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UPSC IFS (M)

Previous Year Paper

(GK)

24 Nov, 2024 Shift 2



GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Time Allowed : Three Hours

Maximum Marks : 300

QUESTION PAPER 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.

Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

Word limit in questions should be adhered to.

Answers must be written in ENGLISH only.

1. (a) Critically evaluate the contributions of Samudragupta as a statesman and an administrator. (Answer in 200 words) 15
- (b) Bring out the similarity between the teachings of Buddha and Mahavira. (Answer in 200 words) 15
- (c) To what extent can the decline of the Mughal empire be attributed to the rise of Maratha power? Explain. (Answer in 125 words) 10
- (d) How did the social and religious movements provide a fillip in the social reforms of modern India? (Answer in 125 words) 10
2. (a) Why does India have low female employment ratio? What steps could be taken to boost the participation of women in the workforce? (Answer in 200 words) 15
- (b) "Manufacturing is the engine of economic growth." Examine the statement. Why has India not been successful in its efforts to boost manufacturing? What policies would you recommend to increase its share in the economy? (Answer in 200 words) 15
- (c) "The shift towards protectionism will adversely affect the economic growth of the emerging economies." Critically examine the statement. (Answer in 125 words) 10
- (d) How does excess liquidity in the economy lead to general inflation? Which policy, monetary or fiscal, is more effective to control it? (Answer in 125 words) 10
3. (a) With reference to Parts III and IV of the Indian Constitution, elaborate how the Indian Constitution aims to foster social revolution. (Answer in 200 words) 15
- (b) "Democracy and rights have been the two values around which the debates on the basic structure doctrine have been framed and performed." Justify your answer with relevant judgements of the Supreme Court. (Answer in 200 words) 15
- (c) "There is no scope for any agencies in India of direct control by the people such as referendum." In the light of this statement, evaluate Indian democracy as a representative form of government. (Answer in 125 words) 10
- (d) Discuss how the State Election Commission serves the channel of political expression at local level. Examine how it reconciles people's basic desire and regional democratic needs. (Answer in 125 words) 10

4. (a) "The abrupt arrival of monsoon is of great climatic as well as socio-economic significance to the people of sub-continent of India." Explain.
(Answer in 200 words) 15
- (b) Explain the causes of changing urban environment and how it is different from surrounding non-urban areas.
(Answer in 200 words) 15
- (c) How does eco-tourism encourage the ecological and social consciousness of individuals and enhance the cultural integrity of the people of India?
(Answer in 125 words) 10
- (d) Describe the distribution of chromite in India and discuss its socio-economic significance as a valuable mineral resource.
(Answer in 125 words) 10
5. (a) What is the composition of biogas? Discuss the various efforts made by the Government of India to promote biogas technology.
(Answer in 200 words) 15
- (b) In what way is recombinant DNA technology beneficial for human healthcare and pharmaceuticals?
(Answer in 200 words) 15
- (c) What is vermicomposting? Discuss its importance for sustainable agriculture and farming.
(Answer in 125 words) 10
- (d) The intensity of rain is escalating in India. Identify the causes and consequences of this phenomenon.
(Answer in 125 words) 10
6. (a) What is Prime Minister (PM) Surya Ghar Yojana? Outline its main features. What are the merits and demerits of the rooftop solar panels?
(Answer in 200 words) 15
- (b) What is the working principle of Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) and its advanced version Light-Emitting Diode (LED) televisions (TVs)? Discuss their functioning in brief. What is the main difference between LCD and LED TVs?
(Answer in 200 words) 15
- (c) Explain the basic principle(s) of Lie Detector Test. Comment on the various factors affecting its results.
(Answer in 125 words) 10
- (d) Discuss the merits and demerits of electric vehicles and their future prospects.
(Answer in 125 words) 10

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