



Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj  
University, Kanpur

**Answer Script Details**  
**Barcode** 11324880

**Roll No.** 24020000006  
**Total Mark** 50/75.00

**Exam** MA-III\_ODD\_EXAM\_NOV\_2025  
**Subject** A520901T - Gupta AGE (319 AD-650 AD)

**Question wise Mark Summary**

**Q.No Mark Q.No Mark Q.No Mark Q.No Mark**

1A 4/5

1B 4/5

1C 4/5

1D 3/5

1E 3/5

1F 3/5

1G 2/5

1H 2/5

1I 2/5

2 0/15

3 0/15

4 0/15

5 11/15

6 0/15

7 12/15

8 0/15

9 0/15



**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE FOR FILLING PART-I**

1. Read the instructions carefully given on the answer script and admit card.
2. Write Date of Exam, Shift, Paper Code & Name of Subject Correctly.
3. Write Name & Roll No. Correctly.
4. Write Semester & Branch Correctly.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE FOR FILLING PART-III**

1. Use blue or black ball point pen for writing alphabets & numerals in  Boxes.
2. Carefully study the example before you start marking.
3. As shown in the example below blacken the circles completely.



4. Make no Stray marks on this sheet.
5. **DO NOT WRITE OR MARK ON THE BAR CODE.**

**IN ORDER TO AVOID UFM (UNFAIR MEANS):**

1. The Roll No. and Answer Book no. found elsewhere or any other symbol found in the answer book will be treated as unfair means.
2. Any tempering of Bar Code and Booklet no shall be treated as Unfair Means.
3. Do Not bring the materials like slip of paper/mobile/digital diaries/ study material/ revision notes in examination hall. Possession of the mobiles/ digital diaries/ electronic watch and any other electronic gadget except memory less scientific calculator shall be considered as UFM case.
4. Do not keep or paste currency note in answer script it shall be consider as UFM.

**अनुचित साधन से बचने हेतु:**

1. उत्तर पुस्तिका के निर्देशित स्थान को छोड़कर अनुक्रमिक एवं उत्तरपुस्तिका का क्रमांक कभी और न लिखें तथा कोई भी चिन्ह न बनायें क्योंकि यह अनुचित साधन प्रयोग की परिधि में आता है।
2. उत्तर पुस्तिका के बारकोड अथवा उत्तर पुस्तिका संख्या पर छेद करने पर अनुचित साधन प्रयोग माना जायेगा।
3. परीक्षा कक्ष में विद्यमान वस्तुएं साधन न लावे, जैसे लिखे हुए कागज के टुकड़े, मोबाइल, डिजिटल कायरी, कोपी, पुस्तक यह सभी वस्तुएं जो अनुचित साधन के अन्तर्गत आती हैं। केवल संबंधित प्रश्नपत्र में ही मेमोरी लेस साइंटिफिक कैल्कुलेटर ले जाने की अनुमति होगी।
4. उत्तर पुस्तिकाओं में रूपांश न रखें न ही उत्तर पुस्तिका में विपक्षार्थ। ऐसा करना अनुचित साधन प्रयोग की परिधि में आता है।

**परीक्षार्थी के लिए निर्देश**

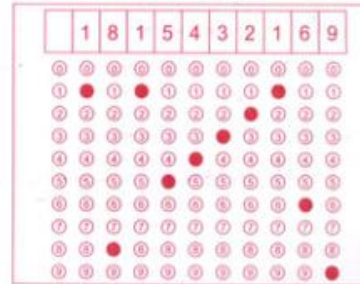
1. प्रवेश पत्र एवं उत्तर पुस्तिका पर दिये गये निर्देशों को ध्यान से पढ़ें।
2. कवर पृष्ठ के पुरानी तरफ कुछ न लिखें।
3. उत्तर पुस्तिका के पृष्ठों पर दोनों तरफ लिखें।
4. प्रश्न पत्र पर अपने अनुक्रमांक के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।
5. प्रश्न पत्र कोड एवं प्रश्न पत्र कोड साक्ष्यानी पूर्वक लिखें।
6. अपनी स्थिति स्पष्ट लिखें।
7. उत्तर पुस्तिका के पृष्ठों की संख्या देखें। अगर उत्तर पुस्तिका में पृष्ठ (1-24) से कम है या फटे हुए हैं, तो परीक्षा शुरू होने के पूर्व दूसरी उत्तर पुस्तिका ले लें।
8. प्रश्नपत्र को देख, यदि प्रश्नपत्र के विषय कोड, विषय का नाम तथा प्रश्नों में कोई त्रुटि है तो उसके परीक्षा शुरू होने के 30 मिनट के अन्दर परीक्षक को तत्काल सूचित करें, उसके बाद विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा किये जायेगा।
9. प्रश्नों के उत्तर लिखने के लिये पेंसिल का प्रयोग न करें।
10. B कोपी या अतिरिक्त ग्राफ नहीं दिया जायेगा।

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE**

1. Read the instructions carefully given on the Question Paper Admit Card & Answer Script.
2. Do not write anything on back side of the cover page.
3. Write on both sides of pages of answer book.
4. Do not write anything on question paper except Roll Number.
5. Write Paper Code & Question Paper Id carefully.
6. CHECK the number of pages (1-32) or any other kind of damage in your answer script, if found than change the answer script immediately before the commencement of examination.
7. CHECK the Question Paper for any kind of discrepancy of Subject Code, Subject Name and Question of the Question Paper during first THIRTY MINUTES of the commencement of the exam, so that it can be corrected in TIME. After that corrections shall be entertained by the university.
8. Do not use pencil for answering the question.
9. Write status correctly e.g. those appearing in carry over paper should fill in status as Carry Over. Those appearing as Students should fill in status as ex.
10. No supplementary answer book & graph paper will be provided.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE FOR FILLING PART-II**

1. Use blue or black ball point pen for writing alphabets & numerals in  Boxes.
2. Use blue or black ball point pen for filling the circles.



Note - If your Roll No. is of 10 digits. Please leave first three columns blank.

Sec C

Ans 7 - The rulers of the Gupta like Samudragupta, Chandragupta II and Skandagupta were great conquerors. They have subdued a major part of India and again established the first Political Unity of the country, like the Mauryas.

The rulers of the Gupta dynasty were also great administrators, they have divided their Empire in the small provinces for the sake of better Administration. They have followed the policy of decentralization. The rulers of the Gupta dynasty were also patron of art & learning.

The Gupta Empire was divided in following six parts:

- 1- Central Administration
- 2- Provincial Administration
- 3- Local Administration
- 4- Revenue System
- 5- Judicial System
- 6- Military Organization

\* Central Administration:

⇒ The King:



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The king was the Supreme authority of the Central Administration. He was considered as the representative of 'God'. 'Samudragupta' has been described as God in the 'Allahabad Pillar Inscription'. The king has unlimited power, he was considered as the Fountain of the Justice. The King appoints the governors & other military and civil officers.

⇒ The Ministers: The king was assisted by the council of ministers known as 'Mandai' or 'Sachiva'. Only the brave, courageous and committed people were appointed as ministers. Although all the names of ministers are not known but some of them are:

- # Sauvadhyaiksha → General Superintendent of the Central Administration
- # Mohasenapati → Chief of the Army
- # Mahadandanayaka → Chief of Justice
- # Mahasandhivigrahika → Minister of Foreign Affairs
- # Bandagan-Prakrita → Chief Treasury Officer



- \* Provincial Administration: For the sake of the proper administration of the Empire, the Gupta rulers have divided the Empire in small provinces.
- # These Provinces were known as 'Desas' or 'Bhukti'. These Bhukti were under the control of 'Uparika'. These officers 'Uparikas' were appointed by the King for the period of 5 years. These were either the princes or the persons belonging to the Royal family. The primary purpose of these were to protect the provinces from external invasions and internal revolts.
- # The Provinces were further divided into Districts known as 'Vaishyas'. These were governed by the officer called 'Vishaypati', he was also appointed for the period of 5 years. Vishaypati was also assisted by a council of 30 members which were appointed by the Vishaypati himself. These ministers were called as 'Mahamattas'.
- \* Local Administration: The Local Administration of Gupta was divided into two parts:



- 1- Town Administration
- 2- Village Administration

⇒ Town Administration: This Administration was carried out by an officer called 'Puepala'. The Vishayapati appoints the Puepala. The function of Puepala was to provide basic characteristics of Education, Health and Sanitation.

⇒ Village Administration: Village Administration was carried out by the Village Headman called 'Gramika'. His duty was to maintain Peace & Order within the village.

\* Revenue System: The land revenue was to be paid by the farmers & this land tax was the chief source of income of the Empire. The farmer had to pay 1/6th of the total produce. The tax can be paid in Cash or Kind.

\* Judicial System: The King was considered as the Fountain Head of the Justice. Although he had

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appointed a 'Chief of Justice' known as 'Mahadandnayaka' for local level. There was a hierarchical system of Judiciary from local to Supreme court.

\* Military Organization: The Guptas had maintained a very powerful army. It consists of Elephants, Cavalry and Infantry. Camels were the part of Army for Desert areas.

The head of the Elephant Army was called → 'Gumpā'

The head of the Cavalry was called → 'Dandabhavapati'





### Sec - B

Ans 5 - There were many efficient rulers in the Gupta Dynasty who re-installed the Political Unity of the Country after the Mauryans.

The Gupta Empire began to crumble after the 'Skandagupta'. He was the last able ruler of the dynasty. After him none of his successors was able to maintain the Prestige of the empire and was unable to check the invasion of Huns.

⇒ Huna Invasion: Huna was a very cruel and barbarous tribe of the Central India. They were uncivilized and barbarous. They maintained a very big army for plundering and doing murders, and for their security as well.

# Huna had defeated the Yiu-Chi tribe which was residing on the west of China.

# Then they started migrating to the west. They were divided into two parts.

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- \* Those who went to the Europe were known as 'Black Huna'.
- \* Those who came to India & Persia were known as 'White Huna'.
- \* These Huna's first captured the Persia by defeating the 'Sassanian Dynasty'. 'Firoz' was the last king of this Dynasty. Then they advanced towards India.
- \* Hunas attacked during the reign of 'Kumargupta - I' and these were badly defeated by the able son of Kumargupta the 'Skandagupta'.
- \* Skandagupta defeated the Hunas very badly and tried to uproot the whole Hunas, but during his reign Hunas were unable to enter into India.
- \* After the Skandagupta, all the weak successors of him were unable to protect the Gupta Empire from the attack of the Hunas.
- \* Hunas captured the region of Malwa from the later Gupta rulers.



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### The Political Effect of the Hunas on India and the Gupta Empire:

- # The Political Unity was devastated by the Hunas and there was a situation of Total chaos.
- # The Hunas were uncivilized and they did massive killing of the people in India for the sake of credibility.
- # They subjugated a large portion of India and was governed by their rules and regulation.

### The Social Effect of the Huns on Gupta Empire and India:

- # After the defeat of Mihirkula, the Huns did not go back and converted into Hinduism; because of that so many new castes emerged into India, hence making caste system more rigid.
- # Huns were barbarous, they destroyed so many temples, statues, monuments etc, as they were the enemy of Indian Culture.



- \* Hupas killed not only Hindus but also they killed so many buddhist monks just to gaze off the whole Buddhist religion from the west.
- \* They devastated so many Buddhist monasteries and Chaity and Viharas for their pleasure.

Just like this the political Unity of the country was ruined off.

These Hupas were then finally defeated by the 'Harshvardhan' who was the eminent king of the Vardhan Dynasty.





Sec = A

Ans 1 - Some Literary Sources of the Gupta Period:

\* Account of Fa-Hien: Fa-Hien was the first Chinese traveller who visited during the reign of Chandragupta II. He visited the places related to Buddhism. He stayed from 405 AD to 411 AD. His account is considered as an authentic source of the History of Guptas and the eminent Administration of the Guptas.

\* Purana: Purana also gives us some valuable information of the Gupta Empire. Like, 'Vaya Purana' mentions "Along the Ganga, all the territories Prayag, Ujjain, and Saket will be enjoyed by the Gupta Family."

\* Devi-Chandragupta: This is a very famous drama of 'Vishakhadatta'. From this drama we get deep insight about the reign of 'Samragupta' and the 'Chandragupta Vikramaditya'.

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Area - Chandragupta - I was the first powerful ruler of the Gupta dynasty, although he was the third ruler of the Gupta dynasty. We come to know about some popular things about him from the inscriptions:

⇒ Chandragupta - I assumed the title of 'Maharajadhiraj' while his ancestors took only the title of 'Maharaj'. This means he was more powerful king than his predecessors.

⇒ Chandragupta - I entered into a matrimonial alliance with 'Lichchhavi' princess 'Kumadevi', who later on assumed the title of 'Mahadevi'.

Chandragupta - I has issued the coins in which on one side the image of Chandragupta & Kumadevi is engraved & on the other side the word 'Lichchhavaya' is mentioned.

As he married to Kumadevi the Chandragupta was able to concentrate & expand his Empire till the 'Vaishali of Bihar' and to the south of Bihar. With this matrimonial alliance he was able to maintain huge army and ultimately strengthen his empire.



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Ans 3 - We can say that the 'Skandagupta' was the last powerful king of the Gupta dynasty. After him the Gupta Empire started to decline.

- The Hunas have demolished the Gupta Empire & broke the Political Unity of the Country.
- The Later Gupta Rulers like Prangupta, Baladitya, Buddhagupta, Vishnugupta and many others had ruled for only eighty years after the Skandagupta had died.

→ Narsimhgupta had took the title of 'Baladitya' or 'Adityasena'.

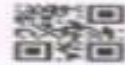
It is mentioned the account of 'Hueing-Tsang' who was the second Chinese traveller to India that he defeated the great ruler of Hunas called 'Mihirakula'.

But many of the Indian writers did not agree with this point of view. There is a scarcity of evidences that he defeated the Mihirakula. After the defeat of Mihirakula, Hunas never raised to the power again.



Ans 4 - Huna was a very barbarous tribe of the Central Asia. They were uncivilized, cruel and barbarous. They maintained a very big army for conducting plundering raids, and killing people. Doing massacres and plundering was their main source of occupation.

- \* The Huna tribe which migrated towards India and Persia were known as 'white Hunas'.
- \* The Hunas devastated the Political Unity of India and made a situation of total chaos.
- \* The Hunas destroyed many temples, statues, monuments etc, as they were the enemy of Indian Culture. All the fine pieces of Art were destroyed by them.
- \* Hunas were a great enemy of Buddhism. They killed lots of Buddhist monks, and preachers.
- \* They destroyed many buddhist monasteries, chaityas and viharas just for the sake of cruelty.



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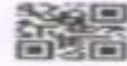
Ans 5 - After the downfall of the Gupta dynasty many small kingdoms started to emerge in different parts of the country.

- # 'Pushyabhuti' or 'Vardhan' Dynasty grown up as powerful dynasty after the Guptas. It developed in Thaneswar, Hariana.
- # Harshvardhan was the most prominent king of the Vardhan dynasty. He conquered many small kingdoms and subjugated them into his dynasty.
- # The Administration of Harshvardhan was based on the scientific principles of human life. He was a 'Shaivite', he built so many Shiv Temples in India.
- # The Empire of the Harshvardhan was divided into small provinces just for the sake of better Administration.
- # He defeated the Vallabhi Ruler of Gujarat and almost from the 'Batal' to the 'Saurashtra' whole area was ruled by him.



Ans 6 - The first ruler of the Gupta Dynasty was 'Sri Gupta'. The series of the Rulers of the 'Gupta' dynasty is observed from the inscription.

- According to the inscription it is clear that 'Gupta' or 'Sri Gupta' was the first ruler of the dynasty. Sri Gupta was then succeeded by his son 'Gothotakcha' who became the second ruler of this dynasty.
- There is a view of scholars that the 'Sri Gupta' and 'Gothotakcha' were the feudatory chiefs of the dynasty but the Chandragupta-I was the first independent king of this dynasty.
- The reign of the first two rulers are not known by but it is definitely before the 320 AD, as in 320 AD Chandragupt-I succeeded his father and made the Gupta Empire rose to the eminence.
- Chandragupta-I entered into a matrimonial alliance with 'Kumardevi' who was a 'Lichchavi' prince and he took the title of 'Maharajadhiraj'.



Ans 7- Chandragupta-I was the first powerful ruler of the Gupta Dynasty, although he was the third ruler of the dynasty.

Some are the important events of the reign of Chandragupta-I :

- \* Chandragupta-I has started the 'Gupta Samvat' or the 'Gupta Era' in 320 AD. His coronation took place on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 320 AD. This Gupta Era was used by his successors for about the 600 years.
- \* Chandragupt-I had took the title of 'Maharajadhiraj' while his predecessor had only took the title of Maharaj only.

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Ans 9 - Skanda Gupta was the last powerful ruler of the dynasty.

→ He defeated the Huns successfully and saved his empire from the gaze of the Huns, it is mentioned in the Kahlan Pillar Inscription.

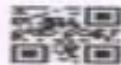
→ It is also mentioned that he was not the direct son of Kumargupt-I as his mother's name is not mentioned in any of the ✓ inscriptions.

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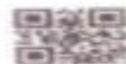
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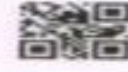
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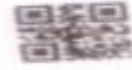
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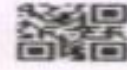
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