



Hello Everyone,

The prelims exam is over and for many of you the door of opportunity is open. As you can gauge from the level of Prelims exam, qualifying prelims is getting tougher and tougher. So, if you are qualifying the exam, don't leave any stone unturned to get your name in the final list.

Optional plays a very important role in achieving a top rank. Many candidates find it difficult to mark that fine line between the GS answers and the optional Answers. It is important that you hone your answer writing skills and be prepared for any challenge that is thrown at you.

For Geography optional students we are starting an Optional Test Series. The test series will be **starting from 20th June** and its **validity will be up to the Mains 2022 exam**. Features of the test series are as follows:

Components of Geography Optional Test Series:

- A total of 8 Tests with 4 Sectional Tests and 4 Full-length Test. (Only online)
- All the students will get personal mentorship. Mentor will point out the individual mistakes and help in overall guidance.
- Quality Evaluation of the Answer Sheets and detailed feedback.
- Value Add notes for some specific topics will be provided.

Faculty Profile

- The faculty needs no introduction due to his immense popularity with UPSC aspirants for geography.
- The Test Series will be conducted by **Atyab Ali Zaidi sir**. He is an alumnus of NIT Allahabad, Chemical Engineering and is one of the Core members of the IASbaba team.
- He has been mentoring UPSC aspirants for the past 7 years and many of his students have qualified for this prestigious exam with flying colours.

Geography Optional Test Series Schedule

| Test No | Date of Test | Topics | Sources |
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| 1. | 20 th June 2022 | <p>Geomorphology: Factors controlling landform development; endogenetic and exogenetic forces; Origin and evolution of the earth's crust; Fundamentals of geomagnetism; Physical conditions of the earth's interior; Geosynclines; Continental drift; Isostasy; Plate tectonics; Recent views on mountain building; Vulcanicity; Earthquakes and Tsunamis; Concepts of geomorphic cycles and Landscape development. Denudation chronology; Channel morphology; Erosion surfaces; Slope development; Applied Geomorphology: Geohydrology, economic geology and environment.</p> <p>Biogeography: Genesis of soils; Classification and distribution of soils; Soil profile; Soil erosion, Degradation and conservation; Factors influencing world distribution of plants and animals; Problems of deforestation and conservation measures; Social forestry; agro-forestry; Wild life; Major gene pool centers.</p> <p>Climatology: Temperature and pressure belts of the world; Heat budget of the earth; Atmospheric circulation; atmospheric stability and instability. Planetary and local winds; Monsoons and jet streams; Air masses and fronto genesis, Temperate and tropical cyclones; Types and distribution of precipitation; Weather and Climate; Koppen's, Thornthwaite's and Trewartha's classification of world climates; Hydrological cycle; Global climatic change and role and response of man in climatic changes, Applied climatology and Urban climate.</p> <p>Oceanography: Bottom topography of the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans; Temperature and salinity of the oceans; Heat and salt budgets, Ocean deposits; Waves, currents and tides; Marine resources: biotic, mineral and energy resources; Coral reefs, coral bleaching; sea level changes; law of the sea and marine pollution.</p> <p>Environmental Geography: Principle of ecology; Human ecological adaptations; Influence of man on ecology and environment; Global and regional ecological changes and imbalances; Ecosystem their management and conservation; Environmental degradation, management and conservation; Biodiversity and sustainable development; Environmental policy; Environmental hazards and remedial measures; Environmental education and legislation.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geomorphology by Savinder Singh (Ch-1, 10 concepts). • Physical geography by Savinder Singh. • G.C.LEONG. • PHYSICAL GEO- RUPA PUBLICATIONS. • Earth's Dynamic Surface – K. Siddhartha Strahler and Strahler |

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| 2. | 27 th June 2022 | <p>Perspectives in Human Geography: Areal differentiation; regional synthesis; Dichotomy and dualism; Environmentalism; Quantitative revolution and locational analysis; radical, behavioural, human and welfare approaches; Languages, religions and secularisation; Cultural regions of the world; Human development index.</p> <p>Models, Theories and Laws in Human Geography: Systems analysis in Human geography; Malthusian, Marxian and demographic transition models; Central Place theories of Christaller and Losch; Perroux and Boudeville; Von Thunen's model of agricultural location; Weber's model of industrial location; Rostov's model of stages of growth. Heartland and Rimland theories; Laws of international boundaries and frontiers.</p> <p>Economic Geography: World economic development: measurement and problems; World resources and their distribution; Energy crisis; the limits to growth; World agriculture: typology of agricultural regions; agricultural inputs and productivity; Food and nutrition problems; Food security; famine: causes, effects and remedies; World industries: locational patterns and problems; patterns of world trade.</p> <p>Population and Settlement Geography: Growth and distribution of world population; demographic attributes; Causes and consequences of migration; concepts of over-under-and optimum population; Population theories, world population problems and policies, Social well-being and quality of life; Population as social capital. Types and patterns of rural settlements; Environmental issues in rural settlements; Hierarchy of urban settlements; Urban morphology: Concepts of primate city and rank-size rule; Functional classification of towns; Sphere of urban influence; Rural urban fringe; Satellite towns; Problems and remedies of urbanization; Sustainable development of cities.</p> <p>Regional Planning: Concept of a region; Types of regions and methods of regionalisation; Growth centres and growth poles; Regional imbalances; regional development strategies; environmental issues in regional planning; Planning for sustainable development.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical thoughts: R.D.Dixit • Evolution of geo thoughts: Majid Hussain • Geo thought: Sudeepta Adhikari • Models in geo: Majid Hussain • Economic and Social Geography – Rupa Publication |
| 3 | 4 th July 2022 | Simulated full length test of PAPER – I | |
| 4 | 11 th July 2021 | <p>Indian Geography – Physical Setting: Space relationship of India with neighboring countries; Structure and relief; Drainage system and watersheds; Physiographic regions; Mechanism of Indian monsoons and</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Geography - Khullar • Introduction to Indian Geography – Majid Hussain |

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| | | <p>rainfall patterns, Tropical cyclones and western disturbances; Floods and droughts; Climatic regions; Natural vegetation; Soil types and their distributions.</p> <p>Resources: Land, surface and ground water, energy, minerals, biotic and marine resources; Forest and wild life resources and their conservation; Energy crisis.</p> <p>Agriculture: Infrastructure: irrigation, seeds, fertilizers, power; Institutional factors: land holdings, land tenure and land reforms; Cropping pattern, agricultural productivity, agricultural intensity, crop combination, land capability; Agro and social-forestry; Green revolution and its socio-economic and ecological implications; Significance of dry farming; Livestock resources and white revolution; aqua – culture; sericulture, apiculture and poultry; agricultural regionalisation; agro-climatic zones; agro- ecological regions.</p> <p>Industry: Evolution of industries; Locational factors of cotton, jute, textile, iron and steel, aluminium, fertilizer, paper, chemical and pharmaceutical, automobile, cottage and agro-based industries; Industrial houses and complexes including public sector undertakings; Industrial regionalisation; New industrial policies; Multinationals and liberalization; Special Economic Zones; Tourism including eco-tourism.</p> <p>Transport, Communication and Trade: Road, railway, waterway, airway and pipeline networks and their complementary roles in regional development; 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 programme.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Survey NITI Aayog's plan document |
| 5 | 18 th July 2022 | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Indian Geography – Majid Hussain |

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| | | <p>Regional Development and Planning: Experience of regional planning in India; Five Year Plans; Integrated rural development programmes; 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.</p> <p>Political Aspects: Geographical basis of Indian federalism; State reorganisation; 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.</p> <p>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; Globalisation and Indian economy.</p> | |
| 6 | 25 th July 2022 | SIMULATED FULL LENGTH TEST PAPER - II | |
| 7 | 1 st August 2022 | SIMULATED FULL LENGTH TEST PAPER - I | |
| 8 | 8 th August 2022 | SIMULATED FULL LENGTH TEST PAPER - II | |