



Mains Practice Question

Q. Why is the South-West Monsoon called 'Purvaiya' (easterly) in Bhojpur Region? How has this directional seasonal wind system influenced the cultured ethos of the region? (Answer in 150 words, UPSC Mains 2023)

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Approach

- Introduce your answer by defining what Purvaiya (easterly) is.
- Discuss the influence of Purvaiya on Cultural Ethos of Bhojpur region of North India.
- Conclude by highlighting the significance of Purvaiya (easterly).

Introduction

The **South-West Monsoon, active from June to September**, delivers substantial rainfall to India. When these monsoon winds encounter various mountain ranges, they alter course, creating **easterly 'Purvaiya' winds in the Bhojpur region**. This distinct wind pattern significantly shapes **Bhojpur's cultural identity, spanning Northern parts of India and Nepal**.

Body

Influence of Purvaiya on Cultural Ethos of Bhojpur:

- **Agriculture and Festivals:** Purvaiya starts the planting season and is celebrated with festivals like Teej.
- **Rituals and Beliefs:** People worship rain gods like **Indra and Parjanya** for good harvests. Madhushravani involves worshiping Vishahara and Gosaun.
- **Traditional Cuisine:** Purvaiya enables the **growth of rice, vegetables, and fruits**, influencing the region's cuisine. Also, special dishes like **Pua are made during this season**.
- **Folklore:** 'Purvaiya' appears in proverbs, songs, and poems that express the winds' importance and emotions. Proverbs like **"Purvaiya chale to khet khile"** and folk songs like **'Birha'** are examples.

Conclusion

Therefore, **Purvaiya** winds are essential to Bhojpur's culture, shaping its **traditions, rituals, and daily life**.