

POST-GRADUATE COURSE

Term End Examination — June, 2017

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 : $10 \times 3 = 30$

1. Discuss the various processes of soil formation. Highlight the pedogenic regimes which develop in the cool humid climates.
2. How does Unified soil classification system differ from FAO classification of global soils ?
3. What is meant by 'Ecology' ? Identify and discuss the characteristics of terrestrial ecosystem.
4. Define 'plant community'. What are the aspects of community composition that are considered for its characterization ? $3 + 7$
5. Highlight the role of means and barriers of animal migration in the global distribution of fauna.

6. What are the consequences of degradation of soil ? Suggest suitable methods for its conservation.

Section – B

7. Answer any *five* questions : $4 \times 5 = 20$
 - a) Distinguish between pedon and polypedon.
 - b) Briefly discuss the process of calcification.
 - c) What is meant by adaptation of plants ?
 - d) Differentiate hardpan from duricrust.
 - e) Identify the objectives of an animal sanctuary.
 - f) How does Farm Forestry differ from Agro Forestry ?
 - g) What are the drawbacks of shifting cultivation ?
 - h) What do you mean by 'genetic diversity' ? Why is it important to conserve genetic diversity ?
 - i) Highlight the salient features of social forestry ?
 - j) What does Chipko movement signify ?