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Bihar Public

Service Commission

(BPSC Mains)

Optional Subject-

Pali Language and Literature

PALI LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

Section- I.

There will be four parts in this section.

Part 1. (a) Origin and development of the language (a general outline only, from the Indo-European to the Middle Indo-Aryan Languages), its homeland and the main characteristics.

(b) Salient features of the grammar with particular emphasis on Sandhi, Karaka, vibhakti, Samasa, Itthipaccaya, Apacca (Bodhpacoaya) and Sankhaya (bodhaka paccaya).

Part 2. General Knowledge of the history of the literature (pitaka literature and post-pitaka literature). Principal forms of writings including analytical compositions (Meitipakarana, Petakopedesa, Milinadapanda). Chronicles (Dipavenss, Mahavansa etc.) Commentatorial expositions (Atthakathas of Buddhas, Buddhaghosa and Dhammapla), origin and development and literary genres including epic prose, Kavya, Lyric and Anthology.

Part 3. Essentials of pre-Buddhistic and post-Buddhistic India Culture and Philosophy with special reference to the four Noble-Truths. (Cattari Ariyasaccant). Tilakkhana (Dukkha Anatta and Anicca) and four Abhidhammic paramaitth as (Cita, Cetasika, Pupa and Nibbana)

Part 4. Short essay in pali (based on Budhistic themes only) [Questions on section (3) and (4) to be answered in pali].

Section- II

There will be two parts in this section.

Part 1. General study of the following works: -

- (a) Mahavagga.
- (b) Cullavaga.
- (c) Patimokkha.
- (d) Dighamkaya.
- (e) Mjhimanicaya.

- (f) Samyuttanikaya.
- (g) Dhammapada.
- (h) Suttanipata.
- (i) Jataka.
- (j) Chergatha
- (k) Theragatha
- (l) Dhammasangani.
- (m) Kathavatthu.
- (n) Millindapanha.
- (o) Dipavansa.
- (p) Mahavansa
- (q) Atthasalini.
- (r) Visudhimagga.
- (s) Abhidhammatthasangaho.
- (t) Teleckatahagatha
- (u) Subodhalankara.
- (v) Vouttodaya.

Part 2. Evidence of the first-hand reading of the following selected texts (Textual questions will be asked from the portions mentioned against each texts).

- (i) Mahavagga (Mahakhandhaka only).
- (ii) Dighanikaya (Samannaphala-sutta only).
- (iii) Majjhimanikaya (Mulapariyaya – Setta and Samma ditthisutta).
- (iv) Dhammapada (Yamaka, Vagga only).
- (v) Suttanipata (Uraga Vagga only).
- (vi) Milindapanha (Lakkhanapannho only).

(vii) Mahavansa (Pratham –Sangiti, Dutiya-Sangiti and Tativa- Sangiti).

(viii) Visuldhimagga (Sila niddesa only)

(ix) Abhdhammatthasangaho.

Note to Item No. 2 (1) Questions carrying minimum 25 percent marks should be answered in pali (2) Passages for translation and annotation will be selected only from the portions given above within parenthesis.