indian people together and imparting to them the consciousness of belonging to one country.
- During the entire revolt, there was complete cooperation between Hindus and Muslims at all levels—people, soldiers, leaders.
- Rebels and sepoys, both Hindu and Muslim, respected each other's sentiments.



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- Immediate banning of cow slaughter was ordered once the revolt was successful in a particular area.

Consequences

- It led to changes in the system of administration and the policy of the Government.
- The direct responsibility for the administration of the country was assumed by the British Crown and Company rule was abolished.
- The assumption of the Government of India by the sovereign of Great Britain was announced by Lord Canning at a durbar at Allahabad in the 'Queen's Proclamation' issued on November 1, 1858.
- The era of annexations and expansion ended and the British promised to respect the dignity and rights of the native princes.
- The Indian states were henceforth to recognise the paramountcy of the British Crown and were to be treated as parts of a single charge.
- The Army, which was at the forefront of the outbreak, was thoroughly reorganised and British military policy came to be dominated by the idea of "division and counterpoise".
- Racial hatred and suspicion between the Indians and the English was aggravated.

Gandhar , Mathura And Amravati School of Art

Topics Covered

- ✓ Schools of Art in Ancient India
- ✓ Gandhara School
- ✓ Characteristics Of Gandhara School Of Art
- ✓ Mathura School
- ✓ Characteristics Of Mathura School Of Art
- ✓ Amravati School
- ✓ Characteristics Of Amravati School Of Art
- ✓ Differences Between The School Of Art

Schools of Art in Ancient India

- During the start of Christian era (1st and 2nd centuries), the Buddhism expanded substantially and had stimulated a renewed artistic passion to illustrate the message of Buddha and this led to the development of three main schools of sculpture in India which had evolved their own styles and distinctions.
- These were named as the Gandhara, Mathura, and Amravati school of art, after the places of their prominence.

Gandhara School

- The Gandhara School of Art developed in the western frontiers of Punjab, near modern-day Peshawar and Afghanistan.
- The Gandhara School flourished in two stages in the period from 50 B.C. to 500 A.D.
- Many artists from West Asia had settled down in the north-west of India after the Greek invasions and during the period of the Kushanas further, they were deeply influenced by the Graeco-Roman art.
- The Kushana kings, especially Kanishka, motivated the Gandhara artists to carve the themes from Buddha's life and the jatakas thus a large number of the images of the Buddha and the Bodhisattvas were produced.
- Due to the application of Greek Techniques of art to the Buddhist subjects (beautiful images of the Buddha and Bodhisattvas) the Gandhara School of Art is also known as the Graeco-Buddhist School of Art.
- Almost all kinds of foreign influences like Greek, Roman, Persian, Saka and Kushan were assimilated in Gandhara style.
- Gandhara School came to be known as Greco-Indian School of Art.



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- Jalalabad, Begram, Hadda, Bamaran & Taxila were the main centres where art pieces of Gandhara School have been found and the Bamyana Buddha of Afghanistan considered as an example of the Gandhara School.

Characteristics Of Gandhara School Of Art

- The reliefs of the Gandhara Sculpture depict Buddha's birth, his renunciation and his preaching and the best of the sculptures were produced during the first and second centuries A.D.
- The drapery was thick with large and bold fold lines also the human body was cast in a realistic manner with minute attention being given to physical features like a moustache, muscles, and curly hair.
- Gandhara School images were carved with finer details (Curly hair, anatomical accuracy, spatial depth, and foreshortening) etc.
- Various Mudras of Buddha in Gandhara School of art are:
 - Abhaya Mudra - Don't fear
 - Bhumisparsha Mudra - Touching the earth
 - Dhyana mudra - Meditation
 - Dharmachakra Mudra - A preaching mudra

Mathura School

- Initially, in Gandhara style, a complex form of symbolism was present and Mathura style deviated from it by establishing the tradition of transforming Buddhist symbols into human form accordingly Buddha's first image can be traced to Kanishka's reign.
- The Mathura School flourished on the banks of the river Yamuna in the period between 1st and 3rd centuries B.C.
- In Mathura, an indigenous style of sculpture developed, and it mostly used red sandstone.
- Mathura School of art is famous for its assimilative character since the images of Vaishnava and Shaiva faiths along with Buddhist images are in prevalence in Mathura style.
- The sculptures of the Mathura School were influenced by the stories and imageries of all three religions of the time – Buddhism, Hinduism and Jainism.
- The images of Siva and Vishnu along with their consorts Parvathi and Lakshmi were also carved out in the Mathura school moreover the female figures of yakshinis and apsaras of the Mathura school were beautifully carved too. One thing to note that the images of Shiva and Vishnu were depicted by their ayudhas (weapons).
- The records of Jain Tirthankars are also found in Mathura Style.
- The Hindu Gods were represented using their ayayudhas.
- The Mathura style focuses on the internal beauty and facial sentiments rather than bodily gesture.
- Yaksha images found during the Mauryan period.

Characteristics of Mathura School of Art

- In Mathura style more, the focus was laid on the internal beauty and facial sentiments rather than bodily gesture.
- There is boldness in carving the large images as the first Mathura image creators never aimed to sculpt an anatomically correct human Buddha.
- Progression in Mathura School of Art
- Initially, in early stages the images of Buddha and Bodhisattva are fleshy, with little spirituality and more happiness (faces are round and smiling), garments clearly visible, close-fitting robes almost entirely devoid of folds.
- Later in 2nd, 3rd and 4th Century AD the extreme fleshiness kept on reducing progressively and images got sensual. Additionally, the halo around the head of Buddha was excessively decorated.

Amravati School

- In the southern parts of India, the Amravati School developed on the banks of Krishna River, under the patronage of the Satavahana rulers.
- Amravati sculptures have a sense of movement and energy with profound and quiet naturalism in human, animal and floral forms.
- Later, this style got transformed into Pallava and Chola architecture.



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- The sculptures of this school made excessive use of the Tribhanga posture.

Characteristics of Amravati School of Art

- The material used in Amravati stupas is a distinctive white marble and Amravati sculptures have a sense of movement and energy with profound and quiet naturalism in human, animal and floral forms.
- Prominent places where this style developed are Amravati, Nagarjunikonda, Goli, Ghantasala and Vengi.
- Symbolic representation of Buddha's life, the Buddha almost always being represented by a symbol, though in two or three places he is personified.
- Like the Sanchi Stupa, the Amravati Stupa also has pradakshina patha enclosed within a vedika on which many narrative stories from the life of Buddha and bodhisattva dominating such episodes relating to the Birth, the miracles, Enlightenment and the victory over Mara, Sundari, Nanda, Tushita heaven and Angulimala are depicted.
- Sculptural form in Amravati Art is characterised by intense emotions as the figures are slim, have a lot of movement, bodies are shown with three bents (i.e. tribhanga), and the sculptural anatomy is more complex than at Stupa of Sanchi.
- Both religious and secular images were present in this style.
- Later, this style got transformed into Pallava and Chola architecture.

Differences between the Schools of Art

School	Gandhara School	Mathura School	Amravati School
External influence	Heavy influence of Greek or Hellenistic sculpture, so it is known as Indo-Greek art.	It was developed indigenously.	It was developed indigenously.
Material used	Early Gandhara School used bluish-grey sandstone while the later period saw the use of mud and stucco.	The sculptures of Mathura School were made using spotted red sandstone.	The sculptures of Amravati School were made using white marbles.
Religious Influence	Mainly Buddhist imagery, influenced by the Greco-Roman pantheon.	Influence of all three religions of the time, i.e. Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.	Mainly Buddhist influence.
Patronage	Kushana rulers	Kushana rulers	Satavahana rulers.
Area of development	Developed in the North West Frontier, in the modern day area of Kandahar.	Developed in and around Mathura, Sonkh and Kankalitila. Kankalitila was famous for Jain sculptures.	Developed in the Krishna-Godavari lower valley, in and around Amravati, Nagarjunakonda, Goli, Ghantasala and Vengi.
Features of Buddha sculpture	Spiritual Buddha Sad Buddha Bearded Buddha Less ornamentation Great detailing Buddha in Yogi postures Greek factors like wavy hair, large forehead, long ears.	Delighted Buddha Less spiritual Shaven head and face Muscularity Energetic Graceful posture of Buddha Seated in Padmasana	Narrative art Symbolic representation of Buddha's life Lives of Buddha in both human and animal form.



Role Of Women In India's Independence Movement

Topics Covered

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Before 1857
- ✓ The First War of Independence (1857 Revolt)
- ✓ Early 19th Century
- ✓ Other Important Women Participants
- ✓ Conclusion

Introduction

- India needs to dearly hold sacred its independence.
- For generations the cloak of the British Rule that had grappled, sometimes with force, sometimes with injustice the very essence of freedom that is the basic right of every individual citizen, was thrown over after many attempts. And hence the Independence of this nation was won in ways and by its people in unprecedented ways.
- Men of honor had a significant role to play in the freedom struggle.
- However, surprisingly women too led from the front and emerged as game changers in the quest for independence.

Before 1857

- Women leaders made a significant mark of their valor and will as early as in the 18 century and set the stage for emphasizing that women were in no way willing to be relegated to the backdrop of the freedom struggle.
- **Maharani Velu Nachiyar** (1730 – 1796) bravely fought with the British army decades before the 1857 Revolt.
- She probably remains the only queen to have defeated the British army successfully.
- **Gauri Parvati Bai** who was queen of Travancore carried out reforms and emphasized on the need for education of girls thus in many ways helping women elevate from social and educational stigma.

The First War of Independence (1857 Revolt)

- However, the 1857 Revolt saw many stalwart women participants in the freedom struggle that have gone down as legends in the history of Indian Independence.
- **Rani Lakshmi Bai** dressed up as man and fought alongside her battalion bravely against the British army.
- **Begum Hazrat Mahal** refused to be bogged down by the Doctrine of Lapse and reclaimed Awadh from the British as well as reinstated her young son as king. However after the fall of Lucknow she had to flee to Nepal.
- **Rani Avantibai Lodhi** of Ramgarh, **Rani Tace Bai**, **Rani Jindan Kaur**, **Jhalkaribai** and **Uda Devi** are other historical women who fought with the British army during the revolt.
- Besides their strength and courage at battles with the British armies, notable Indian women also paved way for social change.
- **Savitri Bai Phule**, the first female teacher in a first women school also opened a school for the untouchables and worked tirelessly for women rights.
- Helping her was **Tarabai Shinde** known for her published work *Stri Purush Tulana* considered as one of the first modern Indian feminist perspectives.

Early 19th century

- The early 19th century saw the freedom struggle take full swing and women from across all castes and class took the baton of being equally responsible and dedicated to the national cause. Where men of stature, such as, Mahatma Gandhi, Nehru, Subhash Chandra Bose and Chandrasekhar Azad emerged as leaders in their own right, women stalwarts too matched them step to step.



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- In fact, undoubtedly women freedom fighters have made significant contributions to the independence movement and in many ways the coordinated synchronization between the two has been an important landmark in the gaining of Indian independence.
- **Sarojini Naidu** also fondly known as the Nightingale of India was a prolific writer and poet. She was president of the Indian National Congress and was an outstanding leader campaigning and leading from the front in the Civil Disobedience Movement and Salt Satyagraha.
- **Annie Besant** was elected the president of the Indian National Congress and launched the Home Rule Movement. A reformer, labor organizer and strike leader, Annie Besant was also actively involved in educational activities setting up schools and colleges.
- **Madam Cama or Bhikaji Cama** exiled in Europe was a social worker and a strong nationalist. She unfurled the flag of Indian Independence in Stuttgart Germany along with a powerful speech advocating the right to freedom.
- **Kamala Nehru** was in the forefront of the Non – Corporation Movement and organized women in picketing shops selling foreign liquor and cloth. However, when her husband Jawaharlal Nehru was arrested for delivering a speech deemed as ‘seditious’ by the British, she went in his place to deliver it.
- **Vijay Lakshmi Pandit** the first woman to become the president of the United Nations General Assembly was arrested multiple times for her involvement in the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- **Aruna Asaf Ali** played a pivotal role in the Quit India Movement unfurling the flag in Bombay to signify the start of the movement. She edited ‘Inquilab’ a monthly journal of the Indian National Congress and was awarded the highest civilian award the Bharat Ratna.
- **Kalpana Dutta** was influenced by the ideas of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and joined the Chittagong armory raids.
- **Kasturba Gandhi** worked with Mahatma Gandhi all through her life and was the leader of the Women’s Satyagraha. She was involved closely with her husband in almost all his movements.
- **Usha Mehta** who as a child participated in the ‘Simon Go Back’ movement, did little know that her true calling was her nationalist spirit and broadcasting for the Congress Radio during the Quit India Movement.

Other Important Women Participants

- The list can go on, as one woman after the other made her individual as well as a collective mark on the independence movement.
- **Sucheta Kriplani** founder of the All India Mahila Congress, **Raj Kumari Gupta** who supplied the revolvers in the Kakori operation, **Abadi Bano Begum** who motivated crowds in Lucknow from behind her burqa, **Lakshmi Sehgal** who headed the Rani Jhansi regiment under Subhash Chandra Bose, **Kamaladevi** who actively participated in the Non-Corporation Movement, Salt Satyagraha as well as was an eminent theatre personality and promoted native handicrafts and arts, **Kanaklata Barua** who was shot while leading a procession bearing the Indian National Flag, **Parbati Giri** who worked dedicatedly for the welfare of orphans, **Matangini Hazra** who was shot thrice but continued to march with the National Congress Flag chanting Vande Mataram and many more were women of grit, dedication and honor.
- However, as bright stars shone in the freedom struggle, there were also many nameless women who have in their own way contributed to the movement.
- The Swadeshi movement perhaps involved the most women who picketed foreign products. When men were arrested the women stepped up and fulfilled and finished their unfinished work.
- The numerous women who laid down their life at the Jallianwala Bagh, the umpteen women who silently wiped a tear in pride when the men of their family sacrificed their lives- Women as messengers, as supporters, as wives and mothers and as leaders were an integral part of the independence movement.

Conclusion

- Our nation needs to remember that our freedom struggle would not quite be the same without women.
- Alas, it is not just memory and names that history teaches us.
- It is the path forward, the respect earned and the sheer belief that women are as much capable of standing up for themselves, of demanding freedom and willing to pay any price for it.



Harrapan Culture

Topics Covered

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Characteristics Of Indus Valley Civilization
- ✓ Origin
- ✓ Phases Of Development
- ✓ Town Planning And Structures
- ✓ Agriculture
- ✓ Art And Crafts
- ✓ Technical Achievements
- ✓ Trade
- ✓ Political Organization
- ✓ Religion
- ✓ Harrapan Script
- ✓ Indus Valley Sites And Specialties
- ✓ Reasons For Decline Of Indus Valley Civilization (Theories Of Decline)

Introduction

- THE INDUS or the Harappan culture is older than the chalcolithic cultures which have been treated earlier, but it is far more developed than these cultures.
- It arose in the north-western part of the Indian subcontinent.
- It is called Harappan because this civilization was discovered first in 1921 at the modern site of Harappa situated in the province of West Punjab in Pakistan.
- It extended from Jammu in the north to the Naramada estuary in the south, and from the Makran coast of Baluchistan in the west to Meerut in the north-east.
- The area formed a triangle and accounted for about 1,299,600 square kilometers.
- Nearly 1500 Harappan sites are known so far in the subcontinent.
- Of these, the two most important cities were Harappa in **Punjab** and **Mohenjo-daro** (literally the mound of the dead) in Sindh, both forming parts of Pakistan.
- Situated at a distance of 483 kilometers they were linked together by the Indus.
- A third city lay at **Chandu daro** about 130 km south of Mohenjo-daro in Sindh, and a fourth at **Lothal** in Gujarat at the head of the Gulf of Cambay.
- A fifth city lay at **Kalibangan**, which means black bangles, in northern Rajasthan.
- A sixth called **Banawali** is situated in Hissar district in Haryana. It saw two cultural phases, pre- Harappan and Harappan, similar to that of Kalibangan.
- The Harappan culture mature phase are found in the coastal cities of Sutkagendor and Surkotada, each one of which is marked by a citadel.
- The later Harappan phase is found in **Rangpur** and **Rajdi** in the Kathiawar peninsula in Gujarat.
- In addition to these, **Dholavira** lying in the Kutch area of Gujarat shows Harappan fortification and all the three phases of the Harappan culture.
- These phases also appear in **Rakhigarhi** which is situated on the Ghaggar in Haryana and is much bigger than Dholavira.

Characteristics Of Indus Valley Civilization

- BC. 2700- BC.1900 ie for 800 years.
- On the valleys of river Indus.
- Also known as Harappan Civilization.
- Beginning of city life.
- Harappan Sites discovered by – Dayaram Sahni (1921) – Montgomery district, Punjab, Pakistan.



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- Mohanjodaro discovered by – R. D. Banerji – Larkana district, Sind, Pakistan.
- The city was divided into Citadel(west) and Lower Town(east).
- Red pottery painted with designs in black.
- Stone weights, seals, special beads, copper tools, long stone blades etc.
- Copper, bronze, silver, gold present.
- Artificially produced – Faience.
- Specialists for handicrafts.
- Import of raw materials.
- Plough was used.
- Bodies were buried in wooden coffins, but during the later stages ‘H symmetry culture’ evolved where bodies were buried in painted burial urns.
- Sugar cane not cultivated, horse, iron not used.

Origin

- Origin lies in various indigenous Pre-Harappan cultures.
- Indus Civilisation was culmination of a long series of cultural evolution.
- Emerged out of the farming communities of Sind and Baluchistan, Haryana Oujarat and Rajasthan.
- Continuous cultural evolution from 6000 BC onwards in North West India which finally culminated in the rise of Indus Civilisation.

Phases Of Development

- Began in Baluchistan & Sind are then extended into the plains.
- Archaeological excavation & research have revealed phases of cultural development bursting up in the emergence of a full-fledged civilization at Kalibangan, Banawali and Rakhigarhi.
- These phases are Pre-Harappan, Early Harappan, Mature Harappan and Late Harappan
- Extent of Harrappa:- From in North Manda (J & K) to 1600 k.m Daimabad (Maharashtra.) in East Alamgirpur (U.P.) to 1100 K.m Sutkagedor (Bluchistan). Total Area was 12,99,600 Sq. k.m.
- These phases of cultural evolution are represented by Mehargarh, Amri, Kalibangan and Lothal respectively.

Town Planning And Structures

- **Uniformity in structures:** A great uniformity in town planning, the fundamental lay-out of prominent urban settlements exhibits apparent similarities.
- **Based on ‘Grid Pattern’:** streets and lanes cutting across one another at right angles dividing the city into a number of rectangular blocks. Main streets ran from north to south and were as wide as 30 feet. Streets and lanes were not paved.
- **Entire City Complex Was Bifurcated Into Two Distinct Parts:** the ‘CITADEL’ a fortified area which housed important civic and religious public buildings including granaries and residences of the ruling class and the ‘LOWER TOWN’, somewhat bigger in area and invariably located east to the former, meant. for commoners. Evidence of fortification of the lower towns as well from a few urban centres like Surkotada and Kalibangan and evidence of division of the city into three parts instead of two from Dholavira.
- **Use Of Burnt Bricks:** Use of standardized burnt bricks on massive scale in almost all types of constructions (an extraordinary feature of the contemporary civilizations), circular stones were used at Dholavira.
- **Planned Drainage System:** Elaborate and planned underground drainage system. Houses were connected to the main drain equipped with manholes. Mostly made up of bricks with mud mortar. Use of gypsum and lime to make it watertight. Cesspits were there inside the houses to deposit solid waste. Bricks culverts meant for carrying rain and storm water have also been found. Bricks were made in ratio of 1 2 4.
Size of Bricks - 7 C.m in Thick,
 - 14 C.m Width
 - 28 C.m Long.

Agriculture

- The Indus people produced wheat, barley, rice, peas, etc.
- They produced two types of wheat and barley.
- A good quantity of barley has been discovered at Banawali.



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- In addition to this they produced sesame and mustard.
- As 1800 B.C., the people of Lothal used rice whose remains have been found.
- Food grains were stored in huge granaries in both Mohenjo-daro and Harappa and possibly in Kalibangan.
- Probably, cereals were received as taxes from peasants and stored in granaries for the payment of wages as well as for use during emergencies. This can be said on the analogy of Mesopotamian cities where wages were paid in barley.
- The Indus people were the earliest people to produce cotton. Because cotton was first produced in this are the Greeks called it sindon, which is derived from Sindh.

Art And Crafts

Seals

- No of seals discovered is approx. 2000
- Seals are the greatest artistic creation of the Harappan people — cutting & polishing craftsmanship is excellent.
- Composition- Made of steatite (Soft stone), Sometimes of Copper, Shell, Agate, Ivory, Faience, Terracotta.
- Size— 4 inch to 2Y2 inch.
- Colour — White appearance. Famous colour of seal was green.
- Purpose: Marked ownership of property. Used in applying to bales of merchandise. (Discovery of such seals beside the dockyard of Lothal).
- Shape — Square, Rectangular, Button, Cubical, Cylinder, Round
- Two main types:-
Square — carved animal & inscription, small boss at the back.
Rectangular— inscription only, hold on the back to take a cord.
- Most frequently depicted animal - Unicorn
- Displays symbols - Circles, Crosses, Dots, Swastiks, Leaves of the Pipal tree.
- No bird were depicted on Harappan seal.
- Other animals : Elephant, Tiger, Rhino, Antelope, Crocodile.
- 'Persian Gulf Seals' have been discovered from Lothal.
- Pashupati Seal has been found from Mohanjodaro. It depicts Siva seated on a stool flanked by an elephant, a tiger, a rhinoceros, a buffalo and two antelopes / goats. Marshall identified it with Proto — Siva.

Pottery

- Mainly two types Plain pottery and Red and Black Pottery with decoration, the majority being the former.
- Widespread use of potter's wheel made up of wood, use of firing technique, use of kiln.
- Variety of Pleasing Design — Horizontal strips, Check, Chess-Board Pattern, Intersecting Circles (Pattern exclusively found), Leaves & Petals, Natural Motif — Birds, Fish, Animals, Plants, Human Figure — Rare (A Man & A Child found from Harappa), Triangles.
- Pottery had plain bases. Few ring bases have been found.
- Mainly famous colour of pot was pink. General design was on the red base horizontally black line on pots.

Technical Achievements

- Water Harvesting System—Dholaveera
- English Bond method-Bonding system for bricks.
- Lost-Wax technique, used for making bronze images.
- Kiln Bricks — Evidence of Kiln has been found at Rakhigarhi
- Flemish Bond method-used for making staircases.
- For small measurement binary system and for big measurement decimal system were used in Harappa.

Trade

- Trade was important in the life of the Indus people.
- The Harappans carried on considerable trade in stone, metal, shell, etc, within the Indus culture zone. However, their cities did not possess the necessary raw material for the commodities they produced.



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- They did not use metal money. Most probably they carried on all exchanges through barter. In return for finished goods and possibly food grains, they procured metals from the neighboring area by boats and bullock-carts.
- They practiced navigation of the coast of the Arabian Sea. They knew the use of wheel, and carts with solid wheels were in use in Harappa.
- The Harappans had commercial links with one area of Rajasthan, and also with Afghanistan and Iran.
- They had set up a trading colony in northern Afghanistan which evidently facilitated trade with Central Asia. Their cities also carried commerce with those in the land of the Tigris and the Euphrates.
- Many Harappan seals have been discovered in Mesopotamia, and it seems that the Harappans imitated some cosmetics used by the urban people of Mesopotamia.
- The Mesopotamian records from about 2350 B.C. onwards refer to trade relations with Meluha, which was the ancient name given to the Indus region.
- The Mesopotamian texts speak of two intermediate trading stations called Dilmun and Makan, which lay between Mesopotamia and Meluha.
- Dilmun can probably be identified with Bahrain on the Persian Gulf.

Political Organization

- We have no clear idea about the political organization of the Harappans.
- But if we take into account the cultural homogeneity of the Indus civilization it can be said that this cultural homogeneity would not have been possible to achieve without a central authority.
- If the Harappan cultural zone is considered identical with the political zone, the subcontinent did not witness such a large political unit until the rise of the Maurya empire; the remarkable stability of this unit is demonstrated by its continuity for nearly 600 years.

Religion

- Pashupati Mahadev (Proto Siva)
- Mother goddess
- Nature/ Animal worship
- Unicorn, Dove, Peepal Tree, Fire
- Amulets
- Idol worship was practised (not a feature of Aryans)
- Did not construct temples.
- The similarity to Hindu religious practices. (Hinduism in its present form originated later)
- No Caste system.

Harappan Script

- The Harappans invented the art of writing like the people of ancient Mesopotamia.
- Although the earliest specimen of Harappan script was noticed in 1853 and the complete script discovered by 1923, it has not been deciphered so far.
- There are nearly 4,000 specimens of Harappan writing on stone seals and other objects.
- Unlike the Egyptians and Mesopotamians, the Harappans did not write long inscriptions.
- Most inscriptions were recorded on seals, and contain only a few words.
- Altogether we have about 250 to 400 pictographs, and in the form of a picture each letter stands for some sound, idea or object.
- The Harappan script is not alphabetical but mainly pictographic.

Indus Valley Sites And Specialties

- HARAPPA
 - Seals out of stones
 - Citadel outside on banks of river Ravi
- MOHENJODARO
 - Great Bath, Great Granary, Dancing Girl, Man with Beard, Cotton, Assembly hall
 - The term means "Mound of the dead"
 - On the bank of river Indus
 - Believed to have been destroyed by flood or invasion (Destruction was not gradual).



Brainyias (84594-00000)

- CHANHUDARO
 - Bank of Indus river. – discovered by Gopal Majumdar and Mackey (1931)
 - Pre-Harappan culture – Jhangar Culture and Jhukar Culture
 - Only cite without citadel.
- KALIBANGAN
 - At Rajasthan on the banks of river Ghaggar, discovered by A.Ghosh (1953)
 - Fire Altars
 - Bones of camel
 - Evidence of furrows
 - Horse remains (even though Indus valley people didn't use horses).
 - Known as third capital of the Indus Empire.
- LOTHAL
 - At Gujarat near Bhogava river, discovered by S.R. Rao (1957)
 - Fire Altars
 - Beside the tributary of Sabarmati
 - Storehouse
 - Dockyard and earliest port
 - double burial
 - Rice husk
 - House had front entrance (exception).
- ROPAR
 - Punjab, on the banks of river Sutlej. Discovered by Y.D Sharma (1955)
 - Dog buried with humans.
- BANAWALI
 - Haryana
 - On banks of lost river Saraswathi
 - Barley Cultivation.
- DHOLAVIRA
 - Biggest site in India, until the discovery of Rakhigarhi.
 - Located in Khadir Beyt, Rann of Kutch, Gujarat. Discovered by J.P Joshi/Rabindra Singh (1990)
 - 3 parts + large open area for ceremonies
 - Large letters of the Harappan script (signboards).

Reasons For Decline Of Indus Valley Civilization (Theories Of Decline)

- Though there are various theories, the exact reason is still unknown.
- As per a recent study by IIT Kharagpur and Archaeological Survey of India, a weaker monsoon might have been the cause of the decline of Indus Valley Civilization.
- Environmental changes, coupled with a loss of power of rulers (central administration) of Indus valley to sustain the city life might be the cause (Fariservis Theory).
- There might be a resource shortage to sustain the population, and then people moved towards south India.
- Another theory by Dr Gwen Robbins Schug states that inter-personal violence, infectious diseases and climate change had played a major role in the demise of the Indus Valley Civilization.
- Other theories:
 - Aryan Invasion: Motimer Wheeler
 - Tectonic Movements/ Flood – Robert Raikes
 - Change of course of river Indus – Lambrick.