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.

All parts/sub-parts of a question being attempted must be completed before moving on to the next question.

1. Answer any **four** of the following in about 250 words each : 10×4=40

    (a) Write a note on the history of census operations in pre-independent India.

    (b) Compare and contrast the 'capability approach' (of Amartya Sen) with the 'capabilities approach' (of Martha Nussbaum) towards well-being and development.

    (c) Critically comment on the extent, scope, and implications of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in India.

(d) Comment on the salient features of the Global Hunger Index (GHI) report of 2012 with special reference to India.

(e) Examine the sources and scope for the use of renewable energy in India.

2. Answer any **six** of the following in about 100 words each : 5×6=30

(a) Evaluate the role of bio-diversity parks in the conservation of wildlife.

(b) Comment on the features of the proposed National Investment Board (NIB) in the country.

(c) What are the features of the new visa regime between India and Pakistan signed recently ?

(d) Bring out the significance of the Right to Constitutional Remedies as guaranteed in the Constitution.

(e) What are the functions mandated to be performed by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) ?

(f) Comment on the recent milestones and the proposed initiatives of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

(g) What were the salient features of the Government of India Act of 1935 ?

3. Answer any **six** of the following in less than 50 words each : 3×6=18

(a) In the context of motions moved in Parliament, what is a 'cut motion' and what are its types ?

(b) What do you understand by the term 'counter-urbanisation' in the Indian context ?

(c) Bring out the concept and salient highlights of Forensic Auditing (FA).

(d) What are Support Vector Machines (SVMs) and what are their important applications ?

(e) What is the significance of qubits in computing ? Mention any recent significant advances in this area.

(f) Comment on the work for which Alvin Roth and Lloyd Shapley have won the 2012 Nobel Prize in Economics.

(g) Comment on the applications of the linkages of Global Positioning System (GPS) technology with Geographical Information Systems (GISs).

4. Why have the following been in the news recently ? Answer in not more than a sentence or two each : 1×12=12

(a) William 'Bill' Moggridge

(b) Raghuram Rajan

(c) Lance Armstrong

(d) Bo Xilai

(e) Michelle Catherina

(f) Hugo Chavez

(g) Michael Phelps

(h) Agnello Dias and Santosh Padhi

(i) Girish Kulkarni

(j) Jeet Thayil

(k) Kapila Vatsyayan

(l) Irom Sharmila Chanu