



WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT SIX QUESTIONS FROM THE 2024 IAS PRELIMS WERE DIRECTLY SOLVABLE USING INSIGHTS FROM MAPZINE 2023-24

These questions are provided with this edition for your reference.

MAP-ZINE HIGHLIGHTS:

- *Stay updated with the latest places in the news.*
- *Experience top-quality, visually captivating, region-specific maps.*
- *Engage with map-based questions on current affairs.*
- *Gain insights through detailed solutions and explanations.*
- *Hone your mapping skills with provided practice maps.*

This volume includes coverage of Important Deserts of the World



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MAP-ZINE

VOLUME - 4 (sample)

DECEMBER - JANUARY 2025

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Preface

Mapwork is one of the most complicated learning requirements of many of the present-day examinations. It demands great attention to detail across a large volume of information. Not only is Mapwork a challenge for exam aspirants, it is also a difficult proposition for authors and publishers.

While it is not a viable option to leave out information, packing too much of it is also not conducive to learning.

We have tried our best to make the maps given in the book visually appealing and content-rich.

The most obvious and effective way of learning is a little bit at a time. So rather than confounding the student with broad and wastefully general maps we have taken smaller and specific regions in this book for greater understanding and retention.

Furthermore, we have tried to ensure that the student has an opportunity to practice the newly acquired learning with relative ease by providing practice maps.

All this in the book is supplemented by the corresponding video-lectures provided on a dedicated YouTube channel for more detailed explanations and reinforcement.

But the primary feature that sets our effort apart is something else. Almost all examinations these days are gravitating towards a more Current-Affairs-centric approach. Not matter what the topic or subject, the questions framed these days are mostly related to the current happenings across the globe. We have identified this pattern and set our questions relevant to the most important current-affairs topics of the present time. This is sure to benefit the examinees in a major way.

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PLACES IN NEWS (DECEMBER 2024 - JANUARY 2025)

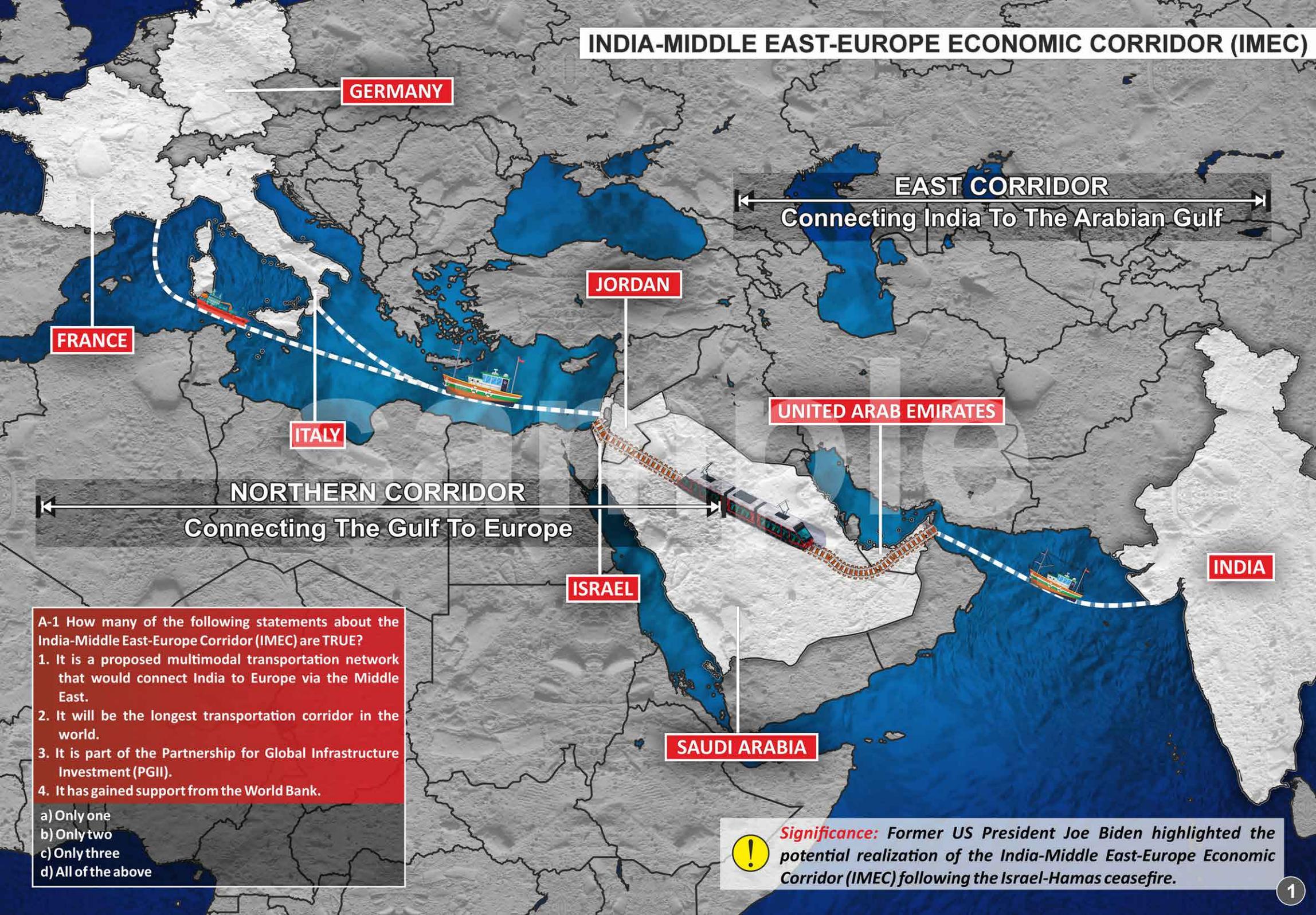
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IMPORTANT DESERTS OF INDIA

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INDIA-MIDDLE EAST-EUROPE ECONOMIC CORRIDOR (IMEC)



GERMANY

EAST CORRIDOR
Connecting India To The Arabian Gulf

FRANCE

JORDAN

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

ITALY

NORTHERN CORRIDOR
Connecting The Gulf To Europe

ISRAEL

INDIA

SAUDI ARABIA

A-1 How many of the following statements about the India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC) are TRUE?

1. It is a proposed multimodal transportation network that would connect India to Europe via the Middle East.
2. It will be the longest transportation corridor in the world.
3. It is part of the Partnership for Global Infrastructure Investment (PGII).
4. It has gained support from the World Bank.

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All of the above



Significance: Former US President Joe Biden highlighted the potential realization of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) following the Israel-Hamas ceasefire.

A-8 Consider the following statements about wildfires in California:

1. The Santa Ana winds significantly contribute to the rapid spread of wildfires in Southern California.
2. Los Angeles is surrounded by dry chaparral vegetation, which is highly flammable.
3. The Pacific Ocean helps in reducing the frequency of wildfires in Los Angeles.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1 and 2
- b) Only 2 and 3
- c) Only 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

North
Pacific
Ocean

Hudson's
Bay

North
Atlantic
Ocean

Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA

NEVADA

UTAH

ARIZONA

UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

MEXICO



Significance: Los Angeles, California, is battling devastating wildfires, with fatalities and structural losses, as authorities deploy pink fire retardants to contain the flames.



B-1 Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Sahara Desert?

1. Located in northern Africa, it is the largest desert in the world.
2. Both the Tropic of Cancer and the Equator cuts through the Sahara Desert.

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

B-2 Which of the following is/ are NOT the spanning countries of the Sahara Desert?

1. Mali
2. Nigeria
3. Tunisia
4. Burkina Faso
5. Mauritania
6. South Sudan

Select the correct answer based on the codes given below:

- a) 2, 4 and 6 only
- b) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
- c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
- d) 2, 3, 5 and 6 only



Gulf of Guinea

A-15 The Correct Answer is: d) All of the above

Explanation: - The Kara Sea contains **significant reserves of oil and natural gas**, particularly in fields such as **Prirazlomnoye** and **Rusanovskoye**.

- During the Soviet era, parts of the Kara Sea were used for **nuclear waste disposal**, including decommissioned nuclear submarines and radioactive waste.
- The **Northern Sea Route**, an important Arctic shipping route connecting Europe and Asia, passes through the Kara Sea, making it geopolitically significant for Russia.

A-16 The Correct Answer is: b) Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland

Explanation: Nordic countries are those that are found in a **specific geographical and cultural region of Northern Europe and the North Atlantic called the Nordic region**. The Scandinavian term for the Nordic region is Norden. Norden encompasses five countries as well as three autonomous territories:

- **Denmark and its autonomous territories of Greenland and the Faroe Islands**
- **Finland and its autonomous territory of Åland**
- **Iceland**
- **Norway**
- **Sweden**

Though often confused as such, Scandinavia is not equivalent to the Nordic countries. **Scandinavia is a peninsula while the Nordic countries are recognized states**. Sweden and Norway (and a small part of Finland) rest on the Scandinavian peninsula. Scandinavia and Finland together belong to a larger peninsula, Fennoscandia. Finns speak a non-Germanic language.

Nordic countries have similar state, law and culture. Historically, Nordic countries have maintained close connections. Nordic countries are primarily socialist democracies. Nordic countries have some political co-operation, such as the Nordic council.

Significance: *India, Norway discuss investments under European Free Trade Association (EFTA) pact.*

A-17 The Correct Answer is: b) Sweden and Finland

Explanation: Norway shares land borders with **Sweden, Finland, and Russia**. Among these, **Sweden and Finland are Nordic countries**. Denmark is geographically close but does not share a land border with Norway. Iceland is an island nation and does not have any land borders.

A-18 The Correct Answer is: a) Denmark

Explanation: The **Faroe Islands are located about halfway between Norway and Iceland**. They have been formally under **Danish control since the Treaty of Kiel in 1814**. During World War II they were occupied by British forces to stop the Nazi forces using them as a base following the invasion of Denmark. Since 1948 the islands have been self-governing although they have remained **part of the Kingdom of Denmark**.

A-19 The Correct Answer is: a) Only 1 and 2

Explanation: The **Kurdistan region** is characterized by the **Zagros Mountains**, which extend across **Iraq, Iran, and Turkey**.

- Kurdistan is a **transnational region** covering parts of **Iraq, Iran, Turkey, and Syria**.
- However, while the Tigris River originates in Turkey, the **Euphrates does not originate within Kurdistan**—it begins in Turkey but outside the Kurdish regions.

Significance: *Recently, India has sent humanitarian assistance to support residents of the Kurdistan region in Iraq.*

A-21 Which of the following is the world's oldest Capital City?

- a) Oslo
- b) Canberra
- c) Accra
- d) Damascus

A-22 Syria is bordered by which of the following countries?

- 1. Iran
- 2. Iraq
- 3. Jordan
- 4. Israel
- 5. Turkey

Which of the following options is correct?

- a) 1 & 2 only
- b) 1,2&4 only
- c) 2,3,4 & 5 only
- d) 1,2,3,4 & 5

A-23 In which one of the following countries is Aleppo City located?

- a) Turkey
- b) Lebanon
- c) Syria
- d) Iraq



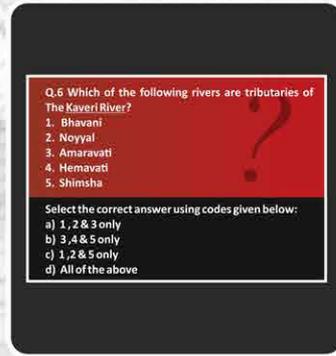
HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

STEP-1



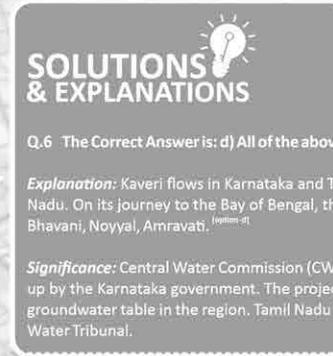
Study the Map
Excellent Quality,
Content-Rich Maps.

STEP-2



Attempt the Questions
Map based questions
specific to current affairs
and ongoing events.

STEP-3



Check the Solution
Clear solutions with
detailed explanations for
optimal understanding.

STEP-4



Practice the Map
Check your understanding
by attempting the practice
maps provided.

STEP-5



Reinforce
Supplement your learning
with videos and related
resources on Youtube and
EduBaba website.



TESTIMONIAL # 1

I found this book wonderfully effective for targeted map-work practice. Thank you EduBaba.

-TANYA SETHI
M.B.A.



TESTIMONIAL # 2

I suggested this book to my own students for Civil Services Exams. The results have been impressive. Good effort!!

-ABHISHEK TIWARI
Teacher, M.Sc., B.Ed.



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