

# MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## TECHNICAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR INFORMATICS OFFICER UNDER INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM. NOVEMBER, 2024

### GENERAL ENGLISH PAPER - I

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

*Marks for each question is indicated against it.*

*Attempt all questions.*

1. Write an essay on **any one** of the given topics in not less than 500 words: (25)
  - E-Governance: Challenges and opportunities in developing countries
  - Natural Calamities – Are humans responsible too?
  - Cyber security challenges in the age of digital transformation

2. Write a précis of the passage giving a suitable title. (15)

Education has always had two objects ; on the one hand to impart skill ; and on the other to impart a vague thing which we may call wisdom. The role of skill has become very much large than it used to be and is increasingly threatening to out the role of wisdom. At the same time it must be admitted that wisdom in our world is useless except for those who realize the great part played by skills, for it is increase of skill that is the distinctive feature of our world. Although scientific skill is necessary, it is by no means sufficient. A dictatorship of a man of science would very soon become horrible. Skill without wisdom may prove to be purely destructive. For this reason, if for no other, it is of great importance that those who receive a scientific education should not be merely scientific, but should have some understanding of that kind of wisdom which, if it can be imparted at all, can only be imparted by the cultural side of education. Science enables us to know the means to any chosen end but it does not help us to decide upon what ends should be pursued. Nor will it give you that instinctive understanding of human beings that is necessary if your measures are not to arouse fierce opposition which only ferocious tyranny can quell. It cannot teach you patience, it cannot teach you sympathy, it cannot teach you a sense of human dignity. These things, in so far as they can be taught in formal education, are most likely to emerge from the learning of history and great literature.

3. (a) Write a letter to the Human Resources Manager of XYZ Company applying for the position of Informatics Officer. (15)

**OR**

- (b) Your library card has been lost. Write a letter to the Librarian, Mizoram State Library, requesting him to issue you a new one

4. Make sentences on **any 7 (seven)** using the following Idioms and Phrases to bring out their meaning: (7×2=14)

- |                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) Flesh and blood                 | (b) Foot the bill             |
| (c) Put two and two together        | (d) On the spur of the moment |
| (e) Bite off more than you can chew | (f) Blessing in disguise      |
| (g) Call it a day                   | (h) Under the weather         |

5. Expand on any one of the following. (15)

- (a) 'The journey is more important than the destination' by exploring the significance of the experiences and growth that occur during the journey, compared to contribute to personal development and fulfilment. Provide examples of how focusing on the journey rather than just the destination can lead to a more meaningful and rewarding experience.
- (b) 'Innovation drives economic growth' by discussing how innovation contributes to economic development. Include examples of innovations that have led to significant economic changes and advancements.
- (c) Reading-an-excellent diversion-pleasant hobby-by reading-we come in contact with noblest minds of all ages-books-best companions in loneliness-our character-shaped by books.

6. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (8×2=16)

Urbanization, the process by which more of a population moves into cities, has significantly transformed societies over the past century. As cities grow, they become centers of economic activity, cultural exchange, and innovation. However, rapid urbanization also brings complex challenges that require thoughtful management.

One major issue is the strain on infrastructure. Expanding cities need to develop and maintain transportation networks, utilities, and public services to accommodate increasing populations. Without adequate planning, this can lead to congestion, pollution, and decreased quality of life. For instance, traffic congestion can result in longer commute times and increased emissions, exacerbating air quality problems.

Another challenge is socio-economic disparity. Urban areas often attract diverse populations, which can lead to significant income inequality. While some residents may benefit from the economic opportunities cities offer, others may face increased costs of living and inadequate access to essential services.

Furthermore, urbanization can impact the environment. Green spaces are often sacrificed for new developments, leading to a loss of biodiversity and disruption of local ecosystems. Effective urban planning must integrate sustainable practices to mitigate these effects, such as creating green roofs, developing public transportation systems, and promoting energy-efficient buildings.

In conclusion, while urbanization is a driving force behind economic and cultural advancement, it presents challenges that must be addressed through innovative and inclusive planning. Balancing growth with sustainability is essential for creating livable and equitable urban environments.

**Questions:**

- (a) What is a primary challenge of rapid urbanization according to the passage?
  - i) Increased rural development
  - ii) Improved air quality
  - iii) Strain on infrastructure
  - iv) Decreased population density
- (b) What socio-economic issue is highlighted in the passage as a result of urbanization?
  - i) Equal distribution of wealth
  - ii) Decreased cost of living
  - iii) Increased income inequality
  - iv) Uniform access to services
- (c) How does urbanization typically affect green spaces?
  - i) It preserves and expands them
  - ii) It often leads to their reduction
  - iii) It has no impact on green spaces
  - iv) It enhances their biodiversity
- (d) Which strategy is suggested for mitigating environmental impacts of urbanization?
  - i) Expanding industrial areas
  - ii) Reducing green roofs
  - iii) Developing energy-efficient buildings
  - iv) Decreasing private car ownership

- (e) What does the passage imply about the relationship between urbanization and quality of life?
  - i) Urbanization sometimes improves quality of life
  - ii) Quality of life is unaffected by urbanization
  - iii) Urbanization can negatively affect quality of life if not managed properly
  - iv) Quality of life improves without addressing infrastructure issues
- (f) Why is effective urban planning important according to the passage?
  - i) To maintain current population levels
  - ii) To create and preserve green spaces
  - iii) To address and manage the challenges of urbanization
  - iv) To increase cultural exchange
- (g) What role do green roofs play in sustainable urban planning?
  - i) They increase the cost of development
  - ii) They contribute to environmental degradation
  - iii) They help mitigate some environmental impacts of urbanization
  - iv) They are irrelevant to urban planning
- (h) What can be inferred about the future of urban areas from the passage?
  - i) Cities will naturally resolve their infrastructure issues
  - ii) Urban areas will become less diverse
  - iii) Innovative and inclusive planning will be crucial for sustainable urban growth
  - iv) Urbanization will stop impacting the environment

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