HINDI LITERATURE

> **Paper 8675/04**
> **Texts**

Key messages

In order to do well in this examination, candidates should:

- answer the required number of questions, in accordance with the instructions provided on the front cover of the examination paper;
- plan their work carefully;
- focus on the specific question asked rather than on re-telling the story.

General comments

A wide range of performance was seen. Whilst some candidates adhered to the rubric, other candidates infringed it by attempting to answer both parts (a) and (b) of the same set text. Candidates should be reminded that if they answer both (a) and (b) they will be awarded marks for only one of them.

To improve, candidates need to focus on how to structure an answer in a logical fashion and in close association with the demands of the question. Candidates should be encourage to dissect each question, and work out what the answer should be. Some candidates did not understand some of the questions in full and offered pre-learned answers which lacked relevance.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

(a)   The extract from Surdas' 'Vinaya & Bhakti': the best candidates were able to explain each couplet, and their underlying meaning, but some candidates demonstrated a basic understanding.

(b)   In this comparative analysis of Surdas and Tulsidas, most candidates could have improved on demonstrating their understanding of 'kavitva shakti'. The differences in the poetic craft of the two poets was challenging for most candidates.

Question 2

(a)   This was a popular question. Some candidates found each stanza of the poem difficult to analyse. However, many candidates got the message of the poem alright.

(b)   Performance on this question was generally weak.

Question 3

(a)   A very popular question. Although not everyone was able to describe the context, they were able to demonstrate their familiarity with the text.

(b)   Another popular question. Generally, the performance was good.

Section B

Question 4

(a) A very popular question. Some answers were written with good understanding, passion and good competence. The extremely good answers were very well argued and focussed on each part of the question.

(b) A small number of candidates answered these questions. Responses were reasonably successful.

Question 5

(a) Those candidates who answered this question were able to demonstrate a fair knowledge of the story.

(b) A very popular question. Premchand's story also generated a lot of passion and responses were generally successful.

Question 6

(a) and **(b)** A small number of candidates answered these questions. Responses were reasonably successful.