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SUBJECT:	Essay	Test Code:	1	2	5	6		
Name of Candidate	Divyanshu Choudhary	Registration Number	5	6	4	6	1	2
Medium Hindi/Eng.	English	Date	2	7	0	8	1	9
Center	Jaipur							

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 :				

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

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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

Section B

8. Jobless growth in India: a threat to demographic dividend

“I have a vision. By 2020, India will be a superpower. But for that to happen, we need upliftment of all citizens”

- Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

'Growth' is a value neutral term which can have both positive and negative dimensions. These words by Dr. Kalam signify the importance of achieving positive growth for all. But hasn't this mad race of growing higher and higher led to the phenomena of 'jobless growth'? Let's have a look at some cases for better understanding.

Case 1: Manish works in an IT firm where his job is to fill data in

Various excel sheets. One day his company purchases a new software which can automatically do that ^{with higher speed}. As a result, he is laid off from the firm.

Case 2: Rakesh is a farmer and produces pulses in his farms. He is mainly dependent on monsoon for ^a good produce.

In the years of bad monsoon, his entire family works together to achieve decent levels of production. Otherwise all his other family members are dependent on him.

Various issues pertinent in Indian economy are visible through these anecdotes. They are but two cases of 'jobless growth' phenomena.

But what exactly is 'jobless growth'? Jobless growth is basically the phenomena of growing at a good pace, but this

growth is not accompanied by a proportional rise in jobs. So jobless growth doesn't mean zero growth in jobs, but a mere dismal level of job growth compared to growth of an economy.

In India's case, as per official figures, we are growing annually at the rate of around 7% GDP growth. But at the same time, our unemployment levels are at an all time high of 45.6%, with LFR around 37% only (as per NSSO PLFS 2017).

Not surprisingly, an ILO report of 2017 has put our wage growth numbers at a mere 1.8%, which clearly highlights the dire straits of jobs in India.

Multiple reasons have been responsible for jobless growth. Let's have a look at some.

Reasons

Firstly, govt. policies like Mahalanobis Model of growth led to ~~an~~ imbalanced growth among various sectors. It laid prime focus on basic industries, thereby creating a workforce which was highly technically efficient. But it ignored the skill development of masses which was needed for industrial growth. As a result, both basic goods industry and consequently service sector grew at the expense of industrial sector.

The failure of land reforms and cornering of benefits by big farmers in Green Revolution presents a similar picture. Due to use of high tech inputs like machines, fertilizers, pesticides etc., the labour force was replaced, but the productivity soared manifold.

Jobless growth has also been widespread across various segments of society.

Major issue being of skill development, where workers today are still dung to their old methods, whereby technology is replacing them fastly.

The worst sufferers of this phenomena are women and disabled people. Due to less focus on producing jobs and introducing skill development schemes ^(like education) which focus entirely on these two, they have been thrown out of the employed labour force. This is pretty much visible in the fact that LFPR of women is only 17%, as per NSSO PLFS 2017 data. Also, occupational segregation and cultural barriers have prevented them to ensure

better employment opportunities. Cornering of these jobs by men who are able bodied then leads to the vicious circle of jobless growth in these stratas.

Next is the issue of sectoral dimension of jobless growth. Our employment sectors are mainly - Primary, secondary and tertiary sector. Primary sector contributes to only 17% of GDP, despite employing 49% of Indian population.

In contrast to this, service sector amounts to 55% of GDP, only by only employing around 29% of population.

This massive disbalance is due to multiple factors. First is the problem of 'disguised unemployment' in agriculture. Due to less skill requirement as well as

no knowledge of any other sector, all family members work at the same field, achieving the same levels of production as in case of only few of them working.

Also, the present debate of labour-capital ratio is further fuelling the menace of jobless growth. High level of mechanization is leading to boosts in productivity, but at the same time is increasing unemployment in the present ^{day} growth.

Also the segmentation of traditional vs modern services is another eye-catching issue. The growth in service sector is primarily fuelled by modern services like IT sector, BPO, financial services etc. which need high levels of skills and operate with better technology.

As a result, employment opportunities are automatically restricted here. On the other hand, traditional services like transport and construction contribute less to GDP growth but employ larger workforce, primarily due to obsolete techniques and mass employment sectors perception.

Finally, the role of LPG reforms post 1991 has also been significant. With better exposure to technology and efficient managerial skills, many people are losing their jobs. A visible manifestation is of startups which employ minimum no. of people to achieve maximum productivity. Even govt. is promoting service sector more due to IT skills of Indian youth, less infra requirement & to achieve better collaboration with other countries, thus ^{further} creating widening the imbalance.

Impact of jobless growth

The impact of jobless growth has also been multifold. It has both regional and sectoral dimensions. In this phase of demographic dividend, let's analyze some of them.

Firstly, govt. policies have led to imbalanced regional development. In case of agriculture, the northern states have benefitted more and hence the use of machines grew which caused unemployment. In contrast, the less growth states still employ large workforce but eventually add nothing to GDP growth.

Jobless growth has also led to impoverishment of particularly women and children. Widespread hunger and

malnutrition and rising cases of IMR & MMR in rural areas is a visible phenomenon.

Also, due to concentration of job opportunities in a few states, migration has increased leading to more pressure on available resources and environmental degradation.

Finally, the sectoral impact has also been quite significant. Today modern services, with big plush offices, is the place to be, thus neglecting the contribution of traditional services.

Urbanization has increased, leading to less population in agriculture, thus compromising our food security targets.

Also manufacturing sector is on a decline with closing down mills and factories, leading to further unemployment.

Creating jobs with growth

The solutions to the menace of jobless growth also lie across sectors and segments of Indian economy. Lets have a look at some of them.

Firstly, govt. needs to give its focus on primary and secondary sectors which is long due. Agriculture should not be the 'last choice' ~~for~~ but 'first one' for people. It should look to strengthen agriculture education development by schemes like NAHEP and develop ^{its} value chain ~~across~~ by developing forward and backward linkages. For this, schemes like PMAASHA, PMKISAN, e-NAM, SAMPADA, TOP etc. will ensure holistic development of all segments, including FPI sector,

which is a sunshine industry and has the potential of absorbing excess workforce from agriculture.

Similar story should be in discourse for manufacturing sector. Policies like 'National Manufacturing Policy' & 'Make in India', ~~AMGNREGA~~ will help achieve India's

target of 25% GDP contribution by 2025 and making India a manufacturing hub. Also, the earmarked areas of SEZ, EPZ, CEZ face multiple issues due to disbalanced taxation structure and concentration in a few areas. Holistic

development of these by removing taxes like MAT & DDT and streamlining clearance by using portals like 'Niryat Bandhu' will help in achieving massive employment with growth.

Then we have to look at the issue of skill development of Indian youth. Schemes like MGNREGA, MUDRA, Startup India and Udyami Portal will help in generating skills needed by industry and ensuring a spirit of entrepreneurship in youth.

Startups are going to play a major role in giving employment opportunities to Indian youth. Startups like Flipkart, Paytm etc., which are now big companies have been instrumental in providing employment opportunities to youth.

Also, the data records are mainly focussed on formal sectors of growth. Hence there is a need to ensure integration of informal economy for better employment opportunities as well as social security measures.

We also need to achieve inclusive growth which is of prime importance. For this, we need to integrate sectors like disabled, tribals etc. into our economy.

Govt. initiatives like AIC and schemes like Vandhan, TRIFED etc. will bring jobs to these segments. Also women reservation of 3% on GEM portal & more SHGs formation ^{along with financial inclusion} will ensure proper benefits to women as well.

Finally, today is the age of 4th Industrial Revolution, with things like blockchain

drones & AI coming up really fast.

They have huge productivity benefits but at the same time, can also open up new areas of employment for Indian youth.

Hence, strategies like NITI Aayog's on AI & Bali Fintech Agenda will go a long way in increasing employment opportunities for youth.

India is in the phase of demographic dividend, with majority population below 28 years of age. If we are able to provide them the requisite jobs, the day is not far when we will be a superpower and that, will be a happy ending for Dr. Kalam's vision.

Section A

1. Achieving balanced regional development in India: challenges and strategies

"Balanced development will be the key to India's success" - J.L. Nehru

72 years ago, India made a 'tryst with destiny' when it awoke to freedom at the stroke of midnight hour. The vision of 'New India', propounded by Nehru was to be the guiding light for our future journey. But how far have we been able to achieve our goal of 'New India'?

Recently released NITI Aayog's SDG Index for states shows that India is at a score of 57/100, which accounts

for an average performance. It also reflects the growing disparity between states. While states like Kerala, TN & HP show an exemplary performance, states like Bihar, UP & Jharkhand still lag behind in providing even basic facilities to its citizens. The data on literacy rates and IMR/MMR reflect a similar performance.

The roots of this unbalanced regional development are present in our history. Corrupt British policies of de-industrialization and one-way free trade policy, along with Indian capitalists' policies like Bombay Plan led to growth of cities as hubs of 'economic growth' and rural areas were left far behind.

Development is a value positive term which indicates better prospects. Achieving & inclusive balanced regional development is of prime importance to any nation. But that has not been the case with India. So let's now focus on some of the reasons and challenges which accrue ^{due} to unbalanced regional development.

Reasons & Challenges

Firstly, the government policies have been at fault for ensuring unbalanced growth. A prime example can be of Green Revolution, where benefits were mostly cornered by northern Indian states, with no 'trickling down' happening to the eastern part of India. Similarly

land reforms were unsuccessful in some states which led to decline in productivity levels in those states, as compared to the successful states. The hard pressed issue of rising cases of Left Wing Extremism (LWE) can easily be derived from this fact.

Next is the issue of relationship between centre and states which have led to this unbalanced phase. Difference of parties at centre and state level & issue of fiscal federalism coupled with the major focus of Cabinet ministers on their constituencies has led to increased apathy for minority states. Also, the issue of concernlessness for demands of various states and communities has led to unbalanced growth. The

North eastern states and regions of
Gorkhas in Bengal face extreme apathy
from central govt., which leads to less
devolution of powers (like GTA) and
hence, less development.

The menace of unbalanced regional
development has ^{been} widespread across strata
of Indian society also. Women, tribals,
religion and linguistic minorities and
disabled people have been the worst
sufferers of this. Due to neglect of
social indicators, like health, education
and sanitation, majority backward states
like Bihar and UP have lower contribution
to economic development of nations. This
has fuelled communal disharmony as well.

India's economy has also not remained aloof from the impact of unbalanced regional development. The case of agriculture has already been discussed before. The industrial sector has only prospered in areas which have good availability of natural resources and cheap labour.

Consequently, only the eastern and southern belts of India have developed into industrial hubs, rest of the country still stuck into low productivity agricultural jobs.

The case of tertiary sector has even been more peculiar. Tertiary sector today is characterized by 'city jobs', as majority of such jobs are in urban areas.

This has led to the growing urban-rural divide in the nation. The inclined focus of govt. on tertiary sector due to high potential of growth, ^{LPG reforms} and less infra requirement of infrastructure has also fuelled this disparity.

The impact on environment has been in sync with above issues. Cities have reached high levels of GHG emissions with even growing pollution levels in rural areas due to increasing urbanization & industrialization.

Impact of Regional

Impact of Unbalanced Development

Firstly, the growing apathy of govt. towards various states and regions

has fuelled the demands of secession. We keep hearing something or the other news of insurgency in NE states or issue of Khalistan being propounded widely. This has been the worst impact of the rising unbalanced development.

The impact on society has even been worse. Widespread poverty, illiteracy ^{with declining indicators} and hunger are prime examples of this. Due to no skill development initiatives as well as need to sleep with 'filled stomachs', families grow larger, pushing them deeper into poverty. Also, demands of rising regionalism are at the forefront of the impact of these issues. Theories like 'Sons of

the Soil' and rising parochialism and social inequalities have fuelled communal disharmony and led to cases of mob lynching. The recent example of for mere construction jobs Gujarat exodus is a visible manifestation of the impact of unbalanced development.

The impact on Indian economy has been more or less on similar discourse. Cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad etc. have become the IT hubs of India and command maximum FDI from other nations. Rural areas have not been able to attract investments ^{leading to massive unemployment}. Similarly, agriculture and industrial sector have performed below par and despite employing 71% of Indian population, they only produce 45% of GDP of India.

Finally, the environment has suffered its share of hit with pollutions at soaring levels and India accounting for 14 out of top 15 cities in pollution as per a WHO report.

Strategies for Balanced Development

The solutions to achieve balanced regional development have to be both multi faceted & multi sectoral.
lets have a look at some of them.

Firstly, govt. has to accrue due importance to all parts of the nation. Constitution of ministries like MODNER for North Eastern states and using strategies like SAMADHAN for LWE areas will help in their integration into Indian economic polity.

Next is the issue of power devolution and fiscal federalism to promote balanced development. For tribals, 5th & 6th Schedule areas need to function efficiently with well defined role of Governor and adequate funding. Similarly, devolution of more power to G_{TA} (in case of Gorkhaland) and initiatives like GST will help ensure fiscal federalism for overall development of all regions.

Across sectors, there is a need to ensure proper health and education facilities to achieve better employment opportunities. Schemes like NNM, IMI for better maternal and child health

and ~~the~~ education schemes like RTE,
Eklavya Schools and Nai Talim will
go a long way in providing better
education facilities.

Also, anti poverty programmes like
MGNREGA, NRLM and NFSA will
ensure people get some employment
opportunities to work for development
of this nation.

Achieving inclusive development is equally
important for us. Initiatives like AID
for disabled, Vandhan & e-Tribes
for tribal people and formation of
more SHGs along with financial
inclusion (like PMJDY) will help us
achieving equitable growth.

Indian economy desires a special focus for ~~achieving~~ achieving balanced regional development across sectors. For agriculture, there is now a need of 'evergreen revolution' which should have benefits for everyone. Upgrading agriculture by facilities like e-NAM, PM KISAN, SAMPADA etc. along with decentralized (like Mega Food Parks) development of FPI sector can lead to economic integration of India.

Similarly, development of industrial sector with its value chain spread across states and regions can ensure holistic development. Policies like 'NMP' & 'Make in India' along with development of SEZs & CEZs (by policies like Sagarmala)

and Bharatmala) will boost employment and infrastructure levels across all regions.

Similarly, tertiary sector can also help achieve the desired goal. To take an example, India's BPO sector is a masterpiece in itself. If we can provide digital literacy to rural youth, this sector can open up branches in rural India as well. Coupled with govt. schemes like NRLM and better skill development initiatives like Skill India, this can be a perfect example to absolve growing urban-rural divide. Finally, for far off areas, opportunities of eco-tourism and medical tourism can ensure dual benefits of environment conservation and economic growth.

India is currently in the phase of demographic dividend and is the world's 3rd largest economy. If we are able to achieve an inclusive region and balanced regional growth, the day is not far when India will emerge as the new superpower in this world.