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MED-001

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (PGDESD)

Term-End Examination

01772

June, 2017

MED-001 : UNDERSTANDING THE ENVIRONMENT

Time : 2 hours *Maximum Marks : 50*

Note : *Attempt any **five** questions. All questions carry equal marks.*

1. Answer any ***five*** of the following : *5×2=10*

(a) List the different strata of the atmosphere.

(b) Expand any ***two*** of the following abbreviations :

(i) NRCP

(ii) DU

(iii) DDT

(iv) PAN

(c) Discuss the consequences of human activities on tropical rainforests.

(d) Name the main areas of geological time scale. Which one is the most recent ?

(e) What is biological nitrogen fixation ? Name any two organisms that are involved in this process.

(f) Discuss the ways in which organic matter is beneficial to the soil.

2. Write short notes on any ***two*** of the following : *2×5=10*

(a) El Niño Phenomenon

(b) Residence Time of Nutrients

(c) Global Warming

(d) Primary Productivity

3. Explain the concept of environmental conservation. How can it be achieved ? What are the requirements of eco-restoration of degraded land ? *2+2+6=10*

OR

Describe the basic adaptations of organisms living in the benthic zone of the ocean. *10*

4. What are the common features of deserts ? Discuss the basic survival strategies which plants and animals adopt to survive in warm deserts. *2+4+4=10*

OR

(a) Describe the main events of hydrological cycle. Discuss the imminent threats to this cycle due to human intervention. *3+2=5*

(b) Discuss the relationship between the complexity of food webs and stability of the ecosystem. *5*

5. Explain with the help of suitable examples, how species interactions shape a community. *10*

OR

Distinguish between interspecific and intraspecific interactions between species. Discuss with examples the categories of interspecific interactions. *1+3+3+3=10*

6. What are estuaries ? Name the most common type of estuary. Present a comprehensive account of abiotic characteristics of estuaries. Mention estuarine vegetation. *2+1+3+4=10*