

**IAS MAINS  
2020**

**GS SCORE**

**An Institute for Civil Services**

**UPDATED**

# **ANSWER WRITING WORKBOOK**

**GS PAPER - III**

**ENVIRONMENT**

**70**

**QUESTIONS**

**With Model Hints**

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# ENVIRONMENT

With the increasing unpredictability of the types of questions being asked in the UPSC IAS examination, it becomes very important for IAS aspirants to begin and continue to practice answer writing. This will prove to be very helpful and fruitful while preparing for the most coveted civil services. The workbooks are designed in a way that enables the students to understand their weak areas and improve upon them.

The workbook is a novel concept brought to you by **GS SCORE** for aiding your preparation and helping you achieve 'the IAS dream'. The workbooks contain sets of questions along with their model answers to help students practice at their convenience. Each question in the workbook covers a topic relevant to the UPSC examination. Thus, it will help aspirants to complete their syllabus holistically through questions and answers.

There are **13 booklets** available to all students for the preparation of the Mains examination.

- They will be categorized subject-wise for the benefit and convenience of the students.
- This categorization will also help the students practice the topics they are studying without having to search for them from a huge compilation of uncategorized notes.

## ► **What is the significance of the practicing answer writing for Mains Examination?**

The Workbooks will help students assess themselves and their preparation while aiding them by providing quality questions for practicing answer writing, which is a very important component of the UPSC Civil Services Examination. Answer writing practice will provide aspirants a clarity and coherency in their answers. Along with that, flow of thought and expressions is also important for writing answers in the UPSC Mains examination, which can only be developed with practice and persistence. With the **GS SCORE** Workbook for Environment aspirants will easily be able to cover the entire syllabus along with improving the quality of their answer writing skills.

## ► **How will the workbook help serious aspirants?**

The Workbooks have been designed in a way that follows the trends of the UPSC IAS Mains examination giving the aspirants only valuable and holistic practice of answer writing. Each set of the Workbook covers significant portions of the subject in 10-11 questions.

**The GS SCORE Environment workbook consists of questions from the following topics:**

### **Environment (7 sets in total)**

- Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment
- Development, Bio diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

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# **ENVIRONMENT WORKBOOK**

**SET - 1**

**QUESTION & ANSWER**



# Environment (Set-1)

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- Q1. Explain how the study of environment can help in reversal of negative effects of climate change while maintaining positive economic growth and human development? (250words)
- Q2. India has recently committed to expand the share of non-fossil fuel energy to 40% by 2030. Discuss the implications of it for the economic and sustainable growth of India. (250words)
- Q3. Gender-sensitivity is a key priority for low carbon climate resilient planning at local, national and international levels. In this context, examine the impact of climate change on the women in developing countries like India.(250 words)
- Q4. What is the importance of Kigali Agreement and how it is different from Paris Climate Deal? What is Indian commitment under the deal and what are the likely challenges to be faced by India in this? (250words)
- Q5. The achievement of parity between the cost of producing solar power and thermal power will unleash a new revolution that would be akin to the invention of steam or diesel engine and electricity supply. Critically analyse. (200 words)
- Q6. Give a brief account of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS)? What are the recent controversies regarding the proposed amendment to the Montreal Protocol to phase down the harmful greenhouse gases? What is India's stand on this issue? (250 words)
- Q7. IPCC provides details on how the global response to climate change needs to be strengthened within broader context of sustainable development. Critically examine. Do you think that climate resilience is the way to mitigate effects of Global warming? (250 words)
- Q8. Climate Change has potential to create migrant crisis across the world and force people to become climate exile. How serious is the problem for a country like India? Examine the adequacy of existing global frameworks and institutions to deal with such crisis.
- Q9. The Sino-US agreement on climate change throws open a range of challenges and opportunities for India in its quest for balancing development with environmental concerns. Discuss. (200 words)

**Q10. According to MOEF&CC, 40% of the Indian long coastline is subject to coastal erosion which is posing a significant threat toward sustainability of coastal ecosystem. In this context, discuss the major reasons for coastal erosion. Also, suggest measures to deal with coastal erosion. (200 words)**

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# 1. Explain how the study of environment can help in reversal of negative effects of climate change while maintaining positive economic growth and human development? (250words)

## APPROACH

1. Give a brief Introduction by providing an overview of environmental study and its effect on climate change. (50 words)
2. Highlight the negative effects of climate change (70 words)
3. discuss how study of environment helps in its reversal? (70words)
4. Way Forward (50 words)

## HINTS

- The biggest challenge of our time to humanity is Climate Change which not only negatively impacts the environment, from extinction of species to melting of polar icecaps but also questioning the existence of human itself.
- Its economic cost runs into billions of dollars. In this scenario study of environment can help us find out the underlying causes and interrelationship between these which can ultimately pave way to sustainable solutions. This can be understood through the reversal of Ozone hole by banning the HCFs which was negatively impacting its size.
- Demand for energy, water and food for raising the standard of life are driving the environmental changes.
- Deforestation and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuels such as coal and petroleum are the main causes for climate change, burdening the trade deficit and hindering the expansion of human capabilities and choices.
- Study of environment helps mitigate such impact of anthropogenic and other factors on environment.

### Negative effects of Climate Change:

- Air and water pollution, heat waves and changes to monsoon rainfall and glacier retreat due to climate change.
- Impacts of climate change on our food, water and forestry resources, biodiversity loss, sea level rise and the consequent impacts on our coastal communities.
- Ocean acidification, often referred to as the evil twin of global warming, is also likely to cause disturbance to marine life including corals and fisheries in the Indian Ocean.
- The increased intensity of catastrophic events like droughts, flooding, and increased intensity of El-Nino are attributed to climate change.

### Importance of Study of Environment to reverse the negative effects:

- Creation of a long term climate observation network and objective assessments of extreme events and climate change impacts on agriculture, forestry, water resources, glaciers, health, coastal zones, corals and fisheries, etc. providing resources to the economy and acts as a sink for emissions and waste.
- Simulation and prediction of the Indian Summer Monsoon on seasonal and intraseasonal scales, understanding the interplay between the atmosphere and the oceans.
- Research and field demonstration of synergy between mitigation and adaptations that the cost of addressing climate change impacts can be reduced and co-benefits increased.
- To clarify modern environmental concept like conservation of biodiversity.
- To know the interrelationship between organisms in populations and communities.

- To aware and educate people regarding environmental issues and problems at local, national and international levels.
- Capacity development in the domain to conserve and enhance our resource base, by gradually changing the ways in which we develop and use technologies.
- To generate own knowledge on global energy scenario and global environmental and climate change to enhance global leadership.

### Way Forward

There is a pressing need that any future development model should be based on rational use of natural resources where needs of all the actors are given due consideration and environment is conserved. Development based on inclusive growth always include regional actors who have most to gain from conservation of nature and natural resources as they draw maximum benefit from them. Also, locally generated knowledge on climate sciences is strategically crucial for providing sound guidance on the impacts of climate change on various sectors in India.

## 2. India has recently committed to expand the share of non-fossil fuel energy to 40% by 2030. Discuss the implications of it for the economic and sustainable growth of India. (250words)

### APPROACH

1. Introduce by giving current status of non-fossil fuels in India (50 words)
2. Discuss various Steps taken by India to expand the share of non-fossil Energy(80words)
3. Give detail Implication for economic and sustainable growth of India (70 words)
4. Way forward(50 words)

### HINTS

- India's energy mix has traditionally been dominated by fossil fuels, with a large and increasing share of coal and oil used for the primary energy needs. With its large population, India is a significant contributor to global GHG emissions (7% in 2016 (JRC, 2017)), however, per capita emissions levels are well below the global average.
- In its NDC, India commits to a 33-35% reduction in emission intensity of GDP below 2005 levels by 2030. In addition, India's NDC contains a commitment to 40% non-fossil generation by 2030, which includes nuclear generation.
- Transitioning to clean energy base from the tradition can help the country achieve its twin objectives of strong economic growth and sustainability.
- **Steps taken by India towards expansion of non-fossil Energy:**
- India dominates the list of countries with the most polluted cities on earth. As per World Bank estimates, air pollution costs are equivalent to 8.5 per cent of the GDP. India is also facing extreme and growing water shortages in major cities. Thus, various steps are put forward to reverse the negative effects.
- India has expanded its already aggressive renewable energy and non-fossil energy targets. At 40% non-fossil electricity capacity, this would mean a four – fold increase in absolute terms over today's installed capacity.
- This step will help National Solar Mission (NSM) to aim for a target of 100 GW in installed solar energy capacity by 2022.
- India's wind energy industry will also play a pivotal role in augmenting its renewable energy capacity. India currently stands as the world's fifth largest wind energy producer, with an installed capacity of