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SUBJECT:	ESSAY TEST (767)	Test Code:	7	6	7	-
Name of Candidate	SAUMYA PANDEY					
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENG.	Registration Number	2	5	3	8
Center	ONLINE	Date				

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:				
1/8-B, 2 nd Floor, Building- Apsara Arcade, Near Gate-7 Karol Bagh Metro Station, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi – 110005				

1/8-B, 2nd Floor, Building- Apsara Arcade, Near Gate-7 Karol Bagh Metro Station, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi – 110005

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:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

VOTING IS THE RIGHT UPON WHICH
ALL OTHER RIGHTS DEPEND

"The right of voting for representative is the primary right by which other rights are protected. To take away this right is to reduce a man to slavery, for slavery consists in being subject to the will of another and he that has not a vote in election is in this case"

- Thomas Paine.

The above lines by political thinker Thomas Paine aptly captures the importance of voting as the fundamental right of a human being. Voting means the ability of a person to cast his choice in form of ballot to choose his representatives. Voting encapsulates within its realm the social, political, economic, administrative and even spiritual aspirations of the voter and his/her preferences for a

Candidate. It is in this light that the
a voting rights become all the more
crucial particularly in a democratic
set up which underlines a government
of the people, for the people and by the
people.

If we walk back the steps into
Indian history we find that deliberations
and discussions were a part of our
political setup right from the vedic
age where Sabhas and samitis were the
~~Age~~ advisory bodies to the Ruler. Although
the rule was hereditary, yet concerns of
people could be voiced via these samitis
with involvement of women and elders.
The Mahajanpadas that followed were
the first Republics in Indian history
producing efficient kings like Chandragupta
Mauya, Ashoka, Bimbisara etc. The
chola kingdom of South India was known
for the autonomy to local panchayats.

The Delhi Sultanate and Mughals, that followed in medieval India were monarchies and autocratic rules, but aberrations in the form of Akbar did exist who allowed consultative processes to flourish and worked for welfare of masses. There were systems of hearing ^{Public} complaints in Diwan-e-Aam and taking actions against corrupt mansabdars and officials.

The beginning of Modern History with British Raj ~~sat~~ witnessed limited franchise (limited on basis of property and literacy levels). Due to this limited franchise, the Britishers were able to completely exploit India and its people converting it from a land of exporter of finished goods to an exporter of raw materials and importer of ^{British} finished goods. The absence of voting rights rendered our social, political and economic exploitation in the form of 'Drain of wealth' (as propounded by Dadabhai Naoroji), suppressive laws like

Rowlatt Act, Jallianwala Bagh massacre, little rights for women and vulnerable sections. Our Nationalist leaders understood this very well and due to their continuous efforts, the scope of franchise expanded slowly and steadily with acts like Government of India Acts 1909, 1919, 1935 and finally the Indian Independence in 1947. Gandhiji had said, "A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history". He realized the power of the masses and voting as a tool to gain Independence. Even Dr BR Ambedkar had underscored the importance of voting as, "It is not enough to be elected only. It is necessary to be law makers; otherwise those who can be law makers will be masters of those who can be electors".

Our Constitution makers realized the

importance of voting and hence post-Independent India became one of the first countries in the world to adopt Universal Adult Franchise granting every citizen the right to cast vote irrespective of caste, creed, gender, race etc. Though our Constitution was inspired by the ideals of French Revolution (Liberty, equality and Fraternity), American Revolution (Bill of Human Rights), England's Magna Carta etc, but still we gave our voting rights a universal outlook. Women in France and USA were granted voting in 1960s, while India granted universal franchise in 1947 itself. Right to vote was incorporated in Article 326, making it a Constitutional right. The Right Representation of People's Act 1950 also guarantees voting rights to all citizens above age of 18 years. It is also a duty of all citizens to participate in voting process to make their voice heard.

All the Fundamental Rights and Constitutional Rights ~~are~~ directly or indirectly emanate from the Right to Vote. The principles of liberty, equality and fraternity, Rule of law, Equality before law, Secular state, Right to Life and Personal liberty, Freedom of speech and expression, social justice, etc all rest upon the integrity and accountability of the state. All the three organs - Legislature, Executive and Judiciary, who make laws, implement and adjudicate these respectively have to be ultimately accountable to the masses. The Ballot is more powerful than the Bullet and mandate of people is the touchstone on whose foundation a vibrant democracy rests upon.

Here the role of various stakeholders must be highlighted. Pressure Groups, civil society, political parties, media including social media etc play an important role in consensus building and shaping the aspirations of people which decides their voting pattern. Each actor must add on constructively to the ~~cons~~ ^{opinions} of people, without creating hatred, biasness or using unfair means. The civil society's role must be to develop an informed and proactive citizenry and spread awareness about the value of a vote in ~~policy~~ ^{policy making} choosing representatives and ultimately policy making. The political parties must clearly spell out their ideology, structure, functioning in their manifestos and not mislead people, neither indulge in hate mongering and empty rhetoric.

The media is the fourth pillar of democracy and the prime source of information dissemination to the people. Both print and electronic media must refrain from sensationalization, broadcasting paid news, showing biased opinion polls, broadcasting hate and communal speeches etc. Instead they should try to show a complete picture with equal coverage to all parties' policies.

The most important agent of Elections in India is the Election Commission of India (ECI) which acts as an independent, fair and neutral regulator and conducts ~~the~~ central and state elections. ECI ensures free and fair elections, prevents use of muscle and money power, regulates misuse of state power by ruling dispensation, implements Model

Code of conduct, and ~~pr~~ ensures awareness generation for increased participation. But recent cases of booth capturing in Tamil Nadu Assembly elections as well as misuse of freebies in Bihar elections have highlighted the need to give more teeth to ECI along with more punitive powers. Making Model of Conduct statutory and bringing political parties under Right to Information Act are also certain suggestions mooted by experts to strengthen the election systems.

The Role of Judiciary in strengthening the voting rights of the citizens also cannot be understated. The introduction of NOTA option on EVMs ~~was~~ by the (None of the Above) apex court was a watershed moment in our election history. It was a sign of rejection of all political parties and ~~the~~ ^{a sign of} sovereignty and supremacy of

the people. Similarly cancelling the elections of ~~disputed~~ candidates found to be indulged in both rigging and capturing and ordering re polls in areas marred by violence or cheating also highlight the reputation of judiciary to enhance transparency in elections.

Barring convicted candidates from
Contesting and making it compulsory for Candidates to show their assets and liabilities highlight the importance attached to upholding a clean political system in minds of people.

Another milestone in the victory of grass root democracy in India was the enactment of 73rd and 74th Amendment Acts (1993) giving constitutional status to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) along with regular mandatory elections to these entrusted with State Election Commission.

It also ~~em~~ mandated ^{at least} 33% reservation to women in P.R.'s and U.B.s furthering the principle of gender equality and women empowerment. The PESA extended voting rights to scheduled areas and gave the locals and tribals ^{the} right to ^{micro} manage their resources. The recent legislations by Rajasthan and Haryana mandating certain ^{Pre-}Conditions like educational qualifications, having functional tielets, capping no. of children etc, although passed in reformatory spirit had negative fallouts leaving a large section of population outside the eligibility criteria to ^{stand} participate in elections. Such laws must be brought about in a phased ~~manner~~ ^{and} with the top-down manner (meaning first MPs ~~th~~ → MLAs → local bodies).

While the voting rights ensure political democracy, much gaps remain in arenas of social and economic democracy.

One vote one value will be rendered meaningless if the divide between the have and have nots is widening in the society. The vulnerable sections - women, SC, ST, minorities, elders, rural landless farmers, urban labourers, LGBTs, differently abled etc must be streamlined in our socio-political set up so that their vote really counts.

The recent Bihar elections showed that women turnout was much higher (70%) as compared to males, which shows that women are much more concerned about the problems plaguing the society in general and women in particular. Similarly high youth turnout in 2014 Lok Sabha elections highlighted the vigilance and proactive nature of India's young demography. The successful elections and high turnout in North East, Jammu and Kashmir, Left wing Extremist areas, remote-inaccessible areas shows the

highly spirited voters and the celebration
of elections as a festival of democracy
in India.

The candidate profile has also has to be highlighted here. It is rather unfortunate that even after seven decades of independence, in some areas, majority of candidates are illiterate, use ~~muscle~~ muscle / money power and are convicted of crimes. Moreover social engineering, communal cards, liquor cards etc are ~~is~~ used by parties to woo the voters. Mud slinging on opposite parties to gain brownie points is also common. Important lessons can be learnt in this regard from the west where informed debates between candidates shape public opinions. Although educational qualification is no guarantee of good administration, yet ~~iterate~~ educated leaders instil confidence and promote innovative policy formulation.

To make voting more efficient and effective, social media can be used constructively to ~~info~~ mobilize the masses, particularly youth on importance of voting. The Republic Day Parade of 2015 had a special tableaux by ECI showcasing the elections as a crucible of democracy.

The use of EVMS and EPIC by ECI, ~~seper~~ participation of blind and other divyangs, leprosy patients etc also highlight the social equity that can be seen in booth ~~queues~~. queues. It instills a feeling of social justice among the masses, which is a prerequisite to economic prosperity.

Another point of debate is the type of election system. India follows First Past the Post System wherein the party with majority of the vote share comes to power. Some critics argue that this leads to vote bank politics. A mix of Proportional

representation and PPTP is ^{here} worth trying
for.

Voting as a right is not only important
for us as national citizens but also as
global citizens. The rising demands
for democratization of United Nations
Security Council, IMF voting rights,
World Bank voting rights highlight this
fact. The North-South divide has led
to more weightage been given to the
developed countries and therefore denial
of ^{due} rights to developing countries.
The establishment of BRICS Bank, AIIB
etc as counter to IMF and WB bear
testimony to this fact.

Therefore one could argue that
voting is the cornerstone of any
political setup (democratic or otherwise).
Some recent reports highlight the
high satisfaction of people in democracies
and their faith in ^{transparent} election systems.
And as Martin Luther King puts it,

“ ~~our~~ vote

“And so we shall have to register more than vote; we shall have to create leaders who ~~or~~ embody virtues we can respect, who have moral and ethical principles we can applaud with enthusiasm”.

X

SECTION B

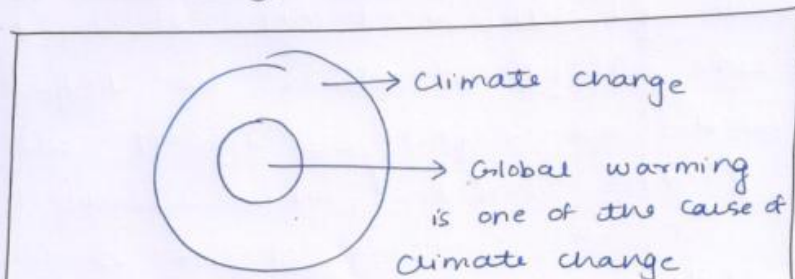
RAISE YOUR VOICE, NOT THE SEA LEVEL

"Prakrathi: Rakshati Rakshita"

(Nature Protects if she is protected)

According to experts, we are living in that part of the 21st century where on one hand human race is advancing by leaps and bounds, but on the other hand the planet is witnessing the highest rate of biodiversity loss since the Mesozoic era (age of mass extinction of dinosaurs when no humans existed). Due to ~~to~~ unprecedented rates of climate change, water scarcity, pollution, extinctions etc, Professor Wilson of Harvard University calls this era as Eremozoic era or Age of loneliness with emotional shock and trauma for humans.

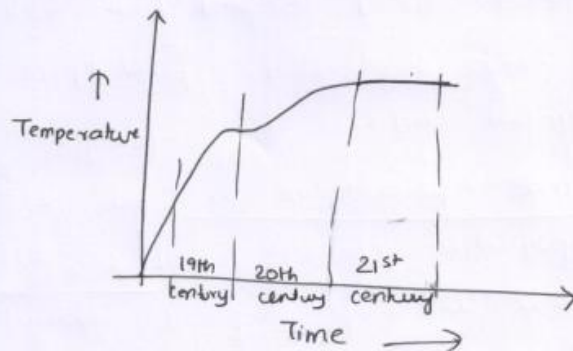
Global warming and Climate change are oft-heard terms but not completely understood and often interchangeably used. Global warming refers to the rise in average temperatures of the Earth. (due to anthropogenic causes). Climate change refers to the changes in average temperature, precipitation, erratic cycles of seasons, extreme conditions, water scarcity, disasters etc. ~~with~~



Relationship between Global Warming and Climate change

✱ According to IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change), ~~presently~~ contrary

to the popular belief we are presently
in an age of controlled Global warming



Even the World Development Report (WDR)
2015 used the term 'Controlled Global
Warming' to describe today's scenario as
the rate of ~~rise~~ yearly rise in temperature
is $0.8^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{year}$ as compared to $1.9^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{year}$
in 1850s.

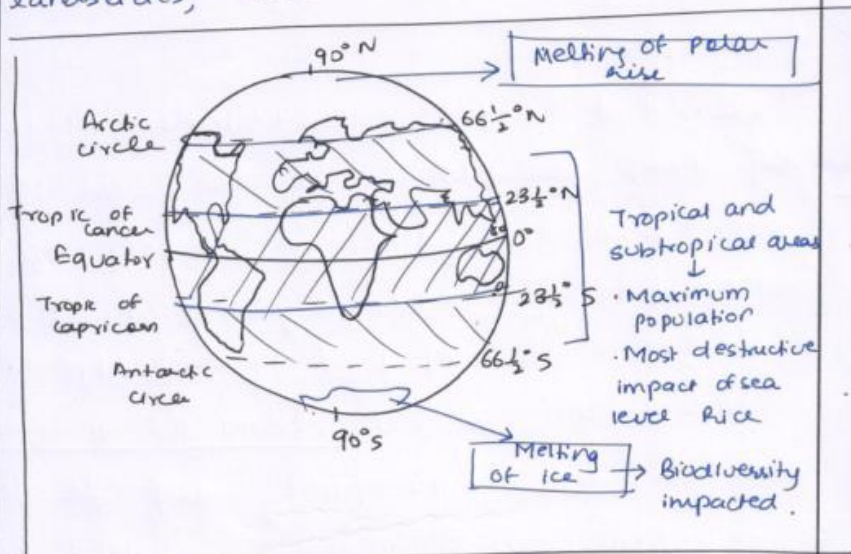
Causes of Global warming ~~range~~ ^{are} broadly
divided into - Natural and Anthropogenic.
While Natural factors include - sunspots,
Volcanic activities, Radioactivity, Milan-ovitch
cycles (law of eccentricity, Inclination and
Precession) - which are beyond human control,

what is worrying is the alarming contribution of anthropogenic factors. Human induced factors lead to an abrupt increase in Greenhouse effect whereby the ~~to~~ incoming short wave solar radiations are allowed to pass but the reflected long wave terrestrial radiations are trapped by greenhouse gases like Methane (CH_4), Carbon dioxide (CO_2), Water vapour (H_2O), Nitrous oxide (N_2O), Sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6) etc, raising temperature of Earth. The burning of fossil fuels in industries, automobile emission, urbanization, deforestation, lifestyle changes, backward agricultural practices etc all lead to increase in concentration of GHG in the atmosphere. The Industrial Revolution in the 1750s in Britain, followed by similar cycles of industrialization elsewhere, led to a huge increase in GHG in the atmosphere triggering global warming. This was followed by colonisation of

third world countries by Britain and indiscriminate exploitation of resources there, leading to further deterioration of Environment. The era of decolonisation in 1960s saw many newly independent countries but these were dependent on unclear sources of energy with large population further increasing GH effect and global warming.

The culmination of above historical factors led to a bleeding point for our planet - adversely affecting the lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere and Biosphere. The most profound impact is rise in sea levels. Due to increase in average global temperatures, there would be melting of ice in higher latitudes and consequent rise in sea level in tropical and equatorial zones where majority of population resides. This would lead to submergence of lowlying land areas and

Coastal areas putting lives of millions at stake. Other ecological impacts include loss of biodiversity, extreme summers, cycles of drought and flood, untimely intense cyclones, forest fires, water scarcity, disturbance in food chain and food web, keystone species becoming extinct, coral bleaching, ocean acidification, landslides, etc.



The ecological impacts will have social, economic and political fallout as well.

The brunt of climate change will be borne out by the vulnerable sections of society - women, children, elderly, lower caste, lower class, tribals, differently abled, urban poor, rural landless farmers - particularly in the developing and least developed countries. The small and island countries with least protection mechanism and most vulnerable positions, would be severely impacted. Eg: If sea level rises by 2 metres per year, countries like Tuvalu in Pacific would be submerged.

The economic impacts of global warming would be huge. It will lead to extra burden on exchequer for adopting climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies apart from ^{economic} loss due to biodiversity and disaster. The increase in frequency of epidemics like dengue, ~~chik~~ chikengunia etc leads to extra costs

on health facilities for citizens. The increased temperatures would lead to lower productivities and efficiency of population in tropics, increased use of ACs, coolers further aggravating the cycle. Failure of agriculture can lead to problems of food security and water scarcity triggering the vicious cycle of poverty, malnutrition, infant deaths, child stunting etc pushing more populations below poverty lines.

Global warming is also having political fallouts. Two schools of thought have emerged - Deterministics vs Radicalists. Determinists want no further tampering with nature and return to old ways less energy intensive ways of living while Radicalists want development at the cost of Environment. The 'Green Parties' in Germany, France, USA and even in India are fighting elections in name of environment protection. The rise in terrorism and

immigration crisis of Europe can also be linked to climate change. Thus such a multi dimensionally complex ~~to~~ ~~for~~ hydra headed monster wants ~~a~~ multi dimensional solutions.

The attention to this grave problem was drawn in 1972 with the Conference on Human Environment and Development by ~~thead~~ heads of states.

The 1992 ^{Rio} ~~Earth~~ Summit was a watershed moment in history of climate change conferences. Popularly called the Earth Summit, it culminated in adoption of -
1. UNFCCC (United Nation Framework Convention of climate change)

2. Agenda 21 (for sustainable development)
 3. CBD (Convention on Biodiversity)
 4. UN Convention ^{to} ~~on~~ Combat Desertification
 5. Forest Principles.
- (1,3,4 being legally binding).

Almost all countries of UN were signatories to UNFCCC which mandates to limit the global rise in temperature.

Annual conference of Parties (COPs) have been held - prominent one being Kyoto Protocol (1997, ~~ratified~~ came into effect in 2005). It put binding obligations on industrialized nations (Annex I) to decrease the ~~GHG~~ emission by 5% of pre-industrial levels. Due to non ratification by major global economies like USA, Canada, Japan Kyoto protocol ~~could~~ was not a success. The latest COP was COP-21 or Paris summit saw an unprecedented collective concerns and adopting of action plan to limit the rise of temperature rise by 2°C by the end of this century and even strive to limit it to 1.5°C. The ~~approach~~ The renewed bottom-up approach, submission of INDCs (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions), CBDR (Common But Differentiated Responsibilities),

Climate justice, Green climate fund, Market mechanisms for carbon trade, adaptation and mitigation strategies, financial and technical assistance to developing countries, collaborative mitigation strategies, development of climate resilient agriculture and carbon smart solutions (CCS, carbon sequestration, carbon neutral biofuels etc) are some of the many points pondered upon in this summit. Paris summit should try to emulate successful Protocols like Montreal Protocol (99.7% reduction in CFCs causing ozone depletion) and Ramsar convention (successful protection of wetlands). This will require collective, collaborative, pro-active, citizen-centric approach imbining community participation, moral responsibilities, respecting indigenous practices and adopting shunning energy-lavish lifestyles.

India's role in all these global summits

deserves special mention. Blessed with rich conservation practices - sacred groves, worshipping nature, harmonizing with living organisms, peaceful coexistence with mother nature etc - India has taken a leading role in voicing concerns of developing and least developed countries among the dominant voices of industrialized world. Highlighting the North-South Energy Divide and the vulnerabilities of LDCs due to global warming, India was successful in incorporating CBDR clause in Paris Summit. India also took the lead in launching International Solar Alliance (ISA, HQ - Gurugram) as an alliance of 121 tropical countries to harness solar energy. Though India's per capita emission stands far behind US, EU, Russia and China, yet India's INDCs are very ambitious - reducing GHGs emission by 33-35% by 2030 from 2005 levels, creating 2.5-3 billion tonnes of carbon sink, afforestation, 40% energy from non fossil fuel sources. India

has also taken many proactive national steps starting from a dedicated ministry for Environment, Forest and Climate change (MoEFCE), National Action Plans for climate change (NAPCC), State Action Plans, Afforestation, social forestry, Van Mahotsav, Green Bonds (BSE, Greenex), Air Quality Index, NGTs ban on diesel cars, Odd-Even Formula of cars, Bharat stage norms, Colour Code of industries, SC's judgement for environment conservation, waste management Rules 2016, Wetland conservation, Namami Ganga, Swachha Bharat, Zero defect zero reject, Per crop more crop etc. We are also pondering on Green GDP (Parthasarathy Shome Committee) to incorporate environmental costs of increasing GDP. Our Constitution mentions environmental conservation as a Fundamental Duty and Directive Principles.

Combating climate change requires all-round steps from micro to macro levels.

Every individual, family, society, nation and the globe as a whole has to understand the intrinsic value of conservation and frugal use of resources. Along with technological and innovative solutions, a change in mindset and attitude is the need of the hour. Environmental ethics and Deep Ecological Principles cannot be forced by a law, they have to be inherently understood. Saving environment not for the sake of humanity but for the sake of our shared responsibility with all the living organisms we share the planet with and as a moral obligation towards future generation - this has to be internalised. As Albert Einstein ~~had~~ puts it, "We shall need a substantially new way of thinking if humanity has to survive".
