

TEST CODE: 32005

FIAS – MGP2020 – EASSY1

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ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	ARTH JAIN		
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Mobile No.		Date:	31/10/20

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q.No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile).</p> <p>2. There are TWO Sections. Each Section has TWO topics printed in English and Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part.</p> <p>3. One question in each part is compulsory.</p> <p>4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</p> <p>5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.</p> <p>6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.</p> <p>7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.</p>
Q.1			
Q.2			
Total Marks:			
Remarks:			
Start Time 9:30		End Time 12:15	
Mode Of Examination :		Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>	
ECN CODE:		Evaluation Date:	

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MARKING SCHEME

<i>Parameter/Criteria</i>	<i>Aspects Considered</i>	<i>Total Marks</i>	<i>Essay 1</i>	<i>Essay 2</i>
<i>Basic Format</i>	Introduction + Conclusion	10		
	Body	15		
<i>Content</i>	Data/Facts/Interpretation/ Analysis	25		
<i>Organisation</i>	Flow of ideas/ Absence of Deviation from the topic	25		
<i>Language Skills</i>	Punctuation/Grammar/ Sentence Formation/Spellings	25		
<i>Examiner's Discretion</i>	Perception/ Innovation/ Engaging	25		

<i>Parameters</i>	<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Poor</i>
<i>Coherence</i>				
<i>Language</i>				
<i>Handwriting</i>				
<i>Pre-writing</i>				

<i>Very Good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>
120 and above	100-120	Below 100

SECTION/भाग - A

1. Education is the key to create a truly inclusive society.

शिक्षा स्वयं में समावेशी समाज के निर्माण की कुंजी है।

2. E-governance: A key to Good Governance in India.

ई-गवर्नेंस: भारत में सुशासन की कुंजी के रूप में।

E-governance: A key to good governance in India

Time and again, various movies have created a pitiful and empathetic image of India's poor. While it may suffer from an added element of imageery, the reality is not much different. Ask anyone the primary cause of poverty, and the one common reply would be "corruption".

Hence it is crucial to separate the symptoms from the disease. For it's the disease that is treated, and not the symptoms! A similar analogy tells us that corruption

is a symptom, of a larger disease,
that being bad governance.

What then does governance mean?
And what separates the good from
the bad? Governance simply is the
exercise of power in discharging
responsibilities. It is the process
that runs the system, the fuel that
drives the vehicle.

Element of "goodness"

lot of research has been done to
identify what exactly constitutes
"good" governance. It is now agreed
that some elements are essential.

As per UNDP, the uncompromisable
essentials include transparency,
accountability, equity, equality,
efficiency and responsiveness among
other things.

Governance is everywhere. It is the

"good" that separates a Swedish from Madafi's Libya and Kim Jong's North Korea.

Years of bad governance has led to an unequal society (high gini coefficient) and divisionness. Ends of communism, nationalism and regionalism are creations of bad governance.

Having established the need for good governance, we now address the elephant in the room. The elephant is the metaphor for technology. Technology based governance or "e-governance" is the hot topic in today's fora.

Where does e-governance come in?

Quite simply put e-governance encompasses all the aspects of technology that can be used in

governance. These include, but are not limited to, ICT, Blockchain, web services, use of AI, big data, virtual machines and internet of things.

e-governance: "Coolant" in the Engine

A case by case stakeholder analysis would help us realize how e-gov is paradigm change.

Empowered New Women

Traditionally facing restricted mobility, e-governance (e-gov) allows women to access portability of services.

A female employee can now file a leave application from home.

A to-be mother can access benefits under SrMAN or Ayushman Bharat

virtually. From (e) to (g) The portability gets coupled with transparency. A blockchain based

any distribution cannot be tampered with. This benefits all stakeholders of the health system: the poor, women, elderly and other marginalised sections.

Online grievance redressal adds to the feedback based policy making. This brings in the "consensus based" and "participatory" element in the governance.

The portal does not know your gender, your caste or your skin color. It is non-discriminatory by nature, and brings about an element of inclusivity.

Take the case of education. In theory, our constitution prohibits discrimination under Article 15/16. Yet this did not always translate in practice. The marginalised would be trapped in a vicious cycle.

But when it's the AI processing your child's application, you can be rest assured about the fairness.

Farmer's Paradigm

A young man applying for passport online and bypassing bureaucracy is a case of good-governance.

So is the case of the farmer who can now order fertilizers online.

Escaping the mercy of the local moneylender is a big relief.

Coupled with initiatives like e-NAM and e-RAKAM, we see the revolution that e-governance has brought.

The data analysis that yields the optimal nutrient ratio in fertilizers

is also a case of e-governance.

So is the Bhoomi Project which makes management of land records easy.

Loan dispersal and subsidy under PM-Kisan using Aadhar are few other cases!

Governance: A virtuous cycle

The application of good governance goes beyond individual stakeholders. It creates responsible and aware citizens.

An online RTI application to expose mal administration; PRAGATI platform to monitor implementation of policy and so on. e-gov has its roots everywhere.

The AI based chatbot on my.gov.in allows citizens to interact with the government. 2-way communication is essential in any democracy.

PFMS has led to transparency in fund dispersal heralding in a new era of fiscal transparency.

Notably the application of e-gov is not limited to mainstream communities only. Take the case of Katkaeri tribals who were able to

market guided through government websites. A similar thing done offline may not have found them takers. Recruitment of transgender in service delivery is a classic case of inclusivity. When they run the systems that provide facilities to the people, it is then that government is truly representative.

The "e" in e-gov and the "e" in Economics

Good governance facilitates a good economy. The single window portals such as Parivartan or Sahaj allow for bypassing of layers of red tape.

Compliance with laws becomes easier and effective. Case of GST Network is an example of e-governance leading to economic gains.

Cottage industries that earlier found starting a business difficult can now do so in 59 minutes.
(Loan portal - 59 minutes)

Faceless inspection and audits save small businessmen from undue harassment. When more tax cases are allocated through randomized softwares, it decreased the scope of harassment.

Success of schemes like INMITS or REITs is intimately linked to the underlying ICT services that run it.

Good Gov in times of disaster:

Why limit governance to times of prosperity only. Post adoption of Sundai Framework, e-gov has come to play a major role.

Early warning systems, such as GEMINI/GAGAN have gone

completely digital. GIS systems using drones disseminate information to people faster than before.

Standard operating procedures are now put in effect using ICT, coupled with AI (such as supercomputers).

It is due to these successes that states like Odisha have minimized damage by super cyclones.

The post disaster scene also rests on e-gov as in activities such as resource allocation & food distribution.

Desertification check in Banni grasslands managed to save the home of Maladhari tribes.

Having established the importance of e-gov in good gov, one final question remains:

What lies in the way?

It must not be forgotten that 65% of India still lives in villages.

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This invariably leads to the issue of digital divide. When coupled with digital literacy issue, the message is clear: ICT is to many inaccessible and unusable.

Such a situation adds to the trust deficit people have in governance. While government has come up with initiatives like PMGDISHA, the gains in short term are low.

The backbone of e-gov rests on the sanctity of virtual data.

Increasing instances of cyber crime, cyber espionage dilute this idea.

The very infrastructure, such as single window portals, is expensive to setup in the first place.

However these issues must not come in the way of India's progress.

The Way Ahead: A Learning Curve

Being the largest democracy and tomorrow's superpower raises a lot of expectations. To achieve e-gov in its fullest, India must learn from successful examples. Estonia's cybersecurity approach coupled with Denmark's decentralization offers an ideal way.

While at this we must not forget where we started — Governance.

The policy formulation must be inclusive and transparent for else it will be an ironical dichotomy.

Our very own projects such as Tata's internet saathi must be encouraged and expanded. 2050 India promises to be different, and e-governance holds the key.

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Rough

S P E C I M

Introduction

poverty - weep/bleeds ✓

Body

① what is good gov?

CRAP TREE (UNDP)

② issues with governance

③ Sanifications (in brief)

④ where does ~~corrupt~~ or e-tech come in?

⑤ what has govt done till now? + how successful?

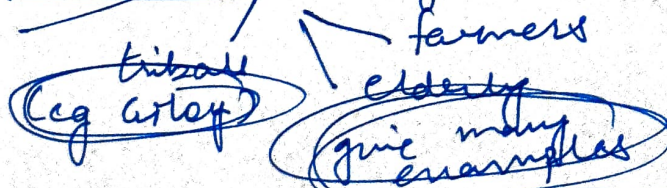
⑥ Way Forward
International examples

estonia / Sweden / Denmark / Germany

- ~~way~~ Generic policy framework / NGA / ~~IP~~ in 16

⑦ ~~show my benefit~~
Stakeholders → women, youth

PWD



note to self: don't forget political dimensions

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(Don't Write anything in this Area)

- ⑥ Economic dimension ← ^{business} MSMEs, SHGs, infra
 - ⑦ Disaster management ← SOP, EWS, GIS
 - ⑧ Govt aspect — single window, KPCA etc
- ②nd last issues ← digital divide, cyber security

Feedback

Feedback to be provided in terms of (1) Introduction (2) Sentence Constructions (3) Paragraph Formation (4) Legibility (5) Deviation from Topic (6) Coverage of dimensions (7) Simplicity / ease of reading

SECTION/भाग - B

1. It's easy to stand with the crowd. It takes courage to stand alone.

"सामूहिक विचारधारा का हिस्सा होना आसान है परंतु अकेले अपना मत रखना कठिन है।"

2. Man is a complex being: he makes deserts bloom - and lakes die.

"मनुष्य जटिलताओं का मिश्रण है; जो अपनी झीलों को नष्ट कर रहा है और रेगिस्तानों को हरा-भरा।"

Man is a complex being: he makes
deserts bloom and lakes die

The famous science fiction Arrival is set in the backdrop of the "arrival" of advanced alien on Earth. These aliens have the ability to see time in a non-linear manner. Using these powers, they are able to unite humanity in a fight till the end. The concept is unrealistic, yet it raises a realistic question: the same mankind that was bent on destroying itself in two world war is now united? It is thus said, man is a complex being, the

Complexities of whom cannot be reduced to a simple math equation.

The world has seen peace in the harshest of times. It also has seen wars created for no purpose.

Truly then one is inclined to say, man can make deserts bloom and lakes die.

A deeper perspective

Psychologists have studied man, and tried to identify the core driving force. Such research is what has led to models like Maslow's hierarchy of needs.

Economists have tried predicting human actions. Yet there is one factor that never gives consistent result — the human irrationality. It tells us that even seemingly logical decisions

are bypassed for completely illogical ones driven by emotions. Truly man, man is complex.

Take the case of international politics. We have fought two world wars in which "there were no winners" owing to the amount of destruction. Created out of nothing, the peace dividends were lost, the lake died.

Yet when everything seemed in chaos, we created League of Nations and eventually UN ensuring peace.

Creation of religion, a beautiful spiritual pursuit was man's achievement. So was fighting in the name of that religion.

Man created temples to pray to a god whose existence depends

on man's beliefs. The same man fought with another over "beliefs". Israel Palestine was man's creation. So were the Abraham accords signed this year that brought peace where no one imagined. A case of desert blooming indeed!

A literal interpretation

Our millenniums of living in the post-historic age have caused blooming of deserts and death of lakes in a "literal sense!"

Water bodies such as Aral sea and Lake Baikal have nearly disappeared. Caspian sea faces threat. Estuarine lakes such as Lake Titicaca have been nearly lost. Yet the picture is not all gloomy.

The blooming observed in Atacama

and Patagonia has been due to human efforts. Great Green Wall has stopped the march of Sahara desert in Sahel region.

Environmental Conundrum

The last few centuries have shown the extinction of species that were thought to be abundant.

Case of Himalayan Quail, Cheetah, Bramble Melonnyx highlight the same.

At the same time India's remarkable efforts have managed to save Great Indian Bustard and tiger from near extinction.

The complexities highlight both man's ability and his irrationality. His ability to get deserts to bloom. His irrationality in letting lakes die.

Social Malfunction:

We live in a divisive world today. Rising fundamentalism, Xenophobia, terrorism make the world a scary place to live in. But no one's born a terrorist. Hatred does not exist in a child. Both are society's creation. We have managed to divide people on superficial features such as skin color only adding to misery.

The society has made people hate each other in the name of religion.

However it is the same society that produced leaders like Mandela and Gandhi. People who united others to fight oppression, slavery and apartness for a better tomorrow.

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Two soldiers fighting at the border do not know what they are fighting for! They are made to believe it is for their "Nation", an idea created by man to divide. When firing at another, it is this idea of Nation that overshadows the idea of humanity.

It is truly said, that we create the problems and then spend our lives looking for the solutions.

Yet peace time achievements highlight man's ability to "germinate flowers of happiness".

Political Rhetoric

One of the best places to study the human mind is Politics.

For it is here that the thinking Lays bare. The ideals and fears

in conflict. Politics shows the darkest of the human desires while interlacing it with stories of genuine positivity.

Power structures and the idea of "authority" is man's creation. Political parties divide people over issues in a bid to capture power.

It is man's capacity for justice that democracy possible. It is man's inclination to injustice that makes democracy necessary.

Even in the darkest of the fields, have seen light. Examples of politicians like George Washington and Jefferson who fought for their country.

Indian independence could only be achieved due to consistent

sacrifices of leaders like Bose,
Patel, Nehru and Rajagopalachari
among others.

The world has seen a Hitler kill
millions of Jews in Auschwitz.

The same world has seen Swami
Vivekanand and Mother Teresa
preach peace.

Ethical analysts have pointed out
that majority of people are
inherently good. There are few
who cannot reconcile personal
interest with public interest.

If there are some who make the
deserts bloom, there are some who
make the lakes die.

Billionaire pledge of Bill Gates
and Warren Buffett, under which
they plan to donate majority of
wealth, shows how man has the

potential to change the world.
How man can fight against
inequalities and emerge victorious
if he has the will.

Jeff Bezos and Jack Ma created
online shopping empires that
transformed e-commerce. The
e-commerce scenario before Amazon,
was akin to a large desert with
few shrubs.

The same e-commerce has also
been linked to the destruction of
neighbourhood grocery stores. This
was symbolic of an ocean that
now faced threats.

Technology provides an interesting
perspective. The exploration of
technology was begun with the
intent of improving everyday life.

Yet it is the same science that created Atom Bomb and nuclear energy. The incidents of Hiroshima and Nagasaki serve as a reminder.

Cures for deadly diseases such as Cancer, polio, chickenpox were found by people. Yet it was people who invented biological warfare potentially killing millions in Vietnam. (1969 - Agent Orange was used)

Tracing back into history we see it is the caveman who created art, dance and music, opening up a "heritage paradigm".

Yet it is man's greed for wealth that led to the extinction of many of these art forms.

Again it was man, who survived many of these artforms.

For instance, Bhakti movement in India or Renaissance movement in Europe led to revival and rebirth of art.

Back to Square One

Man created the concept of "ethics", morality and norms to civilize a race. It differentiated us from other living creatures/animals.

Yet unethical behaviours and immoral activities threaten to tear the social fabric.

Values such as compassion and sympathy are both society's creation in a way. But then so are values like hatred and anger.

Man continues to be a matrix
of complementarities. For a simple
machine or model can never
truly replicate man's thinking.

He holds the key to the most
beautiful creations done out of
nowhere.

He also holds the key to the
most destructive activities done out
no reason.

Complementarities will continue to
remain. For if we could remove
irrationality and complementarity we
might lose our human essence.

Feedback

Feedback to be provided in terms of (1) Introduction (2) Sentence Constructions (3) Paragraph Formation (4) Legibility (5) Deviation from Topic (6) Coverage of dimensions (7) Simplicity / ease of reading

Introduction

