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Essay

Time Allowed: 3 hrs

Max. Marks: 250

Instruction to Candidates

- Attempt any two essay.
- Each essay carries 125 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- 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

Well written & quite Comprehensive

1. Invigilator Signature



2. Invigilator Signature

Name ISHAN PRATAP SINGH

Mobile No. _____

Date 19/10/2015

Signature



1. Politics without ethics leads to disaster
2. Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choices, are prepared to choose wisely.
3. Civil servants convert political mandate into reality.
4. Science never solves a problem without creating ten more.

Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choices, are prepared to choose wisely.

Abraham Lincoln during the famous Gettysburg address called his government "of the people, by the people and for the people", setting a benchmark which eludes political thinkers, philosophers and think tanks till today. It placed representativeness at the centre of democratic ideal and indirectly argued that democracy is what people make of it. A reasoned, rational and participative citizenry makes a well functioning democracy, not plethora of institutions and layered laws. But, to see the relationship between democracy and wider public as a one way street is a half correct idea. Amartya Sen, noble laureate and one of the greatest thinkers of modern age

regards political participation as a central part of human functioning and capability and essential part of his wellbeing. Thus, the relationship is layered and far more complex than visible to a naked eye.

It is this nature of complexity which has placed participative governance at the centre of political debates since time eternal. Aristotle

regarded that democracy in the absence of

an enlightened citizenry will become mob rule. Later in 18th century, Adam Smith believed

that democracy is bound to wither away in an act of suicide. These great philosophers were raising questions on the ability of masses to rule themselves. Masses which are divided

by class, caste, religion, ethnicity, race and creed, can they take a reasoned decision to chose the ruler become a central debate in history.

But, before going further, what is democracy? It is

a very complex question and perhaps without any widely accepted answer. But, any democracy should have some form of mechanism through which wider public expresses their opinions by choosing representatives periodically. For example elections is of such a process. In some democracies direct instruments like referendum and plebiscites are used. But what constitutes a 'successful democracy'? In the words of great political philosopher John Locke, it should ensure maximum liberty to every individual taking note that the liberty of others is not transgressed.

To ensure this maximisation of liberty, it becomes imperative to choose a good leader. These representatives whether in a presidential system of USA or the parliamentary system of India have great responsibility. They set the agenda, give path and act as the vehicle for the collective realisation of aspirations as a nation. In the ~~words~~ words of Rousseau they act as a collector of our shared sovereignty which we lend to them via social contract. Thus, their probity, intellectual

abilities must be spot on.

Hence ~~there~~ citizens have a very complex job at hand. Once elected the government becomes lawful and any act of defiance and rebellion may be labelled as sedition. In short, citizens have the right to intervene but not interfere and thus should choose wisely. From the dictators in Sub-Saharan Africa to Franco's regime in Spain, a bad choice gives a nation decades of hardships and creates wounds that can even split a nation.

But, ironically the same argument is used by Authoritarians to claim that citizens are not ready. The former Soviet Union used 'Dictatorship of Proletariat' as a concept before a 'classless' society emerges, to stifle democracy and compromise human rights. Why does this happen? Firstly, what does choosing wisely mean? Political questions are political because they have no straight forward yes or no answer. For Example, even in debates like how the government should run a welfare state, wide spectrum

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of views exist and none of them can be called conclusively wrong. Politics remains a contested territory. Secondly, how do you 'prepare' the masses. Sometimes this act of preparation becomes intoxication of masses

by any ideology. In Nazi Germany, this intoxication was used widely in schools and churches as propaganda to garner support.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Democracy is in itself a teaching process. No institution can prepare the citizens for democracy but the democracy itself. After the glorious revolutions in Britain, it took 600 years for British Democracy to mature and process continues. Till 1929, the women

did not have right to vote. Thus, to prepare masses using an external agent for democracy is difficult but, ^{if not} it is a journey of self realization.

So should the country suffer if electorate makes mistakes? It is not necessary. Indian constitution is a great example of how

Gr well
illustrated

✓ checks and balances between robust institutions can stop a young democracy from crumbling under its own weight. Honorable Supreme court innovates and keeps a check on Executive and so does the parliament. The electorate is allowed to express its choice but within the boundaries of constitution and rules of law. They can think and choose between ideologies but cannot alter the philosophy on which the nation was created.

But, this doesnot mean nothing can be done to educate masses. In India, the political participation of masses rivals and often passes way ahead of developed world. Even on complex issues like reforms and economic paradigm, the illiterate hard working farmers keeps the policy maker on his/her toes and on the ground.

As, the first Prime Minister of India Pt. Nehru exclaimed that Indian masses might be illiterate, ^{but} they are not blind, and they prove it again and again by kicking off the

incumbents. Public Awareness created by Election commission has brought this and must be enhanced. The legitimacy and fairness of electoral process itself creates ^{healthy} grounds for debates. The huge political capital created by efforts of National leaders during freedom struggle politicising grassroot masses must be capitalised by strengthening Panchayats and Gram Sabha to fulfill Gandhiji's dream of bottom up democracy.

~~But~~ Though all in all, it seems that the fate of democracy is to forever contest over its own meanings. It is a process of self realization. Abraham Lincoln the bulwark against slavery sowed seeds which lead to an African American holding the seat of President of United States today. Thus, the real failure of democracy will be when it stops its evolution and the electorate becomes 'wise enough' and leaves no scope for improvement. The best remedy for faulty democracy is paradoxically more participative and vibrant democracy as it mirrors people's choices

→ Discuss role of ECI & Media critically for
~~Discuss~~ the well written & Comprehensive.

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and like a mirror shows them their real faults giving them chances of improvement.

CIVIL SERVANTS CONVERT POLITICAL MANDATE INTO REALITY

As India became independent, it engaged into multiplicity of debates regarding its future as a young, diverse and challenging democracy. One of the most interesting and perhaps one of the most important was the future of Imperial civil services, a vast hierarchy of civil servants that British raj has created to rule over the Indian masses. The central question was whether these civil servants bred on hostility to national leadership could work under them.

and whether these status quoists can usher a new era of progress in a poverty ridden, socially divided, politically young and morally demotivated country. But, it was none other than Sardar Patel who emerged as the most vocal supporter of an impartial, empowered but anonymous and value neutral civil services because he firmly believed in the utility of these.

radars in implementation, regarded them as a repository of skill and most importantly believed that they would mirror political choices at the helm. The civil servants under the Raj would become oppressors but under a democratic rule become a tool of liberation.

This debate on utility and functioning of civil services is old. Chinese bureaucracy was recruited by a grueling competition and assisted the king in day to day functions. Whether

its Sangrithas of Ashoka, village headmen of Cholas or Muquaddams of Akbar's time, these varied form of civil servants carried the vision at centre to the grassroots & masses. In USA which lacks a permanent civil services, President Woodrow Wilson argued for an empowered and discretionary civil services.

But then the question arises what an empowered civil services supposed to do. First of all they must aid, assist and advice political executives in policy formulations. Secondly they must take these policies

to the ground roots but remain constrained by mandates of legislature and commands of executives. Finally they act as a feedback mechanism to give outcome reports back to the top brass of political executives so that they can adjust to them. While doing they must remain committed to tenants of accountability and transparency to prevent misuse of discretion. Now a good example of this process will be recently launched Swatch Vidyalaya scheme to provide girls toilet in every school. The policy was formulated in active collaboration with civil servants by political executives. Later they worked out the details, filled the gaps like budgets, guidelines and finally gave the outcome report to political leadership ending in the honourable Prime Minister claiming from the vestiges of the red fort, the success of the scheme.

Good

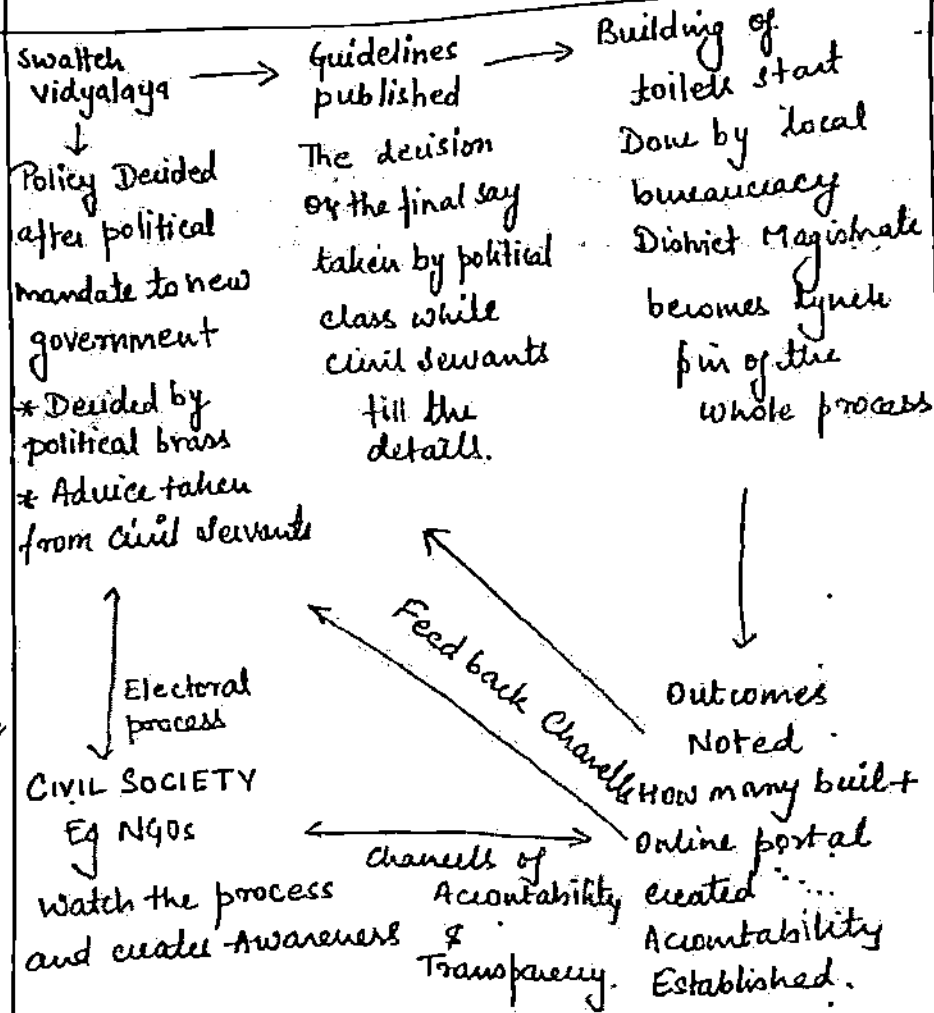
But explore & explain it more.

Also discuss the Communication aspect of

bureaucracy

refer on next page

Ignore Comment



most students but missed it, vital aspect

Good

Fig. The policy supply chain with Example of Swatch Vidyalaya Scheme.

But then the question arises, why have political masters with mandate at all? It is because political questions like what policy to follow are complex without any clear right or wrong. A political mandate is necessary for channels of accountability. legislature and political executives are in direct coordination on such issues ensuring

periodic accountability which civil servants lack. They are permanent and thus need some job security to serve different political mandates without bias.

This complementarity works equally well the other way round and civil servants are well suited to implement political mandate. They have the requisite expertise & Institutional memory. They ensure continuity of administration and ensure that transition from one political mandate to other is not abrupt but it is smooth. They are best suited to take everyday ground level decisions with unnecessary encumbering the government for every small things. They also connect the representative of people to the ground via channels of feedback helping to come out an experienced reality from an abstract policy.

But, this relationship works best in the context of Neutrality and anonymity so that different political mandates can reposit equal faith in

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Discuss the aspect of political interference in bureaucracy. Also discuss why ethics & morals are confined to reports & books only.

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Can ethical be pragmatic.

How to ensure Civil servants follow them

i.e., how to create incentive in their favour

administration. When it is shaken, rampant transfers, political vendetta and nepotism takes place. Too much interference in working from political side and lack of transparency from administrative side sewing the thin veil of deception between these two spheres of governance. Administration

is a political process because it involves implementation of a political mandate but it does its work best when it is politically monitored but not politicised.

This shift in balance has in fact brought new administrative paradigms to the fore. One of the most important is using direct channels of implementation and accountability. Jan Sunwai, Social Audit and Right To Information all involves civil society while NGOs and Self Help Groups are actively funded to implement policies like Backward Region Grant Fund and National Rural Livelihood Mission. Another shift is seen in use of technology to remove the human interface altogether. E Seva and Digital India mission seeks to implement this. Moreover

politicisation of grassroots using Gram Sabha and Panchayats have taken a lot of responsibility off their hands and in fact increased pressure from below.

Famous Economist Mahbub ul Haq once exclaimed that it's not the government that develops people but people that develop themselves. Without participation in the exercise of governance, civil servants cannot bring political mandate to reality. But, this should not be taken as negation of their role but it is a new shift from implementation to facilitation between government, civil society and an increasingly active private sector. Maybe, it is ~~the~~ the fate of a successful civil services and perhaps its biggest achievement, if it makes itself irrelevant, creating an informed active citizenry which puts pressure on them and demands services instead of waiting for them to implement their mandate.

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