

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

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

Name SEUJ KR SAIKIA

Mobile No. _____

Date 03/10/16

Signature Seuj

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SECTION - A

1. Health is not valued till sickness comes.
2. Everything is funny, as long as it is happening to somebody else.
3. Where words fail, music speaks.
4. Mistakes are always forgivable, if one has the courage to admit them.

SECTION - B

1. The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me.
2. Achieving life is not the equivalent of avoiding death.
3. The ladder of success is best climbed by stepping on the rungs of opportunity.
4. Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake.

Remarks

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Section - A

Health is not valued till sickness
comes

Health is all about being human. It is related to the state of good balance of the bodily existence. To remain fit and active, one needs to be both physically and mentally healthy. However it is a general tendency of humans not to value health till its opposite and enemy sickness arrives.

Procrastination is a general human behaviour. Humans tends to delay things. When someone is healthy, he or she may not care about his or her well being. Even

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Thinking about health at that point seems a wastage of time.

This human attitude goes beyond individual level and dictates societal attitude be it at national or international level. The Indian scenario of public cleanliness can be cited. Till the sickness of open defecation was not realised in terms of health degradation, importance of 'Swachh Bharat' meaning 'Clean India' was ~~unknown~~ unknown.

The most dangerous implication of neglecting health for pursuing indiscriminate development can be seen in terms of environmental pollution. Particularly air pollution has reached dangerous levels. According to latest World Health

Organisation (WHO) report, India & China alone lost around 1.6 million lives as 'premature deaths'. All because of air pollution related ailments.

Delhi the Indian capital is notoriously famous for its worst air quality. Till the authorities realised the state of health degeneration initiatives like CNG vehicles, innovations like odd-even traffic rules were not promoted. Thus health is valued after the sickness has come to notice.

In the global perspective too, the menace of 'global warming' has reached dangerous levels. In reality the time has come to act. Prevention has not been taken in the times of early industrialisation. Any

Further delay in implementing the recent 'Paris climate agreement' would make human existence a questionable fact. The sickness of 'climate change' is well established, the need is to value human health.

Similarly the value of health can be realised in the field of social development. In this context the division in Indian society can be taken as an example. The sickness of caste division, gender discrimination, further marginalisation of numeric as well as religious minorities etc is a grave one.

For India to develop as a nation in every field known to human the value of healthy society is to be recognised.

Atrocities on Dalits, 'honour killing' of teenage girls, discriminating 'transgender', ^{dis-}respecting the ability of 'differently abled' etc have to be recognised as chronic illness.

Besides, that would depend to a large extent on the establishment of a healthy 'educational system'.

Though Right to Education (RTE) has brought rich dividends to India.

There are issues of quality of education. Without which the health of the education system cannot be sustained. The reports of ASER ~~has~~ have to be taken as a serious illness, as higher classes students failing to read lower classes lessons.

The factor of gender discrimination comes to play a spoilsport here also. The low enrollment ratio of girls along with high drop out ratio is a major concern. Moreover the overall mobility to higher education from primary level has to be ensured. Valuing healthy education is a precursor for reaping the healthy demographic dividend.

Additionally, failure in the economic front could serve a severe blow to India's dreams of an egalitarian society. The stagnation of agriculture is posing a serious threat. It is an impending danger. The recognition of the sickness is already there. This can be ascer-

frained from the Union Govt's commitment to double farmers' income by 2020. This is a herculean task and needs a multipronged approach. The initiatives like Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, National Agricultural Market (NAM) etc are steps in the right direction. Not only it recognises the sickness, but also taking corrective steps.

Along with these, the push towards industrial growth manifested in programmes like 'Make In India', 'Start UP India' etc are laudable. Without a healthy manufacturing base generating employment is impossible. The disease of doing business has to be

replaced by 'Ease of doing Business'.

To a large extent the blame of current stagnation of the economy lies with the fact of non-recognition of the health of Banking sector. Non-performing Assets (NPA) as they are called is an example of not valuing health. The sickness has reached dangerous proportions. Immediate diagnosis and surgery is required.

Undoubtedly, the sickness of the political system in the country would affect others health. Indian democracy has matured over the years. Many diseases in the system ~~has~~ have been purged out. However the most toxic illness of 'corruption'

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has not been adequately treated. Probity in governance is dented by incidents like '2G-scam', 'coal gate' etc. The sickness is deep rooted and has societal backing as well.

The strengthening of democracy can only happen through a healthy political system. This would depend on their transparency and accountability. The focus on 'e-Governance' like single-window clearance, e-tendering ~~etc~~, PRAGATI etc can solve some of these issues. But overall success would depend on the awareness of citizens.

Certainly, moral standards of people need to remain healthy. They should be guided by human

rationality. This makes ethical upliftment of people very essential. The values of society need to reflect the changing times. However this does not mean supporting the current 'materialism' which is at the root of degeneration of human values. The problems of alcoholism, substance abuse (drug) etc are a growing sign of moral deformity. ~~This sickness requires co-operation for its treatment~~

Finally, all these aspects of health deterioration and their ~~respective recognition along with treatments~~ would depend on national and international co-operation.

Equality and justice, would remain mere words. The diplomatic health of the governments around the globe needs an overhaul. Problems of poverty and hunger would further aggravate if crisis like 'Syrian Refugee crisis' not dealt with understanding. The need of the hour is to respect the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

This would ensure a healthy course of development. It caters all the dimensions discussed earlier. The response of the Indian govt is positive on various counts. The schemes like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao', 'Accessible India'; policy changes such as 'New Education Policy' etc give a right message.

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Along with a vibrant responsive civil society the recognition of sickness of the overall system is not impossible. Perhaps individual efforts can bring transformational change. It would not only recognise but also treat the sicknesses. Valuing health ~~can~~ must start from the ~~beginning~~ beginning itself, as Bernard Shaw once quoted

"Keep yourself clean and bright; you are the window through which you must see the world"

- ① Basic understanding is good but not explanation.
- ② Use of illustration overshadowing main idea.
- ③ Be very wise in placing examples
- ④ Essay can't be a compilation of examples
- ⑤ It often does not give good direction to explanation

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Section-B

Achieving life is not the
equivalent of avoiding death

Life is a gift of nature and death is a reality. No one is immortal. The tendency to avoid death is closely related with inactivity. Nature being the cradle of creativity would never like a passive life. Rather the focus should be on achieving life.

To achieve life one has to respect natural laws. The achievement of life relates to living life with dignity.

Remarks

Natural justice is a living theme of democratic countries world over. The Indian Constitution rightly guarantees 'life with dignity' under the Art. 21 - 'Right to life and personal Liberty'. Here the focus is not on mere existence which is avoiding death. Rather living life with dignity of liberty is considered it's considered achieving life.

Accordingly, this can only be achieved with economic and social emancipation. Without which political democracy has no meaning. The poverty statistics of India put India in a bad light. Still 69 years after independence poverty around 27% of the overall

population is a big challenge.

This has hindered achieving life. For millions of Indians it is even avoiding death has become difficult. The globally lauded programmes like MGNREGA has to some extent averted the catastrophe.

With poverty, hunger is a consequence. Hunger not only in terms of food security but also nutrition security ~~loss~~ has made life miserable. In this context the issues ~~of~~ of 'public stockholding' at international level of WTO negotiations have proved a road-block. The western countries need to realise, achieving life is a natural right of every country. Their inaction is as good as avoiding

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Ref Hints

death.

For demographically rich country like India full achievement of life would depend her industrial progress. So far it has been a scenario of avoiding death. India to become successful and create meaningful employment has to develop manufacturing base. The examples of Japanese industrialisation and recent Chinese industrial progress should be kept in mind. They are the development of a century in a decade.

Likewise, progress in the social field is inevitable. The caste-ridden social structure has to be reformed. Otherwise caste-violence like in Uda would become

Remarks

a daily phenomenon. This would hurt progress made in other fields. Along with that, achieving life and enjoying is the right of every gender. Patriarchal societal structure cannot come in the way of 'gender empowerment'. Any status-quo is a situation of avoiding death which would eventually come.

The minorities like tribals cannot become tool for achieving objectives of majority. Pluralistic and inclusive society requires healthy development of all. This can be seen from the success achieved by 'differently abled' para athletes in the recent Paralympics. They defied death of every form to enjoy life of dignity.

Undoubtedly, nature itself is life. The fruits of nature are enjoyed by humans. But the unlimited exploitation of natural resources has resulted in issues of environmental pollution. This has in fact hindered human progress. Thereby enjoying life has become difficult.

The global problem of Climate Change needs immediate corrective measures. In this respect the agreement like 'Paris Climate Deal' becomes very important. 'Business as usual' attitude of western and even developing countries is a mere escapist way of avoiding the reality.

As disasters of natural origin have increased in intensity and frequency, ~~the~~ adaptability and preparedness hold immense importance. Thus the 'Sendai Declaration' and 'Framework' should be incorporated in developmental planning. The motto is to 'Build Back Better', which would enable to achieve a meaningful and secured life.


Subsequently, internalism needs to be promoted. The global issues of 'terrorism' needs to be tackled with a co-operative approach. Terror outfits like ISIS has made life so cheap that death has become order of the day. The

onus lies on institutions like United Nations. The distinction between good and bad terrorists has to go. The actions of some nations like Pakistan sponsoring terrorism require stringent action. For a peaceful world one has to puncture the cycle of terror. It is only with peace life becomes liveable.

Furthermore, it is human rationality that adds value to human life. The best manifestation of human rationality is scientific progress of humanity. However that has to be cautious of the needs of ~~the~~ human and carrying capacity of nature.

The researches in the field of 'stem-cell' needs to accommodate of natural order. It is novel way of solving many human problems related with health. But the ethical dimensions has to be adequately discussed. Then only full potential can be utilised.

The space programme of a country like India, ~~which~~ is a commendable achievement. Considering the fact, India is seen as a global leader. The success of 'Mangalyan' on Mars orbiter Mission (MOM) is behind such realisation. Though India is seen as avoiding death in other fields, here scientific feat made lives of millions of Indians meaningful.

Finally, societal progress be it at national or international level starts at individual level. The success story of  Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple Corporation has very few parallels. He was an inspiration for many.

Sometimes, merely avoiding death may lead to suicidal tendencies. This is a negative human nature which needs to be avoided. The problems like drug abuse, alcoholism etc are a precursor to that. The escapist attitude needs to be replaced with fighting attitude for a noble cause.

Remarks

The successes of initiatives like 'Start up India', 'Stand Up India' which the Indian govt is vigorously pursuing, can go a long way. The 'risk aversion' of Indian youth and society is a big hindrance for achieving life in true sense. The attitude to fight till death can only make Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) a success. Human development is closely linked to its proper implementation.

Understanding life to its true meaning is the key. As the late American President ~~at~~ Abraham Lincoln used to say,

"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

Remarks

same problem
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