

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

KOUSHIK H R

Rank - 240

Political Science

GS SCORE

Test - 02

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Time Allowed: 3 hr.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- There are EIGHT questions. Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
- Question no. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
- Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
- Attempts of questions shall be counted in chronological order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the answer book must be clearly struck off.

1. Invigilator Signature

2. Invigilator Signature

Name KOUSHIK H R

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature KoUSHIK H R

R-12
R-18
CB-15
C-17

REMARKS

GS SCORE

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SECTION A

1. Answer the following questions: (150 Words Each)

(10 × 5 = 50)

- (a) Factors responsible for rise of Judicial Activism in India
- (b) Rationale of Non-violence as a strategy in Freedom Struggle.
- (c) Transfer and Removal of Governors as a political move.
- (d) The importance of Article 370.
- (e) Merits and Demerits of Public Interest Litigation.

1a) ^{Judiciary} Judicial Activism is when the ~~SC~~ takes up the role of other two organs of the govt in the public interest.

In the initial years of activism, hyper activism of the other organ in order to curb the Judicial independence through various constitutional amendments (24th, 42nd) led to activist Judiciary.

In the recent times, the passivism in legislature due to the decline of Parliament leading to

Remarks

what Atul Kohli calls as "governability crisis" of Parliament has led to activism of judiciary by making laws like the Vishaka guidelines,

The inactivism from the executive due to bureaucratic apathy, corruption etc has led to judicial activism.

The rise in "non-party institutions" like NGOs, civil society etc and also with the introduction of PIL, judiciary has to take the activist role.

Judicial activism has benefitted the people & also strengthened the democracy, but judiciary must be careful to not go into the phase of judicial overreach.

Remarks

good what role did individual activism of the judges play in this

5

b) Indian independence movement was one of the earliest non-violent struggle to achieve independence.

Rationale for non-violence as a strategy

i) The strong army of British acted as a huge deterrent to take up an armed rebellion as it could have been crushed very easily by the Britishers as we saw in the 1857 revolt.

ii) British were not just coercive power, instead they were hegemonic power & hence the freedom struggle needed Gramsci's "war of position" without which.

Remarks

"war of manoeuvre" wasn't possible.

iii) The leadership of Gandhiji believed in noble means to achieve noble end. We could have achieved independence through violent methods but sustaining it would have been difficult as we saw in many other countries.

iv) Belief in democracy was a great factor.

This also enabled participation of masses specially women
 India survived the post-colonial challenges unlike other countries which turned into dictatorship & this is because of the path of non-violence adopted in freedom struggle & hence India is the largest & functioning democracy.

6

c) When the Janata Party came to power, it removed the governors of all Congress ruled states & this was repeated in non-Congress ruled states when Indira Gandhi came back to power indicating the politics behind it.

more examples

The Governor though a constitutional post has become a pawn of the Union govt as he/she works under the pleasure of the President.

The appointment & removal procedures have become a political move in the reason of governor not on the lines of Central govt ideology which was clearly opposed by the SC in the B.P. Singhal Case where

Remarks

SC upheld the appointment/removal power, but it cannot be arbitrary,

In the Hargobind Pant case, SC upheld the constitutional status of the Governor.

Way Ahead

As per Punchhi Commission, Governor must have a security of tenure & he/she must be appointed in consultation with the CM of the state.

What more guidelines are given regarding appointment & nature of person to be appointed?

d) Article 370 provides special status ~~due~~ to the state of J&K due to its troubled history of accession to the Indian Union.

Article 370 provides autonomy

to the state in various matters & this was introduced in the constitution to increase the confidence of the people of J&K on the Indian Union.

This was a prerequisite condition for accession by legislation under J&CO.

This Article has helped to protect the sovereignty of the country as secessionist movements were controlled.

In the recent days, we are seeing increased terrorist activities & a sense of alienation among the people & also given the hostility towards Pakistan, this Article must be continued to see-win the confidence of the people. why it is demanded that it should be abrogated?

3

e) In the SP Gupta Case, Justice Bhagwati institutionalised the PIL which did not require 'locus standi'

Remarks

to file a case

Merits

- Increased accountability by bringing out various corruption case Eg!-2G
- Enhanced the scope of fundamental rights.
- Strengthened the civil society.
- Promotion of environmental justice
Eg!- CNG in buses, Delhi pollution case.

Demerits

- Increased the burden on judiciary
- Led to judicial activism & sometimes judicial overreach.
- According to Pratap Bhanu Mehta, it led to decline of Parliament
- Many times leads to Political Interest Litigation as observed by SC in Dattaji Thawre Case

Remarks

High number of false & frivolous cases

⑥

where is your conclusion?

3. Attempt all questions:

- (a) Over the years, the 'Non-Party' institutions have come to play a very crucial role in Indian politics. Comment. (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (b) Land Reforms in India are a characteristic example of good intentions but bad implementation. (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (c) 'President Rule' remain no more an instrument of constitutional crisis management in fact become crisis in itself, examine? (250 Words) (20 Marks)

a) Post-emergency era, we saw an increase in the civil society movements. Rajni Kothari terms these as "non-party political formations".

Why is there an increase in non-party institutions?

According to Rajni Kothari, the masses lost trust in the political establishment during emergency. Hence the masses started supporting non-party institutions. Why or how emerging as a better alternative.

Also after the economic reforms, the ~~new~~ role of private

Remarks

Industries increased. The business groups according to Robert Hardgrave became the most powerful non-party institution.

With the advent of globalisation, there was an increasing demand for human rights, also many issues like women issues, environmental issues got global support strengthening the non-party institutions.

Role of non-party institution

Non-party institution like NGOs, media, civil society etc. play the role of interest articulation to & communicate the voice of the people to the political class.

They have played a crucial

Remarks

While your focus on new forms of these institutions is good, you also need to talk about traditional groups (why they are declining in influence) like student & other groups

role in bringing institutional reforms like transparency, accountability through mean like RTI.

They raise their voice when the political establishment is becoming very strong for example the returning of awards by the intelligentsia in protest against curbing free speech.

With judiciary in the activist mode, these institutions are using the judicial route of PIL to bring about a change in the political system (Lily Thomas Case)

b) Land Reforms were one of the earliest decisions taken in the independent India. Land Reforms was

Remarks

socialistic mode of distribution of wealth from rich zamindars to landless peasants.

The land reforms tried to achieve this through

- i) Abolition of Zamindari
- ii) Tenancy reforms
- iii) Land ceiling.

According to Daniel Thorner, the intention of land reforms was to strengthen the agricultural system & eliminate the absentee landlordism, but this wasn't a huge success.

Due to poor implementation, the zamindars were made the tenants and they were offered the land. Also according to Rudolph & Rudolph,

it strengthened the Zamindars who were paid high compensation. Then they invested in various other sources & during Green Revolution they turned into Bullock cart capitalists.

Land ceiling Act led to fragmentation of land within the family. The present times is still suffering because of fragmentation of agricultural land. ^{this particular reform was most poorly implemented}

Atul Kohli in his study claims that the land reforms ~~dependent~~ depended on the support of the ruling class.

According to Kohli, land reforms was a success in Kerala & a huge success in West Bengal through

Remarks

What role
did political
affiliation,
judicial intervention
play in this?

What impact did it
have on agricultural
productivity?

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'Operation Barga' because the ruling communist party supported the land reforms.

As articulated by PS Appu, though land reforms were of good intention, it failed due to poor implementation & the clitester bureaucracy was the major reason for the failure.

c) Article 356 of the constitution provides the power to the President to declare President's Rule in a state when he is satisfied that the state cannot run as per the constitution.

Constitutional makers included this article to handle unforeseen constitutional crises and Ambedkar

Remarks

even called it as "Dead Letter" as it will never be used. The way in this Article has been used more than 115 times in 67 years.

Though there are genuine cases of its imposition, it become a test of coercion for the central govt.

~~The Law~~

This Article has created a controversy around the post of Governor who has acted in ~~no~~ partisan manner and as an ~~agent~~ of the central govt.

President's Rule has affected the federal structure of the country which is already tilted towards the

Remarks

centre.

The collective responsibility of the state executive is denied as many times the President's Rule is imposed even before the CM fails to prove his majority as witnessed in Uttarakhand recently.

As ~~opposed~~ ruled by the SC in the Arunachal case, instead of solving constitutional crisis, ~~the~~ misuse of Article 356 has created a constitutional crisis by disturbing the federal structure.

The Punchi Commission recommended that the ~~the~~ guidelines of Bommai Case must be included in the constitution & also reforms in required in the office of governor to avoid misuse of President's Rule.

Remarks

Weak answer
more examples
more viewpoints

& more
elaboration
on guidelines
issued in

needed

Also elaborate on
guide lines
after several
cases

SECTION B

5. Answer the following questions: (150 Words ($10 \times 5 = 50$))

- (a) Inherent drawbacks and weaknesses of the Indian Electoral-system
- (b) Relevance of fundamental rights in Indian democracy.
- (c) Factors contributing to decline of Legislatures.
- (d) Important Determinants of Electoral behaviour in India.
- (e) Role of Pressure Groups in Policy Formulation.

a) Indian electoral system follows the FPTP method & there are many drawbacks & weaknesses

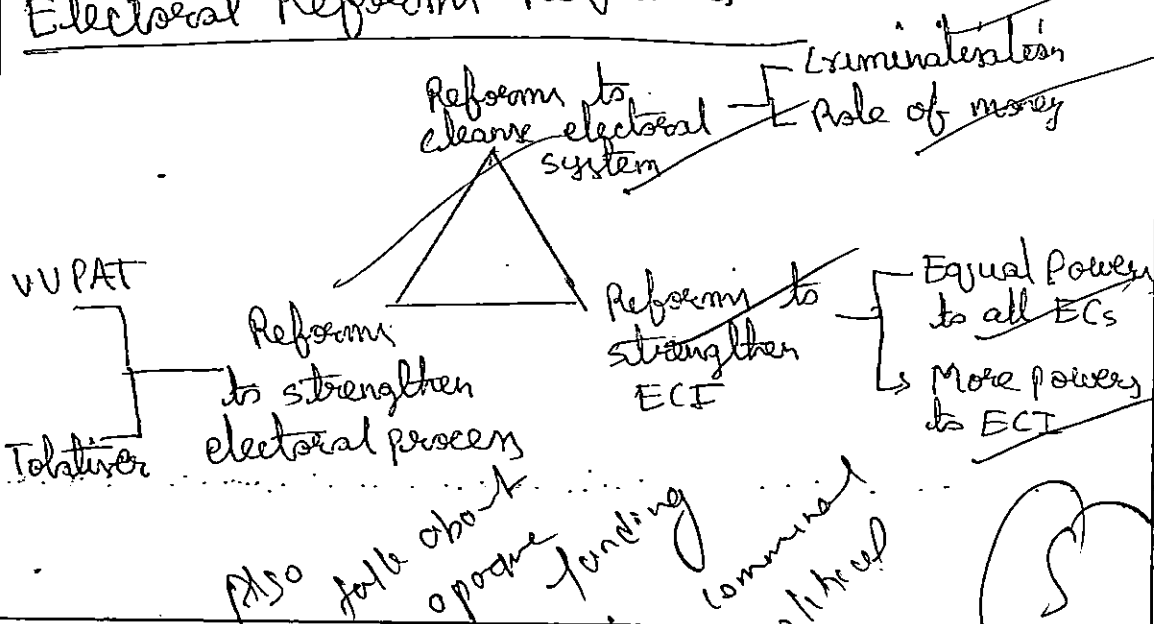
i) Disscord between vote share & seat share

Though the ruling party has a majority of vote share, till now no party has achieved majority of seat share. Also there is huge difference across parties. AIADMK & TMC with 4% vote share have more than 30 seats whereas BSP with 4% vote share has zero seats.

Remarks

- ii) As we don't follow the proportional representation, minorities are not well represented.
- iii) The election commission has limited powers & hence it is not able to address criminalisation & role of money. ^[it has to work at 324]
- iv) No inner party democracy has led to what Robert Michels termed as Iron law of Oligarchy.

Electoral Reform Required



Remarks

& increasingly communal
& divisive political
funding

b) Fundamental Rights in India belongs to the liberal school of thought as it tries to limit the state in order to protect the individual.

Fundamental Rights acts as a check and balance on the state & hence prevents democracy from turning into tyranny.

Fundamental Rights like Right to religion protect the secular feature of our democracy and hence avoid JS Mill's fear of "Tyranny of majority".

According to Benjamin Franklin, democracy can survive only with free

Remarks

what are the
unique features
& challenges
faced by
concept of PRT
being
broken

4) & fair debates. In the recent times, there is an increasing violence by self-appointed custodians of society affecting this debate. Fundamental Rights provides Habermas' "ideal speech situation" & assists the "cultural emergency" which Salman Rushdie said.

With new threats emerging, Fundamental rights has even more relevance in the present times to strengthen the democracy.

c) India is a matured democracy with a dormant Parliament. 40% of time of 15th LS went in ~~rest~~ disruption indicating decline of legislative

Remarks

Factors contributing to decline

- i) Criminalisation of politics has reduced the quality of the legislature. The 16th LS has 184 MPs with criminal charges.
- ii) Role of executive as it is dominating the legislature through misuse of ordinance
- iii) Increasing role of judiciary according to Pratap Bhanu Mehta has reduced the role of legislature.
- iv) Due to coalition politics, the govt of the day are not very strong in the legislature.
- v) Anti-defection law though reduced the 'horse trading', it has

Remarks

What
note on
these factors
playing
Executive
dominance
Delegated legislation
lack of understanding
b/w govt & opposition

curtailed the role of legislature in participating in debate.

v.) According to CP Bhambee, the one party dominant system of Congress turned Parliament into a legislative rubberstamp. (But is this valid reason now?)

d) Important determinants of electoral behaviour

i) Caste

It is said that in India people don't cast their vote, instead they vote their caste. According to Christophe Jaffrelot, caste forms the mosaic of Indian politics. According to Corbridge Harris, caste plays a role from society elections till Parliament election.

ii) Ethnic identities like language, culture etc plays a huge role

iii) Leadership of the political parties play a huge role & this was evident in the 16th LS election.

iv) Issues

According to Yogendra Yadav, 16th LS election was fought on the issue of development & hence he opines that India is moving towards 'Identity plus' politics.

v) Incumbency factor plays a huge role in both Parliament & state elections.

Ad
Role of Ideology
Religion
Caste
Party loyalty
Dynasty Politics

Remarks

4

v) Pressure groups are the non-party institutions which use pressure tactics to have policies in the interest of members of group.

According to Stanley Kochanek, pressure groups are the "invisible govt". They perform the role of interest articulation to communicate the needs of the people.

Pressure groups like India Against Corruption tries to mobilise people against the govt when it has taken a wrong route & hence bring in better policies like Lokpal.

Pressure groups also acts as a feedback mechanism for policy formation. They make democracy a polyarchy as said by Robert Dahl.

Remarks

Don't write like this
no answer
you need to focus on your positive & negative impact both

3

7. Attempt all questions:

- (a) Comment on the nature of linguistic politics in India and its evolution in the past decades. (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (b) What were the major characteristics of Marxist perspective of Indian National movement and their role in limiting its scope and influence on Indian masses? (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (c) Discuss evolution of coalition system in India, how far it has impacted entire political spectrum and political discourses? (250 Words) (20 Marks)

India is a land of diversity and we see many languages & various dialects. Linguistic diversity played a huge role in the Indian politics.

Initially the linguistic politics confined to demand of new states which was started by the demand for separate Andhra State. Later we saw its culmination with State Reorganisation based on language through 7th constitutional amendment.

The biggest moment in linguistic politics was the Tamil nationalism.

Remarks

which began as a secessionist movement against Hindi imposition.

Language becomes a part of the culture & ethnicity & many times it is difficult to separate them. Linguistic politics has led to the "son of soil" theory (Myron Weiner) leading to an exclusionist tendency as we saw the attacks on "North Indians" in Mumbai.

As the federal structure is getting stronger, we are also seeing the strengthening of the linguistic politics. We are recently witnessing anti-Hindi backlash in many non-Hindi speaking states for example the recent incident of Delhi Bengaluru Metro.

With the strengthening of globalisation, many are fearful of loss of their unique culture & hence in the recent times are looking at language & other identity markers. The recent Talikalte protest on the Marina beach is a proof of it.

According to Atul Kohli, India being a "noisy democracy" is a perfect setup for linguistic politics. He also points out that the Indian democracy provides opportunities to solve such issues. This according to Kohli depends on the institutional capacity of the Central State & also on the Central leadership to accommodate such demands.

Remarks

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Any discussion on linguistic politics has to include issues in North East parts of India Punjab
Hindus under controversy

b) The Marxist perspective on Indian National Movement was first said by Karl Marx himself in an article titled "Revolt in the Indian Army".

According to Karl Marx, India was ready for the mass struggle and the 1857 revolt was an anti-colonial struggle.

Why did
consider
this as
a bourgeois
revolt?

According to Lenin, "Imperialism the highest stage of capitalism" & hence he was in sup view of supporting the domestic bourgeoisie in India as being mass revolution.

The strongest criticism of Indian National Movement was done by M.N. Roy. Roy criticised Congress as a bourgeois party and did not trust in Gandhi's leadership. According to Roy.

Grandhi wanted to concentrate power & hence he called off Non-cooperation movement. Roy urged the masses not to join the national movement instead the masses must unite & revolt.

Role in limiting the scope & influence

The Marxist perspective led to the emergence of Trade Union in India & also led to many trade union movements. These trade union and also the communist parties did not take part in the Quit India Movement as USSR was allied with England.

Though the Marxist perspective provided an alternative, it could not succeed in halting Congress. In turn it influenced Congress in taking socialistic measures in the party.

Remarks

Good structure
Although you need to focus on their own objectives & vision for post independent India.

①

7c) According to Prof. Rashid ul din Khan, given the diversity of India, coalition politics was inevitable.

Post-independence, Indian political affairs were dominated by the Congress which Morris Jones called as "Single party dominance system" and Rajni Kothari termed it as "Congress System".

From 1967, we see two trends in Indian political system viz., fragmentation & regionalisation leading to coalition politics.

i) Coalition at the states (1967 onwards)

In the year 1967, we saw a decline of Congress System with Congress losing in eight states. The decline of Congress in states led to coalition politics in the states.

Why did this happen?

ii) Coalition experiment at the Centre (Janata experiment)

Post-emergency, many political parties came under the umbrella Janata Party to form first coalition govt at the Centre. But, this experiment failed due to lack of coordination & poor leadership.

iii) Immature coalition (1989-99)

This decade was of 'immature' coalition leading to Third Front & we had PM like Deve Gowda & I K Gujral having very short term.

iv) Mature coalition (99 onwards)

The NDA govt was the first success of coalition politics with around 24 parties. Later UPA govt succeeded in staying at power for a decade.

According to M P Singh, coalition politics has strengthened federal axis when compared to Parliamentary axis. If we observe the facts, the misuse of President's Rule has come down in the coalition era & the states have become stronger.

On the other hand, the coalition politics has weakened the office of the PM. Experts like Parasuram Bhanu Mehta blames coalition politics as one of the reasons for the decline of Parliament. It has led to delay in decision making making India as Gunnar Myrdal's "Soft State".

As per 2nd ARC report, coalition must be between the parties which have ideological coherence & going away from the coalition must be treated as defection.

⑧

Remarks

Your chronological analysis is good. While discussing the impact, segregate your points in pointwise manner. Give positive & negative impacts.

8. Attempt all questions:

- (a) Analyse the various aspects of Social Mobilization by Political Parties in India. (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (b) While allowing "Lobbying" in India will certainly bring numerous advancements in the political system of India but it is not without its own pitfalls and problems. Provide arguments. (200 Words) (15 Marks)
- (c) Were the repercussions of caste system in India only a product of British Policies or it had far deeper roots in Indian society? Examine. (250 Words) (20 Marks)

a) According to Max Weber,
 "Political parties are the power houses of the society" and ~~mob~~ mobilisation of the people is the core of any political party.

Various aspects of social mobilisation

i) Mobilisation based on caste identity

Identity markers like caste, religion, language etc play a ~~huge~~ role in mobilisation of people.

Political parties like BSP try to mobilise Palit party of Centre like Congress mobilise based on various castes like the KHAM

Remarks

and ATGAR,

The Dravidian parties like DMK, AIADMK mobilise people based on language...

According to Thomas Hanson's "Saffron Wave", religion is the biggest force for mobilisation of BJP.

ii) Mobilisation leads to criminalisation

Mobilisation based on identity many times leads to communal conflict, attack on other identity people etc.

iii) Issue based mobilisation

As the democracy is maturing, we are witnessing political parties mobilising based on issues like poor development, environment, women issues etc.

Yogendra Yadav terms this aspect as

Ques

Remarks

You need to include views of more scholars in more type of questions

9

How
has this
mobilization
impacted
rural areas;
women
workers
section of
society?

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"Identity Plus Politics"

iv) Increase in request for autonomy
Due to political mobilisation,
especially by the regional parties, we
are seeing an increasing demand for
new states as recently seen in
Gorkhaland.

Social mobilisation is a
primary requirement. We have to move
from identity based mobilisation towards
social issue based mobilisation to
strengthen our democracy.

b) Lobbying is a method of influence
interest articulation to pressure the
ruling establishment to take
decision in the favour of the group.

Remarks

Presently pressure groups are well established in India, but lobbying is not legal. There is a demand for making lobbying legal.

Advantages of lobbying

According to Robert Dahl, democracy is a polyarchy wherein the pressure groups tend to take decision. Hence by ~~not~~ through lobbying, democracy can be strengthened as the people's voice can be heard through various pressure groups.

Lobbying will bring efficiency in the political system as it will lead to better decision making and India can come out of ~~post~~-colonial impact of Prismatic State.

Remarks

Problem with lobbying

Not - all the players who are lobbying would be having the same capacity. The business community would be more capable than the worker community leading to what Robert Dahl termed as "Deformed Polyrachy".

Lobbying also poses the challenge of political corruption due to crony capitalism and hence can be a challenge to the socialistic pattern of the country leading to a minimalist state due to the influence of corporate class.

Critics argue that lobbying by external agents like MNCs, foreign

Remarks

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You need to add more points in its advantages
Also segregate your points (+ & -ve)

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① goods etc can affect the sovereignty & the independent decision making which India has protected even during the tough times of Cold War.

As we see lobbying has many pitfalls & problems which may not be in the interest of our democracy. A better approach would be to go for deliberative democracy by strengthening associational pressure groups.

c) Caste comes from the Portugal word 'casts' which mean pure breed.

~~The B:~~

According to Romila Thapar, the caste system & its inherent problems were prevailing in India before British, but caste was not

Remarks

a major problem as there was harmony, Thapar blames British policy of "Divide & Rule" through various programmes like separate electorates to depressed classes etc has strengthened the repercussion of caste.

Essentialists like Louis Dumont argue that the caste system based on pollution & purity is an inherent character of the Indian society.

Though British strengthened the caste divide, our society had an explicit acceptance of caste system. As Dr. B. R. Ambedkar said, "India was not a country instead it was a segmented community".

Remarks

Varna system of division of labour was transformed to caste system of division of labourers.

Instrumentalists like Bipan Chandra argue that the caste based repercussion was later strengthened by the elites as an instrument of power.

Asghar Ali Engineer, says that though Britishers strengthened it, post-independence caste became a tool for the political parties to mobilise masses to acquire the govt institutions.

8 As we see the caste based repercussion though has a strong British establishment, it has a deeper presence through our socio-political setup.

Remarks

Analyze the points
major of Nicholas
Dixons - Dumont
debate on this
issue