

Syllabus of Geography Paper - II

GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA

Resources

- Land, surface and groundwater, energy, minerals, biotic and marine resources,
- Forest and wildlife resources and their conservation
- Energy crisis.

Physical

- Space relationship of India with neighbouring countries
- Structure and relief
- Drainage systems and watersheds
- Physiographic regions
- Mechanisms of Indian monsoons and rainfall patterns
- Tropical cyclones and western disturbances
- Floods and droughts
- Climatic regions
- Natural vegetation, Soil types and their distributions.

Industry

- Evolution of industries
- Locational factors of cotton, jute, textile, iron and steel, aluminium, fertiliser, paper, chemical and pharmaceutical, automobile, cottage, and agro-based industries
- Industrial houses and complexes, including public sector undertakings
- Industrial regionalization
- New industrial policy
- Multinationals and liberalisation
- Special Economic Zones
- Tourism including ecotourism.

Agriculture

- Infrastructure: irrigation, seeds, fertilisers, power;
- Institutional factors
- Land holdings, land tenure, and land reforms
- Cropping pattern, agricultural productivity, agricultural intensity, crop combination, and land capability

- Agro and social-forestry
- The green revolution and its socio-economic and ecological implications
- Significance of dry farming
- Livestock resources and white revolution
- Aquaculture
- Sericulture, Agriculture, and poultry
- Agricultural regionalization
- Agro-climatic zones
- Agroecological regions.

Transport, Communication, and Trade

- Road, railway, waterway, airway, and pipeline networks and their complementary roles in regional development
- The growing importance of ports on national and foreign trade
- Trade balance
- Trade Policy
- Export processing zones
- Developments in communication and information technology and their impacts on economy and society
- Indian space program

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

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, intraregional and international) and associated problems

- Population problems and policies
- Health indicators

Regional Development and Planning

- Experience of regional planning in India
- Five Year Plans
- Integrated rural development programs
- 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.

Contemporary Issues

- Ecological issues
- Environmental hazards: landslides, earthquakes, Tsunamis, floods and droughts, epidemics
- Issues related 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
- Globalisation and Indian economy

Political Aspects

- The geographical basis of Indian federalism
- State reorganisation
- Emergence of new states
- Regional consciousness and inter-state issues
- The international boundary of India and related issues
- Cross-border terrorism
- India's role in world affairs
- Geopolitics of South Asia and Indian Ocean realm