

EXPECTED



Prelims Sure Shot Topics For IAS Prelims 2026

BASED ON **LAST 45 YEARS PYQs** & **LAST 1.5 YEARS CURRENT AFFAIRS**

GEOGRAPHY

Geography Prelims Sure Shot topics have been meticulously curated through a comprehensive analysis of UPSC Prelims Previous Year Questions spanning the last 45 years, integrated with the most relevant developments from the past 1.5 years of current affairs. It aims to provide aspirants with a list of expected topics which have a very high chance to be reflected in IAS Prelims 2026.

Developed under the academic guidance of **S.A. Majid Sir**, this resource reflects the rigorous research and collective expertise of the content team at RICE IAS.



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EXPECTED PRELIMS TOPICS - 2026

BASED ON LAST 45 YEARS PYQs & LAST 1.5 YEARS CURRENT AFFAIRS

GEOGRAPHY

CHAPTER	EXPECTED THEME	SURE SHOT TOPICS FOR PRELIMS - 2026	JUSTIFICATION
1. UNIVERSE & THE EVOLUTION OF EARTH	1. Universe & Solar System	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Asteroids, Comets, Meteors & Comet Tails 2. Planets of the Solar System 3. Stars & Phases of stars 4. Axial tilt of moon 5. Sun's halo 6. Artificial satellite 7. Solar & Lunar Eclipse 8. Perihelion & Aphelion 9. Polestar 10. Blood Moon 11. Oldest Meteorite Impact Crater 12. Alaknanda Galaxy 13. Near Surface Shear Layer of Earth 14. Magnetic Flip Flop 15. Van Allen Radiation Belts 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (UPSC PYQ 2011, 1998, 1997, 1995) 2. (UPSC PYQ 2009, 2006, 2005 1997) {CDS 2023} 3. (UPSC PYQ 2009, 1997, 1994) {CDS 2019} 4. (UPSC PYQ 2005, 2018) 5. (UPSC PYQ 2002) 6. (UPSC PYQ 2002) 7. (UPSC PYQ 1993) 8. (CDS PYQ 2016) 9. (UPSC PYQ 2012) 10. On 7–8 September 2025, India observed a total Lunar Eclipse, ("Blood Moon") 11. Scientists have discovered the Earth's oldest Meteorite Impact Crater, Estimated to be 3.5 Billion Years Old. 12. Indian Astronomers Have discovered Alaknanda a Well-formed Spiral Galaxy Dating to Just 1.5 Billion Years After the Big Bang. 13. An International Team, Including Indian Scientists, Has Mapped Dynamic Plasma Currents in the Sun's Near-Surface Shear Layer (NSSL), Revealing Patterns that Correlate with the 11-Year Solar Cycle. 14. Scientists in Copenhagen Have Converted Magnetic Signals From 32 Global Locations into A Soundtrack to Depict Earth's Magnetic Field Fluctuations Over the Past 100,000 years. 15. The Van Allen Radiation Belts are in the news due to 2025-2026 satellite data revealing structural

			changes caused by extreme solar storms
	2. Evolution of Earth & Longitude & Latitude	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Country & Time Zone 2. International Date Line & Date Change Rules 3. Longest & shortest day 4. Temperature Distribution on Earth & Heat Budget 5. Earth's magnetic field, magnetic pole & magnetic equator 6. Hypothesis Regarding Earth Origin 7. Layers of atmosphere 8. Countries Through Which Equator Passes 9. Variation in length of daytime & night 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (UPSC 2025) 2. (UPSC 2025, 2008, 1999, 1997, 1995, 1994) (CAPF 2024) 3. (UPSC 2024) 4. (UPSC 2022, 2008) 5. (UPSC 2005) 6. (CDS 2018) (CAPF 2024) 7. (CDS 2016, 2015) 8. (UPSC 2011, 2008) 9. (UPSC 2013)
2. GEOMORPHOLOGY	1. Earth's Interior & Its Structure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Earth layer (Crust, Mantle & Core) & Composition 2. Slowing down of earth's Inner core rotation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (UPSC 2009) {CDS 2014} [CAPF 2024] 2. Recent studies reveal the Indian Plate is undergoing delamination, a process where its lower portion is splitting and sinking into the Earth's mantle.
	2. Volcanism & Earthquakes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Volcano, volcanic eruption & Product of eruption 2. Seismic Wave & Earthquake 3. Tropical Cyclone & location 4. Mud Volcano 5. New Earthquake Risk Zones 6. Antipodal Point 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (UPSC 2024, 2001) {CDS 2023, 2022, 2018, 2017, 2014} [CAPF 2022, 2021] 2. (UPSC 2023, 2001) {CDS21, 2016} 3. [CAPF 2015] 4. India's only mud volcano at Baratang Island in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands has erupted after more than 20 years. 5. India has released a revised Seismic Zonation Map under the updated Earthquake Design Code (BIS, 2025), 6. Antipodal points are in the news due to 2025-2026 seismic wave studies using "Earth-mottling" data to map the Inner Core's innermost layer (A high-probability UPSC 2026 topic linked to PYQs from UPSC CSE (2011, 2015), CDS (2018, 2022), and Geo-Scientist (2023))

		7. Wadati–Benioff Zone	<p>regarding P-wave shadow zones and diameter-based coordinates.</p> <p>7. The Wadati–Benioff Zone is in the news due to 2025-2026 deep-focus seismic activity in the Pacific Ring of Fire mapping high-pressure mineral transitions</p>
	3. Mineral & Rock System	<p>1. Type of rock, Rock Cycle & weathering</p> <p>2. Paleo fire</p> <p>3. Mass Movement (Mass Wasting)</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2025, 2024, 2000) {CDS 2022, 2021} [CAPF 2024, 2021]</p> <p>2. Scientists have discovered a record of prehistoric wildfires (paleo fire) beneath the ancient rock layers of peninsular India's Godavari Basin</p> <p>3. Mass Wasting is a high-priority topic for UPSC 2026 due to the "Exceptional 2025 Monsoon" which triggered unprecedented landslides and debris flows across Northwest India (notably the Dharali disaster in Uttarakhand), This topic has consistent presence in PYQs from UPSC CSE (2015, 2021), CDS (2019, 2023), CAPF (2015, 2022), and Geo-Scientist (2021, 2024) regarding the role of gravity versus geomorphic agents</p>
	4. Continental Drift & Sea Floor Spreading Theory	<p>1. Continental drift theory</p> <p>2. Sequence of continents in the decreasing order of their size %</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2025,2008)</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2005)</p>
	5. Plate Tectonics Geomorphic Process, Landform & Geographical Feature	<p>1. Mountain types (fold & Block) & Region</p> <p>2. Geographical feature & region/ country (Plateau, desert, volcano]</p> <p>3. Factor responsible for bringing dynamic changes of earth surface</p> <p>4. Eastern & Western margin of continent and landform</p> <p>5. Landform Types: (Intrusive volcanic landforms, Glacial</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2024)</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2013,2009, 2001) {CDS 2020}</p> <p>3. (UPSC 2013)</p> <p>4. (UPSC 2009)</p> <p>5. (UPSC 2013) {CDS 2023, 2020} [CAPF 2023, 2022, 2020]</p>

		<p>Landforms & Karst Landforms)</p> <p>6. Drainage pattern & Feature (Fluvial Landform)</p> <p>7. Geomorphic Process Important for 2026 (Exogenic & Endogenic)</p> <p>8. Tectonic Plate</p> <p>9. Stalactites & Stalagmites</p> <p>10. Limestone topography</p> <p>11. Indian Tectonic Plate Splitting Beneath Tibet</p> <p>12. Puga Hot Spring</p> <p>13. Davis Strait Proto-Microcontinent</p> <p>14. Aeolian (wind & desert) Landform</p>	<p>6. (CDS 2022, 2021, 2018, 2014)</p> <p>7. {CDS 2022, 2016} [CAPF 2024]</p> <p>8. {CDS 2020} [CAPF 2021]</p> <p>9. {CDS 2016} [CAPF 2015, 2014]</p> <p>10. {CDS 2013} [CAPF 2015]</p> <p>11. Recent studies reveal the Indian Plate is undergoing delamination, a process where its lower portion is splitting and sinking into the Earth's mantle.</p> <p>12. It is a potential site for understanding the origin of life and assisting in Mars life-detection missions.</p> <p>13. Scientists have discovered a submerged primitive micro-continent located beneath the Davis Strait.</p> <p>14. Aeolian Landforms are prominent in 2025-2026 reports due to accelerated desertification and the expansion of the Thar Desert toward the Indo-Gangetic plains a high-probability UPSC 2026, Topic linked to PYQs from UPSC CSE (2012, 2017), CDS (2019, 2023), and Geo-Scientist (2021) regarding the formation of Barchans, Yardangs and Deflation Hollows.</p>
	<p>6. Earth Resources</p>	<p>1. Water on planet earth (River, Lake & Glacier)</p> <p>2. Total area of earth & ratio of land & fresh water</p> <p>3. State of Global Water Resources Report</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2021)</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2005, 2010)</p> <p>3. The WMO's latest report highlights intensifying water cycle imbalances, characterized by increased droughts, deluges, and glacier loss impacting billions globally.</p>

<p>3. OCEAN- OGRAPHY</p>	<p>1. Movement, Relief, Temperature & Salinity of The Ocean</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Temperature contrast between continent & Ocean 2. Ocean Mean temperature 3. Important fishing ground of world ocean current & Factors 4. Ocean current & Factors influence the ocean current & mapping Important for 2026: (Gulf stream, Florida current, Peru Current Agulhas Current, North Atlantic subpolar gyre 5. Crest & trough of sea wave 6. Sea salinity 7. Isohaline 8. Equatorial counter current 9. Factor controlling The Nature & magnitude of Tides 10. Global Ocean Darkening 11. Southern Ocean Carbon Anomaly 12. Atlantic meridional overturning circulation 13. Marine Heatwaves (MHWs) & "Dark waves" 14. Ocean Deoxygenation & Acidification 15. Arabian Sea Mini Warm Pool 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (UPSC 2023, 2013, 2007) 2. (UPSC 2020) 3. (UPSC 2013) 4. (UPSC, 2015, 2012, 2002, 1999, 1997) [CAPF 2024] {CDS 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2017, 2015, 2023} All these ocean currents were extensively covered in newspapers in 2025–26. 5. [CAPF 2020] 6. [CAPF 2016] 7. [CDS 2022] 8. (UPSC 2015) 9. (UPSC 2015) [CAPF 18] 10. A recent study indicates that over 21% of the world’s oceans have darkened significantly during the last two decades 11. Study reveals the Southern Ocean has absorbed increased carbon dioxide since the early 2000s, contradicting predictions of a weakening carbon sink 12. The Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) faces imminent collapse threat between 2025 and 2095 due to anthropogenic emissions 13. Devastating MHWs in Western Australia and the North Atlantic 14. Dead Zones" (hypoxic areas) are expanding in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea 15. A new study reveals that the Arabian Sea Mini Warm Pool (MWP) facilitates the Indian Summer Monsoon (ISM) recovery
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	2. Coral Reef	<p>1. Coral reef location</p> <p>2. Goniopora Corals</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2018, 2014)</p> <p>2. Scientists report that extreme heat stress combined with Black Band Disease has caused a 75% mortality rate in Goniopora coral colonies at the Great Barrier Reef</p>
4. CLIMATOLOGY	1. Structure & Composition of Atmosphere	<p>1. Dust particle in atmosphere & dry wind</p> <p>2. Composition & thickness of atmosphere</p> <p>3. Layer of earth atmosphere& Sequence</p> <p>4. Albedo</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2025)</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2024)</p> <p>3. (UPSC 2011, 1998)</p> <p>4. {CDS 2022}</p>

		5. Stratospheric Warming	5. Meteorologists warned that Sudden Stratospheric Warming (SSW) event might occur in Dec 2025.
	2. Temperature Distribution & Heat Budget of The Earth	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Temperature distribution & heat budget of earth 2. Insolation & Infrared waves 3. Temperature Inversion 4. Temperature patterns In January & July. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (UPSC 2025, 2024, 2012, 2014, 2010, 2007) 2. (UPSC 2023) 3. (UPSC 2022) 4. Temperature patterns in January and July are in the news due to 2025-2026 record-breaking thermal anomalies and the shifting of Isotherms caused by Arctic amplification (A high-probability UPSC 2026 topic linked to PYQs from UPSC CSE (2013, 2019), CDS (2021, 2024), and Geo-Scientist (2023) regarding latitudinal shifting of pressure belts and land-water contrast.)
	3. Pressure Belt & Wind System	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coriolis force 2. Wind & Types of wind (westerlies) 3. Pressure belt, characteristics & location 4. Local wind & regions 5. Atmospheric circulation cells Important for 2026: (Hedley, Ferrel & Polar cell) 6. Types of Fronts: Important for 2026: Cold warm & Occluded Front 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (UPSC 2024) {CDS 2021} 2. (UPSC 2015, 2011, 2005, 2002, 2000) [CAPF 2024] 3. (UPSC 2011, 2007, 2002, 2002) [CAPF 2019] 4. (UPSC 2001) {CDS 2021, 2020} [CAPF 2011] 5. {CDS 2019, 2016, 2015} 6. {CDS 2015}. Cold, warm, and occluded fronts were in news for driving extreme weather—cold fronts causing sudden storms in north India, warm fronts bringing prolonged rain in Europe & west Asia, and occluded fronts leading to widespread heavy precipitation in higher latitude

		<p>7. Trough & ridge</p> <p>8. Cold Wave in India</p> <p>9. Katabatic Wind & Anabatic wind</p> <p>10. Nor westers</p>	<p>7. [CAPF 2022]</p> <p>8. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued cold-wave alerts for multiple states, a development extensively documented in Newspaper</p> <p>9. California wildfires are accelerated by intense katabatic-type winds, specifically the dry, hot, and high-velocity Santa Ana winds.</p> <p>10. The IMD, IITM (Pune), and NCMRWF (Delhi) are developing India's first research testbed to study Nor'westers (Kalbaisakhi).</p>
	<p>4. Humidity & Precipitation</p>	<p>1. Isoline: Isobars & Isotherm</p> <p>2. Humidity, Factors Affecting Humidity and rainfall</p> <p>3. Fog & smog</p> <p>4. Collision – coalescence process of precipitation</p> <p>5. Bharat Forecasting System</p> <p>6. Early Southwest Monsoon Onset 2025</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2025, 2024) {CDS 2023}</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2003)</p> <p>3. {CDS 2023, 2022}</p> <p>4. {CDS 2014}</p> <p>5. India launched the Bharat Forecasting System (BFS), a high-resolution 6-km grid weather model designed to enhance prediction accuracy</p> <p>6. The IMD declared the Southwest Monsoon onset over Kerala eight days ahead of its June 1 schedule, an occurrence last recorded in 2009.</p>
	<p>5. Climatic Process Ex: Cyclone, El Nino</p>	<p>1. Jet stream</p> <p>2. Cyclone</p> <p>3. Clouds Important for 2026: (Cirrus clouds, Cumulus clouds, Nimbus clouds)</p> <p>4. Thunderstorm</p> <p>5. El nino & La nina</p> <p>6. Tides classification (Spring tides, neap tides & meso tides)</p> <p>7. Tropical cyclones Name & Region</p> <p>8. Tsunami</p> <p>9. Cloudburst</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2020) {CDS 2017} [CAPF 22]</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2020, 15) {CDS 2019, 16, 15}</p> <p>3. (UPSC 2020, 2019) {CDS 2023, 22}</p> <p>4. (UPSC 2013)</p> <p>5. (UPSC 2011) {CDS 2022}</p> <p>6. (UPSC 2020, 2015) {CDS 2018, 2015}</p> <p>7. {CDS 2021} [CAPF 2018]</p> <p>8. {CDS 2017, 2014}</p>

		<p>10. Twister (Tornado)</p> <p>11. Polar Anti cyclone</p> <p>12. Atmospheric Memory</p> <p>13. Why Fewer Cyclones Form Over the Arabian Sea as Compared to the Bay of Bengal</p>	<p>9. {CDS 2017}</p> <p>10. A massive EF3 twister struck the Clayton area of St. Louis, USA</p> <p>11. A strong polar anticyclone caused an unusually cold winter in South America, resulting in the first snowfall in Chile's Atacama Desert in over a decade</p> <p>12. A recent study indicates that monsoons, including India's Southwest Monsoon, are driven by accumulated atmospheric moisture rather than solar radiation alone.</p> <p>13. Fewer cyclones form over the Arabian Sea compared to the Bay of Bengal due to the former's lower sea surface temperatures, higher vertical wind shear, and the presence of dry, hot air from the surrounding desert regions (UPSC 2026 topic linked to PYQs from UPSC CSE (2013, 2020), CDS (2018, 2021), and CAPF (2022) regarding differential heating and salinity gradients.)</p>
	<p>6. Classification of Climate & Climate Type</p>	<p>1. Global climate zones (Tropical & Temperate)</p> <p>2. Climatic Regions of world (Important for 2026): Savannah climate, monsoon climate, Mediterranean climate, china & Gulf type climate</p> <p>3. The Köppen climate classification Important for 2026 {Zone A, B, C & D}</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2021)</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2015, 2013, 2012, 2001) {CDS 2018, 2015, 2014} [CAPF 2019, 2014]</p> <p>3. {CDS 2022, 2020} [CAPF 2011]</p>
	<p>7. Natural Vegetation</p>	<p>1. Types of forest: (Important for 2026): Deciduous tree, Tropical rainforest, Equatorial forest, Littoral & swamp forest (mangrove)</p> <p>2. Savannah grassland (2021)</p> <p>3. Adaptation of desert vegetation</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2020) {CDS 2017} [CAPF 2022]</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2021)</p> <p>3. (UPSC 2013)</p>

		<p>4. Largest Fuelwood Producer of world:</p> <p>5. Tundra climate & vegetation countries</p> <p>6. Grassland & countries</p> <p>7. Podzolization</p>	<p>4. (UPSC 1997)</p> <p>5. {CDS 2020}</p> <p>6. {CDS 2015} [CAPF 23]</p> <p>7. [UPSC 2024]</p>
<p>5. INDIA PHYSICAL ENVIORN-MENT</p>	<p>1. Location, Physiography of India & Resources of India</p>	<p>1. Important Peaks & mountain (Namcha Barwa, Nanda Devi, Nokrek)</p> <p>2. Barren Island volcano</p> <p>3. State, City & longitudinal location & city located on tropics of cancer.</p> <p>4. Geographical extent of Himalaya & western Ghat</p> <p>5. Minimum number of states crossed between Kohima and Kottayam.</p> <p>6. Shale gas reserve in India Location</p> <p>7. Pilgrimage site & geographical location</p> <p>8. Hills & geographical region Important for 2026: (Srisailam, Omkareshwar Pushkar, Varanasi, Puri Ramseshwaram Prayagraj)</p> <p>9. Andaman & Nicobar location</p> <p>10. State & International border & boundary with Indian state</p> <p>11. Geographical condition (temperature, rainfall) to find state</p> <p>12. Geographical places Climatic condition & Reasons</p> <p>13. Himalayan passes & Other Passes of India</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2022) {CDS 2022, 2021, 2019}</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2018) {CDS 2022,2019}</p> <p>3. (UPSC 2018, 2003) {CDS 2023, 2021, 2017, 2015}</p> <p>4. (UPSC 2017)</p> <p>5. (UPSC 2017)</p> <p>6. (UPSC 2016)</p> <p>7. (UPSC 2015)</p> <p>8. (UPSC 2014, 2008, 2007 2005 2003) {CDS 2018, 2014} [CAPF 2019]</p> <p>9. (UPSC 2014,1996) {CDS 2022, 2021, 2017}</p> <p>10. (UPSC 2006) {CDS 2023}</p> <p>11. (UPSC 2002, 1996)</p> <p>12. (UPSC 1997)</p> <p>13. {CDS 2023, 2018, 207} [CAPF 2022, 2020, 2018, 2017, 2016]</p>

		<p>14. State with longest coastline</p> <p>15. East & west Coast of India geographical feature</p> <p>16. State with largest coal reserve</p> <p>17. Time Zone in India</p> <p>18. Formation of Himalaya, northern plain etc</p> <p>19. Landlocked Indian state</p> <p>20. Expanded Coastline of India</p> <p>21. One Nation, One Time zone</p> <p>22. Bitra Island</p> <p>23. Sir Creek</p> <p>24. Pamir-Karakoram Anomaly</p> <p>25. Rock System Based on Geological history of India</p>	<p>14. {CDS 2022}</p> <p>15. {CDS 2022}</p> <p>16. {CDS 2022}</p> <p>17. (CDS 2021}</p> <p>18. [CAPF 2020, 2023]</p> <p>19. [CAPF 2022]</p> <p>20. India's coastline was revised to 11,098.81 km from 7,516.6 km a 47.7% increase</p> <p>21. The Department of Consumer Affairs, CSIR, and ISRO have drafted the Legal Metrology (IST) Rules, 2025, to mandate Indian Standard Time (IST) adoption nationwide.</p> <p>22. The Lakshadweep Administration is transferring Bitra Island to central defence agencies to enhance maritime security.</p> <p>23. The Defence Minister emphasized India's military vigilance in Sir Creek.</p> <p>24. Scientists are analysing deep ice cores from Kon-Chukurbashi ice cap to investigate why regional glaciers remain stable or growing despite global warming</p> <p>25. India's Rock System is in the news due to 2025-2026 critical mineral explorations in the Archean and Dharwar cratons to secure "green energy" resources. (PYQs from UPSC CSE (2012, 2017), CDS (2019, 2023), and Geo-Scientist (2021, 2024) regarding the chronological sequence and mineral wealth.)</p>
	<p>2. Drainage System</p>	<p>1. Himalayan river & Geographical feature</p> <p>2. Himalayan river ganga joining places (Gomati, Gandak, Kosi, Ghaghara)</p> <p>3. Waterfall region, river& state</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2024, 2012, 2010, 1994) [CAPF 2023, 2021, 2018, 2017]</p> <p>2. (2024)</p> <p>3. (UPSC 2024,23) {CDS 2022} [CAPF 2018]</p>

		<p>Important for 2026: (Dhuandhar, Hundru, Gersoppa, Jog, Hundru fall, Dudhsagar Fall, Barkana Fall)</p> <p>4. Condition responsible for Marshland</p> <p>5. River responsible for Gandikota canyon</p> <p>6. Indus river system</p> <p>7. Saline Lakes names in India</p> <p>8. Rivers of eastern Ghat</p> <p>Important for 2026: (Brahmani, Nagawali, Mahanadi, Godavari)</p> <p>9. Glacier, location & river</p> <p>Important for 2026 (Bandarpunch, Baba shigri, Milam, Siachen, zemu)</p> <p>10. Famous religious & historical places & river</p> <p>11. Artificial lake & state of India</p> <p>12. drainage pattern & Drainage system & River of India</p> <p>13. Tributary of river</p> <p>Important for 2026: Brahmputra, Godavari, Barak, Luni, Ganga</p> <p>14. River of Arunachal</p> <p>15. Lagoon</p> <p>Important for 2026: (Agastamudi lake, Chilika lake, Pulicate lake)</p> <p>16. KAREWAS</p> <p>17. River catchment area length</p> <p>18. Chorabari Glacier</p> <p>19. Cauvery River</p>	<p>4. (UPSC 2023)</p> <p>5. (UPSC 2022)</p> <p>6. (UPSC 2021) {CDS 2023}</p> <p>7. (UPSC 2021)</p> <p>8. (UPSC 2021) {CDS 2019}</p> <p>9. (UPSC 2020, 1999)</p> <p>10. (UPSC 2019)</p> <p>11. (UPSC 2018)</p> <p>12. (UPSC 2017, 2011, 2010 2013, 2007, 2006, 2005, 1998, 1996) {CDS 2023, 2021, 2020, 2018, 2017, 2015, 2014} [CAPF 2013, 2021, 2019, 2017, 2014]</p> <p>13. (UPSC 2016, 2015, 2008) {CDS 2022, 2018} [CAPF 2021, 2021, 2018]</p> <p>14. (UPSC 2014)</p> <p>15. {CDS 2022}</p> <p>16. [CAPF 2018]</p> <p>17. [CAPF 2018]</p> <p>18. Geologists warn that unchecked moraine removal from the Chorabari Glacier</p> <p>19. A recent study detected toxic heavy metals in Cauvery River fish, posing</p>
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		<p>20. Ken-Betwa River Linking Project</p> <p>21. Chenab river</p>	<p>significant human health risks through bioaccumulation.</p> <p>20. Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of the Ken-Betwa River Linking Project.</p> <p>21. Following the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, India has fast-tracked the Sawalkot Hydroelectric Project on the Chenab River.</p>
	3. Indian Climate	<p>1. Ocean mean temperature</p> <p>2. Indian ocean dipole</p> <p>3. Seasonal reversal of wind (Monsoon) & Amount of Rainfall</p> <p>4. Köppen classification of Climatic Region of India</p> <p>5. State with Maximum & minimum rainfall</p> <p>6. Places in India with highest atmospheric pressure</p> <p>7. Madden -Julian Oscillation</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2020)</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2017)</p> <p>3. (UPSC 2014, 2012,1994) {CDS 2021, 18}</p> <p>4. {CDS 2022}</p> <p>5. {CDS 2020}</p> <p>6. {CDS 2018}</p> <p>7. The MJO is in the news due to its role in triggering extreme weather events and modulating the 2025-2026 monsoon breaks via eastward-moving tropical disturbances: A high-probability UPSC 2026 topic linked to PYQs from UPSC CSE (2017, 2022), CAPF (2021), and Geo-Scientist (2024) regarding intra seasonal variability and cyclogenesis.</p>
	4. Natural Vegetation	<p>1. Plants native & non-native to India Important for 2026: (cashew, Papaya, Red sanders, sandalwood, Bamboo, teak)</p> <p>2. Types of forest and dominant tree species</p> <p>3. Living root bridges state</p> <p>4. Himalayan Vegetation</p> <p>5. State with highest % of forest area</p> <p>6. Types of vegetation encountered while</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2024, 2015)</p> <p>2. (UPSC 2015)</p> <p>3. (UPSC 2015)</p> <p>4. (UPSC 2014)</p> <p>5. {CDS 2022}</p> <p>6. {CDS 2022}</p>

		travelling from Bikaner to Konark	
	5. Soils in India	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Soil of India & Soil Type, Soil Erosion Important for 2026 (Black cotton soil, Laterite soil, Brown forest soil, red soil Peaty soil) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (UPSC 2021, 2013, 2010, 2007, 2001, 1994, 1993) {CDS 2023, 2022, 2021, 2019, 2017, 2015, 2015, 2014} [CAPF 2024, 2021, 2023]
6. ECONOMIC & HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (INDIA & WORLD)	1. Natural & Mineral Resources & Their Distribution Across World	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> India Critical mineral Reserve & Mineral Security Partnership Properties & uses of Rare earth elements Global mineral reserve & leading producer Important for 2026 (Uranium, cobalt, copper, Lithium, & Nickel) India & mineral deposit, reserve position & Major & minor mineral Important for 2026: Ilmenite, Monazite, Thorium, Manganese, Chromite, Sillimanite Global leading producer of Gold Coal based thermal power plant in India Shale gas reserve In India Indian coal Characteristics, producing area, Reserve & coalfields Area with Natural resources reserve (Natural gas, mica) Gondwana rock Mineral Indian Steel plant Aluminium company & location Substance found in beach sand of Kerala Map based MCQ on location of mineral 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (UPSC 2025) (UPSC 2025) (UPSC 2025, 2023, 2006, 2000, 1999) {CDS 2019, 2017, 2014} (UPSC 2023, 2020, 2019, 2009, 2007, 1996) [CAPF 2021, 2000, 1999, 2004] {CDS 2014, 2002} (UPSC 2023) (UPSC 2023) (UPSC 2016) (UPSC 2013, 2012, 2010) (UPSC 2013, 2008) (UPSC 2010) (UPSC 2005) (UPSC 2007) (UPSC 2006) (UPSC 2001)

		<p>15. Geothermal Energy 16. Type of iron ore found in India 17. SHAKTI Policy</p> <p>18. Rare Earth Permanent Magnet Manufacturing Scheme</p> <p>19. Carlsberg Ridge</p> <p>20. Andaman Basin</p>	<p>15. [CAPF 2023] 16. [CAPF2021]</p> <p>17. The Ministry of Coal introduced the Revised SHAKTI Policy to streamline coal allocation and ensure transparent fuel supply</p> <p>18. The Union Cabinet approved scheme to establish domestic manufacturing of Rare Earth Permanent Magnets to reduce import dependency in strategic sectors.</p> <p>19. India became the first nation to sign an agreement with the International Seabed Authority to explore polymetallic sulphides in the Carlsberg Ridge.</p> <p>20. Oil India Ltd has reported the first occurrence of hydrocarbons during its exploration in the Andaman Basin.</p>
	<p>2. Industry & Location Factor</p>	<p>1. Indian dedicated freight corridor 2. Coal based thermal power plant 3. Solar park & India solar potential of India State & mines.</p>	<p>1. (UPSC 2023) 2. (UPSC 2023) 3. (UPSC 2018, 2017)</p>
	<p>3. Indian Demography</p>	<p>1. Population Ageing & impact on demography 2. Calculation method of National population change 3. Indian state in terms of population density 4. Indian tribe & profession 5. Population pyramid & Composition 6. Linguistic group in India 7. India's Demographic Shifts</p>	<p>1. [CAPF 2023] 2. [CAPF 2020] 3. [CAPF 2018] 4. [CAPF 2017] {CDS 2022, 2021, 2016} {CDS 2021} 5. [CAPF 2017, 2019] {CDS 2022, 2021} 6. {CDS 2021} 7. The Sample Registration System (SRS) 2023 Report confirms India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) dropped to 1.9, staying below the replacement level of 2.1</p>

		8. Sentinelese Tribe	8. Approximately 150 individuals of the Sentinelese tribe remain, designated as a PVTG
	4. International Trade, Transport & Migration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ports & Ports well known for (Kamrajar port, Mundra port & Visakhapatnam) National Highway & state highway & connected City Uses of Indian Remote sensing Satellite Major & minor sea port of India Riverine port of India Important for 2026: (Mormugao, Deendayal, Kolkata, Paradip) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (UPSC 2023) (UPSC 2023, 2014) (UPSC 2015) [CAPF 2022] [CAPF 2021, 2017]
	5. India & World Land Resources & Agriculture	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Major crop & leading producer. Important for 2026 (Cotton, Jute Sugercane & Tea) Benefit of Integrated Watershed development Programme Type of farming system Purpose of Cattle Rearing & food pattern of Australia Phumdis soil formation process 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (UPSC 2020, 2014, 2010, 2007) (UPSC 2014) (UPSC 2012) (UPSC 2000) [CAPF 2023]

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Tests Details:

SIMULATOR TEST DATE	DAY	9:30 A.M- 11:30 A.M	2:30 P.M- 4:30 PM
11 th April 2026	Saturday	General Studies	CSAT
19 th April 2026	Sunday	General Studies	CSAT
26 th April 2026	Sunday	General Studies	CSAT
3 rd May 2026	Sunday	General Studies	CSAT
10 th May 2026	Sunday	General Studies	CSAT

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