

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO LECTURER (CIVIL ENGINEERING) (CONTRACT) UNDER HIGHER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MARCH, 2017

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

Attempt all questions.

1. Write an essay on **any one (1)** of the topics given below : **(20)**
 - Our Education system.
 - Work is worship.
 - The Misuse of Science.

2. Make a precis of the given passage in about one-third of its original length. Supply a suitable title. **(20)**

Black money is the unaccounted money in the economy. Its accumulation is a result of the evasion of taxes. Black money can also be generated through the sale of fixed assets and the sale of scrap, as fixed assets can be underpriced and it is difficult to make an accurate evaluation of scrap. Large scale smuggling of gold and various luxury items is yet another important source of black money. Then, sometimes, influential firms obtain manufacturing licences, quotas or import licences far in excess of their actual requirements and sell them at a cash premium to a second party. This also adds to the emergence of black money. Illegal remittances by relatives staying abroad and various other malpractices have aggravated this problem.

Today black money is functioning as a parallel economy in India. Although it is very difficult to make an accurate estimate of the total amount of black money existing in the country, it needs no great imagination to realise the threat it poses to the stability of our real economy. Considering India's GNP and total currency circulation, experts estimate that one rupee out of three of national income promptly goes underground every year and apparently takes the entire currency with it.

The important fact which one should keep in mind here is that a black currency note does not remain black all the time nor is a white currency note perpetually as white as snow. A part of black money may occasionally be converted into white money through small bank accounts or through cash payments of small official or private dues. Many business houses maintain benami or fake accounts for this purpose. In the same way, white money in small quantities becomes black when someone has no black money but payment in black money is insisted upon.

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

We find that the progress of science had enormously increased man's power over the forces of nature. Is it a good thing that man's power over the forces of nature should be increased? That surely depends on the manner in which this power is used, and this depends again on the moral nature of man. When we observe, as we may truly observe, especially at the present time, that of all the single applications which man has made of science, the most extensive and perhaps the most efficient is that of devising implements for destroying his brother man, it is at least permissible to raise the question whether the progress of science has contributed on the whole to the progress of humanity. Had it not been for the progress of science, which has enormously increased the wealth of the world; it is doubtful if this war, which is mainly a war about wealth, would have taken place at all. Or if a war had broken out, it would not have involved the appalling destruction of human life and property; we are now witnessing-such that, within a space of two years, about six million human beings have been killed, twenty five million wounded, and wealth destroyed to the extent of about fifteen thousand million sterling-though some say it is; very much more. Science taught us to make this wealth: science has also taught us how to destroy it. When one thinks of how much this is attributable to the progress of science, I say it is permissible to raise the question whether man is a being who can safely be entrusted with that control over the forces of nature which science gives him. What if he uses this power, as he plainly can do for his own undoing? To ask this, as we can hardly help asking, is to transfer the question of scientific progress into the sphere of morality. It is conceivable that the progress of science might evolve for us no progress as it might be, and some have feared that it may become, a step towards the self-destruction of the human race.

QUESTIONS:

- (a) According to the author, is it a good thing that man's power over the forces of nature be increased? (4)
- (b) How has science increased man's power over the forces of nature? (4)
- (c) How much damage does the author say was done with the progress of science? (4)
- (d) What kind of threat arise when man is entrusted with control over the forces of nature?(4)
- (e) Find words in the passage which are similar in meaning to the following words (4×1=4)
- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| (i) Considerably | (ii) Certainly |
| (iii) Damage | (iv) Command |
4. Fill in the blanks using the correct word from the brackets. (10×1=10)
- (a) That was a good _____ to get out of the trouble. (devise, device)
- (b) I got the _____ of my father to study in a boarding school. (ascent, assent)
- (c) This idea is _____ to my interest. (prejudiced, prejudicial)
- (d) His _____ was good. (advice, advise)
- (e) He has _____ his responsibilities with cheerful efficiency. (born, borne)
- (f) Indian farmers are _____ on the rains even now in the age of scientific agriculture. (dependent, dependant)

- (g) We must be _____ (judicial, judicious) in the choice of our career.
- (h) In our school the children are not given _____ (corporal, corporeal) punishment.
- (i) Unscrupulous traders _____ essential commodities in order to increase their prices. (hoard, horde)
- (j) She was mercilessly _____ for her religious beliefs. (persecuted, prosecuted)

5. Correct the following sentences; (10×1=10)

- (a) His knowledge of Indian vernaculars are far beyond the common.
- (b) The cattles are grazing in the field.
- (c) In him was centered their love and their ambition.
- (d) The house, with its contents, were insured.
- (e) Neither food nor water were to be found there.
- (f) He gave me an advice.
- (g) Sunita has sold all her furnitures.
- (h) The news of the chief minister's death spread in all over the country.
- (i) My father did not agree to me on this point.
- (j) Everybody knows what for Kanpur is famous.

6. Give the antonyms for the underlined words : (6×1=6)

- (a) Modesty is a virtue but it must not be allowed to to be exploited.
- (b) The Judge decided to acquit the accused.
- (c) He is a professional photographer.
- (d) The shopkeeper claimed that the leather was authentic.
- (e) you must not make obscene remarks
- (f) The old man was known for his stingy behaviour.

7. Make sentences with any seven (7) of the following idioms and phrases: (7×2=14)

- (a) Bell the cat
- (b) close shave
- (c) in a fix
- (d) spick and span
- (e) spill the beans
- (f) throw cold water
- (g) wild-goose chase
- (h) Yeoman's service
- (i) at the spur of the moment
- (j) cut throat