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MED-001

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

Term-End Examination

June, 2021

MED-001 : UNDERSTANDING THE ENVIRONMENT

Time : 2 Hours

Maximum Marks : 50

Note : *All questions are compulsory.*

1. Answer any **five** of the following : 2 each
 - (a) What are classic rocks ? Give *one* example.
 - (b) Explain El-Nino Phenomena in two sentences.
 - (c) Elaborate the statement, "Viruses are neither living nor non-living" in two sentences.
 - (d) State *two* imminent threats to hydrological cycle in nature due to human activities.

- (e) Draw a simple diagram showing trophic levels in an ecosystem.
- (f) List the *three* eras of geological time scale. Which one of these is most primitive ?

2. Attempt any **two** of the following : 5 each

- (a) Make a list of characteristics of a population. Describe any *one* characteristic in details.
- (b) List the physical and chemical conditions of deep sea. Describe either the swallowing mechanisms or bioluminescence used as adaptations by organisms living in the deep sea.
- (c) Write the measures which can be adopted at individual and community levels for eco-restoration of degraded land.

3. (a) Prepare a note on the impact of industrialized societies on environment at local, regional and global levels. 5

- (b) What is pollution ? Describe major sources of air pollution. 1+ 4

P. T. O.

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Or

Define and explain what are biomes. Mention the characteristics of tropical rain forests. 3+7

4. Make a list of reservoirs of phosphorus in nature. Describe phosphorus cycling process through the biosphere. Support your description with well labelled diagram. Explain how phosphorus becomes a pollutant.

$$2+2\frac{1}{2}+2\frac{1}{2}+3=10$$

Or

- (a) Explain Mangrove forests. How are mangroves adapted for survival (i) in saline and poorly aerated soils and (ii) at water edge ? 2+3

- (b) Why should humans be concerned about the environment ? State the three viewpoints regarding environmental concerns and discuss any *one* of these views. 2+3

P. T. O.

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5. How are different types of Estuaries formed ? Highlight the important biotic characteristics of Estuaries. 4, 6

Or

Distinguish between the following pairs of terms : $2\frac{1}{2}$ each

- (a) Bioaccumulation and biomagnification
(b) Biological and industrial nitrogen fixation
(c) Gross primary productivity and net primary productivity
(d) Ecosystem resistance and ecosystem resilience

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