

**DELHI HIGHER JUDICIAL SERVICE MAIN EXAMINATION  
2018**

**GENERAL KNOWLEDGE AND ENGLISH**

**1. Write in about 200 words on any four of the following:**

- i. Personal ideologies and historical discourse
  - ii. Climate change as an undeniable reality
  - iii. Judiciary in the age of Media-Trials
  - iv. Creative freedom and Censorship
  - v. Live streaming of court proceedings
  - vi. "Sunlight is the best disinfectant". Examine the appropriateness and applicability of this principle in the Indian context.
- (15 marks x 4 = 60 marks)**

**2. Prepare a précis of the following passage in about 150 words:**

"At one time we had truth and lies. Now we have truth, lies, and statements that may not be true but we consider too benign to call false.

Euphemisms abound. We're "economical with the truth," we "sweeten it," or tell "the truth improved". The term deceive gives way to spin. At worst we admit to "misspeaking," or "exercising poor judgment." Nor do we want to accuse others of lying. We say they're in denial. A liar is "ethically challenged," someone for whom "the truth is temporarily unavailable."

This is post-truth. In the post-truth era, borders blur between truth and lies, honesty and dishonesty, fiction and nonfiction. Deceiving others becomes a challenge, a game, and ultimately a habit. Research suggests that the average person tells lies on a daily basis. These fibs run the gamut from "I like sushi," to "I love you."

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As the volume of strangers and acquaintances in our lives rises, so do opportunities to improve on the truth. The result is a widespread sense that much of what we're told can't be trusted. From potential mates to prospective employees, we're no longer sure whom exactly we're dealing with. Deception has become a routine part of the mating dance. Personnel officers take for granted that the resumes they read are padded. No wonder private investigation is a growth sector of the economy.

What motivates the casual dishonesty that's become pandemic? Why do so many, even those with no apparent need to do so, feel a need to embellish their personal history? This question arises every time prominent figures are unmasked as fabulists..... Branches are grafted onto their family trees. Unearned degrees show up on their resumes. Purchased medals appear in their display cases. Thousands of non-veterans say they fought for freedom of thought, speech and worship. Scores more passed themselves off as Ground Zero workers.

We can only understand the motives of such dissemblers by examining the sea in which they swim. Trends ranging from the postmodern disdain for "truth" to therapeutic non-judgment encourage deception. There is much incentive and little penalty for improving the "narrative" of one's life. The increasing influence of therapists, entertainers, politicians, academics, and lawyers, with their flexible code of ethics, contribute to the post-truth era. So do ethical relativism, Boomer narcissism, the decline of community, and rise of the internet.

Post-truthfulness builds a fragile social edifice based on wariness. It erodes the foundation of trust that underlies any healthy civilization. When enough of us peddle fantasy as fact, society loses its grounding in reality. Society would crumble altogether if we assumed others were as likely to dissemble as tell the truth. We are perilously close to that point." **(20 marks)**

**3. Write in less than 50 words on any four of the following:**

- (i) What is the standard set by the Supreme Court to reduce automobile emissions? How is it superior to the existing standard?

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- (ii) What restrictions has the Supreme Court imposed on sale, purchase and usage of firecrackers in Delhi during Diwali?
- (iii) What is the constitution of the Committee which has taken over the Medical Council of India?
- (iv) Name the world's longest sea bridge. How long is it and what does it link?
- (v) What is the Mullaperiyar dam issue?
- (vi) What is the Ayushman Bharat scheme and what are its key features?
- (vii) What does "NITI" stand for in "Niti Ayog"? What are its aims and objectives? Who is its CEO?
- (viii) Please set out, in brief, the contents of the order passed by the Supreme Court in October 2018 on the petition filed by the Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation. **(20 marks)**

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