

H.P. Departmental Examination, October, 2015
Paper-VII (For HAS)

Planning and Development

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 100

Note: Attempt any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

- Q.1 What are the major objectives and expected outcomes of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme? Has this Scheme achieved its objectives in the real sense on the ground? Throw some light on the short comings in the implementation of this scheme. What remedial steps are required for the effective implementation of this Scheme in Himachal Pradesh?
(20 marks)
- Q.2 Farmers in India are committing suicide even after 68 years of independence. Sometimes they burn their sugarcane crop, destroy tomato crop in the fields, distribute potato free and pour milk on the road. What are the factors responsible for these happenings in the country? Do you feel that there are policy deficiencies in the Agriculture Sector? Could you suggest some concrete policy solutions of these problems? Elaborate.
(20 marks)
- Q.3 What are the main features of the "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan", launched on 2nd October, 2014 by Prime Minister of India? Whether Himachal Pradesh has made substantial progress in having Open Defecation Free Panchayats (ODF)? If so, why? What are the major challenges in the solid and liquid waste management in Himachal Pradesh and what actions should be taken to tackle them?
(20 marks)
- Q.4 Skilling is one of the most important factors to increase employability of our youth. What are the various schemes of skilling of the Central Government and in Himachal Pradesh? Have they been able to achieve their objectives? What further actions should be taken to impart skills to the unemployed in HP?
(20 marks)
- Q.5 What were the main functions of the erstwhile Planning Commission? Whether Planning Commission had been able to deliver its objectives through the five year plans? What are the changed functions and responsibilities of the NITI Aayog?
(20 marks)

Q.6 Himachal has been able to reduce the poverty faster than the rest of the country. Critically examine the factors responsible for achieving impressive reduction in the poverty in Himachal Pradesh during last two decades. What further actions would you suggest to eradicate poverty in the State?

(20 marks)

Q.7 Himachal has achieved high access and enrolment in education because of expansion of education institutes in the State. However, the quality of education in the Government schools is considered to be poor. What are the main reasons of poor quality of education in Government schools? What concrete actions should be taken to ensure quality education in the schools?

(20 marks)

Q.8 Write short notes on any two:

- a) What is GST? What type of taxes will be subsumed in this? Why is it considered to be a major indirect tax reform in our country?
- b) Elaborate the Impacts of ban on green felling in Himachal Pradesh.
- c) What are the major recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission? How has these impacted the finances of Himachal Pradesh?
- d) Elucidate Reasons for low levels of employability of Himachali youth in the industrial sector in the State. Suggest measures to improve their employability.

(10+10 marks)
