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SUBJECT:	ESSAY	Test Code:	9	2	9
Name of Candidate	VIKRAM GREWAL				
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	1	4	0
Center	ONLINE	Date	1	7	0

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:					

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SECTION - A

1. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT : MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE OR CONCORDANT OBJECTIVES ?

'Continuity' has been an indispensable goal of human progress since time immemorial. The primary aim of subsistence that was held by the primitive man of the stone age, that gave way to the aim of robust capitalistic development held by today's economic-progress driven society, both have an innate objective of the 'continuity of mankind's development'. However, this common objective poses some critical questions related to the ways in which natural resources have been and are being utilized. The 'Eco vs eco' debate, that is, 'economy versus environmental conservation' seems to have pervaded several scholarly discussions and inquisitive minds across the globe.

Environmental Sustainability takes into account the conservation of natural resources so as to guarantee their availability and accessibility to the future generations. The preservation of air, water and land resources by using them in judicious amounts and facilitating their replenishment forms the core of ensuring sustainability.

Our understanding of the phrase 'economic development' is, however, not as lucid as the concept of sustainability. Traditionally, economic development has been directly linked to boom in industries, increase in manufacturing, commodity production and their sale in the capitalist marketplace. This description at present exhibits itself as obsolete - it is an outdated explanation of development in terms of the erstwhile industrial revolution terminology and colonial ideology.

With the onset of the 21st century and the popularizing of 'Sustainable Development' by International Conservation organizations and supported by the 'United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) till 2015 and later the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (2015-2030), one can easily observe how the objectives of financial/economic progress and environmental sustainability that were once considered to be mutually exclusive, are in fact complimentary and concordant.

The Political-Industrial Complex has with time realized the importance of efficient and eco-friendly usage of resources. For example, the push for clean fuel, catalytic converter, solar powered, CNG-engine in the Automobile industry. The recent upgrade to Bharat Stage - IV ^{norms} to control emissions of Green House Gases (GHGs) is a move towards the collaboration of manufacturing

sector with 'Green India, Clean India'.

India has embraced the idea of the holistic development of its economic potential and rich environment. It is a signatory to the Paris Agreement, which came as a culmination of several international initiatives previously undertaken (eg. Rio Earth Summit, Kyoto Protocol, Rio + 20, Convention on Biodiversity). India has promised its Intended National Determined Contribution (INDC) to be - (i) reduction of GHG emissions to 33-35% till 2030. (ii) shifting to non fossil fuel i.e alternative sources of energy by 40%. It is also promoting the International ~~Solar~~ Solar Alliance (ISA), and spear heading the movement towards non conventional sources of energy. The renaming of its Environment Ministry to Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change clearly highlights the prudence of the political regime to ~~work~~ work towards the task of environmental sustainability.

India, though endeavouring to build a 2.5-3 million tonne carbon sink, still has a long way to go. It can learn from its neighbour Bhutan which is the first negative Carbon nation in the world. Scandinavian countries which have a robust economies are pondering over imposition of Carbon Tax. This illustrates that the global community has recognized that environmental sustainability and economic development go hand-in-hand. The concept of Carbon Offsetting, to increase carbon credit across borders has also become an important feature of big MNCs.

The confrontation of developmental projects with environmental movements have often made headlines. The prime example of the Narmada Bachao Andolan and the fight against the Vedanta group in Odisha bring to light the issue that there is still a need to push for

measures to protect the environment. The displaced communities, tribes, wildlife are extremely expensive trade offs for economic progress, as one needs to ask for whom is this development eventually happening?

The Compensatory Afforestation Bill (CAB) needs to be given teeth, as it forms an essential part for holding big industries accountable for the damage they cause to the forests while acquiring land for factories etc. The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is not only restricted to social duties of the industrialists but also to their environmental duties as a denizen of this living community.

The instances of sand mining, illegal trade of timber and animal goods; destruction of the Western Ghats and depletion in the populations of endangered species is also seen as a consequence of the industrially developing belt of the western coast of peninsular India.

The losses caused to the shipping industry, oil industry and the marine ecosystem during Oil Spills are examples of how destruction to one can have a chain effect causing destruction of other entities.

The cleaning of the holy river Ganga displays how we have woken up to the destruction caused by the factories on the banks of the ~~the~~ river, in the form of the economically over burdened project of 'Namami Gange'.

We have several instances to show that if the utilization of resources of region is done naturally and keeping in mind a sustainable procedure, the economic development can be achieved without incurring the cost of 'externalities' - such as outbreak of diseases, drought, floods etc.

Promotion of agroforestry and social forestry has helped the Agricultural Sector improve yield, prevent soil erosion and maintain ecological balance. India is a nation heavily dependent on rain and due to the aberrations in the weather patterns, the erratic monsoon can cause huge losses to the primary sector thus compromising economic development.

Therefore, for a country sharing a close bond with nature, development at the cost of environment seems to be a destructive economic policy. And we cannot afford such a stance.

With the increase in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and a huge inflow of foreign industries India needs special measures to strengthen its environmental situation.

Some of the measures have already been discussed. Others include promotion of organic farming, soil health cards, close contact with the fertilizer industry, thus making its development seemingly non-hazardous. The promotion of neem-coated Urea also shows the collaboration of conservation with economic progress.

We have so far delineated the influence of the idea of sustainable development in primary and secondary sectors. Its influence on the tertiary sector can be illustrated with a reduction in epidemics and an over all better healthcare service. The Research and Development (R&D) in the knowledge sector is also a huge contributor in this issue, with the introduction of various

eco friendly innovations that expedite economic well being.

The focus on the Energy sector with renewed emphasis on alternative sources of power production such as wind energy, hydroelectric power, geothermal energy and a special push for Solar power, does an exceedingly incredible service to the human ~~pro~~ yearn for power and ecological well being simultaneously.

The fact that fossil fuels are non-renewable and exhaustive as well as a nuisance to a healthy environment, the govt. of India has taken steps to replace these at even the lowest levels. The recent success of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana that registered 2.5 crore LPG connections to

Below poverty line families, (an aim of 5 crore connections).

The rampant explosion of economic advancement has for over the space of two centuries altered the environment so much so that scientists refer to this as the 'Anthropocene' era. However, we do have the know-how and scientific temper to satisfy the needs of the ecosystem as well as the economic progress hungry national community. When global economies are fighting to inflate their GDPs it is immensely important to realize the difference between eternal and ephemeral objectives. There does lie a dichotomy between a person's duty as a contributor to national economy on one hand

and as a responsible human being residing on this planet. Though we know the latter must occupy precedence over the former, the acknowledgement of their complimentary nature is a fact that needs to be reckoned with.

As a globalized community we do recognize that no entity is exclusive of the other. It is a connected and cohesive earth that we live in, and its sustenance is in every way its development.

SECTION - B

3. CULTURAL ELEMENTS OF DIVERSITY IN INDIA ARE KEY TO BUILDING A NATIONAL IDENTITY.

S. Abid Hussain in his widely read and acclaimed book 'National Culture of India' describes what forms a nation's distinct culture. He states that culture is a product of the physical and metaphysical elements of ~~the~~ a society. In complete agreement with this observation one also can clearly deduce that the physical elements include the geographical features, climatic factors, distribution of resources of a region. Where as the metaphysical elements include the

intangible aspects of the society which include its philosophy, ideology, religion, perspective of life etc.

There is absolutely no doubt about the presence and in fact prevalence of diversity in all spheres of being in the nation that we know as 'India, not in Bharat', as the Constitution of our country tells us. The element of diversity is easily traced in its mountainous terrains, plains, mineral rich plateaux, extensive coastline etc. and the people of various ethnicities residing in these regions are further diverse in their ways of living.

Even with all the diversity, the feeling of oneness remains uncompromising. The philosophy of 'Unity in Diversity'

is one which gives reason to our nation's identity. It strengthens its political, social and economic 'raison d'être'. And therefore, the cultural elements of this diversity become media of communication and bonhomie.

A look at the ancient Indus Valley Civilization gives us an insight into the ever present cultural milieu of the Indian society. The influences of religion, trade, agriculture and social cohesiveness are dominant even today. The invasion or migration of the Indo-European Aryans and their intercourse with the Dravidians went on to form the predominant 'identity' of that period of history. The confluence of different communities through art, architecture, science,

music, literature and other modes through which culture manifests itself, is a lasting feature of Indian history. The discourse between Brahminical religion with Buddhism, Jainism and other heterodox sects forms a suitable example of this cultural interaction. The Indian concept of identity has all along borrowed several ideas from all the religions mentioned above, thus moulding its national identity.

In the Medieval period, with the thriving of Islam, another dimension of cultural heterogeneity was added to the already distinct Indian national culture. This interaction also led to the advent of Arabic sciences, development of new dialects and languages, onset of history writing and recording, Persian, central asian architecture

growth in Yunani medicine to the already present Ayurveda of the region. What is always seen is that with the intellectual and cultural transaction taking place between people of different backgrounds, the mutual understanding and nexus is strengthened in full measure. As Alberuni notes in his 'Kitab-al-Hind' that the uniqueness of the tongue, the smell the sound and the taste of so many flavours make for a scrumptious ~~dish~~ delicacy.

The cultural diversity of the Indian masses is what led to the formation of National Identity during the Indian National Movement for independence. The coming together of freedom-loving passionate people

from various regions of the country under one cause of anti-imperialism was recognized as the core of its national identity. The British faced a mammoth task of countering a force differentiated by caste, class, sex, place of birth but united by one cause - that of freedom.

The international acknowledgement of India's rich heritage, gives the nation its sense of being. The bestowing of several World Heritage sites by UNESCO in terms of tangible and intangible works, most recently Yoga, clearly reserves a special place for the Indian nation on the global stage.

The plethora of Geographical indications (GIs) under the World Trade Organization (Darjeeling Tea being the first) also demonstrates the uniqueness of Indian culture.

Cultural elements of diversity also provide avenues for India to collaborate with ~~not~~ other nations sharing its affinities, such as, the predominance of Buddhism in China and Japan, Vaishnava and Shaiva cults in South East Asian countries, reverence of Gandhian philosophy in South Africa, Islamic culture in Indonesia and Middle East etc. All these avenues give our country the opportunity to establish friendly relationships based on 'cultural diplomacy'. Several international bilateral treaties are a result of this shared affinity.

National identity does not hinge on cultural elements rising from pre existing conditions. It also derives vastly from advancements made

in economy and politics of the country. The prestige of the Constitution as the absolute law of the land, a living document which reflects the national identity. The constitution delineates clearly the perspectives and ideas which we stand for. The ideals of democracy, secularism and liberty, equality, fraternity does in fact, in verbatim, guarantee the integrity of the individual and the unity of the ~~state~~ nation.

The safeguards which the Constitution provides for protection of cultural and linguistic minorities under its cultural and educational Fundamental rights; as well as the upholding of national emblem and the sovereignty of the

Constitution under its Fundamental duties highlight the ~~the~~ auspicious place that culture occupies in the Indian polity and the need to protect it.

Today as the world falls for divisive political regimes and separatist tendencies, what is the need of the hour is to spread love and brotherhood among the citizens of the country. 'Ek Bharat, Shresht Bharat' comes at an apt time to involve various communities in the pursuit for social, political, cultural and economic well-being, forgetting their differences and bonding on the threads of cultural diversity.

The Ministry of Culture & Tourism provides for a wide array of institutions that promote cultural elements of diversity. The Sahitya Akademi, Lalit Kala Academy, Sangeet Natak Academy, Jnanpith Award, Archaeological Survey, National Museum are some of the primary institutions that recognize and help in augmenting the development of various forms of art, dance, music, literature and theatre. Indian Architecture itself is an epitome of a canvas that accommodates the colours of various styles and diverse cultures. The HRIDAY scheme and ASI are working ~~to~~ towards its development. ~~Ahmed~~ Ahmedabad - a foremost example

Hindu Islamic cultural communion was given India's first UNESCO World Heritage City title recently.

The sense of belonging derived on the basis of common area of residence, history, language, culture, ethnicity, ideology etc. is defined as nationalism. Thus, culture is clearly one all-encompassing feature that moulds the 'National Identity'. It is a mirror to the citizenry. India's image ~~is~~ on the world stage is what it is seen as internally, by its own people - the people from different walks of life - the people who share its being, aspirations, beliefs and expressions -

the people who relish in its freedoms
and work towards its development-
the people who interact in order
to find solutions to problems that
plague the nation - through modes
that are culturally diverse but
intentionally united. 'After all,
what is a nation but a
people in conversation.'

* Rough work on last page.

SEC - A

Environmental sustainability & economic devp: mutually exclusive or concordant objectives.

- Resources - natural ~~vs~~ common ownership. [political - MoEFCC
- Capitalism vs socialism
- Energy ———— Eo - Solar Alliance, ~~Envir~~ ^{- Bhutan, Scandinavian countries} Treaties, INDCs.
- Tribal societies, [social
- Forest dwellers, Wildlife
- Agro → Soil health card, social forestry, agro forestry. UN
- Manufacture [Econ. SDGs
- Services sector → B&V, solar panels, Millennium
- R & D. → carbon offsetting, carbon sink. Deep Goals.
- Western Ghats, endangered species, Namami Gange, sand mining.
- Oil spills.

SEC - B.

- Culture - physical & metaphysical
- Geography
- Ancient.
- Medieval
- Modern
- Art, dance, music, literature, Arch.
- UNESCO, UN.
- International treaties, cultural diplomacy.
- APF initia with South Asia,
- Ideals of democracy.
- Constitution.
- India's image - internal & external.