SR University,Warangal

PhD Entrance Syllabus

Structure of the PhD Entrance Test (100 Marks)
Section A: Aptitude and Reasoning – Common to all candidates (50 Marks)
Section B: Subject-Specific (Soil science) (50 Marks)

Section A: APTITUDE & REASONING (Common to ALL)

Unit–1: Verbal Reasoning

Navigating Directions and Mastering Distances, Blood Relations, Logical Puzzles and Problem Solving- Floor Based, Month and Year Based. Seating Arrangements - Circular, Linear, Decoding the Code- Letter Coding, Number Coding, Letter and Number Coding.

Unit-2: Number System

Mastering Quick Calculations, BODMAS Simplified, Exploring Numbers and Division Rule, Unit Digits Decoded, Unlocking Divisibility and Counting Zeroes, "Mastering LCM and HCF: Foundations of Factorization, Uncovering Factors, Exploring Remainders.

Unit-3: Arithmetic Ability-1

Percentages - Fraction, Decimal, Percentage Change, Concept of 'By' and 'To', Product Constancy, All About Averages, Profit & Loss Essentials, Articles, False Weight, and Discount Insights - Discount, Simple Interest: Calculations and Applications, Compound Interest: Calculations and Applications, Relationship between SI and CI.

Unit–4: Arithmetic Ability-2

Ratio, Proportion, Partnership, Problems on Ages, Time and Work - Concept of Efficiency, Smart Work with Time and work, Negative Work, Chain Rule, Pipes and Cisterns, Time, Speed & Distance, Problems based on Trains, Problems based on Boats and Streams.

Unit-5: Critical Reasoning

Analogy and Classification, Sequence and Series Logic, Syllogisms - Types of statements, Venn diagrams using statements, Method to solve problems Two Statements and Two Conclusions, EITHER-OR Conclusions, Four Statements and Two Conclusions.

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Section:B **Soil science Syllabus for Ph.D Entrance Examination**

I: Pedology

Concept of land, soil and soil science. Composition of earth crust and its relationship with soils; Rocks, minerals and other soil forming materials; Weathering of rocks and minerals; Factors of soil formation; Pedogenic processes and their relationships with soil properties; Soil development; Pedon, polypedon, soil profile, horizons and their nomenclature. Soil Taxonomy - epipedons, diagnostic subsurface horizons and other diagnostic characteristics, soil moisture and temperature regimes, Interpretation of soil survey data for land capability and crop suitability classifications, Fertility Capability Classification- Nutrient indexing. Macro-morphological study ofsoils. Application and use of global positioning system for soil survey. Soil survey- types and techniques. Soil series characterization and procedure for establishing soil series, benchmark soils and soil correlations. Study of base maps: cadastral maps, toposheets, aerial photographs and satellite imageries. Use of geographical information system for preparing thematic maps. Application of Remote Sensing in soil survey and mapping. Soils of India

II: Soil Physics

Significance of soil physical properties. Soil texture – Stoke's Law- textural classes. Soil structure – classification, soil aggregation and significance, soil consistency, bulk density and particle density of soils and porosity, their significance and manipulation. Soil water- retention and potentials. Soil moisture constants. Movement of soil water- saturated and unsaturated flow- Darcy's law - hydraulic conductivity - infiltration, percolation, permeability, drainage and methods of determination of soil moisture. Thermal properties of soils, soil temperature. Soil air- composition, gaseous exchange, influence of soil temperature and air on plant growth. Soil physical constraints affecting crop production and their management strategies. Methods of soil analysis - particle size distribution, bulk and particle density, moisture constants. Soil erosion - types, effects,. Rain erosivity and soil erodibility. Runoff - methods of measurement, factors and management. Soil conservation measures. Characterization and evaluation of soil and land quality indicators; Causes of land degradation; Management of soil physical properties for prevention/restoration of land degradation; management of waste lands; Concept of watershed – its characterization and management.

III: Soil Chemistry

Chemical composition of soil; Soil colloids - structure, composition, constitution of clay minerals, amorphous clays and other non-crystalline silicate minerals, oxide and hydroxide minerals; Charge development on clays and organic matter; pH-charge relations; Buffer capacity of soils. Inorganic and organic colloids- surface charge characteristics, diffuse double layer, zeta potential. Soil organic matter fractionation, humus formation and theories clay-organic interactions. Cation exchange – Hysteresis - definition. Nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus and ammonium fixation in soils and management aspects.