

**POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN  
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT (PGDESD)**

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2006**

**MED-001 : UNDERSTANDING THE  
ENVIRONMENT**

*Time : 2 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 50*

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**Note :**

- (i) Question no. 1 is **compulsory**.
  - (ii) Attempt any **four** questions from questions no. 2 to 6.
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- 1.** Answer any **five** of the following : 5×2
- (a) How would you differentiate between internal environment and external environment ?
  - (b) How does the stratospheric ozone layer act as a shield ?
  - (c) Why is the existence of grassland biomes essential for human beings ?
  - (d) Distinguish between bioaccumulation and biomagnification.
  - (e) What information can one derive by looking at a given food-web ?
  - (f) List any four activities in an urban industrialized society that affect the environment.
  - (g) Suggest any four measures to save water in our day-to-day life.

2. (a) What is the El-Niño phenomenon ? How does it affect the climate of Asia ? 5
- (b) Diagrammatically depict the Hydrological Cycle. Describe the roles of precipitation, evapotranspiration and surface run-off in this cycle. 5
3. (a) Define the terms mutualism, commensalism and parasitism. Give one example of each. 6
- (b) Mention the names and the extent of various life zones of an ocean from the surface downwards. 4
4. (a) What does one infer from each of the different types of ecological pyramids ? 6
- (b) How does energy flow through an ecosystem ? Explain this with a suitable diagram. 4
5. (a) What major impacts did early agricultural societies and non-industrialised urban societies have on the environment ? Elaborate. 6
- (b) Explain the concept of conservation and ecological restoration. 4
6. How do the following affect the overall environment ? 5×2
- (i) Acid rain
- (ii) Increased emission of the greenhouse gases
- (iii) Depletion of the ozone layer
- (iv) Nutrient enrichment of a water body
- (v) Accumulation of hazardous wastes at a site