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**UTKARSH KUMAR**

**RANK - 55**

**ESSAY MOCK - 3**



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Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

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.

*(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 UTKARSH KUMAR

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Utkarsh



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

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

## SECTION - A

1. *Being human is the noblest of all goals.*
2. *Giving is getting.*
3. *A meaningful life can be summarized in three words; Work, Prayer and Love.*
4. *Propaganda may succeed, but can never replace truth.*

## SECTION - B

1. *COVID-19 pandemic has proven the inadequacies of social security systems around the globe.*
2. *Indian villages of Gandhi's vision have died a silent death.*
3. *The era of industrial revolution 4.0 and 5.0 are here to stay; is India ready?*
4. *'Vocal for local' has a good intent, but it has many challenges.*

Giving is getting

Ancient India witnessed numerous peoples migrating to India. First came the Aryans, riding on horse, then the Greeks, Persians, Kushanas, Hunas and so on. The region gave shelter and acceptance to them all. While some brought destruction (Huna persecution of Buddhists), most others enriched India.

Greeks issued gold coins, Kushanas provided excellent rulers like Kanishka. The society was a cosmopolitan potpourri of cultures.

The society got prosperity by giving acceptance.

In contrast, the middle ages Indian society was less accepting. Al Beruni writes that Indians were haughty, inward looking. They zealously guarded knowledge and riches from other castes, leave alone foreigners. The society stagnated, and was eventually conquered

Administrative use of history to introduce the essay

Need not drag this aspect or make generalisation for a whole group

by the British rule. By giving inhospitality, India received cruelty and stagnation.

The above contrast hints at what "giving is getting" means. Man is a social animal and has interactions with others.

The values that guide his behaviour, determine what he gets back. Somebody guided by love, tolerance perceives the same being given back to him. While somebody guided by jealousy and deceit, will receive similar treatment. Thus, what

we give - in our interactions, is what gets

reserved back to us.

Moving forward, we discuss manifestation of this statement at individual, society and national levels. We then discuss why this happens. We look at some critical analysis and conclude by observing what we can learn.

Giving is getting - ~~subt~~ manifestation

At individual level, Ashoka was among the earliest to realize it. When he brought bloodshed to Kalinga, he got mental unrest. When he later mended his ways and adopted Dhamma, he gave love and paternal care to subjects. He got back their respect and admiration. When Mother Teresa cared for lepers and elderly, she got their unconditional love and return.

Similarly a society that practices tolerance sustains. Despite having sizeable minority population, India has prospered post independence. Pakistan's ill-treatment of East Pakistanis led to its dismemberment, while Sri Lanka faced a grave civil war for failing to accommodate Tamils.

This manifests at the national level

Remarks

The question is on charity or sharing love examples may not be relevant

too. India was lacking in money and military post 1947. Yet she practiced 'giving' through south-south cooperation with other poor nations. She formed NAM, G22 and G77 to further these interests. She got the support and cooperation from these nations and global powers like Soviets.

### Why giving is getting

Firstly, when we give, we have positive thoughts in our mind. The very act triggers happiness and satisfaction.

Secondly, repeated acts of giving builds a positive image of the individual or society. Gandhi had an image of integrity and effective methods (Satyagraha) even before he came back to India. Thus the person receives respect and admiration

good argument

wherever he goes.

Thirdly, the person 'receiving' would feel gratitude. They would in turn give back to the giver. India's efforts in Africa are repeatedly appreciated by African nations. Latest was the Lucknow Declaration.

other than this, the person's life could improve tangibly

Why sometimes giving may not be getting

The world is not perfect. When Galileo gave his scientific theory of heliocentricism, he received ridicule from church and people. Gandhi eventually got a bullet for safeguarding Hindu and Muslim lives during partition riots.

Further getting may take time. Nelson Mandela was under arrest for several decades before getting recognition for his

fight against apartheid. ISRO scientist Nambi Narayan faced criticism for decades before his name was cleared in the espionage case.

The question is not on giving what expecting ~ return

Finally, a giver may get back in an unexpected form. IAS Ashok Khemka was transferred 52 times for standing up against irregularities in administration including the Vadra land deal. But his selfless service got him laurels like Ramon Magsaysay award and Jindal <sup>crusader</sup> award. More importantly, he enjoys great respect from civil servants and people.

### Learning

It seems that it is best to give without expecting to get anything back. It is best to give for the happiness of giving.

This is enshrined in our ancient

This is the question  
very

scriptures - Gita advocates "niskama  
karma yoga".

At the individual level, one needs to realise this. There is an awakening with this thought today. More and more billionaires are declaring the Giving Pledge to give away most of their wealth for charity, including our Ajini Preripi.

Good use of  
example

As Gandhi says, "one needs to lose oneself in the service of others to find oneself". By reveling in the opportunity to serve, one would derive high levels of happiness.

At the societal level, we need to have conversations on what ideal 'giving' is. CSOs can organize community events and leadership summits for this purpose.

It's most effective to start with young, as always. Our education should focus on developing right values and awareness. Delhi's happiness curriculum inculcates gratitude in children. They have been reported to show greater respect to family as well as societal members.

The principle of 'giving is getting' can be applied to reform prisoners. The open jail concept (eg: langand) allows prisoners to contribute to society even while "being" in jail. The gratitude and meaning they get can transform their perspective.

Similarly, businesses that involve employees in meaningful CSR see disproportionate returns. Employees' morale improves through giving to society: Google employees made foldable microscopes for schools, Goldman

Sache visits schools and organizes career counselling sessions.

To sum up, giving determines what we get. It may take time, or unexpected forms, but it usually is proportionate to giving.

As society, individual and business, the principle can be utilized to improve our morale while giving to the marginalized. It is important we develop more consciousness and institutionalized mechanisms to this end.

That way we could achieve collective wellbeing enshrined in our ancient scriptures:

" Sarve bhavantu sukhinah,  
Sarve santu ninamayah,  
Sarve bhadrani pashyantur,  
na kaschid dukhbhag bhaved".

Good  
enough  
conclusion

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'Vocal for local' has a good intent,  
but it has many challenges

In 1989-90, Indian PSUs are complacent and uncompetitive. Consumers are paying high prices for low quality goods. There is shortage of capital: FPI not allowed, FDI restricted under capital issues act. Our forex reserves can cover merely 2 weeks of imports. With LPG reforms, India turned the economy around. It is growing at >5% for next two decades. Domestic firms have capital and market access. Services sector writes the success story led by TCS, Wipro.

Today, global slowdown and pandemic have created economic uncertainties. Global supply chains have been affected, even as

Comparison may not be relevant since the issue is self reliance not self sufficiency

efficiently produced foreign goods threaten to flood Indian market. Will 'vocal for local' be a panacea, like LPG reforms? Or will it be a pale shadow? Let us find out.

*Debatable argument*

But first, what is 'vocal for local'? It refers to self-sufficiency in economic sphere - domestic production of critical and consumer goods and services. Greater number of foreign firms should set up manufacturing bases in India, instead of importing goods. As a result, import dependence decreases while exports increase.

We must also understand what it is not. It does not refer to a closed economy based on import substitution. It does not refer to scrapping out FTAs. It does not refer to curbing capital and people

*Good argument*

movement.

Need for 'vocal for local' <sup>V4L</sup>

Firstly, protectionism is rising in world: WTO defunct with appellate authority empty; Brexit, trade wars. We need domestic goods to hide over.

Secondly, global slowdown and pandemic have led to recession in India (22% contraction in Q1, 10% contraction in 2022), a first in history. <sup>V4L</sup> ~~we~~ can revive growth and create jobs (unemployment at 45 year high).

Thirdly, global supply chains have been affected. With India dependent on crucial imports (70% pharmaceutical API from China, electronics), domestic industries are suffering. There is strategic need to make these locally.

Valid analysis

Fourthly, India has had limited success with FTAs - she uses 30% of CEPAs signed with Japan and South Korea. While these economies get low tariff access to India.

Fifthly, agriculture has grown at abysmal 2% in recent decades. While we process merely 5% produce, our markets are flooded with cheap foreign processed ~~food~~ food items.

Sixthly, Indian firms lag behind American and Chinese counterparts in emerging technologies like AI, 5G. Much of this is due to free flow of Indian data outside. This also affects law enforcement, while posing risk of ~~the~~ data leaks (latest is Twitter) and profiling (Cambridge Analytica).

Seventhly ~~finally~~, with western pressure, companies are looking to move out of China. India can attract them with suitable business

good enough  
examinations  
the need of  
for going  
back

environment. Foxconn is just one example.

Finally, V4L can act as stimulus for domestic industries to expand production. This would translate to faster growth, job creation and innovation.

Vocal for local - good intent

Let us discuss what steps have been taken in this regard.

Firstly, India is more wary of FTAs and investment treaties. She walked out of RCEP and 66 investment treaties since 2014.

Secondly, India has undertaken comprehensive economic simplification measures. These include single tax GST with online filing, IBC for timely resolution of assets, single window clearance (Parivesh for environment).

Thirdly, India has opened new sectors for

FDI under automatic route - defense (74%), airlines and airports, telecom, nuclear reactors etc. These will attract foreign investments, instead of foreign goods. At the same time, India has checked hostile takeovers from neighbouring countries like China.

check relevance

Fourthly, India has undertaken reforms in different sectors. Entire airspace is now open for civil aviation. Essential commodities are opened for greater private sector participation. Import embargo on 101 defense items placed.

Fifthly, India is incentivising production through Production-linked-Incentives in telecom, pharmaceuticals, automobile parts etc. She is also promoting cluster based manufacturing (Electronic Manufacturing Clusters, bulk drug parks, mega food parks etc).

Finally, India is creating infrastructure with private sector participation: innovative HAM

model for road projects, National Infrastructure Pipeline etc.

Vocal for local - has many challenges

Relevant dimension

Firstly, there are concerns that it could lead to isolation and import substitution. This could incentivise complacency and stifle innovation and competition. Foreign Minister's statement slamming globalisation is a hint towards that.

Secondly, India depends on crucial imports (oil, API, etc). Inward looking policy could lead to <sup>limit on</sup> tariffs from China etc. This could also lead to import tariffs on Indian goods.

Thirdly, limited cooperation in economic sphere could spill into strategic spheres. We cannot solve global challenges like climate

change and terrorism without, nations cooperating (eg: US walked out of Paris Deal).

Fourthly, we will need further economic simplification to attract foreign companies and engage in technology transfer. India still ranks 63 in EoDB, due to poor contract enforcement (1400 days, 30% loss of value) etc.

Fifthly, agriculture sector has inherent structural flaws: 48% people engaged to produce 17% value, small land holdings (85% small, marginal farmers), low yields etc.

Sixthly, our MSMEs suffer from low technology access, poor formal capital access, branding and marketing problems etc, as UK Sinha committee points out.

Seventhly, we need to drive innovation to exploit emerging technologies. Our innovation expenditure is mere 0.6% GDP (US, China - 2%)

and driven by public sector alone. Quality of research is questionable with proliferation of predatory journalism.

Finally, with WTO defunct, post Covid-19 recovery depends on market access for exports. Even Australia and Japan recognise economic dependence on China, and are signatories to RCEP. We ~~should~~ ~~cannot~~ could end up economically isolated if we don't sign RCEP.

Good enough analysis of issues

Vocal for local - what to do?

Firstly, India needs to <sup>continue to</sup> liberalise its economic simplification. We can improve contract enforcement via alternate dispute resolution including online mechanisms. This would attract foreign firms as well as encourage domestic businesses.

Secondly, India can pick which FTAs to sign depending on self-interests. RCEP deserves a second look.

Thirdly, we must drive innovation by boosting public expenditure to 2% GDP. Further we should enact a comprehensive data security bill <sup>(with localisation)</sup>. This would provide level playing field to domestic firms.

check relevance

Fourthly, to exploit emerging technologies, we need to skill our employees (eg: NASSCOM's Future Skills <sup>initiative</sup> ~~competition~~) and run more dedicated missions (like ₹8000 crore mission on quantum technologies).

Fifthly, we should focus on creating infrastructure projects (stalled). This can be done through innovative financing models (re-negotiating BOT) and reviving stalled ones. Further India must deepen bond

market for low cost long term capital.

Finally, India must address MSME concerns with formal capital (eg: MUDRA), IT support (eg: Champions portal), branding support (eg: ZED). As per UK Saha committee, we can create National Council for MSMEs, District Enterprise Centres etc.

To sum up, Vocal for local has tremendous potential towards economic Atmanirbharata and reviving India's growth story. We must ensure it does not bring in import substitution era of pre-1991 LPG reforms. At the same time, we must usher in economic reforms for a business conducive environment.

Only then can we achieve a \$5 trillion economy by 2025 while maintaining "Sabka

Acceptable  
Conclusion

Spath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas

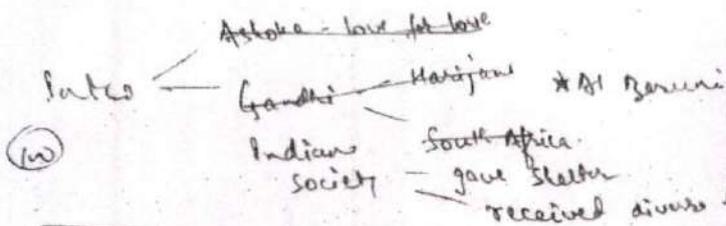
- Adequately defined keywords
- Examined the need for going local
- Identified some challenges. Could have added
  - ↳ emphasis on MSME increases informal workforce
  - ↳ limited investment in education & healthcare
  - ↳ difficulty managing demand.

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- Mainly discussed sharing in terms of expecting a return -
- Needed to examine
  - ↳ the pure joy of sharing -
  - ↳ normalising sharing
  - ↳ sharing whatever we can, acts of kindness
  - ↳ examples of individual charities

Giving is getting.

To find oneself, one must lose self in service of others



(100)

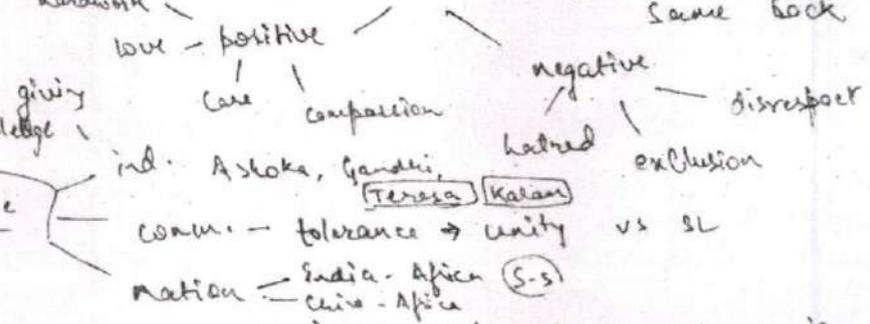
Meaning

what we give is what we get the same back

when we give what we give, we get the same back

(100)

Substantiate



(150)

Threads

why? image return: golden rule

what how to give? \* universalism

(100)

Critical

not perfect world - Galileo ~~etc~~

↳ may take time - ~~etc~~ Gandhi

↳ may be in unexpected/another form - Khenka

↳ ~~etc~~ Mandela

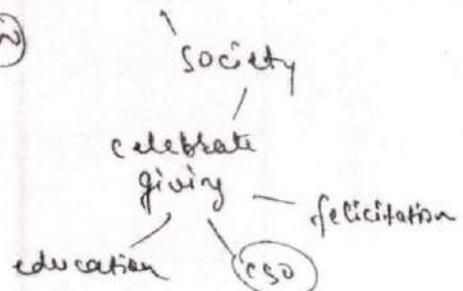
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What to do?

ind - practice 'giving' without expecting

"To find oneself..."

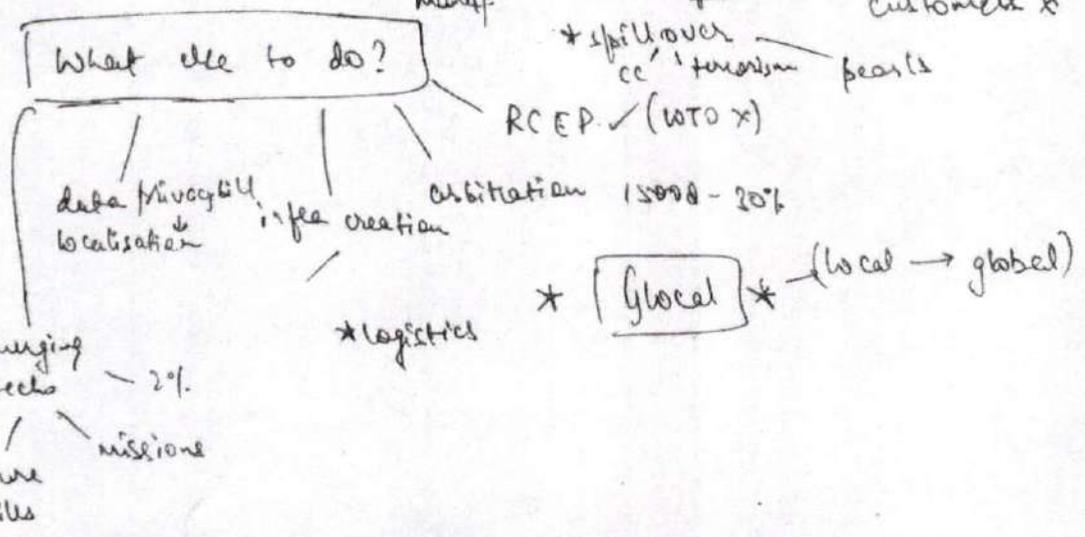
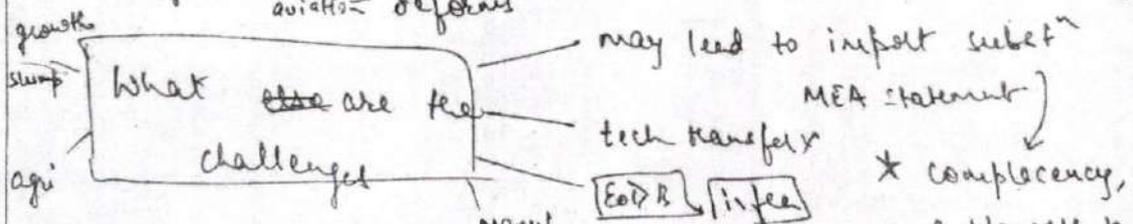
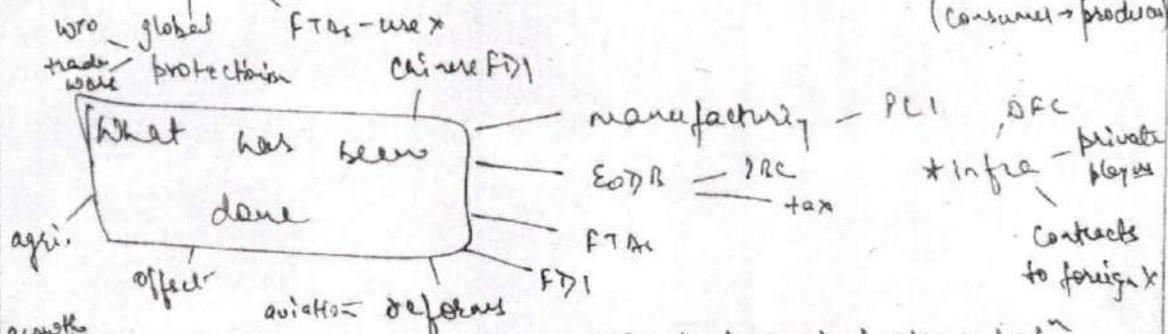
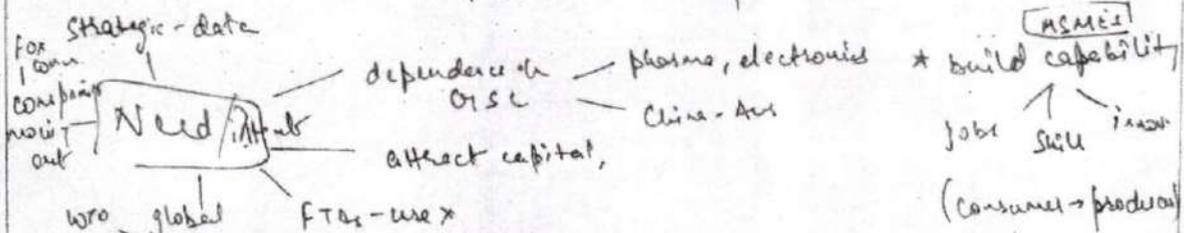
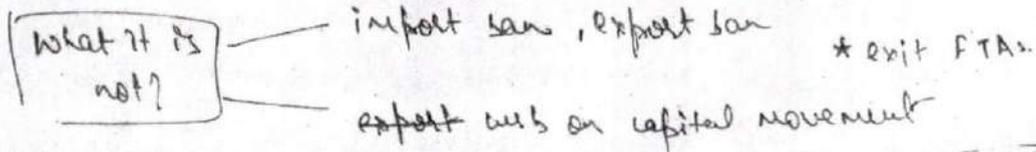
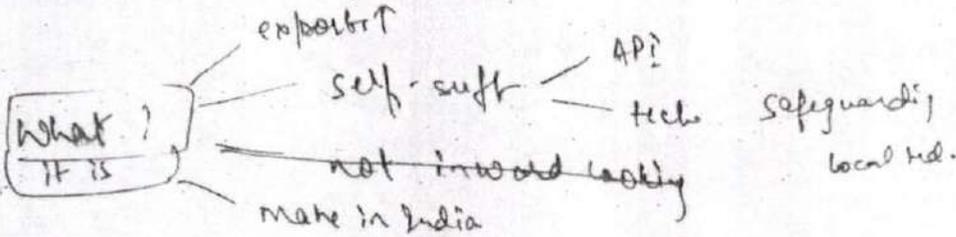
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"Dadu bhavantu sukhrin"

Vocal for local - Atmanirbharata

Intro?



Remarks