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: 2x5=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?
(b) Give an outline of the concept of and the government initiatives for gender-budgeting in India.
(c) What are the envisaged benefits of Goods and Services Tax?
(d) Briefly sketch the effectiveness of school education in rural India.
(e) Assess the performance of social forestry programmes.

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?
(b) What are the special provisions for the State of Jammu and Kashmir in the Indian Constitution?
(c) How did the Right to Information Act, 2005 originate? How does it strengthen the democracy in India?
(d) What does the term ‘Judicial Democracy’ signify?
(e) What are the special features of the new system of Panchayats and Municipalities?

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]
(b) Describe the characteristics of Monsoon forests. [150 words]
(c) Define ecumene and discuss the development of the present status of the world ecumene. [100 words]
(d) Account for the environmental problems of lagoon ecosystem for tourism development. [100 words]
Q5. Answer all the following questions in not more than 100 words each:
(a) Describe ‘gene therapy’ and its significance.
(b) What is ‘green revolution’ and what is its impact?
(c) Describe ‘global warming’ and its significance.
(d) What is ‘biofortification’ and how is it done?
(e) Describe vitamin deficiency diseases, their causes and natural sources.
(f) Describe ‘genetic engineering’.

Q6. Answer all the following questions in not more than 100 words each:
(a) What is heliocentric orbit?
(b) Describe the major features of satellite communication.
(c) Enumerate the advantages of friction.
(d) Differentiate between White spaces and Wi-Fi.