

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

## ESSAY

Time Allowed: 3 hrs

Max. Marks: 250

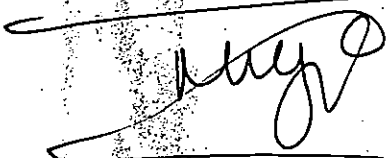
### Instructions to Candidate

- 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

62+65



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2. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name PARSHANT SINGHA

Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date 16.11.2016

Signature parshantS

**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

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

change is the only permanent constant. The above highlights that change is the only thing that is stationary in this world. The rules of nature are based on this principle. Without change all things would come to standstill and status quo would be new order. But why does status quo lose its utility in long run and at the same time what benefits arise on account of accepting change? We need to find answer to this question.

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Remarks

status quo or stagnation makes a person weak and incompetent. Such a person finds himself unable to cope up with the <sup>ever</sup> changing surrounding and environment. This weakness makes him vulnerable to attacks from his immediate environment. This immediate environment could be anything from nature to fellow human being. similar response to attacks from your environment makes one predictable and thus weak. The extinction of dinosaurs from this planet clearly highlights how inability to change came 'wax out' whole <sup>of</sup> your species.

Apart from stagnation or status quo, the pace of embracing change can also determine your weakness or strength. ability to cope up with pace of change can also make you vulnerable and bring you in zone of danger. The colonialism

Remarks

of whole of Africa by European powers clearly highlights how pace of change can also affect your survival or existence.

On the other hand change brings improvement and resilience. Nature as a teacher has always taught its students i.e. humans how change can help in improvement in all the walks of life.

Every action of nature is manifestation of this change. The biogeochemical cycles of carbon, nitrogen etc highlight how through these changes nature maintains constancy in environment.

Similarly humans have always embraced change in order to shed their primitive character and achieve scientific marvels like space travel, air travel etc. without embracing changes humans would have remain nomads and so <sup>remain</sup> vulnerable as all other animals are.

Remarks

These changes ~~always~~ improved his thinking, mind, body and soul. All this helped him to improve his way of life and standards of living. From the life of animal eater and wanderer in forests, man has moved to the noitons of smart cities and hi tech cities. Without ~~improvements~~ <sup>changes</sup> these ~~improvements~~ would have been impossible. Just as the plate tectonics and continental drift changes world map, human beings through their acceptance of changes, have changed now. This world communicates, transacts and lives.

Moreover the way these changes are embraced and accepted also determines the level of improvements. The current divide among developed world and developing countries is manifestation how acceptance of changes in different degrees can alter the present reality. The developed world

Remarks

adopted industrial revolution in order to survive and excel and now they have surged past others in the pace of development. This pace of change has made developing world dependent on the developed world.

No one can become perfect in this world, but one can try to become one and one would become successful only by embracing change constantly. There is no doubt that change brings improvement, but it is equally important to change often in order to excel and remain ahead from others. This constant acceptance of changes gives one first mover advantage and as a result all other become dependent on superior.

~~With~~ This is the reason why developed world spend large part of their resources towards R & D and innovation and outsource the

Remarks

routine work to other developing countries. This research & development gives such nations benefit of innovative technologies and products, which further make developing world dependent on developed world.

The life of  Gautam Buddha  pronounce how change can <sup>bring</sup> improvement in one's and others life. The transformation from young prince to lord Buddha highlight how change not only brings improvement but in an individual's life but the same change can also improve the lives of millions others.

This notion of change and its utility can also be highlighted from ~~economic~~ economic angle with the example of Indian economy. From the closed economy in 1947 to open economy in 2016 (1991), the journey has been of constant changes. These changes

Remarks



improved our economy and consequently standard of living. with gradual changes in each five year plans we were able to create our economy so

strong that was able to withstand the drastic implications of sub-prime crisis of 2008.

without changes our economy wouldn't have shown resilient character. The policy of ~~current~~ demonetisation

of currency these days now status quo and stagnation

makes our nation and economy vulnerable to menace of fake currency, terrorism and black economy, with

the changes in security features of notes, their duplication would reduce. such changes not only

improved our economic system but with similar changes that are more frequent, our system would

become near perfect.

The same ~~action~~ of change is applicable to society

also. society has lots of imperfections and deficiencies. constant

Remarks

change can help in improvement on these grey areas and make societal structure attain its near perfect scenario.

The reforms in society relating to sati, widow remarriage, right to property etc reflect how these changes have made our society more livable and equal. Similarly by constantly ~~not~~ embracing change the present ~~deficiencies~~ deficiencies like caste stigma, gender stereotypes, declining moral character etc can be weeded out. Any society that does not change according to changing time is bound to ~~too~~ become stagnant in its ideas, and thus remain vulnerable to external threats.

This notion of change equally applies to institutions of state like judiciary, executive and legislature. The way Indian judiciary have changed its character and become responsive to the needs of public, it is testimony that stagnant institutions

Remarks

are bound to become ~~redundant~~ redundant and defunct.  
 From every judgement, SC has tried to send progressive  
 signal and become for flagbearer of change. By  
 giving liberal interpretations to provisions of constitution  
 it has expanded the scope of various fundamental  
rights. But at the same time its inability to embrace  
 changes in improving accountability and transparency  
endangers its credibility with constancy of changes,  
SC can become a near perfect institution.

Thus, the notion of change <sup>not</sup> only brings improvement  
 but one can become perfect by embracing change  
 constantly. The Darwin's theory of evolution clearly  
 highlights how in order to survive on this planet  
 there is need to continuously evolve otherwise  
 you would be wiped out of this planet. ~~with~~  
 the concept of climate change and its associated  
 fallout all require man to change its lifestyle to that

Remarks

which is environmentally sustainable and which leads to low carbon footprint, otherwise this planet earth would lose its uniqueness of being only planet in solar system <sup>known</sup> to have life.

The change of human thinking from masters of nature to that of dependency on it is just step in right direction as reflected in recent concerns. The notion of ~~had~~ change and its pace would decide the existence of human in long run.

- ① Very good
- ② Improve articulation to ~~make~~ your give better direction to your essays
- ③ Instead of talking about many things, keep focus on key aspects only.

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## Section - B

Smart village, not city is the need of India

With 70% of Indian population living in villages, it is usually called that India lives in its villages. India without villages is nullity. Villages form the 'backbone' of Indian society. Despite this reality Indian villages suffer from asymmetrical development vis-a-vis cities. The recent initiative of union government to develop 100 smart cities in five years have further aggravated the debate of this step notably treatment, so there is need to dwell into issues of current approach and how focus on developing villages into smart villages can help in uplifting our nation.

With 30% of Indian population living in cities and rapid pace of industrialisation and urbanisation

Remarks

cities have become engines of growth. This blind reliance on this growth engine gives benefits of developments which are exclusive and unsustainable.

This strategy of ~~focus~~ limiting the focus of only on cities gives promotion to inequalities, urban-rural, poor-rich divide have further aggravated on account of this lopsided policy. Despite the word 'socialist' in our Preamble, inequalities are growing on the rise.

The Human Development Report 2015, have placed India in middle income group countries. The report highlights that despite the per <sup>capita</sup> income have increased over the years there is stagnation in our human development score and rank because of our unequal focus towards health and education. Both these education and health sectors suffer

Remarks

from huge rural-urban divide and this is where our majority of our population resides. Thus by denying these human development services to bulk of our population our overall standing vis-a-vis other nations cannot improve.

This urban-rural divide is the prime reason behind migration from rural areas and consequent squatter settlements in urban areas like Bellary or Mumbai.

By neglecting rural areas we would further aggravate the present conditions. The concept of 100 smart cities would further create the winds of development with benefits reaching to few and many excluded.

Moreover the concept of smart cities would itself fail if the matching development is not done in adjacent <sup>rural</sup> areas. This is because rapid migration would over-stress these so called smart cities.

Remarks

and their systems, such that they would crumble under this stress. The deprived section of society would move towards these cities and overburden these cities resources. This would make the smart cities programme a zero-sum game. Further rising inequalities in the society would make societal cohesion difficult and social conflicts would become the order of day.

Our 70 year of developmental journey is based on this ill conceived notion of developing cities

and this smart city programme would be one manifestation of this notion.

~~This~~ There is need to correct this wrong strategy

in order to bring positive results at the ground level. By investing in villages there would be

multiplier effect in the society and India

would truly become a economic superpower.

Remarks



These multiple effect ranges from health, education, economy etc sectors. By making investment in the health of infrastructure of our villages we can reap the benefit of demographic dividend. The investment in primary and community health care services would give ~~be~~ multiple outcomes in the form of improvement in human capital, reduced expenditure on tertiary health care and reduction in loss of man hours on account of unhealthy rural population.

Similarly by investing in rural education infrastructure we can leverage our young demography to achieve the lofty goals of development. With improvement in both health and education of majority of our population that lives in villages, our human capital would improve which would give multiple effect on other sectors.

Remarks

with improvement in human capital there would be need to make these rural areas as destination of economic activities, with creation of economic

opportunities in these areas, the distress migration would reduce and consequently the pressure on urban resources would reduce. The villages would become hub for employment and rise in employment levels would make our economic development broadbased and inclusive.

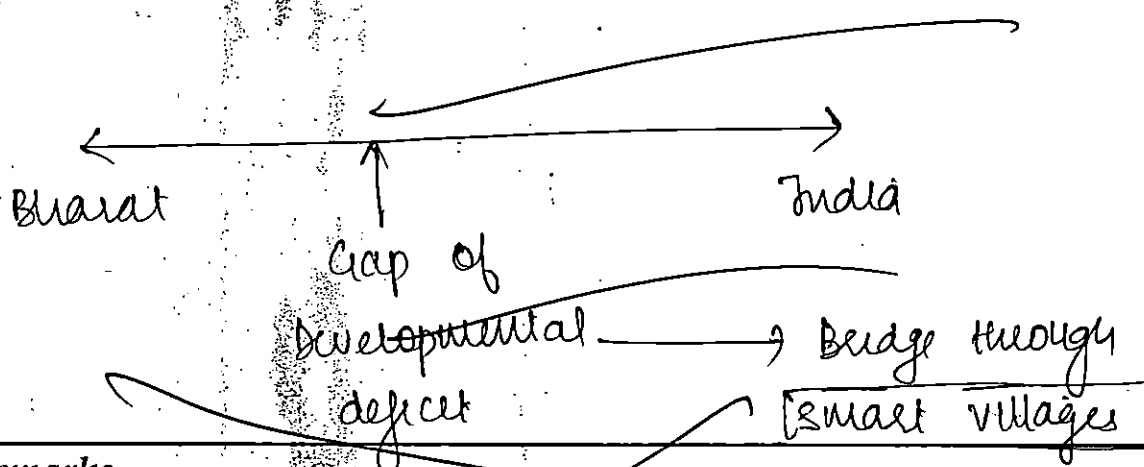
The benefits of this inclusive and broadbased development would get reflected in the social cohesion and poverty reduction. With the reduction in social conflicts the notion of brotherhood would develop, which would further assist on social problems. The reduction in poverty levels would remove the vice of malnutrition and undernourishment. Reduction in these would further promote the quality of human

Remarks

capital. Thus any robust investment in rural areas would result in virtuous cycle of development.

All these investment in villages along with the associated development in rural agriculture through crop diversification, climate smart agriculture, value addition through food processing, road/farm to market infrastructure and lab to land intervention, the villages would move up in the socio-economic ladder and truly become smart.

Such smartness in areas of education, health, farming, economic activities would help in developing these underdeveloped areas and bridge the gap between Bharat and India.



Remarks

Also tell - how both smart villages and smart cities are complementary & supplementary to each-other

For these villages to become smart there is ~~unleash~~ need  
 to ~~unleash~~ the penetration of digital technology in  
 these areas. The broadband and internet services  
 are still not available in many such areas,  
 despite initiatives like Bharat Net <sup>and digital India</sup>. Along with  
 availability of internet there is need to electricity  
 these villages. otherwise without electricity these  
 villages would not be able to leverage technology.  
 Along with accessibility gap there is need to  
 bridge capability gap as pointed out by World Bank  
developmental report 2016 "Digital dividends!" without  
building capability in such villages there would be no  
smartness and resources would be unutilised.  
 Even our Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi wanted  
 to make our villages self reliant and independent.  
 He advocated that India is summarion of its  
villages. without developing our villages we cannot

Remarks

develop India rather than mass production in unaided production by masses, as this would cater to the needs of large number of people and thus be inclusive. We should take cue from his wisdom in advocating such strategy and make amend our ongoing top-down developmental strategy.

Thus, after going through the journey of smart cities vs -a vs smart villages, one point is clear for development to be inclusive and sustainable there is need to shift our focus from city centre development to village centre development because being poor or city can make our strategy backfire. This rather than making only cities stronger and smart we should simultaneously make our village smart & resilient. Smartness in villages would impact smartness to cities. The Rurban mission is the step in the right direction and need to be carried further.

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