

POST-GRADUATE COURSE

Term End Examination — December, 2014/June, 2015

GEOGRAPHY

Paper – II B

(Soil and Biogeography)

Time : 2 Hours

Full Marks : 50

(Weightage of Marks : 80%)

Special credit will be given for accuracy and relevance in the answer. Marks will be deducted for incorrect spelling, untidy work and illegible handwriting. The weightage for each question has been indicated in the margin.

Section – A

Answer any *three* questions : 10 × 3 = 30

1. What do you understand by pedogenic regime ? Discuss the pedogenic regimes as developed in the cool humid and hot and humid climates.
2. Account for the causes and consequences of soil erosion. Suggest suitable measures to control soil erosion.
3. Define the terms 'Ecology' and 'Ecosystem'. Identify and discuss the characteristics of terrestrial ecosystem.
4. How does light influence different physiologic processes of plants as a habitat factor ? What is meant by Megatherms ?

5. Illustrate the basic processes of plant succession in a recently emerged land up to climax stage.
6. Explain the *means* and *barriers* of animal dispersal.

Section – B

7. Answer any *five* questions :

4 × 5 = 20

- a) Differentiate *zonal* soils from *Intrazonal* soils.
- b) Distinguish between *solum* and *regolith*.
- c) Mention the environmental impact of deforestation.
- d) Point out the drawbacks of shifting cultivation.
- e) How does *Farm Forestry* differ from *Agro Forestry* ?
- f) Briefly state the importance of Joint Forest Management.
- g) What is the role of NPK in soil fertility ?
- h) Why should conversion of forest land to non-forest needs careful examination by specialists ?
- i) Define Hekistotherms. Give examples.