

IBHELD ON :
10.07.2011

Based on Memory

MODEL SOLVED PAPER

**IB ASSISTANT INTELLIGENCE
OFFICER EXAM****ESSAY****9. Write an essay in about 400 words on one of the following topics :**

- (i) Emergence of India as a World Power
- (ii) Security Threats to India
- (iii) Cultural Diversity in India

ANSWERS**(i) Emergence of India as a World Power**

The coining of the terminology "superpower" is an event of the 20th century. The word superpower includes the supreme position in the areas of defence and economy, particularly and in allied sectors generally. As far as America is concerned no one is of two minds that it is the reigning superpower. But when an effort to include India in the list of superpower, is being made many eye - brows are being raised. Though, India has exhibited its capability in many wonderful arenas, its economy is still considered its achilles' heel.

Having acquired an insurance policy through nuclear weapons, India pursues the arduous domestic agenda of economic modernisation, political reform and social advancement. India has boldly transformed into a nuclear power, successfully reversed the Pakistani aggression across the line of control, and gained world respect for the restraint in the conduct of the kargil operations.

The dramatic advances in information and communication technologies and their application to warfare increasingly determine the locus of military power in the coming century. Nuclear weapons are certainly important. And India's decision to acquire them was long overdue. India can acquire its much vaunted great power status on the basis of its current economy and social indicators. The productive economic and political engagement of the world remain the bedrock of nuclear India's diplomacy. It is in India's strategic interest to quickly resolve the outstanding differences with the global nuclear order.

But there are certain inherent qualities in Indian democracy and economic structure. Due to its strengths India could withstand the onslaughts of south - east Asian economic crisis. Though internal security, is a problematic zone of India's security establishment, it has been tackling the menace of terrorism successfully. Like Pakistan, no one in India can subvert its democratic fabric. These internal strengths of Indian democracy can be reckoned with and matched with any superpower of the world. The increasing utilisation of human - resources, the stability of political set up, the recovery of economy, the establishment of electoral, practices in terrorism ravaged states, its role in promoting international peace, its dynamism exhibited in the functioning of UN, its advancement in science and technology, and its positive thinking during and after the cold war are some of the major points to help India in its emergence as a superpower. Besides these achievements it should take care of its one third of population living the life of underdogs.

(iii) Cultural Diversity in India

India is a land of diversity. A young man of Punjab is, in all respects, different from his compatriots in Kerala. In complexion, in appearance, in language, in ethnicity, in religion, in food habit, in cultural festivals and in all other cultural manifestations, there are differences. Still a person from Kerala and a man from Punjab, all do belong to one nation, India. They are Indians. Diverse races met in this soil. Hun, Pashtun, Mughal, Sak, Aryan, Aravidian, Mongoloid, all merged into one. Great poets like Tagore could read this diversity. But he could also feel the underlying current of unity. This is what is also felt by our leader Jawaharlal Nehru. India is one, not due to one religion, or homogeneity in culture or ethnic identity or linguistic similarity. India is one because of an imperceptible, indestructible, immortal spirit. This is the soul of India.

India has diversity, that is cultural diversity. That is why it is interesting. It is world in a miniature. Number of languages and linguistic groups, number and diversity in cultural festivals and diversity in food habit and in all other respects, India is a store house of diversity. But, it exists as one country. Is it not a proof that India has cultural unity?

- There are different aspects of India's cultural unity. Religion is, of course a cementing force which acted for centuries to form a foundation.

- Linguistic origin is also a factor. Most of the modern Indian languages owe their origin to Sanskrit. In South Indian languages also, Sanskrit terms have a predominance.

- Political unity, though short lasting, at times it bound India into an integrated whole. Whether it was during Mauryan period, or Mughal period. The political unity was firmly rooted during British period.

- Economically, the country was acted as one economic unit, so far as the movement of goods and labour are concerned. Inter-regional migrations of labourers and dependence of one region on another for the supply of raw material or finished products brought economic unity.

Above all the quality of being perceptive of strong culture, liberal attitude of the people, respect towards elders, and common value-system inducted great force in cultural unity. The epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata govern the life of the people, their morality and value system. This is true in case of every nook and corner of this soil.

The festival of Sankranti (14th January) is celebrated as Makar Sankranti in northern India, Bhogali Bihu in Assam, Lohri in Punjab (Day before Sankranti), Pongal in South India. The festival, though takes different names, is celebrated in almost every part of the country. Here is diversity, here is cultural unity. □□□

It is to be noted that a total of 100 objective type questions were asked in the IB exam held on July 10, 2011, of which 20 questions were based on Reasoning and Mathematics (Arithmetic)