

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

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2011**

**MED-001 : UNDERSTANDING THE  
ENVIRONMENT**

*Time : 2 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 50*

**Note :** *Question no. 1 compulsory. Answer any four questions  
from Q. nos 2 to 6.*

**1. Answer any five of the following : 5x2=10**

- (a) Explain the difference between external and internal environment of a fish in a pond.
- (b) Briefly describe different types of rocks.
- (c) Differentiate food chain from food web.
- (d) Explain ecosystem resilience and ecosystem resistance.
- (e) List two adaptations each of plants and animals towards extreme water scarcity conditions of deserts.
- (f) Indicate the origin and role of aerosols in the atmosphere.
- (g) What parameters of soil are influenced by its structure ?

2. (a) Give an account of greenhouse effect enlisting the major gases contributing to this effect. State the human activities which contribute to the increase of greenhouse effect on Earth. 3+2=5
- (b) Define the following : 5x1=5
- (i) Homeostasis
  - (ii) Coriolis effect
  - (iii) Ecological efficiency
  - (iv) Carrying capacity
  - (v) Symbiosis

**OR**

What are biomes ? Discuss the role of evolution in shaping the biomes. 2+3=5

3. Answer **any two** of the following :
- (a) With the help of a suitable diagram explain the zonation pattern as seen in most rocky shores and correlate it with the prevailing factors. 5
  - (b) What do you understand by intra - specific community interactions ? 5
  - (c) Give a detailed account of the effects of water pollution on the environment and human health. 5

4. (a) Discuss the influence of population growth on resource use. 5
- (b) Write an account on conservation and management of energy resources. 5

**OR**

Make a labelled diagram of global carbon cycle. Mark in it the areas that have got disturbed due to various causes. **4+1=5**

5. (a) Describe the process of succession. Why are pioneer species important in the process ? 5
- (b) What are persistent organic pollutants (POPs) ? List any four POPs indicating their uses and their status in India. 5
6. Describe in about 500 words the different climatic zones of the world highlighting their main features. 10