# GENERAL STUDIES - III
# ENVIRONMENT & DISASTER MANAGEMENT
# PREVIOUS YEARS QUESTIONS

## MAINS - SYLLABUS

1. Conservation, **environmental pollution and degradation**, environmental impact assessment

### 2019

1. Coastal sand mining, whether legal or illegal, poses one of the biggest threat to our environment. Analyze the impact of sand mining along the Indian coasts, citing specific examples.                                                    **(150 words) 10**
2. Define the concept of carrying capacity of an ecosystem as relevant to an *e*nvironment. Explain how understanding this concept is vital while planning for sustainable development of a region.                                             **(250 words) 15**
3. Discuss the causes of depletion of mangroves and explain their importance in maintaining coastal ecology. (GS-1)                         **(150 words) 10**
4. How can the mountain ecosystem be restored from the negative impact of development initiatives and tourism? (GS-1)                     **(250 words) 15**

### 2018

1. What are the impediments in disposing the huge qualities of discarded solid wastes which are continuously being generated? How do we remove safely the toxic wastes that have been accumulating in our habitable environment?

    **(150 words) 10**

2. What is wetland? Explain the Ramsar concept of 'wise use' in the context of wetland conservation. Cite two examples of Ramsar sites from India.

    **(150 words) 10**

3. How does biodiversity vary in India? How is the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 helpful in conservation of flora and fauna?                **(250 words) 15**
4. What are the consequences of spreading of 'Dead Zones' on marine ecosystem?

    **(GS-1) (150 words) 10**

5. "Policy contradictions among various competing sectors and stakeholders have resulted in inadequate 'protection and prevention of degradation' to environment". Comment with relevant illustrations.                        **(GS-2) (150 words) 10**

1. "Inspite of adverse environmental impact, coal mining is still inevitable for development". Discuss (150 words) **(GS-1) (10)**

2. Not many years ago, river linking was a concept but it is becoming reality in the country. Discuss the advantages of river linking and its possible impact on the environment. (150 words, **(GS-3) (10)**

3. 'Climate Change' is a global problem. How India will be affected by climate change? How Himalayan and coastal states of India will be affected by climate change? **(250 words) (15)**

1. Discuss the Rehabilitation of human settlements is one of the important environmental impacts which always attracts controversy while planning major projects. Discuss the measures suggested for mitigation of this impact while proposing major developmental projects. **(12½)**

1. Discuss the Namami Gange and National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) programmes and causes of mixed results from the previous schemes. What quantum leaps can help preserve the river Ganga better than incremental inputs? **(12½)**

1. Should the pursuit of carbon credits and clean development mechanisms set up under UNFCCC be maintained even though there has been a massive slide in the value of a carbon credit? Discuss with respect to India's energy needs for economic growth. **(12½)**

2. Environmental Impact Assessment Studies are increasingly undertaken before a project is cleared by the Government. Discuss the environmental impacts of coal-fired thermal plants located at coal pitheads. **(12½)**

1. What are the consequences of illegal mining? Discuss the Ministry of Environment and Forest concept of GO AND NO GO zones for coal mining sector. (200 words) **(10)**

2. Enumerate the National Water Policy of India. Taking river Ganges as an example, discuss the strategies which may be adopted for river water pollution control and management. What are the legal provisions of management and handling of hazardous wastes in India? (200 words) **(10)**

# GENERAL STUDIES - III
# DISASTER MANAGEMENT
# PREVIOUS YEARS QUESTIONS

## SYLLABUS

**Disasters and disaster management**

**2019**

1. Vulnerability is an essential element for defining disaster impacts and its threat to people. How and in what ways can vulnerability to disasters be characterized? Discuss different types of vulnerability with reference to disasters.

**(150 words) 10**

2. Disaster preparedness is the first step in any disaster management process, Explain how hazard zonation mapping will help disaster mitigation in the case of landslides.

**(250 words) 15**

**2018**

1. Describe various measures taken in India for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) before and after singing 'Sendai Framework for DRR (2015-2030)'. How is this framework different from 'Hyogo Framework for Action, 2005'? **(250 words) 15**

2. On December 2004, tsumani brought havoc on 14 countries including India. Discuss the factors responsible for occurrence of Tsunami and its effects on life and economy. In the light of guidelines of NDMA (2010) describe the mechanisms for preparedness to reduce the risk during such events.

**(250 words) 15**

**2016**

1. The frequency of urban floods due to high intensity rainfall is increasing over the years. Discussing the reasons for urban floods, highlight the mechanisms for

preparedness to reduce the risk during such events. **12.5**

**2.** With reference to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) guidelines, discuss the measures to be adopted to mitigate the impact of the recent incidents of cloudbursts in many places of Uttarakhand. **12.5**

**2015**

**1.** The frequency of earthquakes appears to have increased in the Indian subcontinent. However, India's preparedness for mitigating their impact has significant gaps. Discuss various aspects. **12.5**

**2014**

**1.** Drought has been recognized as a disaster in view of its spatial expanse, temporal duration, slow onset and lasting effects on vulnerable sections. With a focus on the September 2010 guidelines from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), discuss the mechanisms for preparedness to deal with likely El Nino and La Nina fallouts in India. **12.5**

**2013**

**1.** How important are vulnerability and risk assessment for pre-disaster management? As an administrator, what are key areas that you would focus on in a Disaster Management System? (200 words) **10**