

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.*

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- Q1. Answer all of the following questions in not more than 150 words each :** **50**
- (a) Harappan civilization was spread through a large area. Many factors were responsible for its downfall. What were they ? 20
- (b) Describe the Deccan policy of Aurangzeb with special reference to the Marathas. 15
- (c) Discuss the Indo-Tibetan relations during the British period. 15
- Q2. Answer all of the following questions in not more than 150 words each :** **50**
- (a) Express your understanding of the problem of inflation based on WPI and CPI in the Indian context. 20
- (b) Comment on the formation of NITI Aayog as a replacement of Planning Commission in India. 15
- (c) What potential do you visualise in the 'Skill India' programme as a strategy to solve the unemployment problem ? 15

- Q3. Answer all of the following questions : 50**
- (a) "India needs a Third Green Revolution, but with a different approach." Elaborate. 20
- (b) The droughts and its outcomes in India are the result of both the physical and the human factors. Discuss. 15
- (c) Account for the recent earthquakes in the bordering Nepal and its impact on India. 15
- Q4. Answer all of the following questions : 50**
- (a) The existence of the Article 3 in the Indian Constitution is reason enough to believe that the Indian Constitution empowers the Centre at the expense of the State. Do you agree ? If so, elaborate with an example. 20
- (b) Do you think that in India, the government remains strong and governance still continues to be subordinate to the government ? Can this be seen as strong institutions and weak processes playing a part in the administering of the country ? 15
- (c) "In India, despite the economy becoming totally capitalistic, class as the most important social category has not emerged powerfully and it is still caste that plays an important role in India's social fabric." Elucidate. 15
- Q5. Answer all of the following questions : 50**
- (a) "The collapse of the Greek economy and the weakening of the economies of Italy, Spain and even the UK to an extent is suggestive of cracks in the foundation of the European Union." Do you agree or disagree with this ? Give reasons in either case. 20
- (b) Do you agree with the perception that SAARC is important to India only for political reasons and not for economic reasons ? Give reasons. 15
- (c) With India now seeing itself as a brain power and allying itself increasingly with USA, it no longer sees itself as a country in the category of backward countries of Africa and other countries which have traditionally been its allies in the Non-Aligned Movement. Do you think it is time to give the NAM a burial ? 15

Q6. Answer all of the following questions in not more than 150 words each : 50

- (a) Discuss the role of disaster management in addressing the problems of the victims of natural calamities. 20
- (b) What are the causes of the spread of 'Dengue Fever' in India ? What steps have been taken in prevention of the disease ? 15
- (c) In the light of recent achievements of ISRO, highlight the development of space technology. 15