



SHUBHRA RANJAN

Always Ahead

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Political Science & International Relations

Crash Course & Test Series - 2023

Test 2

Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Max Marks: 250

Name

Kunul Rastogi

Test Date

19-07-2023

UPSC Roll No

2205311

Instructions:

1. There are EIGHT questions divided in TWO SECTIONS and candidate has to attempt five questions in all.
2. Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any three are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each section.
3. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of the booklet in the space provided.
5. Content of the answer is more important than its length.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
7. All parts of the question should be written at one place itself.
8. Write the test in exam atmosphere.
9. **Filling all the details in BLOCK LETTERS is mandatory.**

S. No.	a	b	c	d	e	Total
1						
2				X	X	
3				X	X	
4				X	X	
5						
6				X	X	
7				X	X	
8				X	X	
Grand Total						

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Que.1 (a)

Peasant Movements in the 18th and 19th centuries of the British Colonial Period had the sole purpose of restoring the earlier forms of rule and social relations. Comment. (10 Marks)

The Sub-altern Historiography proposed by Ranajit Guha highlight importance of Peasant movements in overthrow of British Rule. They were heavily marginalised because of exploitative land Revenue systems [zamindari, Ryotwari] and destruction of traditional handicrafts resulting in pauperisation.

The 18th and 19th century peasant movements were old social revolutionary movement based on food, shelter, clothing. Gyanendra Pandey opined that Santhal Movement (1855), Pabna Revolt, deccan agriculture Strikes for Cotton (1875) was based on greater remunerative returns, lower land revenue and decreasing of interest rates

by dikhus, money lenders.

Prof Sumit Sarkar held these movements to be based on economic necessity, loosely organised, parochial in region and against immediate landlords as against British colonial regime.

However, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee highlight the revolutionary consciousness of the peasant movements as seen in Sanyasi Revolt [Sarla Chaudhary]. Moreover, VD Savarkar held that 1857 as first war of independence due to great participation of peasants from Awadh.

Thus, Peasant Movements had revolutionary character but due to internal divisions based on Caste, Religion could not develop Common Consciousness until arrival of Grandhi, and his Satyagraha



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Que. 1(b)

Compare the Nehruvian and Gandhian models of development. (10 Marks)

World Bank defines development as Economic growth evenly distributed through Society.
However Indian model of development expands the above to inculcate both Gandhian and Nehruvian vision.

Though Gandhi was not an economist, his views regarding development can be seen in Hind Swaraj where he does not make distinction between Economics and ethics: Wealth without ^{work} morality and Commerce without morality.

Gandhi's development is based on moral regeneration, development of cottage industries, Agricultural reforms, distributive justice based on trusteeship.
He envisaged village economy and criticised

Heavy industrialisation. His ultimate aim was to create self-enlightened anarchy based on John Ruskin & Leo Tolstoy vision.

Nehru, was a modernist who employed fabian Socialism to promote heavy industrialisation, centralised planned economy, import Substitution. For him State was commanding height of economy which should go for building dams, concretisation etc

However, both Gandhi & Nehru aimed for Self-sufficiency making Indian Independent from foreign aid or prescription and allowing India to make tryst with destiny

Today, India follows plan of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat based on democratic decentralisation [73rd], both of which find resonance with Gandhi-Nehru synergy

Que.1(c)

Success of democratic politics depends upon the kind and quality of citizens. Explain. (10 Marks)

"However good a constitution, it is sure to turn bad with bad people practising it"
- Ambedkar (Grammar of Anarchy)

Democratic Politics refers to the active participation of vigilant citizenry in Public Policy formulation. To quote Churchill "Democracy is worst form of govt, until we find next best". The foundation of democratic Politics can be found in works of Aristotle, Locke and Rousseau.

Since govt in democratic politics is formed by Citizenry, good governance can be found in kind and quality of Citizens. Aristotle held that Perversion of govt from Aristocracy to Oligarchy and Politics to democracy is due to

perversion in citizens. Similar thought was shared by Machiavelli, who held monarchy to best for despotic public.

Indian Constitution being revolutionary social document payed heed to such advices and thus incorporated Fundamental duties (Swaran Singh Committee, 42nd Amendment Act). These duties guide Indians to follow scientific temper, spirit of common brotherhood, abjure violence etc. Above provisions mandate Indian Citizens to strive for excellence, as State is Individual writ large (Plato).

Thus Ambedkar held that all citizens must be guided by the constitutional morality to aid India reach its rightful place in the comity of nations.



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Que.1(d)

Critically examine the legacy of the British rule in India. (10 Marks)

"Generation of Indians would not be able to remove dirt & filth left by British.

Rabindranath Tagore

unlike China which experienced a total Maoist revolution, India experienced a transfer of power and is thus riddled with legacy of British rule.

The remnants can be seen in the Indian Constitution which still has draconian laws like Sedition, Preventive detention [Art 22] and Martial law [Art 34]. Even in Education, Macauley Minutes still exist which promote rote learning, English and clerical knowledge.

Legacy is also felt in the bureaucracy which is shrouded with secrecy and Colonial Mindset [Alagh

Committee]. Moreover, the foreign policy of India is still based on Consons Big bully brother attitude as witnessed in Indian intervention in Sri Lanka [1984].

However, the legacy has certain benefits in form of position of Governor which has acted as lynchpin of Indian federalism [Sarkaria Commission], the governance structure and tenets of Asymmetrical federalism [Art 371] which is democratising [Alfred Stepan].

Prof VR Mehta opined that Indians believe in continuity, and thus we have embraced positive aspects of British legacy, while adopting the Panch Pran Principles to remove Colonial negative, as we enter in Amrit Kaal



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Que.1(e)

The right to privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty. Comment. (10 Marks)

"Rights are trumps and cannot be foreseen at any altar"
Ronald Dworkin

Harold Lasnik defines Rights as conditions of life necessary for full fulfilment. In this context, Ranajit Guha in his book Politics and Ethics of Constitution, held that Indian Constitution adopted Fundamental Rights under Part III as enforceable to ensure creation of Civic & Political democracy.

The Preamble mentions liberty as a fundamental cornerstone and in this light Art-21 gives each and every individual Right to life. However, Supreme Court being vanguard of Indias Revolution and Palladium of liberty [Alladi Krishna

Swamy Iyer], expanded Art-21 by following due Process of law [Maneka Gandhi Case].

In KS Puttaswamy judgement, Right to privacy was incorporated under Art-21 using doctrine of progressive realisation. Thus, each and every individual has Zone of Exception which is sacrosanct and cannot be infringed.

However, SC gave triple test of legality, proportionality and legitimacy for intervention to balance National Interest with fundamental Rights [Qualified theory]

Hence the govt should come up with Digital India Bill based on JS Mills Harm Principle to ensure that liberty of citizens are not infringed. thereby safeguarding thereby privacy

Q.3(a) In India, though political decentralisation has been successfully achieved through the establishment of local government bodies, the actual transfer of functions, finances, and functionaries to these institutions remains incomplete. Critically analyse. (20 Marks)

"The best school and guarantee of democracy is local Governments"

James Madison

Mahatma Gandhi in his theory of oceanic circles held that Democracy is government where the weak has equal power as strong. In this context and with the theory of social revolution in mind, the Indian Constitution under Art-44 of DPSP, envisaged local self government in form of panchayat.

with the failure of the Community Development Programme and weakness of local panchayat highlighted by GVK Rao Committee [grass without roots], 73rd & 74th Amendment Act based

LM Singhvi Committee was introduced.

The Acts based on principle of subsidiarity, politically decentralised power by giving constitutional status to panchayats. Under 243-A Gram Sabha were instituted, 243-B three level of panchayats [Panchayat, Mandal, Zilla] while at same time providing reservation to woman, SC/ST under 243-D. Functions were also devolved through 243-G and 243-T.

Finances were also made independent through 243-H (taxes) and 243-I (Independent finance Commission). Even functionaries position was created and reserved, Metropolitan Planning Committee and district planning Committee to aid in political decentralisation.

The local govt with constitutional mandate of Rural development and socio-economic planning have had successes

like

a) Good Governance and delivery of services like in Kerala or flattening the curve during COVID-19 [Bhilwara, Rajasthan]

b) Esther Duflo study highlighted woman empowerment as 1.5 million woman leaders were elected

c) Capital Asset creations at village level using MGNREGA, PM Awas Yojana,

d) Helped in Microfinance initiative SHGs like Millet Sister Network, or Fatima Bi

End of Poverty Campaign which recieved global recognition under UNDP.

However, success story remain incomplete. Manishankar Iyer Committee highlight the decentralisation of Corruption



and lack of initiative at States end to devolve 3F's. Peter Ronald Dsouza highlight only 15/29 states have devolved and decentralised powers under 11th and 12th Schedule.

Moreover, James Manor highlight that reservation ensured representation but not influence. Bogus Meeting, phenomena of Sarpanch Pati (Sudha Pai) highlight the continuous exclusion.

Thus 2nd ARC recommends Activity mapping while Purachi Commission opine the constitution of National Panchayat Commission and extension of PESA like law for all states.

Thus, Amartya Sen and Elinor Ostrom highlight that Community Participation is singular for Bharat Uday which is not possible without Gram Uday.

Discuss the role of Supreme Court as the final interpreter of the Indian Constitution. (15 Marks)

Que.3(b)

Jawahar Lal Nehru argued that Indian Supreme Court is not a passive judiciary but going to play active part in Indian Social Revolution. Supreme Court performs above task by interpreting the Constitution to ensure Constitutionalism and tenets of liberal Socialism, thus acting as Sentinel Quivine [Guard with arms].

Indian Constitution, creates the Supreme Court under Article 124 vesting to it powers of federal Court [Art 131-134], implicit judicial review [Art 14, Art 32] for guarantee of fundamental Rights, advisory jurisdiction [143], Court of record [129] and Special leave of Appeal [136]. Moreover, Constitution ensures that SC is the final

interpreter through [Art 141] and Art 142 which gives SC reservoir of powers to do complete justice. Thus Alladi Krishna Swamy Iyer pointed that Supreme Court is the strongest and most Independent of all courts.

SC has positively used this role to give out landmark judgements like Maneka Gandhi Case [due process of law], Nautaj Singh Johar Case [decriminalise Homosexuality], KS Puttaswamy Case [Privacy], Minerva Mills Case [Harmonious balance], SR Bommai [Secularism]

[Upendra Baxi] often states that SC has acted as chemotherapy to carcinogenic Politics such as Lilythman Case. Moreover, Justice Krishna Iyer, PN Bhagwati [PI] has decentralised the justice system. Even its creative interpretation like basic structure in.

Keshavnanda Bharati Case was appreciated by Zia Mody for preventing mobocracy in India.

However, Pratap Bhanu Mehta has criticised judiciary for textual illegitimacy and as a self-perpetuating, paradoxical and politicised institution. Judgement like NJAC case, ban on structure highlight the negative interpretation of Constitution.

Moreover Kedge Katju and Javaya Rajmani highlight Judicial overreach like in National Anthem case. Faizan Mustafa on the other hand charge judiciary with judiciopapism [Shirur Mutt Case] and misuse of contempt powers.

Thus, Judiciary Role has been intensively debated. In this light DY Chaudhary recommends that judiciary must not become victim of its own fangs by becoming Imperium within Imperio.



Que.3(c)

Give an assessment of the role of the Election Commission of India in the conduct of free and fair elections in India. (15 Marks)

"India is known for three things - Gandhi, Taj Mahal and Election" - SY Qureshi

Harry S Fosdick opined that democracy believes in extraordinary potential in ordinary people. In this context, Indian Constitution adopted the Representative Model [JS Mill, Locke] of parliamentary Democracy [Westminster System].

To ensure Sanctity, Indian Constitution under Art 324-329 creates an Autonomous Election Commission of India with duty to conduct free & fair Elections. Moreover, Parliament under 324, legislated RPA 1950, RPA 1951 to give teeth to ECI, while the judiciary under Mahinder Gill can propounded Doctrine of Electoral



Exceptionalism to give ECI reservoir of powers.

Election Commission has been widely acclaimed to be Gold Standards by leaders

like Hillary Clinton for their competency.

The use of modern tech like VVPAT,

eVigil, as well as coming out with

Mutually Consensual MCC is a testament

to its deliberative powers. Thus Sunil

Khilnani opines ECI to be bridge between

state & society. The Record turnout of

65% in 17th LS, smooth Conduct of Elections

lead David Gilmartin to opine that ECI

is responsible for Great March of Indian democracy

However Critique like Pratap

Bhanu Mehta highlight the intense

politicization of ECI witnessed in

Gopalswami-Chawla Controversy. Similarly



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Ujjwal Kumar Singh in his book ECL: Institutionalising Democratic Uncertainty highlight the growing questions on fairness of elections by opposition parties like Congress, AAP. Citizen Commission headed by Justice Lokur highlight the exclusion of vulnerable sections from voter rolls, while at the same increasing money power in politics - 6000000 (2019 elections). The growing criminalisation (43%, 2019 CDR) also suggest problems.

Thus, ECI reforms on line of 255th Law Commission of independent secretariat, changed CFI expenditure as well as collegiality of selection committee [Anoop Baranwal case] can help improve legitimacy of ECI ensuring Caesar's wife is above suspicion