

Geography Optional

QUESTION PAPER ANALYSIS (INDIAN PHYSICAL & ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY)

UPSC PREVIOUS YEARS - 1991 - 2023

Nothing succeeds like success, but it asks for changes, encountering uncharted, unknown which is always a challenge. To succeed in life and achieve results you must understand and master three mighty forces of **DESIRE, BELIEF AND EXPECTATIONS**. A within powerful influential and sufficiently independent person can only become successful. This is also the only path to individual satisfaction in life. The loftiest problem faced by us today is lack of vision, lack of direction. Problems are part of life and trouble the essence of success. In his own time, in his own place, in what he really is and in the stage he has reached good or bad, every human being is specific element within the whole of the manifest divine being. So instead of being afraid of difficulties, try to understand the relevance of your suffering. Adversity always presents opportunities for introspection.

“When the freedom they wished for most was freedom from responsibility,

Athens ceased to be free and was never free again”

(Historical Edith Hamilton on ancient Greece)

The requirement of personal freedom incorporates the prerequisite of firstly building own educational skills, knowledge is a tangible asset and most important tool for the work to be done. More updated knowledge you possess more free you become. Secondly developing passion for personal responsibility for the task. Be active! Take responsibilities! Work for the things you believe in. If you do not, you are surrendering your fate to others.

About the Institution – DIRECTION

Every intelligent and sensible young person, being ambitious aspire to be an IAS, but just to aspire without firm determination, required devotion, dedication and DIRECTION, means to make castle in the air, as it involves tough competition from among the aspirants. Hence the requirements are firm determination, wholehearted devotion, and dedication and of course, right DIRECTION. Astray study with devotion, on systematic and right lines leads to success. Study on right lines and in right DIRECTION means to have clear vision of the present day patterns, trends and requirements of the exam.

The Institution – DIRECTION has been playing the role of facilitator, promoter, supporter of the aspirants successfully, in order to make them achieve their dreams and ultimately to contribute to the development of the country.

The institution is providing classes daily to give continuity to the preparation process of the aspirants. It provides intensive training program based on analytical approach. This is the only institution providing individual attention to each student's queries & problems, so as to help them out to reach the sky as far as possible Intensive practice for map studies and diagrams are given exclusively in this institution as these have proven to be the form of test on the UPSC format on weekly basis so as the aspirants acquaint themselves with the writing approach and overcome their weaknesses to The individual personality development programme also goes hand in hand exclusively in this institution. So as the aspirants gains confidence in not only writing but also expressing him verbally which definitely helps him in facing the interviews? Last but not the least the faculty of this institution are more than eager to help out the aspirants at any juncture as they are very readily approachable.

The importance and significance of this institution also lies in the fact that it exclusively deals with the subject Geography that is fast gaining importance as an optional. Being semi- scientific in nature, it is well adaptable by the students of other streams especially science.

In the end I want to extent my best wishes to all the sincere aspirants for the success in the examination.

SYLLABUS :-

INDIAN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (SYLLABUS)

Cultural Setting: Historical Perspective of Indian Society; Racial, linguistic and ethnic diversities; religious minorities; major tribes, tribal areas and their problems; cultural regions; Growth, distribution and density of population; Demographic attributes: sex-ratio, age structure, literacy rate, work-force, dependency ratio, longevity; migration (inter-regional, intra- regional and international) and associated problems; Population problems and policies; Health indicators.

Settlements: Types, patterns and morphology of rural settlements; Urban development's; Morphology of Indian cities; Functional classification of Indian cities; Conurbations and metropolitan regions; urban sprawl; Slums and associated problems; town planning; Problems of urbanization and remedies.

Regional Development and Planning: Experience of regional planning in India; Five Year Plans; Integrated rural development program; Panchayati Raj and decentralized planning;

Command area development; Watershed management; Planning for backward area, desert, drought prone, hill, tribal area development; multi- level planning; Regional planning and development of island territories.

Political Aspects: Geographical basis of Indian federalism; State reorganization; Emergence of new states; Regional consciousness and interstate issues; international boundary of India and related issues; Cross border terrorism; India's role in world affairs; Geopolitics of South Asia and Indian Ocean realm.

Contemporary Issues: Ecological issues: Environmental hazards: landslides, earthquakes, Tsunamis, floods and droughts, epidemics; Issues relating to environmental pollution; Changes in patterns of land use; Principles of environmental impact assessment and environmental management; Population explosion and food security; Environmental degradation; Deforestation, desertification and soil erosion; Problems of agrarian and industrial unrest; Regional disparities in economic development; Concept of sustainable growth and development; Environmental awareness; Linkage of rivers; Globalization and Indian economy.

Note : Candidates will be required to answer one Compulsory map question pertinent to subjects covered by this paper.

Cultural Setting: Historical Perspective of Indian Society; Racial, linguistic and ethnic diversities; religious minorities; major tribes, tribal areas and their problems; cultural regions; Growth, distribution and density of population; Demographic attributes: sex-ratio, age structure, literacy rate, work-force, dependency ratio, longevity; migration (inter-regional, intra- regional and international) and associated problems; Population problems and policies; Health indicators.

1991 : Identify the major tribal communities in India by regions and examine the problems common to all of them and the ways of their solution.

1992 : Examine critically the major factors responsible for the growth of two highest population density zones in India.

1992 : Salient features of Tribal area planning.

1993 : Elucidate the current population policy of India and comment on its effectiveness.

1993 : Analyse the changes in the literacy rate during the post- independence period in India.

1994 : Elucidate the population density types in India.

- 1995 : Discuss the problems of tribal areas in India.
- 1995 : Elucidate the measures taken to limit the growth of population in India.
- 1996 : Name the million cities of India according to 1991 census and critically examine the factors for unprecedented growth in their population in the last 40 years.
- 1996 : Explain the salient features of the tribal development programme with particular reference to either Dandakaranya or Chotanagpur.
- 1997 : Examine the genesis of racial diversity in India.
- 1997 : Critically examine the factors affecting the distributional pattern of population in India.
- 1998 : Critically examine the problems and prospects of tribal areas in India.
- 1998 : Discuss the role of languages in regional consciousness and national integration in India.
- 2000 : Analyse the distribution of population in India in the perspective of nature resources and identify the over- population and under-population region in the country.
- 2001 : Elucidate the sex and age structure of the population of India.
- 2002: In what way the language, religion and tradition can form the basis of cultural regionalization of India ?
- 2003 : No question. 2004 : No question. 2005 : No question. 2006 : No Question 2007 : No Question 2008 :No Question 2009 : No Question 2010 : No Question 2011 : No Question
- 2012 : Factors affecting innovation diffusion.
- 2012 : Linguistic diversity in North-eastern states.
- 2012 : Geographical reasons for the variation in literacy from state to state in India.
- 2012 : Evaluate the population policy of India and examine its relevance to the nation's population control.
- 2012 : How age structure affects dependency ratio? Explain with suitable examples.
- 2013 : What do you understand by 'Young India'? How can the present state of population composition be converted into an asset for the country?

- 2013 : Describe the impact of linguistic diversity on the development of various regions of India.
- 2014 : Highlight the implications of declining child sex ratio in India.
- 2014 : Discuss the trends in emigration focusing on its major thrust.
- 2015 : “Age-sex pyramid is representative of the history of a region.” Explain.
- 2015 : Discuss the social and spatial ramifications of increasing longevity.
- 2015 : In population planning, the thrust of the Government has been ‘planning the population’ not ‘plan for the population’. Elaborate.
- 2016 : Point out the ethnic disparities in the N.E. India.
- 2016 : Discuss the factors influencing the distribution of sex ratio in India.
- 2017 : “Linguistic diversity is an asset as well as a challenge in India”. Explain the statement focusing on the distribution of languages and the major steps taken to address the related issues.
- 2018 : Critically assess the vanishing ethnic linguistic plurality of India.
- 2018 : Discuss the socio-economic problems associated with the left behind families of international migrants from India.
- 2019 : No Question
- 2020 : Identifying areas covered under tribal sub-plan, discuss the programmers initiated to address to their problems.
- 2020 : The process of demographic transition is not uniform in India. Examine this statement in the context of demographic transition theory.
- 2020 : Analyze the changing nature of workforce composition vis-à-vis rural-urban divide in India.
- 2021: Critically examine the relevance of Ravenstein’s law of population migration with reference to India.
- 2022: How would decline in Total Fertility Rate (TFR) below the replacement level, in many states of India affect the future population structure of the country?

2023 : With falling fertility rate and rising median age, how can India translate demographic dividend to economic dividend?

2023 : Explain the Cultural regions of India based on their cultural attributes.

2023 : Describe the regional variations of health indicators among the India States.

Settlements: Types, patterns and morphology of rural settlements; Urban developments; Morphology of Indian cities; Functional classification of Indian cities; Conurbations and metropolitan regions; urban sprawl; Slums and associated problems; town planning; Problems of urbanization and remedies.

1991 : Analyze the extent of urban population growth in India in the last four decades.

1991 : Explain the basis and characteristics of Dispersed Settlements in the N.E. Region of India.

1991 : Explain the hierarchical pattern of Indian cities and discuss their growth and distribution.

1992 : Major characteristics of the rural urban fringe.

1993 : Salient features of Tribal area planning.

1993 : Elucidate the current population policy of India and comment on its effectiveness.

1993 : Analyze the changes in the literacy rate during the post- independence period in India.

1994 : Elucidate the population density types in India.

1995 : Discuss the problems of tribal areas in India.

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- 1998 : Critically examine the problems and prospects of tribal areas in India.
- 1998 : Discuss the role of languages in regional consciousness and national integration in India.
- 1999 : No question.
- 2000 : Describe the salient characteristics of the morphology of Indian cities.
- 2001 : No question. 2002 : No question. 2003 : No question.
- 2004 : 'Economic characteristics of an area exert a much more direct effect upon its population patterns than do the physical characteristics'. Explain with examples.
- 2005 : No question.
- 2006 : Explain the processes and patterns of regional disparities in India and suggest measures for bringing about the regional balances.
- 2006 : Explain the morphology of Indian cities in the background of existing morphological models.
- 2007 : "Slums are urban menace" Elucidate with Indian cities as examples.
- 2008 : 'Unplanned urban development has created numerous problems.' Comment.
- 2009 : "There is no sharp divide where an urban settlement stop and rural area begins." Analyze the statement with reference to the sprawl of Indian cities.
- 2009 : How do the 'Push' and 'Pull' factors operate for the emergence of slums in the metropolises of India ?
- 2010 : Out line the role of class I and II towns in urban process of India and indicate their contribution towards balanced urban development.
- 2011 : Discuss the problem of environmental degradation generated by urban wastes in India.
- 2012 : Morphological characteristics of villages situated in hilly region.
- 2012 : Give an account of geographical conditions responsible for the development of different types of rural settlements in India.
- 2013 : City-regions as territorial unit for regional planning and development

- 2013 : Define slums and explain their problems.
- 2013 : Discuss the objectives of 'Vision 2020' in creation of viable village complex in India for 'Inclusive Rural Development' program.
- 2013 : Describe how urbanization creates air and water pollution in India.
- 2014 : Analyze the feasibility of 'Smart Towns' Development in India.
- 2014 : Account for the multiple problems of urban agglomerations.
- 2014 : How has an inappropriate urban land use policy accounted for undesirable development in and around metropolitan cities?
- 2015 : "Mono-functional towns are economically vulnerable." Discuss.
- 2015 : Reduction in regional disparities has been one of the priority goals of national planning in India. How the proposed new Smart urban centers may contribute to the process?
- 2016 : How do slums develop? Give concrete suggestions for their improvement.
- 2016 : Present a comparative analysis of geographical factors responsible for distribution of human settlements in Rajasthan desert and North-Eastern regions of India.
- 2016 : Describe the causes and effects of urbanization in India and explain its impact on rural landscape and urban ecology.
- 2017 : Small towns in India have problems and prospects of their own. Elaborate.
- 2017 : Mention various methods of functional classification of towns in India and explain the method applied by Asok Mitra.
- 2018 : Explain the contemporary agricultural scenario in the context of rapid urbanization in India.
- 2018 : Examine the driving forces of changing urban morphology of million-plus cities of India with suitable examples.
- 2018 : Peri-urbanization has created enormous environmental problem. Discuss their causes and consequences with reference to the National Capital Region (NCR) of India.
- 2018 : Describe the changing regional morphology of rural settlements in India.

- 2019 : Provide a reasoned account on emerging conurbations in India and explain with suitable examples the problems associated with it.
- 2020 : Give a reasoned geographical account of changing rural folk houses in india.
- 2020 : Identify challenges faced by generative and parasitic towns in India and their possible remedies.
- 2020 : Urban sprawl around planned cities evolve leading to emergence of squatter settlements. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of such outgrowth.
- 2021: Discuss Ashok Mitra’s classification method of Indian cities.
- 2021: Critically examine the importance of the Smart Cities Programme for solving the urban problems in India.
- 2022: Examine the role of high population concentration in Indian slums in making them more vulnerable during pandemic conditions like the COVID-19.
- 2022: What are the drivers of urban sprawl around the major cities of the country? How have new investments in transport projects supported sprawl development?
- 2023 : Examine the environmental challenges caused by the solid waste in metropolitan region of India and discuss the efforts to overcome it.
- 2023 : Poor quality of urban planning in India is a huge constraint in realizing the true economic potentials of urbanization. Critically examine.
- 2023 : Urban build environment in big cities of India Creates key changes in biophysical character of the Landscape. Discuss.
- 2023 : A large number of India cities have a complex morphological characteristics due to their historical evolution. Elucidate.

Regional Development and Planning: Experience of regional planning in India; Five Year Plans; Integrated rural development program; Panchayati Raj and decentralized planning; Command area development; Watershed management; Planning for backward area, desert, drought prone, hill, tribal area development; multi-level planning; Regional planning and development of island territories.

1991 : Discuss the changes brought about in Indian agriculture by the successive Five-Year Plans, mentioning their successes and failures.

1992 : Examine critically the advantages and disadvantages of multi-level planning with special reference to India.

1993 : Discuss briefly the overall pattern of inter-regional trade in India.

1994 : Discuss the growth of regional planning in India and account for regional disparities in development.

1995 : Give the hierarchy of planning regions and bring out the role of metropolitan planning in fostering regional development in India.

1996 : Explain the criteria used in the identification of drought-prone areas in India.

1996 : Magnitude of regional imbalances in economic development in India.

1997 : Evaluate the benefits of Block Level development planning in India.

1997 : Draw a sketch map of India showing major river basins. Examine the feasibility of the concept of river basins as a planning unit.

1998 : No question.

1999 : Nature and utility of multi-level planning in India.

1999 : Analyze the causes of regional disparities in the economic development of India and suggest measures for their removal.

2000 : No question.

2001 : Provide the geographical background and characteristics of the distribution of Hill Stations of India.

2001 : Explain the concept of watershed and its utility in land management.

- 2002 : Give a reasoned account of regional disparities in economic development in India and bring out the contribution of decentralized planning in solving this problem
- 2003 : Discuss the programs and policy development of dry areas in India.
- 2003 : Present an account of the experience of regional planning in India in the context of Damodar Valley.
- 2004 : Examine the regional development policy of India in various Five Year Plans.
- 2005 : Give an account of the distribution of flood-prone areas of controlling the impact of floods in the country.
- 2005 : Examine the relationship between geography and regional planning
- 2005 : Discuss the experiences of regional planning in India in the context of the National Capital.
- 2006 : Present an account of tribals, tribal areas and their problems in India.
- 2007 : No Question.
- 2008 : Discuss the problems and prospects of development of catchment and command areas.
- 2009 : No Question.
- 2010 : What is regionalism and Discuss how regionalism affects the development process with suitable examples.
- 2011 : Discuss the spatial pattern of intra-regional migration in India and examine its implications in regional development.
- 2011 : Identify the ravine-affected areas in India and discuss the environmental and economic impact of their reclamation.
- 2012 : Elucidate the role of Tribal Development Blocks in the development of Tribal areas.
- 2013 : Planning and development of 'Tribal Regions' in India.
- 2013 : Enumerate the basic indicators of development and explain their application in identification of the spatial diversity in development in India.
- 2014 : Comment on the criteria of identifying Drought Prone Areas in India.

- 2014 : Evaluate the Backward Regions Grant Fund Program.
- 2014 : How can a meaningful skill development program contribute to the economic growth of hill areas?
- 2014 : Discuss the concept of Command Area Development and evaluate its success with reference to Indira Gandhi Canal.
- 2015 : Discuss the relationship of watershed approach to village level planning.
- 2015 : Decentralized planning through the strengthening of the Panchayat systems is the focus of planning in India in recent times. Suggest a blueprint for an integrated regional development plan.
- 2015 : Is planning for a cluster of villages a viable option, when planning for backward areas of the country? Discuss with suitable examples.
- 2015 : Discuss the concept of multi-level planning as practised in India, and explain the implications of 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments in this respect.
- 2016 : Describe the major tribal regions of India and their problems.
- 2016 : Examine the causes of regional disparities in economic development in India.
- 2017: Discuss the freshwater crisis in India and prepare a blueprint for its sustainable management.
- 2017: “An effective three-tier Panchayat Raj System will strengthen the bottom-up approach to multilevel planning in India”. Explain.
- 2017: Explain the role of ‘Hill Transport Subsidy Scheme’ in reducing regional imbalances in areas identified by the Government of India.
- 2017: Goods and Services Tax (GST) has differential impact on developed and backward States of the country. How and why?
- 2017: 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.
- 2018 : Examine the role of people’s participation in successful decentralized planning in India.

- 2019 : Discuss how watershed management has become a tool in eradication of rural poverty in India.
- 2019 : "Intra basins linkages of rivers are more feasible economically, socially and ecologically". Discuss with Suitable example from India.
- 2019 : Analyze the role of interstate migration in regional disparity in India.
- 2019 : Analyze the incentive oriented programs for removing regional imbalances in socio-economic development of India.
- 2020 : The success of Panchayati Raj depends upon meaningful participation of people grass root level. Examine.
- 2021: Critically examine how the Panchayati Raj system is a catalyst in decentralized planning in India
- 2021: Discuss the Command Area Development Programme and its impact on eliminating regional inequalities in India.
- 2021: Discuss the role of watershed management for soil and water conservation in hilly regions of India.
- 2022: Why do disparities in development and incomes between regions persist in large countries like India? How does the recent ADP plan address the issue?
- 2023 : Examine the geo strategical significance of India islands
- 2023 : Discuss the problem of flood and their management with special reference to Indi Gangetic Plain.
- 2023 : Critical examines the ecologic and economic impact of Indira Gandhi Canal Command Area development.
- 2023 : Assess the ecotourism potential of Andaman and Nicobar, Lakshadweep island and highlight the challenges associated with the sustainable development of islands territories.

Political Aspects: Geographical basis of Indian federalism; State reorganization; Emergence of new states; Regional consciousness and inter state issues; international boundary of India and related issues; Cross border terrorism; India's role in world affairs; Geopolitics of South Asia and Indian Ocean realm.

1991 : Discuss the political issues involved in the 'Tin Bigha' or Siachen dispute. (Short notes).

1992 : No question.

1993 : Examine critically the geographical basis of the Indian federation.

1994 : Problems of militancy in India's border states. (Short notes).

1995 : Importance of India in the geopolitics of the Indian Ocean realm. (Short notes).

1996 : Geographical basis of the Indian Federation. (Short notes).

1997 : Explain the basis and consequences of the establishment and implementation of recommendations of the State Re-organisation Commission in India since 1950s.

1998 : Discuss the geopolitical importance of Indian Ocean area. (Short notes).

1999 : Regional consciousness versus national integration in India. (Short notes).

2000 : No question.

2001 : Discuss the geopolitical importance of India's Land Boundaries.

2002 : No question. 2003 : No question. 2004 : No question. 2005 : No question 2006 : No Question 2007 : No Question

2008 : Critically examine the bases of state reorganisation in India since independence.

2009 : No Question 2010 : No Question 2011 : No Question 2012 : No Question 2013 : No Question

2014 : Discuss the implications of India's strategic location with reference to the Indian Ocean.

2014 : India is involved in a number of border disputes. Explain the reasons and remedies.

2015 : How has India's 'Look East' policy taken shape in the past two decades and how it may affect India's external trade?

2015 : Indian island territories are vulnerable to the sea level rise. Explain.

- 2015 : Give a reasoned account of river water disputes related to the River Krishna.
- 2016 : No Question
- 2017 : Explain the inter-State issues involved in implementation of the Satluj-Yamuna Link Canal Project.
- 2017 : Identify the Naxal-affected areas in India and discuss their socio-economic problems.
- 2017 : Bring out the geopolitical implications of Doklam dispute in the context of Indo-China relations.
- 2017 : Religious minorities are largely concentrated in border States of India. Discuss its causes and consequences.
- 2018 : Discuss the strategies of integrated development of island territories in India.
- 2018 : Cross border terrorism has implications on border area development in India. Examine it with suitable examples.
- 2018 : Is the land boundary of India with its neighbouring countries a cultural divide or divided culture? Explain with suitable examples.
- 2019 : Discuss the political aspects of Himalaya. Explain how it has affected the geo-strategy, geo-politics and regional consciousness of Indian federalism.
- 2019 : "Indian is emerging as global power in relation to Indian ocean realm." Elaborate.
- 2020 : Has the regional aspiration of the people of Jammu and Kashmir been addressed through re-organization of the state? Make an assessment.
- 2020 : Border are development is an important national priority. What are the resilient steps needed for peaceful borders?
- 2020 : Describe the economic, maritime and strategic interests of India in South China Sea.
- 2021: Critically examine the problems of inter-State border disputes in India.
- 2021: Discuss the geopolitical impact of the bilateral relationship between India and Bhutan.
- 2022: Discuss the continuing disputes on water sharing between the riparian states of North-West India.

2022: Can the Panchayat Raj institutions play a role in grassroot level planning in India? If yes, discuss how.

2022: Kalapani dispute has opened a new front on the India-Nepal international border. Explain.

2022: Discuss the emergence of linguistic regions and states in India.

2022: Discuss the geopolitical significance of Quad in the Indo-Pacific realm with reference to marine trade in the region.

2023 : Critically examine the role of petroleum energy resources on International Geopolitics with special reference to India.

2023 : Examine the geopolitical impact of bilateral relationship between India and SriLanka.

Contemporary Issues: Ecological issues: Environmental hazards: landslides, earthquakes, Tsunamis, floods and droughts, epidemics; Issues relating to environmental pollution; Changes in patterns of land use; Principles of environmental impact assessment and environmental management; Population explosion and food security; Environmental degradation; Deforestation, desertification and soil erosion; Problems of agrarian and industrial unrest; Regional disparities in economic development; Concept of sustainable growth and development; Environmental awareness; Linkage of rivers; Globalization and Indian economy.

1991 : Critically examine the relationship between deforestation the last four decades. .

1992 : No question. 1993 : No question.

1994 : Examine the nature and extent of environmental degradation in the Himalayas.

1994 : Explain the salient features of Sardar Sarovar Project and elucidate the controversy related to its implementation.

1995 : No question. 1996 : No question.

1997 : Evaluate the nature of ecological problem in India and suggest measures for measurement.

1998 : No question. 1999 : No question.

- 2000 : Analyse the role of India in the geo-politics of the Indian Ocean region.
- 2001 : Explain the geographical characteristics of the regional distribution of earthquakes in India.
- 2002 : Explain the causes, impacts and remedial measures of earthquake disaster.
- 2003 : Explain the causes of regional disparities in economic development of the India.
- 2004 : Explain the causes, impacts and remedial measures of flood-hazards in Middle and Lower Ganga Plain.
- 2005 : No question
- 2006 : Explain the processes and patterns of regional disparities in India and suggest measures for bringing about the regional balances.
- 2007 : Discuss environmental problems of India in the context of rapid economic development and population growth.
- 2008 : No question
- 2009 : What are the causes and consequences of environmental degradation in India's industrial areas ? Give specific examples.
- 2009 : Discuss the impacts of globalization on India's industry and agriculture sectors.
- 2010 : Identify the regions affected by Chikangunya with the help of sketched map and bring out the regional pattern of the disease.
- 2010 : How does formation of national park help ecological restoration and conservation and Explain with suitable example.
- 2011 : Analyze the causes of desertification in India. Represent the decertified areas of the country on a sketch map and suggest remedial measures to control it.
- 2012 : Examine the origin, dimension and implications of the Sino-Indian border dispute.
- 2012 : Examine the relevance of linkage of rivers in India with special reference of Ganga-Cauvery linkage canal
- 2013 : Comment on the basis of creation of new States in India in 2000.

- 2013 : Write a note on geopolitics of the Indian Ocean realm. 2014 : No Question
- 2015 : Outline the Government of India's strategies of conservation of the Western Ghats.
- 2015 : Account for the growing frequency and intensity of floods in India, and suggest short- and long-term remedial measures indicating the chronically flood-prone areas.
- 2015 : How does climate change affect the process of desertification of India?
- 2016 : Explain the role of India in the geo-politics of South Asia.
- 2016 : Analyze the pattern of India's trade with the S-E Asian countries.
- 2016 : Explain the origin, dimension and implications of Sino- Indian border dispute.
- 2017 : What do you understand by soil pollution? Delineate the area vulnerable to it in India and suggest remedial measures.
- 2017 : Why has solar energy in India not been developed to desired level in spite of its high potential?
- 2018 : Explain the changing river sources and their impacts on the riparian population in India with suitable examples.
- 2018 : Describe the socio-spatial consequences of the recent Nipah viral encephalitis in India.
- 2019 : Give a reasoned account of high level of pollution in North Indian cities as compared to south Indian cities.
- 2019 : Describe the altitudinal and spatial geo-environmental hazards in the Himalayas.
- 2020 : Stunting and wasting among children are major consequence of food insecurity. Discuss various schemes of Government of India to address insecurity. Address these problems and their achievements.
- 2020: Avalanche is a major hazard in the Himalayas. What are its causes and mitigation measures?
- 2020 : Demarcating the seismic zones of India, suggest suitable interventions required most sensitive seismic zones for sustainable human settlements.
- 2021: Landslide is a major problem in the Himalayan region. Discuss its causes and mitigation measures.
- 2021: Appraise why drought is one of the most common climatic extremes in India.

- 2021: Discuss the ecological and economic challenges of river linking in India.
- 2022: Why has extreme particulate pollution remained a festering issue in Delhi NCR region?
- 2022: The process of desertification leads to soil desiccation and soil loss. Explain.
- 2022: Groundwater contamination in the fast expanding urban landscape of India appears to have become a major public health issue. Discuss.
- 2022: Incidence of extreme rainfall events and flash floods in recent times have led to devastating consequences for people living in low-lying areas and flood plains of the country. Discuss.
- 2022: Evaluate the role of the National Food Security Act, 2003 in providing access of food to the poor in India.
- 2023 : Discuss the green energy initiative of India as a signatory nation to the Paris Agreement.

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1991 :

1. Bhadravati
2. Chumbi Valley
3. Lakshadweep
4. Palk Strait
5. Hirakud Reservoir
6. Parasnath Hill
7. Port Blair
8. Main Boundary Fault
9. Bombay High
10. Areas receiving less than 25 cm (10") rainfall

1992 :

1. Kalpakkam
2. Shyok Valley
3. Salsett Is.
4. Adam's Bridge
5. Farakka Barrage
7. Itanagar
8. Somnath
9. Khetri
10. Alignment of Konkan Railway under construction

NEETU SINGH DIRECTION

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1993 :

1. Pokaran

2. Banihal

3. Kolleru Lake

4. Minicoy Is.

5. Maikal Range

6. Sabarmati River

7. Nunmati

8. Bababudan Hills

9. Singrauli Coalfield

10. 35°C June Isotherm

1994 :

1. Barren Island

2. Marmagao

3. Agartala

4. Vadodara

5. Tapi

6. Rana Pratap Sagar

7. Kavaratti Island

8. Leh

9. Badrinath

1995 :

1997 :

1. Mettur Dam

2. Kaziranga Park

1. Malwa Plateau

2. Pamban Island

3. Zaskar Range

4. The Godavari

5. Koyana Project

6. Gold mines of India

7. Ranthambore

8. Barauni

9. Nanda Devi biosphere

10. Atomic Power Project in U.P.1.0. Rourkela

1996 :

1. Kolleru lake

2. Maikal range

3. Palghat

4. Darjeeling

5. Ellora

6. Rann of Kachchh

7. January Isotherm of 20°C

8. Ghaghara river

9. Bokaro

10. Corbett Park

3. Loktak Lake

4. Puri

5. Vindhyan Mountains

NEETU SINGH DIRECTION

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6. Mahanadi
7. Itanagar
8. Haldia
9. Sunderbans
10. Khetri copper mines

1998 :

1. Hirakud Dam
2. Konkan Coast
3. Satpura Range
4. Narmada River
5. Lava Region
6. Pradip Port
7. Visakhapatnam
8. Lucknow
9. Chilka Lake
10. Bangalore

1999 :

1. Farakka barrage
2. Kavaratti
3. Manali-Leh highway
4. Majuli riverain island
5. Rajmahal hills
6. Palghat gap
7. Chhatisgarh plain
8. Luni river

9. Karwar
10. Anadpur Sahib

2000 :

1. Cauvery
2. Narmada River
3. Chilka lake
4. Nagarjunsagar
5. Agra
6. Cochin
7. Satpura range
8. Aravalli hills
9. Bombay High
10. Kaziranga National Park
11. Kargil region
12. National Highway No. 7

2001:

1. Harishchandra range
2. Bhima River
3. Semi Arid Climatic zone
4. Manas National Park
5. Anai Mudi
6. Sambhar lake
7. Digboi oil field
8. Baghelkhand
9. National Highway No.8

10. Anjar
- 11 Red and Yellow soil area
12. Minicoy Island

2002:

1. Blue Mountain
2. Tawa river
3. Dallirajhara mines
4. Marmugao
5. Coimbatore
6. Kodaikanal
7. Wular lake
8. Rourkela
9. Konkan railway
10. Laterite soils
11. Gulf of Mannar
12. Rana Pratap Sagar

2003:

1. Loktak Lake
2. Elephanta Island
3. Kali Sindh River
4. Ranikhet
5. Girnar Hills
6. Always
7. Shillong Plateau
8. Kolar Gold Mines

9. Salem
10. Rohtang Pass
11. Gobind Ballabh Pant Sagar
12. New Mangalore

2004 :

1. Gulf of Kachchh
2. Indravati river
3. Mount Abu
4. Ganga river waterway from Allahabad
5. Dhauladhar
6. Kudermukh
7. Block Soils
8. Nagarajun Sagar
9. Bhuj
- 10 . Rajrappa fall
11. Dimapur
12. Gulmarg

2005:

1. Jawahar Lal Nehru Port
2. Chandra Bhaga River
3. Kiamur Range
4. Dhalousie
5. Ganga Sagar
6. Indira Point
7. Cardamom Hills

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8. Bombay High
9. Nag Pahar
10. Gersoppa Falls
11. Pulicate Lake
12. Kakinada

2006 :

1. Malaygiri
2. Sibsagar
3. Khetri
4. Sind River
5. Kalakot
6. Nathula Pass
7. Renukoot
8. Sabarigiri
9. Surendranagar
10. New Moore Island
11. Javadi Hills
12. Kolleru Lake

2007 :

1. Najarjun Sagar
2. Dharmasala
3. Aizawl
4. Konkan Railway
5. Kovalam Beach
6. Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary

7. ICRISAT
8. Vishakhapatnam Port
9. Panna
10. Nuclear Fuel Complex
11. Gurgaon
12. Bodh Gaya

2008 :

1. Butcher Island
2. Gopalpur Beach
3. Lavasa
4. Gandhisagar
5. Nam Dapha
6. Pampore
7. Mount Harrier
8. Barail Ranges
9. Palitana
10. NIO
11. Baltel
12. Pindari

2009

Write in your answer script the significant geographical relevance or strategic importance of these locations, whether physical/Commercial/ economic/ecological/ environmental/cultural in not more than 30 words

1. Akarimota

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2. Kolleru Lake
 3. Van Tivu
 4. Silent valley
 5. Amravati River
 6. Pirotan Island
 7. Mangla
 8. Meghnagar
 9. Shipki La
 10. Bhachau
 11. The home of Sunderi
 12. Origin of river Narmada
 13. Gokak
 14. Ken river
 15. Bailadila
 16. Bhavani Sagar Dam
 17. Kutralam Falls
 18. Dalma Hills
 19. Dhanjori Hills
 20. Rangit river
- 2010 :**
1. Narcondam or Narcondum
 2. Kavvayi
 3. Krishnapatnam
 4. Shadnagar
 5. Gahirmatha Beach

6. Point Calimere
7. Jaitapur Jaitapur
8. Parichha
9. Salto Kangri
10. Shencottah,
11. Banas
12. Falgu River
13. Sirpur or Sirpur Tandura
14. Sanand
15. Dras

2011 :

1. Badami
2. Mandvi
3. Dodital
4. Yanam
5. Netarhat
6. Shamsabad
7. Lakshmantirth River
8. Bara-Lacha-La
9. Kakolat Fall
10. Singrauli
11. Daria Hills
12. Tree island

2012 :

1. Manas

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- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 2. Bachau | (i) Tharangambadi |
| 3. Ganga river waterway from Allahabad | (ii) Namcha Barwa |
| 4. Indravati River | (iii) Narcodam |
| 5. Amaravati River | (iv) Khajjiar |
| 6. Pir Panjal Ranges | 2015 |
| 7. Narkondam Island | (i)Guru Shikhar |
| 8. Kharkai River | (ii) Bhor Ghat |
| 9. Kalahandi | (iii) Shravanabelagola |
| 10.Kakarapara | (iv)Kalibangan |
| 11.Murshidabad | (v)Ganga Sagar |
| 12.Khetri | Section -B |
| 13.Pawapuri | (i)Mundra Port |
| 14.Kolhan Highland | (ii)Chandipur |
| 15.North Koel River | (iii)Mahendragiri |
| 2013: | (iv)Hazira |
| (1)Mishmi Hills | (v)Vembanad Lake |
| (2)Lipulekh Pass | 2016 |
| (3)Beas River | (i)Pir Panjal Range |
| (4)Rihand Dam | (ii)River Indravati |
| (5) Amarnath | (iii)Nathu La Pass |
| (6) Rajgir | (iv)Jog Falls |
| (7)Sindri | (v) Pulicat Lake |
| (8) National Highway No. 24 (9)Churk | (vi) Kudankulam |
| (10) Indira Gandhi Canal | (vii) Nalanda |
| 2014 : | (viii) Kudremukh |

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(ix) Headquarters of N.E.Railways

(x) Farakka Barrage

2017

(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

2018

(i) Shyok River

(ii) Mawlynnong

(iii) Shravasti

(iv) Kori Creek

(v) Amarkantak

(vi) Ghatshila

(vii) Tawang

(viii) Neyyar

(ix) Dandeli

(x) Mulshi Lake

2019

(i) Lothal

(ii) River Beas

(iii) Chikhaldara

(iv) Narora

(v) Lengpui

(vi) Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary

(vii) Thenmala

(viii) Anamudi

(ix) Barren Island

(x) Durgaduani Creek

2020

(i) Vadhawan

(ii) Salkhan

(iii) Coorg

(iv) Mhow

(v) Umroi

(vi) Thoothukudi

(vii) Bargarh

(viii) Atal Tunnel

(ix) Gurushikhar.

(x) Bum La

2021

1) Ziro Valley

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- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2) Khecheopalri Lake | (vii) Sela Tunnel |
| 3) Toranmal | (viii) Ennore Port |
| 4) Subarnarekha River | (ix) Ramagundam |
| 5) Koderma | (x) Betwa River |
| 6) Sir Creek | |
| 7) Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary | |
| 8) Peechi Dam | |
| 9) Digha Beach | |
| 10) Pamban Island | |

2022

- 1) Tarangambadi
- 2) Mahe
- 3) Bomdila
- 4) Dhola Sadiya Bridge
- 5) Talakaveri
- 6) Satkosia
- 7) Dholavira
- 8) Sonamarg
- 9) Maliku Atoll
- 10) Gangasagar

2023

- (i) Nathula
- (ii) Hutti
- (iii) Ross Island
- (iv) Moreh
- (v) Ramappa
- (vi) Namdapha National Park