



APSC Mains 2023 TS - 14 (GS Paper 5)

Duration – 3 Hrs

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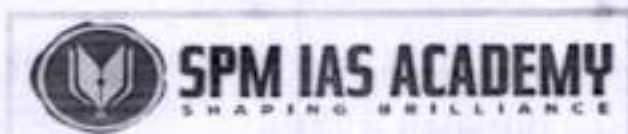
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Medium:

English ☒

Assamese ☐

INDEX NUMBER			INSTRUCTIONS
Q.NO.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained.	
1	10		Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting the questions: - There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH - All questions are compulsory. - The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. - The answers must not exceed 150 words for 10 marks and 250 words for 20 marks. - Content is more important than the number of words. - Answers must be written in the medium authorised in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorised one. - Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off
2	10		
3	10		
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15	15		Remarks: Signature of the Student: <i>Bayard Kalyan</i>
16	15		
17	15		
18	15		
19	15		
20	15		
TOTAL:	250		



Brief report of Performance Evaluation of student in the paper

	Poor	Average	Good	Very good	Excellent
Understanding the context and demand of the questions					
Relevancy of the content					
Structure and flow of the answer					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Body					
(c) Conclusion					
Subject knowledge					
Language of the answer					
Presentation					
(a) Underline to the keywords					
(b) Use of flowcharts or diagrams					
(c) Paragraph limits and overall					
Understanding of directives					
Factual correctness					
Overall performance					

Detail Feedback

Q1. Enumerate the measures taken by the Assam government in the achievement of zero poaching of the Rhinos (10 marks/150 words)

Ans →

The one horned rhino is the state animal of Assam. However in recent years there has been significant hunting and poaching of rhinos.

Measures taken by government

1) Setting up of 82 member Special Rhino Task Force (SRPF)

2) Indian Rhino Mission 2020 → to increase the rhino population upto 3000.

3) Burning of 2500 Rhino horns to spread awareness against benefits of Rhino poaching.

4) Use to Satellite phones and geo-mapping of Rhino population in Kaziranga National Park.

~~Achievements~~ Achievements

1) Zero Rhino poaching incident in 2022

2) Increase in Rhino population to more than 3200+.

Q2. Write a short note on Oja Pali.

(10 marks/150 words)

Ans →Oja Pali

Oja Pali is a dance form of Assam. It is performed by a group of 5 people or Pali. Hence it is also known as Panchali.

Historical

- ↳ Oja Pali was patronized by the King of Darrang Dharmarayan
- ↳ It is one of the oldest dance forms in Assam. It

has also influenced Sattriya
dance form.

Nature

↳ It is performed to narrate
mythological ~~the~~ stories.

↳ It is performed using Khol,
Taal and Cymbals as instruments

↳ The right Pali of the Oja or
Dama Pali is the most active
one.

Oja pali is a reflection
of rich Assamese culture and
heritage

Q3. Examine the Constitution and functioning of Assam State Information Commission? (10 marks/150 words)

Ans →

Under the RTI Act 2005, it was mandated for every state to constitute an information commission within 3 months.

Thus the Assam State Information Commission came into being.

Responsibilities

- 1) To investigate in matters of information dissipation under RTI Act.
- 2) To direct government agencies

to furnish information within 30
days against complaints.

Composition

1) Chief Information Commissioner.
(Appointed by a panel consisting
Chief Minister, Chief Justice of state
and Leader of opposition)

2) 10 other Information Commissioners

Current CIC → Bhaskar jyoti
Mahanta.

State information Commission
was constituted to strengthen
accountability and transparency
in Assam.

Q4. Discuss the importance of jute industry in the Economy of Assam?

(10 marks /150 words)

Ans →

Assam is one of the largest jute producing state in India.

It has a favourable humid climate and lateritic soil to grow jute.

Significance of Jute Industry

- 1) It covers an area of upto 70,000 hectare.
- 2) Jute is used in making bags, textiles and ropes
- 3) Generates employment -
Jute industries in Assam such

as Assam Cooperative Jute Mill
in Nagason and Atlanta Modular
Jute Mill in Guwahati.

Challenges

- 1) Lack of Marketing
- 2) Dependence on government orders
- 3) Lower productivity

Initiatives and Measures

- 1) MSP on Jute
- 2) Jute ISPAM → Incentive
scheme for Plant and Machinery
for Jute production
- 3) Jute ICARB → Improve (Boost)
production and livelihood opportunities

Q5. Write a short note on Nilmoni Phookan Jr.

(10 marks/150 words)

Ans →

Nilmoni Phookan Jr was
a great poet and literateur
of Assam.

Achievements

↳ Winner of the 56th Jnanpith
award.

↳ He also won Sahitya
Akademi Award.

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anything beyond
this margin)

Q6. Discuss the initiative taken by Government of Assam in sphere of rural development in Assam. (10 marks / 150 words)

Ans →

Almost 86% of total population of Assam resides in rural areas compared to National average of 69%.

Thus rural development is crucial for overall development of Assam:-

Initiatives take by Assam government

- 1) Amar Gaon Initiative → To highlight the importance of village heritage
- 2) Village Cleanliness Competition

The cleanest village would be awarded 1 km of concrete road.

3) Sunil Biplab scheme → To boost village community fishing.

4) APART scheme → To add value to supply chain in Agriculture.

5) Mukhya Mantri Laghu Udyog Udayoni Achari → To provide 10% capital subsidy upto 50 Lakhs to MSMB.

6) ^{one} Assam Microfinance incentive scheme

↳ To waive off debts of old and destitute women

Q7. Discuss the nature of economy in Ancient Kamrupa (10 marks/150 words)

Ans →

Nature of economy in Ancient Kamrupa

- 1) Highly dependent on agricultural activities.
- 2) Agricultural produce such as rice, mustard, wheat.
- 3) There was also other allied activities such fishing.

Based on Hsien Tsang accounts

1) People cultivated Jackfruit and Coconut.

2) Ancient King of Assam Shashar-varman controlled ports such as Tamralipi thus flourishing trade.

3) Land grants were made to Brahmin families. Lands were divided into Bhuktis.

Not much detail or records are available on economy of ancient Assam. However, it had a flourishing economy.

Q8. Write a brief essay on Pre Vaishnavite Literature?

(10 Marks/150 words)

Ans →Pre Vaishnavite Literature

The earliest known literature in Assam were the Charlyapados which were related to the Vajrayana sect of Buddhism.

The presence of several other scholars and poets can found in the court of King Durlabhnarayan who was himself a great patron of learning. scholars such

as - Kaviratna Saraswati who wrote Jayadrath Vadha,
Hem Saraswati - Prahlad Charit
 and Har-Gauri Samvad.

Durlabh Narayan also gave land to settle to Chandivara who was the great-grandfather of Sankardasa.

One more important scholar can be found in the court of Barahi King Manimanakya, Madhwa Kandali was the first to translated Ramayana in a Regional language. He was given title 'Opromadi kabi' by Sankardasa.

Q9. Discuss the nature of Administration during Ahom Rule. (10 marks/150 words)

Ans →

Administration in Ahom Rule

Monarchy

The King was a member of the royal 'chaopha' clan. The blue blood policy of Sukapha which stated blood relation as a prerequisite to attain the throne.

The king was assisted by Borgohain and Buragohain.

Further two more posts were added -

- 1) Barkarna - Governor of territories to the east of Kaliakor
- 2) Barphukan - Governor of territories to the west of Kaliakor

The paik system was introduced during the reign of Pratap Singha -

Bora - 20 paiks

Saikia - 100 paiks

Hazarika - 1000 paiks

Rajkham - 3000 paiks

Rhukan - 6000 paiks.

Kanri Paik → Forced labour

Chamuahs → Chutiya Nobility and disposed Bhuyans.

Q10. Give a brief account of the evolution of Assam Legislative Assembly?

(10 marks/150 marks)

Ans →

The Assam legislative assembly is the permanent seat of the legislature in Assam.

Evolution of Assam Legislative Assembly

↳ Early 20th century, Assam ceased to have any political unit.

↳ 1905 - Assam tagged with Eastern Bengal.

↳ 1912 - Assam constituted as a chief Commissionership.

↳ 1913 → Assam got its own 34 member legislative council.

↳ First meeting held at Shillong, presided by Sir Archdale Earle.

↳ 1937 → Assam had its own bicameral legislature of 108 members as per provisions of Government of India Act, 1935.

↳ 1947 → The 108 member Council was dissolved.

↳ 1972 → Final 126 member assembly constituted.

Baker Basanta Das was the first speaker of Assam Legislative Assembly.

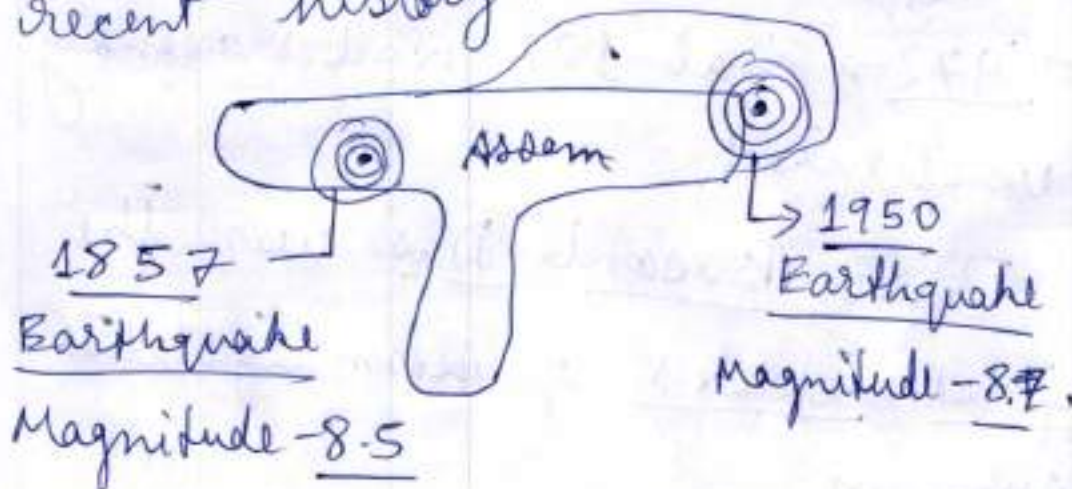
Q11. Of late, Guwahati and other places in Assam are experiencing earthquake jerks of milder intensity, measuring around 3 on the Richter Scale (R). In this context explain why Assam is vulnerable to earthquake? (15 marks/250 words)

Ans

Assam is categorized as highly vulnerable to severe Earthquakes in Seismic Zone-V by Bureau of Indian Standards

History of Earthquakes in Assam

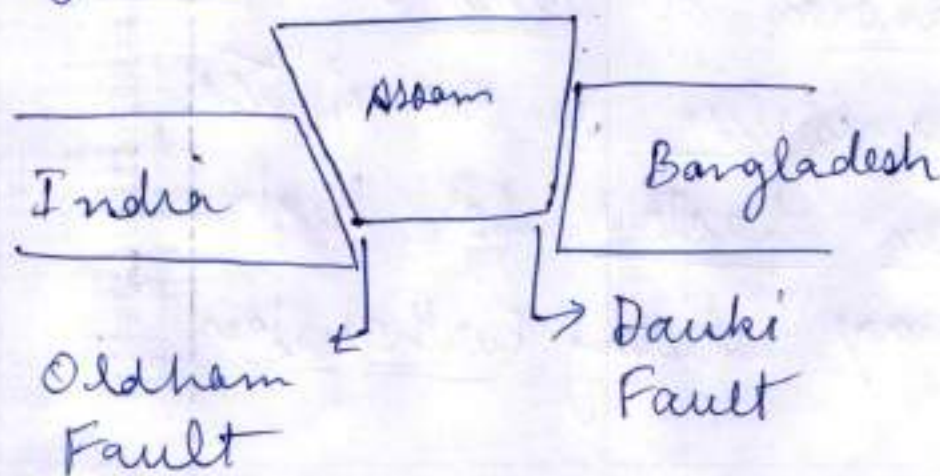
Assam has suffered from two major earthquakes in recent history.



Why Assam Vulnerable to Earthquakes

1) The Northern Himalayas are rising every year due to constant collision of Indian plate with Eurasian plate. Thus the entire region of North-East including Assam is experiencing high seismic activities.

2) There are faults which can induce seismic activities.
Eg → Kopili, Shillong Fault.



Damage due to earthquakes

↳ Assam passes more risk to earthquakes as most of its population settled near the fertile soil of Brahmaputra which is newer alluvial soil which can lead to soil liquefaction.

↳ The less stability of soil coupled with unplanned expansion of cities and rapid urbanization is one of the main factors for high damage during Earthquakes.

Measures and steps to Mitigate Damage

- ↳ Well planned construction with proper public spacing
- ↳ Buildings should be equipped with safety measures.
- ↳ Houses such as Khasi house can resist severe Earthquakes.

ASDMA suggestions {

- suspension of licence of builders not following building codes
- Buildings should be constructed with proper code.

Sendai framework → for every \$1 spend on Infra saves \$7.

Q12. Assam has decided to launch a state-wide crackdown against child marriage. In this context mention some initiative taken by Assam Government with special reference to POCSO Act. Also give some suggestion to eradicate child marriage in Assam? (15 marks/250 words)

Ans →

Assam government has launched a state wide crackdown against child marriage in order to tackle several social issues associated with child marriage -

- 1) Undernourishment of Child
- 2) Increase in population.
- 3) Increase in IMR and MMR.
- 4) Domestic violence or abuse related to child marriage.

Initiatives taken by Assam Government

1) Crackdown on almost 4000 such people and trial under provisions Child Marriage Act 2006 and POCSO Act 2012.

2) Pregyan Bharti Scheme

↳ Provide books, bicycles and education material to children especially girls.

3) Reservation for women in all state government jobs to empower women.

4) Child fr friendly police stations set up at Mangaldai and Bharalu as per POCSO provisions.

Suggestions to eradicate Child Marriage in Assam

1) Women Empowerment -

Encourage women to set up own business and become financially independent.

2) Women Education

"You educate a man, you educate a man. You educate a woman, you educate entire generation."
 - Mahatma Gandhi

3) Increase Female Labour Participation.

→ Spread awareness among children and parents regarding the ill-effects on

health due to child marriage.

Every child deserves a
better childhood and opportunities
to chase their dreams. Child
marriage is a social evil
and need to be eradicated
from Assam and India.

Q13. One of the important focus of Assam's Annual Budget 2023 is Prioritizing infrastructure and self-employment. Elucidate this statement?(15 marks/250 words)

Ans →

The Assam Budget 2023 lay out special focus on prioritizing infrastructure and self-employment. This is mostly due to following reasons -

- 1) Assam having a population of 31 million as per 2011 census but not enough jobs.
- 2) Assam has an unutilized potential to generate self-employment and foster industries.

3) Around 86% population reside in local areas, 70% are engaged in agriculture yet agriculture contributes only 20% in state's GSDP.

4) Assam has a very young population. It is important to utilize its demographic dividend.

Provisions of Budget 2023

↳ Highest expenditure on [SDGs - 9] which is industry and innovation

↳ To include Resorts, Camping sites, Amusement Parks, etc.

under accorded industry status.
Thus they will be able to
benefit incentives and subsidies
under tourism industry.

↳ Mukhya Mantri Laghu Udyog
Udgoni Asoni → Capital subsidy
to MSME's upto 10%. Ceiling
of 50 lakhs.

↳ Mukhy Mantri Sva-nidhi
scheme → Seed Capital of
Rs 2 Lakhs to BPL youths
within span of 3 years to
generate self-employment.

↳ Suanirkhar Naari Scheme
→ Direct Benefit transfer

and procurement from 4.8 lakh
female weavers of Assam.

Thus, the Assam Budget
2023 lays special focus
on promoting industry and
self-employment in Assam.

Q14. Discuss the contribution of Robert Bruce in development of tea industry.
(15 marks/250 words)

Ans →

Robert Bruce discovered tea in 1823 while coming in contact with the Singha Tribe of Assam.

With the discovery of tea by Robert Bruce, it led to formation of a new industry in Assam.

↳ First Angkor Tea Company (CTC tea) set up by William McKersher

↳ Maniram Dewan became the first Indian tea planter. He opened his first tea garden Cinnamara tea garden in Jorhat.

↳ Tea Research Institute set up at Tocklai, Jorhat in 1911 which is the world's largest and oldest tea research institute.

↳ Special O-I Tag to Assam orthodox tea

✱ Thus after the discovery of tea by Robert Bruce, Assam

Became one of the largest tea
exporting states in the country.

Today Assam Tea has a
global brand and is well
known for its quality
throughout the world.

Q15. Critically examine the features of Orunodoi Scheme?
(words)

(15 marks/250 words)

Ans →

Orunodoi Scheme is a Poverty alleviation scheme introduced by Assam government to provide financial relief to poor, destitute, widowed, unmarried and divorced women.

Features of Orunodoi Scheme

- 1) It is a Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme
- 2) Widows, single and destitute women will be prioritized.

3) Initially, the scheme provided a monthly compensation of Rs 850, however it was further increased to Rs 1250 per month.

Significance of Orunadai Scheme

- 1) It has benefitted around 17 lakh women.
- 2) All other pension schemes such as Indira Nari pension scheme has been subsumed under Orunadai.
- 3) It has been able to provide

relief and empowerment to poor women.

4) Assam has almost 32% of its population living below poverty line and women constitute large sections of it. Thus, schemes like Oxunodoi is needed to provide relief.

Criticisms of Oxunodoi

- 1) It fails to generate any durable asset or income opportunities for women.
- 2) Scope of massive corruption.
- 3) Diversion of hard working

Taxpayers money to promote freddie or 'Revadi' culture

4) Critics and opposition argue that its Orunadai scheme is being misused by ruling BJP Party to garner more votes during elections.

Orunadai with its benefits can only be a short term approach to resolve poverty issues. Government must formulate employment generation programs for women to sustain women empowerment.

Q16. What are some prominent agricultural festivals celebrated in Assam?

(15 marks/250 words)

Ans →

Assam is home to various tribes and each having their own unique culture.

Prominent Agricultural festivals in Assam

1) Kati Bihu → Also known as Kongali Bihu. Celebrated to honour good harvest in Assamese society.

2) Karam Puja → Celebrated by

Tea Tribes in the month of Bhada for their crops.

3) Ali-Aye - Seng → Celebrated by Mising Tribes in the month of Fagun (Gimur Palo) for sowing of shu paddy. It is celebrated performing a dance known as 'Gumrang'.

4) Jonbeel Mela → It is held at Dayang Belguri region of Morigaon. It is celebrated by the Tiwa community. The hill Tribes come down and

gather with their agricultural produce and other items. The transactions happens through Barter system. The festival also include community fishing.

Thus, these are some examples of agricultural festivals celebrated in Assam. Each have their own unique features and enrich the cultural aspect of Assamese society.

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Q17. Discuss the architectural features of Maidams of Assam.
(words)

(15 marks/250 words)

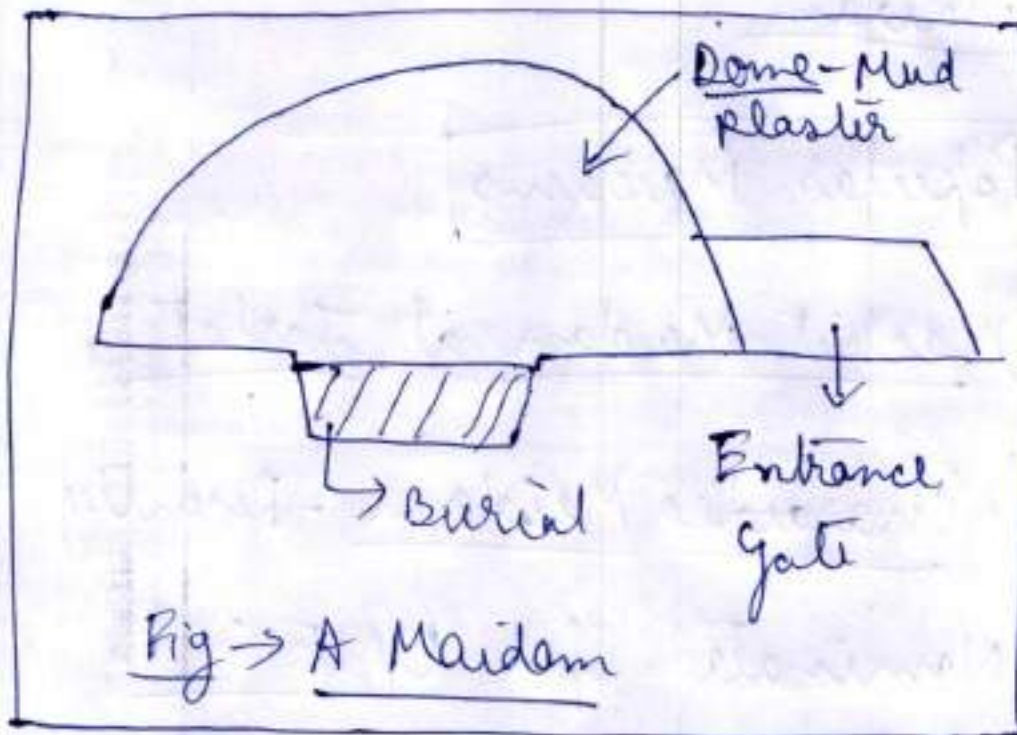
Ans →

In Ancient Ahom times,
Maidams were being used
as Burial grounds for
Ahom nobility.

Sources of Architecture of
Maidams.

The source for architecture
of maidams can be found
on Buranjis especially the
Chang-Rung-Phukan Buranji
or the Chief Engineer's Buranji.

Architectural features of Maidams



- 1) The cremated or burial ground is housed inside a large semi-hemispherical dome.
- 2) The dome is covered with mud-plaster.

3) There is a small narrow entrance towards the maidam.

Popular Maidams

1) Lachit Maidam at Jorhat

2) Charaideo Maidam - Recently
Nominated for UNESCO
World heritage site by
Indian government.

Maidams are an
integral part of Assam
history and the glory of

Ahoms in Assam. Some of
These Maidens houses legendary.
Ahom Kings who once ruled
the entire region.

Q18. As in other parts of India, the people of Assam also joined the revolt. Unfortunately, the revolt failed to achieve its aim. In this context discuss the causes for revolt in 1857 in Assam and mention why did it fail? (15 marks/250 words)

Ans →

The revolt of 1857 was one of the major turning points in struggle for Independence of India.

The revolt also had a significant impact on Assam.

↳ Maniram Dewan saw the revolt as an opportunity to restore Assam's glory back in Assam.

He revolted against the Britishers and projected Kandarpeshwar Singha as the next Ahom king of Assam. However, his plans were intercepted by the British. Maniram Dewan along with Piyali Boruah were hanged in 26th February 1858.

↳ Khasi leader U-Teerut Singh revolted when British under the pretext of constructing road erected a police outpost and a

bungalow in Nankha. However
V. Teerant Singh was also
suppressed and put to death
by British.

Consequences of 1857 Revolt in
Assam

Rangia Uprising 1893

↳ Angry peasants looted Rangia
Bazaar.

Patharughat Uprising 1894

↳ Around 2000 peasant gathered
in front of residence of
Dy. Commissioner Anderson
to share their grievances.

↳ However police open fired

on them.

Thus, although there were revolts in different parts of Assam, most of them were brutally suppressed by British and failed their objective.

Q19. Critically examine the features of Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART) in Development of Agriculture Sector.

(15 marks/250 words)

Ans →

The Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART) was initiated by the government to add to the agricultural value chain.

Features of APART scheme

- 1) Set up of District Millet Cells → To boost consumption and production of Millets.
- 2) Set up of District Fodder Cells with the Deputy Commissioner as its chairman

to facilitate post harvest storage
of Fodder and attain self-
sufficiency in Fodder
production.

3) Assam Milk, Meat and
Eggs Mission → To boost
the supply and production
of milk and eggs in
Assam.

4) Seed Verticals → To strengthen
the seed system of Assam.

Significance of APART
scheme

- 1) To boost Agricultural productivity.
- 2) To increase farmers income.
- 3) To become self-sufficient state in agriculture.
- 4) To foster the overall agriculture economy of Assam.

Drawback of APART Scheme

- 1) Problem of Fund,
Functions and Functionaries.
- 2) Involvement of Bureaucracy

- 3) Wide scope of Corruption.
- 4) Lack of robust agriculture infrastructure.

The APART scheme which is being coordinated by AREAS society in Assam needs to ensure proper implementation and benefits should be reached to bottom section of farmers.

Q20. Assam is now regarded as a part of biodiversity hotspot. Outline the cause which contribute to the rich biodiversity of Assam. Also draw a sketch of biodiversity in Assam. (15 marks/250 words)

Ans →

Assam has a sub-tropical climate with good amount of seasonal rainfall. Hence it fosters wide variety of biodiversity.

Causes for rich biodiversity
in Assam

- 1) Warm climate with good rainfall.
- 2) Presence of Evergreen and semi-evergreen forests.

3) Beels and wetlands provide shelter to various migratory bird species.

4) Assam has a rich forest ecosystem.

Sketch of Biodiversity in
Assam

1) Pangolin and Golden Langur in Raimora National Park.

2) Deo Haah and Slow loris in Dehing Patkai National Park.

3) One horned ~~Rhin~~ Rhino -
highest density in Pokhara
wildlife sanctuary.

Thus, Assam has a
rich biodiversity which
needs to be protected and
preserved for future
generations.



Questions

- Q1. Enumerate the measures taken by the Assam government in the achievement of zero poaching of the Rhinos (10 marks/150 words)
- Q2. Write a short note on Oja Pali. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q3. Examine the Constitution and functioning of Assam State Information Commission? (10 marks/150 words)
- Q4. Discuss the importance of jute industry in the Economy of Assam? (10 marks /150 words)
- Q5. Write a short note on Nilmoni Phookan Jr. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q6. Discuss the initiative taken by Government of Assam in sphere of rural development in Assam. (10 marks / 150 words)
- Q7. Discuss the nature of economy in Ancient Kamrupa (10 marks/150 words)
- Q8. Write a brief essay on Pre Vaishnavite Literature? (10 Marks/150 words)
- Q9. Discuss the Nature of Administration during Ahom Rule. (10 marks/150 words)
- Q10. Give a brief account of the evolution of Assam Legislative Assembly? (10 marks/150 marks)
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- Q15. Critically examine the feature of Orunodoi Scheme? (15 marks/250 words)
- Q16. What are some prominent agricultural festivals celebrated in Assam? (15 marks/250 words)
- Q17. Discuss the architectural features of Maidams of Assam. (15 marks/250 words)
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