



VISION IAS

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SUBJECT:		Test Code:	1	4	5	9	
Name of Candidate	RPA DABI						
Medium Hindi/Eng.		Registration Number	6	2	4	2	0
Center		Date					

INDEX TABLE				INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Page No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
				1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
				2. All questions are compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
				3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
				4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
				5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
				6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।
Total Marks Obtained:				
Remarks :				

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LITERACY IS A BRIDGE
FROM MISERY TO HOPE

Consider Pothanikkad, a small village in Ernakulam district of Kerala. Some time ago, it was only a forest, with wild buffaloes and elephants roaming around. The quality of life of the people was very poor. Today, it has become the first village in India to achieve 100% literacy. It is one of the most culturally advanced places in India today. Thus, Pothanikkad has used literacy as a bridge to transform misery into hope.

Literacy, in simple terms, means the ability to read and write. In India, any person who is 7 years and above and can both read and write with understanding in any language, is considered literate.

India has a rich educational history. From the Vedic Gurukul system to the universities of Nalanda and Takshila and temples being centres of learning. Even the British introduced various schemes on education like Wood's Despatch, Saddler and Sergeant Committees. In the Wardha scheme of education,

Gandhiji's Nai Talim can be found.

Our literacy rate was just 12% in 1947, post-independence.

Today, it is 74%, indicating our journey from misery to hope.

Therefore, this essay will highlight how literacy is a ray of hope and how hope can be turned into tangible results.

Nelson Mandela once said, 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world'. Literacy brings hope in different spheres of our lives.

The political sphere suffers from miseries like criminals

coming to power, red tapism and poor law making. with voter literacy, politics can be decriminalised, credibility of Parliament can be improved, through better legislative insights.

Bureaucratic literacy can help to develop empathy among civil servants, reduce delays in work and bring good governance.

In the economic sphere, corporate literacy can help usher in corporate governance, make profit making ethical and increase CSR activities.

Financial literacy can help households manage their income

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प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

इस भाग में कुछ
न लिखें
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in this part)

and savings in a better way and enjoy a greater quality of life. Our economic growth can increase with more literacy among the youth, thus utilising our huge demographic dividend.

In India, we see a disparity where 82% of males are literate but only 65% of females are literate. Educating women can help empower them and make them financially independent.

When you educate a man, you educate a man. When you educate a woman, you educate a generation.

Literacy about gender
appropriate behaviour is also

necessary to reduce crimes against women and treat them as equals. Here sex education classes in schools become important to be conducted.

Increasing literacy among Dalits, Tribals, Transgenders etc. helps to improve their livelihood and repair the historical injustices meted out to them. The example of Dr B. R. Ambedkar comes to mind and how education helped him to transform his own life and that of India, by constructing a brilliant constitution for us.

Environmental literacy

is another important dimension. It can help to bring sustainable development and recognise climate change as a real threat. It will make us pro-active to save the environment.

The example of Greta Thunberg is significant, where some years of schooling only made such a difference that her actions led to the emergence of fridays for future movement, across the globe.

Today, digital literacy is also important and an upcoming trend since data is the new oil and technology is the future. It will help people to browse

the internet, access online services,
upload documents, see government
websites, file RTI online and
so on. Being connected online,
continuously and safely, is the
need today. The PMGDISHA scheme
helps in this context.

The most important
dimension is ethical literacy.
It helps in character building.
A person becomes more tolerant
of diversity, has more integrity
and indulges in altruism.

This can help to reduce
religious conflicts, caste inequalities,
corruption, crimes etc. Ethical

and moral literacy can make people more compassionate and happy. As Gandhiji has said, 'we have to be the change that we want to see in the world.'

The government has introduced various initiatives to improve literacy levels in India such as National Literacy Mission, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan and so on.

What is further needed is focus on value education in schools, partnering with NGOs like Pratham to improve literacy outcomes, using radio and TV channels like

SWAYAM Prabha, to reach villages.
A literacy index can be formed
to evaluate performance of
states and incentivise them to
do better. The NEP 2020 should
be implemented as soon as possible.

We should also focus on
improving adult literacy outcomes.
A National Literacy Commission
can be formed to streamline
the process. Appointing citizens
as volunteers to spread literacy
in the neighbourhood, can also
help.

Such efforts will surely
transform India's literacy
scenario. Literacy will become

the road to progress, through which every man, woman and child in India, will be able to realise his or her full potential.

Our aim should be to create more villages like Pothanikkad in India. This will bring the 'New India' of 21st century.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE : RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

consider a family going on a vacation. They search for the ideal destination on a smartphone, book tickets with the help of a virtual assistant eg. Apple's Siri, digitally check in on the airline's website, drive to the airport in a smart car, go through security check at the airport, scanned by a facial recognition technology.

This is the example of a fully functioning AI ecosystem.

Artificial intelligence refers to the ability of a digital computer

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or computer controlled robot to perform tasks commonly associated with intelligent beings.

In simple terms, AI is the development of intelligent machines, thinking and working like humans. It is part of the Industrial Revolution 4.0 and is the technology of the future.

AI includes technologies like machine learning, pattern recognition, big data, neural networks etc. Eg: Facebook's list of suggested friends for its users, a pop-up page telling about an upcoming sale of shoes and clothes, comes on screen

while browsing the Internet.
This is all the work of AI.

AI AS A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

NITI Aayog's National Strategy
on AI has estimated that AI
will add \$957 billion to India's
GDP by 2035, boosting annual
growth by 1.3% points. Benefits
of AI have been pointed out,
mainly in 5 spheres.

In agriculture, AI can help
develop precision farming, smart
sensors to predict monsoon,
soil sensors for efficient irrigation,
autonomous tractors for good
harvest, pest surveillance, develop

AI enabled cold storage systems and so on. AI could thus result in a SMART FARM.

In the Health sector, AI can improve the access and affordability of health services. AI can help develop tele medicine, precision medicine, pharmaco-genomics, collect patient health records etc.

The National Digital Health Mission aims to use AI to develop Health IDs, a nation wide registry of doctors. AI was also used in Google Deep Mind Health, for consumers to make informed decisions.

in education, AI can help to develop online or virtual classrooms, relevant in today's COVID-19 pandemic hit world.

AI can help create smart boards, personalised learning models and improve teacher presentation.

AI also helps to track the attendance of students and stem drop-outs. IBM helped Andhra Pradesh government to reduce its drop-out rates in schools.

AI can create Smart Cities and smart infrastructure as well. It increases internet connectivity, data enabled centres and security in such areas. Eg: in Public parks,

malls, theatres, other public facilities.

AI can help to develop manufacturing hubs, through digitally connected warehouses, smart machines, 3D Printing.

AI can help speed up police investigations eg. CCTNS and NATGRID systems. Such data availability, brings transparency and good governance.

AI can also create smart mobility and transportation. It increases safety of citizens, helps in crowd management, prevents accidents and reduces traffic on roads.

Therefore, AI has multiple benefits.

AI AS A DOUBLE EDGED SWORD

With benefits, also come several challenges, which makes AI a threat today.

AI and the robotics revolution might lead to mass unemployment. The algorithm may be biased but used to decide important things in our lives such as insurance claims, job applications and loan requests.

AI will further undermine privacy and democracy through greater mass surveillance by the government and private companies.

Eg: There are an estimated

170 million CCTV cameras
currently operating in China.

AI in weapons can lead to emergence of autonomous weapons, raising difficult questions whether a machine that has been given the ability to make life and death decisions on the battlefield, can adequately account for subjective principles of war such as proportionality and fair precautions.

further, AI in the hands of terrorist organisations, insurgents, anti-social elements, can be harmful and lead to new conflicts among nations.

The recent push into AI has come from big tech companies like Google, Facebook, Amazon, Apple, which have the data of millions of people worldwide. This has raised concerns that these companies can train AI algorithms to their advantage.

Also, there is presently very little national and international regulation around how AI is developed.

Stephen Hawking has thus given a warning that

'development of full AI could spell the end of the human race.'

Therefore, we need to ensure that AI is only used for public good. AI should augment people, support people and not replace them. It has to be built on the foundation of trust.

We need to increase digital literacy in the country and implement the Personal Data Protection Bill as soon as possible. International regulations about AI need to be developed, by a separate UN Commission, taking inspiration from EU's General Data Protection Regulation.

Further, jobs must be made secure for the people and basic

tasks should continue to be performed by human effort.

AI should be utilised only for positive things. Eg: Digital India Mission, encouraging AI research centres like CORE and ICTAI, developing mobile apps in vernacular languages, reducing cyber attacks etc.

AI can thus enhance public welfare. We cannot afford to lose out on the opportunity linked with AI.

AI is the future. The right use of AI can lead to

AI for All.