

Mayank Mudgi

UPSC

Date: 08 Dec 21

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Answer: Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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SECTION - A

4. Development is the enhancement of freedoms that allow people to lead lives that they have reason to value

'Development is about transforming the lives of people, not just transforming economies'

Under one starry night, Haria laid down to think about the stories of his village elders and tribal practices. The women walked miles for water, elders used local plants to heal wounds, firewood was carried for fuel, and the whole community knew just hunting as means of gathering food.

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Haria now has a functional tap at home for water, has access to modern medicine at the tap of a button, drives an electric vehicle and is a successful IT Engineer. He and his family go to a mall every weekend to have a lavish meal at restaurants.

This is a story of development and how it touches the human lives. How it provides meaning to existence and gives it value to lead a life with dignity. 'Freedom' and 'Dignity' are two of the most basic tenets of human existence and DEVELOPMENT is the single factor that provides meaning to both.



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It begs us to ask the question : "What really is development?"

Development is a multi-dimensional concept that aims to enhance all the aspects of human lives, thereby giving it meaning. It provides ease of living, base for people to realise their full potential and opportunities to lead a more-valued life.

It also begs us to ask : "What provides freedom and value to people's lives?" A person is usually horrified by loss of 3 things : MONEY , MUSCLE and MIND. Inability to have any of the three things takes

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away important aspects of a person's life. While money provides financial freedom, muscle provides social freedom and mind provides value to the existence of humans.

Existence of humans is thus validated by development. Lack of development causes loss of opportunity to a person to live a meaningful life. It often leads to backwardness which proves a major roadblock in realising full potential of a person.

This decreases the quality of life of a person. It shall be prudent to understand this with example of slum dwellers and richer people of society.

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Slum dwellers face lack of resources and lack of quality of life. This often leads them to be "Invisible" to the eyes of development. Our Hon'ble Supreme Court has also taken note of this on several occasions and ruled that they too have a right to dignified life under Article 21.

On the other hand, richer people have access to best education, best healthcare, best quality of homes; even if they live in the same city. This single thing, leads us to observe that development is a double-edged sword that can make people's lives better and worse at the same time.

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Developing the wrong way

The wrong way of development often pushes people into poverty and reduces dignity in their lives. This is marked by a Top-Down and "Holier than thou" approach. It doesn't involve the beneficiaries in the process of planning and leads ~~to~~ to access of opportunities to only a few.

This causes increase in inequalities and destroys the moral fabric of society. Not integrating the local needs and regional aspirations of people often leads to conflict in the long term. A prudent example to understand this would be to analyse how

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Mining impacts people of backward regions.

For the Industrialists, it acts as a way to access resources and realise economic gains. It leads to betterment of their lives and enhances their

economic prowess. But for the people in backward regions, it takes away their home and destroys their livelihoods.

Those who already have not seen the road of development further get pushed in perpetuity.

Rather than touching the lives of people in a positive way, giving it meaning; this causes further degrading of lives. ~~and~~ A more unequal order is developed which takes away freedom

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of people and reduces value in their lives. Thus it is important to mend the practices and go for inclusive growth and development.

Developing the right way

A more prudent approach will allow to enhance the freedom in a decentralised manner. It shall give everyone fair share of their rights that will only enhance the value of lives of people. A multi-dimensional & holistic approach, as discussed below, shall touch the lives of people in a positive manner.

In economic sphere, distribution of resources needs to be in an equitable manner. The story of success can be

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written only when growth happens at grassroot level. MSMEs in India, roughly 6 crore in number, provide employment to $\sim 1/2$ crore people. Their growth will lead to increase in real disposable income of people leading them to be at the driver seat of their own destinies.

In the educational sphere, scientific reasoning needs to be developed. This will enhance the self-governing capacity of people and imbibe the values of equality, liberty and freedom. A skilled manpower is a more capable manpower.

In healthcare, access to quality

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institutions would lead to decrease in burden of diseases. This will in turn enhance the productivity of people in terms of labour and capital. Recent schemes of government such as Ayushman Bharat scheme, National Digital Health Mission are steps in right direction.

"Sound Mind resides in a sound Body"

This sound mind would automatically lead to changes in the democratic sphere, all the way leading to holistic development. It is important to learn from the success story of JAPAN: the land of the rising sun.

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Japan hosts one of the most dense demographics in the world. It quickly recovered itself from the ruins of World War II and two Nuclear Bombs. It now sits at the helm of human-centric development with very less hunger and illiteracy levels.

Japan has always focused on developing capacities of its people and ensure that the opportunities reach to the very remotest corner. Such interventions can be replicated in our case as well to provide equitable mode of development.

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Development empowers the people to look at their lives from a lens of dignity. Done rightly, it enhances the quality of human life. We humans have an innate need for growth that sets us on a path of development.

A decentralised distribution of benefits of development would only put power at the hands of people. This shall serve as the HALLMARK of democracy and serve modern world problems ranging from Hunger, illiteracy to Terrorism and Extremism

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We should thus aim to strengthen Money, Muscle & Mind of everybody so as to ~~proov~~ provide a sense of freedom and deeper value to life.

The dreams of people are effectively summarised in the words of 'Gurudev' Rabindranath Tagore:

"Where the mind is free
and life is without fear,
into that abode of happiness...
let my country awake"
Let the humanity awake.

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SECTION-B

8. The youth need to be enabled to become job generators from job seekers

Let us take the example of a young boy who used to be a rickshaw puller and later worked at a petrol pump. At the age of 26, he left all his jobs and started selling spices. He eventually expanded his business to Oil and Energy.

That young boy was none other than Dhirubhai Ambani who built one of the biggest companies of India : Reliance Corporation. The organisation is now diverted in

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Telecom sector, e-commerce, digital lending and plans to launch Hydrogen mission in India in the near future. The behemoth employs roughly around 2.5 lakh employees.

This story depicts both the problems, potential and success India can hope to realize. It is often said that the road less travelled takes one to the desired destination. The problems faced by us, as a country and as a world, can be solved by enabling our youth to be Job Generators rather than Job seekers.

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The case of Job seeking

Job seeking implies working at the behest of someone in his venture. A "Job" lays a predefined role and set of tasks needed to be done by someone. It required only a specific skillset and offers limited growth in terms of growth.

It also makes "an employee" vulnerable to external shocks of unemployment and limits the scope of further skill development. The MIRAGE OF STABLE INCOME lures people like how nectar lures honeybees. The purpose of these honeybees is only to look after their QUEEN BEE.

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This leads to stagnation of income which increases only to a certain point. Thus the real potential of a person is not reached and it often wastes the potential of successful entrepreneurs.

This is directly linked to the problems faced by India in the current times. India hosts ~ 130 crore population with roughly $\sim 60\%$ falling in working age (15-60 years). To put things into perspective, this is more than the total population of USA or ~~Europe~~ Canada or Australia.

To add to this menace is the "Graduate Problem". Only 45% of Indian Graduates possess the

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required skill to be employed.
The industry - academic mismatch and over-dependence on government jobs create this problem whereby the innovative spirit is being shunned slowly.

The situation gets more bleak when we take situation of companies into account. They face high NPAs and low demand, leading to less paying capacity. All-in-all, Indian workers are severely underpaid and this situation is not going to get any better in the near future.

Thus, it is important to

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increase the income of people if we hope to increase spending capacity of people. This shall increase the real market size of India and help to embark on a journey of growth.

Job Generation: The Silver Bullet

roughly ~30% of Indian population is between 18-35 years of age (~40 crores). These people are marred by unemployment, inequality of opportunity and taking their destinies in their own hands is the only way forward.

The capability of youth thus needs to be tapped. It has

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several advantages: They have more energy; They have better ideas; and they have the risk taking capacity. This makes a perfect cocktail for entrepreneurship. Thus we need to enable their capabilities to transition from Job seekers to Job generators.

Thus we need to cultivate a culture of startup in our ecosystem and widen its acceptance. Various strategies can be employed and are being employed by the government, as discussed further.

In the Education sphere, the curriculum at all levels needs to be updated to bridge the academia-

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industry gap. This will allow for better skilling of the students and have a workforce ready to be absorbed by the industry. There is also a need to focus on labour-intensive skilling so that large scale workforce is grasped to tackle the problem of ^{un-}employment.

Role of universities is also worth mentioning here. IIT Madras has successfully tapped potential of its professors & students to create startups worth 1400 crores. The newly formulated ~~the~~ ~~from~~ New Education Policy 2020 aims to develop skilled manpower and future entrepreneurs.

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In the financial sphere, there needs to be easy availability of funds and credit. Usually the risk factor causes hurdles in credit availability, but this can be offset by a positive ecosystem of startups. The availability of angel investors has allowed many Indian startups like zerodha, coinswitch kuber, My Textiles, etc. gain financial ground and go "Unicorn".

Government is also playing its part proactively in easing availability of funds. Schemes such as MUDRA Yojana, Credit Guarantee scheme allow for funds. This is supported by Hand-Holding at initial stages by schemes such as Start-Up India, Stand-Up India, Atal

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Innovation Mission and setting up of Atal Incubation Centres in Tier II & III cities.

In the legislative sphere, a culture of conducive environment is also ~~not~~ provided. Moratorium on incomes & tax on startups provide necessary time to grow and become market leaders. This is also reflected by India's improved rankings in Ease of Doing Business (63rd in 2019) and Global Innovation Index (48th in 2021).

We may also attempt to learn from International Best Practices. Particular example of Israel, which

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does not have much manpower or resources, yet hosts a vibrant startup ecosystem. India stands at an advantageous position upon incorporating the learnings from countries such as Israel, Sweden, Japan, etc.

We also have various successful examples that are completely home-grown. The success of OLA serves a valid inspiration. After proving its mettle in transport sector, it has now ventured into 2-wheeler (electric) sector. Its industry in Chennai is biggest 2-wheeler factory in the world, employing an ALL-WOMEN STAFF of 10,000. This benefits in all domains, including social,

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economical and skill development for the women employed and their families.

Adding to this, we have success stories such as Flipkart giving tough competition to Global Giant Amazon in e-commerce; Swiggy capturing Indian market against Global Giant Zomato in food-delivery sector. This has in-turn resulted in development of Indian food & restaurant industry to provide employment ~~to~~ thousands.

India stands at an inflection ~~of~~ point of tapping its demographic dividend and not letting it to turn into a demographic disaster. India,

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with its bleak and controlled growth, has already become 3rd largest economy in terms of Purchasing Power Parity (2021).

Real interventions at grassroots level shall allow people to take growth - engine in their own hands and script the story of Indian aspiration of becoming a Vishwaguru (Master of the World). The potential stays there, waiting to be mined & tapped.

"The day we start celebrating our Entrepreneurs and stop following reel heroes, will be the day India will embark on a journey to become the best in the world"

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Development is the enhancement of freedoms, that allow people to lead lives that they have reason to value.

1. ~~was~~ Under a clear starry night, Hari remembered his tribal elders & stories. walk miles for water, use plants for healing wounds, carry ~~fire~~ ^{fire} wood for ~~fire~~ ^{fire} fuel & cooking and whole community ~~needed~~ knew just hunting

Now,

2. Story of Development how it touches human lives and transforms its. How it provides meaning to existence and value to lead life with dignity.

Development → what → ~~multidimens~~ → ^{case of living} opportunities to realise potential
→ ^{SUS} provide a base for people to integrate with world.

3. What provides freedom to people & what provides value?

4. Lack of development → what does it do

→ cause of lack of opportunity
→ leads to backwardness

5. Developing the wrong way: Example of Mumbai

- 6. allowing Top Down approach
- 1. Opportunities to few
- 2. Inequalities
- 3. Not integrating regional needs
- 4. effect on people → divide is created



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7

Developing the right way
meant to enhance the freedom. Giving everyone fair share of rights.

8



Development Empowers people to look at their lives from a lens of dignity.

9

10

Success story of Japan

Development Top-Down and Bottom Up

Innate human need for growth & a better life.

11

Decentralised Development → Power at hands of people → Democracy.

12

Dreams of people → summed up by Rab. Tagore where the mind is free where life is without fear into that abode of happiness, let my country awake

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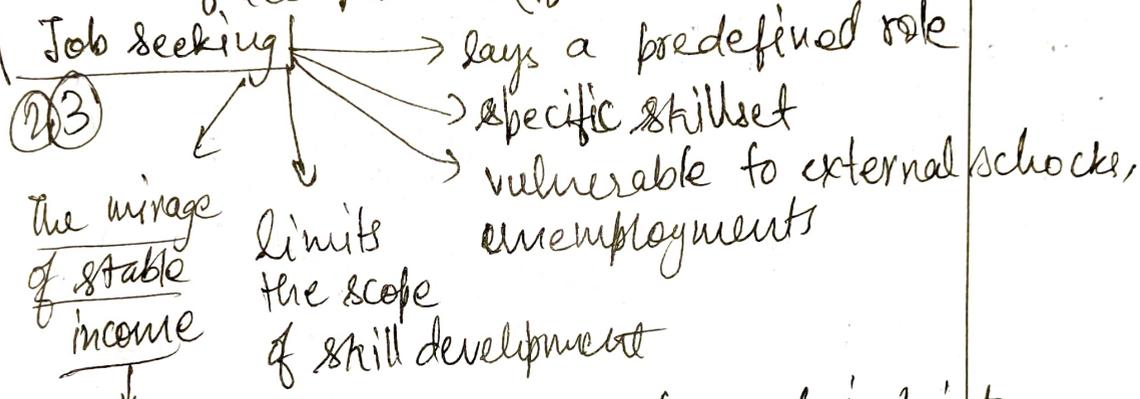
Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
 Content of the Question is more important than length.
 (Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

8. The youth need to be enabled to become job generators from job seekers.

40 crore

① ② Dhirubhai Ambani → reliance.

Indian faces problems of



stagnation of income → only to a certain point.

④ ⑤ ~~the~~ Problems faced by India: → 130 cr population
 20% working population

↓ ↓ ↓

Thus imp. to increase income of people. added to this is bleak situation of companies with less incomes/ is not going to get any better. Graduate problem
 ↓
 40% lack of employable skills

To put things into perspective, larger than population than population of whole USA

Job Generation: The silver bullet (6)

② Capability of youth → energy → ideas → risk taking capacity

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

क्या इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

① Roughly 30% between 18-35 yrs age.

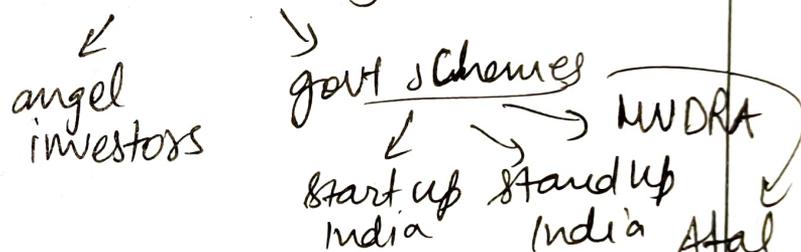
~~These~~ How to enable → Culture of Startup

⑥ ① Education: ^{Update} Curriculum, Skilling, focus on labour intensive industries

Role of Universities
IIT Madras
1400+ companies.

govt. schemes → ~~culture~~ → ~~startup~~

② finance → availability of credit



⑤ Hand-holding of start ups

④ Creation of legislative environment
govt.
tax moratorium

③ Learning of best practices from Israel: minimal resources

India's ~~own silicon valley~~

⑥ from own successful examples

⑩ Ola, Swiggy, Flipkart.

~~Anand Mahindra~~: The day we start to celebrate our entrepreneurs, we shall embark on a journey to be Vishwaguru in true sense. Potential of India is waiting to be tapped

