

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM**

**Examination for Recruitment under MGNREGA**

*Additional Programme Officer*

**PAPER – I**

**Section A: ENGLISH SUBJECT**

*Time Allowed: 90 minutes*

*Maximum Marks: 50*

**Question Papers Specific Instructions**

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

*All the Questions are to be attempted.*

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

*Answers must be written in **English** only.*

*Word limit of the answers, if specified, should be adhered to.*

*You must not disclose your identity in any of your answers.*

*Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Answer booklet must be clearly struck off.*

**Q 1. Write an essay in about 120-150 words on any one of the following topics: 15**

- i) Non-Conventional Sources of Energy for sustaining the World
- ii) Nature Nurtures when Nurtured
- iii) Youth and Development
- iv) Social Media- Boon or a Bane

**Q 2. Write an application for availing leave for a period of 3 days addressed to the Programme Officer. 5**

**Q 3. Write a précis of the following passage in about one-third of its length. Do not give title to it. The précis should be written in your own words: 10**

The Earth is a home for a rich and diverse array of living organisms, whose genetic diversity and relationship with each other, constitute the planet's biodiversity. One-fourth of the Earth's total biological diversity is in a serious risk of existence and if we ignore the biodiversity crisis, we would lose these species in the near future.

Conservation of biodiversity is concerned with the protection of genes and species and their number in population, ecosystems or habitats. It is important to conserve numerous

varieties of plants and animals. Each variety within a species contains unique genes. The diversity of genes within a species increases its adaptability to pollution, diseases, stresses and other environmental changes. When varieties of plants and animals are destroyed the genetic diversity within the species is diminished. Biodiversity conservation refers to the efforts to maintain or enhance biodiversity involving protection, upliftment and scientific management at its optimum level in order to derive sustainable benefits for the present as well as for the future. Biodiversity conservation study is aimed at knowing how human activities affect the diversity of plants and animals and developing ways to protect it. Thus conservation of biodiversity, the Earth's biological heritage, is one of today's most pressing environmental issues. The challenges lies before individuals, organisations and government agencies for nation and the world as a whole to protect and enhance biological diversity, while continuing to meet people's need for natural resources. If these goals are not met, the future generations will live in a biologically impoverished world.

There are two approaches of biodiversity conservation namely *in situ* (on site) conservation, which tries to protect the species where they are, i.e., in their natural habitats and *ex situ* (off site) conservation, which attempts to protect and preserve a species in a place away from its natural habitat. (301 words)

**Q 4. Read the passage carefully and choose the correct answer based on the passage.**

*1x5=5*

Political education has many connotations. It may be defined as the preparation of a citizen to take well informed, responsible and sustained action for participation in the national struggle in order to achieve the socio-economic objectives of the country. The predominant socio- economic objectives in India are the abolition of poverty and the creation of a modern democratic, secular and socialist society in place of the present traditional, feudal, hierarchical and in egalitarian one.

Under the colonial rule, the Congress leaders argued that political education was an important part of education and refused to accept the official view that education and politics should not be mixed with one another. But when they came to power in 1947 they almost adopted the British policy and began to talk of education being **defiled** by politics. 'Hands off education' was the call to political parties. But in spite of it, political infiltration into the educational system has greatly increased in the sense that different political parties vie with each other to capture the mind of teachers and students. The wise academicians wanted political support, without political interference. What we have actually received is infinite political interference with little genuine political support. This interference with the educational system by political parties for their own ulterior motives is no political education at all and with the all round growth of elitism, it is hardly a matter for surprise that real political education within the school system (which really means the creation of a commitment to social transformation) has been even weaker than in the pre-independence period.

During that time only, the struggle for freedom came to an end and the major non- formal agency of political education disappeared. The press played a major role by providing

some political education. But it did not utilize the opportunity to the full and the strangle hold of vested interests continued to dominate it. The same can be said of political parties as well as of other institutions and agencies outside the school system which can be expected to provide political education. After analyzing all these things, it appears that we have made no progress in genuine political education in the post-education period and have even slid back in some respects. For instance, the education system has become even more elite-oriented. Patriotism has become the first casualty. The father of the nation gave us the courage to oppose government when it was wrong, in a disciplined fashion and on basic principles. Today, we have even lost the courage to fight on basic issues in a disciplined manner because agitational and anarchic politics for individual, group or party aggrandizement has become common. In the recent times the education system continues to support domination of the privileged groups and domestication of the under-privileged ones. The situation will not change unless we take vigorous steps to provide genuine political education on an adequate scale. This is one of the major educational reforms we need, and if it is not carried out, mere linear expansion of the existing system of formal education will only support the status quo and hamper radical social transformation.

- i) **Which word is nearly opposite in meaning as “defile” as used in the passage?**
- A. Disparage
  - B. forgery
  - C. degenerate
  - D. sanctify
- ii) **According to the passage, what should be the main purpose of political education?**
- A. To champion the cause of elitism
  - B. To bring qualitative change in the entire education system
  - C. To create an egalitarian society
  - D. To prepare the young generation with high intellectual acumen.
- iii) **How has politics been related to educational institutions after independence?**
- A. Although they got political support but there was no interference of politics.
  - B. It is clear that they got almost no political support as well as political interference.
  - C. They got political support at the cost of political interference.
  - D. There was substantial interference without political support.
- iv) **Based on the passage, which is the major drawback of the present education system?**
- A. The education system mainly represents the oppressed sections of the society.
  - B. The present education system promotes the domination of the privileged few.
  - C. It is based on the British model of education.
  - D. It is highly hierarchical and egalitarian in nature.

v) Which is the most opposite in meaning to the word 'hamper' as used in the passage?

- A. Accelerate
- B. envision
- C. foster
- D. initiate

**Q.5. Rewrite the following sentences as directed, without changing the meaning:**

*1x5=5*

- i) I have made this painting. (*Change to passive voice*)
- ii) He is a portrait painter. He is very popular among people. (*Combine using 'and'*)
- iii) The teacher said, "Something is better than nothing" (*Change into indirect speech*)
- iv) My friend does not drink. He does not smoke. (*Combine using 'neither – nor'*)
- v) He ran very fast. He did not want to miss the last train. (*Combine using 'so as'*)

**Q 6. Fill in the blanks with correct preposition:**

*1x5=5*

- i) Do not shout \_\_\_\_ each other.
- ii) Do not play \_\_\_\_ firecrackers.
- iii) Do not go out \_\_\_\_ the rain.
- iv) He presided \_\_\_\_ the meeting.
- v) The police made inquiries \_\_\_\_ the reason for the incident.

**Q 7. Use the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets as per the instructions given at the end of the question:**

*1x5=5*

- i) The minister's entourage \_\_\_\_\_ (start) from hi residence. (*Simple present tense*)
- ii) The escort vehicle \_\_\_\_\_ (follow) the minister's car. (*Simple present tense*)
- iii) These days I \_\_\_\_\_ (take) guitar classes. (*present continuous tense*)
- iv) Tomorrow they \_\_\_\_\_ (hold) a meeting. (*Future continuous tense*)
- v) The taxi \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) by the time we go downstairs. (*future perfect tense*)

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