

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** the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25
- 1.(a) Discuss the significant advances made in the field of science of astronomy, mathematics and medicine during the Gupta period.
- 1.(b) Assess the cultural and artistic achievements of the Vijayanagar empire.
- 1.(c) Discuss the contribution of Sufis to Indian society and culture.
- 1.(d) Evaluate the role of Indian National Army (INA) in the freedom struggle of India.
- 1.(e) "Non-cooperation Movement and the Civil Disobedience Movement mark a strategic shift in the freedom struggle". Discuss.
2. Answer **all** of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25
- 2.(a) Why are the farmers of India still haunted by recurrence of drought and flood despite river valley planning ?
- 2.(b) How does conservation of biodiversity, especially in the humid tropics, assure sustenance of livelihood of the people below the poverty line ?
- 2.(c) Enumerate the factors responsible for high frequency and magnitude of landslide in the mountain ecosystem.
- 2.(d) Assess the prospect of food processing industry with suitable examples from India.
- 2.(e) What are the pros and cons of infrastructural development in the coastal zone ?
3. Answer **all** the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25
- 3.(a) What is Non-filers Monitoring System ? Explain how it can increase tax compliance.
- 3.(b) Explain the difference between subsidies, cash-in-lieu of subsidies and freebies. Discuss their rationality in eradicating poverty.
- 3.(c) Distinguish between Repo Rate and Reverse Repo Rate. Explain their relevance in the present context of inflation.
- 3.(d) What is Replacement Fertility Rate (RFR) ? Does a decline in RFR impact demographic dividend ?
- 3.(e) Explain the concept of venture capital. Discuss the reasons for venture capitalists favouring software start-ups compared to MSME start-ups.
4. Answer **all** of the following (in not more than 200 words each) : 5×5=25
- 4.(a) "The Preamble is the key to the whole constitution". Comment.
- 4.(b) Analyse the powers of the Governor and the causes for their frequent friction with states.
- 4.(c) Illustrate the challenges and concerns of Parliamentary democracy.
- 4.(d) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of Collegium System in India.
- 4.(e) Critically examine the recent power shift in Pakistan.