

TEST CODE : 7 7 1 8 0 8

SPS 2024 – UPPSC MAINS

ForumIAS

ESSAY

Name of Candidate

Akash Agarwal.

Roll No.

1910162926

Date:

16/June 2025.

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 150

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained
Q.1		
Q.2		
Q.3		
Total Marks:		

Remarks:

INSTRUCTION

- Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile).
- The Question Paper is divided into **THREE** Sections. Write three essays in English or Hindi language, selecting one topic from each section.
- Words limit of each essay is **700** words.
- Each essay carries **50** marks.
- 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.
- 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 |

End Time |

Mode Of Examination:

Online Offline

For Office Use Only

ECN CODE:

EG:

Evaluation Date:

Section - A / खण्ड - क

1. Uniform Civil Code: A Contemporary Need and Its Political Dimensions.
समान नागरिक संहिता : वर्तमान की आवश्यकता और उससे जुड़ी राजनीति।
2. "Mental Health Among Youth: Rising Concerns and Societal Responsibility".
युवाओं में मानसिक स्वास्थ्य: बढ़ती चिंता और समाज की जिम्मेदारी।
3. China's Expansionist Policy and Indian Security.
चीनी विस्तारवादी नीति एवं भारतीय सुरक्षा।

China's Expansionist Policy and Indian Security

Once upon a time, there was a kid, who bullied other kids, takes their toys, claim their resources as he sees it first or historically called it first. With time, the kid grows and now, it starts claiming other homes, property, water and air in name as his grandfather told him of their great past. He also uses propaganda to fill local's mind.

This story and kid's behaviour is almost replica of

China's growing and behaviour in
seas and Himalayas.

Just like the kid bullies other kids,
similarly China bullies other country
for decades threatening their
existence and resources.

Chinese physical borders expansion
greatly seen in South China sea, where
it claims whole of sea as there
historical ground, calling it '9 dash line'
which includes several countries EEZ
and Islands chains.

Taiwan invasion and integration by
2027 through force seen as recent
biggest example of expansionist mindset
Taiwanese voted to remain independent
and democratic but threatened by
Chinese for decades. constant military

drills, jets passing create fear among locals. Michael Clarke, expert on this issue says "Taiwanese expansion is more of CCP showcase of power rather than needs."

Similarly in Philippines sea, Scarborough soal, Spratly Islands, Paracel Islands remains highly contested. Philippines Coast Guards regularly faces bullying by Chinese. through water cannon or pushing back their boats. They also involved against Malaysia. over Sarawak, Vietnam over Paracel Islands

In North, Russia's Vladivostok is also claimed by China. Japanese Islands and Korean EEZ also in their claim books.

Not only in Physical, China also focused on economic expansion through

Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), loan traps, ports leasing, business expansion, Goods Dumping, etc. to make countries totally dependent on them and using their assets for themselves.

China has provided over 1 \$tn loan to world, mostly LDC and emerging economies at steep interest rate and conditions, which nations later failed to return, losing their strategic assets like ports, roads to China. Sri Lanka's Hambantota, Pakistan's Guadar, Cambodia's Ream Naval Base are recent examples.

China also uses influence through technology such as Mobile, Games, laptops to reduce western dominance and increase cultural influence over

countries. Biased Media houses ,
propaganda. movies , drama and songs
are made to influence dependent
nations.

In social lifestyle, china also
increasing it's footprint. through.
promoting it's education system. in
other nations , increasing tourist
arrival, student's visa. so to create
alternative to west lifestyle. "Panda.
Diplomacy by President Xi showcase.
increasing chinese expansionist mindset"
quoted C. Raja Mohan. (NUS).

Creating disruption
in world market. as recently stopping
rare earth metals. supply chain. ,
supporting Poxy's war in world,
use of WTO in unethical means. is
never tools of CCP.

India as a. biggest

regional challenger and alternative, China is becoming threat to India's interest in region.

Recent, Galwan skirmishes in which over 20 Indians soldiers martyred due to Chinese expansion in the region; 2017 Doklam incident and recent renaming of Arunachal Pradesh, visa staple issues etc.

China claims Ladakh region, Barakoti Plains in Uttarakhand, Doklam Plateau in Sikkim, and full Arunachal Pradesh based on their IBC maps and Johnson's line acceptance, which India denies. As per Suhasini Haider (FE, Indian express) says "China more focus on trading AP, to get stable control over

dadakh region"

China's recent focus on circiling India around, by developing strategic ports also poses challenges.

Hambantota in south, Sittoung in east, Gomedar and Djibouti in west. along with Railways's expansion in Nepal, along NE's border. create more challenges.

China's military support to Pakistan to counter India, especially proxy agents like LeT, JeM safeguard in UNSC sanctions list, equipments and etc create newer threats. C.

Christian says "China is testing India's capabilities through Pakistan".

Increasing modern warfare, China also uses economy in order to create pressure, increasing trade deficit,

Easy loans to neighbours to counter India's relationship, dumping of goods, reduce supply chain to impact India's growth.

In other fronts, especially in social fronts using local agitation against Indian government, supplying arms and funds to NE insurgents, offering shelter to terrorist like Poresh Baran to destabilize India.

As earlier in the story, I told a bully kid, but there is also ^{an} another kid, who is progressing fast, which is India, is pushing by bully kid to lose focus, so that bully kid can not be challenged anytime. As like kid, India should focus much more on its strategic sectors, rather than mere smaller regional player.

Feed
(For OFFICE)

#	
AWIS	
CD & VA	
S & F	
P & R	
Please put marks in this table.	
Here G is G Average and Poor.	
TOTAL MARKS	

Section - B / खण्ड - ख

1. Literature is a Reflection of Society, Not Merely a Mirror.
साहित्य समाज का प्रतिबिम्ब है न कि दर्पण।

2. The Expanding Reach of OTT Platforms and the Crisis Facing Cinema Halls.
ओटीटी प्लेटफॉर्म का बढ़ता दायरा और सिनेमाघरों के भविष्य पर संकट।

3. Rural Tourism: The Gateway to India's Future.
ग्रामीण पर्यटन: भारत के लिए भविष्य का द्वार।

Rural Tourism : Gateway to India's
Future

Once upon a time, a village in
Maharashtra suffering from drought
conditions which led to low agricultural
produce and income for the farmers
in the villages, constant income and
rising expenditure led to debt ridden
conditions attracting suicides. Then,
a local Suresh Palekar, who has seen
the tourism potential in cities tries
to replicate it in village, with local
helps they create a visiting homestays.

farming workshops, cultural points, sports ground to attract visitors, the initiative picked up and increase village income by 4x. The village is near Nashik and known for its tourism.

As rising aspiration and travelling demand among Indian youth and cultural revivalism among foreigners, Rural tourism has picked up in recent past.

Rural tourism is not just visiting village and see's their life but more than that, it includes living a rural life with challenges, such as water, involving in activities like farming, meaning, celebrating their associated festivals, expressing their culture, seeing intact social ties.

It also includes with it adventure sports
eg: River jumping, bull racing, etc
which are locally celebrated, wildlife
conservation especially having a
balanced relationship with nature is
also part of it. In recent times,
arts and architecture also increased in
rural tourism, environmentally friendly
huts and locally produced arts showcase
cultural nature relationship.

In recent times, State Government and
Govt increase emphasis on rural tourism
through organizing festivals, events,
and infrastructural support. Dhordo,
in Gujarat is recognised as 'Best
village in tourism' by organizing
'Rann Utsav' every year giving village
lifestyle to visitors, celebrating kite
festivals.

India has a incredible potential in developing it, as even today 65% (2024) of population lives in villages and even by 2040, about 50% will remain so. can help in increasing their income and reduce over dependence on agriculture. As per "Mo Tourism and IITM (Gurukul)" report, it can increase rural income by 3x and GDP of India by 2%.

vast diversity in India, in terms of culture eg: Gujarat rural lifestyle is totally different from Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu; cuisine, arts, dances, music are altogether distinct. and provide multiple options.

Government of India announced policy to attract rural tourism in 2017, along with several states eg Maharashtra, Gujarat.

increasing road infrastructure, medical availability, training skilled guides to provide maximum information to tourists, regulating prices, etc.

Presently, the size of tourism is about 250 \$ bn in India. directly and indirectly, contributing about 10% of GDP and 60mn jobs, while rural tourism is only 2-4% of it yet. "Rural Tourism Policy"

provide potential to reach upto 100 bn \$ by 2035 and over 2-4% of GDP alone if tapped. Several challenges and issues reduces its potential growth.

such as low level of awareness among villagers to develop tourism, harsh behaviour, teasing, comments, even rapes reported from several incidents.

Recent Goa village, French women rape showcase vulnerabilities, also low level of infrastructural support. especially all weather roads, homestays, recreation infrastructure, advertisements, skilled manpower low availability also contribute to it's low development.

Recently, kidnapping of couple in one village in NorthEast shows security concerns, and social intolerance among villagers also led to it's low demand.

While increasing level of farmhouses in city outskirts, which provide more rural cultural experience along with modern facilities, activities and vibes. is challenging rural tourism.

But, Rural tourism can become gateway for India. If it improves

upon challenges. IITM report over it is very comprehensive and result oriented.

It suggest, increasing level of rural people participation rather than urban workers, more skilling and training regarding behaviour.

Increase tech support, influencer advertisement, increasing digital availability and training, to rural locals.

Increasing outreach program to famous tourist hotspots, such as Taj Mahal, Paris street, LA (USA) to attract more tourist.

Increase security arrangements and crime free villages, also arrange female workers more to ease female tourists comforts. Reduce unhygienic conditions, more cleanliness drive, open defecation free conditions.

Forum IAS

Maintain social, cultural, artistic history in preserved form, include modern facets into it and reduce negative influence of it, to attract foreign tourists:

Revive past victory associated with village, so as to increase historic relevance to the place.

As Sureshji is able to revive one village in Maharashtra, but there are several thousands of them in India, if we become able to recreate in entire nation, Rural tourism will become gateway to India's future. As Gandhiji said?

"I see the real India in the villages."

(Don't
in this
17 25)

Fee
(For OFF)

AWIS
CD & V
S & F
P & R
Please P marks in table.
Here G is Average Poor.
TOTAL MARKS

Section - C / खण्ड - ग

1. The Role of Technology in Natural Disasters: Empowering Disaster Management in India.
प्राकृतिक आपदाओं में प्रौद्योगिकी की भूमिका: भारत में आपदा प्रबंधन को सशक्त बनाना।
2. National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP): The Foundation of India's Economic Development.
राष्ट्रीय अवसंरचना पाइपलाइन (NIP): भारत के आर्थिक विकास का आधार।
3. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Environmental Conservation: The Role of Smart Solutions in India.
कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) और पर्यावरण संरक्षण: भारत में स्मार्ट सॉल्यूशंस की भूमिका।

Role of Technology in Natural
Disasters: Empowering Disaster
Management in India.

Disaster has always been a part of
world, even before human habitat its
it. But, the way human and
technology changes its management
can be seen through two stories:

In 1900s, 2 men are going to fishing
in Gulf of Mexico region, they start
driving towards Gulf and started
fishing in morning, then, in the

evening, a strong tornado come in the region. both of them unable, not able to safeguard themselves, even Government not able to provide early rescue as, it was unprepared.

Similar incident happens in 2017, in India. Two men started fishing in Odisha (coastal state), got a mobile SMS from Govt of India to go to safe places as yclone to hit the coast by evening. Both evacuate the region and rescued by NDRF team at earliest.

In both the cases, every thing is common just the result is different. In 1st case, both possibly die, while in 2nd, they lived. The difference is created by technology in managing Natural disaster.

As with rise in Climate change and Global warming, so the

disasters risks are rising in the world.

In India, newer technology and technique are being used to reduce dependency.

Technology not just IT or telecom is main front of Disaster Management.

Backward linkages. technology which used in Data collection, Prediction and calculation of rescue and rehab preparation are crucial. Sonar to collect real time data, Remote sensing satellite. such as.

ResourceSat, weather Monitoring satellite, Big Data Management about habitat population, age group, construction type.

are providing front line workers not only information but also other crucial information to fight against disaster.

Rescue technology such Deep X-Ray machine to find victims under Debris

Real time live hospitals, etc to provide effective Rescue Operations.

In India, Disaster Management has taken a deep change after 2005 Disaster Management Act, which not only increased the level of preparedness, dedicated NDRF teams, funds management, crisis teams on ground. but also focuses on absorbing best global technology in Data Management.

India adopted Sendai Framework (2015) to increase the disaster resilience, increase newer tech adoption, increase foreign collaboration.

But in 2002 Gujarat tsunami incident, which costs over 20,000 lives and 2500 ₹ cr puts India to form dedicated acts to manage.

challenging disasters, which focuses on Data collection and surveillance to well prepare from occurrences of disaster.

Major focus on technology, Department of space and ISRO launched dedicated satellite to collect real time data, which can well prepare efforts to reduce damages on ground. It also checks the temperature, wind flows, ocean currents movements through ground based instruments, to check and regulate the ground situation.

Surveillance

and survey ships such as INS Tarani. It also collect data in Bay of Bengal, which not only checks cyclone conditions but also other disasters possibilities such as heatwaves formation, floods possibilities and clouds formation.

As per Parliamentary Reports, technology absorption saved over 2.5 lac lives and over \$15bn economy over 2 decades.

UN reports and AR 6th assessment.

showcases, technology abilities in India rising with climate change.

As Disasters are not just physical damage of landmasses but also increasing climate which causes lower food yields, increased GLOF, Heatwaves, reducing forest cover, forest fires which are claiming more lives than disasters traditionally considered such as.

foods etc. Over last 10 yrs, yields are reducing causing steep price rises. What are we doing and should do?

committee reports suggests increasing the

technology based solution, which includes renewable energy to change conventional energy demand.

Geoengineering tools to reduce disasters occurrences such as whitewashing roofs, Iron nails on ocean, artificial carbon sequestration, so that the insolation absorption reduces and albedo should increase.

Modern land planning and newer techniques such as rooftop farming, artificial trees, Bonsai etc helps reducing long term disaster occurrences in long run.

India lacks. in some disaster's management skills and demands such as. Rep on newer methods (skill dependent)

On Europe and western world., low funding on technology absorption major part of funds goes on salaries and conventional operations.

As Kasturirangan committee suggest in western chats., technology development should strengthen to balance out development and Nature demands Balancing it out is crucial, if not newer disasters will ensue in long run.