



GENERAL STUDIES IAS MAINS: QUESTIONS TREND ANALYSIS

1995- 2009

GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA

PHYSIOGRAPHY

1. What do you understand by Deccan Trap? Describe its characteristics. (95/20)
2. Why do the Western Ghats receive more rainfall than the Eastern Ghats? (95/3)
3. Mention the advantages which India enjoys being at the head of the Indian Ocean. (96/15)
4. What are the geo-economic causes of underdevelopment of various regions in India? (98/15)
5. How do the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep differ in the geological evolution and topographical conditions? (98/15)
6. How is deforestation of Himalayas disturbing the ecological balance of north India ?(99/15)
7. What is the importance of Indian Ocean for India? (99/15)
8. Write note on Linguistic regions of India. (00/10)
9. Had there been no Himalayas, what would have been the winter climate in north India? (01/10)
10. Write short note on Glacier. (01/2)
11. Write short note on Equinox. (01/2)
12. Write short note on Define Terai Region. (03/2)
13. Why are the Aravallis called a divide between Mewar and Marwar ? (04/10)
14. Write short note on Karewas. (05/2)
15. Write short note on New Moore Island. (06/2)
16. Explain how the Himalayan and the Tibetan highlands play an important role in the development of the South - West monsoon. (07/10)
17. Write notes on Indira Point. (07/2)
18. Write notes on Causes of Chambal Ravines. (07/2)
19. Write about Terai Region. (08/2)
20. Assess the significance of coastal regions in the economic development of India. (09/15)

DRAINAGE SYSTEM

1. Why have the rivers of the peninsular India well-defined rigid channels in sharp contrast to the Himalayan rivers? (95/20)
2. Write short note on "Two prominent left bank tributaries of river Ganges". (01/2)
3. Describe the major characteristics of the rivers of Peninsular India. (03/10)

4. Elucidate the factors contributing to the growing need for water harvesting in India, both rural and urban. (05/10)
5. Write note on Significance of Lake Chilka. (05/2)
6. Why do the rivers of west coast not form a delta ? (06/10)
7. Write note on Hussain Sagar. (06/2)
8. Write about Buckingham Canal. (08/2)

CLIMATE

1. What is 'intensity of rainfall'? Discuss its importance to Indian farmers. (95/15)
2. Discuss the origin of Monsoon in India. (97/15)
3. Mention the agro-climatic regions of India stating the basis of classification. (00/10)
4. Write short note on Mango Showers. (00/2)
5. Explain the causes of the Indian Monsoon. (01/10)
6. Discuss the distribution of winds and rainfall over India in the summer monsoon season. (02/10)
7. Write note on winter rains in India. (06//2)
8. The winter rains in North India are largely related to Jet Streams and Western Disturbances. Bring out the relationship. (08/15)
9. Write about Nor'westers . (08/2)
10. Bring out the Significance of the various activities of the Indian Metrological Department. (09 ,15)

NATURAL VEGETATION

1. Where do mangrove forests occur in India? Describe their main characteristics. (96/15)
2. Why has there been opposition from the North-Eastern States to the Supreme Court ban on all activities inside forests ? (97/10)
3. Which parts of India have been identified as draught-prone? Mention the norms for such identification. (98/15)
4. What is waste land ? Write a note on prospects of waste land development in India. (00/10)
5. What are mangroves and in what way are they useful to us ? (00/10)
6. Mention the area of Shola forests in India. (03/2)
7. Write short note on the following:
 - (a) The Sambhar lake
 - (b) The Sundarbans
 - (c) Bombay High
 - (d) Sabarkantha & Banaskantha (04/2)
8. Discuss the wetlands and their role in the ecological conservation in India (09/15)

SOIL

1. Write short note on India's Literate soils. (00/2)
2. Write short note on Regurs. (05/2)
3. Write note on Causes of Soil erosion and its control in India. (05/10)
4. Write notes on Inceptisol. (07/2)

AGRICULTURE

1. What is shifting cultivation? Describe its salient characteristics with reference to India? (96/15)
2. What is dry farming? Discuss its relevance in augmenting the food supply in India. (99/15)
3. Give an account of the tea plantations of Assam and West Bengal and state the economic significance of these plantations. (02/10)
4. Write short notes on Jhum cultivation - process and consequences. (02//2)
5. Write note on negative impacts of shifting cultivation. (05/2)
6. Agricultural Productivity in India remain low. Explain the reasons for this situation. (08/15)
7. Write about Organic Farming. (08/2)
8. Elaborate the steps taken by the Government for regionally differentiated approach to increase crop production and diversification in the country. (09 ,15)
9. Write note on Fruit Production in India (09 , 3)

INDUSTRY

1. Name the industry which is located at each of the following places:
(i) Bongaigaon (ii) Alwaye (iii) Kapurthala (95/3)
2. Describe the changes that have taken place in the direction of international trade of India since Independence, (98/15)
3. Write note on : Khetri Copper Project. (02/2)
4. Account for the very high concentration of salt extraction industries in the Saurashtra and South Tamilnadu Coast (03/10)
5. Examine the distribution of oil refineries in India. (04/10)
6. Write note on Mixed economy. (06/2)
7. Write notes on Special Economic Zone (SET) (07/2)
8. Bring out the pros and cons of Special Economic Zones. (08/15)

TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION

1. What is MRTS ? Where it is in operation? (03/2)
2. What is Golden Quadrilateral? How will it help in the economic development of the country? (04/10)
3. Technological changes have brought in a major shift in the use of roads as transport corridors in India. How far do you agree with this view ? (07/10)
4. Write note on National Waterways. (09 , 3)

ENERGY RESOURCE

1. Mention some of the new programmes that have been undertaken in recent years in respect of nuclear research in India. (92/15)
2. Name of main petroleum producing areas in India. (02/2)
3. Write short note on Bombay High. (04/2)
4. What are the resource bases available for the economic development of the newly created states of Jharkhand and Uttaranchal? (05/10)
5. Bring out the prospects of development of alternative energy sources of India.(06/10)
6. Write note on Ultra Mega Power Projects. (09 ,3)

WATER RESOURCE

1. What is drip irrigation? Why is it considered the most efficient method of irrigation? (95/20)
2. Why has the Narmada River Valley Project attracted the attention of the common people? (97/20)
3. What do you know about Narmada Sagar Dam ? (98/2)
4. Write note on Nagarjunasagar Project. (00/2)
5. What do you know about Hirakud Project. (06/2)
6. Write note on National Water Grid. (06/2)

POPULATION / HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

1. What measures has the Government of India taken for the development of Tribal areas in India? (97/15)
2. Examine the fall out of population explosion in India at the close of twentieth century.
3. Name the mega cities of India and mention their specific problems. (99/15)
4. Explain the major racial groups of India. (00/10)
5. Write short note on Census definition of urban places. (02/2)

6. State the four distinctive stages of Indian Demographic history. (03/10)
7. Write short notes on the following:
 - (i) Who are Todas and where do they live ?
 - (ii) Name any four principal languages of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, (03/2)
8. Write notes on Jarawas. (07/2)
9. Write about Demographic Dividend. (08/2)

PLANNING / REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT / SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1. Why is there a demand for making Uttarakhand a separate Hill State in India?(97/15)
2. Write short note on Multi-level planning in India. (00/2)
3. Define the concept of 'growth centers' and evaluate its relevance in regional planning in India. (02/10)
4. "Political boundaries and regional boundaries need to be co-terminus." Do you agree? (05/10)
5. Explain the nature and causes of growing slum problems in the metropolitan cities of India. (07/10)
6. Examine the status of urbanization among the states in India and bring out spatial inequalities. (09 ,15)

NATURAL HAZARD & DISASTER / ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

1. What is ozone hole? How is it formed and what effect does it have on the earth?(96/15)
2. Write short note on El Nino. (01/2)
3. Write short note on Kaziranga National Park. (02/2)
4. Write short note on El Nino, La Nina and monsoon rains. (04/2)
5. Write note on Causes of droughts in India. (05/2)
6. Blue Revolution has definite advantages in India but it is not free from environmental impacts. Discuss. (06/10)

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