ENSURE IAS

ESSAY TEST

Maximum Marks: 125 **Time Allowed: 1.5 Hours**

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Follow all instructions otherwise copy will not be evaluated

1. **Instructions:**
   a. **FLT:** Choose one essay from each section.
   b. **SLT:** Choose one essay from the given topics.
2. The medium of writing should be the one authorized in your admit card.
3. Word limit: **1,000 to 1,200 words** per essay.
4. Credit will be given for:
   - Multiple Topics – Speed
   - Closely To The Subject – Relevant
   - Orderly Fashion– Flow
   - Concisely – Crisp
   - Effective & Exact Expression – Wise selection of words
5. Marks will be deducted for:
   - Irrelevant matter
   - Lack of depth
   - Poor language or organization

Students's message for evaluator (if any):

Q.No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1.	125	
2.	125	
Total	250	

Evaluator's Remarks:

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(Essay Evaluation On Exact UPSC Parameters)

UPSC ESSAY PARAMETERS	MARKS	ESSAY 1 Comments	ESSAY 2 Comments
1. Multiple topics • Speed • Dimensions • 1100+ words • Time Management	25		
2. Close to the subject • Relevance • Conceptual Clarity • Facts, Data, Examples, Diagrams • Strength of Arguments	25		
3. Orderly fashion • Natural flow • Introduction • Body • Conclusion • Structure and Paragraphing	25		
4. Concise • Vocabulary • Wise selection of words	25		
5. Effective and Exact Expression • Grammar • Keywords • Underlining • Handwriting	25		
Total Marks	125		

1. "The progress is hollow when
it leaves the weakest behind"

The era of modern history is marked with ink of colonial exploitation. What began with idea of progress, to build trade connections turned into subjugation of native interest. While the early socio-legal reforms ignited hope for progress, it was soon realized that the motive was drain of wealth.

The wealth, which was critical for progress of the weakest got hoarded by handful. An empire on which the sun never sets, the hopes of the weakest did. The hollow

progress ignited aspiration of freedom, to not live under british apathy but to independently attain "antyodaya". Leaders like "Mahatma Gandhi" channelized the freedom struggle for inclusive growth against the hollow progress of colonial rule, leaving the weakest behind.

This modern history lesson sparks curiosity as what actually is progress? why it left weakest behind? How did it turn hollow and what can be the right rectification?

In general terms, progress is growth. It the attained

prosperity which brings quality of life. It goes beyond monetary success, to expand psychological well being. In sum total, its building our capability as pointed by Dr. Amartya Sen.

Dr Sen emphasize that all sections of society with progress, with their aspirations. But when the weakest is left behind the growth is hollow. The inequality in resources marks an objective indicator of the exclusive progress. It drains our social capital, loosing short term gains by creating drag of the weakest. It enlarge disaffection in

the weak, creating unsustained growth devoid of inclusivity and equity.

The social repurcussions were warned by Kautilya, who asked the ruler Ashoka to keep the interest of the people paramount. His philosophy is ignited through the trusteeship ethics the the holders of resource have social responsibility. This idea is visible in multi-dimensions where progress became hollow by leaving the weakest behind.

In crude economic sense, growth in sectors needs equal avail of benefits of progress. But the

Indian economy faces 90% informal workforce, devoid of even the social security. It has resulted into wide inequality where top 5% own 67% of total assets (oxfam report). The growth of "7%" looks hollow without the unlocking of demographic dividend. It hurts professional motivation and create vicious cycle of poverty, as visible in slums of the finance capital mumbai.

Beyond crude economic growth of individual's income, we look at one's wellbeing. When the world

is chasing material, its critical to also think of our mental health. The mind, intricately powerful for revolutionizing innovation, needs the care like a "weakest" for psychological happiness. It enables us to live the moments, happily and celebrate our progress, collectively.

The collective domain brings idea of family. The critical cornerstone of healthy society where our first learning begins. But the current overview of family reflects marginalized and trivialized unpaid care works by women. The one

who sacrificed her aspiration of progress is doing 3x more household work (ILO). The "dual burden" to care for family while work full time says the progress of financial independence has left behind gender equality. With gender gap still expected to remain for 132 years, the progress looks hollow when half of the society are not empowered.

The social general will can become a critical difference maker. With people electing leaders to bring shared rewards of progress. But even in this domain of democracy we see voices of the weakest unheard.

The vulnerable social groups like SC, ST and minorities, holding equality of votes lacks equity in progress. The multi-dimensional poverty index shows this hollow prosperity, marked by governance deficit in evolving digital techade.

The "techade" where digital services has revolutionized the pace of progress. From doorstep services of MO Sarkar to online transparency of e-RTI, digitized India enable holistic progress. But is it reaching to all the corners? A splinter in the eye as magnifying glass says no. The

digital divide between rural and urban is concentrating the fruits. On top of it, digital literacy gaps is making the elderly fall through the cracks of hollow progress, leaving the weakest behind.

In the digital connected world, we bring globalized progress to help regional upliftment. The innovation of covid vaccine all over the world helped in healthcare progress of humanity. But the progress was hollow since the intellectual property was opposing affordability. In the debate of patent waiver, we witnessed the challenge of

unsustained health gains as without a mass immunitation, no one will be safe. The progress will remain hollow, leaving weakest behind where virus could mutate.

The mutation pictures into the ecological stress onto flora and fauna, created by tipping off "ecological equilibrium". The vast change of Land use, over exploited groundwater and rising carbon emission brings long team balance into question. The development we make today will cause inter-generation sustainability crisis when global temperature hits 2°C rise, challenging survival.

With multi-dimensional fallouts of hollow progress, we need a "whole of the society" action towards inclusive progress. The government needs to align with general will, balancing ease of doing business with shared prosperity. Progressive taxation, universal healthcare and social safety nets of Finland holds global learning.

The social stakeholders needs collectivism towards shared goals. Reframing "MEN tality" towards gender equality, developing capability of the weakest bring panacea of prosperity to

the last mile. The role of social institutions like akshaya patra feeding 1.25 million children a day reflects critical value point.

On the global stage we need cooperation. From climate justice to finance adaptation to "technology share" for development of the weakest. The regular negotiations needs balancing of view points, inclusion of voice of the weakest and devise pathway of progress towards sustainability. In that modern world, we shall attain equity, we shall enable opportunity and we shall respect dignity of the weakest.