

# GEOGRAPHY

## SYLLABUS FOR HIGHER SECONDARY FINAL YEAR COURSE

### Rationale :

Geography is introduced as an elective subject at the higher secondary stage. After ten years of general education, students branch out at the beginning of this stage and are exposed to the rigours of the discipline for the first time. Being an entry point for the higher education, students choose geography for pursuing their academic interest and, therefore, need a broader and deeper understanding of the subject. For others, geographical knowledge is useful in daily lives because it is a valuable medium for the education of young people. Its contributions lie in the content, cognitive processes, skills and values that geography promotes and thus helps the students explore, understand and evaluate the environmental and social dimensions of the world in a better manner.

Since geography explores the relationship between people and their environment, it includes studies of physical and human environments and their interactions at different scales— local, state/region, nation and the world. The fundamental principles responsible for the varieties in the distributional pattern of physical and human features and phenomena over the earth's surface need to be understood properly. Application of these principles would be taken up through selected case studies from the world and India. Thus, the physical and human environment of India and study of some issues from a geographical point of view will be covered in greater detail. Students will be exposed to different methods used in geographical investigations.

Common Core Components (NPE 1986) such as India's common cultural heritage, equality of sexes, protection of environment, observance of the small family norm and inculcation of scientific temper will be reflected in the geography syllabus.

The geography course will incorporate some issues of NCF–2005 such as making children sensitive to environment and its protection to nature and preserve the environment, and using geographical knowledge in understanding various environmental and socio-economic issues of the community, region and the country, e.g. gender and marginalised groups.

### Objectives :

#### The course in geography will help learners :

- ❖ Familiarise themselves with the terms, key concepts and basic principles of geography;
- ❖ Search for, recognise and understand the processes and patterns of the spatial arrangement of the natural as well as human features and phenomena on the earth's surface;
- ❖ Understand and analyse the inter-relationship between physical and human environments and their impact;
- ❖ Apply geographical knowledge and methods of inquiry to new situations or problems at different levels— local/regional, national and global;
- ❖ Develop geographical skills, relating to collection, processing and analysis of data/information and

- preparation of report including maps and graphics and use of computers wherever possible; and
- ❖ Utilize geographical knowledge in understanding issues concerning the community such as environmental issues, socio-economic concerns, gender and become responsible and effective member of the community.

## GEOGRAPHY

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**One Paper** **Time : Three Hours** **Marks 100**

**Unitwise Distribution of Marks and Periods :**

Unit No. Title	Marks	Periods
<b>A. FUNDAMENTAL OF HUMAN GEOGRAPHY</b>		
Unit-I Human Geography	02	05
Unit-II People	08	18
Unit-III Human Activities	08	26
Unit-IV Transport, Communication and Trade	07	18
Unit-V Human Settlements	05	10
<b>B. INDIA- PEOPLE AND ECONOMY</b>		
Unit-I People	02	05
Unit-II Human Settlements	04	08
Unit-III Resources and Development	09	20
Unit-IV Transport, Communication and International Trade	07	16
Unit-V Geographical Perspective on Selected Issues and Problems	06	15
<b>C. ASSAM- LAND, PEOPLE, AND ECONOMY</b>		
Unit-I Physio graphy, drainage Climate	03	05
Unit-II People : Composition, distribution, Density	03	05
Unit-III Economy : Agriculture and industrial base and development	03	05
Unit-IV Transport and Communication	03	05
<b>D. PRACTICAL WORK (UNIT I AND II)</b>		
Unit-I Processing of Data and Thematic Mapping	16	20
Unit-II Field Study or Spatial Information Technology	14	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>201</b>

**Unitwise Distribution of Course contents :**

#### **A. FUNDAMENTALS OF HUMAN GEOGRAPHY**

##### **Unit I : Human Geography**

- ❖ Nature and scope

##### **Unit II : People**

- ❖ Population of the world– distribution, density and growth;
- ❖ Population change-spatial patterns and structure; determinants of population change;
- ❖ Age-sex ratio; rural-urban composition;
- ❖ Human development– concept; selected indicators, international comparisons.

**Unit III : Human Activities**

- ❖ Primary activities– concept and changing trends; gathering, pastoral, mining, subsistence agriculture, modern agriculture; people engaged in agriculture and allied activities– some examples from selected countries;
- ❖ Secondary activities– concept; manufacturing : agro-processing, household, small scale, large scale; people engaged in secondary activities– some examples from selected countries;
- ❖ Tertiary activities– concept; trade, transport and communication; services; people engaged in tertiary activities– some examples from selected countries;
- ❖ Quaternary activities– concept; knowledge based industries; people engaged in quaternary activities– some examples from selected countries.

**Unit IV : Transport, Communication and Trade**

- ❖ Land transport– roads, railways– rail network; trans– continental railways;
- ❖ Water transport– inland waterways; major ocean routes;
- ❖ Air transport– Intercontinental air routes;
- ❖ Oil and gas pipelines;
- ❖ Satellite communication and cyber space;
- ❖ International trade– Basis and changing patterns; ports as gateways of international trade, role of WTO in international trade.

**Unit V : Human Settlements**

- ❖ Settlement types– rural and urban; morphology of cities (case study); distribution of mega cities; problems of human settlements in developing countries.

**B. INDIA : PEOPLE AND ECONOMY****Unit I : People**

- ❖ Population– distribution, density and growth; composition of population : linguistic and religious; rural-urban population change through time– regional variations; occupation;
- ❖ Migration : international, national– causes and consequences;
- ❖ Human development– selected indicators and regional patterns;
- ❖ Population, environment and development.

**Unit II : Human Settlements**

- ❖ Rural settlements– types and distribution;
- ❖ Urban settlements– types, distribution and functional classification

**Unit III : Resources and Development**

- ❖ Land resources– general land use; agricultural land use– major crops; agricultural development and problems, common property resources;
- ❖ Water resources– availability and utilization– irrigation, domestic, industrial and other uses; scarcity of water and conservation methods– rain water harvesting and watershed management (one case study related with participatory watershed management to be introduced);
- ❖ Mineral and energy resources– metallic and non-metallic minerals and their distribution; conventional and non-conventional energy sources;
- ❖ Industries– types and distribution; industrial location and clustering; changing pattern of selected industries– iron and steel, cotton textiles, sugar, petrochemicals and knowledge based industries; impact of liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation on industrial location;
- ❖ Planning in India– target area planning (case study); idea of sustainable development (case study).

**Unit IV : Transport, Communication and International Trade**

- ❖ Transport and communication– roads, railways, waterways and airways; oil and gas pipelines; national electric grids; communication networkings– radio, television, satellite and internet;
- ❖ International trade– changing pattern of India’s foreign trade; sea ports and their hinterland and airports.

**Unit V : Geographical Perspective on Selected Issues and Problems  
(One case study to be introduced for each topic)**

- ❖ Environmental pollution; urban-waste disposal;
- ❖ Urbanisation-rural-urban migration; problem of slums;
- ❖ Land Degradation.

**C. ASSAM– LAND PEOPLE AND ECONOMY****Unit I : Physiography, Drainage Climat.****Unit II : People : Composition, Distribution, Density****Unit III : Economy : Agriculture and Industrial base and Development****Unit IV : Transport and Communication****D. PRACTICAL WORKS****Unit I : Processing of Data and Thematic Mapping**

- ❖ Sources of data;
- ❖ Tabulating and processing of data; calculation of averages, measures of central tendency, deviation and rank correlation;
- ❖ Representation of data– construction of diagrams : bars, circles and flowchart; thematic maps; construction of dot; choropleth and isopleth maps.
- ❖ Use of computers in data processing and mapping.

**Unit II : Field Study or Spatial Information Technology**

Field visit and study : map orientation, observation and preparation of sketch; survey on any one of the local concerns : population, ground water changes, land use and land-use changes, poverty, energy issues, soil degradation, drought and flood impacts (any one topic of local concern may be taken up for the study; observation and questionnaire survey may be adopted for the data collection; collected data may be tabulated and analysed with diagrams and maps).

**OR****Spatial Information Technology**

Introduction to GIS; hardware requirements and software modules; data formats : raster and vector data, data input, editing and topology building; data analysis; overlay and buffer.

**Note :** There will be six text books, two for theory and one for practical work for each class.

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