

G|S SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

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NISHA

RANK - 51

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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).

Name NISHA54+53
May

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature Nisha

1. Invigilator Signature

SD

2. Invigilator Signature _____

Remarks

SECTION - A

1. When we cannot make life better on earth, what is the guarantee that dreaming about flying cars, humanoid robots and populated cities on Mars would make it any better
2. The greatest dishonesty is when our insides don't match up with our outsides
3. Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing
4. To be beautiful, life does not require to be big

SECTION - B

1. Privatization is not always the best economic policy
2. Urbanization is not only simply expanding the area of cities
3. Inequality is a poison that is destroying livelihoods, dignity, peace, and amity
4. No matter where you stand politically, it is important that you should participate in the process of politics

Section A

- ①. When we cannot make life better on Earth, what is the guarantee that dreaming about flying cars, humanoid robots and populated cities on Mars would make it any better?

Scientists have been consistently working to decode the mystery of the evolution of life on Earth and how we have come so far and from where did we had started. All these questions remind us that we are humans and we are blessed with the skill of thinking rationally and hence we have come so far.

good will
references
importance
scientist
university
to
humanity

The necessity of early humans led to several discoveries, he went on, starting from nothing but with one skill to think, to evolve, to improvise and to move forward. And then there was no looking back. Alan Moore in his novel - 'Ideas are bullet proof' highlights that ideas cannot be killed, imagination is the repository of ideas and then application has yielded epoch, making results for humanity. Hence our skills, the evolution of human ideas have brought us here. But the recent observations have put a big question mark on the sustainability of life on Earth.

History has been an evidence that throughout the ages we have adapted ourselves to the nature, nature was overpowering force on humans, we learnt to live in an harmonical balance with it. Our early historical scriptures like Vedas or even before it the Harappan Ages & the Mesopotamian evidences have shown that ~~not~~ 'Earth' was worshipped, nature, wild life, plants, animals, natural forces were worshipped, they were divine and man also feared the power of nature but that was Motherly fear!!

Remarks

Need not
chronicle
humanity's
changing
relations w/
nature &
up your
waist and
start
exploring
other
dimensions

After thousands of years, Man progressed ahead, history evolved and the Modern Age brought about a change which the Humankind never imagined. After the Medieval Ages, religion was replaced with science. Enlightenment, Reformation revolutionised the way we thought about ourselves. Scientific and geographical discoveries happened, Human societies came closer to each other, Natural forces were being overpowering by technological advances. Seas were being crossed in drastically lower periods of journey. We got to know more about ourselves and Earth as well.

Human Societies also witnessed a change, Modes of production were changing, Industrial Revolution was possible through the inventions of Machines.

Population increased many fold. Pressure on land increased. Europe was the epicentre of this development in the early phases and the rest of the world were to witness the same phenomenon latter ~~as~~ and at that moment rest of the world was the colony of European powers.

Remarks

Scientific Discoveries, geographical discoveries, Enlightenment, Industrial Revolution, Colonialism, Capitalism and Imperialism were the new forces unleashed.

These forces reached their zenith by 18th & 19th century.

The early 20th century witnessed the First World War

from 1914-1918, the roots of which were getting strength in the 19th century. Catastrophic damage was done to not only the human lives but also ^{to} the Environment.

All these events raised the questions on Modernity and the ideas of Enlightenment and humanity.

Within few decades the world witnessed another horrific world war in the early 1940s which had its roots in first world war, rise of fascism, Nazism & imperialism of Germany, Japan & Italy. The end of world war II was tragic as it ended with US dropping

Atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki and

hence questioned the relevance of scientific achievements for human life.

Remarks

The end of World War II gave rise to geopolitical confrontation between two superpowers - US & USSR, which never turned into a full fledged war but saw the emergence of new theatres of war and. The end of World War II also led to the emergence of an international organisation - United Nations and idea of human right was recognised. The Cold War Era also led to further armament race, atom bomb & nuclear armament race and competition in space science as well.

Space Science took us beyond Earth and Mankind was ready to explore the Universe further. These development in Space Science led to great competition between the Superpowers. The Cold War ended with the collapse of USSR but the jinni which it unleashed is out without any control. Nuclear Armament Race is still continuing in the name of Nuclear Deterrence, Idea of National Security, National interest have questioned the idea of 'Human Development' as whole.

Remarks

George Santayana said - 'Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.' This statement bound us signifies that we should introspect & and examine the path that we took and where we are heading to. What is the 'idea of better life' or 'good life for that matter'? and 'for whom' are we imagining the good life. Is it for few or for all? Critical examination of all these questions will possibly give an answer. Is overpowering Earth or Natural forces, our development or are we have really over powered Earth or is it just a temporary illusion?

We have 'one Earth', that too with limited resources and the pressure on these resources is exponentially increasing. These facts have forced the scientific community to look for alternative for Earth - Mars or Moon. Mahatma Gandhi once said - There is enough on Earth for everyone's need but not for everyone's greed. Human kind's unsustainable greed may be Mars, Moon or more Earths would not suffice.

explore
this
further

Remarks

If we are not able to sustain ourselves on Earth, how can we be so sure Mars or Moon would be capable of doing it. This is not to say that we should not go space exploration. But is that technological advancement aiding the idea of 'better life'? will uncontrolled scientific & technological inventions like 'humanoid robots', 'flying cars' solve the problems that the human society is facing now. Technology

historian Melvin Kranzberg once said 'Technology is neither good nor bad, nor it is neutral'. It is for the human to decide how we are using a technology's application, is it adding to our 'concept of good life'.

There are huge inequalities that are existing in the present world where a handful view are in control of ~~so~~ major resources. These inequalities are not only in form of economic inequalities, but social, political, environmental, physical and cultural too. The present model of development is - development of few ~~with~~ on the cost of underdevelopment of many.

Remarks

The goals which we set as Sustainable Development goals is one of many solution to our problems, where SDG-10 better aims to reduce inequality within and among the countries, the goals provide a comprehensive framework to tackle the problems multi dimensionally.

Sustainable Development and the scientific vision to explore the Universe should go hand in hand.

Single minded Exploitative advance towards Mars or any other planet would make it another damaged Earth and then there would be no end to it. Hence it is time to rethink the idea of development, good life and how we can evolve, progress as humans in a sustainable way.

The recent IPCC Reports have highlighted how the current path of development is not sustainable, risking the survival of mankind on this planet itself. The rising global Earth temperature, the land use patterns, the rising ocean levels, melting of ice has mad has threatened the existence of life on Earth.

Remarks

Kofi Annan once said 'on climate change we often don't fully appreciate that it is a problem, we think it is a problem waiting to happen'. This highlights the level of ignorance we have regarding the fundamental questions on our survival. The IPCC Report on Climate change highlighted if the global temperature continue rising at the current level it will cross 2°C by the end of the century threatening the existence of life.

It also established that total global emissions will need to fall by 45% from 2010 levels and reach net zero by 2050. But the commitment levels of the nations are not sufficient to meet the stated goal.

If we are unwilling to mend our ways of the unsustainable lifestyle how can we guarantee that another 'Earth' or home world solve our problems if we don't address the fundamental questions of survival.

Sole dependence on technology is not the way out.

Over populated cities on another planet will not reduce the population pressure on resources in long term.

Remarks

ISRO's founding chairman Vikram Sarabhai had once said - 'we do not have the fantasy of competing with economically advanced nations in the exploration of the moon or the planets, but we must be second to none in the application of advanced technologies to the real problem of man and society. This kind of attitude is the need of the hour. Mindless race for technological advancement would not lead to good life for all, but the focus should be now through the use of technology, space sciences, we can first solve the issues which the human society is facing here on ^{the} Earth.

Use of technology to solve the farmer's problems, to reduce the global inequalities, to ensure food to all, to reduce the risk of diseases, to solve the environmental problems, to build smart cities, to achieve the SDGs, will ~~too~~ develop our concept of 'Good life'. It should be the idea of harmony, inclusive development rather than the sense of

Remarks: conquer or ego satisfaction or greed.

good reading
of the question -
could frame it
as a situation.
That its
purely
national or
depends on
human use -

No society can surely be flourishing and happy of which the far greater part of the members are poor and miserable? - Adam Smith. Smith's view should be the focus of our development strategy. Inclusive development, Development & participation of all has to be β our path towards achieving the goals. We have to correct our past mistakes but we also have to learn from our pasts how our ancestors lived in harmony with nature, how they revered the nature, mother Earth.

We have to critically examine where in history we went wrong, how can we mend the future course of action, learning from it. We need to introspect and examine how can dreaming about useful technology can make the life of millions better. Life on Sustainable Earth will be a better life, a life where there will be respect for human rights, where development would mean development for all and not few. Equal emphasis should be on the conservation of flora and fauna, the rate of extinction of which have increased many times.

Remarks

suggest
concrete
measures
to make
genuine
more
solid
earth's
needs.

good correlation
Scientific advancement should be in ~~some~~ resonance with inclusive development. The technological advancements should not further increase the global inequalities but they would minimise them.

The sense of exploration of Universe should be backed by your respect towards your home first which is your 'Blue planet'.

- good enough reading of the question
- examined the limits of science - success depends on use and misuse of tech
- referenced the inequalities on Earth. Could frame it in the question of technology, since technology is the key concept.
- the moral, social, ethical issue, science may not be useful. Capitalism, racism can't be solved through science
- Always examine the benefits of the keyword, i.e. - technology. Medicine, communication, transport, knowledge, agriculture have all improved life considerably.
How do we improve?
 - make science more inclusive of diversity & diverse knowledge,

Remarks accessibility to all

ensure science's separation from concerns of capital & malpolitic.

Section-B.

2) Urbanisation is not only simply expanding the areas of city?

In 2001 the percentage of urban population to total population was 28.53, in 2011 it reached 31.16%.

The UN World Population Report states that India would have 40% of population in urban areas by 2030.

Urbanisation is the process of becoming urban, moving from rural areas to cities, away from Agriculture to other pursuits. It is essentially a phenomenon of progression of society's conversion from chiefly rural to predominantly urban.

Urbanisation has two main implications -

increase in number of people living in urban settlements and increase in %age of population engaged in non-agricultural activities living in such places. Urbanisation is also a characteristic feature of developing nations like India, Brazil, Indonesia etc. where the economy is witnessing the transition from primary to secondary & tertiary sectors. Hence Urbanisation is closely associated with the phenomenon of Industrialisation and expansion of service sector.

Remarks

In India, Urban areas are categorised in 2 categories:

⇒ Census Towns is the category based on population

where the population of an area must be above 5000 and the density of population is not less than 400 person per square kilometres. The other category is statutory Towns, which are the urban areas which are recognised by the law. Urbanisation in India is not a recent phenomenon, rather it has an ~~to~~ ancient history associated with it.

Harappan Civilisation was one of the most ancient urbanised civilisation of human history. This 4500 years (approx) old civilisation provides evidences of excellent town planning, had efficient drainage system. It amazes us with the town planning where the residential areas were separated from administrative areas, each household was connected with drainage system. There were varied degree of urbanisation in the Harappan civilisation but overall it was one of the early evidences of Urbanisation.

The Second Urbanisation phase is associated with the rise of

Mahajanapads in ~600 BCE, which new settlements flourished.

Eg. Rise of Magadha.

Remarks

Big members
Local Commissions
from the
various Castes, found for the
poor, and discriminating signs.

The process of Urbanisation continued with the rise of trade centres, temple towns, coastal urban areas in the Peninsula and then the process reached its zenith in the Mughal times. Moreover the process of urbanisation was never a linear phenomenon, some cities rose while some declined at the same time. Economic prosperity, agricultural productivity, environmental factors were some of the determinants of the rise of urban centres.

With the coming of British, the urbanisation pattern witnessed a new phenomenon altogether. There were emergence of some new cities like Bombay, Kolkata, Madras which became the administrative & economic centres of the Britishers. There was development of hill cities, hill stations as well. Municipalities & District Boards were established by Lord Mayo in 1872, he also suggested for financial decentralisation to the local governing bodies. The present urban local governance is the development of over the framework of British with significant modifications as well.

Remarks

Post independence India witnessed urbanisation with the economic development, however there was lack of comprehensive strategy to deal with urbanisation. There were some legislations like Rent Control Act 1948, Urban Ceiling and Regulation 1978 etc. There was National setting up of Commission on Urbanisation was set up in 1988 which emphasised on evolution of a proper spatial pattern of economic development, optimum distribution of population between rural and urban settlements and provision of minimum levels of services to in urban and rural areas.

Recently the issue of urbanisation has received required thrust again. The problem today is not the low level of urbanisation but uncontrolled and unregulated urbanisation. As the urban population increases, demand for urban infrastructure also increases. Low incoming housing, transportation, water, sewage treatment also needs policy intervention. McKinsey Report highlights investment required for building urban infrastructure in India over next 20 years is 1 Trillion US \$.

could elaborate or the challenges to urban

Remarks

Urbanisation thus is not a simple phenomenon, it is complex process which has various dimensions and it is not simply expanding the areas of city.

The process happens at different levels and at different degrees. It has different dimensions attached to it.

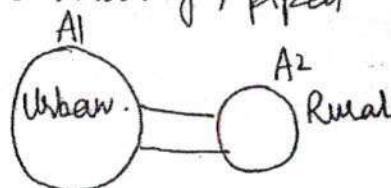
Social dimension, economic dimension, environmental dimension, political dimension etc.

Urban Agglomerates are the cities which are in close vicinity to each other. The cities are fast growing and get merged with each other. Delhi, Gurugram, Noida, Faridabad etc can be categorised into urban agglomerates. Other examples include Chandigarh-Mohali-Panchkula and Thane-Navi Mumbai-Kalyan etc.

Outgrowth: is also a phenomenon associated with Urbanisation where a rural area is in close vicinity of an urban area. The rural area has all urban-like infrastructure and has all the facilities like power supply, metallic roads, luxury housing, piped drinking water.

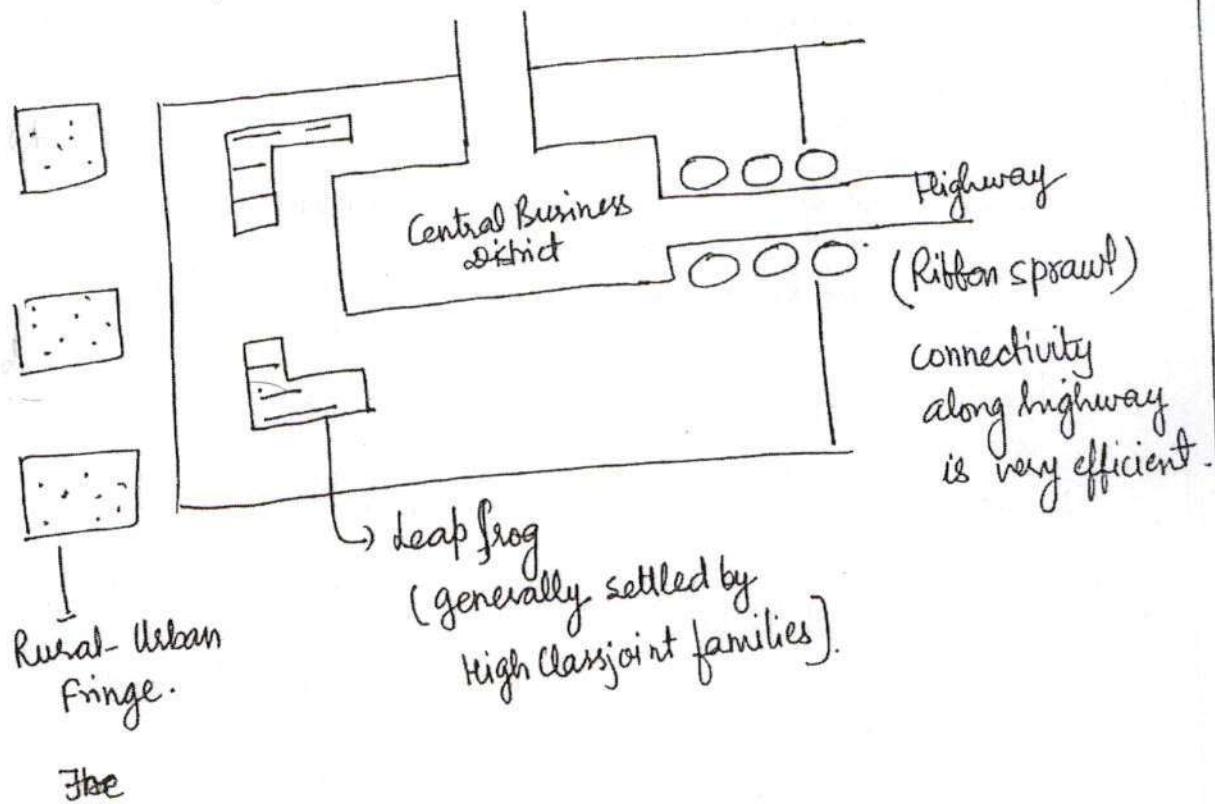
A₂ grows because of A₁

Remarks hence outgrowth.



Satellite Towns are the urban centres which are well connected to each other and they are economically independent on each other. Satellite towns are separated by geographical features or are separated by outgrowths.

Suburbs are the areas which are formed around the Central business districts. Urban sprawl is the process associated with it where people due to congestion, pollution etc prefer to move away from Central business district and settle in its peripheries which offer a more affordable, and open area. Pattern of suburbs can be illustrated as :-



Remarks

The push factors for suburbs include - congestion, overcrowdedness, space constraints, traffic, pollution, high cost of living etc. The pull factors for suburbs includes - low cost of living, social infrastructure, less pollution. All these categories imply that urbanisation is not just expansion of areas of cities and it has other phenomena associated with it.

Urbanisation comes with its own set of problems. If proper urban development planning is not envisaged the future holds a lot of problems for us. Efficient planning at the local levels to address all the issues is the need of the hour. First and foremost is the Infrastructure Requirement. The cities in India today lack urban infrastructure, absence of low income housing forces people to live in sub-human conditions.

40% of the population in Delhi live in slum areas. 2/3rd of Indian cities have informal slum settlements, more than 13 million people live in them and more than 1/3rd of that population has no access to electricity.

Remarks

Mere expanding the areas of the cities would not solve the problem if proper infrastructure is not provided in those areas. ARC Recommendation on urban governance is crucial where it suggest financial devolution of powers to the local bodies. The 74th Constitutional Amendment provided constitutional status to the Urban local bodies but a lot more needs to be done and effective decentralisation is a crucial step to address the issues first hand at the local level.

(B) Climate change poses new problems to the Indian cities. The Recent floods in Bangalore, Maharashtra etc were the evidence. The droughts and water crisis in Chennai was a further blow where a ~~to~~ water train was sent to the city reflects the mismanagement of the Urban development. The CRZ norms are being violated wetlands have been & destroyed and thus making the cities further flood prone. The land use pattern is also witnessing a further shift where agricultural land is converted into urban areas.

Remarks

(c) The cities have turned into heat islands and concrete jungles and the development needs are leading to cutting of the vegetation cover and thus increase the pollution levels further and temperatures as well. The traffic congestion, dramatic increase in the number of private vehicles further increase the pollution levels in the cities.

The people who migrate to the cities in search for job opportunities are more vulnerable to mental and psychological stress. The high cost of living does not allow them to bring their families with them hence ^{changes in} family and kinship ties ~~too~~ has social and psychological consequences for the migrants. Deteriorating health sanitation and sewage conditions in the slums poses further health vulnerabilities to the people.

Indian cities today also faces Energy crisis. The inefficient power supply, unsustainable energy resources adds to the burden. Solid waste management is also inefficient where the disposal of waste is done in a unsustainable way.

Remarks (A-C) good examination of the challenges to urbanisation.

Hence Urbanization phenomenon is a complex process and has all these dimensions which needs to be addressed through proper policy intervention. Efficient and integral planning is first step. There has to be coordination and collaboration between the city administration, state administration and central administration.

There is an urgent need to create financially independent city administration through competitive subfederalism. SMART CITY mission is a required step in this direction where the special economic zones are envisioned through competitiveness, capital and sustainability.

The International Efforts through UN Habitat is also an important step ahead where in the last session held in 2016 in Quito, the focus was on making cities climate resilient and ~~an~~ inclusive ~~linking~~ linking the urban development agenda with sustainable development goals.

Remarks

(E) (E)

good examination
of the
measures
to understand

The use of technology can also offer many solutions. Technology can offer efficient public services delivery mechanism. The recent cybernet initiatives in several cities in Telangana can be model for other cities to adopt.

RURBAN: is also one of the required policy action to be planned and implemented upon where the urban like facilities ~~can~~ have to be provided in the rural areas also.

New Metro Policy of 2017 offers some solutions to the infrastructure development in a sustainable way through Public Private Partnership model. More policies in the field of e-waste management, solid waste management, are needed. AMRUT scheme and JNNURM needs to be implemented well. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna Urban-2014 aims for housing for all by 2022 in three phases through ~~these~~ integrated slum development, Affordable housing through credit linked subsidy, Affordable housing in Partnership etc.

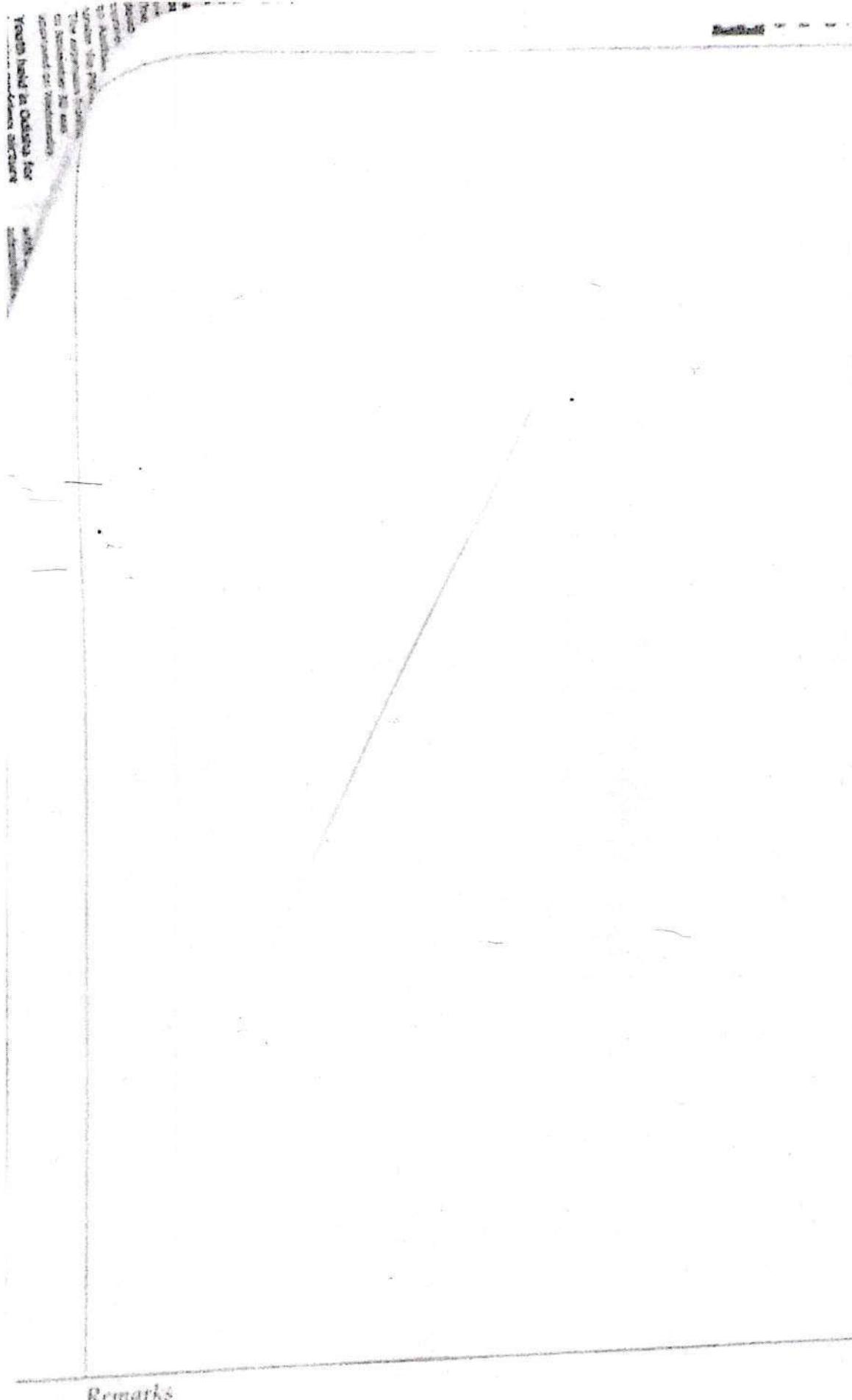
The historical experience has highlighted it very well that Urbanisation is an inevitable progression. With India aiming to achieve the 5 Trillion \$ economy mark, it is natural to experience a phenomenon like growth of cities and also rise in the rural incomes. It has to be a comprehensive strategy focussing both on rural growth and urban development. It is high time that we learn how to cope with rapid and ever challenging urban growth. Our development strategy should make maximise the positive demographics and make the cities & the villages - 'engines of growth' in an climate resilient way.

P.T.O.

- Examined definition of urban "in detail.
- Examined challenges and responses/solutions.
- Could explore social-cultural aspects.
 - ↳ Is there a rural-traditional & urban-modern dichotomy.
 - ↳ Are marginalised groups more emancipated in cities?
 - ✓ Is a robust rural economy essential for urban centres to thrive?

(53)

Remarks



Remarks

oddy ren:

Bh.
tri dist.
ector Palla.
The Commis
with members of the
administration, recently v.
sited the village where, on
September 25, two Dalit chil
dren were allegedly beaten
to death by upper caste men

Remarks

Sho