



An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

RUPAL SRIVASTAVA

AIR - 113
(CSE 2022)

ESSAY

Roll No.

34377

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.

Essay 1 : 66
Essay 2 : 63

Good content & well crafted.

The clarity in thoughts & flow is excellent.

(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 RUPAL SRIVASTAVA

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature Rupul

Start: 2:45 PM

Mun

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

Remarks

Remarks

SECTION - A

1. ✓ The Indian constitution has given the fundamental right to freedom of expression because nothing damages the cause of democracy than a "culture of silence".
2. We cannot escape the consequences of our actions, nature's revenge is painful.
3. The Internet and privacy are antithesis of each other.
4. A society becomes what it values.

SECTION - B

1. Force and mind are opposites; morality ends where a gun begins.
2. It is the character of people that decides the character of government and not the reverse.
3. ✓ Sustainable development is the pathway to the future we want for (all)
4. Your India, my India, her India- importance of collective and shared vision of the idea of India.

Section-A

① The Indian Constitution has given the fundamental right to freedom of expression because nothing ~~causes~~ damages the cause of democracy than a 'culture of silence'.

'If freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and deaf ~~we~~ may be lead like sheep to the slaughter.'

- George Washington

The real meaning of democracy stands in the liberty to ~~express~~ oneself freely

without any fear. This freedom of expression forms the bed rock of democracy. Any institution which tries of 'silence' this voice of expression damages the most basic essence of democracy.

The history of world and that of India is full of such incidences where there had been a strong 'culture of silence'. This culture did not allow the 'voice of people' to speak against the wrong. It lead to the creation of a 'slavish mindset' and a feeling of being 'the whiteman's burden' in the people.

This practice of silencing the voice of people was evident in the Fascist and Nazi regimes of Italy and Germany under Mussolini and Hitler respectively.

Remarks

There was 'one party-one rule' & no place for elections. no place for press and no role of education to create an informed citizenry who is free to express.

A similar culture of silence was seen in the 'colony of India'. The British government under Lord Lytton introduced one of the 'worst weapons of silence' - the Vernacular Press Act - the Gagging Act.

This led to a crackdown against the local newspapers and activists like SA Bhaerjee.

Not only press, the culture of silencing the voice was also seen in the 'brutal repression' of movements like the Rowlatt Satyagraha which led to Jallianwala Bagh Massacre. Similarly, suppression against Non Co-operation, Civil Disobedience etc.

Remarks

could also be seen.

The political freedom of expression in terms of Adult Franchise was also limited to only a certain section of population - owning certain amount of land (10% of the then population).

The freedom struggle of India had always focussed upon these 'civil liberties' of Freedom of expression. Leader like SN Banerjee, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Motilal Nehru, Jawaharlal Nehru and many others fought for these causes.

Finally, the dawn of Independence came and in words of Jawaharlal Nehru in his famous 'Trust with Destiny', 'At the stroke of midnight, when the world sleeps, India will awake to a new life' - the new life which India opted

tried well to show back round connectivity with them

Remarks

for was 'Democracy' which was strongly inspired by the ideals of liberty, equality and freedom.

Based on the United States Bill of Rights, Indian Constitution also enshrined the principle of 'Freedom of speech and expression' in Article 19(1) of the Fundamental Rights.

The 'freedom of expression' in its most basic terms means the liberty to express oneself through their 'words', 'actions' or 'thoughts'. It is the freedom to 'speech without any fear', 'act without any forced suppression' and 'think beyond the horizon'.

However, the freedom of expression as guaranteed in our constitution is not merely restricted to this verbatim interpretation.

Remarks

The Supreme Court of India has often taken an 'amplified' view of freedom of expression in the sense of opportunity to develop oneself freely. This is because expression is an 'inalienable adjusted' of development. It is like allowing a seed to grow into a sapling and then a fully developed tree.

The basic cause of democracy is to provide this opportunity to every individual to develop into a 'vibrant tree' which carries the 'fruits of democracy' in his ideals. Therefore, freedom of expression strengthens the cause of democracy in many ways.

Firstly, it fosters 'dissent'. Dissent is the freedom to speak differently, have a different opinion other than the mass opinion. In words of Justice M. Chandrasekhara, no collect

Appreciated
your way
to shift
in direction
is a very
articulate
manner.

Remarks

'Dissent is the vibrance' of democracy because it allows diversity of opinion in a diverse society.

For example, dissenting opinion of judges in the cases like Shah Bano case, gave a different perspective on the issue of personal laws and the secular laws in matters of marriage, divorce.

Secondly, freedom of expression enables the inclusion of minority in democracy. In words of Albert Camus, 'Democracy is not the law of majority, but rule of minority'. It provides an enabling voice to raise their grievances and mainstream them into development.

For example, freedom of expression by the tribal groups through reports like Xaxa Committee, highlighted the problem of land alienation affecting 80% of their

Remarks

likelihoods.

Thirdly, freedom of expression helps to form an informed opinion. It is when we are able to discuss freely, we get to know the multiple interpretations of reality and thus arrive at a sound understanding based on our preferences.

This is best reflected in the freedom of press which plays a critical role in forming public opinion through its editorials, oped columns, news channel debates and so on.

Fourthly, it helps to reform the existing system by 'appreciating innovation'. It helps to overcome the rigidities and paves way for an efficient system. This has been seen in the electoral reforms brought by TN Sheshan, who was able to freely express

critical
thinking
&
approach
is
appreciated

Remarks

his views on reforming the electoral process by bringing 'NOTA' (None of the Above). This NOTA has thus added a new dimension to expression.

While speaking is expression, choosing to remain silent is an equal counterpart.

Both these facets of expression - vocal and silent have helped in the development of a 'Participatory democracy' with improved citizen's engagement. The freedom to protest

peacefully, raise grievances through portals like 'Sevottam - citizen's charter' are some

examples of this

In recent times, there have been incidents of dilution in the cause of democracy.

This has been seen in crackdown against activists, charges of sedition on journalists, frequent imposition of internet bans and

Remarks

section 144 restricting movements.

They can hamper the freedom of expression if not tested for 'proportionality' of the act. It can lead to a culture of 'neo colonialism' by chaining down the freedom of thoughts, words and actions.

They can hinder the realization of the real meaning of democracy, i.e. the opportunity to develop oneself freely. This culture of silence can also be internally cultivated culture. When the citizens themselves are unwilling to participate actively in the governance, it can equally damage democracy.

However, often the freedom of expression is misused for vague slander and disrupting the democratic process than supporting

Why this culture of silence is gaining ground & why? It is twisted! What one can respond to it? (Proposed)

Remarks

This can be seen in the frivolous RTI complaints, violent protests affecting the law and order, defamation of individuals on social media and creating social unrest.

when the freedom gets misused, it creates 'lawlessness'. In such circumstances, nobody can truly enjoy their freedom of expression. therefore, as it is rightly said - 'with great power comes great responsibility'.

The power to express freely should be guided by the 'compass of responsibility'.

On one hand, where the Indian Judiciary has expanded the freedom of expression through protection of privacy of individuals (Puttaswamy case), the evolution of Right to Information, upheld freedom to express religious views. they

Remarks

have strengthened the pillars of freedom of expression.

On the other hand, it is the moral obligation of the citizens to uphold this strengthened cause of democracy with dignity. Here comes the role of constructive criticism.

Constructive criticism as a freedom of expression allows a free flow of opinion, critical thinking and diverse views in a democracy. But at the same time, it 'provides remedy'. Remedies against the cause for which the freedom is being used.

An example for this is the 'constructive no-confidence' motion of Germany. While it tests the confidence of the government in power, it provides for an alternative government to take over in case of fall.

Remarks

Similarly, as responsible citizens, it is necessary to be responsive for the changes to be brought. It must be remembered that while the Indian constitution has definitely given the freedom of expression, it inherently expects a responsibility of expression to live for the real cause of democracy - growth and development of all.

include
way out

for
seducing
culture of

Silence
in your

conclusion. As

conclusion is overall
summary of your arguments.

66
- Good on articulation, integration of
arguments with key ideas & theme.
- Approach, content & structure as
satisfactory.

Remarks

Section B

3. Sustainable development is the pathway to the future we want for all.

The 1987 Brundtland Report titled 'Our common future' envisage the idea of of future where there is synchronisation between the 'economic prosperity', 'social inclusivity' and 'environmental sustainability'.

These three pillars formed the bedrock of 'sustainable development' as the pathway for the future we want for all.

This future for all underlies the idea of 'global common'. The earth, with all its resources, is shared by all. It is depicted in the idea of 'the earth does not belong to us, we belong to it'.

Therefore to maintain this integrity of the Earth, a collective approach of

Remarks

sustainable development becomes necessary to achieve a 'lineable future' for all.

the present state of development has blurred this vision of the lineable future we want. The idea of development as we see today traces its root to 'era of modernism'. It focuses on quantitative aspects of development in terms of size of economy.

the growth in the size of economy was achieved and continue to grow on the principles of intense land use, heavy industrialization and rapid urbanization. It is based on the ideas of Adam Smith's - Trickle Down theory.

According to this economic development trickles down in the form of social development on its own. It does not

Remarks

need specific redressal of the unique needs of the people and generally focuses on the 'one size fits all' approach. In this

Technocentric and Anthropocentric view of development, the environment takes a back seat.

well articulated & interlinked with theme.

Environment merely becomes a 'resource' which has to be 'harnessed' to achieve the 'human designated' levels of development in terms of per capita income. This forms the basis of classification of countries by the World Bank in terms of developed, developing or least developed.

However, the story did not go as planned. This model of development led to numerous problems. The first being the rise of economic and social inequalities. According to Oxfam Report, top 10% of the world

Remarks

population owns 78% of the wealth. This led to sharp disparities in development across countries.

This economic inequality led to social exclusion of women, tribes and other weaker sections. The 'top-down pathway' of development could not accommodate the needs of all the stakeholders. For example, 80% of the tribals depended on forests for livelihood (Vijayendra Kulkarni Report on India) now face threats for survival.

The greatest repercussion was seen in environmental degradation. The global temperatures rose by 1.5°C since the 1850s due to increased concentration of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide.

An impact of this degradation could be seen in the frequency and intensity of

Remarks

disasters. According to UNEP Report, almost 77% of all disasters in last two decades have been attributed to the changing climate.

The Anthropocentric development led to the horrific '6th mass extinction' of biotic resources in the 'Anthropocene epoch'. Presently almost one-third of the living species stand threatened due to mindless resource extraction. Evidence by NASA satellite imagery suggest almost 70% of the Great Barrier Reef of Australia damaged due to human factors.

This is not the future we want for all. This pathway of development will lead to a collapse of the global ecosystem. A warning against this pathway was once sounded in the early 1960s by the 'Club of Rome' in its 'Limits to Growth' theory.

All have the issues in our development threats have been well articulated & analysed.

According to this, there cannot be infinite growth on this finite earth. Man must realign the pathway of development to achieve a liveable future. This warning has been resounded by the latest IPCC panel report calling the present state of development as 'code red for humanity'.

To achieve the future with egalitarian society, cleaner environment and equitable economies, where there are no sharp disparities in development, 'sustainable development is the pathway.'

This is a trifold path which balances the above mentioned three pillars. The objectives of this pathway have been highlighted in the 17 SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) ranging from No poverty, no hunger to cleaner and

Remarks

greener environment and living spaces.

The first pathway of sustainable development focuses on economic viability and environmental sustainability. It aims to opt for practices

like renewable energy generation in which India's International Solar Mission can help.

It also suggests to shift towards 'Climate Smart Agriculture' of FAO where crops are chosen based on regional climates. For

example, millets for dry land areas.

These will help in generating economic returns but at the same time minimise

the carbon footprint of development. India's National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC)

which encompasses 8 submissions - Green India, National water mission, Enhanced Energy Efficiency etc. also follows this pathway.

The second pathway of sustainable development balances the environmental

sustainability with social desirability.

It takes into account local dependence on the environment and how the

environment affects the life of people.

the disaster proofing under Sendai Framework by mitigation and adaptation strategies

to improve the social resilience can be

Reflect how these advantages seen in sustainability approach?

India's 'climate smart cities' under the smart city mission, National Disaster Management Plan, early warning system etc. help to shield the people from negative environmental impacts.

the third pathway balances the economic viability with social desirability.

It is based on a bottom-up and participatory pathway to sustainable development.

Utilising traditional knowledge, through watershed based approach integrates the

economic and social life

Remarks

Rem

Though the pathway to sustainable development seems easy, it is not so easy to shift - gears to these pathway.

The ground realities show hindrances in adopting the pathway of sustainable development.

The first is the issue of cost of changing the pathway. Cleaner solutions like electric vehicles, solar energy etc require heavy costs of transformation. This is difficult for the developing countries to achieve. good.

Based on this cost, falls the idea of Climate justice in sustainable development. It refers to the principle of justice being applied to climate transition. The developed countries which have been responsible for the 'historical emission' transfer their

burden of climate neutrality on economies like India, Bangladesh, small island states which are still developing.

According to World Bank, the European Union still owes a climate debt of

\$1.9 trillion

Another dimension of this justice is achieving social justice and consensus in sustainable development. Different stakeholders in the future we want have different priorities. The growing young population would need more energy intensive growth for Industry 5.0, the old ageing people might need protection from increasing pandemics.

therefore, a shift of gears to the pathway of sustainable development has to be smooth. This can be

Remarks

achieved by the principle of Trusteeship in the world. The richer and developed nations must support the transition of the developing countries on the lines of Common But Differentiated responsibility.

Decentralised approach for sustainable development on a 'rights based idea' can help to overcome the issue of consensus building. The focus should be on 'absolute gains' for all the sections of society and not 'relative gains' for some.

elaborate or illustrate your answer.

This brings us to an idea which is intricably linked to sustainable development. This idea of 'inclusive growth'. This growth not only focuses on including all sections of society, but also includes

The solutions for sustainable approach could be more broad based.

Remarks

→ How the sustainability to be adopted at individual level, societal level?

→ critically analyse the theme with approach

till now, why issues crop up to hinder the pace of sustainability?

all elements of the environment - the plants, animals and resources in growth.

Sustainable development will thus help to achieve intra-generational as well as inter-generational resource equity, thereby creating an improved Quality of life for our future.

apt end topic. quote to In words of Barack Obama, the need to shift to this pathway can be seen as - 'we are the first generation to witness the impact of climate change and probably the last one to do something about it.'

63

Good articulation and structured presentation. Arguments were logical & comprehensive. Focus more on solution part, it could be more diverse. Keep it up.

Remarks