GENERAL STUDIES

Time Allowed : Three Hours   Maximum Marks : 100

INSTRUCTIONS

Candidates should attempt ALL questions, unless otherwise directed.

The number of marks carried by each question is indicated for the question.

Answers must be written only in ENGLISH.

1. Answer any TWO of the following in about 100 words each :—

   2×5=10

   (a) Discuss the rich corpus of India's soft power.

   (b) Discuss the Fundamental Duties of Indian citizens as enshrined in the Constitution of India.

   (c) Comment on the Advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India.

2. Write about any TWO of the following in about 100 words each :—

   2×5=10

   (a) Prehistoric cultures of India.

   (b) Sangam Literature.

   (c) Kautilya's views on taxation as enunciated in the 'Arthashastra'.

3. Answer any **TWO** of the following in about **100** words each :—
$2 \times 5 = 10$

   (a) What is the purpose of creating the National Optical Fibre Network, as recommended by the Telecom Commission ?

   (b) What is Carbon footprint ? Describe a few simple ways of reducing it.

   (c) How do biofertilizers help in maintaining the soil health ?

4. Answer any **TWO** of the following in about **100** words each :—
$2 \times 5 = 10$

   (a) Describe how the physiography of India affects its foreign trade.

   (b) Write about Swabhimaan Programme.

   (c) Explain the impact of JNNURM on environmental improvement of metropolitan cities.

5. Locate and comment on the following events in about **40** words each in the context of India's freedom struggle :—
$5 \times 2 = 10$

   (a) Full Swaraj Resolution of Indian National Congress.

   (b) The 'Communal Award'.

   (c) The Gandhi-Irwin Pact.

   (d) Mountbatten Plan.

   (e) The Moplah Rebellion.

(Contd.)

6. Write about the famous festivals/fairs held at the following places, in about **40** words each :—5×2=10

    (a) Sonepur

    (b) Hemis Gompa

    (c) Pushkar

    (d) Khajuraho

    (e) Thiruvaiyaru.

7. Write about the following in about **40** words each :—

    5×2=10

    (a) Biodiesel

    (b) Large Hadron Collider

    (c) Ultrasonography

    (d) Satellite transponder

    (e) GM crops.

8. Write about the following National Institutes in about **40** words each :—   5×2=10

    (a) Institute of Economic Growth (IEG).

    (b) National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (NISCAIR).

    (c) National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW).

    (d) V.V. Giri National Labour Institute.

    (e) National Institute of Oceanography.

9. Write about the following in about **40** words each :—

$5×2=10$

   (a) 'R' programming language.

   (b) Global Peace Index.

   (c) Security features available in our currency notes.

   (d) The reason for which Sargent and Sims have been awarded the 2011 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.

   (e) Reasons for Moody's downgrading of the financial strength rating of the State Bank of India (SBI) recently.

10. Why have the following been in the news recently ? Answer in not more than **one or two** sentences each :—

$10×1=10$

   (a) C. Rangarajan

   (b) Sebastian Vettel

   (c) Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao (C.R. Rao)

   (d) M.J. Varadkar and S. Ponvannan

   (e) Dr. M.K. Mani

   (f) Chandrasekhar Kambar

   (g) Saina Nehwal

   (h) Baby Nargis

   (i) Abdel-Rahim al-Keeb

   (j) Lobsang Sangay.