

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF
SUB INSPECTOR UNDER EXCISE & NARCOTICS DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM
MARCH, 2014

GENERAL ENGLISH
PAPER - I

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

Figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

Attempt all questions.

1. Write an essay on any one of the topics given below in about 900 words : **(20)**
- (a) Role of the Media in Good Governance
 - (b) The importance of communication
 - (c) The Youth Culture today
 - (d) The dignity of Labour

2. Write a précis of the given passage : **(10)**

Science has conferred immense benefits on humanity. It has brought innumerable conveniences and gadgets that have eliminated drudgery and lightened the workload. It has brought countries and peoples together by shortening distances, thus enhancing mobility. It has thrown a flood of light on the mysteries of the universe. It has led to large scale production of goods, promoted education in various ways, provided wonderful treatment of diseases through inventions, thus prolonging tenure of life. In numerous ways, it is the moving spirit of modern society.

But the basic question is, whether science has made life happier. The exponents of science argue that science has certainly made life less burdensome. Whether these conveniences and latest inventions have ensured happiness to people is quite another matter. Are individuals in advanced or backward countries now happier than their ancestors were in preceding centuries?

Today's individual is undeniably more sophisticated. He has wider knowledge of men and affairs of their own country and the universe. Does wider knowledge and better awareness make us happy and full of joy? Science encourages curiosity about everything; it prompts enquiry and questions all the dogmas and traditional beliefs. The Scientist is an analyst, distinctly creative and involved in nature and its manifold activities and manifestations for the benefit of man. Science does not encourage satisfaction and contentment.

Although science has provided us a lot of amenities but it has not encouraged feelings of compassion, sympathy and charity. Science has actually brought more benefits to men of means – those who have immense resources and can afford to pay for the conveniences and luxuries. The poor masses are benefited partially through the availability of electricity, modern methods of entertainment. But genuine happiness is quite another matter.

Science should always be used as a means of creation, of constructive activity and of amenities that bring solace to the human soul. Instead, it tends to ruin what many generations have built after decades of earnest labour. Apart from the horrible effects of atomic weapons of various kinds, there

is the grave danger of contamination of large areas of food and crops, which had to be destroyed to save human beings and cattle.

The argument that science does not promote human happiness well stands the test of close scrutiny. But there is no reason why the real spirit of science, of scientific enquiry and of the development of scientific spirit should be discouraged. The pity is that, politicians and statesmen seek to gain glory and power through military victories not through nation building activities that would ensure human happiness. Science and technology are ultimately neutral factors in human affairs, equally capable of being utilized for good or evil. If humanity learns to make sensible use of science and all that it has brought us, there would be much happiness all around.

3. Write a letter to your friend in Delhi telling him/her about the Mizoram General Election 2013. **(10)**

OR

Write a letter to the Sub-Divisional Officer, BSNL, seeking for a telephone connection for your office.

4. Use any eight (8) of the following idioms and phrases in sentences of your own : **(8×2=16)**

- (a) To hold one's own
- (b) To give oneself airs
- (c) To turn over a new leaf
- (d) To pull together
- (e) To stand in good stead
- (f) To be taken aback
- (g) At daggers drawn
- (h) To play the second fiddle
- (i) Kith and kin
- (j) To catch a tartar

5. Expand the idea contained in any one of the following : **(10)**

- (a) The crown and glory of life is character
- (b) Great talkers are never great doers
- (c) Perseverance is the very hinge of all virtues

6. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end:

The voice had to be listened to, not only on account of its form but for the matter which it delivered. It gave a message to the country that it needed greatly. It brought to the common people a realization of their duty to concern themselves with their affairs. The common people were made to take interest in the manner in which they were governed, in the taxes they paid, in the return they got from those taxes. This interest in public affairs – politics as you may call it – was to be the concern no longer of the highly educated few but of the many – the poor, the propertyless, the working men in town and country. Politics was not to be the concern of a small aristocracy of intellect or property of the masses. And with the change in the subjects of politics that voice brought about also a change in the objects of politics. Till then politics had busied itself mainly with the machinery of Government towards making its personnel more and more native, with proposals for a better distribution of political power, with protests against the sins of omission and of commission of the administration. The voice switched politics on to concern for the needs of the common people. The improvement of the lot of the poor was to be the main concern of politics and the politician. The improvement, especially of the lives of the people of the neglected villages, was to be placed before Governments and political organizations as the goal of all political endeavor. The rising of the standard of living of the people of the villages, the finding of subsidiary occupations which would give the agricultural poor work for their enforced leisure during the off season and an addition to their exiguous income, the improvement of the housing of the poor, the sanitation of the villages- these were to be the objectives to be kept in view. In the towns, the slums and cheries were to receive especial attention. There was especially a class of the poor for which that compassionate voice pleaded and protested. This was for the so-called depressed class, the outcastes of Hindu society. The denial of elementary human rights to this class of people is considered the greatest blot on Hindu society and history. It raised itself in passionate protest against the age-old wrongs of this class and forced those that listened to it to endeavor to remove the most outrageous of them like untouchability. It caused a revolution in Hindu religious practice by having Hindu temples thrown open to these people. It made the care of them a religious duty of the Hindus by re-naming them Harijans.

-Mr. Ruthnasami

- (a) Why had people to listen to “The Voice” of Mahatma Gandhi? (2)
- (b) Why had people to take an interest in politics? (2)
- (c) What was the change brought about in the objects of politics? (2)
- (d) What improvements were made for the common man? (2)
- (e) What is meant by Sins of omission and of commission of the administration? (2)

7. Choose the correct form of nouns verbs, adjectives, prepositions from the alternatives given : (7×1=7)
- (a) I need to buy _____
(i) a bread (ii) a loaf of bread (iii) a loaf bread (iv) breads
 - (b) All the guests were dancing. _____ having a good time.
(i) All were (ii) Every was (iii) Everyone was (iv) Someone were
 - (c) The young man seems very _____
(i) sensible (ii) sensibly (iii) sensibly (iv) Sensibly
 - (d) This car is _____, if you're interested in buying it .
(i) for sale (ii) in sale (iii) at sale (iv) to sell
 - (e) I prefer dogs _____ cats. I hate cats.
(i) from (ii) over (iii) than (iv) to
 - (f) This detailed map is _____ the atlas.
(i) more useful as (ii) more useful than (iii) usefuller as (iv) usefuller than
 - (g) Don't go too fast. I can't keep _____ you.
(i) on to (ii) on with (iii) up to (iv) up with

8. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions [(a)–(d)] and adjectives [(e)–(g)]: (7×1=7)
- (a) Do not avail _____ your leave during the peak hour.
 - (b) I congratulate you _____ your graduation.
 - (c) Trespassers are prohibited _____ entering this land.
 - (d) You must go _____ the post office tomorrow.
 - (e) The President is _____ of her power.
 - (f) She loves quarreling; she is _____.
 - (g) The scenery is _____.

9. Correct the mistakes in the given sentences: (10)
- (a) His confidence will be build up by this.
 - (b) The road outside my house is being digged up.
 - (c) The essays have be handed in on Monday.
 - (d) Unemployment must dealt with by the government.
 - (e) They had been played football for two hours.
 - (f) She have lived in this city.
 - (g) You must wear helmets all times while riding a Motorcycle.
 - (h) She is very better than before.
 - (i) His uncle come to see him.
 - (j) She had complete her work long before you arrived.