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SUBJECT:	ESSAY	Test Code:	1	2	5	2
Name of Candidate	SIMI KARAN					
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENG	Registration Number	5	7	7	8 2 6
Center		Date	2	9	0	7 1 9

INDEX TABLE				INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Page No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
				1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
				2. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
				3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
				4. 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. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
				5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
				6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।
Total Marks Obtained:				
Remarks :				

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

Sec A

CAN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GO HAND-IN-HAND ?

We live in a world of "Pardox".

Today our Economy is set to become the ^{third} largest Economy by 2024, i.e.

a 5 Tr \$ Economy GDP nation. Yet the

environmental condition is appalling

to say the least. We faced the Kerala

floods where the Western Ghats lay bare

and exposed, Chennai is reeling under

an urgent water crisis and fast

heading the "Zero Day" when just a few years ago it was completely flooded!

Are these not symptoms? Indications that our Mother Earth is sending us?

She is yearning ^{us} to stop and think of where this incessant desire of more money, more food, more income is leading us to.

Figures indicate ALARM BELLS have rung!

While we celebrate our performance in terms of GDP growth rate, Ease of doing Business, increasing number of entrepreneurs and unicorn companies, powerful & even more well-prepared military, we have forgotten some other indicators which don't bode good news.

Inter-governmental Panel of Climate Change (IPCC) indicates that the temperature of Earth has increased by 1°C and is set to increase by 2°C if we continue with business as usual. Venice drowning in Italy is a clear example of rising sea levels. Air & water, the two most essential fluids have become "Global garbage cans". India houses 14 out of 20 most polluted cities in the world including our National Capital, Delhi.

Even though we claim that today we live the "epitome" of human lives due to the various inventions, technology yet the same inventions demand 1.5 Earths to satisfy our demands. Clearly we have breached the carrying capacity. But were we always like this? ~~Does~~ Did our ancestors also lead such a greedy life?

HISTORY tells a different story!

One of the greatest civilisations, the Harrapans worshipped Mother Goddess and Pashupati Nath. Their well networked drains ensured hygiene and cleanliness. Tribals all over the world have been living in perfect tandem with nature, becoming a part of it rather than the "CENTRE". Sacred groves, Garkhuals safeguarding forests are good examples. In near past, Bishnois,

lead by Amrita Devi had taught us the power of "Chipko", how they will sacrifice their own lives but not let the trees fall.

But what changed in the present? Why did we not pay heed to Gandhi and our "NEED" turned to "GREED"?

Greed of CONSUMPTION hollows the Earth

with ^{the} advent of capitalism, evolved consumerism & materialism. We aspired for fast foods, ^{a new clothes} looking at the glittery advertisements of brands like KFC, Gucci, Armani. And thus began the "rift", the divide between environment and growth.

We started a blind hunt to exploit, explore, consume and start all over again. The single "use & throw" economy evolved where a country with

more food joints ~~is~~ has a higher GDP than home-cooked meals. Why? Because it is a part of trade! ₹

Our explorations have forgotten all environment and human rights, both being reduced to "means" to our greedy ends. They have lost all intrinsic value.

Rat hole mines & the subsequent flooding in Meghalaya, Kedarnath floods & the ensuing havoc, illegal constructions on western ghats and the ongoing damage indicate ~~the~~ how we are slowly encroaching on places hitherto unexplored, places hitherto in BALANCE!

The Arctic sea routes are opening up due to climate change. Instead of taking this as a warning, we look at it as an opportunity! An opportunity to burn more oil, an opportunity to kill more whales and poison more seas.

Amazon, tomato parcels have become a part of our lives. Yet we don't know ~~not~~ where the packaging plastic gets dumped. Probably a huge dumping ground like the one outside Delhi or as "microplastic" in the oceans choking up fishes and ducks.

This intense competition has also led us to build nuclear weapons, ballistic missiles & submarines. ~~to~~ Global treaties on disarmament like CTBT, NPT etc. are failing. The testings and blasts have poisoned the atmosphere, the oceans, the land leaving the animals & the poor the worst affected. ~~So~~

So should we say all is lost? Is there no hope for the two coming together?

ALL HOPE is not LOST!

Mahatma Gandhi, the ~~big~~ greatest
of a man example, at peace with the nature
once said, "we have not inherited
the Earth from our ancestors, we have
borrowed it from our children". This
is exactly the idea with which several
movements around the world are
working.

Greenpeace, World Wildlife Fund,
International union for conservation of
Nature have been striving hard
to protect and conserve species and
forests. Wangari Mathai has revolutionised
the concept of growth and development
by bringing in the poors for preserving
the nature and in turn creating jobs,
value production & empowerment.

In India, the incessant efforts of the Jhabua tribals and NGOs have created greenery and recharged groundwater in a region where Britishers once ran bulldozers over trees. The concept of urban reforestation in Indore and parks made of recycled plastic in Ladakh are examples where the Indian civil servants have contributed their bit. We can see examples of environmentally conscious citizens, ~~so~~ striving towards "Zero waste lifestyle" and showing us a new approach to live our lives. So what should we conclude?

YES, they can & must complement!

But it's very easy to state this.
How do we go about it?

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"CIRCULAR Economy" is the need of the hour. We must remember the 3Rs - Reduce, Reuse & Recycle. Our production lines must also participate at the last step, recollect the discarded products and rebuild them rather than starting from scratch again. Japan with its segregation into 5 categories at source policy is leading the world here.

We have a jungle of laws like Environment Impact Assessment, approval of Gram Sabha under FRA Act, 2006 for exploiting resources & setting up industries, Coastal zone regulations etc.

Yet they are either circumvented or diluted. Today there is an urgent need for coordination among various stakeholders - Forest officers, environment activists and tribals. Rather than branding each other, they must work

together and not look to exploit. The SC judgement on ousting the tribals was one such clash. But even laws are not enough!

Today we need a massive behavioural, cultural and normative change.

We need new ~~essays~~ campaigns not fighting in a TIT-FOR-TAT manner but building cohesion between growth and development. To the pessimistic, we can give the example of the Naga tribes who due to environmental campaigns went ~~to~~ on ~~to~~ from hunters to the protectors of the Hornbill Bird.

At the international change, we fear falling into the "denial mode".

USA withdrawing from Paris Climate deal is the case in point. We need

to shed our protectionist tendencies and strive to achieve the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)

India has been a leading example and forerunner with the Swachh Bharat Mission. ~~and~~ Huge investments are also needed to shift towards renewable energies in a smooth transition.

~~At~~ We must recognise the opportunity cost of huge pumping of public money into Nukes for protection ^{of nation}. This money will better be used if invested to "protect the Earth". The options are before us to choose which path we tread. On one hand USA decided to invest in military, while Bhutan decided to work towards Happiness of citizens. We have to decide which nation to follow.

A Vision of the FUTURE

Do we want to live in a future where kids learn of animals only in glass zoos and plants in the botanical gardens?

OR

Do we want a world they are proud of their inheritance, a world peaceful & in harmony with nature where kids play in parks and teens explore the forests?

Greta Thunberg, the youngest climate action activist is demanding her right. Right to sustainable environment, & Right to clean air & Right to ^{cohesion} ~~clean water~~. Healthy life. The change is not impossible but it needs a lot of work from our sides. We must recognise that there can be no "Plan B" as there is no "Planet B".

Sec B "Elections" remind us not only of the "Rights" but the "Responsibilities" of "Citizenship" in a democracy

It is the time of Elections in the world's largest democracy, India. Let us visit the lives of two citizens.

Citizens 1

Varun Sant is a techie who works in a very reputable company. He has a good earning and lives in Mumbai. He is very excited for tomorrow, there are elections in his part of the city. But his enthusiasm comes from the fact that it is a "National Holiday", i.e. a day off from hectic office. He plans to order pizza and chill at home. Who will bother to go and stand in line to vote? Anways how does a single vote matter?

Citizen 2

Baswant Rao is a poor chap who lives in the slums near Varun's house. He has no steady source of income and is always drunk. He beats his wife to get ~~so~~ the money. He gets the offer that if he gives vote to a particular party, he will get a bottle of "Desi Daru" for free. He enthusiastically goes and casts his vote. He is proud to have exercised his "RIGHT" and happy for the "REWARD".

The above examples show the tremendous challenges and ~~so~~ numerous issues plaguing our elections. While the question of the quality of leaders and ethics in party politics is a different ball game,

we face huge challenges ~~is~~ among citizens while exercising their "Right to vote." In this context, let us first visit the history of voting and elections.

HISTORY reflects a struggle for this Right!

Throughout history, we have had great powerful monarchs, some good like Akbar, others causing grave atrocities like Aurangzeb. We have also known dictators like Hitler and Mussolini.

In ancient Greek, we had masters and slaves. In medieval times the feudal lords
~~The~~

The journey to achieve the right to vote has been marred by bloodshed and revolutions - Glorious Revolution, American and French revolution, ~~and as seen~~ American civil war and as latest as women's movements. Indian leaders guaranteed "Universal Adult Franchise"

right at freedom despite oppositions in the constituent assembly. Ambedkar called it the most important political right, a guarantee for justice to the erstwhile oppressed and downtrodden. Thus it has been an immense struggle to make our voices heard. But what explains the apathy among citizens today?

WHAT has gone wrong today?

Present society is based on a "Social Contract" where government provides goods and services and citizens pay taxes and exercise their right to vote. since only 1% of Indians pay taxes, "votes" reflect the will of the people, their approval and disapproval of government policies.

Yet today lots of citizens do not undertake this responsibility. ~~and~~

The "Rich" don't bother because they feel that most of their wants are fulfilled in private organisations. They take this as a "burden" and not a civic duty. ~~They frown at the corruption~~
The "Poor" as the movie "Newton" indicates are either unaware of this duty or are so bogged down with other issues that they can't spare ~~to~~ the time to vote. This has led to a breakdown of Social contract. It has also ensured that percentage of citizens voting never crosses ~68%. Ambedkar and other freedom fighters who struggled for "one man, one vote" ~~have~~ would surely have felt defeated.

Another major issue arising is the rampant abuse of "vote". While EVMs ensured that poll rigging was minimised,

money & muscle power rein politics even today. Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) indicates that more than ₹ 60,000 Crore was spent in the 2019 Lok Sabha Elections. 23% of Members of Parliament (MPs) have grave criminal charges against them.

But why is the citizen ~~to~~ not becoming more responsible?

Several issues are ~~are~~ responsible. With meagre incomes and rampant poverty, poors often look for "SHORT-TERM" gains like drugs, alcohol or money donations.

Most vulnerable sections like women, minority communities and old are oppressed and their independent voice lost. Threats from political leaders and local goons or even husbands ensure that they fall

in line and vote for the desired party.

Options like NOTA are toothless and mere symbolic gesture. Often caste politics, party politics, identity politics have reined over issue-based politics and ~~vote~~ "vote-banks" have emerged. Issues like unemployment, inflation etc. get lost in the hum-dum of religion, caste, region etc.

Ignorant citizens often fall prey to "fake-news", sensationalisation and uncallous cat-calling among leaders. They are lost and start following swaying like leaves on high-wind, sheep following a ~~st~~ shepherd.

Even our ethical values are thrown out in the dumpster. Gandhi once said, "Politics without principles is like a death trap" and we as citizens

get caught in it. Rather than opposing the corruption ongoing, we accept it and also try to gain from it.

All this has led to lower faith of ~~p~~ among political leaders, withdrawal ^{participating and} from holding the leaders and their policies accountable. We have started looking at "MY" benefit rather than "OUR" benefit. The social cohesion and fabric is tearing apart. We have forgotten our responsibility!

Can we change this?

Yes, we can and we must for the survival of this huge democracy. Aristotle has explained citizenship as a "DUTY". If we stop looking at elections and our participation

as a right ~~and~~ but rather take it as a responsibility, change is possible.

The most important requirement, as explained by Ambedkar is building a "social conscience". Behavioural and attitudinal changes are important and they are best nurtured in school. Civic virtues must be taught in value-based education classes. ~~and~~

~~or~~ For young voters, debates and electoral awareness clubs in schools should be organised.

Election Commission has done a great job in building awareness which resulted in highest turnout in these elections. Yet a lot more needs to be done. Nukkad Nataks, Chunar Pathshalas and awareness movements like - "No vote for Note" can bring changes among the poor and uneducated.

Advertisements targetting emotions
and outcomes can nudge the
rich to perform their duty. A good
example is the one where a guy
is rejected visa because he planned
to skip voting and go abroad.

Normative & peer pressure is also
a good away. Roping in the corporates
apart from NGOs ~~is~~ is also a step
that can be taken.

Social media needs to become more
responsible especially during elections.

They can run their own ads and
pages making the citizens aware.

Restrictions on ~~ban~~ sale of alcohol
and cigarettes during elections
(good example is Dry Day) is a must.

Filmstars, sportspersons, political leaders can become moral exemplars for the general public. Local leaders, sarpanch, Anganwadi workers etc. can also be involved to reach a greater audience.

Ethical values among citizens will enable to them to become courageous in increasing accountability. Stewardship ethics talks of a citizen's role as stewards or trustees to take care of the nation. Moral integrity, uprightness among citizens will ensure a better outcome during elections.

Today we need to prove the pessimists, both among the constituent assembly and the world outside, wrong who believe that India can never

be one nation because of the ignorance, poverty, differences and cleavages. We need to become "responsible citizens" and play our role in taking India from a "FORMAL" democracy to a "SUBSTANTIVE" democracy.

Can Env Prot & Eco Dev go hand-in-hand?

Str - ① Story / Paradox

② Why the clash? How the clash is visible? Some figures ring the alarm bell

③ What history tells us?

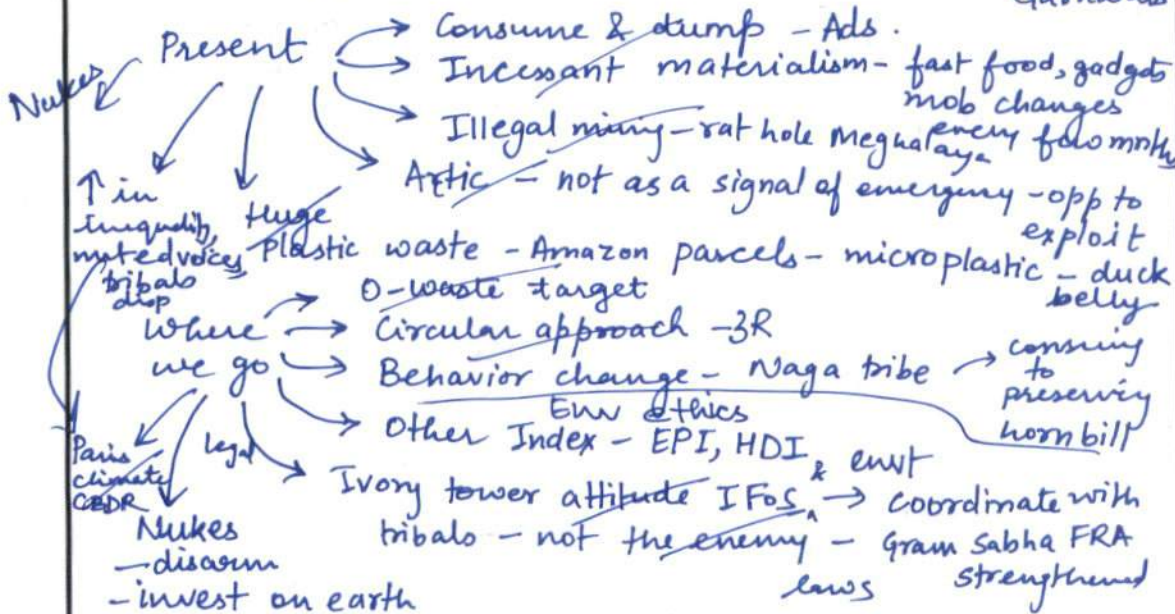
④ Present Cond? → ^{Present Ex} → ^{Indore reforestation, Jhabua Naga tribe} → EPI Index Rank?

⑤ Where do we go from here? → circular ^{not} Yes they can complement each other approach

5 tr \$ Eco by 2024, Middle Income country 3rd/largest ^{Eco}
Yet Kerala floods - western Ghats, Chennai water crisis, supercyclone Fani - Indi of Mother Earth - halt & think

Climate change - IPCC 2°C → biz as usual → Venice ^{drowning}
Global garbage can - Air & water - Delhi 14/20 ^{worst} polluted cities
→ Huge stress on carrying cap → Earth needed ^{1.5}

History → ② Bishnoi - Chipko movt - Amrita Devi
→ ③ Tribals in tandem with nature - ^{Jhabua Garhwala}



Conc - Only ^{Greta Thunberg} planet A, hence only plan A, no plan B

Kids only see animals in ^{zoo} ^{zoo} → urgency

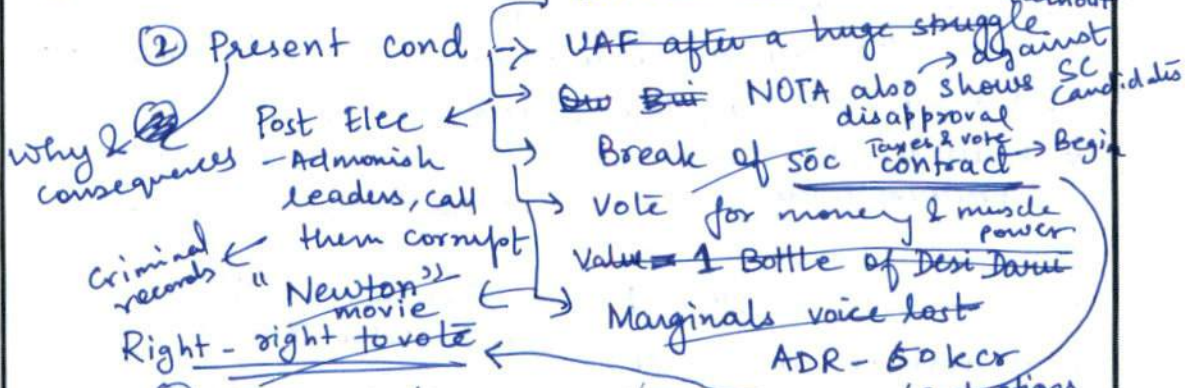
Gandhi - Inherent from Ancestors
Borrowed from child

Eco sys approach

Elections remind us not only of ~~our~~ rights but the responsibility of citizens in a democracy

① Brief history - never had UAF, monarchy, exploited, unheard
Aristotle - Citizenship as a "duty" Amb - Soc conscience

Pol w/o prin - Gandhi every brick in the building
Elections - Nat holiday → fought for 67% turnout
One vote does not matter



Intro ① ~~Va~~ ~~Vaun~~ ~~Sant~~ ~~Mohan~~ ~~bed~~ rich biz man - employee tells colleague nat holiday - eat & enjoy - who put in effort to stand line

② Poor ~~chaman~~ - Baswant Rao - if he ~~decides~~ ^{gives} vote to ~~xxx~~ ^{a particular} party ~~if~~ he will get a bottle of desi damu - Value of a vote?

