

Society

Syllabus

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

Syllabus	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total
1. Salient features of Indian Society; Diversity of India.		1	1		2		2		2	1	2	3	1	15
2. Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues.	1	3	3	1		2	2	2	3		2	3	1	23
3. Urbanisation: problems and remedies	2		1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	16
4. Globalisation and its effects on Indian society	1		1	1		1	1	1		1		1	2	10
5. Social empowerment, communal-ism, regionalism & secularism.	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	3		2	2	1	1	20

1. Salient features of Indian Society; Diversity of India

Micro topics	UPSC PYQs	Year	Marks
Diversity and pluralism	What is regional disparity? How does it differ from diversity? How serious is the issue of regional disparity in India?	2024	15
	Critically analyse the proposition that there is a high correlation between India's cultural diversities and socio-economic marginalities.	2024	15
	Analyse the salience of 'sect' in Indian society vis-a-vis caste, region and religion.	2022	15
	Do we have cultural pockets of small India all over the nation? Elaborate with examples.	2019	15
	In the context of diversity of India, can it be said that the regions form cultural units rather than the States? Give reasons with	2017	10

	examples for your viewpoint.		
	Describe any four cultural elements of diversity in India and rate their relative significance in building a national identity.	2015	12.5
Tribes Related Issues	Does tribal development in India centre around two axes, those of displacement and of rehabilitation? Give your opinion.	2025	15
	Given the diversities among tribal communities in India, in which specific contexts should they be considered as a single category?	2022	10
	Examine the uniqueness of tribal knowledge system when compared with main-stream knowledge and cultural systems.	2021	10
	How do you explain the statistics that show that the sex ratio in Tribes in India is more favourable to women than the sex ratio among Scheduled Castes?	2015	12.5
Family	Inter caste marriages between castes which have socio-economic parity have increased, to some extent, but this is less true of interreligious marriages. Discuss.	2024	10
	Child cuddling is now being replaced by mobile phones. Discuss its impact on the socialization of children.	2023	10
	Do you think marriage as a sacrament is losing its value in Modern India?	2023	10
	Explore and evaluate the impact of 'Work from Home' on family relationships.	2022	10
	The life cycle of a joint family depends on economic factors rather than social values. Discuss.	2014	10
Uniqueness of Indian society	How does Indian society maintain continuity in traditional social values? Enumerate the changes taking place in it.	2021	15
	What makes Indian society unique in sustaining its culture? Discuss.	2019	10
	The spirit tolerance and love is not only an interesting feature of Indian society from very early times, but it is also playing an important part at the present. Elaborate.	2017	15

2. Role of women and women's organization, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues.

Micro-topics	UPSC PYQs	Year	Marks
Population and associated issues	What is the concept of a 'demographic winter'? Is the world moving towards such a situation? Elaborate.	2024	10
	Why did human development fail to keep pace with economic development in India?	2023	15
	Discuss the main objectives of Population Education and point out the measures to achieve them in India in detail.	2021	15
	Critically examine whether growing population is the cause of poverty OR poverty is the main cause of population increase in India.	2015	12.5
	Discuss the changes in the trends of labour migration within and outside India in the last four decades.	2015	12.5
Poverty and Related issues	COVID-19 pandemic accelerated class inequalities and poverty in India. Comment.	2020	10
	Despite implementation of various programmes for eradication of poverty by the government in India, poverty is still existing.' Explain by giving reasons.	2018	10
	An essential condition to eradicate poverty is to liberate the poor from deprivation. Substantiate this statement with suitable examples	2016	12.5
Development and Related issues	'Achieving sustainable growth with emphasis on environmental protection could come into conflict with poor people's needs in a country like India – Comment.	2025	15
	In dealing with socio-economic issues of development, what kind of collaboration between government, NGO's and private sector would be most productive?	2024	10
	What is Cryptocurrency? How does it affect global society? Has it been affecting Indian society also?	2021	15
	How have digital initiatives in India contributed to the functioning of the educational system in the country? Elaborate your answer.	2020	15
Women and Associated concerns	Distinguish between gender equality, gender equity and women's empowerment. Why is it important to take gender concerns into account in programme design and implementation?	2024	10
	Explain why suicide among young women is increasing in Indian Society.	2023	10

	Examine the role of ‘Gig Economy’ in the process of empowerment of women in India.	2021	10
	“Empowering women is the key to control population growth”. Discuss	2019	10
	What are the continued challenges for women in India against time and space?	2019	15
	Women’s movement in India has not addressed the issues of women of lower social strata. Substantiate your view.	2018	15
	Discuss the various economic and socio-cultural forces that are driving increasing feminization of agriculture in India.	2014	10
	How does patriarchy impact the position of a middle class working woman in India?	2014	10
	Why do some of the most prosperous regions of India have an adverse sex ratio for women? Give your arguments.	2014	10
	Male membership needs to be encouraged in order to make women’s organization free from gender bias. Comment.	2013	10

3. Urbanisation: problems and remedies

<i>Micro-topics</i>	<i>UPSC PYQs</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Marks</i>
Urban Water Management	What are the environmental implications of the reclamation of water bodies into urban land use? Explain with examples.	2021	10
	Account for the huge flooding of million cities in India including the smart ones like Hyderabad and Pune. Suggest lasting remedial measures.	2020	15
	Major cities of India are becoming more vulnerable to flood conditions. Discuss.	2016	12.5
	How is efficient and affordable urban mass transport key to the rapid economic development of India?	2019	15
	Mention core strategies for the transformation of aspirational districts in India and explain the nature of convergence, collaboration and competition for its success.	2018	15
Urban Planning	With a brief background of quality of urban life in India, introduce the objectives and strategy of the ‘Smart City Programme’.	2016	12.5
	Smart cities in India cannot sustain without smart villages. Discuss this statement in the backdrop of rural urban integration.	2015	12.5
Urban Poverty	How does smart city in India, address the issues of urban	2025	10

and Migration	poverty and distributive justice?		
	Why do large cities tend to attract more migrants than smaller towns? Discuss in the light of conditions in developing countries.	2024	10
	Does urbanization lead to more segregation and/or marginalization of the poor in Indian metropolises?	2023	15
Environmental Issues	Bring out the causes for the formation of heat islands in the urban habitat of the world.	2013	5

4. Globalisation and its effects on Indian society

<i>Micro-topics</i>	<i>UPSC PYQs</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Marks</i>
Globalisation	Do you think that globalization results in only an aggressive consumer culture?	2025	10
	How do you account for the growing fast food industries given that there are increased health concerns in modern society? Illustrate your answer with the Indian experience.	2025	15
	Globalization has increased urban migration by skilled, young, unmarried women from various classes. How has this trend impacted upon their personal freedom and relationship with family?	2024	15
	Elucidate the relationship between globalization and new technology in a world of scarce resources, with special reference to India.	2022	15
	Is diversity and pluralism in India under threat due to globalisation? Justify your answer.	2020	15
	Are we losing our local identity for the global identity? Discuss. (15m,250 words)	2019	15
	Globalization is generally said to promote cultural homogenization but due to this cultural specificities appear to be strengthened in the Indian Society. Elucidate.	2018	15
	To what extent globalization has influenced the core of cultural diversity in India? Explain.	2016	12.5
	Discuss the positive and negative effects of globalization on women in India.	2015	12.5
	Critically examine the effects of globalization on the aged population in India.	2013	10

5. Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism

<i>Micro-topics</i>	<i>UPSC PYQs</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Marks</i>
Caste system	Why is caste identity in India both fluid and static?	2023	15
	Has caste lost its relevance in understanding the multi-cultural Indian Society? Elaborate your answer with illustrations.	2020	10
	Caste system is assuming new identities and associational forms. Hence, caste system cannot be eradicated in India. Comment.	2018	10
Communalism	Discuss the impact of post-liberal economy on ethnic identity and communalism.	2023	15
	Communalism arises either due to power struggle or relative deprivation. Argue by giving suitable illustrations.	2018	15
	Distinguish between religiousness/religiosity and communalism giving one example of how the former has got transformed into the latter in independent India.	2017	15

