

GS SCORE

ESSAY TEST SERIES 2020

ESSAY MOCK TEST - 1

Roll No. 1201952

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).

R.V

Name R. VIDYADHAR

Mobile No. _____

Date 08/11/2020

Signature *[Signature]*

1. Invigilator Signature *[Signature]*

2. Invigilator Signature _____

Remarks

Section A

61/125

Section B

57/125

SECTION - A

1. *Child labour and poverty are inevitably bound together.*
2. *The current patterns of natural disasters clearly indicate inadequacies of development models.*
3. *Social media is about sociology and psychology more than technology.*
4. *The education system in India needs a grand overhaul to suit the requirements of the modern age.*

SECTION - B

1. *Conscience is an impractical guide to our life actions.*
2. *A leader is best when people barely know s/he exists.*
3. *Life without emotions is lifeless.*
4. *Birds born in cages think flying is a disease.*

A Leader is best when people barely know s/he exists

When floods ravaged Kerala during 2018 Monsoon, public administration completely broke down and there was urgent need of manpower & volunteers. A young man named Raja Manickam, gave a helping hand. He carried heavy bags on his shoulders. He went into neck deep waters to rescue people. He worked along with other volunteers and motivated many people to join him. He worked for continuous 3 days without closing (his eyes even for a second) - Avoid hyperboles

However only after a week, volunteers who worked with him came to know that, he is none other than Raja Manickam IAS. A

coveted & elite civil servant gave his hard labours & helping hand without revealing who he is. He

Use of relevant example to introduce the question

Remarks

wanted to serve the country in whatever way it takes. But he very well knows that, without revealing his position, he can contribute his maximum. He wanted to be the leader, whom the people barely know he exists.

In similar manner, there are & were countless leaders who are not known to people, but ^{they} lead them in the best way possible. This writeup is about effectiveness & efficiency of such nameless leaders.

Indian subcontinent was ruled by many great kings/leaders such as: Ashoka, Samudragupta, Akbar & etc. However India is known for earliest republics in vaishali, where there is no single stronger rules. Despite ~~being~~ not having a fameful/popular rules, the kingdom

Remarks

examinee
relevance

flourished & the people prosperity increased manifold. The same can be said about the sleepy town ultraurus in South India during Cholas rule. The first recorded model of democratic decentralisation in the world, where without

a popular leader, town was administered in most peaceful & efficient manner.

Examining a popular leader, town was administered in most peaceful & efficient manner. *questionable claim*

Similarly in our independence struggle, one of the forgotten figure is Gopala Krishna Gokhale. Being the political guru of Gandhi, he worked immensely to the social-political upliftment of Indians and opposed British in constitutional & non violent manner.

The fact that he is not much remembered because, he ~~told his fall~~ on his death bed, he told his followers (servants of India society), not to waste their energy & money in raising statues for him. Rather

Remarks

he advised them to channelize their full potential & efforts for national freedom struggle.

Like Lokhale, there were ~~no~~ countless unremembered freedom fighters, without whom we might not be enjoying the fruits of Independence. ~~Such~~

leaders

Such leaders, through their selfless service, enlighten & guide people in the most efficient way. The nameless leaders are considered to be best because, there are few unavoidable perils in popular leaders, such as:

Firstly, popular leaders after gaining popularity, they ~~develop~~ become more powerful.

However, "power corrupts, but absolute power corrupts absolutely".

This breeds despotism, corruption and

Remarks

authoritarianism. The very relatable example would be Hitler of Germany. He became so popular that, he radicalized Germans and provoked them to believe that they are superior race in the world. This eventually led to world war II, leading to destruction of numerous lives.

Secondly, popular leaders — *Admissibility dimension*
 propagate phenomenon ~~the~~ personality cult such as Kim Jil Yoon of North Korea. Through propoganda & mass radicalisation, people ~~will~~ were made to have blind faith towards leaders. People lose their self-critical thinking and believe leaders words rather than humanity & rationality. This dependency attitude created among people.

Thirdly, popular leaders start to

Remarks

self aggrandize them rather than focusing on people, on whose support s/he gains power. ~~People's~~

Since people's patience level ~~is~~ is limited, it will lead to protests, riots, civil war and etc. as see in Arab revolution '2014.

Finally, increase in popularity of leader belonging to one community, will threaten freedom of other communities in the ~~new~~ country.

For example, ~~rise~~ rise in popularity of Mohammed Ali Jinnah & his vision of separate Pakistan for Muslims led to Direct action day, many communal riots between Hindus & Muslims and barbaric partition.

Power of ~~such~~ leaders like Jinnah is that their violent ideology is confining even after their demise. Thus leading to confineous hatred towards Indians by Pakistani people.

Remarks

In the contrast, nameless & unpopular leaders' action speak more than their words.

They provide real empowerment of people. Through their work, they inspire people invisibly. A great social worker Anura Roy, was responsible for enactment of 'Right to Information' act, which is considered to be landmark of our Indian democracy. Even though people barely remembers her, ~~has~~ directly, through RTI, she enriches freedom of speech & expression of million Indians.

Good argument

Leaders who are barely remembered by people act as change agents, rather than change. They invisibly empowers people through their efforts and action. Hence invisibility people achieve real emancipation & empowerment. If they guided by leaders rather than dictated by leaders. Hence invisibility of

Valid argument

Remarks

one leader will create will create multiplicity of many leaders

Even in families, if a father rather than being authoritative / over protective, if he leaves ~~the~~ his children to their own will. It will improve the self confidence, versatility of the children and they will have increased self esteem and become strong and independent.

This similarity can be observed in our economic system. One of the reason of failure is of socialism is because of presence of popular leaders like Stalin. On the contrary, capitalism by acting through the invisible hand, empowered people. Thus becoming successful.

Remarks

Avoid
simplifying
complex
phenomenon

It will be a lie, if we say that only ~~or~~ leaders whose barely people know were successful in leading the people. There are many popular leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Mother Theresa and etc, who through their popularity changed the world for better.

However, a distinction can be made in these popular leaders. Even though they are popular, they are completely selfless in their cause. Most importantly, they created system/institutions to guide people such as philosophy of nonviolence by Gandhi, Anti apartheid constitution by Nelson Mandela, Message of kindness & empathy by Mother Theresa.

These system/institution will continue to perform and lead people. That's what popular

Remarks

leaders also do. They ~~strengthen~~ ~~people~~ create system/ institution, which guide & lead people.

Thus even though they are unpopular & unremembered, their ideology/ system/ institution will empower the people in the right way.

Interesting argument

Thus the commonality between good popular leaders & the unpopular leaders is that, they all act as ray of light rather than source of light. They create a vision ~~for people~~ which people pursue to emancipate & ignite

- Grasped the meaning of the question.
- Discussed the qualities of a good leader.
- Used appropriate examples.

57

Remarks

The current pattern of natural disasters clearly indicate inadequacies of developmental models

Ramu, a farmer owning 1 acre of land in arid region of Rajasthan, sowed Jowhar ~~for~~ during kharif season. Due to incessant and erratic monsoon, flash floods destroyed his crop. As he didn't get any flood warning, he couldn't raise bunds around farm and thus couldn't save his kharif crop.

Unfortunately, his next season rabi crop also destroyed due to ~~lack of~~ heatwave and lack of rainfall. Because of inadequate storage structures, his village recorded agricultural drought for prolonged period of 2 months. Hence Ramu could not save his crop for 2nd time in a year. with no income from field, and increasing interest on loan,

Anecdote is relevant but could have been more effective

Remarks

he and his family is pushed into poverty.

Is nature, ~~the~~ responsible for destroying Ramu's crop? Or development failures: (no early warning

system, lack of flood/drought resistant seeds, lack of check dams) is responsible for Ramu's ^{PI} plight?

This write up aims to answer the ^{above} questions.

There is a saying that:

'Earthquake doesn't kill people,

it's the buildings that kill "people"'

App use of quote

Similarly it's not the natural hazard that ~~kills people~~ affects people, it's vulnerability of people which is causing distress to people. Here, Hazard

refers to extreme events such as: Earthquake,

floods, cyclones, drought etc. The hazard

becomes disasters, only when there exist vulnerability

among people. Vulnerability refers to coping capacity of

Remarks

people. The prime reason for low coping capacity of people is laggardsness & inadequancies in our developmental model. The evidence for the same

can be seen in:

good argument

Our developmental model is more focussed towards urbanisation. Because urban cities are considered to be growth engines of GDP. It

is predicted that from 31% of urban population in 2011, it will increase to 50% by 2030. However

the pattern of our urbanisation is rapid and sporadic leading to excessive deforestation to create more living space.

Excessive deforestation and increasing concretization has to lead to creation of heat island effect (urban). Because of which, severe heat wave is witnessed in cities such as: Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai

Remarks

during summers. Also even ~~this~~ heat wave has disproportionately attacked poor & marginalised.

Because people in slum, vendors on streets don't have access to Air conditioners which can be afforded by rich to beat the heat.

Another increasing phenomenon, witnessed in urban areas is urban floods. Even though they are floods, they are termed as urban floods because of following reasons. Urban floods in Chennai (2015) is due to improper reservoir management & clogged storm water drains. Urban floods (2018) in Kerala is due to excessive sand quarrying & mineral mining. Urban flood (2019) in Mumbai is due to plastic waste clogged in drainage preventing water flow (improper solid waste management). Urban floods (2020) in Hyderabad is due to encroachment of wetlands and ~~lakes~~ lakes - construction of buildings on the same.

Remarks

good reading of the question

So it is very evident, urban floods is created because of inadequacies of development model. ~~rather than~~ There A similar plight ~~can~~ has been observed by people living on the banks of Brahmaputra and Ganga. Seasonal floods is witnessed during monsoon of every year. It leads to seasonal submergence of human habitation.

So if seasonal flood is witnessed in this region. Do we have to blame nature for causing disasters? or do we have to blame the poor administration, which is not relocating and rehabilitating people from the flooding area?

Valid argument

Similarly increasing human settlements in hilly regions along with deforestation of trees is leading to increasing landslide events during monsoon. * Landslides in Kodaga region (Karnataka) is

Remarks

mainly due to clearing of forest present in ecosensitive zone of western ghats. Trees play a crucial role in controlling landslides. It anchors soil substrate & ~~pre~~ allows subsurface drainage/ percolation of water, thus preventing soil liquefaction & mudslides. However increasing developmental activities ~~against~~ ⁱⁿ ecosensitive zones, which is nearly 64% of western ghats as per Madhav Gadgil Committee, is increasing the frequency of land slides.

You've listed ample appropriate examples. Discuss other aspect now.

Also more urban centric developmental focus post LPG reforms, has substantially reduced public investment in rural areas. This leading to disasters like drought, famine, floods, heatwave, cold burst, dust storm, which creates havoc on farmlands: with increasing government ~~cost~~ exposure of hazards, there is insufficient developmental assistance to millions of

Remarks

farmers like Ramu

Most importantly, by following unsustainable development, we over consume and release excess carbon dioxide beyond the pristine threshold of 400ppm. These increased greenhouse gas emissions, is leading to global warming & climate change effects. However climate change is global phenomenon; it interferes with global climatic system & creates havoc in them.

It leads to faster melting of glaciers, thus more floods in lower reaches and rise in sea level. With rise in sea level, increased coastal erosion & submergence is witnessed for.

Eg: Barbareem Island is Lokshadep submerged.

Also global warming increases sea surface temperature which is intensifying & increasing the frequency of cyclones

relevant example

Remarks

Eg: off season cyclone Fani in Bay of Bengal during April 2020. Along with rise in temperature & unsustainable monocropping of pine in forest is increasing forest fire incidents in Uttarakhand.

Sustainable development - silver lining in the cloud

only panacea for balancing both

Relevant dimension

disaster risk reducing and to gain developmental benefits

is through sustainable development. Here

sustainable development encompasses 3 components:

Component 1: To increase coping capacity of people, thereby reducing the vulnerability to natural disasters. This can be achieved by bringing socio-economic-political development among people through sustainable development goals (SDGs). In rural areas

schemes like MGNREGS should be used to create more tanks, check dams to increase storage capacity, Fasal Bima to

Remarks

provide insurance covers to farmers post disasters, providing flood/drought prone seeds for cultivation.

Similarly in ^{areas} ~~urbanisation~~, planned & inclusive urbanisation should replace sporadic & exclusive urbanisation. Bringing slum rehabilitation, prevention encroachment of wetland, more rainwater harvesting, afforestation, ~~to~~ effective storm water drains should be components of smart cities. ~~Constructing cyclone & Earth quake resistant house for vulnerable people~~

good argument

Component 2: Bringing climate change

Mitigation projects: Fulfilling INDC targets of Paris climate deal. Converting from fossil fuel based economy to renewable energy based economy.

Proposing Better emission standards for industries, vehicles and etc. Following REDD+ strategies to

reduce deforestation and incentivize afforestation

Remarks

Component 3:

Disasters risk reduction and Disaster preparedness strategies to be mainstreamed.

Better Hazard Zonation mapping at national, state and local level. Ans. for constructing disasters

Resilient Infrastructure to bring faster relief to people. Constructing Earthquake and cyclone resistant houses. Improving Early warning systems dissemination and etc.

If current patterns of disasters are due to development, ~~development~~ inadequacies; then bridging current development inadequacies through sustainable development will eliminate future natural disasters for our future generations.

- Good reading of the question.
- Identified urbanisation as the cause of disasters. (could have Remarks added consumerism, crony capitalism as well.)
- Provided appropriate examples.
- Offered corrective measures.