

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 300

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.

Candidates should attempt Q. No. 1 from Section — A and Q. No. 5 from Section — B which are compulsory any three of the remaining questions, selecting at least one from each Section.

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- 1. Write explanatory notes on any **three** of the following:  $20 \times 3 = 60$ 
  - (a) Ultrastructure and functions of prokaryotic ribosomes
  - (b) Molecular basis of mutation
  - (c) Use of molecular markers in plant breeding
  - (d) Evidences of organic evolution

BD - 15/3

(Turn over)

- (a) Explain the ultrastructure of chromatin based on nucleosome concept.
  - (b) Describe the merits and demerits of particle gun bombardment and electroporation in direct gene transfer.
  - (c) Describe the different types of structural changes found in chromosomes. Comment on their meiotic behaviour.
- (a) What is heterosis? Describe the procedure and significance of heterosis breeding in crop improvement.
  - (b) What are constitutive and inducible enzymes? Describe the regulation of gene expression with reference to enzyme induction.

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  - (c) Give an illustrated account of the molecular basis of cell cycle.  $^{\circ}$  20×3 = 60
- 4. (a) What are prions? Give an account of the prion hypothesis and diseases caused by prions.
  - (b) Explain with example the application of plant transformation in crop improvement.

(c) What are cytoplasmic genes ? Explain cytoplasmic inheritance with example.

20×3 = 60

## SECTION - B

- 5. Answer any three of the following:  $20 \times 3 = 60$ 
  - (a) What are the physiological and biochemical functions of the microelements?
  - (b) How do the external and internal factors influence photosynthesis?
  - (c) Discuss the role of higher plants in the control of heavy metal pollution.
  - (d) Write an elaborate account of sovereign rights.

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- 6. (a) Distinguish between  $C_3$  and  $C_4$  plants. Explain fixation of  $CO_2$  in  $C_4$  plants.
  - (b) Discuss the physio-biochemical processes involved in the germination of seeds.
  - (c) Explain the adaptive strategies of plants against salinity and high temperature.

20×3 ≈ 60

- (a) What is meany by conservation? Discuss the different methods followed for the biodiversity conservation.
  - (b) Enumerate the role and applications of both synthetic and natural plant hormones in agriculture and horticulture.
  - (c) Discuss plant succession with reference to hydrosere and xerosere. 20×3 = 60
- (a) What is grand period of growth? Discuss the role of environmental factors influencing plant growth.
  - (b) Give an account of plastidial pigments with reference to their chemistry and physiological role in plants.
  - (c) Define biogeochemical cycling. Discuss the key processes involved in biogeochemical cycling of nitrogen.
     20×3 = 60

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