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UPSC Mains GS-1

INDIAN SOCIETY

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Abhijeet Yadav and Adv.Shashank Ratnoo
(AIR 653 & AIR 688)

OUR FACULTY

Unlock Your UPSC Success with us

Abhijeet Yadav
(Co-founder) - Chief Mentor
Cleared UPSC CSE Twice

Adv. Shashank Ratnoo
(Co-founder) - Chief Mentor
AIR 688 (CSE 2015)

Krishna Tupe
Pursuing PhD IIT Bombay

Ketan
Cleared UPSC CSE | BTech, IIT Delhi
AIR 860, CSE 2015

Nimish Kapur
Ex-CISF, AIR 6, UPSC CAPF 2013,
Cleared Punjab PCS twice.

Rohan Salunkhe
6+ year teaching experience
M.A. Sociology

Neelam Bhatia
Polity faculty in DU

Ishan Srivastava
Appeared for UPSC CSE 2022
interview

Anil Sapkal
Sr. Engineer in an MNC
4+ year teaching experience

Trisha Gupta
5+ year teaching experience

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INDIAN SOCIETY

Syllabus

Indian Society

- Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.
- Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.
- Effects of globalization on Indian society.
- Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.

Previous Years Questions

2024

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1. Distinguish between gender equality, gender equity and women's empowerment. Why is it important to take gender concerns into account in programme design and implementation?
2. Intercaste marriages between castes which have socio-economic parity have increased, to some extent, but this is less true of interreligious marriages. Discuss.
3. In dealing with socio-economic Issues of development, what kind of collaboration between government, NGOs and private sector would be most productive?
4. What is regional disparity How does it differ from diversity? How serious is the issue of regional disparity in India?
5. Despite comprehensive policies for equity and social justice, underprivileged sections are not yet getting the full benefits of affirmative action envisaged by the Constitution. Comment.
6. Globalization has increased urban migration by skilled, young, unmarried women from various classes. How has this trend impacted upon their personal freedom and relationship with family?
7. Critically analyse the proposition that there is a high correlation between India's cultural diversities and socio-economic marginalities.

2023

1. Explain why suicide among young women is increasing in Indian society.

2. Child cuddling is now being replaced by mobile phones. Discuss its impact on the socialization of children.
3. What are the main features of Vedic society and religion? Do you think some of the features are still prevailing in Indian society?
4. Does urbanization lead to more segregation and/or marginalization of the poor in Indian metropolises?
5. Why is caste identity in India both fluid and static?
6. Discuss the impact of post-liberal economy on ethnic identity and communalism.

2022

1. Explore and evaluate the impact of 'Work From Home' on family relationships.
2. How is the growth of Tier 2 Cities related to the rise of a new middle class with an emphasis on the culture of consumption?
3. Given the diversities among tribal communities in India, in which specific contexts should they be considered as a single category ?
4. Are tolerance, assimilation and pluralism the key elements in the making of an Indian form of secularism? Justify your answer.
5. Analyse the salience of 'sect' in Indian society vis-a-vis caste, region and religion.

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2021

1. Examine the uniqueness of tribal knowledge system when compared with mainstream knowledge and cultural systems. (150 words)
2. How does Indian society maintain continuity in traditional social values? Enumerate the changes taking place in it. (250 words)

2020

1. Has caste lost its relevance in understanding the multi-cultural Indian Society? Elaborate your answer with illustrations.
2. COVID-19 pandemic accelerated class inequalities and poverty in India. Comment.
3. Do you agree that regionalism in India appears to be a consequence of rising cultural assertiveness? Argue.
4. Are diversity and pluralism in India under threat due to globalisation? Justify your answer.
5. Customs and traditions suppress reason leading to obscurantism. Do you agree?
6. How have digital initiatives in India contributed to the functioning of the education system in the country? Elaborate on your answer.

2019

1. "Empowering women is the key to control population growth". Discuss.
2. What are the challenges to our cultural practices in the name of secularism?
3. Do we have cultural pockets of small India all over the nation? Elaborate with examples.
4. What are the continued challenges for women in India against time and space?
5. Are we losing our local identity for the global identity? Discuss.

2018

1. "Caste system is assuming new identities and associational forms. Hence, the caste system cannot be eradicated in India." Comment.
2. 'Despite the implementation of various programmes for eradication of poverty by the government in India, poverty is still existing'. Explain by giving reasons.
3. How is the Indian concept of secularism different from the western model of secularism? Discuss.
4. 'Women's movement in India has not addressed the issues of women of lower social strata.' Substantiate your view.
5. 'Globalisation is generally said to promote cultural homogenisation but due to this cultural specificities appear to be strengthened in the Indian society.' Elucidate.
6. 'Communalism arises either due to power struggle or relative deprivation.' Argue by giving suitable illustrations.

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2017

1. In the context of the diversity of India, can it be said that the regions form cultural units rather than the States? Give reasons with examples for your viewpoint.
2. What are the two major legal initiatives by the State since Independence addressing discrimination against Scheduled Tribes(STs)?
3. The spirit of tolerance and love is not only an interesting feature of Indian society from very early times, but it is also playing an important part in the present. Elaborate.
4. The women's questions arose in modern India as a part of the 19th century social reform movement. What are the major issues and debates concerning women in that period?
5. Distinguish between religiousness/religiosity and communalism giving one example of how the former has got transformed into the latter in independent India.

2016

1. Has the formation of linguistic states strengthened the cause of Indian unity?
2. To what extent has globalisation influenced the core of cultural diversity in India? Explain.

3. "An essential condition to eradicate poverty is to liberate the poor from the process of deprivation." Substantiate this statement with suitable examples.
4. Why are the tribals in India referred to as 'the Scheduled Tribes'? Indicate the major provisions enshrined in the Constitution of India for their upliftment.
5. With a brief background of the quality of urban life in India, introduce the objectives and strategy of the 'Smart City Programme."
6. What is the basis of regionalism? Is it that unequal distribution of benefits of development on a regional basis eventually promotes regionalism? Substantiate your answer.

2015

1. Describe any four cultural elements of diversity in India and rate their relative significance in building a national identity.
2. Critically examine whether a growing population is the cause of poverty OR poverty is the mains cause of population increase in India.
3. How do you explain the statistics that show that the sex ratio in Tribes in India is more favourable to women than the sex ratio among Scheduled Castes?
4. Discuss the changes in the trends of labour migration within and outside India in the last four decades.
5. Discuss the positive and negative effects of globalization on women in India?
6. Debate the issue of whether and how contemporary movements for the assertion of Dalit identity work towards annihilation of caste.

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2014

1. How does patriarchy impact the position of a middle-class working woman in India?
2. Why do some of the most prosperous regions of India have an adverse sex ratio for women? Give your arguments.
3. The life cycle of a joint family depends on economic factors rather than social values. Discuss.
4. How do the Indian debates on secularism differ from the debates in the West?

2013

1. Discussion the various social problems which originated out of the speedy process of urbanization in India.
2. Male membership needs to be encouraged in order to make women's organization free from gender bias. Comment.
3. Critically examine the effects of globalization on the aged population in India.

4. Growing feeling of regionalism is an important factor in the generation of demand for a separate state. Discuss.

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CHAPTER 1 : Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India

Salient Features : Caste system, Family and Kinship, Marriage, Patriarchy, Class system, Traditionalism vs Modernity, Individualism vs Collectivism, Spiritualism vs Materialism, Diversity, Unity amidst Diversity

Introduction

- People residing in one geographical area.
- Desire to perpetuate.
- Social solidarity (among castes, tribes, ethnic groups etc.)
- Bound by interrelationships and common institutions.

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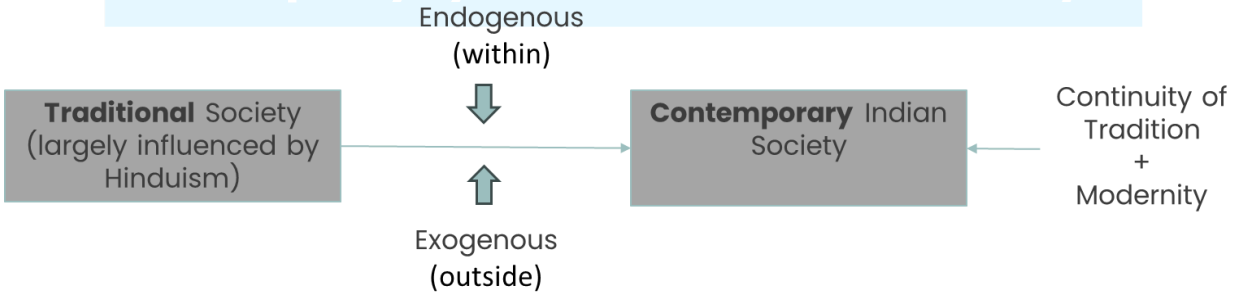
Social change



Endogenous and Exogenous influences

- Religions
    - Buddhism & Jainism (endogenous)
    - Islam & Christianity (exogenous)

- Modernization and Westernization instilled the ideas of Utilitarianism, Egalitarianism, Individualism, Rationalism & Universalism.
- English education system
- Common legal administration
- Economic interdependence
- Modern means of communication, transportation, technology (printing, radio, telegraph), Military
- Urbanization and Industrialization
- Social reform movements (resilience from rural India)

Caste System

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What is Caste ?

According to Sir Herbert Hope Risley (ICS officer, Census Commissioner) : A collection of families, bearing a common name which is usually associated with a specific occupation, claiming descent from a mythical ancestor (human or divine), professing to follow the same professional calling, and regarded as forming a single homogenous community.

What is Caste System ?

A form of social stratification which involves a system of hierarchically ranked, closed, endogamous strata, the membership of which is ascribed, and between which contact is restricted and mobility is theoretically impossible.

Varna Model (Vedic period 1500 to 500 BC)

- Ideal / Desired / Theoretical
- Divine origin theory : Mentioned in Purusha Sukta hymn of Rigveda. In order to maintain social order, Purusha (Brahma) self-destroyed

  - Head → Brahmin (Priest, Teacher)
  - Arms → Kshatriya (Ruler, Warrior)
  - Thigh → Vaishya (Trader, Farmer)
  - Feet → Shudra (Labourer)
- Guna theory : Sattvik (purity, knowledge, abstinence), Rajsik (duty, justice, sacrifice), Tamasik (worldly basic biological needs)
- Assignment was not ascribed (by birth)
- Mobility : Possible

Jati Model (Crystallized by Gupta period : 3rd to 6th Cent. AD)

- Empirical reality
- Assignment is ascribed
- Regional variations
- Mobility : Difficult

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Characteristics

- Segmental division of Society.
- Hierarchy.
- Endogamy.
- Hereditary status and occupation.
- Purity and pollution.
- Restriction on food and drink, and social interactions.

Functions / Merits

- Sustenance of norms, traditions for generations.
- By restricting the occupation there is no competition. (interdependent Jajmani system)
- Caste clubs act as pressure groups and provide socio-psychological support.
- Individual behaviour is controlled and social order is maintained.
- Knowledge and skills are refined and passed across generations.

Dysfunctions / Demerits

- Restricting the occupation is detrimental to economic and intellectual development.
- Lack of upward mobility results in lack of motivation and loss of productivity.
- Systemic oppression and social exclusion.
- Inferior status of women. (due to source and power dynamics). Pratiloma vs Anuloma.
- Caste based politics is a threat to National integration and Democracy.

Factors diminishing relevance of caste

- Economic growth : Interdependence making it difficult to discriminate. (Both employee and customer).
- Affirmative action : More opportunities, role models, influencing policy making.
- Socio-political movements : Civil society, caste associations addressing discrimination.
- Inter-caste marriages
- Urbanization and migration
- Education (western ideals) and awareness.

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Factors re-emphasizing caste

- Affirmative action especially in rural areas leading to backlash.
- Caste based politics.
- Legislative backing strengthening the identity.
- Greater mobility and emergence of dominant castes.

Caste and Religions

Islam (study by Ghaus Ansari)

- Ashrafs : Immigrants, converts from higher Hindu castes. E.g. Saiyyad, Sheikh, Pathan.
- Ajlafs : Cleaner occupational castes. E.g. Julaha (weaver), Darzi (tailor), Hajjam (barber).
- Arzals : Meanest occupations such as sweeping.

Christianity

- Kerala : Higher caste converts integrated with Syrian Christians are distinct from Palayas.
- Bengali Christians retain their pre conversion surnames.
- Goa
    - Brahmins → Bamonns
    - Kshatriya & Vaishyas → Chardos
    - Vaishyas → Gauddos
    - Shudras → Sudirs
- Legislative backing strengthening the identity.
- Greater mobility and emergence of dominant castes.

Buddhism

- Discrimination against butchers, metal workers and janitors.

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Sikhism

- Jats → Agriculturists, traders
- Ramgarhias → Artisans
- Mazhabis

Universality of caste system → Caste in Other countries

- USA : Seattle becomes first city to pass a legislation banning caste-based discrimination, followed by California state.
- Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- Some variants in Indonesia, China, Korea, Yemen, Africa and Europe.
    - The main difference is that the theme of purity and pollution is negligible.
    - Yemen. Al-Akhdams are into manual work perennially.
    - Japan. Burakumins have been outcast during the feudal era. Now are into impure occupations.

Recent Issues and Trends: Bihar Caste Census

- EBC and OBC -> 63% population.
- Bihar's stand → caste-based headcount=— and not a 'caste census'.
- Arguments in Favour → Better targeting of schemes and tracking the impact of affirmative action.
- Centre's stand -> As per Census Act, 1948, exclusive authority upon the
- Central government.
- The proportion of castes is not very different from the Census of 1901 (united Bihar).
- This may lead to a demand to increase quota beyond the 50% cap as determined by the Supreme Court. (Mandal Commission's estimate of 52% of population for which reservation quota is 27%).

Recent Issues and Trends - Sub Categorization of SC's

- In 2024, The Supreme Court allowed sub-classification of Scheduled Castes for the purpose of reservation.
- States have the right to sub-classify SCs notified in the Presidential List. (subject to judicial review).
- Suggestion : Extend the creamy layer concept.

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Reservation for SC's converted to other religions

- As of now only Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists can be considered SCs and eligible for SC reservation benefits.
- 2007 : Ranganath Mishra Commission recommended this to be extended to those converted to Christianity and Islam too.
- The panel considering the same gets an extension by 1 more yr in 2024.

Trends / Issues

- 2018 : Bhima Koregaon incident on 200th anniversary of Battle between British army (composed of Dalits) and Peshwas.
- 2003 : Violence at Talhan, Punjab. Contest between Jats and Dalits over the share in the management of Shahid Nihal Singh shrine.

- Numerous incidents of Dis- Honour killings.
- Incidents of refusal to eat food prepared by a Dalit cook in Covid quarantine center, Anganwadis, Schools etc. → Ethics case study.
- Several deaths of manual scavengers despite Laws in place.
- Inter caste marriages : (2017 study by ISI) : Rural 5.2% vs Urban 4.9%, Rich 4% vs Poor 5.9%.
- Dilution of commensality.
- Relatively greater mobility.

Family

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What is a Family ?

A basic unit of a society which enables socialization of individuals, transmission of values, traditions across generations.

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Types of family

- Nuclear vs Extended
- Male headed vs Female headed
- Matriarchal vs Patriarchal (based on authority)
- Matrilineal vs Patrilineal (based on inheritance and lineage)

Kinship

- Affinal (marriage) vs Consanguineal (blood)
- Play an important role in occupation, business, marriage etc.

What is a Joint Family ?

More than one couple, more than two generations, living together under one roof, including one roof, cooperating economically, maintaining sexual relations and reproducing. The eldest male person is the trustee (Karta).

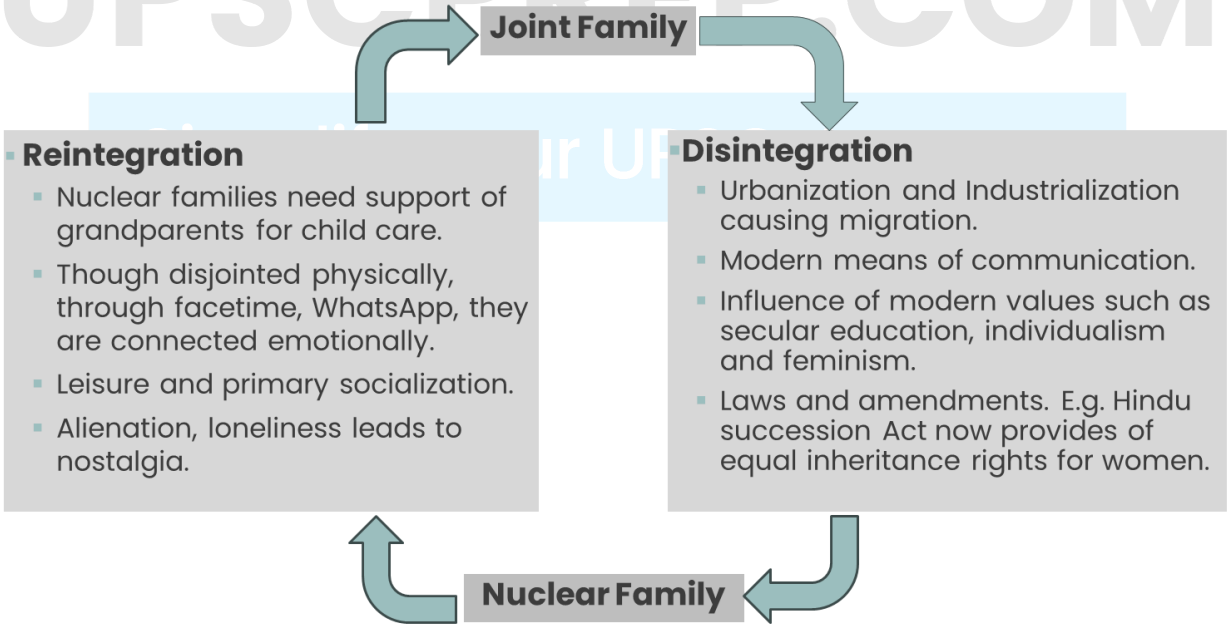
Functions / Merits

- Basic necessities are taken care of, so focus on economic growth.
- Proper Division of Labour : Well suited for agriculture.
- Leisure and primary socialization.
- Social security for elderly and differently abled.
- Preservation of socialistic ideals.

Dysfunctions / Demerits

- No motivation to learn new skills, innovate as roles are clearly defined.
- Lack of individuality and unique identity due to rules and regulations.
- Conflicts and litigation. Some members may feel they are contributing more and getting less in return.
- No privacy.
- Furtherance of patriarchy.

Life cycle of a Joint Family



Trends / Issues

- Same sex couple families.
- Single mother / Single Father.

- DISK and DINK.

Kinship

- Affinal vs Consanguineal
- Plays an important role in occupation, business, marriage

Marriage

What is Marriage ?

A social institution for union of male and female (2 persons) for the purpose of establishing a household, entering sexual relations, procreating, and providing care for the offspring.

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Types of Marriage

- Monogamy (inc. serial monogamy)
- Practicable, financially feasible, stability of sexual life, elderly and children are better taken care of.
- Polygamy
- Tradition in tribal societies and some religions.
- Celibacy during pregnancy can be dealt with
- Polygyny (Muslims, Nagas, Gonds, Baigas). Sororal (wives are sisters)
- Polyandry (Ladhaki Botas, Nairs). Levirate (husbands are brothers)

Survey Data

- The Ministry of Statistics and Prog implementation → survey → 15-29 years men → Never married → increased from 20.8% in 2011 to 26.1% in 2019.

Dysfunctions : Child Marriage

- Despite the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, the practice is still prevalent.
- Girl children are more likely to face domestic abuse, be infected with STDs/HIV, have complications during pregnancy and childbirth.
- As per NFHS (2019-21), about 15 lakh girls under the legal age of 18 have married. It is about 20+ % of all marriages.
- Prevalent in states such as Rajasthan, UP, MP, Jharkhand, Bihar and W.B.
- As per UNICEF's 2019 report on "Ending child marriage : A profile of Progress in India)
    - 1/3 rd. of child brides across the world are from India.
    - % is worse than countries like Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Pakistan.
- As per the WEF, child marriages cost economies at least 1.7% GDP
- As per the WB, and the International centre for Research on women (ICRW), eliminating the practice of child marriage in India would help in budget savings worth $10 billion by 2030.
- Child relief and You (CRY) 2020 report → Between 2001-2011, in rural areas- child marriages reduced by 4% and in urban areas → increase by 41%

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Child Marriage : Reasons

- Low value given to a girl child : Cultural norms and attitudes. (Mass child marriage in Rajasthan on the occasion of 'Akha Teej')
- Patriarchy : Safeguarding girls from pre-marital sex or sexual harassment.
- Covid – 19 has aggravated the situation. Closure of schools leading to girls being dropped out first.

Child Marriage : Measures to tackle ?

- Focus on health, nutrition, and help transition to secondary school level.
- Help develop marketable skills.
- Multi stakeholder approach : Govt, NGOs, UNICEF etc.
- **Schemes like below:**
    - UP → Kishori Shakti Yojana, Apni Beti Apna Dhan, Mukhyamantri Kanya Sumangali Yojana.

- Rajasthan → Apna Bacha Apna Vidyalaya, Mukhyamantri Rajashri Yojana.
- W.B. → Kanyashree Prakalpa annual scholarship.
- Jharkhand → Shadi Mubarak, Mukhyamantri Kanyadan Yojana
- Telangana → Shadi Mubarak. (flaws- inter caste marriages discouraged as eloped cannot get signatures of parents, Husband sign is also required implying it's a right / dowry)

Dysfunctions of Marriage : Dowry

About 20 deaths everyday due to harassment over dowry. Though Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 is in place, as per NCRB in 2017, 7000 dowry deaths were recorded.

Reasons

- Patriarchal mindset.
- Considered as the price for taking care of a girl post marriage. (Patrilocal setup).
- Deeply rooted traditions. (though in the past it was voluntary)
- No deterrence due to ineffective implementation of laws.

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Dysfunctions of Marriage : Restriction on widow remarriage

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- Over 5 cr. Widows currently.
- Vrindavan – City of Widows houses over 15000 widows.
- Remarriage is more common among widowers than widows.

Dysfunctions of Marriage : Marital Rape

"A man is a man, an act is an act, rape is a rape, be it performed by a man the 'husband' on the woman 'wife' " – Justice M Nagaprasanna of Karnataka High Court , May 2022.

A Division Bench of the Delhi High Court

- Justice Rajiv Shakdher, deemed as unconstitutional the Exception two to Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

- Justice C. Hari Shankar, rejected the plea to criminalize marital rape, noting that any change in the law should be carried out by the legislature since the issue required consideration of various aspects, including social, cultural and legal.

Criminalize Marital Rape : Yes

- Domestic violence Act provides for a less harsher punishment.
- Every woman (married or not) must have sexual autonomy. IPC 375(2) is violative of Article 14 and 21 of the Constitution.

Criminalize Marital Rape : No

- 172nd Law commission 2000 : It is excessive interference with the marital relationship.
- Too radical for a society like India's.
- Provisions of Domestic Violence Act 2005, already provides safeguards.

Emerging trends of Marriage

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- Living apart together.
- Cohabitation or Live-in relationships
    - A threat to the institutions of marriage and family
    - What do courts say?
        i. Relationships in the nature of marriage
        ii. Cohabitating for long → presumed as husband and wife
        iii. Child boring out a co-living relationship → not illegitimate.
- Same sex relationships
    - Rights - privacy and equality
    - Benefits - Adoption, Inheritance, Medical benefits
    - Social acceptance
    - But what is not accepted? → Marriage as a traditional, religious, cultural and social norm + Social purpose of procreation
    - Only a minority of countries worldwide have overall legalized this
    - Concerns about the upbringing of the child
- Increase in age at marriage.

- Decriminalization of adultery.
- The influence of family, kin groups is reducing.
- Second marriage is gaining greater acceptance. Men have greater probability.
- Rituals of marriage have significantly reduced especially among Hindus.
- Increasing rates of divorce
    - 0.25% married are divorced and 0.6% are separated. More separated due to stigma, and long drawn legal battles.
    - Mizoram has 4%, due to better status of women, matrilineal setup.
    - It is both an urban and rural phenomenon.
    - Disintegration of joint family, greater financial independence of women.
    - Adultery, incompatibility, and sexual impotency.

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Patriarchy

What is Patriarchy ?

A system in Society where men hold relatively higher authority and power over women. Differences are justified based on natural differences between 2 sexes.

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Evolution of Patriarchy

- Early Vedic era → Pastoral / Nomadic → Egalitarian
- Later Vedic era → Agriculture and Urbanization → Division of Labour
- Traditional society believed in ‘Stridharma’ and ‘Pativratadharma’. This led to greater control through arranged marriage and child marriage.
- However, during Vedic era Brahmavadinis studied theology and philosophy. There were women Rishis who composed and performed hymns : Apala, Lopamudra, Gargi, Maitreyi.
- Early medieval era → Sati and Devadasi
- Lingayat movement by Basavanna rejected Satipratha and female infanticide.
- Sultanate : Status of women (Hindu and Muslim) deteriorated.

- Mughal era : Akbar intervened in Sati. Only voluntary Sati was permitted.
- **Cases of resistance :**
    - Ahilyabai Holkar did not commit Sati, instead ruled from Indore.
    - Sanchi Honnamma : A poetess in the court of chikkadeva raya of Mysore, protested against the system of Patriarchy.
    - Matrilineal system in some parts of Kerala and North East.

Why is Patriarchy still prevalent ?

- Normalizing and generalizing cultural notions. (A Class That Turned Around Kids' Assumptions of Gender Roles! – YouTube)
    - Boys are strong and girls are sensitive.
    - Sports are male centric.
    - Certain games and toys are for boys and dolls are for girls.
    - Colour pink is feminine.
- Women themselves are agents and have biases.
    - Exclusion bias : A woman cannot be a good mother and a good professional at the same time.
    - Superwoman syndrome : The belief that a woman has to be perfect at everything she does.
    - Gender inferiority bias : Women are not as good as men in professions like sales, distribution, engineering etc.
    - Identity adoption bias : To succeed professionally women need to emulate the masculine traits.
- Economic dependence of women on men : Low labour force participation rate. Agri contribution is 40% but landholding share is 2%.
- Lack of awareness of laws and rights.
- Joint Family system.
- Religion and Mass media.
- Exclusion bias - women cannot be a good mother and a good professional at the same time
- Super woman syndrome - the belief that woman has to be perfect at everything she does.

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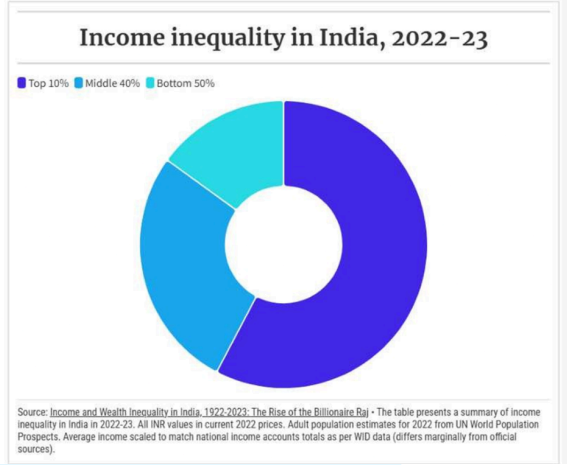
- Gender inferiority bias - women are not as good as men
- Identity adoption bias - to succeed professionally women need to emulate the masculine traits.

Class system

Status

- World Inequality Report 2022.
- Top 1% own 22% wealth, Top 10% own 57% of wealth, Bottom 50% own 13% of wealth, Female labour income share is 18%.
- State of Inequality Report by Economic Advisory Council to PM of India – 2022
    - If monthly salary is 25,000 per month, then among top 10% earners.
    - The top 10% account for 33% of total income earned.



- India is stratified on the basis of class and unlike caste it is more fluid and mobility is possible.
- Positive correlation between caste and class.

Middle Class

- 75% to 125% of median income.
- British legacy : Administrators who are Indian in blood and colour but English in taste, morals, interests and intellect.
- Upper castes → Urban middle class, Upper and middle castes → Rural middle class.
- Affirmative action and political support helped lower castes also to reach the middle class.

Traditionalism vs Modernity

- Traditions are a set of values that are transmitted from one generation to the next generation and are useful for society.
- Modernity is a set of values, ideas, beliefs emphasizing on aspects like rationality, individualism, secularism, egalitarianism etc.
- In a globalized internet age, India has coexistence of both:
    - Traditional dress at home and modern dress at hostels.
    - Bhoomi pooja for a scientific organization, Shastra pooja for Rafale, Pooja for a Sci-fi movie shoot.
    - Modern day gyms with Yoga classes.
    - High end mall with an AYUSH store.
    - Mc Donald's and KFC offering rice based items.
    - Bachelor party before a traditional wedding
    - Online darshan of temples and online delivery of prasads.
    - Fusion music and dance.

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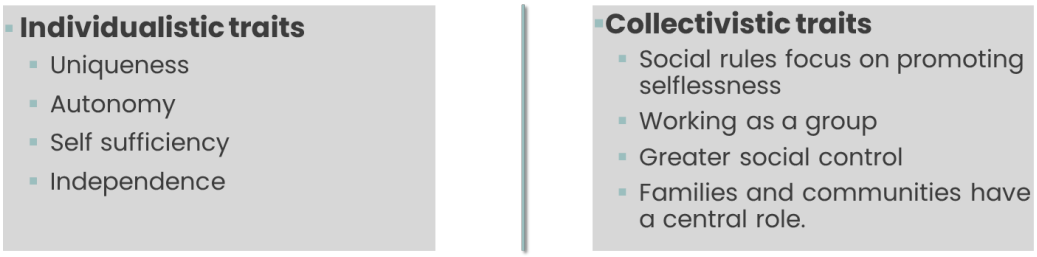
Individualism vs Collectivism



As per Hindu Philosophy : 4 stages of life

- Brahmacharya → emphasis on Collectivism and Individualism
- Gruhastha → Emphasis on Collectivism
- Vanaparastha → Emphasis on Individualism
- Sanyas → Emphasis on Individualism

Greater degree of collectivism in Rural India compared to Urban.

Spiritualism vs Materialism

- Spiritualism is a doctrine that spirits of the dead can and do communicate with the living, through a medium.
    - Organized religious institutions act as a medium.
    - Spiritualism need not also have to do anything with religion.
- Materialism is a belief that having money, physical possession are most important.
- Greater emphasis is on these worldly things compared to other worldly things.
- Hindu Philosophy : 4 aims of life : Dharma, Artha – Material, Kaama – Material, Moksha
- Belief in the idea that : Science provides answers to the questions in the world perceived by 5 senses. For the world beyond it, Religion provides the answers.
- Coexistence of both in contemporary India
    - An average person prays to God and requests for material progress.
    - Propagation of spirituality through material means like YouTube.
    - Growth of the middle class is associated with increase in consumerism and materialism.
    - Greater emphasis on the idea of Spiritual Intelligence in addition to IQ and EQ.

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Diversity

"Whatever you say about India, the opposite is also true" – Joan Robinson.
"Unity in diversity is India's strength. There is simplicity in every Indian. There is unity in every corner of India. This is our strength" – Hon'ble PM of India Shri. Narendra Modi.
Unity can be due to commonness (tribal community) i.e. mechanical solidarity or due to mutual interdependence i.e. organic solidarity.

Geographic Diversity

- -50 degree C in Siachen and at the same time about 30 degree C in Chennai.

- Snow clad mountains to deserts of Rajasthan, Plateaus, Dense forests to a long coastline.
- Geographical conditions determine lifestyle, occupation and other cultural traits.

Linguistic Diversity

- As per 2011 census there are 121 different major languages and over 1600 languages and dialects.
- Indo Aryan, Dravidian, Austro-Asiatic & Tibeto-Burman.
- Language has played an important role in the formation of States.
- As per Greenberg Diversity Index, India's score is very high (0.914).

Religious Diversity

- Coexistence of Indic or Indigenous religions like Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism, Extra-Indic religions like Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Zoroastrianism.
- Coexistence of Sects (Divided from a larger religion due to distinct beliefs and interpretations). E.g. Vaishnavism and Shaivism, Theravada (Ladakh) and Mahayana Buddhism, Digambaras and Shwetambaras of Jainism. Shia and Sunnis of Islam.
- Coexistence of Cults (small religious or spiritual group) led by a charismatic leader e.g. Rajnessh Osho.
- Coexistence of Denominations (larger than sects and more established). E.g. Malankara orthodox Syrian church.

Racial Diversity

- Unlike ethnicity which emphasizes broad cultural traits, Race emphasizes physical traits such as colour and texture of hair, colour of eyes, shape of nose, lips, skulls, skin colour, body height.
- Assimilation, inter marriages, varying climate has made India a multi racial country.
- During the 1931 Census, B.S. Guha has classified Indian population into 6 main races
    - Negrito (South India and Andamans)
    - Proto-Australoid (Tribe of central India)
    - Mongoloid (Nagas)
    - Mediterranean (Brahmins of AP, TN)

- Western Brachycephals (Saurashtra, Bengal)
- Nordic (North India)

Political Diversity

- Varied level of decentralization and political participation across States. Panchayats in Kerala are more empowered than in Rajasthan.
- Contest between national and regional parties.
- Level of autonomy varies. (States, UTs and Scheduled Areas)

Unity in Diversity

Unifying factors

- Constitution of India : 3 pillars of democracy, Cooperative federalism, 3 Tier governance structure.
- All India Service.
- English and other official languages.
- **Coexistence of multiple religions:**
  - Though there are several peripheral differences, at the core they subscribe to the idea of purity, value of life, faith in invisible power.
  - Several temples, dargahs, golden temple, ISKON are visited by people of different faiths.
- Centralized curriculum and education system. E.g. KVs and JNVs.
- Freedom of mobility as guaranteed by the Constitution and affordable means of transportation and communication.
- Sports, theatre and cinema.
- Festivals.
- Economic interdependence and GST ‘one county, one tax, one market’.

Disintegrating factors

- Regionalism leading to secessionist tendencies.
- Imbalanced regional economic development.
- Communalism.

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- Geographic isolation. (chicken neck separating NE)
- Identity based petty politics.
- Inter-State disputes
- Interference of enemy States.

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CHAPTER 2 : Role of women and women's organization

Introduction

The life cycle of discrimination : From womb to tomb or cradle to grave

Foetus	• Sex Selection, female foeticide
Infant	• Infanticide, Malnutrition
Early age	• Neglect of medical care and education, Sexual abuse, Physical violence
Adolescence	• Early marriage, Early pregnancy, Sexual violence, Domestic violence, Dowry harassment, Marital rape, Infertility / failure to produce son, Desertion, High maternal mortality
Older women & widows	• Witch-hunt, desertion, Neglect : emotional, social and financial, Feminisation of elderly

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Current Status of Women : Data / Reports

- As per NRCB and other credible sources
    - Somewhere in India, every 16 minutes a woman is raped. Every 4 minutes a woman experiences cruelty at the hands of her in-laws. Every 90 minutes a case of dowry death is reported.
    - Every day a case of acid attack is reported. Over 80 cases on an average are lodged daily across India for crimes such as rape, rape with murder, dowry, acid attacks, suicide, kidnapping, forced marriage, human trafficking, online harassment etc.
- NFHS 4 survey : 30% of women in the age group 15-49 have experienced physical violence.

- As per Lancet (2018 report) - Indian women account for 36% of global female suicide deaths in 2016.
- NCRB 2022- 6450 dowry deaths were registered in India in 2022.
- According to World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Gender Gap Index 2022-23
    - India's rank is 127/146 (improvement of 8 places over last year)
    - **Indices used :**
        - Economic participation and opportunity (labour force participation rate, wage equality for similar work, Estimated earned income, Share of legislators, senior officials and managers, Share of professional and technical workers).
        - Educational attainment (Literacy rate, Enrolment in primary, secondary and tertiary education).
        - Health and Survival (Sex ratio at birth, Healthy life expectancy).
        - Political empowerment (Women in parliament, women in ministerial positions, Years with female/male head of State).
- According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for January-March 2024, the FLFPR for women ages 15 years and above in urban areas increased to 25.6% up from 22.7% in the same quarter of the previous year.
- As per OECD, Indian women perform 6 hours
- According to the World Bank, Post Covid-19 the female labour force participation has dropped below 21%.
- As per OECD, Indian women perform 6 hours of unpaid work each day compared to men who work for 52 mins.
- Study by EPW in 2016 : 40-60% women believe their husbands don't want them to work, if the family earnings are decent.
- **As of 2019 :**
    - 78/542 MPs in the lower house (14.4%).
    - Only 3.7% of CEOs and MDs of NSE listed companies are women.
    - Share in top management is 9%.
    - Share in Board of Directors is 13.8%.

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    - Of the fortune 500 India companies only 5.8% of executive roles are held by women.
- Despite laws, women earn about 65% of what men earn.
- Census 2011 : Child sex ratio is 919 (decline from 927 in 2001)
- More than half in the 15-49 age group of women are anaemic.
- Repeated pregnancy is for 12% women.
- 2016-18 : MMR was 113.
- As per NFHS 4, institutional deliveries have increased significantly, which is a bright spot. About 26.8% of women in the age group 20-24 surveyed, were married before 18 yrs. age.
- As per the Periodic Labour Force Survey 2018-19, Literacy rate : Urban 82.6% (Men 91.9%) and Rural 65.7% (Men 81.9%)
- As per All India Survey on Higher Education : 48.6% in 2018-19 (positive sign), PhD 43.8% (positive sign) Engineering 28.9% (Men 71.1%)
- As of 2024 : 74/543 MPs in the lower house (13.6%).
- Only 3.7% of CEOs and MDs of NSE listed companies are women. Share in top management is 9%.
- Share in Board of Directors is 13.8%.
- Of the fortune 500 India companies only 5.8% of executive roles are held by women.
- About 17% of the seats in corporate boards are held by women. Among the chairpersons it's only 4%.
- Of the CEOs, women CEOs are 5%.
- Positive sign : Women participation in household decisions -> NFHS 4 (84%) to NFHS 5 (88%).
- More than half in the 15-49 age group of women are anaemic. Census 2011 : Child sex ratio is 919 (decline from 927 in 2001). As per NFHS 5
- Institutional deliveries have increased significantly, which is a bright spot.
- About 23.3% of women in the age group 20-24 surveyed, were married before 18 yrs. age.
- As per All India Survey on Higher Education : 48.6% in 2018-19 (positive sign), PhD 43.8% (positive sign) Engineering 28.9% (Men 71.1%).

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Status of Women : Historical Perspective

Vedic Period

- Early Vedic Time : Gargi, Maitreyi participated in Sabhas and Samitis.
- Early Vedic Time : Pastoral/Nomadic → No economic surplus or private property → Egalitarian.
- Later Vedic Time : Agriculture → Division of Labour → Grihapathi control over women.
- Stridharma, Pativratadharma, frequent ritual purification, fasts.

Medieval Period

- Bhakti and Lingayat movements emphasized egalitarianism.
- Islamic rule : Prejudices continued : Polygamy, Purdah and Talaq.
- Mughal rule : Intervention in the practice of Sati.

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Colonial Period : Pre Nationalist Movement

- British education helped in the emergence of a new elite that questioned existing social practices.
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Brahmo Samaj : Sati, female infanticide, restriction on widow remarriage, illiteracy, Polygamy → Abolition of Sati Act 1829.
- Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar → Widow Remarriage Act 1856.
- Dayanand Saraswati & Arya Samaj → Education
- Prarthana Samaj by M.G. Ranade and RG Bhandarkar → Education
- Kandukuri Veeresalingam → Widow remarriage.
- D.K.Karve → SNDT women university in 1916
- Badruddin Tyabji and Muslim self help association → girl schools, orphanages and nursing centers.
- Pandita Ramabai → Sharda Sadan → Ashram for destitute widows.

Colonial Period : Nationalist Movement

- Middle class women in political activities.
- Sarala Devi → Bharat Stree Maha Mandal in Lahore.
- Parvati Devi → Kanchi Mahila parishad
- Annie Besant → Theosophical society
- Women India Association → Influenced the govt. policies.
- Kamala Devi Chattopadhyay → Became first woman to contest elections, Picketed during Civil Disobedience Movement.
- Dr. Rukmabai Raut → Considered the first Indian woman to have studied medicine.
- Dr. Mutthu Lakshmi Reddy, Madras → First woman to be nominated to the Legislative Council → worked on abolition of Devadasi system, closing down of Brothels.
- Sarojini Naidu → Participated along with others in the Dandi March. Participated in the 2nd Round Table Conference.
- Quit India Movement → Demonstrations, Camps, 'Political Prisoners Relief Fund'.
- Indian National Army → Rani Jhansi Regiment.
- In 1917, Anasuya Sarabhai led the Ahmedabad Textile workers strike.
- Maniben Kara → Socialist leader of railway workers.
- Parvati Bhore and Ushabai Dange → Communist leaders of textile workers.
- In a way the efforts, participation of women during the freedom struggle influenced the Constitution, providing them the Right to vote, equality.

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Post Independence

- Telangana Movement (1946-51)
    - Protest seeking freedom from the oppressive regime of the Nizam, Patils and Jagirdars in Hyderabad state.
    - Jagirdar system → Exploitative practices of Deshmukhs, Despandes, and Tax collectors.
    - Vetti system → Kind of forced labour led to exploitation of peasant girls.
    - Communist Party formed a women's organization → Published women's journal Andhra Vanita, campaigning against child marriage, restriction on widow remarriage and low wages.

  - The movement ceased post the 1948 Operation Polo.
  - 1950s and 60s → Series of legislations like Hindu Marriage Act, Hindu Succession Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, Equal Remuneration Act etc.
- Chipko Movement (1970s)
  - Hilly village of Adwani, Tehri Garhwal dist. Of UP.
  - Led by illiterate Adivasi women, Later led by Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna.
  - Slogan was of 5 fs → food, fodder, fuel, fibre and fertilizer → self sufficiency.
  - Women hugged the trees and also tied sacred thread.
  - Ms. Gaura Devi, led 27 village women to prevent the contractors, forest dept. personnel from entering Reni forest.
- The 1970s had seen greater women participation in Anti price rise movements.
- 1971 → Committee on status of women (CSIW) was set up to look into rights & status and suggest a way forward.
- 1970s → Elite women focused on cultural activities, Beauty pageants. Poor and rural women focused on conditions of peasants, wife beating, alcoholism, dowry and sexual harassment.
- Anti Rape Movement (1970s)
  - Due to the Mathura rape incident.
  - Led to large scale protests, petitions.
  - It sent a message that the people wielding power cannot infringe on the dignity and rights of the poor and powerless.
- Anti Dowry Movement (1970s)
  - Mahila Dakshata Samiti.
  - Campaign against dowry, abetment to suicide and murder.
  - Post this law recognized that demand for dowry can be considered abetment to suicide.
- Anti Arrack Movement (1990s)
  - Women of A.P. → Ban distilled liquor in Nellore dist.
  - Literacy helped women to write primers, performance of dance-drama and street plays.
  - Started by women of lower castes, later joined by all.

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- A form of feminist movement aligning domestic violence with larger policy issue of State and Society.

- Feminist Movement
  - First wave : 1850 to 1920s : Prominent figures like Pandita Ramabai, Savitribai Phule, and Rukhmabai focused on issues like education, widow's rights, child marriage.
  - Second wave : 1970s to 80s : Coincided with global women's liberation movement. Issues inc. gender inequality, reproductive rights, violence against women, dowry etc. AIWC and the women studies centers of universities participated
  - Third wave : 1980s onwards : Focus on intersectionality and gender justice. Dalits and marginalized rights.
  - Post 2000 in the tech era → issues like online harassment. #Metoo. (4th Wave)

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Reasons

- Economic :
  - Poor female Labour force participation
  - Women in rural areas are pursuing higher studies.
  - Increase in household income.
  - International demand for products in labour intensive industries has reduced.
  - Wages in agriculture are still low.
- Social
  - Caste system
    - Higher the caste greater the restrictions.
    - To maintain caste boundaries it is important to control women. Control is through disinheritance of property, control sexuality : arranged marriage, child marriage.
    - Purity ensured through Anuloma and Pratiloma.
  - Class system
    - Overlap with caste system.
    - Women of upper castes engaged in unpaid domestic work.

- Family
  - The Indian family system is largely Patriarchal, Patrilocal and Patrilineal.
- Marriage
  - Decisions on life choices taken by Husband and his parents.
  - Loss of employment during pregnancy and child rearing.
- Religion
  - Religious scriptures place sons on higher pedestal.
  - To attain moksha, the funeral pyre has to be lit by the son. 'Shradha' also performed by the son.
  - Personal laws are based on religion and most are discriminatory against women. E.g. triple talaq.
  - Patriarchy – Assumed gender roles and biases.

- Legal
  - Poor implementation of laws.
- Cultural
  - Excessive depiction of violence in mass media.
  - Normalizing misogyny.

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Women empowerment

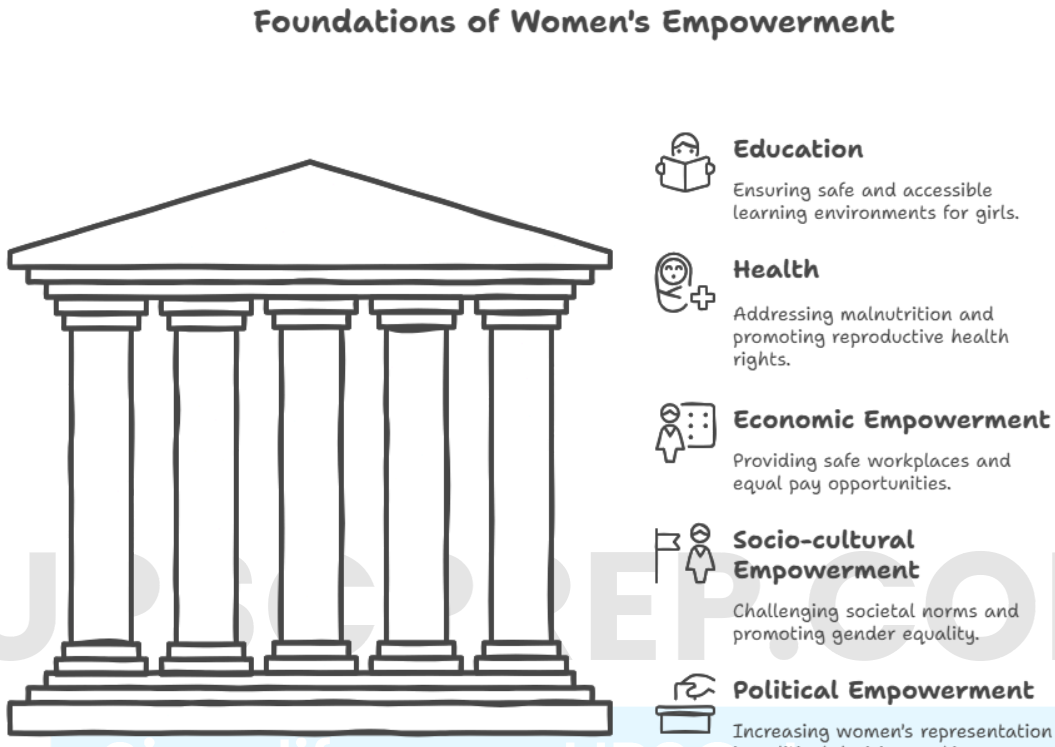
Enabling women to

- Have equal power, authority and freedom.
- Eliminate disabilities and social restrictions.
- Make life choices and achieve their full potential.
- Access socio economic resources.

5 pillars of women empowerment:

1. Education : Safe environment, transportation to schools, toilets.
2. Health : Malnutrition, Delayed marriage, Reproductive authority rather than mere fertility.

3. Economic empowerment : Safe workspace, skill based training, SHGs, Equal pay.
4. Socio-cultural empowerment : Attitudes of parents and kin group, #MeToo.
5. Political empowerment : 73rd and 74th CA, Women Reservation Bill in the parliament.



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Measurement of progress on empowerment : Global gender gap index and its sub indices.

Women empowerment : Development Approach

- Welfare approach (1951-79) 1st to 5th FYP
    - Women considered a passive recipient of incentives.
    - The Central Social Welfare Board was set up in 1953.
    - Schemes introduced : Course of Education and women : Socio economic programme, Working girls hostels and Short Stay Homes.
    - The Committee on Status of Women in India (CSWI) came up with 'Towards Equality Report' in 1974.
- Development approach (1980-90) 6th & 7th FYP
    - 3 pronged approach : Health, Education and Employment.

  - Schemes : Support to Training and Employment (STEP) and Awareness Generation Prog. For rural and poor women (AGP).
  - Recognized the need for organization of women workers and unionization.
- Empowerment approach (1992-2012) 8th & 11th FYP
  - Focus on SHGs, Gender Budgeting, creating enabling environment
  - Reservation in Panchayats and Municipalities.
- 12th FYP onwards : focus on Gender equity, Women's agency and empowerment.

Safeguards to women: Constitutional

Article	Provision
Preamble	Equality of status and opportunity and dignity..
Article 14	Equality to all
Article 15 (1)	State can't discriminate on the basis of gender
Article 15 (3)	Empowers the State to take affirmative action in favour of women
Article 16	Equal opportunity for all
Article 39 (a)	State direct its policy towards securing for men and women equally the right to an adequate means of livelihood
Article 39 (d)	Equal pay for equal work
Article 42	State to secure just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief
Article 51(A)(e)	Renounce the practices derogatory to the dignity of women
Article 243 D (3), 243 D (4)	Reservation in seats in Panchayats, Chairpersons

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Article 243 T (3), 243 T (4)	Reservation in seats in Municipalities, Chairpersons

Legislative / Statutory / Commissions / Bodies for Women

- Crimes under BNS
  - Punishment for sexual assault.
  - Kidnapping and abduction
  - Dowry deaths
  - Husband or relative of husband, subjecting women to cruelty.
  - Insult to modesty of women
- The Plantation Labour Act, 1951
  - Bans employment of women or children in any plantation between 7 pm & 6 am (except midwives and nurses)
  - Maternity benefits and creches.
- The Family Courts Act, 1954
  - Creating women friendly court procedures through conciliators.
- The Special Marriage Act
  - If a Hindu woman marries a Christian man, she will continue to have rights to her family's ancestral property as guaranteed under the Hindu Succession Act, amended in 2005.
- The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955
  - Right to have same lifestyle as husband, and freedom from any torture at in-laws place.
  - Providing for child : Financial support by husband if wife is incapable of earning.
- Muslim Women (Protection of Rights and Divorce) Act, 2019
  - Instant triple talaq spoken or written or in electronic form or in any other manner whatsoever, shall be void and illegal.

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  - In Shayara Bano Case, The supreme court held instant triple talaq as unconstitutional as it is violative of Art 14, Art 15(1), Art 21.
  - As per Min. of Minority Affairs cases have dropped by over 80% in 1 yr.
- The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 (amended in 2005)
  - Equal rights to daughters in ancestral property.
  - Joint family property in case of death intestate has to be equally distributed.
- The Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1956
  - Combat trafficking & sexual exploitation for commercial purposes.
- The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
  - Applicable to women employed in factories, mines, plantations and shops.
  - Leave extension in case of illness due to pregnancy, delivery etc.
- Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
  - Imprisonment of up to 5 years.
  - Dowry prohibition officers at district level.
  - Kalyana Lakshmi / Shaadi Mubarak in Telangana, where 1,00,116 Rs. is given after 18yrs are criticized to be indirectly promoting dowry.
  - Sumangali in TN in the 90s (working in textile mills to save for dowry). Double whammy of dowry and bonded / child labour.
- The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971 with amendments
  - Termination allowed even after 20 weeks of pregnancy is special conditions.
  - A lifeline for rape victims or those with foetal abnormalities.
- The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
  - Children inc. girls below 18 yrs.
- The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2016
  - 18 and 21 as legal age for a girl and a boy resp.
  - Child marriage prohibition officers at dist. Level, support and rehabilitation, Awareness and education
  - If legal age increased to 21 : Pros : empowerment, Health (MMR,IMR). Cons: Teenage pregnancy - unsafe abortions, Longer burden so sex ratio further skewed.
- Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013

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- All workplaces : Public or Private, Organized or Unorganized.

- PCPNDT Act, 1994
  - Prohibits sex selection.
  - No misuse of diagnostic techniques.
- Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986
  - Includes advertisements, publications, writings, paintings, figures, or any other form of visual representation.
- Domestic Violence Act, 2005
  - Causes : Patriarchy, socialization : if children see violence, they also tend to think it's normal, Economic : Unemployment, Psychological : Low self esteem, jealousy, anger.
  - Criticism : false cases, subjective interpretation : verbal abuse, mental harassment.
- Criminal Law Amendment based on Js. Verma Committee report
  - Speedy trial and enhanced punishment.
  - Offences like voyeurism, stalking and intentional touching included.
  - Better protocols for medical examination of a rape victim.
- Repeal of Adultery Law
  - Violation of women's right to dignity and hence infringing on Art 21.
  - But, adultery is still a valid ground for seeking divorce or cases of abetment to suicide.
- Gender Budgeting
  - 2005 : Min. of Women and Child Development adopted it as a nodal agency. Through gender budget statements, gender budget cells, schemes.
  - Schemes : 2 parts : 100% for women beneficiaries or 30% earmarked. E.g. Mudra scheme.
- Nari Shakti Vandan
  - Proposes 33% reservation for women in Lok Sabha and state assemblies.
- National Commission for Women (NCW)
  - Review legislation.
  - Investigation of matters relating to safeguards of women.
  - Organizes training programs on gender issues.

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- Can take Suo moto action against any individual, organization, agency. Authority of a civil court. (summoning, requisition of any records, evidence, affidavits).
- **Issues in NCW:**
  i. Not many cases are NCW being consulted for policy making.
  ii. Many members are not well informed about the changing trends.
  iii. Practically the autonomy is restricted. Sometimes criticized for being selective.
  iv. Recommendations are not binding.
  v. Financial constraints.

- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
  - Launched in 2015, to bring behavioural change towards birth and rights of girl child.
  - Mass communication campaign and multi sectoral action to prevent sex selective elimination
  - Ensure survival and protection of girl children.
  - Ensure education and participation in the development process.
- Draft National Policy for Women – 2016 : Recommendations
  - Create a conducive socio-cultural, economic and political environment for women.
  - Eliminate all forms of violence.
  - Reduce MMR, IMR, Anaemia, Low BMI, by augmenting capacity of Anganwadis and ASHA workers.
  - Gender sensitization of school faculty and curriculum.
  - Resource rights of women : Priority given during govt. land distribution, promote joint registration of property and land among spouses
  - Recommend mechanism for monitoring, compliance of regulatory laws which ensure equal treatment to women at workplace.
- Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana
  - Min of Women and Child Dev.
  - Cash incentive of 5000 Rs.

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  - Awareness, Counselling on nutrition, breast feeding, immunization and other aspects of maternal and child health
- Kishori Shakthi Yojana
  - Empowering adolescent girls by providing knowledge, skills and opportunities, access to health, nutrition, hygiene and sanitation, vocational skills and training.
- Swadhar Greh
  - Temporary shelter & Rehabilitation.
  - Counselling and emotional support.
  - Legal aid and assistance.
  - Skill development and training, reintegration.
- Ujjwala
  - Prevention of trafficking and rescue, rehabilitation and re-integration of victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.
- The SABLA (Rajiv Gandhi scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls)
  - Empowerment and improvement on overall development for girls in the age group of 11 to 18 yrs.
  - Emphasis on nutrition, Iron & folic acid supplementation, Health and nutrition education, Reproduction and sexual health education, life skills, vocational training, guidance on govt. schemes, support for sports and physical activities.
- Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for children of working women
  - Daycare services for children in age group (6 months to 6yrs)
  - Create a safe and nurturing environment for children of working mothers.
  - Playing, learning and resting.
- Mahila Samriddhi Yojana
  - Savings account at nearest post office.
  - Tax benefits under 80C of IT Act 1961.
- Janani Suraksha Yojana
  - Reduce maternal and infant mortality.
  - Cash assistance to cover the cost of transport and food.
  - Skilled birth attendance during childbirth.
- One stop Crisis Centre Scheme

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- Also known as Sakhi centres.
- Provide integrated support to women affected by violence.
- Medical aid, legal aid, counselling and other necessary services.

- Nirbhaya Fund
  - Support initiatives focused on women's safety and security.
  - Financial assistance for projects such as establishment of one stop crisis centers, women helplines, safety of public transportation system.
- Nari Shakti Puraskar
  - National awards for women empowerment.
- Women Helpline Scheme
  - 181 : 24X7 helpline
  - Provide counselling, information, referral services for issues related to domestic violence, harassment etc.
- Mahila Police Volunteer
  - Bridge the gap between the Police and the community by involving trained female volunteers as a link between police and women in their communities.

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Role of Women's Organizations

Pre Independence

- Mahila Mandals
  - Mainly by Arya Samaj and Brahmo Samaj.
  - Bharat Stree Mandal was founded by Sarala Devi Chaudhari in 1910. Focused on the fight against the Purdah system.
- Women's India Association
  - Founded in Adayar, Madras in 1917 by Annie Besant, Margaret Cousins, Jeena Raja Dasa.
  - Focused on fight against child marriage, illiteracy & Devadasi system.
- National Council of Women in India (NCWI)
  - Advocacy of women rights.

    - Education, Health, Legal rights, Economic empowerment, Violence, Political participation.
- All India Women's Conference (AIWC)
    - Working on women's rights, education, child health, reproductive rights, violence against women.
- Sathya Sodhak Samaj
    - Started by Mahatma Jyothirao Phule
    - Upliftment of lower caste communities, fought against caste-discrimination.
    - Social equality and access to education, employment and other opportunities for all castes.

Post Independence

- Self Employed Women's Association
    - Ela Bhatt and group in Gujarat.
    - Mobilize women working in the informal sector including street vendors, domestic workers, agricultural labour, artisans and self employed individuals.
    - Skill training, access to credit and savings services, assistance in establishing and managing income generating activities.
    - Engage in advocacy efforts to influence policies and regulations.
- Friends of Women's World Banking
    - Informal credit support & networks.
    - E.g. Partner bank is Bharatiya Mahila Bank
- Aapan Samachar
    - Based in Muzaffarpur, Bihar. A news programme produced entirely by women.
- Durga Vahini
    - Women's wing of Vishwa Hindu Parishad.
    - Encourage women to participate in prayer meetings and in cultural activities.
- All India Democratic Women Association
    - Affiliated to CPI (M)
    - Women's rights, education, employment status, casteism, communalism, child rights, disaster aid. E.g. campaign against HLL's fair and lovely.

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- Young Women Christian Association (YWCA) India
    - 125 years in operation across the world.
    - Needs of marginalized women regardless of age, caste and religion.
- All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch
    - Intersection of issues like Patriarchy, Caste, Culture and Class, Caste oppression.
- Breakthrough Trust
    - Multimedia campaigns.
- Jagori
    - NGO dealing with sexual harassment, spreading feminist consciousness. E.g. Safe Delhi campaign.
- Centre for Women's Development and Research
    - Need of women headed organizations to address women's issues.
    - Focus areas : Adolescent girls, single women & domestic workers.
- Akshara
    - Provides library facilities, gender training and workshops, educational material.
- Maitreyi
    - Sponsors women's studies, workshops, research, documentation, support centres for women in distress.

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International Organizations

- UN Women
    - Assists intergovernmental bodies to frame global standards and facilitate member states to implement the same.
    - Also brings global cooperation and coordination in women upliftment.
- The International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRAW)
    - Working on women's human rights under the UN convention on elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW), which is an international human rights treaty.

Women : Permanent Commission

- A career in the armed forces till retirement.
- Indian Army, Air Force and Navy (0.5%, 1%, 6.5%) compared to over 10% in many developed countries.

Allowed : Yes

- Right to Equality
- Relaxation on physical criteria already available for male soldiers from Hilly regions. Also in IPS.

Allowed : No

- Low acceptance of female as boss.
- Practical difficulty : Physical infrastructure.
- Vulnerability to sexual harassment.

Role Models (create a table for yourself in following format)

Social work	**Freedom fighters**	**Politics**	**Sports**
Business	**STEM**	**Cinema, Art and Culture**	**Civil Services**

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- Women achievers.
- Women working on women empowerment.
- Others are working on women empowerment.

Way Forward

Strengthen Policy Implementation:

- Enforce equal pay laws and promote gender-responsive budgeting to reduce wage inequality.
- Ensure transparent recruitment and promotion practices to increase women's presence in senior roles

Promote Inclusive Education and Skill Development:

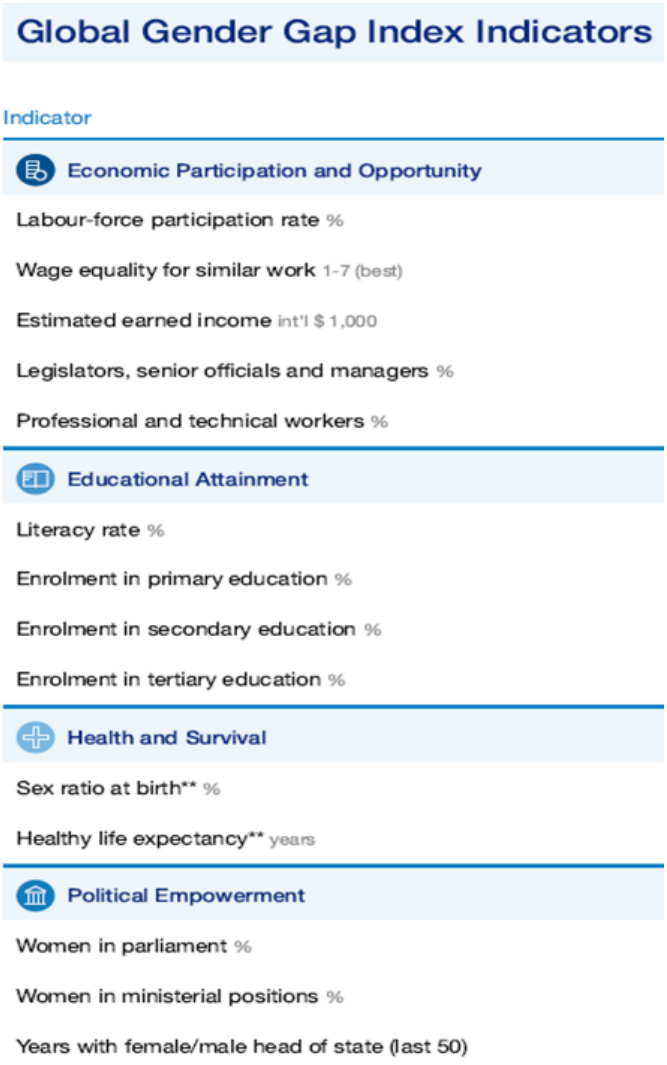
- Focus on STEM and vocational training for girls to increase participation in high-growth sectors.
- Bridge gender gaps in tertiary education by offering scholarships and mentorship programs.

Support Women's Economic Participation:

- Provide affordable childcare, maternity benefits, and flexible working conditions to enhance workforce participation.
- Encourage women entrepreneurship through credit support and market access.

Ensure Health Equity:

- Address skewed sex ratios through awareness campaigns and stricter enforcement against sex-selective practices.
- Invest in women-centric healthcare and nutrition to improve healthy life expectancy.



Enhance Political Representation:

- Introduce gender quotas in political parties and government positions.
- Promote leadership training and support systems for aspiring women leaders.

Data-Driven Interventions:

- Collect sex-disaggregated data to monitor progress and tailor interventions effectively.

CHAPTER 3 : Population and associated issues

Introduction

- According to UN Population Fund Report released in 2023
    - India is the most populous country by June, 2023 with a population of 142.8 cr.
    - 15 – 64 yrs. → 68%
    - 65+ yrs. → 7%
    - 0-14 yrs. → 25%
    - 10-19 yrs. → 18%
    - TFR → 2.0
    - Life expectancy → 72.5 yrs.
    - Census 2021 is going to the first census since 1881, to collect data digitally as well.

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Demography:

- A systematic study of population, its trends and process associated viz. size, birth rate, death rate, structure and composition, migration etc.
- Formal : quantitative analysis
- Social : causes and consequences of population structure and change

Population Education:

- Educational efforts to create awareness from a very young age on issues such as, population growth, family planning, reproductive health, sustainable development, gender equity and population stabilization etc.

NFHS (2019-21)

- Overall sex ratio = 952
- TFR is 2.0
- Under 15 population ration is 26.5%
- Stunting (height/age) = 36% (38% in 2015-16)

- Wasting (weight/height) = 19% (21% in 2015-16)
- Underweight (weight/age) = 32% (36% in 2015-16)
- Anemia situation has worsened for U-5 children 67% (from 59%)
- Full immunization rate among 12-23 month old children is 62% (from 79%)
- Contraceptive prevalence rate is 67% (from 54%)
- Breast feeding rate for <6 month old infant is 67% (from 55%)
- Women operating bank accounts is 79% (from 53%)
- IMR (death of children below 1 yr. per 1000 livebirths) = 32

Theories and Concepts

Demography - A systematic study of population, its trends and process associated viz. size, birth rate, death rate, structure and composition, migration etc.

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- Formal: quantitative analysis
- Social: causes and consequences of population structure and change

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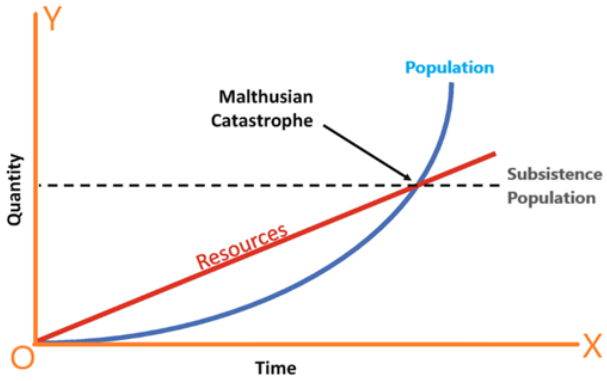
Population Education

- Educational efforts to create awareness from a very young age on issues such as
    a. Population growth
    b. Family planning
    c. Reproductive health
    d. Sustainable development
    e. Gender equity
    f. Population stabilization

Malthusian Theory:

T.R. Malthus, an English scholar in 1798 predicted that population growth (geometric) would soon be more than the rate of food production (arithmetic).

- Preventive measures
  - Delayed marriage
  - Enforced celibacy
- Positive checks
  - Exposing people to sever labour
  - Epidemics / Wars etc.



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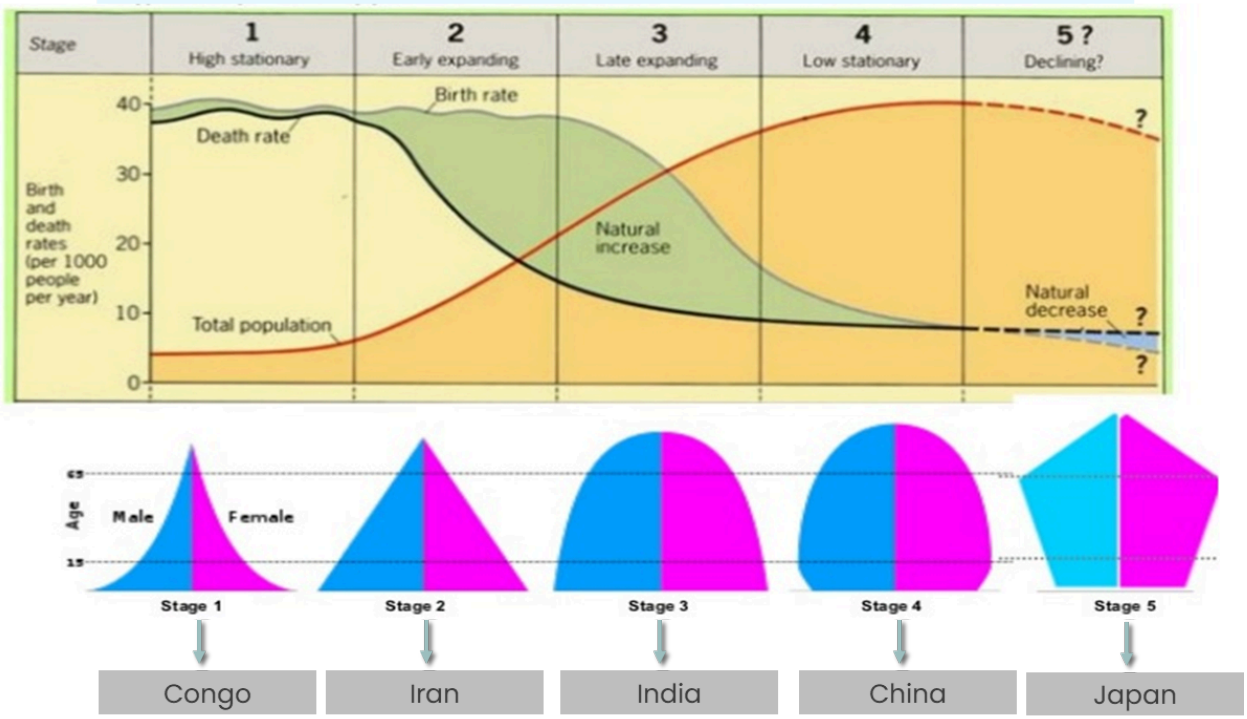
Theory of demographic transition

Pic credit : publichealthnotes.com



Determinants of population growth : Birth Rate and Death Rate

Natural population growth = Births – Deaths, Actual = Births – Deaths + (Net migration)

Birth Rate:

- No. of babies born for every 1000 people in a period (year). As per World Bank, currently for India it is Approx 18
- Factors
    - Marriage age
    - Access to contraceptives, Family welfare schemes
    - Female Labour force participation
    - Income level
    - IMR

Death Rate:

- No. of deaths for every 1000 people in a period (year). Approx 7
- Factors
    - Medical / Healthcare facilities
    - Crime / Conflicts / Calamities
    - Standard of living.

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Infant Mortality Rate:

- 32 (2018) per 1000. SDG target is 25.
- Factors
    - Early marriage : Around 20% of women have given birth before turning 18.
    - Access to Healthcare: Private hospitals mainly in urban areas.
    - Lack of immunization.

Maternal Mortality Rate : 113 (2018) per 100000

- Factors
    - Early marriage : Around 20% of women have given birth before turning 18.
    - Access to Healthcare: Private hospitals mainly in urban areas.

- Patriarchy : Unplanned pregnancy
- Hemorrhage, ruptured uterus, anaemia etc.

Determinants of population growth : Total Fertility Rate (TFR)

- TFR : Average no. of children born to a woman in her lifetime. As per UNPF its 2.0.
- Replacement level rate = 2.1, which is the rate at which population replaces one generation from earlier.
- **Factors :**
  - Age composition : share of young population.
  - Age at marriage and duration of marriage.
  - Sex Ratio (Urban area have more men due to migration, hence TFR is less).
  - Religious factors (degree of control may vary).
  - Decision making of individuals.
  - Income and standard of living.
  - Climate and Environment.
  - Family system (Joint family).
  - Attitudes towards vasectomy, tubectomy.
  - Availability of recreational facilities.

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Age and Sex structure

Sex Ratio

- As per 2011 census : 940
- 1084 in Kerala (male selective outmigration) vs 877 in Haryana (male selective immigration)
- North West < North East , South < North
- Christian and tribal belts have better sex ratio.

- Christians (1023) vs Sikhs (903)

Dependency Ratio

$$\frac{\text{Population in 0-14 age group} + \text{Population in} > 65 \text{ age group}}{\text{Population in 15-64 age group}}$$

Child Sex Ratio (0-6 yrs) = 919

India's Population Growth : Phases

4 distinct phases of India's demographic transition.

- Phase 1. 1901-21 → Stagnant population
  - 1921 saw a negative growth of -0.31, only time in history
  - High BR and DR.
- Phase 2. 1921-51 → Steady growth
  - Mortality induced growth
  - DR declined considerably
- Phase 3. 1951-81 → Rapid high growth
  - Population explosion
- Phase 4. 1981-2011 → High growth with signs of slowing down
  - Highest population growth of 2.48 was seen in 1971 census
  - 1.76 in 2011

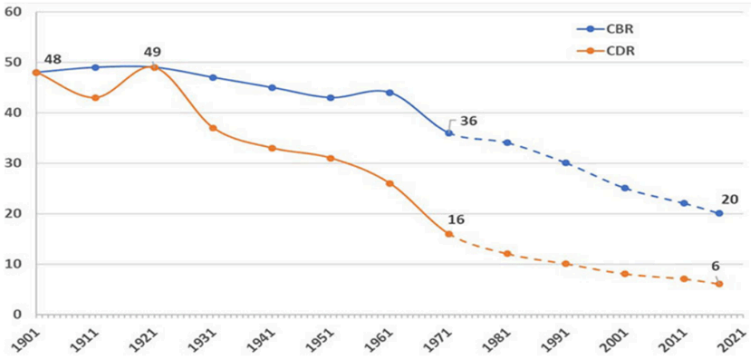
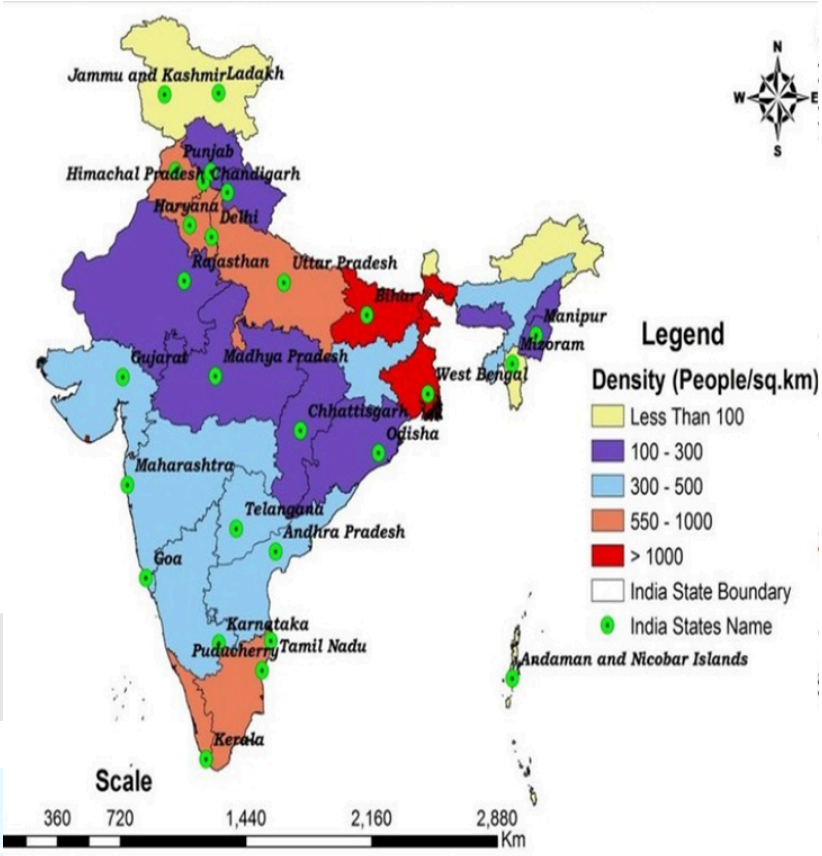


Figure 1. Crude birth rate (CBR) and crude death rate (CDR) for India, 1901–2017.
Source: For the period 1901–1961, data is from Mukherji (1976). For the period 1971–2017, data is from the annual statistical report of the Sample Registration System of India for the respective years.

India's Population Density and Distribution

- Very High. (> 1000 per sq. km)
  - UTs → Chandigarh, Puducherry, Daman & Diu
  - Delhi, Bihar and W.B.
- High. (500-1000)

  - UP, Kerala, TN, Punjab, Haryana
  - Agriculture or Industry based
- Moderate. (250-500)
  - Gujarat, Karnataka, AP, Tripura, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Assam and Goa.
- Low. (100-250)
  - Meghalaya, Manipur, H.P., Nagaland, Chhattisgarh, U.K., Rajasthan, M.P.
- Extremely Low. (<100)
  - Ar. Pr., Mizoram, A&N Islands, Sikkim.



India's Population Density and Distribution : Factors

- **Climate :**
  - Hot and dry deserts → Low population
  - Plains with good rainfall → High population
- **Soil fertility :**
  - 60+ % population is Agriculture based
  - Alluvial North, Delta, Coastal → High density
  - Kutch, Terai → Low density
- **Altitude :**
  - High hills → Low population
- **Industries :**
  - Jobs → Immigration → High population
- **Mineral resources :**
  - E.g. Chota Nagpur Plateau → High population

- **Urbanization**
- **Transport connectivity**

Effects of Rapid Population Growth

- 2.4 % of land area is accommodating 17% of world population.
- Unemployment, Underemployment and disguised Unemployment.
- **Pressure on infrastructure:**
    - Overcrowded urban spaces
    - Slums
    - Traffic
- Pressure on land and natural resources.
- Inequality and Poverty.
- Civil unrest.

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Demographic Dividend

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- When the working age population (15-64 yrs.) as a proportion to total population increases and is higher than dependent population (0-14 yrs. and 65+). Then there is potential to reap economic and social benefits.
- India's golden window is between 2018 and 2055 (37 yrs.)
- Challenges in realizing the dividends
    - Unemployed and frustrated youth can create unrest. E.g. Arab spring.
    - Poor Human capital : India's rank in the Global Human Capital Index is poor.
    - Female Labour Force Participation is poor.
    - Skill gap.

Efforts to benefit from demographic dividend

- Skill India Mission and PMKVY
- USTAAD → Skill mentoring among minorities

- Self Employment and Talent Utilization
- Stand Up and Start Up India
- Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) e.g. SWAYAM
- Nai Roshni Scheme to improve women participation

Further measures to be taken :

- Implement NEP 2020 in spirit as vocational training in integral.
- Focus on improving female labor force participation.
- The young population should take advantage of the 4th IR and AI revolution.
- Further encourage the culture of entrepreneurship. (Support for some startups going through rough patch)

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Population Control Measures

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- 1st FYP (1951-56)
  - Population control programme.
  - Identifying the factors of population growth
  - Techniques for planning and knowledge
  - Integrating the government. hospital with the programme.
- 2nd FYP (1956-61)
  - Emphasis on education and research.
- 3rd FYP (1961-66)
  - Copper T (Intra uterine device)
  - Independent family planning department.
- 4th FYP (1969-74)
  - Emphasis on all possible kinds of birth control.
- 5th FYP (1974-78)
  - National Population Policy
  - Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition.

    - The statutory age of marriage increased.
    - Monetary incentives. Delimitation was fixed based on the 1971 census.
- **Post 1970s**
    - Focus on 'Family Welfare'.
- **1990s**
    - Voluntary approach.
    - Integrated with education, health, maternity and childcare, women's rights and nutrition, anti-poverty programmes.

National Health Policy – 2017 - Recommendations

- Health expenditure to be increased to 2.5% of GDP by 2025.
- Life expectancy to be increased to 70 by 2025.
- TFR to 2.1 by 2025.
- U5 MR to 23.
- By 2020 HIV (90:90:90) – 90% should know the status, 90% knowing should use ART, 90% of using ART to viral load suppression.
- TB cure > 85%
- Immunization to reach 90% by 2025.
- Density of paramedics and community health volunteers need to be increased

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National Population Policy 2000

- Limit family size and also proper spacing between children.
- Immediate objective
    - Unmet needs of contraception
- Medium term
    - TFR to 2.1 by 2010
- Long term
    - Stable population by 2045
- Education
    - Free and compulsory education till 14 yrs.
    - Delayed marriage for adolescent girls.

    - Access to information and counselling.
- By 2010 → IMR to 30 per 1000, MMR to 100 per 1 lakh, 80% institutional delivery.

Jansankhya Stirtha Kosh

- 2005, Min. of Health and Family Welfare.
- 100 cr. Corpus.
- Subsume aims of NPP 2000.
- Achieve population stabilization by 2045.
- People's movement for a national effort.
- Mapping and amalgamating GIS maps and census data of 450 districts.
- Prerana : Awarding the couple to delay marriage.
- Santushti : Invite private sector doctors to conduct sterilization in PPP mode.
- National Helpline.

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Current Initiatives

- Quality assurance committees established at state and district levels.
- Create demand by promotions : posters, billboards, AVs
- National Family Planning Indemnity Scheme : Insurance in case of unforeseen deaths during sterilization.
- Increasing male participation – Non scalpel vasectomy (less invasive and less recovery time).
- Emphasis on Minlap Tubectomy. This now requires only MBBS to perform.

National Family Planning Programme.

- Home delivery of contraceptives by ASHAs.
- Counselling on spacing by ASHAs.
- New methods like Post Partum Intra Uterine Contraceptive Device.
- Increase financial commitments.

- Increase availability of reproductive maternal newborn and child health counselors.

Different Models of Population Control

China Model

- After decades, for the 1st time the population has declined in 2022.
- 15 to 59 age group proportion : 23% in 2000 to 16.5% now.
- 1979→ 1 Child Policy
- 2016→ 2 Child Policy
- Now up to 3
- Irreversible skewed sex ratio.
    - Lesson for India : Several states in India are already having an aging population viz. Sikkim, Goa, Kerala, J&K. Sikkim is ready to offer incentives for women for 2nd and 3rd baby (TFR is 1)

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UP – 2 child Policy

- Draft UP population control, stabilization and welfare Bill 2021. Aim to bring TFR to 2.1 by 2026, 1.9 by 2030.

Incentives

- 2 increments in service, subsidy for purchase of house plot.
- Rebate on house tax, electricity and water.
- Preference for single child in admission to educational institutions. Free healthcare and insurance for single child.

Disincentives

- No benefit of the government. sponsored schemes.
- Ration card limit up to 4.
- Ban on promotion, applying for jobs in govt.
- Ban on contesting local body elections.

Kerala Model

- Social reform movements helped in empowering women and marginalized.
- Land reforms helped many to acquire education.
- Matrilineal system.
- Village level panchayats are empowered.
- Out-migration and correspondingly increased income.
- Active media spread messages.
- Male sterilization (Ernakulam camp experiment).

T.N. Model

- Social reform movements emphasizing on small family norms.
- One of the first to implement a mid-day meal scheme.

Himachal Model

- Due to limitation of land → outmigration of men → women empowered.
- Development of agriculture, apple orchards, horticulture.
- Govt. schemes on water and electricity.

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A.P. Model

- Role of mass media especially cinema (awareness ads in theatres).
- One of the first states to have its own state level policy in 1997.

North vs South : Delimitation in 2026

- The last delimitation exercise was carried out in 1976 based on the 1971 census.
- The seating capacity of 888 of LS in the new parliament has revived the speculation on delimitation which is due in 2026.
- Art 81 → seats to be divided across states based on population.
- Currently the representation is : In UP per 30 lakh population 1 MP, TN 18 lakh per MP.
- Hindi speaking states which have 226 seats in 543 total will gain 33 more at the expense of non-Hindi speaking states. Southern states to be penalized for working well on family planning. (if total unchanged)

- Already states have a grudge on GST share distribution.
- Will also affect division of seats reserved for SCs and STs.
- Amidst secessionist tendencies in NE and partly in Punjab, the center should get tempted electorally.
- **Some arguments in favour**
    - SC, ST and Minorities, poor have higher growth rate.
    - Increase in MPs will help better manage smaller populated constituencies.
    - This is in line with the principle of one person one vote.

Way Forward

- Increase land ownership of women.
- Address skewed sex ratio especially worsening child sex ratio.
- Deal with unplanned migration.
- The caregiving market needs to be reformed to deal with the aging population and deal with feminization of elderly.

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CHAPTER 4 : Poverty and developmental issues

What is Poverty ?

- A condition in which an individual or a community lacks resources including financial to enjoy minimum standard of living and well being considered acceptable in a Society.
- As per World Bank, the international poverty line is set at 1.9$ per person per day. Using 2011, PPP exchange rates. Over time the line adjusted to account for inflation.
- Dimensions
    - Material : Food, clothes and shelter.
    - Non Material : Discrimination based on caste, race, gender etc., lack of political freedom.
- According to the UNDP, 2022, Multi Dimensional Poverty Index report, 1.2 billion across the world are poor.
- Multi Dimensional Poverty (Poor if deprived in 33% of 10 indicators)
    - Health → Nutrition, child mortality
    - Education → Years of schooling, school attendance
    - Standard of Living → Cooking fuel, electricity, housing, sanitation, drinking water, assets.

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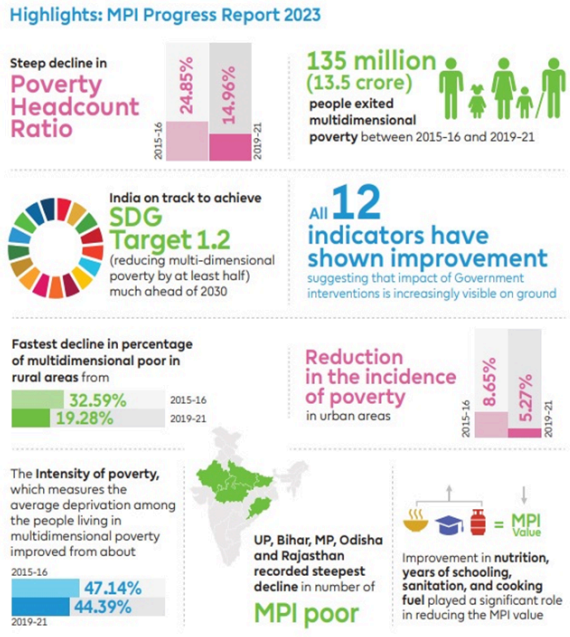

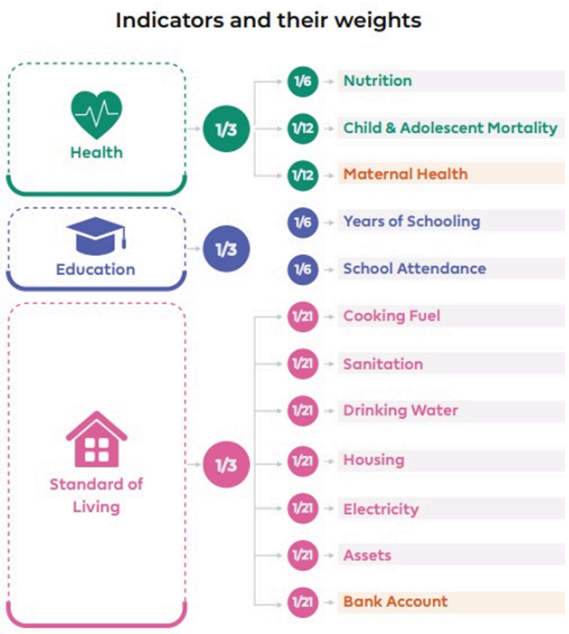

MPI progress Report 2023 - Niti Aayog

- **Alkire- Foster Method**
    - Deprivation level assigned to each indicator → e.g., Years of schooling < 6
    - Multidimensionally poor if the weighted sum deprivations > 33%

Introduction

- UNDP → from 2005-06 to 2015-16, 271 million Indians have been pulled out of extreme poverty.
- UNDP → 2019 → 1.25$, India poverty rate 6.7%
- SDG 1 : End extreme poverty by 2030, multidimensional poverty across all nations by 50%, equal rights to ownership, technology, basic services, social protections systems and economic resources.

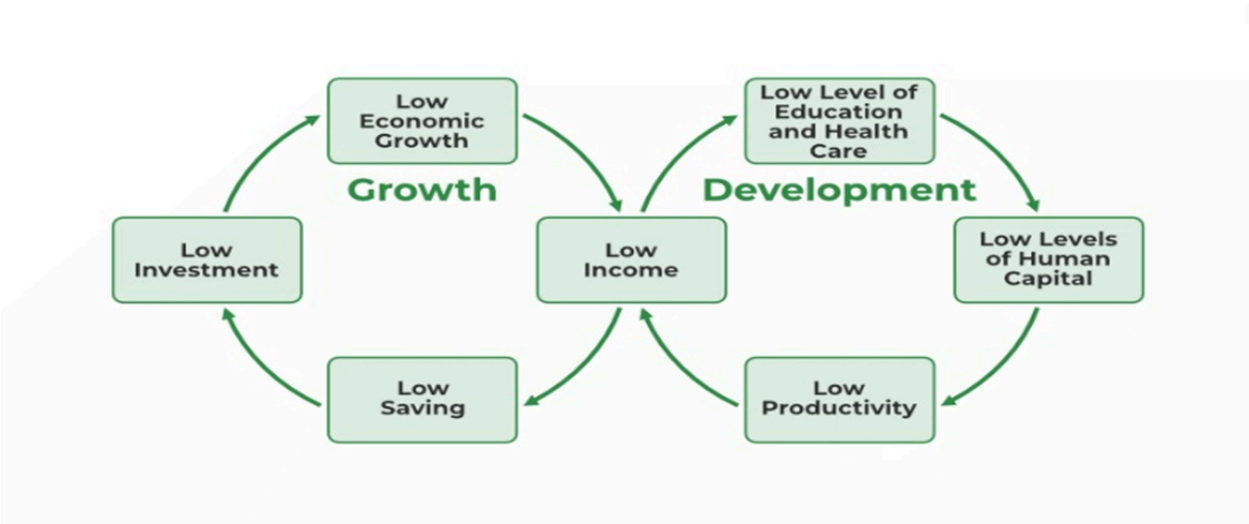

Fig. Vicious cycle of poverty (poverty trap)

Feminization of Poverty

- India ranked poorly in the WEF Global gender gap Index.
- Labour force participation is 27%, Contribution to GDP is 17%
- Access to education and health is limited.

- Lack of human capital.
- Discrimination at work place, attitudes, harassment, safety measures like transport etc.

Types of Poverty

Absolute

- A person does not have minimum income over a sustained period to meet minimum requirements.
- Calculated in terms of monetary terms, nutritional attainment or calorie intake.

Relative (cannot be completely eliminated)

- Not having a minimum level of standard of living in relation to specific sections of society.
- As a % of average income.

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Poverty Estimation Timeline

"What gets measured is what gets done/managed" – Peter Drucker

- Without the knowledge of who the poor are, interventions cannot be effectively devised.
- Understand patterns in terms of communities, geographies, demography etc.

Dadabhai Naoroji:

- Book 'Poverty an Un-British rule in India'. Formulated poverty line ranging from Rs.16 to Rs.35 based on 1867-68 prices.
- Based on cost of subsistence diet consisting of rice or flour, dhal, mutton, vegetable, ghee, vegetable oil and salt.

National Planning Committee (NPC) of 1938:

- Setup by Subhash Chandra Bose and chaired by Jawahar Lal Nehru.
- Rs. 15-20 per month.

Bombay Plan of 1944:

- Group of Businessmen planning for India's development.
- Rs. 75 per capita per year.

Poverty Estimation Timeline

- Working Group of Planning Commission : 1962
    - Rural → Rs. 20 per capita per year.
    - Urban → Rs. 25 per capita per year.
- VM Dandekar & Rath N : 1971
    - Based on NSS 1960-61
    - Adequate to provide 2250 cal. Per day for both Rural and Urban.
- YK Alagh Committee : 1979
    - Rural → 2400 cal & 49.1 Rs per capita per month
    - Urban → 2100 cal & 56.7 Rs per capita per month
- DT Lakdawala Committee : 1993
    - Consumption expenditure based on calorie consumption as earlier.
    - State specific poverty line using
        i. CPI Industrial Worker →Urban
        ii. CPI Agri Labour → Rural
- Suresh Tendulkar committee 2005
    - Shift from a calorie based model.
    - Broad based monthly spending on education, health, electricity and transport.
    - In 2004-05, Rs 446 (rural per capita per mon) vs Rs 578 (urban per capita per mon)
    - In 2011-12, Rs. 816 vs Rs. 1000
- Rangarajan committee 2014
    - Separate consumption baskets for Rural and Urban
    - Food → Protein + fat
    - Non-Food → Clothing, Education, Health, Housing, Transport
    - Rural (Rs. 972 per person per mon) Vs Urban (Rs. 1407 per person per mon)
    - 2011-12 Poverty rate was 29.5%.
- Aravind Panagariya Task Force : Recommends any of the below
    - Continue with the Tendulkar Poverty Line.
    - Rangarajan Committee no.s or higher.
    - 30% bottom population to be tracked over time.

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- 30% bottom population to be tracked for specific components such as housing, electricity etc.

Causes of Poverty

Debate over

- Individual herself/himself is responsible VS
- Beyond individual, society is significantly responsible.

Sub-culture

- Poor individuals along with immediate community inculcate certain values which are passed across generations. Values such as : risk aversion, low levels of motivation and innovation. (opposite of Protestant Ethics and spirit of capitalism : Weber)
- Liberals and radicals oppose above conservative views and instead link poverty to unjust social conditions.

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Causes:

- Social exclusion : Caste/Class/Gender.
- Access to socio-economic resources including Education, Health, Basic Infrastructure.
- Indebtedness → e.g. practice like rituals / expensive marriage.
- Lack of social security → No insurance → Medical emergency → pulled down poverty line
- Political climate and policies : lopsided development, regional disparities, lack of will.
- Climate change / disasters.
- Rapid population growth.
- Low agricultural productivity → disguised unemployment.
- Global / National level inflationary pressures.

Impact of Poverty

- Health → IMR, MMR, Stunting, Wasting and undernutrition.
- Education → Dropouts, unaffordable coaching etc.
- Violence & Crime → Easy targets for communal forces and terror recruits.
- Social unrest.
- Homelessness.
- Child Labour & Bonded Labour.
- Child marriage.
- Domestic Violence → due to stress, alcoholism or drug addiction.
- Victims of Human trafficking.
- Mass emigration → within the country or outside.

Poverty Alleviation Schemes / Programmes

3 approaches

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- Trickle down through overall economic growth.
- Targeted programmes to increase income of the poor.
- Provide basic minimum amenities. E.g. subsidized food. (Universal Basic Income)

Poverty Alleviation Schemes/Programmes

- Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)
    - Provide self employment for rural poor.
    - Bank financing.
- Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM)
    - Technical & entrepreneurial skills for Rural poor.
    - 18-35 years of age.
- National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) 1980
    - Employment by building and maintaining community assets. E.g. ponds and wells.

- Rural Landless, Employment Guarantee Programme 1983
    - Limited to landless poor
    - 100 days of guaranteed employment
- Jawahar Rozgar Yojana / Jawahar Gram Samrddhi Yojana
    - Additional gainful employment for unemployed and underemployed.
    - Rural economic infrastructure, community and social assets.
- Rural Housing : Indira Awas Yojana 1985
    - Residential units free of cost to SC, ST and freed bonded labour.
- National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) : 3 components
    - National old age pension scheme.
    - National family benefit scheme.
    - National maternity benefit scheme.
- Annapurna Scheme 1999
    - Free food for elderly without care.
- MGNREGS 2005
    - 100 days guaranteed employment per year to every rural household.
    - 1/3 rd. for women.
    - In the last 15 yrs. → 31 billion person days of employment.
    - Productive assets created to further boost rural income.
    - 11 cr. Worked during pandemic year 2020-21 alone. So additional funding of 40,000 cr. (2020-21)
    - This helped with distress migration.
- National Food Security Mission – 2007
- National Rural Livelihood Mission – Ajeevika – 2011
    - Jobs
    - SHGs encouraged
- National Urban Livelihood Mission
    - Skill development and market based employment
    - Encourage self employment
- PM Jan Dhan Yojana
    - DBT of subsidy, pension, insurance.

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- Targeting unbanked poor.

ASSESSMENT

- Poverty from 54.9% (1973-74) to 36% (1993-94)
- No drastic change in ownership of assets.
- Groups became defunct.
- Lack of institutional financial support, poor access to upgraded technology.

Poverty Alleviation Schemes → Gaps : Reasons

- **Resource constraints :**
  - The funding for MGNREGS (more demand than supply of funds).
- **Exclusion and Inclusion errors :**
  - Partly due to consumption.
- Left wing extremism and insurgency.
- Leakages.
- The beneficiary is a passive participant.
- Lack of awareness about schemes.
- Lack of effective social audit.

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Way Forward (trickle down + targeted + social security)

- Better distribution of income.
- Encouraging private investment.
- Emphasis on capability building – Human capital.
- Gender parity through better access to credit. E.g. Kudumbashree.
- Social security : Insurance penetration esp. in the health sector is poor.
- Schemes like MGNREGS in urban areas.
- International collaboration with organizations like UNDP, Oxfam, UNICEF, Borgen project (US foreign policy : Poverty elimination), Hunger project, World Bank, Red cross.

- Further empower panchayats & ULBs through funds, functions and functionaries.
- Targeted Universal Basic Income : Pilot . (JPAL RCT)
- Plug leakages in JAM.

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CHAPTER 5 : Urbanization, their problems and their remedies

What is Urbanization ?

A trend where a proportion of people living in urban areas i.e. cities and towns increases, when proportion decreases in rural areas.

SDG 11 : Make cities, human settlements, inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Statutory Town (Administrative definition of an Urban Area)

- The State Governor notifies, based on parameters like population density, revenue generated for the local administration, percentage employed in non-agricultural activities.
- Then urban local govt. or municipality is created.
- It's discretionary and even a few hundred population e.g. Gangotri.

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Census Town (Census definition of an Urban Area)

- Population > 5000
- Over 75% of the working population (male) engaged in non agricultural activities.
- Density >= 400 people per sq.km.

Data

- 2011 census → 31.2% population in urban areas.
- 2020 → World Bank says 55% of population lives in areas with urban like features. (this difference is called hidden urbanization)
- Difference between how Administration and Census views an area as urban. E.g. Kerala (15% urban from Admin point of view, but 47% as per Census).
- 2011 Census → 3,894 census towns and 4,041 statutory towns.
- Most Urbanized States : Goa, Mizoram, T.N. , Least Urbanized States : Himachal, Bihar and Assam.

Urbanization : Terms

Municipal Corporation

- Also known as Nagar Nigam in Uttarakhand and Mahanagar Palika in Maharashtra.
- Interacts directly with the State Administration. Divided into wards.
- Large cities like Delhi, Hyderabad, Chennai.

Municipality

- A self governing body in Town.

Cantonment

- Semi permanent or permanent military quarters, intermixing with civilian population.

Notified Area Committee

- An important area determined by a State as semi-urban, fast emerging to become a municipality.
- Created through a notification in the State gazette.
- Unlike Municipality the members are nominated, though powers are equivalent to a municipality.

Outgrowth

- Areas like railway colony, university campus, port area, military camps etc. which have come near a statutory town, outside its statutory limits but within revenue limits of a village(s).

Urban Agglomeration

- A ST or CT + its adjoining outgrowth.
- As per 2001 census, ST + 20,000 population.

Metropolitan city

- As per Census 2011, urban area with > 4 million population.

Megacity

- > 1 million population. As of 2021 Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai.

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Over Urbanization

- The level of Urbanization > Level of Industrialization. Population growth outstrips the job market. E.g. Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi etc.

Sub Urbanization

- When people move from urbanized areas to fringe areas around the city.
- Due to cost of living, transport facility, work from home, inclusion of surrounding areas in municipal limits.

Counter Urbanization

- A demographic and social process whereby people move from urban areas to rural areas.

Urbanization : Factors

- Natural growth → BR > DR.
- Migration

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Push from Rural

- Small land holdings in Agriculture
- Disguised unemployment
- Working in agriculture is seasonal
- Calamities / draughts / floods
- Restrictive social norms : caste based discriminations, diktats of khap panchayats
- Loss of demand for handicrafts due to factory made alternatives

Pull from Urban

- Jobs in establishments, factories.
- Glamour, entertainment.
- Education, Health facilities.
- Less prevalence of caste based discrimination.
- Freedom, gender based equality.
- Marriage (moving to in laws place)

Urbanization : Characteristics

- Unsustainable and messy : 38% of population in million plus cities lives in slums with poor civic amenities
- Cosmopolitan (diverse cultures).
- Mainly led by the tertiary sector : service sector > manufacturing sector.

- North – South divide.
- Emphasis on Individualism, anonymity.

Urbanization : Problems , Steps taken, Remedies

I. Housing

Problems:

- Lack of housing. So the emergence of ghettos and slums in cities.
- Floor Space Index (actual floor area of house / area of entire plot) is artificially kept low, so that additional amount can be charged for increase in limit.
- For > 60% of STs, slums have poor conditions.
- Unregulated slums on Govt. lands.
- Since illegal colonies, there are no basic amenities, like electricity, sewage, drinking water. (covid-19 management has become a nightmare due to this).

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Steps already taken:

- Jaga Mission : Odisha : Land rights to slum dwellers under Odisha Livable Habitat Mission (OLHM). The project won a bronze medal in World Habitat Awards.
- PM Awas Yojana (Urban) : Credit linked subsidy for EWS & Low Income Group, for up to a sum of loan of 6 lakhs (6.5% interest).
- AP Govt. launched in 2007, Rajiv Gandhi Swagruha → A SPV was formed on no profit no loss basis.
- Aarusha Homes Pvt. Ltd. → Low cost rental accommodation for low income migrant workers in Pune, Bengaluru and Hyderabad.
- Habitat for Humanity NGO, built more than 35K houses since 1983. Low cost construction through locally donated or sourced material.
- 'Hunarshaala' : A collective formed in Bhuj, post Earthquake. Building Earthquake resistant homes. Traditional mud homes 'Bhurgas".

Remedies / Way Forward

- Housing schemes should not only consider permanent migrants but also cyclical/seasonal migrants.
- Rental control laws need an overhaul.
- Land pooling or readjustment schemes need to be explored.
- Rationalising FSI, balanced horizontal and vertical expansion.
- Speedy approval for housing projects & reduction of red tape..

II. Unemployment

Problems:

- Unorganized sector > 90%.
- Low level of skills.
- March, 2020 → According to Center for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), urban unemployment is at 31%.
- Covid affected the MSME sector.
- Flawed labour laws.
- Employment exchanges need modernization.
- Street hawkers need more support.
- Unregulated Gig.

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Steps already taken:

- **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana (National Urban Livelihood Mission) :**
    - Training by imparting market oriented skills.
    - Using city livelihood centers.
    - SHGs, Initial capital and interest subsidy
- **PMKVY:**
    - Recognition of prior learning.
    - Through National Skill Development Corporation.
- PM Employment Generation Programme
    - Min. of MSME.
    - Self employment by setting up micro enterprises, organizing local artisans, youth into groups.

- Odisha Urban wage employment Initiative
    - Labour intensive projects in ULBs.
    - 100 cr. Rs. April to Sept 2020.
    - Focus on SHGs.
- M.P. : Yuva Swabhiman Yojana
- Kerala : Ayyankali Urban employment generation scheme : 100 days wage employment.

Remedies / Way forward

- Job centers (Private or Public)
- Connecting source and demand portal.
- Linking social security benefits.
- Entrepreneurship. Ease of doing business for SMEs.
- Drug and alcohol abuse rehab centers.
- Cost of doing business for SMEs.
- Empowering subaltern, menial jobs for specific marginalized communities.
- Push for green jobs.
- Consider universal basic service pilot projects.
- Govt. and PSUs jobs.
- Encourage street hawkers and proper mapping.

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III. Infrastructure / Overcrowding

Problems

- Metros overcrowded.
- Unsustainable infrastructure.

Steps taken

- AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation)
- Basic amenities like water supply, sewage.
- Every household has tap water connection and sewage connection.
- SMART city
    - Core infrastructure, clean and sustainable environment, decent quality of life through ‘smart solutions’
    - **6 principles :**

        - Community at core of planning
        - Greater outcomes with fewer resources
        - Cooperative and competitive federalism
        - Innovative, integrated and sustainable solutions.
        - Careful selection of technology relevant to the context of cities.
        - Sectoral and financial convergence
    - 48,000 cr. across 5 yrs., starting from 2015 (100 cr rs. Per city).
- Swachh Bharat Mission
    - Build toilets.
    - Awareness about sanitation and hygiene, water disposal.
    - Scientific progress in disposal, reuse and recycling of municipal waste.
- Placemaking
    - Priority of people over infrastructure.
    - Social interactions to be increased. E.g. café on terrace in hospital in Pune, Park on covered dump yard in Hyderabad, Anganwadis, Cricket-tennis courts under flyovers.

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Remedies / Way Forward

- Provision of utilities i.e. power, gas, internet need to be universal, at a price point where urban poor can afford.
- Active competitive private participation in supply.

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IV. Poverty

Problems

- Urban poverty is more than 25%
- A significant proportion of the urban population does not consume threshold calories.

Steps taken

- PM Gareeb Kalyan Yojana
- Affected by Covid-19. Free ration. Extended the timeline.
- Free LPGs for Ujjwala beneficiaries.
- One Nation One Ration benefits.

Remedies / Way forward

- J PAL → Randomized control trials of poverty alleviation schemes.
- Nationwide schemes like MGNREGS for urban poor.

V. Waste Management

Problems

- Solid waste disposal e.g. 3 garbage mountains in Delhi. Fire at Kochin, waste plant.
- E-waste management.
- Bio waste management especially during Covid-19.
- Limited workforce for garbage collection, badly designed community bins, ill designed vehicles.
- Lack of treatment facilities.

Steps taken

- SBM
- Million plus cities challenge
    - Proposed by 15th Finance Commission.
    - 42 Urban Agglomerations to contest on parameters like Air quality, quality of drinking water, Solid Waste Management.

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Remedies / Way forward

- Adhere to E-waste management rules 2016.
- Strict penalty as followed in countries like Singapore for littering.
- Lessons from Chandigarh, Surat, Rajkot, where proper segregation at source is done and modern solid waste processing plants are in place.
- In places like Haridwar a model of QR coded water bottles are in place. On returning the empty bottle money is refunded.
- Israel model : Waste water to natural aquifers in just 20 years (1970-90). The same can be done in India.
- Malls, commercial establishments, gated communities, toilet water is recycled.

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VI. Transportation

Problems

- Congestion.
- Access to affordable transport.
- Pollution.
- Unsafe mobility for women.
- No public spaces for walking, cycling.
- The share of private vehicles has increased.
- Due to no affordable houses, the poor need to live in suburbs, further increasing the cost of commuting.

Steps taken

- Faster Adoption & Manufacturing of Hybrid & Electric vehicles (FAME).
- Mangalore : Integrated transport feedback system. Commuters rate bus operators on 'Chalo App'
- Delhi – Odd even model.
- AMRUT (Transport component) : Non motorized public transport, Comprehensive city mobility plans.
- National Urban Transport Policy 2006 : Safe, affordable, comfortable, quick, reliable, sustainable urban transport..
- Mass Rapid Transport System (MRTS) : 2017 Metro policy : Collaboration, standardizing, financing and creating a procurement mechanism.
- Sustainable Urban Transport Project : Environmentally sustainable.

Remedies / Way Forward

- Promoting e-Rikshaws.
- EV based buses. E.g. Delhi , Bengaluru. Collaborate with DISCOMs for charging.
- Ride sharing e.g. Quick Ride and affordable modes like Rapido.
- Separate lanes for Buses as seen in cities like Ahmedabad and Bengaluru.
- Feeder buses from Metro.
- Use AI models to see the route demands and accordingly automate scheduling.

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- CCTVs, Marshalls in Buses for women safety. Well lit bus stops.
- Focus on underground metro. Explore viability gap funding for Metro projects.
- Land planning in such a way that residence and office is close by.
- **NITI Aayog:**
    - Clean, convenient, congestion free. Multi modal and data driven. Ropeways and waterways.
    - Safe, Adequate, Holistic Infrastructure (SAHI)

VII. Urban Financing

Problems

- Despite 74th CAA, as per NITI Aayog, only 11 states have devolved municipal functions to ULBs.
- Stretched budgets e.g. New Delhi Municipal Corporation as on 2021-Nov, had 8,800 cr. Rs. Liabilities.
- Municipal revenues and expenses as a part of GDP is 1% compared to developed nations (4%).
- Only 13 states have setup State Finance Commissions.
- Property tax collection is meagre compared to other countries.
- GST induced complications.

Steps taken

- 15th FC, had allocated grants of 1.55 lakh cr. For municipalities for 2022-23 to 2026-27.
- A minimum floor rate for property tax proposed.
- Municipal bonds issued in past by Bengaluru and Ahmedabad. Also listed on stock exchanges.
- T.N. municipalities utilized pooled financing by venturing into the debt market.

Remedies / Way Forward

- Local governments should develop capabilities, conceive, finance, manage financially viable projects.
- Municipalities should regularly publish reports of operational performance, along with annual accounts.

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- State Finance Commissions should be adopting standardized approaches in assessing revenues and expenditures.
- The professional tax base can be expanded.

VIII. Environmental Degradation

Problems

- Heat Islands.
- Depleted groundwater.
- Drying of water bodies / encroachment.
- Waste disposal into water bodies (e.g. Foam in Bellandur lake of Bengaluru).
- Urban flooding.
- NITI Aayog → 2030 → Urban potable water. Demand will outstrip supply.
- Illegal sandmining. Jaisamand lake, Jodhpur.
- Oil from motor boats due to over-tourism. E.g. Ashtamudi lake, Kollam.

Steps taken

- National Mission on Sustainable Habitat
  - Energy conservation building code.
  - Recycling waste.
  - Incentivize public transport.
- Rainwater harvesting is mandatory for building licenses in T.N.
- National Air Quality Index
  - Color coded system of Air Quality (IIT Kanpur and CPCB).
  - This creates a competitive environment among cities.
  - Public awareness on risks.
- Increased awareness through mass media. E.g. Urban climate film festival held recently (collaboration of Min Housing and Urban Admin. And French Development Agency, E.U.)

Remedies / Way Forward

- Porous tiling
- Avoid using glass on the exterior of buildings.
- Desilting of canals, drains.

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- Rejuvenate water bodies.
- No permission for new industries near residential areas.

IX. Urban Crime

Problems

- As per NCRB in 2020, IPC and local law based crime increased by 8% over 2018 in 19 metropolitan cities.
- Avg. 14 hours of work for Police. Due to which poor investigation, evidence collection. Workload so high that they adopt coping mechanisms like denial and alcoholism.
- Pendency of criminal cases at Police level is 25-40%.
- 44% of police surveyed say they are ok with extra judicial killings.

Steps taken

- Anti dowry cells in the 1980s.
- NGOs like Swanchetan (lawyers collective, helping in medical support, counselling of victims).
- Kerala Police, training in AI and data analytics. Through a programme called 'Capacity building in responsible AI & Data analytics" and iCOPs for Crime tracking.
- Cyber crime → National Informatics Centre – Computer Emergency Response Team.
- Hyderabad. 5-8 lakh CCTVs. Traffic violations and prevention of crime.

Remedies / Way Forward

- Promote school level pre-marital counselling on healthy and sustainable relationships.
- 'Broken Windows' approach as in New York. Immediate crack down on offences like eve teasing.
- More women in the police force. 7-8% overall (90% constabularies)
- Sensitization on caste and HRs as there are prejudices against specific communities, ethnicities and castes.
- Considering the manpower crunch, embracing private detectives is good. Passing of Private Detective Agencies (Regulation) Bill 2007 can help.
- 2nd ARC → Politicization of Police should be checked.
- Prakash Singh Judgement reforms are still pending.

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Urbanization : Effects

- **Family and Kinship :**
  - Nuclearization. Relations with distant kin are weakening.
- **Caste :**
  - Caste and Class co-exist. Though not irrelevant, it's manifestation is not as overt as in rural areas.
- **Women :**
  - Due to patrilocal setup, a lot of women after marriage move to urban areas.
  - Middle class women get employed in white collar jobs and lower class women are employed in the informal sector.
  - Improvement in socio-economic status. Independence, fewer restrictions (no diktats of Khaps).
  - Not much change on the pattern of arranged marriage and dowry.
  - Institutional support to cope with mental health and violence. Many communities, collectives, clubs and feminist groups.
  - Potential victims of crime, trafficking
- Promotes cultural diversity.
- More prone to communalism.
- Psychological issues : Alienation, inferiority complex, mal adjustment, cultural shock, emotional desensitization. Empty nest syndrome in elderly.
- Crime against elderly and children. E.g. cyber bullying.

Urbanization : 7 principles of building better cities : Peter Calthorpe

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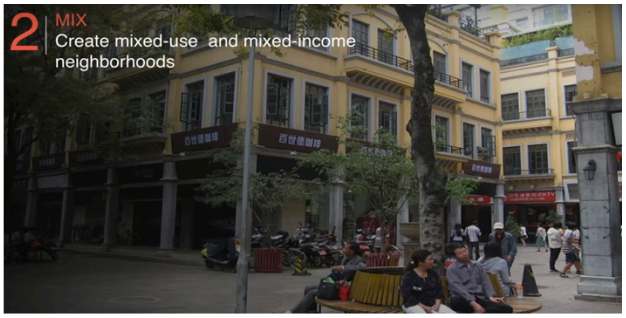
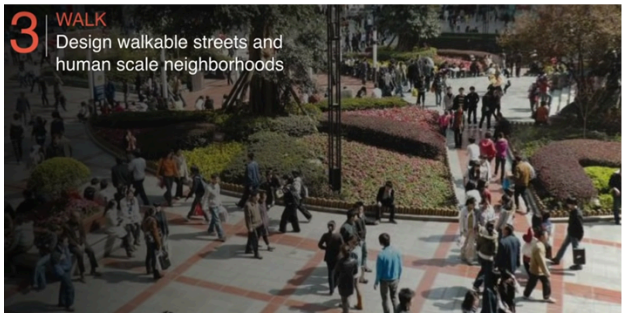
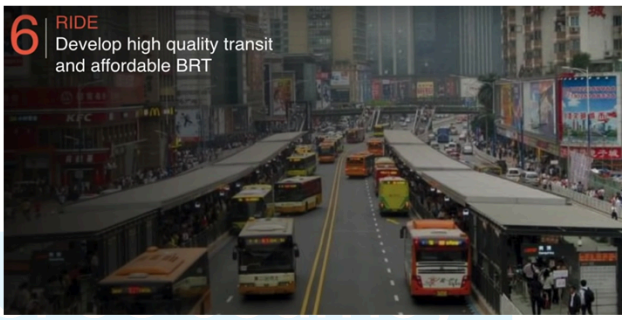
1
PRESERVE
Preserve natural ecologies, agrarian landscapes and cultural heritage sites

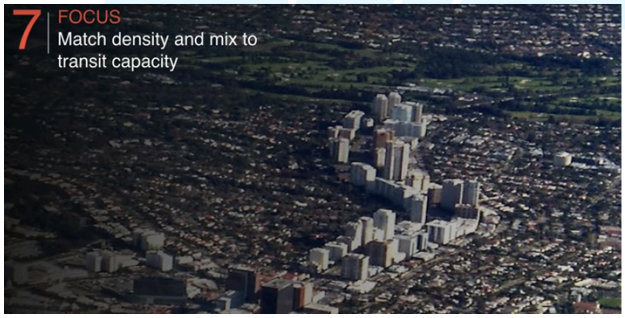

2
MIX
Create mixed-use and mixed-income neighborhoods


3
WALK
Design walkable streets and human scale neighborhoods

4
BIKE
Prioritize bicycle networks and auto-free streets

5
CONNECT
Increase density of road network, limit block size


6
RIDE
Develop high quality transit and affordable BRT


7
FOCUS
Match density and mix to transit capacity

CHAPTER 6 : Effects of Globalization on Indian society

What is Globalization ?

- Increasing global interconnectness, where there is a free flow of information, ideas, technology, goods, services, finance and people's movement.
- In purely economic terms, according to Thomas Friedman, It's a loose combination of FTAs, the internet and integration of financial markets in easing borders and uniting the world into a single lucrative but brutally competitive market.

History of Globalization ?

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- **1st wave:**
  - Trade links of IVC with others such as Sumerian / Egyptian.
  - Roman Empire vs Parthian.
  - Han Dynasty with others.
- **2nd wave:**
  - European conquest (1400 to 1800).
- **3rd wave:**
  - Industrial revolution : Steam engine, telegraph, railways.
  - Imperialism and Colonialism (19th Century)
- **4th wave:**
  - Post WW II. Institutions such as UN, W.B. GATT and IMF.
- **5th wave** : 1980s onwards. Modern day Globalization.

Modern day Globalization in India

- LPG reforms in 1991.
- Internet based global communication.

- Trade liberalization (WTO) leading to affordable movement of goods, air travel etc.
- Global media.
- Capital markets and inflow of FDIs and FIIs.

Factors for Globalization

- **Historical**
  - Invasions
  - Trade routes
- **Economic**
  - Supply vs Demand
- **Environmental**
  - Calamities,
  - pandemics – large scale migration.
- **Socio-cultural**
  - Influence of art, architecture, music, literature etc.
- **Political**
  - UN, WTO etc
  - Democracy vs Dictatorship
  - Capitalism vs Communism
- **Technological**
  - IT exports
  - Dumping
  - E.g. iPhone assembly

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Effect of Globalization on Family & Marriage

- The status of women in a marriage improved.
- Social evils such as child marriage and superstitions, orthodox values moving towards eradication.
- Nuclearization of families : emphasis on freedom, independence and individualism

- Emergence of DINKs, DISKs, Nanny system
- New celebrations : Mothers day, Fathers day, Valentines day.
- Pre wedding, pregnancy and divorce photoshoots.
- Love marriages, Same sex marriages, sologamy/autogamy.
- Matrimonial portals expanded search to any place in the world.
- Dating apps.
- Virtual families.
- Breakdown of Joint Family system.
- Increase in divorce rates.
- Increase in inter caste / inter religious marriages.

Effect of Globalization on Class : New Middle Class

- Not homogenous, salaried professionals.
- Higher level of education, achievement orientation, consumerism.
- Family pressure and stress.
- Pre-existing gender roles are changing.

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Effect of Globalization on Culture

- Exchange : Burgers in India, Samosas in the US, Popadums in the UK.
- Fusion : Hip hop, salsa, Indian classical.
- Preservation : Renewed interest to preserve art forms.
- Multiple languages for work.
- Tolerance : castes, religious groups.
- Revival of Yoga, AYUSH, Mythologies, local handicrafts. (e.g. Madhubani paintings)
- Cultural or spiritual tourism (Tourists in Varanasi).
- Monoculturism : Other ethnic groups need to adopt the culture and practice of the dominant ethnic group.
- Melting pot: All immigrant cultures are mixed and amalgamated without state intervention. E.g. US society.
- Multiculturalism: Immigrants can preserve their cultures, and interact peacefully with others. E.g. Canada, India.

Effect of Globalization : Glocalization

- Mixing of global with local. (**Glocalization = Global + Local)**
- Often by MNCs in order to penetrate new markets. They adopt local traditions, local regulations.
- e.g. TV channels, McDonalds or KFC → Biriyani or Mc Aloo tikki., Netflix and Amazon prime → Indian version of series e.g. citadel.
- Books translated into Indian languages.
- English vocabulary added with local words.
- Unilever → Ayurvedic products.

Effect of Globalization on Religion

- Mutual interaction of religions enriches each other.
- Use of modern technology to profess one's own religion and spread across the world. E.g. ISKCON across Europe and The US.
- Increase in tolerance.
- Religious affinity may sometimes supersede national affinity.
- Radicalization, fundamentalism due to access to radical preachers across the world.

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Effect of Globalization on Women

Positive :

- Challenge to patriarchy and in nuclear setup, women have better life choices.
- Economic empowerment, new jobs in the formal sector like I.T.
- Support of NGOs, active participation on social media. Vocal about their rights. E.g. #MeToo.
- International obligations impacting domestic legislations and schemes. E.g. Global Gender Gap Index report, SDGs.
- Educational opportunities in India and Abroad.

Negative :

- Work life balance → Domestic chores in addition to office work.

- Objectification of women in the media.
- Increasing consumerism → More demand for dowry.
- Migration of men from rural to urban → Feminization of agriculture.
- Sexual harassment at workplace.
- Trafficking for labour and prostitution.

Effect of Globalization on Children

Positive :

- Better awareness of international affairs.
- Greater learning options. (MOOC)
- Exposure to tolerance and competition.
- Cosmopolitanism.
- International conventions influencing domestic legislations. E.g. UN convention on child labour.
- New avenues of earnings at a very young age. E.g. YouTube, Instagram.

Negative :

- Weak familial bonds.
- Exposure to the internet / screen, affecting physical and mental health.
- Easy target to cyber bullying affecting emotional health.
- Increased competition leading to anxiety and suicidal tendencies.
- Addiction to junk food, porn, games. E.g. Blue whale game.

Effect of Globalization on Tribals

Positive :

- Better access to education and health.
- Better employment avenues. E.g. Ecotourism, handicrafts.
- Promotion of indigenous culture. E.g. global recognition of dance forms, music etc. E.g. Hornbill festival in North East India.
- Awareness of rights, forest laws, minor forest produce, due to access to the internet.

Negative :

- Resource exploitation.
- Tendencies of relative deprivation leading to secessionist demands.
- Development vs Displacement.

Effect of Globalization on Differently Abled

Positive :

- Better access to tech driven employment.
- Assistive technology available at affordable price.
- Events like the Paralympics, special Olympics help in boosting morale. E.g. Mr. Suhas Yathiraj IAS, paralympic silver medalist in badminton.
- NGOs have access to finances.
- Affordable hearing aids, prosthetics.
- Marrakesh Treaty : Production and international transfer of specially adapted books for blind and visually impaired.
- Signatory to international conventions, imposes obligations domestically.

Negative :

- Greater emphasis on competition, efficiency has closed doors for many.
- Privatization of PSUs led to loss of potential jobs. (3% reservation).

Effect of Globalization on Elderly

Positive :

- Access to better and affordable medicines.
- Better standards of geriatric care.
- Better assistive technology and medical facilities.
- Due to remittances, better financial stability.
- Post retirement opportunities in the private sector, entrepreneurship.
- Online education : Anonymity and convenience.

Negative :

- Isolation, rejection, alienation, depression, loneliness due to nuclearization. (parents of NRIs).

- Increase in crimes.
- Digital and AI divide. (e.g. don't know how to use touch screen phones).
- Issues with scheme benefits. (Aadhar fingerprint).
- Easy victims of WhatsApp fake news, cyber fraud.
- Outsourcing to cheaper young workforce across the globe resulting in loss of jobs.
- Cultural shock due to westernization.
- Increased cost of healthcare due to commercialization.

Effect of Globalization on LGBTQIA+

Positive :

- Society has relatively become more accepting.
- U.S. Supreme Court 2015 judgement on legalizing gay marriages (Obergefell vs hodges case), has inspired many movements in India.
- Social media helps with taboo. Pride parades, Pride month-June.
- Global dating apps.
- Netflix and other OTTs have a policy of content which raises awareness on issues.

Negative :

- As many now openly express, they become victims of discrimination.
- Victims of international human trafficking.

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Effect of Globalization on Education

Positive :

- Learn anything, anywhere and anytime.
- Up to date content (MOOC).
- Entry of foreign universities.
- Student exchange programmes
- International best practices and curriculum (IB).

Negative :

- Commercialization.
- STEM vs Humanities.

Effect of Globalization on Economy

Positive :

- Economic growth, increased trade.
- Booming service sector, FDI and FII inflows.
- Improved efficiency due to standards such as ISO, Sarbanes Oxley Act.
- Push for startup ecosystem.

Negative :

- Increased inequality.
- Decrease in the share of Agriculture, Manufacturing.
- Increase in regional disparities.
- Environmental degradation.

Effect of Globalization on Agriculture

Positive :

- Agreement on Agri in WTO to deal with unfair practices.
- Adoption of new technology, increased efficiency, contract farming and exports.
- Global collaboration in research. E.g. GM crops.
- MNCs entry into food processing industry, Farm to fork retail chains.

Negative :

- Farmer suicides.
- Threat of cheap imports.
- Subsidies by EU, USA affecting exports.
- Monocropping leads to soil fertility degradation and groundwater exploitation.
- Threat to traditional crops. IPR on Basmati and Haldi etc.
- International shocks leading to food inflation.

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De Globalization or Anti Globalization

Increased self sufficiency and reduced interdependence as the international agreements have been discriminatory or exploitative. Trade as a share of global GDP has declined slightly, Flow of Capital has reduced and flow of people has reduced.

Reasons:

- Inequality, VISA regime, Anti immigrant sentiment, tariff and non tariff barriers, Nationalism, Covid-19.

Impact:

- Temporary decline of economic growth, job losses.

Globalization 4.0

- Associated with service sector
    - Globalization 1.0 → Columbus days.
    - Globalization 2.0 → 1800s to Industrial Revolution.
    - Globalization 3.0 → Utilization of different countries for efficiency and lower cost.
- Globalization 4.0 is based on high speed internet, AI, IOT, Big data, 3D printing, Quantum computing. Founded on 4th IR.
- The migration will be virtual.

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Challenges

- Virtual conflicts between countries.
- Obsolete skills, job losses.
- Increased inequality.
- Demographic dividend to disaster, if youth is not appropriately trained.
- Investments in basic infrastructure.
- AI divide.

CHAPTER 7 : Social Empowerment

What is Social Empowerment ?

Development of socially, educationally, economically marginalized, so that they make better life choices, gain autonomy, and confidence.

Dimensions

- Political → Power, rights.
- Social → Status.
- Economic → Wealth, income.
- Cultural → Preservation and promotion.

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Empowerment of Scheduled Tribes

Definition

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- According to imperial gazette, the tribe is a collection of families bearing a common name, speaking a common dialect, occupying or professing to occupy a common territory and is not usually endogamous, though originally it might have been so.
- Article 342(1) : Those communities which have been declared by the President through public notification and subsequently through amending Act of Parliament will be considered a ST.
- Lokur Committee Guidelines
    - Primitive traits
    - Distinct culture
    - Shyness of contact
    - Backwardness
    - Geographical Isolation

Problems

- Land alienation : Primarily shifting cultivators or dependent on minor forest produce.

- Poverty : Innocence, Bonded labour.
- Education : Lack of access, barriers.
- Lack of awareness and access to schemes.
- Difficulty in Assimilation.

Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

- Extremely backward amongst STs.
- 75 groups.
- Characteristics : Stagnation, pre-agriculture level of technology, declining population, low literacy, subsistence level of economic activity.
- A tale of 2 PVTGs (Irulas and Sentinelese)

Problems of PVTGs

- Extinction like Andamanese and Orge.
- Main livelihood includes food gathering, MFP. But forest officials create a problem.
- Political policy apathy.
- No awareness of schemes.

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De Notified Tribes

- Jobs like transportation, key making, entertainment, acrobatics.
- Notified as criminal as per British criminal Tribes Act 1871. Repealed in 1952.
- Since it is diverse, it is now included in ST, SC and OBC.
- As per Renke Commission (2008) : 198 denotified tribes, 1500 nomadic & semi nomadic.

Constitutional safeguards to STs

Article	Provision
Article 342	The President can notify any community as ST.

Article 15	Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.
Article 16	Equal opportunities in matters of public employment.
Article 46	DPSP : "The State shall promote with special care, the educational and economic interests of weaker sections of the people, and in particular, of SCs and STs.
Article 19(5)	Impose restrictions on freedom of movement, for the benefit of STs.
Article 23, 24	Bonded Labour, Child Labour.
Article 350	Conserve distinct culture, script and mother tongue.
Article 164 (1)	Tribal Affairs ministers in Bihar, MP, Orissa.
Article 243	Reservation in Panchayats
5th Schedule	Tribal Advisory Council in 10 states : AP, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, HP, Jharkhand, MP, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan Telangana.
6th Schedule	Autonomous District Councils in 4 North Eastern states : Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram.
Article 330, 337	Reserved seats for MPs and MLAs
Article 371	Special provisions for NE states and Sikkim
Article 338	National Commission of ST
Article 275 (1)	Grants in aid to states.

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Legislative / Statutory safeguards to STs

- The SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act 1989 → Stringent punishments to the convicts, Rehabilitation for victims.
- Bonded labour Abolition Act, 1976.
- The Andaman & Nicobar (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 → Sentinelese, PVTGs are protected.
- The Provision of The Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996
    - Self rule for tribals living in tribal areas.
    - Rights over local natural resources, decision making and development of their community.
    - Customary laws, social and religious practices.
    - Environmental Impact Assessment is mandatory.
- FRA – 2006
    - Includes rights of 75 PVTGs

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Schemes / Programmes / Initiatives / Policies

- Tribal Panchsheel
    - Advised by Indian anthropologist Verrier Elwin, PM of India Pt. Nehru set 5 principles for tribal development.
        i. Should develop along the lines of their own genius. (No imposition)
        ii. No outsider should be able to take possession of tribal lands.
        iii. Encourage the tribal languages.
        iv. Tribals themselves should be involved in administration.
        v. No over administration.
- Virginius XAXA committee recommendations : 2014
    - Increase and strengthen the power of Gram Sabha for land acquisition.
    - Agro-based training, organic and eco-forestry.
    - Use of traditional knowledge.

  - No detention policy in schools. Teacher shortage to be addressed. Schools like JNV should be encouraged.
  - Tribal Health Council → Govt. and NGOs.
  - Tribal Advisory councils can approve health plans..
  - Right to Fair compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013. → The term 'Public Purpose' is wide.
  - Rehabilitation of tribals who have been alienated.
  - Gram Sabha consent is fraudulently taken. There should be a penalty.
  - De-notified tribes should not be stigmatized.
  - Anti beggary laws to be repealed.
  - Tribal Research Institutions should be provided more finances.
- Ekalavya Model Residential Schools
  - For 6th to 12th
- Stand Up India
  - SC/ST/Women entrepreneurs → Loan from 10 lakhs to 1 cr. Rs.
- Van Dhan Scheme
  - SHG – Van Dhan Vikas Samitis.
  - Working capital for tribals, for the MFP to add value.
  - Van Dhan Vikas Kendra → Skill Training.
- Tribal and Harijan Institutes
  - Study the tribal lifestyle, art and customs for their protection and documentation.
- Pre & Post Metric Scholarship Scheme
  - Marketing, logistics development for promotion of tribal products from NE region → facilitate tribal artisans, to enhance their income.
  - Tribal sub-plan component → Ensure proportion at least equal to population of funds of schemes is for ST beneficiaries.
- PM PVTG Mission (2023-24 Budget)
  - Housing, clean drinking water, education, road and telecom connection.
- National Commission for De Notified (All denotified are Nomadic), Nomadic, Semi Nomadic tribes.

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- Scheme for Economic empowerment of Denotified tribes, free coaching for competitive exams, pre metric and post metric scholarships, Welfare boards.

Empowerment of Scheduled Castes

Ambedkar's contribution

- Started: 1927 → Marathi fortnightly → 'Bahishkrit Bharat', 1930 → Marathi Weekly → 'Janta'.
- 1927 → Started *Samaj Samta Sangh* advocating for equality.
- Supported inter-caste dinner and inter-caste marriage.
- 1927 → Satyagrah to establish the civic rights of the untouchables to draw water from a public tank, *'Chavadar Talen', at Mahad* district Kolaba.
- 1930 → Satyagrah to establish the rights of the untouchables to enter the famous *temple of Kalaram* at Nasik.
- 1940s → Formed the *Scheduled Castes Federation* as an all India political party → Funds for education and reservation in jobs.
- Notified as scheduled castes as per provisions contained in clause 1 of Art 341.
- The President of India, in consultation with state governors, specifies which castes are deemed to be SCs.
- 16% (18.5 -> Rural, 12.6 -> Urban) of population in India. In Punjab, it9s 32%.
- Literacy rate as per 2011 Census
- Overall SCs -> 66.1 %. Overall national population -> 73% Male SCs -> 75.2%, Female SCs -> 56.5%.
- Sex Ration as per 2011 Census
- 945 (marginally better than overall sex ratio of 943).
- Child Sex Ratio 933 (better than overall child sex ratio of 919).

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Dalit movement

- **1950** → Ambedkar turned his attention fully to Buddhism and travelled to Ceylon to attend a meeting of the World fellowship of Buddhists (visited Burma, Nepal to attend future editions)
- Advocated for conversion to Buddhism and formed Bharatiya Bauddha Mahasabha in 1955.
- **1956** → Ambedkar, his wife and about 4 lakh of his supporters converted into Buddhism in Nagpur. This has inspired more conversions later (1981 Meenakshipuram conversion to Islam in TN, 2002 Jhajjar- Haryana, 2014 Shivpuri - MP, Bhim Army activists conversion - UP)

Buddhist Dalit Movement by Ambedkar

- Ambedkar believed that Buddhism can be helpful for Dalits in creating a non communal political ideology
- Most Buddhists (less than 1%) are in Maharashtra (6% of the population of the State) and UP.
- Rajendra Aherwar founded the Kanpur branch of *Bharatiya Buddh Mahasabha*.

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Dalit Panthers

- 1972 → founded by Namdeo Dhasal and JV Pawar in Maharashtra as a social organization to fight caste based discrimination.
- Inspired by the Black Panther Party → fight racial discrimination against blacks → Civil Rights Movement in the US
- Initially emphasized on militant (use of arms and threats) and revolutionary attitudes.
- Members: Mostly young and Buddhists, inspired by the ideas of Ambedkar, Jyotirao Phule and Karl Marx.
- Re-invigorated the usage of the term Dalit

Kumar

- Imparted the proletarian - radical class identity to Dalits

- Linked their struggles to the struggles of all oppressed people over the globe

Drawbacks

- Lacked the suitable ideology and like Black Panthers
    - TV mentality → to think of a revolutionary struggle like quick paces TV programme
    - Neglect of economic foundation, lumpen tendencies
    - Lack of clarity about the form of struggle
    - Corruptibility of the leadership

Contributions of Kashi Ram

- 1984 → Kanshi Ram founded the political party Bahujan (SCs, STs, OBCs, religious minorities) Samaj Party (BSP)
- Members of the Party: Inspired by the philosophy of Gautam Buddha, BR Ambedkar, Mahatma Jytoiba Phule, Narayan Guru, Periyar and Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj.
- Focus of the party → Social transformation and economic emancipation of the Bahujan Samaj
- Political Strategy:
    - Narrate the stories of Dalit heroes
    - Build memorials → celebrations in order to build a collective memory in people

Contributions of Mayawati

- Mayawati Prabhu Das became CM of UP fir 4 terms
- PV Narasimha Rao
    - Mayawati's government is a miracle of democracy
    - Initiatives
        - Distribution 3 acre land with pattas ti weaker sections by launching a special drive
        - Strict action against the land mafia and illegal occupants of land

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        - For SC and STs → clearing backlogs in reservations, scholarships. Housing and poverty alleviation schemes for the poor.
    - In a way many believe that Mayawati had given a sense of self confidence to Bahujans.

- **Dalit Women's Movement**
    - **1928** → women association founded by Ramabai Ambedkar
    - **1942**→ All India depressed class women's conference participated by over 25,000
    - Even women of higher caster were considered Dalits
    - **1993** → National Federation of Dalit Women (NFDW) founded by Ruth Manorama, influenced women's movement to discuss the issue of caste and violence against Dalit women
    - **1995** → Dalit Mahile Sanghatana in Maharashtra, represented the Dalit women's question at the International Women's Conference
    - Important leaders: Ramabai Ambedkar, Mrs Anjinibai Deshmukh, Mrs. Gitabhai Gaikwad, Mrs Kirtibai Patil and Sulochanabai Dongre
    - According to Dalt feminists, Dalit women face 3 fold oppression →
        - Oppression by the Upper castes
        - Agricultural workers are subject to class oppression
        - Patriarchal oppression at the hands of all men, including men of their own castes
    - Goals of contemporary Dalit women's movement
        - Change caste equations
        - Promote the leadership of local women
        - Protest against all forms of violence against women and men
        - Negotiate terms with upper castes during elections
        - Ensure benefits of government schemes reach eligible Dalits

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Dalit Literary Movement

- Baburao Bagul (1930-2008)
    - Considered as a pioneer of MArathi Dalit writings

    - Jevha Mijat chorli (when i concealed my caste) → 1963 → Collection of short stories → shook the traditional foundations of Marathi literature with its radical depiction of social exploitation
- Namdeo Dhasal (founder of Dalit panthers)
    - Consolidated and expanded the dalit literature
- Other Dalit writers in Marathi
    - Laxman Gaekwad, Laxman PAwar, Waman Nimbalkar, Tryambak Sapkala, Arun Dangle, Yogendra Meshram, Bhimrao Shivrale etc
    - Marathi writings have been translated into English as well.

Dalit movement - Limitation

- **Lack of unity and contradictions -**
    - several local level competitive Dalit political parties emerged
    - Interests of the most backward among Dalits are different
- **Political coalitions**
    - Unable to forge with other political parties
    - E.g., Bhim Army unable to form an alliance with other parties like SP and BSP
- **Lack of representation in Media**
    - Inability to take forward the narratives to larger population
- **Rise of Right wing**

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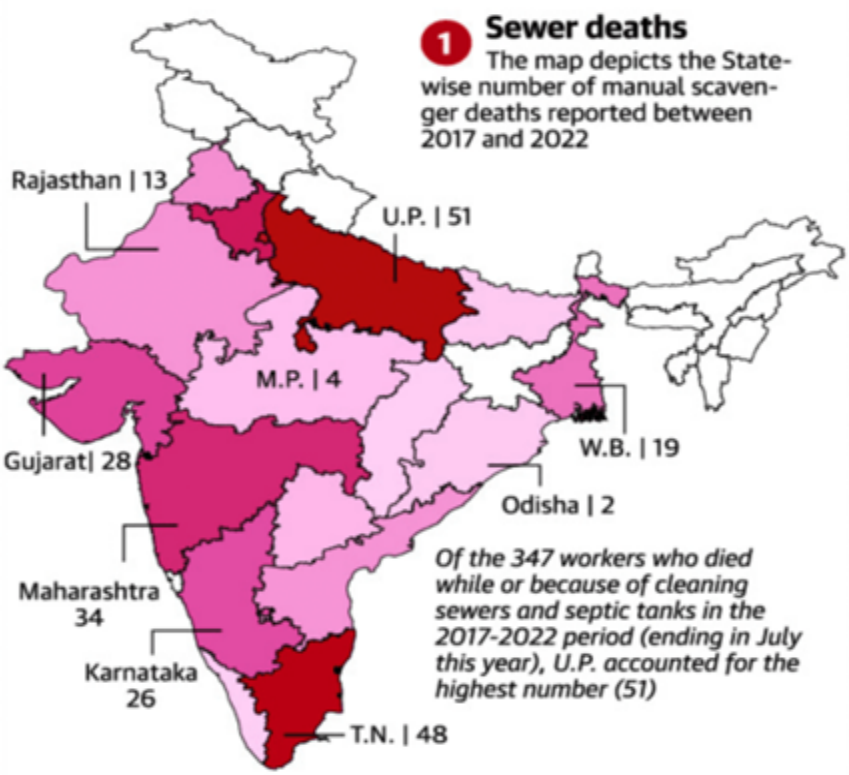
Problems

- Purity and pollution makes their access to many amenities difficult, more prominently seen in rural areas, yet pervasive in urban areas too.
- Social disabilities translated into economic deprivation.
- Education status is poor compared to the national average.
- Basic rights violated : Predominant share of Manual Scavenging Jobs, Bonded labourers.



Problems : Manual Scavenging

- One of the great shames of contemporary Indian Society is the inability to completely eradicate the inhuman practise and a form of untouchability i.e. Manual Scavenging.
- This practice is a violation of Article 15, Article 17 and Article 21 of the Constitution. It is also prohibited under Prohibition of employment as manual scavengers and their rehabilitation Act 2013, SC/ST PAA (amended in 2015).
- According to MS Act of 2013, A manual scavenger is defined as a person who is employed to handle, without an appropriate safety gear, undecomposed human waste from an insanitary latrine, open pit, drain or a railway track.
- According to a national survey there are about 58000 manual scavengers.
- Despite technological innovations through mechanised systems for sewage cleaning, intervention in the process continues. Manual scavengers are provided with some government rehabilitation : cash assistance of Rs. 40,000, loans up to Rs. 15 lakhs at concessional rate of interest and scholarship schemes for their children.

Reasons:

- Poor implementation of laws and some grey areas in the Law.
- Scarcity of water in many areas due to which there are still some dry latrines in use.
- High cost of and low access to technology.
- Red tape involved in access to benefits like Loans.
- Poor organizational support and lack of information on rights and schemes.

Measures to deal with Manual Scavenging

Dealing with supply side:

- Identify the communities and individuals involved and educate them about the alternative jobs and the various schemes and supporting organizations.
- Help them through SHGs and NGOs to unionise and raise their voice.
- The rehabilitation should be eased by providing loans, skill based training for alternate jobs.

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Dealing with demand side:

- Greater adoption of technology. E.g. the case of Kerala where Bandicoot is commissioned for all the manholes (now machine holes).
- Better disposal of waste so that sewers don't get clogged often.
- Behavioural change through IEC and WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene)
- Recently Kerala has become the first state to adopt robotic technology "Bandicoot" with features such as HD cameras, sensors to detect harmful gases and waterproofing.

Initiatives:

- Rashtriya Garima Abhyan – National campaign for dignity and eradication of manual scavenging.
- SBM, NSKFDC.
- National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE)- Mechanisation, Rehabilitation, providing safety gear and training, health insurance etc.

Constitutional safeguards to SCs

Article	Provision
Article 15 (4)	**Special provision for advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes inc. SCs.**
Article 16 (4A)	**Reservation in matters of promotion.**
Article 17	**Abolition of untouchability.**
Article 46	**DPSP : "The State shall promote with special care, the educational and economic interests of weaker sections of the people, and in particular, of SCs and STs.**
Article 23, 24	**Bonded Labour, Child Labour.**
Article 330, 332	**Reservation for MPs, MLAs**

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Legislative / Statutory safeguards / Commissions for SCs

- The SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act 1989 → Stringent punishments to the convicts, Rehabilitation for victims, special courts for trials.
- Bonded labour Abolition Act, 1976.
- Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 → Punishing any form of untouchability.
- Prohibition of Employment as Manual scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act 2013.
    - Any person, municipality, panchayat or agency cannot build an unsanitary latrine.
- National Commission of SC under Article 338 → Investigate and monitor all matters
- National Commission for Safai Karmachari → Non statutory body under Min. of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Schemes / Programmes / Initiatives / Policies for SCs

- Upgradation of merit for class 9,10,11 and 12 → residential schools.
- Dr. Ambedkar Foundation → Promote Dr. Ambedkar's Ideology and Philosophy
- Pre-metric and post metric scholarships.
- Scholarships for higher education and coaching.
- Babu Jagjivan Ram Chattravas Yojana Hostels.
- Stand UP India.
- PM AJAY
    - Merger of SC tribal sub plan + PM Adarsh Gram Yojana + Babu Jagjivan Ram Chattravas Yojana.
    - Integrated development of villages with > 50% SC population.
- National SC Finance & Development Corporation → Support State channelizing agencies and Banks.
- National Career Service Centers → Min. of Labour and Employment.
- PM-DAKSH → Skill training for youth.

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Way Forward

NITI Aayog recommendations

- Setup functional residential schools.
- Mandatory funding provision by Finance Commission.
- Strengthening monitoring mechanism, audits, coordination with other departments, scholarship through DBT.
- Impact evaluation of different schemes.
- National SC/ST Hub → Strengthening market linkages to market products developed by SC artisans.

Empowerment of Differently Abled

- As per 2011 census 2.21% of the population is affected by either one or more forms of disability (visual, hearing, speech & locomotor disabilities, mental illness etc.)
- Excluded from many socio-economic activities.
- Poor access to social and physical infrastructure.
- Supported by the Joint Family or Family system but due to nuclearization, they have become more vulnerable.
- India is party to the UN convention on 'Rights of Persons with disabilities'. So, we should enjoy full equality under law.

Problems

- Not just health problems, social discrimination affects their confidence, subjects them to psychological trauma.
- The literacy rate is 45%.
- The family and care providers also go through challenges and stress.
- Stigma, stereotypes, superstitions, non-medical treatments.
- Disability and economic deprivation reinforce each other.
- Many denied rights (inheritance).
- Access to public places.
- Policy : definitional problems, lack of proper survey, evidence.

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Constitutional Safeguards

- Art 41 → Public assistance in case of unemployment, oldage, sickness, disablement and other cases of undeserved want.
- Art 243-G, 243-W. Panchayat and Municipalities → Among others scheme for safeguarding interests of persons with disability and other weaker sections of the society.

Legislative / Statutory safeguards

The Rights of PWD Act 2016

- Types of disabilities have increased.
- Dynamic updating. E.g. Acid attack victims, Hemophilia, Thalassemia and sickle cell disease.
- Children with disabilities
- 6-18 yrs. → RTE, free education.
- Reservation increased to 4%.

Schemes / Programmes / Initiatives / Policies

- Tax benefits
- Rajiv Gandhi fellowship scheme for M-Phil & PhD.
- Reservation in PSUs
- Accessible India Campaign
    - Built environment →Physical barriers to public spaces.
    - Transportation → Accessible
    - ICT → Announcements, Readers.
- Deendayal disabled rehabilitation scheme
    - Financial assistance to NGOs.
- Special schools by Min. of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- Udaan, Smile Foundation → NGOs
- NEP emphasizes barrier free access for all children.
- Adoption of UN Convention, Biwako millennium framework (Asia and Asia pacific), Incheon strategy (inclusive development goals by 2030 for Asia Pacific)

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Way Forward

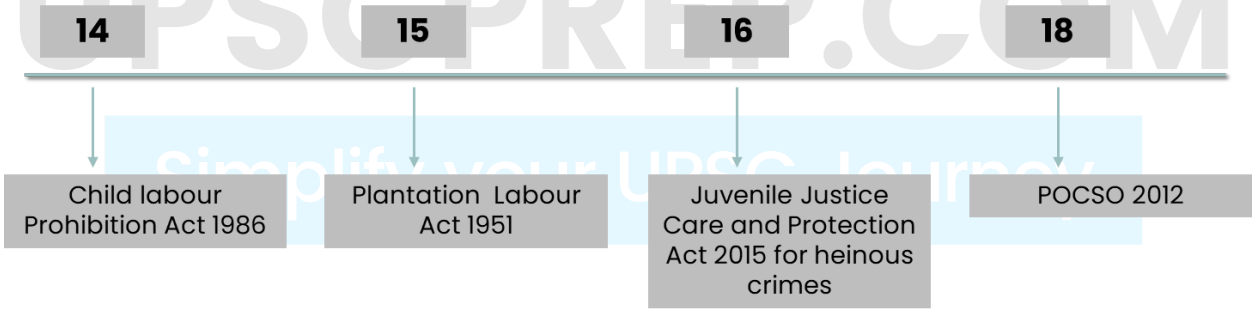
- Prevention
- Early detection of disability, and appropriate medical intervention.
- Mandatory provision of accessibility in all govt. buildings.
- Special trainers.
- Paralympics and special Olympics.
- Assistive technology, Mobile technology, W3C standards. E.g. Braille e-book reader, tactile wand electronic stick, Bluetooth enabled shoes.

- Attitudinal change through characters in movies being imperfect.

Empowerment of Children

Who is a child ?

- Universally accepted definition, comes from UN convention of Child Rights → Any human <18 yrs. Of age. This has been accepted and ratified by most countries.
- India → about 41% population is of age <18 yrs.
- Children in difficult circumstances → Orphans, street children, refugees, displaced, children being trafficked, victim of sexual abuse, child labourers.
- Indian definition.



Problems

- Mortality → According to the Sample Registration System (SRS) statistical report 2020 released in 2022.
    - IMR → 28
    - U5 MR → 32 (SDG target 25)
    - Neo Natal (0 -28 days) MR → 20 (SDG Target 12)
- Child labour → As per ILO it is defined as the work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. According to the 2011 census 3.9% of the children work as 'Main Worker' or 'Marginal worker'.

Constitutional Safeguards to Children

Article	Provision
Article 15 (3)	Special provision for betterment of children.
Article 21A	Free and compulsory education (6-14 yrs.)
Article 23	Protection from being trafficked and forced into bonded labour
Article 24	Prohibits the employment of children below age of 14 yrs. In any factory, mine or other hazardous activities like construction work or railways.
Article 39(e)	Ensure that children are not exploited
Article 45	Provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of 6 yrs.

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Legislative / Statutory / Bodies : Safeguards to children

- PCPNDT Regulation and Prevention of misuse Act 1994 Act.
- The Prohibition of Child marriage Act – 2006
- RTE
- POCSO 2012
- Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 2016
    - Prohibition in employment for <14 yrs. Except family business, entertainment.
    - 14-18 → Adolescent → Non hazardous
    - Rehabilitation fund.
    - Reduced hazardous from 83 to 3 (mining, explosives and occupation in factory Act). This allows working in battery units, chemical plants, stone breaking, slaughter houses and brick kilns.
    - Family business → but it is unregulated.

    - After school / vacation → what about recreation?
- Bonded labour system (Abolition) Act 1976
- Immoral Traffic Prevention Act 1956
- Juvenile Justice care and protection of children, Act 2015.
- Commission for protection of children rights 2005 → Provides for establishment of NCPCR and SCPCRs.
- National Authority for elimination of Child Labour (Under Min. of Labour and Employment)
- CARA (Child Adoption Resource Authority) : Nodal body for adoption of orphans, and abandoned.

Schemes / Programmes / Initiatives / Policies for Children

- ICDS → Early childcare by providing pre-school education, nutrition and immunization.
    - 0-6 yrs. and also pregnant and lactating women.
- Mid day meal scheme
    - Freshly cooked meal.
- Mother and child tracking system
- Operation SMILE and Muskan
    - Rescue and rehabilitate the missing children.
- Child line 1098
- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.
    - Infrastructure in habitations which don't have schools.
- National Child Policy – 2013
    - Rights based approach.
    - Long term, sustainable, multi sectoral, integrated and inclusive approach for overall development.
    - Recognizes the need of differently abled, girl child, HIV affected.
    - Nation / State level coordination and action groups → for field level implementation of child related schemes.
    - Social audit & community score card to monitor improvement of schemes, child budgeting.

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- National Plan of Action for children : 4 key priority areas
    - Survival
    - Health and Nutrition
    - Education and Development
    - Protection and Participation
- Online abuse, impact of climate change and adverse events.

Adoption

- About 30 million abandoned, orphaned or stranded children, of which 4000 approx. get adopted annually.
- Through CARA and Child Welfare Committees.
- Governed by JJ Act and Adoption Rules of 2017.
- Covid-19 → more need of adoption.
- Increased cases of returning of adopted kids, because of lack of counselling.
- There are not many registered care units.

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Initiatives :

- CARA can now protect children and facilitate inter-country adoption in line with the Hague Convention 1993. Amendments to JJ Act done in 2021 for this.
- JJ Act 2021 gives powers to DM to authorize adoption orders.
- Mission Vatsalya for institutional care.
- Online registration through Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System (CARINGS).

Recommendations by Parliamentary Standing Committee :

- Need to bring a uniform and comprehensive law.
- Registration with CARA is mandatory.
- Survey at district level to identify orphaned / abandoned.
- Word ‘illegitimate’ should be omitted.
- LGBTQ+ couples to be considered.

- Gender parity for adoption (both mother and father as guardians)

Children in conflict with law

- 16-18 yrs. → Many countries consider them differentially.
- Guideline of SCI in Barun Chandra Thakur case, where JJB will conduct assessment.
- 4 aspects are checked : Physical capacity, Mental capacity, Circumstances, Ability to understand consequences.
- Help of child psychologists.
- Amended in 2015, for cases of heinous crimes > 7 yrs. IPC.

Criticism

- In contravention with the UNC Rights of children
- They are put in adult prisons → not appropriate.
- This is retributive justice and not reformative.

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Empowerment of Elderly

Problems

- Age 60+. As per 2011 census, 8.6% of the population.
- Kerala 12.6% vs Arunachal 4.6%
- Projected that by 2050 → 20% of population.
- Women live longer, mostly home makers, married young. So after the death of husbands, they are dependent on children.
- Due to inadequate social support, high medical expenses.
- Abandoned, beaten, psychological abuse, property dispute.
- Bombay Prevention of begging Act 1959, criminalizing the homeless.
- High nuclearization of family.

- NCRB 2015 → 20,000+ crimes against elderly.
- Physical infrastructure → Accessibility.
- Only 10% have any pension.

Constitutional Safeguards to elderly

Article 41 → State to provide assistance to old age people.

Legislative / Statutory / Bodies/ Commissions : Safeguards for elderly

- Maintenance and Welfare of Parent and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.
    - Children are legally bound to maintain children.
    - Speedy and affordable mechanism for protection of life and property of the older persons.
- National policy on senior citizens – 2011
    - Mainstreaming senior citizens especially older women.
    - Focus on preventive care rather than cure.
    - Savings instruments, employment.
- National council for senior citizens
    - Advisor to central and state govts. on all issues related to senior citizens.

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Schemes / Programmes / Initiatives for elderly

- Indira Gandhi National Oldage Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)
- Part of the National Social Assistance Programme.
    - 200 Rs. Per month (60-79 yrs.)
    - 500 Rs. Per month (79+ yrs.)
- Atal Vaya Abhyudaya Yojana
    - Food, health, human interaction, financial security.
- National Prog. for Healthcare for Elderly
    - Preventive, curative and rehabilitative services.
    - Dedicated health facilities at district hospitals, PHCs, community health centers at free of cost or subsidized rates.
- Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana - 2017

    - BPL senior citizens provided physical aids, assisted living devices e.g. walking sticks, elbow crutches, hearing aid, wheel chair, dentures and spectacles etc.
- PM Vaya Vandana Yojana
    - For a lumpsum payment of 1,50,000 or 15,00,000 considering interest rate of 8%, a monthly pension of 1K or 10K.
- Rebate in tax, enhanced coverage in LICs
- Signatory to Madrid plan of Action, UN principles of older persons etc.

Schemes Assessment / Way Forward

- Mandatory use of Aadhar is creating a problem of authentication for elderly due to the wearing off of fingerprints. (alternatives should be explored)
- Health → State subject. State schemes need to be integrated with central schemes.
- Money of 500Rs. As pension is meagre. (need to reviewed)
- No well trained caregivers for elderly. (regulation and proper training required)
- Need for dedicated wards in hospitals.
- Extending AYUSH
- Ramps, accessibility using CSR funds.
- Dedicated Helpline.
- Palliative care. E.g. Malappuram Kerala model.
- Connecting old age homes and orphanages.
- 2nd demographic dividend : Make them independent.
- Perception around retirement homes should be changed.

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Empowerment of Minorities

Introduction

- GOI recognizes 6 different religious minorities : Muslims, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Christians, Zoroastrians.

- Word 'Minority' used in Art 29, 30, 350A, 350B. But no definition.
- Linguistic → Separate spoken language. No script needed.
- Many involved in unique art forms
- Though a national level list is maintained, there could be a state specific too.

Problems

- Traditional artisans losing market, leading to poverty.
- Homogenization of culture, migration.
- Prejudices e.g. Bengali speaking in Assam, Nepali speaking across India, Hindi speaking in TN, Karnataka.
- Communal tensions.
- Poor representation in Civil Service, Politics.
- Anxiety on UCC

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Constitutional Safeguards to minorities

Article	Provision
Article 15	Prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex and place of birth.
Article 25	Freedom of conscience and free profession, practise and propagation of religion.
Article 26	Every religious denomination has freedom to manage its religious affairs.
Article 27	Freedom from payment of taxes for promotion of any particular religion.
Article 28	Freedom as to attendance at religious institution, or religious worship in certain educational institutions.
Article 29	Protection of distinct languages, script or culture of minorities.

Article 30	Rights of all minorities, whether based on religion or language to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.
Article 347	President may if he is satisfied that a substantial proportion of the population of a state desires of any language to be recognized as official in a State.
Article 350 B	Special officers for linguistic minorities.

Court judgements

- The Supreme Court of India on minority status of AMU
    - Overruled its 1967 judgment in the S. Azeez Basha case, which had become the basis for denying minority status.
- The Supreme Court of India on madrasas in UP
    - The court upheld the constitutional validity of the UP Board of Madrasa Education Act, 2004, overturning an earlier Allahabad High Court judgment that had declared the law unconstitutional.
- St. Stephen's college vs Univ. of Delhi (1992)
    - Autonomy of minority institutions cannot be taken away.
- TMA Pai Foundation
    - Definition of Minority in Art 30(1). Held that minority is determinable only by the State.

Legislative / Statutory / Bodies : Safeguards to minorities

- National Commission of Minorities Act 1992
    - Evaluating development
    - Conducting studies
    - Advisory
    - Grievance redressal
- National Commission for Minority Education Institutions 2004

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- Allows direct affiliation of minority educational institutions.
- Concerns of minority institutions.

- Central Waqf Council
  - Waqf → Dedication of land / properties recognized by Muslim law as religious, pious or charitable.
  - Used for socio-economic upliftment.
  - Schemes for development of Urban waqf properties and education programmes.
- Personal laws e.g. Indian Christian Marriage Act, Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act.

Govt. policies / Schemes / Initiatives for minorities

- **Education**
  - 'Padho Pardesh' → interest subsidy for overseas education.
  - Maulana Azad National Fellowship for higher studies.
- **Employment**
  - 'Seekho aur Kamao' → Minority youth → Skill based training and 75% assured placement guarantee.
  - National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) : Microfinance needs of entrepreneurs.
- **Jio Parsi Scheme:**
  - Drastic decline of parsi population.
  - Govt. to provide counselling and medical assistance.
- **USTAAD Scheme**
  - Rich heritage of traditional art and crafts. E.g. textiles, wood, carpets, handicrafts and embroidery.
- **Hamari Darohar**
  - Documentation of oral traditions, art forms, exhibitions.
  - National gallery of modern arts, ASI, UNESCO and World Monument Foundation.
- PM 15 point programme for welfare of minorities (15% outlay in many schemes)
  - Education : ICDS, School, Resources for Urdu, Modernizing Madrassas, Scholarships, Infrastructure.

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  - Employment : Self and wage employment, Skills, Credit support, Civil services.
  - Rural housing, slum development, Sensitization of public servants, prosecution of communal offences, Rehabilitation of victims of communal riots.
- Minority cyber gram
  - Minority clusters → Digital Literacy.

Way Forward

- Delhi govt. proposed to give migrated minority status to Hindu minorities from Ladakh and J&K.
- Stringent norms to deal with hate crimes e.g. Delhi, NE exodus.
- Social media self regulation.

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Empowerment of Transgenders

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Introduction

- Transgenders are those whose identity and expression does not conform to norms and expectations traditionally associated with sex assigned at birth.
- Transexual → Want to seek medical assistance to transition from one biological sex to another.
- **Some communities:**
  - Hijra – also known as Eunuchs
  - Thirunangaigal – TN
  - Jogappa – Karnataka and Maharashtra → Into art forms, devotional songs and dances.
  - Shiv-Shaktis – Considered married to gods, AP
  - Aravanis – Male to female sex reassignment surgery
- First transperson gets pregnant in Kerala – pregnancy photoshoot.
- Attempt to suicide by Trans SI in TN.

Problems faced by transgenders

- Social exclusion → Homophobia
- Lack of access to healthcare
- Low levels of education → insensitive attitude
- High vulnerability to STDs and HIV
- Mental Health
- Documentation

Constitutional Safeguards to transgenders

Article	Provision
Article 14	Right to Equality.
Article 15	Prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex and place of birth.
Article 19	Freedom of expression.
Article 21	Right to life with dignity.
Article 23	Prohibit trafficking, begging and other forms of forced labour.

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Court judgements

- NALSA judgment 2014
    - Transgender to be treated as 3rd gender.
    - Art 21 includes the Right to choose gender identity.
    - Directed the State to provide reservation in public employment and education as they are socially and educationally backward.

- Special programme on HIV sero-surveillance.

- 2018 : Decriminalizing same sex relations between consenting adults. (Section 377 of IPC).
- Madras HC
  - Upheld marriage solemnized between man and transwoman as valid under Hindu Marriage Act.
  - " I remove the 'lordship' hat and instead wear the hat of the average commoner in the Society, who has not given thought to understand or accept, who are attempting to understand, who totally refuse to understand or accept the LGBTQIA+ community. I have no hesitation in accepting that I too belong to the majority of commoners who are yet to comprehend homosexuality completely. Ignorance is no justification for normalizing discrimination." Justice Anand Venkatesan.
  - He took a month of counseling to better understand same-sex relationships.

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Statutory / Legislative safeguards to transgenders

- Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019
  - Prohibit discrimination in employment, housing, education and Healthcare.
  - If a family abandons then provide a Rehab facility.
  - Every establishment needs to have a compliance officer, to deal with complaints w.r.t this Act.
  - Steps to provide health facilities including separate HIV surveillance centers, sex reassignment surgery.
  - Certificate by DM.
  - Formulate policies, programmes, legislations etc.
  - The National Council for Transgender Persons needs to be set up.

Initiatives

- Kerala : First state to draft transgender policy 2015,
- Odisha : Policy formulated in 2017.

- Maharashtra : Welfare board and cultural institution.
- TN : Transgender constables, Welfare board.
- Chhattisgarh : Welfare Board, Constables in Police.

Way Forward (Based on the directive of Madras HC)

- Gender neutral restrooms for gender non conforming students.
- Inclusion of third gender in all forms.
- Counselling.
- Educating parents in Parents Teachers meetings.
- Any attempts to medically cure or change orientation should be prohibited.
- Outreach by NGOs.
- Segregation in prisons.

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CHAPTER 8 : Communalism

"Communalism is an expression of deeply rooted interests, aspirations, outlook, attitudes, psychology, and point of view of the middle classes. It is in a social situation characterized by economic stagnation and absence of vigorous struggle to transform society." - Bipan Chandra, Indian Historian

What is Communalism ?

- According to W.C. Smith, Communalism is an ideology based on the belief that society is divided into different communities (religious, ethnic etc.) whose interests differ and are opposed to each other and hence antagonistic in nature.
- According to Bipan Chandra, communalism is an expression of deeply rooted interests, aspirations, outlook, attitudes, psychology, and point of view of the middle classes. It is in a social situation characterized by economic stagnation and absence of vigorous struggle to transform society.
- According to Gyanendra Pandey, communalism is a form of colonialist knowledge, which in its Indian usage, implies a condition of suspicion, fear, and hostility between the members of different religious communities.
- Communalism encompasses both a belief system and a social phenomenon.
- It revolves around a particular interpretation of history, shared adversities, common objectives, and an emphasis on the exclusivity of the community compared to others. There are intra community conflicts too.
- Communalism is an ideology based on the belief that society is divided into different communities (religious, ethnic etc.) whose interests differ and are opposed to each other and hence antagonistic in nature.
- National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) data on communal or religious rioting -
    - 2021→ 378 cases
    - 2020 → 857 cases
    - 2019 → 438 cases
    - 2018 → 512 cases

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Types

- Liberal Communalism: Within a community, individuals gradually adopt the belief that their political, economic, social, and religious interests differ from those of other communities, though not necessarily leading to conflicts.
- Extreme Communalism: Individuals within a community begin to perceive that their shared secular interests are divergent and conflicting, often resulting in the escalation of communal violence.
- Political communalism : Involves the deliberate expansion or preservation of a vote bank by concealing the wrongdoings of leaders within a community. Simultaneously, there are persistent attempts to divert attention and shift blame onto rival communities.

Dimensions : As per T.K. Oommen (Sociologist and Educationist)

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- Assimilationist: This type involves the integration or absorption of smaller religious groups into a larger religious group. For instance, Scheduled Tribes being considered as Hindus or the inclusion of Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists under the Hindu Marriage Act, indicating their cultural proximity to Hindus.
- Welfarist: This approach focuses on enhancing the well-being of a specific community by elevating living standards and offering improved access to education and healthcare facilities. For example, Christian and Parsi associations actively working towards the upliftment of their respective communities.
- Retreatist: This strategy seeks to distance a small religious community from political involvement. For instance, the Bahai community prohibits its members from engaging in political activities.
- Retaliatory: This approach seeks to cause harm or injury to members of other religious communities.
- Separatist: In this context, a religious or cultural group strives to preserve its distinct identity and uniqueness. Such groups may demand a separate state or autonomy within the country. For e.g., the demands for Gorkhaland in West Bengal and Vidarbha in Maharashtra.

- Secessionist: In this scenario, a religious community aspires to establish a distinct political identity and advocates for a separate and independent nation. E.g. small fraction advocating for Khalistan.

Evolution of Communalism

Ancient India :

- While there existed some animosity between sects of Hinduism, such as Shaivites versus Vaishnavites, India historically demonstrated a significant level of religious tolerance.
- Additionally, religions like Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism, which originated in India, also emphasized the principles of religious tolerance and secularism

Medieval India :

- India underwent further diversification, becoming a multi-religious and multicultural society through assimilation. The rulers, for the most part, displayed tolerance towards various religions, although they were often influenced by religious clergy. (e.g abolition of Jizyah and promotion of Din-i-Ilahi by Akbar).
- The syncretic heritage of the Bhakti and Sufi movements is evident in the devotional songs and poetry.
- However, tensions arose during Aurangzeb's rule, and there were occasional incidents like Mahmud Ghazni's destruction of the Somnath temple.

Colonial India :

- 1857 : Hindus and Muslims united. This led the British to go for ‘Divide and Rule’ policy.
- The benefits arising from administrative positions and economic opportunities began to intertwine with religious distinctions.
- The power struggle also had the religious tinge. E.g., Hindu zamindars vs Muslim peasants, Or Muslim Jotedars vs Hindu peasants. This led to class consciousness being turned into communal consciousness.
- The partition of Bengal in 1905

  - Attempt to placate Muslims, but the subsequent Swadeshi movement prompted the British to cater to Hindu sentiments.
  - This, in turn, exacerbated tensions between Hindus and Muslims in Bengal.
- In the 1920s,
  - Resurgence of revivalism with movements like Shuddhi and Sangathan among Hindus and the Tabligh movement among Muslims.
  - Laid the groundwork for the emergence of the two-nation theory.
  - Additionally, the Moplah rebellion in the Malabar region intensified animosity between Hindus and Muslims.
  - Throughout the decade, various parts of India experienced several incidents of communal violence.
- The British's issuance of the communal award in 1932 further escalated tensions. While the basis of the award was not solely focused on religious minorities, it disrupted communal harmony.
- Post 2nd WW : To broaden his support base, Jinnah resorted to extreme communalism, advocating for direct action and the creation of a separate nation, Pakistan.
- Simultaneously, the Hindu Mahasabha resorted to Extreme Hindu communalism and stood in opposition to the Indian National Congress (INC), the Muslim League, and British rule.
- Jamaat-e-Islami emerged as a representation of Muslim communalism and fundamentalism, advocating for India to become an Islamic theocratic state.
- All these led to one of the worst incidents of communalism in the run up to Independence. Reasons for not been able to contain communalism during colonial time:
  - Amid the rise of numerous organizations like the Muslim League and Hindu Mahasabha, the leadership during the Nationalist Movement struggled to effectively unify the people.
  - The nationalist sentiment began to intertwine with religious emotions, evident in the celebration of festivals like Ganesh festival and Shivaji Maharaj festivals.
  - Reflecting on the ancient civilizational history while completely disregarding assimilation and external influences began to cause discontent among minority communities.

Post Independence :

1960s :

- Revival of communalism. Riots in Ranchi, Jamshedpur and Rourkela. Partly due to the refugee movement from East Pakistan.
- 1969 : Ahmedabad : Jan Sangh vs Muslim Organizations.

1970s :

- 1974 : Clashes between Dalit Panthers and Shiv Sainiks.

1980s :

- Clashes in Punjab.
- Assam : Nellie Killings (Targeting Bengali speaking Muslims).
- Anti-Sikh riots post assassination of Indira Gandhi.

1990s :

- Riots across India post the Babri Masjid demolition.

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2002 :

- Communal riots in Gujarat.

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2012 :

- Bodos vs Bengali Muslims in Kokrajhar area of Assam.

2013 :

- Hindu Muslim riots in Muzaffarnagar.

2020 :

- Delhi riots

Factors of Communalism

- Historical legacy : Britishers divide and rule and 2-nation theory.
- Economic Inequality: As economic progress takes place in a developing country, it often leads to a rise in class struggle, which can subsequently evolve into communal conflict.

This process undermines the unity of the working class. Simultaneously, the less privileged and middle classes gain increased economic and political influence.

- Electoral politics, shaping their goals and trajectory. Regrettably, elections have transformed into an ultimate goal, prioritizing narrow self-interests and political gains over the broader welfare of the nation.
- As per a study conducted by V.N. Rai, a senior IPS officer of UP cadre, on the "Perception of Police Neutrality in Communal Riots," it was observed that the police, particularly at the lower level, have been displaying a biased role during such riots.
- The media's susceptibility to sensationalism and the race for higher TRP ratings have hindered their ability to prevent the spread of false narratives fueled by rumors
- Instantly spreading rumors, social media has been exacerbating tensions and fueling unrest.
- Recurrence probability is higher in the places where riots have taken place in the past
- Commercialization of religion - Religious festivals are becoming pop culture and high tech commercial spectacles
- **Religious revivalism / Chauvinism :**
    - Rajni Kothari argues that non-political and socio-cultural organizations often start by openly disclaiming any political involvement.
    - However, over time, they extend their influence, leading to dependency on communal and sectarian organizations by other political groups such as parties, trade unions, professional associations, student and teacher bodies, and even women's organizations.
    - In towns with a history of multiple communal riots, the likelihood of recurrence is significantly higher.
    - Religion is experiencing commercialization as market forces push spirituality aside, turning it into a commodified product. Festivals are increasingly becoming high-tech, pop-culture spectacles centered around commercial activities.
- **Enemy states :**
    - For instance, soon after independence, Pakistan made efforts to stoke communal tensions in Jammu and Kashmir with the intention of polarizing the population and influencing the outcome of the plebiscite in their favor.

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Religious Fundamentalism

- Fundamentalism is closer to the notion of religious fanaticism. It attempts to go back to 'fundamentals' of religious traditions.
- It is done in a glorifying, non-critical and absolutizing way.
- As per TPG George, Fundamentalism is unquestioning faith in the infallibility of a doctrine, usually religious, accompanied by a readiness to act in its defence and/or promotion.
- Fundamentalists are opposed to modern ideas and denounce all forms of intellectual arguments. They are scared of inter-religious dialogues.
- Fundamentalism has closer links to religion than Communalism. It associates itself with political conservatism and patriarchal values.
- Occasionally, fundamentalism can uproot itself due to incompatibility with modern capitalist development. E.g. Jamaat-e-Islami.

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Communalism : Remedy / Way Forward

- The separation of religion from politics is essential, and communal organizations should be prohibited.
- The media bears the responsibility of avoiding narratives that exacerbate communal tensions.
- Reducing economic disparity is crucial, and affirmative economic policies should be implemented for minorities to mitigate feelings of relative deprivation.
- Open denouncement of communalism should come from political leaders, community figures, and other prominent role models.
- Reducing religion to solely a national identity and equating the nation solely with religion can lead to the impoverishment and erosion of a nation's diverse fabric.
- The politicization of literature and textbooks by certain political parties should be addressed by involving unbiased subject matter experts.

- Establishing a sustainable de-communalization process necessitates an honest educational and cultural policy.
- Parents and teachers should be vigilant during the primary socialization of children to shield them from communal ideas.
- Riots are frequently triggered during religious festivals and processions. Law enforcement agencies must maintain impartiality and be well-equipped to handle such situations.
- It is essential to curb the communalization of civil society as it can wield significant influence over government actions.
- Establish peace committees comprising key representatives from local communities.
- Swift trials and providing adequate compensation to victims can serve as preventive measures against future riots.
- The Sachar committee's recommendations should be implemented in earnest to address the relative deprivation of minority communities.
- Best practices from around the world to address ethnic and religious divisions.. For instance, Malaysia utilizes MESRA (Malaysian Ethnic Relations Monitoring System), which employs indicators like quality of life and public perception to identify warning signals. Similarly, Hong Kong has a Race Relation Unit that works to foster racial harmony and integrate ethnic minorities into society.
- Encourage and support organizations like the National Foundation for Communal Harmony. These organizations play a significant part in the rehabilitation of child victims affected by communal, caste, ethnic, and terrorism-related violence.
- A committee should be established to assess whether revisions to existing criminal laws and the Indian Penal Code (IPC) are necessary. If deemed necessary, new legislation should be introduced.
- The report of the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities, chaired by former CJI Mr. Rangnath Misra, contains significant observations regarding the tragic anti-Sikh riots of 1984. However, it is essential to implement the lessons derived from the report into practical actions.
- Measures must be taken to restrain rumor-mongering and hate speeches on digital media. The recommendations of an expert panel led by TK Viswanathan, formed after the

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Supreme Court's nullification of Section 66A of the IT Act in 2015, can be adopted to address this issue. These suggestions include:

- Amendments to the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), and the Information Technology (IT) Act are necessary to introduce stricter provisions for handling cases of hate speech and the dissemination of hatred and incitement through cyberspace.
- Governments must not remain passive observers when harmful content is propagated through digital platforms.

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CHAPTER 9 : Regionalism

What is a region ?

- Territorially a region is a homogenous area which has a distinct physical or cultural identity compared to that of neighbouring areas.
- Beyond it there are variables based on which it is considered distinct. The variables include, religion, geography, language, history, socio-economic development etc.
- While regionalism is rooted in the notion of territory, it arises from the varying perceptions of a region held by both political leaders and the general populace.

What is Regionalism ?

While regionalism is rooted in the notion of territory, it arises from the varying perceptions of a region held by both political leaders and the general populace.

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Negative Regionalism ?

Potentially endanger the unity and integrity of the country. E.g. anti-Madrasi or Anti-Bihari sentiments in Maharashtra and secessionist movements like the Khalistan movement in Punjab.

Positive Regionalism ?

- Involves a deep affection for one's culture, region, language etc.
- It fosters a sense of brotherhood and unity based on shared language, religion, or historical heritage.
- This affinity allows specific regional groups to uphold their distinct identity, preserve and advance their unique art and culture.
- Empowers people with self-determination, enabling them to actively develop and uplift their respective regions.

Regionalism : Types / Forms / Manifestation

Secessionism / Demand for Autonomy :

Radical and fundamentalist factions aspire to achieve absolute independence and separation from the Indian Union. E.g. the Nagaland separatist movement aims to attain independence for Naga-inhabited regions spanning across Nagaland, Manipur, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and certain areas of Myanmar.

Full Statehood within Indian Union:

E.g. Demand for creation of Bodoland within Assam, creation of states like Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand etc.

Autonomy within a State:

E.g. Gorkhaland Territorial Administration within W.B. Kodava Hill Council in Kodagu.

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Supra-State Regionalism:

- Group identity of some states.
- E.g. Post independence calls for Dravida Nadu uniting all states speaking Dravidian languages.
- E.g. Demand of southern states for greater share of finances as against F.C. terms.

Inter State regionalism:

- Associated with territorial regions, where one or more states are in conflict with others, on specific issues.
- E.g. Cauvery water dispute between Karnataka and T.N. Border dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka. Border dispute between Assam and Mizoram.

Son of the Soil doctrine:

- People of a place of birth consider themselves Sons of Soil and treat others as outsiders or settlers.

- There is a fear that outsiders may outnumber them and change the demography, culture etc. E.g. Assamese against Bengalis. Maharashtra for Maharashtrians targeting workers from UP and Bihar in 2008.

Regionalism : Basis / Reasons / Factors

Political

- Decline of dominance of the national party led to strengthening of regionalism in J&K and Punjab in the 1970s.
- Bifurcation of National and state assembly elections in the 70s led to the emergence of powerful regional parties.
- LPG reforms of the 1990s led to inter-state competition.

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Administrative

- Demands of separate regions with autonomy arise primarily for the sake of administrative convenience. For e.g., the Uttar Pradesh Assembly passed a resolution proposing the division of the state into four smaller states to enhance administrative efficiency.

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Geographical

- The geographical boundaries are significantly shaped by specific topography and climatic conditions.
- These factors play a crucial role in determining settlement patterns, occupations, and the emergence of distinct cultural traits.
- E.g. In the 1970s and 1980s, there was an Anti-South Indian narrative, and in the 2000s, an Anti-UP Bihar narrative emerged in Maharashtra. A narrative of exploitation by people from coastal regions of Andhra who settled in Hyderabad.

Historical & Cultural (including language)

- Age-old traditions, heritage, myths, and folklore contribute to shaping a unique identity.

- Individuals belonging to specific cultural groups find inspiration in the noble acts and accomplishments of local heroes, such as Shivaji Maharaj in Maharashtra and Birsa Munda in Jharkhand.
- Linguistic aspirations become more pronounced when other language groups dominate or when a dominant language is imposed. For instance, Potti Sriramulu's hunger strike demanding a separate state from the Madras presidency and the subsequent Anti-Hindi protests exemplify the aspirations for a larger Dravida Nadu.
- Historical legacy of British rule which has caused wide regional variations in terms of administration, trade, and commerce.

Economic

- The paradox lies in the abundance of rich natural resources in the Chota Nagpur region, such as vast mineral reserves, which have the potential to drive significant development. But, benefits have not been fairly reinvested back into the same region.
- Economic underdevelopment in regions like Vidarbha in Maharashtra or Saurashtra in Gujarat can be attributed to a combination of factors, including inadequate resources, a dense population, and flawed governance.

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Caste and Religious

- The experience of relative deprivation is a consequence of inherent exploitative caste-based relationships prevalent in certain areas.
- Some regions have acquired a distinct identity due to their population adhering to a specific religion, setting them apart from neighboring areas. For instance, this has led to secessionist tendencies in the Kashmir valley and certain North Eastern regions.

Ethnic

- The process of assimilation and migration can evoke apprehensions, especially when there are concerns about the impact on demographic patterns.
- Ethnic conflicts in one region may have repercussions on neighboring countries, leading to movements of people seeking refuge or safety.

- For e.g., the migration of people from East Pakistan had implications on the demography of Assam, while recent ethnic conflicts in Myanmar resulted in the migration of Rohingyas to Bangladesh and India.

Negative Regionalism : Constitutional Safeguards

Fifth Schedule

- The states of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Telangana have specific provisions governing the administration and control of their Scheduled and Tribal Areas.

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Sixth Schedule

- The administration and control of the Scheduled and Tribal Areas in the northeastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram are not covered under the fifth schedule.

Eighth Schedule

- GOI is obligated to take measures for the development of languages listed in the schedule, so that they grow rapidly in richness and become effective means of communicating modern knowledge.
- For e.g. Nepali and Bodo were added to the list keeping in view the demands of Gorkhaland and Bodoland.

Official Language

- Article 343(1) : Hindi as official language of the Union.
- States can have their own. E.g. Nepali is an official language in W.B.

Finance Commission

- The President of India periodically establishes a body under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution, tasked with defining the financial relations between the central government of India and the state governments.
- The objective is to address regional imbalances and promote equitable development.

Negative Regionalism : Legislative / Other Safeguards

National Integration Council

- It is a group of senior politicians and public figures in India that looks for ways to address the problems of communalism, casteism and regionalism.
- Council members include cabinet ministers, entrepreneurs, celebrities, media heads, chief ministers, and opposition leaders.

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Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA)

- It was brought in to subdue insurgency in certain parts of the country. The law was first enforced in Manipur and later enforced in other insurgency-ridden north-eastern states.
- It extended to J&K in 1990 after the outbreak of an armed insurgency in 1989.

Negative Regionalism : Measures / Way Forward

- Democratic negotiation : If regions are not given share in the national level decision making, the feeling of injustice and alienation can spread.
- Regional Imbalance : The developmental policies should devise a formula where the resources are equitably distributed.
- The provisions of the Fifth and Sixth schedule should be implemented in letter and spirit.
- The process of decentralization and devolution of powers, starting from the Center to the States, and subsequently to Local bodies and Panchayats, should be comprehensive and inclusive.

- The National Integration Council should convene more frequently to promptly address any secessionist tendencies or regional discontent.
- The spirit of Unity in diversity, respect for diverse cultures of India should be inculcated at school level itself. For. E.g., the model of Navodaya schools where students spend a good amount of time in a state away from home.

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CHAPTER 10 : Secularism

What is Secularism ?

- According to Emile Durkheim , all that is there in the world – beliefs, myths, dogmas, actions, persons and beings – are either sacred or secular.
- All that is related to religion is covered under 'Sacred' and according to this scheme of things all traditional societies are basically 'Sacred Societies' because they are governed, in crucial segments of social life and in varying degrees, by laws of religion.
- It is the religion that controls the activities of the members of such societies.
- Secularism has following characteristics
    - Separation of authority between 'church' and the 'state'.
    - Emphasis on 'this world' as opposed to the 'other world'.
    - Rationalism and scientific outlook.
- A secular society is not against religion as such, but it must fight superstition, intolerance and obscurantism.

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Secularization

- Process of converting something from religious to secular possession.
- Secularization operates through 3 factors
    - Education : Religious Institution based to western formal education.
    - Legislation : Along with proper motivation and enabling environment.
    - Social reform : Gradual social change and mental conditioning.

With Urbanization and Industrialization the area of scientific knowledge and technology widens, and the area of religion shrinks.

Secularism : Evolution in the West

- 5th Century onwards : Dark ages to Middle ages
    - Intellectual darkness, barbarity, wars, pandemics.
    - Life was dominated by the Church.

    - The Church imposed taxes, owned land, and had control over economic resources. Hence, could influence the Rulers.
- 14th to 17th Century : Renaissance
    - Humanism as a cultural movement : Man was at the center of his own universe and emphasis was more on education, science, literature and arts.
    - Advancement in communication and trade.
    - Education allowed people to read the religious texts and question the Roman Catholic Church.
    - Protestant reformation led by Martin Luther.
- 17th Century onwards : Enlightenment
    - Rene Descartes (France) → Rationalism, John Locke (England) → Empiricism.
    - Immanuel Kant → Morality.
- 18th Century onwards : Industrial Revolution
    - Methodism (protestant movement) → participation from working class and women.
    - Catholicism → participation from immigrants.

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State vs Religion

Theocratic State

- Typically pervasive during early civilizations. In many the government leaders also happen to be members of the clergy.
- The Constitution itself recognizes Religion and the legal system is predominantly based on religious law.
- There are several privileges for the recognized Religion, though there may not be a complete outcast of other religions.
- Contemporary examples of theocracies include Vatican City (Pope), Saudi Arabia, Tibet (Dalai Lama), Mt. Athos in Greece.

State Influenced by Religion

- Whether a state recognizes a religion(s) or not, it is significantly influenced by religion.
- Though not to a degree of theocracies there are privileges given to people following the dominant religion.
- Contemporary examples : Christianity → State churches in Argentina, Denmark, Hinduism → Nepal, Mauritius, Islam → Pakistan, Bangladesh, Buddhism → Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan, Judaism → Israel.

Irreligious / Anti-Religious / Atheistic State

- Some of the countries influenced by Communism have either not recognized any religion or are intolerant to religious freedom.
- Extreme : USSR during Lenin's or Stalin's time, China under Mao Zedong, Cambodia under Pol Pot, North Korea.
- Moderate : Cuba, China post Mao.

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Secular State

- There is no official religion and neither the State is governed by the religious text.
- There is no interference of the State in religious affairs nor there is any discrimination of religion(s).
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- Citizens of the State have the freedom to practise religion.
- Extreme : France → No relationship with Religion. No religious symbols are allowed in public places.
- Moderate / Indifferent : India, England, Turkey and USA.

Secularism in India

- Secularism in India differs from the western concept of strict separation between religion and politics. While the West relegates religion to the private sphere of individuals, India does not have a state-recognized religion

- Evident from the absence of religious symbols on State symbols. In contrast, for instance, the USA imprints 'In God we Trust' on its dollar bills.
- India follows the principle of 'sarva dharma sama bhaava,' which emphasizes equal respect and non-discrimination among all religions.
- Citizens are free to openly display religious symbols and celebrate festivals without any hindrance.

History of Secularism in India

- Ancient India : The expansion of Jainism, Buddhism, and sects within Hinduism, such as Shaivism and Vaishnavism, owes much to the tolerance shown by various Kings and Rulers.
- Although religious tolerance existed, it did not ensure immunity from religious dominance. Despite the patronage of specific religions or sects, continuous or organized religious persecution has not been prevalent.
- Kautilya portrayed the King as the source of justice and asserted that if there is a conflict between the sacred law and the King's rational law, the latter shall take precedence.
- The Turkish-Afghan, Turkish-Mongol, and Mughal invasions introduced political coercion and domination, putting India's multiculturalism to a significant test.
- Some attempts were made by the likes of Akbar through Din-e-Ilahi.
- As a consequence of British rule, Western modern thoughts played a significant role in shaping India's concept of equality. This focus on equality encompassed both inter-community and intra-community aspects.
- While British rule encouraged communalism to serve its 'Divide and Rule' policy, it also supported the promotion of Christianity, although without severe repercussions.
- On the other hand, British rule led to the unification and secularization of Indian administrative, legislative, and judicial institutions.
- In 1858, the British introduced uniform civil and criminal laws, excluding personal laws from its purview, as the colonial power aimed to avoid intervening in matters deeply rooted in the religious affairs of the Indian populace.

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State, Religion and Individual : 3 sets of relationships

- Religion vs Individual (Freedom to profess and Propagate religion)
    - Ideally the State does not interfere here unless in the interest of public health, law and order and morality.
    - Art 27 ensures further individual freedom by prohibiting religious taxation.
- State vs Individual (Citizenship)
    - As per a Secular state an individual is considered as a citizen or resident and not a member of a particular religious community.
    - Citizenship and the associated rights and duties are delinked from Religion.
- State vs Religion (Separation or equidistance)
    - In a secular state, all the religions are subordinate to and separate from the State.

Why is Secularism needed in India ?

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- A society that upholds individual autonomy and liberty must prevent influential political and religious institutions from exerting undue influence over each other.
- In a religiously and culturally diverse society, it is essential to ensure that people of all faiths have equal representation in matters concerning the State.
- A substantial interference of the State in religious affairs or vice versa can lead to majoritarianism, posing a threat to the fabric of society.
- It is crucial to minimize the overlap between faith-based religion and rational-based politics, promoting a clear distinction between the two realms.
- To deal with inter-religious and intra-religious domination.
    - Inter-religious domination: Members of one community are discriminated against, targeted and victimized. E.g. Anti Sikh riots, Exodus of Kashmiri Pandits, Gujarat riots.
    - Intra-religious domination: Within a particular religion some members can be discriminated against. E.g. within a religion men and women are not treated equally, caste base restrictions on temple entry, sectarian conflicts.

Ideological strands

Gandhi on Secularism

- Gandhiji had deep faith in religion and considered it essential for morality.
- He believed that the service of fellow humans is the service of God.
- For him religion implied that which induces toleration and morality and not hate or superstition.

Nehru on Secularism

- Nehru was against the superstitions, strict dogmas and rituals associated with religion.
- According to him there is no need of complete separation of the State from religion as interference in order to bring social reforms is required.
- Nehru in a conversation with French statesman Andre Malraux mentioned that the toughest job as PM of India is to build a secular state in a religious society.

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Criticism of secularism in India

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- Secularism in India is occasionally perceived as being anti-religious, with concerns that it might jeopardize religious identities.
- Indian secularism is associated with Christianity and may not be well-suited to Indian conditions. However, just as many other aspects of Western culture have been embraced and accepted in India, secularism can also find its place.
- Indian secularism is sometimes perceived as minority appeasement, but it is crucial to ensure that the fundamental interests of minorities are not overshadowed solely due to the larger number of the majority.
- Indian secularism being coercive and interventionist. While some perceive secularism as a tool for government intervention on behalf of minorities, others denounce it as pseudo-secularism.
- Article 28, which grants the freedom to attend religious instruction or religious worship in educational institutions, is applicable exclusively to state-maintained institutions.

- Promoting the politics of vote banks. However, if secular politicians, while seeking the votes of minorities, also succeed in addressing their needs and aspirations, it can be seen as a triumph of the secular project that strives to safeguard minority interests.
- Secularism in India is an impossible project. People with deep religious and cultural differences will never live together in peace. But empirically and historically India as a civilization has allowed co-existence.

Challenges to secularism in India

- Partisan politics and administration have led to a resurgence of casteism and communalism in society.
- While there is a strong focus on rights, the importance of fulfilling duties is often overlooked. Embracing secularism in the modern era requires behavioral changes as it is a concept that may seem somewhat foreign.
- Rajeev Bhargava, a Professor at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, characterizes Indian Secularism as 'Contextual Secularism.' It is a pragmatic approach aimed at creating a functional and viable polity, rather than pursuing ultimate ideals. However, the implementation of ideal secularism in its entirety remains a challenge for the law of the land.

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SECULARISM IN OTHER COUNTRIES

France

- In France, the constitutional principle of secularism is known as Laicite.
- Article 1 of the Constitution is often understood to discourage religious interference in governmental matters, particularly religious influence in shaping state policies.
- Hence, French secularism can be considered as a Negative / Rigid/ Extreme form of secularism.

- In 2004, a law was enacted in France, prohibiting individuals from wearing religious apparel or displaying religious symbols, such as the Islamic hijab, Sikh turban, Christian crosses, and Jewish Stars of David and kippah.
- The terror attacks on Charlie Hebdo, a satirical weekly magazine, in 2011, 2015, and 2020, as well as incidents like the beheading of a school teacher and an attack on a church in Nice in 2020, have sparked debates on the essence of Secularism in France.

England

- As indicated by the British Social Attitudes (BSA) survey. In 1983, 31% of the population identified with no religion, while that number has risen to 52% today.
- Concurrently, the percentage of people identifying as Christian has declined from 66% to 38% during the same period.
- This trend indicates a growing secularization in the country, with younger generations, in particular, being less affiliated with the Church of England and other religious denominations, replacing the older population.
- There isn't a rigid separation of church and state, which allows many public officials to openly display religious symbols or affiliations. Additionally, several schools conduct Christian prayers.
- British monarchs are traditionally coronated in Westminster Abbey, and the House of Lords includes the Lord Spiritual, comprising 26 bishops from the established Church of England.

USA

- The First Amendment to the Constitution states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...".
- Thomas Jefferson viewed this as the creation of a "wall of separation between church and state.“
- No policy of the State can have an exclusively religious rationale. No religious classification can be the basis of any public policy.

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- Religion is a private matter, not a matter of state policy or law. The State cannot aid any religious institution. It cannot give financial support to educational institutions run by religious communities.
- There are some apparent exceptions to the above principles, such as:
    - "In God We Trust" is the official motto of the USA and the U.S. state of Florida. The same is also printed on dollar bills.
    - The President of USA, judges and other officers take an on oath which has the phrase "So help me God".

WESTERN	INDIAN
○ Complete separation between State and Religion.	○ State can interfere into religious affairs for reforms.
○ Homogeneity and not multi religious, Hence the inter religious conflicts are minimal.	○ Focus is both on intra religious and inter religious domination.
○ Emphasis is on individual liberty and equality between individuals.	○ Emphasis is on both individual as well communal liberty.
○ There is less attention to community-based rights.	○ There is great emphasis on minority rights.

Turkey

- In the first half of the 20th century, secularism in Turkey was not characterized by a principled distance from organized religion. Instead, it was marked by active intervention in and suppression of religion, as advocated by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.
- The traditional cap (Fez) worn by Muslims was prohibited by the Hat Law, which also promoted the adoption of Western clothing for both men and women. Additionally, the traditional Turkish calendar was replaced with the Western (Gregorian) calendar.

- While the constitution acknowledges individual freedom of religion, religious communities are placed under the protection and jurisdiction of the state. They are prohibited from engaging in the political process or establishing faith-based schools.
- Since the 1980s, there has been a resurgence of religious revivalism and a growing skepticism towards Kemalism in Turkey.
- In 2002, the Justice and Development Party (AKP), a right-wing party with Islamic roots and led by Recep Tayyip Erdogan, came into power.

Iran

- Secularism was instituted as state policy in Iran by Reza Shah after 1925, following a model akin to Turkey under Ataturk.
- Public display or expression of religious faith, including wearing headscarves (hijab) and chador by women, as well as growing facial hair by men (except moustache), was prohibited.
- Public religious festivals were banned, and the activities of mosques were closely monitored and subjected to strict regulations.
- Due to strong opposition from conservative elements, Reza Shah was eventually deposed and forced into exile by British and Soviet forces, effectively putting an end to the era of secularism.
- Following the 1979 Iranian revolution, the Islamic Republican Party established a theocratic government in Iran in 1980, with Ayatollah Khomeini serving as the supreme leader.
- Recent trends indicate a growing support for secularism, as highlighted by an online survey conducted in 2020, where only 40% of respondents identified themselves as Muslims.

Way Forward

- India is a unique and diverse country, making it unsuitable to directly replicate models from other nations.

- All religious places and institutions should be accessible to people from all social classes and sections of society.
- Efforts should be made to establish a uniform personal law applicable to all communities. (UCC)
- Textbooks should be secularized, and a scientific and rational outlook should be promoted. The content should be entrusted to experts in their respective fields rather than being influenced by the political agenda of the ruling government, as opined by the Supreme Court.
- It is essential for citizens and those occupying public institutions to have a comprehensive understanding of secularism.
- Electoral politics should maintain a clear separation from religion, discouraging communal organizations from fostering social divisions.
- Inter-religious and inter-caste marriages should be encouraged.
- The Judiciary has expressed the belief that the most significant religious tensions do not necessarily arise between different religions but rather between fundamentalist and pluralist factions within each religion.
- Several laws against murder, mayhem, and arson committed in the name of religion, such as sections 153, 153 (A), 153 (B), 155, and 295 of IPC, have not been effectively implemented.
- There is a need of cultural revolution guided by 'scientific temper' and rationality, which should help regulate social life. Religion, in general, should be confined to the private sphere.
- The issue of religious conversion often leads to communal discord. To address this, clear laws should be established that permit voluntary conversions while discouraging those achieved through fraud, force, or allurements.
- The media holds a pivotal role in shaping narratives. It is essential for the media to act responsibly and avoid catering to the agendas of communalizing forces.

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Krishna Tupe
Pursuing PhD IIT Bombay

Ketan
Cleared UPSC CSE | BTech, IIT Delhi
AIR 860, CSE 2015

Nimish Kapur
Ex-CISF, AIR 6, UPSC CAPF 2013,
Cleared Punjab PCS twice.

Rohan Salunkhe
6+ year teaching experience
M.A. Sociology

Neelam Bhatia
Polity faculty in DU

Ishan Srivastava
Appeared for UPSC CSE 2022
interview

Anil Sapkal
Sr. Engineer in an MNC
4+ year teaching experience

Trisha Gupta
5+ year teaching experience