KAS MAINS TEST SERIES

ASTRA – Answer Writing Skills Training Programme

Sample Answer synopsis

Q1. Critically assess the prominent export items of Karnataka. What are the important measures taken by the Government of Karnataka to promote exports?

Key terms

1. **Export items of Karnataka**
2. **GoK measures to promote exports**
3. **Critical assessment of Karnataka's export items.**

Demand of the question:

The question has 2 sub-parts:

1. Critically assess the prominent export items of Karnataka.

2. What are the important measures taken by the Government of Karnataka to promote exports?

Approach

Introduction:

- **Explore what all are the export items of Karnataka.**
- **Write the key points and diversification of the export items of Karnataka**

Body:

- **Critically assess the prominent export items of Karnataka with its Contribution, Strengths and Challenges.**
- **Write the important measures taken by the Government of Karnataka to promote exports across infrastructure development, policy frameworks, financial incentives, and support services.**

Conclusion:

- **Summarize the key points and write the way forward to promote the exports in Karnataka**


Answer:

Introduction:

Karnataka, with its diverse economy and strategic geographical location, plays a significant role in India's export landscape. The state boasts a robust industrial base and a variety of export-oriented sectors contributing to its economic growth.

Karnataka has been known historically for exporting commodities like spices, silk, cashew nuts, handicrafts, and agarbatthies (incense sticks).

In recent decades, the state has also emerged as a significant exporter of engineering goods, readymade garments, leather goods, chemicals, minerals, and ores.

Karnataka's export credentials:

1. Karnataka has a long history of overseas trade, Historically, Karnataka has been a major exporter of commodities like Coffee, Spices, Silk, Cashew nuts, Handicrafts, ivory crafts, Agarbatthies etc.

2. The State's contribution to India's exports has varied between 11%-15%. Further, Karnataka's share in India's total exports of Information and Communication Technology products have remained higher than 25% since 2005-06.

3. The State ranks 1st in Software/ Service exports and stands 4th in Merchandise exports in the National export basket. Karnataka accounts for more than one-third of electronics & computer software exports from the country.

4. The State stands first in the overall exports with combined Service and Merchandize exports.

5. Karnataka's overall exports have increased by 35.31% during 2022-23 as compared to the year 2021-22.

6. Karnataka's exports amounted to about Rs.1267655.66 Crores in 2022-23 which constituted about 20.50% of the Country's exports in the year.

7. The state's export basket is well-diversified and includes items such as petroleum products, RMG cotton, iron and steel, electronic instruments, and electronic components.

8. In the last two decades, the State has emerged as a major player in the export of Engineering goods, textiles, Readymade garments, Leather goods, Chemicals, Minerals & Ores etc.

9. This diversification indicates the state's potential for growth in various sectors of the export market.

10. Visvesvaraya Trade Promotion Centre (VTPC) under the aegis of Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Karnataka is the Nodal Agency for promotion of export from the State.
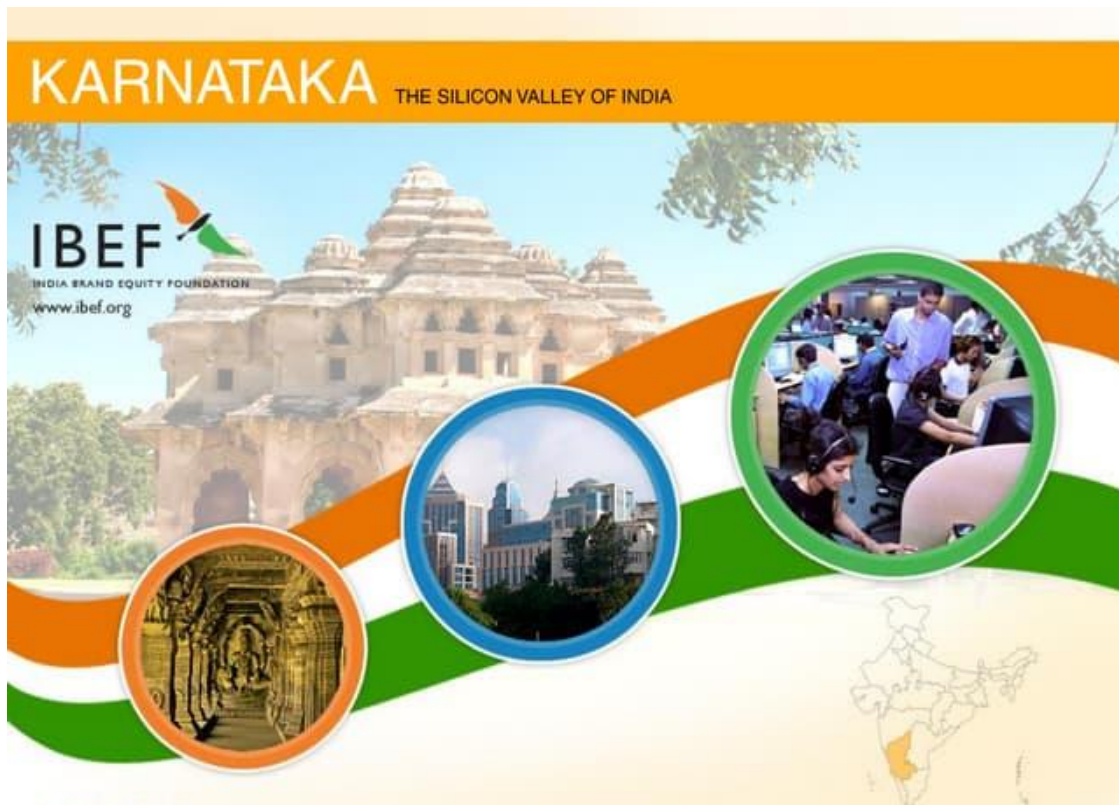
A critical assessment of the prominent export items from Karnataka:

1. Information Technology (IT) and Software Services

Contribution: Karnataka, especially Bengaluru, is renowned as the IT capital of India, with a substantial portion of the country's software exports originating from the state.

Strengths:

- Presence of leading IT companies like Infosys, Wipro, and several multinational corporations.
- Highly skilled workforce and robust IT infrastructure. Karnataka is considered to be the knowledge and technology capital of the country.
- Significant foreign direct investment in the technology sector. The state has also made spectacular strides in the new economy.

Challenges:

- Intense global competition from other IT hubs like Silicon Valley, China, and Eastern Europe.
- Dependency on a limited number of markets, primarily the USA and Europe.
- Potential vulnerabilities to global economic fluctuations and protectionist policies.

2. Aerospace and Defence

Contribution:

Karnataka is a major centre for aerospace and defence manufacturing in India.

Strengths:

- Home to key organizations like Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- Strong ecosystem with numerous ancillary industries supporting aerospace manufacturing.
- Strategic government support and policies promoting defence exports.

Challenges:

- High capital investment and long gestation periods for returns.
- Need for continuous innovation to stay competitive in the global market.
- Regulatory and compliance challenges in international markets.

3. Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals

Contribution:

Karnataka is a leading player in India's biotech and pharmaceutical sectors.

Strengths:

- Hub for research and development with institutions like the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and numerous biotech firms.
- Diverse product range including biopharmaceuticals, vaccines, and generic drugs.
- Favourable government policies and incentives.

Challenges:

- Stringent regulatory approvals required for international markets.
- Competition from established global players in the biotech and pharmaceutical industries.
- Intellectual property rights issues and the need for continuous innovation.

4. Textiles and Garments

Contribution:

Karnataka is a significant exporter of textiles, including silk, cotton, and synthetic fabrics.

Strengths:

- Bengaluru as a major center for garment manufacturing and export.
- Traditional expertise in silk production, with Mysore silk being globally renowned.
- Strong domestic supply chain and skilled labor force.

Challenges:

- Intense competition from other textile-exporting countries like China, Bangladesh, and Vietnam.
- Fluctuations in raw material prices and labour costs.
- Need for modernization and technological upgrades in the textile sector.

5. Engineering Goods

Contribution:

The state exports a variety of engineering goods including machine tools, electrical machinery, and automotive parts.

Strengths:

- Presence of major manufacturing units and engineering firms.
- Diverse product portfolio catering to different global markets.
- Supportive government policies and infrastructure.

Challenges:

- High production costs compared to some other manufacturing hubs globally.
- Technological advancements and automation required to maintain competitiveness.
- Dependence on imported raw materials can affect production costs.

6. Agricultural and Horticultural Products

Contribution:

Karnataka is a major exporter of coffee, spices, and floriculture products.

Strengths:

- Largest producer and exporter of coffee in India, especially the Robusta and Arabica varieties.
- Diverse agro-climatic conditions suitable for a variety of crops.
- Well-developed horticulture sector with products like roses, orchids, and spices.

Challenges:

- Dependence on monsoon rains and vulnerability to climate change.
- Price volatility in international commodity markets.
- Need for improved agricultural practices and value addition.

7. Jewellery and Gems

Contribution:

The state has a significant presence in the gems and jewellery sector, exporting gold and diamond jewellery.

Strengths:

- Skilled artisans and established trade networks.
- Growing demand for Indian jewellery in international markets.
- Government initiatives to boost the sector.

Challenges:

- Fluctuations in gold and diamond prices.
- Competition from other jewellery-exporting countries.
- Regulatory and compliance challenges in international markets.
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<u>**The important measures taken by the Government of Karnataka to promote exports:**</u>

The Government of Karnataka has implemented various measures to promote exports and enhance the state's position as a major export hub in India.

These measures span across infrastructure development, policy frameworks, financial incentives, and support services.

The key initiatives:

1. Export Promotion Policy

1. **Comprehensive Policy Framework:** The government has formulated an export promotion policy aimed at increasing the state's export potential across various sectors.
2. **Financial Incentives**: The policy includes financial incentives for exporters, such as subsidies, tax exemptions, and rebates to encourage export activities.
3. **Marketing Assistance:** Support for participation in international trade fairs and exhibitions to help exporters showcase their products globally.

2. Infrastructure Development

1. **Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and Export Processing Zones (EPZs**): Establishment of SEZs and EPZs to provide world-class infrastructure and facilities for export-oriented industries. It also involves providing Viability Gap Funding (VGF) for projects to be implemented on PPP mode.
2. **Industrial Parks:** Development of industrial parks and clusters to support specific industries, such as IT, biotechnology, textiles, and aerospace. Government depts/organisations are mandated for development of infrastructure and to reserve certain
3. **Logistics and Connectivity:** Improving connectivity through better road, rail, air, and port infrastructure to facilitate smooth and efficient export logistics.
4. **Private participation:**

3. Ease of Doing Business

1. **Single Window Clearance:** Implementation of a single window clearance system to simplify administrative procedures and expedite the approval process for export-related activities.
2. **Simplified Regulations:** Reducing bureaucratic hurdles and streamlining regulations to make it easier for businesses to engage in export activities.

4. Skill Development and Training

1. **Workforce Training Programs:** Initiatives to enhance the skills of the workforce to meet the demands of export-oriented industries. Collaboration with industry stakeholders to provide relevant training and skill development programs.
2. **Educational Partnerships**: Partnerships with educational institutions to align curriculum with industry requirements and ensure a steady supply of skilled professionals.

5. Financial Support and Subsidies

1. **Subsidies for SMEs:** Provision of financial assistance and subsidies for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to boost their export capabilities.
2. **Export Credit and Insurance:** Facilitating access to export credit and insurance schemes to mitigate financial risks associated with international trade.

6. Technology and Innovation Support

1. **Research and Development Centers**: Establishing R&D centers to support product innovation and enhance the competitiveness of Karnataka's export products.
2. **Adoption of Advanced Technologies:** Encouraging the adoption of advanced manufacturing technologies and digital solutions to improve product quality and efficiency.

7. Market Diversification

1. **Exploring New Markets:** Efforts to diversify export markets beyond traditional destinations to reduce dependence on specific regions and mitigate risks.
2. **Trade Missions and Delegations:** Organizing trade missions and delegations to explore new and emerging markets for Karnataka's export products.

8. Government Support and Collaboration

1. **Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs):** Encouraging public-private partnerships to leverage private sector expertise and resources in promoting exports.
2. **Collaboration with Trade Bodies:** Working closely with trade associations, export promotion councils, and industry bodies to address challenges and identify opportunities for export growth.

9. Sector-Specific Initiatives

1. **IT and Software Services**: Special initiatives to support the IT and software services sector, including infrastructure development, skill enhancement programs, and financial incentives.
2. **Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals:** Support for biotech parks, funding for research and development, and collaboration with global biotech firms to enhance export potential.
3. **Textiles and Garments:** Establishment of textile parks, modernization of textile units, and incentives for garment exporters to boost the sector.

10. Digital and E-commerce Integration

1. **Digital Export Platforms:** Developing digital platforms to facilitate online export transactions and provide exporters with access to global e-commerce markets.
2. **E-commerce Training:** Training programs for exporters on leveraging e-commerce and digital marketing to expand their international reach.

Conclusion

Karnataka's export landscape is diverse, with each sector contributing significantly to its economy.

The state benefits from strong infrastructure, skilled workforce, and supportive government policies. However, challenges such as global competition, regulatory hurdles, and market dependencies need to be addressed.

The Government of Karnataka's multi-faceted approach to promoting exports includes a combination of policy support, infrastructure development, financial incentives, and skill development.

By addressing the specific needs of various industries and enhancing the overall business environment, the state aims to sustain and accelerate its export growth.

Continuous innovation, investment in technology, and market diversification remain key to maintaining Karnataka's competitive edge in the global market.

Q2. Write a note on the need for organic farming in India.

Answer:

<u>**Key terms**</u>

1. **Organic farming**
2. **Need for it in India**

<u>**Demand/Focus:**</u>
1. What is the need for organic farming in India?

Approach

Introduction:
- **Begin with the definition of organic farming.**
- **Issues affecting the Soil Health and Human health due to use of chemical fertilizers.**

Body:
- **Discuss the types of organic farming.**
- **What are the advantages/ benefits of Organic farming?**
- **Reasons highlighting the need for organic farming in India.**

Conclusion:

Emphasize the importance of organic farming and the need of multi-faceted organic farming along with the way forward.

Introduction:

Organic farming is an agricultural system that seeks to produce food using natural processes and materials. This method emphasizes environmental sustainability, biodiversity, and ecological balance.

It avoids the use of synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), antibiotics, and growth hormones. Instead, organic farming relies on practices such as crop rotation, green manure, composting, and biological pest control to maintain soil health and productivity.

ORGANIC FARMING

Organic farming is a method of crop and livestock production that involves much more than choosing not to use pesticides, fertilizers, genetically modified organisms, antibiotics and growth hormones.
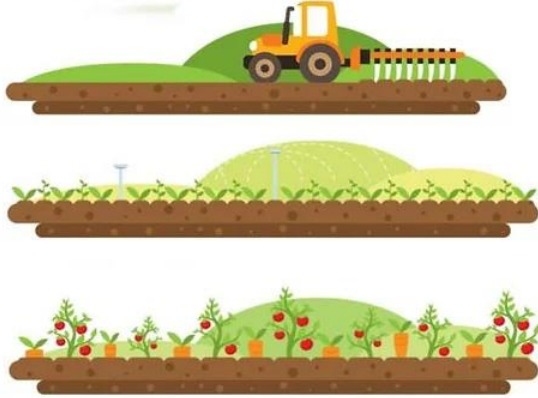
Benefits of Organic Farming

✓ Discourages environmental exposure to pesticides and chemicals
✓ Builds healthy soil
✓ Helps combat erosion
✓ Fights the effects of global warming
✓ Supports water conservation and water health
✓ Discourages algae blooms
✓ Supports animal health and welfare
✓ Encourages biodiversity

TYPES OF ORGANIC FARMING IN INDIA

Crop-Based Organic Farming

Livestock-Based Organic Farming

Mixed Organic Farming

Traditional Farming Practices

Zero Budget Natural Farming

Organic Horticulture

The need for Organic Farming in India

Organic farming, which avoids the use of synthetic chemicals and emphasizes sustainable agricultural practices, is becoming increasingly essential in India.

This shift is driven by various environmental, health, economic, and social factors.

The key reasons highlighting the need for organic farming in India:

1. Environmental Sustainability

a. Soil Health

- **Chemical-Free Soil:** Organic farming avoids synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, which can degrade soil health. Instead, it uses natural compost, green manures, and crop rotations to enhance soil fertility.

- **Soil Structure and Biodiversity:** Organic practices promote better soil structure and increase biodiversity, which are crucial for sustainable agriculture.

b. Water Conservation

- **Reduced Pollution:** Organic farming reduces the risk of water contamination from chemical runoff. This is vital for maintaining clean water supplies for both agricultural and domestic use.
- **Efficient Water Use:** Organic farming often involves practices that improve water retention in soil, reducing the need for irrigation.

c. Climate Change Mitigation

- **Carbon Sequestration:** Organic farming practices, such as using cover crops and reducing tillage, can increase carbon sequestration in soils.
- **Lower Greenhouse Gas Emissions**: Organic farms generally emit fewer greenhouse gases compared to conventional farms due to the absence of synthetic fertilizers.

2. Health Benefits

a. Reduced Chemical Exposure

- **Consumer Health:** Organic foods are free from synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, reducing the risk of chemical residues in food, which can have adverse health effects.
- **Farmer Health:** Farmers benefit from reduced exposure to harmful chemicals, decreasing the incidence of pesticide-related illnesses.

b. Nutritional Value

Higher Nutrient Levels: Some studies suggest that organic foods can have higher levels of certain nutrients, such as antioxidants, compared to conventionally grown produce.

3. Economic Advantages

a. Market Demand

Growing Market: There is increasing demand for organic products both domestically and internationally. This can open up new markets and income streams for Indian farmers.

Premium Prices: Organic products often fetch higher prices, which can improve the profitability and economic stability of farmers.

b. Sustainable Livelihoods

Reduced Input Costs: By using locally available resources and reducing dependency on expensive synthetic inputs, farmers can lower their production costs.

Employment Generation: Organic farming practices can be more labour-intensive, potentially creating more employment opportunities in rural areas.

4. Social and Cultural Benefits

a. Traditional Practices

- **Reviving Traditions:** Organic farming aligns with many traditional Indian agricultural practices that relied on natural inputs and sustainable methods.

- **Community Empowerment:** Organic farming can strengthen local communities by promoting self-reliance and sustainable livelihoods.
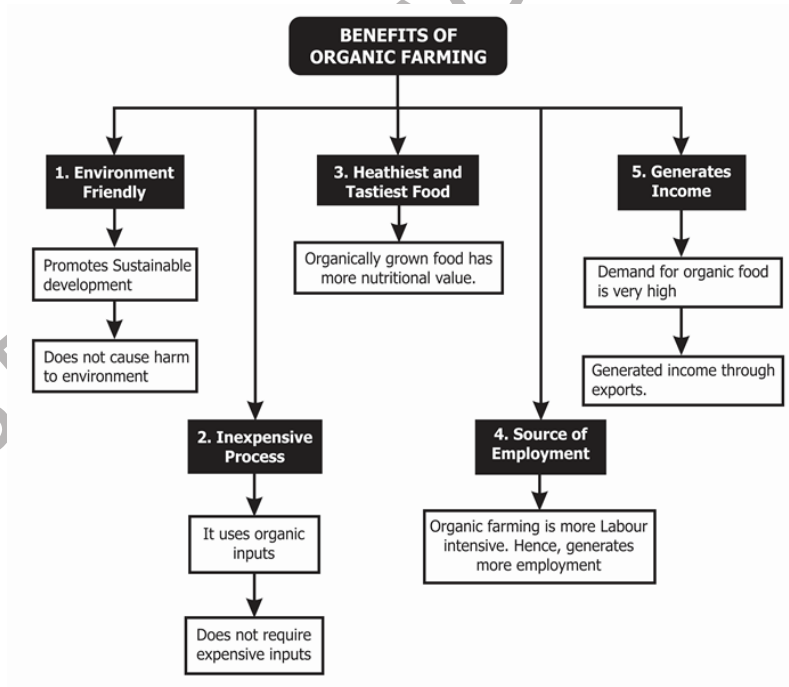
5. Biodiversity Conservation

- **Agro-Biodiversity**
- **Diverse Crops:** Organic farming often involves crop diversification, which can enhance agro-biodiversity and resilience against pests and diseases.
- **Protection of Native Species**: By avoiding chemical pesticides and fertilizers, organic farming can help protect local flora and fauna, preserving biodiversity.
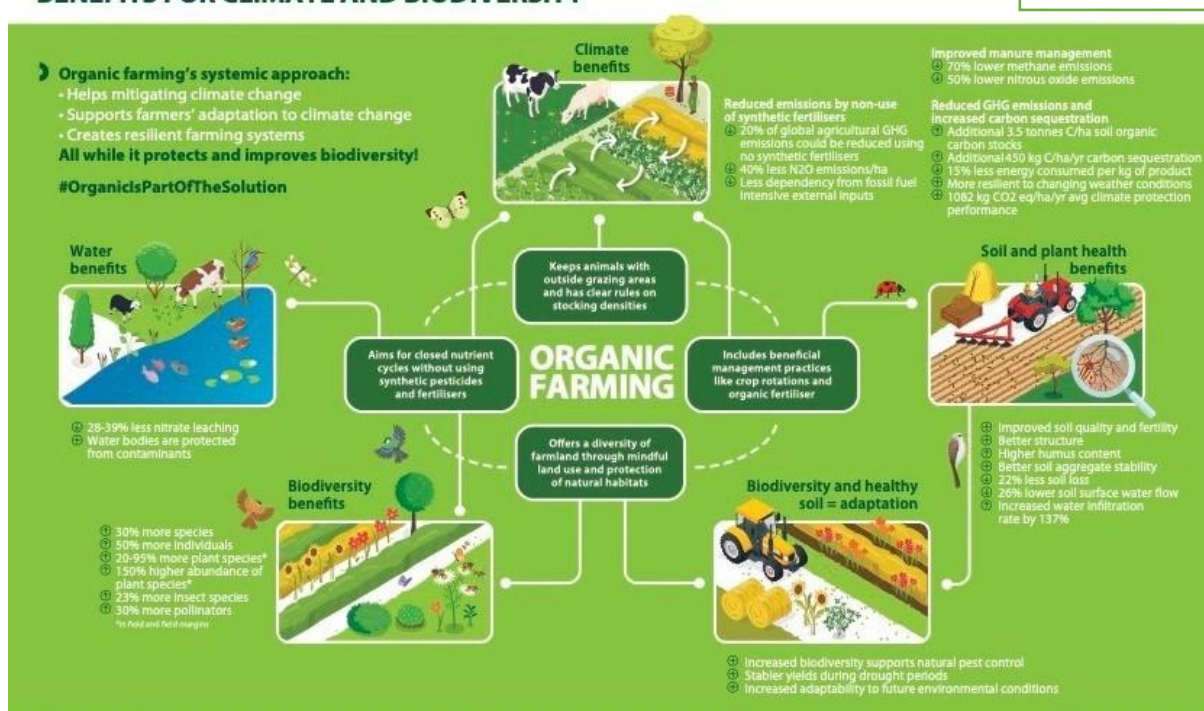
6. Policy and Support

- **Government Initiatives**
- **National Policies:** The Indian government has been promoting organic farming through various schemes and programs such as the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) and the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP).
- **Subsidies and Incentives:** Financial incentives and subsidies are provided to encourage farmers to adopt organic practices.

7. Certification and Standards

Organic Certification: Establishing clear standards and certification processes can help in building consumer trust and expanding markets for organic products.

BENEFITS OF ORGANIC FARMING

1. Environment Friendly → Promotes Sustainable development → Does not cause harm to environment

2. Inexpensive Process → It uses organic inputs → Does not require expensive inputs

3. Heathiest and Tastiest Food → Organically grown food has more nutritional value.

4. Source of Employment → Organic farming is more Labour intensive. Hence, generates more employment

5. Generates Income → Demand for organic food is very high → Generated income through exports.

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND ITS
BENEFITS FOR CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY

Conclusion:

The need for organic farming in India is multi-faceted, driven by environmental, health, economic, and social imperatives.

By fostering sustainable agricultural practices, improving food safety, and providing economic benefits, organic farming presents a viable pathway for the future of Indian agriculture.

Embracing organic farming can help address many of the challenges faced by conventional agriculture,

Q3: Naxalism rose because of a tug-of-war between the state and the marginalized sections of the society but the government is of the opinion that Naxalism is at its culmination. Critically analyse.

Key terms:
- Naxalism.
- State and Marginalized sections.
- Tug-of-war between State and marginalized sections.
- Culmination of Naxalism.

Demand of the question:

There are 2 arguments given in the question

1. The first statement: Tug-of-war between state and marginalized sections:

*1. Naxalism is due to Govt apathy, Political and Bureaucratic negligence, socio-economic inequalities, displacement of Tribals and forest dwellers, Land rights related issues etc. So present arguments citing **the reasons for the growth of Naxalism** in India and arguments **highlighting government failure**.*

*2. In the second statement the **govt is of the opinion that though Naxalism is still existing in India**, but it is **reaching its climax**. So**, related data facts about their reduced activities** and **analyse the reasons**.*

*3. Since it is **'critically analyse'** type of a question, you should also **do an in-depth analysis about both the statements** given above and provide the **contradictory arguments** as against the above-mentioned statements.*

Introduction:

1. A brief explanation about Naxalism, region of origin and its historical perspective that led to its rise.
2. Origin of Naxalbari movement and the Ideology driving it.

Body:

1. What are the causes that led to the rise of Naxalism in India? Explain the issues, reasons that led to the inception of Naxal ideology and a few characteristic features.

2. Show what all developments can conclude that Naxalism is reaching its culmination or on the verge of getting insignificant and diluted? What all the initiatives taken by the Government and their impact. Critically analyse both the Body 1 & 2.

<u>Way forward:</u>

1. Is very important in such questions covering a broader and issue-based question.
2. It acts as the additional information about the future/further measures to be taken in order to address the issue of Naxalism to completely uproot it. So based on your arguments presented earlier you need to give your verdict or take a stand here.

Answer:

Introduction:

Naxalism, emerging from the Naxalbari uprising in 1967 in West Bengal, is a socio-political ideology advocating the violent overthrow of the state. Despite its persistent challenge, marked by decades of insurgency and security threats, the Indian government maintains a steadfast commitment to its immediate and comprehensive eradication, recognizing the importance of addressing the root causes and complexities associated with this issue.

Emergence of Naxalism as a struggle between the State and Marginalised Sections of Society:

1. Land Reforms Failure: Inadequate land reforms left many rural and tribal communities landless, contributing to their economic marginalisation and fostering resentment against the state.

2. Economic Deprivation and Maoist Recruitment: Displaced and economically deprived individuals became easy targets for Maoist recruitment, lacking alternative sources of livelihood.

3. **Tribal Discontent and Forest Rights**: The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 significantly curtailed the rights of tribals who depend on forest resources for their livelihood, creating widespread discontent.

4. **Socio-Economic Disparities:** The government's focus on measuring success by the reduction in violent incidents rather than by the development and improvement in the quality of life in Naxal-affected areas failed to address the root causes of the insurgency.

5. **Strategic Approach Confusion**: There was confusion and inconsistency in addressing Naxalism, with debates on whether it should be tackled as a social issue or a security threat, leading to fragmented and ineffective responses.

6. **Administrative Post-Operations Failures**: Even after security forces reclaimed regions from Naxal control, the administration often failed to follow up with essential services and development initiatives, leading to a vacuum that could be exploited by insurgents.

7. State vs. Central Government Responsibilities: Many state governments viewed Naxalism as a problem for the central government, resulting in a lack of proactive local initiatives and cooperation to effectively combat the insurgency.

Government's opinion is that Naxalism is on the verge of culmination.

It is based on following developments:

1. Significant Decline in LWE Violence: The implementation of the National Policy and Action Plan to address Left Wing Extremism (LWE) has led to a consistent decline in LWE-related violent incidents across the nation.

2. Reduction in Casualties: The number of resultant deaths (Security Forces + Civilians) has also reduced significantly, declining by 90% from an all-time high of 1005 in 2010 to 98 in 2022.

3. **Constriction of Geographical Spread:** The geographical spread of LWE violence has been constricted, with the number of districts reporting violence decreasing from 96 in 2010 to 45 in 2022.

4. Decrease in Recent Years: There has been a 36% decrease in LWE-related violence incidents in 2022 compared to 2018.

Despite the government's optimistic outlook, several persistent challenges indicate that Naxalism remains a significant threat:

1. Continued Incidents and Casualties: Despite a decrease in overall incidents, Naxal attacks continue to cause significant casualties. During the period from 2014 to 2023 there have been 7,649 LWE related incidents and 2,020 deaths

2. Continued Violence and Militarization: Despite a decrease in overall incidents, Naxal attacks continue to cause significant casualties, indicating a persistent threat. The growing militarization within Naxal ranks suggests a shift towards more aggressive tactics.

3. Expansion and Urban Infiltration: The quiet spread of Naxalism to new areas, along with attempts to penetrate urban areas and working-class movements, indicate a strategic shift to broaden their influence and operational reach.

4. Targeted Intelligence denial: The focus on denying intelligence through the targeted killing of alleged informers underscores a ruthless approach to maintain secrecy and operational security, posing challenges to security forces.

5. Propaganda and Civil Society Co-optation: The use of civil society groups for propaganda purposes and mobilizing people over socio-economic issues suggests an effort to gain legitimacy, support, and sympathy for their cause, presenting a complex challenge.

6. Lack of Trust: There is a lack of trust between the common masses and security forces/administrative authorities, impacting the effectiveness of counter-strategies.

7. Utilisation of Technology: The use of technology for propaganda, communication, and large-scale extortion activities underscores Naxalism's adaptation to modern tools, highlighting the need for advanced countermeasures.

8. Large troop operations and Lack of Conviction: While believed to offer better protection, recent attacks have exposed vulnerabilities in this approach. Some local politicians covertly support Naxals, undermining the intensity of anti-LWE operations.

9. Large-scale Extortion Activities: The extensive extortion from contractors and industries in their areas of domination indicates a significant source of funding for Naxal activities.

Conclusion:

While the government perceives Naxalism to be at its end, its enduring presence highlights the necessity for a comprehensive approach. The government's goal to eradicate Naxalism requires addressing immediate security concerns and implementing sustainable development strategies, along with promoting social justice to ensure a lasting solution.

Q4. Communalism is blind allegiance to one's own religious community in our culture and is related to dogmatism and religious fundamentalism. What are the measures to fight this evil? Evaluate.

Question's demand/Focus:

1. Why Communalism is blind allegiance to one's own religious community? What belief system or laws guide one to exhibit religious fundamentalism and dogmatism?
2. Is there any politicisation involved in evoking such fundamentalism or any other factors contributing? Explore various theories involving such belief system?
3. Enumerate the measures to fight Communalism. Measures involve institutional that is Government led, Police, Multilateral international agencies involved if any? And non-institutional like Community led, Role of religious leaders, politicians, celebrities etc.

Approach

Introduction:
- **Begin with the definition of communalism and its detrimental impact on societal harmony.**

Body:
- **Discuss the measures to combat communalism, including promoting secular education, enforcing legal actions, ensuring political accountability, supporting civil society initiatives, and regulating media.**

- **Conclusion:**
  Emphasize the importance of a multifaceted approach involving government, community, and individuals to create a more inclusive and tolerant society.

Answer:

Communalism is blind allegiance to one's own religious community in one's culture. It is defined as a **tool for or against mobilising people** by appealing for communal services. Communalism in a broader sense means a strong attachment to one's own community.

In a negative sense it is related to dogmatism, religious fundamentalism and essentially leads to mutual hatred and violence. This phenomenon leads to distinction between a communal organisation and a religious organisation.

According to NCRB data, a total of 378 cases of communal and religious rioting were registered in 2021.

Communalism essentially has following main features.

1. It is based on orthodoxy
2. It is based on intolerance

3. It propagates intense dislike of other religions
4. It is exclusive in outlook; a communalist considers his own religion to be true and superior to other religions.
5. People of different religions believe that different religions have different social, economic, cultural and political aspirations.
6. Similar communities have similar aspirations and they are believed to be always incompatible with others! This sense of religious exclusiveness creates incompatibility and uncompromising attitude between various communities.
7. It sometime adopts extremist tactics including use of violence against other people.
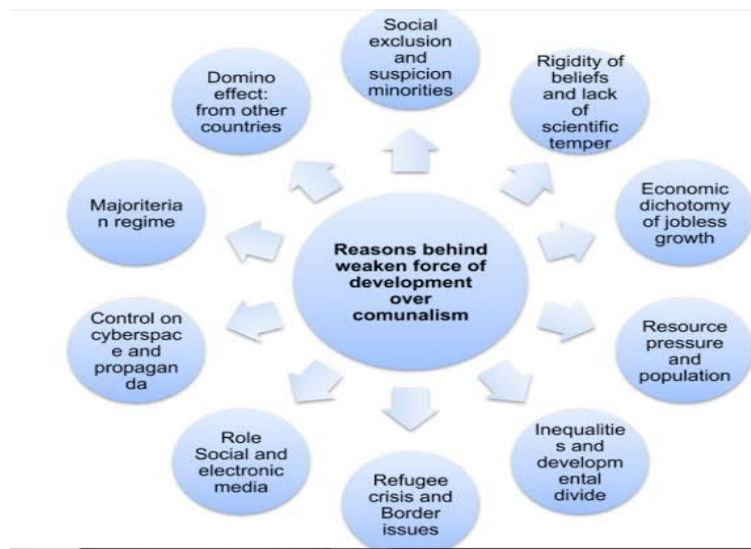

Why Communalism is Blind Allegiance?

- **Unquestioning Loyalty:** Followers of communal ideologies often exhibit unwavering support for their religious leaders and community directives without critical analysis.
  - **For instance,** during communal riots, individuals may participate in violence simply because their community leaders have endorsed it.
- **Rejection of Dissenting Views:** In communal settings, any voice of moderation or disagreement from within the community is often ostracized or silenced.
  - **For example,** moderate voices advocating for peace during the Babri Masjid demolition in India faced backlash from hardliners.
- **Identity Over Rationality:** Communalism prioritizes religious identity over rational discourse and evidence-based decision-making.
  - **For instance,** people might vote for a political candidate solely based on their religious affiliation, ignoring their policies or competence.
- **Groupthink:** Individuals in communal settings may adopt the group's beliefs and actions without personal evaluation.
  - **For example,** the propagation of anti-minority sentiments in some religious gatherings leads to widespread acceptance of such views among attendees.
- **Propaganda Acceptance:** Communal groups often accept and propagate biased or false information without verification.

- ○ **For example,** communal riots are sometimes fueled by baseless rumors spread through social media, such as the 2013 Muzaffarnagar riots in India, where fake videos were circulated to incite violence.

Communalism is guided by Dogmatism and Religious Fundamentalism
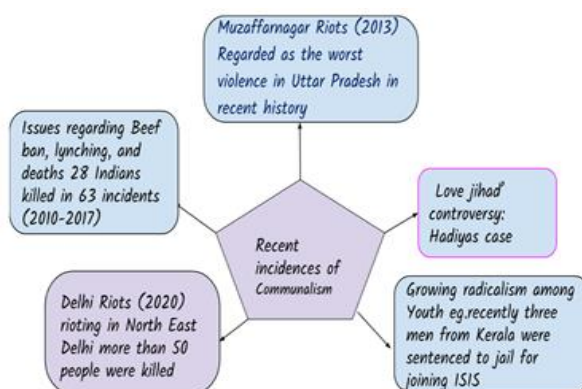
- ● **Rigid Belief Systems:** It is a shared belief within a particular culture that promotes religious and secular isolation from other groups. So, it is a form of segregation and a member's loyalty lie within the group instead of a country. Like dogmatism, communalism involves strict adherence to rigid belief systems.
    - ○ **For instance**, Recently, violent clashes erupted in Haldwani, Uttarakhand, following the court-ordered demolition of an unauthorised structure situated in the Banbhoolpura area.
- ● **Intolerance of Other Religions:** Religious fundamentalism breeds intolerance towards other faiths, leading to communal violence. It is motivated by various notions like internal belief and external indoctrination, differing political, economic, cultural, racial or religious beliefs and consideration of one's religion as sacrosanct and others as lower to one's own.
    - ○ **For example**, the targeting of religious minorities in Pakistan by fundamentalist groups illustrates the overlap between communalism and religious fundamentalism.
- ● **Exclusive Identity:** It refers to the socio-political ideology or practice that emphasizes the identity of a religious or ethnic group, often leading to the exclusion or hostility towards other groups within a society. Both communalism and fundamentalism create a sense of exclusive identity, rejecting pluralism.
    - ○ **For instance,** Certain organisations in India promote majority nationalism, sidelining other religious identities, which echoes fundamentalist ideologies.
- ● **Militant Attitudes:** Communalism often adopts militant attitudes to defend religious beliefs, similar to religious fundamentalism. The concept of 'Jihad' in Islam is misinterpreted and is used by some religious fundamentalists to provoke the radical members of the community to terrorise, inflict physical harm and damage social harmony.
    - ○ **The activities of groups like ISIS** reflect a militant stance that arises from extreme religious dogmatism and communal ideologies.

- **Resistance to Modernity:** The basic premise of fundamental Communalistic ideology is strict adherence to orthodox and traditional value and belief system. Mere thought of changes is considered to be in contravention to their traditional value system, religious sanctity and hence are considered detrimental to the religion. So, both communalism and religious fundamentalism resist modern, secular values.
  - **For instance,** the Taliban's rejection of modern education and secular governance in Afghanistan parallels the communal resistance to secularism in various parts of the world.

Measures to Combat Communalism

The problem of Communalism in India is grave and can have a far-reaching consequence. Thus, persuasive as well as punitive measures are required to curb its spread.

- **Building religious harmony and peace:** Building solidarity and assimilation of various religious groups at different levels in society, workplace, neighbourhood by fostering a secular culture. Ex: Celebrating each other's religious festivals**.**
- **Prompt action on radical/communal organisations - through Cyber cells:** Swift and prompt response to radicalization by a militant group on social media through a political action, counselling sessions for those radicalized especially adolescents and youths.
- **Abolishment of Communal Parties:** The government should ban or dissolve all political parties that rely on religious loyalties. It can also ensure that political parties refrain from using religion, religious ideologies in order to garner votes. It can be done by a strict vigilance by institutions like Election Commission of India, Departmental agencies, NIA, Media, Civil society etc. Even the non-political cultural organisations should be actively monitored.
- **Inter-religious Marriage:** Instances of an inter-religious marriage of two consenting adults should not be construed as "Love Jihad issue" and should be promptly covered by the responsible Media.
  - Youth groups and other associations in every state should be formed to provide people from different communities with opportunities to come together and to get to know each other.
  - This will encourage them to practise inter-religious marriages that reduce the social divide between members of religious groups.
- **Promoting Secular and Inclusive Education:** Integrate lessons on secularism, cultural diversity, and mutual respect into school curriculums. Students must be sensitised and properly educated about the importance of tolerance, mutual respect and accommodating religious diversity.
  - **For Example:** The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) in India includes moral science and social studies that promote unity in diversity.
- **Enforcing Strict Legal Actions Against Hate Speech and Violence:** Strengthen and rigorously enforce laws against hate speech and communal violence.
  - **For example**: India's Ministry of Home Affairs regularly updates the Communal Violence Bill to address hate crimes more effectively.
- **Political Accountability and Reform:** Encourage political leaders to refrain from communal rhetoric and take a firm stand against communalism.
  - **For example:** The Model Code of Conduct by the Election Commission of India mandates that political parties avoid activities that aggravate existing differences between communities.

- **Strengthening Civil Society and Interfaith Dialogue:** Support civil society organizations promoting interfaith dialogue and communal harmony.
    - **For Example:** The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) in India provides assistance to children affected by communal violence and promotes communal harmony through various programs.
- **Media Responsibility and Regulation:** Encourage responsible journalism and regulate media to prevent the spread of inflammatory content. Media, movies and internet social media should be used to promote religious harmony and peace. Fake news should be dealt in a time-bound manner.
    - **For example,** The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in India monitors and regulates media content to curb hate speech and misinformation.
- **Involving religious heads in promoting unity:** They can play a crucial and decisive role in disseminating the virtues of religious texts, promote universal humanism, ideas of religious accommodation, tolerance, peace and promoting religious harmony.

Conclusion

In our society, class identity still remains submerged under caste and communal identities! With rising economic problems, the ruling elite of our country managed to convert economic problems like poverty, unemployment, price rise etc into caste and communal ones. These economic problems must be resolved at the earliest to avoid any communal violence. To avert this the concept of Secularism has been deemed as one of the pillars of Basic structure of Indian Constitution. Steps should be taken with the help of cultural exchange programs which promote togetherness. The advent of globalisation has also brought the world closer and aided in reducing Communalism in various countries including India.

Q5. Market economy is an ode to Adam Smith, Wealth of Nation book. Analyse the advantages and disadvantages of market economy over the years.

Key terms
1. Market Economy
2. Adam Smith's – Wealth of Nation
3. Advantages and disadvantages of Market Economy

Demand of the question:

1. What is the central theme of Adam Smith's "An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations"? And explain how this central theme that is 'individual needs collectively fulfil the self-interest resulting in societal benefit, is linked to the objective of Market Economy? He rejected government interference in market activities which is similar principle guiding the Market Economy. So, draw a parallel between both of the key terms.
2. Analysing the advantages and disadvantages of Market Economy over the years.

Introduction:

1. Describe the Market Economy (Capitalism) along with a brief info about Adam Smith's Wealth of Naton book.
2. Can start with the central thesis of Adam Smith and draw a corollary between the Market Economy and his principles mentioned in the 'Wealth of Nations".

> **Body:**
>
> **1. Need to find the similarities between features of Market Economy and Wealth of Nations or Explain the characteristic features of Wealth of Nations that exemplified into a Market Economy.**
>
> **2. Advantages and Disadvantages of Market Economy and are to be presented in a chronological time period.**
>
> **3. Minor part: Can also highlight the disadvantages of Capitalistic or Market Economy.**
>
> **Conclusion:**
> **You can conclude by arguing how a mixed economy is a better strategy for developing nations to recover from undue shocks of Capitalism.**

Introduction:

The Market economy, characterized by minimal government intervention and driven by supply and demand forces, has been a dominant economic model for many countries. This model, often traced back to Adam Smith's seminal work "The Wealth of Nations," has evolved over the years, presenting both significant advantages and notable disadvantages.

Here is a detailed analysis:

Body:

Historical Perspective 19th and Early 20th Century

• **Industrial Revolution:** The market economy spurred rapid industrialization and economic growth, particularly in Western countries. However, it also led to harsh working conditions, child labor, and significant income inequality.

• **Great Depression:** The 1930s saw a severe market failure with the Great Depression, highlighting the need for government intervention and regulation to stabilize economies.

Post-World War II Era

• **Mixed Economies:** Many countries adopted mixed economies, blending market mechanisms with government intervention to mitigate the disadvantages of pure market economies.

• **Economic Growth:** The post-war period saw unprecedented economic growth, innovation, and improved living standards, particularly in market-oriented economies like the United States.

Late 20th and Early 21st Century

• **Globalization:** Market economies facilitated globalization, leading to increased trade, investment, and technological transfer. However, it also resulted in job losses in certain sectors and increased economic interdependence.

• **Financial Crises:** The late 20th and early 21st centuries witnessed several financial crises (e.g., the 2008 financial crisis) stemming from deregulated markets, underscoring the risks of insufficient oversight.

Advantages of a Market Economy

1. Efficient Resource Allocation

- **Supply and Demand Mechanism:** Resources in a market economy are allocated based on supply and demand. This dynamic ensures that products and services are produced in quantities that reflect consumer preferences.
- **Price Signals:** Prices serve as signals to both consumers and producers, guiding them to make decisions that contribute to efficient resource allocation. High prices indicate a scarcity of goods, prompting producers to increase supply, while low prices suggest an oversupply.

2. Innovation and Technological Advancement

- **Competitive Environment:** The competitive nature of market economies incentivizes businesses to innovate, improve efficiency, and reduce costs to gain a competitive edge.
- **Research and Development:** Companies invest in research and development to create new products and improve existing ones, fostering technological progress.

3. Consumer Sovereignty

- **Variety and Choice:** Consumers have access to a wide array of products and services, allowing them to choose according to their preferences and needs.
- **Quality Improvement**: Competition among businesses leads to improvements in the quality of goods and services as companies strive to attract and retain customers.

4. Economic Growth and Wealth Creation

- **Investment Opportunities:** The profit motive drives investment in new ventures and expansion of existing businesses, contributing to economic growth.
- **Productivity and Efficiency**: Market economies encourage productivity and efficiency, leading to higher economic output and wealth creation.

Disadvantages of a Market Economy

1. Income Inequality

- Wealth Disparity: Market economies often lead to significant income and wealth disparities. Those with capital and resources can accumulate more wealth, while those without may experience economic hardship.

2. Social Inequality:

- The gap between rich and poor can exacerbate social inequalities, leading to tensions and potential instability.

3. Market Failures

- **Public Goods:** The market often fails to provide public goods (such as national defence, public parks) and address externalities (such as pollution) efficiently, necessitating government intervention.
- **Monopolies and Oligopolies:** Without regulation, markets can become dominated by monopolies or oligopolies, reducing competition and potentially leading to higher prices and poorer service for consumers.

3. Short-Term Focus

- **Profit Maximization**: Businesses may prioritize short-term profits over long term sustainability and social responsibility, leading to issues like environmental degradation and neglect of employee welfare.
- **Economic Cycles:** Market economies are susceptible to boom and bust cycles, leading to periods of economic instability, unemployment, and financial crises.

4. Social Welfare and Public Services

- **Insufficient Safety Nets**: Market economies may not adequately provide for the welfare of all citizens, particularly the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.
- **Access to Essential Services**: Essential services like healthcare and education may become inaccessible to lower-income groups due to high costs driven by profit motives.

Conclusion

A market economy, inspired by Adam Smith's principles, offers numerous advantages, including efficient resource allocation, innovation, consumer choice, and economic growth. However, it also has significant disadvantages, such as income inequality, market failures, a short-term focus, and neglect of social welfare. Over the years, the interplay between market forces and government intervention has shaped the economic landscape, highlighting the need for a balanced approach to harness the benefits of market economies while mitigating their drawbacks.

Q6: Discuss the scope of Agro-tourism in the state of Karnataka.

Key terms

1. **Agro-tourism**
2. **It's scope in Karnataka**

Demand/Focus:
1. What is the scope of Agri-tourism in the state of Karnataka?
2. What are the benefits of Agri-Tourism?
3. Which are the Key regions for Agri-Tourism in Karnataka?
4. What are the some successful Agri-tourism models in Karnataka?

Approach

Introduction:
● Begin with the definition of Agri-tourism.

Body:
● Discuss the benefits of Agri-Tourism, the Key regions for Agri-Tourism in Karnataka, +
● Some successful Agri-tourism models in Karnataka and the scope of Agri-tourism in the state of Karnataka.
● Discuss the Challenges and Recommendations.

Conclusion:
● Emphasize the importance of Agri-tourism and the scope of it along with what must be done.

Introduction:

Agri-tourism, also known as agricultural tourism, is a form of niche tourism that involves visiting agricultural areas, farms, or agribusiness operations for enjoyment, education, or active participation in the activities of the farm or its operation.

It combines the agricultural industry with tourism to offer visitors an immersive experience in rural and farming life. It is of high importance in Karnataka and the state has started a paradigm shift towards agro-tourism given the number of such destinations in the state.

Benefits of Agri-Tourism

1. Economic Diversification:

- Provides additional income streams for farmers and rural communities.
- It promotes diversification of farming activities and providing opportunities to rest, relax, enjoy and study about farming for the visitors thereby bringing additional income.
- It brings the primary sector closer to the major service sector tourism. This creates a win-win situation.

2. Education and Awareness: Enhances public understanding of agricultural practices and the importance of sustainable farming.

3. Cultural Exchange: Promotes cultural heritage and traditions related to agriculture.

4. Rural Development: Supports the development of rural areas by improving infrastructure and creating employment opportunities.

5. Employment opportunities: Provides new employment and business opportunities to the local population.

A. Scope of Agri-tourism in the state of Karnataka

Agri-tourism, a niche and emerging segment of the tourism industry, has significant potential in Karnataka, given the state's rich agricultural heritage, diverse landscapes, and cultural diversity.

The scope of Agri-tourism in Karnataka can be discussed through various dimensions:

1. Agricultural Diversity and Practices

Karnataka boasts a variety of agro-climatic zones, allowing for diverse agricultural practices. This includes:

- **Horticulture:** The state is a leading producer of fruits, vegetables, and spices. Areas like the Malnad region are famous for coffee and pepper plantations.
- **Sericulture:** Karnataka is the largest producer of silk in India, offering unique experiences related to sericulture.
- **Organic Farming:** Increasing interest in organic farming practices in regions like Coorg and Chikkamagalur provides opportunities for tourists to learn about sustainable agriculture.

2. Unique Agricultural Experiences

- **Coffee and Tea Plantations:** The Western Ghats regions like Coorg and Chikkamagalur are renowned for their coffee plantations. Tourists can participate in coffee picking, processing, and tasting.
- **Farm Stays:** Various districts offer farm stays where tourists can experience rural life, participate in farming activities, and enjoy local cuisine.
- **Floriculture:** Places like Bangalore and surrounding areas are known for floriculture, offering experiences related to flower cultivation and marketing.

3. Cultural Integration

Karnataka's rich cultural heritage complements Agri-tourism:

- **Festivals and Fairs:** Agricultural fairs and festivals like the Mysuru Dasara provide insights into local traditions and agricultural practices.
- **Traditional Cuisine:** Experiencing traditional Karnataka cuisine, which heavily incorporates locally grown produce, is a major draw for tourists.

4. Educational and Recreational Activities

- **Workshops and Training:** Opportunities for workshops on organic farming, sustainable practices, and agro-based crafts.
- **Nature Trails and Eco-Tours:** Integration of Agri-tourism with eco-tourism through activities like nature walks, bird watching, and trekking in agricultural landscapes.

5. Economic and Social Impact

- **Rural Development:** Agri-tourism can promote rural development by providing additional income to farmers and creating employment opportunities.
- **Preservation of Agricultural Heritage:** Encourages the preservation of traditional farming practices and promotes awareness about sustainable agriculture.

6. Infrastructure and Policy Support

- **Government Initiatives:** The Karnataka government has been supportive of Agri-tourism through policies and incentives aimed at promoting rural tourism.
- **Improved Connectivity:** Infrastructure development like better roads, rural electrification, and internet connectivity enhances the potential for Agri-tourism.

B. Key regions for Agri-Tourism in Karnataka

1. **Coorg (Kodagu)**
   - Known for its coffee plantations and scenic beauty.
   - Offers plantation tours, coffee tasting, and farm stays.
2. **Chikkamagaluru**
   - Another prominent coffee-growing region.
   - Activities include plantation walks, coffee processing tours, and eco-tourism.
3. **Hassan**
   - Known for horticulture, especially mango and banana plantations.
   - Offers opportunities for tourists to engage in fruit picking and processing activities.
4. **Mysuru**
   - Famous for silk and sandalwood.
   - Visitors can learn about sericulture, silk weaving, and sandalwood processing.
5. **Other Western Ghats Districts:**
   - Rich in biodiversity with extensive areca nut, pepper, and cardamom plantations.
   - Activities include spice tours, farm stays, and nature trails.

C. Some successful Agri-tourism models in Karnataka

Karnataka has been actively promoting Agri-tourism to bridge the gap between urban and rural communities while boosting the tourism economy. Some of them as below.

1. Coffee Plantations:

- Coffee estates in Coorg (Kodagu) offer visitors an immersive experience in coffee cultivation.
- Tourists can learn about coffee processing, taste freshly brewed coffee, and explore the lush plantations.

2. Theme-Based Concepts:

- Karnataka is developing theme-based Agri-tourism concepts beyond coffee.
- These include various crops, allowing tourists to engage with farming practices and rural life.
- Sustainability is ensured by linking these concepts with nearby tourist destinations.

3. Dalit Heritage Tourism:

- The state aims to promote Dalit heritage, especially folklore. Identifying a Lambani heritage village near Hampi could attract foreign tourists interested in cultural experiences.
- While these models showcase the fusion of agriculture and tourism, Karnataka continues to explore innovative ways to enhance Agri-tourism experiences.

(Challenges and Recommendations:)

(For critical type of questions only and is not applicable for the given question)

1. Awareness and Promotion:

Need for effective marketing strategies to promote Agri-tourism destinations and experiences.

2. Infrastructure Development:

Improvement in rural infrastructure, including transportation, accommodation, and basic amenities.

3. Training and Capacity Building:

Training farmers and local communities in hospitality, tourism management, and customer service.

4. Sustainability:

Ensuring sustainable tourism practices to protect agricultural and natural resources.

Conclusion

The scope of Agri-tourism in Karnataka is vast, given the state's agricultural diversity, cultural richness, and natural beauty.

By integrating agriculture with tourism, Karnataka can create unique, enriching experiences for tourists while promoting rural development and sustainable agricultural practices.

Q7: Jainism and Buddhism emerged during the later Vedic period. Examine the reasons for their rise and their impact.

Introduction:

Indian philosophical and religious thought can be classified into Brahmanical and Shramanic traditions. Brahmanical tradition traces its origin to the Vedas, Sramanic traditions do not believe in the authority of the Vedas. Sramanic tradition favours asceticism for the attainment of emancipation from the misery of the cycle of birth and death — mukti, nirvana, kaivalya. Buddhism and Jainism belong to the Sramanic tradition.

Reasons for their rise in the late Vedic period.

1. **Reaction against ritualism**
   - Complex rituals and ceremonies dominated the practice of worship in Vedic period in 6th century BC. These practices turned out to be expensive and they were also performed by the whims and fancies of priestly class.
   - Religious life was originally simple, and the people did not like the large-scale sacrifices and elaborate rituals which was modified by the priestly class later on.
   - There was immense corruption among the priestly classes to extract money out of ordinary people as well as from Kshatriyas by organizing elaborate yajnas like Ashwamedha, Rajasuya, Vajapeya, Agnisthoma, Sarvamedha, Purushamedha Yajnas.
   - Blind faith and superstitious belief confused the people and could not answer the intricate and inquisitive questions of humans seeking answer to their problems.

2. **Social cause**
   - Rigid caste system and exaggerated inequality was prevalent in the society. There was absolutely no social mobility left across the society.
   - Later Vedic banned Inter movement of people across different varnas. Certain restrictions were on the masses on other castes over marriages, class, and even food and drinks.

- Both Buddhism and Jainism did not believe in caste system, and this is one of the significant causes for the rise of Jainism. Buddhism in the nation.
- Kshatriyas resented the domination of priestly class. Both Buddha and Mahaveera belonged to Kshatriya origin.
- Some of the ruling class Kshatriyas resented violence and wanted to lead a simple life. They also were against the manipulative priestly class for the elaborate rituals and Yajnas conducted to suit their aspirations.

3. Economic causes
- Prosperity in agriculture and the growth of trade lead to improvement in the economic conditions of Vaishyas. They also wanted to enhance their social status, but the orthodox Varna system did not allow this.!
- Rise of agriculture demanded drought, animals like cattle's and buffaloes, but were being sacrificed largely for religious ceremonies.
- Money lending was imperative for traders, but Vedas prohibited lending! Hence the merchant class extended chief support to new religions.
- Contrary to the wide-spread sacrifices propagated by the priestly classes, Buddhism and Jainism's principle of non-violence suited the settled community better.

4. Supremacy of the priestly class.
- Priest considered themselves superior and others as inferior. Sanskrit was taught only to Brahmin class, and they took the advantage to reinterpret and misinterpret religion according to their convenience
- On the other hand, the religious study was open for all and preached in local language like Pa and Prakrit, which appealed most of the common masses.
- Both Jainism and preached non-violence: disappeared, both common people and kshatriyas to lead a simple and peaceful life.

Impact of Buddhism on Indian Society

Social and Cultural Impact

Buddhism has had a profound impact on Indian society in a number of ways. For example, Buddhism has helped to promote social equality and tolerance. Buddhism has also played a significant role in the development of Indian art, architecture, and literature.

- **Social equality:** Buddhism treats all beings as equal and all life is sacred. The emphasis on equality has helped to promote social equality in Indian society. For example, Buddhism challenged the caste system, which was a major form of social inequality in ancient India.

- **Tolerance:** Buddhism teaches that all religions are paths to enlightenment. This emphasis on tolerance has helped to promote religious tolerance and pluralism in Indian society. For example, Buddhism helped to create a space for different religious traditions to coexist peacefully in India.

Intellectual and Artistic Impact

Buddhism has also had a significant impact on Indian intellectual and artistic life. For example, Buddhist philosophy has had a profound influence on Indian thought. Buddhism has also played a significant role in the development of Indian art, architecture, and literature.

Philosophy:

- Buddhist philosophy has had a profound influence on Indian thought. For example, the Buddhist concept of karma has become an integral part of Indian culture. Karma is the law of cause and effect, which teaches that our actions in this life will determine our fate in the next life.

Art and architecture:

- Buddhist art and architecture have had a significant influence on Indian culture. For example, Buddhist temples and monasteries are some of the most iconic landmarks in India. Buddhist art is also known for its beauty and intricacy.
- New school of Arts came into existence like Mathura, Gandhara and Amaravati schools.
- Stupas - Sanchi, Bharhut, Ajanta, Amaravathi and Gaya along with chaityas and Viharas.

Literature:

- Buddhist literature has had a significant influence on Indian literature. For example, the Pali Canon, the oldest and most important Buddhist text, is a collection of scriptures that have been translated into many Indian languages.
- Buddhism led to the development of Pali and other local languages and there was no bar on any communities for accessing religious text.
- Many literary works were created by the Buddhist scholars - Tripitakas, Milindpanho, Buddhacharita and Janaka tales.

Impact of Jainism on Indian Society

Jainism was founded in India in the 6th century BCE by Mahavira. Jainism is based on the principle of non-violence, or ahimsa. Jainism teaches that all living beings have souls and that all life is sacred.

Social and Cultural Impact

Jainism has had a significant impact on Indian society in a number of ways. For example, Jainism has helped to promote vegetarianism and animal welfare. Jainism has also played a significant role in the development of Indian business and trade.

- **Vegetarianism:** Jainism teaches that all living beings have souls and that all life is sacred. This emphasis on non-violence has helped to promote vegetarianism in Indian society. Today, India has the largest population of vegetarians in the world.
- **Animal welfare:** Jainism also teaches that animals should be treated with compassion and respect. This emphasis on animal welfare has helped to promote animal welfare in

Indian society. For example, Jains have been at the forefront of efforts to ban animal sacrifice in India.

Business and Economic Impact

Jainism has also played a significant role in the development of Indian business and trade. Jains are known for their strong work ethic and their emphasis on honesty and fair dealing in business. This emphasis on ethics has helped to promote the development of Indian business and trade.

For example, Jains have been at the forefront of many industries in India, including banking, finance, and trade. Jains have also played a significant role in the development of Indian entrepreneurship.

contributing to a healthier population, a more sustainable environment, and a resilient agricultural economy.

Q8. The Constitution is a mere thing of wax in the hands of the judiciary, which they may twist and shape into any form they please, said Thomas Jefferson. Has the judiciary in the Indian context played with the Constitution in respect of the appointment of judges with the collegium system? Critically analyse.

Key terms
1. **Constitution**
2. **Judiciary**
3. **Thomas Jefferson's interpretation**
4. **Appointment of judges**
5. **Playing with the Constitution**
6. **Critically analyse**

Approach

Demand of the question:

The given question has 2 parts.

1. The question is a statement/observation made by 3rd President of US vis-à-vis Judicial excesses over Constitution/Legislature. Then present instances in Indian context when Judiciary tried twisting the Constitution by declaring certain Legislative acts as 'Null and Void' threatening the principle of separation of powers.
2. Talk about the controversy between Legislature and the Judiciary with respect to NJAC and 'Collegium system' like the present system, proposal by the Government and Judiciary's apprehension about it.

Introduction:
1. Either define Collegium system and the process of appointment of judges in India. If possible, provide the Constitutional provisions (Present)

2. Or provide a context/background about the NJAC and Collegium in regard to the appointment of Judges. Or
3. If you are aware about the context in which Jefferson's said the above statement then try to explain and link it to the present Indian scenario

Body:
1. Collegium system/ Legal provisions for the appointment of judges/NJAC
2. Concerns associated with the Collegium and instances when Judicial actions appeared to be twisting the Constitution and obstructing any laws passed by the Legislature.
3. Since the question is about critically analyse provide both arguments in favour of Collegium and against it.

Conclusion:
Take a stand as to what would be the most prudent way for the appointment of judges that is a win-win situation for both Judiciary and Legislature. If possible, cite some international practices.

Intro:

Context: Recently, there was a confrontation between the government and the judiciary regarding the issue of Judicial Appointments (of judges to Higher judiciary). Government had concerns regarding the collegium system, calling it, opaque following invalidation of National judicial appointments commission ((NJAC) by the Supreme Court in 2015. There was disagreement between the government and the Supreme Court regarding names recommended by the collegium for appointment of judges to higher judiciary.

Legal provisions in appointment of Judges:

1. **Article 124** deals with the appointment of Supreme Court judges. The appointment shall be made by the honourable President of India after consultation with such judges of Supreme Court and High Court as the President may deem necessary, the CGI is to be consulted in all appointments, except his or her own.
2. **Article 217** deals with appointment of High Court judges by President of India after consultation with CJI, Governor of the state and Chief justice of High Court concerned.

Present practice:

- At present the judicial appointments and transfers for High Court, Supreme Court are undertaken through the collegium system.
- The Supreme Court collegium consist of five seniors most judges, including the chief Justice of India.
- It will consider the elevation of High Court judges to Supreme Court, elevation of judges of High Court as chief justice of the state, concerned and elevation of Supreme Court judges to the post of chief Justice of India.

- In case of difference of opinion, majority view will prevail. The collegium model evolved as a constitution mandates consultation with the chief justice of India necessary for judicial appointments.

Note: The collegium system has not been mentioned in the Constitution evolved through series of judgements of Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has given different interpretation of the world consultation. These judgements are

Evolution of Collegium system:

1. **Gupta and others versus union of India, 1981. (First judge's case.)**; The consultation only means exchange of views are not concurrence.
2. **Supreme Court advocates on record association versus union of India, 1993 (Second judges' case)** – It reversed, its early ruling, and change the meaning consultation to concurrence which means that the advice tended by CJI is binding on the President.
3. **In re-special Reference 1of 1998 (Third judges' case) –** The consultation adapted by the CJI requires consultation of plurality judges. The sole opinion of CGI does not constitute consultation process. He should consult a collegium of four senior most judges of Supreme Court.

Government's response:

1. Collegium system has created an *"imperium in imperio"* that means empire within an empire. This immense power to the Supreme Court can lead to its misuse and will harm the regulation of judiciary.
2. Therefore, it is necessary to make the judiciary more transparent. Hence government brought 99th amendment act in 2014 and the national judicial appointment commission act (NJAC) 2014.
3. NJAC - CJI, 2 senior judges of Supreme Court, law Minister, and two eminent persons – six members.
4. Eminent person – nominated for three years term by committee consisting of chief Justice, Prime Minister and leader of opposition in Lok Sabha. They are not eligible for renomination.
5. NJAC members have Veto power. If two members V to the nomination or decision, the matter of appointment is dropped.

Outcome: Supreme Court declared both 99th amendment and NJAC -unconstitutional as well as void.

Concerns associated with the collegium system

1. **The collegium is not prescribed in the constitution** and the Supreme Court interpreted consultation has concurrence in secondary cases of 1993.
2. **Transparency:** there is no official procedure for selection or any return manual for functioning of the collegium! The collegium system keeps the secrets and parameters considered for selection or rejection are not available in the public domain.
3. **Accountability:** selection of judges by judges is considered and democratic and judges are not accountable to the people or any organ of the state!? This adds an element of arbitrariness in its functioning.
4. **No checks**: there are no checks on the process. Nor has there has been any review regarding the effectiveness of the process. This can lead to nepotism. And critics argue the phenomena of uncle judges. Wherein the near relatives, Kith and kin of sitting judges are

appointed to the higher judiciary! The same is mentioned in Law commission's 230th report - 2012.a

5. **Criticism by retired judges:** many retired judges have criticised the working of collegium, especially the lack of transparency. Several controversial appointments have been made despite objections from the sitting members of collegium.

6. **No reforms**: Instead of amending the contentious provisions of NJAC act, the Supreme Court completely struck down the whole act. But the court did not take any steps to address the concern associated with the collegium system!

7. **Not a global practice**: India is perhaps only country where judges appoint other judges without involvement of any other organ of the state!

Issues associated with the National Judicial Appointments commission (NJAC)

1. Veto power by any two members could result in overriding of the judicial opinion.

2. The two eminent persons need not have any experience in law to become a member of NJAC. This would create a room for the government to appoint any person to the commission and hamper its impartial working.

3. Section 5 (1) of the NJAC act required the NJAC to recommend the senior most judge of the Supreme Court as the Chief Justice of India "if he is considered fit to hold the office". However, the criteria for fitness have not been defined.

4. There will be 'no casting vote' for CGI, who is the chairperson of NJAC! A casting vote could have been useful in avoiding a deadlock, as NJAC has even number of 6 members.

5. With reference to appointment of High Court judges, there will be 2 set of nominees that could create conflict.
    A. *The chief justice and two seniormost judges of every High Court had to nominate persons for appointment as High Court judges to NJAC with respect to appointment of judges.*
    B. *On the contrary, the NJAC could also nominate persons for appointment as High Court judges.*

In addition, the Parliament will have the power to nullify any regulations framed by NJAC in relation to laying down the criteria of suitability and the procedure of appointment of judges of High Court and Supreme Court. This provision will provide overriding powers to legislature over judiciary.

Advantages of the collegium system

- It ensures independence of the judiciary and isolates it from the influence of executive and legislature.

- The government of India is the main litigant in than 50% of the Court cases and giving prominence to executive in appointments may impact imparity of judiciary in adjudication.

- The executive may lack the expertise regarding a judge's requirement and judiciary may be the best judge in this regard.

- Extensive government control over the judiciary will make the judges vulnerable to external influence. Judicial independence is absolutely essential to safeguard the Constitution and underlying principles like right to life, right to privacy etc.

- It cuts down the influence of executive in transferring of judges to indifferences.

Way forward

- NJAC can be rectified and revived connect as a better alternative to the collegium system. All stakeholders like judiciary, legislature, Bar association should be concerned before finalisation of any proposal.
- Finalise a memorandum of procedure (MOP) regarding judicial appointments having clear guidance about eligibility, complaints mechanism, and ensures transparency.
- The judiciary should bring in more transparency in the process of apartment and hence college must disclose the reasons for selection or rejection of a candidate.
- All in judicial services (AIJS) must be established to improve the quality of judges in the lower judiciary.
- The state should ensure speeding of judicial appointments and filling the judge vacancies without any further delay.
- An independent and well-resourced Secretariat for judicial appointments should be established. The secretariat should consist of a comprehensive database about the candidates with impeccable track record to be appointed as the judges of HC/SC.
- Both the judicial executive should work together in a spirit of collaboration and filling the vacancies of judges, which should serve the national and public interest

ALL THE BEST

TEAM ASTRA

JNANAGANGOTHRI