

**GS SCORE**

**An Institute for Civil Services**

**IAS TOPPER'S**

**TEST COPY**

**INDERVEER SINGH**

**Rank - 259**

**Essay**



**www.iasscore.in**

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

Name INDERVEER SINGH

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Indes

1. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

**SECTION - A**

1. People are sheep. TV is the shepherd.
2. Introduction of technology at early age kills creativity
3. Social Networking: a great invention or the end of privacy?
4. Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.

**SECTION - B**

1. Chanakya may have been from India, but its Indians who never followed his advice
2. Cooperative federalism is the key to mitigate regional inequality and promote national unity.
3. The "temple of democracy," as Indians have long hailed their parliament, has been soiled by its own priests.
4. Make in India is the first stage; the final stage that is, made in India is very demanding.

## SECTION A

3.

Social Networking: a great invention or end of privacy?

According to a recent survey across many countries, a stark outcome was observed among internet users. Many people in developing countries assumed facebook to be synonymous to internet. This observation

shows the spread of social networking that people unfamiliar with computers and internet are familiar to internet's brain child called social networking which is literally used as a means to develop network among members of society via internet.

Multi-dimensional usage of social networking from connecting with friends to managing projects to even acting as a security check during terror attacks justifies its utility and proves it to be a great invention. But every coin has an other side so is with social networking as it

Remarks

shares a lot of private user data with the social networking sites which can be potentially used by them to earn benefits thus rendering lots of internet users exposed in the privacy of their homes.

### Social Networking: a great invention

With the onset of 21<sup>st</sup> century internet was made available to general public and with its spread, world was reduced to a global village with the spread of information in a fraction of seconds. This revolution has been boosted by social networking to such an extent that it is now used for a whole range of activities, some of the prominent ones are:

- Social Applications: Ranging from connecting to friends, messaging, video conferencing, sharing news and information, spreading awareness about any issue among people to even mobilising opinion among public on any recent incidents. ....

Remarks

- Economic Applications : Social networking is widely used for coordinated team working when members working on any project are located at geographically different locations. It is also used for collaborative working and resource sharing among like minded individuals such as entrepreneurs, software developers or even farmers getting consultancy services and weather updates.
- Political Applications : Social media is widely used by various government departments to publicise recent government policies and also to collect public opinion in regards to these policies. Moreover, now elections are fought more on social media campaigns rather than actual campaigns. It has acted as a great tool to spread information about contestants among voters.
- Security Applications : Now social media is widely used to track vital, ideological

Remarks

and blasphemous messages spread by fundamentalist groups and thus control them; moreover it is also used as a security check tool in cases of natural and manmade disasters which was recently used during Nepal and Islamabad Earthquake and Paris Terrorist attacks.

- Upliftment tool: social networking is used to spread internet and internet based services like e-education, e-health in remote tribal and indigenous communities.

This multidimensional usage of social networking clearly justifies the fact that it is of great utility and one of the greatest inventions of 21<sup>st</sup> century. But it is also said that this tool is also used for immoral purposes like spreading viral messages, transmitting child pornography, mobilising terrorist

Remarks

activities and many more. Rather it has intruded into our lives to such an extent that it has made a lot of private data about individuals available on internet thus rendering it vulnerable to cyber crimes.

### Social Networking : End of Privacy

Social networking - websites generates a lot of private data about its users such as :

- Personal data : Age, place of residence, gender, photo and various associations like family members, friends, place of work or study.
- Preferences : The pages any person likes, the advertisements that attracts any given user, the types of news/feeds a person looks for and many similar information is stored by these sites generating 'Big Data' which is a collection of similar data from many users.

Remarks

- Critical information like passwords, bank details are also stored by many social networking websites.

Thus social networking on one hand has given freedom but on the other it has curtailed the right to privacy. Moreover concerns are also raised because this data can be potentially used for many purposes ; such as :

- Customised feeds to the users according to their preferences.
- Economic purposes by selling this data to internet based shopping websites
- Data theft by cyber criminals can lead to spread of this data in market and with many potential threats like account hacking, identity theft, economic thefts, etc.
- Strategic usage by many multinational companies to target nascent markets

Remarks

and exploit the people there. Recent case of many pharmaceutical companies spreading their markets in African countries on the basis of preferences data.

- Snooping and stalking are some of the state sponsored as well as personalised ways of misusing social networking data and intruding into privacy.

### Need of strong regulation

Many of the above aspects raises many concerns regarding 'internet and international ethics'. Thus there is a need to generate national level regulators which monitors and controls potential misuse of Big Data generated by social networking companies. Moreover there is a need to develop an international internet and social media governance body which has multiple countries representation so that effective collaboration on regulation of such data

Remarks

as well as in controlling viral messages and tracking cybercriminals can be established.

In conclusion it can be said that in the initial phases of any new invention it is developed with a positive motivation but gradually it is plagued by negative elements or its exposed inefficiencies then comes the role of regulations and legislations which will control its potential misuse and similar will be the case with social networking.

Remarks

2.

## SECTION B

Cooperative federalism is the key to mitigate regional inequality and promote national unity

At the time of independence and even before that, it was decided by India's national leaders that independent India would be a federal country. This was justified by the multidimensional diversities that existed in India in terms of geographical variations, religious faiths, different ethnicities, linguistic diversities,

and different demographic and human development indices across the vast latitudinal and longitudinal expanse of country.

In true sense, for uniform development and strong unity between various states thus fulfilling the aim of 'Indestructible Nation', Indian federalism needed to have many shades, such

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as cooperative, collaborative, competitive and supportive federalism. But India's experience of federalism till now has seen some glitches which has shown characteristics of an unitary government rather than federal, some of these are

- Larger number of subjects in Union list to make laws as compared to states list.
- Residuary powers with Union government
- Appointment of Governors
- Promulgation of President's Rule
- Use of Paramilitary forces.

And many similar incidents have led to a broken and unequal federalism leading to wide-ranging regional disparities and rise of regionalistic feelings at times taking militaristic forms

Remarks

such as Naxalism. Thus creating a dire need for more balanced federalism.

### Cooperative Federalism : A Dire Need

Cooperative federalism as the name suggests, means a federalism that is more cooperation and collaborative rather than an imposing or dominant union. This means that states are now given more freedom to chalk out their tailor made policies most suitable for their growth rather than a plethora of centrally sponsored schemes.

In the recent times Union government has taken many steps to boost cooperative federalism in India, such as:

- 14<sup>th</sup> Financial Commission has recommended devolution of 4.2% collected taxes by the union to the states thus giving them financial autonomy and boosting Economic

Remarks

Federalism.

- NITI Aayog has been set up in place of Planning Commission wherein states have more larger role to decide on the future course of policies rather than simply following centralised Five Year Plans.
- Proposed reduction in number of Centrally Sponsored schemes and development of more tailor made schemes by states according to their needs.
- PRAGATI a video conferencing tool

by which Prime Minister's office constantly monitors implementation of various schemes in states and also addresses public grievances which guiding state agencies to boost implementation.

Benefits of Cooperative Federalism

As suggested above cooperative federalism gives more autonomy to states

Remarks

to make their tailor made schemes according to their requirements. For instance, Kerala may not need huge funds for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan as it has quite high literacy rates but Rajasthan may need it. Whereas Kerala may need huge funds in infrastructure development hence with cooperative federalism states have more financial autonomy. Such autonomy will have multiple benefits, some of these are:

Mitigating regional imbalances and disparities since now states can target their specific needs thus achieving balance between states in terms of human development indicators such as health, education, rural development, food security, housing, sanitation, etc. along with uniform economic development. Thus it will correct the current malaise where there is huge inequality between states in demographic

Remarks

parameters, health indicators, attracting foreign investments, infrastructure development, etc.

- Upliftment of backward and tribal communities residing in some states which will facilitate their gradual mainstreaming. It will also have additional effects in improving their health indicators, literacy levels, employment potentials, etc.

Thus it can be realised that with more uniform growth there will be a more assimilation of different regions of country and gradual reduction of frustrations among them which leads to regionalism or separatist feelings or has even led to militaristic mode as taken by Naxalists. This will gradually lead towards a stronger National Unity and greater

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cooperation between states where each state can share its expertise thus facilitating growth of other states. A case in point is the example of Pani Panchayats in Gujarat, a state which is around 90% rainfed and has now achieved greater water security by participatory water harvesting techniques. Now these techniques are shared with other states and they are also improving their status.

In conclusion it can be said that 'United We stand, Divided We Fall' will come to its true application in Indian federalism with the implementation and strengthening of cooperative federalism.

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Cooperative federalism is the key to mitigate regional inequality & promote national unity

Intro → Indian Fed<sup>n</sup> till now  
 Understanding Coop Fed

Holistic fed.

- Cooperative
- Collaborative
- Competitive
- Supporting

Benefits of Coop Fed

↓  
 Conc.

Intro → Consti - Fed - reasons - diversity

Till now → Dominating Centre - Union List Govt.  
 → Imbalanced growth - Emergency Provis Rule  
 → Regionalization & militarization (Naxals)

↓  
 need for unified growth → Holistic Fed

↓  
Coop Fed - Financial - more tax dev. - 15th FC  
 - Policy Making - NITI Aayog  
 - Less interference

↓  
Benefits - Tailor made policies  
 - Upliftment of tribals/backward  
 - Improvement on human dev. indicators  
 - Balanced growth → regional ineq ↓

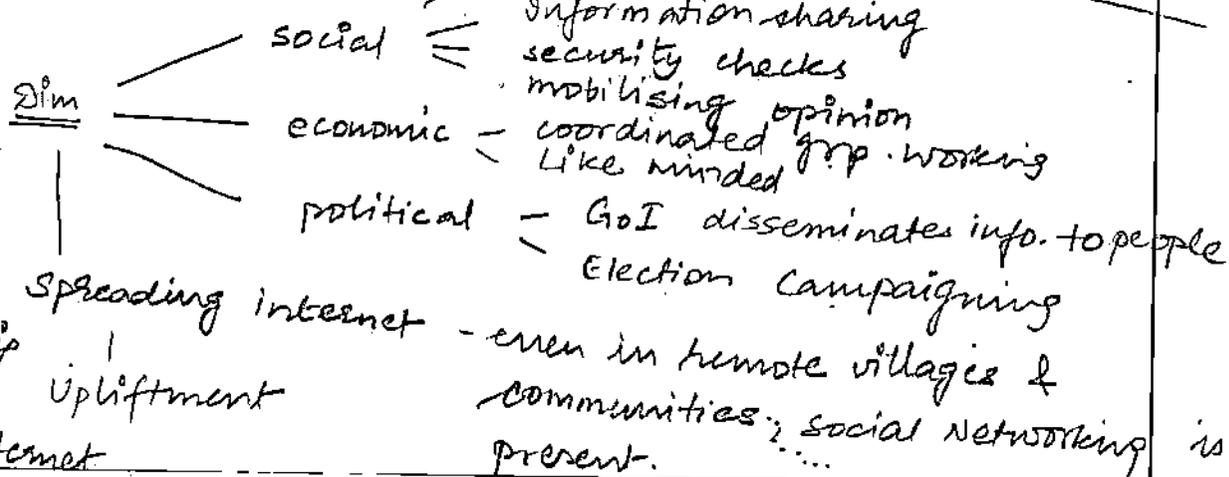
Remarks

PRAGATI

Social Networking : A great invention or the end of privacy

- ① more connected
- ② Quick information dissemination - GoI pages
- ③ Coordinated working.

Grouping of like minded people - Developess  
- Agro. consultancy



boosting  
Entrepreneurship  
Spreading internet

End of Privacy

- Plethora of data & preferences are shared by users

Remarks