Defence & Security · GS - III

“Ethnic conflicts pose a serious challenge to India's internal security and social cohesion.” Discuss the major causes of ethnic violence and suggest measures to promote lasting peace, with reference to Manipur.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 19/10/2026	GS - III	Defence & Security

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Ethnic identity, land and resource disputes, historical grievances, political representation, tribal rights, migration concerns, misinformation, internal security, Centre-State coordination, dialogue, rehabilitation, rule of law, peacebuilding.

Model Answer

Introduction

Ethnic diversity is an important feature of India, but tensions arising from identity, political representation and competition over resources can sometimes lead to violence. The conflict involving Meitei and Kuki communities in Manipur highlights the security and governance challenges associated with ethnic divisions.

Main Body

Major causes:

- Identity and historical grievances: Differences over community identity, recognition and political representation can deepen mistrust.

- Land and resource disputes: Competition over land, livelihoods and access to resources may intensify tensions.
- Misinformation: Rumours and inflammatory content can trigger violence and retaliation.
- Governance challenges: Delayed action, weak trust in institutions and inadequate dialogue can prolong conflict.
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Measures to promote peace:

- Ensure impartial law enforcement and accountability for violence.
- Facilitate dialogue among communities, civil society and elected representatives.
- Protect vulnerable people and provide relief, rehabilitation and livelihood support.
- Strengthen intelligence coordination while respecting human rights.
- Address legitimate grievances through constitutional and democratic processes.
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Conclusion

Lasting peace in Manipur requires more than restoring law and order. Inclusive governance, justice, dialogue and trust-building are essential for durable peace and national integration.

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