

1. There is lack of space for innovation and experiment in governance in India and hence, it is impossible to formulate a national strategy that accords primacy to the Gandhian principle of 'Antodaya' without sacrificing growth. Comment. (150 Words)

Answer:

- India faces many challenges in the New Millennium. Most notable among them is attaining the objective of Inclusive growth and reducing the Great Divide between the haves and the have-nots. This is due to lack of innovation and experiment in governance.
- Governance in India at present is characterized by:
 - (a) More reliance on market forces for achieving service delivery.
 - (b) in the name of rapid economic growth policy decisions are increasingly being taken giving regard to the interest of the market and big business.
 - (c) Top down approach of policy making and planning.
 - (d) Asymmetry in participation, focus, access to government as the marginalized sections of society, rural people are in a disadvantageous position vis-a vis elite, urban and industrialists.
 - (e) Absence of accountability mechanisms for rural population etc.
 - (f) Knowledge about man standing last which always misses the reality and results into faulty policies and unacceptability of policies (eg. Gramin Sawarojgar Yojana and SHG Bank Linkage programme are examples where upscaling was done without considering ground realities).
- All these have combined together to result into a system of governance where in the name of growth inclusive growth is sacrificed. This is evident in skewed literacy data, health facilities, ratio of rural poor to urban poor and many other indicators which show marginalized sections suffering more.
- This is due to lack of innovation and experimentation both individually and institutionally.
 - (a) Institutionally local level officials and representatives don't have autonomy to innovate.
 - (b) There is too much belief in trickle down effect and there is absence of any past successful nationwide models which shows antodaya supporting faster growth.
 - (c) This results into the fact that individually the policy makers suffers from absence of will to formulate policies for antodaya.
- In recent there have been efforts to reconcile both through initiatives like CSR (Corporate social responsibility), Start up India initiative, SC Venture fund, etc which focus on inclusive growth. But these are not enough. A number of new steps should be taken if India has to move on the path of sustainable growth. It has to combine 'antodaya' with growth.
- Gandhiji's concept of development namely Sarvodaya through Antyodaya, imply the welfare of all through the weakest of the society holds great value. The plans for the economic development of our country should make a beginning from the

bottom of the pyramid with the people who have been left behind or swept aside. This requires following steps:

- (a) New approaches like networking model wherein civil society, private and public sector comes together should be adopted.
- (b) Local Self Governments must be accorded with funds, functions and functionaries to design schemes of social and economic justice.
- (c) Small scale industries, co-operatives, SHGs, etc should be promoted. Professionalizations in these should be created.
- (d) Civil services training should be remodeled to imbibe the principles of equity and inclusive growth into them.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Answer the following Questions

1. Critically analyse the role of non-state actors in international relations and their impact on India's diplomatic ties and strategic interests. (150 words)
2. Examine the key aspects of India-United Kingdom ties. In this context, how significant is the Commonwealth grouping? Discuss in view of the recent developments. (150 words)