

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt one 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).

Name Krushboo Lather

Mobile No.

Date 1/9/17

Signature Krushboo

1. Invigilator Signature

2. Invigilator Signature

Remarks

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Fighting corruption is not just good governance but also self defence and patriotism.

According to Transparency International India is ranked 79/176 on its corruption index. The last decade alone has seen major scams like Commonwealth games, 2-G spectrum allocation case and the recent Coalgate scam. Since independence ~~to~~ India has been prey to corrupt forces time and again as permeated in the license quota Raj and seen it cases like Bofors. Given this background it is important to analyse why we need to fight corruption. This corruption is basically misappropriation of public funds in a government organisation or personal gain, whether material or otherwise at the cost of the country. This definition can also be applied to private sector. However a broader understanding of corruption also includes corruption of thoughts and society and these are practices against the idea of India.

Remarks:

The same thing can be said without using 'I' or 'We' in Impersonal way.

In this essay we will aim to understand the impact of corruption and develop major reasons to fight the same. We define good governance and how it can be upheld in only when corruption is uprooted. We also analyse why it is our responsibility as a country India's responsible citizens to fight corruption.

Impact of corruption

Corruption has been a problem faced by empires and kings historically. Kautilya's Arthashastra talks about paying adequate wages to officers and employed spies to monitor them. Similarly Alauddin Khilji upheld in reforms ~~in the nobles~~ in the practices of the nobles who had become prone to debauchery. The Britishers too fac^{ed} this problem when their own company's officers misused the trading passes system for personal gain. Thus it has been all pervasive in many ways.

economically too there is a high cost of corruption. The direct cost can be calculated in terms of bribes paid, the opportunity cost foregone and the amount of funds misappropriated. There is also an indirect economic cost of corruption.

This is the prevalent red tapism which leads to delays. As a result many, like foreign investors, choose to stay away from India. The country risk is also high affecting terms of trade adversely. As a result our EO DB rank is at 130th.

Politically corruption leads to an inefficient political system that fails to deliver what was promised. For example in many villages it is found that those collecting wages and ration under BPL schemes like PDS are actually the village elites. This leads to loss of faith in the system leading to bigger parallel governance mechanisms. Naxalism is in fact an ugly outcome of the same. Further it also leads to an adverse equilibrium where thieves with unscrupulous motives become politicians leading to higher corruption.

Remarks

higher corruption

write with in the margins

Eased Doing Business

It also saps the self respect of citizens by diminishing the sense of pride in national society.

Keep proper space between paragraphs. It will enhance your representation.

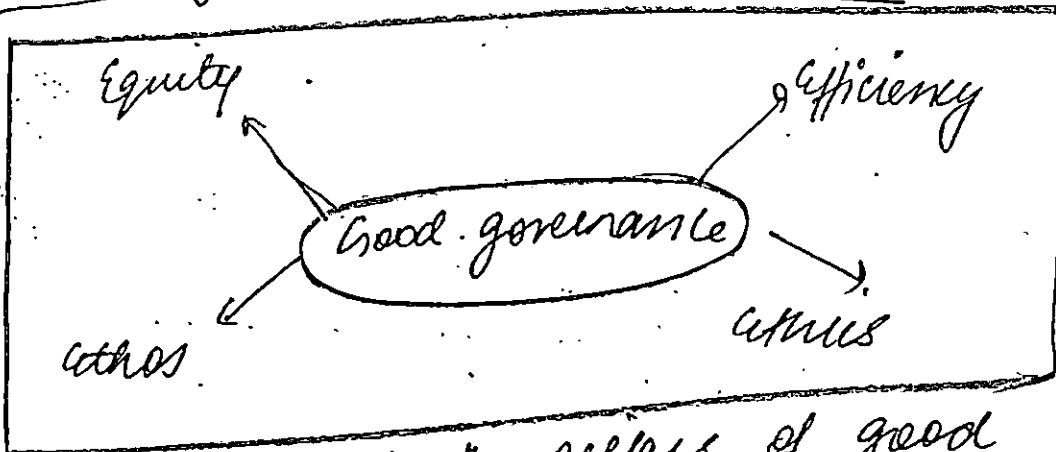
Corruption has the most social and cultural implications. It leads to a culture that blames the government for all wrongs. It perpetuates bribe giving and leads to an unhealthy government-industry complex of quid pro quo. It also erodes the society of moral values like honesty, integrity, kindness etc. which are the cornerstones of a happy society, replacing them with a self-serving, inward looking society that works on the principle of 'Sam Dham Dham Khed' and 'to each their own'. It also perpetuates higher levels of inequality and increasing tensions between the haves and have nots.

Internationally corruption puts India on the back foot. ~~where~~ It harms our soft power as a moral society. It also leads to us becoming less favorable destination of tourists, businessmen, investors etc. When these issues with corruption it is our moral duty to fight it and usher in good governance.

555

Remarks

Good governance and corruption.



When the pillars of good governance it can be defined as governance practices which lead to transparency, accountability, citizen centricity, citizen empowerment and better access to services for citizens as mentioned in the second ARC report on citizen centric governance.

The aims of good governance can only be achieved when corrupt practices like red tapism for bribes, unnecessary delays, opaque allocation of resources like spectrum, diversion of funds away from public interest etc. can be removed. Thus to bring in Gandhi's 'Suraj' and good governance we must fight corruption.

655

Remarks

Always
Box
the
Diagram
or
Map

This vision of 'suraj' can be implemented by tools like increased use of Information and Communication Technology, instituting citizen charters and ~~enacting~~ enacting the citizen's right to service bill. ~~At the~~ some of these measures have already been taken e.g. enactment of RTI Act 2005, digitisation of services etc. This will address the negative impact of corruption on our economy and politics. However the problem is bigger than that and thus we need to fight it as citizens & individuals.

Patriotism; citizens and corruptors

Patriotism is the love we feel for our country because we were born & here. It is this love that makes us cheer for India at sports events and swell with pride when the national anthem plays. It makes us fight for our country in wars and contribute to its well being via taxes.

to same remarks

The nation from going into morass.

Fighting corruption is not only focusing on governance by bringing transparency & accountability

scale of law but it is more than it & is equivalent

Patriotism can be practiced in many ways but at its core it is about being true to the ideals of our nation as stated in the constitution.

Thus by extension it means we must oppose all activities against the 'spirit' of our constitution.

Corruption violates this spirit in many ways.

? Ensure clarity

Our preamble talks about equality, unity and fraternity.

Corruption violates the spirit of fraternity by ~~perpet~~ increasing the gap between haves and have nots as mentioned earlier. It violates

our duties under Article 51A to protect ideals of independence and to practice a spirit of brotherhood.

Corruption by state actors are violative of their Directive Principles of state policy as well.

Thomas Jefferson in his declaration for independence of USA said citizens had a right to revolution if state acts against its spirit. Similarly given how it leads

Undermining our nation we must as responsible citizens oppose corruption in the interest of our Nation.

Individuals and corruption

While we fulfill our responsibility to the state as good citizens we also have a moral duty to ourselves to stand up for what we believe in for our self defense. Here the broader definition of corruption becomes important.

We need to fight corrupt practices that violate our freedoms like censorship or restriction of freedom of expression. We must fight a corrupt thought process that leads to gender based, caste based etc. discrimination.

Narendra Dabolkar lost his life fighting these evil practices as part of Maharashtra Aardrashrodha Nirmoolan Samiti. His efforts led to enactment of Anti Social Boycott Act in Maharashtra.

Instead of gender based, Caste based and other types of discrimination

Remarks

7/11/20

- Strengthening of institutions like parliament, CAG, Lokpal
- Minimising monopolies

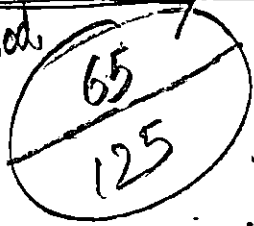
em... must we must fight corruption for our self defense and to prevent from being on its receiving end in the future.

Conclusion and way forward

Conviction rate should be high. The fight against corruption as legislated in Prevention of Corruption Act 1988, demand for and successful implementation of RTI Act 2005 and judicial pronouncements in various cases like Nanish Gupta vs Coalgate scam must continue. We must never stop asserting our rights as citizens of our country and practising our duties as responsible human beings. We must remember the words of John F Kennedy -

Ask not what your country can do for you, Ask what you can do for your country.

Remarks
V good



• Structured, descriptive, relevant intro & conclusion
 Take the write-up to next (higher) level by
 → Adding 'force' to communication by PUNCTUATION
 → Adding 'feel' by choosing appropriate words

'Yesterday's score doesn't win you a game today.'

Before the advent of the modern era, and even before medieval times India was once known as the 'Golden Bird', the Meluha land where all foreign gold sank. It was ~~the~~ at the centre of world trade, at the centre of spirituality. We used the silk route to spread the various facets of our culture. India was a winner then. Yet, yesterday's score doesn't truly win us a game today as seen in India's current situation where 20% of the skill ~~is~~ poor and we face various environmental, economical, cultural challenges.

In this context we will analyse the above quote in this essay. We will understand the role and importance of our past for today with various examples and conclude with how to harness the value of the past for winning.

Good grasp and understanding

Role of the Past

What we did yesterday is a part of our memory. Thus past's most important role is it leads to building of memories and nostalgia. How we utilise these memories and knowledge will determine whether our yesterdays are important or not.

A continuation of our initial example shows that while India might no longer be materially a golden bird, we are still a spiritual nation with immense soft power in the world. Thus all ~~was~~ the glory from yesterday was not lost. Next we discuss this ambiguous nature of the past.

Past is irrelevant.

If we look at various sports games, a victory in the past doesn't guarantee a victory today. ~~are~~ even the great players.

like Sachin Tendulkar can get out on naught. What matters is one's preparation for today and luck. Success is 99% perspiration and 1% luck and the past is irrelevant in such a scenario.

Similarly, no matter how many levels of the UPSC Civil Services Exam one has cleared in the past and how much they scored, today and the new attempt start with a ~~new~~ clean slate. This is true for any examination be it a school exam, a political exam i.e. elections etc.

This can also be extended to analysis of role of developing countries in environmental degradation. No matter what or how much a country polluted in the past, despite the principle

of
Nice example. examples provide objectivity to your essay.

of common but differentiated responsibilities, today it is our responsibility to contain pollution levels and we share this equally. India aims to live this up by contributing as much as it can to bettering the environment condition.

There is also a positive side to the fact that ~~past is~~ ~~irrelevant~~. Just as past success doesn't ^{count} so doesn't past failure. Thus despite Britishers exploiting India as imperialists, for almost 200 years they are one of our important allies because today's relationship is built on realities of today's world where past mistakes don't matter anymore.

Similarly, more recently we have resolved the Doklam stand off with China by ~~not~~ being future oriented and solution focused instead of dwelling in the past and extending the

crisis to other sectors of our relation with China. At the same time we can't say that part is completely ~~unimportant~~ ~~unimportant~~ as even this resolution was an outcome of centuries of friendly relations with China.

Fact is relevant

while the outcome of yesterday may not be important, the actions we took then are.

Thus a sportsman will learn from a mistake they made in the past and improve on it, and not repeat it to become successful today.

more literally, India put up a dismal performance at olympics 2016 by winning only 2 medals. Yet to improve on this score we will analyse the failures and issues that led to it. A Task force led by Mr. Abhrajit Bindra

Any thing which develops a process

Such as

I.R / Bilateral relations

In such cases past scores do influence

the present

600

Remarks

has been setup for the same.

Rome wasn't built in a day and this part is ~~the~~ our first ~~set~~ step towards building something important. On landing on the moon, Neil Armstrong said -

'It was one small step for man but a ~~big~~ giant leap for mankind.'

~~This part~~ Today's space explorations and their success is an outcome of this initial success. This part is relevant as it is a part of the progress that we have made whether it be discoveries like fire or inventions like steam engines, they have all contributed to our success today.

This part becomes relevant when valued appropriately. It is also important because not all achievements are independent of one another. For example,

we invest in human capital
 i.e. health and education today
 so that we can have returns in
 the future. Outcomes of schemes
 like Beti Bachao - Beti Padhao
 will impact prevalent social
 norms about female labor force
 participation in the future.
 Investments in health will also lead
 to a healthier population.
 Thus what we do today affects
 our tomorrow just as what we
 did yesterday affects today.
How to harness the past?

Given how important yesterday's
 score can be for today's
 success we must focus on
 harnessing it and recording
 it for memory. Building
 organisational memory with
 schemes like 'Anubandh' for retired
 personnel is a step in this
 direction.

We should also stay
 humble in the face of our

Very
 good
 Articulation
 and
 Connect

Q30

Remarks

mistakes of the past. Let them be repeated again. For example, in Germany police stations are built right next to Nazi concentration camps so that Germans never forget the genocide and this is never repeated again.

Beyond organisational and country level efforts we must also strive to learn from our own personal mistakes and be humble in the aftermath of success as ~~success is temporary~~ both success and failure are fleeting and our efforts should be directed towards building character and becoming better individuals. For this the role of self introspection is paramount as it develops a high emotional quotient with ability to self leadership and self monitoring. Once we develop these qualities we will be able to ensure that

yesterday's scores are relevant
 even today. we can then
use past for our advantage
 and remember what Jawahar
Lal Nehru said -
'The burden of the past pursues us
and it is both a burden and
an inspiration, for it drags
us down and at the same time
pushes us on.'

66

127

• your overall performance is
 very good in this essay
 You understood the topic and
 provided good content with
 good objectivity. You provided
 comprehensive issues.

• Good writing skills - Simple,
 lucid, easy to understand
 and grammatically correct
 language.

• Very good Marks
 Keep it UP!

History has
 valuable
 lessons
 for us and
 we shouldn't
 ignore it
 either.
 we need to
 make sure
 it doesn't
 become the
 determining
 factor in our
 decisions,
 & remain mostly
 a tool.

990

Remarks

