

ANANTAM IAS · PREVIOUS YEAR QUESTION PAPER

UPSC Civil Services (Main) Geography Optional

Paper II · Geography of India

2018

Time allowed: **Three hours** Maximum marks: **250**

Typeset from the question paper published by the Union Public Service Commission. English text of all 27 printed questions, with marks and section as printed.

Question Paper Specific Instructions

1. There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS.
2. Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
3. 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.
4. The number of marks carried by a question or part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium other than the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
7. Illustrate your answers with suitable sketches, maps and diagrams wherever considered necessary. These shall be drawn in the space provided for answering the question itself.
8. Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
9. **Question 1(a) is a compulsory map question. Candidates are required to mark the given locations on the outline map of India supplied with the paper and write the significance of each in the QCA Booklet.**

SECTION A

Q1.

- (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: **20**

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Shyok River | 6. Ghatshila |
| 2. Mawlynnong | 7. Tawang |
| 3. Shravasti | 8. Neyyar |
| 4. Kori Creek | 9. Dandeli |
| 5. Amarkantak | 10. Mulshi Lake |

- (b) Explain the unusual intensity of dust storms and thunder storms across India in the pre-monsoon period of year 2018. **10**
- (c) Why setting up of Water Management Boards is a controversial issue in India? **10**
- (d) Keeping the recent developments in view, how can the energy crisis of India be circumvented by harnessing non-conventional energy resources? **10**

Q2.

- (a) Distinguish the geographical aspects of North-Western lava plateau and Chotanagpur plateau of peninsular India. **20**
- (b) Explain the contemporary agricultural scenario in the context of rapid urbanization in India. **15**

- (c) Assess the suitability of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) for the sustainable economic development in India. 15

Q3.

- (a) Examine the ongoing process of agricultural diversification and its implications for food security in India. 20
- (b) Account for the persisting negative trade balance of India. 15
- (c) Critically assess the vanishing ethnic linguistic plurality of India. 15

Q4.

- (a) Examine the driving forces of changing urban morphology of million-plus cities of India with suitable examples. 20
- (b) Discuss the emerging geo-political scenario of Indian Ocean realm. 15
- (c) Give a critical account of region specific constraints of sustainable tourism in India. 15

SECTION B

Q5. Answer the following in about 150 words each. **10×5=50**

- (a) Discuss the socio-economic problems associated with the left behind families of international migrants from India. 10
- (b) Explain the changing river courses and their impacts on the riparian population in India with suitable examples. 10
- (c) Make a critical appraisal of the factors affecting river water quality in India. 10
- (d) Examine the role of people's participation in successful decentralised planning in India. 10
- (e) Describe the socio-spatial consequences of the recent Nipah viral encephalitis in India. 10

Q6.

- (a) Illustrate with suitable examples the endeavours undertaken in augmenting conservation of water and vegetation in India. 20
- (b) Discuss the strategies of integrated development of island territories in India. 15
- (c) Cross border terrorism has implications on border area development in India. Examine it with suitable examples. 15

Q7.

- (a) Explain the pipeline network across India and its impact on regional development. 20
- (b) Discuss the changing composition of international trade through major seaports of India. 15
- (c) Peri-urbanization has created enormous environmental problems. Discuss their causes and consequences with reference to the National Capital Region (N.C.R.) of India. 15

Q8.

- (a)** Describe the changing regional morphology of rural settlements in India. **20**
- (b)** Startups may play important role in giving fillip to economic growth in India. Illustrate with examples. **15**
- (c)** Is the land boundary of India with its neighbouring countries a cultural divide or divided culture? Explain with suitable examples. **15**

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