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POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT (2018-20) END TERM EXAMINATION (TERM-III)

Subject Name: **International Business Environment**Sub. Code: **PG-11**Time: **02.00 hrs**Max Marks: **50**

Note:

- 1. Writing anything except Roll Number on question paper will be deemed as an act of indulging in unfair means and action shall be taken as per rules.
- 2. All questions are compulsory in Section A, B & C. Section a carries 2 Case Studies, 10 marks each. Section B carries 2 questions of 10 marks each and Section C carries 5 questions 2 marks each.

SECTION A

 $10 \times 02 = 20 \text{ Marks}$

Q. 1: Case Study:

Rahul's minimum income plan is fatally flawed, by-SWAMINATHAN SANKLESARIA AIYAR

Indira Gandhi's 'Garibi Hatao' swept the polls in 1971. Rahul Gandhi hopes to follow suit with NYAY (Nyuntam Aay Yojana), promising a minimum income of Rs 72,000 per year to the 50 million poorest families. Garibi Hatao flopped badly. So will NYAY unless totally rethought.

Indian parties have a consensus on cash grants to the needy. Schemes in Telangana, Odisha and Jharkhand have been followed by Modi's PM-Kisan, costing Rs 75,000 crore per year. Achieving that without fiscal profligacy is difficult. Rahul's NYAY will cost almost five times more, Rs 360,000 crore, or 1.8% of GDP.

Horrendous problems and leakages will arise in identifying the poorest 20%. India has no income surveys. People will hide their true income to qualify, so the biggest liars will be the biggest gainers. Income certificates from Sarpanches or officials will breed huge corruption. Many poor people live in remote non-electric unbanked areas, almost unreachable by cash transfers. NYAY will make the bottom 20% richer than the lower middle 20-40%, who will, rightly, howl that this is arbitrary and unfair.

How will Rahul finance NYAY? Not by a big GST hike: that could be almost as inflationary as printing notes. Besides, he has long said indirect taxes (especially on auto fuels) are too high. He could raise corporate tax rates. But that will ruin the existing policy of lowering the tax rate plus cess/surcharge (34.5% for large companies today) to 25% to compete with other Asian nations. India must be tax competitive to take on China (15-25% corporate tax) in the RCEP (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership) free trade area.

Today's entire income tax collection is barely 2% of GDP. Doubling this is impossible quickly. History shows that, beyond a point, high tax rates produce a black economy, not revenue. Indira Gandhi raised income tax to 97.75% but got no tax bonanza. By contrast Manmohan Singh and Chidambaram slashed it in the 1990s from 50% to 30%, yet improved the income tax/GDP ratio, by inducing more tax honesty.

Many tax exemptions and exceptions are unwarranted and should be scrapped. They are already being phased out. Hence the effective tax rate has gone up from 19% to almost 28% for large corporations. Yet this reduction of tax breaks has produced only modest revenue.

Rahul could slash spending. Doing so on health, education and infrastructure would be disastrous: such spending needs to rise, not fall. Existing subsidies on food, fertiliser and fuel could be abolished to fund NYAY. But political competition make it impossible to end existing subsidies. Rahul has always favoured additional subsidies, not less.

He could borrow more (increase the fiscal deficit). But interest rates will rise, hitting not just businesses but household borrowers. Higher interest payments will squeeze essential government spending. The trade deficit will widen. The rupee will depreciate, raising prices and hitting dollar inflows. The new target under the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management law of reducing the public debt from 70% of GDP to 60% will become impossible.

Lest this be labelled a right-wing attack on NYAY, let me cite some top leftist economists.

Pranab Bardhan: "India does not officially collect income data, so identifying the poorest 20% is difficult ... Getting income certificates from some officials can be a highly corrupt process."

Amiya Kumar Bagchi: "There will be information problems for migrant contract labourers working in brick kilns and sugar plantations... For the poorest living in pipes, underneath bridges and very temporary squatments, there will be a problem of identity. Most of them will not have ration cards and Aadhaar cards." Jayati Ghosh: "We simply don't have income data... The fact that the last SECC survey is from 2011 is also a concern since the data is now outdated. You would need a fresh survey."

R Ramkumar: "These minimum income schemes would mean a lot for someone living in Jharkhand but will not have the same effect for someone in Kerala (where the daily wage itself is around Rs 1000).

There must be an extensive and detailed survey to understand the household and income characteristics across districts and states before a scheme like this can be launched. It will take at least three to four years to conduct such a survey."

Odisha's Kalia (Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation) is the best cash transfer scheme. It benefits all rural households — farm owners, tenants, landless labourers. Equitably, it excludes big farmers. Odisha's land records have been updated, so identification errors should be low. Kalia is fiscally prudent.

A Central Kalia will have identification problems but will be better than Modi's scheme, which benefits only farm-owners, not tenants or the landless. Telangana's Rythu Bandhu benefits large farmers the most, with nothing for tenants or labourers. NYAY is easily the biggest, but has fatal conceptual and practical flaws.

- Q-1 (A): What are the major challenges in implementing NYAY Scheme in India?
- Q-1 (B): What are the benefits of implementing NYAY Scheme in India? Do you think it should be implemented?

Q.2: Case Study:

Tata Motors (Earlier TELCO) opened booking for different models of its proud small car Indica in late 1998. The consumer response was overwhelming. Most of the booking were for the AC model DLE and DLX. DLE model accounted for more than 70% of the bookings.

Tata Motors planned to commence delivery of the vehicles by early 1999. However, delivery schedules for the AC model were upset because of some problems on the roll out front. According to a report in the *Economic Times* dated 13 March 1999, Tata Motors officials attributed the delay to non-availability of air conditioning kits. Subros Ltd. Supplies AC kits for the DLE version and the Voltas is the vendor for DLX version. Incidentally, Subros is also the AC supplier to Maruti Udyog Ltd. Tata Motors officials alleged that Subros was being pressured by the competitor to delay the supply of kits. "If this continues, we will be forced to ask Voltas to supply kits for the DLE version too", a company official said.

- Q-2 (A): If the allegation about the supplier is right, discuss its implication for the supplier.
- Q-2 (B): Evaluate the ethical issues involved in the case. (Also consider the fact Maruti was 50% Government owned.)

SECTION B

 $10 \times 02 = 20 \text{ Marks}$

- Q. 3: Critically examine the problems and prospects of Disinvestment of PSU in India.
- Q-4: Discuss the different components of Balance of Payment. Is Current Account Deficit good for our Country? Discuss.

SECTION C

 $05 \times 02 = 10 \text{ Marks}$

- Q.5 (A): Discuss the rationale of encouraging FDI and FPI.
- Q. 5 (B): What are the advantages of Human Development Index as an indicator of the 'development level' in different countries?
- Q. 5 (C): Is weak Indian Currency good for India? Discuss with suitable examples.
- Q. 5 (D): Discuss how monetary policy can be effectively formulated in India in the 21st Century.
- Q. 5 (E): How American Depository Receipt (ADR) is different from Global Depository Receipt (GDR).