

MAHARASHTRA STATE COUNCIL OF EXAMINATION, PUNE

Government Commercial Certificate Examination

2 JULY, 2018

[Time : 09-00]

(Total Marks (A) and (B) : 100)

ENGLISH SHORTHAND

(160 Words Per Minute)

(Time allowed for Transcription of (A) and (B) passages : 3 Hrs. and 05 Min.)

[A]**(Marks : 45 + 5 for note taking)**

Tomorrow the nation will celebrate the Independence Day, and on the sacred occasion. I have great pleasure in offering my warm greetings to my fellow citizens in India and abroad. The day reminds us every year of the pledge we / took and the promises we made to give our people a better and fuller life. Rooted in traditions of democratic conduct and behaviour, we have striven hard all these years to end poverty, ignorance and disease among the vast // millions of our population. Our aim has been the establishment of a society in which there will be equality of opportunity for all citizens a like, assuring their will being.

In our efforts towards the attainment of our national goals, we have /// deliberately chosen the democratic method, as the only sure path to real progress. I would like to lay the greatest emphasis here on the observance of self discipline at all levels. If people lose discipline and rectitude, their moral //1// stature and influence get seriously eroded. The most important sanction behind a democratic form of Government is the confidence which the people repose in it. It should be the constant endeavour of those placed in power to retain this confidence. / The political developments that were witnessed to in some states are not conducive to stable Government. In our system, Government are chosen by a mandate from the people. The mandate cannot be subverted to suit personal ambitions or for // gaining selfish ends. Equally, the growing tendency among some people to misuse civil liberty and organize agitations which paralyse the normal life of the community constituents a threat to public order. Freedom and liberty are cherished rights. If they are /// allowed to degenerate into licence, then the very basis of democratic existence may be destroyed.

We have been confronted in recent months by an unprecedented draught which has thrown millions of our people into distress and near famine conditions in //2// large parts of the country. We are trying to meet this situation. Several steps have been taken to ward off distress and to reduce the sufferings of the affected people. We must curb all conspicuous consumption and wasteful spending. / Currently, the monsoon has been good and there is fair prospect of a good kharif crop. In our vast country where agriculture as in so many countries, depends mainly on the monsoon, relative periods of scarcity and abundance are inevitable. // But this only emphasises the need to observe more and more prudence in the utilisation of our resources. This is all the more important where concerns essential commodities for the day to day life of the community. I feel /// deeply concerned that some unscrupulous people take advantage of situations of this kind and resort to boarding, profiteering and other anti social acts. Such people, I have no hesitation in saying should be branded as enemies of society and punished. //3//

The abnormal rise in prices, more especially of essential commodities, has become one of our major problems. This affects all sections of the community, particularly those of the fixed income group and the poorer sections. An effective remedy for this / will be a system of controlled markets, operating through consumer co-operatives and fair price shops situated in all parts of the country, both in urban and rural areas. This will have to be backed by an efficient public distribution system. // Public co-operation is of the utmost importance in all this. In times of grave economic stresses and strains, the citizens owe a duty to themselves to be vigilant guardians of the national interest. I would suggest that there should /// be organization in every small village and town, to look after consumer's interest. These constituents should assist the lawful authority in the proper discharge of its duty. If everyone adopts a positive approach, we shall have no reason to despair. //4//

[An interval of two minutes]

[B]

[Marks : 45 + 5 for note taking]

If we are at all anxious to have good education, it become imperative to work towards having three essential multiples. To start with, we must have young people who are interested in the process of learning as the first requisite / of healthy personality development. Secondly, we must have an adequate number of willing teachers. Who consider teaching as a prestige

profession and who have strong determination to function effectively. And thirdly, the community has to realise its vital role in // the process of education. They have not only to give natural help to institutions but they have also to look up on teachers as important members of society serving a noble cause. Recognition by society helps in keeping up the /// morale of teachers and also attracts talent to the profession. In any country, specially a democracy, where people run their own Government, these fundamental multiples are important without which education will remain a dull, routine affair and such a phenomenon //1// cuts at the very roots of national growth.

There is a sad dearth of really competent and suitable manpower in nearly all the branches of national life. The greatest deficiency has been the dearth of a really dynamic leadership. In / this context the role of college and university education is very important. Our universities and colleges are, therefore, faced with a great challenge and I would like to plead that all those concerned with higher education in India must pause // and think and work urgently to usher in some sort of functional aristocracy through quality education.

University education in India is over 100 years old. For many years in the past college and university education remained restricted to a very /// small percentage of the population and upto 1947, the growth of higher education was moderate. But, there has been, an explosion in the field of higher education since Independence. The expansion has indeed stupendous. The Radhakrishnan //2// report fan be taken as a landmark in the field of higher education as it led to a number of important steps like the setting up of the University Grants Commission, the improvement of salary scales of university and college / teachers, the establishment of a National Council for Scientific Research as well as the starting of three year degree courses. The University Grants Commission has played a significant role in the development of higher education.

All this development has been // significant indeed. However, in our enthusiasm for expansion, we have not somehow been able to maintain standards, what to say of raising them. A time has now come when we have to give serious thought to the twin problems of /// raising standard in higher education as also of having excellence in the academic field. The age old method of only helping students to pass examination no longer hold good. It is the depth that is now needed.

The lay student //3// has to be given an enriched programme of education. The rigidity of syllabus and the textbook has to be broken and students have to be exposed more and more to the new. Routine classroom methods have to be replaced / by something more refreshing like seminars, discussions and self study through extended teaching facilities. More opportunities have to be given to develop individual thinking and expressional capacities. Then, secondly we have to pay special attention to the talented and to // the gifted. There is a great variety of talent and they all need attention and support. Talent is widespread and the main problem before us is to locate it wherever it may exist. An observant teacher can always locate talent /// pertaining to his respective areas and this is one of the main tasks of the present college teachers. The Education Commission has also rightly stressed the need for massive programmes for the education of the gifted and develop dynamic leadership. //4//
