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**DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS**

**DEPARTMENTAL TEST FOR AUDIT SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS  
DEPARTMENT – FIRST PAPER (PRECIS AND DRAFT)**

(Without Books)

Maximum Time : 2.30 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

**Answer ALL questions.**

**Marks will be deducted for bad handwriting.**

- I. Write an essay on any ONE of the following topics in not more than 6 pages. (40)
- Biodiversity – Relevance and Conservation.
  - Role of Youth in Nation building.
  - Contribution of Technology in Education.
- II. Make a precis of the following passage reducing it to one third of its length. (30)

Millions of people will be displaced in the Ganga delta during the next century because of a rise in Sea levels caused by the 'green house' effect. The sea may rise by 1.4 to 2.2 metres by the end of the next century, creating at least 50 million 'environmental refugees', according to World Watch, an environmental research institute. This class of refugees at 10 million already out numbered political or other kinds of refugees but no one is counting them. World Watch, non-profit research organisation based here, said in a report released last week that low-lying delta regions will be among the first to be inundated by a rise in sea-levels. The Bengal and Nile deltas which are densely populated will be the worst hit.

The green house effect is an explanation by some scientists for changes in the weather, with a noticeable warming trend in some areas of the globe.

The phenomenon gets the name from the entrapment of heat due to atmospheric pollution. The warming trend leads to the melting of the polar ice cap, raising the sea-water level. A one metre rise can virtually wipe out the Maldives, according to the report. Although the green house effect is largely caused by the industrial world, the developing world will face 'the most immediate and dramatic impacts'.

Ms. Jodi L. Jacobson, a Senior environmental research scholar who prepared the report, said the Third World will suffer most, because fertile deltas are important sources of food and other products.

She said the displacement of people in the border areas of India and Bangladesh may lead the clashes as the population fight for the scarce land "Moving further inland, millions of environmental refugees will have to compete with the local populace for scarce food, water and land," she said.

She noted that India and Bangladesh already have a dispute regarding how to conduct the river waters during dry and wet seasons and future environmental problems will make matter worse. The rise in sea levels will be caused by the greenhouse effect or the warming of earth's temperature. Recent estimates predict that a global temperature increase of 1.5 to 4.5 Celsius can be expected as early as 2030.

When the atmospheric temperature rises, the ocean temperatures will rise too. Because of the heat transfer, the waters of the earth will expand. Polar ice will also melt and the West Antarctic sheet may break off, causing further rise in the sea levels, according to the report.

- III. Write a letter to the General Manager of your Railway Zone pointing out the difficulties of passengers and making suggestions for improvements. Assume that you are residing in New Delhi. (30)