

Roll No. _____

ESSAY

Time Allowed: 3 hrs:

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt an essay from each section.
- Each essay carries 125 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- After finishing the first essay, attempt the next on a fresh Page.
- Any page left blank in the answer-book must be crossed out clearly.

(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/ her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).

Remarks

Name Dhruv Ashita

Mobile No. _____

Date 29/10/2016

Signature *Dhruv Ashita*

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

SECTION - A

1. Most of the luxuries and many of the so-called comforts of life are not only indispensable, but positive hindrances to the elevation of mankind.
2. Money is the barometer of a society's virtue.
3. The price of anything is the amount of life you exchange for it.
4. To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.

SECTION - B

1. Censorship is at odds with a knowledge economy.
2. Smart Village, not city is the need of India.
3. The global refugee problem and cry against emigrants in various parts of the world have demolished the myth of a global village.
4. Banking is a tug of war between profitability and credibility, but the Indian banks have disappointed on both these counts.

Remarks

SECTION-A.

4. To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.

The quest for excellence has always been the adherence to the dictum of changing with time to its relevance. Change is the endeavour of the humankind to achieve the motive of perfection of an art. It is the change which is constant throughout in human action, beliefs, conviction and the view of world keeps changing with constant addition of knowledge to his treasure.

The change interaction can better be exemplified in the absence of it. The stability is rather dangerous which drives humans away from constant attempts to excellence. The interaction of change with environment is complex including many variables of humans and their thought process. The challenge of maintaining the perfection is rather driven by more of attempts

Remarks

to change. The pathways of disseminating the benefits of achieving excellence too is important to make the change sustainable.

Humans since their early history have been inspired to make attempts for doing things the better way. The spirit of flintstone to that of discovery of wheel have driven this desire to have things be done in a better way. The voyages to the coming frontiers of knowledge like nanotechnology and medicinal revolution have made the perfection so explicit that man is now able to play God and his creations.

Static stability: no changes.

The societies have perished in the absence of change. The evils of societal structure be it caste hierarchies, evils of feudal system, gender inequality, genocide have all been the fruits of absence of ability to transform with time. This has been more aggravated

Remarks

by insular societal structure of many conservative societies who believe in the maintaining and perpetuating of this status quo. The rapid spread of colonialism is perhaps aided by this mindset wherein change to ideas is not accepted and superior society wins.

The evolution of Political system from that of a tyrant monarchy to that of liberal democratic society has been result of engaging and experimenting with different systems. The democratic notions called by Winston Churchill as the best form of government until the next phase of revolution in political ideas. This democratic tradition has helped in acomodating diversity which has strengthened values of tolerance and respect to other's sensibility.

The insensitive and intolerant attitudes took their roots in static societies which closed their doors to new ideas wherein the medieval dark ages was the true example of this. Even

Remarks

this insular attitude to realise the modern values and changes in attitudes is what perhaps perpetuates terrorism wherein the motivation is towards establishing and reversing old structure of values and reality. This can also be extended to the generation gap wherein the gap is that of receptivity to ideas of change.

Change - Perfection linkage.

The attempts for perfection is the struggle of scientific achievements wherein the need for change to excel and meet the challenges of the day were made with constant perseverance. The basic tenet of science is experimenting wherein the process of change is institutionalised as the praxis of study. The technology which has enabled humanity to use commodity as resources and give innovative solutions like that of solar and wind energy is result of change.

The scientific endeavour has its parallel in spirituality and religious domains as well. The dominant ideas and world view

Remarks

were altered as man is confronted with new geographic understanding and alternative cultures. The belief of a flat earth, omnipresent god, will of god, fatality were changed which freed man towards higher aims of understanding true nature. This has strengthened the idea of changing reality and the Indian doctrine of "no one truth" can be made to adjust reality.

The socio-economic changes resulting from evolution of economic systems is quite explicit. It is use of money which was a result of a dire need to change existing system, to overcome the challenges of the present scenario of faster of the day. This has made countries come close to each other by the flow of wealth, investment and multiplying of value of money.

Struggle to maintain perfection:

The art of perfection can always be a work in progress. It is the constant need to overcome the realities of the day which makes

Remarks

the challenge explicit. The countries like US which strive to maintain their supreme status by constantly trying to achieve zenith of new frontiers of knowledge like advance sciences and spaces. It is this effort which countries pay for their perfection.

In personal lives, like that of countries, too requires constant engagement with their art be it profession, service or sport. The event of Olympics wherein the masters of the sports meet to challenge and break earlier barriers are driven by practising and sharpening their skills. It is this constant perseverance which makes individuals more energetic and throw their best to achieve, succeed.

The need of maintaining efficiency and relevancy of a system is to make constant evaluation, monitoring of the system like that of democracy. The democratic framework of governance in politics, societies, family provides institutional mechanism to provide for the needs of inputs

Remarks

and deficiencies which provides as an internal check and balance. It is constant debating and overcoming the drawbacks which makes our society, nation, a strengthened whole.

Policies for change

The need for change though realized, it has to be adopted with right set of supporting policies to make change, sustainable and relevant. The

need for democratic and egalitarian transformation is essential wherein the need for welfare and equality of different section of society needs to be taken care into. The development though achieved has created problems of environment degradation, pollution, inequality which calls for policies which makes directions for diffusing of benefits.

The role of leaders here is quite significant as they act as pivot of change and mobilise the societies to need for achieving the change.

Remarks

The Gandhian principles wherein the need to have achieve goals of noble ends with noble means was quite evident in the leadership which was provided for the movement. The world today needs thought leaders who can provide the philosophical backing for making a worthwhile change with moral conviction.

Change though significant in use is made relevant by its absence - The linkage of change with perfection though complex can be further strengthened by institutionalising democratic traditions in it. The struggle of maintaining the perfection has to be driven by motives of need to maintain excellence with right set of policy framework with institutional thought leaders.

The process of change which is stirring throughout the universe has to be idealised like our natural ecosystem, which though changes, but keeps a balance of the variables and maintains

Remarks

equilibrium. In the same vein, change too has to be made more of an ideal to be met by ideal means with welfare approach of all the have nobs of the society. The change to impose is the mandate, but change for all is the protocol.

Remarks

SECTION: B

2. "Smart Village, not city to the need of India"

Grandhi while returning from South Africa and joining the mainstream of Indian freedom struggle, realised in his initial formative years that India lives in its villages. This rural dominant society has not changed even with strong forces of globalisation sweeping across the countries, with still 70% of population living in villages, 90% of land area under villages. It is these 6,50,000 villages of India which call for drastic reforms than that of cities which have developed a momentum of self sustaining growth.

Indian villages are still beset with primitive challenges of access to services, growth opportunities and regional divides. The cities with its increasing significance as engine of growth which has gained more prominence post liberalisation and changing nature of economy. The change to be sustainable with holistic prism has to make cities as three focus of approach and

Remarks

the cities be developed as avenues for higher end services with decentralised cities accessible to villages.

The villages with their unique form of challenges needs innovative mechanisms of representation in governance processes and decision making. The dimensions of sustainable growth along with dealing with climate changes does not require measures restricted to cities alone but rural overhaul as well. The village economy which is still traditional and driven by primitive technology with insignificant value addition. It is bridging of the gap of cities and rural villages which is important for self sustaining growth.

Smart decision making

The urban problems of poverty, overcrowding, slums have been the result of rural distress. Any policy to deal with issue of urban problems without considering the linkage

Remarks

will not yield result. The agrarian crises driven primarily by low productivity, fluctuating prices, farmer suicides have made rural marginal farmer vulnerable and they look towards urban areas for succour primarily driven by perception of seeking job and permanent livelihood.

The need for addressing the problems of rural areas require smart participation of people wherein the democratic decentralisation by virtue of Panchayati Raj system needs to be strengthened. The participation of vulnerable groups with little empowerment of decision making will enable the solutions more inclusive and cater to a wide variety of section of population. The essential needs of a gender sensitive system, evolution of a egalitarian participation in decision making will address the challenges of urban poverty as well.

The decision making needs to be empowered by use of technology and especially IT enabled mechanism wherein it will help in villages

Remarks

to demand more services and extract accountability from executives. The use of electronic governance will enable to swiftly execute the policies, wherein the efficient governance of cities may only help in dealing with urban symptoms but not uproot the problems which lie at root in village inefficiency in administration.

Sustainable Villages

The energy crisis of urban areas wherein the water, electricity etc becomes more acute, wherein the denial of services to rural areas for the maintenance of urban areas creates a disturbing picture. It is this scenario wherein the villages be need to make energy efficient and self reliant for daily consumption needs. The lack of access to cooking fuel makes the rural women ^{move} towards firewood which is a health hazard and collecting it a strain for rural women and young girls who are denied their young years of schooling.

Remarks

The sustainable agricultural systems needs to be evolved as the recent challenges of greenhouse emissions from agriculture, soil degradation, water pollution, excessive fertilizer usage. It stands the challenge of jeopardising food security of our country. Agricultural development and gradual shifting to organic farming, smart agriculture wherein precision inputs and irrigation application needs to be encouraged. The need for increasing yield and making agriculture remunerative as well as maintaining food security makes a tough challenge to be taken care off.

The increasing frequency and intensity of disasters and natural calamities is what makes this crises a both rural and urban based. This creates distress situation wherein the farmers migrate and vulnerable to exploitation. The need for natural resource conservation gains currency here as it is the need of the time to maintain the sustainable use of natural resources like water and soil and community efforts for conservation and prioritisation is essential.

Remarks

Village Economy

The need to addressing rural problems of socio economic dimension needs to be addressed through economy modification. Village agriculture is still primitive with low land holding, lack of credit, fluctuating prices and marketing difficulties makes it a gamble in monsoons. The allied sectors of agriculture like dairying, forestry, fishery still lack the complimentary initiatives wherein the monetisation and commercial orientation is missing. The economic empowerment is essential to make tangible changes in society.

The phenomenon of jobless growth in cities and villages is the result of degradation of rural economy which is the result of neglect and absence of smart intervention. The small enterprises, handicrafts, artisans having been losing to industries and big players primarily on account of technology absence and high unit of cost of production. The vision and focus which drive India

Remarks

to Independence by empowering its spinners and empowering of rural economy through Charkha is absent or lacks vigour.

The lack of purchasing power ~~and~~, degradation and poverty of rural economy has prohibited even the market forces to play their part by virtue of market failure. The lack of purchasing power of rural counterparts creates a problem of rural neglect even by the private corporates who don't see any motivation. The role of facilitation by government by way of smart innovations like MGNREGA is impressive but still has a long way to go to transform rural economy.

Bridging the City-Rural divide

The focus on cities disproportionately has created a skewed favour in cities wherein which violates our constitutional provisions of equality.

The need to transform the regional imbalance

Remarks

has to be made, possible by initiatives like
Planning, regional intervention and policy programs.
The lack of regard to these demands creates
internal security challenges of insurgency and
 Maoist. The demand for new states too is to
be looked through same prism.

The Grandhian doctrine of Sarvodaya was
perhaps the smart rural village visualised
at the time of Independence which couldn't
gain traction. It is the intent of such
initiatives which focus on rural co-operatives
and rural participation focusing on rural
problems, potentials and challenges to be dealt
locally. This approach will help in making
sites sustainable and more habitable.

The need for making rural villages more
democratic governance oriented, sustainable
functioning and environment is essential in
the current scenario of global warming.

Remarks

These initiatives should be linked to making significant transformation of rural economy which will laggards and rural problems overspill to urban areas. The bridging of this gap is what is required for democratic and egalitarian ethos.

The smart cities envisaged to provide cities with smart governance, solutions, management cannot be left to cities alone. The expanding cities with the urban land use merging into the rural hinterland and change of lifestyle in rural areas provides for organic link. It is this

transformation of holistic solution encompassing the present challenges and future needs needs to be institutionalised.

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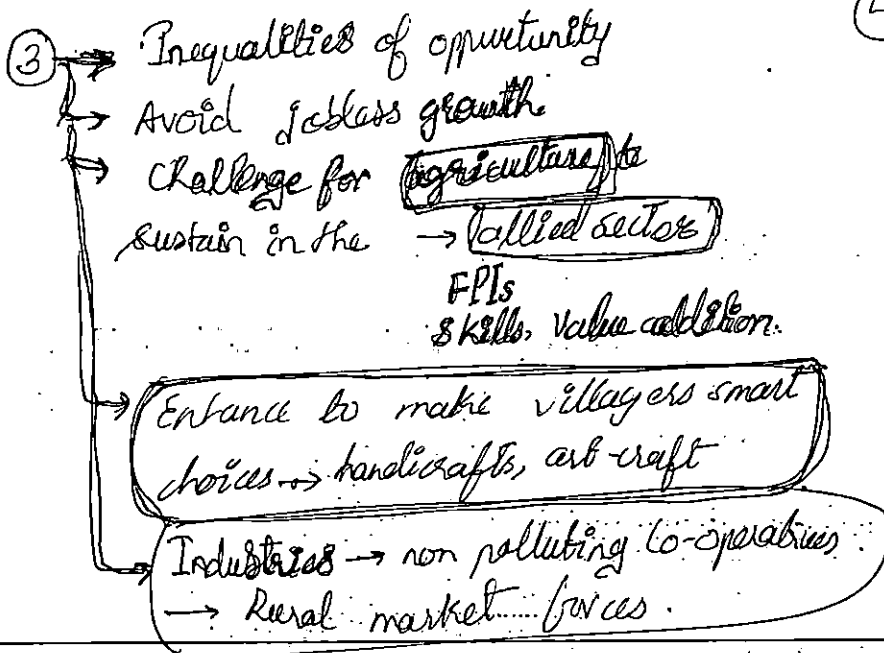
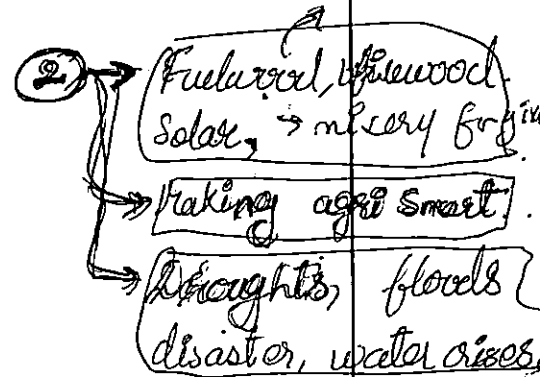
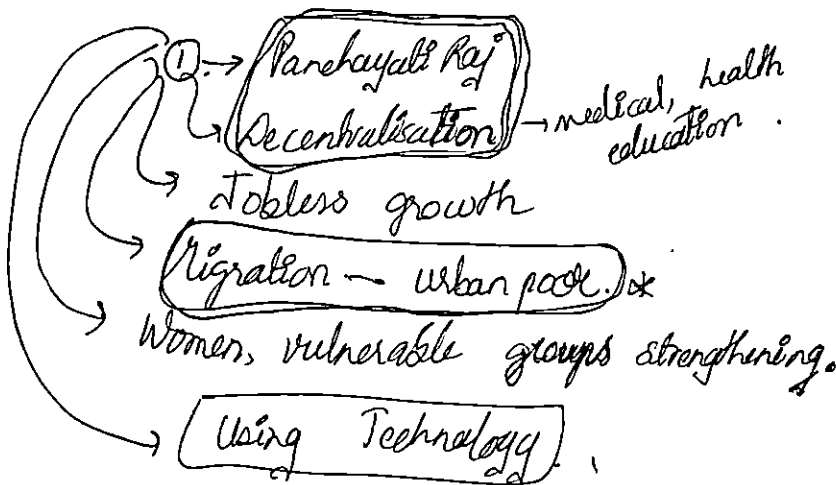
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Remarks

"Smart Village, not city is the need of India"

India lives in villages.

- 3. Village Economy
- 1. Village representation / Governance
- 2. Sustainable / Green Villages / Energy efficient
- 4. 'Bridging the opportunity divide' → Sarvodaya, Constitutional.



Remarks

"To improve is to change, to be perfect is to change often".
Reference.

Q. If people/country/society doesn't improve?

Q. Instance of limit needed by changing? → personal / freedom.

② Q. How improving is linked to change.

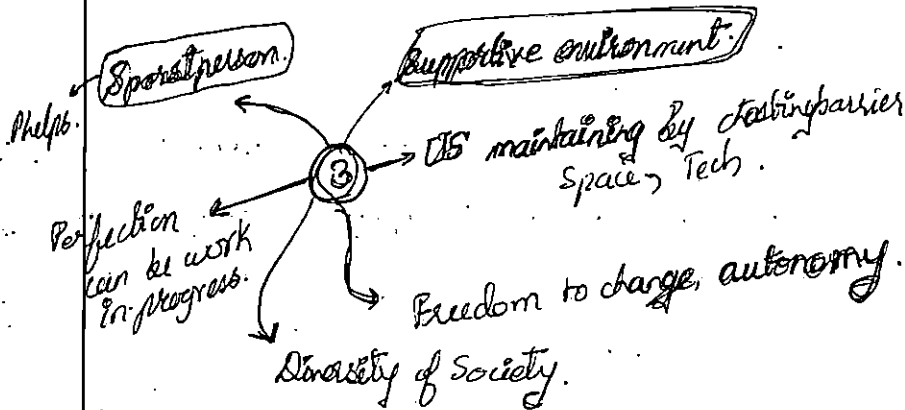
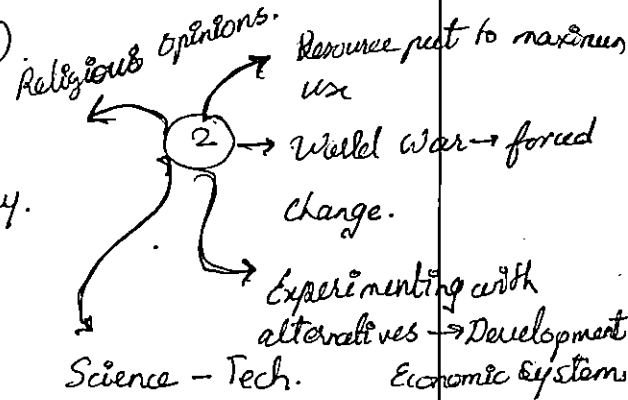
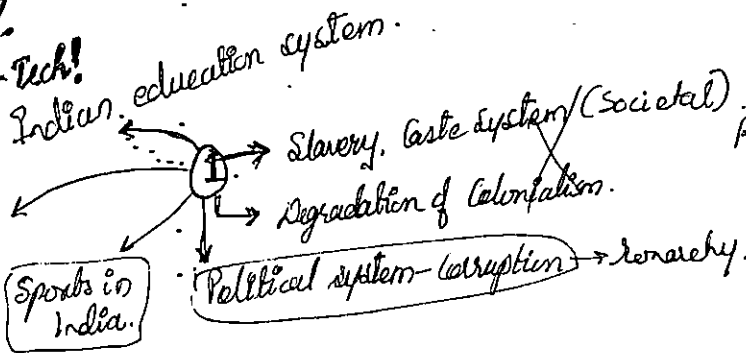
① Q. What about static societies? → not changing. ^{or} will not change.

Q. Perfection in natural system. → keeps changing

③ Q. Change with time - struggle of maintaining perfection.

④ Q. Is change necessarily improvement or good. Martial art

- Historical context.
- Political system keeps changing...
- Science - Tech!



④ → Democratic change.
→ Role of leaders.

Remarks