

SEC A- READING

Q1. Answer the following questions by referring to the given paragraph.

AS 'DIRTY' FACTORIES THRIVE, TOXINS SPREAD ACROSS

Industrial pollution is not restricted to the peripheries but is silently causing damage inside the city. On the Edge, a study by an NGO, has identified 18 potential pollution hotspots in the capital.

Unsafe, and often unorganized, methods of e-waste dismantling, dyeing, lead acid battery recycling, cathode-ray tube (CRT) dismantling and other processes have given rise to health and environmental concerns, says the Toxics Link study. Delhi has more than 1.2 lakh industries and 29 industrial estates, necessitating a watch over acid and lead fumes, as well as groundwater and air pollution.

The researchers assessed 51 industrial areas on five parameters--industrial processes, chemicals used, emissions, disposal technique and occupational health hazard. They found that 18 of them were flouting the norms.

Prem Nagar in Mandoli houses 110 lead acid battery recycling units. There is no understanding of pollution control, claims the report. "Most units in this area rely on coal-to-fuel crude furnaces and recover lead in a crude manner. While recycling, battery acid is dumped on the ground, waste pile or into a waterbody. As lead plates are melted, lead ash settles in the surroundings, collects on clothing or is inhaled by workers," it says.

A large amount of waste at Seelampur, where e-waste is recycled, comes from the US and Europe. Workshops emit lead fumes and the melted lead solder often finds its way to nearby drains. "The working conditions are appalling with poorly ventilated rooms and no safety measures," says the report about Moti Nagar, which recycles CFL devices.

The landfills at Ghazipur, Bhalswa and Okhla are responsible for toxic leachate contamination of air and groundwater. The Najafgarh drain basin, which includes Wazirpur, Naraina, Anand Parbat and Okhla industrial areas, is the largest surface drain joining Yamuna and contributes to over 50% of the wastewater discharged into the river. Wazirpur is one of the worst managed areas with 1,200 small units, a majority of which are involved in steel pickling. The report also highlights the need to address toxic smoke and dust from open dumping, burning and spilling of chemicals. "In 2011, MCD was supposed to close down around 22,000 units, but not much seems to have been done", said Satish Sinha of Toxics Link.

1. Is industrial pollution restricted to the peripheries in Delhi?
2. How many potential pollution hotspots have been identified by an NGO?
3. Name three things that have given rise to health and environmental concerns.
4. What were the parameters of industrial areas assessed by the researchers?
5. Where does a large amount of waste at Seelampur come from?
6. What harm do the landfills at Ghazipur, Bhalswa and Okhla do to the environment?
7. Name the problems that should be addressed immediately as recommended by the report.
8. What contributes to 50% of the wastewater discharged into the river?

Q2.

SKILLING INDIA: THE WAY AHEAD

India has over 35,000 institutions of higher education, a number that is one of the largest in the world. The central and state universities together still comprise a substantial percentage of them. However, over the next decade or two, this is likely to shift towards private institutions as more and more Indians decide to get higher education.

India today is a rapidly changing country, which is markedly different from what it was 20 years ago when it started on a new path to liberalisation. With a large number of companies in the other hemisphere outsourcing jobs to India, the country has virtually become the world's back-office. This has also spurred the demand for quality graduates in multiple disciplines.

With the number of middle class Indians swelling, the requirements of careers changing and a new breed of young Indians leading the clamour for world-class education at home, India's education sector is also changing rapidly.

The Gross Enrolment Ratio or GER in higher education in India is still a little less than

15 per cent. This too varies from region to region.

With 60 per cent of this huge population under the age of 25, the demand for higher education is set to grow. The government is responding to these requirements by establishing more AIIMS and IITS across states, but given the state's limited resources, there remains a certain limit to government's spending on education. In these circumstances, the rapidly increasing demands of Indians on the education front can be met only when the private sector invests heavily in the field. And this is something it is already doing.

According to a McKinsey report on Indian demography, 590 million people will live in Indian cities by 2030, almost twice the current US population. There will

be 91 million urban homes by 2030 in India, as against 20 million today. A large number of rural residents would be shifting base to urban centers, giving up their age-old family profession of farming and cultivation in favour of new avenues for their children.

These create a never-before seen demand for higher education in India. This is where the role of the private sector will and is proving to be crucial.

It is not just the numbers that are increasing. Another major shift is in the demand for quality. More globally-exposed Indians are today asking why a greater number of Indian educational institutions cannot provide world-class education, comparable to prestigious foreign institutions.

Consequently, not only are more and more private universities and colleges emerging everywhere, but also there is an increasing consciousness among 'education providers' that quality education is what the young Indians are looking for. Private universities are also breaking new paradigms in education by offering wide options of learning to students and developing new mechanisms of learning. The teaching techniques and the quality of learning have also been transformed. Indian institutions today are also working to cater to a growing international clientele of students that are looking for new pastures to get an education. Some prestigious institutions today also attract foreign students to the country, with their state-of-the-art infrastructure and world-class education. It is time the government recognises the role of private sector education in building a sound future for India.

1. Does India have a high number of institutions of higher education?
2. Where will more and more Indians decide to get higher education in the coming decades?
3. How has India virtually become the world's back office?
4. What are the requirements of careers changing in India?
5. How is the government responding to the requirements of higher education?
6. What will be the condition of Indian cities by 2030?
7. What is the thing in higher education that the young Indians are looking for?
8. What role can the private sector education play in the future?

SEC B: WRITING

Q3. You are Radha G, a member of NGO AWAAZ. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily for a public movement to clean the Yamuna river. (You must introduce yourself, describe how the people are to be blamed for polluting the river and suggest the need for installing water treatment plant to clean the river). (5M)

Q4. GAP FILLING (3M)

For doing transaction through ATM you (a)..... to find an ATM of any bank.

First you (b)..... to put your card in the card slot followed

by (c)..... the secret PIN. You are to wait till your transaction is complete. Then take the currency, collect your card and leave the ATM cabin.

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|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| (a) (i) shall | (ii) are required | (iii) should | (iv) needed |
| (b) (i) have to | (ii) need | (iii) must | (iv) do |
| (c) (i) enter | (ii) entering | (iii) entered | (iv) have enter |

SEC C: LITERATURE

Q5. Answer the questions following in 40-50 words

1. What is the message of the poem? (2M)
2. How does bad decision affect one's life? (3M)
3. How is the rain a bliss for the poet? Describe. (2M)
4. "Once you decide to change the system, such problems have to be confronted." What system is being refer in the sentence from the chapter "My Childhood"? What are such problems ? (3M)
5. Why did A.P.J. Abdul Kalam call his childhood a secure childhood? (2M)
6. "A problem is only as big as we make it." This thought has been very beautifully brought out in the lesson. (4M)