

**GENERAL STUDIES****Time Allowed : Three Hours****Maximum Marks : 100****QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS**

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

There are **FOUR** questions and **all** are to be attempted.

Candidates should attempt questions/parts as per the instructions given in the questions.

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

Candidates are required to write clear, legible and concise answers and to adhere to word limits, wherever indicated. Failure to adhere to word limits may be penalized. The answers must be written within the space provided in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet.

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.

1. Answer *all* of the following (in not more than 200 words each) :

- (a) Discuss the reasons for the phenomenal growth of Buddhism in Ancient Period.
- (b) Analyze the socio-economic conditions during the Gupta Age.
- (c) Assess the administrative and the cultural achievements of the Chola Empire.
- (d) Review how far Aurangzeb was responsible for the disintegration of the Mughal Empire. Give reasons for your answer.
- (e) What were the differences between moderates and extremists in the Indian National Movement?

2. Answer *all* of the following (in not more than 200 words each) :

5×5=25

- (a) Enumerate the different stages of highway construction in India during the neo-liberal era.
- (b) "Earthquakes are by far the most unpredictable and highly destructive of all the natural disasters." Examine the statement with reference to seismological zones of India.
- (c) "Astronomical causes seem to be primarily responsible for climate change." Comment.
- (d) "Digital Agriculture Mission is an alternative for transformation in agriculture sector." Discuss.
- (e) Why are frequent fires in semiarid forests beneficial for maintaining community habitats? Explain it in the context of recent fires in California State of the United States.

3. Answer *all* of the following (in not more than 200 words each) :

5×5=25

- (a) Explain the benefits of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) undertaken by the Government of India.
- (b) Examine the impacts of USA's decision to enhance tariff on several Indian goods on the Indian economy.
- (c) Does non-conventional energy have the prospect for sustainable development in India? Explain your answer.
- (d) "MGNREGA is a successful welfare-oriented Act for the upliftment of rural people in India." Elucidate.
- (e) Why is concentration of industries very poor in North-Eastern part of India? What steps have been taken by the Government of India to address the issue?

4. Answer *all* of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25
- (a) "The Directive Principles of State Policy have primacy over the Fundamental Rights in the Constitution of India." Comment.
  - (b) "Federalism in India is the key to efficient administration and autonomy to the States." Critically examine the statement.
  - (c) "Financial committees of the Parliament of India ensure financial propriety of the government." Discuss.
  - (d) Examine the success and failures in the implementation of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act.
  - (e) Assess the role of BRICS to build an alternative credible financial institution to serve the present world economic order.

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