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- Home
- UPSC
- Current Affairs IAS
- **-** 0000 000000 000 000000
- Quiz IAS
- 00000 00 000 00000000000
- UPSC News Editorial (□□□□□/Eng)
- Answer Writing (□□□□□ /Eng)
- UPSC Essay (□□□□□/Eng)
- UPSC GS (□□□□□/Eng)
  - UPSC GS 1 (□□□□□ /Eng)
  - UPSC GS-2 (□□□□ /Eng)
  - UPSC GS-3 (□□□□□ /Eng)
  - UPSC GS-4 (☐☐☐☐ /Eng)
- Kurukshetra (□□□□□ /Eng)
- Yojana (□□□□□ /Eng)
- IAS Strategy for Prelims
  - General Studies
  - UPSC CSAT Paper 2
- IAS Strategy for Mains
  - IAS GS 1
  - IAS GS 2
  - IAS GS 3
  - IAS GS 4
- IAS Test Series
- Himachal HPAS
  - Himachal Daily Current Affairs
  - **-** 000000 000000 000000
  - Daily Himachal GK Quiz

<ul> <li>Himachal News Editorial (□□□□□/Eng)</li> <li>Answer Writing (□□□□ /Eng)</li> <li>Himachal Essay (□□□□□/Eng)</li> <li>Giriraj <ul> <li>Magazine</li> <li>Giriraj Quiz</li> </ul> </li> <li>□□□□□□□ □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□</li></ul>
<ul> <li>Himachal Essay (□□□□□/Eng)</li> <li>Giriraj</li> <li>Magazine</li> <li>Giriraj Quiz</li> <li>□□□□□□□</li> <li>□□□□□□□</li> <li>□□□□□□□</li> <li>HP Government Schemes</li> <li>□□□□□□</li> <li>Syllabus Prelims Himachal HPAS</li> <li>GENERAL STUDIES</li> <li>UPSC CSAT Paper 2</li> <li>English</li> <li>Hindi</li> <li>Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS</li> <li>English, Hindi, Essay &amp; One Optional</li> <li>HPAS GS 3</li> <li>HPAS GS 1</li> <li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li> <li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Giriraj <ul> <li>Magazine</li> <li>Giriraj Quiz</li> </ul> </li> <li>DDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDD</li></ul>
<ul> <li>Magazine</li> <li>Giriraj Quiz</li> <li>COCCOCCI</li> <li>COCCOCCI</li> <li>COCCOCCI</li> <li>HP Government Schemes</li> <li>COCCOCCI</li> <li>Syllabus Prelims Himachal HPAS</li> <li>GENERAL STUDIES</li> <li>UPSC CSAT Paper 2</li> <li>English</li> <li>Hindi</li> <li>Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS</li> <li>English, Hindi, Essay &amp; One Optional</li> <li>HPAS GS 3</li> <li>HPAS GS 1</li> <li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li> <li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li> </ul>
- Giriraj Quiz  - COCCOCC  - COCCOC  - COCCOCC  - COCCO
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- DDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDD
<ul> <li>HP Government Schemes</li> <li>DDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDD</li></ul>
<ul> <li>Syllabus Prelims Himachal HPAS</li> <li>GENERAL STUDIES</li> <li>UPSC CSAT Paper 2</li> <li>English</li> <li>Hindi</li> <li>Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS</li> <li>English, Hindi, Essay &amp; One Optional</li> <li>HPAS GS 3</li> <li>HPAS GS 1</li> <li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li> <li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li> </ul>
• Syllabus Prelims Himachal HPAS  • GENERAL STUDIES  • UPSC CSAT Paper 2  • English  • Hindi  • Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS  • English, Hindi, Essay & One Optional  • HPAS GS 3  • HPAS GS 2  • HPAS GS 1  • Himachal HPAS Test Series  • All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS
• GENERAL STUDIES • UPSC CSAT Paper 2 • English • Hindi • Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS • English, Hindi, Essay & One Optional • HPAS GS 3 • HPAS GS 2 • HPAS GS 1 • Himachal HPAS Test Series • All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS
• UPSC CSAT Paper 2 • English • Hindi • Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS • English, Hindi, Essay & One Optional • HPAS GS 3 • HPAS GS 2 • HPAS GS 1 • Himachal HPAS Test Series • All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS
<ul> <li>English</li> <li>Hindi</li> <li>Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS</li> <li>English, Hindi, Essay &amp; One Optional</li> <li>HPAS GS 3</li> <li>HPAS GS 2</li> <li>HPAS GS 1</li> <li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li> <li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Hindi</li> <li>Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS         <ul> <li>English, Hindi, Essay &amp; One Optional</li> <li>HPAS GS 3</li> <li>HPAS GS 2</li> <li>HPAS GS 1</li> </ul> </li> <li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li> <li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Syllabus Mains Himachal HPAS</li> <li>English, Hindi, Essay &amp; One Optional</li> <li>HPAS GS 3</li> <li>HPAS GS 2</li> <li>HPAS GS 1</li> <li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li> <li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>English, Hindi, Essay &amp; One Optional</li> <li>HPAS GS 3</li> <li>HPAS GS 2</li> <li>HPAS GS 1</li> <li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li> <li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>HPAS GS 3</li> <li>HPAS GS 2</li> <li>HPAS GS 1</li> <li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li> <li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>HPAS GS 2</li> <li>HPAS GS 1</li> <li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li> <li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li> </ul>
<ul><li>HPAS GS 1</li><li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li><li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li></ul>
<ul><li>Himachal HPAS Test Series</li><li>All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS</li></ul>
- All You need to Know about Himachal HPAS
<ul><li>Haryana Current Affairs</li></ul>
• DDDDDD DDDDDDDD
• HCS Quiz
- 00000 000000000
-Haryana News Editorial (□□□□□/Eng)
- Answer Writing (□□□□ /Eng)
- Haryana Essay (□□□□□/Eng)
<ul><li>HR Government Schemes</li></ul>
<b>-</b> 000000 00000 00 000000
<ul><li>Syllabus Mains Haryana HCS</li></ul>
<ul><li>Syllabus Mains Haryana HCS</li><li>Syllabus Prelims Haryana HCS</li></ul>

- 000000 00000000 00000
■ Punjab PCS
<ul><li>Punjab PCS Current Affairs</li></ul>
<ul><li>Daily Quiz Punjab PCS</li></ul>
<ul><li>Punjab News Editorial (Eng)</li></ul>
<ul><li>Answer Writing (Eng)</li></ul>
<ul><li>Punjab Essay (Eng)</li></ul>
• All you need to know about Punjab PCS Exam 2021
<ul><li>Syllabus Prelims Punjab PCS</li></ul>
<ul><li>General Studies</li></ul>
• Prelims GS 1
<ul><li>Syllabus Mains Punjab PCS</li></ul>
• PCS GS 1
■ PCS GS 2
■ PCS GS 3
■ PCS GS 4
<ul><li>Online PUNJAB PCS TEST SERIES 2020</li></ul>
■ CSAT
■ CSAT English
<b>-</b> 00000 00000
■ Concept Mindmaps
- Polity (□□□□□ / Eng)
- Geography (□□□□□ / Eng)
-Enviroment (□□□□□ / Eng)
-History (□□□□□ / Eng)
- Economics (□□□□□ / Eng)
Science and Technology (□□□□□ / Eng)
- CSAT Concepts (□□□□□ / Eng)
- Maps (□□□□□ / Eng)
• Art and Culture (□□□□□ / Eng)
•International Affairs (□□□□□ / Eng)
<ul><li>Punjab PCS Concepts</li></ul>
- Himachal HPAS Concepts (□□□□□ / Eng)
<ul><li>Haryana HCS Concepts (□□□□□ / Eng)</li></ul>
- Rajasthan RAS Concepts (□□□□□ / Eng)
• Concept Quiz
- Polity Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)

- Geography Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
   Enviroment Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
   History Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
   Economics Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Science and Technology Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- CSAT Concepts Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Maps Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Art and Culture Quiz (☐☐☐☐/Eng)
- Punjab PCS Concepts Quiz
- Himachal HPAS Concepts Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Haryana HCS Concepts Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Rajasthan RAS Concepts Quiz (□□□□□/Eng)
- Mains
  - UPSC Answer Writing (□□□□/Eng)
  - HPPSC Answer Writing (□□□□□/Eng)
  - Haryana HCS Answer Writing (□□□□□/Eng)
  - Punjab PCS Answer Writing
- Exam Blogs
  - UPSC Exam Blogs
  - Himachal Exam Blogs
  - Punjab exam Blogs
  - Haryana Exam Blogs
  - Rajasthan Exam Blogs
  - E-Magazine
    - E-Magazine for HPAS
    - 0000000 00 000 0-000000
    - E-Magazine for Punjab PCS
- UPCOMING EXAMS
  - National Exams
  - Himachal Pradesh Exams
  - Punjab Exams
  - Test Series Planner
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Click on Drop Down for Current Affairs

Topics Covered

**\$** 

- What is the news?
  - Better Infrastructure and Services:
  - Enhancing Economic Vitality:
  - Focus on Social Equity and Sustainability:
  - Governance Strengthening:
  - Here are some additional points to consider:
- About the Asian Development Bank (ADB):
  - OuizTime:
  - Are you Ready!
- Read the Below Instructions Carefully:
  - Please Rate!
- Mains Questions:
  - Question 1:
  - Model Answer:
  - Question 2:
  - Model Answer:
  - Relevance to the UPSC Prelims and Mains syllabus under the following topics:

# What is the news?

Ahmedabad's urban development is advanced by the

Indian government's \$181 million financing deal with the ADB. This project focuses on peri-urban areas on the city's periphery. Let's see how this loan will help:

#### Better Infrastructure and Services:

• In peri-urban areas, the project will create roads, drainage systems, and waste management facilities. Residents' quality of living will improve.

The proposal also upgrades schools, hospitals, and communal spaces. Peri-urban residents will have better access to basic services.

# Enhancing Economic Vitality:

■ The project seeks to improve peri-urban business and investment conditions. This could involve creating commercial or industrial zones.

Improved infrastructure and services will make these locations more desirable to reside in, thereby increasing property values and economic activity.

# Focus on Social Equity and Sustainability:

■ The ADB promotes green and disaster-resistant infrastructure. This provides long-term advantages and decreases environmental effect.

The project targets urban poor, women, and migrant labor. Improved access to services and their engagement in development will achieve this.

# Governance Strengthening:

- The ADB will help Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority and local governments create capability. This will help them plan, manage, and finance urban development projects.
- The project raises community understanding of water conservation, health, and cleanliness, encouraging ownership and responsibility.
- Ahmedabad's peri-urban areas benefit greatly from the India-ADB loan for livability. It can boost infrastructure, the economy, and citizens' quality of life.

# Here are some additional points to consider:

- Effective implementation and stakeholder participation in decision-making will determine project success.
- Sustainable development requires monitoring the project's social and environmental impacts.
- This project offers Ahmedabad a unique chance to develop its peri-urban areas holistically and

# About the Asian Development Bank (ADB):

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a regional development bank focused on improving the lives of people in Asia and the Pacific. Here's a breakdown of key points:

#### Mission:

- Reduce poverty in developing member countries of the Asia-Pacific region.
- Foster economic growth, social development, and regional cooperation.

#### Instruments:

- Provides loans, grants, technical assistance, equity investments, and guarantees.
- Focuses on infrastructure, healthcare, education, finance, natural resource management, and climate change.

#### Membership:

- Founded in 1966 with 31 members, currently has 68 members.
- Includes developed and developing economies from Asia and other regions.

 Major shareholders include the United States and Japan.

#### Headquarters:

- Located in Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines.
- Maintains 31 field offices around the world.

### Examples of Projects:

- Investing in renewable energy projects to promote clean energy transition.
- Building climate-resilient infrastructure to withstand natural disasters.
- Supporting education initiatives to improve access to quality education.
- Assisting developing countries with improving healthcare systems.

# Significance:

- Plays a crucial role in financing and supporting development projects in Asia and the Pacific.
- Contributes to poverty reduction, economic growth, and improved living standards in the region.
- Promotes regional cooperation and integration.





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General Studies

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

# Read the Below Instructions Carefully:

• Click on - Start Quiz

Attempt all questions (You can attempt or leave) After Attempting Last Question. • Enter Name & Email Click on - Check Result Scroll down - Check out Solutions too. Thank you. Loading ... 1 / 5 Category: General Studies The Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan for Ahmedabad focuses on improving livability in: O The city center Industrial zones Slum areas O Peri-urban areas Prev Finish Next 2 / 5 Category: General Studies To ensure the Ahmedabad project promotes social equity, it is crucial to: Focus solely on economic development of the area Prioritize infrastructure projects over social services Provide skill development programs for vulnerable groups O Invest heavily in industrial zones Finish Prev Next 3 / 5

Category: General Studies Which of the following statements best describes the role of the ADB in the Ahmedabad project? Direct construction and management of infrastructure Providing financial assistance and expertise Overseeing local governance reforms Implementing social welfare programs Finish Prev Next 4 / 5 Category: General Studies A significant challenge associated with the Ahmedabad livability project is: Lack of funds O Unproven technology Difficulty in attracting businesses O Ineffective implementation Prev Finish Next 5 / 5 Category: General Studies Which of the following is NOT a potential benefit of the Ahmedabad livability project? Improved access to healthcare in peri-urban areas Increased risk of environmental damage 0 Development of commercial centers in peri-urban areas Enhanced capacity for local urban development authorities Finish Prev

Check Rank, Result Now and enter correct email as you will get Solutions in the email as well for future use!

Check the Result

Your score is

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# Mains Questions:



## **Ouestion 1:**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$181 million loan for improving the livability

of peri-urban areas in Ahmedabad. Critically examine the potential benefits and challenges associated with this project. (250 words)

#### Model Answer:

#### Potential Benefits:

- Improved Infrastructure and Services: The project will provide essential infrastructure like roads, drainage, waste management, schools, healthcare, and community spaces in peri-urban areas. This will enhance the quality of life for residents and create a more attractive environment for businesses and investments.
- Economic Development: Improved infrastructure and services will boost economic activity by attracting businesses and investments to periurban areas. This could lead to the development of industrial zones, commercial centers, and a rise in property values.
- Focus on Sustainability and Equity: The project emphasizes building sustainable and disaster-resilient infrastructure while ensuring benefits for vulnerable groups like the urban poor, women, and migrants. This will promote social equity and long-term environmental benefits.
- Strengthened Governance: Capacity building for Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority and local bodies will improve their ability to plan, manage, and finance future urban development projects effectively.

#### Challenges:

- Effective Implementation: The success of the project hinges on efficient implementation and ensuring stakeholder involvement in decision-making. Delays, corruption, or lack of community participation can hinder progress.
- Social and Environmental Impact: Careful monitoring is required to ensure the project does not displace residents or negatively impact the environment. Balancing development needs with social and environmental considerations is crucial.
- Sustainability of Benefits: Long-term maintenance of the created infrastructure and ensuring the project benefits reach the target population are essential for sustained improvement in livability.

#### Ouestion 2:

Ahmedabad's peri-urban development project presents an opportunity for inclusive growth. Discuss how such projects can be designed and implemented to ensure equitable distribution of benefits and minimize social exclusion. (250 words)

#### Model Answer:

Ensuring Inclusive Growth in Peri-urban Development:

- Community Participation: Involving local communities in the planning and decision-making process from the outset is crucial. This fosters a sense of ownership and ensures the project addresses their specific needs and concerns.
- Social Impact Assessment: Conducting a thorough social impact assessment before and during the project helps identify potential risks of displacement or marginalization and design mitigation strategies.
- Land Acquisition and Resettlement: A fair and transparent land acquisition and resettlement policy is essential if any land acquisition is necessary. This should provide adequate compensation and rehabilitation for displaced communities.
- Livelihood Generation: The project should incorporate skilling initiatives and microfinance programs to empower residents, especially vulnerable groups, to participate in the economic opportunities arising from the development.
- Inclusive Service Delivery: Ensure equitable access to improved services like education, healthcare, and sanitation for all residents, particularly the marginalized sections.

By following these principles, peri-urban development projects like Ahmedabad's can promote inclusive growth and minimize social exclusion, leading to a more equitable and sustainable urban environment.

Remember, these are just two examples of UPSC Mains questions inspired by the current news. Feel free to modify and adapt them further to fit your specific needs and writing style.

# Relevance to the UPSC Prelims and Mains syllabus under the following topics:



#### Prelims:

■ General Studies Paper — I (GS Paper I):

Urbanization, its problems and remedies (indirectly linked) — This section focuses on the core concept of improving livability in cities. The Ahmedabad project directly addresses this by aiming to enhance living conditions in peri-urban areas.

#### Mains:

• General Studies Paper - I (GS Paper I):Infrastructure: Roads, Railways, Airports, Ports, Digital Communication (indirectly linked) - The project involves development of essential infrastructure like roads and drainage systems in peri-urban areas. You can analyze how this contributes to overall infrastructure development.

Social Empowerment, Women Empowerment, Population and associated issues (tangentially linked) — The project might have aspects related to improving living conditions for vulnerable sections like slum dwellers or migrant workers. Analyze how it can contribute to social empowerment goals.

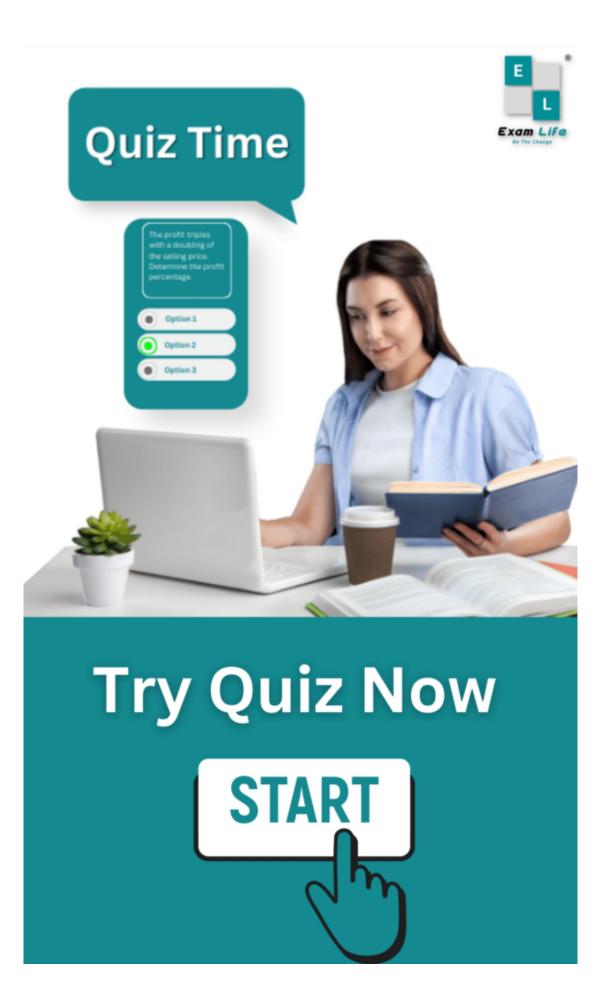
• General Studies Paper - II (GS Paper II):Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation (directly linked) - This paper is most relevant for this topic. You can analyze the Ahmedabad project as a government intervention for urban development. Evaluate its potential benefits, challenges in implementation (e.g., stakeholder involvement), and ensure inclusivity to minimize social exclusion.



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