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Q19**Critically examine the challenges of demographic transition in contemporary India.**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · GS I · 15 marks · Indian Society and Diversity

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Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round.

National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5)

India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) declined to 2.0 at the national level, falling below the replacement level of 2.1.

Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

Highlights the persistent structural challenges regarding formal sector employment and skill levels among the Indian youth.

Economic Survey

Notes that India's working-age population will grow significantly while the proportion of the elderly will steadily rise over the next three decades.

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