

(A)

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
(JOINT RECRUITMENT CELL)

EXAMINATION FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF LEGISLATIVE/ COMMITTEE/ PROTOCOL/ EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT IN
LOK SABHA AND RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIATS

21st May, 2006

PAPER- I : GENERAL KNOWLEDGE & CURRENT AFFAIRS AND GENERAL ENGLISH

INSTRUCTIONS : (i) Write your Roll No(s) at the appropriate column(s) on the answer sheet. (ii) Mark the correct answer by fully darkening/blackening the circle. (iii) Use blue or black pen only to darken the circles. (iv) The answer once marked in pen cannot be changed.

Time : 50 Minutes

Marks : 100

Part -A GENERAL KNOWLEDGE & CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. The Supreme Court recently prevented the construction of highway in which tiger reserve:
(A) Corbett (B) Kanha (C) Sanjay Gandhi National Park (D) None of these
2. Olympics 2012 will be held in (A) Paris (B) Beijing (C) London (D) Berlin
3. Twenty 20 is a new experiment in which game
(A) Cricket (B) Football (C) Hockey (D) Rugby
4. The new Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF in India is
(A) Ashwarya Rai (B) Sushmita Sen (C) Sharmila Tagore (D) Hema Malini
5. The first woman Air Force flying officer to be court-marshalled recently is
(A) Shikha Swaroop (B) Anjali Gupta (C) Arti Sinha (D) Sania Mirza
6. The person who has been named as the richest Indian by Forbes Asia's Second Annual list is
(A) Azim Premji (B) Lakshmi Mittal (C) Anil Ambani (D) Ratan Tata
7. Name the person who broke the world record for the highest flight in a hot air balloon recently
(A) Vishwa Bandhu Gupta (B) Vijay Malaya (C) Vijaypat Singhania (D) Andrew Stimpson
8. Name the Samajwadi Party M.P. who was removed from Rajya Sabha in the wake of Office of Profit controversy
(A) Jaya Prada (B) Jaya Bacchan (C) Amar Singh (D) Ram Gopal Verma
9. Which hospital group has recently collaborated with John Hopkins Medicine International?
(A) Escorts (B) Ranbaxy (C) Apollo (D) Fortis
10. Speaker of Nepalese Parliament is
(A) Chitralakha Yadav (B) G.P. Koirala (C) Jhala Nath Khanal (D) Shekhar Koirala
11. The Lok Sabha can be dissolved before the expiry of its normal five year term by
(A) The Prime Minister (B) The President on the recommendation of the Prime Minister
(C) The Speaker of Lok Sabha (D) Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
12. In which year India became a Republic? (A) 1942 (B) 1947 (C) 1950 (D) 1952
13. Who was the first Lady President of Indian National Congress?
(A) Annie Besant (B) Kamla Nehru (C) Kasturba Gandhi (D) Indira Gandhi
14. Who wrote "Panch Tantra"? (A) Vishnu Sharma (B) Bhav Bhuti (C) Tulsidas (D) Keshavdas
15. The National Song of India was written by (A) Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore (B) Sarat Chandra Chatterjee
(C) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee (D) Sarojini Naidu
16. Deficiency of what causes Goitre (A) Iodine (B) Chlorine (C) Iron (D) Calcium
17. Which planet takes 30 years to make one revolution around the sun?
(A) Venus (B) Saturn (C) Neptune (D) Jupiter
18. What is the ancient name of Assam? (A) Togali (B) Sutanati (C) Tamra (D) Kamroop
19. Which one is the secondary memory of Computer?
(A) RAM (B) Floppy (C) ROM (D) Registers
20. Jnanpith award is given in the field of
(A) Literature (B) Sports (C) Science (D) Music
21. Who wrote 'War and Peace'? (A) Leo Tolstoy (B) Lewis Carroll (C) John Dean (D) F.M. Foster
22. Which state of India produces maximum coffee?
(A) Kerala (B) Tamil Nadu (C) Karnataka (D) Andhra Pradesh
23. Which vitamin is good for eyes? (A) Vit A (B) Vit C (C) Vit D (D) Vit K
24. Who founded Brahma Samaj?
(A) Vivekanand (B) Raja Ram Mohan Rai (C) Gandhi ji (D) G.K. Gokhle

25. Bismillah Khan is associated with (A) Tabla (B) Shehnai (C) Flute (D) Sarod
26. Which instrument measures Blood Pressure?
(A) Hydrometer (B) Barometer (C) Sphygmo Mano Meter (D) Thermometer
27. The disease caused due to the lack of vitamin 'D' in the diet is
(A) Scurvy (B) Diabetes (C) Night blindness (D) Rickets
28. Which is used as a magnifying glass?
(A) Plane mirror (B) Concave mirror (C) Diverging lens (D) Converging lens
29. A ship floats on water. This can be explained by
(A) Boyle's law (B) Newton's Law on motion (C) Archimedes Principle (D) Raman effect
30. The 'Man of the Series', in the recently concluded Indo-UK, ODI played in India was
(A) M.S. Dhoni (B) Rahul Dravid (C) Gautam Gambir (D) Yuvraj Singh
31. Sarnath's Lion Capital is attributed to
(A) Kanishka (B) Harshavardhan (C) Ashoka (D) Chandragupta
32. The Arab conquest of Sind took place in (A) 712 AD (B) 780 AD (C) 1001 AD (D) 1050 AD
33. Choose the correct pair (A) Ellora caves - Saka (B) Mahabalipuram - Rashtrakutas
(C) Meenakshi temple - Pallavas (D) Khajuraho - Chandellas
34. The first Indian to be elected to the British Parliament was
(A) Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak (B) Dadabhai Naoroji (C) Gopal Krishna Gokhale (D) Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya
35. Who moved the Objectives Resolution of the Constitution in the Constituent Assembly of India?
(A) Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru (B) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (C) Dr. Rajendra Prasad (D) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
36. What was the exact constitutional status of the Indian Republic on 26th January, 1950?
(A) A Democratic Republic (B) A Sovereign Democratic Republic (C) A Sovereign Secular Democratic Republic
(D) A Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic
37. Which of the following Articles of the Constitution cannot be suspended in any proclamation of emergency?
(A) Articles 15, 16 (B) Articles 18, 19 (C) Articles 20, 21 (D) Articles 15, 18
38. The Chairman of the Rajya Sabha (A) is elected by the Members of Rajya Sabha (B) is elected by the Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha (C) is elected by the members of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies (D) is nominated by the President
39. Who presides over the joint sittings of Parliament? (A) President (B) Vice-President
(C) Speaker, Lok Sabha (D) Speaker, Lok Sabha and Chairman, Rajya Sabha by rotation
40. The Plan Holiday refers to the period (A) 1965-68 (B) 1966-69 (C) 1967-70 (D) 1978-80
41. Who is the ex-officio Chairman of the Planning Commission
(A) Planning Minister (B) Finance Minister (C) Prime Minister (D) Governor of RBI
42. What is the equity cap, at present, on the Foreign Direct Investment in the Insurance Sector?
(A) 26% (B) 49% (C) 51% (D) 76%
43. The height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam is now proposed to be increased to
(A) 110.64 m (B) 121.92 m (C) 131.68 m (D) 138.68 m
44. Under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, how many days of employment in a financial year is guaranteed to every household?
(A) Not more than 100 days (B) Not less than 100 days (C) Not more than 110 days (D) Not less than 110 days
45. The book 'Argumentative Indian' has been written by
(A) Vikram Seth (B) Arundhati Roy (C) Amartya Sen (D) V.S. Naipaul
46. The World Economic Forum meeting in 2006 was held at
(A) Doha (B) Hong Kong (C) Davos (D) Washington
47. The World Trade Organisation is the successor of (A) UNCTAD (B) UNIDO (C) OECD (D) GATT
48. Justice Kuldip Singh (Retd.) is the Chairman of
(A) National Knowledge Commission (B) Law Commission (C) Delimitation Commission (D) Information Commission
49. 'Jarawas', an aborigine group of Tribes is found in
(A) Jharkhand (B) Andaman & Nicobar Island (C) Chhatisgarh (D) Orissa
50. 'Applying thought' is the byline of which company?
(A) Wipro (B) Satyam Computers (C) TCS (D) Infosys Technologies

Part - B GENERAL ENGLISH

I. Select the word or phrase which is closest to the opposite in meaning of the underlined word or phrase.

51. Politicians today are robbing the nation of its wealth.
(A) Strengthening (B) Protecting (C) Helping (D) Enriching
52. For the first time I saw him speaking so rudely to Ram.
(A) Softly (B) Gently (C) Politely (D) Slowly
53. I cannot bear with that niggard fellow any more.
(A) Miserly (B) Generous (C) Extravagant (D) Avaricious
54. Rachna did not heed the disdain she had to bear at the hands of her step-mother.
(A) Penitence (B) Humility (C) Love (D) Admiration
55. Joys and sorrows are ephemeral aspects of life.
(A) Stable (B) Permanent (C) Spiritual (D) Ethical

II. Choose the more appropriate meaning of the following words.

56. Frugal (A) Spartan (B) Lavish (C) Ostentatious (D) Glutton
57. Incarnation (A) Devil (B) Embodiment (C) Crowning ceremony of a King (D) A flower
58. Indispensable (A) Not essential (B) Essential thing or condition (C) A kind of Syringe (D) Disposable commodity
59. Ambivalent (A) Conflicting views (B) Courageous (C) Extraordinary (D) Dubious
60. Alienation (A) Integration (B) Sense of being an outsider (C) Jubilation (D) Exaltation

III. Choose the correct preposition.

61. There is nothing new _____ the plot of the story.
(A) for (B) in (C) about (D) with
62. No new pugmarks of the tiger have been seen _____ last Saturday.
(A) since (B) from (C) upon (D) through
63. The robber stabbed him as he had no money _____ him.
(A) with (B) on (C) in (D) upon
64. To support his argument, the Advocate quoted _____ the judgement.
(A) from (B) by (C) with (D) of
65. He lives _____ New Delhi _____ 12 Janpath.
(A) at, in (B) in, at (C) at, on (D) in, on

IV. In each of the following questions, choose the one alternative which best expresses the meaning of the given idioms/phrases.

66. To get into a scrape
(A) To get into a muddle (B) To find oneself in a awkward predicament (C) To get into irritating circumstances
(D) To be trapped in conspiracy
67. A red letter day
(A) An important day (B) An auspicious day (C) A dangerous day (D) An unimportant day
68. To be in abeyance
(A) To be in trouble (B) Dual minded (C) In a fighting mood (D) In suspense
69. Hobson's choice
(A) Feeling of insecurity (B) Accept or leave the offer (C) Feeling of strength (D) Excellent choice
70. To split hairs
(A) To side track the issue (B) To quarrel over trifles (C) To make small and over fine distinctions
(D) To find fault with others

V. Which part of the following sentences contains an error? If there is no error, mark the option D.

71. (A) These display (B) the (C) remarkable variety. (D) No error
72. (A) Even now when I see the spot (B) I am reminded of an unique incident
(C) that took place several years ago. (D) No error
73. (A) You are fairly well (B) in your examination (C) but your sister did rather badly. (D) No error
74. (A) He says (B) that he has a laptop (C) beside a computer. (D) No error
75. (A) Hardly had I reached Paharganj (B) where I learnt (C) about the powerful bomb explosion. (D) No error
76. (A) The teacher (B) together with his (C) wife and daughter (D) were drowned.
77. (A) She counted the books (B) to make sure that (C) none of them (D) were missing.
78. (A) The invigilator asked him (B) that why he had (C) not brought (D) his call letter.
79. (A) There is no doubt (B) that pacific is (C) the largest of all other oceans (D) in the world.
80. (A) With each academic year (B) the number of applicants (C) are increasing (D) in all colleges.

VI. Choose the appropriate word/phrase to complete the sentence.

81. Because of the heavy rain the match was _____.
(A) Broken off (B) Fallen off (C) Called off (D) Set aside
82. The trouble maker Dadasaheb was relegated _____ the background and he eventually retired from State politics.
(A) to (B) against (C) into (D) for
83. The book did not go into blow- _____ - blow account of the battle itself.
(A) into (B) to (C) by (D) for
84. There was nothing he could do _____ wait.
(A) than (B) except (C) to (D) accept
85. _____ adequate pre-emptive action to avert the tragedy.
(A) Would you not be taking (B) Would you have not taken (C) Shall you not have taken (D) Should you not have taken

VII. In each of the following questions out of the alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given word/sentence.

86. Deriving pleasure from inflicting pain on others.
(A) Sadism (B) Malevolence (C) Bigotry (D) Masochism
87. To bring peace and end violence.
(A) Soothe (B) Harmonise (C) Pacify (D) Tranquillize
88. A funny imitation of a poem
(A) Counterfeit (B) Sonnet (C) Caricature (D) Parody
89. Decision made upon a political question by the votes of all the qualified persons
(A) Veto (B) Suffrage (C) Plebiscite (D) Franchise
90. A general pardon of political offenders
(A) Parole (B) Forgiveness (C) Clemency (D) Amnesty

VIII. Choose the correctly spelt alternative :

91. (A) Facist (B) Fasist (C) Fasict (D) Fascist
92. (A) Indegenus (B) Indigenius (C) Indigenous (D) Indegenous
93. (A) Brethrun (B) Bretheren (C) Bratherun (D) Brethren
94. (A) Fradulent (B) Fraudulent (C) Fradelent (D) Fraudelent
95. (A) Orchestra (B) Orchastra (C) Orkestra (D) Orchestera

IX. Each of the following analog questions presents a related pair of words linked by a colon. Choose the lettered pair of words whose relationship is most like the relationship expressed in the original linked pair.

96. MASON : WALL (A) Artist : Easel (B) Fisherman : Trout (C) Author : Book (D) Congressman : Senator
97. HELMET : HEAD (A) Gun : Hand (B) Pendant : Neck (C) Pedal : Foot (D) Breast Plate : Chest
98. FIRE : ASHES (A) Accident : Delay (B) Wood : Splinters (C) Event : Memories (D) Water : Waves
99. ALARM : TRIGGER (A) Trap : Spring (B) Prison : Escape (C) Tunnel : Dig (D) Criminal : Corner
100. PERJURY : OATH (A) Embezzlement : Trust (B) Disrespect : Age (C) Testimony : Court (D) Jury : Vow

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PAPER-II: ESSAY WRITING, PRECIS WRITING & COMPREHENSION IN ENGLISH

Time : 3 hours

Marks : 150

I. Write an Essay on any of the following topics: (70 Marks)

- (i) Role of the Opposition in a parliamentary democracy
- (ii) Role of the Media in inculcating the right values among the citizenry
- (iii) Education as a tool of empowerment
- (iv) My idea of an ideal vacation
- (v) Rural India: where India lives

II. Write a precis of the given passage in one-third of its length and give it a suitable title: (50 Marks)

There is an imperative for improving the standards of various sports disciplines, so that India's presence is felt in the world of sport. Mass participation in sports is a must for the health, fitness and strength of the nation, and also for raising our sports' standards. Some minimum sports facilities must be provided in villages and towns. We also need to create sports consciousness among the people so that once sports facilities have become available they feel motivated to use them. Sports and physical education should become an essential part of the school education system. We also have to create an environment where sports and games are considered as an essential part of the child's growth.

One reason for our failure to produce world-class athletes is that a vast majority of our people does not have an opportunity to realize their potential. Rapid urbanization has drastically reduced the space available for children to play. Since organized sports in urban centres are concentrated on a few lucrative games, there is little scope for those interested in other sports to even become aware of their talents. The rural child may have more space, but there is hardly any sports infrastructure in villages.

That being so, we must have a national sports policy whose major thrust should be to identify young talents from urban centres and rural areas and groom them properly. All incentives and encouragement should be given to them. They should be provided proper nutrition and diet, besides the requisite training and coaching. Budding athletes from rural areas can be brought to cities and towns where training and coaching facilities are available. Infrastructural facilities such as stadia and sports complexes and coaching centres should be provided in all towns in the States.

The corporate sector can also play an important role in the promotion of sports by sponsoring tournaments and offering employment opportunities to talented players. The Government and the corporate sector should reserve more jobs for persons who have excelled in sports at the State, national and international levels. They should also institute more scholarships and stipends for promising players.

[350 words]

III. Read the following passage and answer the questions given thereafter: (30 Marks)

The simple law of demography is that as living conditions improve, death rate comes down. Birth rate also comes down but it comes down slower than the death rate. So, in the initial phase, there is an increase in population. As living conditions continue to improve, birth rate also comes down and population growth rate stabilizes at a lower equilibrium. This is what we commonly understand as demographic transition. It is this transition, which can bring about sustainable development. It is this sustainable development, which, in turn, brings about demographic transition. The Brundtland Commission defined 'sustainable development' as development that satisfies the needs of the current generation "without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" and as "a process of change in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development and institutional change are made consistent with future as well as present needs". We have had economic growth. But our overall living conditions have not been significantly improving. The benefits of our economic growth have not necessarily trickled down equitably.

While sustainable development should be construed as a function of satisfaction of basic needs, it should be understood that population explosion has its serious implications for environment as well. It seriously distorts the carrying capacity of land, water, flora and fauna. A study of the last five decades of our developmental history would show how population pressure has brought about deforestation, extinction of the natural habitat of wild life, soil erosion, drying up of water resources, in-country migrations, growth of urban slums, disruption of environmental sanitation, diseases and epidemics. In the global context, the United Nations Conference on Population and World Development, held in 1994, had called for a balance between population density and the supporting capacity of land, water, flora and fauna. Developmental strategies without this balance cannot be sustainable.

The challenge of poverty is one of redirection of public resources; of significant investments in the social sector – that is, in nutrition, health, education and skilled development; of investment in the human being. Resistance for redirection of public resources comes from sectors from where such redirection is effected. This, indeed, is the challenge of public policy which popular Governments have to face when they liberalize their economies so as to get value for scarce resources.

Questions :

- (i) What is described as demographic transition?
- (ii) What is the linkage between demographic transition and sustainable development?
- (iii) Describe in your words the meaning and content of sustainable development.
- (iv) What are some of the adverse consequences of population explosion in the context of sustainable development?
- (v) What are some of the challenges of poverty faced by popular governments?

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PAPER-III: CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

Time : 3 hours

Marks : 100

Attempt any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. State briefly the salient features of Indian Constitution.
2. What is meant by a secular State? How does our Constitution safeguard religious freedom?
3. Discuss the powers of President under the Constitution of India.
4. What are the powers, privileges and immunities available to Members of Parliament under the Indian Constitution?
5. Describe the jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court of India.
6. Describe briefly the constitution and functions of the Election Commission of India.
7. Discuss the extent and scope of the power of Parliament to amend the Constitution.
8. Write short notes on any two of the following:
 - (a) Inter-State Council
 - (b) Contingency Fund of India
 - (c) Grants-in-Aid.