

ANDHRA PRADESH PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION::VIJAYAWADA

SCHEME AND SYLLABUS FOR SCREENING TEST TO THE POST OF ASSISTANT CONSERVATOR OF FOREST IN A.P.FOREST SERVICE GAZETTED SERVICES

SCHEME FOR WRITTEN EXAMINATION (OBJECTIVE TYPE) DEGREE STANDARD				
PART	SUBJECT	NO OF QUESTIONS	DURATION IN MINUTES	MAX MARKS
A	General Studies & Mental Ability and Mathematics. (SSC Standard)	75	75	75
B	General Forestry – I & II	75	75	75
TOTAL				150

N.B.:1. Appearance at all the above tests is compulsory. Absence at any or all of the papers will render the candidature invalid.

2. As per G.O.Ms. No.235 Finance (HR-1, Plg & Policy) Dept, Dt:06/12/2016, for each wrong answer will be penalized with 1/3rd of the marks prescribed for the question.

3. All papers will be of **OBJECTIVE TYPE**.

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SYLLABUS FOR SCREENING TEST

PART – A

(75 Marks)

GENERAL STUDIES & MENTAL ABILITY

1. General Science – Contemporary developments in Science and Technology and their implications including matters of every day observation and experience, as may be expected of a well-educated person who has not made a special study of any scientific discipline.
2. Current events of A.P state and national importance.
3. History of India – emphasis will be on broad general understanding of the subject in its social, economic, cultural and political aspects with a focus on AP and Indian National Movement.
4. Indian Geography with a focus on AP.
5. Indian polity and Economy – including the country's political system- rural development – Planning and economic reforms in India.
6. Mental Ability – Reasoning & Inferences.
7. Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection
8. Disaster Management-
 - a) Concepts in disaster management and vulnerability profile of India and State of A.P.
 - b) Earth quakes, Cyclones , Tsunami , Floods , Drought – causes and effects.
 - c) Manmade disasters - Prevention strategies.
 - d) Mitigation strategies and measures.

MATHEMATICS (SSC Standard)

1.ARITHMETICS:

- a) Number System-Natural numbers, Integers,
- b) Rational and Real numbers,
- c) Fundamental operations, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, square roots, Decimal fractions.
- d) Unitary method-time and distance, time and work, percentages, applications to simple and compound interest, profit and loss, ratio and proportion, variation.
- e) Elementary Number Theory – Division algorithm, Prime and composite numbers. Tests of divisibility by 2,3,4,5,9 and 11.
- f) Multiples and factors, factorisation Theorem. H.C.F. and L.C.M. Euclidean algorithm. Logarithms to base 10, laws of logarithms, use of logarithmic tables.

2.ALGEBRA:

- a) Basic Operations, simple factors, Remainder Theorem, H.C.F., L.C.M.
- b) Theory of polynomials, solutions of quadratic equations, relation between its roots and coefficients (Only real roots to be considered). Simultaneous linear equations in two unknowns – analytical and Graphical solutions. Simultaneous linear in equations in two variables and their solutions.
- c) Practical problems leading to two simultaneous linear equations or in equations in two variables or quadratic equations in one variable and their solutions.
- d) Set language and set notation, rational expressions and conditional identities, laws of indices.

3.TRIGONOMETRY:

Sine x, Cosine x, Tangent x when $0^\circ < x < 90^\circ$ values of $\sin x$, $\cos x$ and $\tan x$, for $x = 0^\circ, 30^\circ, 45^\circ, 60^\circ$ and 90° , Simple trigonometric identities. Use of trigonometric tables, Simple cases of heights and distances.

4. GEOMETRY:

- (i) Lines and angles, Plane and plane figures,
- (ii) Theorems on
 - a) Properties of angles at a point,
 - b) Parallel lines,
 - c) Sides and angles of a triangle,
 - d) Congruency of triangles,
 - e) Similar triangles,
 - f) Concurrence of medians and altitudes,
 - g) Properties of angles, sides and diagonals of a parallelogram, rectangle and square,
 - h) Circles and its properties including tangents and normals,
 - i) Loci.

5.MENSURATION:

- a) Areas of squares, rectangles, parallelograms, triangle and circle.
- b) Areas of figures which can be split up into the figures (Field Book),
- c) Surface area and volume of cuboids, lateral surface and volume of right circular cones and cylinders, surface area and volume of spheres.

6. STATISTICS:

- a) Collection and tabulation of statistical data,
- b) Graphical representation - frequency polygons, histograms, bar charts, pie charts etc.
- c) Measures of central tendency.

PART – B
GENERAL FORESTRY-I

(75 Marks)

I. RENEWABLE AND NON-RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES:

- a) **Forest resources:** Use and over-exploitation, deforestation, important case studies. Timber extraction, mining, dams and their effects on forests and tribal people.
- b) **Water resources:** Use and over-utilization of surface and ground water, floods, drought, conflicts over water, dams-benefits and problems.
- c) **Mineral resources:** Use and exploitation, environmental effects of extracting and using mineral resources.
- d) **Food resources:** World food problems, changes caused by agriculture and overgrazing, effects of modern agriculture, fertilizer-pesticide problems, water logging, salinity.
- e) **Energy resources:** Growing energy needs, renewable and non-renewable energy sources, use of alternate energy sources.
- f) **Land resources:** Land as a resource, land degradation, man induced landslides, soil erosion and desertification.

II. PLANT SCIENCES:

- a) The diversity in the living world and biological classification.
- b) Morphology of flowering plants-modifications and functions of roots, stems and leaves.
- c) Basics of plant tissues and how they differ from animal tissues.
- d) Basic anatomical structure of wood like annual rings, grain, texture, pores, fibers, pith, rays, etc.,
- e) Seed morphology- types of seeds viz., mono-cotyledonous and di-cotyledonous, albuminous and endospermic and their development, structure, dormancy, dispersal and germination.
- f) Reproduction in plants:
- g) Sexual incompatibility and sexual methods of reproduction in plants-Pollination, fertilization, hybridization and development of the fruit.
- h) Asexual and vegetative methods of reproduction
- i) Principles of Plant propagation- production of varieties and hybrids.
- j) Absorption and conduction of water and minerals salts translocation- transpiration – photosynthesis, respiration, digestion and assimilation of food, anabolism and catabolism- deficiency symptoms of essential elements, role of plant growth regulators in plants.
- k) Basic principles of inheritance and variation and molecular basis of inheritance with special emphasis on DNA & RNA.
- l) The most common diseases of plants, important factors affecting infections and the chemical, biological and genetic methods of disease control.

III. BIODIVERSITY AND ITS CONSERVATION:

- a) Definition and value of biodiversity, genetic, species and ecosystem diversity,
- b) Biodiversity at global, National and local levels,
- c) Hot-spots of biodiversity, causes of biodiversity losses, need and the measures for biodiversity conservation.

- d) Major biomes of India, major abiotic factors that influence the life of organisms, responses of the organisms to such factors, adaptations for withstanding the extremes in the environment and population ecology.

IV. SOIL SCIENCE & GEOLOGY:

- a) Geological formation of the rocks and minerals of India.
- b) Earth and its layers-domains of earth Types - of rocks and their formation-weathering process of rocks- factors affecting soil formation-physical, chemical and biological properties soil; minerals, their types and their conservation.
- c) Soil conservation- definition, causes for erosion, types - wind and water erosion; conservation and management of eroded soils/areas, wind breaks, shelter belts; sand dunes; reclamation of saline and alkaline soils, water logged and other waste lands. Role of forests in conserving soils.
- d) Maintenance and build-up of soil organic matter; forest leaf litter and composting; Role of microorganisms in ameliorating soils; N and C cycles.

V. WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND WATER SHED MANAGEMENT:

- a) Basics of surface and subsurface water resources, pollution of water and water resource management.
- b) Concepts of watershed; role of mini-forests and forest trees in overall resource management, forest hydrology, watershed development.
- c) Water-harvesting and conservation; ground water recharge and watershed management; role of integrating forest trees, horticultural crops, field crops, grass and fodders.

VI. SILVICULTURE, AGRO FORESTRY, SOCIAL FORESTRY, COMMUNITY FORES MANAGEMENT:

- a) General Silvicultural Principles; ecological and physiological factors influencing vegetation, natural and artificial regeneration of forests, methods of propagation, grafting techniques; site factors;
- b) Nursery and planting techniques — nursery beds, polybags and maintenance, water budgeting, grading and hardening of seedlings, special approaches, establishment and tending.
- c) Silviculture of the following economically important species grown in Andhra Pradesh such as
 - 1) *Acacia nilotica*
 - 2) *Azadirachta indica*,
 - 3) *Dendrocalamus strictus*,
 - 4) *Casuarina equisetifolia*,
 - 5) *Dalbergia sisoo*,
 - 6) *Emblica officinalis*,
 - 7) *Eucalyptus spp*,
 - 8) *Gmelina arborea*,
 - 9) *Pterocarpus marsupium*,

- 10) *Pterocarpus santalinus*
- 11) *Santalum album*
- 12) *Tectona grandis*,
- 13) *Melia dubia* and
- 14) *Leucaena leucocephala*

- d) Agroforestry: scope and necessity; role in the life of people and domestic animals and in integrated land use, planning especially related to soil and water conservation, water recharge, nutrient availability to crops, nature and ecosystem preservation including ecological balances through pest- predator relationships and providing opportunities for enhancing biodiversity, medicinal and other flora and fauna.
- e) Agro forestry systems under different agro-ecological zones, selection of species and role of multipurpose trees and NTFPs, techniques, food, fodder and fuel security.
- f) Objectives, scope and necessity of social forestry.
- g) Genesis, principles, objectives and methodology of Community Forest management in Andhra Pradesh.

GENERAL FORESTRY-II

I. ECOSYSTEM & WILDLIFE:

- a) Concept of an ecosystem, Structure and function of an ecosystem, the rate of biomass production, GPP, NPP, decomposition and energy flow through different trophic levels. Ecological pyramids and ecological succession.
- b) Introduction, types, characteristic features, structure, functions and services of the ecosystems such as Forest ecosystem, Grassland ecosystem, Desert ecosystem, Aquatic ecosystems (ponds, streams, lakes, rivers, oceans, estuaries),
- c) Wildlife of India, endangered species of India; sanctuaries and national parks of India and Biological rhythms.

II. FOREST PROTECTION WILDLIFE BIOLOGY:

- a) Injuries to forest - abiotic and biotic destructive agencies, insect — pests and disease, effects of air pollution on forests and forest die back.
- b) Susceptibility of forests to damage, nature of damage, cause, prevention, protective measures and benefits due to chemical and biological control.
- c) General forest protection against fire, equipment and methods, controlled use of fire, economic and environmental costs;
- d) Timber salvage operations after natural disasters.
- e) Role of afforestation and forest regeneration in absorption of CO₂.
- f) Rotational and controlled grazing, different methods of control against grazing and browsing animals;
- g) effect of wild animals on forest regeneration,
- h) Human impacts: Forest encroachment, poaching, grazing, live fencing, theft, shifting cultivation and control.

III. FOREST UTILIZATION:

- a) Traditional and improved/modern tools used in logging, wood seasoning, wood/timber preservation,
- b) logging-transport methods,
- c) Physical properties of wood and their importance in identification of timber species.
- d) Uses of important MFP/NTFP species available in the forests of A.P.
- e) List of plants known to be antidotes of snake and scorpion poisoning.

IV. ANIMAL MANAGEMENT:

- a) Animal management – animal ailments and treatments.
- b) Definition of some animals like human beings, wolf, jackals, lion rabbit etc., based on incisors- canine/cuspids, pre-molars and molars,
- c) Poisonous and non-poisonous snakes of India, symptoms following the snake bite, treatment of snake bite.
- d) Role of nutrition in animal health and production.
- e) Nutrition deficiencies and their management.
- f) Morphological features of a bird and the concept of migration in birds and the ecological importance of birds.

V. ECONOMIC ZOOLOGY:

Beneficial and harmful insects including insect vectors of human diseases, Industrial fish, prawn and molluscs of India, Non-poisonous and poisonous snakes of India, Venomous animals-centipede, wasp, honey bee.

VI. FOREST ECONOMICS, FOREST LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATION:

- a) Forest economics - fundamental principles, cost-benefit analyses; estimation of demand and supply;
- b) Forest economics – investment planning, depreciation, working capital, types of costs viz., gross, fixed, variable, marginal & opportunity costs.,
- c) Methods employed for investment calculations such as Net surplus method, payoff time method, present value or capital value method, internal interest method, capital cost method.
- d) Forest Legislation-History of forest development; essence of Indian Forest Policy of 1894, 1952 and 1990. National Forest Policy -1988.
- e) Forest laws, necessity; general principles, AP Forest Act-1967; Forest Conservation Act-1980; Wildlife Protection Act-1972 and their amendments; Application of Indian Penal Code to Forestry.
- f) Forest Administration: Indian Forest Service, AP State Forest Service, AP State Forest Subordinate Services, AP Forest Department-Its structure and activities.

VII. FOREST INVENTORY:

- a) Scope and objectives of Forest inventory.
- b) Complete enumeration vs. sampling, need for sampling, basic concepts in sampling, designing large-scale sample surveys, sampling and non-sampling errors, simple random sampling.
- c) Properties of a good estimator, estimation of sample size, stratified random sampling, systematic sampling cluster sampling, and ratio and regression methods of estimation under simple and stratified random sampling.

VIII. FOREST MENSURATION & REMOTE SENSING:

- a) Statistics- population parameters- measures of central tendency and dispersion, aim of sampling, sampling methods, regression.
- b) Methods of measuring —diameter, girth, height and volume of trees; form-factor; volume estimation of stand, current annual increment; mean annual increment, Yield calculation, yield and stand tables:
- c) Forest planning, evaluation and monitoring tools and approaches for integrated planning.
- d) Modern instruments used in forest mensuration like RELASKOP, ALTIMETER, WEDGE PRISM, PLANIMETER etc.,
- e) Basic principles of Remote sensing- Air photo interpretation GIS, GPS, and GNSS.
- f) Forest cover monitoring through remote sensing;

IX. ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES:

- a) Definition, scope and importance, need for public awareness on environmental issues.
- b) Environmental Pollution: Definition, Causes, effects and control measures of Air pollution, Water pollution, Soil pollution, Marine pollution, Noise pollution, Thermal pollution & Nuclear hazards.
- c) Solid waste Management: Causes, effects and control measures of urban and industrial wastes.
- d) Social Issues and the Environment: From Unsustainable to Sustainable development.
- e) Urban problems related to energy, Water conservation, rain water harvesting, Resettlement and rehabilitation of people; its problems and concerns,
- f) Environmental ethics: Issues and possible solutions, Climate change, global warming, acid rain, ozone layer depletion, nuclear accidents and holocaust, Wasteland reclamation, Consumerism and waste products.
- g) Necessity of Environment Protection Act-1986, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act-1981, Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act-1974, APWALTA, 2004.

X. FOREST SURVEY & ENGINEERING:

- a) Basics of Survey and forest Engineering – bearings, Offsets- types of concrete, painting, varnishing, glazing, pointing, plastering.
- b) Road alignment- main considerations in road alignment,
- c) Types of roads depending upon the duration of the use of road,
- d) Use of ghat tracer, Dumpy level, IOP level and Theodolite.

XI. FIRST AID:

- a) Primary goal, key aims and types of the first-aid.
- b) First Aid- first aid for bleeding, drowning, venomous insects, burns and scalds, shock, unconsciousness, fits, fainting, sun stroke, sprains, wounds, fractures.

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