UPSC CSE Mains 2014 — Complete GS (1–4) + Essay Pack

All 5 Merit Papers from UPSC Mains 2014 (73 questions & essay prompts) with syllabus micro-topics and word limits. Free from preplord.com.

GS Paper 1 (History, Society & Geography) (25 Qs | Code: C-DRN-N-ITUA)

1 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Urbanization & Family [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Indus Valley Civilization urban planning & culture inputs to present urbanization

2 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • History & Culture → Art & Architecture [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Gandhara sculpture debt to Romans and Greeks

3 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
Taxila vs Nalanda as a modern university

4 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Explain | Static / Evergreen]
Third Battle of Panipat (1761) & why empire-shaking battles were fought at Panipat

5 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Analyze | Static / Evergreen]
Sufis & medieval mystic saints impact on Hindu/Muslim societies

6 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • History & Culture → Modern Indian History (1757–1947) [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
British economic policies in India (mid-18th century to independence)

7 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • History & Culture → Modern Indian History (1757–1947) [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Naval mutiny (1946) & British colonial aspirations

8 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • History & Culture → Modern Indian History (1757–1947) [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Global political, economic & social developments motivating India's anti-colonial struggle

9 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • History & Culture → World History [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Suez Crisis (1956) & blow to Britain's world power self-image

10 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • History & Culture → Post-Independence India [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Lenin's New Economic Policy (1921) influence on post-independence India

11 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Women & Social Empowerment [Analyze | Static / Evergreen]
Patriarchy impact on middle-class working women in India

12 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Adverse sex ratio in prosperous regions of India

13 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Globalization & Social Change [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
Joint family life cycle driven by economic factors vs social values

14 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Feminization of agriculture in India

15 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
Indian vs Western debates on secularism

16 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
El-Nino effect & unusual climatic happenings

17 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Geography → Geophysical Phenomena & Climate [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Fold mountain systems along continental margins, earthquakes & volcanoes

18 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Formation of Indonesian and Philippines archipelagos

19 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Geography → Geophysical Phenomena & Climate [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Tropical cyclones confined to South China Sea, Bay of Bengal & Gulf of Mexico

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20 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Geography → Salient Physical Features [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Shrinking Himalayan glaciers & climate change in Indian sub-continent

21 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Indian Society → Diversity, Secularism & Communalism [Explain | Static / Evergreen]
Why British tea gardens did not succeed beyond Darjeeling along Shivaliks

22 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • History & Culture → Post-Independence India [Explain | Static / Evergreen]
Why Green Revolution bypassed eastern India despite fertile soil & water

23 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Geography → Natural Resources & Industrial Location [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Changing spatial pattern of world Iron and Steel industry

24 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • Geography → Salient Physical Features [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Ocean resources to meet global resource crisis

25 • 10 Marks • 150 Words • History & Culture → World History [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
India's place in economic space of resource-rich Africa

GS Paper 2 (Polity, Governance, Social Justice & IR) (20 Qs | Code: C-DRN-N-ITUB)

1 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Judiciary & Judicial Activism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Basic structure doctrine & judicial activism in Indian democracy

2 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Indian federalism leaning towards a strong Centre

3 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Parliament & State Legislatures [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Article 105 & codification of parliamentary privileges

4 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Freedom of speech and expression, hate speech & films in India

5 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Elections & RPA [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
President's delay in commuting death sentences & time limit

6 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Parliament & State Legislatures [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
Size of cabinet vs efficacy of government

7 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Increased FDI in news media pros & cons

8 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Rail Tariff Authority & power sector experience

9 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Judiciary & Judicial Activism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
NHRC as effective complement to judiciary & accountability mechanisms

10 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Social Justice → Poverty & Welfare Governance [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Socio-cultural hurdles to SHGs in rural areas

11 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Social Justice → Poverty & Welfare Governance [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Welfare schemes & exclusion of vulnerable communities from urban businesses

12 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
State-sponsored Olympic talent hunt vs cash rewards

13 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Academic autonomy for IITs/IIMs

14 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Governance → Civil Services & Accountability [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Cadre-based Civil Services Organization & slow change

15 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
Aadhaar Card vs NPR running concurrently

16 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • International Relations → India & Neighbourhood [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]

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South China Sea maritime security & India-China bilateral issues

17 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Parliament & State Legislatures [Analyze | Static / Evergreen]
Information Technology Agreements (ITAs) impact on India

18 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Tied aid conditions of international funding agencies

19 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Polity & Constitution → Federalism & Centre-State Relations [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
New Development Bank (NDB) vs AIIB strategic significance for India

20 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • International Relations → Global Institutions & Treaties [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
WTO mandate, binding decisions & India's stand on Food Security

GS Paper 3 (Economy, Agri, S&T, Environment & Security) (20 Qs | Code: C-DRN-N-ITUC)

1 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
India's shift from agriculture directly to services without strong industrial base

2 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Compare | Static / Evergreen]
Demographic dividend vs dropping employability & job creation

3 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Budgeting, Fiscal Policy & Taxation [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
State APMC Acts impeding agriculture & causing food inflation

4 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Cooperative credit societies, agricultural finance constraints & technology

5 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Infrastructure, Energy & Investment [Analyze | Current-Affairs Linked]
LARR Act 2013 implications for industrialization & agriculture

6 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Capitalism & inclusive growth in India

7 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Infrastructure, Energy & Investment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Long-gestation PPP infrastructure projects & unsustainable future liabilities

8 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
National Urban Transport Policy: moving people instead of moving vehicles

9 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Analyze | Static / Evergreen]
FDI liberalization in defence sector (short & long run impact)

10 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Declining scientific research in Indian universities

11 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Internal Security → Extremism, Insurgency & Terrorism [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Overuse of antibiotics & drug-resistant diseases (AMR)

12 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Science & Tech → AI, IT & Emerging Tech [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
IPR: Copyrights, Patents and Trade Secrets

13 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Carbon credits & Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under UNFCCC

14 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Environment & Disaster Management → Disaster Management [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Drought as a disaster, NDMA 2010 guidelines & El Nino/La Nina preparedness

15 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Environment & Disaster Management → Conservation, Biodiversity & Pollution [Analyze | Static / Evergreen]
EIA & environmental impacts of coal-fired thermal plants at pitheads

16 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Economy → Inclusive Growth, Poverty & Employment [Analyze | Static / Evergreen]
Impact of neighbourhood radicalism on multi-religious India & countermeasures

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17 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Science & Tech → Space & Defence Tech [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
International civil aviation laws, airspace sovereignty & space above airspace

18 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Internal Security → Border & Maritime Security [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
Illegal transborder migration threat to India's security

19 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Internal Security → Border & Maritime Security [Discuss | Static / Evergreen]
IMO 2012 high-risk piracy zone shift (65°E to 78°E) & Indian maritime security

20 • 12.5 Marks • 200 Words • Internal Security → Border & Maritime Security [Discuss | Current-Affairs Linked]
China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) security threat to India

Essay Paper (Philosophical & Policy Prompts) (8 Qs | Code: C-DRN-N-GTTZ)

A1 • 125 Marks • 1200 Words • Philosophical / Epigrammatic → Self, Mind & Philosophy [Essay | Static / Evergreen]
With greater power comes greater responsibility.

A2 • 125 Marks • 1200 Words • Philosophical / Epigrammatic → Self, Mind & Philosophy [Essay | Static / Evergreen]
Is the growing level of competition good for the youth?

A3 • 125 Marks • 1200 Words • Philosophical / Epigrammatic → Self, Mind & Philosophy [Essay | Static / Evergreen]
Are the standardized tests good measure of academic ability or progress?

A4 • 125 Marks • 1200 Words • Philosophical / Epigrammatic → Self, Mind & Philosophy [Essay | Static / Evergreen]
Words are sharper than the two-edged sword.

B1 • 125 Marks • 1200 Words • Philosophical / Epigrammatic → Self, Mind & Philosophy [Essay | Static / Evergreen]
Was it the policy paralysis or the paralysis of implementation which slowed the growth of our country?

B2 • 125 Marks • 1200 Words • Philosophical / Epigrammatic → Self, Mind & Philosophy [Essay | Static / Evergreen]
Is sting operation an invasion on privacy?

B3 • 125 Marks • 1200 Words • GS / Policy-Driven → Self, Mind & Philosophy [Essay | Current-Affairs Linked]
Fifty Golds in Olympics : Can this be a reality for India?

B4 • 125 Marks • 1200 Words • GS / Policy-Driven → Self, Mind & Philosophy [Essay | Current-Affairs Linked]
Tourism : Can this be the next big thing for India?

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