

Geography Paper II

Time Allowed: Three Hours | Maximum Marks: 250

Question Paper Specific Instructions

- There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS.
- Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
- Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each Section.
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
- Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
- Illustrate your answers with suitable sketches/maps and diagrams, wherever considered necessary.

SECTION A

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| 1(a) | On the outline map of India provided to you, mark the location of all of the following. Write in your QCA Booklet the significance of these locations, whether physical/commercial/economic/ecological/environmental/cultural, in not more than 30 words for each entry: (i) Thumba (ii) Nayachar Island (iii) Doddabetta (iv) Devasthal (v) Pangong Lake (vi) Hampi (vii) Havelock Island (viii) Luni River (ix) Daringbadi (x) Dudhsagar Waterfalls. [Outline map of India provided] (2x10=20) | 20 |
| Answer in about 30 words | | |
| 1(b) | Give a reasoned account of unusual pattern of distribution of monsoonal rainfall in India in 2017. | 10 |
| 1(c) | Explain the inter-State issues involved in implementation of the Satluj-Yamuna Link Canal Project. | 10 |
| 1(d) | Small towns in India have problems and prospects of their own. Elaborate. | 10 |
| 2(a) | Discuss the freshwater crisis in India and prepare a blueprint for its sustainable management. | 20 |
| 2(b) | Identify the Naxal-affected areas in India and discuss their socio-economic problems. | 15 |
| 2(c) | Critically examine the feasibility of development of a comprehensive network of airways in India. | 15 |
| 3(a) | "An effective three-tier Panchayat Raj System will strengthen the bottom-up approach to multilevel planning in India." Explain. | 20 |

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| 3(b) | "Linguistic diversity is an asset as well as a challenge in India." Explain the statement focussing on the distribution of languages and the major steps taken to address the related issues. | 15 |
| 3(c) | How may tourism in hilly areas of India be developed as an important source of economy? | 15 |
| 4(a) | Mention various methods of functional classification of towns in India and explain the method applied by Asok Mitra. | 20 |
| 4(b) | Farmers' suicide is one of the major agrarian problems in India. Bring out its causes and suggest the remedial measures with special reference to Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Punjab. | 15 |
| 4(c) | Land reform is a key to modern agriculture in India. Describe various measures taken in this direction after Independence. | 15 |

SECTION B

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| 5 | Answer the following questions in about 150 words each: | 50 |
| 5(a) | Explain the role of 'Hill Transport Subsidy Scheme' in reducing regional imbalances in areas identified by the Government of India. | 10 |
| 5(b) | Bring out the geopolitical implications of Doklam dispute in the context of Indo-China relations. | 10 |
| 5(c) | Bring out the significance of Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS). | 10 |
| 5(d) | Mini steel plants can act as an instrument of decentralization of iron and steel industry in India. Explain. | 10 |
| 5(e) | Goods and Services Tax (GST) has differential impact on developed and backward States of the country. How and why? | 10 |
| 6(a) | Interlinking of rivers may serve as a major source of assured irrigation and all-weather inland navigation in India. Comment on its feasibility taking into account physical, economic and ecological implication. | 20 |
| 6(b) | Religious minorities are largely concentrated in border States of India. Discuss its causes and consequences. | 15 |
| 6(c) | What do you understand by soil pollution? Delineate the areas vulnerable to it in India and suggest remedial measures. | 15 |
| 7(a) | Integrated development of road and rail networks in a complementary framework is a prerequisite for regional development. Explain with reference to North-Eastern Region of India. | 20 |

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| 7(b) | Describe the salient features of Sagar Mala Project and highlight its role in port-led development of coastal regions in India. | 15 |
| 7(c) | Justify the inclusion of Meghalaya in Peninsular India and discuss its vegetation and soil types. | 15 |
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| 8(a) | Name the major industrial regions of India indicating the bases of their identification. Highlight their basic problems. | 20 |
| 8(b) | Drainage pattern in Peninsular India is a result of its geological structure and topography. Elaborate. | 15 |
| 8(c) | Why has solar energy in India not been developed to desired level in spite of its high potential? | 15 |
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Typeset by UPSC Gurus from the official UPSC question paper. The official bilingual paper is available at upsc.gov.in.