Birla Institute of Technology & Science Pilani, Pilani Campus, Rajasthan 333 031

Comprehensive Examination, First Semester 2023-2024

Course Number: CHEM G521 Course Title: Environmental Chemistry

Max. Marks: 75 **Date: 15 Dec 2023 OPEN BOOK** Time: 150 min

Important Instructions

- There are FIVE questions printed in the question paper
- Answer all questions in the answer booklet only
- DO NOT use pencils for answering any part, even graphics
- Start answering each question from a fresh page, all sub-sections together
- Q1. (a) (i) Describe briefly the functioning of TOMS apparatus. (ii) Write the working principle of XRF spectrometer.
- (b) (i) What is the ideal fuel/air ratio for a four cycle engine? (ii) What happens to the HC emissions if the ratio is made more lean? (iii) What happens to the NO_x emissions if the ratio is made more rich? (iv) What happens to the fuel economy if the ratio is made more lean? (2+4)+(3+2+2+2)=15
- **Q2.** (a) Describe the geological features of a petroleum oil and gas field.
- (b) Discuss the salient features of petroleum refining process along with a schematic.
- (c) (i) Describe what do you understand by the terms 'nuclear breeder reactor' (ii)' The half-life of barium-131 is 12 days. How many grams of barium-131 will remain after 30 days if you begin with 100 g? (iii) Which parameter is plotted in the abscissa in a gas chromatograph? What is the identifier obtained as an outcome of a GC analysis for a compound in a mixture? 3+4+(3+3+2)=15
- Q3.(a) (i) Name and briefly describe the different stages of LCA? (ii) How is early biorefinery concept different from modern biorefinery concept? (iii) Explain how catalysis plays a pivotal role in obtaining sustainability by implementing green chemistry targets.
- (b) What is the steady-state accumulation of methylmercury in a person who eats 500 g of tuna daily that contains 0.2 ppm of methylmercury ($t_{1/2}$ is 70 days)?
- (c) Describe the functioning of ICP-OES instrument including the essential events and chemical reactions. (4+2+2)+4+3=15
- Q4. (a) How does arsenite ion acts as a potent poison? Explain using appropriate chemical reaction(s).
- (b) Describe the different classes of chemical communicating agents used as alternative methods of insect control
- (c) (i) How is octanol/water partition coefficient (K_{ow}) useful in determining pollution by organic molecules? (ii) Arrange the 'log K_{ow} ' values for DDT, aldrin, chlordane, dieldrin, and 1,4-dichlorobenzene in decreasing order 4+7+(2+2)=15
- Q5. (a)(i) Describe the functioning of ECD in a gas chromatography instrument. (ii) What do you understand by the term PM₁₀? (iii) What is thermogenic methane and how is this identified? (iv) What do you mean by leapfrog technology?
- (b) Discuss the differences between the pyrolysis and gasification of biomass to obtain chemicals sustainably

| (c) Write short notes on Oil Shale and Tar Sands (mention two points on each) | (3+2+2+2)+2+4=15 |
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| END | |