

## UPSC CSE Geography Syllabus 2024

The UPSC Geography syllabus covers physical, social, economic and regional geography of India. Questions will test conceptual understanding and analytical thinking skills. Aspirants must apply geographical concepts to analyze real-world developmental issues, resource allocation and policymaking. The exam will evaluate knowledge application, problem-solving abilities, spatial mapping and data interpretation skills. Thorough preparation of NCERTs, government reports, current affairs is essential.

### UPSC CSE Geography Syllabus 2024 Paper 1

#### **Physical Geography:**

##### **1. Geomorphology:**

- Factors controlling landform development
- Endogenetic and exogenetic forces
- Origin and evolution of the earth's crusts
- Fundamentals of geomagnetism
- Physical conditions of the earth's interior
- Geosynclines
- Continental drift
- Isostasy
- Plate tectonics
- Recent views on mountain building
- Volcanicity
- Earthquakes and Tsunamis
- Concepts of geomorphic cycles and Landscape development
- Denudation chronology
- Channel morphology
- Erosion surfaces
- Slope development
- Applied Geomorphology
- Geomorphology, economic geology, and environment.

##### **2. 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 fronts
- Temperate and tropical cyclones
- Types and distribution of precipitation
- Weather and Climate
- Koppen's, Thornthwaite's, and Trewartha's classification of world climate
- Hydrological cycle
- Global climatic change
- Role and response of man in climatic changes

- Applied climatology and Urban climate.
- 3. **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)
  - Coral reefs and coral bleaching
  - Sea-level changes
  - Law of the sea and marine pollution.
- 4. **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
  - Wildlife
  - Major gene pool centers.
- 5. **Environmental Geography:**
  - Principle of ecology
  - Human ecological adaptations
  - Influence of man on ecology and environment
  - Global and regional ecological changes and imbalances
  - Ecosystem management and conservation
  - Environmental degradation, management, and conservation
  - Biodiversity and sustainable development
  - Environmental policy
  - Environmental hazards and remedial measures
  - Environmental education and legislation.

## **Human Geography:**

1. **Perspectives in Human Geography:**
  - Areal differentiation
  - Regional synthesis
  - Dichotomy and dualism
  - Environmentalism
  - Quantitative revolution and locational analysis
  - Radical, behavioral, human, and welfare approaches
  - Languages, religions, and secularization
  - Cultural regions of the world
  - Human development index.
2. **Economic Geography:**
  - World economic development: measurement and problems
  - World resources and their distribution
  - Energy crisis
  - Limits to growth

- World agriculture: a typology of agricultural regions
- Agricultural inputs and productivity
- Food and nutrition problems
- Food security
- Famine: causes, effects, and remedies
- World industries: location patterns and problems
- Patterns of world trade.

**3. 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
- Concept 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.

**4. Regional Planning:**

- Concept of a region
- Types of regions and methods of regionalization
- Growth centers and growth poles
- Regional imbalances
- Regional development strategies
- Environmental issues in regional planning
- Planning for sustainable development.

**5. Models, Theories, and Laws in Human Geography:**

- System 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
- Ostov's model of stages of growth
- Heartland and Rimland theories
- Laws of international boundaries and frontiers.

## UPSC CSE Geography Syllabus 2024 Paper 2

### Physical Setting:

#### 1. Space Relationship of India with Neighboring Countries:

- Structure and relief
- Drainage system and watersheds
- Physiographic regions
- Mechanism of Indian monsoons and rainfall patterns
- Tropical cyclones and western disturbances
- Floods and droughts
- Climatic regions
- Natural vegetation
- Soil types and their distributions.

#### 2. Resources:

- Land, surface, and ground water
- Energy resources
- Minerals
- Biotic and marine resources
- Forest and wildlife resources and their conservation
- Energy crisis.

#### 3. 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
- Aquaculture
- Sericulture
- Agriculture and poultry
- Agricultural regionalization
- Agro-climatic zones
- Agroecological regions.

#### 4. Industry:

- Evolution of industries
- Locational factors of various industries
- Industrial houses and complexes including public sector undertakings
- Industrial regionalization
- New industrial policy
- Multinationals and liberalization
- Special Economic Zones
- Tourism including ecotourism.

#### 5. Transport, Communication, and Trade:

- Road, railway, waterway, airway, and pipeline networks

- Ports and their importance in national and foreign trade
  - Trade balance
  - Trade Policy
  - Export processing zones
  - Developments in communication and information technology
  - Indian space programme.
- 6. 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
  - Migration and Associated Problems
  - Population Problems and Policies
  - Health Indicators
- 7. 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
- 8. 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 Areas, Desert, Drought-Prone, Hill Tribal Area Development
  - Multi-Level Planning
  - Regional Planning and Development of Island Territories
- 9. 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
- 10. Contemporary Issues:**
- Ecological Issues
  - Environmental Hazards

- 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
- Globalization and Indian Economy

