

**POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT (PGDESD)**

Term-End Examination

December, 2015

00724

MED-001 : UNDERSTANDING THE ENVIRONMENT

Time : 2 hours

Maximum Marks : 50

Note : *All questions are compulsory.*

1. Distinguish between any **five** of the following : $5 \times 2 = 10$
 - (a) Acute and Chronic effects of air pollutants
 - (b) Gaseous and Sedimentary cycles
 - (c) Ecosystem resistance and Ecosystem resilience
 - (d) Barrier reef and Fringe reef
 - (e) Chemosynthesis and Photosynthesis
 - (f) Troposphere and Stratosphere
 - (g) Biological and Industrial nitrogen fixation

2. What is an estuary ? Describe the salient features of an estuary. Highlight the important adaptations of the estuarine organisms. $2+4+4=10$

3. Answer any **two** of the following questions :

- (a) Describe the different types of symbiosis you have studied with examples. 5
- (b) What do you understand by exponential growth ? Describe J and S shaped curves of population growth. $2+3=5$
- (c) What is food chain ? Describe the characteristics of grazing and detritus food chains giving suitable examples. $1+3+1=5$

4. Answer any **two** of the following questions :

- (a) What are tropical rain forests ? Describe their distinguishing features. $2+3=5$
- (b) Describe the main features of littoral zone. 5
- (c) List the significant air pollutants. Explain why ozone is considered both a protector and a problem for humans. 5

5. Give a detailed account of global water cycle. Draw a simplified diagram of hydrological cycle. 10

OR

- (a) What is eutrophication ? Discuss its causes and consequences. 5
 - (b) What steps would you take to reduce environmental pollution ? 5
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