

UPSC 2020

Topic – Indus Valley Civilization – 100 Must-Know Facts– UPSC GS-I

Indus Valley Civilization (IVC) is one of the four great civilizations of the world. It flourished along the flood plains of Indus and Ghaggar-Hakra. IVC was spread across the western part of South Asian that now lies in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. It flourished in 2500 BC. The topic, 'Must-Know Facts about Indus Valley Civilization' is an important one for the [IAS Exam](#) - Prelims (Ancient History) and Mains (GS-I and Optional.) Read this article to get 100 such facts about IVC.

Importance of 100 Facts about IVC

The Mesopotamia, Egypt, China and the Indus Valley Civilization, are the four great civilizations of the ancient world, the first three (Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China) have been broadly studied and well-known to everyone. But the fourth and of equal importance, the much more sophisticated Indus Valley Civilization that flourished along the flood plains of Indus and Ghaggar-Hakra is lost to human memory and till date remains puzzling.

It was in the 20th century, the lost and forgotten Indus Valley Civilization was rediscovered and acknowledged and given equal importance with the other three civilizations (Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China).

This article extensively covers some interesting Geographical, Religious, Economic, Social, Architectural facts of Indus Valley Civilization which would be important from prelims and mains perspectives.

The 100 facts about IVC cover the following:

- 7 Quick Important facts on Indus Valley Civilization.
- 3 Major Geographical facts
- 5 facts on Size and Location
- 9 facts on Population
- 5 facts on Drainage System
- 16 facts on Town Planning
- 3 facts on World's oldest signboard.
- 3 Major facts in Hygiene and Cleanliness in Indus Valley Cities.
- 6 Major Religious facts of Indus Valley Civilization
- 10 Major Economic facts of Indus Valley Civilization
- 8 Major Social facts of Indus Valley Civilisation
- 7 Major facts on Arts and Crafts in Indus Valley Civilisation
- 8 Major facts on Advances in Architecture in Indus Valley Civilisation
- 7 facts on advancements in Metallurgy in Indus Valley Civilization
- 4 facts on Precise Measurements in Indus Valley Civilization
- 9 Major General Facts of Indus Valley Civilization

Indus Valley Civilization - UPSC Ancient History Notes:- [Download PDF here.](#)

Table of Contents:

S.No	IVC - Important Topics
1	7 Major Cities of Indus Valley Civilization
2	Seals from Indus Valley Civilization
3	Indus Valley Civilization - Geography, Religion, Economy, Society & Architecture of IVC
4	7 Major Facts about Art and Crafts in Indus Valley Civilization
5	9 Major General Facts of Indus Valley Civilization
6	Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) and Answers

7 Quick Important facts on Indus Valley Civilization

1. John Marshall was the first researcher to use the term, 'Indus Valley Civilization'.
2. Indus Valley Civilization spread from the year 2500 – 1750 BC according to radio-carbon dating.
3. The most distinctive feature of the Harappan Civilization was its urbanization.
4. Moreover, sheep and goats, dogs, humped cattle buffalo, and elephants were domesticated in Indus Valley Civilization.
5. The capital cities are Mohenjodaro and Harappa.
6. The port cities are Sutkagendor, Balakot, Lothal, Allahdino, and Kuntasi.
7. The Indus valley people were well-acquainted with the use of both cotton and wool.

7 Major Cities of Indus Valley Civilization

Many cities belonging to Indus Valley Civilization have been found and excavated. Out of them, Archaeologists were able to find some of the major cities belonging to Indus Valley Civilization.

The Below table gives the list of 7 major cities of Indus Valley Civilization

City	State/Country	Facts about Indus Valley Civilization's Cities
Mohenjodaro	Sindh Province, Pakistan	It was located on the right bank of River Indus.
Kalibangan	Rajasthan	It was located on the banks of Ghaggar River
Chanhudaro	Sindh Province, Pakistan	It was on the left bank of River Indus, to the South of Mohenjodaro
Lothal	Gujarat	It was located at the head of Gulf of Cambay
Surkotada	Gujarat	It was at the head of Rann of Kutch
Banawali	Haryana	It was situated on the banks of now extinct Saraswati River
Dholavira	Gujarat	It was excavated in the Kutch district

Read more about [Major Sites of Indus Valley Civilisation](#) in the given link.

Seals from Indus Valley Civilization

1. Indus Valley Civilisation produced a lot of artefacts and art forms.
2. Indus Valley art form emerged during the second half of the third millennium BCE (i.e. 2500 BC onwards)
3. Thousands of seals have been discovered by archaeologists from the Harappan sites.

What were the materials used to make the seals?

Most of the seals were made of steatite (it is kind of soft stone). A few of the seals were also made of gold, ivory, agate, terracotta, chert and faience.

What was the shape of the Harappan seals?

The shape of the Harappan seals was square with a 2X2 dimension.

What was the purpose of the seals?

Seals were primarily used for commercial purposes. A few seals were also used as amulets, perhaps as a kind of identity card.

What pictures were on the Harappan seals?

All the seals have pictures of animals with something written in a pictographic script (which is yet to be deciphered). Chiefly, the animals represented are tigers, elephants, bulls, bison, goats and so on. Some seals have mathematical images and must have been used for educational purposes.

Were there writings on Harappan Seals?

There are writings on both sides of the seals. The writings are in the Kharosthi style (right to left).

Some important points on Pashupati Seal.

The most famous seal is the Pashupati Seal of Harappan civilization from Mohenjo Daro. It is a seal with a figure seated cross-legged in the centre with animals around; an elephant and a tiger to the right of the figure and rhino and a buffalo to its left.

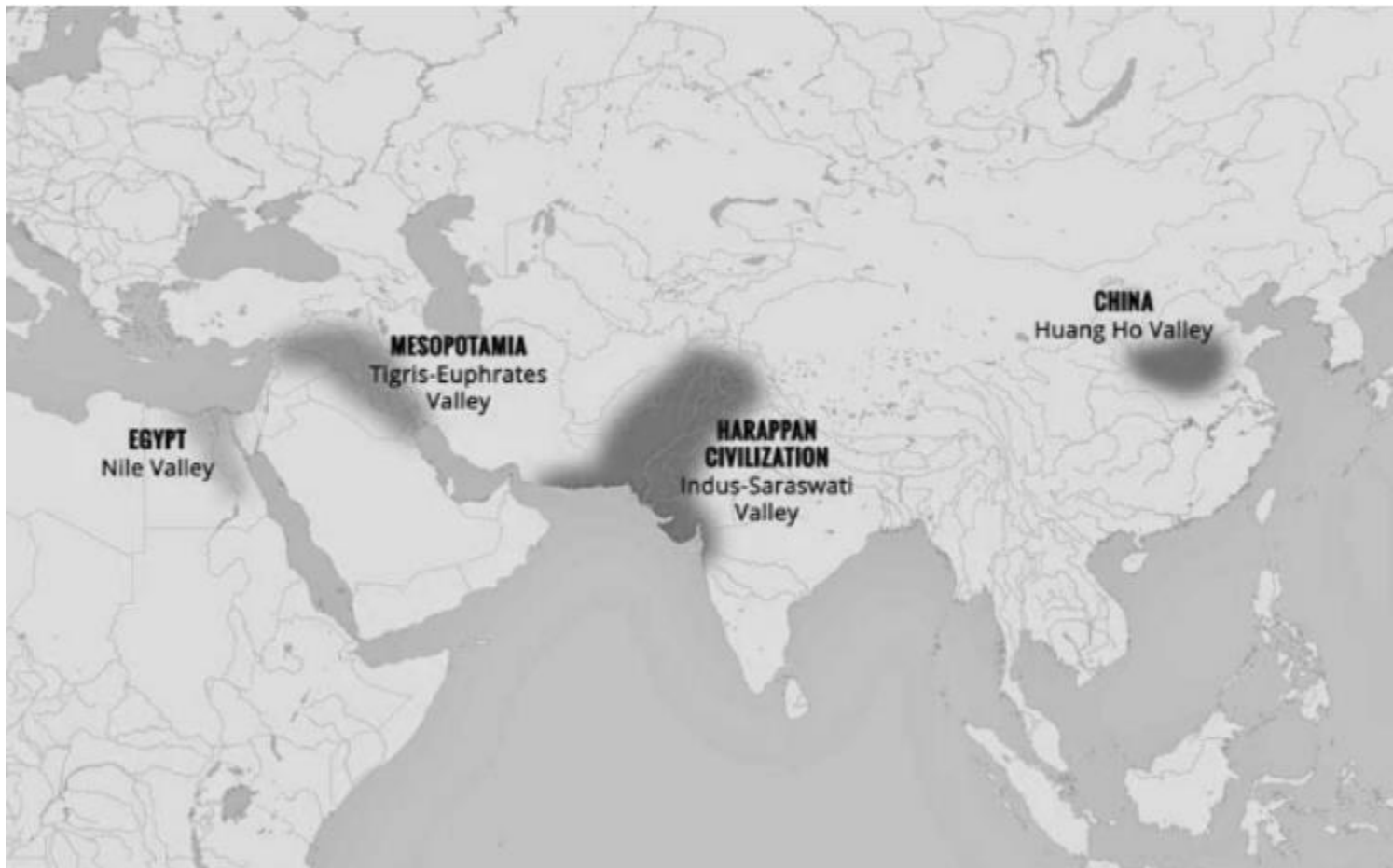
Indus Valley Civilization - Geography, Religion, Economy, Society & Architecture of IVC

Archaeologists were able to decipher the various social, economic, religious, architectural aspects of Indus Valley Civilization.

3 Major Facts about Geography of Indus Valley Civilization

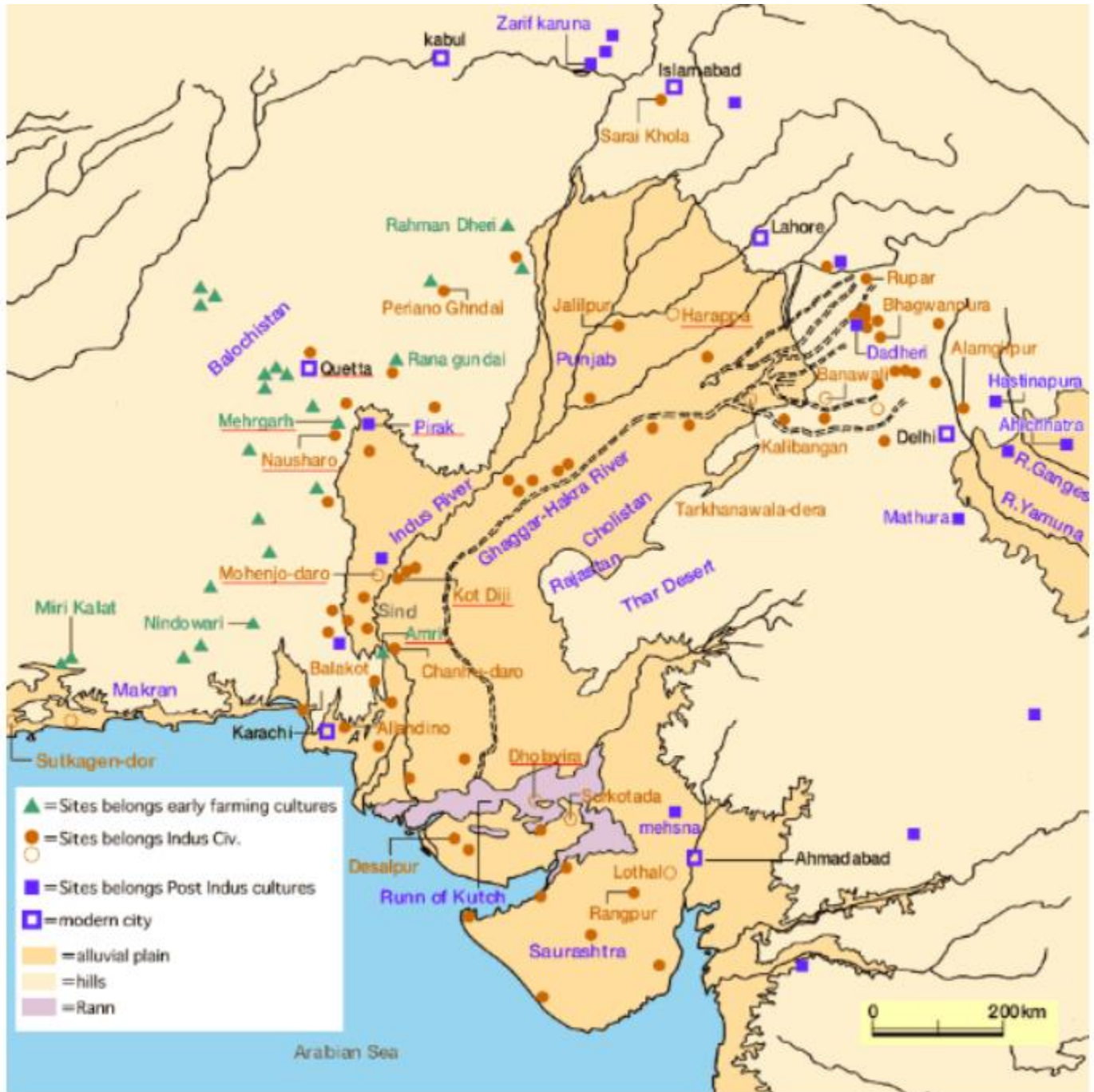
1. Indus Valley Civilization was the largest among the four civilizations of the world (Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China)
2. Since the first settlement was discovered along the banks of river Indus, the archaeologists named the civilization as Indus Valley Civilization. But on the contrary only around 100 sites have been found in the Indus Valley, while over 500 sites are found along the Ghaggar-Hakra River.
3. Most of the archaeologists prefer to call them 'Indus-Saraswati Civilization' based on the two river systems, while others prefer to name them as Harappan Civilisation as the first settlement was discovered in this city (Harappa).

And, according to some archaeologists, the sites along the Ghaggar-Hakra River are preserved as they lie in the uninhabited desert



5 Facts on Size and Location of Indus Valley Civilization

1. The Indus Valley Civilization was spread over an area of 1,260,000 sq. km over modern-India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan
2. 1056 Indus Valley Civilization cities and settlements have been found, of which 96 have been excavated.
3. The civilization extended from Ghaggar-Hakra Valley in the east to Makran coast of Balochistan in the West, from Afghanistan in the Northeastern to Daimabad in Maharashtra in the South.
4. Most of the settlements are mostly located in the broad region of the Indus and Ghaggar-Hakra Rivers and their tributaries.
5. The major urban centres are Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Dholavira, Ganweriwala and Rakhigarhi.



9 Facts on Population of Indus Valley Civilization

1. The Population of Indus Valley Civilization was over 5 million
2. Most of the inhabitants of the civilization were artisans and traders.
3. Majority of the population of Indus Valley Civilization lived in villages, it is not evident as the villages may have been constructed of destructible materials like mud or timber.
4. Hence, it is difficult to find out the lifestyle and culture in these villages which have been lost over a period of time without any trace.

5. The Indus Valley Civilization was a highly sophisticated civilization with a much-organised way of living.
6. Despite being densely populated, the cities were not chaotic, unlike contemporary cities of Mesopotamia or Egypt.
7. Mohenjo-Daro measuring an area of about 300 hectares was the largest city.
8. Mohenjo-Daro might have had a 40000-strong population.
9. Allahdino was the smallest site in the Indus Valley Civilization.

5 Facts on Drainage System of Indus Valley Civilization

1. They had advanced sanitation systems.
2. People of the Indus Valley Civilization knew about and implemented channelling of water and the disposal of waste waterway before any other ancient civilization did.
3. Even the Romans built aqueducts thousands of years later.
4. So advanced was their water management system that they had separate channels lining the Harappan streets for wastewater and stormwater (rainwater).
5. The wastewater drains were underground, and had opening terracotta lids for cleaning purposes!

16 Facts on Town Planning of Indus Valley Civilization

1. World's first planned cities were found in the Indus Valley Civilization.
2. The cities of the civilization were planned in grid patterns with streets crossing at right angles.
3. These marvels of urban planning were thousands of years older than the period of Hippodamus of Miletus, considered the 'father of European urban planning'.
4. The Indus Valley cities and towns had a rectangular grid pattern.
5. The main streets were along the North-South direction and the secondary streets were along the East-West direction.
6. The streets intersected at right angles. This precise pattern is believed to be owing to religious or astronomical beliefs.
7. Apart from being well-planned and having excellent drainage systems, the Harappan cities and towns were also standardised.
8. Almost all the places excavated are seen as having a similar structure and pattern.
9. Even the bricks of the houses had similar dimensions!
10. The streets found in Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa were as wide as 10.5 m.
11. The smaller roads were at least 1.5 m wide.
12. Archaeologists believe that the wide streets point out to market activities along them.
13. Harappan streets were paved with burnt bricks to facilitate the easy movement of ox carts.
14. The cities of the Indus Valley Civilization had channels running along the streets for the disposal of drainage water.
15. The cities of the Indus Valley Civilization could be divided into distinct neighbourhoods.
16. Each neighbourhood had inhabitants who were engaged in a particular profession.

3 Facts on World's Oldest Signboard belonging to IVC

1. A board with stone symbols/letters over 30 cm in height in a wooden frame was discovered at Dholavira in 1999.
2. Archaeologists believe this was the world's first signboard!
3. It is thought to have been placed at the façade of the northern gate of the city's citadel.

3 Major Facts on Hygiene and Cleanliness in Indus Valley Civilization

Fact 1: Hygiene was Top Priority

1. The people of the Indus Valley Civilization led a very hygienic, clean and healthy life.

The excavations reveal this fact.

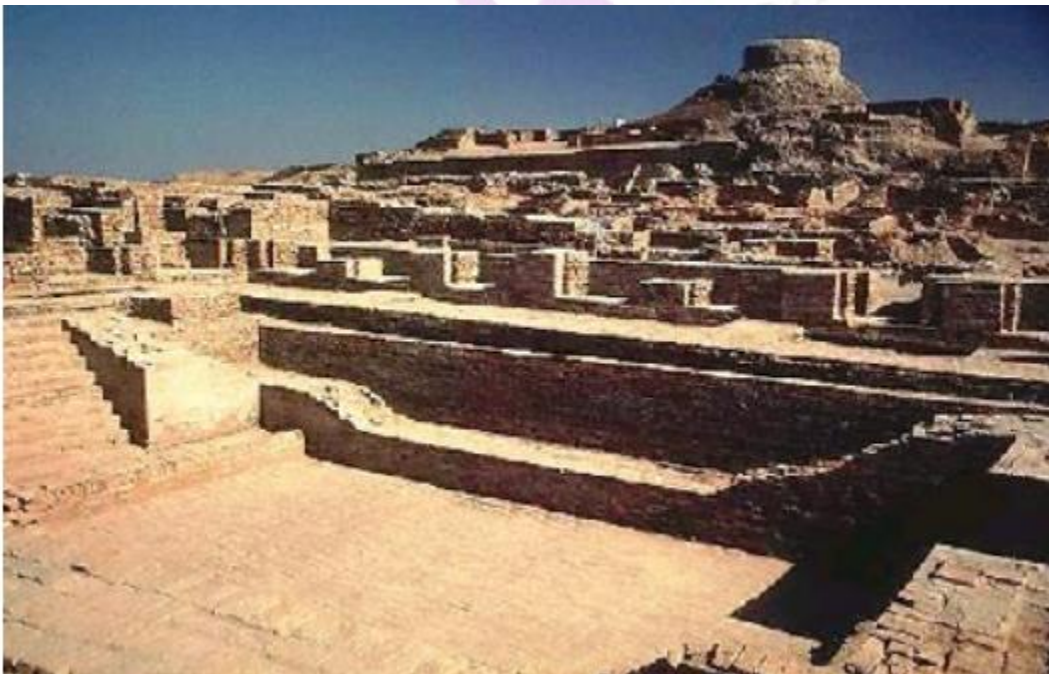
1. A large number of public baths, the excellent water management system, running water in every house, neat drainage systems and the underground wastewater systems all point out to the importance of hygiene in Harappan life.

Fact 2: Dustbins along the streets

1. Even in those ancient times, the Indus Valley Civilization was way ahead of its time in terms of civic sense.
2. There were dustbins placed along the streets in Mohenjo-Daro!
3. These were brick containers, especially for garbage disposal.

Fact 3: Every city had its own Great Bath

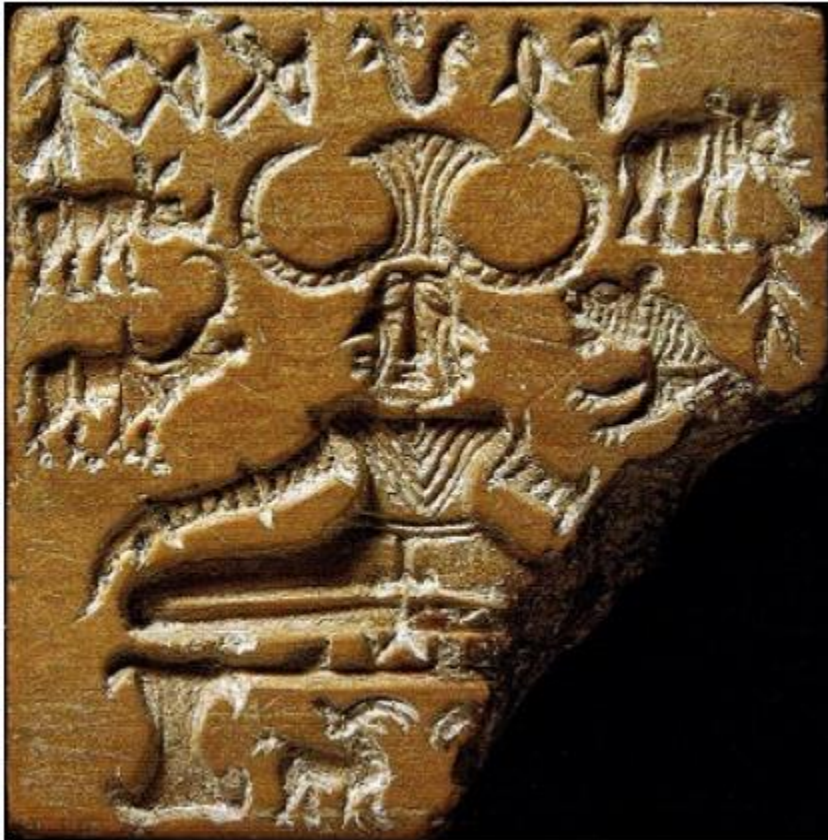
1. Every city in the civilization had at least one Great Bath.
2. It is believed that they might have had a religious purpose.



(The Great Bath at Mohenjo-Daro, Sindh, Pakistan)

6 Major Facts about Religion in Indus Valley Civilization

1. Matrivedi or Shakti is the Mother goddess
2. Yoni worship and Nature worship existed.
3. They worshipped trees like Peepal
4. They also worshipped Fire, called Havan Kund.
5. Pashupati Mahadeva is known as the lord of Animals
6. The people of Indus Valley Civilization carried out Animal worship like Unicorn and ox.



No temples in the Indus Valley Civilization

1. Archaeologists haven't found any structure resembling a temple or a palace or any monument.
2. In fact, most other contemporary civilizations have some central monuments.
3. The absence of any palace or temple despite structures like granaries and public baths led historians to believe that the Indus Valley society was an egalitarian one.

10 Major Economic Facts of Indus Valley Civilization

1. Indus valley civilization is based on agriculture
2. Trade and commerce flourished in this period.
3. The Mesopotamian (Sumerian) scribes in the Middle Bronze Age refer frequently to a place they call Meluhha. Meluhha was a prominent trading partner of the Sumerians and they imported timber and ebony in high volumes.
4. Sesame oil and luxury items like lapis lazuli were also imported from Meluhha, which was in all probability, the Indus Valley Civilization.

5. A dockyard has been found at Lothal.
6. There were exports and imports.
7. Production of cotton was there
8. 16 was the unit of measurement
9. Weights and measures existed in Harappan culture, and were seen at Lothal.
10. The weights were made of limestone, steatite, etc. and were usually cubical in shape.

Indus Valley Civilization were the world's earliest cotton cultivators

1. The earliest traces of cotton in the world were found here. The earliest evidence for the use of cotton was found in Mehrgarh dating back to the sixth millennium B.C.
2. The Indus Valley farmers were the first ones to spin and weave cotton.
3. Cotton was also one of the export items.

Indus Valley had large-scale maritime trade relations with other civilizations

1. Many port-cities have been unearthed which proves the existence of large-scale maritime trade relations with other civilizations.
2. Lothal could be the world's first dockyard.
3. Other ports include Allahdino, Suktagendor and Balakot.

Indus Valley Civilization had the world's first buttons

1. The world's first buttons were found here dating back to 2800 – 2600 B.C.
2. Buttons were made out of seashells and some of them had holes pierced in them for them to be attached to clothes with threads.
3. Buttons in the Indus Valley were used more for their ornamental value rather than for utility.

8 Major Facts about Society of Indus Valley Civilization

There were plenty of clues from the excavations to help us understand substantial information about the social life of inhabitants of Indus Valley Civilization.

The below table gives information on Social Facts of Indus Valley Civilization

Recreation activities	1. Hunting
	2. Fishing
	3. Clay modelling
	4. Bullfighting
Family Bonding	1. There was a very strong family bonding
	2. Children were taught the art of crafts making by their parents.
Household Decorations and Tools	1. Household decoration articles were either made of metals like Copper and

Bronze or the decoration articles were made of pottery.

2. Chairs were used

1. The utensils used were jars, dishes, vessels etc.

Kitchen Utensils

2. The above items were made of earth and stone.

1. Cotton clothes were used

Clothing

2. Woollen clothes were used

Cosmetics

1. Women used various cosmetics and face paint.

1. Rice, wheat, barley, rice, milk

Food

2. Vegetables like sesame, peas

3. Fruits like Date Palm

4. Mutton, Fish etc

1. The extensive drainage system is an indication of the importance given to cleanliness.

Literacy & Cleanliness

2. Letters engraved on seals is an indication of literacy

Archaeologists first thought that they had stumbled upon cities of children

1. When the cities of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro were first discovered, a large number of toys including dice, whistles and marbles were found.
2. This led the archaeologists to think that the majority of the inhabitants of those cities were children.

The Indus Valley people were playful

1. Among the artefacts that have been found on sites like Mohenjo-Daro are toys and games.
2. They have unearthed cubical dice having one to six holes (quite like the ones we have today)!
3. Other toys include clay figures of bullock carts, spinning tops, marbles, miniature pots and utensils, etc.



7 Major Facts about Art and Crafts in Indus Valley Civilization



1. Art and craft during the Indus Valley period were highly sophisticated.
2. Their artefacts display a high level of achievement in terms of aesthetic value and the technique used.
3. Their ware includes terracotta, bronze, copper and other metals.
4. They were also experts in bead-making.
5. This is a very important discovery because it shows the expertise of the Indus Valley civilization in metal bending and casting. It also signifies the importance of dance as a form of entertainment in those times.
6. Archaeologist Sir John Marshall (who discovered the Indus Valley Civilization in a way) has remarked, “When I first saw them I found it difficult to believe that they were prehistoric...”

7. These wonderful pieces of art, made using the lost-wax casting process, dated thousands of years before the Greeks.

Read more about [Indus Valley Civilization - Art and Culture](#) in the given link.

8 Major Facts on Advances in Architecture in Indus Valley Civilisation

Fact 1: Harappa had very advanced granaries

1. The granaries in Harappa used advanced technology that was seen in Rome 2800 years later.
2. 6 granaries in 2 rows were found in Harappa.
3. It was built on a raised platform to protect it from floods.
4. The Granary was approximately 45 metres in length and approximately 15 metres in breadth.
5. The sites also had citadels, bathing platforms and burial grounds.

Fact 2: The Harappan cities had water-reservoirs

1. At the Harappan city of Dholavira, 16 water reservoirs have been found.
2. These reservoirs serve the twin purposes of protecting the city from floods, and ensuring water supply throughout the year, even during the dry season.
3. They built dams that could control the flow of water and be stored in huge reservoirs.

Fact 3: The Indus Valley Civilization used standard burnt bricks everywhere

1. There were two types of bricks used in the Mature Harappan Period. One measured 7 X 14 X 28 cm and the other measured 10 X 20 X 40 cm in size.
2. The bigger bricks were used to construct public buildings.
3. The smaller bricks were used to build houses.
4. Both types of bricks followed the 1:2:4 ratio.

Fact 4: Ratio 1:2:4 in the Indus Valley Civilization Architecture

1. The ratio 1:2:4 was not limited to bricks, but to all aspects.
2. This ratio was followed in the houses, public structures, neighbourhood regions and even the city.
3. Historians do not know whether this standardization was owing to religious beliefs or just a convention followed by the builders.

Fact 5: Harappan houses were multi-storied buildings

1. So advanced was their architecture and masonry that Harappa had two and three-storied houses.
2. These spacious houses had central courtyards and accessible flat terraces too.

Fact 6: The Indus Valley houses could keep off dust and noise

1. None of the houses in the Indus Valley had windows facing the main streets.
2. The houses had only one door.
3. All the windows and the door of the houses would open into the central courtyard.
4. Thus, they were strategically designed to avoid noise and dust.

Fact 7: Houses with attached bathrooms

1. Indus Valley civilization was perhaps the first in the world to have houses with attached bathrooms.
2. They also had access to running water.
3. In addition, they had toilets with advanced drainage facilities.

Fact 8: The world's first rainwater harvesting was here

1. The Harappan civilization had systems to store rainwater.
2. They had complex and efficient water management systems.
3. The world's public water tank, named The Great Bath, was found here.
4. The city of Mohenjo-Daro also had a large water management system with 80 public toilets and about 700 wells.
5. The wells were strategically placed to supply water to every locality.

7 Facts on good advancements in Metallurgy in Indus Valley Civilization

1. They produced metal products including those in lead, copper, bronze and tin.
2. They exported these products.
3. They knew the technique of smelting copper with other metals.
4. Gold necklaces smaller than 0.25 mm in diameter have been excavated at Lothal. Other metal artefacts have been found in Mohenjo-Daro, Harappa and Rangpur.
5. Harappan copper implements were made by the method of casting.
6. Bronze vessels were made from a single sheet which was hammered.
7. Metal alloying technology was well-developed in the Indus Valley Civilization.

They even tested the purity of gold by the touchstone technique

1. A touchstone has been recovered from Banawali, Haryana.
2. This touchstone has streaks of gold in it indicating that it was probably used to assay the purity of gold.
3. This technique is used in some parts of the country to this day.



4 Facts on Precise Measurement Systems in The Indus Valley Civilization

1. Stone cubes have been excavated from the sites of this civilization. Archaeologists believe them to be weighted for measurement.
2. These weights increase in a ratio of 5:2:1. They had weights of 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.5, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500 units.
3. They are different from the system of measurement of Egypt and Mesopotamia of that time, so it can be concluded that this system was developed indigenously.
4. The smallest division on a marking on an ivory scale was around 1.704 mm found in Lothal, Gujarat. This is the smallest recorded division found from the Bronze Age.

9 Major General Facts of Indus Valley Civilization

Fact 1: The oldest Indus Valley settlement was established around 7000 B.C.

1. Mehrgarh is the oldest known settlement dating back to around 7000 B.C.
2. It began during the Pre-Harappan period.
3. Mehrgarh was a farming village.

Fact 2: Over 4000 seals have been found from the sites

1. These seals are small, rectangular stone slabs with inscriptions on them.
2. They also have images of animals and other figures on them.
3. The use of these seals is uncertain.

Fact 3: The city of Mohenjo-Daro was built at least 9 times

1. Many of the cities of this civilization were destroyed several times by flood, deposition of silts, etc.

2. Each time they were rebuilt.
3. What is amazing is that every time they rebuilt the cities, they employed the same grid pattern.
4. Mohenjo-Daro was constructed nine times and each time on top of the earlier grid.
5. This shows the sophistication in their urban planning.

Fact 4: The Indus Valley Civilization even had dentists among them

1. In 2006, Nature journal declared that the first evidence of drilling of the human teeth in a live person was found in Mehrgarh, present Pakistan.
2. This discovery was done in 2001 when eleven drilled molar crowns were unearthed from a Neolithic grave in Mehrgarh dating between 5500 B.C. and 7000 B.C.
3. This remarkable discovery shows that people of the Indus Valley Civilization had knowledge of proto-dentistry.

Fact 5: The Indus Valley Script has still Not Been Deciphered

1. One of the reasons we don't know much about this civilization is that their script has not yet been deciphered.
2. Around 400 different symbols have been identified inscribed in objects.
3. They appear in strings of between 3 and 20.
4. Historians believe they are probably names and don't have any other meaning.

Fact 6: No Depiction of any King or Ruler

1. Despite having an organised way of life, there is no depiction or evidence of any ruler or any governing system for the Harappan civilization.
2. The closest depiction to any kind of a central figure is a terracotta sculpture believed to be that of a priest-king.



Fact 7: No Evidence of Warfare

1. Although some weapons like spears, knives and arrow-heads have been excavated from the sites, there is no evidence of warfare from the Indus Valley Civilization.

2. It is concluded that they were, in general, a peace-loving people.
3. It is also possible that this was because they had no natural enemies and the other settlements had good trade relations with them.

Fact 8: Cause of Decline: Unknown

1. Historians are not sure what led to the decline of the Indus Valley Civilization.
2. Experts are now sure that it wasn't invasion, disease or any other calamity that caused their decline.
3. The cities and settlements started declining gradually and they seemed to have been abandoned by the inhabitants who might have migrated to greener pastures.
4. It is believed that the gradual drying up of the Saraswati River might have led to this.
5. The civilization did not come to an abrupt end but declined gradually and got assimilated into other cultures.

Fact 9: How did the British utilise the remains from excavated sites of Indus Valley Civilisation?

1. In 1856, when the British were building the East Indian Railway Company line from Karachi to Lahore, they faced a shortage of bricks.
2. The British used 4000-year old bricks from the nearby villages of Harappa where they found bricks from a 'ruined city' to lay down 93 miles (150 km) of railway track

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) and Answers

Q 1. Which of the following dockyards belonged to the Indus Valley Civilisation?

1. Lothal
2. Tuticorin
3. Poompuhar
4. Arikamedu

Answer: 1

Q 2. Which of the following statements are true?

1. People from Indus Valley worshipped Peepal Tree
2. People from Indus Valley worshipped Nature
3. People from Indus Valley considered Shakti as the Mother Goddess
4. They worshipped fire.

Which of the following is correct?

1. Only A
2. Only B
3. Only C and D
4. All of the above-given statements are true

Answer: 4

Q 3. Which of the following cities had Port during Indus Valley Civilisation?

1. Sutkagendor
2. Balakot
3. Kuntasi
4. None of the above

Which of the following is correct?

1. A only
2. B only
3. D
4. A, B and C

Answer: 4

Q 4. Dholavira is located in which of the following districts?

1. Fatehabad
2. Saurashtra
3. Khairpur
4. Kutch

Answer: 4

Q 5. Kuntasi in Indus Valley was known for

1. Bead Making factory
2. Salt Production
3. Small Port
4. Fire altars

Answer: 1

Q 6. Mohenjodaro was located in which state/province?

1. Balochistan
2. Gujarat
3. Sindh
4. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Answer: 3

Q 7. Which of the following Indus Valley sites are not located in Haryana?

1. Banawali
2. Bargaon
3. Bhirrana

4. Farmana

Answer: 2

Q 8. Which of the following Harappan sites are located in the foothills of the Himalayas?

1. Lothal
2. Mehrgarh
3. Larkana
4. Manda

Answer: 4

Q 9. In which of the following Indus Valley Civilization sites a pitcher filled with 8000 pearls was found?

1. Baror
2. Banawali
3. Chanhudaro
4. Dholavira

Answer: 1

Q 10. Which of the following sites had a figure of a chariot tied to a pair of bullocks

1. Ganweriwala
2. Hisar
3. Kuntasi
4. Dholavira

Answer: 4

Q 11. Consider the following about Indus Valley Civilization:

1. Seals of Indus valley are made of steatite only
2. Seals of Indus valley are in Rectangular in shape

Which of the following is correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both
4. None

Answer: 4

Q 12. Which of the following statement/s is/are true?

1. There is enough evidence that Indus Valley Civilization people indulged in a lot of wars.
2. The British did not utilise the remains of excavations from Indus Valley Civilization.
3. The Indus Valley Scripts have not been deciphered.
4. Molar crowns were unearthed in one of the excavations.

Which of the following is correct?

1. All 4 of the statements are true
2. Only B and C is true
3. Only A is true.
4. Both C and D are true.

Answer: 4

Q 13. Which of the following is true?

1. Mohenjodaro was rebuilt at least 9 times.
2. Over 4000 seals have been found at sites.
3. Their artefacts do not display a high level of aesthetic value and technique.
4. Mehrgarh was a farming village

Which of the following is correct?

1. A only
2. A and D only
3. All 4 are false
4. All 4 are true.

Answer: 2

Q 14. Which of the following statement/s is/are true?

1. Stone Cubes have been excavated
2. They had weights of 5,50,500 units
3. The Indus Valley system of measurement was the same as the measurement system adopted in Egypt and Mesopotamia.
4. The smallest division of marking on an ivory scale was 100 mm.

Which of the following is correct?

1. Only A is true
2. Only B is true.
3. All statements are true
4. Only A and B is true.

Answer: 4

Q 15. Which of the following statement/s is/are true?

1. The granaries used in Harappa were not as advanced as ones found in Rome, 2800 years later.
2. It was not built on a raised platform.
3. The sites had citadels, bathing platforms and burial grounds.
4. 6 granaries were found in Harappa.

Which of the following is correct?

1. Only A is true
2. All are false
3. Only A and B are true.
4. Only C and D are true.

Answer: 4

Q 16. Which of the following statement/s is/are true?

1. Archaeologists thought the majority of inhabitants in Harappa and Mohenjodaro were children.
2. When Harappa and Mohenjodaro were first discovered, very few toys were found.
3. Some of the toys found in Indus Valley Civilization were made of clay.
4. Archaeologists had unearthed cubical dice in Indus Valley Civilization sites.

Which of the following is correct?

1. A, C and D are true
2. All the given statements are true
3. All the given statements are false
4. Only A is true.

Answer: 1

Q 17. Which of the following statement/s is/are false?

1. Hunting, fishing & bullfighting was not a recreational activity in Indus Valley Civilization
2. There was no family bonding among inhabitants of Indus Valley Civilization
3. Cotton clothes were not used in Indus Valley Civilization
4. They did not have any fruits.

Which of the following is correct?

1. All statements are true.
2. Only A and D is false
3. All statements are false
4. Only C and B are false.

Answer: 3

Q 18. Which of the following is statement/s is/are true?

1. Lothal was not the World's first dockyard.
2. Suktagendor was not a Port City.
3. Cotton was one of the import items.
4. The earliest evidence of Cotton was found in Allahdino

Which of the following is correct?

1. All the statements are true.
2. Only A, C, D are true.
3. None of the given statements are true
4. Only D is true.

Answer: 3

Q 19. Which of the following statement/s is/are true?

1. Indus Valley Civilization was mainly an agricultural economy.
2. The weights used were usually cubical in shape.
3. The weights were made of limestone, steatite etc.
4. Ganweriwala and Rakhigarhi were some of the major rural locations.

Which of the following is correct?

1. Only A and B is true
2. All statements are true.
3. Only A is true.
4. Only statements A, B and C are true.

Answer: 4

Q 20. Which of the following statements are true?

1. Over 2000 Indus Valley Civilization cities and settlements have been found.
2. Over 1000 Indus Valley Civilization sites have been excavated.
3. Indus Valley Civilization sites have been extended from Balochistan in the East to Ghaggar Hakra Valley in the West.
4. Among the 4 major civilizations, Chinese, Egypt, Mesopotamia and Indus Valley Civilization, Indus was the smallest of all of them.

Which of the following is correct?

1. All the given statements are true
2. Only statements A and B are true.
3. Only statements C and D are true.
4. None of the given statements is true.

Answer: 4

The above details would be of help to candidates preparing for [UPSC 2020](#) exams from the perspective of mains examination.

Relevant Articles:

[Ancient History - NCERT Notes](#) [Buddhism](#)

[Rig Veda](#)

[Jainism](#)

[16 Mahajanapadas](#)

[Chandragupta Maurya](#)

In a parliamentary sitting, both the houses of the Indian Parliament have different devices of Parliamentary proceedings. These devices are used to bring by the members of Parliament to act according to the rules of the houses. This article will provide you with a list of 'Devices of Parliamentary Proceedings,' which is a topic that comes under Indian Polity syllabus (GS-II) of the [IAS Exam](#).

To complement your preparation for [UPSC 2020](#), check the following links:

- [UPSC Previous Year Question Papers](#)
- [Current Affairs](#)
- [UPSC Notes PDF](#)
- [IAS Mock Tests](#)
- [Polity Notes](#)

List of Devices of Parliamentary Proceedings

The table below mentions the different devices of Parliamentary Proceedings:

Devices of Parliamentary Proceedings	Facts about Parliamentary Proceedings Devices
Question Hour	<p>The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for this. During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers. The questions are of three kinds, namely, starred, unstarred and short notice.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A starred question (distinguished by an asterisk) requires an oral answer and hence supplementary questions can follow. 2. An unstarred question, on the other hand, requires a written answer and hence, supplementary questions cannot follow. 3. A short notice question is one that is asked by giving a notice of less than ten days. It is answered orally.
Closure Motion	It is a motion moved by a member to cut short the debate on a matter before the

	<p>House. If the motion is approved by the House, debate is stopped forthwith and the matter is put to vote. There are four kinds of closure motions :</p> <p>(a) Simple Closure: It is one when a member moves that the 'matter having been sufficiently discussed be now put to vote'.</p> <p>(b) Closure by Compartments: In this case, the clauses of a bill or a lengthy resolution are grouped into parts before the commencement of the debate. The debate covers the part as a whole and the entire part is put to vote.</p> <p>(c) Kangaroo Closure: Under this type, only important clauses are taken up for debate and voting and the intervening clauses are skipped over and taken as passed.</p> <p>(d) Guillotine Closure: It is one when the undiscussed clauses of a bill or a resolution are also put to vote along with the discussed ones due to want of time (as the time allotted for the discussion is over).</p>
No-Confidence Motion	<p>Article 75 of the Constitution says that the council of ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. It means that the ministry stays in office so long as it enjoys confidence of the majority of the members of the Lok Sabha. In other words, the Lok Sabha can remove the ministry from office by passing a no-confidence motion. The motion needs the support of 50 members to be admitted.</p>
Privilege Motion	<p>It is concerned with the breach of parliamentary privileges by a minister. It is moved by a member when he feels that a minister has committed a breach of privilege of the House or one or more of its members by withholding facts of a case or by giving wrong or distorted facts. Its purpose is to censure the concerned minister.</p>
Motion of Thanks	<p>The first session after each general election and the first session of every fiscal year is addressed by the president. In this address, the president outlines the policies and programmes of the government in the preceding year and ensuing year. This address of the president, which corresponds to the 'speech from the Throne in Britain', is discussed in both the Houses of Parliament on a motion called the 'Motion of Thanks'. At the end of the discussion, the motion is put to vote. This motion must be passed in the House. Otherwise, it amounts to the defeat of the government. This inaugural speech of the president is an occasion available to the members of Parliament to raise discussions and debates to ex-amine and criticise the government and administration for its lapses and failures.</p>
Calling Attention Motion	<p>It is introduced in the Parliament by a member to call the attention of a minister to a matter of urgent public importance, and to seek an authoritative statement from him on that matter. Like the zero hour, it is also an Indian innovation in the parliamentary procedure and has been in existence since 1954. However, unlike the zero hour, it is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure.</p>
No-Day-Yet-	<p>It is a motion that has been admitted by the Speaker but no date has been fixed for</p>

Named-Motion	its discussion. The Speaker, after considering the state of business in the House and in consultation with the leader of the House or on the recommendation of the Business Advisory Committee, allots a day or days or part of a day for the discussion of such a motion.
Censure Motion	It should state the reasons for its adoption in the Lok Sabha. It can be moved against an individual minister or a group of ministers or the entire council of ministers . It is moved for censuring the council of ministers for specific policies and actions. If it is passed in the Lok Sabha, the council of ministers need not resign from the office.
Half-an-Hour Discussion	It is meant for discussing a matter of sufficient public importance, which has been subjected to a lot of debate and the answer to which needs elucidation on a matter of fact. The Speaker can allot three days in a week for such discussions. There is no formal motion or voting before the House.
Short Discussion	It is also known as two-hour discussion as the time allotted for such a discussion should not exceed two hours. The members of the Parliament can raise such discussions on a matter of urgent public importance. The Speaker can allot two days in a week for such discussions. There is neither a formal motion before the house nor voting. This device has been in existence since 1953.
Point of Order	A Member can raise a point of order when the proceedings of the House do not follow the normal rules of procedure. A point of order should relate to the interpretation or enforcement of the Rules of the House or such articles of the Constitution that regulate the business of the House and should raise a question that is within the cognizance of the Speaker. It is usually raised by an opposition member in order to control the government. It is an extraordinary device as it suspends the proceedings before the House. No debate is allowed on a point of order.
Special Mention	A matter which is not a point of order or which cannot be raised during question hour, half-an hour discussion, short duration discussion or under adjournment motion, calling attention notice or under any rule of the House can be raised under the special mention in the Rajya Sabha . Its equivalent procedural device in the Lok Sabha is known as 'Notice (Mention) Under Rule 377'.
Adjournment Motion	When there is an urgent matter of public importance then a member may propose that the business of the house be adjourned for discussing that matter. This motion can be moved only with the consent of the Speaker. Generally such motions are discussed in the afternoon at 4.00 p.m.
Lame Duck Session	It refers to the last session of the existing Lok Sabha, after a new Lok Sabha has been elected. Those members of the existing Lok Sabha who could not get re-elected to the new Lok Sabha are called lame-ducks.

Types of Budgetary Motions

The most popular and well known motions which are used by members in connection with the budget are three. The demand for grants are considered and passed by Lok Sabha. Hence, these motions can be moved only in Lok Sabha.

1. Policy Cut: The member moves that the demand be reduced to one rupee. The member moving this motion in fact wants to discuss the policy behind the demand in detail and gives alternative policy suggestions.

2. Economy Cut: In this motion the reduction in the amount of demand is substantial. The amount to be reduced is clearly stated and the object is to bring about economy in the expenditure.

3. Token Cut: In this motion the demand is sought to be reduced by Rs. 100/-. The object of the motion is to ventilate specific grievances within the sphere of responsibility of the Government. Private Member's Resolution A resolution may be moved by a Minister or by a private member. For private members generally afternoons are reserved on alternate Fridays. Resolutions are selected by ballot. Resolutions may be brought under Rule 200 of the Lok Sabha for the removal of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker.