

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE*Time Allowed : Three Hours**Maximum Marks : 300***Question Paper Specific Instructions**

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions :

All the questions are to be attempted.

The number of marks carried by a question / part is indicated against it.

Attempt of a part / question shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a part / question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

*Answers must be written in **ENGLISH** only.*

Q1. Answer all the following questions in not more than the word limits indicated in the brackets at the end of the questions :

- (a) What is the importance of the Mauryan Empire in Indian History ?
[150 words] 15
- (b) Discuss the various aspects of social legislation introduced by the East India Company in the first half of the 19th century. [150 words] 15
- (c) Assess the growth and development of Technical Education during the British rule. [100 words] 10
- (d) Write short notes within 20 words each : 2×5=10
- (i) Nil Darpan 2
- (ii) Kanaklata Barua 2
- (iii) Sabarmati Ashram 2
- (iv) Sharda Sadan 2
- (v) Poona Sarvajanik Sabha 2

Q2. Answer all the following questions in not more than 100 words each :

- (a) What are the extent and causes of the occurrence of non-performing assets in the Indian financial sector ? 10
- (b) Give an outline of the concept of and the government initiatives for gender-budgeting in India. 10
- (c) What are the envisaged benefits of Goods and Services Tax ? 10
- (d) Briefly sketch the effectiveness of school education in rural India. 10
- (e) Assess the performance of social forestry programmes. 10

Q3. Answer all the following questions in not more than 100 words each :

- (a) Why is the Preamble to the Indian Constitution considered as a unique feature ? What are its main objectives ? 10
- (b) What are the special provisions for the State of Jammu and Kashmir in the Indian Constitution ? 10
- (c) How did the Right to Information Act, 2005 originate ? How does it strengthen the democracy in India ? 10
- (d) What does the term 'Judicial Democracy' signify ? 10
- (e) What are the special features of the new system of Panchayats and Municipalities ? 10

Q4. Answer all the following questions within the word limits indicated in the brackets at the end of the questions :

- (a) What is zoogeography ? Describe the zoogeographic realms of the world. [150 words] 15
- (b) Describe the characteristics of Monsoon forests. [150 words] 15
- (c) Define ecumene and discuss the development of the present status of the world ecumene. [100 words] 10
- (d) Account for the environmental problems of lagoon ecosystem for tourism development. [100 words] 10

● Q5. Answer all the following questions in not more than 100 words each :

- (a) Describe 'gene therapy' and its significance. 10
- (b) What is 'green revolution' and what is its impact ? 10
- (c) Describe 'global warming' and its significance. 10
- (d) What is 'biofortification' and how is it done ? 10
- (e) Describe vitamin deficiency diseases, their causes and natural sources. 10
- (f) Describe 'genetic engineering'. 10

Q6. Answer all the following questions in not more than 100 words each :

- (a) What is heliocentric orbit ? 10
- (b) Describe the major features of satellite communication. 10
- (c) Enumerate the advantages of friction. 10
- (d) Differentiate between White spaces and Wi-Fi. 10

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