

Q1) "Paradise Unexplored" is how one can describe the north east region.

Discuss

Ans.

1. North East India comprises of seven states commonly known as the "Seven Sisters". They are Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura.
2. The North East is a true frontier region. It has over 2000 km of border with Bhutan, China, Myanmar and Bangladesh and is connected to the rest of India by a narrow 20 km wide corridor of land.
3. One of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse regions in Asia, each state has its distinct cultures and traditions.
4. A place renowned for its magical beauty and bewildering diversity, North East India is the home for more than 166 separate tribes speaking a wide range of languages.
5. The lushness of its landscape, the range of communities and geographical and ecological diversity makes the North East quite different from other parts of the subcontinent.
6. Each state is a traveller's paradise, with picturesque hills and green meadows which shelters thousand of species of flora and fauna.
7. In addition, the states provide scope for angling, boating, rafting, trekking and hiking.
8. Besides, there are a number of wild life sanctuaries and national parks where rare animals, birds and plants which will surely provide fascinating insight to the visitors.

Q2) What is Thang-Ta and what is its heart and why?

Ans.

1. The state of Manipur is a home to numerous traditional art forms which also integrates (joins) various weapons like sword, spear, dagger etc. through controlled soft movements, coordinated breathing rhythms and great heroic traditions etc. in their dance.
2. The famous ritual spear dance is called the Thang-Ta and the heart of Thang-Ta is the sword.
3. And the basic stance (posture) is called the Lion's Posture.
4. In this stance the dancer stands with feet apart, turns to the left, pivoting (turning) on the heels of both feet. The feet should form approx. 45 degree angle. The dancer leans forward until the toes of the left foot are aligned with the knee and the chin. The body forms a straight line from the back of the head down to the right heel.

Q3) Name the people who helped to rediscover the lost art of Thang-Ta?

Ans. Khilton Nongmaithem is one of the people who under the tutelage of traditional gurus since the age of 6 and is responsible for rediscovering and propagating the lost art of Thang-Ta by representing India in international festivals.

Q4) What steps are taken to strengthen cultural identity?

Ans.

1. Representing India in international festivals.
2. Involving youth in cultural knowledge and practice.
3. With the passage of time, training was carried out for the actual combat as well as ritualistic dances to reinforce cultural identity.
4. As a common public performance keeps the youth of the community following cultural traditions and it also brings nationalist pride among the young people of Manipur.
5. This helps to bring a sense of belonging to a group and a country.
6. The two best martial art traditions of India are **Thang-Ta of Manipur** and **Kalaripayattu** of Kerala which survived through centuries and both have strong **spiritual basis with strict moral and ethical codes**.
7. They are meant for **protection and defense** and are vehemently (**strongly) opposed to cruelty, violence and viciousness** (*showing intention or wish to hurt someone*).

Q5) Why the tribes have become westernized in their lifestyles?

Ans. The tribes were initially isolated (alone) and practices their own indigenous rituals and customs but after coming into contacts with the British, they have become more westernized in their lifestyles.

Q6) Name the band that played at the Singapore Flyer ? What instruments were used?

Ans. Rhythms of Manipur. The members used traditional Manipuri musical instruments, Indian classical instruments and the violin.

Q7) Why is Shillong called the rock capital of India?

Or

In spite of being a rural area, what made Shillong stand out?

Ans.

1. Rhythms of Manipur - The Manipuri band – Singapore flyer on 5th February 2013
2. Has a reputation as fusion band
3. Various instruments used
4. Played medley of tunes of different states
5. Musicians gained importance at national music competitions and rock music festivals

6. Musician, singers and choir groups have carved a national and international reputation
7. Have many rock bands that are famous locally and internationally.
8. Recipient of awards
9. Famous personalities Bhupen Hazarika (films), Mary Kom, Baichung Bhutia in sports, Arnab Goswani in TV, Bezbaruah and U Soso Tham in literature.
10. Soulmate Band – the first and only blue band to represent India on the world stage.

Q 8) Justify the title given to Khasi poet

Ans.

1. U Soso Tham – born in 1873 in Sohra, or Cherrapunjee, Meghalaya, was a Khasi poet.
2. He was the first poet to initiate secular literature with diction, both singular and genuine.
3. He was also the first person to make use of Khasi idioms in a form taken mainly from English poetry.
4. U Soso Tham is basically remembered for his beautiful poems.
5. His “Ka Duitara Kshiar” (The Golden Harp, 1925) – a compilation of poems, is one of the most distinguished works.
6. Due to acute poverty after his father’s death he had to discontinue his studies after eighth standard. Despite his little formal education he rose up to a level of a high school teacher and excelled in his teaching career.
7. For him the craft and style of poetry were nothing. It was his heart that spoke, the heart that suffered a lot.
8. Nobody touched the boundary of epic poetry till the arrival of U Soso Tham.
9. Dr. S. K. Bhuyan, the prominent historian of Assam, called him the Robert Burns of the Khasi Highlands in his book ‘Studies in the Literature of Assam’ (1956), which also contains a chapter on Modern Khasi Literature.
10. The name of So So Tham rests on the highest pinnacle among the literary towers so he was called the Torch Bearer of Khasi Poetry.

Q 9) Justify the title “Let's welcome accept and respect”

1. Passage talks about north eastern states
2. All the states have a rich culture and linguistic diversity
3. In all the states, diversity is celebrated and respected
4. Traditions are a blend of different cultures
5. Music and dance forms also cater to diverse people
6. Unity in diversity can be observed
7. Something is common in the traditions
8. Friendly environment and so are the people
9. Multiple cultures being respected, accepted and respected

Q10) Short note on the pioneer of Assam film industry

1. Bhupen Hazarika- an all rounder
2. Made major contributions not only in film industry but various other fields
3. Known as King of north India's cultural world
4. He is a poet, filmmaker, author, music composer, journalist, actor, singer, etc
5. Popularised Assamese cinema globally
6. Brought together all north eastern states
7. Received many awards like Padma Shri, Dadasaheb Phalke
8. Authored more than 50 books
9. Felicitated by the government of Arunachal Pradesh for upbringing tribals and their culture
10. A remarkable contribution to Indian folk songs
11. Remembered for soothing music and hallmark melodies
12. Versatile personality

Q11) Why the floriculture has huge growth potential?

Ans.

1. A **sunrise industry** is one that is new or relatively new, is growing fast and is expected to become important in the future.
2. Government of India has identified floriculture as a sunrise industry and accorded it 100% export oriented status.
3. Owing to steady increase in demand of flower floriculture has become one of the important Commercial trades in Agriculture.
4. Hence commercial floriculture has emerged as hi-tech activity-taking place under controlled climatic conditions inside greenhouse.
5. Floriculture in India, is being viewed as a high growth Industry.
6. Commercial floriculture is becoming important from the export angle.
7. The liberalization of industrial and trade policies paved the way for development of export-oriented production of cut flowers.
8. The new seed policy had already made it feasible to import planting material of international varieties.
9. It has been found that commercial floriculture has higher potential per unit area than most of the field crops and is therefore a lucrative business.
10. Indian floriculture industry has been shifting from traditional flowers to cut flowers for export purposes.
11. The liberalized economy has given an impetus to the Indian entrepreneurs for establishing export oriented floriculture units under controlled climatic conditions.

Q12)

Assistance from government has been stated as an encouragement for floriculture in Sikkim. What measures have government taken? Or how has government assisted the state of Sikkim?

or

Throw some light on an event held to promote Sikkim at an international level.

or

Sikkim is known for its love for nature. Elaborate

1. Floriculture business gaining heights
2. Favourable climate and assistance from government
3. Government's assistance to farmers and training programmes for farmers
4. Local farmers provided with investment opportunities and subsidies
5. Farmers provided with raw materials and infrastructure with greenhouse facilities
6. Work related demonstration provided as per the requirement
7. Showcase floriculture at international level: International Flower Show
8. Special training to youth for flower cultivation
9. Global investors welcomed
10. Finding ways to improve market
11. Promotion of flower culture and trade
12. Green initiative award

13)

The government of India has identified floriculture as a sunrise industry.

Justify.

or

Why do you think the government of India has identified floriculture as a sunrise industry?

Sikkim is known for its love for nature. Elaborate

1. Sikkim- the export hub of Agriculture
2. Cardamom, ginger and cherry pepper exported
3. Cut flowers exported
4. Sunrise industry because of high export trade
5. Floriculture- prime economic activity
6. Tourism linked to floriculture
7. Big industry of cut flowers
8. Liberalisation of policies developed export business
9. Floriculture brought business and tourism to Sikkim

10. Industries and universities set up to make state more urbanised
11. Developing communication and Transport sector
12. Developed infrastructure, preserving nature thus making it an ideal place

Q14) The Northeast, which is the gateway to the Southeast Asian countries has not benefitted from *Look East Policy* (LEP) and according to you what steps must be taken.

1. While rest of India has benefitted from greater engagement with ASEAN under the LEP, the Northeast, which is the gateway to the Southeast Asian countries, has been left behind as it could not utilize the opportunities opened up through the LEP because of **the weak economic base and lack of proper infrastructure**.
2. In this regard, the **ASEAN-India Vision Document 2020** could be the guiding document.
3. **High visibility projects that could be implemented** in a short period are desirable. These projects could be in the field of health, culture, tourism, capacity building, and food processing.
4. **Multi-cultural and ethnic studies have to be encouraged** and flow of businessmen and politicians between Northeast India and ASEAN should be encouraged.
5. The Centre should have an **integrated approach and provide the required policy push**.
6. Development of **transportation and communication links** in the Northeast should be considered as a **strategic issue** and accordingly greater resources should be allocated for such projects.
7. **People** in the Northeast could be **induced to take up land on lease for cultivation** for various crops in Myanmar and **set up food processing units in Myanmar**.
8. **Training centres imparting vocational training to the local youth should be established**. These youths could seek employment in the ASEAN countries.
9. Agricultural research laboratories could be set up in Northeast to boost the agricultural produce in the region.
10. **Special economic Zones could set up** around the Land Customs Stations.
11. Northeast, rich in scenic beauty, is an ecological treasure trove, and therefore has huge potentials for eco-tourism. So, eco-tourism should be encouraged in the region.
12. The Northeast should be integrated with rest of the country through the development of road, rail and air links.

Q15) Tripura through a little state yet has great capability. Do you agree?

Ans.

1. Tripura, the former princely state, is the third smallest state that boasts of unmatched and unspoiled natural beauty.
2. Its communities and cultures that impart an utterly ethnic charm to this state.
3. Tripura's economy, together with various sectors like agriculture, tourism, industry, etc, is growing slowly, but steadily.
4. Here an exotic variety of flora and fauna can be seen in the stretched forests and hilly areas.
5. Tripura encloses a rich cultural heritage of music, fine arts, performing arts, and handicrafts.
6. Tripura's forests have become an enchanting abode of sylvan charm.
7. The sanctuaries are home to a number of endangered and endemic species, migratory birds, medicinal and aromatic herbs making it an ideal eco-tourism spot.
8. Tripura plays an important role in conserving wildlife.
9. It's a home to number of bird and beast.
10. To sum up, Tripura is though a small state but has immense potential of development.

Q15) What must be done to develop North east India? What are the main reasons for underdevelopment of NE India?

Ans.

1. **Transportation:** Good Transportation is base for development. Roads and train connectivity is very poor in NE states. Development of road connectivity by building bridges and tunnels will make transport easier and faster.
2. **Education Hubs.**
There are very few engineering and medical colleges in NE as compared to other states. Private run colleges are also less in number.
3. **IT hubs.**
IT hubs can be developed in NE if transportation service is of superior quality. People across all states of India will like to that clean and pure nature. And local engineers, doctors and other supporting professionals will get opportunity to grow there. This will ultimately cause growth in local business and tourism.
4. **Tourism Industry**
Tourism industry has incomparable potential in NE. But again provided if transport is good. Brahmaputra and Himalaya very less explored.

5. Railway Connectivity:

Only Assam among the north-eastern states has proper railway connectivity. The other states do not have rail network making transportation a really expensive affair.

6. Protect the agriculture and farm sector:

While most people celebrate capitalism and globalisation, there is a need to protect the agriculture and farm sector from global competition.