

SSt 7th class

Theme A: India and the World (Land and the People)

Chapter-1: Geographical Diversity of India

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (c) 5. (b)

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. The Himalayas 2. Northern plains 3. Losar, Hemis
4. the Aravalli range 5. Ladakh

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. F 2. F 3. T 4. T 5. F

D. Match the columns:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Water tower of Asia: | (ii) Himalayas |
| 2. Moonland: | (iv) Ladakh |
| 3. Northern Plains: | (v) Gangetic plains |
| 4. Arid Region: | (iii) Thar Desert |
| 5. Himadri: | (i) The Greater Himalayas |

E. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Mount Abu
2. Lagoon is a body of salty water which is separated from larger body of water by a natural barrier.
3. Himadri
4. India along with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar.
5. A cold desert is a type of biome characterized by a combination of extreme aridity (very little precipitation) and consistently low temperatures.

F. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Major rivers the Ganga, the Indus and the Brahmaputra get water from the melting snows on the Himalayas in the summer. Therefore, they are called 'Water Tower of Asia'.
2. The Greater Himalayas (also known as Himadri) are the northernmost and most prominent range of the Himalayan mountain system, known for having the world's highest peaks and being covered in snow year-round.
3. Following Indian regions are declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.
 - (i) The Great Himalayan National Park
 - (ii) The Jaisalmer Fort in Rajasthan
 - (iii) The Western Ghats
 - (iv) The Sunderbans Delta in West Bengal.
4. Dense forests of Peninsular Plateau are the home to following tribal communities:
Santhal
Gond
Baiga
Bhil
Korku

These tribal communities have distinct languages. They have distinct traditions and their way of living is also connected to nature.

G. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. The Himalayas can be categorise into their main ranges as follows:
 - (i) The Himadri: This range is also known as the Greater Himalayas. This range has the highest peaks such as Mount Everest and Kanchenjunga. The Himadri remains snow covered throughout the year. Due to extreme climate of this range, there are no human settlements. Living is very difficult here.
 - (ii) The Himachal: It is also known by the name of the Lower Himalayas. It lies to the south of the Himadri. This range has moderate climate which favours rich biodiversity and human habitation. This range has many popular and beautiful

hill stations like Nainital (Uttarakhand), Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) and Mussoorie (Uttarakhand).

(iii) The Shivalik: Other name of this range is the Outer Himalayas. It is the outermost and lowest range. This range contains rolling hills and dense forest. This range acts as a transition zone between the Himalayas and the Gangetic Plains. It is very rich in wildlife.

2. The Northern Plains of India are flat, fertile lands formed by the deposition of alluvium from rivers like the Ganga, Indus, and Brahmaputra. Stretching across states like Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal, these plains are ideal for farming and hence are densely populated. They are known as the "Granary of India" due to high agricultural productivity. The region also supports a rich cultural heritage and has several major cities, such as Delhi, Kolkata, and Patna, located along its rivers. The plains play a crucial role in India's economy and food production.

3. Key geographical features of India are as follows:

- (i) The Himalayas
- (ii) The Gangetic Plains
- (iii) The Great Indian Desert (Thar Desert)
- (iv) The Peninsular Plateau
- (v) India's Amazing Coastlines
- (vi) Indian Islands

4. India's geographical diversity has a great impact on its climate, farming, cultural practices and lifestyle which affects our lives in certain ways. The Himalayas influence weather and keeps the Indian peninsula warm by blocking cold wind from Central Asia. The fertile Gangetic plains support agriculture and the coasts offer resources like minerals and fish. It plays crucial role in industrial water supply. People shape their customs, occupations and living standards according to geographical features of their regions.

5. Five rivers that flow into the Bay of Bengal are the Mahanadi, the Godavari, the Krishna, the Kaveri and the Ganges.

India's states on western coast are Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka and Kerala.

India's states on eastern coast are West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Difference between the western and eastern coastal plains.

Western Coastal Plains	Eastern Coastal Plains
1. Western coastal plains lies between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea.	1. Eastern coastal plains lies between the Eastern Ghats and the Bay of Bengal.
2. It stretches from Gujarat to Kerala, passing through Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka.	2. It stretches from the Ganga Delta to Kanyakumari passing through West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
3. These plains are shaped by alluvial deposits from small rivers.	3. Rivers flowing in the eastern coastal plains form delta.
4. Rivers flowing in the western coastal plains form estuaries.	4. Rivers— the Godavari, the Krishna, the Kaveri and the Mahanadi form fertile deltas, making these plains ideal for farming.
5. The Narmada and the Tapti rivers form the largest estuaries.	5. Chilika lake in Odisha is the largest brackish (Salty water) water lagoon in Asia.

6. India has the great Himalayan mountain range standing as a natural barrier in the north and the Thar desert and the Arabian sea guard its western boundaries.

India has a vast coast line. To the south, the Indian Ocean and to the east the Bay of Bengal make a remarkable natural boundary. These geographical features create a difference between India and the rest of the continents. It seems like a whole continent, is wrapped into one country. Its diverse geography leads to a variety of climate, plants, animals and people. India has 28 states having different languages and culture, which also makes it a 'mini continent'.

Assertion and Reason Questions:

1. (d)
2. (a)

Skill Based Questions:

Mawlynnong village in the East Khasi Hills of Meghalaya is renowned as the cleanest village in Asia. This village is famous for its well-maintained cleanliness. The following eco-friendly practices are followed by the people of this village:

- Bamboo dustbins
- Eco-friendly practices
- Using bamboo for construction
- They focus on waste segregation, composting.
- The village also has a ban on plastic and encourages rainwater harvesting.
- The village is also known for its living root bridges.

Chapter-2: Understanding the Weather

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c)
2. (b)
3. (a)
4. (c)
5. (b)

B. Fill in the blanks:

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------|------------------|------------|
| 1. Weather | 2. Troposphere | 3. Millibar (mb) | 4. Sleet |
| 5. Humidity | 6. Meteorology | 7. Anemometer | 8. Weather |

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

- | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. T | 2. T | 3. F | 4. T | 5. F | 6. F | 7. T | 8. T |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Weather refers to the atmospheric conditions of a particular place at a specific time.
2. Precipitation is any form of water such as rain, snow, hail or sleet that falls from the atmosphere to the Earth's surface.
3. The lowest layer of the atmosphere that extends to a height of 6 to 8 kilometres from the ground is called troposphere.
4. Hygrometer is an instrument which is used to measure relative humidity.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. It is difficult to breathe at higher altitudes because air pressure decreases, leading to lower oxygen levels. As altitude increases, the air becomes thinner, reducing the amount of oxygen available for the body, which can cause breathlessness and altitude sickness.
2. Coastal areas have higher humidity because they are close to large water bodies like oceans and seas, which continuously evaporate water into the air. This increases the moisture content in the atmosphere, making the air more humid than in inland areas.
3. Relative humidity is measured using a hygrometer or a psychrometer. These instruments compare the actual amount of water vapour in the air to the maximum amount the air can hold at a given temperature. The value is expressed as a percentage (%).
4. Measurement of humidity is important because it helps in predicting weather conditions, managing health and comfort, and is essential in agriculture, food processing, museums, industry and preventing damage to materials.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. An anemometer helps pilots, air traffic controllers and ships by measuring wind speed and direction, which is crucial for safe navigation and operations.

Pilots use wind data for take-off, landing and in-flight adjustments to ensure smooth operations.

Air traffic controllers rely on wind speed information to manage flight paths and airport safety.

Ships use anemometer readings to navigate safely, adjust sails, and avoid strong winds or storms at sea.

2. A weather station is a facility equipped with instruments and sensors to observe and record weather conditions such as temperature, humidity, wind speed, air pressure and precipitation.

Weather stations are essential for monitoring atmospheric conditions and providing accurate data for various applications. They are helpful in:

(i) Weather Forecasting: Provides real-time data for accurate weather predictions.

(ii) Disaster Management: Helps detect storms, cyclones, and other extreme weather conditions in advance.

(iii) Agriculture: Assists farmers in planning irrigation, planting, and harvesting based on weather conditions.

(iv) Aviation and Navigation: Supports safe air and sea travel by monitoring wind and weather patterns.

(v) Climate Research: Collects long-term data to study climate change and environmental patterns.

3. We can measure and monitor the weather using various instruments. A thermometer measures temperature, a barometer measures air pressure, hygrometer measures humidity, a wind vane shows wind direction and an anemometer measures wind speed. Automated weather stations and satellites also help in continuously tracking and predicting weather conditions.

4. The studies of meteorologists are generally reliable, but their accuracy varies depending on factors like technology, data availability and time frame.

Short-term forecasts i.e., 1-3 days, are highly accurate due to advanced satellites, radars and computer models. Medium-term forecasts i.e., 4-7 days are fairly accurate but may have slight variations. Long-term forecasts i.e., weeks/months are less reliable, as weather patterns can change due to unpredictable atmospheric conditions.

However, meteorologists use scientific models and real-time data, making their studies trustworthy, but 100% accuracy is not always possible, especially for long-term predictions.

5. The main elements of weather are temperature, atmospheric pressure, humidity, wind, and precipitation.

Temperature: A measure of how hot or cold the air is, influenced by solar radiation and varying with location and time of day.

Atmospheric Pressure: The weight of the atmosphere pressing down on the Earth's surface. Differences in pressure create wind and affect weather patterns.

Humidity: The amount of water vapor present in the air. High humidity often leads to cloud formation and precipitation.

Wind: The movement of air from areas of high pressure to areas of low pressure. It distributes heat and moisture across the globe.

Precipitation: Any form of water falling from the atmosphere to the Earth's surface, such as rain, snow, sleet, or hail.

Assertion and Reason Questions

1. (a)
2. (a)

Competency Based Questions

Precipitation plays a key role in determining weather conditions. It affects temperature, humidity and visibility, and contribute to cloud formation and storm development. Rain, snow, sleet or hail can significantly impact daily

weather patterns, influence local climates, and affect human activities such as transportation and agriculture. Precipitation is also an important part of the water cycle, helping maintain ecosystems and replenish water sources.

Skill Based Questions:

Given data:

Maximum temperature = 38°C

Minimum temperature = 25°C

Range of temperature = Maximum temperature - Minimum temperature

$\therefore 38^{\circ}\text{C} - 25^{\circ}\text{C} = 13^{\circ}\text{C}$

Significance

- The range of temperature helps in understanding the variation between day and night temperatures.
- A high range indicates extreme temperature differences, common in deserts.
- A low range suggests a more stable climate, often seen in coastal areas.

Chapter-3: Climates of India

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (b) 5. (a)

B. Fill in the blanks:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Monsoon | 2. Altitude | 3. Uttarakhand | 4. Deforestation |
| 5. Freezing point | 6. Equator | 7. Imaginary line | 8. Resilience |

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. F 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. T 6. F 7. T 8. F

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. NDRF stands for National Disaster Response Force.

2. The eye of the cyclone is calm and clear, while rest of storm has strong winds with heavy rain.
3. There are many festivals in India which are linked to seasons like, Makar Sankranti, Pongal, Bihu, Onam, Lohri, Baisakhi and others.
4. Physiography affects climate by controlling wind flow, rainfall, and temperature due to features like mountains, plateaus, and coasts.
5. The Deccan Plateau has a moderate climate because of its elevation and its location away from coastal regions.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Climate is a long-term weather pattern, whereas a season lasts a few months.
2. India follows six traditional seasons: Vasanta (spring), Grishma (summer), Varsha (rainy), Sharad (autumn), Hemanta (pre-win-ter), and Shishir (winter).
3. Mawsynram is located in the East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya, India. It holds the record for the highest annual rainfall in the world, receiving about 11,000 mm of rain. This is mainly due to its location and landscape. Even though the region is not influenced by a typical low-pressure system, Mawsynram lies on the windward side of the Khasi Hills, directly in the path of moisture-laden winds from the Bay of Bengal. When these winds hit the hills, they are forced to rise, moisture to cool, condense, and result in extreme rainfall.
4. A microclimate is the climate of a small area that differs from its surroundings.
5. Forest fires often happen in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh because of dry forests, pine trees that catch fire easily, and strong winds that spread the flames.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. Climate plays a crucial role in triggering natural disasters such as floods, landslides, cyclones, and forest fires. Heavy and continuous rainfall, often caused by changing wind patterns or monsoon shifts, can result in severe flooding, especially in coastal areas. In mountainous regions, excessive rain weakens soil and rocks, causing landslides that damage homes, roads, and infrastructure.

Cyclones are closely linked to climate factors like ocean temperatures and atmospheric pressure. Warmer ocean waters provide the energy needed for cyclones to form and grow stronger, bringing destructive winds and heavy rain to coastal regions. Dry conditions increase the risk of forest fires, especially in states like Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, where dry pine forests and strong winds allow fires to spread quickly. Climate change is causing these disasters to happen more often and become more dangerous, putting people and nature at risk.

2. Resilience refers to the ability to recover quickly from difficulties or adapt to challenging situations. In disaster-prone areas, this quality is crucial as it helps communities cope with natural disasters like floods, cyclones, landslides, and forest fires. Strong infrastructure, early warning systems, and disaster preparedness plans play a key role in minimising damage and saving lives. Communities that adopt sustainable practices, such as planting trees to prevent soil erosion, building flood-resistant homes, and improving drainage systems, are better equipped to handle such challenges. By strengthening these measures, people can protect themselves, their homes, and their surroundings from the harmful impacts of disasters.
3. India's climate is so diverse because of its varied landforms and natural features. The Himalayas and Karakoram Range block cold winds from Central Asia, keeping northern India warmer in winter. India's large north-south stretch causes temperature differences: southern regions are warmer, while northern regions are cooler. The monsoon winds bring heavy rain in summer and dry weather in winter. Coastal areas have mild climates due to the sea, while inland regions like Delhi experience extreme heat in summer and cold in winter. The Thar Desert is hot and dry, and the Deccan Plateau has a moderate climate. This mix of mountains, deserts, seas, and winds makes India's climate diverse.
4. Monsoons are seasonal winds that bring heavy rain to India and South Asia. They occur due to temperature differences between the land and the sea. In

summer, the land heats up faster, creating low pressure. Moist winds from the ocean blow towards the land, bringing rain from June to September. In winter, the land cools faster, creating high pressure. Dry winds blow from the land to the sea, causing little rain, along the Tamil Nadu coast. This change in wind direction between summer and winter creates the monsoon season.

5. Climate has a significant impact on India's economy, culture and society:

- **Economic Impact:** Agriculture in India depends on the monsoon. Sufficient rainfall supports crops and rural employment, but a failed monsoon causes poor harvests, water shortages, higher food prices, and migration to cities for work.
- **Cultural Impact:** Many Indian festivals, such as Baisakhi, Pongal, and Onam, are closely linked to the seasons and agricultural cycles. These celebrations reflect the deep connection between climate and cultural traditions.
- **Social Impact:** Climate influences people's daily lives, including their clothing, housing, and routines. For instance, in colder regions, homes are built to retain heat and people wear warm clothes, while in hotter areas, people prefer light clothing and adjust their activities to avoid the midday heat.

Assertion and Reason Questions:

1. (d)
2. (a)

Competency Based Questions:

1. Wind affects the climate of an area by influencing temperature, humidity and precipitation. Winds can carry warm or cold air from one region to another, affecting local temperatures. For example, coastal areas experience milder climates due to sea breezes, while deserts may have extreme temperatures due to dry winds. Winds also transport moisture, leading to rainfall in some areas and dryness in others, depending on their direction and origin.
2. In Delhi, many trees change colour or shed their leaves before winter. The Amaltas (Cassia fistula), known for its yellow flowers, begins to dry before winter. The Peepal (Ficus religiosa) sheds its leaves during the cold months to

save water. Another is the Gulmohar (*Delonix regia*), which drops its leaves as temperatures fall. These trees, also called Amaltas, Peepal, and Gulmohar locally, reflect seasonal changes and add to the natural beauty of Delhi.

Chapter-4: The Tropical and Sub Tropical Regions

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (b) 4. (d) 5. (a)

B. Match the following:

1. (iv), 2-(ii), 3-(i), 4-(ii)

C. Fill in the blanks:

1. Sunderbans 2. Carajas 3. Manioc 4. Piranha 5.
Gangotri 6. Maranon river

D. Very short answer type questions:

1. The Amazon River is the second longest river in the world, stretching about 6,400 kilometers.
2. Mountain areas have a sparse population due to harsh climates, steep slopes, and limited access to resources.
3. The Brahmaputra basin is primarily known for deposits of heavy minerals like ilmenite, zircon, rutile, magnetite, garnet, and quartz found within its river sands, with zircon, rutile, and ilmenite being the most valuable components of this mineral suite.
4. The main causes of river pollution are sewage, industrial waste, agricultural runoff, and improper waste disposal.
5. A type of agricultural practice where land is temporarily cultivated and then abandoned. Shifting cultivation is an agricultural system in which plots of land are cultivated for a short period of time, then abandoned and

allowed to return to their natural vegetation while the cultivator moves on to another plot. This practice often involves cutting and burning forest vegetation to clear the land for farming.

E. Answer the questions in brief:

1. The climatic condition of amazon basin is hot and humid as it is tropical evergreen/rain forest. The trees don't shed their leaves at the same time. Thus, remain evergreen. Also, it received heavy rainfall throughout the year.
2. Slash and burn agriculture is a farming method where trees and bushes are cut down and burned to clear land for growing crops. It's also known as shifting cultivation or jhum cultivation.
3. Life in the Amazon Basin is rapidly changing primarily due to increased accessibility through roads like the Trans-Amazon Highway, leading to deforestation, displacement of indigenous populations, and disruption of their traditional lifestyles, often driven by logging, mining, and agricultural expansion.
4. The Brahmaputra river flows through Tibet (China), India, and Bangladesh. It originates from the Chemayungdung ranges near Manasarovar of the Himalayas. After flowing through Tibet, it enters India at Bishing as 'Siang'. It is known as 'Dihang' in Arunachal Pradesh and 'Jamuna' in Bangladesh.
5. The Amazon Basin experiences a hot, humid, tropical climate with consistently high temperatures and heavy rainfall throughout the year, essentially creating a single wet season with minimal seasonal variation; this climate directly supports the lush, diverse, and dense rainforest vegetation characteristic of the region, with a vast array of trees, vines, and epiphytes adapted to the high humidity and abundant rainfall.
6. The Amazon Basin is often called a "gigantic zoo" because it boasts an incredibly diverse range of wildlife, including mammals like monkeys, jaguars, tapirs, and sloths, a vast variety of birds, insects, reptiles, and amphibians,

making it one of the most biologically rich ecosystems on Earth, essentially acting like a massive natural enclosure for a huge variety of species.

7. The Ganga-Brahmaputra basin exhibits a diverse topography, ranging from the Himalayan foothills to vast plains, which directly impacts its vegetation, leading to a variety of plant life depending on the specific landform, with tropical deciduous forests dominating the plains, bamboo groves in the Brahmaputra valley, and coniferous trees in the higher altitudes of the Himalayas; essentially, the varied topography of the basin results in a diverse range of vegetation across different regions.
8. The primary distinction between the agricultural practices in the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin and the Amazon basin lies in the dominant crop types, with the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin primarily focused on rice and wheat cultivation while the Amazon basin relies heavily on shifting cultivation practices like slash-and-burn, producing staple crops like cassava and manioc, due to the vastly different climatic conditions and vegetation types in each region; additionally, the Amazon basin often incorporates agroforestry practices, integrating trees with crops, unlike the more intensive monoculture farming often seen in the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin.

Chapter-5: Life in the Deserts

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

- 1.(c) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (b) 5. (c)

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. Hemis Monastery 2. Milk and Transportation 3. Tuaregs and
Bedouins 4. Plants 5. Mount Khasi

C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false:

1. T 2. F 3. F 4. F 5. T

D. Very short answer type questions:

1. The boundaries of Ladakh are:
 - a. **South:** Himachal Pradesh
 - b. **West:** Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan
 - c. **North:** China
 - d. **East:** Tibet
 - e. **Far north:** The southwest corner of Xinjiang across the Karakoram Pass
2. The two main types of deserts are hot deserts and cold deserts.
3. The trees that grow in Ladakh include poplars, willows, and fruit trees like apricots and apples.
4. Ladakh is also known as Khapa-chan, which means "land of snow". It's also known as Little Tibet.
5. The Sahara Desert touches the following countries: Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Sudan, Tunisia, and Western Sahara.

E. Answer the questions in brief:

1. Flora: Vegetation in the Sahara Desert includes cactus, date palms and acacia. We can find an oasis in some places. Fauna: The animal species found here are camels, hyenas, jackals, foxes, scorpions and many varieties of snakes and lizards.
2. The Sahara Desert contains many minerals, including iron, manganese, uranium, phosphates, oil, and natural gas.
3. The Tourism Industry accounts for more than 60% of the total revenue generated in Ladakh. More than half of the population of Ladakh is economically dependent, directly or indirectly, on this industry. There are about 317 Hotels, 691 Guest Houses, 1055 Homestays and 105 Camps in Leh district
4. The Sahara is the hottest desert in the world – with one of the harshest climates. The average annual temperature is 30°C, whilst the hottest temperature ever

recorded was 58°C. The area receives little rainfall, in fact, half of the Sahara Desert receives less than 1 inch of rain every year.

5. The lifestyle of people in the Sahara Desert is primarily nomadic pastoralism, relying heavily on herding animals like camels, goats, and sheep, constantly moving to find grazing land, and often settling near oases for water and limited agriculture; prominent groups include the Tuareg and Bedouin tribes, who utilize animal products like milk, hides, and wool for sustenance and clothing, and engage in trade along ancient caravan routes to access other necessities.

Theme B: Tapestry of the Past

Chapter-6: New Beginnings: Cities and States

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (d) 5. (a)

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. Hereditary 2. Mahajanapadas 3. Varna 4. Sabha, samiti
5. Urbanisation 6. Shudras 7. Magadha
8. Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras

C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false:

1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. F 6. T

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Two main sources of ancient urban centres are:
(a) Archaeological excavation
(b) Ancient literature
2. Most of the ancient cities had broad streets with well-fortified and running moat outside to protect their boundaries.
3. Copper and Bronze metallurgy was mastered by Harappan Civilisation.

4. Mahajanapadas which were called ganas or sanghas were not monarchies.
5. In the 1st millennium BCE, the purpose of opening routes was encouraging trade, pilgrimage, and mobilising military, etc.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. In the 1st millennium BCE, many routes were opened up to encourage trade and military campaigns. These routes were interconnected with the ports on the western and eastern coasts which later became the vibrant centres of trade.
2. Earlier, the society was categorised on the basis of occupation to reduce the complexity of several groups. The system was quite flexible, and people had the right to change their profession during any crisis. But the system became rigid over time, and the divisions created inequalities and social differences.
3. The Harappan civilisation mastered copper and bronze. They were fully dependent on these for making tools, weapons and utensils. The Second Urbanisation introduced iron metallurgy which was more durable and easier to shape. It encouraged trade and agriculture and strengthened the military.
4. Early Vedic society had a productive and developed governance system. Rulers used to be the chief members of the tribe, and were known as 'Jana'. The society had an 'assembly or council' (Sabha or Samiti) to elect the rulers and sometimes to restrict their powers. In early Vedic society few mahajanapadas had monarchy in which king was the son of the previous ruler or king. The council held the ultimate power. Rulers were not supposed to force any regulation onto the people without discussing it with the council members. The assemblies definitely played an important role in decision-making and establishing democracy in few mahajanapadas.
5. Malla and Vajji had more powerful assemblies or councils known as 'sabha or samiti'. The assembly took important decisions through voting. It had the power to elect the ruler (raja/king) and restrict his decisions. They were the earliest form of republic or democracy in the world.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. The southern regions were known for their huge centres of precious and semi-precious stones like pearls, rubies and gold. These gems were very valuable support for uplifting trade with other parts of India and foreign lands. These stones encouraged the production of coins and utensils which maintained economic balance. The southern regions were very famous for its sandalwood forests and well-established production chain of spices like cinnamon, pepper, and cardamom, etc. These spices were in demand both in international and subcontinental markets. These resources made room for sustainable trade system and offered chance to initiate strong alliance.
2. There were many reasons for the decline of Mahajanpadas. The alliances were shifting quickly and the frequent wars to expand their territories, shaken the strength of the kingdoms. Kingdoms like Magadha, Avanti, and Kosala took advantage of the downfall of smaller states. They expanded their boundaries and strengthened their unions. The downfall of mahajanpadas acquired room for fresh and unified kingdoms which led to rise of Mauryan dynasty. The establishment of large kingdoms, introduced more centralised political structure, new administrative system in ancient India and broad territorial expansion.
3. By the early 2nd millennium BCE, the Harappan civilisation, called First Urbanisation of India, started diminishing. The demolishment happened due to multiple factors such as shifting in river patterns, climate change and weak trade system. People from different tribes started migrating in clans towards north India. The civilisation had the best urban planning resulting an effortless rural life settlement in the Ganga plains. After the decline of urban centres, the civilisation drew its focus to self-sufficient rural economy and considered agriculture as an important economic activity. For a long period of time the urban life remained absent in the plains which affected the trade networks and resources.
4. Janapadas and Mahajanpadas are considered an important development in India's early history because they were a secure and united category of early

tribal settlements. They established the development of larger and more powerful political units and encouraged economic activities such as trade and agriculture.

5. There was a significant difference between the governance system of Janapadas and Mahajanapadas. Janapadas had a fragmented system and were ruled by tribal chiefs. They had a council called 'Sabha or Samiti' which held the ultimate power, whereas Mahajanapadas had an autocratic governance system, ruled by a king. Though two Mahajanapadas, Vajji and Malla followed a democratic system of governance.
6. Iron metallurgy marked a remarkable growth in the field of agriculture and defence.
 - Iron tools were easier to shape. They offered more durability and were more effective compared to stone or bronze tools. With the help of iron tools, land cleaning and harvesting improved, which enhanced agricultural productivity.
 - Iron weapons strengthened and advanced the armies. It helped kingdoms to expand their territories.
 - Increased usage of Iron also cleared the way for the development of new crafts and trade.

Assertion and Reason Questions

1. (b)
2. (b)

Competency Based Questions:

Considering all the geographical factors, the 'Second Urbanisation' flourished in the Ganga plains. The region included present north Indian states. The fertile lands of the Ganga, encouraged the forsaken agriculture. The river systems like the Ganga and the Yamuna boosted trade and agriculture to their highest levels. The river routes added an extra layer of connectivity with the other parts of the country. Over time, trade became efficient and led to more powerful and economically stable kingdoms like Magadha.

Iron deposits available in northern India elevated the making of tools and weapons, advanced farming, and uplifted productivity.

Skill Based Questions

Kautilya's Arthshastra is still relevant today because it offers timeless insights on governance, economies, diplomacy, law and administration. His ideas about statecraft, leadership, intelligence, gathering and managing resources continue to be studied in political science and public administration. Many of his principles can be applied to policymaking, strategy planning and ethical governance.

Picture Based Questions

1. Mohenjo-daro ruins

The picture displays the archaeological ruins of the ancient city of Mohenjo-daro, a significant site of the Indus Valley Civilization.

2. The Great Bath

The image specifically depicts a view of the "Great Bath" at Mohenjo-daro, which is one of the best-known structures among the ruins. It shows the structure's layout, surrounding walls, and steps leading into the tank.

3. Communal bathing or ritualistic cleansing. The primary activity indicated by the central structure (the Great Bath) is likely communal bathing or ritualistic cleansing on special occasions, which was a significant practice in the Harappan civilization. Archaeological excavation

Chapter-7: The Rise of Empires

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (b) 5. (b)

B. Fill in the blanks:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. Arthashastra | 2. Prakrit | 3. Pataliputra |
| 4. Dhamma (or non-violence) | 5. Dhana Nand | 6. Babylon |
| 7. Dakshinapatha | 8. Dhamma Mahamattas | |
| 9. Kalinga war | 10. India | |

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. T 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. F 6. T 7. T 8. T

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. The capital of the Mauryan Empire was Pataliputra.
2. An empire is a large territory that includes different kinds of people under one single ruler, often an emperor or empress.
3. Porus was the ruler of the Paurava kingdom located between the Jhelum and Chenab rivers in ancient India. He fought against Alexander the Great in the Battle of the Hydaspes.
4. Kautilya wrote the book on governance called Arthashastra.
5. Ashoka used the title "Devanampiya Piyadasi" in his edicts.
6. Ashoka's inscriptions were written in the Brahmi script.
7. The Kalinga War was the turning point that made Ashoka embrace peace.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Empires controlled multiple kingdoms with centralised administration and military, while kingdoms ruled smaller, single regions with local governance.
2. Magadha's fertile Gangetic plains, rich iron mines, navigable rivers for transport, and forest resources gave it economic strength and military advantage, helping it become a dominant power.
3. Ashoka's Dhamma promoted non-violence, religious tolerance, public welfare, and environmental protection as reflected in his edicts.
4. Brahmi script standardised written communication across the Mauryan Empire and later became the foundation for many modern Indian scripts like Devanagari and Tamil.
5. Causes of decline of Maurya empire:

- The Mauryan Empire's fragility stemmed from its massive size, making it difficult to govern from a centralized authority that depended entirely on the king.
- Its collapse was triggered by a succession of weak rulers after Ashoka, external invasions, financial strain, and growing opposition from groups like the Brahmanas, which led to administrative breakdown and the empire's eventual disintegration around 185 BCE.
- Weak successors and administrative corruption were increased.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. The Mauryan administration system was highly organised, following Kautilya's Arthashastra, which detailed the Saptanga (seven limbs) theory of state. It established a centralised bureaucracy with officials like amatyas (ministers) and mahamattas (superintendents) overseeing provinces, cities, and villages. The empire was divided into four provinces with royal princes as governors. An efficient spy system monitored officials and citizens. This meticulous administrative structure, combined with strict but fair laws, enabled effective control over the vast Mauryan territories while maintaining order and prosperity.
2. Ashoka's Dhamma was a moral code emphasising non-violence, tolerance, truthfulness, and respect for all religions. While inspired by Buddhism, it was secular and universal, applicable to people of all faiths. Ashoka propagated Dhamma through edicts inscribed on rocks and pillars across the empire in local languages. He appointed Dhamma Mahamattas to teach these principles and implemented welfare measures like hospitals, roads, and rest houses. This innovative approach to governance promoted social harmony and ethical living without enforcing any single religion.
3. The Mauryan economy flourished due to advanced agriculture using iron tools and irrigation, yielding surplus crops. Trade was facilitated by guilds (shrenis) that standardised production and quality. The empire controlled key trade routes

like the Uttarapatha, connecting it to Central Asia, and maintained ports like Tamralipti for maritime trade. A uniform system of weights, measures, and punch-marked coins facilitated commerce. State-owned mines and granaries ensured resource availability. This robust economic system, combining agricultural surplus with domestic and international trade, made the empire prosperous.

4. Empires like Magadha and the Mauryas unified regions, boosting trade, infrastructure, and cultural exchange. They standardised laws, currencies, and weights, fostering economic growth. Ashoka's promotion of Buddhism and welfare policies left a lasting legacy, influencing governance and societal values.
5. Key factors included resource-rich geography (fertile land, iron ore), strong armies, surplus agriculture, trade networks, and strategic leadership (e.g., Chandragupta Maurya and Kautilya). Economic stability and administrative systems enabled expansion and control over diverse territories.
6. Life featured bustling cities (e.g., Pataliputra), thriving markets, and artisan guilds. Agriculture and trade flourished, supported by rivers and roads. Society was diverse, with advancements in art (e.g., stupas), governance (edicts), and equality and justice for all under rulers like Ashoka.

Skill Based Questions:

Alexander's invasion led to political unification in North India.

Alexander's attack exposed the political fragmentation of North India into numerous small, independent kingdoms and tribal republics. This disunity made them vulnerable. The fear and instability caused by the invasion, coupled with the power vacuum left after his departure, provided the impetus and opportunity for Chandragupta Maurya to consolidate these fragmented states into the large and powerful Mauryan Empire, the first major empire to unify much of the Indian subcontinent.

Competency Based Questions:

Usefulness of Kautilya's book on economics in present time. Kautilya's Arthashastra is useful today for its insights into statecraft, economics, and administration.

The book provides detailed principles on governance, diplomacy, and economic management that remain relevant. Key contemporary applications include:

Governance and Ethics: Emphasizes the ruler's duty towards the welfare of the people, a foundational principle in modern democratic governance and public administration.

Economic Policy: Discusses concepts like taxation, trade regulation, and resource management, offering perspectives on state intervention in the economy.

Strategic Thinking: Its detailed analysis of diplomacy, war strategies, and intelligence gathering is still studied in modern strategic and political science circles.

Administration: Outlines a structured bureaucratic system for efficient administration, relevant to modern organizational structures.

Chapter-8: The Age of Reorganisation

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (d) 4. (a) 5. (b)

B. Fill in the blanks:

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Post-Mauryan period | 2. Satavahana | 3. Satavahana |
| 4. Pandayas | 5. Chera | 6. Lakshmi, shiva |
| 7. Karikala | 8. Sangam | 9. Gandhara art |
| 10. Kubera | | |

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for false:

1. T 2. T 3. F 4. T 5. F 6. T 7. T 8. T

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. The Era of Reorganisation refers to the period after the fall of the Mauryan Empire, during which smaller kingdoms arose across India.
2. The Satavahana dynasty ruled in the Deccan after the Mauryan Empire.
3. The fish symbol represented the Pandya Kingdom.
4. The Chola dynasty used the tiger symbol as their royal emblem.
5. The Indo-Greeks were satraps left behind by Alexander while retreating from the areas he had conquered and who settled in India. They were much influenced by the rich local culture. This led to a blend of Indian and Greek elements in governance, art, language and daily life.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. The Kushanas were a powerful dynasty that rose around the 1st century CE. They came from Central Asia and settled in northwest India. Their most famous ruler was Kanishka, known for being a strong king and a great supporter of Buddhism.

Kanishka helped spread Buddhism to other countries like China and Central Asia. He also supported art and culture, and during his rule, the Gandhara and Mathura schools of art became very popular. Kanishka started using gold coins with Indian and Greek gods on them, showing the mix of cultures in his empire. His time was important for trade, religion, and art.

In the 1st century CE, Kanishka introduced Shaka calendar. Even today, the Government of India mentions Shaka Samvat dates alongside Gregorian calendar dates in its official documents.
2. The fish symbol was used by the Pandya Kingdom and is an important emblem representing the dynasty. It symbolised the sea and trade, especially the pearl fisheries that the Pandya controlled, making pearls a key export of their kingdom.

3. The Chola Kingdom was known for its advancements in architecture, especially in the construction of temples. The most famous example is the Brihadeeswara Temple at Thanjavur, built during the reign of Rajaraja Chola. The Cholas also introduced the practice of building grand stone temples with detailed sculptures.
4. The Indo-Greek rulers were important for their influence on Indian art and culture. They introduced Greek-style art and are known for their coins, which often featured Indian deities such as Buddha. They played a role in spreading Buddhism through their patronage and their connection with Central Asia.
5. Karikala was a famous and legendary king of the Early Chola dynasty in ancient South India. He is celebrated as one of the greatest Chola rulers, known for his military victories and significant contributions to infrastructure, particularly irrigation projects.

Military Leader: He expanded the Chola territory through military conquests, notably winning the Battle of Venni against the Pandyas and Cheras.

Infrastructure Visionary: He is credited with constructing the Grand Anicut (Kallanai Dam) on the Kaveri River, an ancient dam that is still functional today.

Efficient Ruler: He established a well-structured administrative system and built flood banks along the Kaveri River to promote agriculture and improve the lives of his subjects.

Historical Significance: His reign is mentioned in various Tamil literary works from the Sangam period and is considered a golden period for the Chola dynasty.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. The Gandhara and Mathura schools of art developed during the Kushana period and are known for blending Indian and Greek styles. The Gandhara school, from the western Punjab region, used grey-black schist stone and featured realistic human figures with Greco-Roman influence, especially in Buddha images. The Mathura school reflected indigenous Indian styles with some

foreign elements. Both schools promoted the depiction of deities in human form and contributed to the growth of religious art and early temple architecture in India.

2. The rise of the Chola dynasty in the 9th century CE had a profound impact on South Indian culture and architecture.
 - Cultural Contributions: The Cholas were great patrons of art, literature, and temple building. They promoted Tamil literature, and under their rule, Tamil culture flourished. The Brihadeeswara Temple at Thanjavur, built by Rajaraja Chola, is one of the most iconic examples of Chola architecture and culture.
 - Architectural Contributions: The Cholas introduced grand stone temples with detailed sculptures and intricate artwork, which were not only places of worship but also represented the power and wealth of the empire. The Chola architecture was characterised by the granite towers (Shikharas), courtyards, and pillared halls, which set a foundation for later South Indian temple styles. The Cholas also built elaborate irrigation systems to boost agricultural production and ensure the empire's stability.
3. The Mauryan Empire was a large and powerful empire that ruled a big part of India. After Emperor Ashoka, the empire started to decline.
 - The Mauryan Empire finally collapsed around 185 BCE.
 - After the fall, India was divided into many small kingdoms and regions.
 - These smaller kingdoms began to set up their own administration and develop local cultures.
 - This period marks the rise of new powers, like the Shungas, Satavahanas, Kushanas, and Guptas.

Different regions had their own rulers, languages, and traditions - this led to age of reorganisation.
4. Values and principles of emperors during the 'Age of Reorganisation':

1. Justice

- Many rulers aimed to rule fairly and protect the rights of their people.

2. Dharma (Righteousness)

- Inspired by Ashoka, several rulers followed the path of dharma, meaning good conduct and moral duties.

3. Religious Tolerance

- The Kushanas supported multiple religions such as Buddhism, Hinduism, and Jainism.

4. Respect for Culture

- Promoted art, literature, and education in their kingdoms to preserve Indian cultural practices.

5. Welfare of People

- Built roads, rest houses, irrigation systems, and supported trade provide employment.

6. Strong Administration

- Emperors established organised rule, with ministers and officials to manage different parts of the empire.

7. Promotion of Trade

- Encouraged internal and foreign trade, especially under the Kushanas who linked India to the Silk Route.

8. Unity in Diversity

- Rulers respected different languages and cultures across their regions to maintain peace and harmony.

9. Protection and Security

- Formed powerful armies to protect the people and the kingdoms from invaders.

5. The Sungas dynasty was a Magadha dynasty that ruled after the Mauryans, known for promoting Brahmanism and contributing to art and architecture.

The Sunga dynasty was founded by Pushyamitra Sunga in approximately 185 BCE after he overthrew the last Mauryan emperor, Brihadratha. The dynasty is noted for its revival of Brahmanical influence and culture in northern India.

Religious Work: Pushyamitra Sunga performed Vedic sacrifices, such as the Ashwamedha sacrifice, signifying a return to orthodox Brahmanical practices after the Buddhist-leaning Mauryan era.

Social and Cultural Work: The period saw significant developments in art and architecture. Notable works include the expansion and enclosure of the Great Stupa at Sanchi and the construction of the Stupa at Bharhut. The Sunga period also saw the flourishing of Sanskrit literature and the compilation of important texts like the Mahabhashya by Patanjali.

6. Many Small Kingdoms Emerged

Mauryan Empire (around 185 BCE), broke into smaller kingdoms like:

- Shungas
- Satavahanas
- Kushans
- Indo-Greeks
- Cheras, Cholas, and Pandyas in the south

2. Political Systems Changed

- These new rulers formed their own governments and local systems.
- Each kingdom reorganised their own way of ruling and protecting their region.

3. Art, Religion, and Culture Grew

- There was a rise in Buddhist and Hindu art (like Mathura and Gandhara styles).
- Trade and cities developed.
- Local cultures and traditions started growing stronger.

4. Trade and Coins Developed

- New rulers issued their own coins.

- Trade routes were reorganised, both within India and with other countries like Rome and China.
7. The Kushanas were a powerful dynasty that rose around the 1st century CE. They came from Central Asia and settled in northwest India. Their most famous ruler was Kanishka, known for being a strong king and a great supporter of Buddhism.

Kanishka helped spread Buddhism to other countries like China and Central Asia. He also supported art and culture, and during his rule, the Gandhara and Mathura schools of art became very popular. Kanishka started using gold coins with Indian and Greek gods on them, showing the mix of cultures in his empire. His time was important for trade, religion, and art.

In the 1st century CE, Kanishka introduced Shaka calendar. Even today, the Government of India mentions Shaka Samvat dates alongside Gregorian calendar dates in its official documents.

Skill Based Questions:

Yes, our culture today still reflects Indo-Greek influence. Elements like coin designs, sculptures with Greek-style features, and architectural styles in ancient stupas show this blend. The use of realistic human figures in Indian art and certain philosophical ideas were also inspired by Greek traditions, showing how cultural exchange shaped Indian heritage.

Competency Based Questions:

1. Respect for Indian Beliefs
 - By putting deities like Vasudeva Krishna or Goddess Lakshmi on their coins, they showed respect for the religion and culture of Indian people.
2. To Connect with Indian People
 - Having Indian gods on their coins helped Indo-Greek rulers gain the trust of local people.
 - It made them seem like friendly rulers, not foreign invaders.
3. To Encourage Trade and Use of Coins

- Coins with familiar deities would be more easily accepted in Indian markets.
 - It helped in smooth trade and daily transactions.
4. Cultural Mixing (Confluence)
- It shows how Greek and Indian cultures blended during that time.
 - The coins are examples of unity in diversity.

Chapter-9: The Gupta Era: An Age of Tireless Creativity

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (a) 4. (c) 5. (b)

B. Fill in the blanks:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. Samudragupta | 2. Pataliputra | 3. Kalidasa | 4. Sanskrit |
| 5. Aryabhata | 6. Fa Hein | 7. Ajanta | 8. Science, art |
| 9. 4 th , 6 th | 10. Prabhavati Gupta | | |

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. T 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. T 6. T 7. T 8. T

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. The concepts of zero and the value of pi.
2. Chandragupta II (Vikramaditya).
3. Nalanda University.
4. Samudragupta was the second emperor of the Gupta Empire, ruling from approximately 335 to 380 CE.
5. Harisena was a 4th-century Sanskrit poet, panegyrist, and high-ranking official in the court of the Gupta emperor Samudragupta.
6. Aryabhata proposed that the Earth rotates on its axis.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. The main sources about the Gupta period include literary works (Meghadutam, Aryabhatiya), inscriptions on pillars and temples, and foreign accounts (Prayaga Prashasti inscription, Faxian's travelogue).
2. Inscriptions provide valuable information about the Gupta rulers, their administration, and religious practices. A notable example is the Prayaga Prashasti pillar inscription at Prayagraj, which describes the achievements of Samudragupta.
3. The book Buddhist Records of the Western World was written by Faxian, a Chinese traveller. It describes his journey to India and provides insights into the religious and social conditions of Gupta India.
4. Faxian was a Chinese Buddhist monk and translator.
Faxian travelled to India and Sri Lanka between 399 and 412 CE during the Gupta Empire, primarily to acquire Buddhist texts and relics. His travelogue, A Record of Buddhist Kingdoms, is a significant historical source providing detailed accounts of the culture, society, and Buddhist practices of the time.
5. Mahabaladhikrita was a high-ranking military official or commander-in-chief in ancient Indian kingdoms, particularly during the Gupta period.
The term literally translates to "officer of the great army" or "commander of the chief force". This title is frequently mentioned in inscriptions and seals from that era, indicating a significant role in the military administration of the state.
6. Although originally from the Maurya period, the Ashoka Pillars were used by the Guptas as models for inscriptions, offering details about royal achievements, religious policies, and administration.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. The Gupta Empire ruled India from AD 320 to AD 540.

Important rulers during this period included:

Chandragupta I (320-335 CE)

Samudragupta (335/336-375 CE)

Chandragupta II (376-413/415 CE)

Kumaragupta I (415-455 CE)

Skandagupta (455-467 CE)

The Gupta period is often referred as the 'classical age' of Indian history because:

- It was remarkable for all-round development in administration, art, culture, economy, medicine, literature, education and astronomy.
- The famous universities of Taxila and Nalanda located near Rawalpindi and in Bihar respectively, flourished during this time.
- The temple of Bhitrigaon in Kanpur, Bhitari temple in Ghazipur, and Deogarh temple in Jhansi are examples of fine architecture.
- Aryabhata, a famous astronomer and mathematician, along with Varahamihira, were eminent astronomers. Charaka and Sushruta were excellent scholars of Ayurveda.
- The Iron Pillar' in New Delhi is the proof of high-level metallurgy due to its high- quality iron.
- Highly talented poets during that period were Kalidasa and Harisena. Sanskrit literature flourished with Kalidasa's works and many major Puranas.
- Besides this, many of the major Puranas were compiled or coded during this period.

Thus, it was the 'classical age' or the Golden Period of Indian history.

2. The Gupta Empire thrived on both inland and overseas trade. Goods such as spices, textiles, and precious stones were traded with countries like China, Sri Lanka, and South-East Asia. This boosted the economy and led to the rise of vibrant towns and cities. Gold coins were used for transactions, and there was a strong emphasis on craftsmanship and the role of merchants.
3. The Gupta period is renowned for its distinctive style of art and architecture. The rock-cut temples of Mahabalipuram, sculptures of gods and goddesses, and the Ajanta caves are prime examples. This era also witnessed the creation of

intricate temple architecture, featuring impressive carvings that depict mythological stories-showcasing both religious devotion and artistic excellence.

4. The Gupta period made significant advancements in mathematics, astronomy, and medicine. Āryabhata's work on the concept of zero, the calculation of pi, and the rotation of the Earth were revolutionary. Gupta scholars also made important contributions in field of optics, surgery, and the use of medicinal herbs, influencing scientific thought in India and beyond for centuries.
5. The Gupta Age, witnessed a flourishing culture and knowledge, with many great figures. Among the most notable were Kalidasa, a celebrated poet and dramatist, Aryabhata, a pioneering mathematician and astronomer, and Varahamihira, known for his contributions to astronomy and astrology. Their achievements continue to resonate today because they showcase the intellectual and artistic brilliance of the era, and their works have had lasting impacts on science, literature, and culture.
6. The Pallavas were an important dynasty in South India that ruled between the 3rd and 9th centuries CE. They governed parts of present-day Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Their capital was Kanchipuram, which became a major centre of learning, art, and architecture. The Pallavas are especially known for their rock-cut temples at Mahabalipuram.

Skill Based Questions:

The Kings chose to proclaim their achievements in the form of inscriptions to ensure their legacy lasts for upcoming generations. Inscriptions carved on stone or metal helped them immortalise their deeds, showing their power and authority. By placing these inscriptions in public spaces, like temples, they could also connect their rule to divine favour and legitimacy. These inscriptions served as official records, documenting victories, laws, and important events. They also helped inspire loyalty among their subjects and remind people of the king's strength. Ultimately, it was a way for kings to secure their place in history and show their importance to both their people and future generations.

Picture Based Questions:

- a. Meghadutam was written by Kalidasa.
- b. Meghadutam is a Sanskrit word which means megha (cloud) and duta (messenger), thus translating to "The Cloud Messenger."
- c. It is about a Yaksha who asks a cloud to deliver a love message to his wife.
- d. The poem reflects the Gupta period's appreciation for emotion, beauty, nature, and poetic imagination. It also highlights Kalidasa's mastery in Sanskrit literature.

Theme C: Our Cultural Heritage and Knowledge Traditions

Chapter-10: How The Land Becomes Sacred

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (d) 2. (b) 3. (d) 4. (a) 5. (d)

B. Fill in the blanks:

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Uttarapatha | 2. Golden temple | 3. Peepal Tree |
| 4. Tirthankaras | 5. Kumbh | 6. Jyotirlingas |
| 7. Dongria Kondh | 8. Devrai | 9. Kavu, Sarna and Devrai |
| 10. Adi Shankaracharya | | |

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. F 6. T 7. T 8. F

D. Match the columns:

- 1-(v), 2-(iv), 3-(i), 4-(ii), 5-(iii)

E. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Ganga and Yamuna

2. Peepal tree, it is also called Fig tree.
3. Jyotirlingas
4. Dongria Kondh
5. Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh, India

F. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. The Char Dham pilgrimage connects four sacred sites (Badrinath, Dwarka, Puri, Rameswaram) located in the four directions of India, creating a spiritual map of the country.
2. Kumbh Mela is important as it commemorates the drops of divine nectar from Hindu mythology and brings millions of people together for spiritual purification.
3. Sacred groves protect biodiversity by preserving native flora and fauna through religious prohibitions against hunting and tree-cutting.
4. A devotional representation of the Hindu deity Shiva
A Jyotirlinga (or Jyotirlingam) is a sacred shrine where the Hindu god Shiva is worshipped in the form of a fiery column of light (jyoti means 'light' and lingam means 'sign' or 'symbol'). There are traditionally 12 such shrines across India, each considered a powerful and significant pilgrimage site in Shaivism, the branch of Hinduism that reveres Shiva as the Supreme Being.
5. Sacred sites associated with the Hindu goddess Shakti
Shakti Peethas are significant pilgrimage destinations and temples revered in Shaktism, the tradition within Hinduism that worships the Goddess (Devi) as the supreme divine being. These sites are believed to be where body parts of the goddess Sati (an incarnation of Shakti) fell after her self-immolation and Shiva's subsequent dance of cosmic sorrow (Rudra Tandava). The number of primary Shakti Peethas is generally considered to be 51, though some texts mention more, and they are spread across the Indian subcontinent.
6. The Golden Temple is the holiest shrine in Sikhism, symbolising equality and welcoming people of all faiths.

G. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. The pilgrimage traditions like the Char Dham yatra and Kumbh Mela have historically connected India's diverse regions through shared sacred geography. These journeys facilitated cultural exchange as pilgrims travelled across different linguistic and cultural zones, participating in common rituals while absorbing local traditions, this process helped create a sense of national religious unity despite regional variations.
2. Land becomes sacred through:
 - **Religious associations:** Such as places linked to gods, saints, or events like Buddha's enlightenment.
 - **Natural reverence:** Including rivers like the Ganga, mountains like Kailash, or trees like the peepal.
 - **Pilgrimage networks:** Such as Char Dham and the Jyotirlingas, which spiritually connect diverse regions.
 - **Mythology:** For example, Shakti Peethas, where parts of the goddess Sati's body are believed to have fallen.
3. Sacred places support local economies in many ways. They create demand for pilgrim services like lodging (dharamshalas, hotels), food (bhojanalayas, restaurants), and transport (pony and boat rides). Ritual offerings generate income for priests, flower sellers, and vendors of ganga jal and prasad. Artisan communities benefit by selling crafts in local markets. These sites also bring indirect benefits such as infrastructure development, job creation, cultural tourism, and market growth. Thus, sacred places are both spiritual and economic hubs.
4. When we trace the trade routes and place them over the map, we notice some key observations:
 - a. Major trade routes (Uttarapatha, Dakshinapatha) overlap with pilgrimage routes.
 - b. Important tirthas are located along ancient trade corridors.
 - c. Trading towns often developed around pilgrimage centres.

- d. This shows how spiritual and commercial journeys were interconnected.
5. Natural elements like rivers, mountains and forests are considered sacred by many people due to deep-rooted religious beliefs, their life-giving importance, and cultural significance. Rivers like the Ganga are worshipped as goddesses, as mentioned in the Rigveda. Mountains such as Kailash are believed to be the home of Lord Shiva, and forests are often seen as sacred spaces associated with gods, like the sacred groves. These elements also play a vital role in sustaining life. Rivers provide essential water for drinking, farming, and daily needs. Mountains help in forming rivers and protect the environment, for example, the Himalayas. Forests give us clean air, medicinal plants, and shelter. Culturally, many stories connect these elements with gods and goddesses, such as the story of Shakti Peethas. Pilgrimage sites are often located in natural settings, like Kedarnath in the mountains. Festivals such as the Kumbh Mela, considered in the banks of the rivers, further show the deep connection between nature and cultural traditions.
6. Ancient pilgrimage routes helped promote trade, as pilgrims needed food, clothing, and shelter during their journeys, such as those travelling to Haridwar. Traders set up shops near temples and along routes, selling goods like spices, cloth, and jewellery. Pilgrimage towns also became centres for money exchange, and major routes like the Uttarapatha were used by both pilgrims and merchants.
- Even today, sacred sites support the local economy. In places like Varanasi, people earn by selling flowers, prasad, and pooja items, while guides and priests find work. Transport services see more passengers, and large events like the Kumbh Mela create temporary markets that boost local business.
7. Sacred places strongly influence the culture and traditions of the people living nearby in several important ways. They are central to local festivals and celebrations, such as the Kumbh Mela held at rivers or the annual Pandharpur Wari, Amarnath Yatra or pilgrimage to Sabarimala temple in Kerala which bring

communities together and mark significant times of the year. Daily life is shaped by religious customs, local food habits often revolve around temple offerings like prasad, and traditional clothing reflects religious practices. These places also encourage local art and skills, with artisans creating special crafts such as idols and lamps, and traditional music and dance performances forming part of religious events. Sacred places help strengthen community bonds, as people work together to care for them and pass down stories and legends through generations. Moreover, they promote respect for nature, sacred groves teach the importance of protecting trees and animals, while rivers and mountains are cared for as divine gifts. In this way, sacred sites preserve cultural traditions and encourage both unity and environmental awareness.

8. A tirthayatra (pilgrimage) has two key significances: spiritual and social. Spiritually, pilgrimages help devotees Knowledge Traditions feel closer to the divine, as seen at Jyotirlinga temples or by bathing in holy rivers like the Ganga to wash away sins. They also fulfil religious vows, as in Sikh pilgrimages, and provide peace of mind, especially through meditation at Buddhist sites. Socially, pilgrimages unite people from different regions, as seen in events like the Kumbh Mela, and help preserve traditions through shared rituals and stories. Pilgrimages also support local economies, providing livelihoods for shopkeepers, priests, and guides, while connecting different parts of India culturally, as with the Char Dham Yatra. Thus, a pilgrimage is both a spiritual journey and a way to strengthen community bonds and local economies.

Assertion and Reason Questions:

1. (d)
2. (a)

Skill Based Questions:

1. Hindu mythology established India's sacred geography by associating divine narratives with physical landscapes. Stories like the 51 Shakti Peethas (from Sati's body parts) and the 12 Jyotirlingas (Shiva's manifestations) created

pilgrimage networks that standardised worship practices while incorporating local traditions, blending spiritual beliefs with natural features across the subcontinent.

2. Sacred groves serve as important ecological reserves by preserving native biodiversity through religious protection. For example, Kerala's kavu and Maharashtra's devrai, where communities prohibit tree-cutting and hunting due to the belief that deities inhabit these forests. This faith-based conservation has effectively maintained watersheds and protected endangered species for generations.

Project Work

(Suggestive Ans.) Project: Sacred Sites of India – Vaishno Devi and Tirumala
Vaishno Devi, located in the Trikuta Mountains near Katra in Jammu and Kashmir, is a major pilgrimage site dedicated to Goddess Vaishno Devi, a manifestation of the divine feminine. Devotees undertake a 13-kilometre trek to reach the sacred cave, which houses three natural rock formations (pindis) representing the goddess. The temple is especially crowded during Navratri, when special prayers and celebrations take place. The shrine also supports the local economy and provides facilities for pilgrims throughout the year.

Tirumala, situated in the Seshachalam Hills of Andhra Pradesh, is home to the famous temple of Lord Venkateswara. Rich in ecological diversity, the area is protected and maintained through various conservation efforts by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD). The temple has a long historical legacy, supported by South Indian dynasties. Pilgrims visit for darshan, offer hair as a ritual, and receive the well-known Tirupati Laddu. The temple also promotes sustainable practices, bans plastic, and ensures cleanliness, making it both a spiritual and environmentally significant site.

Theme D: Governance and Democracy

Chapter-11: From The Rulers to The Ruled: Types of Governments

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (b) 5. (a)

B. Fill in the blanks:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
| 1. Separation of powers | 2. Committee | 3. People | 4. Three |
| 5. Raksha | 6. Law and order | 7. Governments | |
| 8. Abraham Lincoln | 9. Theocracy | 10. Greek | |

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. T 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. F 6. F 7. T 8. T

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Equal treatment in all respects and access to all public services like education and health.
2. Fundamental rights like equality and freedom of speech.
3. Right to make choices and express opinions.
4. Protects rights and ensures laws are followed.
5. In a representative democracy, people elect representatives who make decisions on their behalf in the government. This is the most common form of democracy in the world today.
6. In a direct democracy, citizens directly participate in the decision-making process, such as by voting on proposed laws or other issues.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. It is difficult to implement in large countries because involving everyone in decision-making is hard.
2. In India, general elections are held every five years to elect members of the Lok Sabha, which is the lower house of Parliament.

3. Accountability in a democracy means that the government is answerable to the people. If the government fails in its duties, the people can question it and choose new leaders in the next election.
4. A form of government where the monarch has supreme autocratic authority. An absolute monarchy is a political system in which a single ruler, usually a king or queen, holds all power and is not restricted by a constitution or laws. The monarch's power is often justified by the concept of the "divine right of kings," meaning their authority comes directly from God.
5. A system of government in which priests rule in the name of God or a god. Theocracy is a form of government where a deity is recognized as the supreme civil ruler, and the deity's laws are interpreted by ecclesiastical authorities (clergy) who govern the people. Religious law is the basis for all civil law in such a system.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. A republic is a form of government in which the head of state is elected, rather than being a hereditary monarch. In ancient India, republics were practised in certain Mahajanapadas, such as the Vajji Mahajanapada. In this republic, the Lichchhavi clan followed a system of collective decision-making. Leaders were chosen based on merit, and representatives from different clans would meet regularly to discuss issues and ensure the welfare of the people.
2. In a constitutional monarchy such as the United Kingdom, the monarch serves as the ceremonial head of state. The role of the monarch is largely symbolic, and they do not actively engage in the day-to-day governance of the country. Real political power lies with elected representatives, particularly the Prime Minister, who heads the government, and the parliament, which makes and passes laws. The monarch's functions are mostly ceremonial, such as opening parliament or attending state events,

while governance is carried out by the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers.

3. The different types of government are: Democratic (Republic), Monarchy, Theocracy, Dictatorship and Oligarchy. In a democracy, people choose their leaders. In some tribal societies, governance is carried out by a group of wise leaders who make decisions for the community. In a republic, leaders are elected, unlike in monarchies, where power is passed down through family, as seen in ancient India. A monarchy can be autocratic, where the ruler has full control, like in Saudi Arabia, or constitutional, where the monarch's role is mostly symbolic, as in Britain. In a Theocracy, religious leaders govern, like in Iran. dictatorships are controlled by one person or a small group, like Hitler or Idi Amin. Oligarchies are ruled by a few powerful people, often wealthy elites.
4. Governments get their power from different sources based on the type of government. In democracies, power comes from the people, who elect their leaders and have a participation in decisions. In monarchies, power is passed down through family, and rulers may claim divine right. In dictatorships, power is taken by force or kept through threats, usually by one person or a small group. In theocracies, power comes from religious leaders who claim to rule by divine will. In oligarchies, power is held by a small, usually wealthy group of people who make the decisions.
5. Democracy matters because it gives people the right to choose their leaders. In a democracy, the government works for the people and listens to their needs. It also protects the rights and freedom of everyone. As former US President Abraham Lincoln said, it is a "government of the people, by the people, for the people."
6. The government helps encourage new ideas and research, keeps cultural traditions alive, protects workers' rights, and makes sure products are safe to use. It also works to make society fair for everyone, supports tourism, looks

after natural resources carefully, and provides emergency services like fire and ambulance. All of these actions help the country grow and improve.

Assertion and Reason Questions:

1. (a)

2. (d)

Competency Based Questions:

1. In a dictatorship, one person or a small group holds absolute power without being held accountable by law, elections, or democratic institutions. This unchecked power often leads to oppression, violence, and widespread human rights abuses.

For instance, Adolf Hitler, after becoming Chancellor of Germany in 1933, used his authority to eliminate opposition and enforce policies that led to World War II and the Holocaust, where around six million Jews were murdered. Another example is Idi Amin in Uganda, who ruled through military force, killing thousands and expelled the Indian community. These examples show how absolute power, without any accountability, can have devastating consequences for a country's people.

2. As empires grew in ancient India, kings gained more power and control.

Initially, rulers relied on advice from councils like the sabha or samiti, but as their empires expanded, they began to depend more on ministers and officials to help govern. Even though they had advisors, kings still made the final decisions on important matters. In some cases, kings believed their power came from a divine source, claiming they ruled by God's will. This belief in divine right helped strengthen their authority and control over their empire. This shift made kings more powerful and centralised their rule.

Skill Based Questions:

1. Government-provided public services, such as education, healthcare, transport, and infrastructure, have a significant impact on the well-being of citizens. These services ensure that basic needs are met, regardless of a person's economic

background. For instance, access to quality education empowers individuals with knowledge and skills, leading to better job opportunities and improved living standards. Public healthcare helps to prevent and treat illness, contributing to a healthier population. Similarly, well-maintained infrastructure, including roads, clean water, and sanitation, supports daily life and economic activity. By providing these services, the government not only reduces social and economic inequalities but also promotes inclusive growth and the overall development of society. Such provisions are vital for maintaining stability, fairness, and a good quality of life for all citizens.

2. A country's government interacts with its people based on the system in place. In democracies, citizens vote for leaders and policies, and public opinions are gathered through media and surveys. In monarchies, decisions are usually made by the king or a small group, with consultations from advisors. Dictatorships limit people's influence by controlling information. In theocracies, religious leaders enforce laws based on religious teachings. Lastly, in oligarchies, a small group makes decisions with little public involvement.

Chapter-12: The Constitution of India—An Introduction

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (c) 5. (c)

B. Fill in the blanks:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. constitution | 2. Rajendra Prasad | 3. Constituent assembly, |
| nearly three years | 4. Irish | 5. Preamble |
| 6. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar | 7. 395 | 8. Fundamental Duties |
| 9. Prem Behari Narain Raizada | | 10. Janapadas |

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. F 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. T 6. T 7. T 8. T

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. A constitution is the supreme law of a country or state, outlining the fundamental rules for how it is governed. It establishes the structure, powers, and duties of government institutions, as well as the rights and duties of its citizens. Constitutions provide the legal framework for a society and ensure that government actions are fair and accountable, similar to how a rulebook guides a game.

2. Secularism means that the citizens have complete freedom to choose and follow any religion.

3. (i) Ideals and values from Indian freedom movement and civilisational heritage.

(ii) Influence from foreign constitutions like those of France (liberty, equality, fraternity) and USA (independent judiciary) and others.

4. Fundamental Right: Article 21. Protection of life and personal liberty.

Fundamental Duty: Article 49: Protection of monuments, places, and objects of national importance.

5. India's emergence as an independent nation.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Some basic principles and laws enshrined in our Constitution are:

- The framework of the three organs of the government (legislature, executive, and judiciary) and their roles and responsibilities;
- Checks and balances amongst the three organs of the government to ensure fairness, responsibility and accountability.
- Rules help in avoiding chaos and mismanagement in society.
- The rights and duties of the citizens;
- An outline of the long-term goals and aspirations of the nation.

2. The Directive Principles of State Policy are guidelines provided to the government to help in formulating policies aimed at ensuring the welfare of all citizens and building a just and equitable society.
 - Although these principles are not legally enforceable by any court, they serve as a moral obligation for the government to strive towards.
 - Their ultimate goal is to achieve the vision of a welfare state as envisioned in the Constitution.
3. The Constitution of India came into effect on 26 January 1950 and declared India as a democratic and republic so it is celebrated as the Republic Day in India.
4. Separation of powers defines the domain of each organ of the government.
 - It prevents misuse of authority by distributing responsibilities among the legislature, executive, and judiciary.
 - It ensures accountability and forms base of checks and balances, and protects the democratic structure of the country.

G. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. The Preamble serves as the introduction to the Constitution and presents a summary of its core values and guiding principles. It highlights fundamental ideals such as Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, and defines India as a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, and Democratic Republic. The government strives to achieve these ideals through various laws and policies:
 - Justice: Special provisions are made to protect and uplift the weaker and marginalised sections of society such as Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Other Backward Classes (OBC), Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), women, and others.
 - Liberty: Every citizen is guaranteed freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship.

- Equality: The rule of law is upheld, ensuring that all individuals are treated equally before the law and have equal access to opportunities.

These values guide the functioning of the Indian democracy and reflect the spirit of the Constitution.

2. The Constitution of India divides the powers and responsibilities of the government into three main organs. These are:

a. Legislature

- It makes laws for the country.
- In India, the Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) is the main legislature.
- It discusses national issues.

b. Executive

- It implements and enforces the laws made by the legislature.
- It includes the President, Prime Minister, Council of Ministers, Civil servants and others.

c. Judiciary

- It interprets the laws and ensures they are followed.
- It settles disputes and protects the rights of citizens.
- The Supreme Court is the highest court, followed by High Courts and District Courts.

3. A constitution is the rulebook of a country, which helps in proper governance. It defines the nature of the government, its procedure of formation and mechanism of its functioning. The Constitution lays down the procedure of making laws and outlines the functions of three organs of the government (Legislative, Executive and Judiciary). It reflects the core values of the nation- like justice, fraternity, equality, respect, freedom and pluralism.
4. The task of writing our constitution was given to a Constituent Assembly, which was formed on 9 December, 1946. It was a body of representatives who were elected by the legislative assemblies of the provinces. These elections were held

in July 1946. Initially the Assembly consisted of 389 members (before Partition) and was later reduced to 299 members after the Partition of India and Pakistan in 1947. 15 women members were there in the Assembly. The task of drafting the constitution was completed from 9 December, 1946 to 26 November 1949.

It took approximately two years, eleven months, and seventeen days to complete. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

The Constitution was adopted on November 26, 1949, and came into effect on January 26, 1950.

Assertion and Reason Questions:

1. (c)
2. (c)

Skill Based Questions:

The Constitution of India is called a living document because it can be changed or updated by the Parliament to meet the needs of the people with the changing times. This helps keep the Constitution relevant and useful.

So far, the Constitution has been amended more than 100 times. Some important examples include:

- 42nd Amendment (1976): Added Fundamental Duties and the words "Socialist" and "Secular" to the Preamble.
- Part IV-A (1976): Introduced Fundamental Duties for citizens.
- 73rd Amendment (1992): Gave Constitutional status to Panchayati Raj (local self-government in villages).

These examples show that the Constitution can grow and change, just like a living thing. That's why it is called a living document

Chapter-13: Understanding Genders

Assessment Time

A. Multiple Choice Questions:

1. (a)
2. (a)
3. (b)
4. (c)
5. (c)

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. Inferior 2. Education 3. Against 4. Dowry 5. Gender inequality

C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false:

1. F 2. T 3. T 4. T 5. F

D. Match the following:

1-(d), 2-(e), 3-(b), 4-(a), 5-(c)

E. Very short answer type questions:

1. Inferior Status of Women: Women in our society are treated as inferior to their male counterparts.

Female Infanticide: Still today, the birth of a girl child is still unwelcome in most of the societies. There are numerous instances of killing of the unborn and even born girl child in our society. Quite often, a newly born girl child is abandoned by her parents.

2. Sex refers to biological and physical difference between the males and females. This differentiation between persons based on their sex is called gender

3. Gender discrimination is one of the social evil of our country.

4. An increasing number of girls and women are living in poverty. The gap between women and men is being widened. There is a system of equal pay for equal work without any kind of gender discrimination in economic field also. By enabling women in economic field, we are strengthening our country by eliminating gender discrimination

5. Men and women all have a place in the society but traditionally they have been treated differently in different societies. The men from early childhood are considered stronger, independent and outgoing while the females are considered delicate and house bound. This had led to a situation where nearly half the population consisting of the female gender was being denied equality due to the social customs and restrictions.

F. Answer the following questions in brief:

1. Still today, the birth of a girl child is still unwelcome in most of the societies. There are numerous instances of killing of the unborn and even born girl child in our society. Quite often, a newly born girl child is abandoned by her parents.

2. Sati system is the most despicable social evil in which a widow is forced to burn herself in the funeral pyre of her dead husband and if she resists, she is forced to do so

3. Dowry is the system in which the parents of a girl child have to give money, valuables, goods, etc. at the time of the girl's marriage. In spite of all efforts, the evils of dowry couldn't be removed completely from our society. Due to this social evil, many girls remain unmarried as their parents cannot afford dowry. In many other cases, they have to suffer a lot even after their marriage

4. Gender inequality is closely linked to the social inequality. In principal, men and women are equal, with the same rights and duties. But the major inequality is observed in the socioeconomic fields, which can be described as follows:

a. **Gender Discrimination in Social Fields:** In the social fields, the inequalities between both genders are based on mortality that is known as mortality inequality. The woman mortality-rate in our country is much higher in comparison to men. As a result, the number of women is far less than men in our society.

b. **Gender Discrimination in Economic Fields:** In most societies, the socio-economic relations between women and men are largely unequal. Women receive unequal distribution of land and access to resources such as food and health care. Here also, the women have to face discrimination in terms of wages and treatment. Since they are not supposed to be hard workers; they are incapable of coming from distant places and not fit for night duties, etc. they have to face discrimination in terms of wages and allowances.

5. a **Gender Discrimination in Social Fields:** In the social fields, the inequalities between both genders are based on mortality that is known as mortality inequality. The woman mortality-rate in our country is much higher in

comparison to men. As a result, the number of women is far less than men in our society. Another factor of their discrimination in social fields is related to natal discrimination. Even today, many of the families of our country prefer a male child to a female child. This mentality is reflected in the increasing number of female infanticide (killing of unborn girl child). Yet another factor of this inequality in the social field can be observed in several households and families in which female children are maltreated. They are neither given proper food nor good education. They are, rather, asked to do household work right from their childhood and in many cases, they are not sent to school at all. In a survey, it has been established that in comparison to the male children, the school dropout rate is much higher in female children all over the country.

b. Gender Discrimination in Economic Fields: In most societies, the socio-economic relations between women and men are largely unequal. Women receive unequal distribution of land and access to resources such as food and health care. Here also, the women have to face discrimination in terms of wages and treatment. Since they are not supposed to be hard workers; they are incapable of coming from distant places and not fit for night duties, etc. they have to face discrimination in terms of wages and allowances. Even today, in most of the cases, women are not given the share of their parent's property. It is also a kind of economic inequality for women. Because of these socio-economic factors, the womenfolk find themselves helpless and neglected in the society.

Chapter-14: Women Change the World

Assessment Time

A. Multiple Choice Questions:

1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (a) 5. (a)

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. Stereotypes 2. Gender 3. Absolute 4. Gender
inequality 5. Sex and gender

C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false:

1. F 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. F

D. Very short answer type questions:

1. Our society is a male-dominated patriarchal society. Gender is mainly influenced by the following factors: 1. Literacy Rate: In India, 54% women are literated in comparison to men who are 76% literated. 2. In the jobs areas, women are less payed and less valued. 3. Sex discrimination.
2. The work entitled to a woman at home in the form of various activities like cooking, maintenance of kitchen, gardening, collecting of water and firewood, grinding of food grain and cleaning clothes, taking care of siblings is considered as invisible work without earning. But it a matter of thinking that if the same work is done by a servant, then it would be a toll on the pocket of a man. This shows that the work done by the woman is actually productive in terms of money but the agony is that she does not get any appreciation or economic stablization for the same. So, it is important that the savings generated by woman for the above activities should be given the due importance. The income earned by man is only considered as the income of the home. If woman goes out for work leaving the above activities, an extra expenditure is to be incurred.
3. Gender refers to the learning about the significance of sex'.
4. Gender is socially acquired attribute whereas sex is the biological difference between men and women.
5. Sex refers to biological and physical differences between the males and females. Sex is a biological character that distinguishes a male from a female on the basis of morphology, gonads, number of chromosomes and endocrine system (hormonal system).

E. Answer the questions in brief:

1. Gender equality is essential because it is a fundamental human right, promoting a more peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable world by ensuring equal access to opportunities, resources, and participation in all aspects of life for both women

and men, leading to improved social, economic, and health outcomes for all members of society; it also contributes to reducing poverty, violence against women, and strengthens democracy by allowing diverse perspectives in decision-making processes.

2. Women's empowerment is the process of giving women the ability to make choices and control their lives. It's a fundamental human right that's also key to achieving gender equality and a more peaceful world.
3. "Sex and gender are not the same" means that while related, "sex" refers to a person's biological characteristics like chromosomes and reproductive organs, while "gender" refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviours, and identities associated with masculinity and femininity, meaning that someone's biological sex may not align with how they identify their gender socially; essentially, sex is biological, and gender is social.
4. Gender equality is deeply intertwined with other forms of social inequality, meaning that disparities based on gender often intersect with inequalities based on factors like race, caste, class, sexual orientation, disability, and geographic location, creating a complex web of systemic disadvantages for marginalized groups, particularly women and girls; addressing one form of inequality without considering the others can hinder progress towards true social justice.
5. Women face discrimination in many ways in society, including in education, employment, and personal life.

Chapter-15: Media and Democracy

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

A. Multiple Choice Questions:

- | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (c) | 3. (b) | 4. (a) | 5. (c) |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. Responsibilities, duties 2. Pillar 3. Bridge 4.
Judiciary 5. Personal, professional interests

C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false:

1. T 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. F

D. Very short answer type questions:

1. Examples of media include: newspapers, magazines, books, radio, television, movies, the internet, social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter, billboards, and mobile phones.
2. Media" refers to the various channels or tools used to communicate information to a wide audience, including platforms like television, radio, newspapers, magazines, the internet, and social media, essentially encompassing all means of mass communication used to reach people widely; it is the plural form of the word "medium" which means a means of communication.
3. Freedom of the press in India is legally protected by the Amendment to the constitution of India, while the sovereignty, national integrity, and moral principles are generally protected by the law of India to maintain a hybrid legal system for independent journalism.
4. The objectives of media include: informing the public, providing a balanced report on current events, setting agendas for discussion, raising awareness about important issues, promoting products through advertising, building brand recognition, reaching specific target audiences, generating revenue through advertising, and facilitating public discourse on critical topics.

E. Answer the questions in brief:

1. The media plays a vital role in a democracy by providing information, raising awareness, and forming public opinion.
2. The "New World Information and Communication Order" (NWICO) refers to a political movement that emerged in the late 1970s, primarily within the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), advocating for a more equitable global information

flow by challenging the dominance of Western media and promoting greater representation of developing countries in international communication, aiming to rebalance the power dynamics in the global media landscape; it was largely driven by concerns about the portrayal of developing nations in Western media and the need for them to have greater control over their own communication narratives.

3. The key function of mass media is to disseminate information to a large audience, informing, educating, and entertaining people by communicating various messages through diverse platforms like television, radio, newspapers, and the internet; essentially acting as a tool to reach the masses and share news, knowledge, and entertainment content.
4. Knowing different versions of the same story is important because it allows you to understand multiple perspectives, analyze the story deeper by comparing and contrasting details, appreciate the cultural context of the narrative, and gain a richer understanding of the underlying themes and messages, as different authors may emphasize various aspects based on their own interpretations and background.
5. The social responsibility of the media is to act in the best interests of society by providing accurate information, promoting public discourse, and representing diverse perspectives.
6. The media (including social media) has an important role in the fight against corruption as it can demand accountability and transparency from the public and private sectors.

Theme E: Economic Life Around Us

Chapter-16: From Barter to Money

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (d) 5. (b)

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. Medium of exchange 2. Barter 3. Gold 4. Obverse 5. China
6. QR 7. Security feature 8. Guptas

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. T 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. T 6. T 7. T 8. T

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Silver and gold were the primary metals to mint ancient coins.
2. Paper currency replaced metal coins for easier large transactions.
3. The barter system required mutual need between trading parties (double coincidence).
4. Cowrie shells and salt served as early forms of money.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. The double coincidence of wants refers to the challenge of finding two parties who simultaneously possess what the other desires. For instance, a potter needing wheat must locate a farmer who wants pots, making trade inefficient and time-consuming without a common medium of exchange.
2. Paper currency offers greater portability as it's lightweight, enables higher denominations for large transactions, and provides better security through advanced anti-counterfeit features. It's also more cost-effective to produce compared to minting metal coins requiring precious metals.
3. Ancient Indian coins served as political propaganda and cultural symbols. The Gupta dynasty coins featured kings performing Ashvamedha sacrifices, demonstrating imperial authority. Chola coins bore the tiger emblem, representing regional pride and royal power.
4. Digital money enables instant, contactless payments anytime through mobile devices, eliminating cash handling. It also provides transaction records for easy tracking and integrates seamlessly with banking systems, allowing quick transfers between accounts without physical branch visits.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. Problems of Barter System:

- **Double Coincidence of Wants:** Traders had to find someone who both had what they needed and wanted what they offered.
- **Storage Issues:** Many bartered goods like grain or livestock spoiled over time or required special care, making it hard to save wealth.
- **Transport Difficulties:** Heavy or bulky items (like tools/animals) were hard to carry to the markets.
- **No Standard Value:** There was no fixed way to compare worth (how many pots equal one cow?)

How Money Helped:

- **Easy Exchange:** Money acts as a common medium - everyone accepts it, eliminating the need for matching needs.
- **Durability:** Coins/notes don't spoil over time and are compact for storage.
- **Portability:** Lightweight money is easy to carry in any quantity.
- **Standard Measure:** Fixed values (like ₹10, ₹50) allow fair pricing of all goods.
- **Divisibility:** Money can be divided into smaller amounts for precise payments.

2. Before money, exchange took place through the barter system, where goods and services were directly exchanged without using money. Commodities like cowrie shells, salt, tea, tobacco, cattle, and grains were commonly used as the earliest form of exchange.

3. The barter system had four key limitations:

- **Double Coincidence of Wants:** Both parties needed to have exactly what the other desired (e.g., a farmer with wheat must find someone who wants wheat and has the shoes he needs).
- **Lack of Common Measure:** No standard to compare values (e.g., How much wheat equals one cow?).

- **Indivisibility:** Some goods couldn't be split (e.g., You can't divide a live goat to buy small items).

- **Storage/Transport Issues:**

- Perishable goods (e.g., grain) could be spoiled.
- Heavy/bulky items (e.g., stones) were hard to move.

4. Ancient Indian coins had these key features:

Materials:

- Made of metals like silver, copper, gold, and alloys (e.g., pana coins).

Designs:

- Obverse (Front): Rulers' portraits (e.g., Gupta kings) or symbols (e.g., Chola dynasty's tiger emblem).
- Reverse (Back): Religious motifs (e.g., Varaha avatar), nature (e.g., trees, animals), or trade items (e.g., ships).

Inscriptions:

- Names of kings (e.g., Samudragupta) or dynasties in Brahmi/Sanskrit script.
- Mint marks, indicating production locations.

Shapes & Sizes:

- Irregular punch-marked coins (6th BCE)-standardized round coins (Mauryan era).

Purpose:

- Showed royal authority and facilitated trade across empires.

Example: The Chalukyan coins featured Vishnu's Varaha avatar on one side and a royal parasol on the other.

5. Money has evolved through five key phases:

- a. **Barter:** Direct goods/services exchange (e.g., crops for tools).
- b. **Commodity Money:** Standardized valuables (cowrie shells, salt).
- c. **Metallic Coins:** Minted coins (silver, gold) with rulers' marks (6th BCE).
- d. **Paper Currency:** Lightweight notes (introduced in India in 1861).

- e. **Digital Money:** Cashless transactions (UPI, cards, QR codes).

Each phase solved prior limitations: portability (coins → paper), divisibility (digital payments), and universal acceptance.

Example: A farmer once traded wheat for shoes; today, they scan a QR code to sell crops digitally.

Skill Based Questions

1. Two Important Coin Types:

Gupta Dynasty Coins (4th-6th century):

- Design: Featured kings performing sacrifices like Ashvamedha (horse sacrifice).
- Example: Samudragupta's coins show him playing a Veena, highlighting royal talents.
- Material: Made of gold with Sanskrit inscriptions.

Chola Empire Coins (9th-13th century CE):

- Design: Stamped with the Chola tiger emblem.
- Example: Raja-Raja Chola's coins had his title "Rajaraja" inscribed.
- Material: Mostly silver and copper.

Why Kings Used Their Images/Symbols:

Show of Power:

- Coins acted like royal advertisements across the empire.
- Example: Kushan coins showed kings wearing heavy armor to appear strong.

Religious Messaging:

- Featured gods (like Lakshmi) to show divine approval of their rule.
- Example: Chalukya coins had Vishnu's Varaha avatar.

Economic Control:

- Standardized coins helped unify trade across regions.
- Royal marks guaranteed purity and value.

2. The Evolution of Money: From Coins to Digital Payments

Commodity Money (Ancient Times)

- People used natural items like cowrie shells, salt, and grains as currency.
- Example: Rai stones (huge stone wheels) on Yap Island.

Metal Coins (6th century BCE)

- First standardized coins made of gold, silver, and copper.
- Featured kings, gods, and symbols (e.g., Gupta dynasty coins).

Paper Money (18th Century)

- Introduced as lightweight alternative to heavy coins.
- Example: Early Indian notes issued by the Bank of Bengal (1861).

Plastic Money (1980s)

- Debit/Credit cards allowed cashless transactions.
- Example: ATM withdrawals without bank visits.

Digital Payments (21st Century)

- UPI (2016) enables instant mobile transfers via QR codes.
 - Benefits: No cash needed, 24/7 transactions, easy tracking.
1. • **Medium of exchange:** Buy items directly without bartering.
 - **Store of value:** Save money without goods spoiling.
 - **Divisibility:** Use small denominations for small purchases.
 - **Portability:** Carry lightweight currency instead of bulky goods.

Chapter-17: Understanding Markets

Assessment Time

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c)
2. (b)
3. (c)
4. (b)
5. (b)

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. Price
2. Hampi, Karnataka
3. Goods, services
4. Wholesaler
5. Global
6. Physically proximity
7. FSSAI
8. Wholesaler or middleman

C. Write ‘T’ for True and ‘F’ for False:

1. F
2. F
3. F
4. F
5. F
6. F
7. F
8. T

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. A place where buyers and sellers exchange goods and services.
2. Hampi Bazaar in Karnataka.
3. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.
4. A person who sells goods directly to consumers in small quantities.
5. BEE (Bureau of Energy Efficiency): BEE is marked on electronic/electrical products, like AC, Refrigerators, TVs etc, so that consumers can know how much power will be consumed by using them. Consumers want to buy the product with least power consuming or energy efficient equipments.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Price is determined by the interaction between demand from buyers and supply from sellers. Both must agree on a price for the transaction to take place.
2. Markets bring people together from different backgrounds, allowing them to share traditions, food, and ideas.
3. To ensure farmers receive fair compensation and do not suffer losses during times of low demand or overproduction.
4. Cold storage helps preserve perishable goods like fruits and vegetables, allowing them to be sold even after several days of harvest.
5. Wholesalers sell in large quantities and mainly to retailers, while retailers sell in small quantities directly to consumers.
6. The government ensures fair trade by setting maximum and minimum prices for essential goods, implementing quality standards (like FSSAI and ISI), and providing public goods. It also checks environmental damage from industries

and unfair trade practices.

F. Long Answer Type questions:

1. Markets can be physical (like local haats), online (shopping apps), domestic (within a country), international (across borders), wholesale (bulk selling), and retail (small quantity selling to consumers). Each serves a different purpose and caters to various needs of buyers and sellers.
2. Producers or manufacturers supply goods to wholesalers in large quantities. Wholesalers then send goods to retailers, who sell them to the final consumers. Distributors may help transport goods from one stage to another.
3. Main features of a market are:
 - a. Buyers and Sellers: A market is a place where buyers and sellers come together to exchange goods or services.
 - b. Goods and Services: A wide range of products or services are available for sale.
 - c. Price Determination: Prices are decided based on demand and supply, and sometimes through bargaining.
 - d. Payment and Exchange: Goods are exchanged for money or other goods.
 - e. Competition: Multiple sellers offer similar products, creating competition.
 - f. Location: Can be physical (like a vegetable market) or virtual (like online shopping platforms).

Last week, I visited the local vegetable market to buy tomatoes and potatoes. The market was crowded with many vendors selling fresh vegetables. Prices varied slightly from stall to stall. Some sellers offered free coriander with bulk purchases. I noticed people bargaining, comparing prices, and choosing fresh produce carefully. The environment was lively, with sounds of sellers calling out prices and customers negotiating. It was a perfect example of a traditional market with direct interaction between buyers and sellers.

4. Markets are places where people buy and sell things. These things can be goods (like fruits, clothes, or toys) or services (like haircuts or car repairs). A

market can be a physical place like a shop, a street market, or even an online store.

Markets work through the interaction of buyers and sellers. Sellers offer products or services, and buyers choose what they want to buy based on the price and quality. The price is usually decided based on supply (how much of something is available) and demand (how much people want it). When demand is high and supply is low, prices go up. When supply is high and demand is low, prices go down.

So, markets help in the exchange of goods and services and allow people to meet their needs.

5. Markets play an important role in people's lives by helping them meet their daily needs. People go to markets to buy food, clothes, and other goods, and also to get services like haircuts or repairs. Sellers earn money by offering products or services, while buyers choose what they need. Markets also give people choices, help set fair prices through supply and demand, and support local jobs and businesses. Whether it's a small shop, a big mall, or an online store, markets connect people and support the economy in many ways.
6. Consumers can assess the quality of goods and services in several ways. They can check labels for details like expiry dates, ingredients, and certifications (such as ISI, FSSAI or AGMARK marks in India). Reading reviews, asking for recommendations, or comparing products before buying also helps. For services, customers can look at ratings, past experiences, and feedback from others. Trying a sample or asking questions can give more clarity. Being aware of consumer rights and using them when needed also helps ensure that they receive good quality products and services.

Model Test Paper – I

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet.

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (b) 4. (b) 5. (c) 6. (c) 7. (c)

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. Monastery, culture 2. Anemometer 3. Varna 4. Brahmins,
Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and shudras 5. Greek word 6. People 7. Silk
road 8. Kumbh 9. Irish 10. PIN

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. True 2. False 3. True 4. False 5. True 6. True 7. False
8. False 9. True 10. True

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. India along with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar.
2. Two main sources of ancient urban centres are:
 - (a) Archaeological excavation
 - (b) Ancient literature
3. Jyotirlingas
4. (i) Ideals and values from Indian freedom movement and civilisational heritage.
(ii) Influence from foreign constitutions like those of France (liberty, equality, fraternity) and USA (independent judiciary) and others.

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Paper currency offers greater portability as it's lightweight, enables higher denominations for large transactions, and provides better security through advanced anti-counterfeit features. It's also more cost-effective to produce compared to minting metal coins requiring precious metals.
2. Absolute monarchy is a form of government where a single ruler, typically a king or queen, has complete and unlimited power, making all decisions without being restricted by a constitution or legislature. This ruler holds supreme authority over the state, controlling aspects like the judiciary, military, and administration, and their word is considered law.

3. The Harappan civilisation mastered copper and bronze. They were fully dependent on these for making tools, weapons and utensils. The Second Urbanisation introduced iron metallurgy which was more durable and easier to shape. It encouraged trade and agriculture and strengthened the military.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. We can measure and monitor the weather using various instruments. A thermometer measures temperature, a barometer measures air pressure, hygrometer measures humidity, a wind vane shows wind direction and an anemometer measures wind speed. Automated weather stations and satellites also help in continuously tracking and predicting weather conditions.
2. Sacred places strongly influence the culture and traditions of the people living nearby in several important ways. They are central to local festivals and celebrations, such as the Kumbh Mela held at rivers or the annual Pandharpur Wari, Amarnath Yatra or pilgrimage to Sabarimala temple in Kerala which bring communities together and mark significant times of the year. Daily life is shaped by religious customs, local food habits often revolve around temple offerings like prasad, and traditional clothing reflects religious practices. These places also encourage local art and skills, with artisans creating special crafts such as idols and lamps, and traditional music and dance performances forming part of religious events. Sacred places help strengthen community bonds, as people work together to care for them and pass down stories and legends through generations. Moreover, they promote respect for nature, sacred groves teach the importance of protecting trees and animals, while rivers and mountains are cared for as divine gifts. In this way, sacred sites preserve cultural traditions and encourage both unity and environmental awareness.

Model Test Paper – II

Multiple Choice Questions:

A. Darken the correct circle in the OMR sheet:

1. (c) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (c) 5. (b) 6. (c) 7. (c)

B. Fill in the blanks:

1. Equator 2. Goods and services 3. Ethical, social 4. Corruption
5. Lakshmi, Shiva 6. Mount Koussi 7. Tuareg, Berbers 8. Gangotri
9. Carajas 10. Science, arts

C. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False:

1. T 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. F 6. T 7. T 8. F 9. T 10. F

D. Very Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Providing information, educating the public, entertaining, and acting as a watchdog on government and corporations.
2. Poverty, illiteracy, or caste discrimination.
3. Nalanda University
4. Brahmi script

E. Short Answer Type Questions:

1. Climate is a long- term weather pattern whereas a season lasts a few months.
2. Inscriptions provide valuable information about the Gupta rulers, their administration, and religious practices. A notable example is the Prayaga Prashasti pillar inscription at Prayagraj, which describes the achievements of Samudragupta.
3. Although originally from the Maurya period, the Ashoka Pillars were used by the Guptas as models for inscriptions, offering details about royal achievements, religious policies, and administration.

F. Long Answer Type Questions:

1. Producers or manufacturers supply goods to wholesalers in large quantities. Wholesalers then send goods to retailers, who sell them to the final consumers. Distributors may help transport goods from one stage to another.
2. Ashoka's Dhamma was a moral code emphasising non-violence, tolerance, truthfulness, and respect for all religions. While inspired by Buddhism, it was secular and universal, applicable to people of all faiths. Ashoka propagated

Dhamma through edicts inscribed on rocks and pillars across the empire in local languages. He appointed Dhamma Mahamattas to teach these principles and implemented welfare measures like hospitals, roads, and rest houses. This innovative approach to governance promoted social harmony and ethical living without enforcing any single religion.