

2014

GENERAL STUDIES

Full Marks: 300

Time: 3 Hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer any ten questions from the following in about 250 words each: 10×10=100
 - (a) How far have the Directive Principles of State Policy facilitate the realization of social justice in India? Give your comment with relevant illustration.
 - (b) What is meant by demographic dividend? Suggest the measures through which India can realize the benefit of demographic dividend.
 - (c) Discuss the general administrative structure of Assam and its functioning from block to district level. Do you see any need to improve the system for more effective delivery of services to the public? Suggest some measures to do so.
 - (d) Is there any need for a new State Reorganization Commission? Justify your answer with reference to the formation of the 29th state in India.
 - (e) Present the salient features of the Industrial and Investment policies of the Government of Assam and add your comment on their effective implementation.
 - (f) What is the present status of biodiversity in Assam? Do you agree that the biodiversity of the state can be best preserved only through Protective Area Regulations? Give reasons for your views.

(2)

- (g) What is the intensity of irrigation in India ? Throw some light on its regional variation and agricultural impact in India. Add your comment on the present state of irrigation in Assam.
- (h) Distinguish between in-migration and out-migration. Explain the causes of the rural-urban migration of population in India and analyse the various problems that may arise on account of rural-urban migration.
- (i) The Government of India launched the Nano-Mission as an umbrella capacity-building programme. Explain what you understand by Nano technology and discuss its goal along with the rank of India in the field of Nano-Science.
- (j) Analyse the prospect of trans-border trade as an emerging area for the future growth of the North-East in general and Assam in particular.
- (k) Discuss the achievements and failures of planning in India in the post-reform period.
- (l) Examine the impact of the Neo-Vaishnavite movement in Assam.
- (m) What factors are responsible for the increasing crisis in Balance of Payment in recent years ? Suggest some measures to solve the problem of deficit in the Balance of Payment in India.
- (n) What are the various geo-environmental and economic factors favouring the growth and development of tea-industry in Assam. Identify the major problems faced by the industry in present days in Assam in particular.
- (o) Highlight the major objectives of the new Science, Technology and Innovation Policy formulated by the Government of India in 2013. What are the focussed areas for the development and deployment of technology in India ?

(3)

2. Answer any five questions from the following in about 150 words each: $8 \times 5 = 40$

- (a) Give the main reasons for India's claim for permanent membership of the Security Council of UNO.
- (b) Write what you know about the river-linking scheme mooted by the Central Government. How would the scheme benefit or harm Assam ?
- (c) What is your understanding of the Grouping System initiated by the British and its connection with Assam ? Briefly discuss the role of Gopinath Bordoloi in its relation to Assam.
- (d) What do you mean by judicial review ? Show, with examples, how judicial review is important for ensuring justice in public life in India.
- (e) Bring out the problems and prospects related to the water resources of Assam.
- (f) What is 'Earth Hour' campaign ? What is sought to be achieved through it ?
- (g) Write briefly about the decentralized planning in Assam.
- (h) Examine the political organizations of the early vedic period.
- (i) What are the problems faced by the small tea growers in Assam ? How can these problems be handled ?
- (j) Account for the decline and disintegration of the Mauryan Empire.

3. Answer any ten questions from the following in about 150 words each: $6 \times 10 = 40$

- (a) What is the 6th Schedule of the Indian Constitution ? How is it being implemented in Assam ?
- (b) Write what you know about the Malaysian airline flight MH 370 that was reported missing in the first week of March, 2014.
- (c) Who can convene a joint session of the Parliament ? Under what circumstances are the joint sessions held ?

(4)

- (d) Explain the main factors determining the sex-ratio in India.
 - (e) Give an idea about the pattern of investment in social and miscellaneous services in Indian Plans.
 - (f) Discuss the impact of the Cunningham circular on Assam.
 - (g) Discuss the Paik or the Khel System of Ahom administration. Can this system be considered as the foundation ground of the modern Panchayat System ?
 - (h) What is Time Zone ? What may be the benefits of having a separate time zone for Assam or the North-East ?
 - (i) Discuss the strength and weakness of the Food Security Act, 2013.
 - (j) What is 'Joint Forest' management ? Briefly highlight its efficacy in the context of Assam.
 - (k) What are the main functions of the INSAT Series of Satellites ?
 - (l) Explain the phenomenon of Ozone depletion, its causes and effects. Briefly mention some measures to check the Ozone depletion.
 - (m) Describe the composition and functions of the National Commission for women.
 - (n) What is NEC ? Highlight its role in the development of the North-East with suitable examples.
4. Write briefly about any twenty of the following : 3×20=60
- (a) Prospects of medical tourism in Assam.
 - (b) Carbon Cycle.
 - (c) Impact of Green House emission on environment.
 - (d) GSAT-14 launched by ISRO.
 - (e) Shifting Cultivation.
 - (f) Shillong Plateau.

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(Continued)

(5)

- (g) Cloning.
- (h) Ath Mangala.
- (i) Ankia-Bhaona.
- (j) Kirtan-Ghosa.
- (k) Rang Ghar and Kareng Ghar.
- (l) Gita-Gobinda.
- (m) Tehri Dam.
- (n) Crop rotation.
- (o) Judicial activism.
- (p) Handerson Brooks Report.
- (q) Bahadur Gaonburah and freedom movement.
- (r) Surrogate motherhood.
- (s) Paid news.
- (t) Prottem Speaker.
- (u) INS Sindhurakshak.
- (v) Nirmal Bharat Abhijan.
- (w) National Green Tribunal
- (x) BRICS Countries.
- (y) Foot loose industry.

5. Answer the following questions briefly:- $2 \times 20 = 40$

- (a) What is G.P.S. ? Mention its two functions.
- (b) What is Cadastral Map ?
- (c) What is the difference between Rabi Crops and Kharif Crops?
- (d) Who is the leader of the opposition in the present Lok Sabha ?
- (e) What is NOTA ?
- (f) What is Kitchen Cabinet ?

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(Turn Over)

(6)

(g) Name the authors of the following books:

(i) India Against Itself.

(ii) Hill Politics in North-East India.

(h) What is Vote on Account ?

(i) When was the Indian Independence Act passed ? Who passed the Act ?

(j) What do you mean by the recessionary pressure on inflation ?

(k) What is 'buffer stock' ?

(l) What is Eco-Tourism ?

(m) What are the four Vedas ?

(n) Name two active volcanoes in India.

(o) What is the significance of the 82.5 East Longitude for our country ?

(p) In which years Assamese language was withdrawn as the official language of the state and reinstated again. Name a few persons instrumental for its reinstatement.

(q) What is an elephant corridor ?

(r) What is proportional representation ?

(s) What is the basic difference between National Park and Wild Life Sanctuary ?

(t) What is rain-water harvesting ?
