



CHEZHIAN IAS ACADEMY

The Best Academy for Civil Service Examination

SYLLABUS – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HORTICULTURE

PAPER I - HORTICULTURE (P.G. DEGREE STANDARD)

UNIT- I: PRINCIPLES OF HORTICULTURE

Scope and importance of horticulture - Scenario of horticulture industry in the regional, National and global economy - Area and production - Export and import - Nutritive value of horticultural crops - Horticultural therapy - Role of soil and climate on crop production – Planting system – HDP, UHDP and meadow orchard - Importance and methods of Irrigation
- Water stress management - Essential and beneficial nutrients – Classification - Functions and deficiency symptoms of primary, secondary and micronutrients in horticulture crops – Fertigation - Weed management – Training and pruning – Cropping systems – Mulching - Role of growth regulators – Off season production – Physiological disorders and its remedies
– Pests and diseases management strategies - Maturity indices – Harvest – Grading – Post harvest handling - Importance of protected cultivation in horticultural crops – Vegetable forcing - Hydroponics – Nutrient Film Technique - Aeroponics - Precision horticulture – Commercial horticulture – GAP – GMP - Organic horticulture and certification – Horticulture developmental agencies, programs and commodity boards.

UNIT - II: PROPAGATION AND NURSERY TECHNIQUES OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Sexual propagation, principles, advantages and disadvantages – Apomixis, polyembryony, seed dormancy and methods to overcome the dormancy - Factors influencing seed germination - Portrays - Containers - Media - Growing structures – Management of fruit nursery - Asexual propagation – Principles, advantages and disadvantages – Mist chamber - Rooting of vegetatively propagated plants - Physiological, anatomical and bio chemical basis of root induction - Layering, Grafting and budding principles – Methods - Problems and measures to overcome - Stock and scion relationship – Incompatibility - Propagation through specialized plant parts, rejuvenation of senile orchards through top working, progeny orchard and bud wood bank - Hardening - Nutrient management, pest and disease management in nursery.

Nursery certification-micro propagation - principles and concepts – *in vitro* clonal propagation techniques – Media - Growth hormones - Callus induction - Direct and indirect organogenesis – Synthetic seeds - Meristem culture - Embryogenesis - Micro-grafting - Callus induction and sub culturing - Hardening - Packing and transport of micro propagated plants.

UNIT - III: GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Important phases of growth and development – Definitions, photosynthetic productivity, leaf area index (LAI) – optimum LAI in horticultural crops. Canopy development: Different stages of growth, growth curves, growth analysis in horticultural crops. Plant bio-regulators – Auxin, gibberellin, cytokinin, ethylene, inhibitors and retardants, basic functions, biosynthesis, role in crop growth and development, propagation, flowering, fruit setting, fruit thinning, fruit development, fruit drop and fruit ripening. physiological basis of training and pruning, source and sink relationship. Seed development and maturation, seed dormancy and bud dormancy, causes and breaking methods in horticultural crops. factors affecting flowering, physiology of flowering, photoperiodism in horticultural crops. Physiology of fruit growth and development, fruit setting, ripening- study of chemical manipulations on growth and development, understanding stress impact on growth and development.

UNIT - IV: BREEDING OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Scope and importance of plant breeding in horticultural crops – Breeding systems and objectives – Plant genetic resources - Modes of reproduction - Mechanisms of pollination control, sterility and incompatibility – Effect of mating systems. Methods of breeding in annual vegetable crops(cross and self-pollinated crops) – Approaches for crop improvement – Introduction, selection, hybridization – Pedigree breeding, bulk, single seed descent method, mass selection, recurrent and reciprocal recurrent selection, back cross breeding – Heterosis breeding – Development of F1 hybrids, synthetics, composites, mutation breeding, polyploidy breeding, breeding for quality traits – Resistance breeding for biotic and abiotic stress. Methods of breeding in fruit crops - Objectives– modes of reproduction – Approaches for crop improvement – Introduction, selection, hybridization, mutation breeding , polyploidy breeding, breeding for quality traits – Resistance breeding for biotic and abiotic stresses - Biotechnological interventions. In vitro and molecular approaches - Molecular tools for breeding – Molecular markers – Protein based and PCR based detection for genetic confirmation – *in vitro* mutation breeding - Genetic transformation methods – Vector transformation and particle bombardment – RNAi technology – Emerging concepts and applications in horticultural crops.

UNIT – V: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF FRUIT CROPS

Scope and importance - Current scenario on national and international level production and trade of fruit crops – Field gene bank and cryopreservation of fruit crops - Species - Varieties / hybrids – Climate and soil requirements and its influence on crop growth - propagation methods and nursery technologies – Rootstocks influence-planting systems including high density planting(HDP) and ultra-high density planting(UHDP) – Canopy management and crop regulation - Water management – Nutrient management – Fertigation - Cropping systems – Training and pruning - Mulching – Weed management – Use of plant growth regulators - Special horticultural practices - Role of biotic and abiotic factors, limits of fruit production and their management – Nutrient deficiency and physiological disorder and its corrective measures - Maturity indices – Harvesting - Ripening – Post harvest management – Supply chain management of important fruit crops : Mango, Banana, Acid lime, Sweet Orange, Grapes, Papaya, Guava, Sapota, Pineapple, Jackfruit, Pomegranate, Annona, Ber, Aonla, Apple, Pear, Plum, Peach, Strawberry, Litchi, Avocado, Walnut and Almond and minor fruit crops.

UNIT - VI: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF VEGETABLE CROPS

Scope and importance of warm, cool and under exploited vegetable crops -Current scenario on national and international level of production and trade of vegetable crops - Types of vegetable farming - Commercial varieties / hybrids - Climatic and soil requirements – Seasons - Seed rate and seed treatment - Nursery management - Portray nursery - Sowing/planting - Cropping systems – Nutrient management – Fertigation - Irrigation management – Plant growth regulators - Intercultural operations, weed management – Mulching - Biotic and abiotic stresses and their management - Nutrient deficiency and physiological disorder and its corrective measures - Maturity standards – Harvesting - Post harvest management -Protected cultivation – Precision farming - Seed production techniques of vegetable crops: Tomato, Brinjal, Chilly and Capsicum (Sweet pepper), Bhindi, Leguminous Vegetables (Beans, Peas, Cluster beans - Cowpea - Dolichos bean); Bulbous vegetables (onion); Tuber crops - (Potato, Tapioca, Sweet potato, Elephant foot yam, Colocasia); Cucurbitaceous Vegetables (Cucumber, Bitter gourd, Snake gourd, Ridge gourd, Ash gourd, Musk melon, Watermelon, Pumpkin) - Cruciferous vegetables (Cabbage, Cauliflower and Knolkhol); Root vegetables (Carrot, Radish, Beetroot, Turnip) - Leafy vegetables (Spinach, Lettuce, Palak, Amaranthus) – Perennial vegetables (Drumstick, Coccinea) – Underexploited vegetables.

UNIT - VII: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF COMMERCIAL FLOWER CROPS AND LANDSCAPING

Scope and importance of floriculture industry - Loose flower production and trade - National and international status – Commercial varieties/ hybrids - Climatic and soil requirements - Field preparation – Season - Systems of planting, transplanting techniques - Precision farming techniques - Water and nutrient management, Weed management - Training and pruning, Special horticultural practices - Pinching, disbudding, use of growth regulators - Physiological disorders and remedies – Biotic and abiotic stress management - Harvest indices, harvesting techniques - Post -harvest handling and grading, pre-cooling, packing and storage, transportation and marketing. value addition - Dry flowers - Pigment extraction - Concrete and essential oil extraction of important loose flower crops – Jasmine, Scented Rose, Chrysanthemum, Tuberose, Marigold, Crossandra, Celosia, Gomphrena, Nerium.

Scope and importance of cut flowers - Production and trade - Global and National scenario - Special nursery practices, growing environment, open cultivation, protected cultivation, soil requirements, soil decontamination techniques, planting methods, influence of environmental parameters, light, temperature, moisture, humidity and CO₂ on growth and flowering - Water and nutrient management, Fertigation, weed management, ratooning, training and pruning, special horticultural practices - Use of growth regulators, flower forcing and year round flowering through physiological interventions, chemical regulation, physiological disorders and remedies, environmental manipulation – Biotic and abiotic stress management - Cut flower standards and grades, harvest indices, harvesting techniques, post-harvest handling of cut Rose, cut Chrysanthemum, carnation, gerbera, anthurium, orchids, gladiolus, cut foliage and fillers.

Principles of landscape designing – Styles of gardening - Types of gardening viz., Mughal, Japanese, English, Persian, Italian, French gardening - Garden components – Plants for container growing – Indoor plants - Plants for instant gardens – Plants for spring, summer, winter and autumn - Ornamental trees and burlapping - Shrub, annuals, climbers and creepers, hedge and edge plants (foliage and flowering) - Cactus and succulent, xeriscaping - Interior scaping – Garden adornments - Principles and styles of flower arrangements – Bonsai styles and culture – Different gardening: industrial, institutional, public and private landscaping – Vertical garden – Roof garden – Terrace garden – Sky rise garden – Scenic gardens - Landscaping for roadways and traffic islands – Garden with water features and water

conservation – Speciality garden – Dish, terrarium, bottle, miniature, bog and rock garden. Lawn – Classification of turf grasses - Conditions for healthy turf - Soil properties, micro irrigation, nutrient management – Turf grass establishment and maintenance – Astroturf and maintenance - Overview of software for Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) - AUTOCAD plants and design - AUTOCAD - File handling.

UNIT - VIII: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF SPICES AND PLANTATION CROPS

Scope and importance of spices and plantation crops - Present status - National and International trade - Climatic and soil requirements - Commercial varieties/hybrids - Season – Propagation - Sowing/planting - Seed rate and seed treatment - Nutrient and water management – Intercropping - Mixed cropping - Multitier cropping - Weed management – Mulching - Shade and canopy regulation – Nutrient deficiencies – Biotic and abiotic stress management - Harvest and post-harvest management and processing - Organic farming and certification of major spices and plantation crops - Spice crops : Black pepper, Cardamom, Turmeric, Ginger, Coriander, Fenugreek, Fennel, Cumin and Ajowan, Nutmeg, Clove, Cinnamon, Allspice, Tamarind, Garcinia, Garlic, Vanilla, Curry Leaf and Paprika. Plantation crops: Coffee, Tea, Rubber, Cashew, Coconut, Oilpalm, Palmyrah, Arecanut, Cocoa and Betelvine

UNIT - IX: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC CROPS

Scope and importance of medicinal and aromatic plants. - Production and trade - National and International scenario of herbal and perfumery industry, WTO - Export and import status, Indian system of medicine, *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation. Classification of medicinal and aromatic crops - Organic production and certification - Climatic and soil requirements - Varieties and species – Propagation -Sowing/planting - Nutrient and water management, Weed management - Biotic and abiotic stress management - Harvest index-harvesting, Post harvest handling – Drying, processing, grading, packing and storage, processing and value addition; Quality standards in herbal products. Production of secondary metabolites - Distillation of essential oils and quality analysis. GAP – GCP – GMP. Medicinal crops: Senna, Periwinkle, Coleus, Ashwagandha, Glory Lily and Sarpagandha. *Dioscorea sp.*, *Aloe vera*, *Phyllanthus amarus*, *Andrographis paniculata* and Medicinal solanum , Isabgol, Poppy, Safed Musli, *Stevia rebaudiana* and *Mucuna pruriens*, Aromatic crops: Palmarosa, Lemongrass, Citronella, Vettiver, Geranium, *Artemisia*, *Mentha*, *Ocimum*, Eucalyptus, Rosemary, Thyme, Patchouli, Lavender, Marjoram, Oreganum.

UNIT - X: POST- HARVEST TECHNOLOGY OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Scope and importance – National and Global scenario of post-harvest technology in horticultural crops – Harvest indices, harvesting methods in horticultural crops – Harvesting practices for specific market requirements - Influence of pre harvest factors on post harvest quality and shelf life of horticultural crops – Factors leading to post harvest losses. Ethylene action on ripening of fruits and ethylene management – Pre-cooling - Treatments prior to transport – Chlorination, waxing, chemicals, bio-control agents and natural plant products. Storage methods viz., ventilated, refrigerated, MAS, CAS – Physical injuries and disorders during storage – Post-harvest disease and insect management. Packaging technologies - Packaging materials and transport - Principles and methods of preservation - Minimal processing of fruits and vegetables – Pre-treatment – Blanching, canning and irradiation – Value added including, encapsulated fruit flavors, nutritionally enriched / fortified products in horticultural crops - Food safety standards.

SYLLABUS – HORTICULTURAL OFFICER**PAPER I - HORTICULTURE
(DEGREE STANDARD)****UNIT- I: FUNDAMENTALS OF HORTICULTURE**

Scope and importance – State, National and Global scenario of horticultural crops – Area and production – Import and export – Nutritive value of horticultural crops – Horticultural zones of Tamil Nadu and India – National and regional agencies involved in promotion of horticultural Industry in India (NHB, APEDA and Commodity Boards) – Classification of horticultural crops – Factors limiting horticultural crop production – Role of season – Soil and climate requirements - Physical and chemical properties of soil - Climatic factors – Light, temperature, photoperiod, relative humidity, rainfall, altitude, microclimate - Kitchen gardening -Nutrition gardening – Truck gardening – Market gardening - Vegetable forcing - Protected and precision horticulture – Hydroponics, Aeroponics – Nutrient Film Technique - Horticulture therapy.

UNIT - II: GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Important phases of growth and development - Bearing habits – Classification of horticultural crops based on life cycle – Annual, biennial perennial (woody and herbaceous perennials) – Fruitfulness and unfruitfulness - External and internal factors associated with unfruitfulness – Physiology of flowering, fruit set, ripening and senescence – Fruit drop - Causes and control measures - Plant growth regulators – Functions and role in horticultural crops - Bud dormancy – Dormancy breaking – Parthenocarpy – Parthenogenesis – Polyembryony – Stenospermocarpy – Vivipary - Apomixis.

UNIT - III: PROPAGATION OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Propagation – Definition – Establishment of nursery – Site selection - Tools and implements propagation structures - Mist chamber, phytotron - Humidifiers – Greenhouse – Glasshouse – Polyhouse - Shade net, glass house, poly tunnels, cold frames and hotbeds, pit nursery - Media and containers – Soil sterilization - Sexual propagation – Merits and demerits – Crops propagated through seeds - Seed viability, longevity, dormancy, germination – Pre-sowing treatment – stratification, scarification, seed priming, seedling vigour – Raised seed bed and pro-tray nursery – Asexual propagation – Merits and demerits – Methods of vegetative propagation – Identification of plus trees – Mother block, scion bank – Clonal nursery –

Cutting – Layering – Grafting, budding types – Anatomical and physiological basis of grafting – Stock scion relationship, graft compatibility -Budwood selection and certification – Propagation through specialized plant parts (bulbs, tubers, offsets, runners, suckers, slip, crown, rhizomes, corms) – Quality management and nursery certification – Micro propagation – Application – infrastructure requirements – Types of media – Stages of micro propagation – Micro grafting – *in vitro* propagation of important horticultural crops.

UNIT - IV: MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES FOR HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Planning – Layout and management of orchards – Fencing – Wind breaks and shelter beds – Spacing – Planting system – Physical and chemical properties – Soil reaction – acid, saline and alkaline soils – Soil fertility - Essential elements –Functions - Organic manures and inorganic fertilizers, bio-fertilizers, vermi-composting - Applications and management – Nutrient deficiencies and corrective measures - Physiological disorders and remedies - Irrigation – Critical stages of water requirement – Effect of water stress on crop yield – Anti- transpirants – management of irrigation water quality - Conventional and micro irrigation – Fertigation - Mulching – Sod culture – Weed management – Application growth regulators – Training and pruning principles and methods - Rejuvenation of senile and old orchards – Cropping systems - Cover cropping - Multitier cropping –Intercropping – Special horticultural techniques (pinching, thinning, disbudding, blanching, smudging, notching, ringing) - Principles of organic horticulture – GAP and GMP.

UNIT - V: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF FRUIT CROPS

Scope and importance of fruit crops - Composition and uses - Origin and distribution – Species – Season - Climate and soil requirement – Varieties and hybrids – Propagation techniques - Planting systems and planting density -Including High density planting (HDP) and ultra high-density planting (UHDP) –spacing – Water and nutrient management – Fertigation - Weed management - Canopy management - Training and pruning – Intercultural practices - Off season production - Special horticultural techniques – Use of plant growth regulators – Maturity indices - Harvest and yield – Nutrient deficiencies and physiological disorders and its corrective measures and management of important pest and diseases of important fruit crops :- Mango, Banana, Acidlime, Sweet orange, Mandarin, Grapes, Papaya, Guava, Sapota, Pineapple, Jackfruit, Pomegranate, Aonla, Annona, Ber, Apple, Pear, Plum, Peach, Strawberry, Litchi, Avocado, Walnut and Almond and minor tropical, arid and

temperate fruit crops.

UNIT- VI: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF VEGETABLE CROPS

Scope and importance of vegetable crops - Composition and uses - Origin and distribution – Area and production - Soil and climatic requirements - Varieties and hybrids – Propagation methods - Seed rate – Sowing and nursery practises – Containerized seedling production - Season – Planting methods – Water, nutrient and weed management – Fertigation – Training for vegetables – Intercultural practices - Maturity indices – Harvest and yield – Nutrient deficiencies and physiological disorder and its corrective measures of important vegetable crops: Tomato, Brinjal, Chilli and Capsicum (Sweet Pepper), Bhendi, Leguminous vegetables (Beans, Peas, Cluster beans, Cowpea, Dolichos bean); Bulbous vegetables (Onion, Garlic); Tuber crops - (Potato, Tapioca, Sweet potato, Elephant footyam, Colacassia); Cucurbitaceous vegetables (Cucumber, Bittergourd, Snakegourd, Ridgegourd, Ashgourd, Muskmelon, Watermelon, Pumpkin) - Cruciferous vegetables (Cabbage, Cauliflower and Knolkhol); Root vegetables (Carrot, Radish, Beetroot, Turnip) - Leafy vegetables (Spinach, Lettuce, Palak, Amaranthus) – Perennial vegetables (Drumstick, Coccinea) – Protected cultivation of vegetable crops - Precision farming of important vegetable crops and seed production.

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UNIT – VII: FLORICULTURE & LANDSCAPE GARDENING

Scope and importance of flower crops production - Uses - Origin and distribution – Area and production - Climate and soil requirement - Species and varieties - Propagation, season - Spacing and planting methods - Irrigation, nutrient management – Fertigation – Weed management - Training and pruning – Intercultural operations – Special horticultural techniques – Growth regulators – Off season production - Maturity indices – Harvest and yield and management of important pest and diseases for important loose flower crops: Jasmine, Rose, Tuberose, Chrysanthemum, Marigold, Nerium and Crossandra - Cut flowers - Rose, Carnation, Anthurium, Orchid and Gerbera – Cutfoliage and fillers. Principles of Landscape designing – Styles of gardening - Types of gardening viz.,Hindu, English, Mughal, Japanese, Persian, Italian, French gardening -Garden components – T rees foliage flowering and avenue trees – Burlapping –Shrubs – Flowering annuals creepers and Climbers - Cacti and succulents -Lawn – Astroturf - Types of grasses – Layout, planting and

maintenance of lawn – Hedge and edge plants - Indoor plants and interior scaping – Garden adornments - Principles and styles of flower arrangements – Bonsai styles and culture – Industrial, Institutional, Public and Private landscaping - Special types of gardening – Bog garden, dish, terrarium, bottle, roof, vertical gardening and green wall.

UNIT – VIII: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF SPICES AND PLANTATION CROPS

Scope and Importance of spices and plantation crops - Composition and uses - Origin and distribution – Area and production – Climate and soil requirements - Species and varieties - Season, seed rate / propagation methods –Spacing - Planting system – High density planting – Irrigation and nutrient management – Fertigation and weed management – Training and pruning – Cropping systems – Multitier cropping – Cover cropping – Inter cropping - Growth regulators – Mulching - Shade and canopy regulation – Maturity indices, harvest, yield and management of important pest and diseases and processing methods of important plantation and spice crops: Major, seed, tree, herbal spices and minor spices - Black Pepper, Cardamom, Turmeric, Ginger, Curry leaf, Clove, Nutmeg, Cinnamon, Coriander, Fenugreek, Cumin, Tamarind, all spice and vanilla – Plantation crops - Tea, Coffee, Rubber, Cocoa, Coconut, Oilpalm, Cashew, Palmyrah, Arecanut.

UNIT – IX: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC CROPS

Scope and importance of medicinal and aromatic crops - Composition and uses - Origin and distribution – Area and production - *Ex situ* and *insitu* conservation – Classification of medicinal and aromatic crops – Constraints in medicinal plant cultivation - Climate and soil – Varieties – Propagation - Nursery practices - Planting methods - Cropping systems – Manures & fertilizers – Irrigation – Intercultural operations – Harvest indices – Harvest & yield and management of important pest and diseases - Production systems - Contract farming – GAP – GCP – GMP - Organic production and certification – Classification and distillation methods of essential oils – Secondary metabolite production - Value addition - Organisational support for promotion of medicinal and aromatic crops - Medicinal crops: Senna, Periwinkle, Glory lily, Aswagandha, Medicinal coleus and Solanum, Sweet flag, Aloe, Isabgol, *Phyllanthus*, *Stevia*, Opium poppy. Aromatic crops: Lemon grass, Citronella, Vetiver, Ocimum, Davana, Mint, Geranium, Patchouli and Eucalyptus.

UNIT - X: POST- HARVEST TECHNOLOGY OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Importance of post-harvest handling in horticultural crops – Maturity indices – Post-harvest handling methods – Washing – Grading - Waxing – Grades and standards – Methods of packing - Types of containers and their advantages and disadvantages – Storage - Principles and methods of refrigerated and gas storage - Storage methods - Pre-cooling - Controlled atmospheric storage, Modified atmospheric storage – Low pressure storage and cold chain concept - Importance and scope of processing industry in India, general principles of fruit and vegetable preservation like canning, dehydration, freezing, fermentation - Use of chemicals(preservatives) and irradiation – GMP – Food safety and quality control.

PAPER-II
GENERAL STUDIES
(DEGREE STANDARD/OBJECTIVE TYPE)

UNIT-I: GENERAL SCIENCE

Physics Universe-General Scientific laws-Scientific instruments-Inventions and discoveries-National scientific laboratories-Science glossary-Mechanics and properties of matter-Physical quantities, standards and units-Force, motion and energy-Electricity and Magnetism, Electronics and Communication -Heat, light and sound-Atomic and nuclear physics-Solid State Physics – Spectroscopy- Geophysics - Astronomy and space science.

Chemistry Elements and Compounds-Acids, bases and salts-Oxidation and reduction-Chemistry of ores and metals-Carbon, nitrogen and their compounds-Fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides-Biochemistry and biotechnology-Electrochemistry-Polymers and plastics.

Botany Main Concepts of life science-The cell-basic unit of life-Classification of living organism-Nutrition and dietetics-Respiration-Excretion of metabolic waste-Bio-communication.

Zoology Blood and blood circulation-Endocrine system-Reproductive system-Genetics the science of heredity-Environment, ecology, health and hygiene, Bio- diversity and its conservation-Human diseases-Communicable diseases and non- communicable diseases-prevention and remedies- Alcoholism and drug abuse-Animals, plants and human life

UNIT- II: CURRENT EVENTS

History Latest diary of events – National--National symbols-Profile of States-Defence, national security and terrorism-World organizations-pacts and summits-Eminent persons & places in news-Sports & games-Books & authors -Awards & honours-Cultural panorama- Latest historical events - India and its neighbours - Latest terminology- Appointments-who is who?

Political Science 1. India's foreign policy 2. Latest court verdicts – public opinion 3. Problems in conduct of public elections 4. Political parties and political system in India 5. Public awareness & General administration 6. Role of Voluntary organizations & Govt., 7. Welfare oriented govt. schemes, their utility

Geography Geographical landmarks-Policy on environment and ecology.

Economics Current socio-economic problems-New economic policy & govt. sector

Science Latest inventions on science & technology-Latest discoveries in Health Science-Mass media & communication.

UNIT-III : GEOGRAPHY

Earth and Universe - Solar system-Atmosphere hydrosphere, lithosphere - Monsoon, rainfall, weather and climate - Water resources - rivers in India-Soil, minerals & natural resources - Natural vegetation - Forest & wildlife-Agricultural pattern, livestock & fisheries -Transport including Surface transport & communication - Social geography – population -density and distribution-Natural calamities – disaster management-Climate change - impact and consequences - mitigation measures - Pollution Control.

UNIT-IV: HISTORY AND CULTURE OF INDIA

Pre-historic events -Indus valley civilization-Vedic, Aryan and Sangam age-Maurya dynasty-Buddhism and Jainism-Guptas, Delhi Sultans, Mughals and Marathas-Age of Vijayanagaram and the bahmanis-South Indian history - Culture and Heritage of Tamil people-Advent of European invasion-Expansion and consolidation of British rule - Effect of British rule on socio-economic factors-Social reforms and religious movements - India since independence-Characteristics of Indian culture-Unity in diversity – race, colour, language, custom-India-as secular state-Organizations for fine arts, dance, drama, music-Growth of rationalist, Dravidian movement in TN-Political parties and populist schemes- Prominent personalities in the various spheres – Arts, Science, literature and Philosophy – Mother Teresa, Swami Vivekananda, Pandit Ravishankar, M.S.Subbulakshmi, Rukmani Arundel, J.Krishnamoorthy etc.,

UNIT-V: L INDIAN POLITY

Constitution of India - Preamble to the constitution- Salient features of constitution- Union, State and territory- Citizenship-rights amend duties- Fundamental rights- Fundamental duties- Human rights charter- Union legislature – Parliament- State executive- State Legislature – assembly- Status of Jammu & Kashmir- Local government – panchayat raj – Tamil Nadu- Judiciary in India – Rule of law/Due process of law- Indian federalism – center – state relations -. Emergency provisions - Civil services in India - Administrative challenges in a welfare state - Complexities of district administration - Elections - Election Commission Union and State. Official language and Schedule-VIII- Amendments to constitution- Schedules to constitution-. Administrative reforms & tribunals- Corruption in public life- Anti- corruption measures – Central Vigilance Commission, lok-adalats, Ombudsman, - Comptroller and Auditor General of India- Right to information - Central and State Commission- Empowerment of women- Voluntary organizations and public grievances Redressal- Consumer protection forms

UNIT- VI: INDIAN ECONOMY

Nature of Indian economy-Need for economic planning-Five-year plan models-an assessment-Land reforms & agriculture-Application of science in agriculture Industrial growth-Capital formation and investment-Role of public sector & disinvestment-Development of infrastructure-National income- Public finance & fiscal policy- Price policy & public distribution- Banking, money & monetary policy- Role of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) - WTO-globalization & privatization- Rural welfare oriented programmes- Social sector problems – population, education, health, employment, poverty-HRD – sustainable economic growth- Economic trends in Tamil Nadu -Energy Different sources and development- Finance Commission -Planning Commission- National Development Council.

UNIT-VII: INDIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT

National renaissance-Early uprising against British rule-1857 Revolt- Indian National Congress-Emergence of national leaders-Gandhi, Nehru, Tagore, Nethaji -Growth of militant movements -Different modes of agitations-Era of different Acts & Pacts-World war & final phase struggle-Communalism led to partition-Role of Tamil Nadu in freedom struggle - Rajaji, VOC, Periyar, Bharathiar & Others-Birth of political parties /political system in India since independence.

UNIT-VIII: APTITUDE AND MENTAL ABILITY TESTS

Conversion of information to data-Collection, compilation and presentation of data - Tables, graphs, diagrams-Parametric representation of data-Analytical interpretation of data - Simplification-Percentage-Highest Common Factor (HCF)-Lowest Common Multiple (LCM)-Ratio and Proportion-Simple interest-Compound interest-Area-Volume-Time and Work-Behavioural ability -Basic terms, Communications in information technology-Application of Information and Communication Technology (ICT)- Decision making and problem solving- Logical Reasoning-Puzzles-Dice-Visual Reasoning-Alpha numeric Reasoning-Number Series-Logical Number/Alphabetical/Diagrammatic sequences.