Civil Services (Main) Examination, 2009

ECONOMICS
(Paper II)

Time Allowed : Three Hours | *Maximum Marks : 300*

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions :

There are **EIGHT** questions divided in **TWO SECTIONS**.

Candidate has to attempt **FIVE** questions in all.

Questions no. **1** and **5** are compulsory and out of the remaining, any **THREE** are to be attempted choosing at least **ONE** question from each Section.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

SECTION 'A'

1. Answer any THREE of the following questions in about 200 words each: 20×3=60

(a) Discuss the process of 'forced commercialization' of agriculture under colonial rule.

(b) Explain the main aspects of the role of the Reserve Bank of India under the present liberalised financial regime as compared to the regime prior to 1991.

(c) Critically examine the arguments usually put forward in favour of disinvestment of public sector enterprises.

(d) "The TRIPS agreement runs counter to the neoliberal argument in favour of competition." Is this a fair assessment? Discuss.

2. Evaluate the track record of land reform in India in its various aspects, bringing out inter-state differences. How would you interpret this record? 60

3. Provide an analytical description of growth and change in the Indian economy during the period from 1950-51 to 1966-67. 60

4. Carefully examine and analyse the argument that over the last two decades there is an increasing divergence between the incidence of poverty based on the Planning Commission's Expert Committee methodology and that based on calorie intakes as obtained from the National Sample Surveys. 60

SECTION 'B'

5. Answer any THREE of the following questions in about 200 words each: 20×3=60

(a) "The success of the Green Revolution shows the importance of the State in agrarian transformation." Comment.

(b) Critically assess the key recommendations of the Twelfth Finance Commission.

(c) What do you think has been the impact of the targeted public distribution system in India on food security for the rural poor? Justify your answer.

(d) Examine the role of Foreign Direct Investment in the Indian economy empirically.

6. Examine critically the Economic Reforms underway since 1991 with reference to their effect on inequality, poverty reduction and vulnerability to external shocks. 60

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7. Explore the nature of tax reforms India needs to ensure "inclusive growth", spelling out their basic components as you see them. 60

8. What are your perceptions on the following? (Each answer in about 200 words): 20×3=60

(a) The slowing down of industrial growth in India from the mid 1960s till the mid/late 1970s.

(b) Whether public and private investments in India are complementary or competing?

(c) The role of small scale and cottage industries in the present context of the Indian economy.

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