

NEXT IAS

खण्ड-A / Section-A

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- Q.1 Gender Equality is not a "women's issue"-it's good for men too.
लैंगिक समानता सिर्फ "महिलाओं का मुद्दा" नहीं है — यह पुरुषों के लिए भी बेहतर स्थिति है।
- Q.2 Is UCC, the unity that we aspire in our diversity?
क्या समान नागरिक संहिता वही एकता है, जिसकी हम अपनी विविधता में आकांक्षा करते हैं?
- Q.3 Problems of 21st century are problems without passport.
21वीं सदी की समस्याएँ सीमाविहीन वैश्विक समस्याएँ हैं।
- Q.4 The more we are developing, the more unhealthy we are getting. Where does the real problem lie?
हम जितने अधिक विकसित हो रहे हैं, उतने ही अधिक अस्वस्थ होते जा रहे हैं। वास्तविक समस्या कहाँ है?

PROBLEMS OF 21st CENTURY ARE PROBLEMS WITHOUT PASSPORT

Last year, just before the Glasgow Climate Summit of United Nations Environment Programme, a video was making headlines over the internet. In that video a man was seen holding a playcard in a knee height waters of coastal pacific.

The text written on the card was like this -

"We are sinking; dear world please look at us! Give some attention to us!"

The man was none other than the foreign minister of Tuvalu, a beautiful island, nation in the

Western Pacific. In a press conference he claimed that their island is sinking at a rapid pace because of the ~~remotest~~ industrial activity in the remotest part of developed world like Europe or America.

Well, how can this even be possible? Was he out of his mind before making such claims? How can a chemical factory operating in Manchester, ~~can~~ lead to sinking of Tuvalu? Like us, everyone was also shocked. But if we try to delve deep into the problem, we can definitely say that he was hundred percent right. In the 21st century the problems are interconnected and does not know any boundaries.

Through this write up, we will try find how the Tuvalu's foreign minister was right and why the problems of 21st century come with no passport. We will also try to analyse what are their impact on

the planet, how they are different from earlier problems. and what is India's role as a vishwaguru in tackling these problems. Let's start!

21st Century - An Era of Global village

With coming of internet in the end years of 20th century, the world has become smaller than ever. you are just a click of phone away from your friend in the remotest island of world. Technological innovation and increased trade exchange has made this world into a big global village.

But with extended family, came extended problems. The world is so interconnected that an small insignificant event can make a ripple effect and travel like a tsunami in other part of world. A the problems of global warming due to historic and present emissions by

developed nation is leading to increased pace of sea water rising. And as every ocean is interconnected, the Tuvalu foreign minister was right in his claims. This signifies the fact that problems of 21st century does not know any boundaries.

But the important question remains - how they impact the other part of world. To answer this, we will have to analyse the biggest disaster till date of 21st century - The Covid-19 pandemic. It all started with a small virus in Wuhan city of China. But within few months, there was no continent on earth, which did not host the covid. Yes, even Antarctica had covid as a guest for few months.

How it happened? Again the interconnectedness. A student studying in China brought this new friend with him during his journey to home and soon it became a friend of all. In many similar ways it spread all over the world.

This is the main reason for boundarilessness in today's world. Hyper connected world has made the modern problems an universal citizen.

Modern Problems - An Universal citizen

If we closely look at the major problems of 21st century, one can enlist many but few like health crisis, economic crisis, terrorism, cyber threat, climate change etc will stand out. This problems has the visa to visit all the countries. They have unlimited access despite the state imposing sanctions on them.

If we take example of 2008 subprime crisis, we know how the investment bubble in USA led to global slowdown for almost five years. Economies were running at a fast trotter's pace. Some were even running backward. The impact of subprime crisis of USA was felt by the poor farmer of rural India because he was unable to purchase the fertiliser at higher cost.

His harvest for that season affected and ~~the~~ his children went to bed half stomached in that period.

This is the impact, a problem of 21st century can make in other part of world. The planet or our mother nature never had created babies like United states of America, or United Kingdom or per se India. It was the human nature of creating us v/s them environment around him, that started in concept of territoriality and boundaries. And now the mother earth is reminding us that she is a 'one whole' and not a fragmented land pieces.

one can argue that how can a human right violation in Myanmar ~~can~~, have impact on us. Well on face, it may seem logical. But ask our brothers from north-east India, the massive influx of refugee from Myanmar is the most highlighted problem of their life at present. No state boundary can

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~~become~~ turn their back on the plight of refugee. On humanitarian ground everyone accepts them.

On the similar line, if we look at the domain of technology, the cyber attacks are crossing & breaking every built wall. A small computer and a hacker in remotest Russia can blacken out the whole America by hacking its power grid. The technology warfare is the new age toy game. The powerful ones are enjoying it. But the powerless are at the receiving end as usual.

The same goes with the powerless or vulnerables like the women or tribals. They are victims, that too at a disproportionate level, of the modern problems. The ~~test~~ Taliban regime in Afghanistan is one of the significant exent of 21st century. USA unilaterally withdrawn from the region without giving a thought about ~~#~~ what the tomorrow may bring for womens from Afghanistan.

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The game of 21st century is all about assertion and hegemony. But in that race, they are neglecting the transboundary, transgender, trans human ~~net~~ impact of this game.

Everyone is aware about the Russia-Ukraine war being fought between the major economic powerhouses.

But how can one deny its impact on the poor children of Sudan, who will not get food to eat.

On the same lines, the 'space race' between well off nations and private organisations is fascinating to watch. But at the same time, one can argue what will be the fallout of the flora & fauna of Amazon jungle, if the space debris fall on them? They were not even watching your show. Still it ^{will} cost them.

This is the precise argument that the problems of 21st century are without any passport and has to be seen like that

only, otherwise the very survival of boundaries will be in danger

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~~Modern Modern Boun~~

Modern Problems need Modern Solutions

While discussed about the nature of problems of 21st century, it is utmost important to devise a strategy to tackle them. The strategy is simple - A global co-ordinated effort.

An effort from all the stakeholders right from individual to international level in a synchronised manner can help us to overcome any mighty demon. We tackled COVID-19 in a pretty decent way. Despite its novel feature, the world came together through synchronised efforts to deal with it. And now we are back on track - strong & vibrant.

A similar kind of effort is the need of hour to tackle the dragon of climate change. Without resorting to the debate of developing r/s developed countries, every stakeholder

needs to take the moral responsibility of their chance to tackle the problem. Only with this type of attitude we will be able to achieve our Paris agreement goal in time.

The world needs to come out of the mindset of superiority and inferiority and need to engage in a harmonious way. Be it problem of racism in USA or refugee crisis in Europe, every problem has to be dealt with most humanitarian and co-ordinated manner. One should always remember the concept of 'One Earth', while tackling any problem.

But does boundary really don't matter?

We talked about global co-ordinated effort to tackle every problem. But this is also a fact that many small and poor nations don't have the capacity to deal with large problems for which they are not even responsible. For example, Tuvalu being an ecofriendly island nation, is not responsible for

the global warming, nor it has capacity to deal with it.

In such cases, it is the responsibility of the nations with bigger boundaries, bigger economy, bigger capacity to lend a helping hand to the small brothers. Then only we can say that boundaries are meaningless. Robert Frost in his book 'Mending walls' writes,

"Good fences make good neighbours But sometimes mending the walls and co-ordinating with each other also makes great neighbours."

Hence, it is the responsibility of the world and with more weight on its shoulder, India should strive to make the 21st century a century of prosperity and not century of problems. India is regarded as the Vishwaguru by one of the Noradic country's minister because of its civilisational values like "vasudhaiva kutumbakam"!

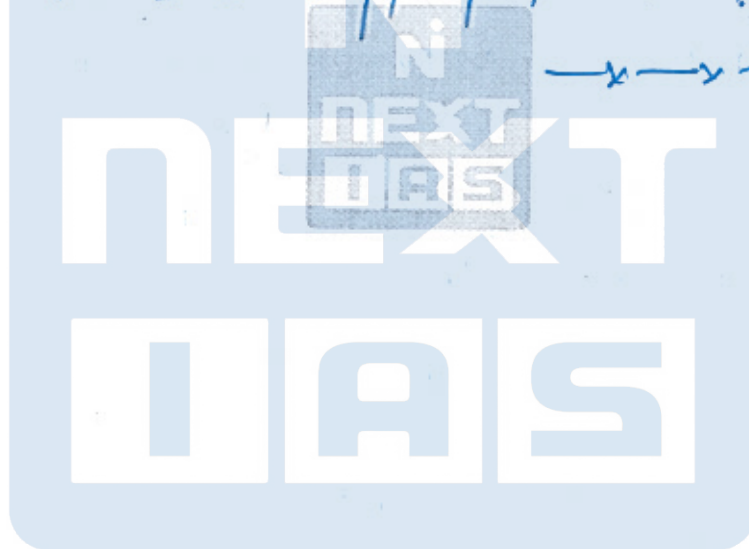
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And hence to conclude,
it is now the moral responsibility
of India to guide the Norther
and western ministers to take a
look, appreciate to the problems of
Tuvalu's minister and work in
a co-ordinated manner in order
to achieve the goal of

'sarve ^{sukhino} ~~samantu~~ bhavante!'

(may All live Happily forever!)

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खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5 Our Tryst with Space
अंतरिक्ष के साथ हमारा मिलन
- Q.6 Is Internal Security always an Internal Challenge?
क्या आंतरिक सुरक्षा को हमेशा एक आंतरिक चुनौती माना जा सकता है?
- Q.7 Sports, the toy of humanity
खेल, मानवता का खिलौना है।
- Q.8 Is Economy becoming the end rather than the means?
क्या अर्थव्यवस्था साधन के बजाय साध्य बनती जा रही है?

Sports, the toy of humanity

One the eve of June 25, 1983, a hotline conversation between two sides of the border was like this -

person P: Well there will be ceasefire from our side for next 24 hours.

person I: oh! How you became so gentle?

person P: you have qualified for the finals of a world cup for the first time. enjoy your players match without any distraction.

person I: your kind gesture is much appreciated.

This was the conversation between army majors on both sides

of line of control of Pakistan and India. That day the arch rivals since 1947, had cheered together for the win of India against West Indies in a worldcup final. That day humanity won over envy and sports was the toy for it.

Since time immemorial we have seen how recreational activities like singing, dancing, painting, sports has become the medium of social bonding and helped in strengthen-
-ing humanity. The aim of this write up is to explore various dimen-
-sions of sports and how it has helped to shape the humanity of world. We will also try to explore if there any faultlines which even sports has failed to heal.

For exploring dimensions of sports we will have to delve into the past.

Sports - A saga in itself

since ancient times, we all know how men/women used to gather at the camp site and play various games like the chess, archery, etc for their entertainment. In doing so, it helped them to understand each other better, build good relationships and progress as a whole.

Thus sports has a vital place in everyone's life. A newborn child first makes the ~~first~~ friendship with his/her mother and his/her second friend is his/her toys. The toys become the companion for the baby helping him to develop his motor as well as sensory responses. It teaches the baby how to enjoy with bare minimum.

similarly, when the baby grows and starts playing outdoor games, he develops the camaraderie with his friends. They fight, the quarrel and yet unite again. It builds the life long relationships. who can forget their

childhood friends? & No matter how many international trophies Mahendrasingh Dhoni wins, but he still remembers every helicopter shot session taught by his friend. Isn't it amazing? How can one of the most famous, popular man still gives equal value to his childhood friends?

Well, this is what sports is! It inculcates strong human relations which are beyond the boundaries of space and time. It builds humanity, it builds humanism. How we often recognise our brothers from the North-east India? Many of us may make them with their koks, but it is the same area which gave the world, current third highest goal scorer - yes I am talking about Sunil Chetty - the captain of our National football team and a legend.

This is what sport can do. It integrated the northeast with mainland India more than anything else. Whole India watches, when Mc Mary Kom punches the opponent

with her strong punches. whole India watches when Mirabai Chanu lifts those heavy weights to bring glory to the Nation - 'India'

It is the simplest and easiest form of binding a nation. Everyone's chest fills with pride when the National anthem is played on the olympic podium. The podium doesn't differentiate the persons based on their colour, creed, race or nationality all it recognises is talent and hardwork! That's it.

It has the potential to make people forget about the societal fault lines. we all know how deep rooted racism is in western Europe. yet, unarguably Kylian Mbappe is the most celebrated athlete in France. How can this happen? A boy from poor black family is taken on shoulders by the white men? This is because sports does not know any boundaries of colour. It only recognises humanity

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and talent

There is only one religion in sports and that is humanity. Players with true sportsmanship aren't are celebrated world over. They are not bound by the modern or artificial walls.

Sport - A heart with no boundary

Sport does not have chambers like our heart to differentiate oxygenated and deoxygenated blood. It paints the whole world with uniform colour - A colour of humanity. Behind the colour of national flag, there is a deep transparent fabric strongly woven, a fabric of humanity.

We can definitely say this after considering following example. When our beloved golden man Neeraj Chopra won the to Tokyo olympic, his arch rival yet great mate off-the field, Mr. Arshad Naadeem took twitter to pen down how Neeraj Chopra made a comeback after ~~and~~ an injury and became a gold medalist. His Pakistani

nationality did not come between his religion of sportsmanship and he appreciated his opponents victory.

such is the vast canvas of sport is. It can accommodate any kind of belief, culture, tradition and yet will not lean toward any side.

Do you ever realise that sports teaches us how to make deal with life? How should we behave in our life. Answer is with utmost humility and compassion

everyone knows how badly the world suffered through the COVID-19 pandemic. It was during this peak, we know many stories of sportsperson, sports teams coming forward to help the needy ones. As usual they took the onus on them to uphold the flag of humanity high, though this time on a different field.

such a huge impact sports can make. ~~we~~ we already witnessed many charity matches played for the welfare of people. The money collected is used for the cause of humanity.

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At the same time initiatives like Boxing day cricket - in Australia is played in pink colour to spread awareness about breast cancer. It in a way transcends the boundary of nation.

Similarly, sports teaches us how to bounce back from a setback and not lose confidence in oneself as well as the team members.

Sports - A life teacher

Sports help us to not lose faith in humanity even in times of crisis. The foes can become friends over a session of play. I can surely bet that if Russia and Ukraine would have played a five-match football or cricket series, they would not have to resort to a war. Either their dissent would be vented out on the field or they might have become friends ⁱⁿ the run of play.

We always need to take sports as bigger than just a matchup against individuals or

Countries. It teaches us a way of life. That is, above all hussles of life, above all ups and down, there is one certainty which we should maintain and that is a virtue of humanity.

How often we have seen sports person spending time with the background staff who help them to achieve great titles, grand slams etc. Roger federer made a grand come back at the age of 34, by winning the grand slam. First thing he did was to appreciate the efforts of groundsmen who made the court. What a good gesture it was!

on the other hand, after fifa world cup of Qatar 2022, there were reports about human right violation of the labours who worked for making ground and stadium. This is the other side of sports. The limelight should not be unidirectional on sports person,

It should be a 360° timelighr appreciation of efforts of every stakeholder right from groundmen to commentator, then only sports will be our life teacher. However not everything in sports is linear and straight forward.

A sports - A factory of Human rights violation

Now many times, we heard about the news of racial abuses hurled towards players by audience, administration? Even the players admired by all like A.B. Devillians were once alleged for racial abuse. This furnishes the joy which sports brings to humanity.

In the same way, women wrestlers from India were protesting over alleged sexual harassment by one of the Federation member shows the other side of coin. 'All that glitters is not shiny' and hence, it is a collective responsibility of everyone.

from players to administration to the audience to maintain and uphold the sanctity of sports as a joy of humanity, rather than making it toy for human right violation.

No summersie, sports has ~~an~~ immense potential to bridge the gulf between the countries, region and even individuals. Just that we need to tap that potential in right manner. Who does not want to see the battle between Virat Kohli and Shahen Afridi on a cricket field rather than a battle on the other sides of line of control.

Only sports has the potential to bring India and Pakistan closer. and we should harness it to uphold our 'joy of humanity'

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