Sl. No.

## **GENERAL STUDIES**

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 100

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

There are FOUR questions and all are to be attempted.

Candidates should attempt questions/parts as per the instructions given in the questions.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Candidates are required to write clear, legible and concise answers and to adhere to word limits wherever indicated. Failure to adhere to word limits may be penalized.

All parts and sub-parts of a question are to be attempted together in the answer-book.

Answers must be written in ENGLISH only.

- 1. Answer *all* of the following (in not more than 200 words each):  $5 \times 5 = 25$ 
  - (a) Do you agree with the view that the reversal of Akbar's Rajput policy by Aurangzeb was responsible for the disintegration of the Mughal empire? Discuss.
  - (b) List out the contributions of Raja Ram Mohun Roy in social reforms in India. Discuss four major issues plaguing the country where we further need social reforms.
  - (c) Discuss the impact of industrial revolution in India.
  - (d) Discuss the role played by Indian Army (soldiers) in World War I and II.
  - (e) Discuss the background leading to the rise of LTTE.
- **2.** Answer *all* of the following (in not more than 200 words each):  $5 \times 5 = 25$ 
  - (a) Even though hydroelectric power potential is high in North-East India, it is not fully tapped. Why?
  - (b) What is the importance of Aksai Chin?

- (c) What are the main recommendations of the Kasthuri Rangan Report on Western Ghats?
- (d) Explain as to how organic farming helps conservation of environment.
- (e) What is the pacific ring of fire? Discuss its geographical significance.
- 3. Answer *all* of the following (in not more than 200 words each):  $5 \times 5 = 25$ 
  - (a) Discuss the various reasons for the fall in oil prices in international market.
  - (b) Critically analyze the need of high-speed (Bullet) trains in India.
  - (c) Government has launched the Soil Health Card scheme recently. Discuss the reasons for which the scheme has been envisaged. What are the challenges expected in success of the scheme?
  - (d) Is glass ceiling a deterrent to women empowerment in India? Discuss.
  - (e) Critically compare nuclear energy with the nonconventional energy sourcing.

- **4.** Answer *all* of the following (in not more than 200 words each):  $5 \times 5 = 25$ 
  - (a) The 42nd Amendment to the Constitution of India added the words 'secular' and 'socialist' to the Preamble of the Constitution in 1976. What prompted this Amendment? What relevance do they have today? Discuss.
  - (b) What do you understand by Judicial Activism? Why is it considered as a deterrent to executive authority?
  - (c) Evaluate critically the role of University Grants Commission in the development and financing of higher education in India.
  - (d) Discuss the basis laid down by Election Commission of India for recognizing a political party as National and State party.
  - (e) What are the differences in the roles of Attorney General of India and Solicitor General of India?