

**DETAILED SYLLABUS FOR THE POST OF SCIENTIFIC  
OFFICER(BIOLOGY) IN KERALA POLICE SERVICE (FORENSIC  
SCIENCE LABORATORY)**

**(CAT.NO.: 634/2023)**

**(Total Marks – 100)**

**PART I : BOTANY (50 Marks)**

**Module I**

**Taxonomy, Morphology of Angiosperms and Economic Botany (2 marks)**

**Systematics:** Basic concepts, Importance and Applications, Theories of Biological classification, Taxonomic characters. Five kingdom classification, Species concept. Anatomy and palynology. Modern Taxonomic Trends: Chemotaxonomy, Cytotaxonomy, Molecular taxonomy, Cladistics, Numerical taxonomy, DNA Bar coding techniques.

**Module II**

**Research Methodology and Biostatistics (6 marks)**

**Research Methodology:** Basic concepts - Knowledge, Information and Data - Science, Pseudoscience. Life Science -Definition, Laws, Characteristics. Scientific temper, Empiricism, Rationalism and Units of measurements. Types of Research (Descriptive/Analytical, Applied/ Fundamental, Quantitative/ Qualitative, Conceptual / Empirical. Research and scientific method. Research Process. Research formulation -Observation and Facts, Prediction and explanation, Induction, Deduction. Hypothesis -Null and alternate hypothesis and testing of hypothesis - Research Design -Basic principles, Meaning, Need and features of good design, Important concepts. Development of a research plan -Exploration, Description, Diagnosis, Experimentation, determining experimental and sample designs. Data collection techniques. Scientific Documentation and Communication. Information Science, Extension and Ethics: Sources of Information -Primary and secondary sources. Intellectual Property Rights – Copy right, Patents, Trademarks, Geographical indications. Safety and precaution - ISO standards, Lab protocols, Lab animal use, care and welfare, animal houses, radiation hazards. Extension: Lab to Field, Extension communication.

**Biostatistics:** Data and Variable (Collection, Types, Sources). Population, Sample, Sampling Methods (Random, Cluster, Stratified and Geographical) and Sampling Errors/Bias. Organization of Data - Editing, Classification, Tabulation (forming a frequency distribution from raw data and types and characteristics of a Frequency table). Presentation of Data - Types and Characteristics of Tables and Visual aids – Graphs,

Charts, Diagrams, Flow charts, Cartographs. Statistical Analysis Tools - Parametric and Non Parametric; Bivariate and Multivariate Analysis. Interpretation and Forecasting, Characteristics, Merits and De merits of Mean, Median and Mode, Range, Quartile Deviation, Mean Deviation and Standard Deviation. Correlation, Regression, Probability analysis. Probability distributions Binomial, Poisson and Normal. Chi- Square Test Student's 't' test F-test and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA - One way)

### **Module III**

#### **Biophysics and Instrumentation ( 5 marks)**

Diffusion and Osmosis: Diffusion -Kinetics of diffusion, Biological significance in animals, Electro chemical gradient, Microscopy: Light microscope and dark field microscope, Phase contrast micro scope, Differential Interference contrast (Nomarsky) microscopy, Confocal micro scope, Electron microscope –TEM, SEM, Scanning Tunnelling and Atomic Force Micro scopes., Polarizing microscope, fluorescence microscope and camera lucida Chromatography: Paper chromatography, Thin layer chromatography, Ion exchange chromatography. Gel permeation chromatography, Affinity chromatography, Gas chromatography, High pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC). Electrophoresis. Paper electrophoresis, Gel electrophoresis, Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE) – SDS and non SDS, Agarose gel electrophoresis, Disc electrophoresis, High voltage electrophoresis, immunoelectrophoresis, isoelectric focusing. Colorimetry, Spectrophotometry and Spectroscopy. Principle and applications of colorimetry and spectrophotometry (UV and visual). Spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction crystallography, Flame emission spectroscopy, Atomic absorption spectroscopy, Nuclear Magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR), Circular dichroism spectroscopy, ESR spectroscopy, Mass spectroscopy. Centrifugation: Basic principles of sedimentation, Types of centrifuges, Analytical and Preparative centrifugation, Differential and density gradient centrifugation. Radioisotope Detection and Measurement. Dosimetry: Ionization chamber, GM counter, Solid and liquid scintillation counters, Autoradiography. Nanotechnology: Nanosensors and Nanomedicines, Radio Immuno Assay, Enzyme Linked Immuno Sorbant Assay (ELISA). pH meter, Principle and working. Types of pH meters. Specimen preparation for TEM, SEM, shadow casting, freeze fracturing, freeze etching, negative staining. Microphotography. Bio-Safety Cabinet, Autoclave, Automatic DNA extraction System, SEQUENCER, PCR-Types,

### **Module IV**

#### **Biochemistry and Plant Physiology ( 8 marks)**

**Carbohydrates:** Classification of carbohydrates with examples -Structure of monosaccharides- glucose, fructose, galactose, mannose and ribose. Isomerism - Structural isomerism (functional group isomerism) and stereo isomerism (optical isomerism)- mention epimer, anomer and enantiomer with examples, Mutarotation

Biological roles of monosaccharides. Structure and biological roles of maltose, sucrose, lactose, trehalose and cellobiose. Homopolysaccharides - Structure and biological roles of cellulose, starch, glycogen, inulin and chitin. Heteropolysaccharide - Structure and biological roles of hyaluronic acid, chondroitin, chondroitin sulphate, keratan sulphate, heparin and agar-agar

**Proteins:** Amino acids, Classification: (a) on the basis of number of amino and carboxyl group (b) on the basis of the chemical composition of side chain (c) based on the polarity of side chain (R) Amphoteric properties of amino acids p k value and Isoelectric point (pI) of amino acids. Peptide bond and peptides (di, tri, tetra, oligo and polypeptide).

**Structure of protein.** Primary structure, Secondary structure ( $\alpha$ -helix -parallel & antiparallel and  $\beta$ -pleated sheet), random coil conformation, Tertiary structure, Quaternary structure. Brief note on protein domains, motifs, folds and Ramachandran plot. Biological roles of proteins

**Lipids:** Classification of lipids -Simple lipids (fats, oils and waxes), compound lipids (phospholipids, glycolipids, lipoproteins and sulpholipids) and derived lipids. Biological roles of lipids - as food reserves (storage lipids), structural lipids in membrane, as signals, as co-factors, as pigments, as insulators, as vitamin carriers. Prostaglandins - Chemical nature and functions. Fatty acids - definition; essential fatty acids. Classification with examples- Saturated, unsaturated, hydroxyl and cyclic fatty acids Nomenclature of fatty acids - Genevan system.

**Nucleic acids:** Structural organization of DNA (Watson -Crick model) Structural organization of t-RNA;. Biological roles of nucleotides and nucleic acids

**Enzymes:** Classification- (I.U.B. system). Mechanism of enzyme action: Formation of enzyme substrate complex- Michaelis-Menten theory, Fischer's template theory and Koshland's induced fit theory. Factors influencing enzyme action. Enzyme kinetics - Michaelis-Menten equation - derivation; significance of  $K_m$  and  $V_{max}$  Values. Lineweaver- Burk equation and double reciprocal plot of enzyme reaction. Enzyme inhibition - Competitive, non-competitive and uncompetitive inhibition, suicide inhibition and feedback inhibition. Classification, Structure and functions of Vitamins. Vitamins as co-enzymes.

**Carbohydrate metabolism.** Glycolysis - Fate of pyruvic acid Citric acid cycle; Pyruvate dehydrogenase complex and ketoglutarate dehydrogenase complex Electron transport system and oxidative phosphorylation; Redox potential, Chemiosmotic hypothesis; inhibitors of electron transport chain Gluconeogenesis, Glycogenesis, Glycogenolysis; regulation of glycogen synthesis and breakdown. Pentose phosphate pathway (HMP pathway) and its significance Uronic acid pathway

**Amino acid metabolism:** Biosynthesis and degradation of amino acids - glutamic acid, phenyl alanine, methionine, tryptophan, isoleucine, histidine, valine. Fate of amino acids in the body. Transamination, Decarboxylation and deamination reactions in the biological system.

**Lipid metabolism:** Oxidation of fatty acids Biosynthesis of fatty acids. Biosynthesis of cholesterol

**Nucleic acid metabolism.** Biosynthesis and degradation of purines and pyrimidines.

**Plant Physiology:** Nitrogen metabolism in plants, Photosynthesis - C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>4</sub> and CAM cycle in detail photorespiration Respiration - oxidative photophosphorylation, Growth and development- role of phytohormones, photoperiodism, vernalization, florigens, Stress physiology - water, salt, hot and cold stress - heat shock proteins, adaptations Seed germination - physiological and biochemical Changes

## Module V

### Cell Biology and Molecular Biology

( 8 marks)

**Cell Biology:** Cellular Membranes: Membrane structure and chemistry, dynamic nature of the plasma membrane, membrane functions, Diffusion and osmosis, Facilitated diffusion, Active transport, Bulk transport. Nucleus and nuclear membrane membrane potentials, ion channels. Cell junctions: Cell adhesion and Extracellular matrix Basal membrane and laminin, Collagen, Proteoglycan, Fibronectin. Interaction of cells with extracellular matrix: Integrins. Focal adhesion and hemidesmosomes. Interaction of cells with other cells: Selectins, Immunoglobulins, Cadherins, Adherens. Junctions and desmosomes. Tight junctions, Gap junctions and Plasmodesmata. Structural organization and function of intracellular organelles: Endoplasmic reticulum, Golgi complex, Ribosome, Mitochondria. Lysosome, Chloroplasts, Peroxisomes and Glyoxysomes Organization of chromosomes and genes.: Structure of chromatin and chromosomes, heterochromatin, euchromatin –unique and repetitive DNA. Chromosomal changes-euploidy, aneuploidy, chromosomal aberrations- Structural alterations-gene mutations-molecular changes- deletion, duplication, translocation, inversion and sister chromatid exchange. Interrupted genes and gene families. Concept of gene-Allele, multiple alleles, pseudoallele, complementation tests. Extrachromosomal inheritance- inheritance of mitochondrial and chloroplast genes, maternal inheritance. Cell Signalling: Basic principles of cell communication. Extracellular messengers (signalling molecules), role of Calcium and Nitric oxide (NO) as intracellular and intercellular messengers. Receptors: G- Protein coupled receptors, Receptor tyrosine kinases (RTK), Ion channel receptors, Cytokine receptors (Tyrosine kinase linked receptors). Second messengers: Cyclic-AMP, Cyclic-GMP, Inositol 1, 4, 5-trisphosphate (IP<sub>3</sub>), Di-acyl glycerol (DAG). Signalling pathways: G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) and cyclic AMP pathway – role of protein kinase A (PKA), GPCR pathway in rod cells, Receptor protein tyrosine kinase and Ras-MAP kinase pathway, JAK-STAT pathway, Calcium phosphatidylinositol pathway, Phospho Inositide 3-kinase (PI3 kinase), Transforming growth factor (TGF) signalling pathway. Regulation of signalling pathways. Cellular Reproduction: Cell cycle: Mitosis, meiosis and Structure of chromosomes, Control of cell cycle, Checkpoints in cell cycle. Control of cell division and cell growth. Apoptosis- extrinsic and intrinsic pathways, significance. Cancer: Basic properties of a cancer cell, Types of

cancer, Causes of cancer, Genetics of cancer, Tumour suppressor gene, Oncogene. New strategies for combating cancer: Immunotherapy, Gene therapy, Inhibiting cancer promoting proteins, Inhibiting formation of new blood vessels.

**Molecular Biology:** DNA replication: Semi-discontinuous synthesis-Okazaki fragments Replication origin and replication fork Unit of replication, extra chromosomal replicon of bacterial Ti plasmid Enzymes/proteins of replication- Primase, Replisomes, Helicase, DNA polymerases, Single strand binding proteins, Topoisomerases and Ligase; Fidelity of replication of the ends of eukaryotic chromosome – role of telomerase, Models of DNA replication – Rolling circle model and looped rolling circle model, D-loop model,  $\theta$ -model, Inhibitors of DNA replication – Methotrexate and Fluorodeoxyuridylate Safe guard systems of DNA. Restriction enzymes: significance, role and features of Type I, II & III restriction enzymes Modification: enzymes and significance Repair: Major kinds of damage to DNA and causes Repair mechanisms: Direct reversal, Mismatch repair, Excision repair, Recombination repair, SOS response Transcription of mRNA in prokaryotes and eukaryotes: Structural organisation and life span of mRNA; monocistronic and polycistronic mRNA Transcription in prokaryotes and eukaryotes, Promoter (mention Pribnow, TATA, CAAT and GC box), enhancer and silence sites, Transcription factors; Transcription activators and repressors, Characteristic features of RNA polymerases of phages, prokaryotes and eukaryotes and their functions, post transcriptional modification of RNA, Capping, Polyadenylation, Splicing, RNA editing,

**Genetic code:** Characteristics of genetic code, Start codons and stop codons, Degeneracy of the code: Wobble hypothesis and isoacceptor tRNAs, Special features of the genetic code in mitochondria, mitochondrial tRNA, Variations in the genetic code in Mycoplasma and Tetrahymena Point mutations that alter genetic code (missense, nonsense & frameshift).

**Ribosome:** The site of protein synthesis: Structure, Composition; Reconstitution experiments. Active centers Biogenesis of ribosome in eukaryotes.

**Translation in prokaryotes and eukaryotes:** Aminoacylation of tRNA & initiation, elongation and termination of protein synthesis Aminoacyl tRNA synthetases & initiation, elongation and termination factors Translational proof-reading Differences in protein synthesis between prokaryotes and eukaryotes Translational inhibitors in prokaryotes and eukaryotes – role of tetracycline, streptomycin, neomycin, chloramphenicol, erythromycin, puromycin and diphtheria toxin Post- translational modification of proteins: protein folding (role of chaperones) and biochemical modifications Control of gene expression at transcription and translation level:: Regulation of gene expression in Phages – alternate patterns of gene expression for control of lytic and lysogenic cycle in  $\lambda$  phage Regulation of gene expression in bacteria – basic features of tryptophan, lac, arabinose and galactose operons Regulation of gene expression in eukaryotes – Role of chromatin in regulating gene expression Activation and repression of transcription Regulation of translation by gene arrangement Regulation of translation by alternate pathways of transcript splicing Antisense RNA strategies for regulating gene expression si RNA and mi RNA in regulation.

**Eukaryotic genome:** Special features of eukaryotic genome Features, components and re-association kinetics of Unique, Moderately repetitive and High repetitive DNA Junk DNA, Satellite DNA and Selfish DNA, Cot value and complexity of genome, Organisation of human genome Interrupted genes: Definition and explanation: Organisation and special features of interrupted genes Interrupted genes in eukaryotes, exons and introns-R loops, significance of introns. Genes-within-genes (overlapping genes) Bacteriophage  $\phi$  X174., Evolution of interrupted genes Gene families: Definition and concept, Classification with example, Simple multigene family - organisation of rRNA gene in *Xenopus*. Complex multigene family - organisation of histone genes in sea urchin and tRNA genes in *Drosophila* Developmentally controlled complex multigene family e.g., globin gene Globin genes and its products, Organisation of globin genes and its expression in Man, Evolution of globin genes Concept of an evolutionary clock, Pseudogenes, Transposable genetic elements - Transposons: Definition, features and types Transposition and mechanism, Transposons in bacteria IS elements, Tn family Mu phage as a transposable element Transposons in eukaryotes. SINE, Alu family; LINE, L1 P elements in *Drosophila*, Transposons in Maize, Retroviruses and transposition Molecular mechanisms involved in recombination of DNA : Genetic recombination – Site specific recombination Non-homologous recombination Homologous recombination: Molecular mechanism involved in homologous recombination of DNA in eukaryotes- Holliday model: Holliday intermediate, heteroduplex DNA, gene conversion Role of Rec A protein in genetic recombination Microbial genetics: Prokaryotic genome- *Escherichia coli* genome – basic feature Methods of genetic transfers in bacteria– transformation (in *Streptococcus pneumoniae*), conjugation and sexduction, transduction. Mapping genes by interrupted mating (in bacteria) Organelle genome: Chloroplast genome. Mitochondrial genome, Special features of yeast and human mitochondrial genome.

## Module VI

### Biotechnology, Bio-informatics and Computational Biology ( 6 marks)

**Biotechnology:** Tools and Techniques in Recombinant DNA Technology: Vectors: cloning and expression vectors - Plasmids, Ti and Ri plasmids, cosmids, phasmids, phagemids, bacteriophage, SV40, vectors with combination features; PUC19 and Bluescript vectors, shuttle vectors, viral vectors, BAC and YAC vectors. Restriction enzymes and DNA modifying enzymes. Polymerase chain Reaction- different types and applications. Chromosome walking, chromosome jumping, DNA foot printing. Molecular Markers and Probes-SNP, VNTR, RAPD, RFLP, SSR, STMS, FISH and GISH. DNA sequencing methods- Maxim and Gilberts chemical degradation method, Sanger and Cousin method, Automated DNA sequencers. Site directed mutagenesis, molecular chimeras. Cloning Methodologies - Gene isolation Shot gun method, Genome libraries, cDNA libraries, Chemical synthesis. Splicing and integration of isolated genes- cohesive end ligation, homopolymer tailing, extending linkers. Methods of rDNA transfer to host cells-  $CaCl_2$  treatment, Virus delivery. Selection and screening of the

transformed cells, Blue-white screening, Colony hybridization methods, Reporter genes, Fusion proteins. Southern, Northern, Western, Dot Blot, DNA finger printing.

**Plant Biotechnology:** Plant tissue culture techniques - direct and indirect regeneration, Somatic cell genetics and somatic clonal variations, Somatic embryogenesis - artificial seeds, protoplast culture, somatic hybridization, impacts in plant breeding, Haploid production- anther and ovule culture – applications

**Environmental Biotechnology:** Intellectual Property Rights, Biosafety and Bioethics: Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights. Basics of Patents Types of patents; Indian Patent Act 1970; Recent Amendments, Protection of New GMOs. IPs of relevance to Biotechnology and few Case Studies (Rice, Neem, Curcumin). Biosafety concepts and issues. General guidelines for recombinant DNA research activity. Biosafety protocol 2000. Bioethics: Principles of bioethics: autonomy, human rights, beneficence, privacy, justice, equity etc. Ethics in post genomic era-genetic testing and genetic screening.

**Bioinformatics:** Introduction to data structures, data base concepts, tools for searching, homology searching, Application of databases in biology, Sequence databases, sequence comparison, structural databases, proteomics and genomics (elementary), Major bioinformatics resources - NCBI, EBI, EMBL, GENBANK, DDBJ, SWISSPROT, PDB, Tools in bioinformatics - BLAST, CLUSTAL -X, CLUSTAL-W, Phylip, GENSCAN, Applications of bioinformatics - transcriptomics, metabolomics, pharmacogenomics (brief account only) and Drug discovery platforms.

**Computer Applications:** Computer application in biology, Computer packages for biostatistics and numerical taxonomy, Hardware and software parts of a computer. Internet online biology resources, public library of sciences, online publications, electronic journals and books

## Module VII

### Genetics ( 8 marks)

**Genetics: Principles of Genetic Transmission:** Mendelian Principles, Extension of Mendel's principles: allelic variation and gene function- incomplete dominance and co-dominance. Gene action- from genotype to phenotype - penetrance and expressivity, gene interaction epistasis, pleiotropy, genomic imprinting, phenocopy.

Molecular Organization of Chromosomes. Sex determination, sex linkage, sex limited and sex influenced characters in Man Genome size and C-value Paradox. Structure of eukaryotic chromosome, nucleosome model. Chromosome condensation - euchromatin and heterochromatin. Repetitive nucleotide sequences in eukaryotic genomes, kinetics of renaturation: Cot and Cot curve. Unique and repetitive sequences. Mini and micro satellites. Molecular structure of centromere and telomere. Polytene chromosomes and Lamp brush chromosomes. Chromosome banding techniques. Gene Fine Structure: The definition of gene. The standard genetic code, redundancy and Wobble. DNA Structure-

alternate forms of the Double Helix. Gene synthesis (in vitro synthesis) -works of Khorana and Kornberg. Genetic Linkage, Chromosome Mapping. Chromosome theory of heredity, Linkage and recombination of genes in a chromosome, crossing over as the physical basis of recombination, Gene conversion, Recombination mapping with two-point and three –point test cross in Drosophila, Coincidence and Interference. Genetic mapping by tetrad analysis in Neurospora. Mitotic recombination. Genetic recombination in Phage, deletion mapping, conjugation mapping, mapping by interrupted mating, mapping with molecular markers and mapping using somatic cell. Microbial genetics - transduction, transformation and conjugation in bacteria, Lysogeny and lytic cycle in viruses, Operon Concepts.

***Epigenetics:*** Epigenetics - from phenomenon to field, a brief history of epigenetics - over view and concepts; chromatin modifications and their mechanism of action, concept of ‘histone-code’ hypothesis, epigenetics in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, position effect variegation, heterochromatin formation and gene silencing in Drosophila.

***Quantitative and Population Genetics:*** Polygenic inheritance, analysis of quantitative traits, quantitative traits and natural selection, molecular analysis of quantitative traits, phenotypic plasticity.

## Module VIII

### Microbiology, Ecology and Biodiversity Conservation ( 6 marks)

**Microbiology:** Bacterial cell walls Peptidoglycan - structure- Gram positive and gram negative cell wall- Mechanism of gram staining, Components external to cell wall; pili and fimbriae, capsule and slime layers, Flagella and motility,

**Microbial nutrition:** Nutritional requirements, Nutritional types (Auto, Hetero, Chemo, Phototrophs & obligate parasites), Culture media and types of media. Mixed microbial population and pure cultures.

**Microbial growth:** Growth curve -synchronous growth, Continuous culture, Influence of environmental factors on growth, Measurement of growth, Measurement of cell numbers- Petroff, Hassuer counting Chamber, Spread plate and pour plate techniques Measurement of cell mass-Turbidity and microbial mass measurement.

**Utilization of energy:** Biosynthetic process- peptidoglycan synthesis, amino acid synthesis, Non synthetic processes -Bacterial motility and transport of nutrients.

**Microbial diseases:** Human diseases caused by viruses- AIDS, Rabies, Measles, Swine Flu, Bird flu, SARS, Fungal diseases- Candidiasis, Human diseases caused by bacteria- Typhoid, Cholera, Tetanus, Leprosy, Tuberculosis and Pneumonia.

**Control of microorganisms:** Disinfectants- physical- Heat, filtration and radiation Chemical agents - Phenol and Phenolic compounds, alcohols, halogens and aldehydes.



Antibiotics- Penicillin, Cephalosporins, Chloramphenicol, Tetracyclines. Microbial drug resistance.

**Microbial fermentation:** Lactic acid fermentation-Homolactic and heterolactic fermenters, products -cheese and yogurt. Alcoholic fermentation. Environmental microbiology: Microbiological analysis of drinking water. Microbial Bioremediation.

**Ecology: Ecosystem monitoring:** GIS, Physics of remote sensing, role of remote sensing in ecology, GPS and its application; EIA- tools and techniques, Ecosystem Modelling.

**Applied Ecology:** Environmental Pollution-types, causes and consequences. Concept of waste, types and sources of solid wastes including e-waste; Environmental biotechnology and solid waste management- aerobic and anaerobic systems. Concept of bioreactors in waste management. Liquid wastes and sewage. Bioremediation- need and scope of bioremediation in cleaning up of environment. Phytoremediation, bio-augmentation, biofilms, bio filters, bio scrubbers and trickling filters, Energy audit, Green technology and sustainable development, ecological foot print, carbon foot print, carbon credit, eco-taxes.

**Deforestation:** surface albedo- snow and ice- volcanic activity-dust particles-Greenhouse gas concentrations -Atmosphere- ocean heat exchange-Atmospheric carbon dioxide Variations- human influences: Global climate changes – causes and consequences. Physical evidence for climatic change – Historical and archaeological evidence -Glaciers – Vegetation Ice cores – Dendron climatology- Pollen Analysis -Sea level change Toxicology- Principles, toxicants- types, dose and effects, toxicity of heavy metals.

**Biodiversity Conservation:** Biogeography and Conservation. Principles and major approaches to conservation and environmental management. Role of UN-conventions, protocols; Climate change and the emerging discussions mitigation and adaptation; Role of UNFCCC and IPCC. Country specific laws – mention major environmental/conservation laws and rules in India-Wildlife Protection Act 1972 amended 1991, Forest Conservation Act, 1980, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Role of Intergovernmental and Non-governmental organizations in conservation – IUCN, WCMC, WRI, WWF, CI and Green Peace. National and Local NGOs.

## **Module - IX**

### **Recent Development in Botany ( 1 marks)**

## **PART II : Zoology - (50 Marks)**

### **Module I: Animal Diversity and Evolution (5 marks)**

**Animal Diversity:** Lower Metazoans: Porifera, Cnidaria-Polymorphism, Ctenophora, Acoelomata, Placozoa, Mesozoa and Pseudo-coelomata, Echinoderms: Classification Hemichordates: Position in the animal kingdom, Chordates: Cephalochordates and Urochordates. Vertebrate Phylogeny-Agnatha, Ostracoderms and Gnathostomes Placoderms, Acanthodians, Chondrichthyes and Osteichthyes. Structural and Functional adaptations of fishes. Terrestrial Vertebrates: Tetrapod phylogeny - modern Amphibians, diversity, distribution, status and threats. Reptiles- diversity, Birds and Mammals: diversity. Class Mammalia: Prototheria, Metatheria and Eutheria. Phylogeny of Mammalian orders. Scientific names and common names of organisms under all phyla.

**Evolution:** The First Cell. Evolution of Prokaryotes- origin of eukaryotic cells- evolution of unicellular eukaryotes, genome evolution. Geological Timescale. Major events in evolutionary timescale. Anthropocene. Tools and techniques in estimating evolutionary time scale. Mass extinction and its consequences. Fossils- fossilization and its significance, Types of fossilization. Population Genetics. Gene pool, gene frequency, Hardy-Weinberg Law. Rate of change in gene frequency through natural selection, migration and random genetic drift. Founder effect. Cytogenetic and molecular basis of origin of Man-African origin of modern man- Mitochondrial Eve, Y chromosomal Adam

### **Module II: Biophysics (3 marks)**

Microarrays-significance of proteomics and drug design, Systems Biology, metabolomics, gene network, synthetic biology, Radiation Biophysics: Ionizing radiation, units of radioactivity, exposure and dose. Interaction of radiation with matter – effect on nucleic acids, proteins, enzymes and carbohydrates. Cellular effects of radiation: somatic and genetic. Radiation dosimetry, radioactive isotopes, autoradiography, Cerenkov radiation, liquid scintillation techniques, Flow cytometry and fluorescence.

### **Module III: Animal Physiology (12 marks)**

**Nutrition:** Constituents of normal diet and their daily requirements. Physiological calorie value of food stuffs. Antioxidant nutrients. Movements of GI tract, deglutition, gastric motility and emptying, intestinal motility and defecation. Mechanism of absorption of monosaccharides, amino acids and lipids and vitamins. The role of hormones and neurotransmitters in the control of gastrointestinal Motility. Energy balance and obesity-causes and consequences. BMR and its significance.

**Excretory System:** Introduction: Brief description of different types of excretory organs in different animal groups (flame cells, green glands, malpighian tubules). Functional anatomy of mammalian kidney, nephron and juxtaglomerular apparatus- structure, parts and function. Urine formation (glomerular filtration, tubular reabsorption and tubular

secretion) Regulation of water balance -Mechanism of concentration of urine – Counter Current system. Renal regulation of acid- base balance & electrolyte balance. Structure of urinary bladder, micturition reflex and micturition. Renal clearance – definition, concept and significance; clearance value of urea, creatinine, phosphate, potassium, chloride and sodium.

**Respiratory system:** Introduction: Brief description of major respiratory organs (tracheal system, book lungs, gills and ctenidia). Physiological anatomy and histology of respiratory passage and lungs. Mechanism of pulmonary ventilation (inspiration & expiration). Alveolar ventilation, dead space and its effect on alveolar ventilation. Role of surfactant in alveolar expansion. Pulmonary volumes and capacities – definition & normal values (tidal volume, inspiratory reserve volume, expiratory reserve volume, residual volume, functional residual capacity, inspiratory capacity, vital capacity, total lung capacity). Exchange of gases- partial pressures involved-lung and tissues. Oxygen dissociation curve – factors affecting binding of oxygen to haemoglobin ( $PO_2$ ,  $PCO_2$ , CO, pH, body temperature, diphosphoglyceric acid level, foetal haemoglobin and also myoglobin). Neural and chemical regulation of respiration: Respiratory centres & factors regulating respiration.

**Nervous system:** Organisation of human brain. Cerebrum and cerebral lobe. Cerebral cortex and its functional areas- Motor cortex, Broca's area, cortex and its association area, gustatory cortex, visual cortex and its association area, auditory cortex and its association area, olfactory cortex, wernick's area, Brodman map, cerebral dominance. Cortical white matter- commissures, association fibers, projection fibers, corpus callosum and fornix, basal nuclei, Brain stem, Cerebellum, Diencephalon. Functional brain systems - Limbic system and reticular formation. Protection of brain – Meninges, cerebrospinal fluid- formation and function, blood brain barrier and its function. Diseased states of brain - schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease, Senile dementia & Parkinson's disease. Memory- types of memory- somatosensory, short term, intermediate long term and Long term memory, consolidation of memory. PNS and Autonomic nervous system. Spinal cord – structure. Reflex action, reflex arc, monosynaptic and polysynaptic reflexes, inverse stretch reflex and Golgi tendon organ. Special senses Vision: Structure of eyeball Fluid systems of the eye Layers of Retina and photoreceptors (rods & cones) Neuronal cell types and neural circuitry of the retina and visual pathways from retina to visual cortex Image formation Taste: Primary sensations of taste. Taste buds, Physiology of taste, Smell: Olfactory membrane and receptor cells Physiology of olfaction, Tactile response: Mechanoreceptor, Pain receptors, Thermal receptors, Formation of image on the retina. A brief general account of electrophysiology of vision Photochemistry of vision and colour vision

**Cardiovascular system:** Structural organization of myogenic heart (in human beings). Physiological anatomy of cardiac muscle – specialized tissue. Cardiac cycle. Neural and chemical regulation of heart function. Blood volume and blood pressure. Physiological anatomy of coronary blood flow, Ischemic heart disease. Lymphatic System. Lymph channels of the body. Composition and formation of lymph. Functions of lymph and lymphatic system including. Muscle physiology, Skeletal, Smooth and Cardiac muscles,

physiology of muscle contraction, muscle proteins, molecular mechanism of muscle contraction, muscle twitch, rigor mortis, summation.

**Endocrinology:** Invertebrate and vertebrate endocrine system. Endocrine glands. Synthesis, physiologic role, control and mechanisms of hormone action. Neuro-endocrine regulation of hormone action. Disorders of hormonal imbalance in Man. Reproductive physiology: Anatomy and histology of adult testis and ovary. Reproductive cycles of mammals and their hormonal control. Physiology of implantation, pregnancy, parturition, and lactation. Environmental Physiology: Thermoregulation. Comfort zone, normal body temperatures (oral, skin & core). Temperature regulating mechanism (hot & cold), role of hypothalamus, thyroid and adrenal glands.

#### **Module IV: Immunology (10 marks)**

Hematopoiesis – Lymphoid and myeloid lineages. Hematopoietic growth factors. Genes that regulate hematopoiesis. Regulation of hematopoiesis. B- Lymphocytes, T- lymphocytes and Antigen presenting cells. Antigens Immunogenicity, Antigenicity. Factors that influence immunogenicity. Adjuvants. Haptens. Epitopes. Properties of B-cell and T- cell epitopes. Immunoglobulins (Antibodies) Structure and function of Antibody molecules. Generation of Antibody diversity. Immunoglobulin gene. Antigenic determinants of immunoglobulin - (a) Isotype (b) Allotype (c) Idiotype. B-cell receptor (BCR). Monoclonal Antibodies. Production of Monoclonal Antibodies (Hybridoma technology). Clinical uses of Monoclonal Antibodies. Antibody Engineering. Antigen-Antibody Interactions Strength of antigen – antibody interactions. (a) Antibody affinity (b) Antibody avidity. Cross- reactivity. Precipitation reactions. Humoral immunity. Cellular immunity. T- Cell receptor, TCR- CD3 complex. Activation, maturation and differentiation of B-Cells and T-Cells. Immune effector mechanism. Cytokines. Cytokine antagonists. Cytokine secretion by TH1 and TH2- cells. Cytokine related diseases. (a) Bacterial septic- shock (b) chaga's disease) (c) lymphoid and myeloid cancers. Therapeutic uses of cytokines. Toll- like receptors. The Complement system. The functions of complement components. Complement activation (a) Classical pathway (b) Alternate pathway (c) Lectin pathway. Regulation of complement system. Biological consequences of complement activation. Complement deficiencies. Major Histocompatibility Complex (MHC) General organization and inheritance of MHC. MHC molecules and genes. Cellular distribution of MHC. Antigen-processing and presentation- Exogenous and Endogenous pathways. Presentation of non- peptide antigens.

**Transplantation immunology:** Auto graft, Allograft, Isograft and xenograft Immunological basis of graft rejection. Role of cell- mediated responses. Bone marrow transplantation, Transplantation antigens. General immune suppressive therapy. Hypersensitivity Reactions. Allergens IgE- mediated (type- I) hypersensitivity. Antibody-mediated cytotoxic (type- II) hypersensitivity. Immune complex- mediated (type- III) hypersensitivity. TDTH- mediated (type- IV) hypersensitivity Vaccines.: Active and passive immunization. Whole organism vaccines. Recombinant vector vaccines. DNA vaccines. Synthetic peptide vaccines. Multivalent vaccines.

## **Module V: Animal Biotechnology ( 8 marks)**

Cell and Tissue culture: Basic techniques of mammalian cell culture, disaggregation of tissue and primary culture, maintenance of cell culture and cell separation. Growth media: Physicochemical properties, natural and artificial, Balanced salt solutions, Complete Media, Serum, Serum-Free Media and protein free media and their applications. Biology and characterization of cultured cells, measurement of viability and cytotoxicity. Manipulation of cultured cell and tissues- scaling up of animal cell culture, cell synchronization, cell transformation, organ and histotypic culture. Tissue engineering: strategies and developments in tissue engineering, Biomaterials. Contamination: Source of contamination, Type of microbial contamination, Monitoring, Eradication of contamination, Cross-Contamination. Cryopreservation - importance and process of cryopreservation, cryopreservation of embryos, Cryogenics. Transfection Methods: CaPO<sub>4</sub> precipitation, Short Gun, Electroporation, Lipofection, Microinjection, Agrobacterium mediated gene transfer. Somatic cell nuclear transfer- reproductive cloning and therapeutic cloning. Gene knockout and knocking technology. Applications of transgenic animals. Stem cell culture : General and historical aspects, properties and types of stem cells, advantages and disadvantages, stem cell niche, application of stem cell technology in medicine. Biotechnology in Healthcare: Disease prevention – DNA vaccines. Disease diagnosis - Probes, Monoclonal antibodies, detection of genetic disorders. Disease treatment - Therapeutic proteins, hormones and growth factors. RNAi, Drug targeting, Gene therapy. Forensic medicine. Biosensors-different types, applications - medical and non-medical. Biochips and their application. Biotechnology in Industry and Agriculture: Metabolite production. Antibiotics, Organic acids, Amino acids, Vitamins, Upstream processing, downstream processing. Microbial enzymes and bio-transformation- Microbial production of enzymes, fermentation, Enzyme engineering and applications. Food industry- Single cell protein, probiotics. Transgenic plants- Plants with resistance to Pests, plants with increased shelf life. Bio-fertilizers and microbial inoculants, biotechnology of nitrogen fixation, biocontrol agents, bio-pesticides, bio-insecticides, Terminator gene technology

## **Module VI: Developmental Biology and Human Genetics ( 10 Marks)**

### **Developmental Biology ( 8 marks)**

Basic concepts of development Cell fate, potency, determination and differentiation. Commitment, Specification- autonomous, conditional, syncytial. Genomic equivalence and cytoplasmic determinants, Morphogenetic gradients, Genomic Imprinting, The stem cell concept- Progenitor cells, Adult stem cells, Mesenchymal stem cells, Multipotent adult stem cells, Pluripotent Embryonic stem cells, Induction, Competence, Determination and Differentiation, Morphogenetic gradients, Cell fate and cell lineages. Genomic equivalence and Cytoplasmic determinants. Gametogenesis, fertilization and early development: Production of gametes- Spermatogenesis and Oogenesis, Ultrastructure of gametes, Cell surface molecules in sperm-egg recognition in animals

(sea urchin and mammals) Zygote formation-Encounter of sperm and egg, Capacitation, Acrosome reaction, Activation of ovum, Amphimixis, Prevention of Polyspermy Cleavage and blastula formation, Gastrulation in humans.

Transcription factors induced in the organizer. Neural induction, Regional specificity of induction, Genetic specificity of induction (Paracrine factors - Hedgehog family, Wnt family, TGF, BMP). Surface receptors and signal transduction pathway - RTK pathway, Smad pathway, Wnt pathway, Hedgehog pathway and cell death pathway. Differential gene transcription - exons and introns, promoters, silencers, enhancers, transcription factors, DNA methylation, genomic imprinting, dosage compensation, differential RNA processing; Control of gene expression: translational and post translational control of gene expression. Teratogenesis, Malformations and disruptions, Gene – phenotype relationship, Autophenotype, Allophenotype and Pleiotrophy; Teratogenic agents (Retinoic acid, pathogens, alcohol, drugs and chemicals, heavy metals). Infertility-Test tube babies (In vitro fertilization and embryo transfer). Cloning experiments- (Mammals and Human).

***Human Genetics:*** (2marks)

Karyotype, pedigree analysis, Chromosome anomalies: autosomal and sex chromosomal disorders. Lod score for linkage testing, genetic analysis of complex traits - complex pattern of inheritance, quantitative traits, threshold traits; human genome and mapping. Blood group systems - ABO, Rh and MN blood groups, Bombay Blood Group, other types, human karyotype and syndromes caused by its aberrations, genetic counselling, pedigree analysis.

**Module – VII** (2marks)

**Recent Development In Zoology**

***NOTE: - It may be noted that apart from the topics detailed above, questions from other topics prescribed for the educational qualification of the post may also appear in the question paper. There is no undertaking that all the topics above may be covered in the question paper.***