

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.

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SECTION-(A) :→ WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A GLOBAL CITIZEN?

It was the time of early 1920s, the Indian National struggle was going through tumultuous restructuring, with various ideologies, personalities, strategies being adopted and rejected at a rate unseen before that time.

Every faction talked about its own selfish interests, for example, the All India muslim League started to become well known for its parochial communist agenda, similar arguments can be drawn for the Hindu Mahasabha etc. Even, the father of our nation, Gandhi ji, who represented the most accommodating politics for that time, having the ability to woo diverse opinions and standpoints, was still very cautious, when it came to finding solutions to problems where possibility of a class struggle existed, such as the issues between zamindars and

their landless labourers. Thus, even Gandhiji first thought about India and then about the world. (arguments exist both in favour and against of this viewpoint).

In such times; there was a man; BHAGAT SINGH, who through the platform of HSRA (Hindustan socialist Republican Association) advocated, without a flicker of doubt; that mere independence from the British is not the solution; rather, India needed a system in which the EXPLOITATION OF MAN BY MAN BECOMES IMPOSSIBLE. His sympathies were for the one who was exploited; even if the person was not an Indian.

In this anecdote cum example, Bhagat Singh by being a global citizen united the society on global issues; and; made his followers see the societal evils not just from an Indian eye, rather a human eye, a global eye.

For this essay, we shall attempt to "definitionally" understand the meaning of a global citizen.

We would then attempt to understand the meaning of the essay's title from various perspectives, which would range from the perspectives of social actors (such as capitalists, feminists etc) to the perspectives of social institutions (such as religion etc).

Then, we would attempt to analyze if the meaning of global citizenship has varied temporally and spatially.

On an ending note, we would try to understand why the notion of global citizenship can not be applied unconditionally as such developments may undermine national ambitions.

DEFINITIONAL MEANING

If we attempt to have a definitional approach to the topic of "Being a global citizen"; we can define it as a philosophy which is not limited by borders, parochial social identities such as religion, language etc; but rather looks at the wider issues from an all encompassing perspective.

MEANING FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

The traditional Indian perspective puts emphasis on the concept of VASUDEVA KUTUMBAKAM; which means; that the entire world is one family. Thus it inspires a person to sympathise with people different from him, species different from his own and problems which not necessarily impact him but impact

Someone else.

Similarly, looking at the concept of being a global citizen from the perspective of religious philosophies; we can see that almost all religions encourage its followers to sympathise with the entire human race. In Jainism, the concept is extended to even non-living things, where a human is encouraged to see soulful existence in even inanimate objects and thus, treat them with respect and compassion. Thus, religions too, attempt to give a grand meaning to the term "global citizen".

The concept of global citizen can also be understood from a capitalists perspective. A capitalist, say a computer manufacturer is as much concerned about technology development in USA, as he/she is about hardware assembly in China or business process outsourcing in India.

Thus, sometimes the economic concerns of the modern world, force a person to become a global citizen, as the concerned economic interests are no longer narrowly limited to a geography, ideology or person, for example, a macdonald outlet is marketed as a "family restaurant" in India, and it boasts about being "HALAL CERTIFIED" in Saudi Arabia; this phenomenon known as "macdonaldization" (source:- Ritzer) is closely related to the concept of being a global citizen.

From the perspective of science, we can understand what being a global citizen means. If we look around ourselves, we can see that the different scientific developments we cherish, were developed by people from globally diverse backgrounds for the entire world! . For example, the man behind the development of the life saving

drug Penicillin, Alexander Fleming, refused to register a patent to his name, so that the drug can be cheaply produced for the entire world. This is one example of being a global citizen for global science. Similarly, in covid crisis, India distributed indigenously developed Coveshield vaccine for free to multiple countries; this is expressing the spirit of India's global citizenship as a nation.

From the feminist perspective, being a global citizen means to see the oppression of women in society, irrespective of national boundaries, whether the oppression is societally or religiously sanctioned. The recent "#METOO" campaign of USA, became "#SENDEANALAT" campaign of Turkey; thus the same issue got societal attention in different languages, geographies etc. i.e. the

issue caught attention of the global citizenry.

In a similar manner, a true environmentalist understands the true importance of being a global citizen. If we see from an environmentalist's perspective, the black carbon found in Indian Himalayas, has a direct correlation with burning of Amazon forests in Brazil. On a similar note, despite India-China faceoffs in Galwan valley, both countries' scientists were busy cooperating to arrest the glacial meltdown in Himalayas; because they understand that larger environmental concerns need them to think not like Indians or Chinese, but as GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTALISTS. Similarly, the ISA (International Solar Alliance), lead by India and France, advocates global partnership in developing clean solar technology for global citizens.

Philanthropists, also serve to be leading examples of being global citizens!

From a true philanthropists perspective, a sufferer is a sufferer, not an Indian sufferer or an American sufferer.

For example, Bill Gates, through the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, is one of the principal founders of or donors of India's NACO (National Aids Control Programme).

From the perspective of international cooperation, the world has had an increasing realization of the concept of global citizenship. When the world war I happened and concluded; the world realized the importance of addressing global concerns globally and thus formed "LEAGUE OF NATIONS". When this cooperation failed and world war II also happened and concluded, the world nations designed a more closely

knit and more systematic, the UNITED NATIONS. This institution of UN is itself a reflection of the global understanding of the need of global nationalism.

But, in order to truly understand the concept of being a global citizen, we need to incorporate some more dimensions to our essay:→

TEMPORAL DIMENSION

The meaning of being a global citizen has differed temporally; for example, in the ancient times; it meant being able to wear clothes and taste spices traded from far off lands, such as Indian and Chinese silk, spices etc traded via the SILK ROUTE.

Gradually, the meaning of global citizenship evolved to COLONIAL EMPIRE

BUILDING ; wherein a true global citizen ~~hailed~~ hailed from a country with a vast colonial empire, such as Britain. It also meant to globally civilize the populations like one's own ; for example ; the "WHITEMAN'S BURDEN" ideology of Britain.

Later, or in other words, in the contemporary times, a true global citizen is the one who appreciates the natural and social diversity in the world, and, does not look at issues from a parochially defined mindset.

GEOGRAPHICAL DIMENSION

we can understand this dimension using the contemporary global developments involving two countries :- INDIA and CHINA.

Where, it appears, that the Chinese

meaning of global citizenship means extending the chinese empire, chinese ideology etc; which can be seen in china's DEBT TRAP POLICY; and the visible resistance it invites from various countries.

on the other hand; India's meaning of global citizenship is to have a greater empathy towards the globally diverse, yet isolated issues. For example, India is one of the few countries who have a strict anti-Taliban stance in a world which is increasingly accommodative of it. India never fails to give voice to the concerns of poor African nations at the United Nations. India also went on to the extent of building the Afghan parliament and training their entire fleet of foreign service officers, thus, India's global citizenship means a stronger voice

for all the nations in need of global attention. But, sometimes, the idea of "global citizen" has to be balanced with "national citizen",

IMPORTANCE OF "NATIONAL CITIZENS": →

India's acclaimed freedom fighter, Netaji Subhash chandra Bose talked about the balance between nationalism and internationalism (an idea closely linked to global citizen).

He argued that "nationalism was required for effective internationalism". For example, when India degraded the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir, it (India) started being questioned by the international forces (and rightly so).

But, in such scenarios, it became important for India to be less accomo-

latitude of the international opinion, because only India was best suited to understand its immediate "national concerns". Thus in similar occasions, there arises a need to balance the global concerns with national perspectives.

On an ending note, we can conclude by reminding ourselves that the meaning of being a global citizen is very vast; wherein it is different for different social players/institutions.

It is important for a true global citizen to appreciate conflicting ideologies and opinions; as "global issues" are ~~indeed~~ indeed a "rainbow" of issues.

But, as we discussed through an Indian example, sometimes, it may become

necessary to invoke one's "national citizenship", before embarking on the journey to being a global citizen.

SECTION - B.

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE IS KEY FOR FUTURE READY GOVERNANCE

Shyam, a landless labourer from a sleepy village in Uttar Pradesh, was done working on his MGNREGA project, which was renovating the local panchayati raj office.

He, after completing the project, had to wait for around 25 days, before he would be paid for his work.

Even on the payments day, his ordeal was not over, as he had to receive his payment from the panchayati raj office, where the officer often demanded payment for disbursing his (Shyam's) earnings, Shyam, being illiterate and unaware of his rights, could not identify the corruption in

this transaction.

But, one day, the government announced that Shyam's payment would be directly transferred to his JAN DHAN

ACCOUNT within 15 days. With this one digital change, not only did Shyam earned more (no corruption), he also earned in less time.

In this example we saw, through a hypothetical but very realistic example; the importance of digital infrastructure for future ready governance.

In this essay, we shall discuss the meaning of the term "digital infrastructure" and how it broadly relates to governance.

Then, we shall attempt to understand the "digitization-governance" link from multiple perspectives and examples of government schemes.

In the end, we shall emphasize on developing the "human resource infrastructure", along with digital infrastructure to ensure future ready and sustainable governance.

MEANING OF KEY TERMS

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE refers to the complete digital ecosystem through which various organs of an institutions transact their day to day business. For example, in case of Government of India, the digital ecosystem behind Banking services, various ministries etc.

On a similar note, when the digital

ecosystem of a government is strong enough to cater to futuristic challenges (such as cyber threats etc); we call it a digital base for future ready governance.

VARIOUS DIMENSIONS AND LINKS BETWEEN DIGITISATION AND GOVERNANCE :-

In the financial domain, it is very important for a future-ready government to be digitally adapt.

For example, in the early 1990s, due to lack of digitization and corresponding lapses in digital traceability and accountability, India witnessed the financially disastrous "HARSHAD MAHTA SCAM". Similarly in the recent Nirav Modi episode, the main reason was found to be poor adoption of the

SWIFT guidelines (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications)

Thus, for a government to avoid such losses of public money, it is important to be digitally up to date.

In the education sector, as highlighted by the disruptions caused by COVID-19 induced lockdowns, it has become imperative to have digital resources equitably available to ensure uninterrupted access to education throughout the country. Government of India launched the DIKSHA platform (diksha.gov.in) to provide study material for classes I to XII for free.

In the legislative domain, Indian parliament fell behind the global benchmarks in using virtual sessions to continue legislative deliberation even during the pandemic.

Globally, best practices were observed, for example, the UK parliament adopted a "hybrid approach" (virtual mixed with attendance in physical parliament). This highlights, that the supreme law making body in a country must be digitally well equipped to continue even in times of crisis to ensure due deliberations on matters of governance.

In the maintenance of law and order, which is a key component of sound governance. Especially, in a country like India, it is a big challenge to deploy required personnel at every step. Thus, we need steps like "FIRST HUMANOID SUB INSPECTOR OF KERALA POLICE" to meet such requirements digitally. Also steps like "NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE GRID"

1. "CRIME AND CRIMINAL TRACKING" system are steps in the right direction to ensure the development of a digitally linked (country wide) law and order governance.

In the domain of justice, it is imperative to reduce the "physical burden" on courts. For example, in India, the "e-COURTS MISSION" aims at increasing technology's role in reducing court's physical documents, paper use etc. In the times of pandemic, several online hearings ensured continued delivery of justice.

In the domain of agriculture, only a digitally sound approach can ~~ensure~~ ensure long lasting / sustainable development. For example, schemes like SOIL-HEALTH CARD, PM-Fasal

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Bima Yojana etc all depend upon digital infrastructure like GIS systems, etc for successful delivery.

In the domain of land acquisition, which is at the back bone of developing new infrastructure, a government needs sound digital base to avoid unnecessary legal battles and smooth acquisition for development works. India's SWAMITVA SCHEME based on making digital maps of land is based on this principle for ensuring future-ready governance.

In the domain of Internal Security; it has become imperative for a government to be digitally ready against cutting edge ransomware, etc software. Recent attack on the "COLONIAL PIPELINE" in USA; caused losses of billions of

dollars. Thus, since cyber-war is emerging as the "FIFTH FRONT" (space being fourth) of global warfare; it is imperative for a country to have sound digital infrastructure to ensure smooth continuance of governance.

For increasing the efficiency of governance at the grassroot level; for example, in India, the digitisation of panchayati raj institutions is mandatory for ensuring "LAST MILE CONNECTIVITY" in government interventions. In India, it is being planned through a network of "COMMON SERVICE CENTRES", "broadband mission" etc.; which allows a village person to digitally enroll in a new government scheme, book tickets etc.

In the domain of energy security, as highlighted by the digital attack on KUNDALAM plant; it is imperative for a government to be digitally adapt to secure continuous energy supply for its citizens.

In the domain of women emancipation, development of vulnerable sections etc; digital infrastructure is necessary. For example, deployment of M-PESA application in African nations, actually resulted in uplifting 2% of the continent's population out of poverty. Similarly, in India, steps like "DIGI MOM" "e-MAITRI" etc are being taken to improve conditions of women, vulnerable sections etc.

NOT JUST "DIGITAL", BUT ALSO "HUMAN"

Tokyo, despite being one of the most developed and most digitized cities in the world, is also one of the MOST DEPRESSED CITIES OF THE WORLD.

Thus, for good governance it is imperative for the government to also increase PEOPLE TO PEOPLE engagement (example, through AASHA workers etc); along with digitization.

Thus, on one hand we must focus on missions like "DIGITAL HEALTH MISSION" (which involves tele consultations) etc; on the other hand; we must also increase our traditional capacities in delivery of health to public.

In the end, we must remind ourselves that we discussed the importance of digital infrastructure in governance first through a hypothetical yet realistic story, then we covered the issue from various perspectives and lastly, we emphasised on the fact that digital technology should be used to aid humans; but not replace humans; for ensuring sustainable governance and welfare of citizens.

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