

[This question paper contains 2 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 7971

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Unique Paper Code : 2343010030

Name of the Paper : BLOCKCHAIN AND ITS APPLICATIONS

Name of the Course : **B.Sc. (Hons.) Computer Science – DSE**

Semester : VIII

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 90

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. The paper has **two** sections. **All** questions in “**Section A**” are compulsory.
3. Attempt any **four** questions from “**Section B**”.
4. Parts of a question must be answered together.

Section A

1.
 - (a) Mention any two advantages of using smart contracts over traditional paper-based contracts. (2)
 - (b) Give any two real-world examples where a consortium blockchain is used. (2)
 - (c) How does a distributed ledger ensure trust among participants without a central authority? (3)
 - (d) If one bit of an input to a hash function is changed, does the output change slightly or completely? Name the property that describes this. (3)
 - (e) Which key is used to sign a message and which key is used to verify the signature? (3)
 - (f) What is an orphan block? State one reason why it occurs. (3)
 - (g) Describe any two properties of a hash function. (3)
 - (h) What is a Coin base transaction in Bitcoin? (3)
 - (i) Define Proof of Elapsed Time (PoET). Name one blockchain platform that uses it. (4)
 - (j) List any four applications of blockchain (other than cryptocurrency) and write one line on what each does. (4)

SECTION B

2.
 - (a) Explain briefly what is commodity money and digital currency. Give one example of each. (7)
 - (b) What is the difference between a client-server network and a peer-to-peer network? Explain with the help of a diagram. (8)

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3.
 - (a) What is "gas" in Ethereum? Why is it required? (5)
 - (b) What is a mining pool? Why do miners join a mining pool? (5)
 - (c) What is difficulty adjustment in Bitcoin? After how many blocks does it happen? (5)
4.
 - (a) Draw a Merkle tree for four transactions T1, T2, T3, T4. Show the hashes at each level up to the Merkle root. (8)
 - (b) Explain any two SHA-2 hash functions. Which one is used in the Bitcoin blockchain? (7)
5.
 - (a) What is digital signature? Briefly describe the signing and verification steps required in digital signature. (5)
 - (b) List and explain five application areas of blockchain technology. (5)
 - (c) Differentiate between a soft fork and a hard fork. Give one real-world example of each. (5)
6.
 - (a) What is Proof of Burn (PoB)? Explain with the help of a suitable example. (5)
 - (b) What is Proof of Capacity (PoC)? Which resource is used in PoC instead of computing power? (5)
 - (c) Explain any two differences between Proof of Work (PoW) and Practical Byzantine Fault Tolerance (pBFT). (5)
7.
 - (a) Differentiate between a public blockchain and a private blockchain with the help of suitable example. (7)
 - (b) Explain Solidity and discuss any four key features that make it suitable for developing smart contracts on the Ethereum blockchain. (8)