UP Board Class 12 Geography 2026 (Set 322 CP) Question Paper with Solutions

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General Instructions

(i) This booklet contains 26 questions, each provided with a complete, step-by-step solution.

(ii) It comprises 8 single-correct multiple-choice questions.

(iii) Attempt each question on your own before reviewing the given solution.

1. Who amongst the following scholars presented the concept of Stop and Go Determinism?

(A) E. C. Semple

(B) Griffith Taylor

(C) Vidal de la Blache

(D) E. Huntington

Correct Answer: (B) Griffith Taylor

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
'Stop and Go Determinism' (also called 'Neo-Determinism') is a middle path between strict Environmental Determinism (nature fully controls human action) and Possibilism (humans can do anything regardless of environment).

Step 2: Identifying the Scholar:
This concept was put forward by the Australian geographer **Griffith Taylor**. He argued that nature sets certain limits within which

human beings can act, and humans may 'go ahead' where nature permits and must 'stop/pause' where nature restricts, like a traffic signal.

Step 3: Eliminating the other options:
E.C. Semple and E. Huntington are associated with strict Environmental Determinism; Vidal de la Blache is the leading figure of Possibilism, not Stop and Go Determinism.

Step 4: Final Answer:

$\boxed{\text{Griffith Taylor}}$

Quick Tip: Think of the traffic-signal analogy of nature controlling, not blocking, human progress.

2. Which one of the following is the major plantation crop of Malaysia?

(A) Coffee

(B) Rubber

(C) Sugarcane

(D) Tea

Correct Answer: (B) Rubber

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:
Malaysia's economy has historically been closely tied to plantation

agriculture introduced during the colonial period.

Step 2: Key Fact:
Rubber (natural rubber, Hevea brasiliensis) has been Malaysia's signature plantation crop since the early 20th century, and Malaysia remains among the world's leading natural-rubber and palm-oil producers.

Step 3: Eliminating other options:
Coffee and tea are minor crops there; sugarcane is not a major Malaysian plantation crop (it is more associated with countries like Cuba, Brazil, India).

Step 4: Final Answer:

$$\boxed{\text{Rubber}}$$

Quick Tip: Malaysia's hot, wet equatorial climate suits one crop above the rest, grown since colonial times.

3. Which one of the following is a secondary activity?

(A) Agriculture

(B) Trade

(C) Manufacturing

(D) Mining

Correct Answer: (C) Manufacturing

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:
Economic activities are classified as primary (direct extraction from nature), secondary (processing/transforming raw material), tertiary (services), and quaternary (knowledge-based).

Step 2: Classify each option:
Agriculture and Mining directly extract from nature → primary activities. Trade is a service that moves/exchanges goods → tertiary activity. **Manufacturing** processes raw material into a new, finished product → secondary activity.

Step 3: Final Answer:

$$\boxed{\text{Manufacturing}}$$

Quick Tip: Ask which option transforms a raw material into a new product.

4. Agro-based industry is:

(A) Cotton Textile Industry

(B) Iron and steel Industry

(C) Chemical Industry

(D) Cement Industry

Correct Answer: (A) Cotton Textile Industry

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
An agro-based industry uses agricultural produce as its main raw material.

Step 2: Classify each option:
Cotton Textile Industry uses raw cotton, a farm produce, as its principal raw material — an agro-based industry. Iron & Steel is mineral-based (iron ore); Chemical industry is often mineral/petro-based; Cement industry is mineral-based (limestone).

Step 3: Final Answer:

$$\boxed{\text{Cotton Textile Industry}}$$

Quick Tip: Agro-based means the raw material itself comes from farming.

5. Which one of the following states has the lowest density of population?

(A) Nagaland

(B) Arunachal Pradesh

(C) Mizoram

(D) Himachal Pradesh

Correct Answer: (B) Arunachal Pradesh

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:
Population density = population divided by area (persons per sq. km);

north-eastern hill states generally have very low densities due to rugged terrain and small populations.

Step 2: Compare known densities (Census 2011, persons/sq.km): Arunachal Pradesh ≈ 17; Mizoram ≈ 52; Himachal Pradesh ≈ 123; Nagaland ≈ 119.

Step 3: Pick the lowest:
Among these four, **Arunachal Pradesh** has by far the lowest density — it is in fact the least densely populated state in mainland India.

Step 4: Final Answer:

$$\boxed{\text{Arunachal Pradesh}}$$

Quick Tip: A big area with a very small population gives the lowest density.

6. Which one of the following sea ports is located on the western coast of India?

(A) Chennai port

(B) Vishakhapatnam port

(C) Haldia port

(D) Marmagao port

Correct Answer: (D) Marmagao port

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:
India's major ports are split between the east coast (facing the Bay of Bengal) and the west coast (facing the Arabian Sea).

Step 2: Locate each port:
Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) are east-coast ports; Haldia (West Bengal, on the Hooghly) is also an east-coast port. **Marmagao** (Goa) lies on the Arabian Sea — the west coast.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Marmagao port

Quick Tip: Only one of the four listed states borders the Arabian Sea.

7. In which one of the following states are the major oil fields located?

(A) Rajasthan

(B) Himachal Pradesh

(C) Assam

(D) Mizoram

Correct Answer: (C) Assam

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:
India's traditional, long-established petroleum-producing belt lies in the north-east.

Step 2: Key Fact:
Assam is home to India's oldest and among its most significant oil fields — Digboi (Asia's first oil well), Naharkatiya, and Moran-Hugrijan.

Step 3: Eliminating other options:
Himachal Pradesh and Mizoram have no major oil fields; Rajasthan (Barmer-Sanchor basin) does produce oil today but is a newer, smaller producer compared to Assam's historically dominant fields, and is not the standard textbook answer here.

Step 4: Final Answer:

$\boxed{\text{Assam}}$

Quick Tip: Think of Digboi — Asia's first oil well — and which state it's in.

8. The smallest religious group in India is:

(A) Sikh

(B) Jain

(C) Christian

(D) Muslim

Correct Answer: (B) Jain

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:
According to Census 2011 data on religious composition of India's population.

Step 2: Key Figures:
Hindu $\approx$ 79.8%, Muslim $\approx$ 14.2%, Christian $\approx$ 2.3%, Sikh $\approx$ 1.7%, Buddhist $\approx$ 0.7%, **Jain** $\approx$ 0.4%.

Step 3: Compare the four given options:
Among Sikh, Jain, Christian and Muslim, Jain has by far the smallest population share.

Step 4: Final Answer:

$$\boxed{\text{Jain}}$$

Quick Tip: Rank Muslim, Christian, Sikh, and Jain by their Census population share.

9. What is meant by Human Resource?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
'Resource' means anything useful to humans. Human Resource refers to the population itself viewed as a productive asset — people's knowledge, skill, and ability to work, which are used to convert natural resources (land, minerals, water) into usable wealth.

Step 2: Key Characteristics:
Unlike other resources, human resource is a 'resource of resources' — it is the only resource that can create, modify, and use other resources through knowledge, technology, and enterprise. Its quality is measured through indicators like literacy, health, and skill levels.

Step 3: Final Answer:
Human Resource means the population of a country treated as an active economic asset, capable of using its knowledge and skills to transform natural resources into goods and services for development.

Quick Tip: Think about what makes 'people' themselves a resource, as opposed to land or minerals.

10. How is sex ratio determined?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Sex ratio is a demographic indicator showing the balance between males and females in a population.

Step 2: The Formula (India's convention):

$$\text{Sex Ratio} = \frac{\text{Number of Females}}{\text{Number of Males}} \times 1000$$

It is expressed as the number of females per 1000 males.

Step 3: Interpretation:
A sex ratio of 940, for example, means there are 940 females for every 1000 males in that population. (Note: the international convention instead expresses males per 1000/100 females — India uses the females-per-1000-males form.)

Step 4: Final Answer:
Sex ratio is determined by dividing the number of females by the number of males in a population and multiplying by 1000, giving the number of females per 1000 males.

Quick Tip: Recall the standard Indian demographic formula: females per 1000 males.

11. Write the names of two metallic minerals.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Metallic minerals are those from which metal can be extracted by smelting; they are usually associated with igneous and metamorphic rocks and occur in veins/lodes.

Step 2: Examples:
Two common examples are **Iron ore** (used to make iron and steel) and **Bauxite** (the ore of aluminium).

Step 3: Final Answer:

$$\boxed{\text{Iron ore and Bauxite}}$$

Quick Tip: Think of minerals from which an actual metal (iron, aluminium, copper...) is extracted.

12. Define Human Development.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Human Development is a development approach (associated with Mahbub-ul-Haq and Amartya Sen, adopted by UNDP) that judges a country's progress not just by income, but by the real opportunities and freedoms available to its people.

Step 2: Formal Definition:
Human Development is the process of enlarging people's choices — the most critical being to lead a long and healthy life, to be educated, and to have access to resources needed for a decent standard of living — along with political freedom, guaranteed human rights, and self-

respect.

Step 3: Measurement:
It is commonly measured through the Human Development Index (HDI), which combines indicators of health (life expectancy), education (literacy/schooling), and income (per-capita income).

Step 4: Final Answer:
Human Development means expanding people's choices and capabilities — especially for a long healthy life, education, and a decent standard of living — not merely raising national income.

Quick Tip: Recall the UNDP idea: development is about expanding people's choices, not just income.

13. Define clustered settlements.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Rural settlements are classified by their spatial pattern into clustered, semi-clustered, hamleted, and dispersed types.

Step 2: Definition:
A clustered (or compact/nucleated) settlement is one where houses are built very close to one another in a small, compact area, forming a dense mass of buildings with narrow, winding streets.

Step 3: Typical Location and Cause:
These are common in fertile plains and river valleys of India (e.g. northern plains), where flat land, water availability, and the need for defence/community life encourage people to build close together.

Step 4: Final Answer:
Clustered settlements are compact, closely-built rural settlements where houses cluster tightly in a limited area, typically found in fertile river-plain regions.

Quick Tip: Think 'nucleated' — houses packed tightly together, not spread out.

14. Mention two causes of water pollution in India.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Water pollution occurs when harmful substances contaminate rivers, lakes, or groundwater, making the water unfit or harmful for use.

Step 2: Cause 1:
Industrial effluents: Many factories discharge untreated or partially treated chemical waste directly into rivers and streams, introducing toxic substances, heavy metals, and organic pollutants.

Step 3: Cause 2:
Domestic sewage: Untreated household sewage and waste from

towns and cities is often let into rivers (e.g. the Ganga and Yamuna), adding organic waste, pathogens, and detergents.

Step 4: Final Answer:
Two major causes: (1) discharge of untreated industrial effluents into water bodies, and (2) discharge of untreated domestic sewage from towns and cities.

Quick Tip: Think about what industries, cities, and farms release into rivers.

15. Mention the main sources of noise pollution.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Noise pollution is unwanted or excessive sound that disturbs the natural balance and can harm human health (hearing loss, stress, hypertension).

Step 2: Main Sources:
(1) **Transport/traffic** — vehicles, trains, and aircraft; (2) **Industrial machinery** — factories and generators; (3) **Construction activity** — drilling, pile-driving, heavy equipment; (4) **Loudspeakers and social/religious events** — festivals, celebrations, public address systems.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The main sources of noise pollution are transport/vehicular traffic, industrial machinery, construction work, and loudspeakers used at social and religious functions.

Quick Tip: Think of everyday loud things: traffic, factories, construction, and loudspeakers.

16. Mention any two atomic plants of India.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Nuclear/atomic power plants use nuclear fission (mainly of Uranium) to generate electricity and form part of India's energy mix alongside thermal and hydel power.

Step 2: Examples:
Two well-known nuclear power plants are the **Tarapur Atomic Power Station** (Maharashtra) — India's oldest commercial nuclear plant — and the **Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant** (Tamil Nadu).

Step 3: Final Answer:

$$\boxed{\text{Tarapur (Maharashtra) and Kudankulam (Tamil Nadu)}}$$

Quick Tip: Recall names of Indian nuclear power stations you've studied — Tarapur, Kudankulam, Narora, Kakrapar, Rawatbhata.

17. Mention the main features of intensive subsistence agriculture.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Intensive subsistence agriculture is practised mainly in the densely populated regions of monsoon Asia (India, China, Southeast Asia) where land is scarce relative to the farming population.

Step 2: Feature 1 — Small landholding, intensive labour:
Farms are very small in size, but farmers use a very high amount of labour per unit of land to maximise output — hence 'intensive'.

Step 3: Feature 2 — High use of biochemical inputs and irrigation:
Farmers use large quantities of fertilisers, along with irrigation, to obtain very high yields per hectare, since land availability per farmer is limited.

Step 4: Feature 3 — Multiple cropping:
Because of the favourable growing season and intensive effort, more than one crop is grown on the same piece of land in a year (double/triple cropping).

Step 5: Feature 4 — Dominance of food crops, especially rice:
Rice is the dominant crop, though wheat, maize, and pulses are also

grown depending on the region; the primary aim is subsistence — feeding the farmer's own family — rather than commercial sale.

Step 6: Final Answer:
Its main features are: small farm size, very high labour input per hectare, heavy use of fertiliser and irrigation, multiple cropping, and dominance of subsistence food crops like rice.

Quick Tip: Think: small farms + lots of labour/fertiliser + multiple crops a year + grown to feed the family.

18. Discuss the factors influencing the distribution of population in the world.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
World population is very unevenly distributed — some regions are densely settled while others (deserts, polar areas, high mountains) are nearly empty. Several groups of factors explain this.

Step 2: Geographical Factors:
Climate — moderate climates (temperate/monsoon) attract dense settlement, while extreme heat/cold (deserts, polar regions) repel it. **Relief/Landform** — flat, fertile plains and river valleys (e.g. Ganga plain) support dense population, while rugged mountains discourage it. **Soil and water** — fertile alluvial soils and reliable water supply support agriculture and hence dense settlement.

Step 3: Economic Factors:
Areas rich in **mineral resources** or with strong **industrial/urban development** attract large populations for employment (e.g. industrial belts, port cities).

Step 4: Social/Cultural and Political Factors:
Regions offering better social amenities, safety, and political stability attract migration and settlement, while war, unstable regions, or religious/social preference can push or pull population.

Step 5: Final Answer:
Population distribution is shaped jointly by geographical factors (climate, relief, soil, water), economic factors (resources, industry, urbanisation), and social/political factors (amenities, stability) — favourable combinations create dense population clusters like river plains and industrial belts, while unfavourable ones (deserts, polar zones, high mountains) remain sparsely populated.

Quick Tip: Group the causes into geographical, economic, and social/political factors.

19. Differentiate between primary and secondary activities.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Economic activities are grouped by how directly they interact with

natural resources; primary and secondary activities are the first two stages of this chain.

Step 2: Primary Activities:
These involve the **direct extraction** or production of goods from nature/the earth, with little or no processing — e.g. agriculture, fishing, forestry, mining, animal husbandry. Workers here are often called 'red-collar' workers.

Step 3: Secondary Activities:
These involve **processing/transforming** raw materials (usually obtained from primary activities) into a new, more valuable finished or semi-finished product — e.g. manufacturing, construction, the assembling of goods in factories.

Step 4: Key Distinction:
Primary activities take directly FROM nature; secondary activities take the primary output and CHANGE its form, adding value through processing.

Step 5: Final Answer:
Primary activities directly extract raw material from nature (farming, mining, fishing) with minimal processing, while secondary activities process that raw material into a new, finished product (manufacturing, construction), adding value through transformation.

Quick Tip: Use an example (e.g. cotton farming vs. cotton-cloth manufacturing) to see the difference clearly.

20. Write a note on the types of migration.

Correct Answer: –

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Migration is the movement of people from one place to another with the intention of settling, permanently or temporarily, at the destination. It can be classified in several ways.

Step 2: By Duration:
Permanent migration – moving with no intention of returning; **Temporary/seasonal migration** – moving for a limited period (e.g. seasonal agricultural labour, then returning).

Step 3: By Distance/Boundary Crossed:
Internal migration – movement within the same country (further split into intra-state and inter-state); **International migration** – movement across national borders.

Step 4: By Direction (stream of internal migration):
Four streams are usually identified: rural-to-urban, urban-to-rural, rural-to-rural, and urban-to-urban migration.

Step 5: By Cause:
Migration may be driven by economic factors (jobs), social factors (marriage, education), political factors (conflict, displacement), or environmental factors (disaster, drought) – often explained via 'push' factors (that drive people out) and 'pull' factors (that attract them elsewhere).

Step 6: Final Answer:
Migration is classified by duration (permanent/temporary), by distance (internal — intra-/inter-state — and international), by direction (rural-urban, urban-rural, rural-rural, urban-urban), and by cause (economic, social, political, environmental — via push and pull factors).

Quick Tip: Organise migration types along three axes: how long, how far, and in which direction.

21. Describe the problem of air pollution in India.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Air pollution refers to the presence of harmful gases, particulate matter, and other pollutants in the atmosphere in quantities that harm human health, other living beings, and property.

Step 2: Major Sources in India:
Vehicular emissions from the rapidly growing number of automobiles; **industrial smoke** from factories burning coal and other fossil fuels; **burning of crop residue (stubble burning)** in states like Punjab and Haryana; **domestic burning** of fuelwood/coal in many households; and construction dust in expanding cities.

Step 3: Consequences:

Air pollution causes serious respiratory and cardiovascular illness, contributes to smog especially in Delhi-NCR during winter, damages crops and vegetation, and corrodes/discolours monuments (e.g. the effect of pollution on the Taj Mahal).

Step 4: Government Response:
Programmes like the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), promotion of CNG/electric vehicles, and stricter emission norms (e.g. BS-VI) have been introduced to control the problem, though it remains a major public health issue.

Step 5: Final Answer:
Air pollution in India, caused mainly by vehicle exhaust, industrial and household fossil-fuel burning, and crop-residue burning, has become a severe public-health and environmental problem — especially acute in northern Indian cities in winter — prompting measures like NCAP and stricter vehicle-emission standards.

Quick Tip: Cover sources (vehicles, industry, stubble burning), effects, and government responses.

22. Describe the importance of Drought Prone Area Development Programme in India.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
The Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) is a long-running

Government of India scheme aimed at tackling the special problems faced by areas that are chronically prone to drought.

Step 2: Objective:
Its central aim is to minimise the adverse effects of drought on crops, livestock, and human/animal productivity, and to promote overall economic development of drought-prone regions through better management of land, water, and other natural resources.

Step 3: Key Strategies:
Soil and water conservation works (check dams, watershed development), afforestation and pasture development, promotion of drought-resistant cropping patterns, and development of alternative, non-agricultural livelihood sources to reduce dependence on rain-fed farming alone.

Step 4: Importance:
By building water-harvesting infrastructure and diversifying livelihoods, DPAP reduces the vulnerability of these regions to recurring drought, improves food and fodder security, generates rural employment, and supports more sustainable and stable long-term development of ecologically fragile drought-affected areas.

Step 5: Final Answer:
DPAP is important because it reduces the impact of recurring drought through soil-water conservation, afforestation and diversified livelihoods, thereby improving the resilience, food security, and sustainable development of India's drought-prone regions.

Quick Tip: Focus on how conserving water/soil and diversifying livelihoods reduces drought's impact.

23. Mention major fields and sub-fields of Human Geography.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Human Geography studies the relationship between people and their physical environment across space; it is a broad discipline with several major fields, each further divided into sub-fields.

Step 2: Major Fields:
Social/Cultural Geography — studies human society, culture, and their spatial patterns; **Economic Geography** — studies production, distribution, and consumption of resources and goods; **Population Geography** — studies distribution, growth, and characteristics of population; **Settlement Geography** — studies rural and urban settlement patterns; **Political Geography** — studies the spatial aspects of political processes and the state; **Historical Geography** — studies how geography of a region evolved over time.

Step 3: Sub-fields (examples):
Under Economic Geography: agricultural geography, industrial geography, transport geography, marketing geography; under Social/Cultural Geography: geography of religion, geography of language, gender geography; under Political Geography: electoral geography, geography of the state.

Step 4: Final Answer:
Major fields of Human Geography include social/cultural, economic, population, settlement, political, and historical geography, each with sub-fields — e.g. economic geography branches into agricultural, industrial, and transport geography.

Quick Tip: List Human Geography's branches by what aspect of human life each one studies.

OR

Discuss the factors of location of industries.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Industrial location theory studies why a particular industry sets up in a particular place — driven by minimising cost and maximising access to inputs and markets.

Step 2: Raw Material and Power:
Industries using heavy, weight-losing raw materials (e.g. iron and steel) tend to locate near the raw-material source; access to cheap, reliable power/energy is essential for most manufacturing.

Step 3: Labour and Market:
Availability of skilled/cheap labour reduces production cost; proximity to markets is crucial especially for industries producing perishable or bulky finished goods, to minimise transport cost.

Step 4: Transport and Infrastructure:
Good transport links (rail, road, ports) for moving raw material in and finished goods out, along with infrastructure like water supply and communication, strongly influence location choice.

Step 5: Capital and Government Policy:
Availability of capital/investment and supportive government policies (subsidies, industrial zones, tax incentives) can attract industries to particular regions; climate and agglomeration (clustering near related industries) also matter.

Step 6: Final Answer:
Industrial location is shaped by the combined pull of raw material and power availability, labour supply, market proximity, transport and infrastructure, capital availability, and government policy.

Quick Tip: Group the factors around minimising the industry's total cost of inputs, production, and distribution.

24. Write a note on changing land use patterns in India.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Land use refers to how land is actually utilised — for agriculture, forest, pasture, non-agricultural (settlement/industry), etc. In India, land use has changed significantly with population growth and

economic development.

Step 2: Rising Non-Agricultural Use:
With rapid urbanisation and industrialisation, an increasing share of land is being diverted to housing, industry, roads, and infrastructure, reducing land available for agriculture near expanding cities.

Step 3: Pressure on Net Sown Area:
While the Net Sown Area increased historically as more land was brought under cultivation, it has now largely stagnated and even declined in some regions due to competing non-agricultural demands and land degradation.

Step 4: Forest and Pasture Land:
Forest area has come under continuing pressure from agricultural expansion and human settlement in the past, though afforestation programmes and conservation policy have sought to protect/restore it; grazing/pasture land has shrunk with growing cultivation and livestock pressure.

Step 5: Land Degradation:
Overuse of land through intensive farming, deforestation, and improper irrigation (waterlogging, salinity) has led to degradation of usable agricultural land in several regions.

Step 6: Final Answer:
India's land use has shifted with rising urban/industrial land demand, a stagnating Net Sown Area, continuing pressure on forest and pasture land, and land degradation — making scientific land-use planning increasingly important.

Quick Tip: Compare how land use has shifted from farm-expansion to urban/industrial conversion.

OR

Describe the problem of urban waste management in India.

Correct Answer: –

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:
Urban waste management refers to the collection, transport, treatment, and disposal of solid waste generated by cities; rapid urbanisation in India has made this an increasingly serious problem.

Step 2: Scale of the Problem:
India's fast-growing urban population generates an enormous and rising volume of municipal solid waste daily, straining the capacity of most cities' waste-management systems.

Step 3: Collection and Segregation Issues:
In many cities, waste collection is irregular or incomplete, and waste is rarely segregated at source into biodegradable, recyclable, and hazardous categories, making later treatment far harder and less effective.

Step 4: Disposal Issues:
Most collected waste ends up in open, unscientific landfills/dumping grounds at city edges, causing groundwater and soil contamination, air pollution from burning, and loss of usable land; proper sanitary landfill and waste-to-energy facilities remain limited.

Step 5: Special Waste Streams:
Rapid growth in e-waste (discarded electronics) and biomedical waste adds further complexity, as these require specialised, careful handling that many cities are not yet equipped for.

Step 6: Government Response:
Programmes such as the Swachh Bharat Mission and Solid Waste Management Rules aim to promote source segregation, scientific disposal, and recycling, but implementation and public participation remain uneven across Indian cities.

Step 7: Final Answer:
India's urban waste management problem stems from rising waste volumes, poor collection/segregation, unscientific open dumping, and emerging e-waste/biomedical waste streams — addressed only partially so far through initiatives like the Swachh Bharat Mission.

Quick Tip: Trace waste management from collection through segregation to final disposal, and where the system breaks down.

25. In the given outline map of India, show the following by suitable symbols and write their names: (i) The mountain range of Rajasthan. (ii) One important river of Odisha state. (iii) The largest state of the south-eastern part of India. (iv) The capital city of this state. (v) The state having the lowest population in India.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:
This is a map-location question; the paper itself provides a text-only alternative for visually-impaired candidates, confirming each part has a definite, factual answer.

Step 2: (i) Mountain range of Rajasthan:
The **Aravalli Range** — one of the world's oldest fold mountain systems, running through Rajasthan from north-east to south-west (near Mount Abu).

Step 3: (ii) An important river of Odisha:
The **Mahanadi River** — Odisha's principal river, on which the Hirakud Dam is built.

Step 4: (iii) Largest state of India's south-eastern part:
Andhra Pradesh — among the south-eastern coastal states (Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu), Andhra Pradesh has the largest area (about 1,62,970 sq. km).

Step 5: (iv) Capital of this state:
Amaravati is Andhra Pradesh's capital (with Visakhapatnam/Hyderabad also relevant to the state's recent administrative history, Amaravati is the designated capital).

Step 6: (v) State with the lowest population in India:
Sikkim has the lowest total population among all Indian states (Census 2011).

Step 7: Final Answer:

(i) Aravalli Range; (ii) Mahanadi River; (iii) Andhra Pradesh; (iv) Amaravati; (v) Sikkim.

Quick Tip: This paper provides a text-alternative version of this map question for visually-impaired students — use those same five factual answers.

26. In the given outline map of the World, show the following by suitable symbols and write their names: (i) The shipping canal of Central America. (ii) One important river of North-East Africa. (iii) The major sea port of Australia. (iv) Major grape producing area of Europe. (v) Most populated city of Great Britain.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:
As with Q25, the paper itself supplies a text-only alternative for visually-impaired candidates, confirming each part is a straightforward factual location answer.

Step 2: (i) Shipping canal of Central America:
The **Panama Canal** — an artificial waterway through Panama connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

Step 3: (ii) Important river of North-East Africa:
The **Nile River** — the world's longest river, flowing through North-East Africa (Egypt, Sudan) into the Mediterranean Sea.

Step 4: (iii) Major sea port of Australia:
Sydney — Australia's major and most prominent seaport, on the country's south-east coast (Melbourne is also a valid major port).

Step 5: (iv) Major grape-producing area of Europe:
France — one of Europe's leading grape and wine-producing countries (its Mediterranean-climate regions like Bordeaux/Champagne are classic viticulture areas).

Step 6: (v) Most populated city of Great Britain:
London — the capital and by far the most populous city of Great Britain/the United Kingdom.

Step 7: Final Answer:
(i) Panama Canal; (ii) Nile River; (iii) Sydney; (iv) France; (v) London.

Quick Tip: This paper provides a text-alternative version of this map question for visually-impaired students — use those same five factual answers.