

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 5th May-2021

[Leave a Comment / Daily Mains Questions / By Sarat Sir](#)

Q. The American Revolution, in addition to securing British rights for Americans, also became the first modern anti colonial revolution. Critically examine.

The American Revolution, which took place between 1765 and 1783, was a political upheaval during which colonists in the Thirteen North American Colonies of Great Britain rejected the British monarchy, overthrew the authority of Great Britain, won political independence and went on to form the United States of America. Americans defeated the British in the American Revolutionary War, thus becoming the [United States of America](#).

Positive Effects:

- ? America gained its independence.
- ? Britain lost its standing as an “undefeated country.”
- ? Democracy was able to spread and develop.

Negative Effects:

- ? Many American and British soldiers had died during the war.
- ? France had helped Americans during the Revolutionary War. After the war ended, France was left with huge debts. This later caused the French Revolution.
- ? The Continental Army went home after the war, leaving the United States undefended (though the states had state militia troops that protected the country).

The subsequent success of the USA in world arena is a testimony to how powerful is the idea of liberal democracy and emancipation of the populace. This model was successfully emulated by many countries (especially in Europe) post World War II. India also has learned a lot from the American experience and adopted many of these democratic principles, adding to our own democratic socialist principles.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 6th May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

The provisional government under Kerensky became unpopular for several reasons and resulted in the October revolution in Russia. Examine

The Russian Revolution of 1917 is considered to be one of the most significant events in the history of mankind because its direct and indirect consequences were far-reaching. While the effect of the French revolution was initially confined to Europe the consequences of the Russian revolution were truly global.

Though some modern industries had emerged after the 1890s. But these were largely a result of the efforts of foreign investors. The state as such didn't take any interest in the economic advancement of people. Most of the land was owned by feudal lords. The condition of the peasantry was very bad. The industrial works were also sufferings. The situation of industrial unrest developed by the opening of the 20th century.

In the year 1917, two revolutions took place in Russia. First, in the month of March (February), second in the month of November (October). Both revolutions were two phases of one single phenomenon.

In March 1917, the Czarist regime had collapsed. A political revolution was successfully completed. But the social and economic changes did not take place in Russia.

The following are the reasons why Kerensky government became unpopular:

- The Provisional Government led Kerensky became unpopular in Russia due to the influence exercised by industrialists and landowners in its functioning.
- Leaders of workers were arrested by the government and popular demonstration by Bolsheviks in 1917 was repressed.
- There were also fears that the government could set up a dictatorship.
- The Kerensky regime did not introduce land reforms. It took no steps to improve the condition of factory workers. As a result of this, the sufferings of common masses continued.
- The elections were postponed on the pretext of war. A major offensive was launched by Kerensky's government against Germany in June 1917. It resulted in miserable failure.
- In April 1917, Lenin returned from exile. He used his writing and speeches to discredit the liberal government. The government was not very effective in its policies.
- All these factors led to the unpopularity of the government and contributed towards the October Revolution in 1917.

The Prime Minister ordered the arrest of Bolshevik leaders in October, this led to an armed uprising in Petrograd on 25th October 1917. The revolution was led by the Bolsheviks, occupied the government buildings on 25th October. The following day Winter Palace was captured. It was the seat of the Provisional Government which was established after overthrowing Tsars. Bolsheviks later

went on to become the Communist Party of Soviet Union. The new Government was led by Vladimir Lenin.

Significance of the Russian Revolution

- The success of the Bolshevik revolution (1917) transformed communism from theory into practice. It was the first communist revolution in the world.
- The popularity of communism in the world increased enormously. The communist parties started emerging everywhere because it was a great morale booster. This revolution started the competition in capturing the hearts and minds of the masses. Because it had mass appeal when compared to the capitalist system.
- The success of the Bolshevik revolution resulted in the commencement of the civil war in Russia. The western capitalist nations supported the anti-communist Whites in Russia. As a result of which civil war commenced.
- The rise of communist Russia was an important factor behind the adoption of policy appeasement by western democratic nations. The success of the Russian Bolshevik revolution & Russian socialist economy, at a time when the capitalist economy was really under the Great Depression (1929), attracted many leaders such as Pt. Nehru. They started accepting socialism as a solution to their problems and problems in the world.
- The Russian Bolshevik revolution was responsible for the commencement of the cold war in the long run as the Cold War was the outcome of the ideological difference between capitalism and communism.
- Russian revolution completed the process commenced by the French Revolution of 1789. Because by this time the parts of Europe had already got transformed. That is why this revolution is considered to be complementary to the French Revolution.

[← Previous Post](#)

[Next Post →](#)

Leave a Comment

Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 7th May-2021

[Leave a Comment / Daily Mains Questions / By Sarat Sir](#)

Despite laws that aim to create equality, the caste system in India continues to have a negative impact on society. In this context, examine various movements that worked towards annihilation of caste system in India.

The caste system is one of the unique features in Indian Society. Its root can be traced back to thousands of years. Indian society was divided into four *varnas* based on the role people played in society, politics, and economy.

Problems of the caste system

Against democratic values: –

- Of course, the caste system is a social practice. It is ironic that even after more than seven decades of liberating the country, we have not been able to break free from the clutches of the caste system. Even in democratic elections, caste exists as a major factor.

The problem for National Integration: –

- The caste system not only increases disharmony among us but it also works to create a huge gap in our unity. The caste system sows the seeds of high, lowliness, inferiority in every human mind since childhood. This eventually becomes a factor of regionalism. The weakness of the society beset by the caste system does not establish political unity in a wide area and it discourages a large section at the time of any external attack on the country. Casteism has taken a more formidable form than before due to selfish politicians, leading to increased social bitterness.

Disrupts the progress of development:

- The tension created by caste hatred or caste appeasement by political parties hinders the progress of the nation.

Legal provisions:

- Article 17 of the constitution abolished the practice of untouchability and made its practice a punishable offence. But what does this term exactly mean remained uncertain as it was not defined in the Constitution. Article 35 of the Indian Constitution (Article 35(a)(ii)) gave the Parliament the power to make penal laws for the offences mentioned under Article 17. Consequently, The Untouchability Offences Act of 1955 (renamed to The Protection of Civil Liberties Act) was enacted which provided penalties for preventing a person from entering a place of worship or from taking water from a tank or well.
- Subsequent legislations focused on the discrimination and oppression of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Some of the important backward-class movements are as follows:

1. **Satya Shodhak Samaj:**

In Western India, Jyotirao Govindrao Phule struggled for the upliftment of lower castes through his Satya Shodhak Samaj. The aim of his organization was to achieve social justice for weaker sections of the society. He opened several schools, orphanages for the children and women belonging to all castes. He was elected as a member of the Poona Municipal committee in 1876. His writings include Dharma Tritiya Ratna, Ishara, Life of Shivaji, etc.

2. **Shri Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam Movement:**

The non-Brahmin movement found reflection in Kerala under the leadership of Shri Narayana Guru who belonged to the backward Ezhava caste. He established the SNDP Yogam with its branches outside the Kerala State also. He launched a two-point program for the upliftment of the Ezhavas to root out the practice of untouchability. As a second step Narayana Guru built several temples, which were declared open to all castes. He also simplified rituals regarding marriage, religious worship, and funerals. Narayana Guru achieved a notable success in transforming the untouchable groups into a backward class. He criticized Gandhi for his faith in Chaturvarna, which he considered the parent of the caste system and untouchability. He gave a new slogan “one religion, one caste and one God for mankind”.

3. **Justice Party:**

In reaction to the incipient nationalist movement, represented by the nineteenth century Hindu revivalism, which led to improving the position of the Brahmin caste, the non-Brahmins of Madras Presidency sought to ally with the colonial regime, hoping that foreign rule would protect their position and somewhat neutralize power differences within the population.

Dr T.M. Nair, P. Thyagaraja Chetty, and C.N. Mudaliar came together and founded the Justice Party in 1916. It was resolved to form an association of non-Brahman Hindus under the name of South Indian Peoples' Association. Chetty asked all non-Brahmins to unite and draw the attention of the government to the grievances voiced in the Manifesto.

4. **The Self-respect Movement:**

The Self-respect Movement was founded by Ramaswamy Naicker in 1925. It was designed to improve the living conditions of the Dravidian people, to expose the Brahmin tyranny, and the deceptive methods by which they controlled all spheres of Hindu life.

It would be an egalitarian society to which the depressed and downtrodden could pledge allegiance. The glories of the Tamil kingdoms were hailed as peaks in the cultural history of India, and the culture of the ancient Aryans was belittled as barbarian in comparison to the splendour and richness of Dravidian tradition and Tamil culture.

5. **Dalit Panthers**

The Dalit and Bahujan communities continue to face exclusion and even violence in many parts of India even today. Many organisations have been working at the grassroots level to empower Dalits and fight for their rights, but few got as much attention as the Dalit Panthers. Founded in 1972 by Namdeo Dhasal, J.V. Pawar and others, Dalit Panthers were ideologically aligned with the Black Panther Party, a social organisation fighting against racism in the United States. They gained

prominence during the 70's and the 80's after the Republican Party founded by Dr. BR Ambedkar split into multiple factions. Soon Buddhist Bahujan's also joined the movement.

[← Previous Post](#)

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 08th May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

The greatest threat to India is communalism rather than corruption. Do you agree? Also discuss the measures to be taken to address the issue of communalism.

Communalism, in a broad sense means a strong attachment to one's own community. In popular discourse in India, it is understood as unhealthy attachment to one's own religion. It's an ideology that, in order to unify the community, suppresses distinctions within the community and emphasizes the essential unity of the community against other communities.

Corruption refers to the act of misuse and abuse of power especially by those in the government for personal gains either pecuniary or a favor.

- Corruption is a widespread phenomenon across parties but can be tackled over time as our democracy and its institutions evolve. Indeed, much work has been done in this direction, including the Right to Information (RTI) Act passed in 2005. What will not go away once sown, however, is communalism and hatred for fellow Indians
- Corruption is not the only nor even the greatest danger to the country.
- Communalism is.
- The hatred being spread between communities, including on social media, is.
- The impunity with which lynch mobs have acted in the last five years is.
- A turn towards Fascism is.
- Over two thousand years ago, Chanakya wrote: "Just as we cannot know when fish swimming in water is drinking it, we cannot know when government officers are appropriating public funds." Corruption, therefore, has been a long-standing problem – even in glorious ancient India and is not new.
- What broke India into two was the sudden rise of communalism – both Hindu and Muslim communalism – towards the end of the 19th century, leading within a few decades to the Partition of India. Corruption is a creeping crisis, communalism is an exploding crisis.
- When communism raises its ugly head, there won't be time to react, to save the country from a descent into a pogrom, a genocide, a civil war.
- Democracy can come up with institutions to tackle corruption, it cannot tackle communal hatred, its institutions cannot survive Fascism.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 09th May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Uncategorized](#), [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

African continent was known as the Dark Continent till its interior areas were explored and colonized in the 19th century by the Europeans. In this context, explain how colonization had adversely impacted Africa.

In the 19th century, publications of the expeditions made by individual explorers raised the interest among the Europeans. These publications included the accounts of the explorers who detailed the wealth of the Central Africa. They were able to chart the courses of important rivers like Congo. The navigability of rivers and knowledge of their course implied that the European companies and troops could now reach into the interiors and transport out the mineral wealth to the coasts for further export. Difficult terrains, non-navigable rivers and other such geographical features ensured that colonialism had a late entry in mainland Africa and was restricted for a long time to Coastal Africa.

Impact of Colonialism on Africa

1.White settlers became elites and exploited the Black natives

Colonialism in Africa brought along with it trading merchants, businessmen, missionaries, military and administrative officers. Many of them settled in Africa due to attractions of plentiful arable land and profits from trade. The missionaries stayed on and established Christian institutions for propagation of their religion. Thus, today we see many African countries divided into Muslim and Christian dominated regions. The European settlers were elites in Africa and they enjoyed luxuries of living, which they could not afford back home. The European settlers, like the Boers in South Africa, became wealthy and powerful in Africa. They controlled the government and denied Africans any political right. In almost every colony, the lands of Africans were taken away for cultivation and mining by settlers with Blacks working as slaves.

2.Slavery

Slave Trade made many Africans forcefully leave their homes to never come back. It destroyed many families. The local Africans traded in the local slave markets. They formed the workforce on the European plantations in Africa. The psychological impact of slavery was an inferiority complex, that was systematically injected into the society, with even the Church supporting the notions of Master and Slave Race. The Race thesis was institutionally deployed to deprive Africans of their rights during Apartheid in South Africa and Zimbabwe.

3. Mass killings by Colonial powers

Africans resisted the colonial military with great valor and they could not fight against the technology of Guns with the Europeans. Many Africans were killed by the European military while resisting the loss of their lands, slavery, unfavorable treaties offered by the Europeans and the imposition of European culture. Whole villages were destroyed if the inhabitants refused to agree to the demands of the Colonists. Belgium Congo probably witnessed the first Genocide of the modern era. From 1876 to 1908, nearly 10 million Africans were massacred in Belgian Congo by the administration of Belgian King Leopold II.

4. Policy of Divide and Rule created problems after independence

Africa due to many factors of Geography, is comprised of multiple Tribal cultures. The scramble for Africa divided Africa into colonies with arbitrary boundaries, which did not follow the logic of geographical continuity, cultural unity or economic viability. This resulted in colonies having multiple tribes, with very different cultures. They did not see themselves as part of one nation. Further, the colonists used the policy of divide and rule. They patronized one tribe at expense of the others. The favored tribesmen were provided with arms and money and were used to coerce the other tribes into submission. This resulted in mutual hostility among tribal groups. For example, in Rwanda, Belgium followed this policy and after independence the country witnessed constant tribal violence. In 1994, this process culminated in the worst genocide in recent history as the Hutu tribesmen massacred millions of Tutsi tribe members. The lack of national unity still haunts many African nations and it has been very difficult to ensure functional democracy.

5. Extreme neglect of Education and Health

The colonists and white settlers ensured that the native blacks did not get educated. Higher education, in particular, was neglected. Wherever the policy of Apartheid was followed, Africans were given inferior education in separate schools. Statistically speaking, the gross enrolment ratio at levels of primary, secondary and higher education was very low at time the African nations became independent. For example, at the time of independence in 1960, there were just 17 graduates in Belgian Congo and no doctors, lawyers, engineers. Also, there were no Africans at officer level posts in the Army. This resulted in inefficient governance after independence, and caused the consequent collapse of democratic regimes. The elected governments failed to deliver on the huge developmental goals and became dependent on the developed world for aid, which brought Neocolonialism to the African nations. Today Africa's population is increasing at rapid pace and much of its population is in the working age group. But it is struggling to convert this bulge in working age group into a demographic dividend due to lack of education, which if present could have ensured a skilled workforce. Health sector was also subjected to great neglect. The

colonies suffered from epidemics regularly given the humid conditions due to an Equatorial climate. HIV-AIDS today is most prevalent in Africa and Africa is the biggest intervention area for World Health Organization and NGOs like Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

6.Economic development hurt

Colonialism impacts the social, psychological, economic, cultural and political aspects of the colony. Lack of cohesion in the society due to tribal rivalries, presence of prejudices of being a slave race, which were internalized, and the consequent inferiority, lack of education and denial of participation in governance – were the resultant aspects of Colonization. These factors prevented economic development, and indigenous entrepreneurship, in any significant form, could not develop in Africa. The policy of Mercantile capitalism followed by the Colonists hurt the economy of Africa. Africans did not get the market price for the mineral resources, which were exported out of Africa. The Colonists ensured that no indigenous industry develops and Africa remains an exporter of raw material and importer of finished goods manufactured in European factories. During the Berlin Conference in 1880s, Germany wanted a clause of effective control of a European nation in a territory to claim it as a colony. This clause would have required Colonists to develop infrastructure and setup government machinery for things like law and order etc. Germany desired to use this clause to replace other European nations from the colonies. But Britain and France defeated this clause. Thus, in many African nations the colonists ruled and reaped the economic benefits, but without any responsibility of governance. The little infrastructure that was developed was to facilitate colonial interests. For example, the transport infrastructure was aimed at creating linkages between mineral rich interiors with the ports to facilitate easier raw material extraction. Britain was quick to develop pipelines in Sudan and Nigeria for extraction of hydrocarbons. Further, the colonial rivalry resulted in colonists establishing trade barriers between colonies and thus an integrated market could not develop across Africa.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 10th May-2021

[Leave a Comment / Daily Mains Questions / By Sarat Sir](#)

Although the French revolution was successful it was limited. Examine

The French Revolution was a product of the dysfunctional society characterized by Feudalism.

- The French revolution had an important impact not just on France, but rest of the world. The wars with France weakened the European colonial powers like Spain and Portugal and their colonies in South and Central America declared themselves as independent republics.
- The abolition of Slavery after French revolution was the first move against this repressive system and Britain followed suit in 1833 while USA banned it in 1865.
- It led to destruction of feudalism in France as all laws of old feudal regime were repealed and lands of the nobles and church were confiscated and redistributed.
- The French Revolution inspired movements against colonialism in colonies around the world, while movements for democracy and self-rule rose in whole of Europe. In French Revolution, the working class had played an important role. They had formed secret societies to bring about the revolution. The rise in workers solidarity was later seen all across Europe especially in the industrialized Britain (as reflected in Chartist Movement in 1830s and 1840s). This helped in workers getting the right to vote and other welfare measures. The French revolution's ideas of equality and liberty helped make Britain much more democratic in the 19th century.

Though we see the positive corner of French revolution there are negative aspects as well which limited its success

- In reality, post revolution regime failed to resolve the grievances of the workers, who were the main force during the uprising of 1789, and only the peasants benefited (as they became owners of land confiscated from the privileged classes).
- The revolution failed to bring in democratic rule and the Reign of Terror under the Jacobians was a mass slaughter characterized by nothing but brute force and breach of rule of law. Napoleon, due to his continuous warfare resulted in rise of nationalism in the invaded territories and he came to be perceived, not as a liberator, but a conqueror.
- This Nationalism was to prove advantageous to the unification of Germany and Italy in 1870s.
- Limited suffrage, especially women were excluded, Slavery was reintroduced by Napoleon.

Thus, the importance of the French Revolution laid in laying the foundation of Modern States based on Liberal Democratic ideals. Also, indirectly it laid the groundwork for the growth of Socialism and Communism by providing an intellectual and social environment in which these ideologies could flourish.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 11th May-2021

[Leave a Comment / Daily Mains Questions / By Sarat Sir](#)

Neo-colonialism is seen as operating through indirect forms of control and, in particular, by means of the economic, financial, and trade policies of transnational corporations and global and multilateral institutions. Critically examine the role of international institutions in neo-colonialism.

Colonialism is setting up colonies in developing countries by power and afterwards exploiting them for their benefits. Neo-colonialism defined as the economic sabotage of underdeveloped countries propagated by developed countries and large multinational corporations. Neo-colonialism is also defined as the control of less-developed countries by the developed countries through indirect means such as economic exploitation and promotion of capitalism.

International institutions supporting neo-colonialism

- Soft loans from international financial institutions like IMF and World Bank put conditions on recipient countries which may be detrimental to their economies. Because in neo-colonialism the developing countries are exploited by the developed countries particularly pertaining to labor and mineral wealth.
- Free market economic policies promote accumulation of wealth which leads to rising inequalities, particularly in the developing countries.
- Biases in the functioning of UN Security Council helped promote neo-colonialism.

Arguments against to the international institutions not supporting neo-colonialism

- Globalization assisted by international institutions has helped promote faster economic growth in developing countries.
- Institutions like WTO provides a fair opportunity for developing nations to bargain with developed nations mainly due to consensus based decision making.
- International financial institutions like World Bank, IMF and NGOs like Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation assist developing countries in poverty alleviation programmes, and other infrastructure development projects.
- UN peacekeeping missions are instrumental in restoration of peace in conflict zones.

A humane and fair globalization is needed which is beneficial for the marginalized and the most vulnerable globally.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 12th May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

Mention various atrocities that are still prevalent against SC/ST in India. Is the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act effective? What measures can be taken to make it effective?

Dalits (SC) and Tribals (ST) are the most marginalized sections of Indian society. Many atrocities have been committed against them since time immemorial. The SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act protects them against discrimination and atrocities.

However, the SC/ST act can never be called a successful legislation. Dalits and Tribals still face discrimination. On the other side, there is widespread concern over misuse of the provisions of the Act against innocent persons. As per the Supreme Court of India, the SC/ST act has become an instrument of "blackmail" and is being used by some to exact "vengeance" and satisfy vested interests.

Various forms of atrocities against SC/ST

Cow vigilantism

- The term "Cow vigilantism" is used to describe the lawlessness happening under the name of Cow protection.
- Dalits and Muslims are at the receiving end of this vigilantism.
- Since Dalits are concentrated in the occupation of leather making from hides of the cow, they are invariably targeted by vigilantes.
- Cow vigilantism has increased since past two years

Honour killing

- In a society like India, where caste structures are still dominant in the form of endogamy, honour killings are prevalent on a wide scale.
- Dalits are almost always at the receiving end of the violence.
- **In Lata Singh vs. the State of UP**, Supreme Court has opined that inter-caste marriages are in the national interest as they destroy the caste system.
- **Bhagwan Dass v. Delhi** deemed honour killings in the "rarest of rare" category of crimes that deserve the death penalty.

Social boycott

- **Khap panchayat – caste panchayat** often acts as an arena for perpetuating atrocities against Dalits by ostracizing them from the society
- **Ambedkar** had recognized the atrocities meting out to Dalits in the form of social boycott. He had often fought against the practice
 - **Mahad satyagraha** for the opening of community tanks for Dalits
 - He proposed an **anti-boycott law**
 - He recognized that discrimination occurs in multiple axes like **boycott-stigmatization-segregation** and try to fight it out on all these axes

Caste clashes

- In rural India, OBC became dominant caste by ousting upper caste due to
- They were able to convert their numerical strength into political force once universal adult franchise came.
- Post-Indian rural development model was favourable to them: land reform , the green revolution etc.

Discrimination in universities

The suicide of Rohit Vemula in Hyderabad 2016

1. **Manual Scavenging:** It is linked to the caste system where the so-called low castes were expected to perform this job. There are growing instances of deaths of manual scavenging while cleaning septic tanks and sewage treatment plants in several states of India.

Effectiveness of SC/ST act

- **Increase in crimes:**As per the NCRB report, 2019, Crimes against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes communities increased by 7.3% and 26.5% respectively in 2019.
- **State-wise:**Uttar Pradesh has the most number of cases of crime against SCs – 11,829 cases, which is 25.8% of the total such cases in the country followed by Rajasthan with 6,794 cases (14.8% of all cases), Bihar (14.2%), and Madhya Pradesh (11.5%).
- **Conviction rate:**According to a status report on the implementation of the PoA Act, released by the National Dalit Movement for Justice (NDMJ), over the decade prior to 2018, the average conviction rate under (Prevention of Atrocities) Act for cases of atrocities against Dalits and Adivasis remained at 25.2% and 22.8% respectively.

Measures to make it effective

- **Registration of Cases:** Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) should be developed for filing and investigating cases so that there is no confusion or doubt among the investigators about the procedure to be followed.

- Training and Capacity building of judges, lawyers, and policemen is required in these types of cases
- Prosecution: Successful prosecution of genuine cases by the lawyers must be rewarded.
- Research: There is a requirement for research into the types of punishment, as an alternative to imprisonment that can prevent future crimes by individuals or communities.

The Atrocities Act is proved to be a game-changer in fighting casteism but despite such a strong law, atrocities against members belonging to Dalit community continues to be reported far from misusing the Act, the majority of the members of the downtrodden community are yet to be informed about the law which provides them with the right to fight against their oppressors. The act only serves as a tool in removing discrimination and achieving equality rather than an end in itself.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 13th May-2021

[Leave a Comment / Daily Mains Questions / By Sarat Sir](#)

Enumerate various constitutional provisions for Tribes in India. Mention challenges that are particularly
The PVTGs are the marginalized section of the Scheduled tribes of India. They are a section who are relatively isolated away from amenities. PVTG is not a Constitutional category, nor are these constitutionally recognized communities. enabling improvement in the conditions of certain communities with particularly low development

The **criteria** followed for determination of PVTGs are as under:

1. A pre-agriculture level of technology.
2. A stagnant or declining population.
3. Extremely low literacy; and
4. A subsistence level of economy.

Following are the special provisions for the Scheduled Tribes in the constitution-

1. Fundamental Rights- Article 14 confers equal rights and opportunities to all, Article 15 prohibits discrimination and Article 15(4) enjoins upon the State to make special provisions for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens, which in the opinion of the State, is in need of special reservation in appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens, which in the opinion of the State, is in need of special

2. DPSP- Article 46 enjoins upon the State to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the socially and educationally backward classes of citizens, and to protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.

3. Article 275(1) promises grant-in-aid for promoting the welfare of STs and for raising the level of administration of those States in which they are in minority. It also provides for seats for STs in the Lok Sabha and in the State Legislative Assemblies and in services.

4. Finally, the Constitution also empowers the State to **appoint a Commission** to investigate the conditions of the socially and educationally backward classes of citizens, and those Tribes or Tribal Communities deemed to be as STs (Article 342).

5. The Fifth Schedule to the Constitution lays down certain prescriptions about the Scheduled Areas as well as the matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of the STs (Article 244(1)).

6. Likewise, the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution also refers to the administration of Tribal Areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram as Autonomous Districts and Autonomous Regions and by constituting District Councils and Regional Councils.

Challenges faced by PVTG

1. **Incoherency in identification:** The process of identification of PVTG adopted by the states differ in its method. As a result there has been no uniform principle adopted in identifying the PVTGs.

2. **Outdated List:** The Anthropological Survey of India observes that the list of PVTG is overlapping and repetitive. Mankidia and the Birhor in Odisha, both of which refer to the same group.

3. **Lack of baseline surveys:** The Anthropological Survey of India observed 75 PVTGs, base line surveys exist for 10 PVTGs. These surveys hinder effective implementation of welfare schemes

§ Note: Base line surveys are done to precisely identify the PVTG families, their habitat and socio-economic status, based on the facts and figures

4. **Unequal Benefits from welfare schemes:** In some cases, a PVTG receives benefits only in a few blocks in a district. The LanjiaSaora are recognized as a PVTG across Odisha but the micro-projects are established only in two blocks. Tribes in these blocks and do not receive benefit from these projects.

5. **Impact of developmental projects:** In 2002, a Standing Committee formed by the MoTA to review the 'Developmental projects', especially PVTGs, are worst affected by developmental projects like dams, industries and mines.

6. **Denial of land rights:**

- PVTGs have faced systematic alienation from their resources due to conservation purposes-declaration of Reserve Forests. Many families were forced out from the Achanakmar Tiger Reserve, when it was notified so under the Project Tiger.
- Further, despite Forest Rights Act (2006) in place, habitat rights of PVTGs are still being forfeited in many instances. Rights in Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR) by state's forest department

7. **Livelihood issues:** Due to shrinking forests, environmental changes and forest conservation policies, their Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) awareness about market value of NTFP and are exploited by middle men.

8. **Health Issues:**

- PVTGs suffer from many health problems like anaemia, malaria; gastro-intestinal disorders; micro nutrient deficiencies; poor diet, bad sanitation, lack of health services, superstition and deforestation
- Uncontacted tribal group such as the Sentinelese tribe of Andaman are also at the very high risk of contracting diseases

9. **Illiteracy:** Though literacy rate among many PVTGs have increased over the past years, it still remains low at 10-20%.

10. **Vulnerabilities of tribes in Andaman and Nicobar:** The fragile tribal communities have been facing expropriation of their land use patterns, use of the sea, overall biodiversity leading to material and non-material changes.



UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 14th May-2021

[Leave a Comment / Daily Mains Questions / By Sarat Sir](#)

Despite social media playing a positive role on youth, the high use of social media and technology can have a negative impact on society. In light, explain the precautions to be taken by the society and the government to reduce the negative effects of social media on youth's right to freedom.

Social media plays an integral role in our lives today and has huge bearing on society and individuals. Social media has revolutionized our lives with its positive effect on business, politics, socialization as well as some negative effects such as cyber bullying, privacy, and fake news.

Social media is continuing to gain popularity every day. Impacts of Social Media on youth is also quite evident in different frames of our lives.

Here are some statistics that were done on social media.

- The average time spent by the people per day on the social network is 1.72 hours
- For the teenagers, the numbers are much higher which is up to 27 hours per week

Social media has become a very important part of life for many young generations in today's world. There are many young people who are not caring to think about what the impact of social media on youth would be. The effects can sometimes be positive and sometimes be negative. It can affect your business or professional goal.

Positive Impact of Social Media on Youth

- It keeps connected to their friends when they are not able to see each other always when they want to
- Social media keeps you updates about the important things that are going across the globe currently or maybe in your locality. It is a gift at your finger.
- The youths have the perfect place to express themselves in such a way in which they will not be allowed to do in public. This is some way to hold some position in society.
- It helps you in developing social skills and the best part is that a few friendships can begin from the social website. Youths generally like to be in a group. All of this is possible with the social media platform
- One more interesting impact of social media on youth is that it feels fun to interact with peers rather than talking to them face to face.

Negative Impact of Social Media on Youth

- People of today's generation give so much importance to social media nowadays that it has become their priority. They love being in a group. It comes first for them like family, sports, and schools

- In the platforms of social media, we can only see the virtual side of the person. This means we can only see the side which they want others which they are not at all
- Young people have this habit of bullying their peers which is ok to some extent. But when it comes to cyberbullying, it affects a lot to can go viral easily. Sometimes such things can lead to depression as well as suicidal thoughts
- There are some young people who are very easy to get influenced. They may feel the need to change their appearance physically and media
- There is a very strong temptation in social media. It can become an addiction for the youth and begin to side-track them

Recent campaigns by social media platforms:

1. WhatsApp has launched a nation-wide campaign called “Share Joy, Not Rumours” to help prevent the spread of rumours and fake news
2. Facebook launched #social for good campaign to address issues like cyber bullying, mental well-being, and entrepreneurship was taken
3. Twitter launched #PowerOf18 to encourage youth to contribute to public debate and participates in civic engagement in election seasons
4. These campaigns are a way to take ownership of what is happening on these platforms and find ways to weed out negative content.

Way Forward:

1. Increase the media literacy
2. Data leaks at Facebook and uber in the recent past have proven that encryption should be so high.
3. The government should bring out policy framework on the possible harm due to internet messaging platforms to engage at deeper level
4. The need of the hour is to tackle the gendered aspect of online abuses and uphold the rights of women in India.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 15th May-2021

[Leave a Comment / Daily Mains Questions / By Sarat Sir](#)

The effect of globalization on rural India is different from the effect on urban India. Examine.

Since 1991, when the new industrial policy of India came into force, globalization started taking momentum in India. Globalization means uninterrupted flow of trade, capital and technology across the national borders by considering the whole world as a big market. Globalization has converted the whole world into a single society. Globalization leads to higher productivity and cultural intermingling.

Variation of globalization in rural and urban India

- Globalization is held responsible for unemployment, cultural degradation and difficulties of competition. It seems that benefits of globalization are mainly absorbed by the urban population of India.
- Globalization is held responsible for unemployment, cultural degradation and difficulties of competition.

The following points show that the villages have been neglected from the sweet fruits of globalization-

- The farmers are still living in Kuccha houses made of mud etc.
- Due to globalization some countries specially developed countries, have become industrial hubs covering the global demand. This has decreased entrepreneurial activities in developing countries which leads to unemployment.
- Rural population is still suffering from unemployment as rural labour is mostly uneducated and unskilled. Machines and latest technologies have reduced the number of manpower a lot.
- Electrification of villages have not yet been completed by the govt. Adding further the villages having electricity get on an average only 3-4 hours of supply daily.
- Toilet system in Indian villages are otherwise lacking or of poor standards.
- Though the govt. has made the primary education compulsory, but many villages lack in educational facilities. Children have to cover a long distance to get to their schools.
- Study material available to rural children and mid –day meal is of sub-standard quality.
- Globalization has caused intermingling of cultures. Though it has curtailed narrow mindedness of humans, but it has caused cultural degradation also specially in India. Western ideas and culture has started killing the social ethics of Indian mass. More and more people have become ignorant about social, ethical and moral values.
- Indian villages lack in facilities of technical education and it is not always possible for everyone to get access to urban areas for technical education. That is why rural labour remains unskilled. • As most of the villages don't have adequate electricity and modern means of communication, so the knowledge-base in rural Indian mass becomes weak.
- Govt. has not done satisfactory work for promoting of small-cottage industries in villages. So educated rural youth remains unemployed and migrates to urban areas.
- Indian rural population is still conservative. Culture and social values are preferred more. Tradition is still more important than science.

- Imports make the farmers' position worse as they are not able to compete with imported goods in terms of price and quality.
- The position of artisans is also bad in villages. They are also not able to compete with machine-made goods.
- As life standards have risen up significantly so the wants are increasing day by day but the resource generation is not increasing with a significant speed. So globalization is increasing the numbers of poor citizens having a long list of requirements.
- As the competition has become global, so it has become quite difficult for small, cottage, handicraft & medium industries to maintain constant continuity and development track.
- Countries specially developing countries have assumed Foreign Capital as a perfect medicine for economic development. But it has created several hurdles in free and successful functioning of entrepreneurial activities. Also, excessive use of foreign capital is also harmful for the political survival of the country.
- As it is human nature that evils are grasped hurriedly not the merits. So, in the context of globalization, it has changed the cultural values of Indian mass & due to this villages have suffered a lot.

It is claimed that globalization increases the economic prosperity and opportunity in the developing world. The civil liberties are enhanced and there is a more efficient use of resources. All the countries involved in the free trade are at a profit. As a result, there are lower prices, more employment and a better standard of life in these developing nations. It is feared that some developing regions progress at the expense of other developed regions. However, such doubts are futile as globalization is a positive-sum chance in which the skills and technologies enable to increase the living standards throughout the world.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 16th May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

Sanskritization was criticized in the twentieth century and with the growth of the anti-Brahminical movements. Examine the criticism against Sanskritization.

Sanskritization is defined as the process by which a 'low' caste or tribe or other group takes over the customs, ritual, beliefs, ideology and style of life of a high and, in particular, a 'twice-born (dwija) caste'.

The impact of Sanskritisation is many-sided. Its influence can be seen in language, literature, ideology, music, dance, drama, style of life and ritual. Sanskritisation suggests a process whereby people want to improve their status through adoption of names and customs of culturally high-placed groups.

Criticism against Sanskritization

- It has been criticised for exaggerating social mobility or the scope of 'lower castes' to move up the social ladder. For it leads to no structural change but only positional change of some individuals. In other words inequality continues to persist though some individuals may be able to improve their positions within the unequal structure.
- It has been pointed out that the ideology of sanskritisation accepts the ways of the 'upper caste' as superior and that of the 'lower caste' as inferior. Therefore, the desire to imitate the 'upper caste' is seen as natural and desirable.
- Sanskritisation' seems to justify a model that rests on inequality and exclusion. It appears to suggest that to believe in pollution and purity of groups of people is justifiable or all right. Therefore, to be able to look down on some groups just as the 'upper castes' looked down on the 'lower castes', is a mark of privilege. In society where such a world-view exists, imagining an equal society becomes difficult.
- Since sanskritisation results in the adoption of upper caste rites and rituals it leads to practices of secluding girls and women, adopting dowry practices instead of bride-price and practising caste discrimination against other groups, etc.
- The effect of such a trend is that the key characteristics of dalit culture and society are eroded. For example the very worth of labour which 'lower castes' do is degraded and rendered 'shameful'. Identities based on the basis of work, crafts and artisanal abilities, knowledge forms of medicine, ecology, agriculture, animal husbandry, etc., are regarded useless in the industrial era.

With the growth of the anti-Brahminical movement and the development of regional self-consciousness in the twentieth century there was an attempt in several Indian languages to drop Sanskrit words and phrases. A crucial result of the Backward Classes Movement was to emphasize the role of secular factors in the upward mobility of caste groups and individuals.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 17th May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

Violence against women occurs throughout the life cycle from pre-birth, infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood to old age. Discuss the social factors responsible for the increasing sexual abuses against women. What are the repercussions of violence against women?

India, the largest democracy of the world, which has adopted the longest written constitution and has a rich cultural heritage of gender equality, is today being criticized for having the most unsafe environment for women. The incidents of rapes, molestation, gender-based discrimination and other such atrocities against women have, unfortunately, become routine media headlines. There have been constitutional and statutory provisions to ensure that the women are not subjected to any kind of discrimination and harassment but there is an alarming trend indicating that the things are getting worse amounting to violation of right to life, liberty, dignity and equality of women across the country.

Treating Women as Inferior: Our society is still finding it difficult to accept even the basics of gender equality. We still have very high rates of child marriage, teenage pregnancy, and domestic violence including marital rape. The notion that women are less important is deeply rooted in the minds of common people. This proves to be endemic because it leads to male superiority in the sense that women are there to serve men. So, the need is to bring down the idea of gender equality from the unheard articles of the Constitution to homes, schools, workplaces and everyday life because like everything else, change starts at the grass-root level.

Low Representation of Women: Research shows that having women in government can lead to more and better laws that safeguard women's well-being. India's population is 48% female. But women hold just 12% seats in national legislature. In short, women are nowhere to be seen. The key to making people accept the first point is to increase the representation of women in every sphere of life. They have been suppressed since centuries, so maybe it's the right time to give them a hand while they try their hardest to rise.

The Lack of Gender Education: Indians generally are not comfortable talking about sexuality, reproductive rights, menstruation or sexual desire – anywhere – whether it is our home or our classroom or the workplace. Some small changes in adolescent education and even earlier in primary school might address the root cause of the problem. But our governments and society out rightly discard this because they hold the notion that sexual education equals to encouraging sex.

Ignoring the Relationship between Poverty and Violence: Whether it's the Delhi rape case of 2012 or the recent one in Hyderabad, both cases seem to exhibit a pattern. This is a very critical issue to address the relationship between predatory sexual violence and urban destitution — an enormous, unsolved challenge in India. Being exposed to violence right from birth does not promote a sense of the integrity or the delicacy of the human body or respect for laws and moral values. It generates despair, anger, fury, a sense of desperate social rejection. This feeling of being rejected by the society perhaps leads to the breakdown in a sense of shared values and understanding of basic code of conduct. Although it is no

excuse for the violence, maybe the brutalisation we are witnessing is a manifestation of the radical failure of current engagement of different strata of society. This issue demands an urgent call to action.

The Stigma and Blame Attached to Rape: After the Delhi rape case, some very prominent Indian politicians including an High Court Judge, emphasised the damage done to female dignity rather than the horrific violence, as if vaginal purity were the main casualty.

Similarly, the culture of victim blaming is equally disappointing. It is true that changing these attitudes – for instance, the tendency to question a woman’s clothes and conduct, suggesting she ‘invited’ or did not ‘resist’ rape – won’t happen overnight. But, the government can play a role in that change, and it must start now.

The Difficult Path to Justice: There are just too many laws in India and too little justice. The Verma committee formed after the Delhi rape case of 2012 recommended that rather than focusing on introducing new laws, the focus must be on implementation and sensitivity on the ground. If a woman is coming forward against the violence, then it becomes the duty of government and police that she must be provided with the protection (along with the witnesses) and counseling. Delayed trials, poor investigation, a low rate of conviction and impunity are some of the other areas which need improvement on the war-footing.

The repercussions of violence against women

- **Health Issue:** Violence in any form affects not only physical mental sexual and reproductive health of women but also adversely affects their **self-esteem, ability to work and make decisions about fertility.**
- **Economic Issue:** violence against women can have serious impact on economy of the household as well as of the nation.
 - **Direct cost:** loss of income, productivity, healthcare and cost of social services.
 - **Indirect cost:** Impact on child wellbeing, female and child mortality, intergenerational social and psychological cost.
- **Development Issue:** Violence obstructs participation of women in development and planning programs both at micro and macro level.
 - Violence prevents women from experiencing or accessing the benefits of development by restricting their ability to act or move freely.
 - Violence against women is an obstruction to poverty alleviation programs as it impedes equitable distribution of resources.
- **Rights Issue:** Any form of Violence against women hinders their realization of fundamental rights under article 14, 21, 19 and 32 of the Indian constitution.

The offences of rape and the sexual violation have notoriously low reporting rate in India. Underreported crime is due to the reason of disbelief in police and investigation system. As patriarchal legacies among the whole system of police and their attitude towards women especially in rape cases making it difficult for survivors to approach police. Survivors are often reluctant to make police reports for various reasons-undeniably fear of re-victimization by criminal justice professionals, survivor fear they will be shamed, disbelieved, coerced, retraumatized, or dismissed.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 19th May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries neo imperialism emerged which is distinct from the earlier wave of European colonization from the 15th to early 19th centuries. What factors led to the rise of neo imperialism? How does it differ from previous imperialism in that era?

Imperialism is the political and economic domination or exploitation of the non-industrialized nations by the industrialized nations. This can be achieved by military conquer or by colonizing the foreign territory i.e. acquiring the foreign territory and then making them dependent. The foreign rulers are a minority and they impose superiority of their race and culture on natives.

Factors that led to rise of New Imperialism

1. **Role of Political Factors:** There were a plurality of political factors behind the emergence of New Imperialism. One of these was the rise of Absolute Monarchies in Italy and Germany, post-unification in 1870s. This absolutism increased the aggression on part of the state. However, New Imperialism cannot be attributed solely to the Absolute Monarchies. In fact, Britain which had democracy had the largest colonial empire. Thus, all industrialized regimes, whether democratic or absolute, engaged in Imperialism. Industrialization increased their hunger, as well as potential, to build their colonial empire. The rulers also saw Imperialism as a tool to maintain political control at home. Military victory over colonies and empire building was not only improving the economy of the colonial power, but raising the prestige of the rulers as well. These two factors, viz. a sound economy and national glory provided legitimacy to their rule. It was due to such reasons, for instance, that Italy and Czarist Russia joined the race for colonies.
2. **Role of Nationalism:** Nationalism rose after the French Revolution (1789). In the era of Industrial Revolution, it soon manifested in form of economic rivalry among the nation states. National rivalries were further fueled by nationalist ideas propounded by the nationalist thinkers. In Britain, France, Germany and Italy, nationalism resulted in demands for expansion of colonial empires during 1868-72. Also, the Absolute Monarchies relied on both Imperialism and Nationalism to divert attention of the public, which was getting exposed to ideas of democracy.
3. **Role of Industrial Revolution/Industrial Capitalism:** Industrial Revolution was one of the major factors in rise of New Imperialism. There was surplus money from trade as well as profits from mass production, after Industrial Revolution. This money was further reinvested for capital formation. The development of transport and communication infrastructure allowed faster movement of goods and people, and development of steam ships reduced the time taken for trading goods around the world. The demand for goods in the domestic markets was also increasing due to rapid increase in European population in the 19th century. The factories' demand for raw material increased, which led to a search for raw material outside national boundaries. Population pressure in Europe led to search for more colonies where Europeans could settle. Soon, the factories were producing much more than the domestic and existing external markets could absorb. This further increased the attraction of new colonies. Thus, a cycle of more demand for manufactured goods, profits, capital formation, demand for raw material, surplus production and demand for export markets got established and it can be said that the

Industrial Capitalism (Capitalism after Industrial Revolution when production of goods was done in factories with machines) gave a thrust to Imperialism.

4. Increased number of players: Industrial revolution in rest of Europe, USA and Japan happened after 1870s. The industrialized nations desperately started looking for sources of raw material and export markets.
5. Decreased Geographical space: The world was relatively more peaceful till 19th century when there was enough unoccupied space to be colonized and the empires could expand easily. But in 19th century, any further expansion could only occur at expense of another colonial power. Also, the number of players in the 'race' had increased. Thus, colonialism changed into Imperialism as now State's military power and tighter control over colonies was needed to maintain and expand the colonial empire. In the next four decades (from 1870 onward), there was a race for colonies and the only untouched areas, China and Africa, were scrambled among European nations.
6. Religion and Cultural Factors: Other factors like aspirations of Christian Missionaries to spread Christianity and the notion of White Man's burden to spread superior civilization in the backward colonies also played a role. Belgium's King Leopold II used the latter as a garb for exploiting Congo and so was the case with other Imperial powers. However, some good samaritans actually tried to uplift the life of the people by working for social reforms. Theosophical Society even led the anti-Imperial Home Rule movement in India (1916). Other issues that they dealt with included rights of women and spread of modern education.

The major differences between New Imperialism and previous Imperialism are:

New Imperialism	Previous Imperialism
New Imperialism began from the 1870's	Old Imperialism started in the 1500's
New Imperialism witnessed Industrial Revolution	Old Imperialism witnessed Renaissance
New Imperialism was driven by economic objectives.	Old Imperialism was driven by 3G's – God, Glory, Gold. Christopher Columbus was the explorer and his name was spread Christianity everywhere.
New Imperialism witnessed the major roles played by Britain, France, Germany, Italy, USA, Russia, Belgium.	Nations that played a major role were Spain, Netherlands, France, Britain, Portugal, etc. in the 1500's, whereas Germany, Italy, USA and Netherlands.
Under New Imperialism, Empires were established in Africa and Asia and there were political and social reforms in those colonies.	Old Imperialism led to the establishment of new settlements in new territories. Political rule in those territories was direct.
Under New Imperialism, Nations ruled smaller colonial areas. Nations like Belgium and France made use of the policy of paternalism and assimilation, whereas Britain used an indirect rule system. Under New Imperialism there was rise in racial segregation.	Under Old Imperialism, Nations ruled larger colonial areas. The people of those territories were treated as labor, whereas Britain used indirect rule.

<p>New Imperialism wanted precious metals, cotton, vegetable oils, dyes etc</p>	<p>Old Imperialism sought Asia, land from North</p>
<p>Under New Imperialism, colonies served as an outlet for larger populations, for example people from the Netherlands were settled in huge numbers in South Africa.</p>	<p>Old Imperialism wanted</p>
<p>Under New Imperialism, colonies are both producers and markets for goods, for example the oil produced in Africa was taken to Europe for refining the Oil. After refining the Oil in Europe, it was sold back in African Market.</p>	<p>Under Old Imperialism</p>
<p>New Imperialism used better technologies compared to Old Imperialism. Some of the most significant technological improvements were, use of railroads, steamboats for faster and easier transportation of men and materials; for faster and easier communication, telegraphs were used, machine guns were used for military purpose, vaccines were developed for treatment of diseases.</p>	<p>Technologies used in Old Imperialism. Canons for military purpose, telegraphs were invented, marking the beginning</p>
<p>Under New Imperialism, resistance given by colonies to the rulers failed multiple times due to use of sophisticated weapons and various other technological developments by Colonial Rulers.</p>	<p>Under Old Imperialism</p>
<p>Reasons for the end of New Imperialism were World Wars, Native Uprisings.</p>	<p>Reasons for end of Old Imperialism were maintaining colonies of Nationalistic movements</p>

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 20th May-2021

[Leave a Comment / Daily Mains Questions / By Sarat Sir](#)

The League of Nations had several integral weaknesses that finally led to its demise. Elaborate. Also examine the success and failure of it.

The League of Nations was the first intergovernmental organization that was established after World War 1 in order to try and maintain peace. It was headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland and designed to be a forum for handling international disputes before they flared up into military action and caused domino effects that pulled ally nations into the conflict (as had happened with the Great War). The idea of the League of Nations is to prevent wars through disarmament, collective security, and negotiation. It was also involved in other issues such as drug trafficking, arms trade, and global health. Unfortunately, the League failed miserably in its intended goal: to prevent another world war from happening (WW2 broke out only two decades later). Although the League disbanded during WW2, it was replaced with the United Nations, which is still going strong today.

Weaknesses of the League of Nations

- The League was supposed to present the world and encompass all countries, but many countries never even joined the organization, of which the U.S. was the most prevalent one. Some members only remained members for a short while, before ending their membership. Many historians believe that if America had joined the League, there would have been a lot more support in preventing conflicts. Other major powers such as Germany and the Soviet Union were not allowed to join.
- The international relations of member countries conflicted with the League's requirements for collective security.
- The League didn't have its own armed forces and depended on members to act, but none of the member countries were ready for another war and didn't want to provide military support.
- Pacifism was a great problem: the League's two largest members, Britain and France, were very reluctant to resort in sanctions and military actions.
- Disarmament was highly advocated by the League, which meant that it deprived countries that were supposed to act with military force on its behalf when necessary from means to do so.
- When countries started to attack others in order to try and expand, the League didn't have any power to stop them.

Successes and Failures Of The League

The aftermath of the First World War left many issues to be settled, including the exact position of national boundaries and which country particular regions would join. Most of these questions were handled by the victorious Allied powers in bodies such as the Allied Supreme Council. The Allies tended to refer only particularly difficult matters to the League. This meant that during the early interwar period, the League played little part in resolving the turmoil resulting from the war. The questions the League considered in its early years included those designated by the Paris Peace treaties.

As the League developed, its role expanded, and by the middle of the 1920s it had become the center of international activity. This change can be seen in the relationship between the League and non-members. The United States and Russia, for example, increasingly worked with the League. During the second half of the 1920s, France, Britain, and Germany were all using the League of Nations as the focus of their diplomatic activity, and each of their foreign secretaries attended League meetings at Geneva during this period. They also used the League's machinery to improve relations and settle their differences.

In addition to territorial disputes, the League also tried to intervene in other conflicts between and within nations. Among its successes were its fight against the international trade in opium and sexual slavery and its work to alleviate the plight of refugees, particularly in Turkey in the period up to 1926. One of its innovations in this latter area was the 1922 introduction of the Nansen passport, the first internationally recognized identity card for stateless refugees.

The League failed to intervene in many conflicts leading up to World War II, including the Italian invasion of Abyssinia, the Spanish Civil War, and the Second Sino-Japanese War.

The onset of the Second World War demonstrated that the League had failed in its primary purpose, the prevention of another world war. There were a variety of reasons for this failure, many connected to general weaknesses within the organization, such as voting structure that made ratifying resolutions difficult and incomplete representation among world nations. Additionally, the power of the League was limited by the United States' refusal to join.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 21st May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Uncategorized](#), [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

According to the UN health agency, though tuberculosis (TB) cases fell by 9 per cent and deaths by 14 per cent between 2015 and 2019, access to TB services remains a challenge. Comment. Also mention the strategies developed by WHO and by India to fight against TB.

TB is caused by bacteria (*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*) that most often affect the lungs. It is spread from person to person through the air. When people with TB cough, sneeze or spit, they propel the TB germs into the air. TB is a treatable and curable disease. It is treated with a standard 6-month course of 4 antimicrobial drugs that are provided with information, supervision and support to the patient by a health worker or trained volunteer.

Challenges with TB services

- Limited financial resources with people
- insufficient numbers of healthcare professionals at various government and private hospitals
- poor infrastructure at the health care centers
- inequality in the provision of services to the people
- a lack of high-quality drugs and diagnostics
- a lack of community participation in planning services

WHO strategies to fight against TB:

- Providing global leadership to end TB through strategy development, political and multispectral engagement, strengthening review and accountability, advocacy, and partnerships, including with civil society;
- Shaping the TB research and innovation agenda and stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of knowledge;
- Setting norms and standards on TB prevention and care and promoting and facilitating their implementation;
- Developing and promoting ethical and evidence-based policy options for TB prevention and care;
- Ensuring the provision of specialized technical support to Member States and partners jointly with WHO regional and country offices, catalyzing change, and building sustainable capacity;
- Monitoring and reporting on the status of the TB epidemic and progress in financing and implementation of the response at global, regional and country levels.

Indian government strategies to fight against TB:

The Government of India announced its plan to eliminate tuberculosis (TB) by 2025

- **The Nikshay Ecosystem:** It is the National TB information system which is a one-stop solution to manage information of patients and monitor program activity and performance throughout the country.

- **NikshayPoshan Yojana (NPY):**This scheme is aimed at providing financial support to TB patients for their nutrition.
- **TB HaregaDeshJeetega Campaign:Launched In September 2019** it is showcasing the highest level of commitment for the elimination of TB.
- **The Saksham Project:**It is a project of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) that has been providing psycho-social counseling to DR-TB patients.

Despite the notable successes achieved by the different programmes, robust efforts are needed to improve the early and accurate diagnosis followed by a prompt appropriate treatment which is vital for ending TB. India must collaborate with global efforts which are being done to eliminate the TB along with the paradigm shift in the control measure.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 22nd May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

India currently ranks as one of the top energy consumers in the world and with growing population the consumption will significantly rise in the future. Examine the present status of India's energy utility. What measures can be taken to ensure energy justice in India?

India is home to 18% of the world's population but uses only 6% of the world's primary energy. India's energy consumption has almost doubled since 2000 and the potential for further rapid growth is enormous.

Present status of India's energy utility

- Government has been supporting the expansion of distribution grid infrastructure across India to foster electricity access in villages.
- India continues to promote cleaner cooking and off-grid electrification solutions, including a shift toward using solar photovoltaics (PV) for cooking and charging batteries.
- Government provides large-scale public subsidies to ensure access to electricity, energy and clean cooking for its population.
- India's electricity security has improved markedly through the creation of a single national power system and major investments in thermal and renewable capacity
- Government has embarked on an ambitious policy to boost renewable electricity, with a target of 175 GW capacity by 2022.
- Government has ruled out deploying new coal capacity up to 2027 (beyond plants still under construction) and aims to close the oldest most inefficient coal plants in the country.

Measures to ensure energy justice in India

- The electrification policies of India have to be included to assess changes in the transport sector.
- the methodology of the entire end-use demand sector can be further refined
- greater representation of energy supply, e.g., waste to energy and biofuels have to be focused
- there is a need to add taxes on various types of fossil fuels
- Creation of transparent and flexible markets for both oil and gas.
- Electricity and natural gas should remain outside of the GST.
- Government should adopt a national energy plan to set a long-term framework for all stakeholders across the energy system, which also identifies future energy infrastructure investment needs and provides an integrated approach.

In future, India is set to be at the center of the world's energy stage. It is set to contribute more than any other country to the projected rise in global energy demand, around one-quarter of the total.

Urbanization will be a key driver of this trend

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 23rd May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

Indigenous defense manufacturing of India is fraught with several challenges. Discuss. Also suggest steps required to overcome them.

In order to promote self-reliance in defense production, the government has announced several measures under Atma

Nirbhar Abhiyan. Though these steps are in the right direction, there are long-overdue reforms to make India truly self-reliant in defence manufacturing.

Challenges in Indigenous defense manufacturing:

- Most of the government defence acquisition proposals from the past five years are in beginning stages
- There has been a Poor design capability in critical technologies
- The investment in R&D is inadequate
- The inability to manufacture major subsystems and components hamper the indigenous manufacturing.
- The creation of a manufacturing base is capital and technology-intensive and has a long gestation period.
- Stringent labour laws and lack of skills affects the development process further.
- Overlapping jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Industrial Promotion impair India's capability of defence manufacturing.

Measures to overcome challenges in defence manufacturing indigenously:

- To avoid delays and speed up the defence procurement process the chief of defence staff could examine the defence acquisitions from a tri-service angle.
- It is imperative that when India imports any weapon systems, there should be a plan for the ammunition and spares to be eventually manufactured in India so that we are not driven to seek urgent replenishments from abroad during crises.
- To promote forward-looking strategic partnerships between Indian and foreign companies, with a view to achieving indigenization over a period of time for even sophisticated platforms **the next Defence Procurement Procedures** should incorporate guidelines related to it.
- The role of DRDO should be revised, in order to give private industry a level playing field for developing defence technologies.

Self-reliance in defence manufacturing is a crucial component of effective defence capability and to maintain national sovereignty and achieve military superiority. The attainment of this will ensure strategic independence, cost-effective defence equipment and may lead to saving on defence import bill, which can subsequently finance the physical and social infrastructure.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 24th May-2021

[Leave a Comment](#) / [Daily Mains Questions](#) / By [Sarat Sir](#)

The National IPR Policy is a vision document that aims to create and exploit synergies between all forms of intellectual property (IP), concerned statutes and agencies. Why is the National IPR policy the need of the hour? Also discuss the salient features of this policy.

The National IPR Policy is a vision document that encompasses and brings to a single platform all IPRs.

The Policy recognizes that India has a well-established TRIPS-compliant legislative, administrative and judicial framework to safeguard IPRs, which meets its international obligations while utilizing the flexibilities provided in the international regime to address its developmental concerns. It reiterates India's commitment to the Doha Development Agenda and the TRIPS agreement.

Need of the national IPR policy:

- Global drug brands led by US companies have been pushing for changes to India's intellectual property rules for quite some time now. They have often complained about India's price controls and marketing restrictions so a IPR policy should be brought into action.
- Also, an IPR policy is important for the government to formulate incentives in the form of tax concessions to encourage research and development (R&D). It is also critical to strengthen the Make In India, Startup and Digital India schemes.
- The IPR policy comes at a time when India and other emerging countries faces fresh challenges from the developed world and mega regional trade agreements such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

Salient Features:

1. **Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM):**A Cell CIPAM shall be created as a professional body under aegis of DIPP (now Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) to address the 7 identified objectives of the Policy. It will coordinate with agencies at State level and with the various Ministries/ Departments of the Union Government. The data generated at CIPAM shall serve as a valuable resource for future policy.
2. **Awareness Campaign:** To be launched in schools, institutions of higher education like engineering colleges and law schools, centres of skill development, industry

clusters etc, it aims to foster an IP culture in the country by creating awareness about the economic, social and cultural benefits of IPRs among all sections and enabling people to realize the value of their IPs as also respect for other IPRs.

3. **IP Cells:** IP cells shall be created in key Ministries/ Departments of the Govt of India, which are vital the field of IPRs, as well as in State Governments, Industry associations and clusters and major academic institutions. CIPAM shall coordinate with the Cells.
4. **Generation, registration and commercialization:** The Policy aims to encourage creativity and innovation, leading to generation of IPs and their protection through IPRs. Registration of Geographical Indications (GIs) shall be encouraged through support institutions.
5. **Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL):**TKDL's ambit is to be expanded to include other fields besides Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani & Siddha. The possibility of using TKDL for furthering R&D by public research institutions and private sector will be explored.
6. The Policy recognizes the importance of effective **coordination between Patent office and National Biodiversity Authority** for speeding up the disposal of patent applications using biological resources and associated TK.
7. **Cadre Management in IP Offices:** The Policy recognizes the crucial role of a motivated work force in productivity enhancements. The organizational and cadre structure of the Indian IP Offices shall be studied and reviewed with a view to enhance efficiency and productivity.
8. **Access to Medicines:** Access to affordable medicines and other healthcare solutions is becoming a challenge for all countries. India too faces a growing challenge on this count. The Policy recognises this and aims to enhance this by (a) **encouraging cross-sector partnerships** between public sector, private sector, universities and NGOs; (b) **promoting novel licensing models**, and (c)**developing novel technology platforms**.
9. **Piracy/ Counterfeiting:** Offline and online piracy is a serious concern and needs to be combated through public awareness as also legal and enforcement mechanisms.
10. **Assistance to smaller firms:** Smaller firms need assistance for protection of their IPRs internationally. Schemes such as DeitY's Support for International Patent Protection in Electronics and IT (SIP-EIT) are to be enhanced.
11. **Judicial Awareness & Resolution of IP disputes:** Since IPRs are a specialized discipline, awareness amongst the judiciary is crucial since judicial precedents set the tone of the country's IP regime. For this, it is important that IP modules for judges be formulated, including regular IP workshops / colloquia at the judicial academies. Commercial Courts set up at appropriate levels will be responsible for adjudicating IP disputes.
 - Resolution of IP cases through Alternate Dispute Resolution methods shall reduce burden on judiciary and provide speed and inexpensive resolution of disputes. Mediation and conciliation centers need strengthening, and ADR capabilities and skills in the field of IP developed.

The Policy recognises the abundance of creative and innovative energies that flow in India, and the need to tap into and channelize these energies towards a better and brighter future for all.

UPSC Civils Daily Mains Question 25th May-2021

[Leave a Comment / Daily Mains Questions / By Sarat Sir](#)

Though India has made it to the top-50 in the Global Innovation Index (GII), there are many grounds it needs to work for a new dynamic and vibrant India. Examine.

GII provides detailed metrics about the innovation performance of 131 countries and economies around the world. GII 2020 sheds light on the state of innovation financing by investigating the evolution of financing mechanisms for entrepreneurs and other innovators, and by pointing to progress and remaining challenges—including in the context of the economic slowdown induced by the corona virus disease (COVID-19) crisis.

India is at the 48th position in the list of top 50 innovative countries. The rise in political stability, government effectiveness and ease of resolving insolvency has contributed to the improved institutions pillar.

INSPIRE scholarships, infrastructure support through FIST Scheme, incubation support, soft loans and tailored grants, goal-specific challenges such as Smart India Hackathons and sectoral schemes such as Biotechnology Ignition Grants have been beneficial in shaping the innovation landscape.

Measures for a new dynamic and vibrant India

- Policy support through schemes like KIRAN of DST has to be complemented with behavioural changes to promote female labour force participation and equitable sharing of household care services. Unleashing this “gender dividend” can help nurture innovations for women-centric issues.
- As per DST, gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) as a percentage of GDP was 0.7% in FY19—low even if one accounts for India’s income levels. To boost it to the targeted 2% by 2022 (recommended by PMEAC), both public and especially private sector expenditure on R&D need to rise.
- An atmanirbhar Bharat needs local firms to innovate for domestic as well as global challenges.
- Covid has opened up areas in innovation in health, pharma, ICT and processes such as remote working, staggered work shifts, court proceedings and passenger management.
- Entrepreneurship can both be a source and outcome of innovation, flowering through programmes such as Start-up India, Skill India, and Mudra.
- India has outperformed its comparable income peers in innovation, but there remains enormous scope given the young talent, a culture of ingenuity and the sheer diversity of development challenges. Private participation in R&D, academia-industry collaboration, and enhanced public education systems are building blocks of innovations.

To improve India’s GII ranking further the challenges and loopholes in the innovation have to be given priority.