

ESSAY

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

6/10/2018

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Date 4/10/18

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Section - 1

"We are good architects of future, if our coming generations are not victims!"

Girl : Mom, I want to go out and play with my friends.

Mother : No, you cannot go out, your asthama will worsen.

Girl : Can I go to school tomorrow?

Mother : It will be better to study at home as you have exhausted your oxygen pump.

Father : The school might be closed tomorrow as there is a thick sheet of smog these days.

- life in 2050

Startled by the above story?

Don't be, as this will be the normal scenario if we continue 'business as usual'. The

Scientists have already begun to declare an epoch as ANTHROPOGENIC. But this is only one aspect in which, we are going to influence future of our coming generations.

Do we play any role in shaping the future? Who is an architect? How does he moulds and builds a building, or sculpture. Are we playing the same role in life of our future generations? What kind of future are we building? This calls for a careful analysis. Let us see.

We - the architect of future!

An architect is a professional who plans and then builds a structure. It can be a building or sculpture. It can also be architect of future. The power, intellect of humans allows them to act in a fundamental way. But are we using this intelligence in meaningful way or riding the wave of high concerns?

You have long played the role of an architect at individual, societal and global levels. Flipping through pages of history we see individuals like Raja Ram Mohan Roy who fought against social evils and particularly sati. Then there was Swami Vivekananda who gave the concept of 'Dartara narayan' and that service to firm is service to Shiva.

Others like Mahatma Gandhi left a rich legacy for his coming generations by playing as architect for a free India. His ideals of truth, non violence and satyagrah are still hold relevance. These ideals have helped in shaping a largely peaceful and harmonious society.

Further Gandhi's fight against untouchability has contributed to the upliftment of millions of dalits. His continuous efforts towards emancipation of scheduled castes has prevented victimisation of dalits today.

Remarks

For example, this has led the government to incorporate Article 40 for upliftment of scheduled and tribes and weaker sections. Thus, this architect of modern India has shaped a brighter future for all.

Economically too, man has a role in chiselling future of coming generations. Let us turn our attention towards this.

According to a report, India's population will overtake China by 2040. ~~with~~ This rising population can play a crucial role in future prosperity and growth. A large young population can bestow future generations with prosperous agriculture, industry and services.

It is high time that we resolve the issues of low productivity and monsoon dependence in agriculture. According to estimates, India has 9% of total agricultural space of the world, but still productivity is low. Is this not detrimental to the

generations? Only a well developed, modern agriculture system that is sustainable, can ensure food security to the rising population.

Similarly, according to world Economic forum's manufacturing index, India stands far behind other nations at rank 30. Without a competitive manufacturing ecosystem, India's demographic dividend will turn into a demographic disaster, leading to victimisation of future prospective workers.

Besides economy, man is also the architect of linked to rising population, is the concept of human capital. And this population burden can be converted to an asset only through investment in health and education.

Investment in education is crucial to ensure that our children develop into complete individuals in future.

According to ASER report, 2017 large number of children in class V cannot read a text of class III. In this the future we are promising to our children. Teacher absence, shortage of teachers, infrastructure will prove us to be bad architects of our children's future. This needs to be resolved.

In healthcare too, there is stark deficiency of doctors, nurses, specialists. Over emphasis of tertiary healthcare has put the future of our coming generations at risk. For instance, this is evident in recent cases of deaths in various government hospitals including the Gorakhpur tragedy. Lack of infrastructure has burdened entire health care.

Besides health, politics is another sphere where we are playing an important role in future of coming generations. Good governance, accountability, transparency,

are significant in ensuring a corruption free environment to our coming generations. In this the spirit of service to the nation assumes importance. Democracy in India has curved and is thriving only through the efforts of architects like B.R. Ambedkar, Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Very good

Apart from polity, environment is also important for our future generations. According to a recent World Bank report, standard of living of half of the country's population will be affected due to rising temperatures and inadequate rainfall.

This is surely not a promising future. Excessive reliance on fossil fuels, fertilisers and exploitation of groundwater, puts a question mark on the future of coming generations. This raises the question: are we good architects in terms of environmental protection and conservation?

Remarks

But not only at national level man's action have ramifications at global level too. How? Let us see.

Firstly, globalisation has turned a world into a small village. But does the global community realise that decisions like trade war, nuclear weapons, refugee crisis will have a serious impact on future generations.

Trade war, for instance, as recently seen between USA and China, will not only impact present generations in these countries, but also sounds a warning for future generations. Trade war, will hamper jobs, trade prospects. It can lead to inflation due to restriction on imports and impact growth.

Similarly, nuclear weapons have always led to a danger to the future of humans across the globe. The attacks by

... Hiroshima and Nagasaki, ^{have} been
affecting people even today.

All these instances require that
individuals, nations and global community
must heed their legacy they are leaving
for future generations.

The Road Ahead

It has become clear that our
actions have a bearing on our future gener-
ations. Thus we must correct our ways to ensure
bright future to our children.

Firstly, we need to take steps for
betterment of weaker sections, women,
elderly. Government schemes like (NARSHTN)
for minorities, (Ujjawala yojana) 181 helpline
and (Mudra yojana) are steps in right direction.
This will ensure that their coming generation
can breathe in a free and egalitarian setup.

Further, economic environment
needs to be altered to remove obstacles

Recommend
- more steps

from path of future generations. This includes steps like infrastructure, enabling ecosystems for startups. Also, rural economy needs to be made more vibrant. These steps will ultimately improve competitiveness and bring ease of doing business.

Environmental protection is another area that needs a sustainable management. As it is said that if we destroy the environment we won't have a society. Thus more efforts like push towards renewable electric vehicles, and conservation of land and water need to be taken. Future generation's victimisation can then be prevented.

At the global level too, efforts like Paris climate change agreement and International solar alliance are worth mentioning. With the pledge of controlling temperature rise to 2°C by 2100, future of our children can be

secured.

Thus, it is rightly said that we will be good architects only if our future generations are not victims. Efforts are needed so that we bestow a rich legacy to future generations and not the one as shown in the anecdote in the beginning.

"We have not inherited the earth from our forefathers, but borrowed it from our children".

good

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Section - B

In healthy politics, the leaders do not serve any ideology or political party but people.

"69% of income of political parties is from unknown sources" - says a report of Association of Democratic Reform.

Is this healthy politics? No. India has been bestowed with the rich legacy of great politicians like Jawaharlal Nehru, Mahatama Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Sardar Vallabhai Patel, what is common among them all?

All these politicians were devoted towards the service of the people. They always kept nation's interest over any ideology or their political party. Thus, Jawaharlal Nehru could give us the foundation of strong industries. The Nehru-Mahalanobis plan had people's interest like raising income, poverty alleviation.

employment generation at its core. Shipping
 the world envisage the five year plans.
 has helped in a planned development of
 our economy.

The essay will explore what is
 healthy politics, what are its prospects,
 challenges and way forward.

Prospects of healthy politics

Healthy politics as explained
 above refers to clean politics geared
 towards national interest. It is inspired
 by ethos of equality, freedom and democracy.
 Directive principles of state policy and
 fundamental rights enshrined in our
 constitution form the foundation of
 healthy politics.

As mentioned above that politicians
 like Mahatma Gandhi and Vallabhbhai
 Patel exemplify it. Gandhiji's unwavering
 devotion towards people helped him to

turn our struggle for freedom into a mass movement. He rose above the ideology of moderates and extremists. Thus he could effectively involve all sections of society from women to poor to farmers. The democratic spirit of Gandhiji provides way forward to future leaders as well.

Similarly, Vallabhai Patel could be rightly said as people's politician. He was given the title (honour) of Sardar by the people during his leadership in Satyagrah. After independence, his commitment towards national unity helped in effective integration of princely states in the Indian Union. This was above any ideology or political party.

In present times, though large number of political parties have sprouted on Indian political scene. But effective ones are only few which are major.

working in people's interests.

In this regard, the Indian constitution and judiciary have played a significant role in upholding the spirit of healthy politics.

The judiciary entrusted with the task of maintaining democracy has always tested government laws on the touchstone of constitution. Thus, judiciary has helped in striking down laws that taint politics. For instance, striking down of governor's rule and restoring assembly in Uttarakhand. Another instance is the recent striking down of section 377. This is yet again reinforcement of rights of minority community of transgenders.

The notion of healthy politics can be explained in terms of efforts of government towards emancipation of

women, dalits and children. The schemes like Jan Dhan yojana for poor, Ayushman Bharat (wellness centres and national health protection mission) seem inspired by will to serve the society.

Jan Dhan accounts for instance have enabled poor people to save their hard earned income. Access to products like accidental insurance, overdraft facility, loan are above the ideology to serve only the rich. Similarly Ayushman Bharat is a shining example of moving towards universal health coverage. This will surely lead to more productive and healthy workforce.

But are the prospects of politics all bright or there are some grey clouds in sight also? Let us turn our attention towards this.

Challenges to healthy politics

Politics in India is still in its evolving phase. This is evident from recurring evidence of corruption, muscle power, ideological conflict and lack of transparency. Let us see.

According to a recent report of Transparency International, corruption in India is highest in south Asia. This thriving ideology towards garnering wealth and enjoying luxurious life on public money is a big challenge to healthy politics. It prevents politicians from working with a long term view. Rather short term interest overshadows it.

This has led to failure in implementation of policies for welfare of society. Corruption and scams like in Public Distribution system, MGNREGA and other schemes cause. The result

is perpetuation of extreme poverty and few rich people.

Similarly healthy politics has failed to develop fully due to issues of lack of internal party democracy. For instance many political parties have been alleged to have favoured own family members to acquire leadership positions in the party. This tendency towards nepotism prevents any meaningful efforts for people.

Further, this takes ^{the form of a} deeper malaise when politicians even forget ethos of democracy and clean politics. To illustrate, large number of political parties are today giving election tickets to criminals. Another is the mention in economic survey of more than half of members of parliaments in present lok sabha convicts or accused in criminal cases. How

For such leaders and political parties will work in people's interest is an open question.

Another challenge to healthy politics is use of money and muscle power in elections. Muscle power has been illustrated above. Now let us turn our attention to money power.

Use of black money in elections has been a long standing issue. This ideology towards victory ^{of political party} at any cost does not paint a rosy picture for public welfare. This use of black money for instance was seen in elections in Tamil Nadu.

Related to this, is another hindrance to healthy politics i.e. populism. Though it is not always a hindrance. But doling out gifts and goodies in elections or loan waiver as seen in states like UP, Karnataka are part of a narrow

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attitude of positivity towards one's political party. The implication is lack of implementation of tough decisions like user charges on use of water, electricity in farming. Measures to raise productivity are lost somewhere.

The way Forward to Healthy Politics

The above challenges should be enough to compel today's politicians to take steps for cleaning politics.

Firstly, steps need to be taken considering needs of all stakeholders and not just some privileged few. This should include women, children, elderly, poor, rural population and farmers. People's schemes like PDS, MGNREGS, National Food Security Act, 2013 need to be implemented effectively.

Further, politics must be freed

from narrow considerations of ideology.
The Jindjit Gupta committee 1998 has recommended state funding of elections to overcome issue of black money. Also, recent Supreme Court judgement that parliament make a law to lower criminalisation of politics shows us path.

Further, ethics in politicians need to be inculcated. For example, mission kalyanishtha of Indian Railways. Decision to remove ^{red} lights and signs from public vehicles. The call by some leaders to be sewaks and not mantri. These will instill ethos towards public welfare in politicians and bureaucrats.

Some pending decisions must be taken to strengthen politics. For example, passing of 105th amendment bill for 33% reservation to women in parliament. Passing of law to restrict

black money in politics. Example bringing political parties under RTI (Right to Information) Act. This will bring transparency and accountability, and thus political will to serve.

India is a nation with great leaders like Gandhi, Nehru who gave their entire life to the country. Thus, in today's era Gandhi's talisman and principle of truth can be a light in the dark tunnel of tainted politics. India must strive to get out of this tunnel towards people's upliftment. Then only it can eliminate evils of poverty and untouchability completely.

~~Good~~

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- discuss the need for healthy politics especially, in context of India to make ~~an~~ our democracy, a more vibrant.

Themes

- self-interest vs national interest
- winning at all cost
- populism vs long term reforms

Dimensions

- What are the features of healthy politics?
- Why leaders should not serve any ideology or political party but people?
- Why leaders ignore people for an ideology?
- What are the benefits of leaders serving people rather than political party but people?
- ~~Why leaders ignore people for an ideology?~~
- What are the consequences if leaders merely serve ideology or political party?

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Th Essay

Given topic refers to human's role as an architect of the world which present generation will pass on to next generation.

- dimensions to be explored:

- (1) How sustainable development may lead to peace and prosperity?
- (2) What separates consumption and over consumption?
- (3) What are the consequences of refusal to take prompt and timely measures?
- (4) Why is it essential to care for future generations?
- (5) How are we crippling the coming generations already?
- (6) How can we minimize the damage for future generations?

- decisions made in the following areas have impact on successive generations.

- (1) Political:
 - Basic rights in constitution
 - Legislation and execution
 - International affairs

- (2) Ecological:
 - Air
 - water
 - land
 - wild life destruction.

- (3) Social:
- (4) Cultural:

- (5) Economic:
 - Type of market
 - National debts

- (6) Technical: internet, IR-4.0, E-work