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FIAS - MGP2020 - EASSY2

ForumIAS

ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	DIVYA MISHRA		
Email Id.	[REDACTED]		
Mobile No.	Roll No.	2625904	
	Date:	12/12/2020	

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q.No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	
Q.1			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile). There are TWO Sections. Each Section has TWO topics printed in English and Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part. One question in each part is compulsory. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. 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. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.
Q.2			
Total Marks:			
Remarks:			
Start Time 2:00 PM		End Time 5:00 PM	
Mode Of Examination :		Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>	
ECN CODE:		Evaluation Date:	

2nd Floor, IAPL House, #19, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005

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. PRIs: Securing economic development and social justice.

पंचायती राज संस्थान : आर्थिक विकास और सामाजिक न्याय को सुनिश्चित करते हैं।

2. In the Indian context, both economics and technology are crucial in combating agrarian distress.

भारतीय संदर्भ में, कृषि संकट से निपटने के लिए अर्थशास्त्र और प्रौद्योगिकी दोनों महत्वपूर्ण हैं।

In the Indian context, both economics and technology are crucial in combating agrarian distress

... In the middle of the desert and degraded lands lie flourishing crop. Water is through drip irrigation so that not a drop gets lost, crop is monitored through field sensors for nutrient management, ISRAEL, resource poor but rich and tech-savvy.

... Land, where agriculture began since earliest known human history. Here water is abundant, land is abundant. But Annadata is living miserably, protesting in the capital, committing suicide, willing to quit farming itself if given a chance! INDIA, resource rich, mismanaged tragedy.

India has been suffering from agricultural distress since the dawn of 18th century. Today our rural woes are largely a combination of resource mismanagement, economic deprivation and technological backwardness.

This essay will discuss about the agricultural distress, the criticality of both economics and technology to it and a roadmap of agriculture as a remunerative and thriving sector.

Our Agricultural legacy

The subcontinent was preferred since ages by the immigrants and invaders alike for its land ^{and} water availability. What began with Indus valley civilization matured by the time sixteen mahajanapadas emerged. Reason of Magadha as strong empire was search of iron plough that multiplied agricultural output.

Many reforms took place even during medieval era. Dahsala system of Todarmal under AKBAR and Vijaynagara's agriculture made state vibrant centres of commerce and trade. It was the attractiveness of this trade that attracted Europeans and a new era began.

By 1793. Lord Cornwallis had applied permanent settlement system with 10/11 part as revenue. Zamindars became absentee landlords. Handicraft was already destroyed. The surplus city labourer, artisan in absence of royal patronage came back to villages. Here began the problem of disguised unemployment.

Investment in agriculture was meagre but extraction of value was high. Indigo revolt and Champaran Satyagraha (1917) were British planters' commercialization greed. By now, peasantry was impoverished, demotivated, and largely vulnerable. What we see today is extrapolation of this tragedy in future.

Agricultural distress: A bird eye view

In India 41% of population depends on agriculture while this sector's contribution has reduced from 50% in 1950 to 14% today, in our GDP. CDS survey states, 76% of farmers want to quit agriculture if given a chance. Reason being, 52% of all farming households are indebted and agriculture provides them only 23% of total income.

Since first 5 year plan (1951-56), the sector has received governance apathy and politicisation of farm issues without real benefit. 'All India Kisan Sabha' and other pressure groups have not been able to secure enhanced bargaining power. As only 10% of the farmer own big enough land rest 87% have less than 2 hectare of land.

Further, due to growing population, and dependence on agriculture fragmentation of

Landholding has increased. Recent Agricultural Census points out a decrease from 1.15 hectare to 1.00 hectare. Small farm size makes attempt of farm mechanisation or scale economies a herculean task.

From input side factors of agriculture, a huge disparity can be seen. Richer states which benefitted during green revolution (e.g. Punjab, Haryana, western U.P. etc.) are suffering from their success. MSP has led to cereal centric cropping and groundwater extraction has increased due to policy disincentives.

Indiscriminate use of fertilizers has imbalanced soil nutrient profile of N:P:K in range of 4:2:1. This comes in wake of 37% land area already degraded and another 67% of cultivable area that remains drought-prone. Where water is available, the unscientific flood irrigation is leading to alkalization and salinisation of fields (e.g. Indira Gandhi Canal area)

Besides this, terminator seeds used after green revolution have increased productivity at one hand but also cost of production on the other hand. Erratic monsoons have added to the misery. Frequent droughts and floods render policy into paralysed state.

This could have been saved but farm insurance remains low due to lack of awareness. Farmer producer organisations (FPOs) and farmer producer ^{corporation} ~~organization~~ (FPCs) have not been fully developed. It damages the small farmer more who could not avail the technological aid or harvesters, threshers, tractors etc on their own.

On output front too, APMC mandi monopoly hurts small farmer. Shanta Kumar committee has mentioned that only 6% of the farmers could sell their produce at MSP. Only 1 APMC mandi is present per 496 square km. Contract farming has not been taken up, and wherever it did, small farmer loses more than it gains in comparison to giant corporatn.

Role of Economics in agricultural distress remedial

Agriculture besides being a livelihood for many is essentially an economic enterprise. It is largely self-employed in India. A great share of the problem is in land rights. Any major economic reform cannot be done without ensuring land leasing, tenancy rights and ceilings. A humble beginning was made by Acharya Vinoba Bhave through Bhoodan, but a lot more needs to be done.

Agricultural price stabilization mechanism need to be based on real time market intelligence. This itself demands all market to be integrated. eNAM (electronic-national agricultural market) is a step towards this. A cue can be taken from Operation Greens too that looks for price fluctuation management of tomato, onions and Potato. A rethink of MSP (minimum support price) and its direct benefit to cereal cropping needs to be annexed.

As Dalwai committee has pointed out we need to diversify the crop basket. From cereals to millet, honey (Sweet mirin), poultry, fisheries and mushroom farming, needs to be emphasized. This can provide us added advantage of plugging $\text{Rs } 90,000 \text{ crore}$ loss of food wastage by food processing.

Food processing as per ASSOCHAM will reduce distress migration to urban areas, promote shelf life (food security) and can promote food fortification (nutrition security). We are world's 2nd largest producer of cereals, fruits, vegetables and fisheries yet 14% of population is undernourished, 35% children are wasted and 50% women are anaemic.

More infrastructure needs to be developed for storage, warehousing, cold chains, transport etc. It will have multiplier effect on rural economy. It will increase economic activity, improve liquidity, boost demand, integrate rural value chains with global value chains and will promote social justice.

In this regard, political will is needed. Agriculture needs to be perceived as a remunerative sector which can happen when return on investment is much more. land, labour, capital, entrepreneurs all need to be aligned. An answer could be found in sustainable agriculture model.

Many variants exist for this. For instance Subhash Palekar led zero budget natural farming fertilization or organic farming as practiced in Sikkim. Traditional knowledge could also be materialized. Kuttanad below sea level farming (Kerala), Saffron agriculture (Kashmir) or Apatani tribe's 'fish and rice' farming are examples of small is beautiful.

Integrated farming model like above can be utilized which address social as well as environmental concerns. The fodder will be used for livestock rearing and the cow-dung could be used as manure. Thus creating a circular economy model.

Further, the growing feminization of agriculture due to male specific distress migration

need to be addressed too. 73-6 of all rural agricultural workers are women but they own less than 13% of rural property. swamitva scheme with property-ID, drone mapping of land records is essential to target the right beneficiary under the programme like SVEP (village entrepreneurship programme).

How technology will address the issues?

India's agricultural GDP's expenditure on R&D is merely less than 1%. while in USA it is 2-3 and china's is double of ours. From neem coated urea to soil health card, to address agricultural issues, technology support is a must.

Primarily it helps in extension services regarding cropping time, right crop, advisories etc. Mera Gann- Mera Gaurav is an effective tool of scientist-farmer linkage where farmers can directly raise their concerns and scientists also get an idea of real issues confronting farmers.

The GI tagging of special produce and breeders' right protection under WTO TRIPS need special attention. Basmati rice rights were long fought, hence we must develop traditional knowledge digital library.

Another technological intervention is needed at irrigation stage as we are looking at huge water crisis with 600 Mn people mixed in it. Micro irrigation can save wastage and enhance water use efficiency by 30-80%. For farm mechanisation a consolidation approach can be adopted.

Political organisation and institutional strengthening may promote custom hiring for Cooperatives. Farmers can be assisted for timely information via AGROPEDIA, AGRONET, e-choupal and m-KISAN type platforms. ISRO has also launched BHUVAN portal and community centres in village through which soil moisture, temperature, humidity could be assessed.

This would come in handy for our goal

of precision farming for Indian farmer. GEMINI is already providing similar services to fisherman in terms of potential fishing zones.

From Agricultural distress to Agricultural dividend

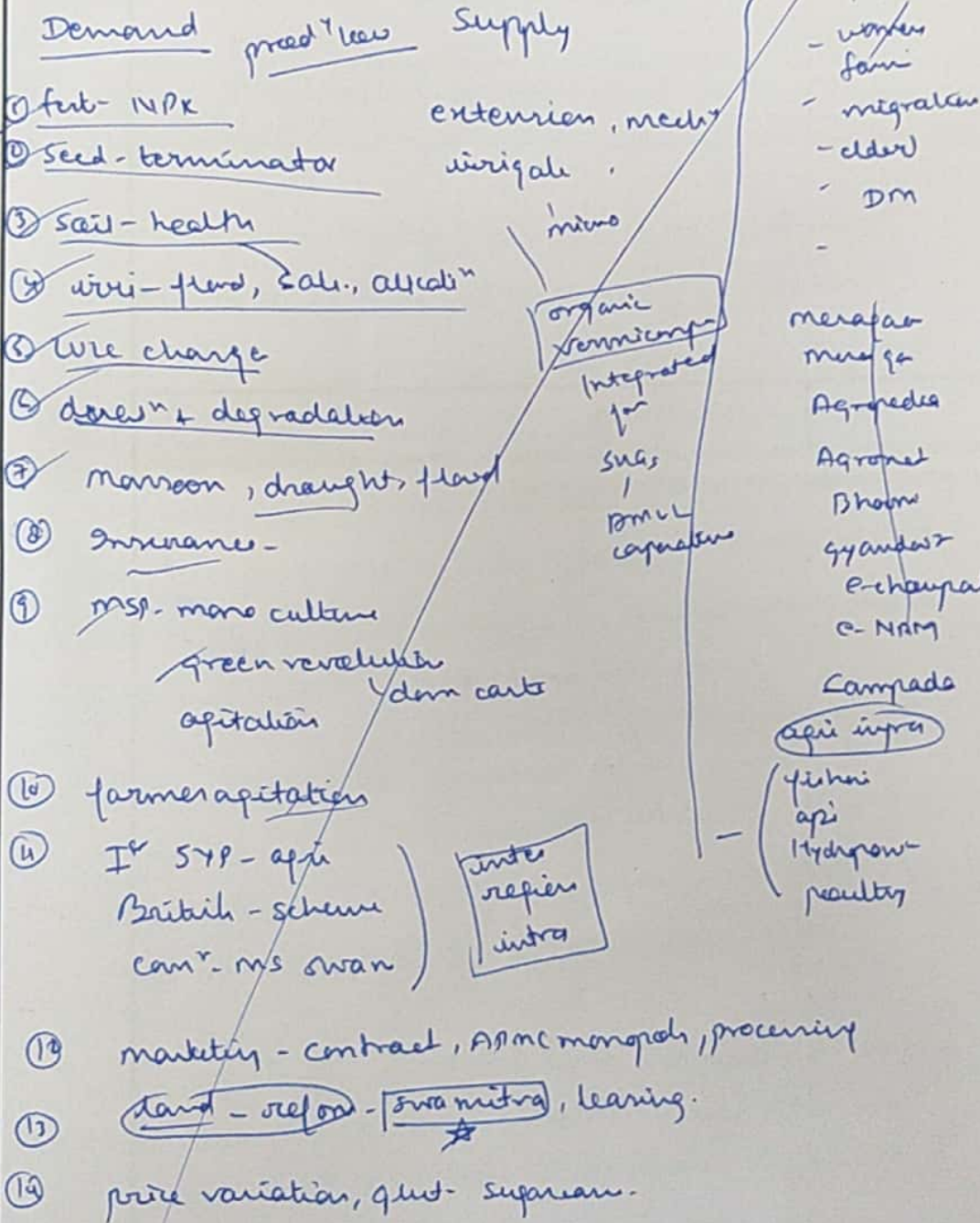
If India can become food scarce to food secure and surplus (280MT food) it can solve the ongoing issues. The three farm bills have once again jolted the nations about farm sector. Agriculture needs to be seen as an 'enterprise' where 'farmer' is an entrepreneur.

Scientists and premier institutions should try for direct linkage with farms (e.g.: IIM Ahmedabad Agri Udaan). Science of discovery can become science of delivery too.

Agriculture is the nerve of human civilization. As M.S. Swaminathan said, "if agriculture fails, nothing else has a chance to survive". What we need is to take the first step. Aftall "journey of thousand miles begins with first step."

In the Indian context, both economics and technology are crucial in combating agrarian distress

Agrarian distress



- if api fail
 - GDP - people involved.

api fail

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 is the power of the mind to be unconquerable.

यह मन की शक्ति ही है जो अजेय है।

2. Truth never damages a cause that is just.

सत्य कभी भी ऐसे कारण को क्षति नहीं पहुंचता जो उचित हो

It is the power of the mind to be unconquerable

He was in chains, his disciples gathered around him, begged him, weeped for him. But, he did not change his mind. He rejected all the plans of his escape from the prison. He wanted to respect the law, which he called a respect of society. Escape would be a disrespect to society. His disciples were great minds - Plato and Aristotle.

For he, was the greatest of all minds that gave birth to humanism when he said on his execution day, "unexamined life is not worth living." It was SOCRATES.

His body indeed was conquered by the earthly laws but what no one could stop was the power of his mind. He became legislator of all scientific flight that gave this world

likes of Newton and Einstein. So un-
-quered was this mind, that the every next
rational thought, even the renaissance
became footnotes to him.

Likewise, who was killed on the fateful
day of January 30, 1948, a man in his
70s, father of our nation, our Bapu. But, he
could not kill his mind. Gandhiji lives,
breathes and talks in every Indian today.
For his mind was not killed that day, it was
his body.

Power of mind - an exploration

Einstein has said, "we fail when we
stop trying." It means power of mind
is a function of willpower, the conative
among us. ISRO might have lost vikram
lander during chandrayaan 2.0 launch but
the fire of making chandrayaan 3.0 successful
burns even more vigorously in every Indian
today.

Shakespeare very early on said that it is unpathable. It may make one Mather Teresa as well as a Hafiz Saeed. World was gifted trinity of liberty, equality and fraternity when few decided to establish a republic which culminated in French revolution (1789)

Similar power of mind changed the course of the world and gave way to decades long cold war. USSR was built as a country and experimentation of the ideas of Karl Marx and Engels. China (2nd most populous and 2nd largest economy after USA), Cuba of Fidel Castro, and Vietnam are communist.

Even the feminists themselves are a form of power of mind. Freud commented "Anatomy is destiny", yet today Kamala Harris as USA's next first woman vice President shows women have indeed, covered a long distance. India boasts world's largest share of women elected representatives (1.4 mn in Panchayati raj institutions).

Be it women of chitto movement or Malala Yousafzai, what stands them out, is empowered and undefeated mind. Patelji's conviction and resolve united India. His mind's power won over the power of divisive princely states.

All this debate point to a subtle question - what is power of mind? If we know it is so strong how we acquire it?

Empower the mind, conquer the world

Mind as per Hegel is manifestation of the absolute infinite into finite. It is the repository of all knowledge and world experiences. It is the divinity within humanity. Plato called it idea of good. Aurobindo called it Supermind of gnostic being which will divinise the who beings on Earth.

Whole world is contained within this mind. It is world in miniature. Macrocosm in microcosm. Like Sartre said, it is the nothingness, an ocean of possibilities, where by diving deep we get the pearl of wisdom. Mind is truth, mind is knowledge, mind is knower, known and the knowledge itself.

Whole world is projection of our mind. Worldview differs from individual to individual because minds are different. When Vivekananda was saying, "Arise, awake and stop not till the goal is reached", he meant to address mind. Gandhi said, "You are the change, you wish to see in the world". He meant mind.

Mind, the inalienable, indivisible, infinite, exclusive, organic, self-existent and self-explained entity. Chavaka said, it is that which gives vitality to this body.

You own the mind, you own the world.

You train the mind, your world changes too.

Yoga, meditation and mindfulness are prescribed these days to train this mind. To self culture for self conquest.

Power of mind : at work

Kailash Satyarthi did not stop and even at the cost of his life worked for the childrights. Dr. Sylvia Earle still reposes faith in mankind when she termed the ocean zones as hope spots to turn the world's attention to marine life.

Often it is said "man is complex, he makes deserts bloom and lakes die". Indeed, while we aim to mine the arctic (Japan's Ryugu mission), colonise the moon and walk at the bottom of the ocean (India's Samudra man mission). But, we also have Bushfires (Australia), Hunger (Sub-Saharan Africa) and terrorism (recent attacks in France).

Above quoted examples are power of mind barring the contingency of them used for humanity (sustainable development) or against humanity (Al Qaeda, Boko Haram). Mind can contain the world and deity within. All the mysticists of St Aquinas or

Ramakrishna Paramhansa had empowered the mind to such an extent that they said "Jiva is Shiva." From here came the thought of, "service to man is service to God."

So undefeatable, undefeated and creative it is that it can make empires build from ruins and collapse the citadels of existing ones. Bismarck united German speaking areas into a Germany like Chanakya helped Chandragupta Maurya in ascent to throne. While on the other hand Arab Spring (2010s) showed end of theocratic and despotic regimes in middle East.

Power of our mind guarantees that we create our being by free action and choice. USA became powerful because immigrants were eager to prove themselves. It makes USA's power a collective power of all the minds. The reason why India now wants brain gain by its schemes of 1000 Indian program or VAJRA.

It becomes important for India to save its brains because we have 40% of population below 19 years of age. 65% is within working age. Our demographic dividend will be a mind dividend. That is why it is essential that we train them, skill them. NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission is about, 'turning a million minds into creative thinkers'.

The reason humanity could talk about weaponisation of space or nuclear weapons is because of its thinking bandwidth which is much larger than other species. This is not just a matter of pride but a matter of responsibility. Kant has said, 'One ought to act as if, they are legislator of kingdom of ends.'

Hence people should be treated as ends not as means. The evils of bonded labour, slavery and even patriarchy can be removed when mind is trained, educated and healthy.

Train the mind ; Maximize the power.

Plato said, "educating mind without educating heart is no education at all". Here in practical terms he means knowledge with integrity that could prevent corruption and frauds eg. PNB scam, cyber crimes etc Hence, Education is the trainer of mind.

Further health of mind needs to be ascertained. India has one-fifth of global maternal death burden and one-fourth of global-child death burden. Further, wasting of 50.6 of children also means wasted national mind. Michael Young in 'Rise of meritocracy' has talked about need to conserve, train and secure children's talent.

Another question is should mind be treated as mind or should it be genderised too. 50% of world population works 67% work hours and receives 10% of world salary. It is gender injustice and more than that injustice to mind. women empowerment thus becomes a question of mind empowerment itself.

Human resource in order to become human capital demands investment of time, capital, and national resources. The upcoming Industrial revolution 4.0 wave with its automation may make many minds redundant. Hence, as ILO pointed out a culture of lifelong learning needs to be built up where minds are skilled, unskilled and reskilled.

We might reach later but mind reaches first. World might have seen Neil Armstrong step on moon for the first time but only Neil's mind knew that he touched it long ago. Visions therefore are important. A visionary leadership lives the dream twice, one in vision and again in reality.

Ethicality of mind is crucial too. As without science of morality our minds are mindless but a brain. What makes brain a mind is thinking. This thinking needs to be in the domain of morality. Here lies the solution to radicalisation and alienation of youth.

Mind is everything, everything is mind

"Limits of my mind is limits of my world." Therefore, we must inculcate a respect for differences in this multicultural society. It will address the human conflicts of communalism, casteism or linguistic chauvinism. A mind, that is exposed to other thoughts learns tolerance, which is a prerequisite of acceptance, love, compassion and empathy.

mind is understanding's step, and understanding is mind's reward. As saint Augustine held, our very connection with the almighty goes through mind. "mind maketh nature". It is the spirit within us that manifests our world and hence remains unconquerable.

conquered is something, that could be transferred. mind as a bottomless ocean is unconquerable. It is the infinite within finitude of man. Hence, we must guard it, train it, conquer it. Like Descartes said, "Conquer the mind, before conquering the world."

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It is the power of the mind to be unconquerable

lumen naturale
Sartre
Heidegger
Lecter

Gandhi
Vinoba
Khan Abdul Gaffar

Patel
Aristotle
Socrates - unexamined
Plato
Laxmibai, Biden, Kamala.

Anatole
Kailash

Bose, Nehru, Indira Gandhi

Lincoln

fail when u
stop trying

tie a knot
hang on!

Hegel - Descartes - Ambedkar, Vivekananda
Arise awake

Social { women
children
health
edu
youth
Hunger, poverty, malnutrition

society - war
History
geo

ethics { integrit - Ashok
coru - Amstern name,
Corruption

world his
polity
social justice

power corrupts
power of love love of power
liberty

IR
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agri
diat
env
stt

Training

→ French revolution

→ American rev

power of mind un... - How to engage
material world overtake.

Security
ethics.

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