

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.

Q1. Answer all of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25

- (a) Why did the Harappan civilization degenerate and finally collapse ?
- (b) Why, of all the *janapadas*, did Magadha alone come into prominence and become the seat of a powerful monarchy ?
- (c) What was Akbar's attitude towards women ?
- (d) Do you agree that the formation of the Indian National Congress was in the air even if A.O. Hume had not taken any initiative ?
- (e) What is the significance of the Rowlatt Satyagraha of 1919 ?

Q2. Answer all of the following (in not more than 200 words each) :

- What are the severe weather events and climate extremes associated with El-Niño ?
- Which factors justify India's significant potential for solar energy ?
- Why is the distribution of industries in India highly uneven ? Explain with relevant examples.
- "Agriculture is an environment-dependent activity." Discuss.
- Examine the beneficial outcomes stemming from India's National River Linking Project.

Q3. Answer all of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25

- Do you think that realization of the benefits of the potential demographic dividend that India is expected to experience roughly after 2025, is automatic ? Give reasons in support of your answer.
- The major objective of our national planning is to reduce regional inequality and to ensure balanced growth. Why does India fail to achieve this goal ?
- What are the factors influencing the declining trend in female workforce participation in India ?
- What are the major objectives of Ayushman Bharat – National Health Protection Mission which was launched in September 2018 by the Government of India ?
- What are the emerging issues raised by some states in India in the context of fiscal federalism ? Express your view in this context.

Q4. Answer all of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25

- "Prime Minister is the nucleus of the Indian Political System." Discuss.
- Critically examine the idea of "One Nation, One Election" in India.
- Explain the discretionary powers of the President of India.
- Describe the constitutional provisions regarding the Finance Commission of India and explain its functions.
- Give justification for India's claim for permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council.