

**2021**  
**GEOGRAPHY**  
**[HONOURS]**  
**Paper : II**

Full Marks : 75

Time : 4 Hours

*The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.**Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.*

**GROUP-A**  
**(Soil Geography)**  
**[Marks : 35]**

1. Answer any **three** questions: 1×3=3
- a) Define Pedon.
  - b) What is wilting water?
  - c) Define soil air.
  - d) Define Pedology.
  - e) What is humus?
2. Answer any **five** questions : 2×5=10
- a) What is laterisation?

- b) State the characteristics of the 'B' horizon of soil.
  - c) What are the basic characteristics of azonal soils?
  - d) What is meant by the term *histosols*?
  - e) Define soil pH.
  - f) Differentiate eluviation from illuviation.
  - g) Why saline soil is alkaline in nature?
  - h) What is solonchak?
3. Answer any **two** questions: 6×2=12
- a) Highlight the characteristics of *chernozems* and *laterites*.
  - b) Diagrammatically represent an ideal soil profile showing the main horizons.
  - c) Give an outline of the soil composition with a suitable diagram.
4. Answer any **one** question: 10×1=10
- a) Outline soil orders and their major characteristics according to USDA soil taxonomy.
  - b) Describe the soil forming factors in brief with necessary illustrations.

**GROUP-B**  
**(Biogeography)**

**[Marks : 40]**

5. Answer any **two** questions: 1×2=2
- a) Define ecology.
  - b) What is meant by primary producer?
  - c) Define biosphere.
  - d) What is energy flow?
6. Answer any **two** questions: 2×2=4
- a) What is meant by bio-geochemical cycle?
  - b) Narrate the global distribution of tropical rainforest biome.
  - c) What do you mean by 'biodiversity loss'?
  - d) Differentiate *food chain* from *food web*.
7. Answer any **four** questions : 6×4=24
- a) Explain moisture as a controlling factor in the distribution of plant over the globe.
  - b) Account for the life forms of tropical grassland.
  - c) Illustrate the mechanism of carbon cycle in the biosphere.

- d) Elaborate the biogeographic characteristics of the tropical desert biomes.
  - e) Outline the scope of Biogeography.
  - f) Illustrate the flow of energy in a lake ecosystem.
8. Answer any **one** question: 10×1=10
- a) Establish the relationship between the global distribution of precipitation and the distribution of the world biomes.
  - b) Account for the effects of climate and topography on the distribution of plants.
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