

Ex/PHI/PG/3.5.9/2025

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2025

(2<sup>nd</sup> Year, 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester)

PHILOSOPHY

COURSE : Phi/PG/3.5.9

Philosophy of Science 2

( Conceptual Issues )

Time : 2 Hours

Full Marks : 30

**GROUP—A**

1. (a) What is the basic idea behind the Statistical Relevance (SR) model of explanation?  
(b) How is it different from Hempel's models of explanation?  
(c) Give one criticism against the SR model. 4+4+2=10

( OR )

2. What role does theory play in the rational reconstruction of the world from sense data, according to Quine? In what sense is this a naturalistic project? 8+2=10

Answer within 200 words

3. Explain any one way to respond to Hume's challenge to principle of induction and show how it fails to provide support to the inductive method. 5

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[ Turn Over ]

( 2 )  
( OR )

4. According to Hempel, which type of statistical explanation helps to arrive at conclusions about particular individuals? Explain briefly. 5

**GROUP—B**

5. (a) *Science begins with observations* – do you agree with the statement? Justify your answer.  
(b) Is there any difference between 'data' and 'observation'? Discuss. 5+5=10

( OR )

6. (a) What do you understand by minimalism about laws?  
(b) Why does a law try to give a quantitative explanation of a phenomenon? 5+5=10

Answer within 200 words

7. What do you understand by a paradigm shift in scientific law? 5

( OR )

8. What do you think about 'bias in observation'? 5

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