



IAS MAINS 2015

ESSAY Paper-Basic Themes

Section A

1. Lending hands to someone is better than giving a dole.

- To give people sustainable livelihood than mere subsidies is better
- It is better to teach one how to fish than giving a fish
- The approach must be more towards sustainability and not adhoc
- In terms of Governance, the focus has to be on Education, Health etc. than Subsidy

2. Quick but steady wins race

- It not only enough to be quick but one needs to be steady also
- Along with quick action a consistent action pays
- In case of administrator, one needs to act quickly and steadily
- Quickness and steadiness must complement each other

3. Character of an institution is reflected in its leader

- “A leader one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way” – John C Maxwell
- The leader sets the vision for the organisation
- He is the source of energy and the face of the organisation
- He is the embodiment of the organisation
- He symbolizes the values of the organisation

4. Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make a man more clever devil.

- Education basically refers to inculcation of values, without values what happens acquiring knowledge and skills
- It is one's values which determine how he utilizes his knowledge and skill-Malignant or benign to the society
- For instance, the knowledge and skill of an organized criminal or terrorist never benefit the society
- In case of administration also a skillful but corrupt official cleverly escapes the system using his knowledge

Section B

1. Technology cannot replace manpower

- Technology can only supplement and enable the manpower
- It can enhance the efficiency and help manpower to improve the efficiency but it is not a replacement
- For instance, use of AV Tools in a classroom can improve the delivery of the teacher and enhance the understanding of the students but the human effort of the teacher is inevitable.
- In the present context, it is evidence from the failure of technology based classrooms etc.
- Most of the human activities are wrought with human factor which no technology can replace



2. Crisis faced in India – moral or economic.

- Perhaps BOTH. Since India is a stratified society with multiple socio-economic strata there are different sections whose even basic needs or not satisfied.
- On the one hand, Economy grows – India is the largest producer of Food grains, Milk, Vegetable and Fruits - on the other these don't percolate down. Still 1/3rd of the population suffer to manage one square meal a day.
- There is also market degeneration of values. The increasing number of scandals, their terrifically huge size and the rampant corruption with increasing crimes are evidences.
- Consumerism as an value has taken over the society leading to consumption with greed.

(One can also argue that India suffers from NEITHER)

3. Dreams which should not let India sleep

- “Dream is not one you see when you sleep, but one that does not let you sleep” –APJ Kalam
- The dreams you can say as development making India a developed society, taping the demographic dividend , making India a livable place- corruption free, pollution free and a good governed society which respect dignity of human being, respect for women and guaranteed rights for children

4. Can capitalism bring inclusive growth?

You can write in BOTH ways

- Capitalism as a concept is against inclusive growth however, it provides everyone an opportunity for growth thereby the process becomes inclusive but the benefit is in proportion to the contribution and other factors like the capacity to influence the process which makes it non-inclusive