[20-HKPGDEN-M4S(N)21J]

MA 4th Semester (New) Exam., 2020

ENGLISH

[PGEG (S4) 04 (B)]

(Literature from North-East India)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. *(a)* Answer the following questions : 1×8=8

(i) Name the prominent Assamese poet and novelist who is known among the reading public as 'Ekhud Kokaideu'.

(ii) What is the vivid image presented in the opening lines of the poem, *The Dancing Earth*?

(iii) Mention the names of any two well-known poems by Mamang Dai.

(iv) Which writing of Saurabh Kumar Chaliha is considered to have ushered the genre of Assamese short story into modernity?

(v) What is the English title of the translated Assamese novel, *Yaruingam* by Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya?

(vi) To what did Indira Goswami significantly devote her time during her stay in Vrindavan?

(vii) Who is 'Satemba' in Temsüla Ao's *The Curfew Man*?

(viii) Which language and heritage does Chandrakanta Murasingh highlight in the essay prescribed in your course?

(Turn Over)

(b) Choose the correct option from the following : 1×4=4

(i) Which among the following is *not* a theme in the rich variety of Tripuri folk tales?

1. Moral guidance
2. Social guidance and restrictions
3. Ancient legends
4. Modernity

(ii) Which was the first novel written by Easterine Kire Iralu?

1. *Bitter Wormwood*
2. *A Naga Village Remembered*
3. *The Moth Eaten Howdah of the Tusker*
4. *Poetry in a Time of Terror*

(iii) What is the title of the poem from which the following lines have been taken?

"From where I sit on the high platform
I can see the ferry lights crossing
Criss-crossing the big river."

1. *An Obscure Place*
2. *Voice of the Mountain*
3. *Everywhere I Go*
4. *The Conquest*

(iv) Which among the following is *not* a literary work of the writer Nilamoni Phukan?

1. *Naami Ahe Ei Nadiedi* (1963)
2. *Phuli Thoka Xurjyamukhi Phooltur Faale* (1972)
3. *Mur Aru Prithibir* (1973)
4. *Olop Agote Aami Ki Kotha Patisilu* (2003)

(Continued)

(c) Fill in the blanks of the following : 1×4=4

(i) Desmond Kharmawphlang is a renowned poet and folklorist who writes in both _____ and English language.

(ii) The _____ were mostly supportive of the British and so they had to take part in the war and fought what is famously called the 'Battle of Kohima'.

(iii) The _____ is a magnificently crafted chair placed on the back of an elephant for the comfort of the person sitting on it and is also symbolic of the prestige of the Satradhikars.

(iv) The anthologies of poetry titled *Words and the Silence* (1988) and *Time's Crossroads* (1994) were written by the poet _____.

2. Answer any *five* from the following questions (each within *50* words) : 2×5=10

(a) (i) Who is 'Durga' in Indira Goswami's *The Moth Eaten Howdah of the Tusker*?

(ii) Why is she thrown out of her marital home?

(b) What does Kamalakanta symbolically represent in *Along the High Road* (*Jivanar Batat*)?

(c) (i) Who is Hiren Gohain?

(ii) What is the main idea or discussion in his essay, *Two Roads to Decolonisation : Gandhi and Tagore*?

(d) What does Chandrakanta Murasingh have to say about Kokborok oral literature?

(e) Why does Easterine Iralu state that she is thrice marginalised?

(f) What is Ratan Thiyam's holistic production style?

(Turn Over)

3. Answer any *four* from the following questions (each in around *150* words) : 3×4=12

(a) Mention the three major aspects of the Kokborok language in the essay, *Kokborok—Her People Her Past.*

(b) Write a few lines on the theme of 'moral vision' in Bina Barua's *Along the High Road.*

(c) Briefly explain the Khasi myth of 'Hynniewtrep' meaning 'Seven Huts'.

(d) How did the oral tradition of Arunachal Pradesh influence Mamang Dai as a writer?

(e) What is Jemtila's role in Temsüla Ao's short story, *The Curfew Man*?

4. Answer any *three* from the following questions (each in around *250* words) : 6×3=18

(a) Discuss the life of the short story writer Saurabh Kumar Chaliha.

(b) Describe the character of Nibaron Bhattacharya as represented by Arun Sarma.

(c) What was Tagore's view on Indian culture as discussed by Hiren Gohain?

(d) Briefly explain the narrative style of Temsüla Ao.

5. Answer any *three* from the following questions (each in around *300* words) : 8×3=24

(a) "Set in Assam of Northern India during the 1940s, this novel projects the tragic dilemma of three widows." Give a detailed explanation of the text with reference to *The Moth Eaten Howdah of the Tusker.*

(b) Discuss the following major themes that are evident in Nilamoni Phukan's *The Dancing Earth* : 4+4

(i) The challenges of life

(ii) Life in a state of flux

(c) Give a detailed explanation of the sources and content of the play, *Chakravyuha* by Ratan Thiyam. 3+5

(d) Explain the poems, *Letter from Pahambir* and *The Conquest* by Desmond Kharmawphlang from your own reading of the texts. 4+4

★★★