TEST CODE :	4	2	0	6	2

FIAS – MGP 2021 – Essay Simulator Test #2

ForumIAS

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	Parth Gupta		
Roll No.	19100476912	Date:	8/12/21

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained
Q.1		
Q.2		
Total Marks:		

Remarks:

INSTRUCTION

1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.
2. There are TWO Sections. Each Section has MULTIPLE topics printed in English & Hindi. You have to write on 1 topic from Each part
3. One question in each part is compulsory.
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
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.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.

Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.

For Student Only

Start Time |	11:00 am	**End Time |**	2:00 pm
Mode Of Examination:		**Online** ☐	**Offline** ☑

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ECN CODE:	**EG:**	**Evaluation Date:**

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MARKING SCHEME

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

Parameters	*Very Good*	*Good*	*Average*	*Poor*
Coherence				
Language				
Handwriting				
Pre-writing				

Very Good	*Good*	*Average*
120 and above	100-120	Below 100

SECTION – A

1. Feminism is for everybody.

   सभी के लिए नारीवाद

2. Democracy is a device that ensures we shall be governed no better than we deserve.

   लोकतंत्र एक ऐसा उपकरण है जो यह सुनिश्चित करता है कि हम उस से बेहतर शासित नहीं होंगे जिसके हम हकदार हैं।

3. Reinventing Indian Agriculture is the need of the hour.

   भारतीय कृषि को नया रूप देना समय की मांग है।

4. Educated unemployment- voluntary or absence of opportunities

   शिक्षित बेरोजगारी– स्वैच्छिक या अवसरों का अभाव

Reinventing Indian Agriculture is the need of the hour

After the recent withdrawal of farm laws aimed to reform the Indian agriculture sector, some sections were quick to declare, 'Farmers have won'. However, the continuing agrarian distress was palpably visible when MPs from Telangana began demanding higher procurement at MSP from their state. These problems are just the tip of the iceberg. Indian agriculture is suffering from much

deep rooted malaise and is in need of a reinvention.

The sphere of Indian agriculture is quite vast. In a broader sense, it includes production systems and processes, agri-supply chains, marketting infrastructure and system, and overall organisation of its elements. If we look at agriculture in this sense, we can aim for integrated planning and problem solving, which had been missing till now.

Why Reinvention?- Necessity is the Mother of Invention

After independence, for a brief period, land reforms emphasized on social justice. However with green revolution the focus shifted on increasing production. Our narrow view of agriculture as only a primary sector production activity

guided various policies, like subsidies, procurement etc.

Prime among those policies was the Minimum Statutory Price (MSP), which was upheld largely for wheat, rice, cotton and Sugarcane (through fair and remunerative price). Hence production became cereal centric. This strengthened with the PDS and mid day meal schemes. Impact of this was loss of the diversified crop, cultivation practices, landraces.

~~Due to these factors~~ In addition to this, other subsidies like power subsidy, fertiliser subsidy led to deterioration of ecosystem and fall in ~~land~~ soil productivity. Combined with traditional, irrational practices like flood irrigation, it affected productivity. Presently, Indian agri-productivity is 1/2 - 1/3 of US and China and we are exporter of 'virtual water'.

Study by IFPRI shows that Indian govt's support to agriculture does more harm to farmers. In addition, there are restrictions on subsidy that can be given to farmers, under WTO norms. Moreover experts feel that same subsidy could be spent better in creating social infrastructure.

Agri-decline is leading to higher socio-economic inequity. This overall crisis has led to stagnating farm incomes, recently assessed at about 10,000 per month (Situational Assessment Survey). This is because of increasing overall production, segmented supply chains etc. It affects agriculture's capacity to be the 'employer of last resort'. Many agri-communities have demanded reservations, which is also seen due to agri-distress. It also leads to farmers' suicides.

The problem of climate change and global warming poses fresh challenge to

farm households as their livelihoods are endangered. As per economic survey FY18 unirrigated areas will witness 25% fall in farm income due to climate change.

However, the biggest and more crucial reason for reinvention is that we have the necessary technology, skill etc to reform agriculture. There are proven examples like Israel who have improved upon their resource use. We ourselves have shown success in various areas - like operation flood.

Reinventing Indian Agriculture

Based on our past successes, and successful experiments worldwide, we can aim at creating a dynamic agricultural sector, and promote socio-economic justice. On the production side, we need use of

modern, time tested inputs. like use of short duration rice variety seeds - PUSA 1979, PUSA-1985, to avoid climate stress. Promoting traditional varieties like Kalbhat in Odisha can address problem of malnutrition. Millets, pulses will help improve soil fertility. Hence government promoting them through MSP increase and PM-AASHA scheme.

Other inputs can also be rationalised. By promoting micro-irrigation through PMKSY scheme, we can increase water use efficiency of farms, and also reduce power bills. In Punjab, DBT for power subsidy is being tested. Its success can be replicated in other regions too. Similarly for fertilisers, Soil Health Cards (SHCs) have improved productivity and reduced usage as per National Productivity Council. Wastewater also needs to be recycled, reused.

A very crucial component of agri-production is credit availability. Usurous

credit by money lenders is major reason behind distress and farmers' suicides. This can be addressed by Contract farming like the Apache model of contract farming in Tamil Nadu. Organising farmers into cooperatives will give them higher bargaining power, coverage under institutional credit and better credit culture.

There are also newly emerging practices like Zero till farming which was shown in the Saguna Rice Technique. It maintains soil productivity, and farmers' income. By promoting organic farming through Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, Zero budget Natural farming, we can not only increase fertility but get higher prices because of high demand in rich countries. Use of Internet of Things for mechanised cultivation will also improve yields.

We should encourage a return to a mixed farming model that diversified farmers' income and reduced risk. This includes livestock and agroforestry. It provides nutrients to soil, insurance in times of distress, balanced diets to agri-households and shields them from severe effects of climate change. Moreover farmers get higher returns in these 2 sectors.

Niche cultivation areas should be developed. We can promote medicinal plants in himalayan region, which can sustain complete AYUSH sector. Specific zones can be identified for fruits, vineyards etc. Tribals can be empowered through better technology for Minor Forest Produce (MFP), under Technological Intervention for Tribal Empowerment (TITE) scheme and recognition of their traditional knowledge, forest rights.

Farmers need to be reimagined as Agripreneurs, as recommended by Ashok Dalwai committee. Their role needs to be understood in supply chain, marketting too. By training rural youth in food processing, driving etc, many rural jobs can be generated, ~~and~~ farm wastage reduced and incomes increased. Infrastructure in energy, transport - like roads, petrol pumps, repair shops, storage needs to be built. Cooperatives can help in this.

Another crucial area is marketting reforms. APMCs need to be liberalised and we need greater transparency in MSP regime. Private procurement needs to be encouraged under PM AASHA scheme. Essential Commodities act needs amendment to increase private investments in ~~sector~~. storage, marketting sector. The problems of

price wedges and price dispersion can be addressed through greater reach of e-NAM, ~~GR~~ GrAM, use of futures contracts etc as recommended by ~~NIT~~ NITI aayog.

'Annadata' also needs to be reimagined as 'Urjadata'. Cultivation of biofuels is being promoted and scope expanded by creating 2nd generation biofuel capacity. Solar energy from farms can also be promoted. As per Prof. Ashok Gulati ₹1 lakh/ha of additional annual income can be generated by installing Solar trees in farms, without affecting operations.

The scope of Atmanirbhar Bharat also demands self sufficiency in agri-related sectors. For this, we need to

promote ~~use~~ oilseed cultivation. Also the occassional fertiliser shortages should be curbed by local production, promoting biofertilisers.

Overall, the potential of Indian soils and our farmers is very high. All we need is a right approach to achieve our objectives. For too long, we have seen farmers as means to our food security and national prestige. It is time, now, to focus on their incomes and social justice and overall environment. That alone will ensure the vitality of Indian agriculture and India's rise as a global power.

Ind.

Reinv. Agriculture

Intro

Meaning → Agriculture → Crop, livestock, forestry, Energy : Production
→ Supply chain
→ Marketting
→ Organisation

Need for reinv. (WTO) → Necessity is mother of inv.
→ Falling productivity : 1/2-1/3rd of US, China → traditional ; irrational system
→ Climate Change
→ Farmers' income stagnant ; employer of last resort. → Production improving but not prices
→ Reservation protests → Dominant castes → Son of soils
→ Innovations available
→ Harmful govt. support.

Steps till now → PMKSY, PMKVY, (Op. flood)

(Reinvention)

→ Energy : ₹1 lakh /ha extra income — Ashok Gulati.

↳ Production → Seeds, fertiliser (self reliance), Credit, Water
↳ SHC
↳ Organic ; ~~Climate sm~~
↳ Climate smart tech → Zero till → SRT;
↳ Short dur. variety : PUSA 1979, 85.

↳ Organisation → Coop ; FPOs ; SHGs ;

↳ Supply Chain → Storage ; transport ;

↳ Market → Process ; package ; eNAM ; Contract farming (Apache model)

↳ Govt. Support → IFPRI study shows it is harming

Feedback

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

SECTION – B

1. Peace is not absence of war but the presence of justice.
   शांति युद्ध की अनुपस्थिति नहीं बल्कि न्याय की उपस्थिति है।

2. There is no pillow so soft as a clear conscience.
   स्पष्ट अंतःकरण के समान कोमल कोई तकिया नहीं है।

3. Pain is inevitable, suffering is a choice.
   दर्द अपरिहार्य है, पीड़ा एक विकल्प है।

4. Knowledge of one's ignorance is the first step towards true knowledge
   अपने अज्ञान का ज्ञान सच्चे ज्ञान की ओर पहला कदम है

Peace is not absence of war but the presence of Justice

In 2019, two events shook the foundations of global 'peace'. First was the US' attack on Iranian General and second was the terror attack on Indian forces in Pulwama supported by Pakistan. Both events were followed by retaliation in assertion of sovereignty and security of their countries. These events showed, that, though the wars have reduced, peace is also ephemeral as long as power is

unequally distributed.

Throughout human evolution, there has been a quest for peace. Humans started agriculture, built empires and strong armies etc so that peace could be ensured. However, wars remained persistent, and true peace elusive.

True peace has a wider connotation. It involves assuring dignity of individuals, their security, sovereignty of nations, equity among individuals, communities. It involves elimination of feelings of hate and revenge. Preserving our natural and cultural heritage is another component of peace. Peace is akin to comprehensive truth which empowers creatures to explore their full potential and live happily.

However, as we have seen, our focus on wars and their avoidance is our strategy for peace. We realised that world wars could ~~jo~~ jeopardise global peace and hence we formed United Nations Organisation (UNO) after 2nd world war. Newly independent nations formed Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). ~~which bro~~ These initiatives tried to avoid conflicts and also bridge inequity. ~~However~~

'No War' is not enough

~~However~~ But despite these initiatives, world witnessed growing disruptions to peace, especially in post-cold war era. This phase saw the dominance of US as Sole Superpower, leading to wars against terrorism, regimes getting changed like in libya, Iraq etc. lack of accountability and checks on USA led to the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, that disrupted

global peace.

There was emerging threat of nuclear proliferation as nations sought to increase their deterrance in an unjust nuclear order. lackadiasical efforts on environmental conservation saw the ozone hole widening and global temperatures rising. Disasters became more severe like 2004 Tsunami. It was then that world read the writing on the wall – Peace is the presence of Justice.

Peace for Justice, Justice for Peace

'Justice' in simple terms signifies being fair or giving each their due. As per John Rawl's theory of Justice, a society can ensure justice when, despite inequalities, basic needs of most vulnerable are taken care of. When there is

equality of opportunity and equal liberty to all. Thus, it ensures dignity, equity, liberty, security of individuals and nations, which leads to peace.

Even in ancient times, rulers experimented with justice and peace. Ashoka's Dhamma tried to build secular, tolerant society and build peace. Dictatorial regimes like USSR couldn't remain peaceful because they curbed liberty and justice. Einstein once said that peace can't be kept through force but understanding.

In present times too, we see various forms of injustice, inequity affecting peace. Rising levels of economic inequity, and increasing acuteness of poverty lead to conflicts. eg., the Refugee crisis in USA is because of lack of opportunities and political instability in Latin America.

This problem is made starker by the 4th industrial revolution and automation. Job losses in many redundant areas are due to this. In India, problem of unemployment gets complicated due to demographic dividend, issues of informal sector, migrant labourers. This was seen during the 2020-pandemic lockdown when labourers were forced to 'walk back' to their native states. Through e-SHRAM and other initiatives, government is trying to ensure justice.

The problem of injustice gets even more complicated when intersectionalities of gender, caste and ethnicities are involved. As per NCW, pandemic saw 2.5 times increase in domestic violence against women. This was more in economically weaker sections. Dr. Ambedkar once said that, a society's

level of development can be measured by its treatment of women. In that sense India still has much work to do.

Caste-based injustice is seen in persistence of manual scavenging, untouchability, honour killing etc. This leads to animosity among groups. Reports of lynching of one member by other community fuel anger. Various schemes like Stand up India, try to address this injustice. When communities are equal and rational, scope of violence reduces.

Many other vulnerable sections are treated unjustly leading to disruption of peace. Children exposed to crimes, hunger, malnutrition don't see a bright future. They are engulfed by local goons and this perpetuates crimes. Unethical treatment of elderly robs society of its

social capital, warmth and culture. Such a society can't be peaceful or just. It was with this mindset SC decriminalised same-sex couples, in recognition of LGBT rights.

Rights of environment and its inhabitants are also to be justly respected. Problems like pollution, climate change have emerged because of our undue emphasis on resource exploitation. By alienating tribals from their inherited lands and forest wealth, it leads to left-wing extremism. Even the emergence of superbugs, spread of pandemics like covid-19 is linked to our lack of concern for environmental justice.

Even in political sphere, peace and justice are linked. Recently, Indian govern-

ment has signed peace agreements with various outfits in North East, like Bodos, because of mutual understanding and based on justice. When in one region, development remains elusive, anger emerges. This has led to demand for smaller states in Vidarbha, Gorkhaland etc.

~~Ad~~ Administration is often accused of showing nepotism, VIP culture, promoting corruption. This erodes public trust eg., various scams like 2G scam, Vyapam scam. ~~When~~ When recruitment process gets afflicted with corruption as in Vyapam scam, that leads to unrest in student community.

Strong democracy demands freedom of speech and expression and ability to show dissent. When dissent is curbed by subverting justice, anger emerges.

Dissent is the safety valve of democracy. When it is safeguarded through just institutions that builds community trust and peace.

Even for ensuring economic growth, prosperity, justice is crucial. Without justice, there will be personal gains, short-sighted decisions etc. The NPA crisis was also there because banks lendt to wilful defaulters at the cost of innocent depositors like in PMC bank, which led to public outcry.

Peace without justice is as good as a boat without rows. It can't be assured to be guided in positive direction always. Justice, on the other hand, ensures participation of all, expression of diverse views

and welfare of most vulnerable who are most prone to take to violence and cause unrest. Hence, a welfare state, enshrined under article 38, must try to strengthen justice and build strong foundation of future peace.

As Rabindranath Tagore once said, "Where the mind is without fear and head is held high"... "into that heaven of freedom, my father, let my country awake"

I have a dream speech

US attack on Solemani
Iran military intelligence
~~Chief~~ General

(Don't Write anything in this Area)

Peace not absence of war; Presence of Justice

Justice → Env. → Pollution & GHGs. → Animals → Pandemic.
Justice → Env. → Tribals
Justice → Eco.
Justice → Politics
Justice → Feminism
Justice → Society
Justice → Caste
Justice → Racism

Intro

Meaning → Peace;

war → Clausewitz

attempts to control wars → UN; Cold war era;

why 'No war' not enough → Post cold war peace
↳ Domin. of powerful
↳ Terrorism ; Radicalism.
↳ Nuclear proliferation
↳ Disasters

Justice as remedy →

Dhamma; John Rawl.

Poverty; Women, Env, Animals; tribals; Elderly, Children (hunger, Malnut.); Racism; Corruption; Casteism; Nepotism; VIP culture; undertrials; Unemployed & informal sector, migrant lab; Refugees.

'Where the mind is without fear, and head is held high'

Feedback

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

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