



SYLLABUS FOR SCREENING TEST FOR THE POST OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Subject : GEOLOGY

Note: There shall be 100 questions with multiple Choices carrying 100 marks to be completed in 3 hrs duration.

1) THE EARTH AND THE SOLAR SYSTEM:

Milky Way and the solar system. Modern theories on the origin of the Earth and other planetary bodies. Earth's orbital parameters, Kepler's laws of planetary motion, Geological Time Scale; Space and time scales of processes in the solid Earth, atmosphere and ocean. Radioactive isotopes and their applications. Meteorites Chemical composition and the Primary differentiation of the earth. Basic principles of stratigraphy. Theories about the origin of life and the nature of fossil record, Earth's gravity and magnetic fields and its thermal structure: Concept of Geoid and, spheroid; Isostasy.

2) EARTH MATERIALS, SURFACE FEATURES AND PROCESSES:

Gross composition and physical properties of important minerals and rocks' properties and processes responsible for mineral concentrations; nature and distribution of rocks and minerals in different units of the earth and different parts of India. Physiography of the Earth; weathering, erosion, transportation and deposition of Earth's material' formation of soil, sediments and sedimentary rocks; energy balance of the Earth's surface processes physiographic features and river basins in India.

3) INTERIOR OF THE EARTH, DEFORMATION AND TECTONICS:

Basic concepts of seismology and internal structure of the Earth, Physico-chemical and seismic properties of Earth's interior, Concepts of stress and strain, Behaviour of rocks under stress; Folds, joints and faults, Earthquakes- their causes and measurement. Interplate and intraplate seismicity Paleomagnetism, sea floor spreading and plate tectonics.

4) MINERALOGY AND PETROLOGY:

Concept of point group, space group, reciprocal lattice, diffraction and imaging. Concepts of crystal field theory and mineralogical spectroscopy. Lattice defects (point, line and planar). Electrical, magnetic and optical properties of minerals. Bonding and crystal structures of common oxides, sulphides, and silicates. Transformation of minerals – polymorphism, polytypism, and polysomatism. Solid solution and exsolution.

Steady-state geotherms. Genesis, properties, emplacement and crystallization of magmas. Phase equilibrium studies of simple systems, effect of volatiles on melt equilibria. Magma-mixing, -mingling and -immiscibility.

Metamorphic structures and textures; isograds and facies. Mineral reactions with condensed phases, solid solutions, mixed volatile equilibria and thermobarometry. Metamorphism of pelites, mafic-ultra mafic rocks and siliceous dolomites. Material transport during metamorphism. P-T-t path in regional metamorphic terrains, plate tectonics and metamorphism.

Petrogenetic aspects of important rock suites of India, such as the Deccan Traps, layered intrusive complexes, anorthosites, carbonatites, charnockites, alkaline rocks, Kimberlites, ophiolites and granitoids.

5) STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY AND GEOTECTONICS:

Theory of stress and strain. Behaviour of rocks under stress. Mohr circle. Various states of stress and their representation by Mohr circles. Different types of failure and sliding criteria. Geometry and mechanics of fracturing and conditions for reactivation of pre-existing discontinuities. Common types of finite strain ellipsoids. L-, L-S-, and S-tectonic fabrics. Techniques of strain analysis. Particle paths and flow patterns. Progressive strain history. Introduction to deformation mechanisms. Role of fluids in deformation processes. Geometry and analyses of brittle-ductile and ductile shear zones. Sheath folds. Geometry and mechanics of development of folds, boudins, foliations and lineations. Interference patterns of superposed fold. Fault-related folding. Gravity induced structures. Tectonic features of extensional-, compressional-, and strike-slip-terrains and relevance to plate boundaries. mantle plumes.

Himalayan Orogeny; concept of super continent, their assembly and breakup.

6) PALEONTOLOGY AND ITS APPLICATIONS:

Theories on origin of life. Organic evolution – Punctuated Equilibrium and Phyletic Gradualism models. Mass extinctions and their causes. Application of fossils in age determination and correlation. Paleocology, Life habitats and various ecosystems, Paleobiogeography. Modes of preservation of fossils and taphonomic considerations. Types of microfossils. Environmental significance of fossils and trace fossils. Use of microfossils in interpretation of sea floor tectonism. Application of micropaleontology in hydrocarbon exploration. Oxygen and Carbon isotope studies of microfossils and their use in paleoceanographic and paleoclimatic interpretation. Important invertebrate fossils, vertebrate fossils, plant fossils and microfossils in Indian stratigraphy.

7) SEDIMENTOLOGY AND STRATIGRAPHY:

Classification of sediments and sedimentary rocks; elastic, volcanoclastic and chemical. Classification of elastic rocks. Flow regimes and processes of sediment transport. Sedimentary textures and structures. Sedimentary facies and environments, reconstruction of paleoenvironments. Formation and evolution of sedimentary basins. Diagenesis of siliciclastic and carbonate rocks.

Recent developments in stratigraphic classification. Code of stratigraphic nomenclature – Stratotypes, Global Boundary Stratotype Sections and Points (GSSP). Lithostratigraphic, chronostratigraphic and biostratigraphic subdivisions. Methods of stratigraphic correlation including Shaw's Graphic correlation. Concept of sequence stratigraphy. Rates of sediment accumulation, unconformities. Facies concept in Stratigraphy – Walther's law. Methods for paleogeographic reconstruction. Earth's Climatic History. Phanerozoic stratigraphy of India with reference to the type areas– their correlation with equivalent formations in other regions. Boundary problems in Indian Phanerozoic stratigraphy.

8) GEOCHEMISTRY:

Atomic Structure and properties of elements, the Periodic Table; ionic substitution in minerals; Phase rule and its applications in petrology, thermodynamics of reactions involving pure phases, ideal and non-ideal solutions, and fluids; equilibrium and distribution coefficients. Nucleation and diffusion processes in igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary environments, redox reactions and Eh-pH diagrams and their applications. Mineral/mineral assemblages as „sensors“ of ambient environments. Geochemical studies of aerosols, surface-, marine-, and ground waters. Radioactive decay schemes and their application to geochronology and petrogenesis. Stable isotopes and their application to earth system processes; geochemical differentiation of the earth; geochemical cycles.

9) ECONOMIC GEOLOGY:

Magmatic, hydrothermal and surface processes of ore formation. Metallogeny and its relation to crustal evolution; Active ore-forming systems, methods of mineral deposit studies including ore microscopy, fluid inclusions and isotopic systematics; ores and metamorphism- cause and effect relationships. Geological setting, characteristics, and genesis of ferrous, base and noble metals. Origin, migration and entrapment of petroleum; properties of source and reservoir rocks; structural, stratigraphic and combination traps. Methods of petroleum exploration. Concepts of petrophysics, Petroliferous basins of India. Origin of peat, lignite, bitumen and anthracite. Classification, rank and grading of coal; coal petrography, coal resources of India. Gas hydrates and coal bed methane. Nuclear and non-conventional energy resources.

10) PRECAMBRIAN GEOLOGY AND CRUSTAL EVOLUTION:

Evolution of lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, and cryosphere; lithological, geochemical and stratigraphic characteristics of granite – greenstone and granulite belts. Stratigraphy and geochronology of the cratonic nuclei, mobile belts and Proterozoic sedimentary basins of India. Life in Precambrian. Precambrian – Cambrian boundary with special reference to India.

11) QUATERNARY GEOLOGY:

Definition of Quaternary. Quaternary Stratigraphy – Oxygen Isotope stratigraphy, biostratigraphy and magnetostratigraphy. Quaternary climates – glacial-interglacial cycles, eustatic changes, proxy indicators of paleoenvironmental/ paleoclimatic changes, - land, ocean and cryosphere (ice core studies). Responses of geomorphic systems to climate, sea level and tectonics on variable time scales in the Quaternary, Quaternary dating methods, –radiocarbon, Uranium series, Luminescence, Amino-acid. Quaternary stratigraphy of India– continental records (fluvial, glacial, aeolian, palaeosols and duricrust); marine records; continental-marine correlation of Quaternary record.

Evolution of man and Stone Age cultures. Plant and animal life in relation to glacial and interglacial cycles during Quaternary.

Tectonic geomorphology, neotectonics, active tectonics and their applications to natural hazard assessment.

12) (I)APPLIED GEOLOGY:

(i) Remote Sensing and GIS: Elements of photogrammetry, elements of photo-interpretation, electromagnetic spectrum, emission range, film and imagery, sensors, geological interpretations of air photos and imageries. Global positioning systems. GIS- data structure, attribute data, thematic layers and query analysis.

(ii) Engineering Geology: Engineering properties of rocks and physical characteristics of building stones, concretes and other aggregates. Geological investigations for construction of dams, bridges, highways and tunnels. Remedial measures. Mass movements with special emphasis on landslides and causes of hillslope instability. Seismic design of buildings.

(iii) Mineral Exploration: Geological, geophysical, geochemical and geobotanical methods of surface and sub-surface exploration on different scales. Sampling, assaying and evaluation of mineral deposits.

(iv) Hydrogeology: Groundwater, Darcy's law, hydrological characteristics of aquifers, hydrological cycle. Precipitation, evapotranspiration and infiltration processes. Hydrological classification of water-bearing formations. Fresh and salt-water relationships in coastal and inland areas. Groundwater exploration and water pollution. Groundwater regimes in India.

(II) PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Geomorphology: Concepts in geomorphology. Historical and process Geomorphology. Landforms in relation to climate, rock type, structure and tectonics. Processes – weathering, pedogenesis, mass movement, erosion, transportation and deposition. Geomorphic processes and landforms – fluvial, glacial, eolian, coastal and karst. River forms and processes – stream flow, stage-discharge relationship; hydrographs and flood frequency analysis. Submarine relief. Geomorphology and topographic analysis including DEM, Environmental change– causes, effects on processes and landforms. Extra-terrestrial geomorphology.

(III) GEOPHYSICS

1) Plate Tectonics and Geodynamics: Marine magnetic anomalies, sea floor spreading; mid-oceanic ridges and geodynamics; plate tectonics hypothesis; plate boundaries and seismicity. Heat flow mechanisms, thermal moddling of earth, core-mantle convection and mantle plumes.

2) Well logging: Open hole, cased hole and production logging; Electrical logs; lateral, latero, induction, temperature, S.P; porosity logs; sonic, density, neutron; natural gamma; determination of formation factor, porosity, permeability, density, water saturation, lithology; logging while drilling.