

G|S|SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

INDERVEER SINGH

Rank - 259

Essay



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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).

RemarksName INDERVEER SINGH

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature Inder

1. Invigilator Signature _____

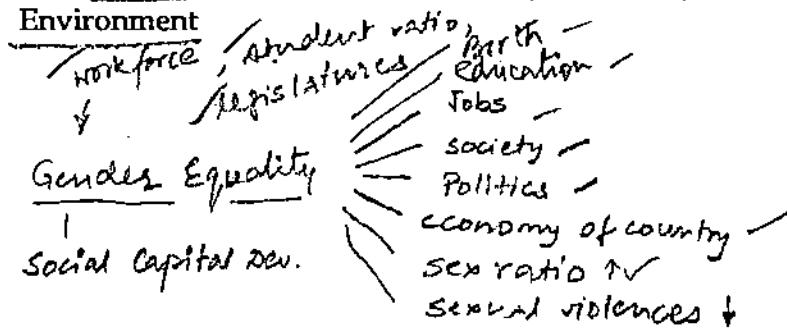
2. Invigilator Signature _____

SECTION - A

1. Politics without ethics leads to disaster
2. Beware the Barrenness of a Busy Life
3. Gender equality is a more than a goal in itself.
4. Forget success if you are without mission.

SECTION - B

1. Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choices, are prepared to choose wisely.
2. Civil servants convert political mandate into reality.
3. Science never solves a problem without creating ten more.
4. We don't have to Sacrifice a Strong Economy for a Healthy Environment



It is not a goal in itself but a means to achieve what is called a true liberal, democratic & egalitarian country

Flow - Level - 2m

/ Armed forces - fighter pilots women

/ weak gender, vulnerable gender, household

empowerment → Improvement in demographic parameters - IMR, MMR, Nutrition, edu. levels

- Marganwadi, SHG's (SEWA)

house wives VS house husbands

Gender Equality Is More Than A Goal

In Itself

Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and now Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) given by United Nations

to its member nations has a prominent goal of achieving Gender Equality.

Performance of various nations will be analysed in terms of three parameters

1. Boys to Girls ratio in schools at various levels
2. Gender balance in country's workforce
3. Representation of women in country's legislatures.

But Gender Equality is not just a goal or end in itself rather it is a means to achieve what is called a true liberal, democratic and egalitarian society and thus a country. Gender equality will have a multidimensional effect on various human development

indices for a country.

For a country like India whose society shows a strong patriarchal setup, bringing gender equality will initiate a cyclic process with many trickle-down and spin-off effects that will help the country to achieve the ideals enshrined in the preamble of the constitution i.e. social, economic and political liberty along with equality and fraternity.

A person's life starts on his/her birth but the question of gender equality starts even before birth.

In India, still today boy child is preferred more than a girl child when Indian women have become Prime ministers, President, Astronauts, successful corporates and many more. This gives birth to the menace of pre-natal sex determin-

nation and thus female foeticide.

So this makes the first stage of gender discrimination which aggravates into low sex - ratio and even low sex - ratio among children. This problem of low sex - ratio "has led to many social problems in states like Haryana where now females are brought from different parts of the country as there are very less females for marriage.

In the next stage of life, when children go to school, gender discrimination marks its presence with girls to boys ratio in classes showing even more unfavourable profile for girls and this keeps on decreasing as the level of education ^{from} primary to higher education is observed. There is a general perception that

women are supposed to do household work and this leads to early dropouts of girls from formal education.

As a result of illiteracy in women, they are disempowered, are less aware of their rights and are unable to contribute economically towards the family and this becomes dependent on their husbands. If gender equality is brought then it will have many trickle-down effects as mentioned earlier, some of these are:

- less adverse sex ratio
- control and positive use of pre-natal sex determination
- control on female foeticide
- better female literacy rates thus more economic contribution by females
- literacy will bring empowerment

and now their household work
will also need to be accounted
for

As females will become active economic contributors' and will start fighting for their rights, there will a behavioural transformation of society which currently sees women as a weak, vulnerable and dependent gender to a empowered and capable gender.

This transformation has started to be seen in India which stands at crossroads and remarkable transition in various sectors is taking place. Recent allowing of women to be incorporated as air force fighter pilots is a testimony of this change.

Another example is of reservation of seats for women in the lowest tier of government represented by

panchayats and municipalities.

As a result of women coming into active politics a lot of women issues are being raised in the governments thus initiating action on them.

It shows a ray of hope but this needs to reflected in Indian Parliament also where females contribute only 12.16% towards its total strength which is one of the lowest in world.

From social to political to economic dimension of gender equality, it is said that India loses half of its GDP when women are unable to contribute towards it or when their household work is not accounted for thus raising the debate of "house-wives Vs. house-husbands" emphasizing the fact that when

a male member stays at home it is seen as an economic loss for the family but not when a female works at home.

Next, on the environmental front, gender equality has been seen in rural and tribal areas since many decades where women equally participated in movements like 'Chipko movement' and 'Narmada Bachao Aandolan' and many such movements thus effectively contributing towards conservation of environment.

In recent times, in many rural areas, gender equality is increasing its reach in form of 'Self-Help Groups (SHGs)' where women have worked shoulder to shoulder with men, involved in debates and discussion and also

contributing economically towards family has made them empowered. Organisations like 'Self Employed Womens' Organisation (SEWA)' has played a great role in bringing gender equality in rural areas, and has also led to improvement in many areas as spin-off effects such as many demographic factors have improved gradually.

Thus it can be seen that gender equality is not merely a goal but is a cyclic process of improvement of society starting from birth to school to literacy to employment to politics to environmental conservation and many more progressive effects thus leading to improvement of nation as a whole.

SECTION - BWe Don't Have To Sacrifice A Strong Economy For A Healthy Environment

When modern economies had started their growth in early industrial revolution phase, Adam Smith said that the total wealth of all nations will remain constant, it will just get re-distributed among different nations. This statement still holds true in economic-environmental perspective in the contemporary times when the world is under a grave threat of climate change.

As larger economies will undoubtedly strengthen their economies, subsequently many smaller economies will get destructed as they will get submerged by rising mean sea level due to climate change. This example clearly

justifies the fact that economy and environment are not completely separate entities. The need of the hour is to follow a balanced strategy known as 'Sustainable Growth'. It is an application of the 'Middle Path' that was suggested by Buddha for the prevalence of an equitable society.

In order to design such a strategy, world leaders are meeting in Paris in December 2015 for the Conference of Parties (COP21) wherein there focus will be ensure growth for all with maintenance of healthy environment as well. The key element of these negotiations is that economic growth for a nation will be a short term event as compared to the prevalence of the negative impact.

of habitat and environment destruction and this will not only affect the given country but all thus rendering all of them vulnerable. Hence it needs a global effort.

Now the question arises that if a middle sustainable path is to be followed, then how to ensure synergy between growth and environment.

Starting from the first element for growth i.e. energy. Energy can be harnessed from non-renewable and polluting sources that destroys healthy environment or from renewable and non-polluting sources that are friendly towards environment. There is a dire need to gradually shift from coal and petroleum products

towards solar and wind energy. countries like Germany have set benchmark that growth can be achieved by renewable sources of energy. Under National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), National Solar Mission with a target of 100 GW by 2022 is a positive step forward for India.

Second element for growth, Raw materials are in general extracted from natural resources but following the strategy of 3R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) can reduce its impact on environment. Moreover with the upcoming technologies like generation of Bio-gas from waste products at the same time generation can meet the above two requirements as well as supporting environment.

by supplying manure in place of contaminants and pollutants.

Third element for growth,
Land resource will need clearance of the existing vegetation leading to deforestation and gradual desertification thus affecting the biodiversity and regulatory services provided by the environment.

Some sustainable techniques includes compensatory afforestation, vertical growth of infrastructure or use of bad lands thus protecting the sensitive environment at the same time ensuring growth.

NAPCC's mission on sustainable habitat is a way forward in designing such strategies.

Fourth and one of the most critical element of growth is equity and sustainability of growth.

If the growth is not equitable then it will lead to grievances in the ones who are left behind and gradually will culminate into social unrest and rise of destructive activities thus countering the achieved growth.

India is already mired by many regional disparities in growth which are reflected in the form of left wing extremism or secessionist movement registered in different parts of the country.

Moreover, destruction of environment in order to achieve growth for few will endanger the livelihood of many tribal and indigenous communities that are living in balance with the environment since their evolution. This raises a larger

debate of economic liberty for all
as enshrined in our constitution

Since such a development that creates regional disparity or threatens the livelihood of some at the cost of growth of some, fails in ensuring economic liberty for all.

In conclusion it can be said that the dilemma between growth and environment or in other words the dilemma between short term growth and long term sustainability is best resolved by following the middle path between both the extremes as suggested by Buddha.

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don't have to
Strong Economy for Healthy Env.

✓ Sustainability

✓ - COP 21, Paris

⇒ - Sealed Env. will gradually prove to be detrimental for economy

✓ Fail on concept of liberty for all

✓ Follow middle path of Buddha

✓ - Strike a balance

✓ - grow economy using sustainable means - bio-gas

✓ - Synergy b/w two

✓ Dim - Livelihood of tribal & indigenous communities will be threatened

✓ Development using renewable

sources

- solar

- wind

- bio-diesel

- bio-gas + Slurry

back to envt.

✓ energy

✓ RM

✓ Land