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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q13

Discuss the concept of air mass and explain its role in macro-climatic changes.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2016 · GS I · 12 marks · World's Physical Geography

Salient features of world's physical geography.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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Source region

A large, uniform surface where air stagnates long enough to take on local temperature and moisture.

mT and cT

Maritime tropical (warm moist) and continental tropical (hot dry) air masses that dominate much of India's seasonal contrast.

Front

The sloping boundary between two air masses, a main site of large-scale precipitation.

Western disturbance

Extra-tropical system that brings winter precipitation to north-west India through mid-latitude air-mass interaction.

Monsoon trough

Seasonal low over the plains whose shift marks the hold or break of moist monsoon air over India.

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