

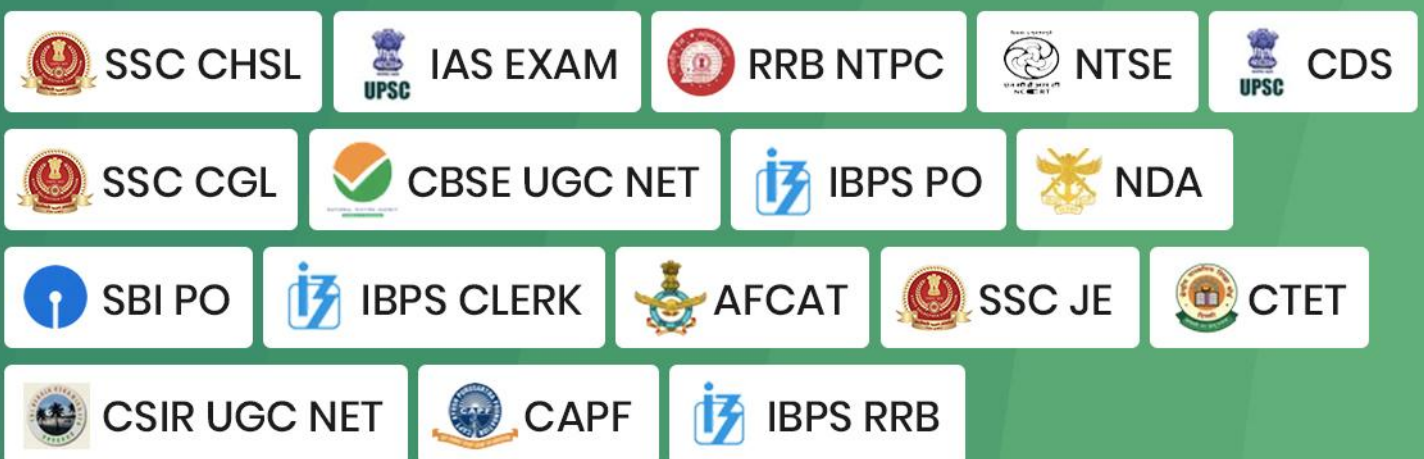


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RRB Grade B Exam

RO-DSIM (English) 2010

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R. B. I. S. B. R. O. (DSIM)**2010**

[TIME—2-30 P.M. TO 5-30 P.M.]

(Maximum Marks—100)

PAPER III**ENGLISH***N.B.*—(1) All questions are *compulsory*.

(2) Figures to the right indicate full marks to each question.

(3) Answers to each question should begin on a fresh page.

(4) All parts of a question must be answered together without answers to other questions intervening.

(5) Marks will be deducted if an answer far exceeds or falls short of the set limit or is irrelevant or if the handwriting is illegible.

(6) Answers must be written only in *English*.**Marks**

1. Write an argumentative essay of about **500** words on *any one* of the following topics :— 40
- (a) Politics and economics can never be separated.
- (b) Should there be reservation for women ?
- (c) Has our middle-class become an unconcerned class ?
- (d) Corruption is the bane of democracy.
- (e) To err is human ; to forgive divine.

2. (a) Make a précis of the following passage, reducing it to about **200** words and give it a suitable title. Use the special sheet provided for this purpose :— 24

India has, for long, been regarded as a *soft state* – a phrase coined by Gunnar Myrdal. It means a country where law enforcement and social discipline are low. By extension, the term implies that such a state is as timid and diffident in its dealings with other nations as with its own citizens. Unlike tough and totalitarian states or power-projecting countries like Israel, India was seen as mild and non-aggressive preferring compromise to confrontation.

However, a look at the modern history belies such an image of India. Accession of Hyderabad State soon after Independence ; liberation of Goa ; annexation of Sikkim and intervention in Sri Lanka and Maldives project India as an emerging power. In fact, some have already anointed India as a potential or soon-to-be superpower. If the size and growth of the economy is a criterion, India deserves a seat in the United Nations Security Council. Its impressive growth over the last two decades is but a prelude to even more acceleration in the next few decades. In fact, the prediction is that it will be the third largest economy by 2015, overtake the US by 2040 and around 2050 become even bigger than China.

[Turn over

How can India influence developments in countries of interest to it? Relevant to this is the definition of brand India. Are its primary attributes related to military power? India is the biggest importer of armaments and has the third largest army. It is unlikely that this will give us greater clout than that of our competitors. Surely, it is not arms and armies but culture and cuisine, democracy and diversity, spirituality and software that we would rather be known for.

It is these and similar facets of India that people elsewhere look up to; and fortunately, in today's world, it is these that are increasingly important. These have become the new currency of power as countries realize that battles are not about occupying land but about capturing hearts and minds. It is this ability to obtain what one wants through co-operation and attraction rather than coercion (without the threat or actual use of force) that has been defined - most cogently by Joseph Nye - as *soft power*. This is India's biggest strength and USP (Unique Selling Point). It is this that can give us competitive advantage, complement our economic attraction and supplement our military strength. In fact—from the viewpoint of outcome (which is what ultimately matters) - there is a trade-off between soft power and military force. For India, an investment in the former will have far higher pay-off. As the global power makes the transition from force to influence India is well placed to be a dominant player.

India's soft power began with spirituality, culture and even movies. Its morality-based global policies, democratic institutions (particularly the judiciary, Election Commission and media) are respected. Its knowledge-based sectors (including nuclear, space, pharmaceutical and IT) are admired globally. This provides India the wherewithal for its soft power. It not only opens doors for commercial deals but enables strong leverage for 'persuasive' diplomacy on the geopolitical plane.

This huge fount of sustainable and growing power needs to be nurtured and further developed. It is diminished by blemishes such as human rights violations, by corruption and scams. If we are to enhance our soft power such anomalies cannot be permitted. If ever they happen one expects media attention, a public outcry and prompt corrective action by the state. Apart from the civil society, the corporate world also has both an important role and responsibility in this changing scenario. As the global power equation shifts from force to influence, India has sufficient clout to emerge a winner from a soft state to a soft power.

- (b) (i) Answer briefly and in your own words *any two* of the following questions based on the passage given above :— 10
- (1) What is meant by a *soft state*? What does it imply?
 - (2) Do you agree with the view that India has the potential to be a superpower? Give reasons in support of your answer.
 - (3) How can India influence developments in countries of interest to it?
 - (4) Distinguish between 'superpower' and 'soft power'. What are the features of a soft power?
 - (5) State the factors that may affect India's image as a soft power. How can one check such anomalies?

- (ii) Explain clearly the contextual meaning of *any three* of the following expressions from the passage :— 6
- (1) totalitarian state
 - (2) primary attributes
 - (3) to look up to
 - (4) trade-off
 - (5) persuasive diplomacy.
3. Attempt *any one* of the following in about **250** words :— 20
- (a) The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) is deeply concerned about rising inflation. A Committee has been appointed to make an in-depth study of inflation dynamics. Draft the Committee's Report including in it measures to strengthen co-ordination between the RBI and the Government with a view to controlling inflation.
 - (b) The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has been receiving numerous complaints about mismanagement, lack of transparency, poor recovery of loan, high NPAs etc. about a leading co-operative bank in a state. Draft an order, on behalf of the **RBI** for the dissolution of the BoD citing circumstantial evidence in support of such a drastic step.
 - (c) It has been observed that several importers were misusing the facility of letter of credit (L/C) given by the banks for up to one year. During this period they were using various banking channels to multiply their gains. On behalf of the **RBI** draft a circular to be sent to all the nationalized banks reducing the terms of L/C to 90 days from up to one year. State briefly the background that led to this step.
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