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## UPSC Mains 2023 GS I

Year-wise PYQ pack · WRAP model answers with canonical links

Official UPSC stems in exam order. Each live answer sits on one WRAP URL; this PDF is the year pack, not a second copy of the article. Open the link under a question for the full page.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains/gs-1/2023/>

Q1 · 10 marks

### **Explain the role of geographical factors towards the development of Ancient India.**

GS I · 2023 · World's Physical Geography

#### **Revision summary**

Harappan cities grew on the Indus system and later states on the **Ganga plains** because alluvium and monsoon rain supported surplus.

The Himalaya, Ghats, and Deccan split cores of settlement and directed routes.

Passes in the north-west and ports on both seas linked India to Central Asia, Rome, and South-East Asia.

Copper, iron, and gold supplied tools and craft.

Geography set the stage; it did not replace human institutions.

#### **Introduction**

Ancient India grew where land, water, and climate made farming, craft, and travel possible. Geography did not write history by itself, but it set the places where cities, states, and trade could last.

#### **Body**

##### **Rivers and plains**

- The Indus and its tributaries supported the Harappan cities of Mohenjo-daro, Harappa, Dholavira, and Lothal on alluvium and floodplains.
- The Ganga-Yamuna doab later carried denser farming, iron-using villages, and mahajanapadas such as Magadha, Kosala, and Kuru.
- The Himalaya fed these rivers with snowmelt and monsoon rain, so irrigation and surplus grain were possible for long seasons.
- The Brahmaputra and the delta of Bengal opened wet-rice belts and river trade toward the Bay of Bengal.

##### **Relief, climate, and resources**

- The monsoon gave a reliable crop calendar of kharif and rabi, which is why settled agriculture could support towns and taxes.

- The Western Ghats, Eastern Ghats, and the **Deccan plateau** created separate cores such as the Godavari-Krishna valleys and the **Kaveri delta**.
- Copper of the Aravalli-Khetri belt, iron of the middle Ganga and Deccan, and gold of the Kolar region supplied tools, weapons, and ornaments.
- **Mountain passes** such as the Khyber and Bolan linked the north-west to Central Asia and brought horses, ideas, and invaders on the same roads.

## Coasts and frontiers

- The long Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal coasts allowed ports such as Bharuch, Muziris, Arikamedu, and Tamralipti to trade with West Asia, Rome, and South-East Asia.
- Forests of the Vindhya, Western Ghats, and north-east supplied timber, elephants, and tribal labour that states tried to tap.
- Deserts of the Thar and the high Himalaya limited dense settlement, so political centres clustered on the wetter plains.

## Way forward for the answer

- Treat geography as a set of opportunities and limits, not as a single cause of culture.
- Name specific rivers, passes, ports, and ores so the explanation stays concrete.

## Flow diagram

Himalaya monsoon -> Indus Ganga Brahmaputra  
Indus Ganga Brahmaputra -> Farms towns states  
Coasts passes -> Trade horses ideas  
Copper iron gold -> Farms towns states  
Trade horses ideas -> Farms towns states

## Conclusion

**River plains**, monsoon farming, minerals, passes, and coasts together shaped where Ancient India could farm, build states, and trade. Later history still has to add technology and politics, but those choices were made inside this map.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/explain-the-role-of-geographical-factors-towards-the-development-of-ancient-india/>

Q2 · 10 marks

## What was the difference between Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore in their approach towards education and nationalism?

GS I · 2023 · The Freedom Struggle

### Revision summary

**Gandhi's** Wardha scheme of 1937 put mother tongue, craft, and character at the centre of schooling.

**Tagore's** Santiniketan and Visva-Bharati put nature, art, and world learning at the centre.

**Gandhi's** nationalism was mass satyagraha and village swaraj.

**Tagore's** nationalism was freedom without the cult of the nation.

Both opposed colonial rule; they split on industrial civilisation and on how open India should stay.

### Introduction

**Gandhi** and **Tagore** both rejected colonial schooling that produced clerks, and both wanted a free India. They differed on what a school should teach and on how far the nation should close itself against the world.

### Body

#### Education

- **Gandhi's** Nai Talim, stated at Wardha in 1937, made the mother tongue, a productive craft, and character the centre of the school.
- He wanted learning to serve the village, the spinning wheel, and swaraj as self-rule in daily work, not only in exams.
- **Tagore** founded Santiniketan and Visva-Bharati in 1921 as an open ashram of art, nature, and world literature rather than a craft mill.
- He criticised rote, fear, and the prison of the classroom, and he wanted the child to meet many cultures, not only the local trade.
- **Gandhi** feared that English and city colleges would cut the mass of Indians from their own life; **Tagore** feared that a narrow craft school would cut India from science and the world.

#### Nationalism

- **Gandhi's** nationalism was mass satyagraha, the constructive programme, khadi, and **Hind Swaraj (1909)**, which treated modern industrial civilisation as a moral problem.
- He accepted the nation as a field of duty and used Hindu-Muslim unity and village India as its social base.
- **Tagore** warned against the cult of the nation in lectures such as **Nationalism (1917)** and in his debate with **Gandhi** after Non-Cooperation.
- He opposed the burning of foreign cloth when it became hatred of the foreigner, and he wanted India to be a meeting place of civilisations.
- Both wanted freedom from British rule; **Gandhi** organised the nation as a moral army, while **Tagore** wanted freedom without making the nation an idol.

### How the two differences join

- A craft-centred school fitted **Gandhi's** village nation; a world university fitted **Tagore's** universal humanism.
- The difference is of emphasis, not of loyalty, because both criticised colonial power and both loved the Indian poor.

### Flow diagram

Gandhi -> Nai Talim craft village  
Gandhi -> Satyagraha khadi swaraj  
Tagore -> Santiniketan Visva-Bharati  
Tagore -> World humanism  
Satyagraha khadi swaraj -> Different nation idea  
World humanism -> Different nation idea

### Conclusion

**Gandhi** tied education to craft, village, and mass swaraj; **Tagore** tied it to art, freedom, and the world. Indian public life still needs both the constructive village programme and the warning against a closed nationalism.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/what-was-the-difference-between-mahatma-gandhi-and-rabindranath-tagore-in-their-approach-towards-education-and-nationalism/>

Q3 · 10 marks

## Bring out the socio-economic effects of the introduction of railways in different countries of the world.

GS I · 2023 · World's Physical Geography

### Revision summary

Britain used railways to move coal and factory goods and to urbanise the industrial north.

The United States used a transcontinental line to make a continental market and to settle the west.

Japan and Russia used state-backed trunk lines for catch-up and empire.

Colonial India and Africa often saw lines that moved export cargo and troops, with mixed social gains.

Everywhere, railways changed time, travel, and the idea of a national space.

### Introduction

Railways, from the 1830s onward, cut the cost of moving bulk goods and people over land. The social and economic effects were large, but they were not the same in Britain, the United States, India, Japan, and colonial Africa.

### Body

#### Industrial cores

- In Britain the Stockton and Darlington line (1825) and later the national grid moved coal and factory goods, which sped urban growth in places such as Manchester and Birmingham.
- Factory time, commuting, and a national market in food and labour followed the timetable, so class life in towns was remade around the station.
- In the United States the transcontinental railroad of 1869 tied the east to California, cheapened grain and cattle, and helped a continental home market.
- The same American lines displaced Native nations, spread settlers, and made land a commodity, so social cost sat beside economic gain.

#### Late industrialisers and colonies

- Meiji Japan used state-backed railways from the 1870s to move silk, coal, and soldiers, which supported industrial catch-up without a long private railway age.
- Tsarist Russia's Trans-Siberian Railway opened Siberia to grain, timber, and exile, and it tied a huge land empire to European markets.
- In India the first passenger line ran from Bombay to Thane in 1853; later the network moved cotton, wheat, jute, and troops for a colonial export economy.
- Indian railways also created a national market, a working class of workshop towns, and faster nationalist travel, even while freight rates favoured raw exports.
- In parts of Africa colonial lines ran from mine or plantation to port, which extracted minerals and cash crops without building a dense internal market.

#### Shared social effects

- Railways standardised time, spread print and pilgrims, and mixed strangers in third-class carriages, which changed how people imagined a country.

- They also carried epidemics, soldiers, and famine grain, so the social effect could be relief in one year and deeper commercial risk in the next.

### Way forward for comparison

- Always name who owned the line and what cargo paid for it, because a coal railway and a cotton-to-port railway do not produce the same society.

### Flow diagram

Railways -> Britain Japan industry  
Railways -> USA continental market  
Railways -> India Africa colonial cargo  
Britain Japan industry -> Towns time labour  
USA continental market -> Towns time labour  
India Africa colonial cargo -> Export mines plantations

### Conclusion

Railways built national markets and industrial towns in some countries and extractive corridors in others. The fair comparison is to weigh cheaper freight against whose land, labour, and cargo the line was built to serve.

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Q4 · 10 marks

## Discuss the consequences of climate change on the food security in tropical countries.

GS I · 2023 · Geophysical Phenomena

### Revision summary

Tropical staple crops already sit near heat and rainfall limits, so extra warming cuts yields.

Floods, droughts, and glacier-fed irrigation loss make supply unstable.

The poor lose access when local prices rise, even if global trade still moves grain.

Heat, pests, and disease reduce the nutrition that food can deliver.

Women, rainfed farmers, and small islands carry the first losses.

### Flow diagram

Climate change -> Yield loss heat flood drought

Climate change -> Fisheries pests spoilage

Yield loss heat flood drought -> Price shock

Fisheries pests spoilage -> Weaker nutrition

Price shock -> Household hunger

Weaker nutrition -> Household hunger

### Conclusion

- Expand heat-tolerant and short-duration varieties through public research such as IRRI and national systems like ICAR.
- Combine irrigation, crop insurance, and social grain stocks so access does not collapse when the monsoon fails.
- Protect mangroves, soils, and small fisheries because they are food systems, not only environmental extras.

In the tropics, climate change cuts harvests, raises prices, and spoils nutrition at the same time. Food security policy has to treat seeds, water, storage, and social protection as one climate task.

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Q5 · 10 marks

## Why is the world today confronted with a crisis of availability of and access to freshwater resources?

GS I · 2023 · Natural Resources and Industries

### Revision summary

Usable freshwater is a small and uneven share of global water.

Farms, falling groundwater, climate shifts, and pollution cut availability.

Poverty, tanker markets, and transboundary politics cut access.

Virtual water in trade moves scarcity from one region to another.

SDG 6 will fail unless drinking rights, irrigation reform, and clean rivers are treated as one task.

### Flow diagram

Uneven freshwater -> Overuse pollution climate  
Overuse pollution climate -> Less available water  
Inequality tanks conflict trade -> Unequal access  
Less available water -> Water crisis  
Unequal access -> Water crisis

### Conclusion

- Price irrigation and urban water so waste falls, while protecting a basic drinking quota for the poor.
- Recharge aquifers, reuse treated wastewater, and share basin data across borders.
- Treat sanitation and pollution control as part of freshwater policy, not as a later add-on.

Freshwater is in crisis because nature's supply is uneven and because farms, cities, and politics waste or lock what remains. Availability and access must be fixed together through conservation, fair pricing, and clean supply.

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Q6 · 10 marks

## How are the fjords formed? Why do they constitute some of the most picturesque areas of the world?

GS I · 2023 · World's Physical Geography

### Revision summary

Pleistocene valley glaciers cut deep U-shaped coastal troughs.

Overdeepening left a basin below later sea level and a shallower mouth.

Post-glacial sea-level rise drowned the troughs into fjords.

Hanging valleys and waterfalls feed the steep walls.

The picturesque quality is the contrast of still water, cliffs, ice, and tiny settlements.

### Introduction

Fjords are long, steep-sided sea inlets that occupy drowned glacial valleys. They look dramatic because ice once cut deep U-shaped troughs that the sea later flooded.

### Body

#### How fjords are formed

- During cold phases of the Pleistocene, thick valley glaciers flowed to the coast in high-latitude mountains such as Norway, Greenland, Alaska, Chile, and South Island, New Zealand.
- Ice plucked and abraded the valley floor and walls, turning a river V-shape into a deep U-shaped trough with a hanging tributary network.
- The glacier often overdeepened the trough so the rock basin sat below later sea level, with a shallower rock threshold or moraine near the mouth.
- When the ice melted, global sea level rose, and the sea drowned the trough to form a narrow inlet with very deep water inland of that threshold.
- Rivers and waterfalls now enter from hanging valleys, while the inner basin stays calm compared with the open ocean.

#### Why they look picturesque

- Steep rock walls rise almost from the water, so the eye sees a sharp contrast of cliff, forest or snow, and a still, branching channel.
- Waterfalls, hanging valleys, and narrow sky give a vertical landscape that ordinary coastal plains do not have.
- Clear water, reflections, and changing light on ice, rock, and village wooden houses make scenes that painters and travellers record.
- Relative isolation of farms and fishing hamlets on tiny benches of land adds human scale against huge walls.
- In polar and sub-polar belts the same inlets also show glaciers, icebergs, or the aurora, which adds movement and colour to the drowned trough.

#### Limits of the picture

- Not every drowned coast is a fjord; rias are drowned river valleys without the glacial overdeepening and U-profile.
- Tourism and cruise traffic can crowd the same views that isolation once protected.

## Flow diagram

Valley glacier -> U trough overdeepening trough overdeepening

U trough overdeepening -> Sea-level rise

Sea-level rise -> Fjord inlet

Hanging valleys waterfalls -> Fjord inlet

Fjord inlet -> Cliff water contrast

## Conclusion

Fjords are glacial troughs drowned by post-glacial seas, with deep inner basins and hanging valleys. Their picturesque power comes from that vertical contrast of water, wall, and ice, and it will last only if the landform is not treated as a mere backdrop for unplanned tourism.

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Q7 · 10 marks

## Why is the South-West monsoon called 'Purvaiya' (easterly) in Bhojpur Region? How has this directional seasonal wind system influenced the cultural ethos of the region?

GS I · 2023 · Geophysical Phenomena

### Revision summary

The Bay of Bengal monsoon current is deflected westward up the **Ganga plain**.

In Bhojpur that rain wind arrives from the east and is named Purvaiya.

The Arabian Sea south-westerly is not the local rain-bringer here.

Rice, flood, ghats, and Bhojpuri rain songs grew around this seasonal easterly.

Culture and monsoon meteorology are one story in this region.

### Introduction

In the Bhojpuri belt of western Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh, the rain-bearing monsoon often arrives as a moist wind from the east. People therefore call that current Purvaiya, even though the larger Indian monsoon is named south-west.

### Body

#### Why the monsoon is Purvaiya here

- The Arabian Sea branch of the south-west monsoon moves inland from the west and south-west, but the Bay of Bengal branch strikes the Eastern Himalaya and the Meghalaya-Bengal wall.
- After that strike, a large part of the Bay current is deflected up the **Ganga plain** as a rain-bearing easterly or south-easterly flow.
- Bhojpur, Buxar, Ara, Ballia, Ghazipur, and neighbouring districts sit where this deflected Bay current, not the dry westerly loo, brings the main kharif rain.
- Local speech therefore names the welcome wet wind Purvaiya, meaning the easterly, which is a ground name for a deflected south-west monsoon current.
- When the Purvaiya is late or weak, paddy and the flood pulse of the Ganga, Ghaghara, and Son fail together, so the name is a climate fact, not a poetic extra.

#### Influence on cultural ethos

- Wet-rice, sugarcane, and later wheat in a floodplain calendar shaped festivals, work songs, and the waiting for rain in Bhojpuri folk such as kajri and malhar.
- Boat culture, river ghats, and settlement on slightly higher mounds grew because the same easterly rain also means sheet flood and silt.
- Chhath and other river-facing rites in the wider region treat the sun and the river as part of a monsoon agrarian year, even when the exact date is post-monsoon.
- Language, birha, and migration songs record men leaving after harvest, which is a social answer to a densely peopled, flood-prone rice tract.
- Food, thatch, and courtyard life assume humidity and clay, so the ethos is of a wet plain, not of a rain-shadow plateau.

#### Way forward for the explanation

- Keep the meteorology (Bay deflection) and the culture (rice, flood, song, river rite) on the same wind, or the two parts of the question fall apart.

### Flow diagram

Bay of Bengal branch -> Eastern Himalaya Bengal wall  
Eastern Himalaya Bengal wall -> Easterly into Ganga plain  
Easterly into Ganga plain -> Purvaiya in Bhojpur  
Purvaiya in Bhojpur -> Rice flood song river rites

### Conclusion

The south-west monsoon is called Purvaiya in Bhojpur because the Bay branch reaches this plain as an easterly rain wind. That seasonal direction still shapes rice, flood, river rites, and Bhojpuri song, and climate planning here must treat the Purvaiya as both weather and culture.

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Q8 · 10 marks

## Do you think marriage as a sacrament in loosing its value in Modern India?

GS I · 2023 · Indian Society and Diversity

### Revision summary

Hindu custom treated marriage as a samskara; modern statutes treat it as a civil bond that can end in divorce.

Registration, later marriage, and some love and inter-caste unions weaken a purely sacred monopoly.

Most unions remain ritualised and endogamous, and divorce is still socially costly.

The fair view is loss of exclusive value, not disappearance.

Rights inside marriage matter more than declaring the sacrament dead.

### Flow diagram

Samskara ritual -> Modern Indian marriage

HMA 1955 SMA 1954 divorce -> Modern Indian marriage

Modern Indian marriage -> Sacrament loses monopoly

Modern Indian marriage -> Endogamy ritual still hold

### Conclusion

- Register every marriage, enforce the **Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006**, and the Protection of Women from **Domestic Violence Act, 2005**, without mocking ritual that couples still want.
- **Expand the Special Marriage Act** as a real option so sacrament and contract can coexist without coercion.

Sacramental marriage is losing exclusive authority because law, divorce, and choice now share the field. It still organises most Indian weddings through ritual and endogamy, so the task is equal rights inside marriage, not a forced funeral of ritual.

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Q9 · 10 marks

## Explain why suicide among young women is increasing in Indian Society.

GS I · 2023 · Women, Population and Urbanisation

### Revision summary

NCRB patterns point to young women and housewives as a large share of women who die by suicide.

Dowry, early marriage, and domestic violence close exit routes.

Education without safe work and voice creates a hope gap.

Mental-health stigma and thin district care leave distress untreated.

The response is law enforcement, confidential care, and economic independence, not only awareness weeks.

### Flow diagram

Patriarchy dowry violence -> Young women at risk  
Hope vs blocked work exams -> Young women at risk  
Stigma thin mental care -> Young women at risk  
Young women at risk -> Suicide toll

### Conclusion

- Enforce dowry and domestic-violence law, and make one-stop centres and women's helplines actually answer.
- Put school and college counsellors, and the Tele-MANAS and KIRAN mental-health lines, within reach of young women without a guardian's veto.
- Expand safe paid work and delayed marriage so adulthood is not only a transfer between two families.

Suicide among young women rises where patriarchy, dowry, violence, blocked work, and untreated distress meet. Law already names some of these harms; the way forward is enforcement, confidential care, and real economic options.

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Q10 · 10 marks

## Child cuddling is now being replaced by mobile phones. Discuss its impact on the socialization of children.

GS I · 2023 · Indian Society and Diversity

### Revision summary

Early socialisation needs holding, talk, and play with people.

Phones used as soothers cut those turns and can slow language and empathy.

Peer life then moves to games and short video, with bullying and sleep loss.

Distance calls and co-viewed stories can still help when an adult is present.

Policy and parents should mediate screens, not only ban them after the harm is done.

### Flow diagram

Cuddling talk play -> Attachment language empathy  
Phone as soother -> Fewer turns less play  
Fewer turns less play -> Weaker early socialisation  
Later peer apps -> Cyberbullying sleep rank  
Attachment language empathy -> Healthy peers  
Weaker early socialisation -> Cyberbullying sleep rank

### Conclusion

- Keep phones out of infant soothing, and use NEP 2020 ECCE, POSHAN, and anganwadi workers to coach parents on talk and play.
- Set family screen rules, sleep hours, and playground time so the peer group is not only online.
- Treat cheap data as a public fact, and teach schools to talk about cyber safety without shaming the child.

Replacing cuddling with phones weakens attachment, language, and face-to-face play, which are the base of socialisation. The way forward is adult-mediated screens, not a fantasy that childhood can go back to a pre-mobile village for everyone.

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Q11 · 15 marks

## What are the main features of Vedic society and religion? Do you think some of the features are still prevailing in Indian society?

GS I · 2023 · Indian Heritage and Culture

### Revision summary

Early Vedic society was pastoral and kin-based; later Vedic society was agrarian and more ranked by varna.

Religion moved from nature hymns and rita to priestly yajna and then Upanishadic enquiry.

Gotra, samskara, fire rites, cow reverence, and dharma talk still mark much Hindu social life.

Article 17, urban work, and bhakti mean birth-rank is no longer the whole of society.

The fair answer is yes, some features prevail, with clear constitutional limits.

### Flow diagram

Early Vedic kin cattle -> Later Vedic plough varna  
Later Vedic plough varna -> Yajna king priest  
Yajna king priest -> Upanishad karma  
Later Vedic plough varna -> Gotra samskara dharma  
Gotra samskara dharma -> Still in Indian kinship  
Constitution cities bhakti -> Limits on birth-rank

### Conclusion

- Teach Vedic history as change from pastoral hymn to agrarian rank, so living custom is not mistaken for an unchanged golden age.
- Use Article 15 and 17 against untouchability while leaving personal faith in rites that do not deny equality.

Vedic society and religion were kin, varna, yajna, and later Upanishadic thought on a monsoon agrarian map. Many kinship and ritual features still prevail, but law and social movements have broken the claim that birth must rule work and dignity.

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Q12 · 15 marks

## What were the major technological changes introduced during the Sultanate period? How did those technological changes influence the Indian society?

GS I · 2023 · Indian Society and Diversity

### Revision summary

The true arch, dome, and lime mortar remade Sultanate building from the Qutb complex onward.

Paper, the tanka, karkhanas, the spinning wheel, and the Persian wheel changed records, pay, yarn, and some irrigation.

Cavalry and iqta tied the new state to rural surplus.

Urban artisans, Persian clerks, and a mixed food and craft culture grew in qasbas.

The village plough and jati order were pressed, not replaced.

### Introduction

The **Delhi Sultanate**, from the thirteenth to the early sixteenth century, brought Persian-Islamic craft, war, and building methods into north Indian cities. Those techniques changed work, towns, and the look of power more than they replaced the village plough overnight.

### Body

#### Military and building technology

- The true arch, dome, vault, and lime mortar, seen from the Qutb complex to the Alai Darwaza (early fourteenth century), made large congregational mosques and tombs possible in stone and brick.
- Soldiers used the composite bow, heavy cavalry, and, by the later Sultanate, more gunpowder weapons, which shifted power toward states that could pay horsemen.
- Paper, already known in the Islamic world, spread in chanceries and madrasas, which thickened records, law, and Persian prose.

#### Production and everyday technique

- The spinning wheel (charkha) and a wider use of the Persian wheel (saqia) in parts of the north raised yarn output and well irrigation where they took hold.
- Sericulture, paper, and new urban crafts sat in karkhanas tied to the court, while the silver tanka of Iltutmish gave a stabler coin for long-distance pay.
- Canal repair and new cuts under rulers such as Firuz Shah Tughlaq around the Yamuna-Ghaghar belt showed state interest in irrigation, even if the village still used the older plough.
- Food and garden plants associated with Central Asian and Persian courts entered elite kitchens and some fields, which slowly changed taste in towns.

#### Influence on society

- New towns, markets, and qasbas grew around forts, mosques, and mints, so a larger urban artisan and service class lived by cash and court demand.

- Persian as the language of command created a clerical elite and a cultural mix in music, dress, and food that later Mughal culture would thicken.
- Building workshops gathered masons, calligraphers, and stone-cutters across religious lines, which made a shared craft world even when temples and mosques differed in form.
- Cavalry and iqta finance pressed the countryside for surplus, so peasants met the new state as tax more often than as new machines.
- Sufi hospices and madrasas used paper and urban rent, which spread Islam and literacy in towns without erasing caste in the village.

### Limits

- The Sultanate did not industrialise India; the heavy plough, monsoon rice, and jati crafts remained the social base.
- Gunpowder's full military revolution is clearer in the sixteenth century, so the Sultanate is a beginning, not the last word.

### Way forward for the answer

- Name arch, paper, wheel, tanka, and canal as techniques, then show town, tax, and culture as social effects, or the second half of the question stays vague.

### Flow diagram

Sultanate technique -> Arch dome paper  
Sultanate technique -> Charkha Persian wheel tanka  
Sultanate technique -> Cavalry canals  
Arch dome paper -> Towns karkhanas  
Charkha Persian wheel tanka -> Towns karkhanas  
Cavalry canals -> Tax on peasant  
Towns karkhanas -> Persian urban mix

### Conclusion

Sultanate technology was arch and dome, paper, textile wheels, coin, cavalry, and some canals. Society felt it as new towns, a Persian clerical world, and heavier cash demand on the peasant, while village rank changed only slowly.

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Q13 · 15 marks

## How did the colonial rule affect the tribals in India and what was the tribal response to the colonial oppression?

GS I · 2023 · Indian Society and Diversity

### Revision summary

Forest Acts and land revenue turned tribal commons into state and settler property.

Moneylenders, mines, and the **Criminal Tribes Act, 1871**, added debt and stigma.

Santhal hul, Birsa's ulgulan, and Manyam-Rampa were major armed answers.

Faith movements and later Adivasi organisations were political answers.

Fifth-**Sixth Schedules and the Forest Rights Act, 2006**, try to repair the same wound.

### Flow diagram

Colonial state -> Forest Acts revenue diku  
Colonial state -> Criminal Tribes Act  
Forest Acts revenue diku -> Santhal Munda Rampa  
Criminal Tribes Act -> Santhal Munda Rampa  
Santhal Munda Rampa -> Schedules FRA PESA

### Conclusion

- Record community forest rights, apply PESA, 1996, in scheduled areas, and make consent real before mines and reservoirs.
- Treat Criminal Tribes stigma as history to reverse through dignity, land, and schools, not through more policing.

Colonial rule hit tribals through forest law, revenue, settlers, and criminal branding. They answered with hul, ulgulan, hill war, and later constitutional politics, and the same land question still needs PESA and forest rights in practice.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/how-did-the-colonial-rule-affect-the-tribals-in-india-and-what-was-the-tribal-response-to-the-colonial-oppression/>

Q14 · 15 marks

## **Comment on the resource potentials of the long coastline of India and highlight the status of natural hazard preparedness in these areas.**

GS I · 2023 · Natural Resources and Industries

### **Revision summary**

India's coast and EEZ hold fish, ports, offshore energy, beach minerals, salt, and tourism.

Cyclones, the 2004 tsunami, surge, and erosion are the main natural hazards.

The **Disaster Management Act, 2005**, IMD, INCOIS, and cyclone shelters have lowered death counts.

CRZ rules and mangrove buffers are unevenly enforced.

Ports and fishers need the same map of hazard before the next surge.

### **Flow diagram**

Long coastline -> Fish ports oil minerals tourism  
Long coastline -> Cyclone tsunami surge erosion  
IMD INCOIS NDMA CRZ -> Better warning shelters  
Cyclone tsunami surge erosion -> Gap in last-mile and erosion  
Fish ports oil minerals tourism -> Blue economy  
Better warning shelters -> Blue economy

### **Conclusion**

- Treat mangroves and dunes as infrastructure, not as spare land for ports.
- Complete cyclone shelters, all-weather houses under coastal PMAY-U and state schemes, and boat-to-phone warning for small fishers.
- Align Sagarmala and coastal power plants with NDMA flood and surge maps before construction.

The long coast can feed fisheries, ports, minerals, and tourism if the EEZ is used with care. Preparedness has improved in cyclone warning and law since 2005, but erosion, surge, and weak local enforcement still leave fishers and slums exposed.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/comment-on-the-resource-potential-s-of-the-long-coastline-of-india-and-highlight-the-status-of-natural-hazard-preparedness-in-these-areas/>

Q15 · 15 marks

**Identify and discuss the factors responsible for diversity of natural vegetation in India. Assess the significance of wildlife sanctuaries in rain forest regions of India.**

GS I · 2023 · Indian Society and Diversity

**Revision summary**

Rainfall length, Himalayan height, soil, and relief create India's vegetation mosaic.

Human fire and farming further split climax types.

Rainforest in the Ghats, north-east, and islands is the wet, endemic end of that mosaic.

Sanctuaries under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, protect species, catchments, and carbon there.

They fail if they stay as fragments without corridors and forest rights.

**Flow diagram**

Monsoon altitude soil relief -> Evergreen to thorn mosaic  
Evergreen to thorn mosaic -> Western Ghats NE Andamans  
Western Ghats NE Andamans -> Rainforest sanctuaries  
Rainforest sanctuaries -> Endemics water carbon  
WPA 1972 FRA -> Rainforest sanctuaries

**Conclusion**

- Notify corridors, fund anti-poaching and fire lines, and co-manage with gram sabhas in rainforest catchments.
- **Keep Silent Valley-type lessons:** some evergreen tracts should stay closed to dam and cash-crop conversion.

Monsoon, altitude, soil, and human use explain India's vegetational diversity from evergreen to thorn. Sanctuaries in rainforest regions matter because they hold endemics, water, and carbon that cannot be stored in a dry teak belt, but they work only with corridors and local rights.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/identify-and-discuss-the-factors-responsible-for-diversity-of-natural-vegetation-in-india-assess-the-significance-of-wildlife-sanctuaries-in-rain-forest-s-regions-of-india/>

Q16 · 15 marks

## Why did human development fail to keep pace with economic development in India?

GS I · 2023 · World's Physical Geography

### Revision summary

Post-1991 growth raised GDP and cut some poverty without matching gains in health and learning.

Low public health spend and child stunting show the social gap.

Enrolment without learning and informal jobs limit capabilities.

Women's low paid work and regional caste gaps split the average.

GDP is not HDI; India grew richer faster than it grew healthier and better taught.

### Flow diagram

Post-1991 GDP services -> Income and some poverty fall

Thin health spend weak learning -> HDI lag

Jobless informal gender gap -> HDI lag

Regional caste gaps -> HDI lag

Income and some poverty fall -> Post-1991 GDP services

HDI lag -> Human development behind

### Conclusion

- Raise public health toward a round two-and-a-half to three percent of GDP and fund primary care, not only insurance bills.
- Tie school grants to actual learning, as NEP 2020 asks, and expand creches so women can work.
- Use multidimensional poverty measures, not only GDP, in state ranking so the gap stays visible.

Economic development outpaced human development because growth did not buy enough public health, learning, and women's work. The way forward is to treat those as core infrastructure of growth, not as welfare after the fact.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/why-did-human-development-fail-to-keep-pace-with-economic-development-in-india/>

Q17 · 15 marks

## From being net food importer in 1960s, India has emerged as a net food exporter to the world. Provide reasons.

GS I · 2023 · World's Physical Geography

### Revision summary

The mid-1960s droughts forced concessional wheat imports.

HYV wheat and rice, irrigation, and fertiliser created a grain surplus in north-west India and then beyond.

CACP, MSP, and FCI turned surplus into stocks that could be eaten or sold abroad.

Milk, horticulture, marine products, and meat widened the export basket after 1991.

Net exporter status is real for many years, with nutrition and groundwater as unfinished costs.

### Flow diagram

1960s drought PL-480 -> Green Revolution HYV  
Green Revolution HYV -> Irrigation fertiliser  
Irrigation fertiliser -> MSP FCI stocks  
MSP FCI stocks -> Net export rice sugar marine  
Operation Flood horticulture -> Net export rice sugar marine

### Conclusion

- Shift surplus toward pulses, oilseeds, and climate-resilient millets so export and nutrition are not only a rice-wheat story.
- Use the National Food Security Act, 2013, stocks for the poor first, then export the residual.

India moved from 1960s grain ships to net food export because HYV seed, water, MSP-FCI stocks, and later trade opened a surplus. The way forward is to keep that surplus without exhausting aquifers or ignoring protein and oilseed gaps.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/from-being-net-food-importer-in-1960s-india-has-emerged-as-a-net-food-exporter-to-the-world-provide-reasons/>

Q18 · 15 marks

## Does urbanization lead to more segregation and/or marginalization of the poor in Indian metropolises?

GS I · 2023 · Women, Population and Urbanisation

### Revision summary

High land prices and master plans push the poor into slums and edges.

Gated housing and caste mohallas harden spatial segregation.

Informal work and demolition without fair rehab marginalise the same people.

Some mixing and central schemes exist but do not yet reverse the pattern.

The honest answer is yes, urbanisation here has meant more segregation and marginalisation, unless housing near jobs is forced into the plan.

### Flow diagram

Metropolitan growth -> High land gated plans  
High land gated plans -> Slum peri-urban segregation  
Informal work demolition -> Marginalisation  
Slum peri-urban segregation -> Marginalisation  
PMAY-Metropolitan growth Street Vendors Act -> Partial inclusion

### Conclusion

- Expand in-situ slum upgrading and public rental housing near job corridors, not only distant resettlement.
- Give vendors and waste-pickers legal standing, and bind metro master plans to affordable housing quotas.
- Use the 74th Amendment so ward committees, not only development authorities, decide whose house is illegal.

In Indian metropolises, urbanisation has largely segregated the poor in slums and peri-urban belts and marginalised them in informal work and services. Mixing and housing schemes exist, but they will count only if housing near jobs is treated as infrastructure.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/does-urbanization-lead-to-more-segregation-and-or-marginalization-of-the-poor-in-indian-metropolises/>

Q19 · 15 marks

## Why is caste identity in India both fluid and static?

GS I · 2023 · Social Empowerment, Communalism and Secularism

### Revision summary

Sanskritization, migration, and quota politics make caste claims move.

Endogamy, atrocities, and caste associations keep rank sticky.

The office can be fluid while the wedding remains static.

Law bans untouchability; practice often does not.

Both words in the question are therefore right at the same time.

### Flow diagram

Sanskritization migration Mandal -> Fluid public caste

Endogamy atrocity associations -> Static private caste

Fluid public caste -> Same person two faces

Static private caste -> Same person two faces

### Conclusion

- Enforce atrocity law and end manual scavenging through the 2013 Act in practice.
- Use education and urban housing mix to widen the marriage circle, because that is where static caste is reproduced.
- Keep reservation as a tool against frozen disadvantage without treating every certificate as the whole of a person.

Caste is fluid in work, politics, and some ritual claim, and static in endogamy, stigma, and official lists. The double character will last until marriage and violence change as much as the job market already has.

Open WRAP page —

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/why-is-caste-identity-in-india-both-fluid-and-static/>

Q20 · 15 marks

## Discuss the impact of post-liberal economy on ethnic identity and communalism.

GS I · 2023 · Social Empowerment, Communalism and Secularism

### Revision summary

After 1991, markets, private jobs, and mass media grew together.

Ethnic claims for language, tribe, and new states continued inside that growth.

Communal mobilisation used television, rumour, and later social media.

Riots and polarising politics showed that GDP does not cancel religious conflict.

The market can mix people at work and still sell identity at home and at the vote.

### Flow diagram

1991 market media cities -> Middle class inequality  
Middle class inequality -> Ethnic statehood diaspora claims  
Middle class inequality -> Communal news riots vote  
Ethnic statehood diaspora claims -> Identity re-tooled  
Communal news riots vote -> Identity re-tooled

### Conclusion

- Enforce the rule of law after riots as strictly as after a tax default, or the market will treat communal peace as optional.
- Reduce inequality and informal insecurity so ethnic entrepreneurs find fewer angry customers.
- Keep public culture, textbooks, and platform rules from turning every economic rumour into a communal story.

The post-liberal economy enriched a consumer India and did not automatically secularise it. Ethnic identity and communalism gained media, money, and grievance; the way forward is equal law and less economic fear, not a hope that growth alone will cool identity.

Open WRAP page — <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/discuss-the-impact-of-post-liberal-economy-on-ethnic-identity-and-communalism/>

## Compiled answer key

Last pages of this pack. Each question links to the WRAP model answer on [wrapexams.com](https://wrapexams.com).

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|                               |                               |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Q1</b><br><b>10 marks</b>  | <b>Q2</b><br><b>10 marks</b>  | <b>Q3</b><br><b>10 marks</b>  | <b>Q4</b><br><b>10 marks</b>  |
| <b>Q5</b><br><b>10 marks</b>  | <b>Q6</b><br><b>10 marks</b>  | <b>Q7</b><br><b>10 marks</b>  | <b>Q8</b><br><b>10 marks</b>  |
| <b>Q9</b><br><b>10 marks</b>  | <b>Q10</b><br><b>10 marks</b> | <b>Q11</b><br><b>15 marks</b> | <b>Q12</b><br><b>15 marks</b> |
| <b>Q13</b><br><b>15 marks</b> | <b>Q14</b><br><b>15 marks</b> | <b>Q15</b><br><b>15 marks</b> | <b>Q16</b><br><b>15 marks</b> |
| <b>Q17</b><br><b>15 marks</b> | <b>Q18</b><br><b>15 marks</b> | <b>Q19</b><br><b>15 marks</b> | <b>Q20</b><br><b>15 marks</b> |

### Question-wise key

Q1 · 10 marks Solution

Q2 · 10 marks Solution

Q3 · 10 marks Solution

Q4 · 10 marks Solution

Q5 · 10 marks Solution

Q6 · 10 marks Solution

Q7 · 10 marks Solution

Q8 · 10 marks Solution

Q9 · 10 marks Solution

Q10 · 10 marks Solution

Q11 · 15 marks Solution

Q12 · 15 marks Solution

Q13 · 15 marks Solution

Q14 · 15 marks Solution

Q15 · 15 marks Solution

Q16 · 15 marks Solution

Q17 · 15 marks Solution

Q18 · 15 marks Solution

Q19 · 15 marks Solution

Q20 · 15 marks Solution

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