
General Studies: Geography

(Success Mantra for UPSC/PCS Prelims – Exam)

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Foreword

I wholeheartedly commend the work of Shri Akhilesh Jha in authoring this book “General Studies : Geography, Success Mantra for UPSC/PCS (Prelims) Exam”. The Civil Services and State Services Preliminary Examinations demand comprehensive preparation, especially given the growing number of aspirants and the increasing complexity of the questions. Contemporary examinations are characterised by their heightened intricacy, diversity, and unpredictability. The subject matter continues to expand, necessitating a more rigorous approach to study. I recall my own journey of clearing the Preliminary Civil Services examinations, which, in retrospect, appear comparatively straightforward. Today, when I review some of the questions posed, I find them more challenging, demanding a deeper level of contemplation and analysis, and a longer duration for comprehension and accurate response.

A single General Studies book is no longer adequate to meet the contemporary demands of competitive examinations. What distinguishes this book is its remarkable clarity of exposition, supplemented by a wealth of academic content. The author’s expertise in Civil Services and State Services preparation shines through this text. In recent years, I have been closely involved with Civil Services Personality Tests, and I believe this book will prove to be highly beneficial in that context also.

In competitive exams, time is of the essence. It’s essential to prepare concise notes that can be revisited quickly. Over time, this book is likely to become the main text for candidates preparing for Civil Services, State Services, and other competitive exams.

In conclusion, I would like to underscore three points. First, it is imperative to maintain a regular study routine. Second, engaging in discussions and collaborative learning is invaluable. Third, strive to augment your knowledge a bit more each day and cultivate the ability to work swiftly by sufficient practice of Multiple-Choice Questions and focus on Reasoning and Critical Analysis. If aspirants adhere to these three principles, no obstacle can impede their path to success. I extend my best wishes to the author and to all the candidates who stand to gain immeasurably from this book.

**With Best Wishes,
Mr Mohan Jha
I.P.S. (1985) RR (Retd.) and
Former D.G.P., Gujarat State**

Preface

It gives me immense happiness to bring out the book “General Studies: “Geography, Success Mantra for UPSC/ PCS (Prelims) Exam”. It consists of Physical, Indian and World Geography. This book contains important topics and related multiple choice questions. It would be very much helpful in self-preparation and self-evaluation. It has been my endeavour to develop a clear concept of students on every topic.

I would like that students should first of all read and mug up important topics from different books. I have incorporated a list of reference books at the fag end of this book. I would suggest that students should practise multiple choice questions and evaluate themselves. It is pertinent to note that the syllabus of UPSC is vast and it is incumbent, therefore, for every student to abreast with each and every topic. More stress has been given on those topics which are frequently asked in UPSC/PCS examinations. I have incorporated in detail the topic of Ecology, Environment and Biodiversity. An effort has been made to include as many multiple choice questions as possible. I have also included previous years’ questions with explanatory notes of UPSC/UPPSC/BPSC/JPSC/RPSC and other competitive examinations in order to have a clear idea about the standards & patterns of questions being asked in various prelims examinations.

I have also given the details of each topic in a nutshell so that students should have a clear grasp over the topic. Glossaries related to Indian, Physical and World Geography have also been added at the fag end of this book for the better understanding of the typical terms of Geography. Since the pattern of the examination of UPSC Prelims is slightly being changed and more focus is on reasoning and critical analysis, I have tried to include questions which would provoke students to use their minds to analyse critically and arrive at the right answers.

The language of the book is very simple and lucid. Important maps/photos/tables have been enclosed for the sake of the first glimpse of every topic. I hope this book would cater to the needs of aspirants of UPSC/PCS and other competitive examinations.

With Best Wishes

Akhilesh Jha, IPS

Gold Medallist

Acknowledgement

I owe a debt of gratitude to the former DGP of Gujarat, Shri Mohan Jha, IPS for the constructive feedback given to me while preparing the manuscript of the book. I am indebted to my wife, Smt. Rita Jha, who allowed me ample time to write this book.



Smt. Rita Jha

I would like to mention my daughter, Mrs. Pragya Jha who always encouraged me through thick and thin inspite of having busy schedule at London. My sincere thanks are due to my staff Miss Deepika Pare who laboured hard to prepare the manuscript of this book. I also offer my appreciation to my childhood friend, Keshav Jha who always motivated me whenever I was in doubt and work load seemed too much upon me resulting into a bit of desperation. Acknowledgements are also due to various scholars of repute whose valuable books helped me to enrich my knowledge in developing this piece of work. Finally, I express my sincere gratitude to my all well-wishers and New Delhi Publishers who brought out this book in a better way. I hope this book would help students in gaining better understanding of Indian Geography and World Geography as well as Physical Geography.

**Akhilesh Jha, IPS,
Retd. Gold Medalist**

Dedication



Late Amritesh Jha

This book is dedicated to my son Amritesh who left for his heavenly abode during pandemic corona.

Contents

1. Physical Geography	1
(1) Our Universe	1
(2) Interior of Earth	16
(3) Latitude and Longitude	22
(4) Earthquake and Volcano	26
(5) Rocks, Mountain System and Plateau	37
(6) Continental Drift Theory	48
(7) Weathering, Erosion and Deposition	54
(8) World Landforms	62
(9) Rivers, Lakes, Waterfalls, Straits, Canals and Islands of the World	77
(10) Wetlands of the World	110
(11) Continents of the World	117
2. Oceanography	145
(1) The Major Ocean Reliefs Features	145
(2) Ocean Currents	153
(3) Salinity	162
(4) Ocean Tides	167
(5) Ocean Deposits	171
(6) Seas and Ocean	175
(7) Ocean Temperature	192
(8) Coral Reefs	198
3. Climatology	203
(1) Atmospheric Composition	203
(2) Atmospheric Temperature and Albedo	216
(3) Humidity	228
(4) El Nino, La Nina and Southern Oscillation	233
(5) Air Pressure	240
(6) Winds	246
(7) Cyclone and Anticyclone	257
(8) World Climate, Climate Change and Global Warming	264
(9) Precipitation and Clouds	287
(10) Jet Streams	301

4. Natural Resources.....	307
(1) World Grassland	307
(2) Natural Regions of the World	312
(2) Soils of The World	326
(4) Deserts of the World	338
5. Economic Geography	343
(1) World Mineral Resources	343
(2) World Energy Resources	352
(3) World Agriculture	360
(4) World Industries	375
(5) World Transportation	385
6. Population.....	393
(1) World Population	393
(2) World Tribes	405
(3) Human Settlement	410
7. Developing and Developed Economics of the World	413
(1) Developing Countries	413
8. Geography of India.....	425
(1) Physical Features of India	425
(2) Rivers and Lakes of India	440
(3) Soils of India	463
(4) Vegetation of India	479
(5) Indian Climate	493
(6) Natural Hazards and Disasters in India	514
(7) Minerals and Energy Resources in India	526
(8) Agriculture in India	547
(9) Water Resources in India	564
(10) Industries in India	576
(11) Transport System in India and Indian International Trade	604
(12) Indian Population	620
9. Ecology, Environment and Biodiversity	635
(1) Ecology	635
<hr/>	
• Test Paper – 1	682
• Test Paper – 2	699
• Test Paper – 3	714
• Test Paper – 4	726
• Test Paper – 5	742
• Glossary	759
• Bibliography – Geography	762