

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

Term-End Examination

June, 2007

**MED-001 : UNDERSTANDING THE
ENVIRONMENT**

Time : 2 hours

Maximum Marks : 50

Note : *All questions are compulsory.*

1. Answer any **five** of the following : 10
- (a) List any two major types of rocks. Write one important feature of each.
 - (b) Name the gaseous constituents of the Earth's atmosphere, indicating their percentages.
 - (c) Enumerate any four vital processes of living organisms fuelled by energy.
 - (d) Write four major adaptations of mangroves.
 - (e) What is bio-magnification ? How does it influence living beings ?
 - (f) Distinguish between a geochemical cycle and a bio-geochemical cycle. Give one example of each.
 - (g) What is conservation ? Mention two measures by which it can be achieved.

2. (a) Describe the characteristics of the life zones found in lakes, citing examples of the prominent organisms in each zone. 5
- (b) Briefly describe five different climatic zones found on the earth. 5
3. (a) Describe three important abiotic characteristics of estuaries. Also classify estuaries based on salinity. 6
- (b) How are viruses different from bacteria ? 2
- (c) Distinguish gymnosperms from angiosperms. 2
4. Give an overview of any **two** of the following, in about 150 words each : 10
- (i) Food chain
- (ii) Ecotone
- (iii) Weathering of rocks
5. (a) Citing suitable examples, describe the various types of community interactions. 6
- (b) Explain the forms of age pyramids, giving their significance. 4

OR

- (a) (i) Describe the population growth trend in India.
- (ii) Why is it important to contain our population growth rate ? 3+2
- (b) Give the causes and consequences of global warming. 5