

GS SCORE

ESSAY

Test - 2

Roll No. _____

Time Allowed: 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- Attempt both essays
- The test carries 250 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- 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).

*54+54
108*

Remarks

Name SHIREEN PRAKASH

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature *Shireen*

1. Invigilator Signature *(Signature)*

2. Invigilator Signature _____

1. One is not born but rather becomes a woman.
2. India vs. Bharat: Is it still relevant?

ONE IS NOT BORN BUT RATHER BECOMES A WOMAN

In her book 'Girls: Stop Apologising', Rochel Hollins says that young girls are often raised to believe that their value is based solely on whether they are good daughters and moms. Women consequently develop behaviours that aren't based on achieving personal goals but on pleasing other people.

Traditional societies have always regarded women weak, emotional and unable to resist external temptations. In Hamlet, no wonder Shakespeare has described women as 'frailty, thy name is woman'.

Women are subjected to differential behaviours from cradle to grave. Their societal and psychological conditioning makes them internalise their secondary status and their sense of powerlessness. Biased socialisation processes erect significant

good
introduction

barriers that inhibit women from realising their full potential: Sheryl Sandberg, the COO of Facebook says that women underestimate themselves and their abilities - one of the reasons why we find too few women in the highest positions.

Consequently, women encounter disabilities in the social, economic, and political sphere. The World Economic Forum says that at the present level of efforts to bridge the gender gap, it will take 106 years before we can establish gender equality (Gender Gap Report).. We must raise women to pursue their dreams and create a society that is free of a patriarchal mindset that restricts women from doing so. The equal contribution of men and women is vital for deep social and economic transformation in society.

HOW THE WAYS IN WHICH SOCIETY ENFORCES IN ITS NOTION OF WOMANHOOD.

Many women have been taught to define themselves as someone's wife.

Remarks

But the man needs to be accepted by the family as an equivalent to his wife. Social acceptance and sanction. In my opinion, it will take another 100 yrs.

mother or daughter - that is in relation to their male family members. They are assumed to have no individual identity or autonomy - perpetuating the notion that they need protection. This differential treatment and unequal power over resources and assets has led to consequences like anaemia and malnutrition among women. The Global Nutrition Monitoring Report says that women's education levels and nutrition outcomes are the key determinants of child malnutrition in various societies.

SEXUAL DIVISION OF LABOUR -

The notion that the domestic world belongs to women and the outer world to men restricts our societies into tightly bound gender roles; resulting in domestication of women. This also leads to a higher proportion of unpaid work by women. In India, for instance, women perform 67% of the unpaid work as compared to only 14% for men. There is underrecognition.

and ~~underestimated~~ ^{economic} under valuation of their contribution → one of the major reasons behind the wage gap in the economic sphere.

GENDER BIASES IN THE WORKPLACE -

Cultural attitudes against women restrict their progression into higher tiers in their respective careers. The notion that women are better at soft skills and public management and teaching ^{results in} ~~refers to~~ the segregation of few job profiles specifically for women and exclusion from other jobs for them. ^{where women are} ~~As~~ women are still expected to perform a bulk of the household chores, as a result of which most of them end up in sacrificing their careers. ^{opportunities} This has resulted in a declining labour force participation of women in countries like India. ^{then also} ^{being given due} ^{chance to work}

Women are generally judged by more stringent criteria when it comes to promotion and other career opportunities.

This leads to the phenomenon of glass

Ceiling effect for women - an invisible barrier that is an outcome of regressive attitudes and pre conceived norms. Globally, there are only 34% women in managerial positions. Even legal requirements do not improve this position. For example, even after legally mandating appointment of women as directors to the board under the companies Act, 2013, less than 25% of companies abide by this law.

Even women entrepreneurs are not spared from being stereotyped. India, Many of them often say, that people refuse to believe that women are in charge and often keep on asking 'who is the top boss?' (Sumeet Naik, founder of Syntellect, a start up in India) The absence of social and economic frames for women is even carried into the political sphere.

Not accepting women as top boss

UNDER REPRESENTATION IN POLITICAL SPHERE - According to the World Economic

Women directors

Forum's Gender Gap Reports across 149 countries, only 17 had women as heads of state. Only 18% of ministers and 24% of parliamentarians globally are women. In India, only 11% of total Lok Sabha members are women. Even with respect to local bodies where women enjoy a mandatory 33% representation in India, we see the phenomenon of 'Panchayat Bais'. Women are deemed incapable of taking decisions on their own.

This poor representation gives rise to non redressal of genuine grievances and barriers to mainstreaming of gender issues. The perpetual cycle of subjugation continues and ^{needs of} women are constantly neglected & in drafting legislation meant for women themselves.

Underrepresentation in the political and economic sphere has also led to low direct control over economic resources and assets in most countries of the world.

Women consciously seek jobs and careers that are deemed 'suitable' and leave enough time for household chores. They 'lean in' in anticipation of familial responsibilities. As a consequence, they lose their financial independence and subordinate their ambitions to that of men.

This subpar status of women socially, economically and politically, cemented by the gender bias results in a circular architecture, in which each strand reinforces the other. The system reinforces itself and women themselves adopt the role of playing second fiddle to men in their lives. One of the consequences of growing up in a patriarchal society is the need to get approval - to fit in and not step out of line or do things differently.

Reflecting this reality of our society, Simone De Beauvoir, in her book The Second Sex says that women have ceased to become the second sex. Rather they have become the secondary sex.

Remarks

no depth in all the 3 paragraphs → mostly repetitive

reflecting the existence of this hierarchy. However, there ^{is} ~~are~~ now an emergence of feminist thoughts in contravention of the ~~movement~~ status quo. From the beginning of the First World War, there have been demands made by women for recognition of their ability to work equally efficiently with men in factories during war time. Demands for political equality and educational opportunities followed. The new age feminism now fights for rights of women over their bodies and freedom from moral policing. Even orthodox and fundamental societies like Saudi Arabia have also started to adopt a new edifice of respecting the equal position of women in society.

change in the attitude towards women in Saudi Arabia

These achievements, notwithstanding, there are still challenges for women in our society. Patriarchal mindset still hinders women from fuller participation in society. A gender inclusive education can go a long way in embedding and ingraining the ideals of

gender equality from the early days of life. Imparting self confidence and raising self esteem of women is perhaps the best way to embolden women to break the shackles of prejudice and enable them to take control of their lives.

Gender roles and biases may help society to attain functional efficiency but these come at the great cost of injustice against ourselves and our fellow beings. By restricting the growth of half the world's population, we endanger the notion of development. The world can't survive without the ideas, skills, perceptions and the unique dimensions of emotional intelligence that women bring with themselves.

As Swami Vivekananda has rightly said, "There is no chance at all for the welfare of the world unless the condition of women is improved - it is not possible for a bird to fly with one wing."

Remarks

not so appealing
michelle
5/11

INDIA v/s BHARAT: IS IT STILL RELEVANT?

2
 One version of India is anglicized and Westernised while the other is rooted in traditions and culture, no matter how good or bad. Modernisation is supposed by many as an affront to the identity of India. How 'modern' the modern in India is as doubtful as claims about 'goodness' of the old identities in the name of culture and tradition. India certainly needs to reboot whether good from both the versions is synthesised for progress and peace.

- Anonymous.

The issue of dualism in India is often referred to as Bharat v/s India. The two words connote the same nation but have different ideologies. One comprises the history of the ancient Bharat and the other comprises the history of modern India. This debate peaked largely around 2003-04, when one of the election slogans was 'India'

Remarks

Good introduction

shining! This campaign highlighted the achievements of the new liberal economy and projected India as a high growth nation. It was criticised by several people as being largely ignorant of the ground realities of a largely underdeveloped rural India-Bharat.

Unfortunately, this debate is narrowed down to the rich-poor dichotomy. However, it is a much larger as it extends far beyond economy to culture, education and the increasing generation gap.

India, being a diverse nation, multiple ideologies coexist. There could be myriad interpretations of India vs Bharat each rooted in its own moral values. We can't adopt a narrow perspective in this scenario because all these interpretations are inter-related drawing on our commonalities and historical experiences.

different ideological moral values

However, one of the most stark differences between India and Bharat is that of economic development and basic amenities. While the citizen in urban India has access to education and is a part of rapidly developing India, the fruits of developments are yet to reach the modern day citizen in Bharat - the rural India. He/she is still poor, less educated and hardly making both ends meet. Consequently, he is excluded from being a part of the modern, progressing India.

Bharat is still gripped by agrarian distress and falling incomes - something that India is not well aware of and is physically and psychologically distant from this reality. Although infrastructural gaps and literacy gaps are reducing in Bharat, the rate of reduction is very slow, hardly commensurate with India. The digital revolution has made inroads into

Urban India is having lot of advantages

rural India compared to urban

Bharat, but the pace of internet penetration remains very slow. According to a report titled Internet in India-2017 by IAMAI, internet penetration remains at a low level of 20% in rural India as compared to 64% in ^{the} urban. In metros and major cities, the buzzwords may be Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain Technology but for 600,000 villages and 7000 towns, the buzzwords remain loan waivers, ~~poor~~ subsidies and political home struggles.

Good Statistics

+

True picture

This division extends to the basic amenities to health and education as well. While India has state of the art sophisticated private hospitals, Bharat still goes to poorly qualified doctors for treatment - ~~less~~ According to a survey, 57.3% in rural India do not even possess a medical qualification.

While a modern citizen in urban India has access to ~~modern~~ high quality educational facilities,

Remarks

⊕ With the growing importance to agriculture in most of the states and govt. schemes like GRAM SADAK Yojana, and ~~improvement~~ with irrigation facilities. A is ...

Rural India still lags behind in providing basic primary education to its citizens

This gets manifested in economic disparities - Bharat is characterised by huge dependency on agriculture, and lack of diverse employment opportunities.

The resulting rural urban migration - deemed to be an instant for India which ^{has} is crumbling infrastructure unable to operate beyond its carrying capacity. The growth of slums, congestion in cities and increase in crime rates are a manifestation of this phenomenon. Growing inequalities have given rise to insurgency in remote areas which do not have basic amenities, with serious repercussions for both Bharat and India.

mostly TRUG But the migration is death crop failure of

Perhaps the largest divergence between the two has been in culture, ideologies and the resultant lifestyle divide. One more gaping narrowing down India and Bharat to the generation gap

Remarks

→ The rural areas are going to do well in near future. With the enhanced infrastructure the rural Bharat is going to shine. Had our leaders...

Kerala
Tamil Nadu
Coastal districts of Andhra
Pradesh contain more of
Urban in nature.
The 1: education
is also very
high in them
are
The govt
schemes are
implemented
properly as
people know
the value

argument - into a Western vs Indian
culture issue. The word India refers to
the youth attracted by Western culture -
part of the globalised culture whereas
Bharat represents the traditional values,
ethics and traditions. our films, TV
series and dance portray this division
between the two.

Urban India still views rural
India, that is Bharat as being stagnant or
stagnant in superstitions and regressive
attitudes. It is considered to be a land
where Khap Panchayats reign supreme
and gender and caste discrimination
still practised. On the other hand,
Rural India or Bharat views the Western
culture with suspicion - ~~it is the place~~
India is the place where traditions are
not respected and a land of loose
moral values. For India, Bharat is a
land where atrocities are unleashed on
Dalits and minorities. For Bharat

Remarks

Good

India is a land of pseudo secularism

This perceived divide has been used by many to create heroes and villains. Depending on the context,

India becomes liberal to feudal, homophobic patriarchal Bharat while Bharat views India as a

western parody.

India is definitely viewed as a western parody - no doubt

Both India and Bharat have their own advantages and shortcomings. Depending on the context, both have to learn from each other. While Bharat may have to learn rationalism and a universal outlook in the social sphere from India, India must imbibe the traditional culture of Bharat.

conservation and moderation of Bharat. against using consumerism in India

In the eternal dichotomy of rural vs urban, Bharat vs India or traditional vs modern, one

India, though urban, continued traditions at many places, marriage rituals, family & festivals

most self remember the philosophy of Gandhiji. He encouraged villages as a self sufficient unit, but at the same time wanted them to be free from social ills and narrow minded perspectives.

His fight for removal of untouchability and education ^{take for clean} are reinforce the point.

The Charkha which was a symbol of self reliance and dignity of human labour was one of the means for bridging economic and social disparities.

He played a great role in liberating women from the bondage of homes - a characteristic of 'Bharat' as we may say and including them into the more external spheres.

In Independent India, a great initiative to reduce the division between Bharat that is rural and urban India was the scheme of providing urban amenities in rural

Mostly important need facts

areas or PURA conceptualised by late Dr Abdul Kalam. It was aimed at bridging the rural urban divide through provision of basic amenities.

This is taken forward in the form of Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Puram Mission. The scheme envisages the formation of urban clusters - the catalysts for development in rural areas.

However, the scheme is yet to take off in ^{the} way it was imagined. Unless there is a concerted effort to reduce disparities between India and Bharat, they will remain places and ideologies far from each other. This will be a major impediment in realising the true potential of our nation.

As in the words of Gandhi, the 'Dandara' Narayan' of Bharat have to be uplifted for true development.

Mostly superficial with less parts

States represent small areas, culture, traditions and values
India represent the urban areas, industry, modernization,

Health, Ed

Employment - Swatish Bharat
Agriculture - MAHARAJAN - in several areas

we have in India and at 5,600 terms, both multi-250 terms will be under construction

73rd & 76th Amendment provided to local bodies
management (Panchayat & municipal)

digital India and organic farming on priority
crop insurance and organic farming on priority

Yojana

From 2014 Yojana, Janani Suraksha