

EVALUATION INDICATORS

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

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

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All the Best

Section
A

Innovation and Entrepreneurship in India: Opportunities and Challenges

A Dalit by birth, Kalpana Saroj was married at the age of 12. Facing harassment from her husband, she was rescued by her father. There was a time when Kalpana Saroj was forced to work for ₹2 a day. She started a garment factory in Mumbai and today, she runs a \$100 million garment industry! A real 'shundog millionaire', she was awarded Padma Shri in 2013.

The above example shows the potential of innovation and entrepreneurship to transform a person's life; from rags to riches. Innovation is defined as thinking out of the box, coming out of unique yet useful solutions. Entrepreneurship is linked with innovation where a person starts own enterprise rather than depending on others.

With more than 65% population

below 35 years of age, India has a huge opportunity in innovation and entrepreneurship. In this essay, we will examine these opportunities. In later part, we will also analyze the challenges associated with it. Finally, we will try to find some solutions to these challenges.

A Window of Opportunity

Innovation is not a new term for India. Indians have been innovative right from ancient times. We have examples of innovative city development by people of Harappa. India also had great scholars like Aryabhatta, Panini, Varahamihira among others.

The British rule put India in unspeakable misery and ruined any innovative spirit of country. After Independence, India achieved glory in atomic science and space research. Tall scientists like Homi Bhabha, APJ Abdul Kalam led India's innovative journey. In sphere of

entrepreneurship, India produced many distinguished entrepreneurs like Jamshedji Tata and Purushottam Thakurdas.

However, the opportunity in present times is quite more than it was in past. This can be seen by economic benefits of investing in this sphere. Economically, India faces challenge of jobless growth. The nation needs more job creators than job takers. It is here that innovation and entrepreneurship will benefit India. We have examples of startups like Google and our own Flipkart that have created enormous employment opportunities.

As with job creation, innovation will also benefit India's agriculture and manufacturing. India needs innovative solutions to deal with challenge of land fragmentation, water shortage, etc in agriculture. The e-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) demonstrates benefits of innovation in sector. In case of manufacturing, entrepreneurship

holds key for creating more efficient processes of production. This would also raise our exports and thus will act as engine of growth and development.

Socially, innovation can create a more just and equitable society. With more employment to people, social progress gets a jillip. New inventions help particularly in health and education. This is witnessed by Tele-health and Tele-education services that have made health and education reach to all. Examples like one of Kalpana Saroj also show how entrepreneurship can lead to women empowerment. Innovation and entrepreneurship can remove many prejudices in society particularly against women, SC/STs, disabled, etc.

Administratively, innovation has lot to offer in good governance. The benefits of e-governance are already being seen with successful examples like Bhoomi project of

Karnataka. Similarly, the Self Help Group (SHG) network has been source of entrepreneurship seen by example of Self Employed Women Association (SEWA) of Ela Bhatt. Entrepreneurship reduces administrative strain of creating jobs for people. Moreover, both these concepts help in greater people participation in governance, reducing corruption and fostering accountability.

Politically, innovation has its benefits in protecting rights of people. This has become more important after Supreme Court declaring right to privacy as fundamental right in Puttaswamy case. More invention is needed in technology to check invasion of privacy. In public sphere, innovation can tackle the adversarial politics with use of money and muscle power. An example is the introduction of VVPAT machines to ensure sanctity of voting process. Also, another

innovative step in form of electoral bonds has been mooted that checks the use of black money in politics.

Environmentally, innovation and entrepreneurship is need of hour. With earth temperatures rising every passing year and climate change posing threat to mankind, only innovation can tackle these challenges. Entrepreneurs are required to come up with innovation in renewable energy sector like solar and wind energy. Also innovative ways of financing like Green bonds, carbon credit system is needed.

With environmental challenges, come challenges of disaster management. India is seeing rise in various disasters with the recent ones being dust storms in North India, heat waves and calamities like Cyclone Ockhi. To tackle them, innovation is needed for early warning, capacity building and fast

response to disaster. For instance, the Tsunami Early Warning System of India has been successful in predicting tsunamis.

Innovation is also essential for our internal and external security. There is opportunity to check ceasefire violations, trafficking by innovative steps like laser walls, use of heat detector sensors, etc. Counterfeit currency can be eliminated by digital technologies. Similarly, entrepreneurship will create more jobs that prevents radicalization of youths.

Above all, innovation and entrepreneurship is needed for India's emergence as global power. This would happen only when India become leader in Artificial Intelligence, machine learning, robotics and other emerging fields. But that needs more innovation and entrepreneurial atmosphere.

Having seen the opportunities

provided by innovation and entrepreneurship, let us see the challenges associated.

The dismal state of affairs

The first major challenge is insufficiency of funds. India spends only 0.6% of its GDP on R&D. Whatever spending happens, $\frac{2}{3}$ rd is by the government and that too in strategic areas like space, defence. The state governments and private sector is rather reluctant in funding innovation.

Along with funding, new innovators and entrepreneurs do not have proper mentoring. We have very limited mentors like Narayan Murthy or Nandan Nilekani. This further prevents innovation to get any experience from past experiments.

One of biggest challenge in the societal support. Indian society has

traditionally been unsupportive of any new innovation. This social stigma act as deterrent for young entrepreneurs and innovators.

Another major challenge is the sorry state of education. The ASER survey points to learning deficiencies among youths. No Indian university ranks in top 100 of Times Higher Education Survey depicting lack of innovation in our universities. There are certain genuine reasons such as innovation is time consuming process. However, the reality is also that very few want to be innovators and entrepreneurs.

Globalisation also puts an hindrance with rise of IPR regime under TRIPS. Thus new innovation gets patented and is not available for future researches. Above all, it is political and administrative willpower that has been lacking. Things are now changing with regard to willpower however lot

has to be done in this direction.

A Silver Lining

Recognizing opportunities of innovation and entrepreneurship, government has taken various initiatives. The most prominent is Start Up and Stand Up India. The MUDRA Yojana has been a boon to women entrepreneurs. The Atal Innovation Mission has been started to train young minds. The National IPR Policy aims to create an innovative atmosphere.

India needs to utilise its diaspora in other countries. For instance, there are 30 lakh Indian Americans including innovators like Sundar Pichai and Satya Nadella. They have to be harnessed and VAJRA scheme is step in right direction.

There is dire need to focus on education by improving its quality.

providing more autonomy and investing in research. Above all, it is the society that needs to promote innovation and entrepreneurship.

Conclusion

In above essay, we saw the opportunities and challenges for innovation and enterprises. We also saw some solutions to problems.

India is at a critical juncture where it has to promote innovation for socio-economic wellbeing. It is required to fulfil ideals of Preamble like equality, justice, etc. The New India will not develop without focus on these two components. We need more examples like Kalpana Chawla to move India forward.

Section
B

The world needs Gandhiji's ideas
more than ever today

It was 1915... Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, a young barrister reached the shores of ~~South Africa~~ India. Staying in South Africa for over three decades, he had seen the discrimination against blacks there. He himself was humiliated and thrown out of a train. He developed his novel methods to get justice for the oppressed in South Africa. His journey in India had started; to take on the mighty British empire.

Gandhiji is one of the tallest leader of his times. Apart from his mass leadership, it is his ideas that are more important. Such has been the influence of his ideas that it has inspired even leaders like Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King. As they

were important then, their significance is no less in present times.

In this essay, we will first discuss some of prominent ideas of Gandhiji. We will then find out why the world needs them more now than ever. We will also examine some challenges in adopting them and how they can be integrated in our daily life.

Decoding Gandhiji

Gandhiji never said that he is a philosopher. Nor did he acknowledge existence of Gandhism. However, there are many who recognize themselves as Gandhians and have utilised his ideas.

Non-violence is core concept of Gandhiji's ideas. For him, non-violence was not just limited to man and animals but he also linked it with self-suffering. He considered his enemy as part of his mistakes. Another prominent

idea of Gandhiji is Satyagraha. He considered it as non-violent means to achieve truth.

Gandhiji also emphasised on continuity of ends and means. If end is truth, then means has to be non-violence and satyagraha. Another important concept given by him was Struggle-Trouce-Struggle considering limited capacity of masses. Though these ideas helped in India's independence, why do the world need them now?

Gandhiji's relevance: Then and Now

As pointed out earlier, Gandhiji proved as motivator not just of India but of entire colonial world. After independence, India did follow his ideals like equality, liberty etc. But he is more important to world in present times.

Consider the economic sphere. India and world are facing huge challenges of employment generation.

Developing world is unable to grapple with challenges of rural development and agriculture. However, Gandhiji had given solution to them way before. He had called for development of cottage industry and Khadi-Charkha economy. In Grandhian Plan given by S.N Agarwal and Sripad Narayan, the focus was on dairy, livestock rearing. Gandhiji was not in favour of replacing humans with machines that have created current problem of joblessness.

Similar to economic, Gandhiji is essential for societal growth. Today, there is rise of mob violence, communalism in country. People are being inhumanely lynched by mob with cases like Dhule in Maharashtra being most prominent. Gandhiji's non-violence thus is need of hour. At global level, refugees and rising immigration has created multicultural society.

To deal with challenges of accomodating these diversities, there is need to adopt Gandhian ideals.

This concept of toleration is also critical in religious sphere. Gandhiji always stressed on harmony among religions. In modern times, neo-Gandhians like Ashis Nandy have written anti-secularism manifesto suggesting dialogue between religions.

How much relevant is Gandhiji's ideas for vulnerable sections? The answer is not just affirmative but also more stronger than ever. Gandhiji had started Harijan Sewak Sangh. He fought for rights of Dalits and downthrodde. Gandhiji also focused on women empowerment. He included women in national movement. As crimes against women and vulnerables are rising like Una violence, there is strong necessity for world to adopt Gandhiji's ideas.

While our society is plagued with myriad challenges, the polity is not completely isolated. Politics all across the world has become extremely toxic. There is rise of religion and caste in politics over the years. Identity politics is being encouraged to gain power. Gandhiji had argued for harmony of means and ends. Today as this harmony is being broken, Gandhiji is highly relevant. Ethics ~~not~~ and politics should go together otherwise it will lead to a death trap.

Along with polity, even the administrative apparatus require Gandhiji's ideals. Due to lack of ethical outlook, there is rising corruption all over the world.

India's own ranking in Transparency International's Corruption

Perceptiveness Index is 81/180. By being ethical, administration can be freed from corruption, favouritism and nepotism.

Another Gandhian ideal relevant in administration is people participation. It is for this that Gandhiji argued in favour of direct democracy. India and globe has to adopt democratic decentralization to increase accountability and peoples' say in governance. It also has an educative role in society.

In sphere of education too Gandhiji has given his novel ideas. World faces problem of quality education and skills. India itself has only about 2% of its workforce with relevant skills. Gandhiji had given concept of NAI TALIM. He asked people to learn about life by experience rather than only from books. He also gave advice of 'earning while learning'. We need to adopt them for inclusive and employment oriented education.

In all these dimensions, perhaps Grandhiji is most relevant in environmental sphere. The world is facing today a huge challenge of climate change. According to NASA, world's average temperature has raised by 1.1°C from second half of 19th century. Arctic ice is melting and oceans are becoming more acidic.

Grandhiji had long criticized the Western model of development. In his Hind Swaraj, he critically noted that if world follows Western model of development, there will be need of 9 more earths. According to him, earth has everything for one's needs but not for one's greed.

He also argued that we ^{do not} inherit the world from our ~~the~~ ancestors, we borrow it from our children. Humanity has to listen to these ideals to save earth from a catastrophe.

As climate change is a global

problem, so is terrorism. There are increase in activities of terror groups such as Islamic State. If Gandhiji's strategy of non-violence is followed then this problem can be averted. World also has problems like nuclear weapons, wars in Afghanistan, Syria that prevent global peace. This can be solved through non-violence and toleration. Any violence leads to more violence whether at global level or India's case like human right violations in Naxal belt, Jammu and Kashmir, etc.

Grandhian ideas thus stand for world peace, preventing the world from becoming hell. New disruptions in field of technology like Artificial Intelligence have created additional concerns. Though they may make life more easy for people, they have potential of making people jobless. Gandhiji's

principles of sarwodaya can be followed in this case. He called for the capitalist to act as trust and people/employees as trustee. He asked employer to take care of his employees. This ideal gets highlighted in modern times of neo-liberal globalisation.

Moreover, what we need to learn from Gandhiji at individual level is his ideals of empathy, compassion, forgiveness, etc.

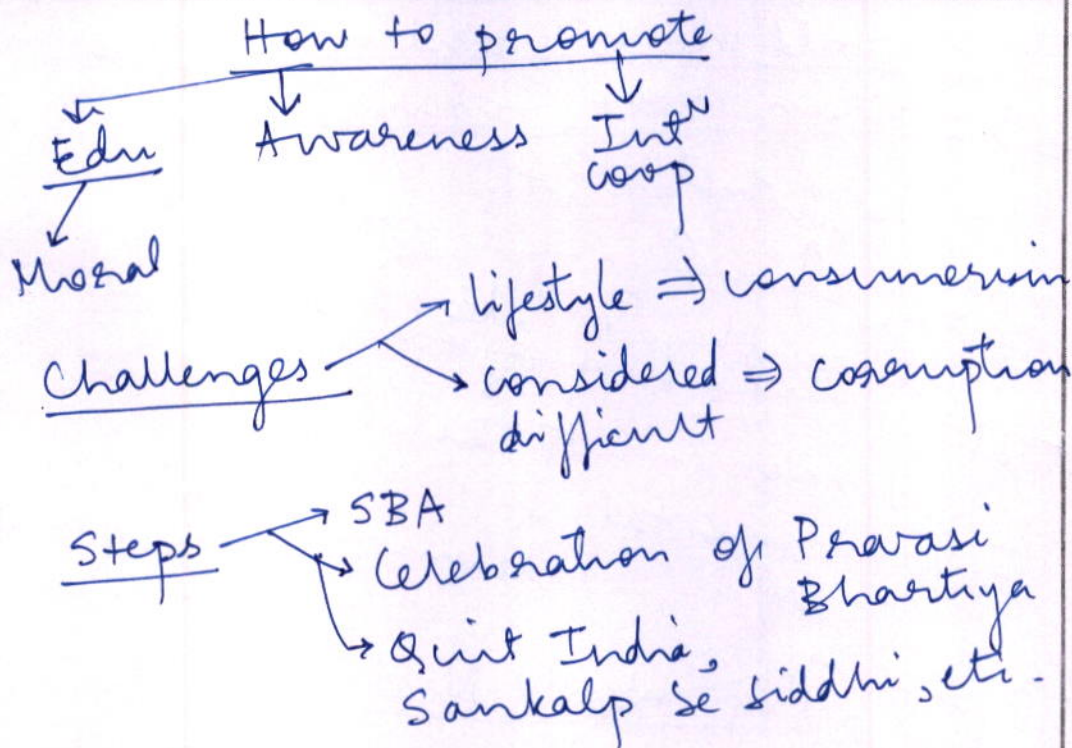
Gandhiji stood for them without any compromise. We need more of such ideas seeing greater materialism and individualistic lifestyle. Social capital has to be promoted using Gandhiji's thoughts.

Though world acknowledge these ideals, ~~the~~ humanity is reluctant to embrace them. Common reasons given are difficult in changing oneself. Similarly, people argue that only one person cannot

Stay honest in this unethical world. True, the change is hard but not impossible. Only revolutions take place in a day, reform is a continuous process. Thus a step by step approach is needed.

In India, the government has started Swachh Bharat Mission to achieve Gandhi's idea of Cleanliness. The Swaachta Hi Seva campaign has been launched. Similarly, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas are day to remember Gandhi's ideals and morals.

World in general and India in particular has to adapt Gandhian ideas. It is true that they are more needed than ever before. Delay has already happened. Any further delay will only prove counterproductive.



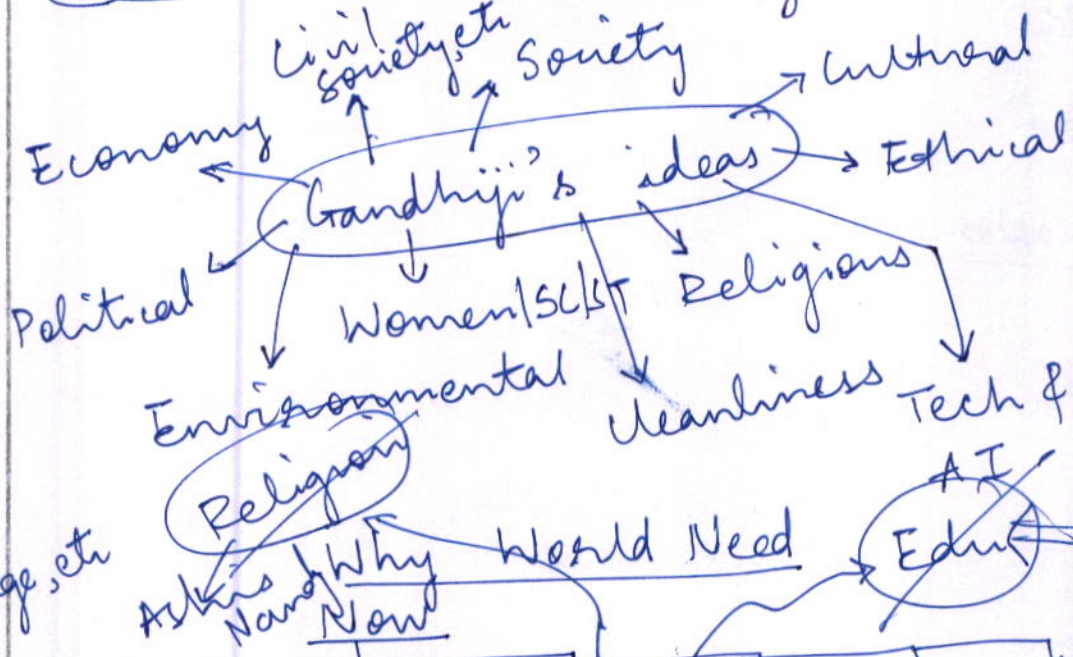
Conclude :

As world face challenge he is needed.

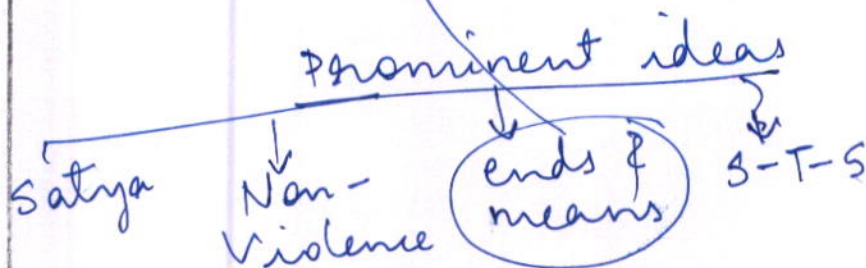
Start : It was 1915... ~~Gandhi~~ Mohandas —

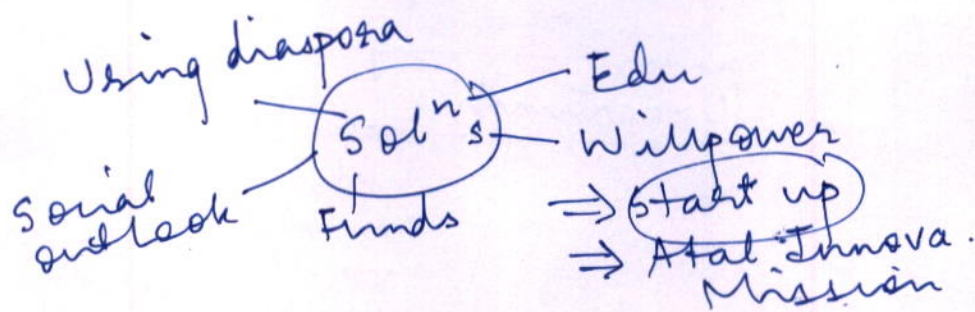
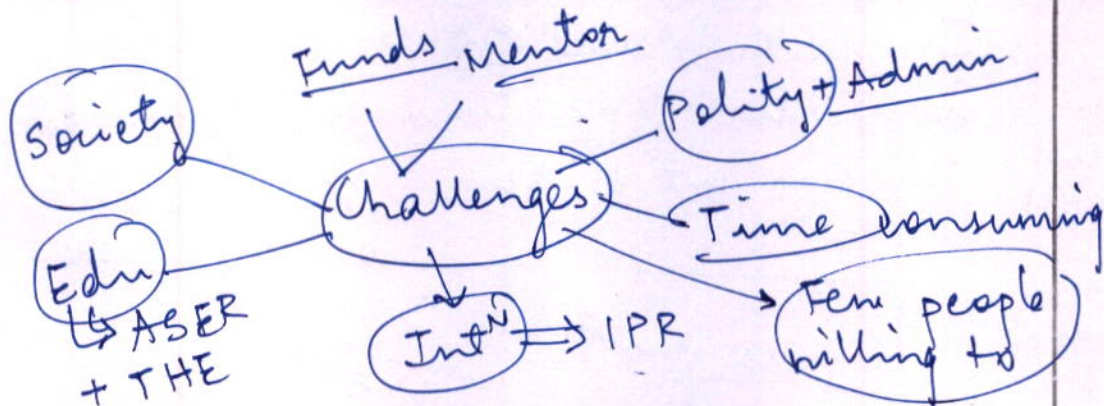
boarded on journey to S. Africa. Facing discri, ~~denied~~ he was thrown from train sitting in compartment of whites. Thus was start of — .

The world needs Gandhi's ideas more than ever today



Admin. ⇒ Corruption, citizen charter, etc.





Conclude ⇒ Sabka Saath, Samsthi..

Start: Kalpana Sarej, garment factory of \$100 million

- Demographic
- Window of opportunity.
- Dismal state
- A silver lining

Innovation and entrepreneurship
in India: Opportunities and Challenges
What is it: Thinking out of box being one's own enterprise

