GS SCORE

Essay Test Series
Mock Test - 2

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.

Remarks

(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).

Name PREETI YADAV

Mobile No. _____

1. *Invigilator Signature* _____

Date 30/10/2015

2. *Invigilator Signature* _____

Signature Preeti Yadav

SECTION - A

1. There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.
2. Poverty is not just a economic condition.
3. In this world, fear has no place; only strength respects strength.
4. It is always difficult to fight against faith than against knowledge.

SECTION - B

1. Law and order is the medicine of the body politic, and when the body politic gets sick, medicine must be administered.
2. The danger of the past was that men became slaves, the danger of future is that they may become robots.
3. A free and fair election is not possible without media.
4. Indian Democracy at Crossroads: Need of Good Governance.

(1) Poverty is not just an economic condition

Poverty as a phenomena is normally considered as an economic subfield. It is true that, it is one of the side effects of growth in human civilisation. But its effect is multidimensional and causes are also widespread.

Although, the focus on poverty as a menace to be cured is very much prominent today. But realisation of this problem has been for long. One of the most stark cause of poverty was Industrialisation in west and colonialism in rest. As depicted in

Poverty and Unbritish Rule in India by Dadabhai Naoroji. The poverty here was due to drain of wealth, deindustrialization in colonies, resulting in malnourishment, hunger, famine i.e. all manifestation of economic poverty. But at the same time, this poverty also represented loss of freedom, self rule, and loss of basic human rights.

So, seeing poverty through the lense of economic deficit will be a narrow view. Same idea gets its due in the form of multidimensional poverty index: since it considers not only money, but livelihood, health, empowerment to depict poverty.

Poverty is a relative concept, for one to be classified as poor there should be some standard. In this way, it is outcome of inequality.

There is inequality between lifestyle of rural and urban masses. So, most rural and urban living in slums are called poor in comparison to others.

similarly, women in patriarchal setup are not provided with enough means to earn livelihood, secure freedom, etc. Hence, they are poorer in empowerement.

At the global level too, there are few nations who because of their strategic location, geology, history are better off than most others. So, it further leads to differences in wellbeing of their citizens. Hence, even international politics is not out of ambit of poverty.

similarly, poorer nations because of their poverty are not able to garner same support and resource as stronger nations. further leading to their disempowerment. It is a vicious cycle for eg: least developed countries, small island nations are the ones who will have to face worst climate change wrath, and still have least voice on world forums.

School of thought which consider poverty as just an economic condition suggested measures like common minimum, Trickle down, social security schemes

But, empirical evidences have shown that these methods are not successful. Even measures like SDG, development as freedom (Amartya Sen) which considers poverty as multidimensional seems to be more appropriate.

As seen in case of various states in India such as west U.P., Haryana, Punjab where rise in monetary well being does not result in overall betterment of life. eg- female foeticide, forced marriages still prevalent.

Similarly, the drawback of viewing poverty as just economic condition lead to negligence of inherent worth of indigenous culture civilisation, etc.
eg- In the name of development Tribals are taken out of their cherished habitats and forced to adopt culture of others. While in the process, tribals are left even more vulnerable and poor both economically and culturally.

Poverty is also reflected in inherent lack of value system in modern societies. These

is lack of firm values - honesty, integrity, truthfulness, courage, love. Resulting in degenerating consequences such as corruption, nepotism, favouritism which again drives the vicious cycle of events leading to poverty in all dimensions.

In the political scenario too, poverty is well entrenched. Due to lack of an honest political attitude, there is nexus between politicians, administrators and criminal elements. As said by vohra committee.

This nexus is both cause of consequences of poverty in material, value and social sphere. Since, to self aggrandize politicians use freebies, false promises to lure poor electrate. Again after coming in power, they do not allow poor to rise above their level hence continuing the master slave relation.

Thus, poverty as a phenomena has various face and multidimensional scope. To consider it just as an economic condition will be against the truth.

Since, to remove poverty it is the first necessity to define and identify it. Hence, attempts have been made in form of poverty line, common minimum entitlement, employment scheme.

But, the missing thing is neglect of its multidimensional nature. The programmes should be developed and implemented in an integrated manner. So, that they are able to address all aspects of poverty. It should have following components:-

- economic
- cultural
- social
- gender perspective,
- environmental
- universal care.

Then only poverty can be fought. And the approach can be successful

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if it is decentralized, participatory and multistakeholders approach; eg Involvement of government, private sector, NGO, media, citizen's group.

(2) Indian Democracy at crossroads:- Need of Good Governance.

India is a democratic country, i.e. for the people; by the people, of the people. Indian democracy has been maturing since Independence, and has the credit of one of largest democracies in the world.

With changing situations, democracy too demands expa efforts to mature and grow freely. And good governance is a buzzword of this era in the field of modern democracies.

Good governance (GG) came in focus, after world Bank's report of 1992 which was in context of south africa. since, then its features got widespread acceptance as the key to better democratic system.

Good governance is the multistakeholders to the process of governance. It ensures, to be transparency, accountability, openness, responsiveness in governments.

These qualities of G.G. make it an attractive choice to solve the problems and needs of Indian democracy.

After first generation economic reforms and taking up of LPG reforms, Indian democratic system got transformed. Now, economy is more open, there are multiple players, although government is there as coordinator and regulator, etc. So, the responsibility of government got increased manifold especially to ensure a level playing field, and to secure poor, underprivileged citizens welfare.

In the social sphere too, due to increased influence of globalisation. There is stark inequality, increased rate of crime, juvenile delinquency, crime against women, gender issues. These issues also need a fresh perspective.

In political field, due to changed political culture, dwindling of ideologies, dilution of service spirit, and increased awareness among citizens. There is a challenge

to devise a system in which these new challenges and aspirations can be fulfilled. The use of EVMs, provision of NOTA button during voting, Lily Thomas case on representation of people act, have added fresh blood and transparency.

similarly, ICT, Internet have come as helpfull tools to ensure SMART governance - eg. Megdoot, FRIENDS, and e-governance initiatives and national e-governance plan have increased transparency, efficiency as well as effectiveness of governance.

One of main requirment present time is involvement of citizens in the process of governance. And for it, decentralisation, participation all equally important.

schemes like citizen charter, citizens letter/certificate have contributed greatly in this regard. Adoption of RTI, and suvottam model by government agencies has increased their efficiency and

made them competent to fulfill requirements of present India.

Other positive development in this regard is Right to Information Act, 2005. It has provided citizens a powerfull tool to hold government accountable and keep administrators always at toe. So that pathogenic behaviours of bureaucracy such as secrecy, red-tapism, nepotism, can be cured.

Although issues such as delay in appointment of information commissioners, delay in reply, flouting of rules by departments, rejection of application on frivolous ground need to be solved.

Right based Approach evident in RTI, RTS, MGNREGA, etc. is one of features of G2C. It empowers citizens not as receiver of goodwill of government but as rightfull owner of government services.

In the same realm, it is also necessary that citizens should also be part of control mechanisms. so that they are also able to elicit an accountable behaviour by the government, service provider.

In this direction, social Audit is an innovative tool. and are recommended its incorporate in objectives, instruction of government programmes which have direct interface with citizens.

for eg. it is there in MGNREGA and other ground based programmes. such as mid day meal. It not only creates awareness among citizens about their rights, but also increase efficiency, effectiveness, economy of government programmes.

Although, India has adopted good governance is possible. But, there is need to incorporate it in a more planned and comprehensive manner. since, the changed situation demands a more informed, proactive citizenry, along with more transparent, accountable government.

with the growth of technology, newer tools are easily available to fulfill these dreams. But, at the same time a fundamental behavioural change in Bureaucracy is also needed. It will be possible through, nothing and business process reengineering of government departments.

The role of civil society and NGOs along with citizen group will be paramount here. Since, the main core of e-g. is multi-stakeholders participation.

At the same time, a more accountable yet independent CAG, judiciary, Election commission along with autonomous local bodies will aid in development of a robust democracy.

Indian demo. at crossroads : need of G.G.

- GG is a buzzword, esp after WB ISSOs report.
- mean (GG) — A, T, R, e —, multistakeholder
- India is demo — feature. ; changes in Ind. demo (LPG, UC).
  - social
  - eco
  - pol.
  - Tech.
- e.gov., e.govt., CC, RTI, right hand after
- social audit.
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Poverty is not just an economic condition

- One of the side effects of growth in human civilization is inequality manifested in form of poverty. In an attempt to define poverty in concrete term, it has been given an economic form. But, its scope is wide and field multidimensional.
- Historical - Indu, color.
- Poverty is scarcity of resources, needs. etc.
- cultural, social, eco, values,
- multidimensional Pov. Index.
- tech,
- relative concept, rural, urban. — food, clothes, livelihood,
- Economic :- — woman, - GH, — global nation — Inequality, — MDG, SDG
- Social — as freedom dev^t (Amartya Sen.) — trickle down. — West & Rest. — Tribal culture. — Indigenous culture. — value system — corruption, Nepotism.
- → political — nexus b/w pol., - adm., criminal. — self aggrandism — freebies, — liquor.
- → pragmatism — job/em — edu^n — vicious cycle.