UNIT – I: INDIA AND THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD-I

(SECTION-I: EVENTS AND PROCESSES)

CHAPTER-1

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

Topic-1 French Society During the Late Eighteenth Century



Revision Notes

- ➤ On the morning of 14th July 1789, the city of Paris was in a state of alarm. The King had commanded the troops to move into the city. Rumours spread that the King would soon order the army to open fire upon the citizens. Some 7,000 men and women gathered in front of the town hall and decided to form a peoples' militia. They broke into a number of government buildings in search of arms.
- > Finally, a group of several hundred people marched towards the eastern part of the city and stormed the fortressprison, the Bastille, where they hoped to find hoarded ammunition. In the armed fight that followed, the commander of the Bastille was killed and the prisoners were released.
- > The days that followed saw more rioting both in Paris and the countryside. Actually, it was the beginning of a chain of events that ultimately led to the execution of the king in France.
- ➤ In 1774, Louis XVI of the Bourbon family of Kings ascended the throne of France.
- Causes for an empty treasury of France under Louis XVI:
 - (i) Long years of war had drained the financial resources of France.
 - (ii) High cost of maintaining an extravagant court at the Palace of Versailles.
 - (iii) Under Louis XVI, France helped the thirteen American colonies to gain their independence from the common enemy, Britain.
 - (iv) The war added more than a billion Livres to a debt that had already risen to more than 2 billion Livres.
 - (v) Lenders, who gave the state credit, now began to charge 10 per cent interest on loans.
- > The French Society in the eighteenth century was divided into three Estates, and only members of the Third Estate paid taxes.
 - The members of the First Estate, that was the clergy, enjoyed certain privileges by birth. The most important of these privileges was exemption from paying taxes to the State.
 - (ii) The members of the Second Estate were the nobility. They enjoyed feudal privileges by birth. These included feudal dues, which they extracted from the peasants. They were also exempted from paying taxes.
 - (iii) The Third Estate comprised peasants, artisans, landless labour, servants, lawyers, doctors, administrative officials, traders, etc., they had to pay all taxes to the State.
- > Peasants made up about 90 per cent of the population.
- ➤ The Church too extracted its share of taxes called 'tithes' from the peasants.
- > All members of the Third Estate had to pay taxes to the state including a direct tax, called 'taille' and a number of indirect taxes which were levied on articles of everyday consumption like salt or tobacco.

The Struggle to Survive

- > Increasing population of France led to a rapid increase in the demand for food grains. But the production of grains could not keep pace with the demand. So, the price of bread rose rapidly.
- > Wages of the workers did not keep pace with the rise in prices. So, the gap between the poor and the rich widened.
- > Things became worse whenever drought or hail reduced the harvest. This led to a subsistence crisis, something that occurred frequently in France during the Old Regime.

A Growing Middle Class Envisages an End to Privileges

- > The eighteenth century witnessed the emergence of social groups, termed the middle class. They earned their wealth through an expanding overseas trade and from the manufacture of goods such as woollen and silk textiles that were either exported or bought by the richer members of the society.
- Members of the middle class were educated and believed that no group in the society should be privileged by birth. Rather, a person's social position must depend on his merit.
- > In his Two Treatises of Government, Locke sought to refute the doctrine of the divine and absolute right of the monarch. Rousseau carried the idea forward, proposing a form of government based on a social contract between people and their representatives.
- ➤ In The Spirit of the Laws, Montesquieu proposed a division of power within the government between the legislative, the executive and the judiciary.



Key Terms

- **Bastille:** The Bastille was a fortress in Paris that was used as a state prison by the Kings of France.
- Bourbon family: It is the name of the Royal family of French origin, members of which became rulers of several European countries.
- **Taille:** A tax levied on the common people by the kings in France before 1789.
- **Tithes:** A tax levied by the Church, comprising one-tenth of the agricultural produce.
- Constitutional Monarchy: Form of government in which a king or queen acts as Head of State.
- **Livre:** A unit of currency formerly used in France.



Key Fact

The storming of the Bastille is still honoured in France as a national holiday.



Key Dates

- ➤ 10th May, 1774: Louis XVI ascended the throne after the death of Louis XV.
- > 1789: The year of subsistence crisis.



Topic-2 The Outbreak of the Revolution



Revision Notes

- Louis XVI planned to impose further taxes to be able to meet the expenses of the state.
- On 5th May 1789, Louis XVI called together an assembly of the Estates General to pass proposals for new taxes. Peasants, artisans and women were denied entry to the assembly and from participating in the meeting.
- Voting in the Estates General in the past had been conducted according to the principle that each estate had one vote. But this time, members of the third estate demanded that voting should be conducted by the assembly as a whole, where each member would have one vote. When the King rejected this proposal, members of the third estate walked out of the assembly in protest.
- > On 20th June 1789, the representatives of the third estate assembled in the hall of an indoor tennis court in the grounds of Versailles under the leadership of Mirabeau and Abbé Sieyès. They declared themselves a National Assembly and swore not to disperse till they had drafted a constitution for France that would limit the powers of the monarch.
- Because of bad harvest, there was an increase in demand for food grains and which led to high price of bread. Due to this, people of France were becoming angry day by day. At the same time, the King ordered the troops to move into Paris. Finally, on 14th July, the agitated crowd stormed and destroyed the Bastille.
- > On the night of 4th August 1789, the Assembly passed a decree abolishing the feudal system of obligations and

taxes. Members of the clergy too were forced to give up their privileges. Tithes were abolished and lands owned by the Church were confiscated. As a result, the government acquired assets worth at least 2 billion Livres.

France Becomes a Constitutional Monarchy

- > The National Assembly completed the draft of the constitution in 1791. Its main objective was to limit the powers of the monarch.
- ➤ These powers were now separated and assigned to different institutions The Legislature, Executive and Judiciary. This made France a constitutional monarchy.
- > The constitution began with a Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen. Rights such as the Right to Life, Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Opinion, Equality before the Law, were established as 'Natural and Inalienable Rights'. These rights belonged to each human being by birth and could not be taken away.

France Abolishes Monarchy and Becomes a Republic

- > Although Louis XVI had signed the Constitution, he entered into secret negotiations with the King of Prussia.
- > The National Assembly voted in April 1792 to declare war against Prussia and Austria. Thousands of volunteers thronged from the provinces to join the army.
- ➤ Political clubs became an important rallying point for people who wished to discuss government policies and plan their own forms of action. The most successful of these clubs was that of the Jacobins, which got its name from the former convent of St. Jacob in Paris.
- > The members of the Jacobin club belonged mainly to the less prosperous sections of society. They included small shopkeepers, artisans such as shoemakers, pastry cooks, watch-makers, printers, as well as servants and daily-wage workers. Their leader was Maximilian Robespierre.
- > On the morning of August 10th, 1792, the Jacobins stormed the Palace of the Tuileries and held the King as a hostage for several hours. Later, the assembly voted to imprison the royal family. Elections were held.
- From then onwards, all men of 21 years and above, regardless of wealth got the right to vote.
- > The newly elected assembly was called the Convention. On 21st September 1792, it abolished the monarchy and declared France a Republic.
- Louis XVI was sentenced to death by a Court on the charge of treason. On 21st January 1793, he was executed publicly at the Place de la Concorde.

The Reign of Terror

- Robespierre' rule in France (1793 to 1794) was known as the 'Reign of Terror'
- Robespierre followed a policy of severe control and punishment. All those whom he saw as being enemies of the Republic were arrested, imprisoned and then tried by a revolutionary tribunal.
- Robespierre' government issued laws placing a maximum ceiling on wages and prices.
- Meat and bread were rationed.
- Peasants were forced to transport their grain to the cities and sell it at prices fixed by the government.
- > The use of more expensive white flour was forbidden; all citizens were required to eat the *pain d'egalite* (equality bread) a loaf made of whole wheat.
- Equality was also sought to be practiced through forms of speech and address.
- > The Churches were shut down and their buildings were converted into barracks or offices.
- Finally, he was convicted by a court in July 1794, he was arrested, and on the next day, sent to the guillotine.

A Directory Rules France

- The fall of the Jacobin Government allowed the wealthier middle classes to seize power.
- A new Constitution was introduced which denied the vote to non-propertied sections of society.
- The political instability of the Directory paved the way for the rise of a military dictator, Napoleon Bonaparte.

The French Revolution

Let's compare and contrast the conditions that prevailed in France that led to revolution with the conditions that led to the first war of Indian Independence. The comparison given below will help in giving a better understanding of the pre-revolt circumstances that led the general public to bring in the irreversible changes in France as well as India.

Conditions	Conditions that prevailed in France	Conditions that prevailed in India
i. Political condition	The Bourbon king of France, Louis XVI was an extremely autocratic and weak-willed king who led a life of absolute luxury. This led to a lot of disappointment among the general public who then were leading life of extreme poverty and widespread hunger.	led to the annexation of various native states, which made the people feel that their rights were being usurped by the British Raj.

ii. Social condition	The social conditions in France in the late 18th century were highly unequal and exploitative. The first two Estates were the most privileged classes in French society. They were excused from the payment of taxes to the State. On the other hand, the Third Estate which formed the majority of the population were charged with excessive taxes with no political and social rights. As a result, they were extremely discontent.	The British Policy of Discrimination against Indians also led to the revolt. The British favoured Europeans over Indians in all aspects of life, which led to a feeling of bitterness among the people. The policy of introducing western education and culture led to a feeling of alienation and anger among the people.
iii. Economic condition	There was an increase in the French population, which resulted into more demand of food grains. So the price of bread rose rapidly, which the poor could not afford to buy. So the gap between the rich and poor widened.	The economic policies of the British also contributed to the outbreak of the revolt. The tax policies and other measures adopted by the British led to economic hardship for the people, which made them resentful of British rule.
iv. Religious conditions	The revolution initially began with attacks on Church corruption and the wealth of the higher clergy.	The British introduced the greased cartridges. These cartridges had to be greased with tallow, which is a substance derived from animal fat. This led to great resentment among the Hindu and Muslim soldiers, as they felt that this was against their religious beliefs.



Key Terms

- > Guillotine: A device consisting of two poles and a blade with which a person was beheaded.
- Assembly of the Estates General: It was composed of three estates the clergy, nobility and commoners.
- **Treason:** The action of betraying one's country or a government.
- Chateaux: A large French country house or stately residence belonging to a king or a nobleman.



Key Dates

- 1793 to 1794: This period is known as the 'Reign of Terror'.
- > 5th May 1789: Louis XVI called together an assembly of the Estates General to pass proposals for the new taxes.
- ➤ 17th June 1789: Representatives of the Third Estate declared themselves as the National Assembly of the people of France, not of the Estates.
- > 20th June 1789: The representatives of the third estate assembled in the hall of an indoor tennis court in the grounds of Versailles. They swore not to disperse till they had drafted a constitution for France.
- ➤ 14th July 1789: Storming of the Bastille; Beginning of the French Revolution.
- 4th August 1789: The National Assembly passed a decree abolishing feudal privileges and system of obligations and taxes.
- 1791: A Constitution is framed to limit the powers of the king and guarantee basic rights to all human beings.
- > 21st September 1792: Abolition of the monarchy and declaration of France as a Republic.
- ➤ 21st January 1793: King Louis XVI was executed at the guillotine.

Example

"Robespierre's rule in France was known as the Reign of terror." Justify the statement.

Answer:

Step 1: The period from 1793 to 1794 is referred to as the 'Reign of Terror'. Robespierre followed a policy of severe control and punishment.

Step 2: All those whom he saw as being 'Enemies' of the Republic—ex-nobles and clergy, members of other political parties, and even the members of his own party who did not agree with his methods,

were arrested, imprisoned and then tried by a revolutionary tribunal.

Step 3: If the Court found them 'guilty', they were guillotined.

Step 4: Robespierre's Government issued laws, placing a maximum ceiling on wages and prices. Meat and bread were rationed. Peasants were forced to transport their grain to the cities and sell it at prices fixed by the Government.

Step 5: Churches were shut down and their buildings converted into barracks or offices.

Topic-3

Women Revolution and the Abolition of Slavery



Revision Notes

Did woman have a Revolution?

From the very beginning, women were active participants in the events which brought about so many important changes in the French society.

Condition of Women During the French Revolution

- The women hoped that their involvement would pressurise the revolutionary government to introduce measures to improve their lives.
- Most women of the Third Estate had to work for a living.
- Most women did not have access to education or job training. Only daughters of nobles or wealthier members
 of the Third Estate could study at a convent.
- Their wages were lower than those of men.
- In order to discuss and voice their interests, women started their own political clubs and newspapers. The Society of Revolutionary and the Republican Women was the most famous club.
- Women of France demanded the Right to Vote, to be elected to the assembly and to hold political offices.
- Laws introduced by the revolutionary government to improve the lives of women in France:
 - Together with the creation of state schools, schooling was made compulsory for all the girls.
 - Their fathers could no longer force them into marriage against their will.
 - Marriage was made into a contract entered into freely and registered under civil law.
 - Divorce was made legal and could be applied for by both women and men.
 - Women could now be trained for jobs, become artists, or run small businesses.
- It was finally in 1946 that women in France won the right to vote.

The Abolition of Slavery

- One of the most revolutionary social reforms of the Jacobin regime was the abolition of slavery in the French Colonies.
- > A triangular slave trade began in the seventeenth century between Europe, Africa and America.
- The exploitation of slave labourers made it possible to meet the growing demand in European markets for sugar, coffee and indigo.
- Slavery was finally abolished in French colonies in 1848.

The Revolution and Everyday Life

- The years following 1789 in France saw many changes in the daily lives of men, women and children.
- ➤ One important law that came into effect soon after the storming of the Bastille in the summer of 1789 was the abo<mark>lition of censorship.</mark>
- > Effects of abolition of censorship:
 - Now, the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen proclaimed Freedom of Speech and Expression to be a natural right.
 - Newspapers, pamphlets, books and printed pictures flooded the towns of France from where they travelled rapidly into the countryside.
 - They all described and discussed the events and changes taking place in France.
 - Freedom of the Press also meant that opposing views of events could be expressed.
 - Plays, songs and festive processions attracted large numbers of people.
- ➤ In 1804, Napoleon Bonaparte crowned himself as the Emperor of France.
- ➤ He introduced many laws, such as :
 - The protection of private property and
 - A uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system.
- Napoleon was finally defeated at Waterloo in 1815.
- ➤ The ideas of liberty and democratic rights were the most important legacy of the French Revolution. These ideas spread from France to the rest of Europe during the nineteenth century, where feudal systems were abolished.



Key Fact

➤ The Jacobins attempted to eradicate Christianity in France. (Source: https://www.britannica.com/facts/French-Revolution)



Key Terms

- > Feudalism: A social system, in which the king would give a piece of land to the nobles who fought for him. While the peasants were obliged to live on their landlord's land and serve him.
- **Jacobin club:** A political club that existed during the French Revolution.



Key Dates

- ➤ 1789: Abolition of censorship came into effect.
- ➤ 1804: Napolean crowned himself as the Emperor of France.
- ➤ 1815: Napoleon was finally defeated in the Battle of Waterloo.
- ➤ 1848: Abolition of slavery in France and its colonies.
- ➤ 1946: Women in France won the Right to Vote.

CHAPTER-2 SOCIALISM IN EUROPE AND THE RUSSIAN

REVOULUTION

Topic-1

The Age of Social Change



Revision Notes

- > The French Revolution opened up the possibility of creating a dramatic change in the way in which society was structured.
- > Through the Revolution in Russia, socialism became one of the most significant and powerful ideas to shape society in the twentieth century.

View of Liberals, Radicals and Conservatives

- One of the groups, which looked to change society were the liberals.
 - Liberals wanted a nation which tolerated all religions.
 - Liberals also opposed the uncontrolled power of dynastic rulers.
 - They wanted to safeguard the rights of individuals against governments.
 - They argued for a representative, elected Parliamentary Government, subject to laws interpreted by a well-trained Judiciary that was independent of Rulers and Officials.
 - However, they were not 'democrats'. They did not believe in Universal Adult Franchise.

➤ Views of Radicals:

- The Radicals wanted a nation in which government was based on the majority of a country's population.
- Unlike Liberals, they opposed the privileges of big landowners and wealthy factory owners.
- They were not against the existence of private property, but disliked concentration of property in the hands of a few.

Views of Conservatives:

 Conservatives were opposed to Radicals and Liberals. After the nineteenth century, they accepted changes but also believed that the past needed to be respected and change should begin slowly.

Industrial Society and Social Change

- This was a time when new cities came up and new industrialised regions developed, railways expanded and the Industrial Revolution took place.
- Unemployment was common, particularly during times of low demand for industrial goods.
- Housing and sanitation were problems since towns were growing rapidly.

The Coming of Socialism to Europe

- > By the mid-nineteenth century in Europe, Socialism was a well-known body of ideas that attracted widespread attention.
- > Socialists were against private property and saw it as the root of all social ills of that time.
- Some socialists believed in the idea of 'cooperatives'. Robert Owen (1771–1858), a leading English manufacturer, sought to build a cooperative community called New Harmony in Indiana (USA).
- > In France, for instance, Louis Blanc (1813–1882) wanted the government to encourage cooperatives and replace capitalist enterprises.
- > Karl Marx (1818–1883) and Friedrich Engels (1820–1895) added other ideas to this body of arguments. Marx argued that industrial society was capitalist.

➤ Idea of Communist Society:

- Industrial society was capitalist. Capitalists owned the capital invested in factories and the profit of capitalists was produced by workers.
- The conditions of workers could not improve as long as this profit was accumulated by private capitalists.
- Marx believed that to free themselves from capitalist exploitation, workers had to construct a radically socialist society where all properties were socially controlled. This would be a 'Communist Society.'
- He was convinced that workers would triumph in their conflict with Capitalists. A communist society was the natural society of the future.

Support for Socialism

- > By the 1870s, socialist ideas spread through Europe. To coordinate their efforts, socialists formed an international body-namely, the Second International. Workers in England and Germany began forming associations to fight for better living and working conditions.
- > By 1905, socialists and trade unionists formed a Labour Party in Britain and a Socialist Party in France. However, till 1914, socialists never succeeded in forming a government in Europe.



Key Terms

- Second International: It was an organisation of socialist and labour parties.
- Suffragette movement: A movement to give women the right to vote.



Key Dates

- ➤ 1870s: Spread of socialist ideas through Europe.
- ➤ 14 July 1889: Second International was formed.
- > 1905: Socialists and trade unionists formed a Labour Party in Britain and a Socialist Party in France.



Topic-2 The Russian Revolution



Revision Notes

Socialists took over the Government in Russia through the October Revolution of 1917. The fall of monarchy in February 1917 and the events of October are normally called the Russian Revolution.

The Russian Empire in 1914

- ➤ In 1914, Tsar Nicholas II ruled over Russia and its empire. Besides the territory around Moscow, the Russian empire included present-day Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, parts of Poland, Ukraine and Belarus. It stretched to the Pacific and comprised today's Central Asian states, as well as Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.
- ➤ The majority religion was Russian Orthodox Christianity.

Economy and Society

- ➤ In the beginning of the twentieth century, the vast majority of Russia's people were agriculturists.
- > Russia was a major exporter of grain.
- Industry was found in pockets. Prominent industrial areas were St. Petersburg and Moscow.
- ➤ Most industries were the private properties of industrialists. Government supervised large factories to ensure minimum wages and limited hours of work.
- Peasants cultivated most of the land but the nobility, the Crown and the Orthodox Church owned large properties.
- ➤ Nobles got power and position through their services to the Tsar.
- In Russia, peasants wanted the land of the nobles.

Socialism in Russia

- > The Russian Social Democratic Labour Party was founded in 1898 by the socialists who respected Marx's ideas.
- > Socialists formed the Socialist Revolutionary Party in 1900. This party struggled for peasants' rights and demanded that land belonging to nobles be transferred to peasants.
- Vladimir Lenin (who led the Bolshevik group) thought that in a repressive society like Tsarist Russia, the party should be disciplined and should control the number and quality of its members.

A Turbulent Time: The 1905 Revolution

- > Russia was an Autocracy.
- ➤ The year 1904 was a particularly bad one for Russian workers. Prices of essential goods rose so rapidly that real wages declined by 20 per cent. The membership of workers' associations increased dramatically.
- When four members of the 'Assembly of Russian Workers' which had been formed in 1904, were dismissed at the Putilov Iron Works, there was a call for industrial action.
- ➤ Over the next few days, more than 1,10,000 workers in St. Petersburg went on strike demanding a reduction in the working day to eight hours, an increase in wages and improvement in working conditions.
- ➤ When the procession of workers led by Father Gapon reached the Winter Palace, it was attacked by the police and the Cossacks. Over 100 workers were killed and about 300 wounded. The incident, known as Bloody Sunday, started a series of events that became known as the 1905 Revolution.
- > During the 1905 Revolution, the Tsar allowed the creation of an elected consultative Parliament or Duma.

The First World War and the Russian Empire

- 1. In 1914, war broke out between two European alliances Germany, Austria and Turkey (the Central Powers) and France, Britain and Russia (later Italy and Romania). This was the First World War.
- 2. In Russia, the war was initially popular and people rallied around Tsar Nicholas II.
- 3. Defeats were shocking and demoralising. Russia's armies lost badly in Germany and Austria between 1914 and
- 4. The war also had a severe impact on industry. Russia's own industries were few in number and the country was cut off from other suppliers of industrial goods by German control of the Baltic Sea.
- 5. By 1916, Railway lines began to break down.
- **6.** Able-bodied men were called up to the war. As a result, there was labour shortage and small workshops producing essentials were shut down.



Key Terms

- ➤ **Bolsheviks:** A fraction of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party led by Lenin based on the ideology of Marx and Engels. It seized power in the October Revolution of 1917.
- ▶ **Bloody Sunday:** A mass of peaceful workers were fired upon by the Russian troops when they went to the Winter Palace to present a petition to the Tsar. This incident occurred on Sunday 22nd January 1905.
- > **Duma:** Russian Parliament of Legislature.
- ➤ **Divine Right Theory:** The theory that believed that the King was the representative of the God on Earth and no one has the right to deny him.
- > Jadidists: Muslim reformers in the Empire of Russia.



Key Dates

- 1904: A strike began at the Putilov Iron Works in St. Petersburg.
- > 22nd January, 1905: (Bloody Sunday) peaceful demonstrators arrived at the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg to present a petition to the Tsar.

Topic-3 The February Revolution in Petrograd



Revision Notes

- ➤ In the winter of 1917, conditions in the capital, Petrograd, were grim.
- In February 1917, food shortages were deeply felt in the workers' quarters. The winter was very cold there had been exceptional frost and heavy snow.
- > On 22nd February, a lockout took place at a factory on the right bank. The next day, workers in fifty factories called a strike in sympathy.
- > In many factories, women led the way to strikes. This came to be called the 'International Women's Day.'
- Finally, on Sunday, 25th February, the Government suspended the Duma.
- Demonstrators returned in force to the streets of the left bank on the 26th February. The streets thronged with people raising slogans about bread, wages, better hours and democracy.
- > By that evening, soldiers and striking workers had gathered to form a 'Soviet' or 'Council' in the same building as the Duma met. This was the Petrograd Soviet.
- Finally the Tsar abdicated on 2nd March.
- > Soviet leaders and Duma leaders formed a Provisional Government to run the country.
- > Petrograd had led the February Revolution that brought down the monarchy in February 1917.

After February

- > Army officials, landowners and industrialists were influential in the Provisional Government. But the liberals as well as socialists among them worked towards an elected government.
- > In April 1917, the Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin returned to Russia from his exile.
- Three demands of Lenin's 'April Theses':
 - He felt, it was time for the Soviets to take over power.
 - Land should be transferred to the peasants.
 - Banks should be nationalised.

The Revolution of October 1917

- > As the conflict between the Provisional Government and the Bolsheviks grew, Lenin feared the Provisional Government would set up a dictatorship.
- > On 16th October 1917, Lenin persuaded the Petrograd Soviet and the Bolshevik Party to agree to a socialist seizure of power.
- > A Military Revolutionary Committee was appointed by the Soviet under Leon Trotsky to organise the seizure.
- ➤ At a meeting of the All Russian Congress of Soviets in Petrograd, the majority approved the Bolshevik action.



Key Terms

> The April Theses: They were a series of ten directives issued by the Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin upon his April 1917 return to Petrograd from his exile.



Key Fact

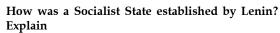
Lenin's eldest brother, Aleksandr, a student at the University of St. Petersburg, was hanged for conspiring with a revolutionary terrorist group that plotted to assassinate Emperor Alexander III.



Key Dates

- > 22nd to 27th February, 1917: February Revolution.
- 2nd March, 1917: Abdication of the Tsar.
- 3rd April 1917: Return of Lenin and April Theses.
- 5th May 1917: Formation of new Provisional Government.
- 3rd June 1917: First All-Russian Congress of Soviets announced in Petrograd.

Example



Answer:

Step 1: Centralized planning with a system of fiveyear plan.

Step 2: Private property were abolished and property was socially controlled.

Step 3: An extended schooling system was developed.

Topic-4 Changes after October and the Global Influence



Revision Notes

Changes after October

- > The Bolsheviks were totally opposed to private property. Most industries and banks were nationalised in November 1917.
- Land was declared social property and peasants were allowed to seize the land of the nobility.
- ➤ In cities, Bolsheviks enforced the partition of large houses according to family requirements. They banned the use of the old titles of aristocracy.
- ➤ The Bolshevik Party was renamed as the Russian Communist Party (Bolshevik).
- In November 1917, the Bolsheviks conducted the elections to the Constituent Assembly, but they failed to gain majority support.
- > In the years that followed, the Bolsheviks became the only party to participate in the elections to the All Russian Congress of Soviets, which became the Parliament of the country. Russia became a One-Party State.

The Civil War

- > During 1918 and 1919, the 'Greens' (Socialist Revolutionaries) and 'Whites' (Pro-Tsarists) controlled most of the Russian Empire.
- As these troops and the Bolsheviks fought a civil war, looting, banditry and famine became common.
- > By January 1920, the Bolsheviks controlled most of the former Russian Empire. They succeeded due to cooperation with non-Russian nationalities and Muslim Jadidists.
- > Most non-Russian nationalities were given political autonomy in the Soviet Union (USSR) the state the Bolsheviks created from the Russian Empire in December 1922.

Making a Socialist Society

- > A process of centralised planning was introduced. Officials assessed how the economy could work and set targets for a five-year period. On this basis, they made the Five Year Plans.
- ➤ Industrial production increased between 1929 and 1933 by 100 per cent in the case of oil, coal and steel.
- > An extended schooling system developed and arrangements were made for factory workers and peasants to enter universities.
- ➤ Crèches were established in factories for the children of women workers.
- Cheap public health care was provided. Model living quarters were set up for workers.

Stalinism and Collectivisation

- ➤ By 1927–1928, the towns in Soviet Russia were facing an acute problem of grain supplies. The Government fixed prices at which grain must be sold, but the peasants refused to sell their grain to government buyers at these prices.
- Stalin, who headed the party after the death of Lenin, introduced firm emergency measures.
- From 1929, the Party forced all peasants to cultivate in collective farms (Kolkhoz).
- > Those who resisted collectivisation were severely punished. Many were deported and exiled.
- ➤ In spite of collectivisation, production did not increase immediately and due to bad harvests of 1930–1933 over 4 million people died.

The Global Influence of the Russian Revolution and the USSR

- In many countries, communist parties were formed like the Communist Party of Great Britain.
- Many non-Russians from outside the USSR participated in the Conference of the Peoples of the East (1920) and the Bolshevik-founded Comintern (an international union of pro-Bolshevik socialist parties).
- > By the time of the outbreak of the Second World War, the USSR had given socialism a global face and world stature.



Key Terms

- > The Bolsheviks: It was the communist party of Russia that was formed in the year 1917 by Lenin.
- > **Soviet:** Council of workers.
- Serfdom: Russian type of feudalism under which peasants worked for the landlord in exchange for food and shelter.



Key Dates

- > 1917–1920: Civil War broke out in Russia.
- > 1919: Formation of Comintern.
- ➤ 1929: Beginning of collectivisation.
- > 1991: Break up of Soviet Union.

CHAPTER-3

NAZISM AND THE RISE OF HITLER



Birth of the Weimar Republic



Revision Notes

- ➤ Germany, a powerful empire in the early years of the twentieth century, fought the First World War (1914–1918) alongside the Austrian empire and against the Allies (England, France and Russia.)
- The defeat of Imperial Germany and the abdication of the Emperor gave an opportunity to parliamentary parties to recast German polity.
- > A National Assembly met at Weimar and established a democratic constitution with a federal structure.
- > Deputies were now elected to the German Parliament or Reichstag, on the basis of equal and universal votes cast by all adults including women.
- > The War Guilt Clause held Germany responsible for the war and damages the Allied countries suffered. The Allied armies occupied Rhineland in the 1920s.
- > Many Germans held the new Weimar Republic responsible for not only the defeat in the war but the disgrace at Versailles.

The Effects of the War

- > The war had a devastating impact on the entire continent both psychologically and financially.
- From a continent of creditors, Europe turned into one of the debtors.
- ➤ The First World War left a deep imprint on European society and polity.
- Soldiers came to be placed above civilians.

Political Radicalism and Economic Crises

- > The birth of the Weimar Republic coincided with the revolutionary uprising of the Spartacist League on the pattern of the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia.
- Those opposed to this such as the Socialists, Democrats and Catholics met in Weimar to give shape to the Democratic republic.
- > The Weimar Republic crushed the uprising with the help of a war veterans organisation called 'Free Corps'.
- ➤ Political radicalisation heightened by the economic crisis of 1923.
- ➤ The image of Germans carrying cart loads of currency notes to buy a loaf of bread was widely publicised evoking worldwide sympathy. This crisis came to be known as hyperinflation; a situation when prices arise phenomenally high.

The Years of Depression

- ➤ The years between 1924 and 1928 saw some stability. German investments and industrial recovery were totally dependent on short-term loans, largely from the USA. This support was withdrawn when the Wall Street Exchange crashed in 1929.
- > On one single day, 24th October, 13 million shares were sold. This was the start of the 'Great Economic Depression'.
- ➤ Over the next three years, between 1929 and 1932, the national income of the USA fell by half. Factories shut down, exports fell, farmers were badly hit and speculators withdrew their money from the Market. The effects of this recession in the US economy were felt worldwide.
- > The German economy was worst hit by the economic crisis. Workers lost their jobs or were paid reduced wages.
- > As jobs disappeared, the youth took to criminal activities and total despair became common place.
- Politically too, the Weimar Republic was fragile. The Weimar Constitution had some inherent defects, which made it unstable and vulnerable to dictatorship.
- Another defect was Article 48, which gave the President the powers to impose emergency, suspend civil rights and rule by decree.
- > Yet, the crisis could not be managed. People lost confidence in the democratic parliamentary system, which seemed to offer no solutions.



Key Fact

The Weimar Republic was established as a representative democracy which aimed to give genuine power to all German adults. However, it had major flaws that contributed to its downfall in 1933–34.



Key Terms

- ➤ The Great Depression: A worldwide economic slump lasting from 1929 to 1935.
- ➤ **Reichstag:** Name given to the German Parliament.
- **Proletarianisation:** Process of becoming impoverished to the level of working classes.



Key Dates

- ➤ 1918: Proclamation of the Weimar Republic.
- ➤ 1919: Germany signed the Treaty of Versailles.
- ➤ 1929: Wall street exchange crashed.
- ➤ 1929: The start of Great Economic Depression in USA.

Topic-2

Hitler's Rise to Power



Revision Notes

- > The crisis in the economy, polity and society formed the background to Hitler's rise to power. Born in 1889 in Austria, Hitler spent his youth in poverty.
- > In 1919, he joined a small group called the 'German Workers' Party. He subsequently took over the organisation and renamed it as the 'National Socialist German Workers' Party. This party later came to be known as the 'Nazi Party'.
- It was during the Great Depression that Nazism became a mass movement.
- By 1932, the Nazi Party had become the largest party with 37 per cent votes.
- ➤ Hitler effectively mobilised popular support in Germany:
 - (i) Hitler was a powerful speaker. His passion and his words moved people.
 - (ii) He promised to build a strong nation.
 - (iii) He also promised to undo the injustice of the Versailles Treaty and restore the dignity of the German people.
 - (iv) He promised employment for those looking for work and a secure future for the youth.
 - (v) He promised to weed out all foreign influences and resist all foreign conspiracies against Germany.
 - (vi) He understood the significance of rituals and spectacle in mass mobilisation. Nazis held massive rallies and public meetings to demonstrate the support for Hitler and instil a sense of unity among the people.
- (vii) The red banners with the Swastika, the Nazi salute, and the ritualised rounds of applause after the speeches were all part of this spectacle of power.

The Destruction of Democracy

- On 30th January 1933, President Hindenburg offered the Chancellorship, the highest position in the Cabinet of Ministers, to Hitler.
- ➤ The Fire Decree of 28th February 1933 indefinitely suspended civic rights like Freedom of Speech, Press and Assembly that had been guaranteed by the Wiemar Constitution.
- ➤ On 3rd March 1933, the famous 'Enabling Act' was passed. This Act established dictatorship in Germany. It gave Hitler all powers to sideline the Parliament and rule by decree.

Reconstruction

- In foreign policy also, Hitler acquired quick successes. He pulled out of the League of Nations in 1933, reoccupied the Rhineland in 1936, and integrated Austria and Germany in 1938 under the slogan, 'One People, One Empire and One Leader.'
- ➤ In September 1940, a 'Tripartite Pact' was signed between Germany, Italy and Japan, strengthening Hitler's claim to international power.
- > By the end of 1940, Hitler was at the pinnacle of his power. He attacked the Soviet Union in June 1941.
- ➤ Meanwhile, the USA had resisted involvement in the war. It was unwilling to once again face all the economic problems that the First World War had caused.
- > When Japan extended its support to Hitler and bombed the US base at Pearl Harbour, the US entered the Second World War
- > The war ended in May 1945 with Hitler's defeat and the US dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima in Japan.



Key Terms

- ➤ **Gestapo:** The Secret State Police in Nazi Germany.
- > Holocaust: The persecution and mass murder of Jews by German Nazis between 1933 and 1945.
- ➤ Concentration camp: A camp where people were isolated and detained without due process of law. Typically, it was surrounded by electrified barbed wire fences.



Key Personalities

- ➤ Hindenburg: He was elected as the President of Germany in 1925
- ➤ Hitler: Hitler rose to power as the leader of the Nazi Party, becoming the chancellor in 1933. He was the leader of Germany's Nazi Party.



Key Dates

- > 1933: Hitler was made Chancellor of Germany. He pulled out of the League of Nations.
- ➤ 1934: Hitler became the President of Germany.
- ➤ 1936: Hitler reoccupied Rhineland.
- ➤ 1938: Integration of Germany and Austria by Hitler.
- ➤ 1939: Germany invaded Poland.
- ➤ 1940: A Tripartite Pact was signed between Germany, Italy and Japan.
- ➤ 1940–1944: Ghettoisation of Jews.
- ➤ June, 1941: Germany attacked the USSR.
- ➤ 1945: Hitler committed suicide by gunshot in Berlin.

Example

How was the Nazi Party formed?

Answer:

Step 1: The disintegration of Weimar Republic led to the formation of Nazi Party after the First World War.

Step 2: Hitler enrolled for the army when the First World War broke. He also earned medals for bravery.

Step 3: The German defeat horrified him and Versailles Treaty made him furious. Later, he joined a small group called the 'German Workers' Party.

Step 4: Subsequently, he took over the organisation and renamed it the 'National Socialist German Workers' Party'. This party came to be known as 'Nazi Party'.

Topic-3 The Nazi Worldview



Revision Notes

- ➤ Nazi ideology was synonymous with Hitler's world view.
- In this view blond, blue-eyed, Nordic German Aryans were at the top, while Jews were located at the lowest rank. They came to be regarded as an anti-race, the arch-enemies of the Aryans.
- All other coloured people were placed in between, depending upon their external features.
- > The other aspect of Hitler's ideology related to the geopolitical concept of *Lebensraum*, or living space. He believed that new territories had to be acquired for settlement. This would enhance the area of the mother country, while enabling the settlers on new lands to retain an intimate link with the place of their origin.

Establishment of the Racial State

- Nazis wanted only a society of 'pure and healthy Nordic Aryans'. Only they were seen as worthy of prospering and multiplying against all others who were classed as 'undesirable'.
- Jews were not the only community classified as 'undesirable', many Gypsies and Blacks living in Nazi Germany were considered as racial 'inferiors' who threatened the biological purity of the superior Aryan race.
- ➤ Jews remained the worst sufferers in Nazi Germany. They had been stereotyped as killers of Christ and usurers. They lived in separately marked areas called 'Ghettos'.
- ➤ From 1933 to 1938, the Nazis terrorised, pauperised and segregated the Jews, compelling them to leave the country.

The next phase, 1939–1945, aimed at concentrating them in certain areas and eventually killing them in gas chambers in Poland.

The Racial Utopia

- Genocide and war became two sides of the same coin. Poland was divided and much of North-Western Poland was annexed to Germany.
- ➤ People of Poland were forced to leave their homes and properties.
- Members of the Polish intelligentsia were murdered in large numbers. Polish children who looked like Aryans were forcibly snatched from their mothers and examined by 'race experts'.



Key Personalities

- Charles Darwin: Darwin was a natural scientist who tried to explain the creation of plants and animals through the concept of evolution and natural selection.
- Herbert Spencer: He was an English philosopher who initiated a philosophy called 'Social Darwinism'.



Key Terms

- ➤ **Genocidal**: Killing on a large-scale leading to destruction of large sections of people.
- > Jungvolk: A separate section for Nazi boys up to 14 years of age.
- **Pauperised:** Reduce to absolute poverty.
- ➤ **Usurers:** Moneylenders charging excessive interest; often used as a term of abuse.



Youth, Ordinary People and the Crimes Against Humanity



Revision Notes

- ➤ Hitler was fanatically interested in the youth of the country. He felt that a strong Nazi society could be established only by teaching children Nazi ideology. This required a control over the child both inside and outside school.
- **Effects of Nazism on the School System:**
 - (i) All schools were 'cleansed' and 'purified'. This meant that teachers who were Jews or seen as politically unreliable were dismissed.
 - (ii) Children were first segregated Germans and Jews could not sit together or play together.
 - (iii) Subsequently, undesirable children Jews, the physically handicapped, Gypsies were thrown out of schools.
 - (iv) 'Good German' children were subjected to a process of Nazi schooling, a prolonged period of ideological training.
 - (v) School textbooks were rewritten. Racial science was introduced to justify Nazi ideas of race.
 - (vi) Children were taught to be loyal and submissive, hate Jews and worship Hitler.
 - (vii)Even the function of sports was to nurture a spirit of violence and aggression among children. Hitler believed that boxing could make children iron-hearted, strong and masculine.
- Youth organisations were made responsible for educating German youth in the 'The Spirit of National Socialism'. Ten year old German kids had to enter Jungvolk.
- ➤ At 14, all boys had to join the Nazi Youth Organisation Hitler Youth where they learnt to worship war, glorify aggression and violence, condemn democracy and hate Jews, communists, Gypsies and all those categorised as 'undesirable'.
- ➤ At the age of 18, the youth had to serve in the Armed Forces and enter one of the Nazi organisations. The Youth League of the Nazis was founded in 1922.

The Nazi Cult of Motherhood

- > Children in Nazi Germany were repeatedly told that women were radically different from men.
- > Boys were taught to be aggressive, masculine and steel-hearted and girls were told to become good mothers and rear pure-blooded Aryan children.

- Girls had to maintain purity of the race, distance from Jews, look after their home and teach their children Nazi values. But all mothers were not treated equally.
- ➤ Honour Crosses were awarded to encouraged women to produce more children.

The Art of Propaganda

- > Nazis termed mass killings as special treatment, final solution (for the Jews), euthanasia (for the Disabled), selection and disinfections.
- > 'Evacuation' meant deporting people to gas chambers. Gas chambers were labelled as 'disinfection-areas', and looked like bathrooms equipped with fake shower heads.
- > Nazi ideas were spread through visual images, films, radio, posters, catchy slogans and leaflets.
- Orthodox Jews were stereotyped and marked and were referred to as vermin, rats and pests.
- > The Nazis made equal efforts to appeal to all the different sections of the population.

Nazi's Propaganda

- > They sought to win their support by suggesting that Nazis alone could solve all their problems.
- Many saw the world through Nazi eyes and spoke their mind in Nazi language. They felt hatred and anger surge inside them when they saw someone who looked like a Jew. But not every German was a Nazi.

Knowledge about the Holocaust

The Nazi killing operation was also called the Holocaust. It comes from the Greek word 'Holo' and 'Kaustos', which literally means completely burnt. It is used to describe the mass murder of Jews by German Nazis between 1933 and 1945.



Key Terms

- > Jungvolk: A separate section for Nazi boys upto 14 years of age.
- ➤ Holocaust: Mass murder of Jews by German Nazis.



Key Date

➤ 1933 to 1945: The mass murder of Jews by German Nazis.

CONTEMPORARY INDIA- I

CHAPTER-4

INDIA: SIZE & LOCATION



Location and Size



Revision Notes

- India is considered as one of the ancient civilisations in the world.
- India has achieved multifaceted socio-economic progress in the varied domains like: field of agriculture, industry, technology, overall economic development etc.

Location

- > India lies in the Northern Hemisphere.
- > The mainland extends between latitudes 8°4'N and 37°6'N and longitudes 68°7'E and 97°25'E.
- ➤ The Tropic of Cancer (23°30'N) divides the country into almost two equal halves.
- > To the southeast and southwest of the mainland, lie the Andaman and Nicobar islands and the Lakshadweep islands in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea respectively.
- > Indira Point is the southernmost point of the Indian Union. It got submerged under the sea water in 2004 during the Tsunami.

- The total area of Indian landmass is 3.28 million square km.
- India's total area accounts for about 2.4 per cent of the total geographical area of the world.
- India is the seventh largest country of the world.
- India has a land boundary of about 15,200 km and the total length of the coast line of the mainland including the Andaman and Nicobar and the Lakshadweep is 7,516.6 km.
- The Northwest, North and Northeast boundaries of India are characterised by the young fold mountains.
- The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of the mainland is about 30°.
- Time along the Standard Meridian of India (82°30'E) which passes through Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh, is taken as the standard time for the whole country. It is also called IST.



Key Terms

- **Equator:** An imaginary line drawn around the middle of the earth that divides it into two equal halves.
- Latitude: Latitude is the measurement of distance north or south of the Equator. It is measured with 180 imaginary lines that form circles around Earth east-west, parallel to the Equator.
- **Longitude:** Longitude measures distance east or west of the prime meridian.
- Strait: A narrow channel of sea which separates two land masses.

Example

India has a long coastline which is advantageous. Explain.

Answer

Step 1: The total length of the coastline of the mainland, including Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, is 7,516.6 km.

Step 2: It is advantageous because of the following reasons:

Step 3: India's central location and long coastline have helped in interacting with the world.

Step 4: Major ports on the eastern and the western coast help in the import and export of goods from India, developing its trade.

Step 5: The coastline has contributed in the exchange of ideas and commodities.

Topic-2 India and the World; India's Neighbours



Revision Notes

India and the World

- > Location of India in the world plays an important role because of the following reasons:
 - The Indian landmass has a central location between the East and West Asia.
 - India is a Southward extension of the Asian continent.
 - The Trans-Indian Ocean routes connecting the countries of Europe in the West and the countries of East Asia provide a strategic central location to India.
 - The Deccan Peninsula protrudes into the Indian Ocean which helps it to establish close contact with West Asia, Africa and Europe from the western coast and with Southeast and East Asia from the eastern coast.
 - No other country has such a long coastline on the Indian Ocean as India has, and indeed, it is India's strategic position in the Indian Ocean which justifies the naming of an ocean after it.
- Distance between India and Europe has been reduced by 7,000 km after the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869.
- India is connected with Europe, North America and South America with the Suez Canal and the Cape of Good Hope through the sea routes.

India's Neighbours

- ➤ India has 28 states and 8 Union Territories.
- > India shares its land boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the Northwest, China (Tibet), Nepal and Bhutan in the North along with Myanmar and Bangladesh in the East.

- > Our southern neighbours across the sea consist of the two island countries, i.e., Sri Lanka and Maldives.
- Sri Lanka is separated from India by a narrow channel of sea formed by the Palk Strait and the Gulf of Mannar.
- India has had strong geographical and historical links with its neighbours.

CHAPTER-5 PHYSICAL FEATURES OF INDIA

Topic-1

Major Physiographic Divisions and The Himalayan Mountains



Revision Notes

- > India is a large landmass formed during different geological periods which has influenced its relief.
- > Besides geological formations, a number of processes such as weathering, erosion and deposition are also responsible for creating and modifying the relief to its present form.
- > The Gondwana land includes today Africa, South America, Australia, Antarctica, the Indian subcontinent and the Arabian Peninsula.
- ➤ Geologically, the Peninsular Plateau constitutes one of the ancient landmasses on the earth's surface. The Himalayas and the Northern Plains are the most recent landforms.
- Most volcanoes and earthquakes in the world are located at plate margins, but some do occur within the plates.

Major Physiographic Divisions

- The physical features of India can be grouped under the following physiographic divisions:
 - The Himalayan Mountains
 - The Northern Plains
 - The Peninsular Plateau
 - The Indian Desert
 - The Coastal Plains
 - The Islands

The Himalayan Mountains

- The Himalayas, geologically young and structurally fold mountains, stretch over the northern borders of India.
- > These mountain ranges run in a West-East direction from the Indus to the Brahmaputra.
- An arc is formed by the mountains that cover a distance of about 2,400 km.
- > The attitudinal variations are greater in the eastern half than those in the western half.
- ➤ The Himalayas consist of three parallel ranges in its longitudinal extent.
 - **Great or Inner Himalayas or the Himadri :** The northern-most range, consisting of the loftiest peaks with an average height of 6,000 m.
 - **Himachal or Lesser Himalaya**: The range lying to the South of the Himadri forms the most rugged mountain system. The altitude varies between 3,700 to 4,500 metres and the average width is 50 km. The ranges are mainly composed of highly compressed and altered rocks.
 - Shivaliks: The outermost range of the Himalayas. Their width varies from 10–50 km and has an altitude varying between 900 to 1,100 m. These ranges are composed of unconsolidated sediments brought down by rivers from the main Himalayan ranges located farther north.
- > The longitudinal valleys lying between the lesser Himalayas and the Shivaliks are known as 'Duns'.
- ➤ Apart from longitudinal divisions, the Himalayas have also been divided by river valleys on the basis of regions from West to East.



Key Terms

- Gondwana land: It was an ancient supercontinent that broke up about 180 million years ago. The continent eventually split into landmasses that we recognise today as Africa, South America, Australia, Antarctica, the Indian subcontinent and the Arabian Peninsula.
- Purvanchal: Mountains along the eastern boundary of India are called the Purvanchal.



Topic-2 The Northern Plains and The Peninsular Plateau



Revision Notes

The Northern Plains

- > The Northern Plains have been formed by the interplay of the three major river systems, i.e., the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra along with their tributaries.
- > With rich soil cover, combined with adequate water supply and favourable climate, it is agriculturally a very productive part of India.
- > The Northern Plains are broadly divided into three sections—Punjab Plain, Ganga Plain and Brahmaputra Plain.
- Bhangar is the largest part of the Northern Plains, formed of older alluvium.
- Majuli in the Brahmaputra River is the largest inhabited riverine island in the world.

The Peninsular Plateau

- ➤ The Peninsular Plateau is a tableland composed of the old Crystalline, Igneous and Metamorphic rocks.
- > This plateau consists of two broad divisions the Central Highlands and the Deccan Plateau.
- > The part of the Peninsular Plateau lying to the North of the Narmada River covering a major area of the Malwa Plateau is known as the Central Highlands.
- > The Deccan Plateau is a triangular landmass that lies to the South of the River Narmada.
- > The Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats mark the western and the eastern edges of the Deccan Plateau respectively.
- The highest peaks of the Western Ghats are the Anai Mudi (2,695 metres) and the Doda Betta (2,637 metres).
- Mahendragiri (1,501 m) is the highest peak in the Eastern Ghats.



Key Facts

The Indus-Ganga plains, also known as the "Great Plains", are large floodplains of the Indus, Ganga and the Brahmaputra river systems.



Key Terms

- **Bhabar:** Bhabar is a belt of pebbles extending from 8-16 km in width in which stream disappears.
- **Terai:** Terai is a wet, swampy, marshy region with thick forests and wildlife.
- Bhangar: Bhangar is a terrace-like feature made of old alluvium. It contains calcareous deposits called Kankar.
- **Khadar:** Khadar is the flood plain which is renewed every year and is very fertile.
- Doab: It is made up of two words-'do' meaning two and 'ab' meaning water.

Example

Q. Give an account of the Deccan Plateau.

Answer:

Step 1: It is a triangular landmass that lies to the South of the River Narmada. The Satpura range flanks its broad base in the North, while the Mahadev forms its eastern extensions.

Step 2: The Deccan Plateau is higher in the West and slopes gently Eastwards. It is separated by a fault from the Chota Nagpur Plateau. Three prominent

hill ranges from the West to East are the Garo, Khasi and the Jaintia Hills. The Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats mark the western and eastern edges of the Deccan Plateau respectively. The Western Ghats lies parallel to the Western Coast and Eastern Ghats lies parallel to the Eastern Coast.

Step 3: An extension of the plateau is also visible in the Northeast. It is locally known as the Meghalaya, Karbi-Anglong Plateau and North Cachar Hills.

Topic-3

The Indian Desert , The Coastal Plains and The Islands



Revision Notes

The Indian Desert

- ➤ The Indian Desert lies towards the western margins of the Aravalli Hills. It is an undulating sandy plain covered with sand dunes.
- > The region is characterized by arid climate, very low rainfall below 150 mm per year with scanty vegetation cover.
- > Luni is the only large river in this region.

The Coastal Plains

- ➤ The Peninsular Plateau is flanked by stretch of narrow coastal strips, running along the Arabian Sea in the west and the Bay of Bengal in the east.
- > The Western Coast consists of three sections— Konkan Coast, Kannad Plain and Malabar Coast.
- ➤ The Eastern Coast is divided into the Northern Circars and Coromandel Coasts.

The Islands

- The small coral islands, the Lakshadweep Islands group, lies close to the Malabar Coast of Kerala.
- ➤ Kavaratti Island is the administrative headquarters of Lakshadweep.
- ➤ The elongated chain of islands extending from north to south is located in the Bay of Bengal. These are Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- > These islands lies close to the Equator and experience equatorial climate and have thick forest cover.
- > India's only active volcano is found on the Barren Island in Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands.



Key Terms

- ➤ Barchan: A crescent-shaped sand dune with the convex side in the direction of the wind.
- Western Coastal Plain: A thin strip of coastal plain between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea.
- **Eastern Coastal Plain:** A wide stretch of landmass of India, lying between the Eastern Ghats and the Bay of Bengal.
- ➤ Coral polyps : Short-lived microscopic organisms, which live in colonies.

CHAPTER-6

DRAINAGE

Topic-1

Major Rivers and Tributaries



Revision Notes

Drainage Patterns

- ➤ The term Drainage describes the river system of an area.
- ➤ The area drained by a single river system is called a Drainage Basin.
- Any elevated area, such as a mountain or upland, separates two drainage basins. Such upland is known as a Water Divide.
- ➤ The world's largest Drainage Basin is that of the Amazon River.

Drainage System in India

- > The Drainage systems of India are mainly controlled by the broad relief features of the subcontinent.
- > The Indian rivers are divided into two major groups: the Himalayan rivers and the Peninsular rivers.

(i) The Himalayan Rivers

- The major Himalayan rivers include the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra. These rivers are long and are joined by many large and important tributaries.
- Most of the Himalayan rivers are perennial, therefore, they have water throughout the year.

(a) The Ganga River System

- The headwaters of the Ganga, called the Bhagirathi, is fed by the Gangotri Glacier and joined by the Alaknanda at Devaprayag in Uttarakhand.
- > The Ganga is joined by many tributaries from the Himalayas, such as the Yamuna, the Ghaghara, the Gandak and the Kosi
- > The delta formed by the Ganga and the Brahmaputra rivers is known as the Sunderban Delta.
- ➤ The length of the river Ganga is over 2,500 kms.

(b) The Brahmaputra River System

- > The Brahmaputra rises in Tibet, east of Mansarovar Lake, very close to the sources of the Indus and the Satluj.
- Brahmaputra is known as Tsang Po in Tibet and Jamuna in Bangladesh.
- > The Brahmaputra has a braided channel in its entire length in Assam and forms many Riverine Islands.
- > Every year, during the rainy season, the river overflows its banks, causing widespread devastation due to floods in Assam and Bangladesh.

(ii) The Peninsular Rivers

- ➤ The main water divide in Peninsular India is formed by the Western Ghats, which runs from North to South, close to the Western Coast. A large number of Peninsular rivers are seasonal, as their flow is dependent on rainfall.
- Major rivers of the peninsula are the Narmada and the Tapi, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri. They flow eastwards and drain into the Bay of Bengal. These rivers make deltas at their mouths.
- > The Narmada and the Tapi are the only long rivers, which flow westward and make estuaries.

(a) The Narmada Basin

- ➤ The Narmada rises in the Amarkantak Hills in Madhya Pradesh.
- > The Narmada basin covers parts of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

(b) The Tapi Basin

The Tapi rises in the Satpura ranges, in the Betul district of Madhya Pradesh.

➤ Its basin covers parts of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

(c) The Godavari Basin

- > The Godavari is the largest Peninsular river.
- ➤ It rises from the slopes of the Western Ghats in the Nashik District of Maharashtra. Its length is about 1,500 km.
- > The drainage basin of the Godavari River is the largest among the Peninsular rivers.
- Important tributaries of the Godavari are the Purna, Wardha, Pranhita, Manjra, Wainganga and Penganga.
- ➤ The Godavari River is also known as the 'Dakshin Ganga' because of its length and the area it covers.

(d) The Mahanadi Basin

- ➤ The Mahanadi rises in the highlands of Chhattisgarh.
- ➤ It flows through Odisha to reach the Bay of Bengal.

(e) The Krishna Basin

- > Rising from a spring near Mahabaleshwar, the Krishna flows for about 1,400 km and reaches the Bay of Bengal.
- > Tungabhadra, Koyana, Ghatprabha, Musi and Bhima are some of its tributaries.

(f) The Kaveri Basin

- > The Kaveri rises in the Brahmagri range of the Western Ghats and it reaches to the Bay of Bengal.
- The main tributaries are the Amravati, the Bhavani, the Hemavati and the Kabini.
- > Its basin drains parts of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.



Key Terms

- > Perennial: It is a stream or river that exhibits continuous flow of water throughout the year.
- > **Dendritic:** The stream with its tributaries which resembles the branches of a tree. Thus, the name Dendritic.
- > Trellis: A river joined by its tributaries, at approximately right angles, develops a Trellis pattern.
- Rectangular: A drainage pattern that develops on a strongly joint rocky terrain.
- Radial: The Radial pattern develops when streams flow in different directions from a central peak or dome-like structure.
- ➤ **Tributary:** A river or stream that flows into a larger river or lake.
- **Estuary:** The tidal mouth of a large river, where the tide meets the stream.

Topic-2

Lakes



Revision Notes

Lakes

- Lake is a large area of water surrounded by land. Lakes of large extent are called the seas, like the Caspian, the Dead and the Aral Sea.
- > India has many lakes. These differ from each other in the size and other characteristics. Most lakes are permanent, while others contain water only during the rainy season.
- Lakes are formed by the following processes: the action of glaciers and ice sheets, by wind, river action and human activities.
- Most of the freshwater lakes are in the Himalayan region. They are of glacial origin.
- > The Wular Lake in Jammu and Kashmir is the largest freshwater lake in India.
- > Apart from natural lakes, the damming of the rivers for the generation of hydel power has also led to the formation of lakes such as Guru Gobind Sagar Lake (Bhakra Nangal Project).

> Importance of lakes:

- A lake helps to regulate the flow of a river.
- During heavy rainfall, it prevents flooding, and during the dry season, it helps to maintain an even flow of water.
- Lakes can also be used for developing hydel power.
- They moderate the climate of the surroundings; maintain the aquatic ecosystem, enhance natural beauty, help develop tourism and provide recreation.



Key Terms

- Ox-bow lake: It is a U- shaped water body formed when a meandering river is cut off from the mainstream.
- **Lagoon:** When the lake is formed by spits and bars in coastal areas, it is called a lagoon.
- Glacial lake: A lake formed by melting of the glacier is called a glacial lake.

Topic-3 Role of Rivers in the Economy and River Pollution



Revision Notes

Role of Rivers in the Economy

- Rivers are of great value to human beings:
 - Rivers have been of fundamental importance throughout the human history.
 - Water from the rivers is a basic natural resource, essential for various human activities.
 - The river banks have attracted settlers from ancient times.
 - Using rivers for irrigation, navigation, hydro-power generation is of special significance particularly to a country like India, where agriculture is the major source of livelihood of the majority of its population.

River Pollution

- > The growing domestic, municipal, industrial and agricultural demand for water from rivers naturally affects the quality of water.
 - As a result more and more water is being drained out of the rivers reducing their volume.
 - On the other hand, a heavy load of untreated sewage and industrial effluents are emptied into the rivers.
 - This affects not only the quality of water but also the self-cleaning capacity of the river.
- > The increasing urbanisation and industrialisation are responsible for the rising pollution level of many rivers.
- Concern over rising pollution in our rivers led to the launching of various action plans to clean the rivers.



Key Terms

- Irrigation: Supply of water for agriculture purpose from canals, wells and tanks artificially or manually.
- Hydro-power: Power derived from running or falling water.

Example

Describe the major steps taken by the Government of India to control the pollution level in the River Ganga.

Answer:

Step 1: Major steps taken by Government of India to control the pollution level in the River Ganga.

Step 2: Treating of waste before dumping in the

Step 3: Taking projects to control river water pollution like Ganga Action Plan. The activities of Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I, initiated in 1985, were declared closed on 31st March, 2000.

Step 4: The Steering Committee of the National River Conservation Authority reviewed the progress of the GAP and did necessary correction on the basis of lesson learnt and experiences gained from GAP Phase-I. These have been applied to the major polluted rivers of the country under the NRCP. The Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-II, has been merged with the NRCP. The expanded NRCP now covers 152 towns located along 27 interstate rivers in 16 states.

Step 5: Under this action plan, pollution abatement works are being taken up in 57 towns. A total of 215 schemes of pollution abatement have been sanctioned. So far, 69 schemes have been completed under this action plan. A million litres of sewage is targeted to be treated.

CHAPTER-7

CLIMATE

Topic-1

Climate of India and Climate Controls



Revision Notes

Concept:

- ➤ Weather describes the day-to-day meteorological conditions such as wind, temperature, cloudiness, moisture, rainfall, etc., affecting a place. Climate is the average weather, usually taken over 30-years period for a particular region and time.
- 'Monsoon' refers to the seasonal reversal in the wind direction during the year. The two important elements of climate are temperature and precipitation.

Indian Climate:

- > Despite an overall unity in the general pattern, there are perceptible regional variations in climatic conditions within the country.
- > Let us take two important elements temperature and precipitation, and examine how they vary from place to place and season to season.
- ➤ In summer, the mercury occasionally touches 50°C in some parts of the Rajasthan Desert, whereas it may be around 20°C in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir. On a winter night, temperature at Drass in Jammu and Kashmir may be as low as minus 45°C. Thiruvananthapuram, on the other hand, may have a temperature of 22°C.
- > There are variations not only in the form and types of precipitation but also in its amount and the seasonal distribution.
- > The climate of India is described as the 'monsoon' type. In Asia, this type of climate is found mainly in the south and the southeast.
- Climate refers to the sum total of weather conditions and variations over a large area for a long period of time (more than thirty years).
- > Weather refers to the state of the atmosphere over an area at any point of time. The elements of weather and climate are the same, i.e. temperature, atmospheric pressure, wind, humidity and precipitation.
- ➤ India has both tropical and subtropical types of climate.
- > The climate of India is described as the 'monsoon' type. In Asia, this type of climate is found mainly in the south and the southeast.

Climate Control:

➤ Based on climatic differences, the world can be divided into a number of climatic regions. Each climatic region has its own characteristic vegetation and wildlife. The climatic conditions also influence the lifestyles of the people living in these regions.

Factors Affecting India's Climate:

- > The factors affecting the climate of a place are referred to as 'controls'. There are six major controls of the climate of any place. These are: latitude, altitude, pressure and wind system, distance from the sea (continentality), ocean currents and relief features.
 - (i) Latitude: Almost half of the country, lying south of the Tropic of Cancer, belongs to the tropical area. All the remaining area, north of the Tropic, lies in the sub-tropics. Therefore, India's climate has characteristics of tropical as well as subtropical climates.
 - (ii) **Altitude:** It is another factor controlling the climate of a place. Altitude refers to the height of a place above sea level. The higher one travels into the Troposphere, the lower the temperature becomes.
 - (iii) **Pressure and Wind**: The pressure and wind conditions over India are unique. During winter, there is a high-pressure area north of the Himalayas. In summer, a low-pressure area develops over interior Asia as well as over northwestern India. This causes a complete reversal of the direction of winds during summer.
- ➤ The differences in air pressures near the Equator and the Poles are the main factors that influence global pressure and wind systems. In India, the Tropic of Cancer passes through the central part of the country, from the Rann of Kutch in the west to Mizoram in the east. India has both Tropical and Subtropical types of Climate.

- (iv) **Distance from Sea**: The distance of a place from the sea is another important factor that regulates the climate of a place. As the distance from the sea increases, the weather conditions become extreme. Places away from the sea have very hot summers and very cold winters. This condition is known as Continentality.
- (v) Ocean currents: Ocean currents along with onshore winds affect the climate of the coastal areas, For example, any coastal area with warm or cold currents flowing past it, will be warmed or cooled if the winds are onshore.
- (vi) **Relief**: Relief too plays a major role in determining the climate of a place. High mountains act as barriers for cold or hot winds; they may also cause precipitation if they are high enough and lie in the path of rainbearing winds. The leeward side of mountains remains relatively dry.

Various disasters and its preventive protocols

Earthquakes:

- Identify safe spots in your home, workplace or school (under sturdy furniture, doorways, or against interior walls).
- Secure heavy items such as bookshelves, cabinets and water heaters to the walls
- Keep emergency supplies such as food, water, flashlights and first aid kits in accessible locations.
- Develop a family or workplace emergency plan, and practice it regularly.

> Floods:

- Be aware of areas prone to flooding in your community and avoid them during heavy rainfalls.
- If possible, elevate your home's foundation or install flood-resistant barriers.
- Create a household emergency plan that includes evacuation routes, contact information and emergency supplies.
- Monitor weather forecasts and warnings, and follow the instructions of local authorities.

Hurricanes:

- Install storm shutters or board up windows to protect against high winds and flying debris.
- · Secure loose outdoor items, and bring indoors any lightweight objects that could become projectiles.
- Plan for evacuation if necessary, and identify a safe place to stay during the storm.
- Keep emergency supplies on hand, including food, water, first aid kit, flashlights, batteries and a portable radio.

Wildfires:

- Clear flammable vegetation and debris from around your home or property.
- Create a defensible space around your home by using fire-resistant materials for roofing, walls and landscaping.
- Have an evacuation plan, and be ready to leave if ordered to do so by authorities.
- Keep emergency supplies in a readily accessible location, and monitor the progress of the fire through local news and social media.

> Tornadoes:

- Identify a safe room or shelter in your home, and make sure everyone knows where it is.
- Listen to local weather forecasts and warnings, and take shelter immediately if a tornado warning is issued.
- Secure outdoor objects that could become projectiles, and move vehicles into a garage or other protected area.
- Keep an emergency supply kit in your safe room or shelter, including food, water, first aid kit, and flashlights.



Key Terms

- ➤ **Elements of weather:** Temperature, Atmospheric pressure, Wind, Humidity and Precipitation are the elements of Weather and Climate.
- ➤ **Altitude:** Altitude refers to the height of a place above the Sea level.
- > Continentality: As the distance from the sea increases, the weather conditions become extreme. Places away from the sea have very hot summers and very cold winters. This condition is known as Continentality.

Topic-2

The Seasons of India



Revision Notes

> The changes in weather conditions of India can be broadly categorised into four distinct patterns. These are the cold weather season, the hot weather season, the advancing monsoon and the retreating monsoon.

The Cold Weather Season:

- India has cold weather in the winter that begins in mid-November and lasts till February. The Northern parts of India are the first to experience the cold. December and January are the coldest months in Northern India. The southern parts of India do not experience very low temperatures.
- > Frost is a common phenomenon in the Northern plains, while the higher slopes of the Himalayas experience snowfall.
- > During winter, the north–east trade winds blow over the country. In most parts of India, the weather during the winter is dry. In some parts, like the coast of Tamil Nadu, the winds blow from the sea to the land. Hence, these places receive some amount of rainfall during the winter.
- > Other characteristic feature of the winter season experienced over the Northern Plains is the inflow of cyclonic disturbances from the West and the North-West. The winter rainfall is locally known as Mahawat.

The Hot Weather Season:

- The sea has a moderating influence over the Peninsular region of India. Hence, there are no drastic seasonal variations in temperature pattern, and winters are not as distinct as in the north. The hot weather season in India refers to the summers that begin in March and lasts till Mid-June.
- > In India, summer is caused due to the apparent northward movement of the Sun, which shifts the Global Heat Belt northward. 'Loo' are strong, gusty, hot, dry winds that blow during the day over North and North-western India.
- In northern India, dust storms are also very common during the month of May. This is also the season for localised thunderstorms, associated with violent winds, torrential downpours, often accompanied by hail. Pre -monsoon showers are common, especially in Kerala and Karnataka and are often referred to as 'Mango Showers,' as they help in the early ripening of mangoes.

Advancing Monsoon:

- > The advancing monsoon in India refers to the rainy season that lasts for a period of four months from June to September. The trade winds from the Southern Hemisphere, which originate over the warm subtropical areas of the southern oceans, bring the South-West Monsoon Winds into India.
- Another characteristic feature of the monsoon is the 'Breaks' in rainfall and refers to the alternating wet and dry spells of rains. The Indian monsoon is very unpredictable. These breaks occur due to the movement of the Monsoon Trough.
- > The farming schedule of millions of farmers all over the country, which is dependent on the monsoons, can sometimes get disturbed.

Retreating Monsoon:

- ➤ The retreating monsoon refers to the transition season that lasts from October to December.
- > The months of October–November form a period of transition from the Hot Rainy Season to Dry Winter conditions. The main cause of this transition is the movement of the Sun towards the South. By the beginning of october, the monsoon withdraws from the Northern Plains. The retreating monsoon season is marked by clear skies and a rise in the temperatures. The land is still moist and the weather becomes hot and humid. The days can become quite oppressive. This is commonly known as 'October Heat'.
- ➤ Parts of western coast and northeastern India receive over about 400 cm of rainfall annually. However, it is less than 60 cm in western Rajasthan and adjoining parts of Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab.
- > Rainfall is equally low in the interior of the Deccan plateau, and east of the Sahyadris.
- ➤ A third area of low precipitation is around Leh in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ➤ The rest of the country receives moderate rainfall. Snowfall is restricted to the Himalayan region.
- > Owing to the nature of monsoons, the annual rainfall is highly variable from year to year. Variability is high in the regions of low rainfall, such as parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and the leeward side of the Western Ghats.
- > As such, while areas of high rainfall are liable to be affected by floods, areas of low rainfall are drought-prone.

Monsoon as a Unifying Bond:

- ➤ Because of the unpredictable nature of the monsoon, the distribution of rainfall varies drastically from region to region. Major variations can also be seen in the annual precipitation from year to year. The phenomenon of monsoon is an integral part of the Indian landscape, animal and plant life, agricultural calendar, and the life of the people and their festivities.
- > Year after year, people of India from north to south and from east to west, eagerly awaits the arrival of the monsoon.
- ➤ These monsoon winds bind the whole country water to set the agricultural activities in motion.



Key Terms

- Loo: 'Loo' are strong, gusty, hot, dry winds that blow during the day over North and North-Western India.
- ➤ Mango Showers: Pre- monsoon showers are often referred to as 'Mango Showers,' as they help in the early ripening of mangoes.
- Advancing Monsoon: An Advancing Monsoon in India refers to the Rainy Season that lasts for a period of 4 months from June to September.
- ➤ Retreating Monsoon: The Retreating Monsoon refers to the transition season that lasts from October to December.

CHAPTER-8

POPULATION

Topic-1

Population: Size and Distribution



Revision Notes

Population Size and Distribution:

- Population is the pivotal element in social studies. Population is the point of reference from which all other elements are observed.
- A Census is an official enumeration of the population of a country that is recorded periodically. The First census in India was held in 1872. Census has been held regularly after every 10 years.
- The Census provides answers to three primary questions about the population:
 - Population size and distribution
 - Population growth and processes of population change
 - Characteristics or qualities of the population
- Almost half of India's population lives in the following five states: Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh is the most populated state of India with 199 million people, according to the Census of 2011. Population density is the number of persons that live in one square kilometre of an area.
- On the other hand, the Himalayan state of Sikkim has a population of just about 0.5 million and Lakshadweep has only 60 thousand people.
- Population density is calculated as the number of persons per unit area.
- India is one of the most densely populated countries of the world.
- Rugged terrain and unfavourable climatic conditions are the main reasons for the sparse population in some
 areas. Moderate to low rainfall and less fertile soils also influence the population density.



Key Terms

- > Census: A Census is an official enumeration of the population of a country that is recorded periodically.
- **Population Density:** Population density is calculated as the number of persons per unit area.

Population Growth and Processes of Population Topic-2 Change



Revision Notes

Different patterns of Population Growth:

- > In a population, some people are born, some die, some migrate internally or internationally. These three processes are known as birth rate, death rate and migration, respectively.
- **Birth rate:** It is the number of live births per thousand persons in a year.
- ➤ **Death rate:** It is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year.
- > Migration: Migration is the movement of people across regions and territories. It can be internal as well as international.

Factors affecting the size of a population:

- Population grows through births and immigration and declines through deaths and emigration.
- Internal migration influences the distribution of population within the nation.
- In India, most migrations have been from rural to urban areas because of the "Push" factor in rural areas.
- These are adverse conditions of poverty and unemployment in the rural areas and the "pull" of the city in terms of increased employment opportunities and better living conditions.
- ➤ The urban population has increased from 17.29% of the total population in 1951 to 31.80% in 2011.
- > There has been a significant increase in the number of 'million plus cities' from 35 to 53 in just one decade, i.e., 2001 to 2011.

Age Composition of Population:

- Age composition indicates the number of people that belong to different age groups.
- The population of a nation is generally grouped into three broad categories:
 - Children (Below 15 years)
 - Working age adults (15-59 years)
 - Aged (Above 59 years)
- > Dependency ratio is the ratio of the dependent population to the working-age population of the country. The percentage of children and the aged affect the dependency ratio.
- > Sex ratio is the ratio of males to females in a population. It is calculated as the number of females per 1000 males of the population. The sex ratio in India has always remained unfavourable to females.



Key Terms

- > Annual growth rate: The rate or pace of population increase. It is studied in per cent per annum.
- ➤ **Immigration:** When people come to a country, it is called immigration.
- **Emigration:** When people of a country leave that country, it is called emigration.
- Composition of population: The age composition of a population refers to the number of people in different age groups in a country.

UNIT-III: DEMOCRATIC POLITICS—I CHAPTER-9

WHAT IS DEMOCRACY? WHY DEMOCRACY?

Topic-1 Democracy and its Features



Revision Notes

What is Democracy?

- > The word 'Democracy' has been derived from a Greek word 'Demokratia'. 'Demos' means people and 'Kratia' means rule. So, democracy is the rule by the people.
- > Democracy is a form of government in which the rulers are elected by the people.
- Democracy is the most prevalent form of government in the world today.

Democratic Government

- (i) Government formed by people's representatives.
- (ii) Representatives elected by free and fair election.
- (iii) Citizens have right to oppose any government action and policy.
- (iv) Citizens have right to protest, as long as the mode of protest is within the boundaries of law.

Non-Democratic Government

- (i) Rule by force, by a person or by a group of person.
- (ii) No opposition is permitted.
- (iii) Citizens have no rights.
- (iv) Citizens cannot resort to any method of protest.

Features of Democracy

Major Decisions by Elected Leaders

- > In Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf led a military coup in October 1999. He overthrew a democratically elected government and declared himself the 'Chief Executive' of the country. Later, he changed his designation to the President and in 2002 held a referendum in the country that granted him five-year extension.
- > In August 2002, he issued a 'Legal Framework Order' that amended the Constitution of Pakistan. According to this Order, the President can dismiss the national and provincial assemblies.
- > Though Pakistan has had elections the elected representatives have fewer powers. The final power vests with military officers and General Musharraf himself.
- > Clearly, there are many reasons why Pakistan under General Musharraf should not be called a democracy. Among many reasons, the most significant is the power to take final decision rests with army officials and with General Musharraf and none of them was elected by the people.
- > But in a democracy, the final decision-making power must vest with those who are elected by the people.

Free and Fair Electoral Competition

- > In China, elections are regularly held after every five years for electing the country's parliament, called Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui (National People's Congress). The National People's Congress has the power to appoint the President of the country.
- > Only those, who are members of the Chinese Communist Party or eight smaller parties allied to it, were allowed to contest elections held in 2002–2003. The government is always formed by the Communist Party.
- Mexico got its independence in 1930, holds elections after every six years to elect its President. The country has never been under a military or dictator's rule. But in the year 2000, every election was won by a party called PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party).
- > Opposition parties in Mexico did contest elections, but never managed to win. It was because the PRI played many dirty tricks to win elections.

 But in a democracy, there must be a free and fair election where those currently in power have a fair chance of losing.

One Person, One Vote, One Value

- Many instances of denial of equal right to vote in the world:
 - Until 2015, in Saudi Arabia women did not have the right to vote.
 - Estonia has made its citizenship rules in such a way that people belonging to Russian minority find it difficult to get the right to vote.
 - In Fiji, the electoral system is such that the vote of an indigenous Fiji has more value than that of an Indian-Fijian.
- > Democracy is based on a fundamental principle of political equality. Thus, in a democracy, each adult citizen must have one vote and each vote must have one value.

Rule of Law and Respect for Rights

- > Zimbabwe attained independence from White minority rule in 1980. Since then, the country has been ruled by ZANU-PF, the party that led the freedom struggle. Its leader, Robert Mugabe, ruled the country since independence till 2017. Elections have been held regularly and always won by ZANU-PF.
- > Over the years, his government changed the constitution several times to increase the powers of the President and make him less accountable. Opposition party workers were harassed and their meeting disrupted. He was forced out of office in 2017.
- > The example of Zimbabwe shows that popular approval of the rulers is necessary in a democracy, but it is not sufficient. If we wish to assess a democracy, it is important to look at the elections.
- Thus, in a democratic government, rules within limits are set by constitutional law and citizens' rights.



Key Fact

Democracy provides an environment that respects human rights and fundamental freedoms, and in which the freely expressed will of people is exercised.



Key Terms

- > Universal Adult Franchise: Any person who is above 18 years of age has the right to vote, irrespective of caste, colour, status, religion, etc.
- > Constitutional monarchy: A government headed by a king or queen whose powers are limited by a Constitution.



Topic-2 Need and Broader meaning of Democracy



Revision Notes

Arguments against Democracy

- ➤ Leaders keep changing in a democracy. This leads to instability.
- > Democracy is all about political competition and power play. There is no scope for morality.
- > So many people have to be consulted in a democracy that it leads to delays.
- Elected leaders do not know the best interest of the people. It leads to bad decisions.
- > Democracy leads to corruption as it is based on electoral competition.
- Ordinary people don't know what is good for them; they should not decide anything.

Arguments for Democracy

- ➤ A democratic government is a better government because it is a more accountable form of government.
- Democracy improves the quality of decision making.
- Democracy provides a method to deal with differences and conflicts.
- ➤ Democracy enhances the dignity of citizens. Democracy is better than other forms of government because it allows to correct its own mistakes.

Broader Meaning of Democracy

➤ In countries which we call as democratic, all the people do not rule. A majority is allowed to take decisions on behalf of all the people. Even the majority does not rule directly. The majority of people rule through their elected representatives.

- This has become necessary because:
 - Modern democracies involve such a large number of people that it is physically impossible for all of them to sit together and take a collective decision.
 - Even if they could, the citizens do not have the time, the desire or the skills to take part in all the decisions.
- It gives us a clear but minimal understanding of democracy and helps us to distinguish democracies from non-democracies.
- > A democratic decision involves consultation with and consent of all those who are affected by that decision.
- This can apply to a government or a family or any other organisation. Thus, democracy is also a principle that can be applied to any sphere of life.
- > In a democracy, every citizen must be able to play an equal role in decision making.

The working structure of the Government of India and Government of North Korea to have a better and deep understanding of the functioning of both the governments and how they are different from each other in various ways.

Serial No.	India	North Korea
i.	India is a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic with a parliamentary form of government which is federal in structure with unitary features.	North Korea is an "independent socialist state" with a totalitarian dictatorship.
ii.	There is a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minster as its head to advice. The President who is the constitutional head of the country.	The head of government is the premier, assisted by several vice-premiers and a cabinet, the members of which are appointed by the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA).
iii.	Under the Constitution, there are three primary branches of government: the legislative, the executive and the judiciary, whose powers are vested in a bicameral Parliament, President, aided by the Council of Ministers, and the Supreme Court respectively.	In the North Korean, the Cabinet is the administrative and executive body. The North Korean government consists of three branches: administrative, legislative, and judicial. They are not independent of each other, but all branches are under the exclusive political leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.
iv.	The President of India is the head of state and the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Armed Forces, whilst the elected Prime Minister acts as the head of the executive and is responsible for running the Union government.	In practice, the government is under one-man leadership of Kim Jong-Un. He is the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army and general secretary of the Korean Workers' Party (KWP).

There are several key differences between the two. Let us have a look at few of them:

- > The Indian Parliament is made up of two houses the Lok Sabha (lower house) and the Rajya Sabha (upper house) and members are elected through a democratic voting system. The judiciary is independent, and the Supreme Court is the highest court in the country.
- In contrast, North Korea is a totalitarian state with a single-party system. The head of state and government is the Supreme Leader. The Workers' Party of Korea is the only dominating political party, and the country operates a command economy, with the government controlling all economic activity. There is no independent judiciary in North Korea, and the legal system is controlled by the government.
- > Overall, while India operates under a democratic system where the citizens have a voice in governance; North Korea operates under an authoritarian system where the government has complete control over the population.

Voting rights of the Indian population Vs the population of Iran

- > There are significant differences in the voting rights of India and Iran and their way of approaching electoral systems and the level of inclusivity they offer to their respective citizens.
- India, as the world's largest democracy, has a robust and inclusive electoral system. Universal adult suffrage is guaranteed under the Indian Constitution, granting voting rights to all citizens above the age of 18. This inclusive approach ensures that every eligible citizen, regardless of their gender, religion, caste, or socioeconomic background, has the right to vote. India conducts periodic elections at the national, state, and local levels, allowing citizens to choose their representatives through a secret ballot system. The Election Commission of India oversees the electoral process, ensuring free and fair elections.
- > In contrast, Iran's voting rights are subject to certain limitations and restrictions. While the country holds elections, including presidential and parliamentary polls, the process is tightly controlled by the theocratic regime. Iran follows an Islamic Republic System, where the Supreme Leader holds ultimate authority, and the Guardian

Council, a body of clerics, screens candidates for elections. This vetting process excludes candidates deemed unfit or opposed to the principles of the Islamic Republic, limiting the choices available to voters. Additionally, certain groups, such as religious and ethnic minorities, face challenges in exercising their voting rights.

> In conclusion, while India upholds a comprehensive and inclusive voting rights framework, Iran's system places certain restrictions on the electoral process, limiting the choices available to its citizens. Both countries face their own unique challenges, and ongoing efforts are needed to ensure that voting rights are protected, expanded, and made accessible to all eligible individuals, regardless of their background or beliefs.



Key Terms

- Minimal democracy: A system of government in which citizens give teams of political leaders, the right to rule in periodic elections.
- ➤ **Representative democracy:** A type of democracy founded on the principle of elected officials representing a group of people, as opposed to direct democracy.

Example

'Democracy is an ideal form which is not limited to the government alone. It goes far beyond and has a broader meaning.' Justify.

Answer:

Step 1: In order to justify the statement, we can make use of the term democracy for the organisation other than the government.

Step 2: Democratic family: All sit down and take a decision. Everyone's opinion matters.

Step 3: Democratic temperament: The teacher should allow students to ask questions in class.

Step 4: One leader and his family members take decisions – this is not democracy.

Step 5: True democracy will come to the country only when no one goes hungry to bed.

CHAPTER-10 CONSTITUTIONAL DESIGN

Topic-1 Democratic Constitution in South Africa



Revision Notes

There are certain basic rules that the citizens and the government have to follow. All such rules together are called the Constitution. As the supreme law of the country, the Constitution determines the rights of citizens, the powers of the government and how the government should function.

Democratic Constitution in South Africa

Struggle against Apartheid

- Apartheid was the system of racial discrimination or segregation on the grounds of race unique to South Africa. The Europeans imposed this system on South Africa. The system of apartheid divided the people and labelled them on the basis of their skin colour.
- The apartheid system was particularly oppressive for the blacks.
 - The non-whites did not have the voting rights.
 - They were forbidden from living in white areas.
 - They could work in white areas only if they had a permit.
 - Trains, buses, taxis, hotels, hospitals, schools and colleges, libraries, cinema halls, theatres, beaches, swimming pools, public toilets, were all separate for the whites and blacks. This was called 'segregation'.
 - They could not even visit the churches where the whites worshipped.
 - Blacks could not form associations or protest against the terrible treatment.

The African National Congress (ANC) was the umbrella organisation that led the struggle against the policies of segregation. This included many workers' unions and the Communist Party. Many sensitive whites also joined the ANC to oppose apartheid and played a leading role in this struggle.

Towards a New Constitution

- Finally, at the midnight of 26 April 1994, the new national flag of the Republic of South Africa was unfurled, marking the democracy in the world. The apartheid government came to an end, paving way for the formation of a multi-racial government.
- After two years of discussion and debate, they came out with one of the finest constitutions the world has ever had. The characteristics of the South African Constitution are:
 - This constitution gave its citizens the most extensive rights available in any country.
 - Together, they decided that in the search for a solution to the problems, nobody should be excluded; no one should be treated as a demon.
 - They agreed that everybody should become part of the solution.



Key Terms

- ➤ **Treason:** The offence of attempting to overthrow the government of the state for which the offender owes allegiance.
- Apartheid: The official policy of racial separation and ill-treatment of blacks followed by the Government of South Africa between 1948 and 1989.



Why do we Need a Constitution? Making of the Indian Constitution.



Revision Notes

When we see the example of South Africa, then we understand why we need the constitution and what constitutions do.

How was this Compromise to be Implemented?

- The constitution of a country is a set of written rules that are accepted by all people living together in a country. The constitution is the supreme law that determines the relationship among people living in a territory and also the relationship between the people and government.
- ➤ A constitution does many things:
 - It generates a degree of trust and coordination that is necessary for different kind of people to live together.
 - It specifies how the government will be constituted, who will have power to take which decisions.
 - It lays down limits on the powers of the government and tells us the rights of the citizens.
 - It expresses the aspirations of the people about creating a good society.
- ➤ The Constitution of India was drawn up under very difficult circumstances.
- ➤ The country was born through a partition on the basis of religious differences and was a traumatic experience for the people of India and Pakistan.
- > The British had left it to the rulers of the princely states to decide whether they wanted to merge with India or with Pakistan or remain independent.
- ➤ The merger of these princely states was a difficult and uncertain task.
- > When the Constitution was being written, the future of the country did not look as secure as it does today.

The Making of the Constitution

- In 1928, Motilal Nehru and the eight other Congress leaders drafted a Constitution for India.
- ➤ In 1931, the resolution at the Karachi session of the Indian National Congress dwelt on how independent India's Constitution should look like. Both these documents were committed to the inclusion of Universal Adult Franchise, right to freedom and equality and to protecting the rights of minorities in the Constitution of independent India.
- ➤ Our leaders gained confidence to learn from other countries, but on our own terms.

The Constituent Assembly

> The drafting of the document called the Constitution was done by an assembly of elected representatives called the Constituent Assembly.

➤ Elections to the Constituent Assembly were held in July 1946. The Assembly adopted the Constitution on 26th November 1949, but it came into effect on 26th January 1950. To mark this day, we celebrate January 26 as Republic Day every year.

Guiding Values of the Indian Constitution

- First, understand the overall philosophy of what our Constitution is all about.
- Read the views of some of our major leaders on our Constitution and read what the Constitution says about its own philosophy.
- ➤ This is what the preamble to the Constitution does.

The Dream and the Promise

- ➤ There were many members who followed the vision of Mahatma Gandhi.
- > This dream of an India that has eliminated inequality was shared by Dr. Ambedkar.
- > Dr Ambedkar played a key role in the making of the Constitution, but his vision of removing inequalities from India was different from Gandhiji.

Philosophy of the Constitution

- ➤ Values that inspired and guided the freedom struggle and were, in turn, nurtured by it, formed the foundation for India's democracy. These values are embedded in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution.
- > The Constitution of India begins with a short statement of its basic values. This is called the Preamble to the Constitution.

Institutional Design

- A constitution is not merely a statement of values and philosophy. It is mainly about embodying these values into institutional arrangements.
- ➤ It is a very long and detailed document. Therefore, it needs to be amended quite regularly to keep it updated. Those who drafted the Indian Constitution felt to make provisions to incorporate changes from time to time. These changes are called Constitutional Amendments.

Roles and Responsibility as a Citizen of India

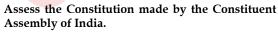
- > To abide by the constitution and respect its ideals and institution, the National Flag and the National Anthem.
- > To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom.
- > To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.

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Key Terms

- > Constituent Assembly: An assembly of people's representatives that drafts a Constitution for a country.
- Constitutional Amendment: A change in the Constitution made by the supreme legislative body in a country.
- Preamble: An introductory statement in a constitution which states the reasons and guiding values of the Constitution.

Example



Answer:

Step 1: It worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner.

Step 2: Basic principles were decided and Drafting Committee prepared a draft of the constitution.

Step 3: Discussions of several rounds occurred, clause by clause.

Step 4: They worked for 114 days, spread over three years.

Step 5: Every document was recorded and preserved to form twelve bulky volumes of the Constituent Assembly debates.

CHAPTER-11

ELECTORAL POLITICS

Topic-1 Why Elections?



Revision Notes

- Why do we Need Elections?
 - In any democracy, elections take place regularly. But elections are also held in many countries that are not democratic.
 - In most democracies, people rule through their representatives.
 - The process by which people choose their representatives at regular intervals is known as Election.
 - In an election the voters make many choices:
 - They can choose who will make laws for them.
 - They can choose who will form the government and take major decisions.
 - They can choose the party whose policies will guide the government and law making.
- What Makes an Election Democratic?
 - The process of election in democratic countries differs from that of non-democratic countries. In a democratic election, the preferred contestant is elected. The elections are carried out in a free and fair manner.
 - •A simple list of the minimum conditions of a democratic election are:
 - Everyone should be able to choose his/her representative, i.e., everyone should have one vote and every vote should have equal value. This is termed as Universal Adult Franchise.
 - There should be parties and candidates to choose from, freedom to contest and a wide choice for people.
 - Elections must be held at regular intervals.
 - Candidate preferred by the people should be elected.
 - Elections should be held in a fair and free atmosphere to be democratic.
- ➤ Is it Good to have Political Competition?
 - Actually, elections are all about the political competition. The most obvious form is the competition among political parties. At the constituency level, it takes the form of competition among several candidates. If there is no competition, elections will become pointless.
 - There are some demerits and merits of the political competition.

Demerits:

- Creates a sense of disunity and 'party politics'.
- Parties level allegations against each other by using dirty tricks to win elections.
- Long-term policies cannot be formulated.
- Good people do not enter politics.
- Merits:
- Elections are good because they force the ruling party to perform. The government is aware that it will be voted out of power if it does not perform as the people expected.
- It forces parties and leaders to perform, so competition is good.

Key Terms

- **Election:** The process by which people choose their representatives at regular intervals is known as election.
- Electorate: It refers to the entire body of people who are qualified to vote in the elections for the legislatures or local bodies.
- Franchise: It refers to the right of people to vote and elect their representatives to make laws.

Topic-2 What is Our System of Elections?



Revision Notes

- An election is carried out every five years to the Lok Sabha or the Vidhan Sabha, it is known as a general election.
- Sometimes, the Lok Sabha and the Vidhan Sabha are dissolved and an election is held before the expiry of their full term of five years. Such an election is called a mid-term election.

> Electoral constituencies

- In India, we follow an area based system of representation. The country is divided into different areas for purposes of elections. These areas are called Electoral Constituencies. The voters who live in an area elect one representative.
- For Lok Sabha elections, the country is divided into 543 constituencies. The representative elected from each constituency is called a Member of Parliament or an MP.
- Similarly, each state is divided into a specific number of Assembly constituencies. In this case, the elected representative is called the Member of Legislative Assembly or an MLA.
- The same principle applies for Panchayat and Municipal elections. Each village or town is divided into several 'wards' that are like constituencies. Each ward elects one member of the village or the urban local body.

Reserved Constituencies:

- The Constitution of India entitles every citizen to elect her/his representative and to be elected as a representative.
- The Constitution of India states a special system of reserved constituencies for the Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) as well as Other Backward Classes (OBC).
- One-third of the seats are reserved in rural and urban local bodies for women candidates.

➤ Voters' List:

- In a democratic election like in our country, the list of those who are eligible to vote is prepared much before the election and given to everyone. This list is officially called the Electoral Roll and is commonly known as the Voters' List.
- The Indian Government has introduced the Election Photo Identity Card [EPIC] System. Every eligible voter on the list is issued a Photo Identity Card. Carrying this EPIC is not mandatory. Instead, voters can provide proof of identity like ration card or driving licence to exercise their right to vote.

Nomination of Candidates:

- Any citizen of India who can be a voter can also become a candidate in elections. The only difference is that in order to be a candidate, the minimum age is 25 years.
- Political parties nominate their candidates who get the party symbol and their party worker's support. Party's nomination is often called 'party ticket'.
- Every person who wishes to contest an election has to fill a 'nomination form' and give some money as 'security deposit'.

> Election Campaign:

- The main purpose of election campaign is to have a free and open discussion about who is a better representative, which party will make a better government or what is a good policy.
- Sometimes it is necessary to regulate campaigns to ensure that every political party and candidate gets a fair and equal chance to compete.

According to our election law:

- Political parties or candidates cannot bribe or threaten voters.
- They cannot ask for votes on the grounds of caste or religion.
- They cannot make use of government resources or places of worship for campaigning.
- They cannot spend more than ₹ 25 lakh per constituency for a Lok Sabha election or more than ₹ 10 lakh per constituency in a state legislative assembly election.
- > The Indian Constitution provides equal rights of representation to all the citizens of India.
- There is a common Code of Conduct for election campaigns, which all political parties in India have to follow.

Polling and Counting of Votes

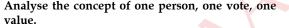
- •The final stage of an election is the day when the voters cast or 'poll' their vote. That day is usually called the election day.
- •Every person whose name is on the voters' list can go to a nearby polling booth, and cast his/her votes. Nowadays, electronic voting machines (EVMs) are used to record votes.
- •Once the polling is over, all the EVMs are sealed and taken to a secured place.
- •A few days later, on a fixed date, all the EVMs from a constituency are opened and the votes secured by each candidate are counted. Within a few hours of counting, all the results are declared and it becomes clear as to who will form the next government.
- There is a common Code of Conduct for election campaigns, which all political parties in India have to follow.



Key Terms

- Campaigning: It refers to a process by which a candidate tries to persuade the voter to vote for him rather than for others.
- ➤ Election Photo Identity Card: The voters are required to carry this card when they go out to vote.
- ➤ **Voter's List:** List of those who are eligible to vote, that is prepared before the election.
- ➤ Electoral Roll: Voter's list is also known as Electoral Roll.
- Election Manifesto: A document published by every political party before elections containing the policies and programmes of that party.
- ➤ Code of Conduct: A set of norms and guidelines to be followed by political parties and contesting candidates during the election time.

Example



Ans.

Step 1: The Indian Constitution provides equal rights of representation to all the citizens of India in elections and to choose their representatives.

Step 2: All citizens of age 18 years or above are eligible to vote and a citizen aged 25 years or above is also eligible for contesting an election.

Step 3: According to Universal Adult Franchise, everyone should have one vote and each note

should have equal value. No one should be denied the right to vote without a good reason.

Step 4: Citizens differ from one another in many ways: some are rich, some are poor, some are highly educated, some are not so educated or not educated at all, some are kind, others are not. But all of them are human beings with their own needs and views.

Step 5: That is why all of them deserve to have an equal say in decisions that affect them especially politics.

Topic-3

What Makes Elections in India Democratic?



Revision Notes

Independent Election Commission:

- ➤ India has a democratic election system. The election system in India is controlled and governed by an independent and very powerful body called the Election Commission (EC). The EC is headed by the Chief Election Commissioner, who is assisted by several Election Commissioners.
- ➤ The Election Commission of India performs several functions, starting from the announcement of the elections to the final declaration of the result.
- It drafts and implements the Model Code of Conduct for elections and takes disciplinary action against parties violating it.

> The Election Commission is authorised to advise the government on decisions affecting the election and control the transfer of government officials. The Election Commission also has the function of controlling the work of government officials on election duty. The Election Commission has the power to order a re-poll in case it finds evidence of unfair practices during polling.

Popular Participation:

- ➤ The quality of the election process can also be checked by seeing the participation of people. Some conclusions about participation in India:
 - (i) People's participation in the election is measured by voter turnout figures. Turnout indicates the percentage of eligible voters, who actually cast their vote.
 - (ii) In India, the poor, illiterate and underprivileged people vote in larger proportion as compared to the rich and privileged sections.
 - (iii) Common people in India feel that through elections they can bring pressure on political parties to adopt policies and programmes favourable to them.
 - (iv) The interest of voters in election related activities has been increasing over the years.

Acceptance of Election Outcome:

- > One final test of the free and fairness of the election is the outcome of the election.
 - (i) The ruling parties routinely lose elections in India both at the national and state level.
 - (ii) In India, about half of the sitting MPs or MLAs lose elections.
 - (iii) Candidates who are known to have spent a lot of money on 'buying votes' and those with known criminal connections often lose elections.
 - (iv) Barring very few disputed elections, the electoral outcomes are usually accepted as 'people's verdict' by the defeated party.

Challenges to Free and Fair Elections

- Elections in India are basically free and fair. Sometimes this may not be true for every constituency.
- > There are many limitations and challenges to Indian elections. These include:
 - (i) Candidates and parties with a lot of money enjoy a big and unfair advantage over smaller parties.
 - (ii) Candidates with criminal connections have been able to push others out of the electoral race and to secure a 'ticket' from major parties.
 - (iii) Tickets are distributed to relatives from their families.
 - (iv) Elections offer little choice to ordinary citizens as major parties are quite similar to each other, both in policies and practice.
 - (v) Smaller parties and independent candidates suffer a huge disadvantage compared to bigger parties.



➤ **Incumbent:** The current holder of a political office.

CHAPTER-12

WORKING OF INSTITUTIONS



How is a major policy decision taken?: Parliament



Revision Notes

A Government Order

- ➤ On August 13, 1990, the Government of India issued an Order.
- It was called an Office Memorandum.

- According to this order, other than SC and ST the 27% job reservation benefit will be given to a new third category called Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC).
- Only persons who belong to backward classes, were eligible for this quota.

The Decision Makers

- > In a Democratic Government, the decision making power is divided in three separate organs the legislature, the executive and the judiciary.
- > The legislature makes the laws, the executive implements them, and the judiciary resolves disputes that arise out of major policy decisions. It consists of an assembly of the people's representatives which has the power to enact laws for a country.
- Any major policy decision is conveyed through a government order. A government order is also called an office memorandum. This Office Memorandum was the culmination of a long chain of events.
- > The Second Backward Classes Commission in India was established in 1979 by the Janata Party Government under the then Prime Minister Morarji Desai. It was popularly known as the Mandal Commission.
- > As per the Mandal Commission recommendations, a government order announced that 27 per cent of vacancies in civil posts and services under the Government of India would be reserved for Socially and Economically Backward Classes (SEBC). The reservations issue was strongly protested by the people stating that this largely affected everyone's job opportunities.

Need for the Political Institution

- > A democracy works well when political institutions perform functions assigned to them.
- ➤ Institutions involve Meetings, Committees and Routines.
- ➤ This often leads to delays and complications.
- Some of the delays and complications introduced by institutions are very useful as they provide an opportunity for a wider set of people to be consulted.
- > Institutions make it difficult to have a good decision taken very quickly. But, they also make it equally difficult to rush through a bad decision.
- > There are several such institutions at work: The Prime Minister and the Cabinet are institutions that make all the important policy decisions. The civil servants are responsible for taking steps to implement the policy decisions effectively. The Supreme Court, as an institution, resolves the disputes between the citizens and the government.

Why Do We Need Parliament

➤ The Parliament is a national assembly of elected representatives of the people. The Parliament has the authority of enacting laws. It can add new laws, and change or abolish existing laws. National policy and important public issues are discussed and debated in the Parliament.

Two Houses of Parliament

- The Parliament consists of the office of the President of India and two houses—the Rajya Sabha or the Council of States, and the Lok Sabha or the House of the People.
- The Rajya Sabha is the Upper House of the Parliament of India. It consists of 250 members, of which 12 are nominated by the President of India. The remainder of the Rajya Sabha is elected by state and territorial legislatures. The term of office is 6 years, and 1/3rd of the members retire every 2 years. The Vice President is the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
- ➤ The Lok Sabha is directly elected by the people of India. The Lok Sabha can have a maximum of 552 members, including 20 members from the Union Territories and 2 from the Anglo Indian community. The Speaker presides over the sessions.
- ➤ Though the Rajya Sabha has some special powers, the Lok Sabha has supreme powers. The Lok Sabha can be dissolved by the President. Once the Lok Sabha passes the budget or a law related to money, the Rajya Sabha cannot reject it.

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Key Terms

- Office memorandum: A communication issued by an appropriate authority stating the policy or decision of the government.
- Reservations: A policy that declares some positions in government employment and educational institutions 'reserved' for people and communities who have been discriminated against, are disadvantaged and backward.
- Lok Sabha: It is the Lower House of the Parliament. The Lok Sabha is directly elected by the people of India.

- ➤ Rajya Sabha: The Rajya Sabha is the Upper House of the Parliament of India. The Rajya Sabha is indirectly elected by members of state assemblies.
- > Speaker: He is the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha and is responsible for the efficient conduct of business in the Lok Sabha.
- ➤ **Ordinance:** Temporary law promulgated by the President of India on the recommendations of the Union Cabinet. It can only be issued when the Parliament is not in session. It has to be approved by the Parliament within six weeks of its first sitting otherwise the ordinance would be considered null and void.
- ➤ Money Bills: Bills dealing with money matters like taxes, income, expenditure and grants.

Example

"Parliament is the supreme legislature of India." Iustify the statement.

Answer:

Step 1: In all democracies, an assembly of elected representatives exercises supreme political authority on behalf of the people.

Step 2: In India, such a national assembly of elected representatives is called Parliament. At the state level, it is called Legislature or Legislative Assembly.

Step 3: Parliament is the final authority for making laws in any country.

Step 4: Parliaments all over the world can make new laws, change existing laws or abolish existing laws and make new ones in their place.

Topic-2

Political Executive



Revision Notes

Political and Permanent Executive

- A group of functionaries is called the executive. The executive has two categories: political and permanent. The political executive consists of political leaders who are elected by the people for a specific term.
- > The permanent executive includes members who are appointed on a long-term basis. The permanent executive is also called the civil services. The political executive has more powers and the final say in all important decisions, as they are the representatives of the people.

Prime Minister and Council of Ministers

- > The political executive includes the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers. The President appoints the leader of the majority, or the coalition party that has a majority in the Lok Sabha, as the Prime Minister. Prime Minister is the most important political institution in the country.
- > The remaining ministers are appointed by the President based on the Prime Minister's advice. These ministers are usually from the party or the coalition that has a majority in the Lok Sabha. The group of minister is called the Council of Ministers. It usually has 60 to 80 Ministers of different ranks. The Council of Ministers includes Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State with independent charge and other Ministers of State.

Powers of Prime Minister

- > The Prime Minister has several powers as the Head of the Government. He chairs cabinet meetings, and assigns work to the other ministers. He also has the power to dismiss ministers. If the Prime Minister resigns, the entire ministry is supposed to resign.
- ➤ The Prime Minister is the most powerful member in the Cabinet. The power of the Prime Minister in all parliamentary democracies of the world has increased so much in the recent decades that parliamentary democracies are sometimes seen as the Prime Ministerial form of Government.

The President

> The President is the Head of the State and has nominal powers. The President supervises the overall functioning of all political institutions in the country to achieve the objectives of the state. The President is not directly elected

by the people. All the Members of Parliament (MPs) and the members of the state legislative assemblies elect the President.

Powers of President

- > All major government activities, policy decisions and laws are issued in the name of the President. The President takes all major decisions based on the advice of the council of ministers.
- > One major decision that the President makes on his or her own is to appoint the Prime Minister. The President appoints the leader of the majority party or coalition that enjoys a majority support in the Lok Sabha as the Prime Minister.



Key Terms

- **Cabinet**: A body of senior ministers who controls important ministers.
- > Collective responsibility: For any decision or action of the Cabinet, the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible. If any cabinet decisions is not approved by the Parliament, the entire Council of Ministers has to resign.
- Emergency: Extraordinary or abnormal situation in a country which can pose threat to the constitution or security.

Topic-3 The Judiciary



Revision Notes

- > The judiciary includes all the courts at different levels in a country and consists of the Supreme Court, High Courts and District Courts. The Supreme Court is the top legal organisation.
- > The Indian courts of law are further divided into two groups: civil courts and criminal courts. The civil courts deal with general disputes regarding land, property and rights. The criminal courts deal with cases of murder, riot and looting.
- > The Supreme Court controls the judicial administration in the country and resolves disputes between citizens and the government, between two or more states and between states and the union governments.
- > The Supreme Court is the highest court of appeal in civil and criminal cases. It can hear appeals against the decisions of the High Courts.
- The Indian judiciary is known for being independent of the legislature and the executive and is non-partisan. The judges do not act on the direction of the government or the ruling party. The judges for the Supreme Court and High Courts are appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister and in consultation with the Chief Justice of Supreme Court.
- The senior judges of the Supreme Court select the new judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts. There is very little scope for interference by the political executive. Once a person is appointed as judge of the Supreme Court or the High Court, it is nearly impossible to remove him or her from that position. It is as difficult as removing the President of India.
- > A judge can be removed only when an impeachment motion is passed separately by a two-third majority of members of each of the two houses of the Parliament.

Powers of Judiciary

- > The Supreme Court and the High Courts have the power to interpret the Constitution. If the courts feel that any law or action of the government is against the Constitution, they can declare it invalid.
- > The judiciary can review laws and government actions. The Indian judiciary is independent in the appointment and removal of judges, and in the execution of its powers.
- > Anyone can approach the court if public interest and human rights are affected by the actions of the government. This is called a Public Interest Litigation. The courts can intervene to ensure that the government and its officials are not misusing the powers.



Key Term

> Impeachment: A special parliamentary procedure to prosecute or to remove the President and other judges for the violation of the constitution.

CHAPTER-13

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

Topic-1 Life Without Rights; Rights in a Democracy



- Violation of Citizens' Rights by the USA:
- About 600 people were secretly picked up by the US forces from all over the world and put in a prison in Guantanamo Bay, an area near Cuba controlled by the American Navy.
- The American Government said that they were enemies of the US and linked to the attack on New York on 11th September 2001.
- Families of prisoners, media or even UN representatives were not allowed to meet them. The US Army arrested them, interrogated them and decided to keep them there. There was no trial before any magistrate in the US.
- Amnesty International, an International human rights organisation, collected information on the condition of the prisoners in Guantanamo Bay and reported that the prisoners were being tortured in ways that violated the US laws.
- Prisoners were not released even after they were officially declared not guilty. An independent inquiry by the UN supported these findings. The UN Secretary General said the prison in Guantanamo Bay should be closed down. The US Government refused to accept these pleas.
- Violation of Citizens' Rights in Saudi Arabia:
- The country is ruled by a hereditary king and the people have no role in electing or changing their rulers.
- The king selects the legislature as well as the executive. He appoints the judges and can change any of their decisions.
- Citizens cannot form political parties or any political organisation. Media cannot report anything that the monarch does not like.
- There is no freedom of religion. Every citizen is required to be Muslim. Non- muslim residents can follow their religion in private, but not in public.
- Women are subjected to many public restrictions. The testimony of one man is considered equal to that of two women.
- ➤ Violation of Citizens' Rights in Yugoslavia (Kosovo):
- Kosovo was a province of Yugoslavia before its split. In this province, the population was overwhelmingly ethnic Albanian Muslims. But in the entire country, Serbs (Christians) were in majority.
- A narrow-minded Serb nationalist Milosevic had won the election. His government was very hostile to the Kosovo Albanians. He wanted the Serbs to dominate the country. Many Serb leaders thought that ethnic minorities like Albanians should either leave the country or accept the dominance of the Serbs.
- 74 year old Batisha Hoxha was sitting in her kitchen with her 77 year old husband Izet, staying warm by the stove. She knew five or six soldiers had burst through the front door and were demanding her children.
- They shot Izet three times in the chest. When her husband was dying, the soldiers pulled the wedding ring off and even before she came out of the house, they burnt her house.
- This was typical of what happened to thousands of Albanians in that period. This was one of the worst instances of killings based on ethnic prejudices in the recent times. Finally, Milosevic lost power and was tried by an International Court of Justice for crimes against humanity.

- ➤ What are Rights? Why Do We Need Rights in a Democracy?
- ➤ Rights are reasonable claims of persons recognised by society and sanctioned by law.
- > Rights are necessary for the very sustenance of democracy.
- > In a democracy, every citizen has to have the right to vote and the right to be elected to government.
- For democratic elections to take place, it is necessary that citizens should have the right to express their opinion, form political parties and take part in political activities.
- ➤ Rights protect minorities from the oppression of the majority. They ensure that the majority cannot do whatever it likes. Rights are guarantees which can be used, when things go wrong.
- The government should protect the citizens' rights. But sometimes, elected governments may not protect or may even attack the rights of their own citizens.
- That is why some rights are needed to be placed higher than the government so that the government cannot violate them. In most democracies, the basic rights of the citizen are written down in the Constitution.



Key Term

Amnesty International: Amnesty International is an international organization of volunteers who campaign for human rights. This organisation brings out independent reports on the violation of human rights all over the world.

Topic-2

Rights in the Indian Constitution; Expanding scope of Rights



Revision Notes

- Some rights which are fundamental to our life are given a special status. They are called Fundamental Rights.
- The Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Indian Constitution are:

(i) Right to Equality:

- ➤ Right to Equality means that the laws apply in the same manner to all, regardless of a person's status. This is called the Rule of Law. Rule of Law is the foundation of democracy.
- The government shall not discriminate against any citizen on the grounds of religion, caste, ethnicity, sex or place of birth.
- > Every citizen shall have access to public places like shops, restaurants, hotels and cinema halls. Similarly, there shall be no restriction with regard to the use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads, playgrounds and places of public resorts maintained by government or dedicated to the use of general public.
- All citizens have equality of opportunity in matters relating to employment or appointment to any position in the government. No citizen shall be discriminated against or made ineligible for employment.
- ➤ The Constitution mentions one extreme form of social discrimination, the practice of untouchability and clearly directs the government to put an end to it. The practice of untouchability has been forbidden in any form.

(ii) Right to Freedom:

Under the Indian Constitution, all citizens have the right to

- (i) Freedom of speech and expression:
- (ii) Freedom to assemble in a peaceful manner.
- (iii) Freedom to form associations and unions.
- (iv) Freedom to move freely throughout the country.
- (v) Freedom to reside in any part of the country.
- (vi) Freedom to practice any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.
- (vii) Citizens have the freedom to hold meetings, processions, rallies and demonstrations on any issue.
- (viii) Your freedom should not cause public nuisance or disorder. You are free to do everything which injures no one else.

(iii) Right Against Exploitation:

- ➤ Right against Exploitation prevents the exploitation of weaker sections of society.
- > Our Constitution forbids human trafficking.
- ➤ The Constitution bans practices of bonded or forced labour.
- > The Constitution also prohibits child labour. Under this a child who is below 14 years, is restricted to work.

(iv) Right to Freedom of Religion:

- > As India is a secular country, every citizen is free to profess, propagate and practice any religion he/she believes in.
- This ensures that no one can force anyone to convert his/her religion, but a person is free to convert religion on his/her own will.
- ➤ It does not mean that one can do whatever he/she wants in the name of religion.
- ➤ Also, the government cannot pressurise any person to pay any tax for promotion of any religion or religious institutions.

(v) Cultural and Educational Rights:

- > This protects the right of every citizen to maintain their culture, language or script.
- Admission to any educational institution maintained by government or receiving government aid cannot be refused to anyone on the ground of religion or language.
- > This ensures right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

(vi) Right to Constitutional Remedies:

- > The Fundamental Rights in the Constitution are important because they are enforceable. We have a right to seek the enforcement of the above mentioned rights. This is called the Right to Constitutional Remedies.
- > This Fundamental Right makes other rights effective.
- Courts also enforce the Fundamental Rights against private individuals and bodies. The Supreme Court and High Courts have the power to issue directions, orders or writs for the enforcement of the Fundamental Rights.
- A person can go to court against the violation of a Fundamental Right. If it is of social or public interest, it is called Public Interest Litigation (PIL). Under the PIL, any citizen or group of citizens can approach the Supreme Court or a High Court for the protection of public interest against a particular law or action of the government.
- > The flipped coexistence of rights versus duties refers to a philosophical concept that challenges the conventional understanding of the relationship between individual rights and societal duties. Traditionally, it has been widely accepted that individuals possess certain rights that are protected by law, while duties usually are seen as obligations individuals owe to society. However, the flipped coexistence theory proposes a reversal of this perspective, suggesting that duties should be given priority over rights.
- Advocates of the flipped coexistence argue that by focusing on duties, individuals become more mindful of the impact of their actions on others and are motivated to actively contribute to the betterment of society. By reframing the relationship between rights and duties, the theory seeks to foster a more holistic approach to societal functioning that takes into account the well-being of the entire community.
- ➤ However, critics of the flipped coexistence theory raise concerns about the potential for an overbearing state or society that prioritises duties at the expense of individual freedoms. Balancing the rights of individuals with their corresponding duties remains a complex challenge, requiring careful consideration and dialogue to ensure that neither aspect is disproportionately favoured or undermined.
- > In conclusion, the flipped coexistence theory challenges the traditional understanding of the relationship between rights and duties by proposing that duties should take precedence over rights. By emphasizing the importance of societal responsibilities, the theory seeks to promote a more balanced and harmonious society. While it offers potential benefits such as fostering a sense of civic responsibility, critics caution against potential infringements on individual freedoms. Achieving a proper balance between rights and duties is an ongoing challenge that requires thoughtful deliberation and consideration of societal well-being.

Additional Rights Guaranteed by Indian Constitution

- ➤ Over the years the scope of rights has expanded. From time to time, the courts gave judgments to expand the scope of rights.
- Now, school education has become a right for Indian citizens. The governments are responsible for providing free and compulsory education to all children up to the age of 14 years.
- > Parliament has enacted a law giving the right to information to the citizens. We have a right to seek information from government offices.
- Recently, the Supreme Court has expanded the meaning of the right to life to include the right to food.

➤ The right to property and right to vote in elections are important Constitutional Rights.

Constitution of South Africa guarantees its citizens several kinds of new rights:

- ➤ Right to privacy, so that citizens or their homes cannot be searched, their phones cannot be tapped, their communication cannot be opened.
- ➤ Right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well being.
- ➤ Right to have access to adequate housing.
- Right to have access to health care services, sufficient food and water; no one must be refused of emergency medical treatment.

Human right activists all over the world seek a set of rights as a standard of human rights. These include:

- ➤ **Right to work:** opportunity to everyone to earn livelihood by working.
- > Right to safe and healthy working conditions, fair wages that can provide decent standard of living for the workers and their families.
- Right to adequate standard of living including adequate food, clothing and housing.
- Right to social security and insurance.
- > Right to Health: Medical care during illness, special care for women during childbirth and prevention of epidemics.
- ➤ **Right to education:** Free and compulsory primary education, equal access to higher education.



Key Terms

- ➤ Writ: A formal document containing an order of the court to the government issued only by the High Court or the Supreme Court.
- ➤ National Human Rights Commission: It is an independent organization established in 1993. Its main work is to focus on human rights and help the victims, whose rights are violated.

Example

Explain the Right to Culture and Education for minorities.

Ans.

Step 1: The Constitution specifies the cultural and educational rights of the minorities. Any section of citizens with a distinct language or culture has a right to conserve it.

Step 2: Admission to any educational institution maintained by government or receiving government

aid cannot be denied to any citizen on the ground of religion or language.

Step 3: All minorities have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. Here minority does not mean only religious minority at the national level.

Step 4: In some places, people speaking a particular language are in majority while, people speaking a different language are in a minority.

UNIT-IV ECONOMICS

CHAPTER-14

PEOPLE AS RESOURCE

Topic-1

Quality of Population



Revision Notes

Introduction

Various activities have been classified into three main sectors: Primary, Secondary and Tertiary.

- Primary sector includes agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, fishing, poultry farming, mining, and quarrying.
- Manufacturing is included in the secondary sector.
- Trade, transport, communication, banking, education, health, tourism, services, insurance, etc., are included in the tertiary sector. The activities in this sector result in the production of goods and services.
- Since these activities add value to the national income, they are called economic activities.
 - Economic activities have two parts market activities and non- market activities.
 - Market activities involve remuneration to anyone who performs, i.e., activity performed for pay or profit.
 These include production of goods or services including government service.
 - Non-market activities are the production for self-consumption. These can be consumption and processing of primary products and own account production of fixed assets.
 - A division of labour exists between men and women in the family because of the historical and cultural reasons.
 - The household work done by women is not recognized in the national income.
 - Among the organized sector, teaching and medicine attract the women the most. Some women have entered administrative and other services including job that needs high levels of scientific and technological competence.

Quality of Population

- ➤ The quality of population depends upon:
 - The literacy rate.
 - Health of a person is indicated by life expectancy.
 - Skill formation acquired by the people of the country.

Education

- ➤ Education is an important input for the growth of a person.
 - It opens new horizons for the person.
 - Provides new aspiration.
 - Develops values of life.
 - Contributes towards the growth of the society.
 - Enhances the national income and cultural richness.
 - Increases the efficiency of governance.
- The policies that can add to the literate population of India:
 - Schools like Navodaya Vidyalaya have been established in each district.
 - Vocational streams have been developed to equip large number of high school students with occupations related to knowledge and skills.
 - "Sarva Siksha Abhiyan" is a significant step towards providing elementary education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years by 2010.
 - The bridge courses and back-to-school camps have been initiated to increase the enrolment in elementary education.
 - Mid-day meal scheme has been implemented to encourage attendance and retention of children and improve
 their nutritional status.
- ➤ The eleventh plan endeavoured to increase the enrolment in higher education of the 18 to 23 years age group to 15 percent by 2011–2012 and to 21 percent by twelfth plan.

Health

- The health of a person helps him to realize his potential and provides the ability to fight illness.
- > Improvement in the health status of the population has been the priority of the country.
- Our national policy aims at improving the accessibility of health care, family welfare and nutritional service, with a special focus on the under-privileged segment of the population.
- ➤ Increase in longevity of life is an indicator of the good quality of life marked by self-confidence.
- > Reduction in infant mortality involves the protection of children from infection, ensuring nutrition along with mother and child care.



Key Terms

- ➤ GNP (Gross National Product): It is the sum total of all the final goods and services produced by the normal residents of a country during an accounting year.
- ➤ **Human capital formation:** When the existing human resource is further developed by becoming more educated and healthy, human capital formation takes place. It adds to the productive power of the country, just like physical capital formation.

- Literacy rate: Percentage of people above a certain age, who can, along with understanding, both read and write short simple statements in everyday life.
- Infant mortality rate: The number of death of infants under one year of age occurring among the live births per thousand of the births in a year.
- ➤ **Death rate:** Death rate is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year.
- Birth Rate: It is the number of babies born for every 1,000 people during a particular period of time.
- ➤ **Life expectancy:** The average period that a person may expect to live.

Example

"Health should be treated as an important asset for human capital". Analyse the statements with reference to our national health policy.

Ans.

Step 1: Improvement in the health status of the population has been the priority of the country.

Step 2: The country has a well structured three tier public health infrastructure comprising Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres and Sub-Centres spread across rural and semi-urban areas and tertiary medical care providing multi-speciality hospitals and medical colleges located almost exclusively in the urban areas.

Step 3: The National Health Policy 2002 aims at achieving an acceptable standard of health for the general population of the country.

Step 4: To achieve the objective, a comprehensive approach was advocated, which included improvements in individual health care, public health, sanitation, clean drinking water, access to food and knowledge of hygiene and feeding practices.

Step 5: Over the last five decades India has built up a vast health infrastructure and has developed manpower required at primary, secondary and tertiary sector in Government as well as in the private sector.

Topic-2 Unemployment



- Unemployment is said to exist when people who are willing to work at the prevailing wages cannot find jobs.
- In case of India, we have unemployment in rural and urban areas. However, the nature of unemployment differs in rural and urban areas. In case of rural areas, there is seasonal and disguised unemployment. Urban areas mostly have educated unemployment.
- > Seasonal unemployment takes place when people are not able to find jobs during some months of the year. People, dependent upon agriculture, usually face such kind of problem.
- ➤ In case of disguised unemployment, people appear to be employed. They have an agricultural plot where they find work. This usually happens among family members engaged in agricultural activity. The work requires the service of five people, but engages eight people. Three people are extra. These three extra people are disguised unemployed.
- ➤ Unemployment leads to wastage of manpower resource. People who are an asset for the economy turn into a liability.
- ➤ Unemployment has a detrimental impact on the overall growth of an economy.
- ➤ Unemployment tends to increase economic overload. The dependence of the unemployed on the working population increases. The quality of life of an individual as well as of society is adversely affected.
- > Increase in unemployment is an indicator of a depressed economy.
- > In case of India, statistically, the unemployment rate is low. A large number of people represented with low income and productivity are counted as employed.
- > The employment structure is characterized by self-employment in the primary sector. Agriculture is the most labour absorbing sector of the economy, though the rate has been declining in recent years because of disguised unemployment.
- Some of the surplus labour in agriculture has moved to either the secondary or the tertiary sector.

- ➤ Encourage entrepreneurship: Encouraging people to start their own businesses can help create new jobs. Governments can offer incentives and tax breaks to entrepreneurs and provide access to funding and resources to help them get started.
- ➤ Invest in education and training: Governments can invest in education and training programs to help workers develop new skills and adapt to changing industries. This can make them more employable and help them find jobs in growing industries.
- ➤ Create public works programs: Governments can create public works programs to help create jobs in areas such as infrastructure development, construction, and environmental projects.
- ➤ Increase public sector employment: Governments can increase public sector employment to provide job opportunities for people who are struggling to find work in the private sector.
- ➤ Provide unemployment benefits and support: Governments can provide unemployment benefits and support to help people who are out of work to meet their basic needs and find new job opportunities.
- > Promote international trade: International trade can create new job opportunities and stimulate economic growth. Governments can negotiate trade agreements and provide support for businesses that want to export their products and services.
- Implement a living wage: Implementing a living wage can help lift people out of poverty and reduce the number of people who are unemployed or underemployed.
- Address discrimination and inequality: Discrimination and inequality can prevent some people from accessing job opportunities. Governments can implement policies to address these issues and ensure that everyone has an equal chance to succeed.



Key Terms

Educated Unemployment: This type of unemployment occurs in urban areas when the educated and qualified youth is not able to get employment.

CHAPTER-15

POVERTY AS A CHALLENGE

Topic-1

Poverty-Introduction, Indicators and Estimates



- Poverty can be defined as the lack of common things like food, clothing, shelter, safe drinking water, medical care and education, which determine the quality of life. Poverty exists in both urban and rural areas of India.
- There are certain things that are common in the life of poor people in urban and rural India. These include hunger and malnutrition, lack of proper housing and shelter, no healthcare in case of illness and no regular job and income, lack of sanitation and safe drinking water, no education for children, hopelessness and illtreatment.
- The most commonly-used indicators to understand poverty are related to the levels of income of people and their consumption of goods.
- Poverty is looked through other social indicators like illiteracy level, lack of general resistance due to malnutrition, lack of access to health care, lack of job opportunities, lack of access to safe drinking water, sanitation, etc.
- The concept of social exclusion states that poor people have to live in poor surroundings excluded from neighbourhoods of people who are better off.

- Social exclusion can be both an effect and a cause of poverty. A person may be forced to live in poor surroundings, because he or she is poor. Social exclusion excludes people from equal opportunities of education, healthcare, employment and general quality of life.
- Vulnerability is the measure of the probability of certain groups of people becoming poor or remaining poor
- Vulnerability is determined by the availability of options for employment, education, healthcare, etc. Poor people are more vulnerable to poverty.

➤ Poverty line and Vulnerable groups (Indicators)

- A person is considered poor if his or her income or consumption level falls below a given minimum level necessary to fulfill the basic needs.
- Poverty line may vary with time and place. In India, the determination of the poverty line takes into consideration the minimum requirements of food, clothing, footwear, fuel, power, education and healthcare for the subsistence of an individual.
- Minimum requirement of food is done by taking the minimum calorie requirement into consideration. In India, the minimum daily requirement is fixed at 2,400 calories per person in rural areas and 2,100 calories per person in urban areas.
- Though the calorie requirement for the people in rural areas is more, their poverty line income is less than the people in urban areas.
- The poverty line is revised periodically to accommodate rising prices and the changing requirements of people through nationwide surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization. The percentage of population living under poverty line in India has reduced. Some groups and communities are more vulnerable to poverty than others.
- Even within a family, some people are more vulnerable and suffer more than the others due to poverty, like the elderly, women and children, especially the girls.
- > Estimates of Poverty: The incidence of poverty in India was around 55 per cent in 1973 which declined to 36 per cent in 1993 and further to 26 per cent in 2000.



Key Terms

> Poverty line: The concept of poverty line is based on the fact that a person must have a minimum level of income and consumption to satisfy the basic needs of food, clothing, clean water, education and healthcare.

Inter-State Disparities and Global Poverty Topic-2 Scenario; Causes of Poverty, Anti-Poverty Measures and the Challenges Ahead



- Poverty in India also has another aspect or dimension. The proportion of poor people is not the same in every state. The success rate of reducing poverty varies from state to state.
- > Odisha with a poverty ratio of 47 percent and Bihar with a poverty ratio of 43 percent are the two poorest states in India. The poverty ratios in Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh are also much higher.
- > The states that have shown the most significant decline in poverty are Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The decline in poverty in Punjab and Haryana was driven by high agricultural growth rates after the Green Revolution in India.
- In West Bengal, the decline in poverty is associated with land reforms that aimed to improve the condition of small farmers and agricultural workers. In Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, a well-implemented Public Distribution System of food grains is the cause of the decline in poverty.
- > Kerala has the highest literacy rate in India for both its male and female population. The focus on education and training and development of human resources has led to the decline of poverty of Kerala.

• Global Scenario:

- > The proportion of people in different countries living in extreme economic poverty— defined by the World Bank as living on less than \$1.90 per day—has fallen from 36 per cent in 1990 to 10 per cent in 2015.
- The rapid decline in poverty in China, and Southeast Asian countries is associated with rapid economic growth and huge investments in human resource development in these regions.
- > In Sub-Saharan Africa, poverty in fact declined from 51 per cent in 2005 to 40.2 per cent in 2018.
- > In Latin America, the ratio of poverty has also declined from 10 per cent in 2005 to 4 per cent in 2018.
- > Poverty has also resurfaced in some of the former socialist countries like Russia, where officially it was non-existent earlier.
- > The proportion of people living under poverty in different countries as defined by the international poverty line. Causes of Poverty:
- > The main causes of poverty in India include low economic growth during the colonial rule, population explosion, lack of job opportunities, irregular low-paying employment, inequitable distribution of resources and indebtedness.

Anti-Poverty Measures and the Challenges Ahead

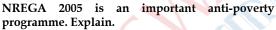
- > Anti-poverty measures taken by the Indian Government are based on two main objectives: Increasing economic growth in the country and launching anti-poverty programmes for specific groups of people.
- > The Government of India has launched several anti-poverty programmes like the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojna, Rural Employment Guarantee Programme and Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojna which are aimed at generating self-employment opportunities in rural areas.
- Human poverty extends beyond the traditional definition of poverty to include lack of housing, education, healthcare, job security, and lack of equal opportunities or dignity, due to discrimination based on caste, colour or gender.
- > India's future in combating poverty appears bright. Rising economic growth, falling population growth rate, radical schemes for free elementary education for all and empowerment of women and the weaker sections of society, should result in an appreciable reduction of poverty in the years to come.



Key Terms

Inter-state disparities: It is the proportion of poor people in different states of the country and varies from state to state.

Example



Answer

Step 1: NREGA stands for National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

Step 2: It aims at providing 100 days assured employment every year to every rural household. If an applicant is not provided employment within 15 days he/she will be entitled to a daily unemployment allowance.

Step 3: It initially started for 625 districts, but later on it was extended to all districts of India. One-third of the proposed jobs were reserved for women.

Step 4: The Central Government established National Employment Guarantee Funds and State Government established State Employment Guarantee Funds for implementation of the scheme.

CHAPTER-16 FOOD SECURITY IN INDIA

Topic-1

Introduction to Food Security



- What is Food Security?
- Food security means availability, accessibility and affordability of food to all people at all times.

➤ Why Food Security?

- People living in poverty suffer from lack of food security most of the time as they cannot afford food. In situations of natural disasters like flood, drought and earthquake, the problem of food security assumes larger proportions and affects a larger number of people.
- Natural calamities like flood and drought destroy crops and existing food stocks triggering a chain reaction.
 Destruction and decrease in the production of food causes decrease in the availability of food. A decrease
 in the availability of food causes food prices to rise. The rise in food prices decreases the afford ability, and
 more people are unable to buy food.
- A natural calamity affecting a large area for a long duration of time leads to starvation and conditions of famine.
- A famine is characterized by wide spread deaths due to starvation and epidemics caused by forced use of contaminated water or decaying food and loss of body resistance due to weakening from starvation.

➤ Who are Food-Insecure?

- A large section of people suffers from food and nutrition insecurity in India, the worst affected groups are landless people with little or no land to depend upon, traditional artisans, providers of traditional services, petty self-employed workers and destitute including beggars.
- In the urban areas, the food insecure families are those whose working members are generally employed in ill-paid occupations and casual labour market.
- The people affected by natural disasters, who have to migrate to other areas in search of work, are also among the most food insecure people.
- A large proportion of pregnant and nursing mothers and children under the age of 5 years constitute an important segment of the food insecure population.
- Hunger is another aspect indicating food insecurity. Hunger has chronic and seasonal dimensions. Chronic
 hunger is a consequence of diets persistently inadequate in terms of quantity and/or quality. Seasonal
 hunger is related to cycles of food growing and harvesting.

> Food Security in India

- India has become self-sufficient in food grains during the last thirty years because of a variety of crops grown all over the country.
- The introduction of modern farming methods brought about the Green Revolution in India and was marked by a dramatic increase in the production of food grains.
- The availability of food grains at the country level has further been ensured with a carefully designed food security system by the government. This system has two components: buffer stock and public distribution system.
- Buffer Stock is the stock of food grains, namely wheat and rice procured by the government through Food Corporation of India (FCI).
- The food procured by the FCI is distributed through government regulated ration shops among the poorer section of the society. This is called the public distribution system (PDS).
- Public Distribution System (PDS) is the most important step taken by the Government of India (GoI) towards ensuring food security.



Key Terms

- ➤ Food Corporation of India: Since the Green Revolution, food grain production in India has increased manifold. The food security system in India consists of the creation of buffer stocks of food grains and their distribution through the public distribution system. Every year, after the harvest of food grains like wheat and rice, the government buys food grains from farmers through the Food Corporation of India.
- ➤ Wheat Revolution: It was a special stamp released in July 1968 by Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, to officially record the impressive achievement of the Green Revolution.

Example

What are the problems of the functioning of ration shops?

Answer:

Step 1: The public distribution system (PDS) is the most important step taken by the Indian government towards ensuring food security. However, there have been several problems related to the functioning of ration shops.

Step 2: The food grains supplied by the ration shops are not enough to meet the consumption needs of the poor. As a result, they have to depend on markets instead.

Step 3: The average all-India level of consumption of PDS grains is only 1 kg per person per month.

Step 4: Most public-distribution-system dealers' resort to malpractices like diverting food grains to

open market to make profits, selling poor quality grains at ration shops, irregular opening of the shops, etc. Such actions make safe and nutritious food inaccessible and unaffordable for many of the poor.

Step 5: Under the targeted public distribution system, there are three kinds of ration cards: Antyodaya cards (for the poorest of the poor), BPL cards (for those below poverty line) and APL cards (for all others). Prices of the food materials are fixed accordingly. Under this system, any family above the poverty line gets very little discount at the ration shop. The price of food items for an APL family is almost as high as in the open market, so there is little incentive for them to buy the items from the ration shop.

Topic-2

Role of Cooperatives in Food Security



Revision Notes

- ➤ Cooperative societies in India are playing a significant role in ensuring food security and are more active in western and southern regions of the country. In Tamil Nadu, around 94% of all fair price shops run under the Public Distribution System are managed by cooperatives.
- > Mother Dairy is a cooperative that sells milk and vegetables at fixed rates decided by the Delhi Government.
- Anand Milk Union Limited or Amul, Gujarat is one of the most successful cooperatives in India. Amul gave a tremendous boost to milk production leading to the White Revolution in India. Amul not only encourages dairy farming, but also provides a variety of milk products to consumers all over the country.
- ➤ The Academy of Development Sciences in Maharashtra is a society devoted to welfare of tribal and rural communities. ADS has set up grain banks in tribal and rural areas with the help of local NGOs to food security.
- A grain bank functions like a normal bank. The members can make deposits of surplus grain after the harvest and make withdrawals during lean periods. Grain bank members can also take loans in the form of grain and repay the loans with interest at the time of the next harvest.