

GENERAL AWARENESS

Complete SSC CGL Examination Notes

Chapter-wise Comprehensive Content • Created by GovtExamPrep

1. HISTORY - ANCIENT, MEDIEVAL & MODERN INDIA

Ancient India Timeline

Indus Valley Civilization (3300-1300 BCE)

- Major cities: Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro, Lothal
- Known for urban planning, drainage systems

Vedic Period (1500-500 BCE)

- Rigveda composed, caste system emergence
- Later Vedic period saw rise of Mahajanapadas

Mauryan Empire (322-185 BCE)

- Chandragupta Maurya, Ashoka the Great
- Spread of Buddhism, Rock Edicts

Gupta Empire (320-550 CE)

- "Golden Age" of India
- Aryabhata, Kalidasa, decimal system

Medieval India - Important Dynasties

Dynasty	Period	Key Rulers	Contributions
Delhi Sultanate	1206-1526	Qutb-ud-din Aibak, Alauddin Khilji, Muhammad bin Tughlaq	Qutub Minar, administrative reforms
Vijayanagara	1336-1646	Krishnadevaraya	Hampi architecture, patronage of arts
Mughal Empire	1526-1857	Akbar, Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb	Taj Mahal, Red Fort, Mansabdari system
Maratha Empire	1674-1818	Shivaji, Balaji Vishwanath	Ashta Pradhan council, naval power

Modern India - Freedom Struggle

Important Events Timeline:

- 1857: First War of Indian Independence
- 1885: Formation of Indian National Congress
- 1905: Partition of Bengal
- 1919: Jallianwala Bagh Massacre
- 1920: Non-Cooperation Movement
- 1930: Civil Disobedience Movement, Dandi March
- 1942: Quit India Movement
- 1947: Indian Independence

Key Personalities: Mahatma Gandhi (Non-violence), Bhagat Singh (Revolutionary), Subhash Chandra Bose (INA), Jawaharlal Nehru (First PM), Sardar Patel (Unification)

2. GEOGRAPHY - INDIA & WORLD

Physical Geography of India

Himalayan Range:

- Trans-Himalayas, Greater Himalayas, Middle Himalayas, Shiwaliks
- Highest peak: K2 (Godwin Austen) - 8611m
- Important passes: Zoji La, Nathu La, Shipki La

River Systems:

- Himalayan Rivers: Indus, Ganga, Brahmaputra
- Peninsular Rivers: Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri, Narmada, Tapi
- West flowing: Narmada, Tapi
- East flowing: Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri

Climate & Seasons:

- Winter (Dec-Feb), Summer (Mar-May), Monsoon (Jun-Sep), Post-Monsoon (Oct-Nov)
- Southwest Monsoon: Arabian Sea branch & Bay of Bengal branch
- Retreating Monsoon: Northeast Monsoon (Oct-Dec)

World Geography - Important Facts

Continent	Largest Country	Longest River	Highest Peak	Major Desert
Asia	Russia	Yangtze	Mt. Everest	Gobi
Africa	Algeria	Nile	Mt. Kilimanjaro	Sahara
North America	Canada	Mississippi-Missouri	Denali	Mojave
South America	Brazil	Amazon	Aconcagua	Atacama
Europe	Russia	Volga	Mt. Elbrus	-

3. INDIAN POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Constitution of India

Basic Facts:

- Adopted: 26th November 1949
- Implemented: 26th January 1950
- Original Articles: 395
- Parts: 22
- Schedules: 12 (Originally 8)
- Length: Longest written constitution in the world

Important Articles:

- Article 12-35: Fundamental Rights
- Article 36-51: Directive Principles of State Policy
- Article 51A: Fundamental Duties
- Article 343: Official Language
- Article 356: President's Rule

Government Structure

Organ	Composition	Functions	Head
Legislature	President, Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha	Law making, budget approval	Speaker (Lok Sabha)
Executive	President, Prime Minister, Council of Ministers	Implementation of laws	President
Judiciary	Supreme Court, High Courts, Subordinate Courts	Interpretation of laws, justice delivery	Chief Justice of India

Constitutional Amendments

Important Amendments:

- 1st Amendment (1951): Added Ninth Schedule
- 7th Amendment (1956): Reorganization of states
- 42nd Amendment (1976): "Mini Constitution"
- 44th Amendment (1978): Right to Property removed from FR
- 73rd & 74th (1992): Panchayati Raj & Municipalities

- 86th Amendment (2002): Right to Education
- 101st Amendment (2016): GST Implementation

4. ECONOMICS - INDIAN & WORLD ECONOMY

Basic Economic Concepts

Types of Economies:

- Capitalist: Private ownership, profit motive
- Socialist: State ownership, welfare motive
- Mixed: Combination of both (India follows this)

Important Economic Terms:

- GDP: Total value of goods/services produced in a year
- Inflation: Rise in general price level
- Fiscal Policy: Government's revenue and expenditure policy
- Monetary Policy: Control of money supply by RBI
- Balance of Payments: Record of all economic transactions

Indian Economic Planning

Plan	Period	Focus Area	Achievements
First Five Year Plan	1951-56	Agriculture	Community Development Program
Second Five Year Plan	1956-61	Industrialization	Mahalanobis Model
Fifth Five Year Plan	1974-78	Poverty eradication	Minimum Needs Program
Eighth Five Year Plan	1992-97	Economic reforms	LPG reforms
Twelfth Five Year Plan	2012-17	Faster, sustainable growth	Last five year plan

Note: Five Year Planning was replaced by NITI Aayog in 2015

5. GENERAL SCIENCE - PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY, BIOLOGY

Physics - Important Concepts

Laws & Principles:

- Newton's Laws of Motion
- Law of Conservation of Energy
- Archimedes' Principle
- Pascal's Law
- Ohm's Law

Important Inventions & Discoveries:

- Gravity: Isaac Newton
- Radioactivity: Marie Curie
- X-rays: Wilhelm Roentgen
- Telephone: Alexander Graham Bell
- Theory of Relativity: Albert Einstein

Chemistry - Basic Concepts

Concept	Definition	Example
Element	Pure substance of one type of atom	Gold, Oxygen, Carbon
Compound	Substance formed by chemical combination	Water (H ₂ O), Salt (NaCl)
Acid	pH < 7, turns blue litmus red	HCl, H ₂ SO ₄ , CH ₃ COOH
Base	pH > 7, turns red litmus blue	NaOH, KOH, Ca(OH) ₂
pH Scale	Measure of acidity/basicity (0-14)	Neutral: 7, Acid: <7, Base: >7

Biology - Human Body & Health

Human Body Systems:

- Digestive System: Mouth to anus, digestion and absorption
- Circulatory System: Heart, blood vessels, blood circulation
- Respiratory System: Lungs, gas exchange

- Nervous System: Brain, spinal cord, nerves
- Excretory System: Kidneys, urine formation

Diseases & Disorders:

- Diabetes: Insulin deficiency
- Malaria: Caused by Plasmodium parasite
- Tuberculosis: Bacterial infection (lungs)
- COVID-19: Caused by SARS-CoV-2 virus
- AIDS: Caused by HIV virus

6. STATIC GK - IMPORTANT FACTS & FIGURES

First in India

Category	Person	Details
President	Dr. Rajendra Prasad	1950-1962
Prime Minister	Jawaharlal Nehru	1947-1964
Woman Prime Minister	Indira Gandhi	1966-1977, 1980-1984
Chief Justice of India	Harilal J. Kania	1950-1951
Field Marshal	S.H.F.J. Manekshaw	1973
Nobel Prize Winner	Rabindranath Tagore	Literature (1913)
Woman IPS Officer	Kiran Bedi	1972

Important Books & Authors

Indian Literature:

- Godan - Munshi Premchand
- Gitanjali - Rabindranath Tagore
- Train to Pakistan - Khushwant Singh
- The White Tiger - Aravind Adiga
- The Inheritance of Loss - Kiran Desai

International Literature:

- War and Peace - Leo Tolstoy
- Pride and Prejudice - Jane Austen
- 1984 - George Orwell
- To Kill a Mockingbird - Harper Lee
- Harry Potter Series - J.K. Rowling

Awards & Honours

Award	Field	First Indian Recipient
Bharat Ratna	Highest Civilian	C. Rajagopalachari (1954)

Nobel Prize	Various Fields	Rabindranath Tagore (1913)
Oscar Award	Cinema	Bhanu Athaiya (1983)
Grammy Award	Music	Pandit Ravi Shankar (1967)
Booker Prize	Literature	Arundhati Roy (1997)

7. CURRENT AFFAIRS - STRATEGY & IMPORTANT AREAS

Current Affairs Preparation Strategy

Daily Reading Sources:

- The Hindu / Indian Express (Editorial page)
- Yojana / Kurukshetra magazines
- PIB (Press Information Bureau) releases
- PRS India for legislative updates
- Economic Survey & Union Budget

Important Areas to Focus:

- Government schemes and initiatives
- International summits and agreements
- Sports events and winners
- Important appointments
- Science and technology developments
- Economic indicators and reports

Recent Government Schemes

Scheme	Launch Year	Ministry/Department	Objective
Ayushman Bharat	2018	Health & Family Welfare	Health insurance for poor
PM-KISAN	2019	Agriculture	Income support to farmers
Swachh Bharat Mission	2014	Drinking Water & Sanitation	Clean India campaign
Digital India	2015	Electronics & IT	Digital infrastructure
Make in India	2014	Commerce & Industry	Manufacturing boost

8. SSC CGL GA PREPARATION STRATEGY

Section-wise Weightage Analysis

Topic	Approx. Questions	Difficulty	Preparation Strategy
History	4-6	Medium	Focus on timelines, important events
Geography	4-6	Medium	Physical geography, climate, rivers
Polity	5-7	Easy-Medium	Constitution articles, amendments
Economics	3-5	Medium	Basic concepts, five year plans
General Science	6-8	Easy-Medium	NCERT based, current developments
Static GK	4-6	Easy	Firsts, awards, books, capitals
Current Affairs	8-10	Medium-Hard	Last 6-8 months news

45-Day Intensive Study Plan

Week 1-2: Foundation Building

- Days 1-5: History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)
- Days 6-10: Geography (India & World)
- Days 11-14: Polity (Constitution, Governance)

Week 3-4: Core Subjects

- Days 15-18: Economics (Basic concepts, Indian Economy)
- Days 19-22: General Science (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)
- Days 23-28: Static GK (Firsts, Awards, Books, etc.)

Week 5-6: Revision & Current Affairs

- Days 29-35: Current Affairs (Last 6 months)

- Days 36-40: Mixed revision & practice questions
- Days 41-45: Mock tests & weak area improvement

Daily Routine: 30 minutes current affairs, 1 hour static GK revision, 2 hours new topic study, 1 hour practice questions.

Important Tips for GA Preparation

- 1. Current Affairs:** Make monthly charts, follow one newspaper regularly
- 2. Revision:** Create flashcards for important facts and figures
- 3. Practice:** Solve previous year questions regularly
- 4. NCERT Books:** Class 6-12 for basic concepts in History, Geography, Science
- 5. Mock Tests:** Take sectional tests for GA to improve speed and accuracy

General Awareness - SSC CGL Master Notes

Chapter-wise Comprehensive Content • Created by GovtExamPrep

© GovtExamPrep - All educational rights reserved.

This content may be freely distributed for educational purposes.