



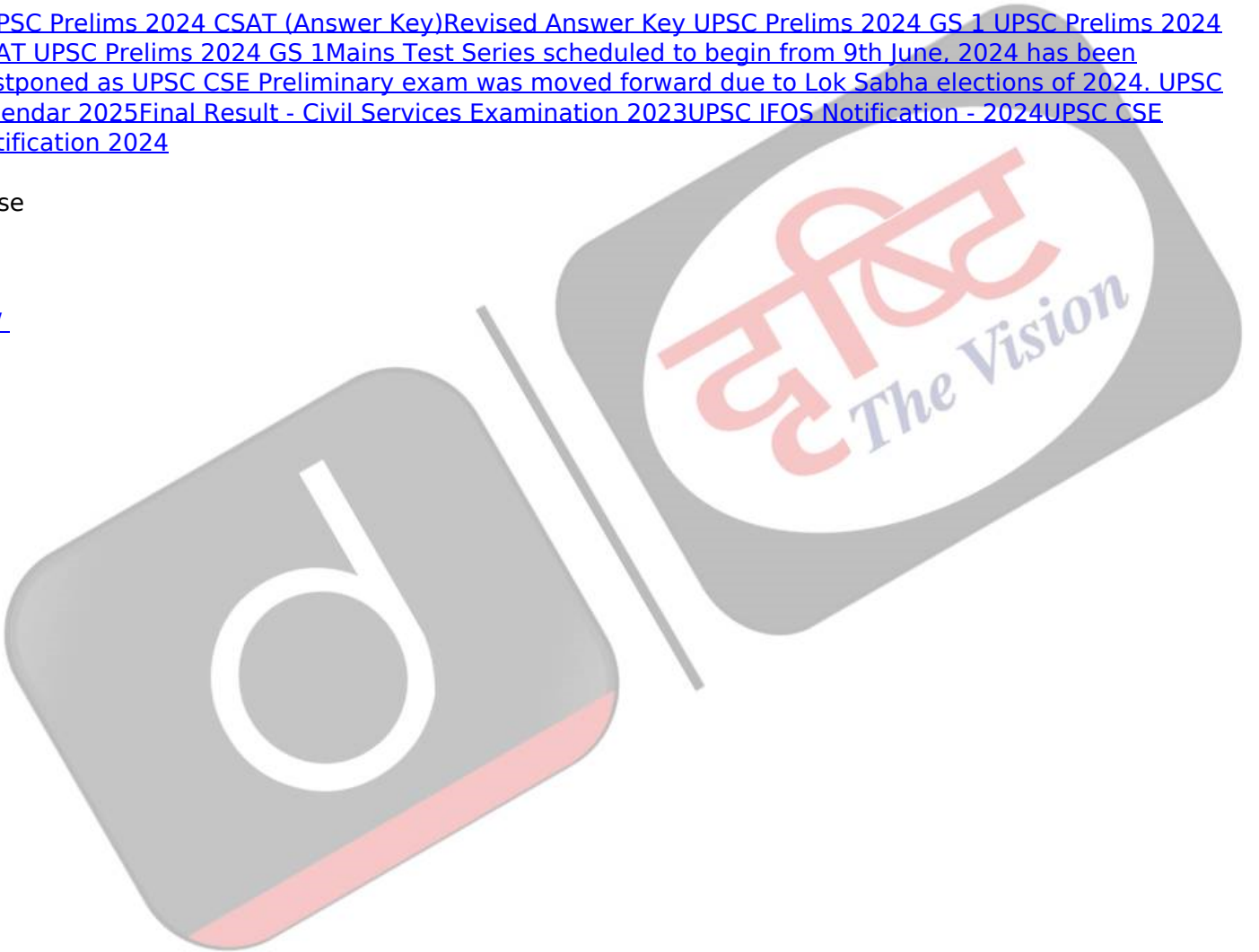
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- 11 Nov 2021 [GS Paper 1. Indian Heritage & Culture](#)

Q. Role of coins in constructing the history of ancient India can not be undermined. Analyse. (150 words)

Approach

- Briefly talk about the origin of coins in India
- Discuss how coins hold clues to several important historical processes
- Conclude suitably

Answer

The word coin is derived from the Latin word 'Cuneus'. They were first used in China and Greece around 700B.C. and in India around the 6th century B.C. The study of coins is called Numismatics. Coins are as important as the inscription in history. They confirm the information derived from literature. They are of various metals: gold, silver, copper, or alloy and contain legends or simple marks. Those with dates are probably very valuable for the framework of Indian Chronology.

The Bilingual coins had served as Rosetta Stones in deciphering the Ancient Indian writings.

- Coins are linked to monetary history which includes an analysis of the production and circulation of coinage, frequency and volume of issues. For eg. The wide distribution of Kushana coins indicates the flourishing trade of the period.
- Ships on certain Satavahana coins reflect the importance of maritime trade in the Deccan during this period. Roman coins found in various parts of India indicate the presence of Indo-Roman trade.
- Although dates appear rarely on early Indian coins, exceptions being Western Kshatrapa Coins of the Shaka era and some Gupta era silver coins, they play a vital role in dating a period through archaeological excavation.
- Coins have also been used as important royal message-bearing media, thus acting as an important source of political history of India between 200 BCE and 300 CE. Most of the Indo-Greek kings are known almost entirely from their coins.
- The term 'Gana' on coins of tribal republics of Yaudheyas and Malvas points to their non-monarchical polity. City coins are suggestive of the importance and possible autonomy of certain city administrations.
- Coins have also been informative about personal aspects of rulers such as coins commemorating marriages, performance of Ashvamedha sacrifice by Samudragupta, and

Kumaragupta I have also been recorded by coins.

- The depiction of deities on coins provides information about the personal religious preference of kings, royal religious policy, and history of religious cult. For instance, representations of Balrama and Krishna appear on 2nd century BCE coins of the Indo-Greek king Agathocles at Ai-Khanoum (Afghanistan) indicating the popularity of these Gods in the regions.

A meticulous and skilful analysis of the sources is the foundation of history. The various literary and archaeological sources for ancient and early medieval India have given a window to understand the period in detail. The correlation of evidence from texts and archaeology is important for a more comprehensive and inclusive history of ancient and medieval India. Coins thus have a crucial role in establishing these links.

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screen_width_resize_before){ //Zoom out if(current_location > screen_middle){ box.style.left = (screen_width_resize_after-xx) + 'px'; } else { box.style.left = x + 'px'; } } else { //Zoom in if(current_location > screen_middle){ box.style.left = (screen_width_resize_after-xx) + 'px'; } else { box.style.left = x + 'px'; } } var screen_width_resize_before = screen_width_resize_after; }); document.addEventListener('scroll',(event) => { var box_top=parseInt(box.style.top, 10); var window_height=parseInt(window.innerHeight, 10); if((box_top >= window_height) || (box_top < screen_middle)){ box.style.left = (screen_width-xx) + 'px'; } else { box.style.left = x + 'px'; } box.style.top = (window_height*0.5)+'px'; } }, { passive: true } ); $('.float-plus').draggable(); $(".float-plus").css("position", "fixed"); $(".float-plus").css("z-index", "999"); $(".float-plus").click(function(){
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show_social_float_icons(); }); var box = document.getElementById('float-plus'); $('float-plus').mousedown(function(){ const body = document.body; box.style.transition = "all 0s ease 0s"; body.style.overflow = "hidden"; body.style.pointerEvents = "auto"; }); $('float-plus').mouseup(function(){ const body = document.body; body.style.overflow = "auto"; body.style.pointerEvents = "auto"; box.style.transition = "all 1s ease 0s"; var screen_width = window.innerWidth; var screen_width = parseInt(screen_width, 10) var current_location = box.style.left; var current_location = parseInt(current_location, 10) var screen_middle = (screen_width/2); var xx = (screen_width*0.04); var x = (screen_width*0.009); if(current_location > screen_middle){ box.style.left = (screen_width-xx) + 'px'; } else { box.style.left = x + 'px'; } }); // For MOBILE TOUCH - DRAGGABLE box.addEventListener('touchstart', function(e) { box.style.transition = "all 0s ease 0s"; }); box.addEventListener('touchmove', function(e) { e.preventDefault(); box.style.transform = "translate(-50%, -50%)"; var touchLocation = e.targetTouches[0]; box.style.left = (touchLocation.pageX-window.scrollX) + 'px'; box.style.top = (touchLocation.pageY-window.scrollY) + 'px'; }); box.addEventListener('touchend', function(e) { box.style.transition = "all 1s ease 0s"; var screen_width = screen.width; var screen_width = parseInt(screen_width, 10) var current_location = box.style.left; var current_location = parseInt(current_location, 10) var screen_middle = (screen_width/2); var xx = (screen_width*0.05); var x = (screen_width*0.05); if(current_location > screen_middle){ box.style.left = (screen_width-xx) + 'px'; } else { box.style.left = x + 'px'; } }); function remove_social_float_icons() { $(".float-fb").animate({ top: "-=8%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-fb").hide("slow"); },500); $(".float-tw").animate({ top: "-=16%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-tw").hide("slow"); },500); $(".float-rs").animate({ top: "-=24%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-rs").hide("slow"); },500); $(".float-ig").animate({ top: "-=32%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-ig").hide("slow"); },500); $(".float-pn").animate({ top: "-=40%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-pn").hide("slow"); },500); $(".float-wp").animate({ top: "-=48%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-wp").hide("slow"); },500); var width = (window.innerWidth > 0) ? window.innerWidth : screen.width; if(width >= 700){ $(".float-tg").animate({ top: "-=56%", }, 500 ); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-tg").hide("slow"); },500); } setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-cross").hide("slow"); },500); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-plus").show("slow"); },500); sessionStorage.setItem("remove_social_icons", "1"); } function show_social_float_icons(){ setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-plus").hide("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-fb").show("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-tw").show("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-rs").show("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-ig").show("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-pn").show("slow"); },10); setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-wp").show("slow"); },10); var width = (window.innerWidth > 0) ? window.innerWidth : screen.width; if(width >= 700){ setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-tg").show("slow"); },10); } setTimeout(function(){ $(".float-cross").show("slow"); },10); $(".float-fb").animate({ top: "+=8%", }, 500 ); $(".float-tw").animate({ top: "+=16%", }, 600 ); $(".float-rs").animate({ top: "+=24%", }, 700 ); $(".float-ig").animate({ top: "+=32%", }, 800 ); $(".float-pn").animate({ top: "+=40%", }, 900 ); $(".float-wp").animate({ top: "+=48%", }, 1000 ); if(width >= 700){ $(".float-tg").animate({ top: "+=56%", }, 1000 ); } sessionStorage.setItem("remove_social_icons", "0"); } $(document).ready(function(){ var value = sessionStorage.getItem("remove_social_icons"); if(value == '1'){ remove_social_float_icons(); } }); // function to close the popup function closePopup() { var modal = document.getElementById("myModal"); modal.style.display = "none"; } // function to open the popup function openPopup() { var modal = document.getElementById("myModal"); modal.style.display = "block"; } // Added the code - If user click on anywhere outside the popup $('body').click(function(e) { $('#myModal').hide(); }); $('#popclose').on('click',function(e){ $('#myModal').css('display','none'); }); // automatically open the popup on page load window.onload = openPopup; $(document).ready(function(){ if(screen.width { button.addEventListener('click', btnEvent => { // console.log(button.id); $.ajax({ method: "POST", url: "https://www.drishitias.com/search/", data:{ 'id': button.id, 'search': search }, headers: { 'X-CSRF-TOKEN': $('[name = "_csrfToken"]').val() }, success: function(result){ $('body').html(result); }, error: function(error){ console.log(error) } } }) } }) $(document).ready(function(){ //alert(getCookie('isLogin')); if(getCookie('isLogin')==1) { $('#myAccountDiv').css('display','inline-block'); $('#loginLink').css('display','none'); $('#registerLink').css('display','none'); $('#makeNoteLoginLink').css('display','inline-block'); $('#makeNoteLink').css('display','none'); $('#makeNoteOptionDiv').css('display','inline-block'); } else { $('#myAccountDiv').css('display','none'); $('#loginLink').css('display','inline-block'); $('#registerLink').css('display','inline-block'); $('#makeNoteLoginLink').css('display','none'); $('#makeNoteLink').css('display','inline-block'); $('#makeNoteOptionDiv').css('display','none'); } }); function getCookie(name) { var match = document.cookie.match(RegExp("(?:^|\\s*)" + name + "=(.*)")); return match ? match[1] : null; } var regex = /^[a-zA-Z0-9_+]+\@((([a-zA-Z0-9-])+\.)+([a-zA-Z0-9]{2,4})+)$/; var phonex = /^[0-9 ]+$/;
```



```
$('#newsletterfrm').submit(function(e){ var msg=true; var txtname=$('#txtname').val(); var
txtneamil=$('#txtneamil').val(); $('#nmsg').html(""); //$('.input-error').remove(); if(txtname.trim()==){
$('#txtname').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{ $('#txtname').removeClass('input-error'); }
if(txtneamil.trim()==){ $('#txtneamil').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else
if(!regex.test(txtneamil)){ $('#txtneamil').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{
$('#txtneamil').removeClass('input-error'); } if(msg){ var form=$('#newsletterfrm').serialize(); $.ajax({
type: "POST", url: "https://www.drishtiias.com/pages/newsletterfrm", data: form, success: function(data){
if(data=='already'){ $('#nmsg').html('Email address already in use'); }else if(data=='add'){
$('#nmsg').html('Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter.');
```

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$('#txtname').val(""); }else{ $('#nmsg').html('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); }
//$('#nloader').hide(); }, error: function(error,errorType,errorStatus){ alert(errorType);
//$('#nloader').hide(); } }); } e.preventDefault(); }); $('#smsalertfrm').submit(function(e){ var msg=true;
var txtnmobile=$('#txtnmobile').val(); $('#nmmsg').html(""); //$('.input-error').remove();
if(txtnmobile.trim()==){ $('#txtnmobile').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else
if(txtnmobile.trim().length!=10){ $('#txtnmobile').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else
if(!phonex.test(txtnmobile)){ $('#txtnmobile').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{
$('#txtnmobile').removeClass('input-error'); } if(msg){ var form=$('#smsalertfrm').serialize();
//$('#nmloader').show(); $.ajax({ type: "POST", url: "https://www.drishtiias.com/pages/smsalertfrm", data:
form, success: function(data){ if(data=='already'){ $('#nmmsg').html('Phone number already in use');
}else if(data=='add'){ $('#nmmsg').html('Thank you for subscribing to our SMS Alerts.');
```

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$('#txtnmobile').val(""); }else{ $('#nmmsg').html('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); }
//$('#nmloader').hide(); }, error: function(error,errorType,errorStatus){ alert(errorType);
//$('#nmloader').hide(); } }); } e.preventDefault(); }); $('#subscriptionfrm').submit(function(e){ var
msg=true; var txtname=$('#name').val(); var txtneamil=$('#emailaddress').val(); var
txtnmobile=$('#phone').val(); $('#contactmsg').html(""); //$('.input-error').remove();
if(txtname.trim()==){ $('#name').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{
$('#name').removeClass('input-error'); } if(txtneamil.trim()==){ $('#emailaddress').addClass('input-
error'); msg=false; }else if(!regex.test(txtneamil)){ $('#emailaddress').addClass('input-error'); msg=false;
}else{ $('#emailaddress').removeClass('input-error'); } if(txtnmobile.trim()==){
$('#phone').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else if(txtnmobile.trim().length!=10){
$('#phone').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else if(!phonex.test(txtnmobile)){
$('#phone').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{ $('#phone').removeClass('input-error'); }
if($('#dailyupdates').prop("checked") == false && $('#examnewsletter').prop("checked") == false &&
$('#fullnewsletter').prop("checked") == false && $('#sms').prop("checked") == false) {
$('#contactmsg').css('display','block'); $('#contactmsg').addClass('error'); $('#contactmsg').html('No
option selected, please select at least one option.');
```

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msg=false; } if(msg){ $('#loader').css('display','block');
var form=$('#subscriptionfrm').serialize(); $.ajax({ type: "POST", url:
"https://www.drishtiias.com/subscription", data: form, success: function(data){
$('#loader').css('display','none'); if(data=='success'){ $('#contactmsg').css('display','block');
$('#contactmsg').removeClass('error'); $('#contactmsg').html('Thank you for subscribing to our
subscription. You will hear from us soon.');
```

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$('#name').val(""); $('#emailaddress').val(""); $('#phone').val("");
}else{ $('#contactmsg').css('display','block'); $('#contactmsg').addClass('error');
$('#contactmsg').html('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); } }, error:
function(error,errorType,errorStatus){ $('#loader').css('display','none'); alert(errorType);
//$('#nloader').hide(); } }); } e.preventDefault(); }); $('#testseriesfrm').submit(function(e){ var msg=true;
var txtname=$('#firstname').val(); var txtneamil=$('#emailaddress').val(); var
txtnmobile=$('#phonenumber').val(); $('#contactmsg').html(""); //$('.input-error').remove();
if(txtname.trim()==){ $('#firstname').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{
$('#firstname').removeClass('input-error'); } if(txtneamil.trim()==){ $('#emailaddress').addClass('input-
error'); msg=false; }else if(!regex.test(txtneamil)){ $('#emailaddress').addClass('input-error'); msg=false;
}else{ $('#emailaddress').removeClass('input-error'); } if(txtnmobile.trim()==){
$('#phonenumber').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else if(txtnmobile.trim().length!=10){
$('#phonenumber').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else if(!phonex.test(txtnmobile)){
$('#phonenumber').addClass('input-error'); msg=false; }else{ $('#phonenumber').removeClass('input-
error'); } if(msg){ $('#loader').css('display','block'); var form=$('#testseriesfrm').serialize(); $.ajax({ type:
"POST", url: "https://www.drishtiias.com/test-series-registration", data: form, success: function(data){
$('#loader').css('display','none'); //alert(data); if(data=='success'){ $('#contactmsg').css('display','block');
$('#contactmsg').removeClass('error'); $('#contactmsg').html('Thank you for choosing our test series. You
will get an email and message soon.');
```

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$('#firstname').val(""); $('#lastname').val("");
```

```

$('#emailaddress').val(''); $('#phonenumner').val(''); }else{ $('#contactmsg').css('display','block');
$('#contactmsg').addClass('error'); $('#contactmsg').html(data); } }, error:
function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ $('#loader').css('display','none'); alert(errortype);
//$('#nloader').hide(); } }); } e.preventDefault(); }); $('#allnotes').click(function(){
$('#fixbtn.notes').removeClass('open'); $('#fixbtn.mynotes').toggleClass('open'); });
$('#mynotes,.notelist').on('click','.readmore',function(){ var noteid=$(this).attr('data-noteid');
$('#note_id').val(noteid); $.ajax({ type: "POST", url: "https://www.drishtiiias.com/articles/setnote", data:
'note_id='+noteid, success: function(data){ if(data){ tinymce.get("mynote").setContent(data);
$('#mynotemsg').html(""); $('#fixbtn.notes').toggleClass('open'); }else{ alert('Oops! something went
wrong, Please try again'); } }, error: function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ alert(errortype); } }); });
$('#notelink').click(function(){ $.ajax({ type: "POST", url: "https://www.drishtiiias.com/articles/removenote",
success: function(data){ if(data=='removed'){ $('#note_id').val(""); tinymce.get("mynote").setContent("");
$('#mynotemsg').html(""); $('#fixbtn.notes').toggleClass('open'); $('#fixbtn.mynotes').removeClass('open');
}else{ alert('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); } }, error:
function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ alert(errortype); } }); });
$('#mynotes,.notelist').on('click','.removenote',function(e){ if(confirm('Are you sure want to remove
note?')) { $('#loader').css('display','block'); var noteid=$(this).attr('data-noteid'); $.ajax({ type: "POST", url:
"https://www.drishtiiias.com/articles/deletenote", data: 'note_id='+noteid, success: function(data){
$('#loader').css('display','none'); if(data=='removed'){ $('#note-list #' +noteid+' ,.notelist
#' +noteid).css('display','none'); }else{ alert('Oops! something went wrong, Please try again'); } }, error:
function(error,errortype,errorstatus){ $('#loader').css('display','none'); alert(errortype); } }); }
e.preventDefault(); }); $('#commentfile').change(function(){ $('#file-name').text(this.files[0].name); });
$(document).ready(function(){ $('#list-toggle').click(function(){ $('#list-category').toggleClass('active');
$(this).toggleClass('active'); $('#value').text(function(i, text){ return text === "Hide Menu" ? "Show Menu"
: "Hide Menu"; }); }); $('#aside button.close').click(function(){ $('#list-category').toggleClass('active'); $('#list-
toggle').toggleClass('active'); }); $('#fixbtn .btn').click(function(){ $('#fixbtn
.btn').not(this).parents('.fixbtn').removeClass('open'); $(this).parents('.fixbtn').toggleClass('open'); });
$('#fixbtn a.close').click(function(){ $(this).parents('.fixbtn').removeClass('open'); }); $('#note-
btn').click(function(){ $('#fixbtn.notes').toggleClass('open'); }); $('#viewmore a').click(function(){
$('#hide').slideToggle('active'); $(this).text(function(i, text){ return text === "View More" ? "View Less" :
"View More"; }); }); }); $('#learning-program .subheading').click(function(){ $(this).next().slideToggle();
$(this).toggleClass('open'); }); $(document).ready(function(){ $('#a.register-btn').colorbox(); });
$('#interview-slider').slick({ autoplay: true, arrows: false, dots: true });
$('#bookSession').on('click',function(e){ $.ajax({ type: "POST", data: { 'course':
$('#bookSession').data('course') }, url: "https://www.drishtiiias.com/book-online-session", success:
function(json){ var obj = JSON.parse(json); if (obj.status==200) { alert(obj.message); } else {
alert(obj.message); window.location.reload(); } }, error: function(error,errortype,errorstatus){
alert(errortype); } }); e.preventDefault(); }); $('#popup').colorbox({iframe: true, innerWidth: 790,
innerHeight: 530}); if(screen.width = 500) { $('#scroll-top').addClass("show"); } else { $('#scroll-
top').removeClass("show"); } }); function showarchive(year,month,day=null){ // alert('be-mains-ready-
daily-answer-writing-practice-question'); return; var
url='https://www.drishtiiias.com/archives+'+''+year+'-'+month+'-'+day; location=url;
//alert(url+'archives/'+year+'-'+month+''+dat); }

```

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