

ForumIAS

ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	Ankur Tripathi		
Email Id.		Roll No.	1910074236
Mobile No.		Date:	

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION						
Q.No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile). 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. 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.						
Q.1									
Q.2									
Total Marks:									
Remarks:			<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Start Time 9 : 00</td> <td>End Time 10 : 37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mode Of Examination :</td> <td>Online ☒ Offline ☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ECN CODE:</td> <td>Evaluation Date:</td> </tr> </table>	Start Time 9 : 00	End Time 10 : 37	Mode Of Examination :	Online ☒ Offline ☐	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>
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		

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

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

It is the power of the mind to be
unconquerable

From being a king, ^{like} non other through
war he became the king, ^{like} non other
through peace, it's the same man
with the changing its mind and
the journey of becoming 'Ashoka-The Great'
from 'Kal Ashoka'. It's the power of
mind for the individual journey to
extremes of a value i.e. virtue or vice.
It is who is the fastest yet serene
unsettled yet stable. It is the
same that Yudhishtira answered
to Yakesha's question of being
fastest in the world 'Mind'.

In fact what all we see around
is unconquered power of mind,
it's all is a manifestation of
one's mind ambition, curiosity,
creativity. It shaped past,
shaping present and will shape

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future too.

It's the mind as said by Krishna
in Gita to be difficult yet necessary
to ^{control} conquer for giving direction
channelising its huge potential and
energy to achieve unachievable
things before and the process through
called Yoga, some through karm yoga,
some dhyanyoga and other gyan yoga.

It gives mindfulness when mind is
directed. and discipline for conquering
the unconquered higher truth,
reason of being. and find peace in
chaos. As found by Siddhartha
under Bodhi tree to become
Buddha. Unconquered mind with
right direction attain Nirvana,
Kaivalya becomes higher being, messiah,
apostle, messenger.

From awakened mind to awakened society
 mind is the means, bliss is the end
 Being so much read and said about
 mind it is still unfolding in
 both positive and negative way.

Positive way giving sense of curiosity,
 creativity, innovation, tolerance,
 discipline, courage through broader
 perspectives. While negativity reflects in
 form of indiscipline, greed, corruption,
 radicalisation, violence as Sigmund Freud
 said, Terrorism now global problem,
 and juvenile crime which Robert Bane
 described as "juvenile crime is
 born out of adventure and indiscipline"
 This indiscipline arise out of narrow
 perception of the power of mind
 in shaping one's destiny as well as
 others.

Mind is often attributed of seen
 as attribution of various determinants
 such as rationality, mentality,
 reason and perceptions all of which
 are rooted in value system. Thus
 One's bent of mind is inherited
 and learnt whether it's used

of all or good of self. Then
 good or bad in society its only relative
 similar is with unconquerable power of
 mind it is reflected in various
 means and end.

Economic $\xrightarrow{\text{vice: profit at any cost}}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{virtue: charity / responsibility}}$

Society $\rightarrow$ Cruelty of mind - eg Nazism, fascism
 Multicultural vibrant of India

It is due to which Aristotlian theory of 'golden mean' and 'Madhyamik Marg' of Buddha comes to the rescue of dilemma of following ones mind.

Vice deficient	Balance / Mean / Virtue	Vice / Virtue / Vice excess
Recklessness	courage	Rashness
misersliness	generosity	extravagance
humility	modesty	Pride

Its Rashness of Kassarab to become
terrorist and courage of Tukaram
to hold gun of Kassarab.

Science and Technology is the best
manifestation of unconquered mind &
its power. We whole as one
world came much forward in leaps
and bounces. From fear of Sputnik to
reliability of GPS, From comfort of Airplane
to uneasiness of armed drones, from using
animals for transport to supersonic
boom of hyperloop, from imagination
of sci-fi movies to realisation of high tech
Smart cities. All shows power of
unconquered mind and conquest is
unsettled.

It is this unconquerable power of
mind is giving worries to world.
as always whether it will be
a step to new prosperous world to
or a darker world with less emphasis
of mindfulness eg. is of AI which
lack humanism, emotion and

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to travel extremes both virtue and
vice as Ashoka did.



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In Indian Context both economy & technology are crucial in combating agrarian distress

Ram a fresh Agricultural engineering graduate wanted to head back to its village to help his farmer parents with his acquired relevant skill of using technology in Agriculture, as most of his siblings did. His siblings advised him not to come back and take Agriculture as profession. He was quizzed if not the technology, then what is the solution to agrarian distress. In this essay we will focus on agrarian distress in Indian context and possible solution that can help Ram in answering his quest.

India Traditionally largely been agrarian society. much of its population and workforce

depended on Agriculture (Ag) for live and livelihoods, in form of farmer, peasants, tenants, labourers, etc.

However with time especially post independence its contribution in

GDP decreased in comparison to other counterparts. Presently

Ag. contributes about 17% in

India's annual GDP. More concerning is the relatively same position

of Ag among population ie depends on Ag for lives and livelihood

suggesting Ag is not so productive and is under huge pressure of

sustaining population as primary source of livelihood resulting

in agrarian distress.

This distress is visible in many forms and various stakeholders both living and nonliving

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Soil and land which lies at the centre of ag. economy is facing distress in form of contamination, degradation, loosing fertility, decreasing productivity rather than sink of greenhouse gases becoming source. In past land under cultivation is continuously increasing but it comes with a cost of altered land use change sometimes it came from clearing forests sometimes reclaiming grasslands not even urban lakes and wetlands are left untouched.

Unsustainable practices are equally contributing in decreasing long term productivity & quality of life eg depleted groundwater, contaminated and leached water bodies and soils, toxic elements entering food chain increasing morbidity and mortality, forcing already poor to increase out of pocket expenditure on non food items leading to prevalent malnutrition among Indian population as reflected

in global hunger Index ranking India 94 out of 107 countries. It leads to low development of child, deprives it of learning capacity in future due to poor learning outcomes. which on combining with increased pressure of land leads to vicious cycle of poverty ends in suicides. Risks in ag and recent phenomenon of climate change is further enforcing this vicious cycle.



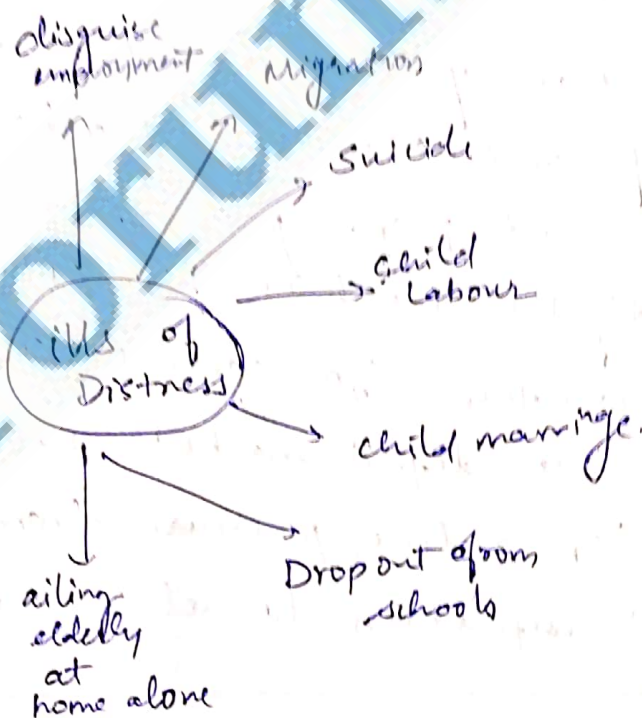
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In India, 86% of land owning farmers have farmland of size less than 2 hectare resulting in low remuneration and low surplus also due to risk associated with ag. like crop failure it forces them to debt cycle, to repay, many migrate to city overburdening city in form of slums & congestion as largely unskilled. This also results in several other societal ills.



However, acknowledging large population still dependent on Ag. Technology is seen as panacea for agrarian distress. from high yield seeds to effective fertilizers, better Ag. machines, to prevent crop failure drought and pest resistant variety. To address availability of crops water to crops solar pumps so that farmers don't have to depend on electricity which may be erratic. digitisation of land record to eliminate fear of land evictions. Marketing needs and proper price discovery by digital markets like eNam and eGAMs. To connect surplus market to deficit market Kisan Rail. To reduce pressure from Ag. diversification to allied activities

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like cattle & farm rearing, pisciculture, horticulture, Beekeeping, Bamboo culture. Focusing on diversification govt launched one district one product to encourage diversification, local needs, cultural preservation, nutritional security and agro climatic suitable crop and products. Integrated watershed development to prevent soil degradation. Direct Benefit Transfer to provide Minimum Basic Income to land owning farmer in form of PM KISAN to acquire quality farm inputs. To cover risks of crop failure & unavailability of water PM crop Insurance and PM Kisan Sindhya Yojna NITI Aayog even mentioned Ag as one of the sectors to benefit from AI revolution. But the questions remain if there are so many answers to agrarian distress, why it still persists? why the picture of Ag still not so gloomy? Answer lies in uneconomical land holdings.

1/c Ag Census of 2015 86% of land owning farmers have land less than 2 hectare which makes this adoption of technology unaffordable and unviable, it would further increase distress if adopted individually. Then the situation can not be improved?

Ram will not go back to village & Ag a remunerative profession? The soln. lies in economy.

Economy of scale, individually adopting technology may not be viable but in combination its viable, its lucrative, its need of money for prosperous agrarian society apart from access to cheap credit to acquire these technology.

Apart from technology, farmers need to leverage economy of scale in form of productivity by adopting Hvy variety of seed in collective

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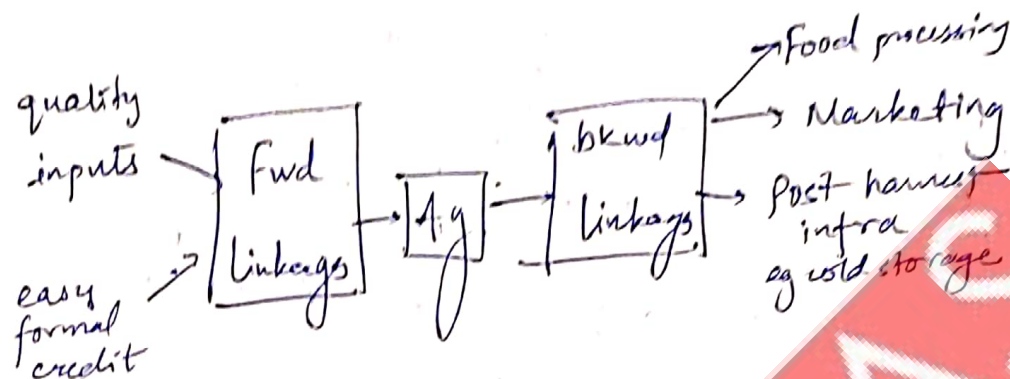
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land. Collective land? It means some sort of pooling land of small uneconomical holding to form a large viable holding w/o without altering land ownership its form of contract to do farming collectively to harness technology. This increases

yield, wage, income, better bargaining power. Govt recognising this in Budget 2010-11 aimed for creating 10,000 FPO's (farmer produce organisation).

But is this the only way? NO policies like land pooling are feasible only when ready to contribute land as well as labour. But let it individual farmer want to enjoy as prosperous profession he needs to diversify in form of adopting mix farming such as cultivation along with animal rearing (cattle, goat, hen, fish) which are more remunerative and act as shock absorber in time of Ag risks and seasonal lean periods.

Along with improving forward & backward linkages of Ag sector.



In order to address these linkages and increase investment recently Govt. of India amended Essential Commodity act and other reforms to increase market access and ensure better price realisation.

Realising this Ram believes in Indian content both economy & technology are crucial in combating agrarian distress along with proper linkages.

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