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BEGC-131

B. A. (GENERAL)

(BAG)

Term-End Examination

June, 2026

BEGC-131 : INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY

Time : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : All questions are compulsory.

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below :

The river Ganga has a unique position in the cultural ethos of India. From time immemorial, the Ganga has been worshipped as a sacred river and even today it is regarded as the holiest of rivers by

many Indians. Apart from its cultural significance, the river has great importance for the Indian economy. The densely populated Ganga basin is inhabited by 37% of India's population. About 47% of the total irrigated area of the country is located in the Ganga basin.

Most of the original natural vegetation has disappeared from the Ganga basin which was once densely forested, and the land is now intensively cultivated to meet the needs of an ever-growing population. Wild animals are few, and the Ganga river dolphin once found throughout the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin, is considered endangered because of encroaching human activity. Concern has

grown over the environmental impact of hydroelectric dams on the river, including habitat destruction for wildlife, forced relocation of people living in the paths of dams and reservoirs and loss of agricultural land.

Of greater concern, however, has been the degradation in the quality of the river water itself. The Ganga basin is one of the densely inhabited regions on Earth, with the result that the river, over much of its course, is highly polluted. The principal sources of pollution of the Ganga are domestic and industrial wastes. Scores of cities and towns dump untreated sewage into the Ganga, and dozens of manufacturing facilities dump

industrial waste. High levels of disease-causing bacteria, as well as toxic substances such as chromium, cadmium, and arsenic have been found in the Ganga. The first step in improving the water quality would be to control the dumping of domestic and industrial waste from the numerous towns along the river's course.

Questions :

- (a) (i) Why is the river Ganga said to occupy a unique position in the cultural ethos of India ? 2
- (ii) According to this passage, the river Ganga is extremely important for the Indian Economy. Why ? 2

- (iii) What are the main sources of pollution of the Ganga ? 2
- (iv) In what way has intensive cultivation and urbanisation affected the natural life of the Ganga basin ? 2
- (v) There are numerous hydroelectric dams on the river. What is the environmental impact of this ? 2
- (vi) What is the first step to be taken to clean up the river Ganga ? 2
- (vii) What are the major chemical pollutants found in the river ? 2
- (viii) Give a suitable title of this passage. 1

(b) Use the following words in sentences of

your own :

5×1=5

(i) endangered

(ii) habitat

(iii) degradation

(iv) unique

(v) reverence

2. Match the words / phrases in Column A with their meanings in Column B : 10×1=10

Column A

Column B

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| (i) A lion's share | (a) Praise someone or something |
| (ii) Divulge | (b) Bright and colourful |
| (iii) Atonement | (c) Announce something publicly and make it widely known |

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| (iv) Eulogise | (d) A long journey involving travel by ship or in a spacecraft |
| (v) Allegory | (e) Kindness |
| (vi) Voyage | (f) A short journey made for pleasure especially one that has been organized for a group |
| (vii) Excursion | (g) A story in which characters and actions have a deeper level of meaning |

- (viii) Resplendent (h) A large portion
- (ix) Compassion (i) Making amends for
a wrong action
- (x) Promulgate (j) Reveal

3. Fill in the blanks / rewrite as directed :

15×1=15

- (i) Doctors were finding it difficult to cope with so many passengers after the train accident.

(Use the correct form of 'injure')

- (ii) This is the of the circle.

(Use either 'centre' or 'middle')

- (iii) the river in a small boat can be dangerous during the rainy season.

(Use the correct form of 'cross')

- (iv) We must increase the of food grains.

Use the correct form of 'produce')

- (v) The teacher advised me to read that book. (Use either 'has' or 'have')

- (vi) your father live in Delhi ?

(Complete using 'Do' or 'Does')

- (vii) What to you ?

(Use either 'happen' or 'happened')

- (viii) The recipe I am trying turn out to be a hit.

(Use either 'may' or 'might')

- (ix) Kalidas was greatest poet of his time. (Use the correct article)

- (x) You should take umbrella with you, as it might start raining.

(Use the correct article)

(xi) The train departs 3 PM.

(Use the correct preposition)

(xii) Several people killed in
yesterday's accident.

(Use the correct form of 'be')

(xiii) You must stop smoking. You will feel
better.

(Rewrite as a conditional sentence)

(xiv) The greatest artist of the fourteenth
century had painted this portrait.

(Rewrite changing into passive voice)

(xv) The door is opened by the watchman.

(Rewrite changing into active voice)

4. You and your friend are planning to visit a
hill station. Write a dialogue in about
250 words discussing it. **15**

5. Write a letter to your friend informing about a Meditation and Yoga Camp in your residential area. 10
6. You have been invited to deliver a speech on “Conservation of Natural Resources”. Write a speech in about **250** words informing students about natural vegetation and wildlife. 15
7. Write an essay (in about **250** words) on the following topic : 15

Folk Theatre of India

x x x x x