

Lecturette

Lecturette is an individual task and conducted on Day-3 (Group Tests). Here, the candidate is required to give a short talk to the group.

Objectives of Lecturette

The lecturette is conducted to know how much aware is the candidate about the recent happenings in India as well as in other countries. This also shows the candidate's knowledge and opinion on the given issue.

The lecturette is conducted to test the candidates in following ways :

- Awareness about environmental development issues.
- Ability to organise and express an opinion.
- Self-confidence and stage handling capability.
- Ability to influence the group.
- Perseverance in delivering his/her opinion under stress also.
- Courage to face the group and talk determinedly.
- Stamina to address a group and deliver the thought and opinion in 3 minutes.



Way of Conducting Lecturette

1. In the lecturette, part of the SSB interview, each and every candidate has to talk on a topic.
2. The GTO will have as much number of cards as per the candidates in the group where each card will have **four topics** on the card.
3. The first candidate will be called to pick up the card which is the first on the top and he will be asked to move away a little from the group and will be given 3 minutes to prepare on the topic.
4. While the first candidate prepares, the GTO asks other candidates to introduce themselves, he will usually ask your name, father's occupation, school, your studies etc. When the first candidate comes to talk, first he will be asked to introduce himself and then time starts for talk.
5. When the candidate is ready to talk and 3 minutes are completed, he is called back to deliver his lecturette for 3 minutes and after 2½ minutes, GTO rings a bell which indicates that the candidate should wind up his lecture in 30 seconds. Exactly after 3 minutes, GTO will ring two bells; the second candidate comes and starts his lecture.
6. By this time, second candidate is asked to pick the second card and again the process repeats till the last candidate completes his lecturette.
7. The lecturette has to be given only in English.



Tips to Attempt Lecturette

- ♦ **Choose the topic** on which you have good knowledge and can talk well; avoid taking difficult topic because only your knowledge is not tested, but the way you talk and impress others is also noticed.
- ♦ The **introduction** to the lecturette is very important since, it gives an overall view about the topic. Hence it is essential that the candidate presents the topic well in the introduction.
- ♦ The **flow of lecturette** can be like introduction for the first 4-5 sentences followed by main points on the topic. You may also mention the negative effects in an effective manner, followed by a small example to support your lecturette.
- ♦ When you are delivering the lecturette, always look at the group members, **make eye contact** and never look into the eyes of the GTO officer.
- ♦ Give a brief introduction about yourself in less than 30 seconds before starting the topic. This can cover your name, educational qualifications, the place you are from.
- ♦ Try your best to maintain a smile throughout the process and have a **relaxed body language**. Never make any unwanted hand gesture during your talk. Speak in an audible and clear manner, but remember not to shout.
- ♦ Be **straight forward** in your points and do not beat around the bush which gives the impression that you are not sure about what you are talking. This shows lack of confidence in you.
- ♦ Plan your time for talking all your important points. Do not wait until the last second to drag on the conclusion and also do not go over the given time limit.
- ♦ Dress in proper attire and be presentable, walk with your head held high. This shows that you have a lot of confidence and is the key to help you to clear SSB interview.

SAMPLE LECTURETTE...

Some examples of Lecturette have been given for practice

Farmer's Distress in India

Respected GTO sir and my dear friends. I have chosen to speak on 'Farmer's Distress in India' which is a very crucial topic to know for citizens of every section of the society. My topic covers introduction, challenges faced by farmers and initiatives to tackle the issue.

Farmer's distress in India is a stark example of growing inequality, government's neglect and inefficiencies of farmer welfare schemes. The quantum of distress can be measured by looking at the number of farmers committing suicide every year.

In the 21st century, everyone talks about IT, computers and industries but no one really cares about agriculture and farmers. Agriculture gives livelihood to around 55% of Indian population but contributes to only 15% of the GDP. This clearly shows that how badly we have neglected our agriculture. The result of this neglect gets reflected in the marginalised condition of Indian small and marginal farmers. This forced them to commit suicide or migrate.

Agriculture in India is called a gamble of monsoons. Above that agriculture to remain profitable for farmers many more things are expected to fall in place. Low produce results into less profit and producing more than demand also leads to fall in general prices of farm produce.

While farmers who have access to irrigation are better placed, those who are in rain fed and drought prone areas are most vulnerable. They occupy 60% of the cultivated area, but contribute only 45% of total agricultural production. A single crop failure due to drought, flood or similar reasons can collapse them.

It is highly unfortunate that in a country like India where approximately 70% of the total population is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture, the cases of farmer suicides are increasing by the day. 11.2% of the total suicides in the country are farmer suicides.

There are major challenges which are faced by farmers in India. Some of them includes small agricultural land holdings, undersupply of HYV seeds, absence of irrigation facilities, lack of mechanisation, minimum support prices crisis etc.

There are also problems with the current insurance schemes as farmers are not aware of it. Very few farmers have heard of such schemes. Apart from this low penetration of Financial Institutions also adds to the cause of poor insurance coverage.

Other measures taken by the government like loan waiver of farmers is a populist step, this will not improve the health of Indian agriculture and farmers. Despite this the money should be used to improve the resilience of Indian agriculture by providing good irrigation facilities in the rainfed areas.

Government has taken initiatives to tackle with this issue. Schemes like increasing coverage of e-NAM (National Agriculture Market), higher allocation for long-term irrigation fund, expansion in coverage of PMFBY (Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna) have been initiated but there is a need to do more for this problem.

Thank you

Right to Privacy

Respected GTO Sir and my dear friends, I have chosen to speak on 'Right to Privacy' which is one of the recent Fundamental Rights provided to us by the Supreme Court of India. My topic covers introduction, Supreme court judgement regarding the importance of right to privacy and conclusion.

Article-21 of the Constitution of India states that, "No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law."

The conception of Right to Privacy is extruded from this Article which otherwise finds no mention in the Indian Constitution. Ironically this right is not against physical restraints but is a right against psychological restraints or encroachment of rights.

Privacy is basically a human right enjoyed by every human being by virtue of his or her existence. It is basically to restrain government and private action that threaten the privacy of individuals. However since the global surveillance of 2013, the right to privacy has been a subject matter of international debate.

In July, 2017, the Supreme Court of India refused simultaneous applications by multiple agencies demanding relief from the Supreme Court's interim order limiting the use of Aadhaar pending the court's final decision.

The court had asked the government to address the most basic questions in a democracy governed by the law, "What are the privacy rights of its citizens; and are they protected equally, with the same justice for the rich and the poor alike?"

The western world including the USA and UK have already recognised this as fundamental right but in India it remains a matter of judicial interpretation.

India is ushering in a new era of digital economy and with this problems of ID theft, fraud and misinterpretation have become real concerns. Identifying citizens for providing various services, maintaining security and crime-related Surveillance and performing governance functions, all involve the collection information.

In recent years, owing to technological developments and emerging administrative challenges, several national programmes and schemes are being implemented through information technology platforms, using computerised data collected from citizens.

With more and more transactions being done over the Internet, such information is vulnerable to theft and misuse. Therefore, it is imperative that any system of data collection should factor in privacy risks and include procedures and systems to protect citizen information.

There is pressing need for a constitutional definition and guarantee of the right to individuality, personal liberty and privacy in this digital age.

The State must put a robust personal data protection mechanism in place with strict laws for strengthening cyber security infrastructure. It should protect citizens against surveillance.

There is a need for recognition of privacy as a fundamental freedom. This would ensure essential deterrence against intrusion into personal space. Balance must be maintained to protect privacy and to promote national interest.

The right to privacy should not be only limited against the State but also against private corporations that collect citizen's data.

Finally the government should recognise both the need for Aadhar and the need for stringent rules concerning access and security of citizens biometric data in order to preserve their privacy.

Thank you

Goods and Services Tax (GST) : One Nation One Tax

Respected GTO sir and my dear friends, I have chosen to speak on 'Goods and Service Tax' which is a new tax reform in India. My topic covers introduction, GST tax slabs, importance of GST for country and conclusion.

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) has revolutionised the Indian taxation system. The GST Act was passed in the Lok Sabha on 29th March, 2017 and came into effect from 1st July, 2017. It is regarded as the biggest indirect tax reform in India after independence and expected that GST can increase GDP growth rate in India by 0.5 to 1% in near future.

GST is a single tax on the supply of goods and services, right from the manufacturer to the consumer. Credits of input taxes paid at each stage will be available in the subsequent stage of value addition, which makes GST essentially a tax only on value addition at each stage. The final consumer will thus bear only the GST charged by the last dealer in the supply chain, with set-off benefits at all the previous stages. In simple words, GST is an indirect tax levied on the supply of goods and services. GST law has replaced many indirect tax laws that previously existed in India.

GST was introduced by the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2017, following the passage of Constitution 122nd Amendment Act Bill. The GST is governed by a GST Council and its Chairman is the Finance Minister of India. It is to be noted that France was the first country to implement GST.

Under GST, goods and services are taxed at the following rates, 0%, 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%. There is a special rate of 0.25% on rough precious and semi-precious stones and 3% on gold. In addition a cess of 22% or other rates on top of 28% GST applies on few items like aerated drinks, luxury cars and tobacco products.

Before GST, tax on tax was calculated and tax was paid by every purchaser including the final consumer. The taxation on tax is called the Cascading Effect of Taxes. GST avoids this cascading effect as tax is calculated only on the value added at each transfer ownership.

GST will improve the collection of taxes as well as boost the development of Indian economy by removing the indirect tax barriers between states and integrating the country through a uniform tax rate.

The benefits of GST are easy compliance, uniformity of tax rates and structures, removal of cascading, improved competitiveness, gain to manufacturers and exporters etc.

Thank you

Cashless India

Respected GTO Sir and my dear friends, I have chosen to speak on 'Cashless India', which is being debated quite seriously for the past one year. My topic covers introduction, need for going cashless, steps undertaken, roadblocks and conclusion.

Cashless India is a mission launched by the Government of India led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to reduce dependency of Indian economy on cash and to stop the generation of black money in the economy. The country embarked upon this transition to a cashless economy when the government took the revolutionary step of demonetization of old currency notes of ₹ 500 and ₹ 1000 on November 08, 2016.

India is a cash rich country where more than 95 percent of the transactions are done in cash. These cash transactions are a very big reason for generation of huge amount of black money mainly in the sectors such as real estate, human and drug trafficking, physical gold trading and big pocket buying like luxury cars etc. Cash currency can be easily faked as well.

Cash transactions require high handling charges than digital transactions and they are also very difficult to track which does not allow the government to demand tax on transactions along with income tax. When people don't pay taxes and keeps the money with them then this process generates black money. As a result the government is left with less money for social sector spending and had to increase taxes. The burden of these taxes again lies on the poor. This black money indirectly cause inflation as well.

It has been found that this black money is also used for funding terrorist activities, Naxalism and other illegal activities. If the country can go cashless then all the issues related can be dealt with more effectively .

In this direction government has taken many steps by launching apps and mechanisms like BHIM, UPI, APES, USSD, decreasing duty on point of sale machines, Lucky grahak yojna, decreasing charges on cashless transactions etc. Government is also publicising the use of digital wallets through media and advertisements.

However, the use cashless transaction has not achieved much success out of major cities in the country. The major reasons are such as people find it easier to use cash than digital money, lack of internet penetration, lack of digital literacy among the masses and many shopkeepers still find it easy to trade in cash.

What India need is less use of cash so that the transactions can be tracked and the government can increase its revenue by taxing. This increased revenue will be used for the welfare of the people which is the biggest need of the country at this moment.

We all Indians as a responsible citizen can also take part in this process by spreading awareness in our neighbourhood about the benefits of cashless transactions So, that this chain will take India to new heights of prosperity.

Thank you

Criminalization of Politics in India

Respected GTO Sir and my dear friends, I have chosen to speak on 'criminalization of politics in India' which is a growing menace for our country. My topic covers introduction, the reasons for criminalization of politics, its impacts and solution.

Politics is the concept which provides the manner and the rules to govern a state and country. Its approach is to provide good governance. The persons who are related to this field are known as politicians. They are supposed to be the persons with all the qualities needed for the good governance. But the present scenario has completely been changed. Now the people who are in the politics appear to be the criminals. They have a number of criminal cases under trial against themselves. Still they rule the state and the country. They are being elected as public representatives for Assembly and Parliament. Whether they win or snatch victory in elections no one can say. It seems that politics has become synonym for crime.

At present more than 30% of the MLAs and MPs in India are facing criminal charges against them. It is not as if they have committed crimes after becoming people's representative but they were being elected as a criminal.

There are various reasons as to why criminals are being elected as our representatives such as lack of strong laws against criminals standing in elections, use of muscle and money power in politics to influence the voters, use of black money in the elections, lack of awareness among the voters about the candidates, more emphasis is given to the party than the candidates, less voter turnout which is only close to 65% of the eligible voters, media also doesn't cover the issues related to criminals participating in elections, weak civil society presence, religion and caste plays more important role than criminal background, populist promises are made to fool the voters etc.

These criminal elements in the legislature hurt the democracy as a whole as they does not efficiently take part in the debates and discussions on issues related to public importance, they use legislature only to settle political scores. Presence of criminals in legislature has also degraded the dignity of the legislatures as they are the temples of democracy, criminal politicians mainly use religion and caste for getting votes, they are also found to be involved in corruption cases. This situation is giving way to crony capitalism in India which is very harmful for a country like India where more than 30 crore population is still living below poverty line.

India is in a dire need of taking out criminals from politics because for an efficient governance people with clean image and character are required. For doing this the Legislature, Election commission, Supreme Court and civil society organisations can work in tandem.

We can take various measures for resolving this issue such as, there should be strong laws against the entry of criminals in politics, fast track courts for criminal cases against politicians, citizens should be made more aware of their candidates, political parties should also prevent themselves from giving tickets to criminals, state funding of elections can also be initiated to curb the use of money power, model code of conduct can be enforced in a strong manner to stop the use of caste and religion in politics.

All these measures can ensure that we should not be governed by criminal elements and for rooting out this problem every citizen should remember that if they don't enter in politics than they should be ready to be governed by their inferiors.

Thank you

Global Warming: A Menace for Planet Earth

Respected GTO Sir and my dear friends, I have chosen to speak on 'Global warming: A menace for planet earth'. My topic covers introduction, causes of global warming, its harmful effects, solution and conclusion.

Global warming refers to the increase in the average temperature of the Earth mainly after the industrial revolution. In the technology driven era of the later 19th and 20th century, the use of fossil fuels, Chloroflourocarbons and chemical fertilizers has increased by leaps and bounds along with deforestation. These factors have led to the increase in the greenhouse gas emission such as carbon dioxide, Methane, Sulphur hexafluoride, Nitrogen Oxide etc. These greenhouse gases cause greenhouse effect by increasing the absorption of incoming solar radiation on Earth. This increase in absorption has led to increase in the average temperature of the Earth.

This increase in temperature of Earth is causing drastic changes in the overall climate of the Earth which is popularly known as climate change. Global warming is causing extreme events like melting of glaciers and ice caps, increase in sea levels, increase in droughts, cyclones, floods, disease and pest outbreaks etc.

All these events are affecting life, livelihood and food security mainly in the regions close to sea. Many countries are on the brink of drowning and people are migrating to the inner areas. Other effects like increasing El-nino years, monsoon failures etc. are also affecting lives of the people.

To counter the effects of global warming and climate change the world has come forward with mechanisms such as UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), Kyoto protocol, Montreal protocol, green Climate Fund, carbon credits, Paris climate deal etc. All these mechanisms are directed towards decreasing the emission of green house gases.

The world at this crucial juncture need to follow the principles enshrined in the latest Paris Climate Summit which aims at reducing green house gases in the atmosphere. It has put the responsibility on all the nations according to their capacity to reduce the emission of green house gases.

We really have to think that We Do Not Inherit the Earth from Our Ancestors; We Borrow It from Our Children and to give this planet to our future generation in a healthy condition we should follow the principles of Sustainable Development.

Thank you

Role of Media in a Democracy

Respected GTO sir and my dear friends, I have chosen to speak on 'Role of Media in a Democracy' which is very important topic to know, for every citizen of India which is a democratic country. My topic covers introduction to the democracy and media, role of media, its jurisdiction and functions and conclusion.

Coming to the introduction, democracy means "a system of government in which all the people of a country can vote to elect their representatives". Media came into existence in 1780 with the introduction of a newspaper namely 'The Bengal Gazette' and since then, it has matured leaps and bounds. It has been playing a very important role in shaping human minds. Media plays a crucial role in shaping a healthy democracy. It is the backbone of a democracy. Media makes us aware of various social, political and economical activities happening around the world. It is like a mirror, which shows us or strives, to show us the bare truth and harsh realities of life.

The media has undoubtedly evolved and become more active over the years. It is the media only who reminds politicians about their unfulfilled promises at the time of elections. TV news channel's excessive coverage during elections helps people, especially illiterates in electing the right person to the power. This reminder compels politicians to be upto their promises in order to remain in power. Television and radio have made a significant achievement in educating rural illiterate masses in making them aware of all the events in their language. Coverage of exploitative malpractices of village heads and moneylenders has helped in taking stringent actions against them by attracting government's attention.

The media also exposes loopholes in the democratic system, which ultimately helps government in filling the vacuums of loopholes and making a system more accountable, responsive and citizen-friendly. A democracy without media is like a vehicle without wheels. In the age of information technology, we are bombarded with information.

We get the pulse of the world events with just a click of a mouse. The flow of information has increased manifolds. The perfect blend of technology and human resources (journalist) has not left a single stone unturned in unearthing rampant corruption in politics and society. Thanks to technology that has brought a kind of revolution in journalism.

The impact of media is really noteworthy. Excessive coverage or hype of sensitive news has led to communal riots at times. The illiterates are more prone to provocations than the literates. Constant repetition of the news, especially sensational news breeds apathy and insensitivity. For instance, the news related to braud cuttings in Rajasthan and Haryana created a hawk in the Northern India mainly by the anti-social elements.

Media should take utmost care in airing or publishing such sensational news. Commercialisation has created a stiff competition in media. In order to outdo, each other print media has often gone one step further in publishing articles, cover stories etc. Media experts say this is one of the means of attracting readers who are glued to TV news channels, which have cropped up swiftly in the recent past and they believe, this is a cheap form of journalism.

No one is perfect in this world and so is the media. Here, I am not degrading the media, rather I would say there is still a lot of scope for improvement by which media can raise up to the aspirations of the people for which it is meant. I cannot think of a democracy without an active and neutral media.

Media is like a watchdog in a democracy that keeps government active. From being just an informer, it has become an integral part of our daily lives. With the passage of time, it has become a more matured and a more responsible entity. The present media revolution has helped people in making an informed decisions and this has led to beginning of a new era in a democracy.

Thank you

List of Topics for Lecturette

A list of different topics categorised as high, average and low level topics are given below :

High Level Topics

- Terrorism in 21st century
- BRICS: A Growing organisation
- Beef Ban: A necessity or political propaganda
- Artificial intelligence: Machines becoming Humans

- Electoral reforms in India
- Uniform Civil Code
- River Water Disputes in India
- Kashmir: a state in crisis
- Women empowerment
- Caste politics: Not more than vote bank politics
- Naxalism: An unending problem
- Triple Talaq: Religious necessity or gender discrimination
- Aadhar card: can it replace all identity proofs
- Political Parties under RTI
- Why we need Lokpal
- Bharat Standard Norms: solution to pollution?
- India's tilt towards USA
- Clean India: a dream or possibility
- Increasing drug abuse in Children
- Banking NPAs : A growing Menace
- Indian sports: Why a population of 1 billion could not get one gold at Olympics
- Corruption: Why still persistent in India
- Parliament: temple of democracy or A place of no work
- Demographic dividend: will India Achieve this

Low Level Topics

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| • Your First Day of College Life | • Dog: Man's Best Friend |
| • Students Union | • Yoga |
| • Cinema | • Computer |
| • Internet | • Favourite Pass time |
| • Mobile Phones | • E-mail |
| • Best Friend | • United we Stand, Divided we Fall |
| • Philanthropy | • Smoking |
| • Pure Drinking Water | • Government School |
| • Call Centre | • Family Planning |
| • Stray Cattle Menace | • My Hobby |
| • Bollywood Celebrities and Criminal Charges | |
| • Challenges in Life | |