

# MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## LIMITED DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS FOR PROMOTION TO JUNIOR GRADE OF MIZORAM FINANCE & ACCOUNTS SERVICE UNDER FINANCE DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM

NOVEMBER, 2014

### DRAFTING & PRÉCIS WRITING

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 150

*Marks for each question is indicated against it.*

*Attempt all questions.*

1. Write a précis of the following passage in words of your own (as far as possible): **(25)**

Why don't I have a telephone? Not because I pretend to be wise or pose as unusual. There are two chief reasons why I don't really like the telephone, and because I find I can still work and play, eat, breathe, and sleep without it. Why don't I like the telephone? Because I think it is a pest and a time-waster. It may create unnecessary suspense and anxiety, as when you wait for an expected call that doesn't come; or irritating delay, as when you keep ringing a number that is always engaged. As for speaking in a public telephone box, that seems to me really horrible. You would not use it unless you are in a hurry, and because you are in a hurry, you will find other people waiting before you. When you do get into the box, you are half asphyxiated by stale, unventilated air, flavoured with cheap face powder and chain-smoking; and by the time you have begun your conversation your back is chilled by the cold looks of somebody who is fidgeting to take your place.

If you have a telephone in your house, you will admit that it tends to ring when you least want it—when you are asleep, or in the middle of a meal or a conversation, or when you are just going out, or when you are in your bath. Are you strong minded enough to ignore it, to say to yourself, “Ah well, it will be the same in a hundred years' time”? You are not. You think there may be some important news or message for you. Have you never rushed dripping from the bath, or chewing from the table, or dazed from bed, only to be told that you are a wrong number? You were told the truth. In my opinion all telephone numbers are wrong numbers. If, of course, your telephone rings and you decide to answer it, then you will have to listen to an idiotic bell ringing and ringing in what is supposed to be the privacy of your own home. You might as well buy a bicycle bell and ring it yourself. (355 words)

2. Write a précis of the following passage in words of your own (as far as possible): **(25)**

Judicious usage of water is a practice which our farmers have failed to adopt, especially in the fields supplied with canal water. Although water is literally allowed to flood their fields, the yields are less compared to farmers who use the resource judiciously. Many modern gadgets are now available like sprinklers and drip irrigation pipes, which can further economise the use of water. Engineers do admit that an enormous amount of canal water is being wasted. Vast amounts have been spent on major irrigation projects, no part of which (not even the maintenance cost) is borne by the beneficiary, the farmer. Irrigation, as a consequence, has remained a major sick industry in all states. Droughts are caused not through lack of rains, but due to the adoption of wrong agricultural policies and reckless usage of water. Providing excess water for irrigation knowing full well that it leads to lower yields, subsidizing water and giving free electricity, encouraging farmers to grow water-guzzling crops like sugarcane and paddy – these are measures over which governments have exercised no control and created man-made drought. Subsidy promotes wasteful use of water. Excessive use of water has in fact degraded the black soil of some states. (200 words)

3. Write a précis of the following passage in words of your own (as far as possible) : **(25)**

Marketing executives in television work with a relatively stable advertising medium. In many ways, the television ads aired today are similar to those aired two decades ago. Most television ads still feature actors, still run for 30 or 60 seconds and still show a product. However, the differing dynamics of the internet pose unique challenges to advertisers, forcing them to adapt their practices and techniques on a regular basis. These techniques reached large audiences, generated many sales leads to and came at a low cost. However, a small number of internet users began to consider these advertising techniques intrusive and annoying. Yet because marketing strategies relying heavily on banners and pop-ups produced results, companies invested growing amounts of money into purchasing these ad types in the hope of capturing a market share in the burgeoning online economy. (137 words)

4. Draft a Circular to be signed by the Secretary, Finance Department, on the need for adopting measures of financial economy. **(25)**
5. Draft an Office Order to be signed by the Under Secretary, Secretariat Administration Department, on the grant of earned leave to the applicant. **(25)**
6. Draft a letter addressed to the E-in-C, Power & Electricity Department, on the necessity of electrification of roads leading to New Secretariat Complex. The draft is to be signed by the President, Aizawl City Local Councils' Association. **(25)**

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