



Subject: Essay

Name of Candidate: SHASHANK TRIPATHI Test Code: 606

Schedule: 04/12/15 Registration No.: 16813

Place: MN Time: 1 pm - 4 pm Module: Essay

Classroom Distance Learning Classroom & Distance Learning

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

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Total Marks Obtained

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, ID Number and Test Code)
The Candidate should fill the index table, especially for him/her.
2. In the left margin, she/he should write only question number and in the right margin, nothing should be written.
3. The page number should be coded by the candidate himself and the range of page number related to the answer of the question should be used to complete the index table.
4. All Parts of the questions should be written at one place.
5. No Supplementary sheet shall be provided by the management. So the candidate is advised to accommodate required information within the space provided.
6. The candidate need not write anything in his/her answer that derogates the dignity of an individual or an organization.
7. The candidate should respect the instructions, given by the invigilator.
8. The Examinee has to submit the answer sheet to the invigilator after completion of examination.
9. However, he/she is allowed to take away the question paper.

Section A

1. Vision of Clean India : Prospects and Challenges

On the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in 2014, Prime Minister of India launched "Clean India Mission". The goal is to clean India by the 150th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation. It is rightly named as a "Mission" and not simply a scheme. This initiative envisages a vision of clean India.

The vision is quite comprehensive and it has a potential to bring a significant improvement in India's society, economy, polity and environment, which we will discuss in the essay.

However, the vision presents huge challenges in realising the goals of "Clean India". These challenges pertain to various aspects such as social inertia, lack of political will, comprehensiveness of the vision and, awareness and education etc. This essay will focus on these in the later part.

Clean India Mission has many components such as eradication of manual scavenging, construction of toilets, spreading awareness in people about sanitation and cleanliness, disposal and recycling of urban and rural solid waste, ensuring a cleaner environment (clear air, water etc.) overall.

Social prospects of "Clean India"

India is a traditionally hierarchical society where caste system has been prevalent. Eradiation of manual scavenging and construction of water-based toilets will lead to freeing of people of some lower castes from this practice which should be called a "national shame."

If their rehabilitation is ensured by the government, it will lead to breaking of shackles on marginalised castes in Indian society.

Women and children are especially vulnerable to the risks of open-defecation. Their safety is compromised. Also, if a person is sick then a lack

of toilet within the premises of the house is quite a curse.

A cleaner society is a healthier society. "Prevention is better than cure" - this quotation applies very well here. Sanitation and an overall clean environment would lead to better health outcomes.

The component of the Mission that ensures awareness and education is key to such social transformation.

Economic opportunities

A cleaner India would lead to a healthier India which means a significant cost-cutting over diseases and health. This means lesser "out-of-pocket expenditure" for individuals

and more fiscal space for the government.

A filthy environment leads to loss of education of children which further harms the demographic dividend of the nation.

Energy from solid-urban waste is clean energy and it helps in ensuring energy security of the nation. Also, recycling of waste will mean lesser use of polybags and other harmful material.

A cleaner India would mean more attraction for tourists thus giving a boost to the economy.

Environment protection

Waste recycling will reduce "ecological footprint" of India. Waste-energy

will reduce use of fossil fuels.

An overall cleaner environment will mean cleaner air, water and land. It will help India in meeting its environmental commitments globally.

Political prospects

Domestically, cleanliness needs to become a political issue. Clean India Mission has generated some awareness in people about it. Once they realize the full significance of cleaner environment, political parties will be bound to keep it as one of the main points in their agenda.

Internationally, India's global image will improve and the concept

"soft power" will provide a greater say to India in global scenario. Also, it will be an inspiration for global community.

However, all these opportunities will be realised only if the challenges in making India clean can be overcome.

Challenges of implementation

One year down the line, the initiative of "Clean India" seems to be fizzling out. Lack of a robust but flexible framework for implementation is the main problem. Voluntary commitments on citizens can not be a long term solution. Dedicated personnels for the Mission

need to be deployed.

Though the Mission garnered much fame, ground realities are different. There are garbage-heaps just below the boards of "Clean India". A concrete step is to launch dedicated staff for the Mission.

Challenges of integration.

The Mission needs to be integrated properly with education system, skill development, "Make in India" initiative, "Digital India" mission and NAPCC.

"Clean India" cannot be achieved if the Mission works in silos. Awareness can be achieved through making cleanliness and environment a compulsory part of syllabus. "Smart Cities" and "Make in India" contemplate solar panels

manufacturing and solar energy.

A database of cleanliness parameters needs to be prepared with the help of "Digital India" mission and a framework of incentives and disincentives can be prepared.

Lack of comprehensiveness

There is a need of a comprehensive idea of cleanliness, which includes air, water, solid waste, noise pollution. Even nuclear waste is a threat that must be heeded upon. Cleanliness of rivers is linked with the Mission which must be appreciated.

Focus on awareness component

A healthy mind is as important as a healthy body. Healthy mind means

pure and clean thoughts.

A comprehensive idea of cleanliness needs to be seen in this light. A good education will develop a good thought process in the future generations. They will be free of social biases and evils and will be an ideal society. The Mission needs to focus on this aspect.

In the discussions above, we observed that the "Vision of a Clean India" has huge prospects for India to evolve into an even greater nation. However,

dealing with the challenges is not going to be easy and it will require ample amounts of social and political will.

A wise man once said:-

"Cleanliness is God."

The saying seems quite true as a nation pure in its environment and also pure in its thoughts is what Indians are seeking (as they seek out for the God).

Section B

4. The foundation of every state is
the education of its youth

What comprises the foundation of a state? Some may say the people, others may the physical features. What truly forms the foundation of a nation is the set of values that it cherishes.

In case of India, the values of our Constitution, enshrined in its Preamble, are socialism, secularism and a republic state. These values can be strengthened or weakened by means of the education that is imparted to its youth.

Vivekanand once said - "Education is the manifestation of perfection in man." India's democratic ideals can be preserved not only with a utilitarian education but such education as envisaged by Swami Vivekananda.

If foundation of a nation can be divided into its society, economy and political principles; then all of them need to be strengthened through proper education to the youth.

Economic aspects and education of youth

A strong economy is one of the primary features of a great nation.

Though India is not a developed nation but it is one of the fastest emerging economies.

Economic foundations of the nation can be strengthened through good education and skill development programmes, so as to reap the "demographic dividend" of India.

A financially independent youth is less prone to crimes. Poverty and lack of education hinder the development of a youth into responsible and self-sustaining citizens.

If people have employment, they ensure education and employment for the next generation. Strength of the foundation of nation is thus perpetuated by education of youth.

Social foundations of the nation.

Utilitarian perspective of education is discussed above. But is that enough?

The foundations of a state lie much deeper in its society. Ancient Rome was prosperous but fell due to slavery and class hierarchy.

Education to the youth must be inclusive and it must teach them the ideals and values of equality, freedom and fraternity.

Such education leads to an accomodative society. Minorities are respected in such societies. Tolerance and secularism are the cherished ideals. The present debate in India about these values and their deteriorating condition is a testimony to a lack of value education in our education system.

If youth is educated well to preserve the values of socialism, secularism and democracy, the foundations of the nation will be more robust and no narrow-minded party or person would be able to harm the democratic fabric of the nation.

Political foundations and education

India is a republic. The head of the state is elected. Successful history of elections in India shows the political strength in the foundations of the state.

The conviction of youth in elections and Indian polity is of utmost importance. Youth is revolutionary by

nature. World has seen French Revolution, Russian Revolution which were driven mainly by the energy of young people.

Proper exposure to ideologies, and an ability to contemplate the pros and cons of these ideologies, need to be a part of education of youth.

Only a politically informed youth can provide stability to a nation.

A clean and ideal environment of political education in schools and colleges will ensure great leaders in future.

Vision of "Father of the Nation"

Mahatma Gandhi talked about "Nai Talim" for education in India.

His vision combined the utilitarian perspective with the ideological perspective.

A citizen of the nation should not be a slave — neither financially nor ideologically. Only such education will lead to youth realising the dream of "Sarvodaya" and "Gandhiji's Talisman."

New frontiers

Modern world has evolved a new set of problems and their solution is not possible in traditional ways. A state needs to have strong foundations in the areas of environment conservation,

technological development and many such new frontiers.

The education for youth in a state needs to evolve to handle these dynamic challenges. The value of equity is necessary for realizing the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" in environment and climate change talks.

Rabindranath Tagore said that education should harmonise humans with the universe. Such harmony is essential in today's world where space is being weaponized, cyber wars are looming threats. A harmony with universe should be the core of education to youth,

minimizing conflicts and maximizing innovative solutions.

Examples from India and the World

Indian government realises the importance of education of youth and so did the Constitution - makes. Probably that is why education is there in Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles and Fundamental Duties.

Successive governments have brought schemes and legislations like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, Right to Education Act 2009. For higher education of youth many universities, IITs, IIMs, NITs were set up. But the goal of proper education

to youth remains to be realized even now.

Scandinavian countries focussed on educating the youth and within 50 years they became part of the developed world. Singapore and Costa Rica did the same.

Our National Anthem written by Rabindranath presents a picture of integrated and beautiful India. As he was a proponent of education that brings us in harmony with universe, the education for youth may lead to realization of that ideal.

Youth is always full of energy, this energy can be channelled to strengthen the foundations of a state through value-based education. The nation needs to ensure such education for youth, and it prosper in leaps and bounds without any doubt.

