

# MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## LIMITED DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS OF CONSTABLE FOR PROMOTION TO ASSISTANT SUB-INSPECTOR (UB) UNDER HOME (POLICE) DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM. FEBRUARY, 2016

### GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours

FM : 100

*Marks for each question is indicated against it.*

*Attempt all questions.*

1. Compose an essay in about 300 words in which you develop your point of view on ***any one (1)*** of the given topics. Support your position with arguments, and examples drawn from your readings, studies and experience and observations. **(20)**
  - (a) Terrorism – a threat to peace.
  - (b) Police responsibility to Public.
  - (c) Communal Harmony.
2. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow based on your understanding in two or three sentences.

The economic system of any country is largely dependent upon the efficiency of its transport system. Without the help of a good transport system, the expansion in national and international trade would never take place.

Broadly, the means of transport both for purposes of trade and social activity can be classified into three main divisions; land, water and air. We are, here, concerned with transport of trade. Of all the forms of transport, road transport has shown the greatest growth in recent years. Road transport is also used as complementary means of transport for other types of transport. Roads are indispensable link for carrying goods and people to and from railway stations, ports and airports.

Transport by road may be both vehicular and non-vehicular. Non-vehicular transportation includes both animal and man. Animals such as horses, mules and yaks are frequently used for carrying goods and passengers in hilly areas. Camel is the only means of transport in desert areas. Man is also sometimes used to carry goods. In hilly areas porters and coolies carry goods on their backs and heads. This type of transport is generally used when animals, carts or vehicles cannot be used. Vehicular transport in developing countries includes the ancient bullock carts, as well as the modern automobiles. The invention of modern automobiles has been of great significance to modern industry and commerce because of their high speed and low cost per kilometer.

The introduction of railways has been vital in the growth of industrialisation. Railways are useful in carrying heavy and bulky goods over long distances. They are especially favoured because, unlike other modes of transport, they are unaffected by weather conditions.

Water transport is one of the oldest forms of cargo transport. Though it is slow, it is the cheapest form of transport. Water transport includes inland transport and ocean transport. Inland waterways are rivers and canals. While rivers are “naturally” created, canals are artificial waterways. Inland waterways are not always reliable. Sometimes rivers change their course abruptly, which may cause dislocation of traffic. In times of drought they may run dry.

Ocean or sea transport is very important for the growth of foreign trade of any country, especially as it is cheaper than air transport. It is particularly useful for carrying bulk goods over long distances, especially when time is not the essential factor.

The greatest advantage of air transport is that it has reduced the time and distance barrier to a great extent. However, air transport is the costliest means of transport because of the high cost of planes, their operation and maintenance. It is generally used rather sparingly for carrying light freight.

**Questions :**

**A. Answer the following questions :** (5×3=15)

- (a) In what way is road transport 'a complementary means of transport for other types of transport'?
- (b) When is man used as means of transporting goods?
- (c) What types of vehicles do you think are included in the word 'automobiles'?
- (d) What are some of the disadvantages of inland waterways as a means of transport?
- (e) What are the advantages and disadvantages of air transport?

**B. Find words from the passage which convey similar meaning as the following:** (5×1=5)

- (a) growth
- (b) needed by another for completion
- (c) essential
- (d) dependable
- (e) suddenly

**3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :**

There is hardly any part of the globe in which people have not settled. In some cases the settlement may be no bigger than one or two families and their livestock, in other the settlement may be a city as large as New York.

There is always a good reason for a settlement being where it is. If you look in the atlas you will see that most of the world's major cities are located on an important river or on a coastline. This is because they grew up as trading centres, importing and exporting goods to serve their surrounding areas. Inland towns and cities are often at the meeting point of two or more land or river trading routes. With trade comes prosperity, so towns and cities can support increasing populations.

Agricultural settlements – farms and villages – need fertile soil and a supply of water for both crops and drinking. River valleys have both and so are often densely settled- a large proportion of India's population, for example, lives in the plain of Ganges river.

Another factor determining the siting of settlement is that it can be easily defended against enemy attack in time of war. Many towns and villages were originally founded on hill sites for this reason.

**Questions :**

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the passage **make notes** on it using recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title. (5)
- (b) Write the summary or the abstract. (5)

**4. Make a précis of the given passage in one-third of its original length. Supply a suitable title. (10)**

Polythene shopping bags and wrappers are potential threat to urban environment. Once you have discarded them after use, you do not lose your link with them. They return to you in a variety of ways, though you do not realise it. For Example, they choke your drains and provide breeding facilities to deadly germs. Recent studies have shown that about 250 tonnes of plastic wastes came out of various colonies of major cities alone every day. This disrupts the sewer system, the essential arteries of city life. This plastic wastes choke the land mass and clog the pores of the wetlands. Unfortunately,

even the small villages and small towns are not free from this danger. Millions of people returning to their home towns every day carry their shopping in colourful bags. This pleases their family and children, who after preserving them for a time, dispose them in wells, rivers, tanks and drains. Many throw them off into the fields. They do it with a sense of pride, to show off. When their neighbours see that their men from the cities regularly send them those good things of life, they are impressed. In Delhi, the worst offenders are upper income groups of the so called post colonies. Though educated, the residents of this affluent area are unaware of the damage done by the plastic bags. Nearly a million children in Delhi schools carry their lunch boxes in plastic bags. They callously throw them away and cause unhealthy environment. As it is convenient for mother to wrap the food in plastic it is difficult to persuade them against doing this. According to the drill master of a school in R.K Puram, it becomes a drill to clean the field after the children leave. When the midday meal scheme is fully implemented, it must be seen that no plastic wrappers are used. As these wrappers are light in weight, they are borne aloft by the wind causing visual shocks. Unlike cotton or paper bags they remain undissolved in the mud and stop the rain water from seeping deep into the Earth. This affects the natural growth of greenery. (355 words)

5. Draft a passage using the following verbal input: (10)

Fair held in the month of March – visited the fair one Saturday – huge, spacious and attractive halls – about thirty major countries of the world participated – electronic gadgets and automobiles are the main attractions – many Indian companies too displayed their proud products – amazing development in the field of science and technology.

6. Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions. (10×1=10)

- (a) Jonathan is 63. He'll be retiring from his job \_\_\_\_\_ two years' time.
- (b) Rami's brother is an engineer, but he doesn't have a job \_\_\_\_\_ the moment.
- (c) The river Rhine flows \_\_\_\_\_ the North Sea.
- (d) Did you enjoy your visit \_\_\_\_\_ the zoo?
- (e) We managed to put the fire out \_\_\_\_\_ a fire extinguisher.
- (f) He's very selfish. He doesn't care \_\_\_\_\_ other people.
- (g) A friend of mine was injured in an accident a few days ago. He's still \_\_\_\_\_.
- (h) We took all caution \_\_\_\_\_ possible dangers.
- (i) When I opened the envelope, I was delighted to find a cheque \_\_\_\_\_ Rs.10,000/-
- (j) Sorry, but I must go. I have to be home \_\_\_\_\_ 5 O'clock.

7. Complete the sentences using the following verbs in the correct form : (5×1=5)

*say, explode, sleep, overhear, invited*

- (a) They were talking very loudly. I couldn't help \_\_\_\_\_ what they said.
- (b) Some of the people \_\_\_\_\_ to the party can't come.
- (c) Everybody heard the bomb \_\_\_\_\_. It was a tremendous noise.
- (d) I thought I heard somebody \_\_\_\_\_ 'Hi', so I looked round.
- (e) When we got home, we found a cat \_\_\_\_\_ on the kitchen table.

8. Correct the following sentences. (5×1=5)

- (a) He thanked me for what I (do).
- (b) We (live) in Delhi since 1975.
- (c) The Minister (arrive) here tomorrow.
- (d) He normally (carry) a stick but today he is without it.
- (e) If I (be) you, I would help him.

9. Make sentences with ***any five (5)*** of the following idioms and phrases to bring out their meaning.

**(5×2=10)**

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| (a) at first sight   | (b) to make a note of      |
| (c) in pursuance of  | (d) under the table        |
| (e) in right earnest | (f) with one accord        |
| (g) never say die    | (h) to the marrow          |
| (i) ways and means   | (j) through thick and thin |

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