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SCI JCA

Previous Year Paper
(Descriptive)
23 Sept, 2018



QUESTION PAPER

Exam Duration: 2 Hours

Total Marks: 100

Note: Please read the instructions carefully given on the cover of the Answer Booklet which is provided separately.

Please fill in your Roll No.

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Name of Candidate: _____ Signature of Candidate: _____



Q 1. Read the following passage very carefully and answer the questions given in the last.

(i) Mahatma Gandhi's ideas about self-sufficiency and handicrafts were directly related to his views on industries and industrial society. Gandhiji believed that industrial societies were based on an endless production of commodities. This produced greed and resulted in competition. The end result of this was violence and war. Even in the twentieth century, Gandhiji argued, it was possible to find large areas in India that were untouched by industries. The future of India and of its civilisation lay in these villages which were governed by simple norms of reciprocity and self-sufficiency. Gandhiji wanted to revive these villages, their craft economy and their practices and make them represent a system that was completely different from Western societies based on industry. His ideas about handicrafts were part of this vision.

(ii) Gandhiji emphasised the importance of handicrafts, especially spinning and weaving. But he also spoke of other handicrafts which were part of the hereditary occupation of every villager. The development of handicrafts would add to the total resources of the individual and the village and thus enable both to be self-sufficient and self-regulating. For him a world based on non-violence could only be found in places that were untouched by industries. He found Indian villages to be such places since, in his time, he believed, they were still relatively untouched by industries. For him handicrafts were an integral and vital part of his programme to revive villages, to make them self-sufficient and to give back to individuals the dignity to regulate their lives. This is the challenge of Gandhiji's vision that India is yet to meet.

(iii) Mahatma Gandhi, in the twentieth century, was the single individual who successfully prevented the total eclipse of Indian crafts by relating them to the village economy and the concept of political freedom. He turned the humble spinning wheel into a symbol of defiance by asking people to spin their own cotton at home to weave cloth that was not of British manufacture. It thus became a non-violent and creative weapon of self-reliance and independence.

(iv) Gandhiji was doing a number of things at the same time. He was reviving a handicraft which had been a vital component of village life. Through the revival of spinning and weaving, people would be able to live better since they would have another source of livelihood. Individuals and villages would become more self-sufficient. At the same time, the even bigger purpose of fighting the bad effects of industrialism would also be met.

(v) The idea of self-sufficiency was of crucial importance to Gandhiji. An individual, a village, a country could become independent if only it became self-sufficient. Gandhiji described his ideal Indian village in these terms: Each village's first concern will be to grow its own food crops and



cotton for its own cloth. It should have a reserve for its cattle, recreation and playground for adults and children. Then if there is more land available, it could grow useful money crops, thus excluding ganja, tobacco, opium and the like. The village will maintain a village theatre, school and public hall. It will have its own waterworks, ensuring clean water supply. This can be done through controlled wells or tanks. Education will be compulsory upto the final basic course. As far as possible every activity will be conducted on the cooperative basis. (549 words)

Q 1.1 Write in your own words as to what Gandhiji meant by self-sufficiency? (5 marks)

Q 1.2 What was the drawback with industrial societies? (5 marks)

Q 1.3 How the future of India lays in villages? (5 marks)

Q 1.4 Why handicrafts were important for revival of villages? (5 marks)

Q 1.5 Write antonym of underlined words in the above stanza. (5 marks)

Q 1.6 Find out the word which means the same as under: - (5 marks)

- a) Infinite (select the answer from Para (i) above)
- b) Essential (select the answer from Para (ii) above)
- c) Rebellion (select the answer from Para (iii) above)
- d) Resurrection (select the answer from Para (iv) above)
- e) Imperative (select the answer from Para (v) above)

Q 2. Make precis of the following passage (Answer should not exceed 150 words) (30 Marks)

Democracy being the basic feature of our constitutional set up, there can be no two opinions that free and fair elections would alone guarantee the growth of a healthy democracy in the country. The 'Fair' denotes equal opportunity to all people. Universal adult suffrage conferred on the citizens of India by the Constitution has made it possible for these millions of individual voters to go to the polls and thus participate in the governance of our country. For democracy to survive, it is essential that the best available men should be chosen as people's representatives for proper governance of the country. This can be best achieved through men of high moral and ethical values, who win the elections on a positive vote. Thus, in a vibrant democracy, the voter must be given an opportunity to choose none of the above (NOTA) button, which will indeed compel the political parties to nominate a sound candidate. This situation palpably tells us the dire need of negative voting. No doubt, the right to vote is a statutory right but it is equally vital to recollect that this statutory right is the essence of

democracy. Without this, democracy will fail to thrive. Therefore, even if the right to vote is statutory, the significance attached with the right is massive. Thus, it is necessary to keep in mind these facets while deciding the issue at hand. Democracy is all about choice. This choice can be better expressed by giving the voters an opportunity to verbalize themselves unreservedly and by imposing least restrictions on their ability to make such a choice. Providing of NOTA button in the EVMs will accelerate the effective political participation in the present state of democratic system and the voters in fact will be empowered. Bringing out this right, to cast negative vote at a time when electioneering is in full swing, will foster the purity of the electoral process and also fulfil one of its objective, namely, wide participation of people. Free and fair election is a basic structure of the Constitution and necessarily includes within its ambit the right of an elector to cast his vote without fear of reprisal, duress or coercion. Protection of elector's identity and affording secrecy is therefore integral to free and fair elections. Giving right to a voter not to vote for any candidate while protecting his right of secrecy is extremely important in a democracy. Such an option gives the voter the right to express his disapproval with the kind of candidates that are being put up by the political parties. When the political parties will realize that a large number of people are expressing their disapproval with the candidates being put up by them, gradually there will be a systemic change and the political parties will be forced to accept the will of the people and field candidates who are known for their integrity. (481 words)

Q 3. Write an essay on any one of the following topics: - (About 600 words)

(40 Marks)

- a) Women Empowerment
- b) My Dream Job
- c) Role of Media in Modern India
- d) Advantages and Disadvantages of Mobile Phone
- e) Importance of Sports