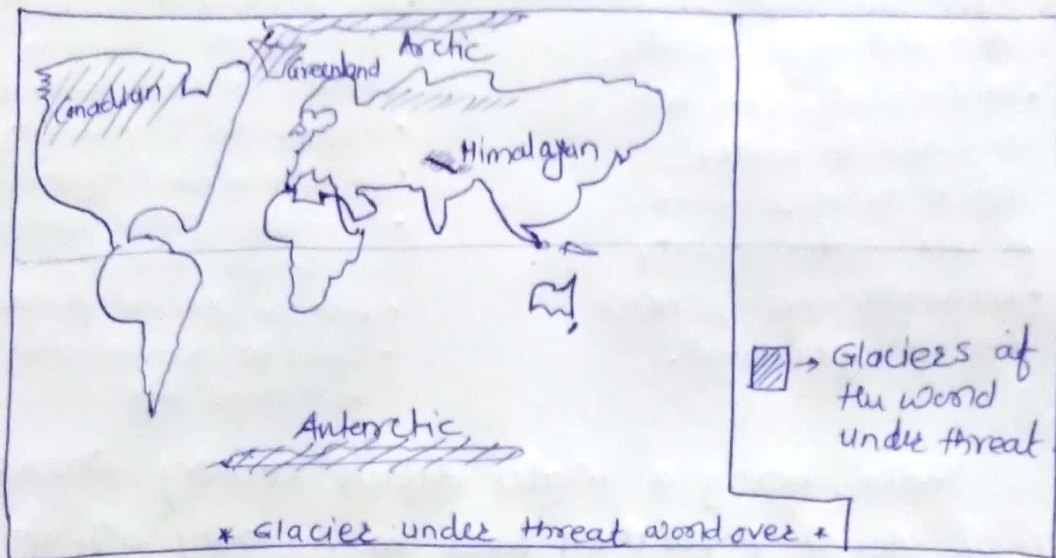


Ques: The ~~exact~~ increasing rate of glacier meltdown calls for focused strategies to tackle its causes and consequences, the situation thus can be considered as an opportunity in many ways alongside the crisis for India. Analyse. (250 words).

Ans: The glaciers world over presently are under tremendous threat of ~~surv~~ existence due to prevailing global warming and associated climate change.

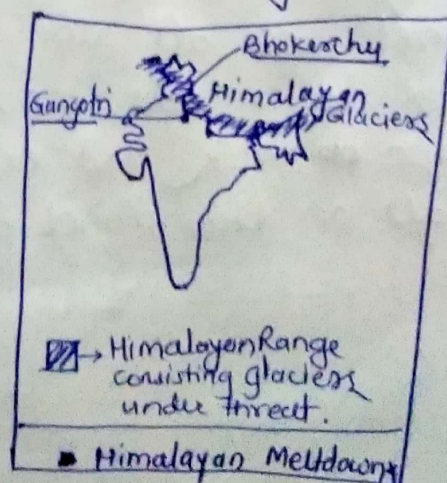


The global population is about 7.2 Billion thereby posing a great demand for availability of freshwater.

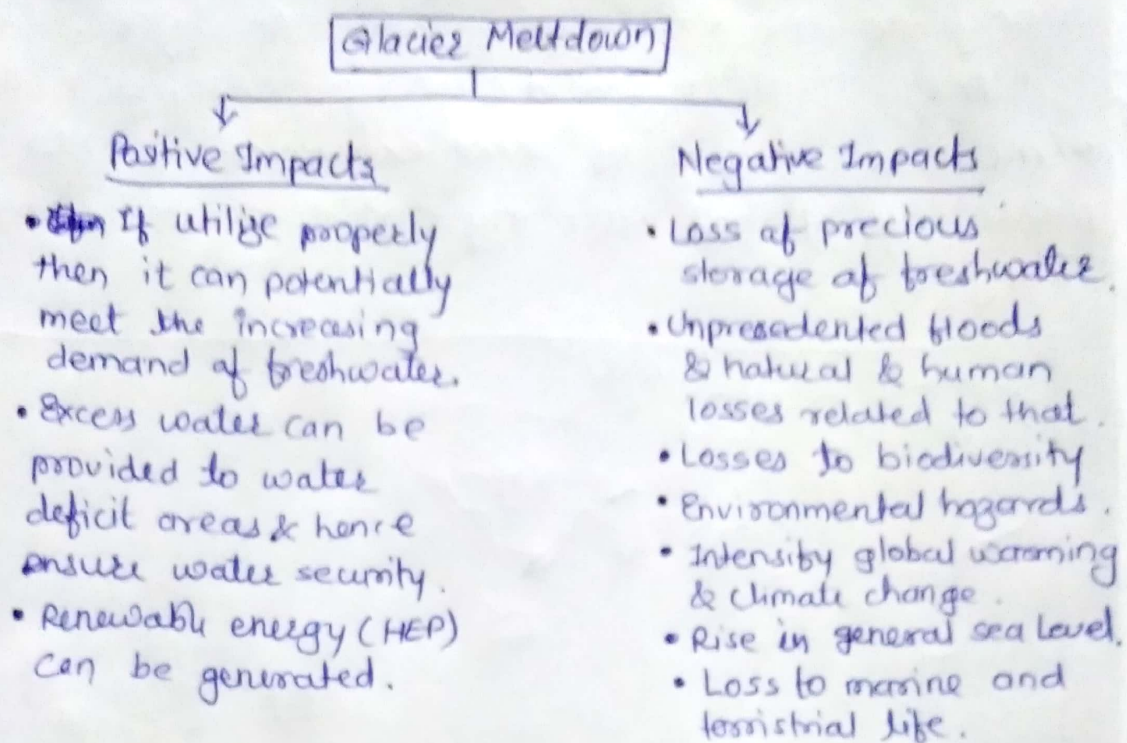
But due to global warming and associated climate change, which is largely due to anthropogenic activities, the glaciers are melting at very rapid and alarming rate.

The similar kind of situation also observed and experiencing in the 'Third Pole Region' in Central Asia and especially in Himalayan Range.

As per the data, Himalayan glaciers are losing 8 Billion tons of frozen water annually. where these Himalayan



Rivers are lifeline of 60% of Indian population residing in the areas through which these rivers pass.



India, being a water deficit country, where 16% of global population lives having only 4% of global freshwater sources with erratic nature of monsoon in recent past, creates the enormous demand to use this unutilized source judiciously.

⇒ Way forward:-

- 1) Interlinking of Himalayan rivers to peninsular rivers.
- 2) Proper mapping & assessment of glaciers and concerted efforts in maintaining the same.
- 3) Taking integrated & co-ordinated steps at local, regional & global level to combat global warming.

Hence, to sustain the life on this 'Blue Planet', we all along with planners, must adhere to concrete steps to conserve this precious storage tank and ensure sustainable development for all on this Planet Earth.